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Eighth Session, 1964/1886 (Saka)

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

C O N T E N T S

[Third Series, Vol. XXXII—Eighth Session, 1886 (Saka)]

No. 6—*Thursday, June 4, 1964/Jyaistha 14, 1886 (Saka)*

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1017

1018

LOK SABHA

Thursday, June 4, 1964/Jyaishta 14,
1886 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
Hydraulic Power Stations

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*152. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and
Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the
Soviet Government have agreed to
supply equipment for the setting up
of hydraulic power stations in several
parts of the country; and

(b) if so, how many power stations
are likely to be set up and in which
States?

The Minister of Irrigation and
Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following three power sta-
tions are being set up in the country
with USSR Equipment:—

- (i) Bhakra Right Bank Hydro
Electric Power Station (600
MW) in Punjab;
- (ii) Balimela Hydro Electric
Power Station (360 MW) in
Orissa; and
- (iii) Mettur Tunnel Hydro Elec-
tric Project (200 MW) in
Madras.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I
know whether this help will be in
the form of loan or assistance?

792(A)-JSD-1.

Dr. K. L. Rao: The U.S.S.R. is
giving credit under two headings. One
is what is known as the U.S.S.R.
credit which is a loan bearing 2½
per cent interest. Its repayment is in
twelve years which is paid in conver-
tible rupees. The other is under trade
agreement where it is a complete
nonconvertible rupee payment.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I
know by what time these generators
will be installed?

Dr. K. L. Rao: As regards the first
one, that is, the Bhakra Right Bank
Hydro Electric Power Station, it will
be commenced in September, 1965. As
regards the Mettur Tunnel Hydro
Electric Project, it will be commenced
in September, 1964. As regards the
Balimela Hydro Electric Power Sta-
tion, its commencement will be some-
where about 1969.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बरवा : इन बिजलीघरों
की बिजली से इस योजना में कितनी सिंचाई
हो सकेगी ?

Mr. Speaker: What area will be
irrigated?

Dr. K. L. Rao: These are hydro-
electric power projects.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I
know whether any consideration is
being given to the Srisaillam hydro-
electric project in the matter of get-
ting the Soviet aid for setting up such
a power station?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The projects are
under different credits. The Srisaillam
project has been posted for the
I.A.D. (U.S.A.).

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : इन तीन बड़ी
बड़ी हाइड्रोइलेक्ट्रिक योजनाओं के अतिरिक्त
क्या कोई और छोटी छोटी योजनाएँ भी हैं

जिन्हें सरकार कार्यान्वित कर रही है या करने जा रही है ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: This question is with reference to assistance that has been given by the U.S.S.R.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know if by that assistance there are any other projects that are being put up.

Dr. K. L. Rao: This is in respect of hydro-electric power stations. There are five other thermal stations which are big ones, for which the U.S.S.R. has offered assistance. No smaller projects are there.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know the foreign aid that has been received for the Mettur project?

Dr. K. L. Rao: For Mettur it is about Rs. 3.96 crores.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know whether specifically for these hydro-electric projects India Government approached the U.S.S.R. to give assistance, or have they offered the help and let the matter to be decided by the India Government to set up the projects wherever they like?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The Central Government in consultation with the Ministry of Finance have posted these various projects under different credits. We have got as many as 12 or 13 credits....

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether the India Government approached the U.S.S.R. Government for these specific projects.

Dr. K. L. Rao: That is what I am explaining. There are 12 or 13 different credits from different countries. What we do is, we pose these various projects for different credits. The States do not approach the countries. The Central Government assigns the credits. For example, as regards the Bhakra Right Bank Hydro Electric Power project, we have to purchase equipment and we posted this project to the Russian Government for

consideration and assigned it to the Russian credit.

श्री शिव नारायण : पांच छोटी योजनाएँ जो बन रही हैं, वे कहाँ बन रही हैं ? उन पर लागत क्या आयेगी और वे कौन कौन सी हैं ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The question pertains to these three hydro-electric projects. There are five other projects which are steam power stations for which also the U.S.S.R. is giving aid. These are: Neyveli (Madras), Obra (Uttar Pradesh), Korba (Madhya Pradesh), Harduaganj (U.P.) and Pathratu (Bihar).

Shri Vishram Prasad: May I know in how much time these projects are going to be set up in the country and how far the projects will be able to control the floods?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I have already given the dates of commencement for these projects. Generally, for a hydro-electric project, it takes 4 or 5 years and for a thermal power station, it takes about 3 to 4 years.

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan: May I know on what basis the prices of machinery to be purchased for these projects were fixed? May I know whether any global tenders were called for and whether any assessment was made on the global tenders?

Dr. K. L. Rao: These prices are fixed on the basis of world-wide market prices.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether the payment of the loan will be in rupee payment and whether it is a tied or untied one?

Dr. K. L. Rao: As I submitted already, the loan is given under two types of credits. There are two types of assistance. One is the credit for which you have got to pay in convertible rupees—it may be in the form of rupees or in the form of sterling as required by the U.S.S.R. The other one is under trade agreement where it is purely rupee payment, non-convertible rupee payment.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Is it tied or untied loan?

Dr. K. L. Rao: They are tied in the sense that they are meant for these specific projects.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether some percentage of machinery will be indigenous and whether some spare-parts also have been asked for so that the work will not stand still in case of any difficulty?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Spare parts are asked with all the machines. We are getting the spare parts. We are trying to introduce the indigenous element, but I regret it has not been possible to do so. We hope that in the Fourth Plan we will be able to introduce some element of indigenous manufacture.

Shri R. S. Pandey: I want to know whether the equipment that we get from U.S.S.R. is cheaper in price as compared to that of other countries.

Dr. K. L. Rao: These prices are fixed on the basis of world-wide market prices.

Utilisation of External Assistance

- +
- *153. { **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:**
 { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**
 { **Shri Sham Lal Saraf:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the statement regarding the report of the Committee on Utilisation of External Assistance laid on the Table on the 16th April, 1964 and state:

(a) the steps taken in pursuance of the recommendations made by the Committee on Utilisation of External Assistance and accepted by Government; and

(b) to what extent and in what way the rate of utilisation of external assistance is likely to improve as a result of the implementation of the recommendations?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) Action has already been taken to implement the decisions on some recommendations. The foreign assistance that is committed to specific projects or programmes has been removed from the purview of half-yearly allocations. With a view to replacing the existing system of individual releases of foreign exchange to public sector projects by a system of concurrent audit on a sample basis by an Audit Office in the Finance Ministry, an Audit Officer has been appointed. The question of assistance for preparation of project reports has been taken up informally with foreign Governments and institutions. In many instances, the action required to implement the decisions will be of a continuing character.

(b) While it is expected that the rate of utilisation of external assistance will be improved as a result of these measures, it is not possible to quantify this.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: As the hon. Deputy Minister for Finance has stated that some of the action to be taken would be of a continuing character, we would like to know whether there is existing adequate machinery for keeping under watch continually the procedures and the pattern of utilisation of foreign exchange assistance. What is that machinery and how far is it adequate?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Various Ministries are interested and they meet together from time to time for doing the reappraisal of the projects and to see what steps should be taken to improve it. Apart from that, there are other agencies, like, the investment centres which also help in this regard. Now, a coordination is maintained between all these agencies to see that foreign exchange is utilised on a more equitable basis.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: What were the principal deficiencies detected in

the utilisation of foreign exchange in this country, and may I know whether it was also not felt by the Government that it would be better to have a separate, permanent machinery for watching over the utilisation of foreign assistance and, if so, what measures have been taken by the Government?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): As my hon. colleague has mentioned, the responsibility of individual Ministries in this regard is being constantly brought home to them.

Besides, there are two agencies available to the Ministry of Finance and to the Planning Commission to keep a watch in regard to the utilisation now. One is the machinery of co-ordination which calls for frequent reports, not only in regard to performance but in regard to execution of schemes and is able to detect from time to time the deficiencies in performance and execution, and to relate them to the utilisation of foreign exchange. The other machinery which my colleague has mentioned is the Economic Affairs Department, which is in the charge of a high-placed officer, who will now be assisted by an audit officer also in regard to the performance audit.

All these schemes are being continuously looked into. It may be that this will be all right, or it may be that this will not be perfect: it might be necessary in the context of the advance planning for the Fourth Plan that we may have to have special agencies in the Ministry for this purpose; it may be that we might need a special agency, especially, in regard to power projects. But this is a matter which is continuously under examination.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Is the hon. Minister aware that huge funds are lying unused in the PL-480 funds which were meant for the rehabilitation and education of the handicapped, and if the answer be in the affirmative, what are the new methods which are going to be adopted or

what is the new machinery which is going to be set up to have better co-ordination and to achieve better results?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In the first place, I would submit that the matter is not quite germane to the main question, but I would like to assure the hon. Member that there are not huge funds which remain unutilised. The funds allocated for the specific purpose which my hon. friend has in mind happen to be limited. But it is quite conceivable that the appropriate Ministry has not made arrangements for the purpose of executing the schemes. It is in contemplation, in fact it is the intention of Government to give some special thought in regard to the question of handicapped persons and handicapped children, and I do hope that some policy statement will emerge before long from Government.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether from experience it has been found that because of priorities not having been assigned beforehand, the funds available in foreign exchange could not be utilised to the full with the result that the progress of projects both in the public and in the private sectors has been retarded, and if so, what steps are being taken to enable the Government and also the spending Ministries or Departments to get the foreign exchange in time, as soon as it is available with the Finance Ministry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to submit respectfully that there is no question of failure to assign the priorities; the priorities are assigned. But it often happens that while we make arrangements for obtaining foreign assistance through aid programmes, the local project schemes are not fully ready, to enable us to execute them quickly. Sometimes, it happens that there is a shortage of some important raw material, which is critical. That happened last year in many cases. For ins-

tance, there was a general shortage in the country for welding electrodes.

So, it is not really a question of defect in assigning priorities. The priorities are assigned by the Planning Commission in consultation with the appropriate Ministries. On that, there is no difficulty at all. It is a question of the preparation that has to be made or the ground that has to be prepared in time for utilisation of the foreign assistance, and it is there where we find a certain amount of lacuna. This is being looked into.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Is it the general experience of Government that this under-utilisation of foreign assistance is more due to faulty implementation here of the projects or to wrong assessment or over-assessment of the quantum of foreign assistance in the first place?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The latter part of the hon. Member's presumption is not generally right. It may be that there are cases where they have anticipated more than what they would get.

Generally, the reasons for the lack of utilisation that we have come across are due to faulty preparation here rather than to the question of the assistance not being available.

Shri Ranga: Is it not also the duty of the Finance Ministry to see that in their unnecessarily being too anxious to utilise the foreign exchange which has been allotted for specific projects according to schedule or much too soon, there might not be unnecessary wastage and also the pushing up of the working of development projects in an uneconomic manner? After all, we do not lose anything by not utilising it and by postponing it for a time in order that we may be able to make the best possible use of it.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: While I recognise the responsibility of the Finance Ministry which has been pinpointed by my hon. friend, I do not think that the Finance Ministry is over-anxious to use the foreign ex-

change that is not available. In fact, the availability of foreign exchange is much smaller than our needs. It is a question of tying up the two. What is available has to be quickly used. As I have said repeatedly, it is often a question of defective planning and defective preparation, or of some defect in thinking out what all critical supplies are needed for the purpose of executing a particular project.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या मन्त्री महादय बतलायेंगे कि किन किन देशों से ऐसी सहायता मिली है जिसका हमने उपयोग नहीं किया और ऐसे कितने देश हैं जिनकी दी हुई सहायता का हमने उपयोग किया है। जिनका उपयोग नहीं किया क्या उसने पीछे कोई राजनीतिक कारण था। यदि हाँ, तो कौन सा।

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : पूरा जो लोन और क्रेडिट हमको फारेन क्रेडिट से मिला है और जिसको हमने यूटिलाइज किया है उसकी संख्या है २,६७९ करोड़ रुपये। जो अनयुटिलाइज्ड है वह रकम १,२२७ करोड़ है। यानी ६० प्रतिशत के लगभग का हमने उपयोग किया है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिला।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उत्तर तो नहीं मिला लेकिन सारा उत्तर मिल भी नहीं सकता कि कितना कितना किन किन देशों से आया है और कितने का इस्तेमाल हुआ और कितने का नहीं हुआ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार बतला सकती है कि इस कमेटी ने कोई ऐसी सिफारिश की है कि इण्डस्ट्री में कितना रुपया खर्च किया जाये और एग्रीकल्चर पर कितना खर्च किया जाये।

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : इस कमेटी का ताल्लुक इन बातों से था कि जो फारेन एक्सचेंज है या जो हमका सहायता मिलती है लोन और क्रेडिट के जरिये उसका इस्तेमाल किस तरह खूबसूरती से और अच्छी तरह से किया जाये। इसके बारे में यह कमेटी थी और उसने कुछ सुझाव दिये हैं जिन पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

Rise in Prices of Commodities

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Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
*154. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of all essential commodities have gone up in the country in May, 1964; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to bring down the prices?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. B. Bhagat): (a) Prices of foodgrains, except wheat, and of edible oils, rose in May, 1964. Government have allowed increases in ex-factory prices of sugar ranging from Re. 1 to Rs. 14.5 per quintal in different areas. Prices of other essential commodities such as cloth, kerosene, coal, tea, salt, footwear and drugs and medicines have by and large remained stable.

(b) Wheat and rice are being supplied through an increasing number of fair price shops at controlled rates. The Reserve Bank of India has tightened selective credit controls to prevent the use of bank finance for speculative hoarding of essential commodities; forward markets are also regulated to check unhealthy speculation. Forward trading in ground-

nut oil and certain oilseeds has been banned with effect from 2nd June, 1964. The State Governments have been advised to regulate wholesale trade in foodgrains by enforcing the revised Licensing Order. Further steps will be taken as the situation warrants.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Apart from the steps taken, which have been mentioned by the hon. Minister, may I know whether Government intend to set up a price stabilisation committee as recommended by the Asoka Mehta Committee in their report and also to try on an experimental basis State trading in foodgrains, because the Government machinery has failed now?

Shri Ranga: If the Government machinery has failed, with State trading it will be worse.

Mr. Speaker: The second part of the question is only a suggestion for action. Only the first part of the question might be answered.

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): With your permission, I would like to crave the indulgence of the House to deal with this matter slightly in greater length than a question will warrant.

The position in all conscience is something which is extremely serious. Government are fully concerned about it. My hon. colleague Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri the other day did make a mention of this matter. We are not at all happy with things as they are. The fact is that while the shortages in certain commodities may be of a marginal character, the distribution system that exists in this country magnifies the defects, and it seems to Government now that even if there is a marginal surplus, the present position will continue because the distribution system at various stages will not respond adequately to the law of demand and supply. Unless we have a substantial surplus, the normal operative economic laws will not function. Therefore, we have come to a critical situation and

we are thinking whether we should not take steps of a far more serious character.

The mere existence of a Price Stabilisation Board—there is one which does exist in my Ministry today, the Prices Committee of the Secretaries—does not seem to do any good. It is a matter which has to be considered in conjunction with the Chief Ministers, and it seems to my mind—it does not bind either the Government or the Chief Ministers at the moment—that it is almost inescapable that there will have to be a rigorous system of State trading and rigorous control over retail distribution, but this cannot be done by the Central Government, because the Central Government has neither the agency nor the competence for the purpose, without the collaboration of the States.

Shri Ranga: Nor have the State Governments.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I shall request the Prime Minister to advise the Chief Ministers at a very early date to take steps which will yield quick results. That is all the assurance that I am in a position to give the House today, and I am not saying at the same time that it is an assurance which to me is satisfactory. It is not.

Shri Ranga: Nothing will be satisfactory unless you stop inflation.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether Government is aware that there is a serious agitation going on throughout the country, including the general strike in Calcutta, and that if the prices do not go down, a further agitation is inevitable. I want to know whether Government propose to convene a meeting of the representatives of the various political parties and the State Governments to deal with the situation and know the causes of the failure.

Shri Ranga: Everybody knows.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It will be necessary for Government to be clear in their own minds about the methods they are going to adopt before they can ask for public co-operation. I think that pre-condition should be satisfied.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: The hon. Minister, while answering the question in detail, referred to the Prime Minister designate's observations on this most vital issue, that he would discuss this matter with the Finance Minister, Planning Commission and the Minister of Food and Agriculture. May I know whether these three persons have not already done some collective thinking on the subject, and if so, the outcome so far? May I know whether they have set up any standing organisation to look to the price rise from day to day?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have stated that. That is why I took the liberty that you gave me of dealing with this matter at length. It has to be done in conjunction with the Chief Ministers of States, and their fullest co-operation is necessary for the Central Government to do anything in this matter. All that the Central Government could do is to subsidise to a small extent—perhaps to meet the cost of control to some extent. Other things have to be done necessarily by the State Governments, and before the agencies that we have under our control are looked into and reoriented, consultation with the Chief Ministers would be necessary, and that is the advice that I propose to tender to the Prime Minister-designate.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: rose

Mr. Speaker: After this long statement, still?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Chief Ministers come in for implementation, but my question is whether any collective thinking has been done. The Prime Minister-designate says he will discuss with them, which indicates there has so far been no

discussion, and they have not arrived at any conclusion. The Finance Minister says that the implementation has got to be done through the Chief Ministers. Nobody objects to it, everybody understands that it will have to be done through the State agency. My only question is: when the Prime Minister designate says he will discuss this matter with these three persons and then arrive at some conclusion and do something, do I understand that this collective thinking has not been done so far, and they have arrived at no conclusions? That is the question.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The work of Government is a continuous process. In fact, any statement made by the Prime Minister-designate is something which we take very seriously. My colleague the Food and Agriculture Minister and myself have been talking about it yesterday. Further discussions will have to be held from time to time. If I merely say that I have discussed it with the Food and Agriculture Minister, it does not end there. And if that is a matter of satisfaction, I will say I have had a discussion with the Food and Agriculture Minister, but many more things will have to be done perhaps even to get a picture of the problem in all its aspects, so that we can devise methods for dealing with it.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: What has been the actual rise in the wholesale price index and in the retail price index? I would also like to know the steps to be taken immediately to remove the defect in the distribution system as pointed out by the hon. Finance Minister.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: As for the extent of rise, the wholesale price index was 138.9 at the end of February, 1964 as against 143 by 15th May.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Why don't you say something about retail prices?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is 8-1/2 per cent higher.

श्री ब० र० भगत : रिटेल प्राइसेज में इनक्रीज के बारे में बतलाइये। हम को वे बड़ी महंगी मिलती हैं।

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I am answering the specific question about the extent of rise in the wholesale price. It is 8-1/2 per cent over a year. As compared to a year ago, the wholesale prices are 8-1/2 per cent higher.

Mr. Speaker: Now, retail.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We do not have the figures.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : आवश्यक वस्तुओं के दाम जो बढ़ गये हैं उसका खास कारण यह है कि जनता की मांग के अनुसार बाजार में वस्तुएं उपलब्ध नहीं हैं और बहुत से व्यापारी लॉग होर्डिंग और ब्लैक मार्केटिंग करते हैं तो क्या सरकार इस में लिए कोई ठोस कदम उठाना चाहती है जिससे कि होर्डिंग और ब्लैक मार्केटिंग बन्द हो जाय और जनता को चीजें उचित मूल्य पर उपलब्ध हो सकें ?

श्री ब० र० भगत : ठोस कदम उठाया गया है। अभी हमने रिवाइज्ड लाइसेंसिंग आर्डर लागू करने के लिए स्टेट्स गवर्नमेंट्स को लिखा है और उसके जरिए इस मामले में रोकथाम की जायगी।

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Irrespective of the fact that Government has been giving assurances from time to time and steps were taken to bring the prices under control, prices have been persistently rising. I want to know whether the rise is due chiefly to the existing economic policies of the Government of India or any other cause, and if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to bring down the prices in the near future.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I thought I gave a comprehensive answer.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : अभी एक प्रश्न का उत्तर देते हुए बतलाया गया है कि वस्तुओं

के मूल्य वृद्धि में सट्टेबाजी का भी हाथ रहा है तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितने सट्टेबाजों और मुनाफ़ाख़ोरों को पकड़ा गया है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : इस की फेहरिस्त मेरे पास नहीं है ।

Shri P. C. Boreeah: May I know whether the maximum prices of certain foodgrains have been fixed in different parts of the country, and if so for what further items of foodgrains prices are going to be fixed?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Procurement prices have been fixed.

Shri P. C. Boreeah: My question has not been answered.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या उषर ही नजर रखेंगे ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जिन के नाम हैं उनको ही मैं बुला रहा हूँ, आपका नाम नहीं है ।

Shri Daljit Singh: May I know what steps are being taken to supply essential commodities to rural and hilly areas at reasonable rates?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The State Governments have opened fair price shops, and recently their number has gone up from 60,278 to 76,522, and a large number of them cover the areas the hon. Member has referred to.

Shri Ranga: The Finance Minister has just now told us that he would like to recommend to the State Governments to try State trading in the respective States in order to control this rise in prices to some extent or fully. May I know whether Government have reviewed the working of State trading to the extent that it has been tried and its effects on prices, whether they have been brought down, whether they have actually been pushed up, or kept stable, and in the light of that experience, whether Government would consider hav-

ing both State trading and private trading to compete one with the other so that there would be some check on each other, and there would not be profiteering or pushing up of prices?

Mr. Speaker: Three questions have taken half an hour and still the third is not finished. The trouble is there is a long statement.

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, चीजों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि से सारा देश परेशान है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य इस विषय पर दूसरे तरीकों से डिस्कशन कर सकते हैं । सबालों के दौरान में तो इस पर डिस्कशन नहीं हो सकता है ।

It is not only one question that is put. That is the complaint that I have got against most of the Members. That thing is spreading. If supplementaries are small, concise and short the answers would be straight and precise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: You give chance to those persons who put such questions.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप प्रश्न पूछने वालों को ही कह रहे हैं । मंत्रीगण भी तो लम्बे चौड़े भाषण देते हैं, जिनका कोई सार नहीं होता है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह मेरे बस की बात नहीं है । मंत्रीगण को आप निकाल सकते हैं । अगर आप चाहें, तो निकाल दीजिए । मैं क्या कर सकता हूँ ?

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : आप इधर से उधर चले जाते हैं, परन्तु हम को अवसर नहीं मिलता है । हम दस दस बार खड़े होते हैं । आप हमारी ओर देखते भी नहीं हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप बैठ जाइये ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं बैठ जाता हूँ, लेकिन हम को दस दस बार खड़े होने पर भी अवसर नहीं मिलता है।

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Leader of that Group take note of it. I cannot tolerate this attitude on the part of the Member. If partiality is attributed to me, I have no right to sit in the Chair.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: I will talk to him, Sir.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : आपका भी कोई अच्छा बर्ताव नहीं है। आप का व्यवहार भी एक सा नहीं है।

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question asked by the hon. Member, as you have stated, covers a wide range. He suggests that there should not be State trading. He wants to know my views: whether State trading was successful or not, I think between the years 1942 and 1953, State trading was successful because in the result the rise in prices was negligible. If some such system could be re-imposed and worked effectively, I think this complaint would not arise. But it is a matter entirely for each State Government and the State Chief Ministers are the ultimate arbiters in this matter. That is why I mentioned to the House that I will request the Prime Minister designate to call the Chief Ministers and discuss this matter. So far as my mind is concerned, it is clear and there is no alternative to it.

Cost Reduction Cell

***156. Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cost Reduction Cell has been established in the Planning Commission as suggested by the Board of Trade;

(b) if so, since when;

(c) in which commodities or industries the cost reduction studies have been instituted; and

(d) whether any measure has been suggested to bring down the cost particularly of exportable commodities?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) to (d). The question of setting up a Special Cell in the Planning Commission to undertake cost reduction studies with particular reference to export promotion, as suggested by the Board of Trade, is still under consideration between the Planning Commission and the Ministry of International Trade.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the Government is aware that the cost of production of the exportable articles of our country is much more than the cost of production of similar articles in other foreign countries?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: In many cases it is true.

Shri Subodh Hansda: If that is true, I would like to know the reason for delaying the setting up of such cost reduction cells in the Commission?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Ministry of International Trade suggested that it should be taken over by the Planning Commission. Already such a cell is working in the Ministry of International Trade but because it concerns various other departments also, they say that it should be taken over by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is considering it because it is generally chary of taking over such work of administrative character. But this question is being considered.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know how long this proposal has been pending at different levels and whether it is felt that such a cell should be created to study cost reduction as well as quality control together?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: As I said, such a cell is already working for the last two years since 1962 and along it there are other agencies for quality control. So that aspect will also be considered.

श्री यु० सि० चौधरी : क्या सरकार ने ऐसा कोई सरवे किया है या करने का इरादा रखती है कि देश के जिन उद्योगों को उसने संरक्षण दे रखा है, उनमें उत्पादन पर क्या लागत लगती है और उनकी उत्पादित वस्तुएं बाजार में किस मूल्य पर बिकती हैं ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : यह तो अलग सवाल है ।

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether the Government is estimating the loss we are incurring when compared with other countries so far as cost of production is concerned and if that is so, to what extent?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That is a question of detail. In each case it is a different study.

Seminar on Employment of S.Cs. and S.Ts.

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*157. { **Shri Siddiah:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations made by the Seminar held in New Delhi in January-February, 1964 on the Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

The Minister for Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): The steps taken are as follows:

1. A list of recommendations of the Seminar was circulated among all States and Union Territories and concerned Central Ministries.
2. A letter was sent by the late Prime Minister to the Chief

Ministers of States asking the State Governments to examine these recommendations with a view to taking concrete action.

Shri Siddiah: May I know whether the recommendation of the Seminar to reserve posts in Class I and II by promotion to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes had been considered by the Government and if so, what is the decision of the Government?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Along with the other recommendations this is being considered by various authorities as well as the State Governments.

Shri Siddiah: Apart from the letter written by the late Prime Minister, to the States has he advised the Central Ministry to take any action in the matter?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Central Ministries concerned are also taking steps in the matter.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether the percentage of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Tribes are not fulfilled at present and if so whether the Government thinks of changing the method of selection?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is considered by the Home Ministry.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : रोजगार सम्बन्धी इस सीमिनार ने जो सिफारिशें की थीं, उनमें से किन किन सिफारिशों को राज्य सरकारों ने मान लिया है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : ज्यादातर सरकारों ने इस बारे में जवाब भेजा है । एक दो सरकारों ने यह भी लिखा है कि वे इस पर कार्यवाही कर रही हैं ।

श्री बड़ै : क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से जो सिफारिशें स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को भेजी गई थीं, उनमें से कुछ सिफारिशें उन को मंजूर हैं और कुछ नामंजूर हैं ? क्या इस प्रकार का कोई पत्र मध्य प्रदेश से आया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हम एक एक स्टेट में कैसे जा सकते हैं ?

श्री बड़े : अध्यक्ष महोदय, स्टेट्स कहती हैं कि यह सेंट्रल सबजेक्ट है और सेंटर कहता है कि यह स्टेट सबजेक्ट है।

श्री ब० रा० भगत : मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने लिखा है कि वह उन सिफारिशों पर विचार कर रही है।

Shri R. S. Pandey: In order to provide employment opportunities to Scheduled Castes and Tribes, will it be recommended that wherever industries are established, the first preference should be given to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is a matter for the Home Ministry but I may say that this principle is accepted that local people will have to be given some preferences—I mean certain tribal people and others.

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : प्लानिंग कमीशन हर चीज की प्लानिंग करता है जैसा कि शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है, अभी तक हरिजनों का रिजर्वेशन ३ परसेंट हुआ है, जबकि गवर्नमेंट १८ परसेंट करना चाहती है और उनकी आबादी २१.२ परसेंट है। तीन परसेंट रिजर्वेशन जो है वह १७-१८ सालों में पूरा हुआ है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि १८ परसेंट जो रिजर्वेशन है, उसके पूरा होने में कितना समय और लगेगा ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : इसीलिये तो यह सेमिनार हुआ है और वहाँ पर इन बातों की ओर ज्यादा ध्यान दिया गया है। जो कुछ कांस्टीट्यूशन में रिजर्वेशन के बारे में तथा दूसरी बातों के बारे में कहा गया है, उसको जोर लगा कर करना चाहिये, यही तो कहा गया है, इसी पर तो ज्यादा जोर दिया गया है।

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : तीन परसेंट १७-१८ साल में पूरा हुआ है, इस तरह से जोर कब तक लगायेंगे ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कितना समय लगेगा ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : जैसे मैंने कहा प्लानिंग कमिशन के मातहत लागू करने का काम तो है नहीं। प्लानिंग कमिशन ने तो यह बताया है कि जल्दी से जल्दी अमल हो। इसको करेगी राज्य सरकारें और दूसरी सरकारें ही।

Shri Basumatari: It came to our notice during the discussion in the seminar that some important members suggested that since the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe students were receiving college education in backward areas and they are the products of the low standard of education in the colleges in those areas and therefore they cannot compete with the other candidates coming from other forward areas, so a separate examination should be held among the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe boys alone for the reserved quota and if so, what is the reaction of the Government to this suggestion?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is for consideration by the Ministry of Education.

श्री हुकुम चन्द कछवाय : जो कोटा तय किया गया है किस राज्य में पूरा हुआ है और कितने ऐसे राज्य हैं जिन्होंने कोटा पूरा नहीं किया है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : इसकी पूरी फेहरिस्त मेरे पास नहीं है।

Shareholders of 'Patriot'

*158. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the names of shareholders of *Patriot* published in its issue of the 1st March, 1964:

(b) whether it is a fact that the name 'S. Amrit' does not disclose the real identity of the person concerned as required by law; and

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

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Informal enquiries made from the company confirm that Shri 'S. Amrit of 9 Kohinoor Road, Bombay' is the same person as Shri "Sripad Amrit Dange of 9 Kohinoor Road, Bombay."

Government have been advised that there has been no contravention of any of the existing provisions of the Companies Act. The question of taking action in the matter does not, therefore, arise.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Has the attention of the Finance Minister been drawn to certain reports that Shri Sripad Amrit Dange, Chairman of the Communist Party of India, gave his full name to the paper, but that the owners of the paper, Raisina Publications Private Limited, abbreviated or truncated the name with ulterior motives, for the purpose of concealing the association of the paper with the Communist Party of India and, if so, does not the suppression of the full name by the paper amount to violation of the company law regulations?

Mr. Speaker: We cannot argue and discuss a legal issue here. He has said that Government have been advised that there is no violation of any law, and therefore, there is no question of taking any steps.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Has the Minister or his Ministry tried to ascertain from either faction of the Communist Party of India, the so-called Rightist or Leftist, the pro-Moscow or pro-Peking faction—I do not know which is more pro-Indian—(Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: If he has any question, that must be put straight.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know whether Shri Sripad Amrit Dange did actually give his full name to the paper, and what were the reasons on the part of the owners of the paper for de-"Dange"ing the name or suppressing a part of the full name?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The Company Law Board or the Company Law Administration has no authority whatever to ask for this information.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : कितना रुपया बांगे साहब ने इसमें इनवैस्ट किया है और जो रुपया उन्होंने इनवैस्ट किया है, उस पर उन्होंने इनकम टैक्स भी दिया है क्या कभी ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : तीन सौ शेयर हैं उनके । एक शेयर एक सौ रुपये का है । इस तरह से तीस हजार हुआ । इनकम टैक्स दिया है या नहीं, इसकी सूचना मेरे पास नहीं है ।

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Has the Government ascertained whether any shares still stand in the name of Shri Sripad Amrit Dange?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Government has no interest in the matter.

Shri D. C. Sharma: If the Company Law is so ineffective that it enables shareholders and directors to give any name and not give their real names, may I know whether an attempt will be made to get the company law amended in this respect?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As the law is at present, shareholders can give any name they like. Oftentimes we also do that. Sometimes newspapers call me TTK instead of T. T. Krishnamachari. So, I do not think there is any violation.

Shri D. C. Sharma: There is difference between the Finance Minister and a shareholder of Patriot.

Shri Joachim Alva: After the Press Commission's report, has Government scanned the names of benami shareholders in newspaper chains and newspaper monopolies?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is not benami.

Mr. Speaker: This is not benami and the question does not arise.

Shortage of Water in Delhi

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- *159. { **Shri Heda:**
 { **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
 { **Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 8 lakhs of people in Delhi are facing acute shortage of water;

(b) what are the reasons for this shortage of water; and

(c) the arrangements being made to meet the situation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health (Dr. D. S. Raju): (a) Shortage of water is being experienced in certain colonies of Delhi.

(b) The reasons for shortage are:—

(i) Phenomenal increase in the population of Delhi after Independence. The existing Water Works are not adequate to meet the increased demand.

(ii) Rapid expansion of the city has resulted in low pressure of water in certain areas.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Steps taken to meet the shortage of water in Delhi

(i) The present capacity of Delhi Water Works is 98.5 million gallons per day. During summer months 105 million gallons per day are being supplied through overloading of the filters. The capacity will be increased

to 145 MGD by September, 1965 by the installation of a 40 MGD capacity Water Treatment Plant at Wazirabad. Out of this 10 M.G.D. will be made available by December, 1964.

(ii) A few tube-wells are being sunk in South Delhi, West Delhi and Shahdara area.

(iii) An arrangement has been made with the Government of Punjab under which the State Government has been releasing upto 325 cusecs of water from the Munak or Indri Escapes in Yamuna during the summer months when there is shortage of water at the Wazirabad intake. This year, shortage of water in river Yamuna was felt towards the end of April and the Delhi Municipal Corporation requested the Government of Punjab to release 200 cusecs of water in the river Yamuna from Western Jamuna Canal through Munak Escape. The Government of Punjab has been releasing this water as per our requirements and there has been no difficulty this year on this account.

(iv) The areas where there is low pressure are parts of Ramakrishnapuram, Moti Bagh, Defence Colony, Netaji Nagar and certain parts of the Old City. The difficulty caused by the low pressure will be largely removed as soon as the capacity of Water Works is increased to 145 MGD. Larger mains are also being laid in place of smaller ones and the storage capacity of the reservoirs is also being increased on a phased programme. In the meantime, by regulation of sluice valves, maximum possible relief is being given in these areas by the Delhi Municipal Corporation to see that people get an equitable distribution of water.

Some tubewells have been constructed in R. K. Puram and Shahdara etc. relieving the shortage of water to a considerable extent. More tube-wells are being sunk.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : इनकीज आफ पापु-
 नेशन का मसला जो है यह किस तरह से हल

हो सकता है ? सरकार ने खुद कहा है ट्यूबवैल्ल की तादाद बढ़ाई जाए। अगर यह नहीं किया जाता है तो यहां से ट्रक्स में भर भर के जनता को बाहर भेजा जाए। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इन दोनों में से कौन सी बात सरकार करना चाहती है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पहला काम वह करना चाहती है। स्टेटमेंट में यह कहा गया है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : साउथ एवेन्यू में पानी की कमी है। वहां दिन रात इसकी कमी महसूस होती रहती है। कभी चार घंटे, कभी छः घंटे और कभी आठ घंटे पानी बन्द रहता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उस कमी को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

Dr. D. S. Raju : In the last few weeks, several tubewells have been sunk and they are giving very good water in Shahdara and other places.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : साउथ एवेन्यू का सवाल है।

Dr. D. S. Raju : Wherever there is good water, tubewells will be sunk. Municipal Corporation are proposing to sink 25 wells in the next few months.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : हमने अपनी कांस्टीट्यूशन में न्यूट्रिशस फूड देने के लिए अपनी ४४ करोड़ जनता को बादा किया है। लेकिन हम पांच सौ मंत्रियों के लिए पानी का भी इन्तजाम नहीं कर सके हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार इसके बारे में कुछ कर रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य मन्त्री (डा० सुशीला नायर) : पानी तो आ रहा है लेकिन २४ घंटे नहीं आ रहा है, इतनी शिकायत है। मेरी इतनी सी प्रार्थना है कि माननीय सदस्य दो चार बाल्टियां भर कर रख लिया करें तो अच्छा होगा ताकि जिस वक्त पानी बन्द हो जाए, उस वक्त उसको इस्तेमाल कर सकें।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : बाल्टियां सप्लाई कर दीजिये।

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : राजधानी की आबादी में उत्तरोत्तर वृद्धि होती रही है इसलिए पानी की समस्या का अभी तक कोई हल नहीं निकाला जा सका है, ऐसा सरकार ने कहा है। क्या सरकार को कोई अन्दाजा नहीं है कि आगामी वर्ष या वर्षों में राजधानी की आबादी में और भी वृद्धि होती रहेगी? यदि है तो सरकार ने अब तक कोई ऐसी योजना क्यों नहीं बनाई है जिससे राजधानी के नागरिकों को उचित मात्रा में और स्वच्छ पानी पीने को मिल सके और चौबीसों घंटे मिल सके? क्या वह ऐसी कोई योजना बनाने जा रही है ?

डा० सुशीला नायर : योजना तो है ४० मिलियन गैलन ज्यादा पानी फिल्टर करने की। प्लांट लगाना पिछले साल से शुरू हुआ है। अनेक कारणों से उसकी गति जितनी तेज होनी चाहिये थी, जितनी उसकी प्रगति होनी चाहिये थी नहीं हो पाई है। लेकिन हमारी आशा है कि अगली गर्मियों में किसी को शिकायत का मौका नहीं रहेगा।

श्री यु० सि० चौधरी : यह दिल्ली को पानी दिये जाने का प्रश्न बार बार उठता है। मैं एक बात का स्पष्ट उत्तर माननीय मन्त्री जी से चाहता हूं अगर वह देने की स्थिति में हैं तो। यहां पर कांस्टीट्यूशन तक की दुहाई दी जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि बैस्टन यमुना का पानी जिस दिल्ली की बढ़ती हुई आबादी के नाम पर लिया जा रहा है वह क्या पंजाब के हिसार, रोहतक, गुड़गांव की ज़रूरतों को काट करके नहीं लिया जा रहा है? दिल्लीवालों की जो ज़रूरतें हैं यहां पर पानी की जो आवश्यकता है दिल्ली के सफेदपोशों के लिए क्या उसके मुकाबले में वहां के लोगों की आवश्यकतायें कम हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सफेदपोशों के बीच में बैठ कर लड़ने लग गये ?

श्री यु० सि० चौधरी : मैं तो बिल्कुल सटिस्फाइड हूँ इस पानी से ।

डा० सुशीला नायर : दिल्ली में पानी पीने के लिये दिया जा रहा है । माननीय सदस्य ने हिसार इत्यादि का जिक्र किया । वहाँ खेतों को पानी देने का सवाल है । माननीय सदस्य यह तो स्वीकार करेंगे कि पहले पीने का पानी मिलना चाहिये । खेती की आवश्यकता भी है लेकिन वह पीने के पानी से आगे नहीं रक्खी जा सकती ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि चूँकि पानी की इतनी कमी है तो सरकार के मंत्रियों, उपमंत्रियों और राष्ट्रपति के भवन इधर उधर घासों को जो पानी दिया जा रहा है, उस घास के लिये न देकर क्या फसल के लिये नहीं दिया जा सकता । इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार क्या विचार कर रही है ?

डा० सुशीला नायर : माननीय सदस्य को मैं बतला दूँ कि जो पानी घास में दिया जाता है वह पीने के लायक नहीं होता ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : क्या उस पानी का शोधन नहीं हो सकता ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मन्त्री महोदय यही जवाब देंगे कि वह वहाँ न खर्च हो, आप उसको फिल्टर करके खर्च कीजिये ।

श्री प्र० प्र० जैन : स्वामी लोग जो एक से ज्यादा दफे नहाते हैं इसलिये पानी का बड़ा खर्च होता है । इस सम्बन्ध में क्या किया जा रहा है ? (इंटरेप्शंस)

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : वे स्वामी जी की बात कहते हैं यह भी कोई बात है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने उनको रोक तो दिया ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : उन्होंने नाम नहीं लिया, लेकिन मैं पूछता हूँ कि जो स्वामी जी कहा गया यह क्यों कहा गया । क्या यह लोक-सभा के योग्य है । लोक सभा में उपयोगी बात कहनी चाहिये या नहीं, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ ।

श्री प्र० प्र० जैन : मैंने आपके लिये नहीं, जनरल स्वामियों के लिये कहा । देश में बहुत से स्वामी हैं ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में क्या उनको यह कहने का अधिकार था । क्या यह लोक सभा के योग्य है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उनको अधिकार तो था क्योंकि मैंने बुलाया था यह सोच कर कि शायद वह कोई सवाल करना चाहते हैं । मुझे क्या पता था कि वह स्वामीजी के ऊपर सवाल करेंगे ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : अब आप उनका क्या प्रतिकार करेंगे । क्या उनको इस तरह से कहने का अधिकार था ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर मैं अभी तक आप का कुछ नहीं बिगाड़ सका तो उनका क्या बिगाड़ सकता हूँ ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : अध्यक्ष महोदय . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप तो बार बार खड़े हो रहे हैं । अब आप बैठ जाइये ।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं बैठ जाता हूँ । आपने अभी कहा कि आप मेरा कुछ नहीं बिगाड़ सके । मैं तो आपके संकेत पर ही बैठ जाता हूँ । अगर आप मेरी किसी बात को अनुचित कहते हैं तो उसको भी स्वीकार करता हूँ । लेकिन इस तरह की बातें उठाई गई हैं उसके लिये क्या किया जायेगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उनसे भी कहता हूँ तो वे भी बैठ जाते हैं, आप भी बैठ जाते हैं । वह तो बैठ भी गये ।

श्री राम सहाय पाण्डेय : ४० मिलियन गलन जल की आवश्यकता पूर्ति करने की बात है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो आवादी बड़ी रही है उसको दृष्टि में रखते हुए, जो मकान बन रहे हैं उनको दृष्टि में रखते हुए, क्या आप कह सकती हैं कि इस जल की पूर्ति होगी, यानी चौबीस घंटे नल चलेगा।

डा० मुञ्जीला नायर : हमने जो प्रोजेक्टड पापुलेशन ग्रोथ है इसका हिसाब लगा कर सन् १९६७ में कितना पानी होना चाहिये, सन् १९७१ में कितना पानी होना चाहिये, सन् १९६६ में कितना पानी होना चाहिये, सारा अन्दाजा लगाया है और उसके अनुसार पानी पूरा करने की योजना बनाई है।

Gold Control Order

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*160. { **Shri P. R. Chakravarti:**
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Heda:
Shri S. N. Chaturvedi:
Shri N. P. Yadav:
Shri Yamuna Prasad Mand
Shrimati Akkamma Devi:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of the price level of gold in the country and how it compares with the minimum level touched by gold prices since the Gold Control Order was enforced;

(b) whether it is a fact that gold smuggling into India has assumed pre-control proportions; and

(c) if so, how this phenomenon is accounted for?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The latest quotation per 10 grams of 14 ct. gold is around Rs. 69.50 and that for 24 ct. gold in unofficial dealings is said to be around Rs. 118.00. The nominal minimum level touched for 24 ct. gold was Rs. 95 on the 28th February, 1963. It is, however, true that since April, 1964 there has been an upward trend in the price of gold.

(b) and (c). In the last few months, there has been some increase in the seizure of smuggled gold but this is not significant enough to indicate that smuggling has assumed pre-control proportions.

Shri P. R. Chakravarti: May I know whether Government has made an appraisal of the position that obtains today in the context of the functioning of the Gold Control Order in its diluted form?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We constantly make an appraisal.

Shri P. R. Chakravarti: May I know whether in the light of the experience gained by the operation of the Gold Control Order the Government propose to abolish it?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We are going to consider a Bill today on this subject when we can discuss all these questions.

Shrimati Akkamma Devi: May I know whether the present rate of gold smuggling has increased or decreased as compared to the past?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is difficult to say. But the fact that the price has been maintained over a period as against the rise in price every year and also the larger seizure of gold smuggling go to show that gold smuggling has not increased. But it is difficult to make a correct estimate.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know the recent decisions taken on the subject of the Gold Control Order, keeping in view the present situation where the price is increasing and the gold smuggling has not stopped?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Both these assumptions may not be wholly true. As I said, the price is kept more or less stable over a period. All these questions will be discussed in the House today when we take up the Gold Control Bill.

श्री अचल सिंह : क्या यह सच नहीं है कि गवर्नमेंट की गोल्ड कंट्रोल पालिसी फेल हुई है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो आप की राय होगी ।

Shri Kapur Singh: Do the Government realise that gold is bound to retain its status as a reliable and concentrated form of value in this country despite any action that the State may take and, if so, when do they propose to take back this ill-fated Gold Control Order?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I want to join issue with the hon. Member on this question when he says that the lure for gold as a metal of real value will exist for ever. It need not exist in the present context.

Several hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: The Bill is coming up today when every aspect can be discussed. Why this hurry?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: If there is so much opposition before the Bill comes up they may withdraw the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: If he is so sure then I have nothing to say.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am always optimistic. One of the objects of the Gold Control Order was to unearth the hoarded gold in the country. I want to know whether it is a fact that according to government statistics gold to the tune of Rs. 4,000 crores is hoarded and, if so, what is the quantity of gold which has been unearthed after the promulgation of this Gold Control Order.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The estimate is not a correct one and too much reliance cannot be placed on it.

Shri Daji: But what is the quantity unearthed?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Under this order, as the declaration of gold is only voluntary, the declaration so far is

not very much. But we have to view this measure from the long-term point of view. Over a period of time we want to bring down the demand for gold in this country. That is the main objective.

Shri Daji: What is the quantity of gold declared so far?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I am sorry, I would require notice for that.

Shri Daji: This question has been admitted for today. Further, the Bill is also coming up today. And this is the first question that any Member will ask. If he has not got even that information, how is he going to defend the measure?

Mr. Speaker: The objection taken is that the Bill is also coming up today. So, the facts must be known to the Minister now, at the moment, if the Bill is to be discussed.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I will give the figure when the Bill is discussed. At the moment, I have not got the figure with me.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: One of the main declared objectives of the Gold Control Order was to stop the wastage of foreign exchange which goes into the smuggling of gold. May I know whether Government have made any computation as to what extent the foreign exchange drain has been stopped? That must be reflected in some figures somewhere compiled either by the Reserve Bank or by some other body. Has any such computation been made that the Gold Control Order has effected some savings in foreign exchange and some increase in our foreign exchange balance?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Reserve Bank keeps a watch over this. There is no direct evidence of such savings but there is indirect evidence, for example, the demand in the unofficial market, the value and some other indications. The only thing is that anti-smuggling measures have been

tightened up and the very large seizures recently go to show that because of anti-smuggling measures it is expected that smuggling is not on the increase. More than that I cannot say.

Re. Q. 164.

Mr. Speaker: Short Notice Question. Shri Shastri.

Shri Mohammad Elias: May I request you to take up Question No. 164. Today there are questions put down relating to several Ministries but we found that only Finance Ministry's questions were taken up and the Minister of Rehabilitation had been sitting idle. So, at least one question concerning the Rehabilitation Ministry should be taken up. In Mana Camp...

Mr. Speaker: Shri Elias must remember that it has been raised many a time and it is only at the request of the hon. Minister that, after the Question Hour is over, any particular question that might not have been reached can be taken up and not at the instance of any hon. Member.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He is about to request you.

Shri Mohammad Elias: We are very anxious to know what is happening there.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is true that according to the convention of this House it is for the hon. Minister. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Not convention; it is a definite rule.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am sorry.

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Tyagi): Nobody can help them.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: We were trying to send 'calling attention' notices and even adjournment motion, but we did not do so because this question came up. I would only urge upon you that it is very important.

Mr. Speaker: Any hon. Member might give notice of a short notice question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He is trying to catch your eye.

Shri Tyagi: My hon. friends are more interested in gold than in this.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am equally interested in gold and in yourself.

Mr. Speaker: The word 'yourself' on the record would mean me. On the record it would go like that. If the hon. Minister is keen to answer it, I will certainly allow it.

Shri Tyagi: I do not want to save my skin. I can answer. I have no objection to answer.

Mr. Speaker: That is a different thing. Does he make a request?

Shri Tyagi: No.

Mr. Speaker: He says, "No".

12 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS

रामगंगा बांध

S. N. Q. No. 1. श्री प्रकाश-वीर शास्त्री : क्या सिंचाई और बिजुत्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कालागढ़ में बन रहे रामगंगा बांध की कोई सुरंग बनने के बाद गिर गई;

(ख) इससे कितने घन-जन की क्षति का अनुमान लगाया गया है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि पहले जो पटेल एण्ड कम्पनी वहां ठेका लेना चाहती थी उसको अमेरिका से आये विशेषज्ञों ने यह राय दी थी कि यहां सुरंग निकालना ठीक नहीं रहेगा और इसीलिए क्या उसने ठेका लेने का विचार छोड़ दिया ; और

(घ) उक्त रामगंगा बांध पर हो रही भयंकर अनियमितताओं के सम्बन्ध में क्या सरकार उच्चस्तरीय जांच कराने का विचार कर रही है ?

सिवाई और बिजुत् मन्त्री के सभा सचिव (श्री सं० अ० मेहता) : (क) से (घ) अपेक्षित जानकारी का विवरण सभा-गटल पर रखा है।

विवरण

(क) रामगंगा बांध स्थल पर व्यपवर्तन सुरंग नं० १, जिसकी खुदाई हो रही थी, के अनुप्रवाह-मुख पर १३ मई, १९६४ को चट्टान गिर गई थी;

(ख) इस घटना से न तो किसी व्यक्ति की मृत्यु ही हुई, न ही किसी को कोई जख्म आया और न ही सामान की क्षति हुई;

(ग) तीन वर्ष पूर्व, जब टेंडर बुलाए गए थे, पटेल एण्ड कम्पनी नामक ऐसी कोई भी फर्म ने कार्य के लिए टेंडर नहीं दिया था। हां, मैसर्स सीमेन्टेशन पटेल ने सुरंग के निर्माण के लिए टेंडर दिया था, पर चूंकि टेंडर की कीमत और कार्य के समाप्त करने की अवधि अधिक थी, यह कार्य उनको नहीं दिया गया। इस पर हाल ही में विभाग ने कार्य आरम्भ कर दिया है। नये टेंडर मंगवाये गये हैं; और

(घ) अभी तक कोई अनियमितताएं नजर नहीं आई हैं, अतः उच्चस्तरीय जांच करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता है।

(a) to (d). A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Slipping of rock face occurred on the downstream face of the diversion tunnel No. 1 under excavation at Ramganga Dam site on the 13th May, 1964.

(b) There was no loss of life or injury to anyone nor any damage to equipment.

(c) When the tenders were called for, three years back, no firm named Patel & Co. tendered for the work. However, Messrs Cementation Patel submitted tender for construction of

the tunnel but as the tendered cost and time of completion of work were excessive the work was not allotted to them. A start was made recently departmentally. Fresh tenders have been called for.

(d) No irregularities in the Project have so far come to the notice and the question of holding a high level inquiry does not, therefore, arise.

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री : कालागढ़ में रामगंगा बांध स्थल पर एक सुरंग की खुदाई के दौरान जैता कि मन्त्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में बताया एक चट्टान गिर गई थी तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह जितने भी बड़े बड़े बांध बन रहे हैं, जिनमें कि विदेशों से आया हुआ भारी मात्रा में करोड़ों और अरबों का धन लग रहा है तो क्या इस प्रकार से सुरंगें जो कि पूरी बनने के बाद गिर जाती हैं क्या उनको बनाने से पहले विदेशी विशेषज्ञों की राय नहीं ली जाती है और इस प्रकार की दुर्घटनाएं क्यों होती हैं ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: There is a Board of Consultants for this project and there are foreign experts on that. In this particular case the rock face was bad and a portal was to be constructed; but, unfortunately, there was a sudden rainfall and that resulted in the slip.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether it was revealed afterwards, that is, after it was completed, that there was a defect in the rock face. Why could the engineers not make an assessment before and find out that there was this defect and make sure themselves so that money might not have been spent on it?

Dr. K. L. Rao: That is what I explained. I have submitted that we knew that the rock face at the portal was bad and, therefore, the project authorities wanted to construct a portal structure which would prevent this kind of a rock slip. That was to have been done; but, unfortunately,

there was early rain in May which was unexpected and that resulted in the sliding.

श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कालागढ़ में रामगंगा के ऊपर जो बांध बन रहा है तो क्या सरकार को इस प्रकार की भी कोई जानकारी मिली है कि जो वहाँ पर ऊँचे और बड़े अफसरान कार्य कर रहे हैं उन्होंने अपने रिश्तेदारों को ही बड़े बड़े ठेके दे दिये हैं जिससे लोहा, सीमेंट और इसी प्रकार के दूसरे सरकारी सामान की भारी मात्रा में चोरी हो रही है और उन अनियमितताओं की जांच के लिए आप क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रहे हैं ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I am afraid, I do not have information on the subject. If the hon. Member gives me any specific instance, I will make an inquiry.

Mr. Speaker: It may be ascertained that no such thing happens.

Shri Iqbal Singh: May I know whether regarding this tunnel the views of any foreign consultant were taken; if so, the name of that consultant and his views thereon?

Dr. K. L. Rao: As I said, there is a Board of Consultants for this Ram Ganga Dam. On that Board there are foreign consultants also. There are Dr. Nickel, and Mr. Cook for example. These were discussed in the Board of Consultants and a certain procedure was laid down. Unfortunately, the work could not be completed. There was early rainfall and after that the sliding.

Shri Iqbal Singh: What were their views regarding this tunnel? My question was whether the views of foreign consultants were taken regarding this tunnel.

Mr. Speaker: He has said that in the Board of Consultants there are foreign consultants. He has given the name as well. Shri Alva.

Shri Joachim Alva: This kind of work of constructing of tunnels and

cutting down of rocks is always given to private contractors. Is Government going to make a serious attempt to handle this job itself departmentally?

Dr. K. L. Rao: There are good contractors in the country who do the tunnelling.

Mr. Speaker: Was not this work being done departmentally?

Dr. K. L. Rao: Tenders were called for and when we found that the tenders were very high this work was being done departmentally.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Alva should know that it was being done departmentally and not by the contractors.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: May I know whether the rock which is now discovered to have caved in was tested before the work began? Was it tested by experts to see that it will sustain and not fall down?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The tunnel has not caved; it is supported by steel structures at every two feet interval. What happened was that the rock face, the rock on the top of the tunnel, slid down.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : अगर यह हालत उन एक्सपर्ट्स की है जिनकी कि संरक्षता में यह डैम बना और वह गिर गया तो ठेकेदारों द्वारा बनाये जाने वाले डैमों का क्या हाल होगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री यशपाल सिंह ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या मन्त्री महोदय बतला सकते हैं कि इस डैमेज के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार ठहराया जायेगा ? इसके लिए स्टेट गवर्नमेंट जिम्मेदार ठहरायी जायेगी, सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट जिम्मेदार ठहरायी जायेगी, कोई डिपार्टमेंट, कोई कंटेक्कर या कोई इंजीनियर, कौन उस डैमेज के लिए जिम्मेदार ठहराया जायेगा ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो कहते हैं कि कोई डैमेज नहीं हुआ ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : वह कहते हैं कि बांध फट गया जिससे कि नुकसान हुआ है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अपने स्टेटमेंट में तो उन्होंने कहा है कि कुछ नुकसान नहीं हुआ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : नुकसान तो वह कहते हैं कि हुआ लेकिन वह कंट्रैक्टर्स के जरिए नहीं हुआ बल्कि गवर्नमेंट के जरिए हुआ है।

Dr. K. L. Rao: The work was being done departmentally.

Mr. Speaker: How much damage has been done?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is difficult to estimate the damage at this stage, but I expect that it will be under Rs. 50,000/-.

श्री दुषम चन्द कछवाय : यह सुरंग गिर गयी चूँकि इतनी कच्ची रोक वहाँ पर है तो बांध बनाने के पहले क्या इस चीज़ का अध्ययन करना जरूरी नहीं या कि भला इतने कच्चे पत्थर पर बांध बन भी सकता है या नहीं ?

Dr. K. L. Rao: We knew that the Ram Ganga Project rock was bad but the project had to be done because it has got a very large amount of benefits. For example, this project will irrigate 17 lakh acres. The only thing that we have got to do is to take sufficient precautions. We anticipated some trouble, and in spite of these we have got to do these tunnels.

Sea-Erosion in Kerala

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S.N.Q. 2. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Nambiar:
Shri P. Kunhan:
Shri Imbichibava:
Shri M. N. Swamy:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a two-mile of sea-coast in Purakkal (near Alleppey, Kerala) on the Cape-Comorin Bombay National Highway has been eroded during the last few days;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused to the people and the National Highway; and

(c) what steps have been taken to put up anti-erosion measures?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There was no damage to the National Highway. The damage to the property in the vicinity is small so far.

(c) The Government of Kerala have taken up emergent anti-sea erosion measures including artificial nourishment of the beach and construction of sea wall.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether the State Government has requested for any financial aid and, if so, what is the reaction of the Government?

Dr. K. L. Rao: The State Government had requested for the financial aid sometime back. They wanted that the money should be given as a sort of an aid or a grant. At present the money is being given as a loan. To decide whether this should be given as a grant or not, Government of India decided that the State Government can place this matter before the Finance Commission.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know, despite the fact that several anti-sea erosion measures are taken, why is it that this National Highway has been facing the threat at several points at several times?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is one of the difficult spots where the sea erosion is rather very severe. That is why we are constructing a sea wall, a new type of sea wall, to protect that area.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the Central Government have asked other Ministries, namely, the Ministry of Transport and the Ministry of Railways, to contribute a portion of the expenditure required as the threat is to the Railways as well as to the Highways?

Dr. K. L. Rao: It is for the State Government to make that request.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: In view of the fact that the Kerala State has a very long coastal line and the entire line is threatened by this sea erosion, may I know whether the Government are considering it as a matter of national importance to see that the borders of India, including that of Kerala, are protected properly and the Central aid is given?

Dr. K. L. Rao: I have submitted already that it is the concern of the Government of India to see that the sea coast in Kerala is protected properly because the areas are heavily populated and the sea erosion is rather more severe than in any other place of the country. As regards the question of aid, whether the money should be given as a grant or a loan, as I already submitted, the Central Government considered the matter and they thought that the matter should be considered by the Finance Commission.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Plan Shortfalls

- *153. { **Shri P. K. Deo;**
Shri M. Rampure;
Shri D. D. Mantri;

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the targets of the Third Plan in which there is likelihood of a shortfall and the extent thereof;

(b) the steps being taken to achieve the targets laid down; and

(c) whether there has been any improvement since the last Mid-term Appraisal of the Third Plan?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Information regarding likely achievement by the end of the Third Plan is given in Chapter III of the Mid-term Appraisal which was placed on the Table of the House in November 1963.

(b) and (c). Measures taken to improve implementation are given in the paper on "Steps taken or proposed to be taken in pursuance of the recom-

mendations of the Mid-term appraisal of the Third Five Year Plan" prepared by the Planning Commission and circulated to Members in April, 1964.

Rural Uplift Programme

- *161. { **Shri Sivamurthi Swamy;**
Shri Sadhu Ram;
Shri Daljit Singh;

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of the total outlay which has been earmarked for rural uplift programme in the Third Five Year Plan and in Fourth Five Year Plan; and

(b) whether any decision has been taken to allot more funds for rural sector?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Most development programmes contribute, in varying degrees, either directly or indirectly towards rural uplift. However, if the Honourable Members have in mind the Rural Works programme, a sum of Rs. 14.45 crores has been provided upto 1964-65. Provision is being increased from year to year.

(b). The dimensions and priorities for the Fourth Plan have not been determined so far.

Aid India Club

- *162. { **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah;**
Shri P. C. Borooah;
Shri P. R. Chakraverti;
Shrimati Savitri Nigam;

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had made a request to the "Aid India Club" for financial assistance for implementing schemes in the fourth year of the Third Plan; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

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

(b) A total aid of \$ 1028 million for 1964-65 has been pledged by the members of the "Aid India Club".

D.V.C.

*163. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that the D.V.C. should be allowed to function as an agency to plan for, generate and distribute power in the valley and to control its four dams;

(b) whether the West Bengal and Bihar State Governments had intimated their inability to share the cost of the D.V.C.'s new power projects because of their earlier commitments to the respective State Electricity Boards; and

(c) whether the Central Government have taken steps to amend the D.V.C. Act in terms of the changes brought into operation by the transfer of control of the irrigation system to West Bengal Government?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Final decisions have yet to be arrived at in discussions with concerned State Governments in the matter of functional reorganisation of the D.V.C.

At the time of formulation of the III Plan the Government of West Bengal had declined to contribute their share of the cost of the power schemes of the D.V.C., both in respect of some spillover projects from the II Plan and also in respect of new III Plan projects, if the amounts were to be included in the State Plan. Bihar had no objection to include contribu-

tion of D.V.C. share in their State Plan.

The operation and maintenance of the Barrage and Irrigation system of the D.V.C. has been transferred at present to the Government of West Bengal on an agency basis. For this no amendment to the Act was necessary.

Mana Camp

*164. { **Shri Mohammad Elias:**
Shri M. Rampure:
Shri D. D. Mantri:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of refugees who have left Mana Camp up till now and come back to West Bengal;

(b) the reasons for leaving Mana Camp;

(c) whether any effort has been made to take them back to Mana Camp; and

(d) whether Government have decided to open more camps to receive the refugees?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (c). Information regarding the exact number of migrants who have left Mana camp is not available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Some of the migrants have left the transit centres because of:—

(i) the hot climate of the locality to which the migrants are not accustomed, and

(ii) lack of adequate water supply.

Others have left either to join their relations in West Bengal or to reha-

bilitate themselves through their own efforts in West Bengal.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Krishna-Godavari River Waters Dispute

*165. **Shri Kolla Venkalah:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussion between the representatives of the Central Government and the concerned State Governments has taken place on the question of the utilisation of the Krishna and Godavari waters at the time of the recent zonal conference; and

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Facilities for House Builders in Delhi

*166. **Shri Brij Raj Singh:** Will the Minister of Works and Housing be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of building material have shot up and labour wages gone up after the issue of recent Gazette notification of Government regarding acquisition of land in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering an increase in the amount of loan granted for the purpose of construction of houses to Government employees and others; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide maximum facilities to the prospective house builders in Delhi to encourage construction of houses?

The Minister of Works and Housing (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) No.

(b) The question of a general increase in the amount of loan-assistance

admissible under the Low Income and Middle Income Group Housing Schemes is under consideration.

(c) A statement giving the required information is placed on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

Statement indicating facilities made available to prospective house builders in Delhi

A large number of developed plots are being provided by the Delhi Administration to prospective house builders, partly by public auction and partly by drawal of lots, the latter being confined to the Low Income Group category. About 10 000 developed plots are likely to be made available by the end of 1965. In addition, undeveloped land is being allotted to Cooperative House Building Societies which are expected to develop about 8,000 plots by the end of 1965.

(ii) The Municipal Corporation has improved the procedure for approval of building Plans, which are now being sanctioned more expeditiously. The Corporation also proposes to liberalise the building by-laws so as to allow larger covered area in accordance with the provisions of the Master Plan.

(iii) House building loans are being advanced under the Low Income Group and Middle Income Group Housing Schemes. The total amount advanced in 1963-64 was Rs. 46 lakhs under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme and Rs. 49 lakhs under the Middle Income Group Housing Scheme. The amount provided under these two Schemes during the year 1964-65 for Delhi are Rs. 54 lakhs and Rs. 60 lakhs respectively.

(iv) After meeting the needs of the Delhi Municipal Corporation and the New Delhi Municipal Committee, the Delhi Administration makes available almost the entire balance of its allocation of cement and steel to private house builders.

Rural Water Supply

*167. { Dr. L. M. Singhvi;
Shri D. J. Naik:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of the main problems in the way of effectuating rural water supply programmes and by what date or year the objective of giving drinking water to every village with a population of 500 or more would be achieved;

(b) the total cost and capital outlay for such a plan;

(c) whether any foreign or international assistance has been sought and secured and if so, the nature thereof; and

(d) whether there is an adequate cadre of public health engineers for the purpose.

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) The main problems in the way of carrying out rural water supply programmes have been the shortage of funds, material and trained personnel. Every effort is being made to provide drinking water to almost every village in the country by the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan period.

(b) It is estimated that a sum of Rs 500 crores will be required for providing water supply in difficult and scarcity areas alone;

(c) An amount of about \$6.5 million was made available by the U.S. Government in the form of materials and equipment for the implementation of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme (both urban and rural). The UNICEF have agreed to help in the form of material and equipment to the extent of about \$5,00,000 for the setting up of suitable pilot projects for rural water supply in selected areas in some States.

(d) There are competent Public Health Engineers in the country, but their numbers are not correct.

Rehabilitation of Refugees in NEFA

*168. { Shri P. K. Dee:
Shri Rishang Keishing:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the proposal to rehabilitate refugees from East Pakistan in NEFA; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Tyagi): (a) and (b). There is a proposal to resettle 1,000 new migrant families from East Pakistan in agriculture between Miao and Vijaynagar in the Tirap Frontier Division of NEFA. The detailed scheme has not yet been received from the NEFA Administration.

Inquiry by Income-tax Authorities

*169. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 657 on the 19th March, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the inquiry by the Income-tax authorities into the matter of a dishonoured cheque for over rupees one lakh given by a person in Calcutta has concluded; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). The fact that the cheque for over rupees one lakh given by this person was dishonoured was relevant for purposes of his income-tax assessment only in the context of the person's ability to invest rupees two lakhs in the shares of M/s. Raisina Publications, New Delhi within a short time thereafter. This point has been taken into consideration in making his assessment for the year 1963-64.

All the assessments of this person up to assessment year 1963-64 have

been completed and the undisclosed income has been assessed. Penalty proceedings for concealment of income have been started and these are pending.

Development of Backward Areas

- *170. { Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Rishing Keishing:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has been given charge of backward areas, declared as such, with the task of developing them;

(b) what are the specified areas;

(c) to what extent the refugees from East Pakistan will be beneficiaries of the development schemes, brought into operation by his Ministry; and

(d) whether the proposed development will be carried out primarily for local residents including the adivasis?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Tyagi): (a) The Rehabilitation Ministry has been made responsible for the development of such special areas as may be indicated by the Prime Minister from time to time.

(b) Preliminary studies are being made regarding the suitability of certain areas for this purpose, but no final decision has yet been taken.

(c) and (d). While the primary objective would be to secure an integrated development of the area having regard to its resources, the feasibility of rehabilitation of displaced persons in those areas would also be kept in view.

Contraceptives for Family Planning.

- *171. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Dhaon:
Shri Bishanachander Seth:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 211 on the 20th February, 1964 and state:

(a) where and when the project for the manufacture of rubber contraceptives in the public sector is likely to be set up; and

(b) the total outlay involved therein?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) and (b). The proposal is still under consideration.

Rural Industrial Projects in Rajasthan

381. Shri Tan Singh: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1334 on the 19th March, 1964 and state:

(a) the places where rural industrial projects are functioning in Rajasthan;

(b) the nature of work done by these projects; and

(c) the extent of success achieved so far?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The Rural Industries Projects in Rajasthan are functioning at Churu and Nagaur.

(b) The emphasis in the projects is on intensive development of small industries in selected rural areas. To start with, industries based on local raw materials, local markets and local skills are proposed to be developed. The industries programme is envisaged as an important part of the integrated and coordinated overall plan of development for the whole areas.

(c) The programmes have just started and it is too early to state the extent of success achieved.

Training of Officers Abroad

352. Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the names and designations of the Officers sent abroad by the Planning Commission for training during the period from 1st August, 1963 to 30th April, 1964 under the various fellowships and schemes;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange released in each case; and

(c) whether the entire expenditure on the training of these officers in U.S.A., U.K. and other European countries will be borne by the sponsoring organisations/countries/AID institutions?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. B. Bhagat): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2936/64].

अबैध सोना

३८३. { श्री श्रीकार लाल बैरवा :
श्री गोकर्ण प्रसाद :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिनांक ८ मई, १९६४ के "हिन्दुस्तान समाचार" में प्रकाशित एक समाचार के अनुसार रतलाम-श्यामगढ़ रेलवे स्टेशन पर १३ सेर १० तोला अबैध सोना पकड़ा गया ;

(ख) इस सोने की क्या कीमत थी ; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री ति० त० कृष्णमाचारी) :

(क) जी, हां; श्यामगढ़ रेलवे स्टेशन

पर दो यात्रियों के पास से, जो बम्बई से आने वाली फ्रिजियर मेल से सफर कर रहे थे, सोने की दस-दस तोले की १०५ छड़ें बरामद की गयीं जिन पर विदेशी चिह्न लगे थे।

(ख) अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय दर से ६५,६२५ रुपये।

(ग) अभी तक तीन व्यक्तियों को पकड़ा जा चुका है।

Medium Irrigation Projects

**354. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that progress of execution of medium irrigation projects in the States is very slow;

(b) whether Central Government's intervention was also asked for by public representatives in the case of Madhya Pradesh;

(c) if so, steps being taken for speedy implementation of the schemes; and

(d) which of the States have completed their schemes for 1963-64?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) There is likelihood of shortfall in the Plan expenditure on medium projects in some States.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter has been taken up with the State Government for taking suitable action.

(d) Schemes are not included in the plan from year to year but for the plan period as a whole.

गांधी सागर बांध

३८५. { श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा :
श्री गोकरन प्रसाद :

क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत् मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गांधी सागर बांध से राजस्थान को कितनी बिजली दी जाती है और उसमें से कितनी काम में ली जाती है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि बिजली की कमी के कारण बहुत से कारखाने चालू नहीं किये जा सके; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक ज्यादा बिजली दिये जाने की सम्भावना है और उसकी मात्रा क्या होगी ?

सिंचाई और विद्युत् मन्त्री (डा० कु० ल० राव) : (क) गांधी सागर बिजली स्टेशन से राजस्थान को लगभग ४३ से ४४ मेगावाट बिजली दी जा रही है तथा समस्त बिजली का इस्तेमाल हो रहा है ;

(ख) राज्य बिजली बोर्ड का यह कहना है कि वह अपने किये हुए वादों को पूरा कर सकने में समर्थ हो जाएगा ।

(ग) १९६७ से १०० से १८० मेगावाट तक अतिरिक्त बिजली मिलने की सम्भावना है ।

बीमा कम्पनियां

३८६. { श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा :
श्री गोकरन प्रसाद :

क्या वित्त मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस वक्त कितनी बीमा कम्पनियां भारत में काम कर रही हैं और उनमें कितनी कम्पनियां साधारण बीमे के लिये पंजीबद्ध हैं और उनमें कितनी कम्पनियां विदेशी हैं और कितनी भारतीय ; और

(ख) इन सब श्रेणियों की बीमा कम्पनियों की कुल कितनी आय है ?

वित्त मन्त्री श्री (ति० त० कृष्णमाचारी) :

(क) बीमा अधिनियम, १९३८ के अधीन, १ मई, १९६४ को एक या एक से अधिक श्रेणियों के सामान्य बीमे का कारबार करने वाली पंजीकृत बीमा कम्पनियों की संख्या १३८ थी जिसमें से ७२ कम्पनियां भारतीय बीमाकर्ताओं की और ६६ विदेशी बीमाकर्ताओं की थीं । इसके अलावा, अब भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम, जीवन बीमा और तीनों प्रकार के सामान्य बीमे के कारबार के लिए पंजीकृत है ।

(ख) ३१ दिसम्बर, १९६२ को समाप्त हुए वर्ष में भारतीय और विदेशी बीमाकर्ताओं को कुल लगभग ५५.९८ करोड़ रुपये की आमदनी हुई थी । इसके अलावा ३१ मार्च १९६३ को समाप्त हुए १५ महीने में भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम को कुल लगभग १८६.८४ करोड़ रुपये की आमदनी हुई ।

आयुर्वेदिक औषधालय

३८७. { श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा :
श्री गोकरन प्रसाद :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार ने दिल्ली व अन्य शहरों में आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सालयों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये अनेक उपाय दिये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस वक्त कितने आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सालय सरकार द्वारा चलाये जा रहे हैं और उन पर इस योजना में कितना खर्च करने के लिये रखा गया है ?

स्वास्थ्य मन्त्री (डा० सुशीला नायर) :

(क) और (ख) आयुर्वेद की डिस्पेंसरियों की स्थापना और व्यवस्था करना प्रथमतया राज्य सरकारों का काम है । स्वदेशी चिकित्सा

पद्धतियों के विकास के लिये राज्य योजनाओं में ६ करोड़ ५० लाख रुपये से अधिक की व्यवस्था की गई है, जिसमें आयुर्वेद की डिस्पेंसरियों की स्थापना सम्मिलित है। भारत सरकार ने केन्द्रीय स्वास्थ्य योजना के अन्तर्गत दिल्ली के गोल मार्केट क्षेत्र में एक आयुर्वेद की डिस्पेंसरी खोली हुई है।

Upgrading of Cities

388. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether more cities are likely to be upgraded on the basis of population and rising cost of living; and

(b) if so, the names of the cities which are likely to be upgraded?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) No, Sir; not at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Mahalanobis Report

**389. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri P. C. Borooah:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the report of Mahalanobis Committee; and

(b) if so, to what extent its recommendations have been accepted by Government?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The Committee has submitted only Part I of its Report. Part II is awaited. The Committee itself has desired that both the Parts of the Report should be considered together by Government. Meanwhile Part I of the Report is being examined.

Residences for M.Ps.

390. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Works and Housing be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts spent in 1962-63 and 1963-64 in improving residences of the (i) Members of Parliament and (ii) Ministers; and

(b) what further improvements are planned and the estimated expenditure for the purposes?

The Minister of Works and Housing (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Foreign Technical Personnel

391. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of foreign technical personnel employed on tax-free salary basis;

(b) whether any other category is also given this concession; and

(c) what safeguards are there to see that this concession is not misused?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The total number of foreign technical personnel employed on tax-free salary basis during the year 1963-64 was 1,638.

(b) Yes. Under the provisions of the Finance Act, 1964, concession regarding tax-free remuneration has been extended to the following two categories of foreign personnel, namely:

(i) persons who render service as professor or other teacher in a University or other educational institution where the contract of service is approved by the Central Government; and

(ii) persons who undertake research work in India in con-

nection with a research scheme approved by the Central Government.

The concession regarding tax exemption is also admissible in the case of foreign individuals who are assigned to duties in India in connection with any cooperative technical assistance programme and projects in accordance with an agreement entered into by the Government of India and the Government of the foreign State.

(c) In all cases where a foreign technician desires to avail of the concession of tax-free salary for a period exceeding 365 days and in the case of all technicians having special knowledge and experience in industrial or business management techniques, he is required to get his contract of service with the Indian firm approved by the Ministry of Industry on behalf of the Central Government. While approving such contracts of service, the Ministry of Industry keep the following considerations in view. The Ministry of Industry satisfy themselves in consultation with the administrative Ministry concerned, if necessary,

- (i) that the employment of the foreign technician in question is really essential considering the needs of the project;
- (ii) that the Indian personnel with the requisite qualification and experience are not available;
- (iii) that the foreign technical personnel are covered by the term 'technician' as defined in the Income-tax Act, 1961;
- (iv) that provision is made whereby adequate Indian personnel are placed under training with the foreign personnel so as to be fit to replace the latter on the termination of their contract of service.

C.G.H.S. for Government Pensioners

392. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 152 on the 13th February, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the proposal for the extension of the Central Government Health Scheme to pensioners in Delhi has since been finalised;

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

(c) whether the parents of such Government employees will also be covered under the Scheme?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The details of the Scheme are being discussed with the Ministries concerned.

(c) The parents of Government pensioners are not proposed to be covered by the Scheme.

Banco Nacional Ultramarino

393. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Goans had their gold ornaments deposited in the Banco Nacional Ultramarino which was closed down on the liberation of Goa;

(b) if so, what action is being taken to hand over the articles to the owners; and

(c) by what time the proposed action is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The gold ornaments pledged and safe custody articles were removed by the Portuguese authorities to Lisbon when they left Goa. The question regarding the action to be taken for the recovery of these articles is under consideration.

बुन्देलखण्ड आयुर्वेदिक कालेज, झांसी

३६४. { श्री सुबोध हंसदा :
श्री स० चं० सामन्त :
श्रीमती सावित्री निगम :
श्री दाजी :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बुन्देलखण्ड आयुर्वेदिक कालेज, झांसी का प्रबन्ध केन्द्र द्वारा लिये जाने के सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (डा० सुशीला नायर) : केन्द्रीय सरकार के विचाराधीन कोई ऐसा प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

C.G.H.S.

395. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend the Central Government Health Scheme to other parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government have drawn up any plan in this behalf; and

(c) whether a copy of the same will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) to (c). The Third Plan envisaged the extension of the C.G.H. Scheme to Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Scheme was extended to Bombay only with effect from 8-11-1963. The allocation in the Plan is insufficient to undertake extension of the Scheme to the other cities.

रेडियो के एरियलों पर उत्पादन शुल्क

३६६. { श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा :
श्री गोकरन प्रसाद :

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रेडियो के एरियलों पर उत्पादन-शुल्क ५ प्रतिशत से

बढ़ा कर १५ प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री ति० त० कृष्णमाचारी) : (क) और (ख). एक कलैक्टरी में, वित्त अधिनियम, १९६४ द्वारा संशोधित केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क सूची (टैरिफ़) की व्याख्या इसी प्रकार की गयी है। इस व्याख्या के अर्चित्य और पहले की स्थिति को फिर से लाने की आवश्यकता के प्रश्नों की जांच की जा रही है।

Seminar on Rural Water Supply

397. { **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:**
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Seminar on Rural Water Supply has been held recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the main suggestions made at the Seminar; and

(c) the action Government propose to take thereon?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No, Sir. The Seminar held recently in Delhi was in respect of Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Works.

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

Irrigation Potential

398. **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold a Seminar regarding the full utilisation of irrigation potential created in the country; and

(b) if so, when it will be held?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) and (b). Yes, to discuss this matter, it is pro-

posed to hold a conference during the next Session of Parliament.

D. V. C. Canal

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

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the annual handling capacity of cargo in D V. C. Canal;

(a) how much is handled at present; and

(c) who is controlling the traffic at present?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) On full development the canal is expected to carry an aggregate cargo of two million tons annually.

(b) Commercial traffic in the canal has not yet started.

(c) Does not arise.

New Industries for Refugees

400. { Shri Gokulananda Mohanty:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shrimati Savitri Nagam:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2697 on the 30th April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether detailed schemes regarding setting up of new industries in Orissa have been received;

(b) if so, their outlines; and

(c) whether Government have considered the same and the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Tyagi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

792 (A) LSD—?

Industrial Corporations

401. Shri Gokulananda Mohanty: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Industrial Corporations which have been permitted by Government to invest money in industries in Ceylon, Iraq, Burma, East Africa and Libya; and

(b) the industries in which the Corporations propose to invest?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The following statement gives the required information.

S.No.	Name of the Corporation/ Firm	Country in which investment has been permitted	Industry
1.	Unichem Laboratories Ltd., Bombay.	Ceylon	Pharmaceuticals
2.	Jay Engineering works Ltd., Calcutta.	Do.	Sewing Machines.
3.	Orient General Industries, Calcutta.	Iraq	Fans
4.	Jay Engineering Works Ltd., Ltd., Calcutta.	Burma	Sewing Machines.
5.	Delta Spokes Manufacturing Co. Bombay.	East Africa.	Cycle Spoke
6.	Indian Hume Pipe Co. Ltd.	Libya	Concrete Pipes.

Impact of Plan Programmes

402. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the study of impact of Plan programmes on the levels of consumption, living and

employment and use of improved methods of agriculture; and

(b) the stage at which the matter stands at present?

The Minister for Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The technical and other details of the study have been discussed and finalised at a meeting of the representatives of the State Governments held on 2nd and 3rd May, 1964. A phased programme for the conduct of the study by the State Governments has been worked out; and consolidated report is expected to be ready by March, 1965.

Shortage of Anti-Rabies Vaccine in Delhi

403. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Mohan Swarup:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a dearth of anti-rabies vaccine in Delhi whereas the cases of rabies are on the increase; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide the vaccine and check the disease?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

X-Ray Instruments in Orissa Hospitals

404. **Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hospitals and dispensaries in the State of Orissa provided with X-ray instruments till the end of April, 1964; and

(b) whether the Central Government have given any X-ray instrument during 1963-64 to the Govern-

ment of Orissa or propose to give during 1964-65?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) During 1963-64 arrangements were made through the UNICEF for the supply of a single X-ray Unit and one set of District Laboratory equipment for the establishment of a District T.B. Clinic at Cuttack. A request has been received for the supply of an X-ray unit for the Purk Clinic which is under consideration.

Vigyan Bhavan

405. **Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:** Will the Minister of Works and Housing be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount collected as rent during 1963-64 from the Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi; and

(b) the total amount spent on repairs of Vigyan Bhavan during the same period?

The Minister of Works and Housing (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Rs. 60,525 was collected as rent from private parties. Ministries and Departments using Vigyan Bhavan for official purposes do not pay rent.

(b) Rs. 2,03,300 approximately on repairs and maintenance including water and telephone charges and horticultural works.

School Health Programme

406. **Shri D. J. Naik:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 771 on the 28th November, 1963 and state whether Central Government have issued instructions to the State Governments to take up School Health Programme in Community Development Blocks for improving the health of the school-going children?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): The Central Government have suggested to the State Governments that School Health Services should be started in the schools in the areas served by Primary Health Centres in Community Development Blocks which have necessary complement of staff by augmenting the existing staff.

Drinking Water Supply in Madras

407. { **Shri Dharmalingam:**
Shri Muthu Gounder:
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Dr. P. Srinivasan:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide assistance to Madras Government or Madras Corporation to improve the drinking water system in Madras;

(b) whether Central Government is aware that there is an acute shortage of drinking water in Madras State; and

(c) whether any foreign assistance has been sought either by the Central Government or the State Government.

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) The Government of India provides financial assistance to the State Government in the form of loans for urban water supply and sanitation schemes. During the Third Five Year Plan of Madras State, a sum of Rs. 950 lakhs, has been allocated from the Centre for such schemes including the schemes of the Madras Corporation.

(b) Yes, the Central Government is aware that there is shortage of drinking water in certain areas of Madras State.

(c) Information is being collected through foreign agencies in regard to a proposal for the installation of a desalination Plant in Madras city.

Irrigation Potential in Rajasthan

408. Shri Tan Singh: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the irrigation potential in Rajasthan during 1962-63 and 1963-64; and

(b) the extent to which it remained unutilized during each year?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) and (b). The desired information is given below:

1962-63	Lakh acres
Potential created .	8.92
Potential utilised .	6.57
Potential unutilised .	2.35
Percentage of unutilised potential.	26.4%
1963-64	
Potential created	11.46
Potential utilised .	9.31
Potential un-utilised .	2.15
Percentage of un-utilised potential . . .	18.7%

Rajasthan Canal

409. { **Shri Tan Singh:**
Shri D. D. Puri:
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Rajasthan have requested the Central Government to include Rajasthan Canal Project in the national project; and

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

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) and (b). The Government of Rajasthan have suggested that large irrigation projects like Rajasthan Canal Project should be financed by the Centre. The suggestion is under consideration.

Life Expectancy in India

410. Shri Tan Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased state:

(a) the expectancy of life in India as compared to other countries of the world;

(b) the social causes, if any, of infant mortality; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to curb this?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) Expectancy of life in India as compared to some other countries of the world, namely U.K., U.S.A., U.S.S.R., Japan, Canada, France etc. is as follows:—

Expectancy of life at birth

Country	Period	Male	Female
		years	years
India	1951-1960	41·89	40·55
Burma	1954	40·8	43·8
Ceylon	1954	60·3	59·4
Japan	1960	65·37	70·26
U.S.A.	1961	67·0	73·6
Canada	1955-57	67·61	72·92
England & Wales	1961	68·0	73·8
France	1961	67·6	74·5
Federal Republic of Germany	1959-60	66·69	71·94
U.S.S.R.	1958-59	64·42	71·68

(b) and (c). Some of the social causes of infant mortality are poor living standards, bad housing and sanitation, inadequate nutrition, lack of adequate potable water supply leading to epidemics, lack of education particularly amongst the mothers, inadequate medical and health services, prevalence of communicable diseases, harmful customs and attitudes resisting immunisation and unskilled midwifery practices. All these

are being taken care of under the various health programmes such as Town Planning, National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme, Nutrition, Health Education, Training of Nurses and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives, concerted attack on preventable diseases through National programmes e.g. Malaria, Smallpox Eradication etc. etc.

Rural Electrification in Orissa

411. Shri Mohan Nayak: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government asked for any aid for the rural electrification programme during 1963-64;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) the amount proposed to be given during 1964-65?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) A loan of Rs. 30 lakhs was released during 1963-64.

(c) This is under consideration.

Income-Tax Arrears in Orissa

412. Shri Mohan Nayak: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Income-tax arrears as on the 31st March, 1964 in Orissa State; and

(b) the number of appeals pending before the Tribunal?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The effective arrears of Income-tax in Orissa State as on 31st March 1964 amounted to Rs. 99·59 lakhs.

(b) 681 appeals relating to Orissa State were pending with the Tribunal on 31-3-1964.

Death of an Employee of Delhi Zoo

413. Shri A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a), whether it is a fact that an employee of the Delhi Zoo was beaten by two persons on the 8th April, 1964 and was admitted in the Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that after keeping him under observation for 24 hours, he was discharged from the hospital and he died after two days at his residence;

(c) if so, the circumstances of his death after two days of his discharge from the hospital;

(d) whether full medical check-up was done in his case; and

(e) if so, the findings of the post mortem examination?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) Yes.

(b) He was kept under observation for one night on the 8th/9th and was discharged on the morning of 9th. He died on the 11th.

(c) to (e). During the period the patient was in the hospital he was examined on two occasions. He was discharged on the morning of 9th April since it was thought that he was fit to be discharged. The post mortem revealed that death was due to rupture of spleen caused possibly by a blunt forced injury in the abdomen two or three days before death. There was abrasion on right thigh and on left leg below knee but no bruising was noticed on the abdominal wall in the region of spleen.

Manufacture of Scientific Equipment

414. { Shri P. Venkatasubbalah;
Shri P. R. Chakraverti;
Shrimati Savitri Nigam;

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission have made suggestions for the indi-

genous manufacture of scientific equipment in the country; and

(b), if so, when and how the suggestion would be implemented?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. B. Bhagat): (a) Yes.

(b) It is presumed that by scientific equipment Members mean scientific instruments and laboratory equipment. There is a separate Directorate in the Directorate of Technical Development termed as 'Scientific Instrument Directorate', which is looking after the progress of manufacture of scientific instruments and laboratory equipment. A meeting was convened by the Planning Commission in May, 1960 to review the progress of manufacture of this equipment in which the representatives of the C.S.I.R. Universities and Institutions, Ministry of Education, Defence, Commerce and Industry, other Government Departments concerned and representatives of industry had participated. As a sequel to this conference, a Central Scientific Instrument Organisation has been set up. Its main purpose is to render necessary guidance and help for the manufacture of laboratory equipment and instruments. In addition, a Working Group for instrument industry for reviewing the progress of the manufacture and for assessing the demand for the Fourth Five Year Plan has been set up with the representatives of Planning Commission, D.G.T.D., other Government Departments concerned and representatives of industry. The Working Group has submitted an interim report and final report is awaited.

Dam on Subarnarekha River

415. { Shri P. R. Chakraverti;
Shrimati Savitri Nigam;
Shri K. N. Tiwary;

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bihar Government have drawn up a scheme for two Hydel Power Stations

and a dam across the Subarnarekha river to supply power and water to the industrial belt between Ranchi and Jamshedpur;

(b), whether the scheme has been examined and approved by the Union Government; and

(c) the estimated cost involved and what will be the Central Government's aid in working out the projects?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Yes.

(b) The schematic details covering the Hydro-electric portion of the Project has been examined by the Central Water and Power Commission and these are being modified by the project authorities in light of the comments of the Commission.

The scheme covering the water supply works has been examined by the Central Public Health Engineering Organisation of the Ministry of Health and their technical clearance is expected to be issued shortly.

The approval by Planning Commission will arise after the above steps are completed.

(c). The estimated cost of the combined project is as follows:—

(i) Dam and Hydro-electric works
—Rs. 9.00 crores (according to original estimated)

(ii) Water works Installation
—Rs. 2.39 crores nearly.

The Central Water and Power Commission have been assisting the State authorities in the preparation of the project reports. As for financing the expenditure, that will be provided for in the State Plan in the normal manner.

बजीराबाद में पानी की टंकी

४१६. श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सीमेंट के

अभाव के कारण बजीराबाद में पानी की टंकी के निर्माण का कार्य प्रायः बन्द सा है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो ऐसी विषम स्थिति क्यों उत्पन्न हुई है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (डा० सुशीला नायर):

(क) और (ख) बजीराबाद में ४० एम० जी० डी० जल उपचार सैन्य का निर्माण कार्य जुलाई १९६३ में प्रारम्भ किया गया था। चालू वर्ष के प्रथम ३ महीनों में सीमेंट की कमी के कारण इस उपचार सैन्य का कंक्रीट का काम धीमा करना पड़ा। अब प्राप्त सीमेंट प्राप्त हो गया है और काम चल रहा है।

सोने का तस्कर व्यापार

४१७. श्री प० ला० बाबुपाल : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १ जनवरी, १९६४ से १५ मई, १९६४ तक कितने तस्कर व्यापारियों से लाया गया सोना पकड़ा गया और वह किन किन स्थानों पर बरामद किया गया और इसका मूल्य कितना है ; और

(ख) यह सोना मुख्यतः किन किन देशों से आता है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री ति० त० कृष्णमाचारी):

(क) और (ख) इस सम्बन्ध में सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और उसे समा की मेज पर रख दिया जायगा।

राजस्थान नहर

४१८. श्री प० ला० बाबुपाल : क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान नहर को जैसलमेर से आगे काण्डला तक ले जाने की योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो यह योजना कब तक लागू की जायेगी और इस पर कितनी धन राशि खर्च होगी ?

सिवाई और विद्युत् मन्त्रो (डा० कु०
स० राव) : (क) राजस्थान नहर के पिछले
सिरे तथा कांडला के बीच नौमार्गीय सम्पर्क
स्थापित करने की सम्भाव्यता का प्राथमिक
अध्ययन केन्द्रीय जल तथा विद्युत आयोग
द्वारा किया गया था। इस समय इस पर
परिवहन मन्त्रालय विचार कर रहा है।

(ख) इस अवस्था में प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Rural Housing Schemes

419. Shri K. N. Tiwary: Will the
Minister of Works and Housing be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most
of the States have not made use of the
funds offered to them for rural housing
schemes; and

(b) if so, the reasons given by States
for non-utilization of the fund?

The Minister of Works and Housing
(Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes,
it is generally the case.

(b) The reasons are as under:—

(1) The State Governments accord
low priority to rural housing.
The Block staff also do not give it
the same attention as they give to
other programmes included in the
budget of the Block.

(2) Shortage of qualified techni-
cal personnel like Overseers for
giving technical guidance at site
to villagers and also of skilled
labour and craftsmen required in
connection with actual construc-
tion of houses.

(3) The villagers are generally
not in a position to repay the loan
assistance available under the
Scheme on account of their weak
economic condition.

Jawai Bund

420. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the
Minister of Irrigation and Power be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to
assist the Government of Rajasthan in
expanding the Jawai Bund; and

(b) if so, the broad outline of the
proposal and the extent of Central
assistance required?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power
(Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) No such scheme
has yet been proposed by the State
Government for consideration. How-
ever, State Government are investiga-
ting and framing proposals to divert
Sai River water into Jawai Reservoir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Housing Accommodation in Bombay

421. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will
the Minister of Works and Housing
be pleased to state:

(a) whether an acute shortage of
housing accommodation is being ex-
perienced by Central Government
employees in Bombay;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Govern-
ment to meet the exigency?

The Minister of Works and Housing
(Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Construction of houses
could not keep pace with the demand
due to non-availability of suitable
land. Land has now been acquired
and construction of 1320 houses sanc-
tioned. These houses will be in addi-
tion to 847 units already available.
More houses are also being planned.

Expenditure on Nation Building Activities

422. Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: Will
the Minister of Finance be pleased to
state:

(a) whether any estimate has been
made as to the percentage of the total
amount of the budget of 1964-65 being
spent on nation building activities;
and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T.
Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The
Budget for 1964-65 provides for an ex-

penditure of Rs. 1164 crores, or about 46 per cent of the total expenditure on revenue and capital accounts excluding loans, for nation building activities. Including Plan loans, the expenditure set apart for nation building activities amounts to Rs. 1812 crores, or 53 per cent of the total.

Irrigation Schemes in Southern Zonal States

423. Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to each of the Southern Zonal States for the medium and major irrigation schemes by the Central Government separately in the shape of grants and loans (State-wise) during the last three years;

(b) the amount actually spent by each of the Southern States (State-wise);

(c) whether any special grants have been given to the States to rehabilitate the submerged villages; and

(d) if so, the amount given to the State of Mysore for the rehabilitation of the submerged villages of Tungabhadra Project?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) With the exception of Andhra Pradesh, none of the Southern Zonal States has, during the last three years, been sanctioned any loans specifically for the execution of medium and major irrigation schemes. The loans sanctioned to the Andhra Pradesh Government for the Nagarjunasagar Project are as follows:

Year	Loans sanctioned
1961-62	Rs. 10,00,00,000
1962-63	Rs. 10,00,00,000
1963-64	Rs. 10,50,00,000
TOTAL	Rs. 30,50,00,000

In addition, a further loan of Rs. 3,64,23,243 was given to Andhra Pradesh during the year 1963-64, to enable them to pay the interest charges due to the Central Government on account of the loans sanctioned to them.

The Southern Zonal States, like other States, are given Miscellaneous Development Loans as financial assistance for the execution of their Plan schemes including medium and major irrigation schemes. There is no provision for grants to State Governments for their Miscellaneous Development Schemes. The Miscellaneous Development Loans given to the Southern Zonal States during the last three years are as follows:

Name of State	Loans sanctioned for the Misc. Development Schemes during:		
	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64.

(In lakhs of rupees).

Andhra Pradesh	587.54	1454.02	1030.11
Kerala	646.10	1368.16	1321.94.
Madras	931.86	986.99	1375.80
Mysore	1390.24	1719.16	1373.60

(b) The expenditure incurred by the Southern Zonal States on medium and major irrigation schemes during the last three years, as reported to the Working Group on irrigation and power projects, is as given below:

Name of State	Expenditure incurred during		
	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64.
	Actual	Actual	Anticipated

(In lakhs of rupees)

Andhra Pradesh	1451.16	1410.61	1515.65
Kerala	169.88	166.55	161.22
Madras	464.44	488.42	610.10
Mysore	713.80	581.08	658.75

- (c) The reply is in the negative.
(d) Does not arise.

Vigilance Unit in Ministry of Works and Housing

424. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri Dhaon:
Dr. Mahadeva Prasad:

Will the Minister of Works and Housing be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a vigilance unit for eradication and prevention of corruption is proposed to be set up in his Ministry;

(b) if so, who will be its members; and

(c) its powers and functions?

The Minister of Works and Housing (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Such a unit already exists. A proposal to strengthen it is under consideration.

(b) It is proposed that the unit should be headed by a Joint Secretary.

(c) The main functions of the unit will be:

- (i) to investigate complaints and allegations of corruption and misconduct against the officers employed under this Ministry;
- (ii) to initiate and process disciplinary proceedings and other action as necessary against erring officers;
- (iii) to suggest ways and means for prevention and eradication of corruption.

Industrial Housing Scheme in Bihar

425. **Shri Priya Gupta:** Will the Minister of Works and Housing be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to State of Bihar for construction of houses for the Industrial Labourers during 1963-64; and

(b) whether there is any proposal for Industrial Housing Scheme at Katihar in the District of Purnea?

The Minister of Works and Housing (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Rs. 8.60 lakhs.

(b) Projects under the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme are sanctioned by the State Governments themselves. During the Second Five Year Plan, two projects for the construction of 200 houses at Katihar were sanctioned and 152 houses have since been completed.

Rural Electrification

426. { Shri Sham Lal Saraf:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages supplied with power upto the end of the 3rd year of the Third Five Year Plan under the Rural Electrification Scheme; and

(b) the proportion of this power utilised for industrial and agricultural purposes, respectively?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) A total of 37,457 villages has been electrified up to the end of January, 1964.

(b) Out of the total power supplied to rural areas, it is estimated that about 42 per cent is being used for industrial and about 40 per cent for agricultural purposes.

"Raid on Railway Employees' Residences"

427. **Shri Gulshan:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Excise Authorities raided the residences of certain Railway employees of Delhi Railway Station in May, 1964;

(b) if so, what was recovered therefrom; and

(c) whether any arrest has been made and further enquiry held?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). On 8th May, 1964, one person who had admitted to have received gold smuggled from Pakistan brought out two packages containing 44 kilos of gold from a railway quarter opposite Nizamuddin Railway Station in Delhi and surrendered them to Central Excise Officers. No railway residential quarter was searched by the Central Excise Officers.

(c) The case is under investigation. Four persons have been arrested in this connection.

Postings of Income Tax Officers

428. Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the normal stay of an Income Tax Officer Class I and Class II at one station;

(b) the number of such Officers who had continuously stayed in Delhi for more than 5 years; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) There are no specific rules for normal stay of Income-tax Officers, Class I and Class II, at any particular station. In practice, however, both Class I and II officers are transferred from one station to another between 3 to 5 years, although for administrative reasons they are also some times transferred earlier or retained beyond this period. Where there are a number of posts of Income-tax Officers in a large city, like Bombay or Calcutta, the Income-tax Officer may be kept on there for about 6 to 8 years but will be transferred to another circle or another post. Class II officers are not normally transferred from one Commissioner's charge to another.

(b) The number of Class I Income-tax Officers who have continuously stayed in Delhi for the last more than 5 years is three. One of these is under orders of transfer to another charge. The number of Class II Officers is 12.

(c) Due to administrative reasons.

Quarters in Ramakrishnapuram, New Delhi

429. Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Will the Minister of Works and Housing be pleased to state:

(a) the number of residential flats newly constructed which had been lying vacant in the Ramakrishnapuram colony, New Delhi and not allotted for more than three months after their construction;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the loss in the recovery of rent for the period they were allowed to remain vacant?

The Minister of Works and Housing (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) There are no quarters which have not been allotted for more than three months after completion of construction.

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

Income-tax Arrears

430. Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased state:

(a) the total amount of arrears of income-tax/super-tax outstanding for recovery on the 31st March, 1964 throughout the country;

(b) the steps taken to enforce recovery thereof; and

(c) the amount expected to be recovered during the current financial year?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The effective

arrears of income-tax|Super tax as on the 31st March, 1964 amounted to Rs. 170:08 crores. This figure is provisional and the final verified figures are not yet available.

(b) All possible steps provided for in the Income-tax Act, 1961 are being taken to realise the arrears.

(c) It is difficult to state with any certainty the amount expected to be recovered during the current financial year out of this amount. An amount of about Rs. 50 crores is expected to be recovered during the current financial year on the basis of the recoveries made in earlier years.

Sales Tax on Hosiery Goods

431. **Shri Chuni Lal:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2669 on the 30th April, 1964 and state:

(a) since when the matter of exemption of hosiery goods from levy of sales tax in Delhi is recommended by the Delhi Trade Advisory Board is under the consideration of the Delhi Administration; and

(b) the present position and when a final decision will be reached?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The recommendation regarding exemption of hosiery goods from levy of sales tax in Delhi is under consideration with Delhi Administration since February, 1964.

(b) The position in respect of levy of sales tax on hosiery goods in neighbouring States has since been ascertained and the Administration expects to take a decision in the matter shortly.

Power House in Garo Hills Area

432. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved a scheme for a power house to

be erected at Nangalbibra in the Garo Hills area;

(b) if so, the generating capacity of the power house; and

(c) the action taken so far to implement the scheme?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) to (c). Yes. Two schemes, one for 2 sets of 2.5 MW each and the other for 2X30 MW were approved. The 2X2.5 MW Station is under execution. The 60 MW were approved. The 2X5 MW ed by a Thermal Station at Gauhati, consisting of one 30 MW oil field steam set and two 12.5 MW gas turbine sets. The 30 MW unit has been ordered. Foreign exchange availability for the two 12.5 MW gas turbine sets is being explored. One 12.5 MW gas turbine set has also been allotted to the State for installation at Gauhati, from the Central Reserve Pool. This is now under erection.

Foreign Travel

433. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has eased curbs on foreign travel; and

(b) if so, the concessions given and the drain on foreign exchange involved?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A copy of the Press Note issued by the Reserve Bank of India on the 21st May, 1964 is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2937/64]. Having regard to the nature of the changes made, while it is not possible to assess the quantum of foreign exchange involved, it is anticipated that the effect will only be marginal.

Advances against Foodgrains

424. { Shri N. P. Yadav:
Shri P. B. Chakraverti:
Shri Yamuna Prasad Mandal:
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shrimati Akkamma Devi:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether directive issued by the Reserve Bank of India on the 22nd April, 1964 advising the Scheduled Banks to maintain a minimum margin of 35 per cent in respect of advances against wheat, excludes the Central and State Warehousing Corporations' advances to the Co-operative Marketing and Processing Societies;

(b) how the Cooperative Marketing and/or Processing Societies stand vis-a-vis other parties in respect of advances against warehouse receipts, so far as the exemption from the ceiling limits are concerned; and

(c) how far the Cooperative Marketing and/or Processing Societies are likely to gain benefits from the functioning of the Reserve Bank directives?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The directive issued by the Reserve Bank of India to scheduled banks on the 21st April, 1964, imposing certain restrictions on their advances against wheat completely exempts from its purview advances to co-operative marketing and/or processing societies. Advances to other parties against warehouse receipts issued by the Central and State Warehousing Corporations covering stocks of wheat are also exempt from the ceiling limits prescribed by the directive though the directive stipulates a minimum margin.

(c) Since the advances granted by the scheduled banks to co-operative

marketing and/or processing societies against wheat and other foodgrains are exempt from the purview of the Reserve Bank's directives, these societies stand to gain as the scheduled banks can liberalise at their discretion the quantum as well as the margin requirements in respect of their advances to these societies.

लोहे के लट्ठे

४३४-क. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या सिचाई और विद्युत् मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल में विदेशों से ६० लाख रुपये के लोहे के लट्ठे के टेंडर मांगे जाने थे ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि ये टेंडर विज्ञापित नहीं हुए ; और

(ग) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार को कोई अभ्यावेदन भेजा गया है और यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम रहा ?

सिचाई और विद्युत् मन्त्री (डा० कु० ल० राय) : (क) जी हां। ५० लाख रुपये के मूल्य के ८००० मीट्रिक टनों के कीफर बांध के लोहे के लट्ठों के लिए टेंडर मांगे गये थे।

(ख) जी, हां। अपेक्षित विशिष्टियों के लोहे के लट्ठे बहुत से देशों द्वारा नहीं बनाये जाते हैं और समय बचाने के हेतु विदेशी व्यापार मिशनो तथा भारत में विदेशी फर्मों के प्रतिनिधियों से टेंडर द्वारा एक सीमित पृष्ठलाख की गई थी।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

12.12 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE****REPORTED NEWS ABOUT BURNING OF
HOUSES AND SHOPS OF INDIANS IN
BRITISH GUIANA.**

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The reported news about burning of houses and shops of Indians in British Guiana.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Dinesh Singh): The population of British Guiana consists mainly of two non-indigenous racial groups. They are commonly known as the 'Africans' and 'East Indians' being respectively the descendants of the African and Indian labourers brought into the country over a century ago.

Of a total population of 590, 140 (according to the Census of 1961) Guianese of Indian descent are 289,790 and those of African descent number 152,660. This would be roughly 49½ and 32.7½ per cent respectively of the total population. People of Indian and African descent have been living in British Guiana for about 125 years and there has been no serious evidence of conflict between them until 1956 which led to the break up of the Peoples' Progressive party in 1957 and the formation of the Peoples' National Congress led by Mr. Burnham, a Guianese of African descent.

British Guiana attained internal self-government in 1961. In the elections held that year Dr. Cheddi Jagan came to power as a result of his Peoples' Progressive Party securing 20 out of 35 seats in the Legislative Assembly. The main Opposition is led by Mr. Burnham.

There are various factors that contribute to the troubled situation in British Guiana today. Apart from the ideological differences and the somewhat predominantly racial character of the two main Parties, the British Government's efforts to effect a new electoral registration system with an idea of conducting elections later this year under the Proportional Representation system has sharpened the conflict.

The present trouble has been going on since February 1964, largely as a conflict between two Labour Unions of the people of Indian descent in the sugar industry. It has, however, been joined by the people of African descent also. A State of Emergency was proclaimed by the Governor on 23rd May, 1964. According to reports received up to 26th May, 15 persons had died, 297 injured and 488 houses damaged or destroyed. No Indian national is involved in these disturbances.

Both Dr. Jagan and Mr. Burnham have visited the troubled spots and have appealed for peace. The British Government have flown further reinforcement of troops to the colony.

Shri Kapur Singh: What action do the Government propose to take to ensure that those East Indians who have suffered losses are reimbursed and a further repetition of this kind of incident does not occur?

Mr. Speaker: Indians?

Shri Kapur Singh: I did not say, Indian nationals. I said, East Indians. What diplomatic action or any other action do the Government propose or wish to take to see that those East Indians who have suffered losses are reimbursed and a further repetition of such incidents does not occur?

Shri Dinesh Singh: Government do not propose to take any action nor can they take any action. This is a

[Shri Dinesh Singh]

matter for the British Government. These people are British subjects.

Shri Kapur Singh: At the diplomatic level?

Mr. Speaker: He does not propose to take any action.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether the Government have any further latest information leading to the resignation of the Home Minister there and whether we are in communication with the British Government on this subject and, if so, may we know what is the latest information?

Shri Dinesh Singh: We understand from the newspaper report that Mrs. Jagan, the Home Minister, has resigned as a protest against discriminatory practices followed by the police. We have no official information.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know how many Indians have been killed at the hands of the police?

Shri Dinesh Singh: I mentioned in the statement that no Indian nationals were involved.

12.16 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

REPORT ON THE WORKING OF DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1963 ALONG WITH ANNUAL ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT REPORT.

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to re-lay on the Table a copy of Report on the working of the Deposit Insurance Corporation for the year ended 31st December, 1963 along with the Annual Accounts and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section

(2) of section 32 of the Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2758/64].

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON VARIOUS ASSURANCES, PROMISES AND UNDERTAKINGS GIVEN BY MINISTERS DURING VARIOUS SESSIONS OF THIRD LOK SABHA.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various sessions of Third Lok Sabha:—

(i) Supplementary Statement No. II, Seventh Session, 1964.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2924/64].

(ii) Supplementary Statement No. V, Sixth Session, 1963.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2925/64].

(iii) Supplementary Statement No. VII, Fifth Session, 1963.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2926/64].

(iv) Supplementary Statement No. XI, Fourth Session, 1963.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2927/64].

(v) Supplementary Statement No. XIV, Third Session, 1962-63.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2928/64].

(vi) Supplementary Statement No. XVII, Second Session, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2929/64].

(vii) Supplementary Statement No. XX, First Session, 1962.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2930/64].

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL PROJECTS CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LTD., NEW DELHI FOR 1962-63 ALONG WITH AUDITED ACCOUNTS.

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:

- (i) Annual Report of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi for the year 1962-63 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Audited General thereon, under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956.
- (ii) Review by the Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2931/64].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER SECTION 159 OF THE CUSTOMS ACT, 1962 AND SECTION 38 OF CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, 1944.

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (i) a copy each of the following Notifications under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 and section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, making certain further amendments to the Customs and Central Excise Duties Export Drawback (General) Rules, 1960:—

- (a) G.S.R. 697 dated the 2nd May, 1964.
- (b) G.S.R. 698 dated the 2nd May, 1964.

(c) G.S.R. 699 dated the 2nd May, 1964.

(d) G.S.R. 700 dated the 2nd May, 1964.

(e) G.S.R. 718 dated the 9th May, 1964.

(f) G.S.R. 719 dated the 9th May, 1964.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2932/64].

- (ii) a copy each of the following Notifications under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

(a) The Manufacture in Customs Bond (General) Amendment Rules, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 705 dated the 2nd May, 1964.

(b) G.S.R. 706 dated the 28th April, 1964.

(c) G.S.R. 711 dated the 1st May, 1964.

(d) G.S.R. No. 716 dated the 9th May, 1964.

(e) G.S.R. No. 717 dated the 9th May, 1964.

(f) G.S.R. 752 dated the 13th May, 1964.

(g) G.S.R. 776 dated the 23rd May, 1964.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-2933/64].

- (iii) a copy of Notification No. 1/64 dated the 14th March, 1964, as corrected by Notification No. 3/64 dated the 2nd May, 1964, making certain amendment to the General Regulations of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, under sub-section (3) of section 43 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2934/64].

EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUNDS
(SEVENTH AMENDMENT) SCHEME, 1964.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour and Employment (Shri R. K. Malviya): Sir, on behalf of Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Employees' Provident Fund (Seventh Amendment) Scheme, 1964, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 261 dated the 22nd February, 1964, under subsection (2) of section 7 of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2935/64].

12.19 hrs.

MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

'In accordance with the provisions of rule 185 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 3rd June, 1964, agreed without any amendment to the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1964, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th April, 1964.'

12.19½ hrs.

GOLD (CONTROL) BILL

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to move that the Bill to provide in the economic and financial interests of the community, for the control of the production, supply, distribution, use and possession of, and business in, gold and ornaments and other articles of gold and for matters connected therewith, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses . . .

Shri Ranga: Shame!

Shri B. R. Bhagat consisting of 45 members, 30 from this House, namely, Shri S. V. Krishnamoorthy Rao; Shri D. Balarama Raju; Shrimati Renuka Devi Barkataki; Shri Bali Ram Bhagat; Shri Laxmi Narayan Bhanja Deo; Shri B. L. Chandak; Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri; Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary; Shri Homi F. Daji; Shri M. M. Haq; Shri Prabhat Kar; Shri P. G. Karuthiruman; Shri Kindar Lal; Shri H. V. Koujalgi; Shrimati Sangam Laxmi Bai; Shri Mathew Maniyangedan; Shri M. R. Masani; Shri Jashvant Mehta; Sardar Gurmukh Singh Musafir; Shri Chhotubhai M. Patel; Shri T. Ram; Shri Shivram Rango Rane; Shri S. C. Samanta; Shri Era Sezhiyan; Shri Sheo Narain, Dr. L. M. Singhvi; Shri Rameshwar Tantia; Shri Balgovind Verma; Shri Bishma Prasad Yadava; and Shri T. T. Krishnamachari;

and 15 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 15 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee.

When the Finance Minister made a statement in Parliament on gold control on the 21st September last, he had promised that the Gold Control

Rules which had been promulgated earlier in the year under the Defence of India Rules, would be replaced at an early date by a statute of Parliament. This Bill is in pursuance of that undertaking.

The genesis of the Gold Control Rules and the present Bill has to be traced back to a number of years. Ever since Independence, the need to put all available resources to the task of industrial development of the country had brought the gold problem to the forefront of the economic issues facing the country. For several years, there will be a great need to import machinery, heavy equipment and essential raw materials vitally needed for the industrial development of the country. Such imports make a large demand on our foreign exchange resources, rendering it virtually impossible to set aside any funds for the import of consumer goods or non-essential items, among which gold has to be included. There has been, therefore, a virtual ban on the import of gold all these years. In spite of the existence of large stocks of gold in this country, the demand for fresh supplies of gold continues. This is mainly due to two causes, the traditional demand for ornaments and the demand in certain sections of the people to invest their surplus funds in gold. The existence of a large internal demand has led to an increase in the internal price of gold and consequent smuggling which at times assumed very large proportions.

To deal with the smuggling of gold, Government have taken various steps. Apart from the general strengthening of the administrative machinery, mention may be made of three important measures, such as the replacement of Indian currency by a special currency in the Middle East in 1959, the new Customs Act of 1962 and the prohibition of forward trading in gold. I should also refer to the amendments that were approved by Parliament in September, 1962, to the

Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, which added gold and silver and alloys thereof to the list of industries in the schedule attached. This was intended to assist Government in acquiring control over the mining and production of, and transactions in, gold as may be necessary or desirable.

All these measures by themselves, however, were not adequate to stop smuggling, mainly because of the continued high demand for gold in the country and the absence of any restrictions on the internal transactions and use of gold. Against the background of the national emergency and the need for a positive policy on gold, the Gold Control Rules were, therefore, promulgated as part of the Defence of India Rules. An element of surprise was necessary in the scheme of control that was announced. It was, therefore, considered essential to use the emergency powers of Government. However, as mentioned earlier, it is now desirable that this regulation is replaced by legislation on a permanent basis. The present Bill as introduced derives authority from Parliament's normal legislative powers and is in conformity with the constitutional provisions as they will be in force even after the Proclamation of Emergency is revoked.

Parliament is fully aware of the rationale of our gold policy, and the hon. Finance Minister had opportunity, on the previous occasion, to reaffirm our conviction that this policy was basically sound and justified by considerations of national interest. The smuggling of gold as such is not likely to be reduced appreciably, unless the internal demand for it as also dealings in gold are substantially reduced. The Gold Control Rules aim, therefore, at curtailing facilities for marketing gold, particularly in its primary form, with a view directly to checking smuggling and reducing the demand for gold as far as ornament-making was concerned, by requiring the production of gold ornaments of a purity not higher than 14

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

carats. This is intended to achieve certain social and economic objectives. The entire process of our development postulates that we progressively move away from traditional methods of functioning to a more industrialised society. In this context, there can be no difference of opinion about the need to wean away people from the lure of gold and to invite them to take a share in the growing economy by making their savings available for productive and purposeful investments rather than in unproductive investments in gold and ornaments. It has been our endeavour to encourage by various means productive investments and channelling of private savings into socially useful investments, and the House is already aware of the various measures that have been taken in this regard. To the extent investments in gold and ornaments are reduced, savings would be available for investment in more productive purposes.

Gold not only provided a traditional source of investment and satisfied a traditional social need for ornaments but also provided livelihood to a number of people,—some of them very skilled craftsmen,—working on gold and to others engaged in marketing it. It was, therefore, not unexpected that the Gold Control Rules should have impinged on a variety of interests and given rise to a certain amount of agitation in the country. The smuggler was naturally acutely unhappy, but the goldsmiths and the dealers also felt disturbed. Government had also to be sure that while effecting a socio-economic change in one direction, social hardships of a different character had not been created as a resultant. All these factors were considered by us and the need for a measure of interim relief to affected goldsmiths, even while programmes were being drawn up and implemented for their ultimate rehabilitation, as recognised. Accordingly, in September, 1963, Gov-

ernment requested an informal group of senior officials under the chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary, to review the working of the Gold Control Order in all its aspects and to suggest ways of improving and rationalising the control. The group submitted a unanimous report to Government, the full text of which was placed on the Table of the House.

A major amendment made as a result of this review as to permit self-employed artisan goldsmiths to repair and polish gold ornaments and to re-make ornaments out of old ornaments of a purity not exceeding that of the original. This was felt necessary as an interim measure while steps for rehabilitation and resettlement in alternative occupation for goldsmiths continued. The House will appreciate that rehabilitation and resettlement is bound to extend over a period of time.

I shall now refer briefly to the salient features of the various provisions of the present Bill.

Chapter I deals with definitions. No special remarks are called for except to indicate that banks do not come under the definition of a dealer. This has been done in order to enable the banks to handle ornaments or other gold articles for granting loans and advances. These institutions are subject to fairly rigorous control under the provisions of the Banking Companies' Act. It is, therefore, not considered necessary or appropriate to treat them as dealers in gold. The definition, therefore, specifically excludes them.

Chapter II is the basic chapter dealing with the restrictions on manufacture of new ornaments of above 14 ct. purity and prohibition of the manufacture of gold articles other than ornaments. There are restrictions also on the possession and sale of gold. Pawning and hypothecation of gold and ornaments has to be

kept as a separate business from that of dealing in gold. If the business is separated, restrictions on advances on gold ornaments would be subject only to the State laws that may be prevalent on the subject. The only restriction that is being placed is that if a pawnee wishes to sell any gold or gold ornaments which have been pledged with him, it will be according to such conditions as may be prescribed. The intention is that provisions somewhat similar and prevalent in some of the States, where such sales have to be made in a public manner, would be introduced so as to safeguard the interests of the pawnee and to prevent misuse of the privileges by the pawnee.

Chapter III deals with the licensing of dealers and refiners and certification of goldsmiths. Four categories of persons have been recognised:

- (i) The refiners will be responsible for melting of gold, purification and conversion into the required type of 14 ct. gold. The number of refiners will generally be restricted. Licences will be granted with reference to the facilities available with them, the checks and controls provided, the total quantity of gold used in the area as also the requirements of the dealers so as to assure an equitable geographical distribution.
- (ii) The next class will be the bigger dealers who have in the past been paying sales tax and have been registered as such. These dealers will have freedom to buy old gold ornaments and declared gold and sell the ornaments after conversion into new ornaments of 14 ct. purity.
- (iii) The next class will be the smaller dealers who have not been paying sales tax in the past. They would also be required to take out certificates.

They will be free to buy old gold ornaments and sell new ornaments of purity not exceeding 14 ct.

- (iv) The fourth category will consist of the certified goldsmiths who are essentially self-employed goldsmiths and have been given the authority to remake ornaments of purity not exceeding the original even if it exceeds 14 ct. purity and to repair and polish old ornaments.

Thus, all persons dealing in gold will be brought within the ambit of control.

Special provision has been made in this Chapter for public religious institutions to retain the gold in the form in which it is received as offerings as long as it is used exclusively for the purposes of the institution. No sale or transfer may, however, take place except as 14 carat gold. It is hoped that the provisions will meet the special problems of public religious institutions.

The next Chapter in the Bill is on "Declaration of Gold" and it may need a word of explanation. The report of the Group of officials which went into the problem was initially not in favour of allowing conversion of ornaments of higher than 14 ct. purity to ornaments of like purity. The report, however, envisaged that if conversion to a purity higher than 14 ct. was to be allowed, steps should be taken to call for declaration of holdings of gold ornaments beyond a certain limit as a logical counter-vailing safeguard. There is no reason to believe that such returns, if and when they are called for, will create any inconvenience or hardship to the ordinary housewife or individual and this provision will be used, if it becomes necessary at all to resort to it, with discrimination and discretion.

Shri Bade (Khargone): Have you decided the limit? What is the limit?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Bill only makes an enabling provision. The limit will be decided by executive orders, and the view of the House will also be taken into consideration.

I should like to repeat that no ceiling on holdings is being prescribed. What is intended is only a declaration above a certain specified quantity. As to what this should be will be decided by Government after taking into consideration the views expressed in the House.

The Bill has also a chapter on the Gold Control Administrator. The report of the Official Group analysed the desiderata to be fulfilled by the administrative mechanism in enforcing the gold policy and came to the conclusion that these could be best secured by a senior administrator located in the Ministry of Finance in the Department of Revenue and Company Law working in close liaison with the Central Excise and the Central Customs Department. Government have already accepted this recommendation and the Bill is designed to give the necessary statutory powers to the Gold Control Administrator. The Administrator will not only exercise the various regulatory functions, but also be responsible for pushing ahead quickly with the policy of rehabilitation of goldsmiths, in close association with the State Governments, who are also deeply concerned with this problem.

The remaining chapters of the Bill contain various miscellaneous provisions, including penalties for offences as well as the usual enabling powers and need no special comment.

While the scheme of control as it is embodied in this Bill is in our view realistic and workable, the ultimate solution of the difficult but important and urgent problem of gold which we are trying to tackle, will be to bring about a permanent and substantial reduction in the use of gold for non-

monetary purposes. In other advanced countries, including those which are themselves producing gold, the demand for gold for non-monetary purposes does not create any difficulties or intractable problems, but even so, extensive regulation of transactions in gold is by no means unknown.

We are trying to modernise our economy and to accelerate the tempo of development. We cannot while we are engaged on these tasks, adhere to social habits and traditions, merely because they are old. We must realise that they are now costly and burdensome, and add considerably to the strain on our resources. When this is fully realised and appreciated—and I am personally hopeful that this educative process need not take very long—gold control will be quite acceptable, and it can be administered without difficulty, to the great gain and advantage of this country.

I am also conscious, Sir that a far-reaching measure such as this cannot become law without the full and informed support of both Houses of Parliament, who will naturally like to examine the various provisions of the Bill and their implications in a detailed manner. I, therefore, move that this Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of both the Houses. I also move that the report of the Joint Committee be presented to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session of Parliament.

One word more. During the Question Hour a question was asked about the declaration of gold and I said that I would answer it while moving for the consideration of this motion. I have got the figures. The total quantity of gold of all forms declared as on 28th February, 1963 is 42,970 KG; in market value Rs. 42.98 crores.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide in the economic and financial interests of

the community, for the control of the production, supply, distribution, use and possession of, and business in, gold and ornaments and other articles of gold, and for matters connected therewith, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses, consisting of 45 members, 30 from this House, namely:—

Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao; Shri D. Balarama Raju; Shrimati Renuka Devi Barkataki; Shri Bali Ram Bhagat; Shri Laxmi Narayan Bhanja Deo; Shri B. L. Chandra; Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri; Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary; Shri Homi F. Daji; Shri M. M. Haq; Shri Prabhat Kar; Shri P. G. Karuthiruman; Shri Kindar Lal; Shri H. V. Koujalgi; Shrimati Sangam Laxmi Bai; Shri Mathew Maniyangadan; Shri M. R. Masani; Shri Jashvant Mehta; Sardar Gurmukh Singh Musafir; Shri Chhotubhai M. Patel; Shri T. Ram; Shri Shivram Rango Rane; Shri S. C. Samanta; Shri Era Sezhiyan; Shri Sheo Narain; Dr. L. M. Singhvi; Shri Rameshwar Tantia; Shri Balgovind Verma; Shri Bhishma Prasad Yadava; and Shri T. T. Krishnamachari and 15 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 15 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st August, 1964."

While moving this motion of mine for circulation, I have the support, I am sure, of many Members of this House, all sections of this House and of the Akhil Bharatiya Swarnakar Sangh. Recently they held a convention in Jaipur from 17th to 19th April, 1964, and they have demanded the withdrawal of the Gold Control Order. I am sure they have sent copies of their resolutions to the Finance Minister and other Ministers as well as to some Members of Parliament that it should be circulated for eliciting public opinion. The proposal to refer it to Joint Committee clearly shows that the mind of the Government is not clear and so they want to refer it to that Committee which would take evidence from the organisations, specially the Akhil Bharatiya Swarnakar Sangh. In principle it is agreed that the Bill should not be passed immediately and as such I am sure this motion for circulation, which is not a dilatory motion, can be agreed to. I wanted that this should come here again on the first day of the next session but because it is not known to me—I mean the date—I put 31st August 1964. Heavens are not going to fall if this motion is accepted by the hon. Finance Minister. I was opposed to the gold control order right from the beginning because I was sure that the three objects of the gold control order: check smuggling, unhoarding hoarded gold and bring down the price—could never be fulfilled by this

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

order because of the way in which it was drafted, and the way in which relaxation was given. After so many months of this order, have they checked smuggling? Daily we read that so much gold was hauled up by customs people at Dum Dum airport or Bombay airport. Smuggling is going unabated. It has not been reduced. I can produce figures for 1959-60 and 1962-63, even upto May 1964 which clearly show that it had not declined at all. We may have some psychological satisfaction but if we ask the hon. Minister outside this House will also say that it had not the desired effect.

What about the price reduction? What is the international price of gold—Rs. 60.50 but the internal black market price is Rs. 136 to Rs. 142. It can be had in Bombay or Calcutta or Kanpur or Delhi.

Shri Nambiar: It will be delivered at your house.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: People keep their ornaments for repair purposes. But no ornament is given. They are given a receipt that gold deposited is 2 or 3 tolas. You pay the cash at the rate of Rs. 142 in Calcutta or Rs. 136 in Delhi, Rs. 132-140 in Kanpur and any amount of gold can be had, 24 carat, 22 carat. What is the purpose? It is high time that Government withdraws the gold control.

What about the third object?—unearthing hoarded gold. It is most unfortunate that even during Chinese aggression when we demanded ornaments for armaments, who gave the ornaments? The poor workers or middle class shop keepers and others whose wives had only the *mangal sutra*, etc. they donated and not the maharajas and maharanis. Somebody, a middle class person, donated his marriage ring: some other ladies donated the *mangal sutra*, *Chinnah of suhagin*. Then, clause 15 says that the gold in the possession of *mandirs*, *mutts* etc. will not be touched. People who have got hoarded gold will try

to keep it with some mahants and not in the banks.

So, all the three purposes for which the gold control order was brought had not been fulfilled. The net result was that 5-7 lakhs of goldsmiths became unemployed and according to the resolution adopted at the Akhil Baharatiya Swarnakar Sangh, about 200 goldsmiths have committed suicide. I know three cases of suicide in Kanpur. When we raised this point, it was argued by Government that it was not 200 but merely 75, as if 75 suicides were justified under this Government. I feel that this Bill should be withdrawn. I object to this Bill because everything will go on. Smuggling will be there! hoarded gold will remain hoarded; the high prices will remain. They can put behind bars some persons for some agitation for some higher wages but the hoarders of gold or of food-grains will not be arrested because they are monopolists and capitalists who control the economy here. So, why should the five lakhs of goldsmiths be impoverished? They have given very valuable suggestions. I hope their resolutions would have been examined by Government and some action would have been taken. The hon. Finance Minister said on 21st September, 1963 that gold control amendments were necessary to alleviate the hardship of this class of people who had been working on gold as a means of livelihood. He thought that this Bill would remove the difficulties but under the various clauses of this Bill unlimited powers have been given to the administrator. I feel the administration had been given very wide powers taking advantage of this Bill: it will lead to further harassment of the goldsmiths. What do the goldsmiths want? They want that the gold control order should be withdrawn as it has not served the purpose for which it was promulgated. Their second demand was to recognise the Swarna-Silpa (Swarna Kala) as a cottage industry

and shoulder all responsibilities for developing it accordingly; to bring gold from countries from abroad and organise its sale through Government agencies; to sell gold to artisans and to the common people at a rate not exceeding Rs. 100 per tola. They should have mentioned Rs. 50. They have mentioned Rs. 100 because gold is being sold at Rs. 140 per tola, as the Minister knows. Then, their demand is to make suitable arrangements for selling the Swarna-Silpa products, along with other cottage industry products, both in the internal and the international market. They are very good people. They feel the brunt of the whole thing, facing unemployment, starvation and death. But if the Government is determined to go ahead, they want that at least these demands should be conceded, which are not only in the interest of the goldsmiths, but in the interest of the gold industry as such and in the interest of the country.

They also feel that if there is going to be any restriction, let the restriction be on the quantity and not on quality. What is the fate of the 14 ct. ornaments? They are very nice looking in the beginning. I have married once and I have a sister to be married. People who have purchased 14 ct. ornaments find that after 4 or 5 months, they become greenish or absolutely white. We know that with *mangal sutra* made of 22 or 24 ct. gold, our ladies go before the oven, prepare food and do all sorts of household chores, but still the colour does not change. But with the 14 ct. gold ornament, if she goes into the kitchen and prepares something, the colour is changed and in the evening it becomes greenish. Its colour is ever-changing. Gold cannot be a political leader, changing colour every time.

Certain 14 ct. gold ornaments were shown by the ex-Finance Minister; who may come into the Cabinet again, because this is only an interim Government. I have seen ornaments

made of 14 ct. or even 11 or 12 ct. But that is all for jewellery. For making jewels with diamond, panna or ruby, 14 ct. gold or even less is used. But for ordinary ornaments, it becomes very difficult to cast 14 ct. ornaments. I have seen in Calcutta and Kanpur the difficulty faced by the goldsmiths in casting 14 ct. ornaments. I wanted to know the truth of the slogan that 14 ct. gold cannot be used for making ornaments and so I went and saw for myself how difficult the casting is. They want four or five people together to do it.

About the quantity, you should not allow a person to have so much of hoarded gold. You should take all of it. If the Swatantra Party cooperates with the Government, Government can get much gold. When they assure their cooperation to the new Prime Minister, they should also assure that the gold will come out. So, I am opposed to this large quantity of gold being allowed to be hoarded. It should not be so much.

The gold control order has not done any good. The emergency is no more there, though on paper it continues. We have enough gold. Our ex-Finance Minister introduced the gold control order and compulsory deposit scheme. The compulsory deposit scheme was withdrawn. Why not withdraw the gold control order also? It has been found useless. I know that the present Finance Minister and the Minister of Planning, Mr. Bhagat, in their heart of hearts, if they have hearts, are convinced that the gold control order is useless.

With these words, I command my motion for circulation to the acceptance of the House. It is a harmless motion. Public opinion is already against it, because when our beloved national leader, Shri Morarji Desai, was unseated as a result of the Kamaraj Plan, people were happy only because he was responsible for the gold control and CDS, I am sure the hon. Finance Minister will accept my

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

motion for circulation of the Bill to elicit public opinion, because he accepts the principle that it requires circulation.

With these words, I pay my homage to those goldsmiths who have sacrificed their lives and committed suicide. I once again plead that adequate compensation should be paid to their families.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 31st August, 1964."

This as well as the original motion are before the House. Shri Sarjoo Pandey.

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय (रसड़ा) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, देश में संकट-कालीन स्थिति लागू होने के बाद जब सरकार की ओर से स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण आदेश जारी किया गया, तो सारे देश में इसका विरोध हुआ। देश के हर एक भाग से इस बे विरोध में तार आये और कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी ने दिल्ली में एक बड़े प्रदर्शन का आयोजन किया, ताकि स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण आदेश और जबर्दस्ती बचत योजना को वापस ले लिया जाये। जबर्दस्ती बचत योजना तो सरकार ने वापस ले ली, लेकिन गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर थोड़े बहुत मुधारों के साथ आज भी कायम रखा गया है।

हम देखते हैं कि लगभग हर मामले में सरकार का उद्देश्य तो अच्छा होता है। इस सदन में जो भी बिल आते हैं, मंत्रियों की ओर से उन को बहुत अच्छी शक्ल में पेश किया जाता है और उसके बहुत सुन्दर और अच्छे उद्देश्य बताये जाते हैं। गोल्ड कंट्रोल के सम्बन्ध में भी सरकार की ओर से यह कहा गया कि सोने की चोरी को रोकने के लिए और देश में सोने के मूल्य को नियंत्रित करने के लिए यह कदम उठाया गया है।

Shri Bade (Kargone): My submission is that the time may be extended by one hour.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री (बिजनौर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बहुत जरूरी बिल है और बहुत से सदस्य इस पर बोलना चाहते हैं। इसलिए इस का समय बढ़ा दिया जाये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी तो हम ने शुरू किया है।

The time allotted is five hours. What more do they require? For reference to the Select Committee more than five hours is not necessary. That would be enough. Hon. Members can make their points within ten minutes. But I will allow them fifteen minutes.

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : अभी माननीय मंत्री ने अपने भाषण में बताया कि इस बिल को लाने में सरकार का उद्देश्य क्या है। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि हम लोग सरकार के उद्देश्यों से ज्यादा प्रभावित नहीं होते हैं, बल्कि वह जो कदम उठाती है, जो कार्यवाही करती है और उस के जो नतीजे होते हैं, उन से प्रभावित होते हैं।

12.58 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair**]

जो बड़ी बड़ी बातें सरकार बनाती है, उन से हमारा कोई मतलब नहीं है। हम तो यह देखना चाहते हैं कि उन बातों का नतीजा क्या होता है।

जहां तक स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण योजना का सम्बन्ध है, इस का कोई अच्छा नतीजा देश के सामने नहीं आया है। जैसा कि मेरे पूर्व-वक्ता ने कहा है, इस से न सोने की चोर-बाजारी कम हुई है और न देश में सोने का मोह कम हुआ है, बल्कि वह और बढ़ गया है। जैसे, सरकार ने शराब-बन्दी की, लेकिन उस के बाद लोग

चोरी से शराब बनाने लगे और ज्यादा शराब पीने लगे। इसी प्रकार स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण से देश में सोने का मोह कम नहीं हुआ है, बल्कि सोने की चोर-बाजारी बढ़ गई है। सोना आज भी सब दुकानों पर चोरी से बिकता है। जिस तरह से हर घर में शराब की भट्टी बन गई है, उसी तरह हर घर में सोना बिक रहा है और उसका काम हो रहा है और इस प्रकार सरकार का उद्देश्य खत्म हो गया है। इसलिए प्रश्न यह है कि इस कानून को लागू करने का मतलब क्या है? सरकार क्या करना चाहती है?

जो बिल हमारे सामने है, वह अजीब तरह का कानून है। इसमें इस तरह की धारारें हैं, जिन के कई अर्थ लगाये जा सकते हैं, कोई व्याख्या नहीं हो सकती है। सरकार के कानूनों के बारे में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह जितने भी कानून बनाती है, एक से दूसरे अधिवेशन में ही उन में सुधार करने की जरूरत पड़ जाती है। जब कानून कचहरियों में जाता है तो उसके टुकड़े टुकड़े हो जाते हैं। उसी तरह का यह कानून भी आप बना रहे हैं जिसके सैंकड़ों अर्थ निकाले जा सकते हैं।

13.00 hrs.

लोगों को आपने भारी कठिनाई में डाला है, ग़ज़ब की कठिनाई में डाला है। पिछली बार जब इस सदन में बहस हुई थी तो यह कहा गया था कि दो लाख के करीब स्वर्णकार इस कंट्रोल आर्डर से प्रभावित हुए हैं। उस समय भूतपूर्व वित्त मंत्री श्री मुरारजी देसाई ने कहा था कि कुल पांच हजार आदमी ही इससे प्रभावित हुए हैं, इतने से आदमियों पर ही इसका प्रभाव पड़ा है। उन्होंने इस बात को तो माना था कि देश के कोने कोने पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ा है, देश का कोना कोना इससे प्रभावित हुआ है। दो लाख की बात को आप छोड़ दें। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर पांच हजार ही आदमी भी इससे प्रभावित हुए और उनकी रोज़ी छीनी गई है तो यह भी आपकी ही

जिम्मेदारी है। आपका ही बयान अगर सही मान लिया जाये कि पांच हजार स्वर्णकारों की रोज़ी गई है तो अगर आप उनको रोज़ी नहीं दे सके हैं तो यह भी आपका एक बड़ा भारी सामाजिक अपराध है जिसका कोई भी जवाब आपके पास नहीं है। आप अपराध मृत नहीं हो सकते हैं।

आप ने जो बिल पेश किया है, इस में लाइसेंस लेने की व्यवस्था की गई है। बिल में आप ने एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर को वाइड पावर्ज दे रखी है, जो चाहे और जब चाहे वह आर्डर निकाल सकता है। एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर पर कोई किसी भी प्रकार की कानूनी बंदिश नहीं है कि दरअसल में वह क्या क्या वागम करेगा। लाइसेंस देने से लेकर के सोने को रिफाइन करके बनाने तक का सारे का सारा बोझा उस पर डाल दिया गया है, सारी की सारी ताकत उसको दे दी गई है। जब सुनारों को पहले लाइसेंस लेने के लिए मजबूर किया गया तो आपको पता नहीं कि उनको ऐसा करने में कितनी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ा था, किन किन त्रिकतों का सामना करना पड़ा था। उनको घूस देनी पड़ी थी यह लिखाने दिखाने के लिए कि मैं सुनार हूँ। उनको कहा जाता था कि फलों फलों जगह पर जाओ और लिखा लाभो पटवारी से लिखवा लाभो, लेखपाल से लिखवा लाभो कि तुम सुनार थे। उन गरीब आदमियों ने एक बड़ी रकम इस बात के लिए दी मजबूर हो कर उनको देनी पड़ी। जिनके पास दाना खाने को नहीं था उनको देनी पड़ी। उन्होंने जलूस निकाले, प्रदर्शन किये वे चिल्लाये लेकिन इस हृदयहीन नौकरशाही पर कोई प्रभाव नहीं हुआ। उनको बुरी तरह से पीटा गया। उसी तरह से फिर दुबारा लाइसेंस उनको लेने होंगे। जब लोग दफ्तरों में इन्हें लेने के लिए जाते हैं तो उनकी बहुत दुर्दशा होती है वे बेचारे हासिल नहीं कर पाते हैं।

[श्री सरजू पाण्डेय]

हमारे यहां लोग सोना या सोने के गहने क्यों रखते थे। फंड कर लीजिये कि एक आदमी के पास एक अंगूठी है। उसकी जेब कट जाती है। अब वह बाजार में जा कर उस अंगूठी को बेच कर पैसा प्राप्त करके अपनी जान बचा सकता है और सफर कर सकता है।

मेरी बात को माननीय मंत्री जी सुन नहीं रहे हैं, वह सो रहे हैं।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द (करनाल) : सोने के लिए यह बहुत बढ़िया कमरा है।

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : करनी तो इन्होंने वही है जो ये चाहेंगे लेकिन हमारी बात को तो कम से कम यह सुन लें।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। मैं आपका आदेश चाहता हूँ। जब इतने महत्वपूर्ण विधेयक पर वाद-विवाद चल रहा है और विरोधी सदस्य विरोध कर रहे हैं तो क्या यह उचित है कि माननीय मंत्री जी सोते रहें ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : वह सुन रहे हैं।

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने भाषण में कहा था कि लोग सोना खरीद कर अनप्रोडक्टिव कामों में अपना पैसा लगाते हैं और जब वही पैसा प्रोडक्टिव कामों में लगाया जायेगा। देश की तरक्की के कामों में लगाया जायेगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो पैसा है वह प्रोडक्टिव कामों में लगना चाहिये। लेकिन लोगों के पास जो सोना होता था वह किस तरह से आड़े वक्त काम आता था, यह मैं आप को बतला रहा था। अगर किसी आदमी के पास गहने होते थे तो वह वक्त जरूरत उनको बाजार में बेच करके पैसे प्राप्त कर लेता था। रास्ते चलते किसी आदमी की अगर जेब कट जाती थी और उसने अगर एक सोने की अंगूठी पहनी हुई

होती थी तो वह उसको बेच करके पैसे प्राप्त कर सकता था और जान बचा सकता था। अब इस बिल में क्या व्यवस्था की गई है, इसको आप देखें।

इस बिल में व्यवस्था की गई है कि कोई भी आदमी गहने बंधक नहीं रख सकता है, उनको बेच नहीं सकता है, उनको ट्रांसफर नहीं कर सकता है। उनको वह दे नहीं सकता है जब तक कि एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर की आज्ञा न ले ले। इसी तरह से जो आदमी इन गहनों को लेगा उसको भी एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर की आज्ञा लेनी पड़ेगी। अब अगर किसी के घर पर मौत हो जाती है और उसको पैसे की जरूरत पड़ती है तो पहले तो उसको आज्ञा लेने के लिए एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर के पास जाना पड़ेगा और उसको बतलाना पड़ेगा कि फलां फलां गहने को मैं बंधक रखना चाहता हूँ, क्या मुझे ऐसा करने की इजाजत है ? यह तो गजब हो गया। कानून क्या हो गया एक जेलखाना ही आप बनाना चाहते हैं।

आप ने कहा है कि इस कानून को पास करने में आपका एक उद्देश्य यह भी है कि आप स्मगलिंग रोकना चाहते हैं। मैं कहता हूँ कि आप एक लाख इस तरह के कानून बना लीजिये और एक लाख पुलिस वाले रख लीजिये, आप स्मगलिंग को रोक नहीं सकेंगे, चोरी करने वाले आपकी जेब में से चीज निकाल कर ले जायेंगे। चोरी करने वाले आपकी ही जेबों पर पसते हैं। चोरी को आप रोक नहीं सकते हैं। यह आप के बस की बात नहीं है। सोने की चोरी का आप क्या रोकेंगे, गुड़ की चोरी तो आप रोक नहीं सके हैं। अगर कोई आदमी अपने रिस्तेदारों के पास गुड़ ले जा रहा होता था तो उसको तो पुलिस पकड़ कर ले जाती थी लेकिन जो लोग दूक के दूक गुड़ के ले जाते थे उनको पकड़ना तो दूर, खुद पुलिस वाले उन दूक में बैठ करके उनको एक स्ट्रेट से दूसरी स्ट्रेट में ले जा कर बिकबा

देते थे। ऐसी परिस्थिति में क्या सरकार सोने की चोरी को रोक सकती है? यह स्वप्न की बात है।

मैं समझता हूँ कि सोने की शुद्धता गिराना ठीक नहीं है, उससे कोई मतलब हल नहीं होगा। मैंने पिछली बार कहा था कि सोने की शुद्धता को नहीं गिराना चाहिये। सोना २२ कैरट का चलता था, २२ कैरट का ही चलता रहना चाहिये। ज्यादा से ज्यादा अगर आप चाहते हैं तो सोने की मात्रा पर आप प्रतिबन्ध लगा सकते हैं और कह सकते हैं कि इससे ज्यादा कोई सोना नहीं रख सकता है। लेकिन सोने की शुद्धता गिराने का मतलब होगा यहां की कला को मार डालना। वह आपने कर के दिखा दिया है। आप जानते ही हैं कि १४ कैरट मिश्रित धातु का बनता है और यहां के सुनार प्योर सोने पर ही काम करने के आदी हैं। एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा था कि हिन्दुस्तान को आप यूरोप बनाना चाहते हैं। हमारे मुरारजी देसाई ने कहा था कि आपकी बात गलत है। लेकिन यह सही है कि यूरोप के मुल्कों में दस कैरट का भी सोना चलता है, नौ का भी चलता है लेकिन इसकी बजह यह है कि उन मुल्कों में गहने मशीन की सहायता से बनाये जाते हैं। हमारे यहां सुनार हाथ से काम करते हैं, वहां वे हाथ से काम नहीं करते हैं। इन हाथ से काम करने वाले सुनारों के लिए जहरी है कि प्योर और शुद्ध सोना हो। तभी उनका काम चल सकता है।

आपके कानून में यह व्यवस्था कर दी है कि पुराने गहने जिन के पास हैं चौदह कैरट से ज्यादा शुद्धता के, उनको उसी हिसाब से तबदील कराया जा सकता है, उनको अगर बनवाना हो तो उसी प्योरेटी में बनवाया जा सकता है। लेकिन मैं एक जवाब आप से चाहता हूँ। फाब्रिजीये मेरे पास एक छोटी सी धंगूठी है जिसको बनवाने के लिए मैं सुनार के पास ले जाता हूँ और उसको कहता हूँ कि इसको फिर बना दो। वह तभी उसको दुबारा

बनायेगा जबकि उसके पास सोना मिलाने के लिए होषा। इसमें कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था नहीं है कि कोई सुनार अपने घर में कुछ सोना रख सकता है। जब वह सोना मिलायेगा और मिला करके धंगूठी काट लेगा तब जा कर उसके पास सोना बच सकता है। लेकिन पहले तो उसके पास मिलाने के लिए ही नहीं होगा। इसके बारे में इस में कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है।

भारत देश इस पर विचार करेगा और अपनी राय देगा तब पता चलेगा कि यह गजब का कानून है। आप को लोगों की राय इस पर लेनी चाहिये। इसकी मार गरीबों पर, छोटे आदमियों पर होगी, जितनी बंदिशें हैं उन्हीं पर तथा सुनारों पर लगेंगी। सोना निकालने के नाम पर, मुल्क की रक्षा के नाम पर आप जो कुछ भी करना चाहते हैं उससे कोई मतलब हल नहीं होगा। यह जो वाद-विवाद हो रहा है, इससे आप की जो मंशा है वह भी पूरी नहीं होगी। जो आप चाहते हैं, जो लक्ष्य आप का है, वह पूरा नहीं होगा। बनर्जी साहब ने कहा कि देश के लोगों को ओपिनियन इस पर जाना जाये। दरअसल देश के लोग इन बारे में क्या सोचते हैं इसका पता लगाया जाना चाहिये। जब राय मालूम हो जायेगी तब देखा जा सकता है कि क्या किया जाये।

अभी जो हालत हो रहा है, उसको आप देखें। अभी तक यह हो रहा था कि प्रधान मंत्री कौन बने। रिकषा वाला, तांगा वाला, घोड़ा, आदि सभी इस बात को कह रहे थे कि दुनिया का कोई भी आदमः प्रधान मंत्री बना दिया जाये लेकिन मुरारजी भाई को न बनाया जाये। देश का कण कण, जरा जरा मुरारजी भाई के खिलाफ था। इसका कारण क्या था। गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर और कम्पलसरी सेविंग का बजह से लोग उनके खिलाफ हो गये थे। मुझे याद है प्रधान मंत्री जं के स्वर्णवास के दो दिन बाद जब घोड़ा मेरे पास आया तो पहला सवाल यहाँ किया और कहा कि पाण्डेय जी, इनको प्रधान मंत्री न होने देना। यह

[श्री सरजू पाण्डेय]

फालिग है सारे मुल्क में। स्वर्ण नियंत्रण से देश को कोई फायदा नहीं हुआ। न चोरी रुकी है और न हो आप को सोना मिला है। चोर-बाजारी हर जगह पर चल रही है। इसलिए मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि इस बिल को वापिस ले लिया जाये और देश को जनता का उद्धार आप करें ताकि देश का प्रजातंत्र सफल हो सके।

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (Amravati): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I for one welcome this Bill as also the motion to refer it to the Joint Committee, but I have every hope that the Joint Committee itself would vote against the Bill and will not bother the House any more. I, therefore, disagree with the motion made by Shri Banerjee that we should trouble the whole of India by inviting their opinion. I feel fairly optimistic that the members of the Joint Committee will themselves vote it down.

The purpose of the old Gold Control Order was a noble one. There were many reasons why it was justified. But it was a reform ahead of its time. We might be great idealists, but we have to be practical people first and then idealists because no idealism which does not have a practical basis can ever be realised. Ultimately, if we pursue mere ideals, the action becomes foolish and stupid; we reach no conclusions and we get no advantage. That is exactly what has happened with this Gold Control Order.

All of us were expecting that the hon. Minister will give us the achievements of the Gold Control Order, which is more or less the same as the Gold Control Bill that is before the House. What have we achieved as a result of it? From the various questions which were asked this morning by way of supplementaries, it was quite apparent that there was hardly even a silver lining to the whole affair. In no particular aspect

of the operation of the Order we have been able to achieve any spectacular success. The total amount of gold that was declared comes to hardly 1 per cent. We have been told that the total gold in the country amounts to about Rs. 4,000 crores. We have got only Rs. 42.98 crores worth of gold today.

Then, about smuggling the hon. Finance Minister or his deputy were not able to tell us that there has been much difference. They expect that in time to come it may be less. But after the Gold Control Order being in operation for about 15 months or more there has been no consistent improvement in reducing the amount of gold that is smuggled in the country.

On the question of price also, as has been pointed out, there is nothing as expected. Whereas the international price is Rs. 60/50 the prevailing price in India is very much higher than what it used to be when the Gold Control Order was not there. So, I submit that there is no aspect of the Gold Control Order which will incline us to continue this very desirable social reform.

I agree that the way we treat gold is uneconomic and is not in the interest of the country, probably because of ignorance and so on. I think, everybody will admit this fact that what we are intending to do is well-conceived and is desirable but that we are still in such a condition socially as well as economically and from the point of view of education also that our people are not prepared to support those measures, however good they may be, only because that ultimately they are in the interest of the nation. So, from that point of view I submit that in promulgating this Order and bringing forward this Bill we have not exercised our imagination properly and we have not been able to assess what the reaction of the people would be.

The trouble with gold is that although India contains the largest number of poorer people in the world—the proportion of poorer people in India is the largest in the world, probably greater than even in Pakistan which is on about the same level economically—that is in spite of that poverty even the comparatively poorer people also want to have something by way of security a little bit of gold and sometimes silver for their bad days. So, this traditional consideration and this traditional economic value attached to gold that exists in India cannot be denied and has to be taken notice of.

There were some ladies in this House and said that none of the this Control Order came before this House and said that none of the women will ever care for gold and will sacrifice everything when the nation's interest is concerned and so on. But these are all brave speeches which took no notice of the actualities of life.

So, I feel that there has been no facet of this reform which has resulted in any benefit either to the Government or to the country and has resulted in the suffering which we have inflicted on a large number of people. There may be exaggeration from the goldsmiths as regards the number of suicides, but there is no doubt that in our country when we are worried about unemployment, the refugee problem, rehabilitation problem etc., to add to that number by even a few lakhs of more people for rehabilitation cannot be considered a very wise move.

Taking all these things together I feel that there is no reason to continue this Gold Control Order. I think, the method which the Finance Ministry has adopted is a sound one, namely, of not taking the responsibility of killing this Order or withdrawing it but of leaving it to the chosen representatives of the two Houses to do the job. I am sure, the members of

the Joint Committee will take into account the failure on almost every item of the operation of this Order and will not permit this Bill to come here except for burying it and withdrawing it.

It was also considered that we will be saving in foreign exchange and that our foreign exchange difficulties may probably be eased considerably. Here also the replies that have been given by the hon. Minister this morning were not only halting but were something that did not support the continuance of the Order but only its withdrawal.

So, whether we take it from the point of view of gold that we have been able to discover and take out from hoarding, whether we take it from the point of view of reducing the demand for gold and lowering the price to at least the international level, whether we look at it from the point of view of making more foreign exchange available to us or from the point of view of stopping of smuggling, there is no aspect in which we have achieved any great success. Therefore, I submit that, apart from the various arguments which have been advanced, although they come from the Opposition, they ought to receive due consideration.

14 carat gold is a nice thing to talk about as also to say that all over the world people use less than 22 carat gold; but the civilisation, the social customs, the traditions and thinking in different countries is quite different. I am sure, nobody wears the kind of ornaments we make in India. Ornaments in India essentially mean pure gold ornaments; it never means of lesser carat. It may be an ornament but there is also the resale value attached to it. It is also a method of saving one's own assets. So, I think, initially this mistake was committed to equate the way of the European people and other people wearing ornaments with the Indian ladies and the Indian people wearing ornaments. There is a funda-

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

mental difference in the method of making ornaments. The kind of gold used is totally different. Before the introduction of this order, I am sure, in the whole of India not even 1 per cent of the ornaments you could discover which had even less than 20 carat gold. Every lady, every household insisted on getting the best possible gold because they did not want to lose when there was need for selling the ornament and getting the cash in their hands. So, I think, it was quite a mistake to think that since all over the world lesser carat gold was being used for ornaments, Indians also could use it. There is a lot of time for Indians to come to that stage. I, therefore, think that the earlier we stop teasing the people in this way the better it will be.

Hon. Members have referred to the way in which our administration works. Whenever there is a question of permit or licence or control, there corruption has a very big hand. We are trying to stop corruption. But by bringing about these controls and permits and licences, we open a large avenue for more people to become corrupt because that is, more or less, the rule in all these grants and permits and so on. So, I think, it is better to minimise as much as possible the possibility of somebody having the authority of making some undue and illegitimate profit. From all these points of view, I support the motion for reference to the Joint Committee but I hope and pray that the Joint Committee will not bother the House any more.

Shri Solanki (Kaira): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I also agree with Dr. Deshmukh that if a motion referred to the Joint Committee is rejected, there will not be any necessity for soliciting opinion throughout the country. I think, people throughout the country will agree that the Gold Control Order has failed just as the prohibition policy has failed in many parts of the country.

By the Gold Control Order, I personally feel, that the smugglers have benefited more, just as by the prohibition policy the bootleggers have benefited more. By this Gold Control Order the Government aimed to control gold smuggling and the gold coming into our country—aimed to shoot a tiger but instead killed a rabbit. The gold smuggling continues and I do not think any difference is made to the amount of gold smuggling in the country.

Sir, the primary objective of this Bill was the preventing of gold smuggling and diverting of the habit of hoarding gold and encouraging the people to put their assets into savings or other departments. I think we have failed in both these objectives. We have made thousands of goldsmiths jobless. According to my figure, 20 lakhs of goldsmiths, artisans and other people who are connected with trade have been made jobless now and we have not been able to provide any alternative occupation to them so far and many suicides have also taken place. But, besides that, I fully sympathise with the Government's objective in checking this gold smuggling and diverting the people's habit from hoarding gold into putting savings somewhere else. We are a poor country. We need these assets which are hoarded by the people amounting to nearly Rs. 4000 crores. The official figure is Rs. 1800 crores. It will amount to four years' national savings if we accept the figure of Rs. 1,100 crores per annum as the amount that we save in the country. We cannot allow this much amount of gold lying hidden wasted when our country needs money and gold for economic development. But our approach in this matter is entirely wrong. It is also a great concern for us that the smuggling still goes on. Nearly Rs. 40 crores per annum are lost in the foreign exchange when gold of the same amount is smuggled into the country. I think, the Government's figure would even reach in a region of

Rs. 50 crores per year. This is a serious concern for the nation. Some ways must be found to check this smuggling. Four ways were adopted by the Government when they tried to check smuggling. The first was by having the Customs and Vigilance Department; the second was by having the amendment in April, 1955 in the Sea Customs Act of 1878; the third was by issuing in May-June, 1959 a separate special currency for the Persian Gulf countries, and the fourth was by having this Gold Control Order. As a first measure, we had the Customs and Vigilance Department. As we know, corruption is spreading throughout the country in every walk of life. The Customs and Vigilance Department has done very little to check gold smuggling. Gold smuggling is a very prosperous business. In no other trade, a person can get hundred per cent of profit as in the gold business. The gold which is sold in the foreign markets, like U.S.A. and U.K. is priced at Rs. 53, or Rs. 58. To bring that gold into our country, we need foreign exchange. It is not possible to get foreign exchange through the Reserve Bank. It must be bought in the foreign countries at the black market rate or the Indian currency should be smuggled out and then the foreign exchange could be obtained. Today, it is not a secret that an English firm sells currency at Rs. 20 to Rs. 21 although the official figure is put at Rs. 13.8nP. Similarly, this money is taken into the foreign countries. They have to pay an extra premium for the purchasing of foreign currency, say at 35 per cent. Let us take the figure at Rs. 53 or Rs. 58. Probably, Rs. 18 would be extra premium that they have to pay for the purchase of that currency and if you add a few rupees on account of transport as it is to be taken into the country, it would come to Rs. 67 or Rs. 68 which is the price of gold here. But then that is the official rate that we have here. The price of gold in August was Rs. 120 and even today it is no less than that. It varies from place to place

because the nearer the place, the cheaper it is. It would be something in Bombay; it would be different in Bangalore, and it would be different in other parts of the country. That is how the price of gold varies. So, as we see, it is priced at Rs. 65 or so and nearly double the amount of that is obtained by the smuggler and he makes hundred per cent profit. It is a very profitable business and nobody can make him give it up. The Government thinks that if you want to stop stealing, you may open a counter and ask the thief to enter the name in the register before entering the house. It is the same way here. The Government expects the smugglers to declare their assets and their profits and stop their business. It cannot be done. There are Customs authorities at the airports, at the sea-ports and at other places who are all involved in this racket. Everybody gets a share just as it is in the case of prohibition. In Bombay, from the place the liquor is bought right upto the hotel room, everybody gets a share. The managers and even the waiters get a commission till the liquor reaches the customer. Similarly, it happens in this gold trade. It happens from the time it is brought from abroad to the country till it is sold to the customer. All the channels involved are paid. All the people engaged in the trade are corrupt.

This is the way gold smuggling has gone on. Besides that let us consider the efforts that Government might have taken to get the smugglers. Their efforts have not been very successful in this regard. Upto the year 1958 Rs. 1.75 crores have been got from the smugglers but the amount which they are smuggling into the country is Rs. 40 crores per year. This figure shows that the smugglers are still doing a very good business. Out of 17 consignments, one consignment is caught. Still they are scotfree with 16 consignments. Out of the 16 consignments they still can make a good profit. It comes to a profit of almost 600 per cent per year. Besides that, if they are

[Shri Solanki]

caught, there is insurance for them, namely, smuggling insurance. The Chairman, Mr. G. B. Kotak has said in February, 1963, that this insurance comes to 10 to 15 per cent of the value of gold which is brought into the country. If a man is caught, he is insured with the insurance company, and he gets the amount. All the smugglers are involved in this.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli): It is underground insurance business.

Shri Solanki: If it were on the surface they could have got them long ago. Everything is underworld here. This forms 10 to 15 per cent of the total value. If he is caught he need not worry. Within 4 or 5 days he gets the value of that gold. He is not caught every time. As I already said, out of 17 consignments, only once he gets caught. There is this insurance cover for him and he is not going out of business. He is not discouraged at all to give up smuggling. His other brothers will come to his rescue when he is caught. They come to his rescue, help him, and the business goes on. This way, smuggling is being carried on for a long time. Why does it go on like this? The official rate of gold brought in this country and the market price are poles apart. Every smuggler is encouraged to carry on this business. Unless and until Government fills up the wide gap by moving the official rate to the existing market price I do not think gold smuggling can be stopped. Either you have a popular price of gold.....

Shri Alvares (Panjim): How can you move it to 100 per cent?

Shri Solanki: There is no need to move it to 100 per cent. But there are other means by which you can discourage people from buying gold. I will come to that later. But this obviously is something which the Government should think about. Unless this wide gap is filled up gold smuggling is de-

finitely going to continue. It is no use our holding the price at Rs. 65 when the man can get at Rs. 125. Nobody is going to declare his gold to Government and nobody is going to sell it to Government offices. Who will sell it for Rs. 55 when he can get Rs. 135 outside? It is human nature. This wide gap must be filled up. People must be encouraged to put in their assets in other savings. We are a great country, but our saving, on an average, comes to Rs. 120 only and this includes the upper middle-class and rich people also. It is not a large amount of saving per person. The average figure comes to Rs. 120 or so per year. We must encourage people to put their money in other savings. But how can we encourage them? What is the rupee value today? The rupee value has changed. People have no faith in the rupee value. The value of the rupee today amounts to three-and-a-half annas of the Second World War. That is the price today. If the Government does not stop debasing the currency and does not stop inflation in the country, the rupee value is not going to be stabilised and as long as rupees value is not stabilised, people are not going to have faith in the currency. Therefore, they will not be encouraged to save in currency. That is why they invest in gold and other assets.

There are two things which must be done. The inflation must be stopped and if we are not able to control inflation, we must try to fill up the wide gap. The gap has widened, widened beyond our control and smugglers are making use of this opportunity. Inflation is beyond our control. We should try to check the prices. These are the two ways by which we can stop the smuggling and if we can stop the smuggling gold problem will be solved by itself. There is no need to put the goldsmith out of business. There is no need to hurt innocent people as we have done by the Gold Control Order. We want to encourage

people to put their assets into other savings. That is our objective. I have no objection to this. But the Government has not achieved this aim. We have failed in that regard. We have published a long list of gold rules by which we can get the regular transactions taking place, but the irregular transactions are never recorded in our list. Irregular transactions are going on.

Government should check gold smuggling and stop the wide gap in price of gold. They should encourage and inspire confidence among the people that the Indian rupee has as much soundness and stability as the pound in England, and then the people will put their assets in the currency. If Rs. 100 was put in post office, say, from 1939, from Second World War, till the end of 1962, what would be the value now that one could get? It would be under Rs. 300 with the compound interest at 4.5 per cent and the original sum. If you had bought gold in 1939, for every Rs. 100 of gold the present value is Rs. 600, which works out to a compound interest of 6.5 per cent added to the original sum. This is the wide difference in savings which people look at. This has discouraged people from stopping hoarding of gold and putting their assets elsewhere. This is so far as gold smuggling and the wide gap that I wanted to refer to.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri Solanki: I will conclude just now. The Akhil Bharatiya Swarnakar Sangh has passed a resolution. I want to submit a few points from that for Government's consideration. Their first demand is a simple one. Then they say:

"A similar system of maintaining accounts should be introduced so that Swarnakars can keep their accounts on their traditional way as the majority of the gold artisans are illiterate....

The time-limit, as envisaged by the Gold Control Order for 792(Ai) LSD—5.

obtaining certificate by an artisan will create difficulties for the apprentices and the future generation of the Gold artisans. Apprentices who will qualify themselves for independent artisanship will not be able to enter into the trade after the expiry of the time limit. Similar will be the fate of the sons and daughters of the present Swarnakars who are going to be debarred from continuing the trade of their forefathers. So the provisions for the time limit of certificate should be withdrawn and grant of certificates should continue.

Gold ornaments belonging to a customer but handed over to a Swarnakar for remaking should not be confiscated as this will create fear and confusion in the minds of the customers.

Every certified Goldsmith should be allowed to keep in his possession at least 100 grams of primary pure gold in excess of the quantity received from customers."

With these words I close.

Shri V. B. Gandhi (Bombay Central South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, here is a Bill which seeks to put the Gold Control Scheme on a permanent footing. Two successive Finance Ministers have blessed the scheme of gold control, and that makes it difficult for some of us to say something in disagreement with such authorities as the Finance Ministers. But I must place my views before this House, I owe it to the House, and I am going to do it as best as I can.

My first point is that we cannot agree to the proposal of making the for some of us to say something one. My second point is that the Government could, however, continue it for the present and kept in it in force for the duration of the emergency for say, six months thereafter. Thirdly, Government should then take steps to withdraw by stages the scheme of

[Shri V. B. Gandhi]

gold control so as to cause minimum dislocation to trade and industry in gold. Lastly, it is very necessary that we should have a clear idea of what the goals of policy should be in regard to gold in this country.

Is it that we should try to check smuggling and impose gold control and do nothing more about it? These, of course, are some of the goals, but there are others more important and more basic. There are long-term goals also that we should take into consideration. These include such things as, (i) removing the restriction or the embargo on the import and export of gold, and (ii) the securing of a parity between the Indian price and the international price of gold. These are basic goals of our gold policy that should be kept in view always, and not lost sight of in the midst of the other measures of the moment. These are, of course, the goals that will not only solve the problem of smuggling but will remove the problem altogether from the Indian scene.

It is stated that the reason for bringing this Bill forward was the prevalence of smuggling in this country. But smuggling can be checked without having to accept gold control. The remedies for smuggling are greater vigilance and stricter enforcement of law. Actually, we find that our customs officials have been doing a fine job of it under difficult circumstances. In 1960, they seized gold of the value of Rs. 10.93 crores, in 1961 Rs. 23.35 crores, and in 1962 Rs. 26.39 crores. That should be considered as good a record as anybody has a right to expect.

We are blamed for hoarding gold. Considering this question of hoarding gold dispassionately, I am sure it will be conceded that hoarding is common to people all over the world. It is cruel to call the Indian people a nation of hoarders. The British gave us that reputation. The hoarders here are not all literate people; there

are among the Indian people a high percentage of illiterate people who cannot sign a cheque or keep a bank account. There is also the other question about the availability of banking facilities.

During the last few years, the State Bank of India has done some spectacular work in expanding its branches. It has opened something like 600 branches in the last five years, but that is not enough; this country needs 60,000 branches or 60,000 banks and not 600. Now, in view of these things like our illiteracy and the paucity or inadequacy of banking facilities available in the country, it is only natural that people should tend to hold their savings in precious metals. Of course, their savings or what are called as their hoardings may appear to be large because of the large population of the country. It is in the aggregate that they appear large.

Annually, large amounts of gold are produced in the world, and most of this gold goes into, and should go into, monetary reserves. Actually what happened in 1962 was that out of the total supply of gold available in that year, that is, 1500 million dollars worth of gold, 80 per cent went into industries and hoardings, that is, into non-monetary reserves or into non-monetary uses, that is it did not go into the monetary reserves. I know that 80 per cent was rather a large percentage. But, normally about 500 to 700 million dollars worth of gold goes into monetary reserves. In 1962, it was hardly 305 million dollars. That large discrepancy was noticed by the International Monetary Fund, and they were provoked into making a remark, and that remark was a kind of admonition to those countries which indulged in this hoarding. In other words, hoarding is not all confined to one country, even though that country is illiterate and does not possess adequate banking facilities, but it is common to other countries as well.

Now, I come to the last point, my main argument. What makes smuggling so attractive in the case of India alone among the countries of the world? It is its profitability. Smuggling gold into India is very profitable, and it is worth taking all the risks that are involved in that profession. What happens is this: The fact is that gold in India fetches double the price it does anywhere else in the world. Here I have the price of gold in various world markets expressed in terms of U.S. dollars for a fine ounce, as at the end of April 1963. The prices were as follows:

In Beirut the price was 35 dollars for a fine ounce. In Brussels the price was 35 dollars and 20 cents. In Milan the price was 35 dollars and 38 cents. In Paris the price was 35 dollars and 23 cents.

In other words, the price was just round 35 dollars and a few cents extra. But in Bombay the price was 70 dollars, which is almost the double of in-traction towards India for smuggled reason why there is this irresistible attraction towards India for smuggled gold.

I said something about the long-term goals of our policy. In reply I may be told that we have not got the resources that would be required to try to achieve these long-term goals of our policy. True, we have not got these resources at present. But we shall certainly get them provided we keep ourselves facing in the direction of the goal, provided we do not turn our back on these goals.

We are told we need more foreign exchange. We agree. We need foreign exchange enough to pay for our imports, to meet our current deficit in balance of trade. We need foreign exchange enough to meet any possible drain through import of gold when barriers are let down. It can be done and it has been done by other countries. Only recently about two months ago Japan has done it. In Japan, in future, the aim will be convertibility

for internal payments. We also know the history of the long process through which Great Britain had to go for years to achieve convertibility of the pound. As I said, all through we must turn our mind in that direction.

We know that now international co-operation in economic and monetary matters is being constantly evolved. There is a new orientation in all these matters. Who would have thought it possible 10 years ago that there would be an Aid India Consortium which would help India with loans and grants of the order of over thousand million dollars a year? Then there is this recent instance of the U.N. World Trade Conference in Geneva accepting the principle of reserving 1 per cent of the growth of national income of advanced countries for the benefit of developing countries. Then there is, for instance, this development of Central Banks in Europe and America operating a pool in the interests of stabilising the price of gold—a kind of new co-operation in the international field. The new terms of trade constitute another source that helps us in the matter of having foreign exchange. We have very hopeful reports that efforts are being made internationally to see that the primary producers of the world will not continue to suffer on that ground.

These are all very hopeful signs and should give us confidence that if we should keep our goals clear we would achieve them sooner rather than later.

The Finance Minister is a man of imagination and I am sure that he will have his experts look into some of the suggestions I have placed before this House. He has an able team of experts and I am sure they will do justice to some of the suggestions that are made. It may take about 5, 10 or 20 years for us to achieve these goals of policy which I have mentioned. But there is no escape from it. We have to pursue that policy. Gold control, however well, administered, would appear to be a negative attitude towards a vital problem for the future of the country.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द (करनाल) : श्री प्रजापते नत्वं देता न्यन्यो विश्वा जातानि परिता बभूव । यत्कामास्ते जुहुम तन्नोऽस्तु स्याम पतयोरपेणाम् ॥

उपाध्वक्ष महोदय, इस वेद मंत्र में परमात्मा से प्रार्थना की जाती है कि भगवान् तुम स्वर्ण आदि नाना प्रकार की धातुओं के स्वामी हो, हमारे घरों में जहाँ अन्य प्रकार की उपयोगी वस्तुएँ हैं वहाँ हमारे घरों में स्वर्ण भी हो क्योंकि स्वर्ण एक ऐसा वस्तु है जिस के सद्गुण कोई दूसरी धातु नहीं है । बहुत सों धातुएँ पानी में पड़ कर गल जाती हैं, जमीन के साथ लग कर सड़ तक जाती हैं, अग्नि में तो समा समाप्त हो जाती हैं, किन्तु स्वर्ण एक ऐसा वस्तु है जो सर्वत्र रहने पर भी विनाश को प्राप्त नहीं होती । यह अग्नि में पड़ कर भी अक्षय रहता है । इस्पात स्वर्ण बहुत उपयोगी है । यहाँ कारण है कि हमारे देश में स्वर्ण का हमेशा से बहुत महत्व रहा है । आज तक भी यह देखा जाता है कि देवियों के जितने उत्सव होते हैं उन में वे गीत गाती हैं : "सोने के थाल में भोजन परोसो" । यहाँ पर सोने और चांदी के बर्तन होते हैं । यहाँ पर सोने और चांदी की दूसरी वस्तुएँ होती थीं । आप ने इतिहास में पढ़ा होगा कि हमारा पड़ोसी देश लंका इतना समृद्ध था कि वहाँ पर सोने की दीवारें हुआ करती थीं । दीवारें सोने की होती हों या नहीं लेकिन सोना बहुत मात्रा में वहाँ पर था । इस भारत-वर्ष को भी सोने की चिड़िया कहा जाता था । लेकिन मुझे दुःख होता है कि सरकार पता नहीं चाहती क्या है । जिस देश के अन्दर सोने के बरतनों में भोजन दिया जाता था, जहाँ पर लोग स्वर्ण के आभूषण धारण करते थे वहीं पर आज भोजन के बरतनों को आप ने टीन के या मिट्टी के बना दिया है । आखिर आप को इच्छा क्या है । आप इस देश को ले कहां जायेंगे ।

यह सरकार जो विधान तैयार करती है वह पता नहीं कहां तैयार करती है । मृग के सम्बन्ध में किसी कवि ने लिखा है :

असंभवं हैममृगस्य जन्म तथापि रोमां लुलुभे मृगाय प्रायः समापन्न विपत्तिकाले धियोऽपि पुंसां मलिनी भवन्ति ।

यानी सोने का हरिण होना असंभव है । वह हो नहीं सकता । परन्तु राम और लक्ष्मण विपत्ति के समय सोने का हरिण समझ कर उसके पीछे गये । मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सरकार की भी यही स्थिति है । वह भी इसी व्याधि में फंसी हुई है । उसके जितने विधान हैं, यदि आप उन को देखें तो वे विधान इस प्रकार के हैं जो मुसलमान नहीं बना सके, जिन को ईसाई सरकार नहीं बना सकी । इस तरह के विधान बना कर देश पर लागू किये जा रहे हैं । मुझे पता नहीं यह लोग कहां से आये हैं और देश को क्या बनाना चाहते हैं । इस देश की सरकार आज मुल्क को कहां ले जाना चाहती है मैं यह समझ नहीं पा रहा हूँ । मुझे दुःख होता है इस बात को देख कर कि आप सोने पर नियंत्रण करते हैं । हम को बतलाया गया था कि इस से सोने की चोरी रुक जायेगी । मैं सरकार से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या देश में इस से सोने की चोरी रुक गयी ? अभी विरोधी सदस्यों और कांग्रेस के सदस्यों ने इस को माना कि सोने की चोरी हो रही है और चूँकि वह चोरी हो रही है इसलिए उसको खत्म करने के लिए आप ने यह विधेयक उपस्थित किया था । लेकिन जब सोने की चोरी इस के बाद भी जारी है तब आप को इस विधान को वापिस ले लेना चाहिए । आप सोने के तस्कर व्यापार को रोकने में असफल सिद्ध हुये हैं । अगर आप में सोने के इस चोरी के व्यापार को रोकने की क्षमता व सूझ नहीं है, आप नहीं जानते कि उसे कैसे रोकें और अगर आप उसे नहीं रोक सकते हैं तो हुकूमत की गद्दी से आप हट जाइये ।

हम को शासन की बागडोर सौंपिये और हम आप को इसे रोक कर दिखा देंगे। आखिर यह सोने का तस्कर व्यापार कौन करता है ? इसका व्यापार क्या मैं करता हूँ या कोई गरीब आदमी करता है या कोई देहाती किसान व मजदूर सोने का तस्कर व्यापार करता है ? इसका व्यापार तो मालदार लोग ही करते हैं और वह भी विरोधी मालदार नहीं करते हैं बल्कि कांग्रेसी मालदार करते हैं। यह काम वह कांग्रेस के सहारे से ही करते हैं। अगर मंत्री महोदय चाहें तो मैं ऐसे लोगों के उनको नाम भी गिना सकता हूँ जोकि इस घंघे में लगे हुए हैं।

14.00 hrs.

अभी यह १०-१५ दिन से ज्यादा की घटना नहीं है कि पानीपत का एक सोने का तस्कर व्यापारी जोकि यहां दिल्ली में आया था वह यहां १०,००० रुपये का सोना बेच कर जब वह स्कूटर पर वापिस जा रहा था तब उसके साथी ने जोकि स्कूटर पर पीछे बैठा था उस ने उस व्यापारी के कोई ऐसा हथियार मारा कि वह गिर पड़ा, बेहोश हो गया और मर गया, वह रुपया लेकर इधर उधर हो गया। लेकिन कोई मुकद्दमा आज तक दर्ज नहीं हुआ। जब पुलिस ने जो मुकद्दमा दर्ज नहीं किया तो उसकी वजह साफ थी क्योंकि तब सवाल उठता कि उसके पास वह १०,००० रुपया आया कहाँ से ? पुलिस की साजिश से यह काम चलता है। पानीपत में आप चले जाइये। पुलिस को सब मालूम है कि यह सोने की चोरी का व्यापार कौन करता है और वह उनसे मिली हुई होती है क्योंकि उसका भी उसमें हिस्सा बंधा हुआ रहता है। यह चोरी आप की पुलिस करती है। आखिर आप की सीमाओं पर जहां से कि हौकर सोना स्मगल होता है वहां मैं नहीं बैठता और कोई नहीं बैठता वहां पर तो आपकी यह पुलिस ही निगरानी के लिए बैठती है। अगर आप इस चोरी को रोकना चाहते हैं तो क्यों नहीं आप

उन जिम्मेदार अधिकारियों को दंड देते और वहां से निकाल बाहर करते जिनके कि वहां यह सोने की चोरी होती है। आप इसके लिए उन जिम्मेदार लोगों को सामूहिक दंड दीजिये। देखने में आता है कि जो चरवाहे ठीक प्रकार से पशुओं की देखरेख नहीं करते, ठीक से उनको चराते नहीं उनको मवेशियों के मालिक नौकरी से हटा देते हैं। आप भी ऐसा ही क्यों नहीं करते ? अगर आप इसी तरह गफलत बर्तते रहे तो वह दिन दूर नहीं है जबकि देश की असली मालिक जनता आप को शासन की कुर्सी से परे हटा देगी। अभी हमारे अध्यक्ष महोदय कह रहे थे कि अगर मंत्री लोग ठीक से उत्तर नहीं देते हैं, मन्त्रिमं को उससे संतोष नहीं होता है तो मेम्बरस लोग उन मंत्री महोदयों को हटा सकते हैं। मैं सरकार को चेतावनी देते हुए कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह समय दूर नहीं है जबकि जनता उन्हें हटा कर फेंक देगी। अगर मेरे कहने का सरकार को विश्वास न हो तो वह विधान मंडलों और इस लोक-सभा को स्थगित कर के जनता के सामने चुनाव के लिए अपने को पेश करे और अगर जनता की राय वह उसके लिए मांगेंगे तो उन्हें पता चल जायेगा कि मैं जो कह रहा हूँ वह सही कह रहा हूँ।

सरकारों को स्वर्णकारों के बारे में ध्यानपूर्वक सोचना होगा। आप कहते हैं कि केवल २०० सुनार मरे हैं लेकिन मैं उनको सत्य बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि और मैं अपने क्षेत्र के कितने ही सुनार परिवारों की सूची हालत बतला सकता हूँ। अब वहां सुनार के घर जवान लड़की बँठी होती है और वह लड़की का विवाह नहीं कर सकता। आज नौबत यह आ गयी है कि वह और उसके बालबच्चे भूखों मर रहे हैं। इसलिए केवल २०० सुनार ही नहीं मरे हैं बल्कि मैं तो कहता हूँ कि सभी मरे जा रहे हैं।

भूतपूर्व वित्त मंत्री के पास मध्य प्रदेश के सुनारों का एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल आया था। उन्होंने मंत्री महोदय से कहा कि सरकार हमें

[श्री रामेश्वरानन्द]

मारने लग रही है। यह जो अधिनियम सरकार ने लागू किया है उसके हमारी हालत बड़ी भ्रष्ट हो गयी है और उसके परिणामस्वरूप इतने आदमी मर गये। उन्होंने कहा था कि इसमें बात क्या है, जब चीन की लड़ाई में इतने भारतीय मर रहे हैं तो अगर तुम लोग भी थोड़े से मर जाओगे तो क्या होगा। मैं आप से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस प्रकार का उत्तर देने वाला व्यक्ति सरकार में होने योग्य है? एक प्रजातंत्री सरकार में उसके मंत्री प्रजावत्सल होने चाहिए। अगर किसी प्रजाजन के कांटा लग जाता है तो मंत्री को उसका दुःख अनुभव करना चाहिए और प्रजा के दुःख में उसको भी दुखित होना चाहिए। आप अपने को प्रजातंत्री सरकार कहते हैं। देश के लोगों ने यह जान कर कि हमारे शासक देश में रामराज्य लाना चाहते हैं, बड़े सुख व सन्तोष की सांस ली थी। लेकिन दरअसल हुआ यह कि शासक लाना तो चाहते थे रामराज्य लेकिन वह ले आये कामराज्य। उस कामराज्य प्लान के अन्दर शासक वर्ग में जो तबदीलियाँ की गईं, भुझे उनसे कोई सरोकार नहीं लेकिन इतना मैं अवश्य कहूँगा कि उसके अन्तर्गत उस समय वित्त मन्त्री देसाई को जब कामराज ने बाहर ले जाकर पटक दिया तो देश ने घी के चिराग जलाये और आम तौर पर कहा जाने लगा कि अच्छा हुआ। मैं जो यह कह रहा हूँ वह सच है या नहीं इसे आप स्वयं जनता से पूछ कर देख सकते हैं।

हमारे प्रशासकों को यह नहीं भूलाना है कि इस देश की दरअसल मालिक उसकी करोड़ों जनता है। हमको वह दिन अच्छी तरह से याद है जबकि अंग्रेजों का डंडा चलता था। पहले चुनाव किये गये। हालाँकि हम लोगों को बागी घोषित किया हुआ था लेकिन रात में चुपके से भेस बदल कर हम लोगों को जा-जा कर कहते थे कि भाई कांग्रेस उम्मीदवारों को अपनी राय देनी है और हर कोई

जानता है कि किस तरीके से जनता ने अपनी स्वतन्त्रता के लिए वैधानिक तरीके से और अन्य तरीकों से आन्दोलन किया और अंग्रेजी सरकार का तख्ता हिन्दुस्तान में पलट कर ही दम लिया। लेकिन आज वही जनता जिसने कांग्रेस को चुनावों में जिताया, उसके विरुद्ध होती जा रही है और जगह-जगह पर जनता कांग्रेसी उम्मीदवारों को हरा कर अपना विरोध और असन्तोष प्रकट कर रही है। करनाल की म्युनिसिपैल्टियों के छोटे-छोटे चुनावों को देख लीजिये और दूसरी जगह भी देख लीजिये कि वहाँ पर आज कांग्रेस उम्मीदवारों को मुंह की खानी पड़ रही है। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप थोड़ा सोच कर और समझ कर चलें। आज सुनार बैरोजगार और निर्धनता के शिकार होकर कम्युनिस्टों का सहारा ले रहे हैं। अब यह सुनार भी उनके पास पहुँच रहे हैं और यह उनसे आशा कर रहे हैं कि वह उन्हें ठीक बनायेंगे। सरकार को सोच समझ कर विधान बनाना चाहिए था। सरकार ने कहा कि हम सुनारों को सहायता देंगे। करनाल जिले में एक, एक सुनार को ३०० रुपये के कर्ज की सहायता दी। अब वह सुनार जिसके कि पास एक बड़ा परिवार है वह आप ही बतलाइये कि ३०० रुपये में वह क्या कर लेगा? क्या इस थोड़ी सी रकम में वह कोई काम करने के लायक रहेगा? सहायता भी दी है तो कर्ज के रूप में दी है। इसी तरह गुजरात के सम्बन्ध में मैंने सुना है कि ३५,००० सुनारों में से ३,००० सुनारों को सहायता दी है। वह भी उन लोगों को मिली है जो कि कांग्रेस के आगे, पीछे रहते थे। उन लोगों को ही यह सहायता मिली है, दूसरे लोगों को यह भी नहीं मिली है। इस तरह से देश का भला होने वाला नहीं है। इसके लिए आप को सोच समझ कर चलना पड़ेगा। इसके लिए आप को ऐसा विधान बनाना पड़ेगा जो कि देश के हित में हो। मैं नहीं समझता कि प्रजातन्त्र में प्रजा की अपेक्षा कदापि शासक का दर्जा ऊँचा होता है।

सब लोग महाराजा राम की कथा से परिचित हैं। जिस समय श्री राम लंका के राजा रावण को मार कर सीता को लेकर अयोध्या वापस आये, एक दिन की बात है कि जब वह भैरव बदल कर अयोध्या नगरी में गश्त लगा रहे थे और जनता की सच्ची हालत का पता लगा रहे थे तो उन्होंने एक घोबी को अपनी घोबिन स्त्री को जो कि पिछली रात किसी पड़ोसी के घर चली गयी थी, दूसरे दिन सबेरे आई और वह अपने पति घोबी की खुशामद करने लगी कि मुझे तुम घर में रख लो। घोबी ने अपनी उस घोबिन स्त्री को फटकारते हुए कहा कि मैं कोई राम थोड़े ही हूँ जो कि सीता को अपने घर में रख ले, उस सीता को जो कि इतने दिनों तक रावण के वहां कैद में रही हो। जब राम ने उस एक घोबी की अपने सम्बन्ध में यह बात सुनी, हालांकि अयोध्या की जनता राम को बहुत चाहती थी, उनसे सभी प्रेम करते थे और उनकी भक्त थी लेकिन प्रजातन्त्र का एक ऊँचा आदर्श उपस्थित करने के हेतु उन्होंने महारानी सीता का परित्याग कर दिया।

आज कितना भ्रष्टाचार और चोर-बाजारी सरकार की ठीक नाक के नीचे हो रही है उसका मैं अपना ज्ञाती अनुभव बतलाना चाहता हूँ। अपने स्थान अर्थात् आर्य समाज सीताराम बाजार से समाज के एक सेवक को मैंने कहा कि वह बाजार से थोड़ी चीनी खरीद लाये, गरमी हो रही है, थोड़ा सा शर्बत बना कर पिया जाना चाहिए। वह व्यक्ति सारे बाजार को छान आया। उसे एक किलो चीनी नहीं मिली। उसे सबेरे से सांझ तक भी एक किलो चीनी बाजार से नहीं मिल पाई। मैंने इन बारे में खाद्य मन्त्री श्री स्वर्ण सिंह को टेलीफोन किया कि जब दिल्ली में यह हालत है तो बाकी देश में क्या हो रहा होगा इसका भली भाँति अनुमान लगाया जा सकता है और मैंने उनसे कहा : कि उन्हें इस बारे में परसन्नी देखना चाहिए। इस पर वह मुझे उपदेश देते हैं कि आप चीनी लेते

क्यों हैं ? आप को उनकी जरूरत क्या है ? उन्होंने कहा कि उन्हें तो चीनी की जरूरत नहीं है और वह तो चीनी नहीं खाते हैं। अब मुझे क्या पता कि वह चीनी क्यों नहीं खाते हैं ? हो सकता है कि उन्हें शुगर की बीमारी हो जिसके कारण उन्होंने चीनी खाना बन्द कर दिया हो। लेकिन बात तो तब है जब घर में भी उनके चीनी न खाई जाती हो और घर में भी उनके चीनी मौजूद न हो। अगर घर में चीनी उनके मौजूद है, बच्चे वर्ग रह उनके सब चीनी इस्तेमाल करते हैं तो उनका यह कहना कोई मायने नहीं रखता है।

अगर आपने वस्तुतः देश में सुशासन लाना है तो यह कोरे अधिनियमों और नियन्त्रणों से काम नहीं चलेगा। सरकार ने हर एक सुनार के लिए लाइसेंस लेना अनिवार्य कर दिया। काफ़ी सुनार ऐसे हैं जो कि लाइसेंस नहीं लेते ये लेकिन सरकार को चूँकि लाइसेंसों से बड़ी आमदनी होती है इसलिए उसने इसका लेना सभी के लिए अनिवार्य कर दिया। अगर इस सरकार को लाइसेंसिंग सरकार कहा जाय तो अनुचित नहीं होगा। कुछ भी करना हो सरकार से लाइसेंस ले लो। लाइसेंस सरकार से लेकर कुछ भी गलत सलत कर दो। मैं मन्त्री महोदय से बड़ी नम्रता के साथ पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या लाइसेंस लेकर इसमें गड़बड़ी नहीं होगी ? बेचारे गरीब और सीधे सादे गरीब सुनारों को लाइसेंस देता ही कौन है ? लाइसेंस तो उन बड़ी बड़ी टोपियाँ और बड़े बड़े पगड़ और ढोले पायजामे बांधने वालों को ही मिल पाता है। उन सीधे सादे सुनारों को लाइसेंस देता ही कौन है ? मेरा कहना है कि आप इस लाइसेंस की प्रणाली को हटाइये प्रजा का आदर करिये और उसके अधिकार बढ़ाइये। प्रजातन्त्र में जनता के अधिकारों को इस तरह से सीमित नहीं करना चाहिए बल्कि प्रजातन्त्र में तो जनता के अधिकारों को बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए।

[श्री रामेश्वरानन्द]

मैंने श्री स्वर्ण सिंह को कहा था कि आप खाद्य मन्त्री हैं, कृपा करके बिना सूचना दिये हुए एक बार दिल्ली के बाजारों में जहाँ जहाँ चीनी बिकती है हाँ भेस बदल कर पहुँचिये तो आपको असली स्थिति का भली भाँति पता चल जायेगा।

मैं सरकार से नम्रतापूर्वक पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जनता से आप कहते हैं कि वह अपने पास के सोने की घोषणा करे लेकिन क्या सोने के बारे में राष्ट्रपति ने घोषणा की है कि उनके घर में कितना सोना है? क्या उपराष्ट्रपति ने इसकी घोषणा की है कि उनके घर में कितना सोना है? क्या अध्यक्ष महोदय और उपाध्यक्ष महोदय ने यह घोषणा की है कि उनके पास घर में कितना, कितना सोना है? क्या स्वर्गीय प्रधान मन्त्री पंडित नेहरू ने घोषणा की थी कि उनके पास कितना सोना है अथवा क्या किसी मन्त्री ने इसकी घोषणा की है कि उसके पास कितना सोना है? सरकार चाहती है कि जनता घोषणा करे कि उसके पास कितना सोना है, किन्तु जनता तो तभी घोषणा करेगी, जबकि मन्त्री लोग और अन्य बड़े-बड़े लोग घोषणा करेंगे।

श्री इन्द्रजीत लाल मल्होत्रा (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर) : जिसके घर में सोना न हो, वह क्या घोषणा दे?

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : जिस के घर में हो, वह तो पहले घोषणा करे।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस राज्य में, जो कि धार्मिक राज्य नहीं है, बल्कि कामराज का राज्य है, अगर कोई व्यक्ति यह घोषणा कर देगा कि उसके पास इतना सोना है, तो चोर बिना पूछे रात को उसके घर का सफ़ाया कर देंगे। जिस राज्य में इतने वर्षों से डाकू पल रहे हैं, क्या उसमें कोई यह घोषणा करेगा कि उसके पास कितना सोना है? मैं नहीं समझ पाया कि सरकार किस तरह ऐसी बातें कहती है।

यदि सरकार सोना लेना चाहती है, तो उसका एक ही उपाय है। सरकार को इस समय कागजी नोट छापने पड़ते हैं। अगर वह सोना खरीदना चाहती है, तो वह उस को महंगा कर दे। इसका परिणाम यह होगा कि जो व्यापारी सोना दबाए बैठे हैं, वे उसको निकाल कर बाहर रख देंगे।

मन्त्री महोदय ने कहा है कि स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण की हमारी योजना सफल रही है, क्योंकि पहले सोने का भाव चढ़ जाता था, किन्तु अब चढ़ा नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि भाव के न चढ़ने का कारण यह है कि विदेशों से चोरी से जो सोना आया, उससे सोने का भाव नहीं चढ़ा। यह सरकार की कृपा से नहीं हुआ।

किसी अन्य सदस्य का समय न लेते हुए मैं नम्रता से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार विधान बनाए, किन्तु यह प्रजातन्त्र है, इस लिए वह प्रजा से इस विषय में पूछे और उसकी राय ले। मैं समझता था कि शायद कम्युनिस्ट भाई इस विधेयक का समर्थन करेंगे, लेकिन उन्होंने भी इसका विरोध किया, क्योंकि वे भी दूरदर्शी हैं। वे इस देश को मिखारी और गंगा नहीं होने देना चाहते हैं। वे चाहते हैं कि हमारे देश में सोना रहे।

Shri Inder J. Malhotra (Jammu and Kashmir): Shri Nambiar has got a good certificate.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : कांग्रेसी महानुभावों ने भी इस विधेयक का विरोध किया है। इस स्थिति में मैं नहीं समझता कि मन्त्री महोदय किस आधार पर इस बिल को इस सदन के सामने लाए हैं। अगर वह ब भी इस बिल को पास कराना चाहते हैं, तो मैं इसको उनकी हठ ही कह सकता हूँ—और क्या कह सकता हूँ?

श्री सिंहासन सिंह (गोरखपुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विधेयक को संयुक्त प्रवर समिति और जनता की राय जानने के लिए

भेजने के सम्बन्ध में दो प्रस्ताव सदन के सामने हैं। अभी तक जितने वक्ता इस पर बोले हैं, उनमें से शायद किसी ने भी इस विधेयक का स्वागत नहीं किया है। जो क्रम मालूम होता है, उसके अनुसार मन्त्री महोदय के सिवाये शायद ही कोई माननीय सदस्य इस विधेयक का स्वागत करेगा। एक माननीय सदस्य, डा० देशमुख, ने इसका स्वागत किया, लेकिन ऐसा उन्होंने इस सेंस में किया कि संयुक्त प्रवर समिति इस विधेयक को रद्द कर देगी। उन्होंने इस विधेयक को संयुक्त प्रवर समिति के पास भेजने का प्रस्ताव का स्वागत किया इस भाषा के साथ कि वह इसका विरोध करेगी। अन्त में उन्होंने यही कहा कि मैं आशा करता हूँ कि सिलेक्ट कमेटी इस विधेयक को वहीं का वहीं खत्म कर देगी, ताकि सदन में इस पर गौर करने की नौबत न आए।

जैसा कि स्वामी जी ने कहा है, जब गोलड कप्टूल आर्डर के विघाता, श्री मोरारजी देसाई, कामराज योजना के अन्तर्गत शासन से अलग हो गए, तो दूसरे मन्त्री महोदय ने इस विधेयक को स्वयं पेश नहीं किया, बल्कि अपने साथी मन्त्री से पेश कराया है। स्वर्ण-नियन्त्रण के बारे में उन के जो विचार हैं, उनको वह व्यक्त कर चुके हैं।

पिछले दिनों दो चीजों ने देश को बड़ी बैचैनी की हालत में डाल दिया—एक तो स्वर्ण नियन्त्रण और दूसरा, जैसा कि ग्राजीपुर के माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है, जबर्दस्ती बचत योजना अर्थात् कम्पलसरी डिपाजिट स्कीम। इन दोनों योजनाओं की तरफ हमारा और देश का ध्यान काफ़ी आकृष्ट हुआ। एक को तो वर्तमान वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने खत्म कर दिया और इस सदन ने इस पर उन को बड़ा साधुवाद दिया। यह सदन कम्पलसरी डिपाजिट स्कीम से बड़ा क्षुब्ध था। उस का प्रमाण यह था कि जिस दिन मंत्री महोदय ने उस को खत्म करने की घोषणा की, तो इस सदन ने करतलध्वनि से उस का स्वागत किया।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह आशा करूँ कि जब सदन में किसी गम्भीर विषय पर डिस्कशन हो, तो वह अपने साधियों से बातचीत करना बन्द कर दें? अन्यथा हम बोलना नहीं चाहेंगे। मंत्री महोदय अचेतक महोदय से बातचीत करते रहें और हमारी बातों की तरफ ध्यान न दें, यह उचित नहीं है। अगर वह इस सदन का इतना ही आदर करते हैं, तो मैं बैठ जाता हूँ।

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): He is not listening.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirappalli): He is considering your points with the Chief Whip of the Congress Party.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is saying that you are not listening to his speech.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): He may come to the front bench.

The Minister of Planning and Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I assure the hon. Member that I am listening to every point he is making. When I reply, he will see that I refer to all the points he has raised.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Now, you will be able to do that.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : आखिर यह क्या तमाशा है? कभी यह सोते हैं और कभी हमारी बातों की तरफ ध्यान नहीं देते हैं। ऐसे मंत्रियों को ले कर ही यह सरकार राज्य चला रही है। यह देख कर बड़ा दुख होता है कि सदन के सामने इतना गम्भीर विषय है, लेकिन वह इस को मजाक की दृष्टि से देख रहे हैं—केवल इस बल पर कि हम बहुसंख्या में हैं, हम द्विपक्ष इसू कर देंगे और इस बिल को पास करवा लेंगे।

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

हमारे वर्तमान वित्त मंत्री ने गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर को परिभाषित किया, एमंड किया। पहले यह व्यवस्था थी कि चौदह कैरट से ऊपर कोई गहना नहीं बनेगा। वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने उस नियम को एमंड किया और कहा कि जिस के पास चौदह कैरट के गहने हैं, उन को सुनार बना सकते हैं। वह भी समझते थे कि स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण का देश ने स्वागत नहीं किया।

लेकिन मुझे यह देख कर बड़ा दुख हुआ कि जब कि पहले स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण जो डिफेंस आफ इंडिया क्लब के अन्तर्गत गवर्नमेंट की आज्ञा के रूप में कुछ काल के लिए ही चल रहा था, अब उन के हाथों से, उन के नाम से ही, उस को मुस्तकिल और स्थायी कानून का रूप दिया जा रहा है। यह समझ में नहीं आता कि इसका आधार क्या है।

हमें उम्मीद थी कि सरकार यह बतायेगी कि स्वर्ण-नियंत्रण से देश को कितना लाभ हुआ, इस से देश का स्तर कितना ऊंचा उठा, सोने की स्मर्गलिंग में कितनी कमी हुई और लोगों ने कितना सोना घोषित किया। उन्होंने बताया है कि ४२ करोड़ कुछ लाख का सोना घोषित किया गया। कहा जाता है कि ४४ अरब के करीब का सोना हमारे देश में है। कहा ४४ अरब और कहा ४२ करोड़। हम यह भी जानना चाहते हैं कि गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर को कार्यान्वित करने में कितना व्यय हुआ। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय जब जवाब दें, तो वह यह भी बतायेंगे कि कितने सुनार बेकार हो गए और कितनों की जानें गईं, चाहे वे पांच हजार हों या पच्चीस लाख हों। मैं समझता हूँ कि ये आंकड़े हमारे सामने आने चाहिए कि गोल्ड-कंट्रोल से देश का कितना हित हुआ है।

इस सम्बन्ध में स्मर्गलिंग की भी चर्चा हुई। गुजरात के माननीय सदस्य ने अच्छे आंकड़े दिये और इस सदन का ज्ञान बहुत बढ़ाया। उन के आंकड़ों के मुताबिक स्मर्गलर सो फ्रीस ी से अधिक मुनाफ़ा करता है।

इस बिल में जो पोलन क्लब रखी गई है, उस में कहा गया है कि अगर कोई गोल्ड-कंट्रोल आर्डर के विपरीत कार्य करेगा, तो उस को एक बरस की सजा दी जायेगी। एक साल की सजा और फिर भी मुकदमा तब तक नहीं चल सकता है, जब तक कि एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर उस की स्वीकृति न दे। क्लब ३३ में कहा गया है कि गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर के खिलाफ कोई कार्यवाही करने पर कोई मुकदमा नहीं चल सकता है, जब तक कि एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर उस की स्वीकृति न दें। मुकदमा पकड़ा भी गया तो पकड़ने के बाद वह नहीं चलेगा। हमसे कुरप्शन को दूर करने के लिए प्रिवेंशन आफ कुरप्शन एक्ट बनाया है। उसके अन्दर एक दफा बना दी गई है जिस के तहत . . .

श्री हरि विष्णु कामत (होशंगाबाद):
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा निवेदन है जब कि इस समय इतना रोचक भाषण हो रहा है, सदन में कोरम होना आवश्यक है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Quorum bell is being rung—Now there is quorum. Hon'able Member may continue.

श्री सिंहासन सिंह: शुरू-शुरू में जब गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर के बारे में निकाला गया तो उस में व्यवस्था रही कि पुराने बने हुए आभूषणों के नए बनाना कोई चाहता था तो वह चौदह कैरट के ही बनवा सकता था लेकिन बाद में वर्तमान मंत्री ने यह व्यवस्था कर दी कि उनको ज्यों का त्यों बनाया जा सकता है। लेकिन एक बात है जिस की तरफ मैं आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ: मुरारजी देसाई जी ने गहनों को घोषित करने से बरी रखा था। अब आप आगे बढ़ कर एक काम कर रहे हैं। आप स्वर्ण कंट्रोल आर्डर को कानूनी रूप देने जा रहे हैं। जहाँ पहले गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर में आभूषण घोषित करने की व्यवस्था नहीं थी, वे एन्जैम्प्ट थे, वहाँ अब आप इसके अन्दर यह भी ला रहे हैं और चाहते हैं कि आभूषणों की लोग घोषणा करें। किस लिमिट तक उनकी

घोषणा करना जरूरी है इसको आपने ऐसे ही छोड़ दिया है। पांच हजार, दस हजार बीस हजार, किस लिमिट के ऊपर की घोषणा करना अनिवार्य होगा, इनको आपने ऐसे ही छोड़ दिया है। बजाय इसके कोई लिमिट रखी जाती कि उसके ऊपर के आमूषणों की लोग घोषणा करें आप इस्पेंक्टर आदि को अधिकार दे रहे हैं कि वे घरों में जा कर तलाशियां ले सकते हैं। अब आपके अधिकारी क्या करेंगे? वे कहेंगे कि तुम्हारे पास तो निरधारित सीमा से बहुत ज्यादा के गहने हैं, तुम मुझे दो हजार रुपये दे दो वरना मैं तुम्हारे घर की तलाशी लूंगा। तुम्हारे पास पांच हजार के नहीं बीस हजार के जेवर हैं। घोषणा से और कोई लाभ हो या न हो कुरप्शन बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ेगा। जो अधिकारी इस्पेंक्टर बनेगा वह बहुत मालामाल हो जाएगा, गवर्नमेंट को सोना मिले या न मिले, गवर्नमेंट को इससे कोई लाभ हो या न हो, उसको तो बहुत हो जाएगा।

इस में बड़ा भारी आप स्मगलिंग का एक प्राविजन रख रहे हैं। दफा १५ को आप देखें। आप इसके तहत मंदिरों, मस्जिदों, गुहद्वारों आदि को स्वतंत्रता दे रहे हैं, उनको जितना सोना भी कोई दे और जिस रूप में भी दे, वे ले सकते हैं। आप कह रहे हैं कि ये जो धार्मिक स्थान हैं इनको जिस रूप में भी दान मिले सोना मिले उसको वह ले लें। आज स्मगल किये हुए माल को यहां छिपाने की कोशिश भी की जाती है बहुत लोग इस में मदद भी करते हैं। मुझे स्वामी जी इस बात को कहने के लिए क्षमा करेंगे, ऐसी मैं आशा करता हूं। इससे उनको सुविधा हो जाएगी। दान के रूप में थोड़ा प्रायः तब और ज्यादा प्रायः तब वे रख लेंगे और कोई हिसाब किताब उसका नहीं होगा। इन धार्मिक स्थानों को आप एग्जैम्प्ट कर रहे हैं इससे एक तरह से स्मगलिंग के लिए रास्ता खुल जाएगा, इस तरफ से बढ़ हो सकेगा। मंदिरों मस्जिदों में करोड़ों की सम्पत्ति रहती है जिस को ले कर

हम देश की तरक्की के काम में लगा सकते हैं। लेकिन यहां तो उल्टे आप उनको और भी सोना लेने की छूट दे रहे हैं, एक रास्ता दिखा रहे हैं। राजस्थान में नाथद्वारा मंदिर का किस्सा आपको मालूम ही है जिस को ले कर मुकदमा भी चला था। कितना वहां माल था, इसका भंदाजा ही नहीं था। कोई हिसाब किताब ही नहीं था। मैं समझता हूं कि आप गोला कंट्रोल नहीं अध्यात्म को ही कंट्रोल करने जा रहे हैं।

सोने के बारे में कहा जाता था कि यह तपा तपाया सोना है। सोने की पवित्रता, सोने की अच्छाई, सोने की परब आदमी के ऊपर की जाती है। यह सोना है अपने व्यवहार में, इस तरह की बातें भी कही जाती हैं। आज सोने को भी हमने कुरप्ट कर दिया है, उनको भी एडलट्रेट कर दिया है। कुरप्शन को हम खत्म करने की कोशिश करते हैं लेकिन यहां हम कानून बना कर कुरप्शन करते हैं। इस विधेयक को बना करके आप कुरप्शन करना चाहते हैं। क्या देश का हित होगा इससे, पता नहीं। नौ कैरट और चौदह कैरट की बात कही जाती है। यहां कच्चा सोना भी था और पक्का सोना भी। कच्चा सोना चौदह कैरट का या पंद्रह कैरट का बनेगा तो महाजन लेगा, विक्रेता लेगा। लेकिन आप तो मजबूरन, कानून के द्वारा चौदह कैरट के ही बनाने की व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं, २२ कैरट के बजाय। मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूं कि अगर आपको सही मानों में जनमत का ख्याल है, जन प्रतिनिधियों के मत का आप आदर करते हैं तो आप गिनते जायें कि कितने सदस्य इसका स्वागत कर रहे हैं और कितने इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। अगर इसका विरोध करने वालों की संख्या अधिक हो तो परिस्थिति तथा न्याय का ग्रह तकाजा है कि आप इसको वापिस ले लें। अगर आपको जनमत जानता है तो हम भी तो जनता के प्रतिनिधि हैं, जनता की राय चाहे यहां से प्राये और चाहे बाहर से, आपको आदर करना चाहिये। आप देखें

[श्री सिंहासन सिंह]

कि कितने आदमी कितने सदस्य इस पर बोलें हैं और उन में से कितनों ने इसका समर्थन किया है। अगर समर्थन करने वालों की संख्या अधिक हो तब तो आप इस बिल को पास करवा लीजिये और अगर कम हो तो मत करवाइये। ऐसे विधेयक पर, मैं सचेतक से कहूंगा, कि गवर्नमेंट पार्टी को भी आजादी होनी चाहिये अपनी राय देने की। उनको स्वतंत्रतापूर्वक राय देने की छूट मिलनी चाहिये। यह देश की आर्थिक समस्या से ताल्लुक रखता है, सामाजिक व्यवस्था से ताल्लुक रखता है, श्री कृष्णमाचारी या श्री भगत की राय का ही यह सवाल नहीं है। यह देश की आर्थिक अवस्था का सवाल है। आर्थिक व्यवस्था सुधारने में हम मंत्री महोदय के साथ हैं।

Shri Alvares (Panjim): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the desire to acquire and hold gold is as ancient as it is universal. At all times people, as soon as they became conscious of the value of this metal, have resorted to buy and equate it with various forms of satisfaction. It is only when it acquired a degree overtone that inconveniences have been felt. One such instance is in America where the present Government holds the largest stock in the world. This quantity is so inconvenient to it that periodically, in order to maintain its value, the US Government has to get rid of it as something inconvenient. In India also there is nothing wrong in the common man wanting and desiring to hold a certain amount of gold either as a measure of ornament or for the purpose of security. Economic conditions and tradition have so conspired together to give gold greater security and money value than the currency of the present Government and, therefore, we must view this issue in this context. So, if the common man is trying to retain a little amount of gold either for security or for ornament, there is nothing unsocial or evil; it is natural. But it is only, as I said, the overtone that causes a disturbance in the economic

situation that we have to take notice of. The Government of India's case is that the amount of smuggling of gold has reached such proportions as to make a serious drain on the foreign currency reserves of this country. At the same time, another argument that they have not put forward is that gold today, in a very large measure, is a parallel currency, parallel to the rupee, parallel to the Government financial channels, and acts completely as a parallel upsetting all Government price stabilisation measure that they may want to apply from time to time.

It is only in this context that one can think of putting some restraint or restriction on the holding of gold and its circulation. Otherwise there is no justification whatever why this measure should have been introduced at all.

We are told that it was necessary to conserve our resources. We have had twelve years of planning, and yet it required the pressure of the Chinese invasion for Government to realise that it was time to put a stop to the drift of foreign exchange reserves that were being frittered away because of a vast amount of gold being smuggled into the country. Therefore, the question must be tackled at the social level and at the level of circulation.

We in India during the past many years have come to recognise the supremacy of gold in distinction of the people of more developed economies who prefer to put their savings, more or large, whatever they are, into more modern channels like a bank account. It is difficult for the common man in India to envisage that he would put his small savings in a bank account. And therefore, traditionally, he puts it, whatever it is, whether it is a dowry or a bonus in the case of an industrial worker, he converts it into gold for safety. That is not much, but that is safe. And at this stage the Government must tackle this evil socially by impressing upon the people that it is not necessary for them to invest in

gold either for the purpose of costume jewellery or for security, that the same amount of ornamental value and the same amount of security is available in the bank account and they can buy tinsel in the form of 14 carat gold.

I am sure if Government were to work for a reorientation of the people's mind, much of this could have been achieved, rather than Government coming down to the Gold Control Order under the Defence of India Rules and creating a grave economic situation in the country?

How grave was it, Sir? It is not commonly realised that the common citizen who invested in gold a tola or two tolas or ten tolas, suddenly found himself bereft of 50 per cent of his saving by the mere fact that the gold which he purchased at the rate of Rs. 123 and converted into ornament for security, could not now any more be traded for more than the international gold price of Rs. 62. In how many millions of homes the Government, by an arbitrary action, reduced their life savings! And in many a home today there is great resentment that the Government could not adopt more human measures in order to protect the common man from this great suffering.

What is the amount of profit Government made on this issue? I am sure Government must have come to a certain amount of administrative profit, as they come to on the issue of fresh currencies from time to time. And I would like a statement from the Finance Minister to tell us whether Government lost or gained in depriving the millions of this country of their hard-earned earnings.

There is also the question of the vast number of jewellers, traditionally skilled men, with their artistic skill second to none in the world and which cannot be acquired which must grow from family to family. Suddenly this vast array of people were deprived of their employment without any alter-

native arrangement being made for their subsistence.

If it was necessary for the Government to introduce a revolution of this kind, economic, social it was surely necessary and possible for this Government to take adequate measures early enough to see that this vast number of poor people should not be literally thrown into the streets in such a manner that they saw no future before them, and many had to commit suicide in order to draw the attention of Government to the very serious situation in the country. Loans of three hundred or five hundred rupees will not help. How long can a loan of even five hundred rupees last for a family of five members since the time when the Gold Control Order was issued early in 1963? It is no use telling the people that we have to conserve the resources. Government, when they try to substitute an economic channel by a new one, must make adequate arrangements so that the people who have invested, the people who subsist by these methods will be able to find alternative employment and at the same time be able to transfer the securities without losing them to the tune of one hundred per cent.

Let us take the other question. What are the dimensions of this problem? It would be better if the Government had come out with a statement saying that this is the quantum of smuggled gold year by year, this is the amount of gold held in illegal channels in the country, and therefore we want to make some arrangement for this purpose.

Various estimates are given. The Government themselves are hesitating to give an estimate, either because they fear it will fall short of it or over-shoot the target. But it is obvious to everybody that if only Rs. 42 crores worth of gold has been declared with the Government, which is just 1 per cent of the average estimate in this country, the Gold Control Order in-

[Shri Alvares]

troduced under the D.I.R. is a complete failure.

Not only that, Sir. How is it possible for anybody, and how does Government expect the people to be so gullible that when there is today a recognised channel to trade gold at the rate of Rs. 123 in the bullion market, anybody would be silly enough to deposit gold with the Government at the rate of Rs. 62? If anybody opens the newspaper in the morning and looks at the quotation of the gold bullion market he will find the quotation of blackmarket gold—blackmarket sugar is not yet quoted in the newspapers—but blackmarket gold is quoted at Rs. 123..... (Interruption).... or Rs. 125, whatever it is.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Rs. 118.

Shri Alvares: Rs. 118 as against Rs. 62 which is the international price at which the Government of India has fixed the price of gold and at which price it receives gold deposits. If the gold trade in this country has the impunity to declare and publish the rate of blackmarket gold in this country and invite people to trade in gold, surely the Government—I do not expect anything more from those people who trade in gold, the big sharks, the bullion market, the multimillionaires—but surely the Government should feel ashamed that such a thing can be done with impunity and printed in the papers, let alone its flourishing in the market. If Government want to control gold, the first thing they should do is to prevent any trading in gold. And the first measure to prevent trading would be not to let the price of blackmarket gold be printed in the newspapers. The hon. Minister Shri Bhagat will kindly take notice of this.

There is one point more in this Bill, and that is with regard to the gold deposits held in the temples. I am aware that this is a very delicate question. Gold was offered to the deities

in the temples, in the churches, as a measure of offering, of distribution, of expiation, whatever you like to call it; and that gold is there, serving no economic purpose but the purpose of mere prestige. The amount of gold in all the religious institutions must be phenomenal in quantity. I have a little knowledge about it. In the temples there is phenomenal quantity of gold deposited by the worshippers of that particular deity, whether they are churches or temples. This gold is serving no economic purpose. I know in many temples gold is being lent out to people at high rates of interest, much more than what the pathans or marwaris and the traditional moneylenders are accustomed to do. Much of the church land and temple land in this country is acquired for the temple or church in the same manner that the moneylender acquires lands because of non-payment of interest or the capital borrowed.

I think the Government would be well-advised, after creating the requisite psychological and social climate, in asking these temples to deposit their entire amount of gold in the Government coffers and not permitting them to retain it to themselves. I am sure that if this gold comes out, immediately there will be a social revolution in this country in the sense that people will recognise that gold does not play after all such an important part, and if the churches and temples can be persuaded in depositing the gold with the Government of India necessarily at the rate of Rs. 62, which is the national price, there will not be much attraction and invitation to the blackmarket for gold in this country.

I have no hesitation in saying that I support the general purpose of gold control in this country. But I entirely oppose the Bill as put forward, because it will serve neither the purpose of stopping smuggling nor gold trading in this country.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, my hon. friends have covered most of the ground which I

wanted to cover and to which I wanted to draw the attention of the Government. When the gold control order was placed before the House, there were two objectives: firstly, stopping of smuggling and secondly bringing down the price of gold in this country thereby resisting the attempt to smuggle gold into the country. This gold control order has been in operation for nearly 1½ years now. Has it achieved any of the objectives? I would say respectfully that none of the objectives has been achieved.

Smuggling has not been stopped. May be to some extent it is reduced, but even from the replies given by the Government to our questions, we find that smuggling is still going on. I have heard a little more about it from my hon. friends this afternoon like Mr. Solanki. The figures quoted go to prove how systematically smuggling is going on non-stop in this country. Secondly, the prices have not at all come down. As pointed out by Mr. Alvares, it is not merely the black-market price, but it is an open price quoted the newspapers. So, the purposes for which the order was brought have been absolutely defeated. I can say with a full sense of responsibility that it is hardly possible to get gold in the country at the official rate fixed by Government. So, we have to think twice before making this order a firm or permanent one.

Over and above this, there is unemployment in the country. In my own State, there are not only goldsmiths in the same way as we find elsewhere, but there are also handicrafts in which workers are engaged. I can tell the minister that hundreds of them have been absolutely rendered unemployed. They have no work. They can get work from different parts of the country and from outside also, but there is no gold for them. There is nothing that they can get, so that they can work and continue their profession.

I am not speaking with any sentiment or emotion, but I say as a realist that suicides have been going on; whether their number is less or more,

the fact remains that they have been going on because unemployment is rampant all round. Therefore, it is time for us to reconsider whether the passing of an order like this will help. I must say that it has not helped. Therefore, it is time for fresh thinking whether this order should be put on the statute-book.

In Rajasthan, a number of artistic things are being made by the workers there. The moneyed-people are able to indulge in their business, but so far as the smaller workers the actual artisans are concerned, they are starving and they do not yet work. They cannot get gold and therefore they are not able to continue in their profession.

My friend, Shri Banerjee talked about 14 ct. gold ornaments. I have a little experience of this, having been a jeweller myself for sometime. We have been manufacturing and selling jewellery. We used to make a number of ornaments with 14 ct. or 9 ct. gold, but we could sell them only to Europeans. I absolutely agree with my hon. friend that as far as we Indians are concerned, in our Indian homes, it is not possible and it has not been possible to make our women wear this 14 ct. jewellery. Whether it is my mother or Mr. Prakash Vir Shastri's sister or daughter, they would never wear 14 ct. gold ornaments. Firstly, the feeling is there that it is not pure gold. I must say it very frankly that nothing less than 18 or 22 ct. gold is wanted by them. I know a number of marriages which have taken place during the last 1½ years and I can assure the hon. Minister, with a full sense of responsibility that there is hardly anybody who has married his son or daughter with 14 ct. jewellery. Either they get smuggled gold or they pay the black-market price for gold and make the ornaments. I know a number of people have done that. So, what is the use of placing such orders on the statute?

I must say that Government brought it with the best of intentions and we gave our full support to it at that time.

[Shri Sham Lal Saraf]

But after 1½ years, we have to do some fresh thinking on this problem taking into consideration what has actually happened. Let anybody here either on this side or that side say that a marriage has taken place where they have purchased 9 ct. or 14 ct. gold jewellery. It is pure gold, 18 carat or more; never less. I can tell you that even educated girls absolutely refuse to touch gold which is less than 20 carat. So, I would again say as a member of the Congress Party, as a colleague of the Minister who is holding this portfolio, that he would kindly remember this that a measure of this nature will not help. He has to consider this subject dispassionately. Merely referring the matter to the Joint Committee alone will not help. We have to consider the matter realistically and then arrive at certain conclusions.

When orders are passed, or rules are made, it is not as if a person would straightway infringe or would like to infringe those orders or rules. No. But our social system is such, the present day conditions are such that one cannot help infringing the rules to get gold.

I would say further what is in my mind, which may perhaps help in viewing this subject in its proper perspective. While I do not have the full time to explain it in detail, I will say this much that by promulgating or amending the rules you are opening the floodgates of corruption with the appointment of inspectors and administrators and grant of licences.

We have met a number of deputations from Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir of swarankars, goldsmiths who have come and explained their pitiable position and the difficulties confronting them. Some of them earn a rupee or two a day. Now, under the rules they have firstly to get a licence to buy some gold for themselves for doing work. Licence for that? From where can they get the money to pur-

chase the gold first? So, you must give a realistic approach to this question. Though I have personally given full support to this measure last year, as was done by many of my colleagues here, after the experience of its working for a year and a half, I honestly find it very difficult to support this measure, because it cannot be effective by the very nature of things.

As far as business in gold is concerned, in spite of the rules and standing orders, in spite of the people being aware that sale in gold of more than 14 carat would be infringing the law, I can say very frankly that even now people buy and sell gold. They will never stop it. In fact, they will not be able to stop it because of our social conditions. So, this measure will only be opening the floodgates of corruption and defeating the very purpose of this Bill. Then, when you give exemption to religious institutions, be it Hindu, Muslim or Christian—I hope my friends will excuse me when I say that they already indulge in many corrupt practices—you would be giving them an opportunity to increase their corrupt practices or malpractices. In my opinion, that provision should have been rejected outright instead of giving it a place in the Bill because of its bad effects. I hope my friends in the Joint Select Committee will look to it in a realistic and dispassionate way instead of being guided by the sentiments of the people.

Lastly, having a little bit of experience of administration, I can say that the more laws and more controls we have of business, the less it will prosper and corruption will also increase. On the other hand, the less we control our business the less we control the general working of commerce, the more it will prosper and develop.

Therefore, with these observations, I would respectfully submit that the hon. Minister and his colleagues in

the Joint Committee will go through every provision very carefully and correct them wherever necessary and bring the Bill back to the House with such modifications as they deem necessary so that it will be an improvement upon the original Bill.

श्री काशी राम गुप्त (अलवर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सोचता था कि इस बिल के लने से पहले यह सरकार कम से कम इस बात की जानकारी देगी कि उस ने चौदह कैंट का जो तरीका निकाला है उस का क्या नतीजा हमारे सामने आया है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने अपने भाषण में इस बात का कोई जिक्र तक नहीं किया। इस विषय में जो भी माननीय सदस्य अब तक बोले हैं, वे सब एकमत हैं, लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि फिर भी माननीय मंत्री पर शायद कोई प्रभाव पड़ने वाला नहीं है।

मैं यह भी सोचता था कि शायद वह यह नहीं भूलेंगे कि जहाँ खुले व्यापार के समय चालीस, पचास करोड़ रुपये के चोरी के सोने की बात थी, वहाँ इनकम टैक्स और सेलज टैक्स के रूप में करोड़ों रुपयों की आमदनी भी सरकार को होती थी। जब से इस प्रकार की पाबन्दी लगाई गई है, इनकम टैक्स और सेलज टैक्स के वे करोड़ों रुपये चोरी में चले गये हैं। यदि वह इस बात की जांच करायें, तो उन को मालूम होगा कि उन की इस कार्यवाही से देश को कितना भारी आघात पहुंचा है—कितने करोड़ रुपये बिक्री टैक्स के प्रदेश-सरकारों के और कितने करोड़ रुपये इनकम टैक्स के केन्द्रीय सरकार के मारे गये हैं। लेकिन उन्होंने इस बात की जांच करने के लिये कोई तकलीफ नहीं उठाई।

इस देश में चार हजार करोड़ रुपये का सोना बताया जाता है। जब मंत्री महोदय के पास ४२ करोड़ रुपये के धाकड़े

आते हैं, तो उन को यह फ़िक्र नहीं होती कि कहाँ है वह सोना—वह मन्दिरों, मस्जिदों या गिरजाघरों में है, करोड़पतियों के जेबों में है या घरीबों के पास है। जाहिर है कि जो सोना चोरी से आता है, उस का बड़ा भारी भाग उन लोगों के पास चला जाता है, जोकि ब्लैक मनी को छिपाना चाहते हैं। ब्लैक मनी को छिपाने के लिए सोना एक बहुत अच्छा उपाय है। आप बम्बई और कलकत्ता के बाज़ार में जा कर देखिए। वहाँ पर एक नया नारा लग गया है कि इस को एकाउंट नम्बर टू में रखना। दो नम्बर का खाता और चल गया है। इस तरह एक पैरालेल सरकार चल रही है, लेकिन सरकार का ध्यान उधर नहीं जाता है।

जब सरकार मन्दिरों के सोने को नहीं छुएगी, जब वह करोड़पतियों के ख़ज़ीरे को हाथ नहीं लगायेगी, तो फिर वह इस तरह का कानून बना कर आम जनता की भावनाओं को ठेस क्यों पहुंचाना चाहती है? जब साधारण जनता विवाह-शादी आदि उत्सवों पर सोना नहीं खरीद सकेगी, तो वह खुश नहीं होगी। इस के अतिरिक्त जब उस को गिरवी रखने की आवश्यकता होगी, तो उस के सामने बड़ा संकट होगा। तो फिर लाभ किस को होगा?

माननीय सदस्य, श्री सोलंकी, ने जो कुछ बताया है, उस से जाहिर है कि जो सोना चोरी से आ रहा है, वह घटा नहीं है। इस बारे में जब कभी प्रश्न किया गया, तो दोनों वित्त मंत्रियों के जवाब एक दूसरे से बिल्कुल भिन्न रहे हैं। श्री मोरारजी देसाई कहते थे कि सोने की चोरी कम हो गई है, लेकिन श्री कृष्णमाचारी कहते हैं कि मैं कैसे कह सकता हूँ कि चोरी कम हो गई है—अगर मुझे मालूम हो जाये, तो मैं होने क्यों दूँ? वे दोनों एक दूसरे के विपरीत बात इस सदन में कहते रहे हैं।

[श्री काशी राम गुप्त]

जब वर्तमान वित्त मंत्री कहते हैं कि मुझ बोरी का पता नहीं है, तो फिर चालीस, पचास करोड़ का अन्दाजा वह कैसे लगाते हैं ? इस बिल को सिलेक्ट कमेटी को भेजने के लिए इस सदन में लाने से पहले उन को इन सब बातों की जानकारी प्राप्त करनी चाहिए थी और इस के लिए एक जांच कमेटी बिठानी चाहिए थी । तब वह किसी निर्णय पर पहुँच सकते थे । अगर वह यह जानकारी प्राप्त करते, तो वह इस बिल को लाने का निर्णय न करते, बल्कि उन का निर्णय बिल्कुल दूसरा होता ।

आप आश्चर्य करेंगे कि सोने का मामला ऐसा है कि स्वर्णकार भी कहता है और सोने का व्यापारी भी कहता है कि सरकार इस को अपने हाथ में ले ले । प्राइवेट सेक्टर में कहीं भी व्यापारी यह नहीं कहता है कि सरकार अपने हाथ में ले ले । स्वर्णकार और सोने के व्यापारी इसलिए कहते हैं कि इस तरह के कानून के अन्तर्गत केवल झूठे और बेईमान लोग ही जिन्दा रह सकते हैं, ईमानदार आदमी जिन्दा नहीं रह सकते हैं । जिस तरह का कानून बनने जा रहा है, उस से दिन-ब-दिन ईमानदार आदमी का गला घुटेगा और बेईमानी का बाजार गर्म होगा ।

सीधा रास्ता यह था कि सरकार इस बारे में पूरी जांच करवाती । पहले तो यह देखना चाहिए कि क्या इस देश में चार हज़ार करोड़ रुपये का सोना है या नहीं । अगर वह है, तो कहाँ है ? उस का एक मोटा अन्दाजा इस सदन के सामने आना चाहिये था और उस के बाद यह सोचना चाहिए था कि बिना चौदह कैंट की व्यवस्था किये हुए वह सोना उन लोगों से कैसे वापस लिया जा सकता है, जिन्होंने सोना जमा कर रखा है । इस के लिए एक ही तरीका था कि विदेशों से जो सोना आता है

वह सरकार के जरिये ही आयागा, ऐसी घोषणा सरकार करती, जितनी सोने की जरूरत होगी उतना ही आयागा । सरकार कहती है कि चार हज़ार करोड़ रुपये का सोना लोगों के पास है । तो वह कह सकती थी सीमा निर्धारित करते समय कि कितना ज़ेवर के आघार पर हो और कितना बिना ज़ेवर के करना है । लेकिन चौदह कैंट का झगड़ा कभी किसी सूरत में न करती । इस से साधारण लोगों को कठिनाई न होती, न मुनार बेरोज़गार होते और न कोई और बात होती । लेकिन सीधी सी बात न कर के वह चौदह कैंट की बीमारी पैदा करती है । इस को इस सदन के एक भी माननीय सदस्य ने सही नहीं माना है और न ही देश के किसी भी आदमी ने सही माना है । लेकिन यह सरकार अपनी तरफ से दलीलें देती रहती है । दलीलें देने में मैं समझता हूँ मंत्रीगण सिद्धहस्त हो चुके हैं । दलीलें देने के ऐसे ऐसे उन्होंने तरीके ढूँढ रखे हैं कि उन में अगर दम न भी हो तो भी उन के ऊपर वे पलस्तर लगाते रहते हैं । इस काम में वे सिद्धहस्त हैं । मैं जानता हूँ कि क्या ये दलीलें देंगे । ये कहेंगे कि अगर चौदह कैंट नहीं करते हैं तो फिर यह जो लोगों की सोना रखने की मनोवृत्ति है यह कम नहीं होगी । इसका मतलब यह होता है कि ढंडे के जोर से चौदह कैंट बना कर के, उस में खोट मिला कर जब देंगे तब वे सीधे होंगे । एक तरफ तो खोट मिलाने को बुरा कहा जाता है और दूसरी तरफ सोने के मामले में खोट मिलाना देश-हित का कार्य समझा जाता है । देश-हित तो तब ही अगर उस पर अमल हो सके । जिस हद तक अमल हो सका है, वह स्पष्ट रूप में आपके सामने आ गया है । माननीय सदस्य श्री सराफ़ ने कहा है तथा दूसरे माननीय सदस्यों ने भी कहा है कि सोने का खुला बाजार हो रहा है और करोड़ों रुपये का वह

होता है। ऐसी स्थिति में इस तरह का कानून बनाने का क्या लाभ होगा ? अच्छा सिलेक्ट कमेटी के सामने जब यह जाय तो हमारे साथी जो उस में हों कहें कि चौदह फ़ैरट की बात नहीं रखी जानी चाहिए। जो बातें भी रखी जायेंगी वे बीस या बाईस फ़ैरट की रखी जायेंगी। अगर इस चीज़ को मान्यता दे दी जायगी तो दूसरी बातें भी हो सकती हैं, दूसरी बातों का हल भी निकाला जा सकता है।

मात्रा का कायम करना जरूरी है, चाहे वह ज़ेवर की शकल में हो या सोने की शकल में हो। लेकिन उस में रुपये का हिसाब नहीं होना चाहिये। कारण यह है कि रुपया तो वैल्यु में फ्लक्चुएट होता रहता है उस में तो उतार चढ़ाव होता रहता है। तोलों अथवा ग्रामों में मात्रा होनी चाहिए।

अगर आप जबर्दस्ती कोई काम करवाना चाहते हैं तो वह नहीं हो सकता है। यह बात शराब के मामले में सिद्ध हो चुकी है। इस जबर्दस्ती से कोई नतीजे नहीं निकले हैं। इस मामले में भी आप ने जबर्दस्ती की तो उसका नतीजा यह होगा कि नोम छिपा कर रखने की कोशिश करेंगे। उन को आप उतनी मात्रा में सोना रखने की बात कहें जितना विवाह शादी तथा दूसरी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए जरूरी हो। उस को आप निश्चित कर सकते हैं। उस को सिलेक्ट कमेटी निश्चित कर सकती है। लोगों के पास कितना सोना है गरीब लोगों के पास कितना है ? विवाह शादियों के लिये दूसरे कामों के लिए सोने की सोमों की जरूरत रही है। बाकी के लिए नहीं रही है। आज उसका हिसाब है। आप करोड़पतियों को दो दो महीने की छूट दे देते हैं सोने के ज़ेवर आदि बनवा लेने की और अगर वे ऐसा कर लेंगे तब उन को जरूरत नहीं रह जायगी बतलाने की। आप जब ज़ेवर मांगेंगे तब तक वे सारे का सफ़र

कर चुके होंगे। करोड़ों रुपये का सोना है उस को आप निकाल नहीं सकेंगे। आप ने इनकम टैक्स का कानून बनाया और कमिशनर को पावज़ तलाशी की दी है। लेकिन वे लोग ऐसे लोगों के हाथों में अपने सोने को पहुंचा देंगे जोकि इनकम टैक्स नहीं देते हैं जो उन के अपने आदमी हैं उस सोने को वे अपने घरों में रख लेंगे।

मैं समझता हूं कि आप खूब सोच विचार कर इस मामले में कदम उठावें। आप देखें कि किस तरह से छिपा हुआ सोना निकाला जाय। अगर आप यह समझते हैं कि छोटे लोगों के घरों की तलाशियां लेने से वह निकल सकता है तो यह होने वाला नहीं है, यह निश्चित बात है। करोड़ों का जो आदमी है उसके पास ही करोड़ों का सोना हो सकता है साधारण आदमी के पास नहीं हो सकता है। आप निश्चित रूप से सदन को बतायें कि चार हजार करोड़ का जो सोना देश में है वह कहाँ है। अगर यह नहीं है तो आप की जो बात है वह झूठ सिद्ध हो जाती है रिजर्व बैंक जो कहता है वह गलत है और अगर सही है तो कितना है और कहाँ है इसको आप निश्चित रूप से बतलायें। जब तक यह निश्चित नहीं हो जायगा कि किन किन क्षेत्रों के पास किन किन वर्गों के पास है तब तक इस बिल को नहीं लाया जाना चाहिये। हमारे बनर्जी साहब ने कहा कि इस को पब्लिक ओपीनियन जानने के लिए प्रसारित किया जाय। मैं निवेदन करता हूं कि इस बिल को वापिस ले लिया जाना चाहिये और जांच की जानी चाहिये कि चार हजार करोड़ रुपये का सोना जो है वह कहाँ है देश में। जब तक इस की जांच कर के रिपोर्ट सदन के सामने पेश नहीं कर दी जाती है तब तक आप को कोई अधिकार नहीं है इस तरह के बिल को लाने का जिस से जनता परेशान हो। इसको यदि यह सदन पास करता है, अगर आप इस को बिल के जोर से पास करवाते

[श्री काशी राम गुप्त]

हैं तो लोक सभा को आप कलंकित करेंगे। लोग क्या कहेंगे? किस तरह की यह लोक सभा है जो बिना जानकारी के विलों को पास करती है, इस प्रकार के ऐक्ट बनाती है। यह कोई खेल तमाशा नहीं है जिस को सरकार करने जा रही है। मुझे अफसोस हुआ है कि श्री कृष्णमाचारी साहब ने भी उसी बात को कहना शुरू कर दिया है जिस को हमारे मुरारजी देसाई साहब कहा करते थे। मैं जानता हूँ, मुझे इस बात का अनुभव है कि यहां की ब्यूरोक्रेसी बहुत मजबूत है। जब वह नोटिंग कर के इन के सामने इस तरह की बात रख देती है तो ये घबरा जाते हैं और मजबूर हो कर ये उसी तरह के गीत गाने लग जाते हैं . . .

श्री ब० रा० भगत : यह कैसे जानते हैं आप।

श्री काशी राम गुप्त : यह बात मैंने कांस्टीट्यूशन बिल पर देखी है। उस वक्त भी इसी तरह की बात आई थी प्लानिंग कमिशन की तरफ से। इन को हिम्मत करनी चाहिये, जनता की आवाज को पहचानना चाहिये। एक आदमी भी इनको ऐसा नहीं मिल सकता है जो कहे कि चौदह कैंरेट की चीज व्यावहारिक है देश के लिए। जब डेढ़ बरस में यह प्रमाणित नहीं हो सका है कि वह चीज क्या होगी, किस तरह से चल सकती है तो फिर क्यों उसके ऊपर दबाव डाला जा रहा है? इस को सिलैक्ट कमेटी के पास भेजा जा रहा है। अच्छा होता कि आज जो बहस हुई है उस को देखते हुए इस को वापिस ले लिया जाता। दोनों तरफ से किसी ने भी इस का समर्थन नहीं किया है। अगर यह सिलैक्ट कमेटी के पास चला भी जाय तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि सब से पहले फैसला वह चौदह कैंरेट के बारे में करे और बिल को वापिस कर दे यह कह कर कि हम आगे तब चलेंगे जब तीन चार बातों की जानकारी सरकार दे देगी।

पहली बात तो यह है कि चार हजार करोड़ का सोना कहाँ है। दूसरी यह कि क्यों सरकार इस को नेशनलाइज नहीं करती है, इस ट्रेड को क्यों अपने हाथ में नहीं लेती है, क्यों नहीं उस की उचित मात्रा भविष्य के लिये देने के लिये निर्धारित करती है। तीसरे यह कि क्यों नहीं करोड़पदियों का सोना इंटरनेशनल भाव पर ले लेती है? सरकार जानती है कि करोड़पति उसकी रीढ़ की हड्डी हैं। अगर उन को करोड़ों का नुकसान हो गया तो इस को चंदा कहाँ से मिलेगा? इसलिए सरकार इस तरह के कानून बनाने से घबराती है। इस तरह के कानून से वे तो बच जायेंगे, पित्तेंगे तो गरीब आदमी ही पित्तेंगे। सुनार जो थोड़ा बहुत काम करते हैं, वे भी मारे जायेंगे। सुनार के सिर के ऊपर, छोटे सर्राफ के सिर के ऊपर रोज इंस्पेक्टर तलवार लटकाये बैठा रहेगा और वह उन से मिला रहेगा, उन को चूषता रहेगा। आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि इस पर पुनर्विचार किया जाय। चोरी छिपे जो सोना आ रहा है, जो इस का व्यापार हो रहा है, उस से सरकार को करोड़ों का नुकसान हो रहा है। ऐसे कानून बना कर सरकार लोगों को पतन की ओर ले जाना चाहती है। जब कानून ऐसा हो कि लोग पतन की ओर जायें, रोज चोरी का अभ्यास पड़ता हो तो वह कानून कभी सही नहीं हो सकता है। इस प्रकार से पुलिस राज का जो कानून है, जिस को आज बनाया जा रहा है वह हमारे देश को पतन की ओर ले जायेगा। लोग कहेंगे कि आप प्रगतिशील नहीं हैं। कोई भी आदमी नहीं चाहता है कि सारे रुपये को वह सोने के रूप में रख ले। आखिर सोने की ओर लोगों का दिमाग क्यों है? इसलिए नहीं है कि उन को सोने से बहुत ज्यादा मोह है। इसलिए है कि कुछ व्यावहारिक कठिनाइयाँ हैं, कुछ ऐसी बातें हैं जिन के लिए सोना होना जरूरी है। अभी हमारा बैंकिंग सिस्टम ऐसा नहीं हुआ है कि लोग उस से पूरा पूरा फायदा उठा सकें। सरकार के जो तौर तरीके हैं,

लोन्य वगैरह के जो तरीके हैं, वे ऐसे नहीं हैं कि सब लोग आसानी से उन को समझ सकें। समय आ रहा है, वह भी होगा। इसके लिए प्रचार होना चाहिये। पीटर अल्वारेस साहब ने बहुत सही बात कही है। अगर सरकार इस तरह का कानून न बना कर, इन दूसरी बातों की तरफ अपनी ताकत लगाती तो बहुत कुछ हो सकता था। वह मात्रा कायम कर सकती थी शुद्ध सोने के लिए कि अपने टोटल एसेट्स का, कुल सम्पत्ति का इतने से अधिक सोने में नहीं रखा जा सकेगा। ऐसी कोई पाबंदी सरकार लगा सकती थी। वैज्ञानिक तरीके से सोच कर उसको कोई कदम उठाना चाहिये था, खूब सोच समझ कर आगे चलना चाहिये था। आप तो योजनायुक्त आधार पर देश को आगे ले जाना चाहते हैं। जब आप इस प्रकार के कानून बनाते हैं बिना पूरी जांच किये, बिना किसी रिपोर्ट को तैयार किये, बिना वस्तुस्थिति को जाने, तो आश्चर्य होता है। इस तरह के कानूनों से कोई लाभ नहीं हो सकता है।

मैं समझता हूँ अच्छा हो अब भी सरकार सोच ले दुबारा और अगर वह इस को वापिस लेने का निर्णय नहीं करती है तो मैं सिल्वेक्ट कमेटी से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह इस को वापिस भेज दे और पूरी जांच पड़ताल के बाद ही यह बिल आवे। इस प्रकार का बिल पास करना वस्तुस्थिति के विपरीत पड़ेगा और देश को रसातल की ओर ले जायेगा।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shrimati Savitri Nigam is not here. Shri N. M. R. Subbaraman is also not here. Shri K. C. Sharma.

Shri K. C. Sharma (Sardhana): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I very attentively listened to the arguments of my hon. friends on the right and I sympathise with their feelings, but I would most respectfully.....

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : हमारे शर्मा जी का भाषण हो रहा है, लेकिन हाउस में कोरम नहीं है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no quorum.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): There are only 36 hon. Members. 14 more are required.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung. Now there is quorum; he may continue his speech.

Shri K. C. Sharma: Sir, I was listening very attentively to the arguments of the hon. Members on my right and I sympathise with their feelings. But I would most respectfully submit that this might be an extra-ordinary measure. Ours is a poor country where 250 millions of people get food below the average necessity for keeping the human flesh and bone together. It is the poorest country in the world so far as the nourishment of the human body is concerned and yet Rs. 4000 crores worth of gold is hoarded in this country. These are two great contradictions. You say, your daughter is not going to be married without enough gold on her body. Would your daughter like that her child will not be growing into a like a good human being? Would you like your child to grow into full manhood or would you like your daughter to be well-ornamented? These two things cannot go together. You have to choose between the two. We have to pass from, what is called, subsistence economy of micro economics into macro economics. Either you have to go to the world to buy things or you have to produce more and better goods and become better human beings, stronger men, to shape the destinies of things to come. If you are for the latter, you have to put up with the difficult situation as it is.

I have one more thing in mind. In the last great War, two great countries, England and France, fought their wars simply on the basis of their

[Shri K. C. Sharma]

gold reserves. They sold away every ounce of the gold that was in their treasury. We are facing a situation in which Chinese forces may at any time cross over the Hiamalayas and be a menace to our security. If that happens, there is no way out but to get every ounce of gold into the Government treasury and get a every ounce of iron and steel from all over the world to equip our soldier well. What was the situation in the middle age? What was the ratio of men that used to fight for the security of the country? One-sixth of the population was recruited in the army. One-sixth of the population used to fight for the nation's sovereignty. Now, that ratio of one-sixth does not fight for the country's defence. It is an impossible proposition. What do we find now? Modern armaments are there; the guns are there; the aeroplanes are there; the atomic bombs are there and all that. From where does the atomic bomb come? From where does the aeroplane come? From where does your tanks come? They come from iron. You have to buy iron and steel; you have to buy engineering know-how and skill; you have to buy even the skills in the military strategy and even in war arrangements. One of the two things are necessary, either the foreign security or the gold. You have not got foreign security in your treasury. Gold is the only thing. It is not a pleasant situation. I do not say, you do not feel it. Everybody feels it. But there is no way out.

The other proposition is to have a big push investment programme. Situated as we are, for the last few years, there were two propositions before the world. One was that Nehru was growing old and somebody else would come and he would not be able to keep the country together and that the country's stability will be shattered to pieces and it would be an invitation to the powers outside. What was another proposition? The other proposition was: Well, India is on the

path of progress; a big planning is going on but there is no investment capacity so far as India is concerned to meet the situation as it is. When there is no so much capacity for investment, what will follow? The programme will not be implemented. The services will not be honest, active and efficient. So, the country will again go to pieces. Either it will have the communist structure or it will be simply something like a client State to a big capitalist power. Now, I beg to submit that both these situations demand that there must be a way out by which the Government can have at any difficult moment all the gold available in the country. Nobody who thinks of the security of the country and nobody who thinks of the better and greater future generation of our country can stand against this measure.

Shri Nambiar: This Gold Control Order did not give you the gold. You are not getting it.

Shri K. C. Sharma: You are getting the information where the gold is.

So, I beg to submit that it is not a question of the easy way of life nor a question of sentiment. It is a question of way of life of the people as it is and it is a question for building a greater and better future generation of our country.

With these aspects of the question. I beg to submit that all precautions may be taken to see that people may not be put to unnecessary harassment, or necessary amendments may be made. But so far as the principle is concerned, we cannot run away from the situation as it exists today. Unpleasant though it might be, new though it might be yet we have to tackle the problem and meet the situation as it is.

With these words, I support the principle underlying this Bill.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : (विजनौर) :
 उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक समय ऐसा था जब कि सोना हमारे देश में शोभा की धातु माना जाता था और आभूषणों के रूप में उस का प्रयोग होता था। अब सोने के आभूषण अवश्य बनते हैं लेकिन सोने के आभूषण केवल शोभा के लिये नहीं हैं अपितु वह एक तरह का संचित बैंक धन है जिस का गांव का छोटे से छोटा आदमी, छोटे से छोटा किसान, मजदूर अपनी स्थिति और अपनी शक्ति के अनुरूप संग्रह कर के रखता है।

प्रश्न यह होता है कि सोने को ही संचित कर के क्यों रखा जाता है जब कि देश में बैंक खुले हुए हैं और उन में अपनी राशि को सुगमता से रखा जा सकता है। उस का एक बड़ा कारण है, जहां तक मैं समझ पाया हूँ वह यह है कि कई बार हमारे देश में एक इस प्रकार की घटनायें घटी हैं जिस से भारत की जनता को बैंकों की ओर से एक प्रकार का डर सा पैदा हो गया है। एक बार विशेषकर इस प्रकार की स्थिति हो गई तो हमारे देश में १०० रुपयों के नोटों का प्रचलन बन्द हो गया। जनता को विश्वास नहीं रहा जो गवर्नमेंट करेन्सी है उस में पता नहीं कब और किस रूप में परिवर्तन हो जाये। अभी कुछ दिन हुए देखा गया कि जिन लोगों का पलाई बैंक में अकाउन्ट था उन पर बड़ा भारी संकट आया। उस बैंक के फेल हो जाने के परिणाम यह हुआ कि हिन्दुस्तान के न जाने कितने परिवारों पर उस का प्रभाव पड़ा। इसी लिये गरीब आदमी जिस के पास थोड़ी शक्ति है चूंकि वह बैंकों के पास नहीं जा सकता इस लिये वह आभूषणों के रूप में सोने को अपने परिवार की सुरक्षा के लिये रखे रहता है। और उस का सोने के प्रति यह मोह शताब्दियों और सहस्राब्दियों से ही नहीं, जब से देश का इतिहास मिलता है उस समय से ही हमें देखने को मिलता है। भारत सरकार ने सोने के तस्कर व्यापार को रोकने के लिये पहले इस सम्बन्ध में

अधिनियम लागू किया था जिस को कि अब एक विधेयक के रूप में लाया गया है। मेरा अपना विचार इस प्रकार का है कि भारत सरकार जो उस को अधिनियम के रूप में लाये चाहे विधेयक के रूप में लाये, ऐसे अधिनियमों और विधेयकों द्वारा सरकार स्वतः ही अपने लिये अपनी अक्रमण्यता का प्रमाणपत्र ले लेती है। सरकार तस्कर व्यापार को रोकने में असमर्थ है यह प्रमाणपत्र उन अधिनियम से भी उसे मिला और अब इस विधेयक के द्वारा भी वही असमर्थता का प्रमाणपत्र उसे प्राप्त हुआ है।

दूसरी सब से बड़ी बात यह है कि हमारे देश में तस्कर व्यापार होता क्यों है और यह कहां है ? इस बात को तो वित्त मंत्री विशेष रूप से जानते हैं कि हमारे देश में यह तस्कर व्यापार विशेष कर सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों में होता है। समाचारपत्रों में आये दिन के सामचार इस बात के साक्षी हैं और निष्पक्ष हृदय से अगर आप थोड़ा भी कहेंगे तो इस बात को स्वीकार करेंगे कि इस सोने के तस्कर व्यापार को छोटे मोटे आदमी नहीं करते हैं बल्कि यह सोने का तस्कर व्यापार बड़े व्यापारी लोग करते हैं, कुछ राज्यों के मिनिस्टर्स इस सोने के तस्कर व्यापार को करते हैं। बड़े और ऊंचा वेतन पाने वाले पुलिस के अधिकारी इस सोने के तस्कर व्यापार को करते हैं तथा ऊंचे नेताओं के द्वारा यह व्यापार किया जाता है। अगर शक्ति हो तो सरकार सीमा की पुलिस में इतनी सतर्कता लाये, इस तरह के मिनिस्टर्स पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाये, नेताओं पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाये तब यह सोने का तस्कर व्यापार रुक सकेगा और इस में कुछ सतर्कता आयेगी। लेकिन इस सोने के तस्करी व्यापार को रोकने के सिलसिले में लाखों आर्दमियों की गर्दनो को फांसी के तख्ते पर लटका देना यह कोई अकलमंदी या बुद्धिमत्ता का प्रमाणपत्र परिचय नहीं माना जायेगा।

सोने का तस्कर व्यापार इस लिये भी होता है कि विदेशों के साथ जो देश का व्यापार

[श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री]

चल रहा है उस में ओवर ऐस्टिमेट और अंडर ऐस्टिमेट एक कारण रहा है। यह सोने के तत्स्कर व्यापार को बढ़ाने में एक प्रमुख कारण दिया गया है। इस ओवर ऐस्टिमेट और अंडर ऐस्टिमेट के चक्कर में होता यह है कि जो सोना बाहर से यहां पर आता है अब अगर आप उस सोने का आना इस प्रकार के विधेयकों के द्वारा बंद कर देंगे तो जिन का पैसा वहां पर है वह उसके बदले कुछ न कुछ तो लेंगे ही। अब तक सोना आता था, अब सोने के बदले में घड़ियां आयेंगी, ट्रान्जिस्टर्स आयेंगे, फाउन्टेन पेन आयेंगे और दूसरी और तरह की चीजें आयेंगी लेकिन फर्क यह है कि सोना तो आखिर तक और हमेशा सोना ही रहेगा और कभी भी उस की आधी कीमत तो मिल सकती ही है। सोने का जो इतना मोह है उस को समाप्त नहीं किया जा सकता। घड़ियां, ट्रान्जिस्टर्स, फाउन्टेन पेन, एक समय आयेंगे जब कि वह अपनी आयु समाप्त कर बैठेंगे और वह धूल में मिल जायेंगे। इसलिए अगर उस के बदले में सोना आता है तो कम से कम सोना एक रकम के रूप में देश में हमेशा सुरक्षित तो रहता है। सोने से देश आर्थिक दृष्टि से उन्नत बनता है इस पर भी सरकार को विचार कर लेना चाहिये।

मेरा अपना अनुमान है कि सरकार को यह अधिनियम या विधेयक लाने का आकर्षण क्यों हुआ उस का कारण मैं यह समझता हूँ कि जिस समय भारत पर चीन का आक्रमण हुआ तो देश के अन्दर एक अजीब राष्ट्रियता का वातावरण उत्पन्न हुआ, चारों ओर से हमारे देश के नेताओं ने और विशेषकर हमारे स्वर्गीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नेहरू ने जब यह कहा कि मुझे देश की रक्षा के लिए रक्त चाहिए तो देश के लोगों ने रक्तदान करने के लिये लाइन लगा दी। अस्पतालों में लोग कतारें बांध कर रक्त देने को खड़े हो गये कि हमारा रक्त ले लो। और चीन के विरुद्ध लड़ रहे हमारे वीर जवानों को यह पहुंचा दो।

फिर कहा गया कि देश की सुरक्षा करने के लिए हमें सोना चाहिये तो लोगों ने सोना देना शुरू कर दिया और न केवल प्राइम मिनिस्टर को अपितु दूसरे नेताओं को भी जनता ने सोने में तालना शुरू कर दिया। जब सरकार की निगाह में यह बात आई कि इस देश की जनता के पास इतना सोना है कि लोगों को सोने में तोला जा रहा है तो सरकार के मन में लालच समा गया और उस ने सोचा कि यह मुर्गी जो कि रोज एक सोने का अंडा देती है क्यों न एक साथ उस का पेट चीर कर तमाम अंडे एक दम से निकाल लिये जायें। उसी का परिणाम यह हुआ कि जब से यह गोल्ड कंट्रोल एक्ट लागू हुआ परन्तु पहले जो बहन अपने सोने के आभूषण देती थी उस को यह विश्वास था कि अगर आज वह देश की रक्षा को अपने आभूषण सरकार को दे रही है तो कल को जब देश की स्वतन्त्रता बच जाती है तो चार पैसे उस के पास जब इकट्ठा हो जायेंगे तो फिर उस के शरीर पर सोने के आभूषण हो जायेंगे। लेकिन जब से सरकार ने यह आर्डर निकाला कि आगे से १४ कैरट के गहने ही बन सकेंगे, शुद्ध सोने के अर्थात् २२ या २४ कैरट के जेवर नहीं बन सकेंगे तब से सोने के बड़े आभूषण तो देना दूर रहा, हमारी बहनें अपने हाथ की अंगूठी भी निकाल कर नहीं देना चाहतीं। देश में सोना जनता द्वारा दिये जाने की बात को स्वयं सरकार ने उस तरह से समाप्त किया। सरकार की अबुद्धिमत्तापूर्ण और गलत नीति ने उसे समाप्त किया। सरकार ने जनता रूपी मुर्गी के पेट में से जो कि रोज एक सोने का अंडा दिया करती थी, एक दम से उस का पेट चाक कर के तमाम अंडे इस तरह का कानून बना कर निकालने चाहे। उन्होंने सोचा कि शायद इस तरीके से सारे देश का सोना उन के पास इकट्ठा हो जायेंगा लेकिन उसका परिणाम उलटा हुआ और वह सोना अब भूमि के नीचे चला गया, अंडरग्राउंड हो गया। देश में जो एक वातावरण त्याग का बना था कि

भारत माता पर जो संकट आया हुआ है उस की रक्षा करने के लिये और उस की स्वतन्त्रता की रक्षा करने के लिये जनता अपना सब कुछ न्योछोवर करने को तैयार हुई थी, सरकार की इस गलत नीति ने उस अच्छे वातावरण को स्वतः समाप्त कर दिया ।

दूसरी बात जो मैं २२ कैरेट और २४ कैरेट के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि क्या वित्त मंत्री महोदय इस बात को स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे कि अभी भी हमारे देश में २२ कैरेट के सोने के आभूषण बनते हैं या २२ कैरेट के सोने के आभूषण बाजार में मिलते हैं ? अगर आज भी आप चाहें तो बाजार से २२ कैरेट के सोने के आभूषण ले सकते हैं । प्रलब्धता वहाँ यह न बतलाये कि आप श्री ब. श्री राम भगत वित्त मंत्री हैं । चांदनी चौक में जब आप किसी सराफा की दुकान पर पहुँचेंगे और आप आभूषण लेना चाहेंगे तो वह आपको कहेगा कि हमारे यहाँ आप को १४ कैरेट के आभूषण मिल सकते हैं, अगर लेना हो तो लीजिये । जब आप दुकानदार की यह बात सुन कर और निराश हो कर दुकान से उतरेंगे और दस कदम बढ़ेंगे तभी धीरे से कोई आदमी आप के पास आ कर कहेगा कि क्या, क्या चीज आप को शुद्ध चाहिये । जब आप कहेंगे कि हमें यह, यह चीज चाहिये तो वह कहेगा कि आप अपने घर का पता बतला दीजिये, कल आप के घर पर यह तमाम चीजें पहुँच जायेंगी । अगर दुकान पर भी वह देने के लिये कहेगा तो जब आप उन को लेने के लिये पहुँचेंगे तो वह कहेगा कि देखिये इन को सम्हाल कर अन्दर रख लीजिये । इस की कसाई मत करिये, कोई पुलिस वाला अगर आ जायेगा तो भुसीबत में हम दोनों पड़ जायेंगे । मेरा कहना है कि इस तरह से आप ने स्वयं देश में एक चोरी करने की प्रवृत्ति बढ़ाई है । सोने की शुद्धता को समाप्त कर के देश को एक गलत रास्ते पर चलने का अवसर दिया है । यह कोई बुद्धिमत्ता का कार्य नहीं हुआ । २२ कैरेट के शुद्ध सोने के आभूषण आज भी बहुत से

लोग बनवा रहे हैं लेकिन इस तरह का प्रतिबन्ध लगा कर सरकार ने बेकार में लोगों में एक चोरी करने की आदत डाल दी है । इस तरह से एक्साइज इंस्पेक्टर आदि के लिए आप ने एक अलग रिस्वत का दरवाजा खोल दिया है । इस अधिनियम और इस विधेयक के द्वारा इस के प्रतिरिक्त और कुछ होने वाला नहीं है ।

केवल दो बातें और कह कर मैं अपने वक्तव्य को समाप्त करूँगा । एक बात यह है जिस के लिए अभी विशेष रूप से श्री श्यामलाल सराफा ने संकेत किया था कि कृपा कर के हमारे इन धर्म मंदिरों की पवित्रता को आप नष्ट मत कीजिये ।

अन्य स्थानों में अपवित्रता आना भी बैसे तो खराब है ही लेकिन वह उतना चिन्तनीय नहीं है जितना कि हमारे धर्म मन्दिरों में अपवित्रता का आना है । धर्म मन्दिरों में इस प्रकार से और अपवित्रता आने लगगी यह विधेयक यदि लागू हो गया जिसमें यह होगा कि धर्म मन्दिरों में, गुरुद्वारों में, मस्जिदों में और गिरजाघरों में जो सोना है उस पर कोई प्रतिबन्ध नहीं लगेगा, जो लोग उनको देना चाहते हैं वे हैं और वहाँ जिस प्रकार से अब तक उसका उपयोग होता है वह उपयोग भी हो तो सवाल यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान में कितने मन्दिर ऐसे हैं जिनमें कि तिरुपति के समान जो षड़ावा चढ़ाया जाता है उससे इंजीनियरिंग कालिज और संस्कृत विश्वविद्यालय चल रहे हैं ? अगर धर्म मन्दिरों का वैसा उपयोग हो तो सारा देश उसका स्वागत करेगा लेकिन जो मन्दिरों की भाड़ में अपवित्रता अब चल रही है आपका यह विधेयक तो उसको और प्रोत्साहन देगा । यह विधेयक जब इस तरह की स्थिति को पैदा करने में प्रोत्साहन देगा तो उस धारा को इस बीच में आप साते ही क्यों हैं ?

[श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री]

तीसरी बात वह है जो आपने इन आभूषणों के सम्बन्ध में इस विधेयक में लिखी है। आभूषणों के कब्जे में करने की घोषणा किस प्रकार से होगी इसके सम्बन्ध में आपने कुछ स्पष्ट निर्देश नहीं दिये। कभी एक स्वान पर मैंने एक संस्कृत का श्लोक पढ़ा था। अब भी मुझे वह याद है। उसमें परमात्मा की भूल पर किसी ने संकेत किया था। परमात्मा की उसने चार भूलें गिनाई थीं। एक भूल तो उनकी यह थी कि उसने गन्ध में फल नहीं लगाया, दूसरी भूल यह की कि विद्वान को उसने धनी नहीं बनाया, तीसरी भूल उसने यह की कि सोने में सुगन्ध नहीं डाली। अगर सोने में भगवान ने सुगन्ध पैदा कर दी होती तो उसका मूल्य शायद और भी अधिक बढ़ जाता लेकिन उसके लिए एक विद्वान ने इस तरह उत्तर दिया कि अगर सोने में सुगन्ध पैदा हो जाती तो तिजोरियों में रक्खा सोना रास्ते में चलने वाले चोर को कह देता कि मैं यहाँ पर बैठा हुआ हूँ, मालिक के हटते ही मुझे निकाल लेना। शायद इसीलिये भगवान ने सोने में सुगन्ध पैदा नहीं की।

यह जो आपने डिक्लेरेशन की बात रखी है और इस मंशा से रखी से कि आप इसके संग्रह को समाप्त करना चाहते हैं लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि इस तरह आप भ्रष्टाचार और दूसरे चोरी के रास्तों को और खोलना चाहते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस विधेयक को जिन्होंने ड्राफ्ट किया है और जिस प्रकार से इस विधेयक को लाया गया है यह परिस्थितियाँ भी देश के अनुकूल नहीं हैं देश के अन्दर जो वातावरण एकता का बना हुआ है उसको और देश के आर्थिक ढाँचे को इसके द्वारा बिगाड़ना ही है।

सब से अन्त में जो बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि किसी भी देश में साम्यवाद कब आता है, कम्युनिज्म तब ही

पनपती है जब उस देश का आर्थिक सन्तुलन बिगड़ता है, या उस देश का आर्थिक ढाँचा लड़खड़ाने लगता है। आप इस प्रकार के विधेयक को लाकर इस देश के आर्थिक ढाँचे को बिगाड़ना चाहते हैं। दूसरे शब्दों में आप इस देश में साम्यवाद को लाना चाहते हैं। अगर आप हृदय से ऐसी स्थिति पैदा नहीं करना चाहते तो आप इस विधेयक को वापस लें। सारी जनता की भी यही राय है। श्री सिंहासन सिंह ने ठीक ही कहा है कि अगर जनतन्त्र के आधार पर यह सरकार बनी है तो उसे जनता की भावना का आदर करना ही चाहिए। संसद के जितने भी सदस्य इस विधेयक पर बोले हैं या बोलने वाले हैं उनकी राय का आप आदर करें और उनकी मांग का विचार करते हुए इस विधेयक को वापस लें ऐसा मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है। धन्यवाद।

15.29 hrs.

[SHRI SONAVANE in the Chair]

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम (बांदा) : सभापति महोदय, मैंने इस गोल्ड कंट्रोल बिल को देखा है और अब तक जो भाषण इस सम्बन्ध में हुए हैं उनको भी सुना है। कुछ माननीय सदस्यों के भाषण सुन कर मुझे काफी आश्चर्य हुआ। अगर अधिकांश जेवर स्त्रियाँ ही उपयोग में लाती हैं तो सब से अधिक लगाव उनको ही होना चाहिए लेकिन जब देश पर विपत्ति आई और भारत की सुरक्षा की खातिर जनता से सोना देने की मांग की गई तो यह सोच करके कि देश का कल्याण इसी में है कि वह सोना जिसका कि अभी तक उपयोग केवल आभूषणों और सुन्दरता व शोभा के लिए होता था, उस सोने का उपयोग देश की सुरक्षा के लिये किया जाय, तो सोना देने में स्त्रियाँ ही सब से आगे आई और उन्होंने दोनों हाथों से अपने स्वर्ण आभूषणों को सुरक्षा के लिये सरकार को दे दिया।

इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं कि इस सदन के सभी माननीय सदस्य और देश के सभी धर्म-शास्त्री यह जानते हैं कि सोने का जितना दुरुपयोग हमारे देश में होता है, उतना संसार के किसी और देश में नहीं होता है। आर्थिक दृष्टि से, राजनीतिक दृष्टि से अथवा सामाजिक दृष्टि से आगे बढ़े हुए जितने भी देश हैं, उनमें हमको हमेशा यह बात देखने को मिलेगी कि उन्होंने सोने के दुरुपयोग को समाप्त कर दिया है।

आभूषणों और सजावट के लिये सोने के उपयोग के विषय में अनेक माननीय सदस्यों ने अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं। उन्होंने कहा है कि यह बहुत बड़ा अन्याय है, इससे हमारी संस्कृति और हमारे रीति-रिवाजों को घटका लगेगा। किन्तु क्या मैं उनसे यह जान सकती हूँ कि देश के रीति-रिवाजों और देश के चलन अधिक आवश्यक और महत्वपूर्ण हैं या देश की सुरक्षा, देश का कल्याण और देश की आर्थिक मजबूती अधिक आवश्यक है?

अभी मन्दिरों का जिक्र हुआ। इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि मन्दिरों में—बहुत मन्दिरों में—बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में सोना छिपा हुआ है और इसमें कोई भी सन्देह नहीं है कि वहाँ जो सोना रखा हुआ है, उसके कारण ही आज मन्दिर और धार्मिक स्थान एक प्रकार के षड्यंत्रों के अड्डे बने हुए हैं। समझ में नहीं आता कि गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर या गोल्ड कंट्रोल बिल उन सब कुरीतियों और विकारों को कैसे बढ़ायेंगे।

मैं समझती हूँ कि गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर जिस भावना और जिस उद्देश्य से जारी किया गया था, उनमें केवल यही बात छिपी हुई थी कि जिस सोने का उपयोग देश के कल्याण के लिए होना चाहिए, जिसका उपयोग देश के कल्याण के लिए नहीं हो रहा है, उसका उपयोग देश के कल्याण के लिए हो। उसके

पीछे यह भावना भी थी कि चूंकि आज सोना एक ऐसी गद्दी पर बैठा हुआ है, जिसके कारण देश में समाजवादी ढंग के समाज की रचना में और हमारी सामाजिक व्यवस्था की प्रगति में एक बहुत बड़ी रुकावट आ रही है, इसलिए इस सोने को उस गद्दी से उतारा जाये।

मैं सिलेक्ट कमेटी के माननीय सदस्यों से यह प्रार्थना करूँगी कि जिस भावना से प्रेरित होकर गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर जारी किया गया था, वह भावना इस विधेयक में अवश्य लाई जानी चाहिए।

बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि यह सुधार होना चाहिए, लेकिन उसके लिए यह समय नहीं है। मैं नम्रतापूर्वक यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि किसी भी सुधार के लिए समय वही होता है जब कि वह सुधार लाया जाता है। सोने के इर्द-गिर्द जो इतनी बड़ी कुरीति लिपटी हुई है, उसको दूर करने के लिए उपयुक्त समय यही है और इसके बाद वह समय नहीं आने वाला है।

मैं जानती हूँ कि गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर से देश के स्वर्णकारों को कष्ट हुआ। मैं यह भी जानती हूँ कि उन लोगों को भी कष्ट हुआ, जिनकी ममता सोने पर है। मेरी ममता भी सोने पर है। मैं अब भी सोने के आभूषण पहने हुए हूँ। लेकिन मैं जानती हूँ कि सोने के आभूषणों का जितना बड़ा दुरुपयोग हमारे देश में होता है, अन्य किसी देश में नहीं होता है। इसको रोकने के बाद ही हम अपने देश में समाजवादी ढंग के समाज की रचना कर सकेंगे।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि सोना जन-साधारण के लिये बचत का एक बहुत बड़ा माध्यम है—जो गरीब किसान या दूसरे गरीब लोग बैंकों तक नहीं पहुँच सकते हैं, वे सोना खरीद कर अपना धन बचाते हैं।

[श्रीमती सावित्री निगम]

लेकिन मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि जो बेचारे सोने को बचत का साधन मान कर, उस को एक प्रकार का बैंक मान कर, सोना खरीदते हैं, उनके बराबर किसी और का शोषण नहीं होता है। जब उनको आवश्यकता होती है, तो वह दो सौ रुपये की चीज खरीदते हैं, लेकिन जब वे बेचारे बेचने जाते हैं, तो उन की चीज मुश्किल से पचास, साठ रुपये की बिकती है। इसके अतिरिक्त सोने के कारण चोरी का डर रहता है, जानो-माल का खतरा रहता है। जितनी बड़ी-बड़ी चोरियाँ और डाके होते हैं, उनमें वही बेचारे, भोले-भाले मारे जाते हैं, बचत के लिए जिनके पास बैंकों का सहारा नहीं है और जो घर में सोना डाल कर रखते हैं।

जो स्वर्णकार रोज हजारों तोले सोने का लेन-देन करते हैं, वे अपने घरों में उपयोग करने के लिए, पहनने के लिए अपनी पत्नियों को सोना क्यों नहीं देते हैं ? अगर आप उनसे पूछें, तो वे तुरन्त जवाब देते हैं कि अगर पाँच तोले का कोई जेवर पहना जाता है तो साल भर में वह पाँच रत्ती घिस जाता है। आप अन्दाजा लगाइये कि कितने हजार तोले सोने हर साल इस देश में घिस कर फेंक दिया जाता है। रूस, अमरीका आदि जितने भी आगे बढ़े हुए देश हैं, उनमें आप कहीं भी आभूषणों के रूप में सोने का उपयोग नहीं पायेंगे। वहाँ पर हीरे, अन्य धातुयें, कास्ट्यूम ज्युअलरी भले ही पहनी जायें, लेकिन वे लोग सोने का उपयोग नहीं करते हैं। आखिर हमें दूसरों से भी सबक सीखना चाहिए।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) : माननीय सदस्या ने सोने की अंगूठी और चड़ियाँ पहनी हुई हैं। वही पहले सबक सीखना शुरू करें।

श्रीमती सावित्री निगम : मैंने यह बात स्वयं ही कही है। जो स्त्रियाँ आभूषण पहनती हैं, वे फिर भी आभूषणों से अधिक

अपने देश को प्यार करती हैं। वे आभूषणों से अधिक अपने देश की तरक्की को प्यार करती हैं। वे यह नहीं चाहतीं कि वे हाथ में आभूषण पहने और देश का नुकसान होता चला जाये। मैं माननीय सदस्यों से यह प्रार्थना करना चाहती हूँ कि वे सोने को इस गद्दी से अवश्य उतारें।

आप हमारे विवाह-शादियों को ले लीजिये। सोने की कुरीति सांप की तरह उनके साथ लिपटी हुई है। हमारे जन्म-मृत्यु को ले लीजिए, तो उनके साथ भी सोना लिपटा हुआ है। यह कितने अफसोस के बात है। यह सोना काले सांप की तरह हमारे साथ लिपटा हुआ है। जब तक सोने के इस दुरुपयोग को नहीं रोका जाएगा, जब तक लोगों की मनोवृत्ति को नहीं बदला जायेगा, जब तक लोगों को यह नहीं समझाया जायेगा कि न तो सोने का धर्म से कोई सम्बन्ध है और न पवित्रता से कोई सम्बन्ध है, बल्कि जो धातु या जो वस्तु देश का उत्थान और प्रगति कराए, वह सब से पवित्र होती है, तब तक हम अपने देश में समाजवादी ढंग के समाज की स्थापना नहीं कर पायेंगे।

मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि आज के युग में यदि हम लोग सोने के स्थान पर लोहे के महत्व को पहचानने लगें, तभी हमारे देश का कल्याण हो सकेगा। जिन-जिन देशों ने तरक्की की है, उन्होंने कभी-कभी तो अपने देश का पूरे का पूरा सोना लोहा खरीदने के लिए खर्च कर दिया है। रशिया की मिसाल हमारे सामने है। बहुत से माननीय सदस्य जानते होंगे कि वहाँ पर एक ऐसा जमाना आया कि उसने अपने देश का सब सोना देकर बड़ी-बड़ी मशीनों और देशों से खरीदीं।

इस सम्बन्ध में तत्त्वर व्यापार की भी चर्चा की गई है। गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर जारी करने का एक उद्देश्य तत्त्वर व्यापार को रोकना तो था ही, लेकिन उसके अतिरिक्त और भी बहुत से उद्देश्य थे। परम्परागत

रुड़ियों से लिटा हुआ जो एक अजीब सा विश्वास सोने पर चला आ रहा था, उस को चोट पहुंचाने के लिए, लोगों की मनोवृत्ति को बदलने के लिए, लोगों के झूठे और गलत रीति-रिवाजों को तोड़ने के लिए—जो इस युग में गलत हो गए हैं, किसी युग में वे सही रहे होंगे—और सोने के असली उपयोग और असली महत्व को देश-हित में परिवर्तित करने के लिए ही यह गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर लाया गया था।

मैं चाहूंगी कि भले ही हम को कष्ट सहना पड़े, भले ही आभूषणों के लिए एक ज़रूरत भर भी सोना उपयोग में न लाया जा सके, भले ही चौदह कैरट क्या, एक कैरट के ज़ेवर बनने लगें, लेकिन जो देश की अमूल्य निधि है, जो लाखों करोड़ों तोले सोना आज अंडरग्राउंड है, चाहे उस को कनफ़िस्केट किया जाये और चाहे उस को किसी अन्य तरीके से निकाला जाये। मैं समझती हूँ कि इस से देश के हर एक हितचिन्तक को बड़ी प्रसन्नता होगी, भले ही उन को स्वयं कष्ट उठाना पड़े, भले ही और लोगों को कष्ट उठाना पड़े, लेकिन इस से रुड़ियों को एक बहुत बड़ी चोट पहुंचेगी, जिस से हमारे देश में एक नये समाज की रचना हो सकेगी, नये मूल्यों और नई मान्यताओं का निर्माण हो सकेगा और उन तमाम लोगों को शोषण से बचाया जा सकेगा, जिन को सोने की मृग-तृष्णा दिखा कर अनेक प्रकार से शोषित किया जाता है।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने जिक्र किया कि किस तरह से बाज़ार में चौबीस कैरट के आभूषण मिलते हैं। लेकिन किसी माननीय सदस्य ने यह नहीं बताया कि किस तरह से बेचारे, भोले-भाले किसानों के हाथ में सोने के नाम पर पीतल थमा दिया जाता था, किस तरह से सोने को ले कर घोड़ा-घड़ी होती थी, किस तरह से यहीं दिल्ली के बाज़ारों में चौबीस कैरट का नाम ले कर चौदह और आठ कैरट के सोने के ज़ेवर बिका करते थे।

मैं फिर यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि जिस भावना को ले कर गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर लाया गया था, उस भावना को इस विधेयक में भी निहित किया जाना चाहिए। इस के साथ यह भी देखना चाहिए कि जिन लोगों का सोने से सम्बन्ध रहा है, उन को कम से कम कष्ट हो। मेरा मतलब स्वर्णकारों और धार्मिक संस्थानों से है। कम से कम लोगों को कष्ट हो, कम से कम तकलीफ़ हो। लेकिन यह अत्यन्त आवश्यक है कि सोने की मृग-तृष्णा को दूर किया जाये और सोना जिस गद्दी पर बैठा हुआ है, उस को वहाँ से उतार एक ऐसे लेवल पर लाया जाये, जहाँ उस का उपयोग देश-हित में हो सके। मेरा विश्वास है कि इन भावनाओं को ले कर ही इस विधेयक का निर्माण होगा।

धन्यवाद।

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli): Except perhaps the lady member who just now spoke and Shri Sharma, all others spoke against the Bill.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: She has spoken strongly in favour of the Bill.

Shri Nambiar: Sir, it is very clear that we oppose the Bill not because we do not care for the defence or the necessity for mobilising money for the defence. What I would like is to put a pertinent, specific, pointed question to the hon. Minister. To what extent could you get gold for the purpose of defence out of your Gold Control Order? If you have succeeded in that and if you have succeeded in bringing down the price of gold or preventing the smuggling of gold, we will agree and ask you to go the whole hog with the Gold Control Order. But you have failed in these, and today instead of scrapping it, you are bringing it on the statute book as a permanent measure to which we object. That is our main reason for the objection. The question is this: In this country if the tradition of the people does not require wearing of gold as a normal procedure, you can scrap it. If the tradition is the

[Shri Nambiar]

other way about, then allow some margin for that. People in the rural parts do not have banks. They get these gold ornaments for that purpose. If it is the question of de-hoarding the hoarded gold, then you could not take it, in fact you did not. For instance, according to the statistics you say that gold to the extent of Rs. 7 crores or Rs. 8 crores could only be taken, when there is altogether gold worth Rs. 4,000 crores in the country. What is it due to? Today under this Bill you are giving power to the officials to search safe vaults and deposits and take gold. Why did you not do that then, immediately before the order was promulgated? Then you could have taken or caught hold of all the gold and given them the money. I am not saying that you should not pay them for that. But you have not done that. Today, Sir, they want to bring this Bill on the statute book and tell the world that they are controlling the use of gold and saving it for the country. We do not want all these pretensions. We want you to do things in practice and see that results are produced. There you have failed and, therefore, we oppose this Bill.

Now coming to the provisions of the Bill, I would request the hon. Members who are going to the Joint Committee to go through a particular clause—clause 17—which is most damaging. Under that clause even private ornaments that each individual has got at present can be taken out, over a particular limit. This is a new feature. First, they said that they were not going to take private ornaments. Now they say that even private ornaments can be taken. Clause 17 says:

“Where the Central Government is of the opinion that it is necessary so to do for carrying out the purposes of this Act, that Government may at any time, by general or special order, require that any person or class of persons owning ornaments

shall, within such period as may be specified in the said order, make a declaration to the Administrator in the prescribed form as to the quantity, description and other prescribed particulars of the ornaments owned by such person or each person in that class...”

This is a new provision. Now, you could say that if a lady or a family has ornaments, say upto 10, 20 or 50 sovereigns, then each member of the family will be asked to give a declaration that he or she is having 10 or 20 sovereigns of ornaments. Any officer can verify that statement and can even seize the property or account books according to this law, I would ask my hon. sister member Shrimati Savitri Nigam whether she would like such a clause to go on the statue Book.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Why not, if it is in the interest of the country?

Shri Nambiar: Even then, how can you take the last ounce of gold from everybody in this country? You are not going to do it. You have not done it even during the worst days of Chinese aggression when there was so much enthusiasm in the country on the part of the people to do anything for the defence. Then you could not do it. Is it possible to create such a feeling now? Therefore, I submit that they have failed.

The other point which I would suggest is this: Let not Government go on harassing the public in the name of gold control. This clause is nothing but harassment and therefore submit that hon. Members of the Joint Committee would do well to try and see that even if they cannot get the Government agree to the complete withdrawal of the Bill, they could at least scrap this sort of clause and see that ordinary, normal, honest citizens of this country are allowed to go on with their normal avocation without being harassed by officials in the name of gold control.

The other point I want to mention is about goldsmiths and workers in other industries connected with gold. Much has been said about goldsmiths and I do not want to repeat that. I submit that this is a point which the Government should take into consideration. They say that the Gold Control Order has been brought forward in the national interest. It is exactly in the national interest that the interests of workers should be safeguarded. Both should go together. Should they starve so that national interest is safeguarded? Why should workers alone face starvation and unemployment problems? There are big businessmen and profiteers who are minting money out of the issue of national defence. They must be told that they should not do so. Why should the poor goldsmith be deprived of his earning? Not even one per cent of these people have got employment. So, Government have miserably failed and I request the Government to take note of this point and see that alternative employment is given to these people.

I have to say not only about the gold industry as such but about other industries as well which are connected with gold. For instance, there are artificial diamond cutting and certain other industries. In my State of Madras there are more than 30,000—40,000 people who live on artificial diamond cutting, for instance, in Trichy in the South. There is a factory for that at Mettupalayam. Today most of these workmen are unemployed or half-employed or starved. Government have not taken any action to provide them with alternative employment except saying that they cannot help. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to pay careful attention to this because thousands of families are directly suffering under this and they should be given alternative jobs. If gold is not used, artificial diamond cannot also be used. So, that industry also suffers. I am bringing this point to his notice so that he can see that some outlet is given to this industry. I am told that there is a possibility of outside

market for these diamonds that they cut. If that is possible, all efforts should be made so that these artificial diamonds can be exported and we will get not only foreign exchange—we can get good value for it—but this industry can thrive. This point should also be considered. These workers have formed into societies. It is not only the question of artificial diamond cutters and goldsmiths, but the difficulties of all the workers in industries directly connected with gold should also be taken into consideration along with the whole Bill. The Bill should not be taken up as a separate thing. If other connected issues are separated from it, people will be put to difficulties.

I know the hon. Finance Minister is a practical person. He knows, but he hesitates to withdraw this Bill. His predecessor brought it, and he cannot scrap all that his predecessor had brought. He has already scrapped CDS, and if he scraps this too, it will be said that the new Finance Minister is undoing all that the old Finance Minister did, and he is afraid, because they belong to the same Government and party. They have got their difficulty, and I think that might be the way his mind is working. But let him come out of these narrow party difficulties. If it is in the larger interests of the country, it should be scrapped. He must be bold enough. I know he is courageous enough to do things if he wants. So, I request him to consider the question of withdrawing this Bill, and save the Members of the Joint Committee from doing a difficult job. Today, the consensus in the House is for its withdrawal. If the consensus of those who spoke reflects the feeling of the people outside, then the overwhelming majority of the people of this country are against this Bill. Therefore, I request him to consider all these aspects and do justice.

श्री बलपाल सिंह (कैराना) : समापति
महोदय, बहुत देर से मैं कहसुन रहा हूँ।
मेरी समझ में दो बातें नहीं आईं। एक तो यह

[श्री यशपाल सिंह]

कि इस बिल को लाने की क्या जरूरत थी जब कि सरकार फेल हो चुकी है और एक भी गोल्ड स्मगलर को आज तक चांदनी चौक में खड़ा कर के गोली नहीं मारी गई, उस का हाथ नहीं काटा गया। सैकड़ों सुनार, गरीब स्वर्णकार भूखे मर चुके हैं, आत्महत्या कर चुके हैं, अपने प्राणों को खो चुके हैं। अगर सरकार एक भी गोल्ड स्मगलर का इलाज करती तो मैं समझता कि इस बिल को लाने की जरूरत है।

हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब कहते हैं कि इमर्जेंसी है। अगर इमर्जेंसी देश में है तो कागज भेंहे, पेपर के ऊपर है। अगर इमर्जेंसी बाकई देश में होती तो यह लोग खाकी कपड़े पहन कर आते, देश में फौजी कपड़े पहन कर लोग आते और उन की फौजी ट्रेनिंग होती। एक चाइनीज की बन्दूक यह नहीं छीन सके, एक चाइनीज की राइफल यह नहीं छीन सके हैं। किसी लंगड़े, लूले, अन्घे, काने चाइनीज को ला कर आप लाल किले में बन्द कर देते तो कम से कम कसम खाने के लिये तो हो जाता कि चीन का एक आदमी हमारे जेल में बन्द है। एक इंच भी आप चीन को पीछे नहीं हटा सके, एक भी उन की राइफल नहीं छीन सके। आज इमर्जेंसी किस चीज के लिये है। पब्लिक को लूटने के लिये है। कितने आर्डर आपने कायम किये, कितने आर्डिनेन्स लाये, कितने कानून बने। आप दो चीजों का इलाज कर देते। या तो जो सुनार भूखों मर रहे थे उन की रोजी रोटी का इन्तजाम कर देते, जो पांच लाख आदमी बेघर हो गये हैं उन को बसाने का इन्तजाम कर देते, या फिर एक भी आदमी के, जो गोल्ड स्मगलिंग करता, हाथ कटवा देते, कुछ कर के दिखलाते तब भी हम कहते कि ठीक है, लेकिन इन में से एक भी का नहीं हो सका। पता नहीं यह बिल क्यों लाया जा रहा है। मैं तो समझता हूँ कि सिर्फ जनता को तंग करने के लिये यह बिल लाया जा रहा है। इस में थोड़ी सी

भलमन्साहत दिखलाई है। इस नें एक जगह लिखा हुआ है, और इस को यह बहुत सुन्दर समझते हैं, कि

"No female shall be searched by anyone excepting a female."

अगर बेइज्जती है तो बेइज्जती है, चाहे वह मर्द के हाथ से हो चाहे औरत के हाथ से हो। अगर घर में आग लग जाती है तो फिर उस में दियासलाई चाहे मर्द के हाथ से लगे या औरत के हाथ से लगे, घर ज़रूर जल जायेगा। आप ख्याल कीजिये। हिन्दुस्तान में २० करोड़ के लगभग औरतें हैं। हर एक के पास कोई न कोई अंगूठी होगी, कोई न कोई कड़ा होगा। क्या आप बीस करोड़ पुलिस रखेंगे उन को सर्च करने के लिये, क्या गांवों में हर जगह दस्ते जायेंगे फीमेल पुलिस के। यह बात समझ में नहीं आती कि क्या जरूरत महसूस हुई इस बिल की। जरूरत तो इस बात की है कि जो स्वर्णकार, हैं, जो घर से बेघर हो गये हैं उन्हें बसाने की कोशिश की जाती, उन के लिये रोजगार की कोशिश की जाती। वह नहीं की गई और नये-नये कानून लाये जाते हैं।

आज तक देवताओं के पूजन में किसी ने दखल नहीं दिया था, देवताओं के पूजन में औरंगजेब ने दखल दिया नहीं था, चंगेजख़ान ने दखल नहीं दिया था, लेकिन देवताओं के पूजन में इस सेकुलर गवर्नमेंट ने दखल दिया है। देवताओं के पूजन में सरकार चाहती है कि छोटा सोना चले, आज वह परमेश्वर के पूजन में भी खोट मिलाना चाहती है। यह सरकार आखिर कितने दिन चल सकेगी। नहीं चल सकेगी। इस के साथ ही साथ यह सरकार कहती है कि जिस जगह महाजन लोग रहते होंगे, जिस जगह वह लोग रहते होंगे जो कि स्वर्ण को बन्धक रखते हैं, वह लोग रहते होंगे जो कि गहने रखते हैं, जेवर रखते हैं, जिन के यहां गिरवी रखवा जाता है, वहां सुनार को काम नहीं करने दिया जायेगा। कहां, कहां आप डिस्ट्रिक्टिनेट करेंगे। हमारे यहां साहूकार रहता है जो हमारे दुःख सुख

का साथी है और वहीं सुनार रहता है, क्या आप दोनों को अलग अलग करेंगे। हमारे देश में ४४ करोड़ आदमी हैं और रहने के लिये साढ़े तीन करोड़ मकान हैं। क्या आप उन के अलग अलग घर बसा देंगे, या एक ही घर में बीस दीवारें डाली जायेंगी कि यह महाजन की दीवार है, यह सुनार की दीवार है, यह बन्धक रखने वाले की दीवार है। क्या तमाशा है इस बिल में। यह बात नहीं चल सकेगी। इस बिल की क्या जरूरत है। कोई जरूरत नहीं है। लेकिन सरकार जनता को परेशान करना चाहती है। समापति महोदय, आप चल कर देख लीजिये। यह सरकार कहती है कि इमर्जेंसी है। लेकिन एक तरफ ५० पी० में २३ रुपये मन गुड़ बिका, दूसरी तरफ सीराष्ट्र के अन्दर ८० रु० मन गुड़ बिका। यह क्या इमर्जेंसी है।

और आप देखिये कि हमारी इमर्जेंसी की हालत क्या है। यहां फौवारे पर चलिये, चांदनी चौक में चलिये। आप देखेंगे कि हजारों आदमी चांदनी चौक में, हजारों आदमी रीगल के सामने, हजारों आदमी सब्जी मंडी में, खड़े हैं। इसलिये खड़े हैं कि बस नहीं आई है। बस आ गई है तो टिकट नहीं मिला है, टिकट मिल गया है तो घकापेल हो रही है। इस में कौन सी इमर्जेंसी है। आप स्थाल कीजिये पब्लिक को तंग करने के लिये हजारों हजारों आदमी खड़े रखे जाते हैं। आप एक बनिये के बेटे को कंट्रैक्ट दे कर देख लीजिये दिल्ली ट्रांसपोर्ट का। एक हफ्ते के अन्दर अगर एक भी सवारी खड़ी रह जाये तो मैं यहां बोलना बन्द करूंगा, इस्तीफा दे कर चला जाऊंगा। लेकिन सरकार ऐसे काम कर रही है जिस का इमर्जेंसी से कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर १०० बसों का इन्तजाम कर दिया जाये तो जो बूढ़ी मां पैदल चल कर जाती है, हांफती हुई जाती है, उस के पहुंचने का किसी न किसी तरह से उपाय हो जाये। मुल्क पाकिस्तान के अन्दर एक भी पैरेन्जर खड़ा नहीं रह सकता है।

792 (A) LSD—7.

आप मुल्क पाकिस्तान को देखिये, आप दुश्मन को देख कर भी उस से फायदा नहीं उठाते हैं। भगवान राम को मर्यादापुरुषोत्तम इस लिये कहते हैं कि जिस समय रावण मर रहा था उन्होंने अपने छोटे भाई को उस के पास भेजा और कहा कि रावण चारों वेदों का विद्वान है, जो कर उस के चरण छुओ और उस से विद्या प्राप्त करो। जिस समय लक्ष्मण वहां गये तो रावण ने यह विद्या दी कि “शुभस्य शीघ्रम्”। किसी देश में जनता की इतनी दुर्गति नहीं होती जैसी यहां हो रही है। क्या आप एक एक अंगूठी का हिसाब यहां की औरतों से मांगेंगे। गांधी जी ने सरकार के लिये एक बार कहा था :

“That Government is the best which governs the least.”

वह बतलाते थे कि हुकूमत वह अच्छी है जो दखलअन्दाजी न करे, जो देश के किसी भी मामले में देश के नागरिकों के साथ किसी तरह का इंटरफिरेंस न करे। लेकिन आज एक एक अंगूठी के लिये इंस्पेक्टर कायम किये जायेंगे। एक तरफ सरकार कहती है कि ४,००० करोड़ रु० का सोना देश में है। अगर वाचर्ड ४,००० करोड़ रुपये का सोना देश में है तो वसूल किया जाना चाहिये, हम तैयार हैं। मैं मानता हूं कि देश के हित से बाहर कोई चीज नहीं है, देश की रक्षा से बड़ी कोई चीज नहीं है। लेकिन देश की रक्षा नहीं हो रही है। देश के गांवों में, पाकिस्तान का झण्डा लहरा रहा है और सरकार खत लिखती है, हिन्दुस्तान के नागरिकों को पाकिस्तान सरकार गोली से भूनी है और सरकार चिट्ठियां भेजती है, प्रोटेस्ट करती है। एक इंच भूमि की भी देश के अन्दर रक्षा नहीं हो रही है और ४४ करोड़ भारतीयों को बेइज्जत करने के लिये यह कानून लाया जा रहा है।

जब आज इस सदन के ६८ परसेन्ट मेम्बर इस बिल के खिलाफ बोल रहे हैं तो सरकार क्यों चाहती है कि वह इस को पास करे। इस बिल को पहले साल भर के लिए पब्लिक

[श्री यशपाल सिंह]

में भेजा जाये। उन स्वर्णकार भाइयों के जो बचे हुए लोग हैं, जो खुदकशी कर के मर रहे हैं। उन के जो वारिस और बेटे हैं उन से पूछा जाय, उन की राय ली जानी चाहिये कि वह इस बिल के मुतालिक क्या कहना चाहते हैं। फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर के लिये हमारे दिल में बड़ी इज्जत है, मैं भी चाहता हूँ कि वह और तरक्की के साथ यहां रहें, लेकिन मैं बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि अगर गरीब आदमी का दिल दुखी होता है तो जिस रास्ते से मोरारजी गये हैं उसी रास्ते से उन को भी जाना होगा। आज जनता की भावनाओं का एहतराम किया जाना चाहिये। जनता बहुत तंग हो चुकी है। जनता अपना खून देने के लिये तैयार है, सोना देने के लिये तैयार है देश की रक्षा के लिये, लेकिन देश की रक्षा हो नहीं रही है। आप अगर कहते हैं कि यहां पर इमर्जेंसी है तो देश की रक्षा के लिये लोग सोना ही नहीं खून तक देंगे, हड्डियां तक देंगे लेकिन इमर्जेंसी होनी तो चाहिये।

यह भी समझ में नहीं आया कि इस कानून में एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर की पोजीशन क्या होगी जिस के खिलाफ अपील भी नहीं की जा सकती। स्पीकर के हुक्म के खिलाफ अपील की जा सकती है, वजीर के हुक्म के खिलाफ अपील हो सकती है, बड़े से बड़े आदमी हों हाई कोर्ट में उन के खिलाफ अपील हो सकती है। चीफ जस्टिस के खिलाफ अपील हो सकती है, लेकिन एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर के खिलाफ अपील नहीं हो सकती। तीन सौ साढ़े तीन सौ रुपया माहवार उस की तनख्वाह होगी लेकिन उस के हुक्म के खिलाफ तमाम अदालतों के दरवाजे बन्द हो जायेंगे। उस के हुक्म के खिलाफ न कोई हाई कोर्ट जा सकेगा न कोई सुप्रीम कोर्ट जा सकेगा। यह डिमोक्रेसी कितने दिन तक चल सकेगी। हम ने पढ़ा है :

"Law is nothing but the will of the people expressed in terms of law."

लेकिन आज हम देखते हैं कि पीपल के जो नुमाइन्दे हैं उन की परवाह नहीं की जाती। जिस बिल के खिलाफ ६८ परसेन्ट मेम्बर बोल रहे हैं माननीय श्याम लाल आर्या जिन की जिन्दगी देशभक्ति में गई, कांग्रेस की सेवा में गई, जिन की जिन्दगी करोड़ों आदमियों की सेवा में गई, जिन्होंने देशभक्ति से सिवा कोई और काम नहीं किया वह इस बिल के खिलाफ बोल रहे हैं और सरकार डिक्टेटरशिप से उसे पास करवाना चाहे, यह डिक्टेटरशिप कब तक चल सकती है। हंगिज नहीं चल सकती। मेरा निवेदन यह है कि इस काले बिल को फौरन वापस ले लिया जाये। यह रोलट ऐक्ट से ज्यादा खतरनाक बिल है, यह जनता की आजादी में रोड़े अटकाता है, यह इंडिविजुअल लिबर्टी को खत्म करता है, किसी सम्य देश में ऐसा कानून नहीं है। इस देश में भी इस बिल के कलंक को हंगिज नहीं लाना चाहिये। मैं ने भी देश के लिये खून दिया है, जेलखानों में रहा हूँ। मैं देश का पहला आदमी हूँ जो ११ साल की उम्र में नजरबन्द रहा है। मैं ने फांसी की कोठरियों को कम से कम उमर में देखा है। मैं जेलखाने की पैदावार हूँ। हम ने देश के लिये खून दिया है। देश की आत्मा को हम समझते हैं। सरकार अगर डिक्टेटरशिप करेगी तो लोग उसे नहीं मानेंगे। सरकार की इस डिक्टेटरशिप के खिलाफ लोगों के अन्दर एक ऐहतिजाज पैदा होगा, एक प्रोटैस्ट पैदा होगी और उस के रहते जनता को इस तरीके से कब तक दबा कर रक्खा जा सकेगा ? यह काला कानून है और इसे फौरन वापस लिया जाय। जरूरत तो इस बात की है कि आज सरकार यह ऐलान करे कि जो पांच लाख मुनार घर से बेघर किये गये हैं उन के लिये इंतजाम होगा उन के वास्ते रोजगार का इन्तजाम होगा रोटी का इन्तजाम उनके लिए होगा, जमीनों का उन के लिये इंतजाम होगा, बाकायदा उन को एम्प्लायमेंट दिया जायगा तब जा कर यह देश सुखी हो सकेगा।

16.00 hrs.

एक बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती कि जब वह ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर चाहेगा तब वह इजाजत दे देगा कि कोई हर्ज नहीं है। अब इस तरह से एक ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर के रहम व करम पर नागरिकों को छोड़ा जा रहा है। यह समझ में नहीं आता कि इतने ऊँचे अधिकार उस ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर के क्यों रखे जा रहे हैं? जरूरत तो इस बात की है कि इस काले कानून को फौरन वापिस ले कर एक ऐसा कानून लगाया जाय ताकि जो उजड़े हुए सुनार भाई हैं उन को बसाया जा सके। उन के लिए रोजगार का इंतजाम किया जाय और उन लोगों को वही हक दिये जायें जो कि एक स्वतन्त्र राष्ट्र के नागरिकों के होते हैं।

सब से बढ़ कर एक बात जो कि अंग्रेजों के जमाने में भी नहीं हुई थी वह यह है कि इस कानून के अधीन इंस्पेक्टरों को यह अधिकार होगा कि वह गांव गांव में जा कर तलाशियां लें और पुलिस को अधिकार होगा कि वह गांवों में जा कर तलाशियां ले। जरूरत इस बात की है कि सरकार जो कि एक प्रजातन्त्री सरकार होने का दावा करती है वह जनता की मांग व इच्छा का आदर करे और जनता की इच्छा के अनुसार काम करे।

एक नई धारा इस में और है। उस में यह जिक्र है कि अगर किसी को लाइसेंस रैन्यू करना होगा तो उसे वह तमाम फौमिलिटीज, वह तमाम लवाजमात और वह तमाम लैबी प्रोसीज्योर फौलों करने पड़ेंगे जिन का कि इस में जिक्र किया गया है। उस के लिये फिर इस तरह से पुलिस इंस्पेक्टरों की और ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर की खुशामद करनी होगी जब एक दफा लाइसेंस मिल गया है तो उस का रैन्युअल महज एक कार्ड से हो जाना चाहिये। एक छः पैसे के कार्ड से उस लाइसेंस का रैन्युअल होना चाहिये। लेकिन इस छः पैसे के कार्ड के बजाय उसे फिर २० घरों में जा कर खुशामद करनी पड़ेगी। उसे पुलिस से लिखवाना पड़ेगा। उसे गांव सभा के प्रधान

से, म्युनिसिपैलिटी के चेयरमैन से और जुडिशिएल मजिस्ट्रेट से लिखवाना पड़ेगा गरज यह कि इंसान उनमें उलझ कर रह जायगा। इस तरह से इस देश का इंसान कितने दिन जिन्दा रह सकेगा जोकि हर वक्त क्यू में खड़ा रहता है? उसे आज चीनी के लिए, धी के लिए और पानी के लिए लाइन में खड़ा होना पड़ता है। आप जरा चांदनी चौक में जा कर देखिये कि क्या हालत है? वहां पर युरिनल के सामने १००, १०० आदमियों की लाइन लगी रहती है और इस के लिए खुशामद कर रहे हैं कि भाई मुझे जरा पहले हो आने दो और की हाजत लगी है। आज जिंदगी की हर एक जरूरत के लिए इंसान को क्यू में खड़ा होना पड़ता है। हालत यह है कि इंसान को एक लोटा पानी भी बगैर क्यू में खड़े हुए नहीं मिलता है। एक लोटा पानी के लिए खड़े खुशामद कर रहे हैं। बगैर लाइन के एक गिलास दूध का नहीं मिलता है। आज उन के बच्चों को दवाई नहीं मिलती है। इस तरह से यह ४४ करोड़ इंसान जिन्दा नहीं रह सकेंगे। सरकार इस डिक्टेटोरशिप को खत्म करे। यह बिल एक प्रजातन्त्री सरकार का न हो कर एक नौकर-शाही का कानून मालम होता है। यह ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटर और इंस्पेक्टरों को मजबूत करने का बिल है। इस बिल को एकदम वापिस लेकर सरकार यह एलान करे कि उस की गलत पालिसी की वजह से जो स्वर्णकार भाई उजड़े थे, जो खुदकशी कर के मरे थे उन की बेवाओं और बच्चों के लिए रोजगार का प्रबंध होगा। उन के लिए रोटी, रोजी मुहैया की जायगी। वे लोग देश के उपयोगी नागरिक सिद्ध होंगे और देश की तरक्की के लिए अपना योगदान देंगे।

आज उजाड़ा कौन जा रहा है। जहां तक चीन से या किसी भी बाहरी दुश्मन से अपनी आजादी की हिफाजत के वास्ते लड़ाई लड़ने का सवाल है वह हम सिपाही लड़ेंगे और हिफाजत करते हुए मरेंगे। अब इन बड़े

बड़े लोगों को तो लड़ना है नहीं। मोर्चों पर इन्हें तो जाना है नहीं। यह तो यहीं रहेंगे। ऐयर कंडीशंड हाउसिंग में आराम से पड़े रहेंगे। मरेंगे हम, हमारे बेटे, हमारे पोते, और हमारे भाई व भतीजे। हमारे यह बड़े बड़े लोग तो यहीं बैठे रहेंगे। जिस दिन तिब्बत पर चीन ने हमला किया था, तिब्बत पर चीन द्वारा अटैक हो रहा था और वहां के किसान मजदूर काटे जा रहे थे और वहां की गरीब जनता पर जुल्म डाले जा रहे थे तो दलाई लामा साहब एक खच्चर पर सवार हो कर हिन्दुस्तान में आ गये थे। जब संकट आयेगा हमला होगा तो यह बड़े बड़े लोग कारों में बैठ बैठ कर या हवाईजहाजों में बैठ कर कहीं और चले जायेंगे? मरेंगे हम, मरेंगे हमारे बेटे, मरेंगे हमारे पोते, भाई और भतीजे जिनकी कि हड्डियां अब तक हमें याद आती हैं। मेरीं अर्थ यह है कि इस काले कानून की कोई जरूरत नहीं है। अगर देश की रक्षा करनी है और इमरजेंसी को बाकई जस्टिफाई करना है तो आज हिन्दुस्तान के एक, एक बच्चे को फौजी तालीम दी जाय। हर एक देशवासी को लाजिमी मिलिटरी ट्रेनिंग दी जाय और यदि ऐसा हुआ तो देश की रक्षा हो जायेगी।

अगर आप ने चीन के पांच, सात किले जीत कर दिखला दिये और वहां के फौजी कमांडर को गिरफ्तार कर के दिखला दिया तो हम समझेंगे कि वाकई चीन को आप ने जीत लिया है। उस हालत में हम अपना तन, मन, धन सब कुछ आप के चरणों में चढ़ा देंगे। लेकिन इस आरामतलबी की जिदगी में जिस तरीके से यह देश के साथ फोड़ किया जा रहा है, उस हालत में देश से एक पैसा लेना भी गुनाह है। मैं सरकार से यह निवेदन करता हूँ कि इस काले कानून को वापिस ले कर उजड़े हुए स्वर्णकारों और उन को मुसीबतझदा फैमिलीज के वास्ते इंतजाम किया जाय।

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): I will not take a very long time over this Bill. It strikes me that this Bill has been put on the statute book in a hurry. Without any study probably the copy has been made from the Gold Control Order that has been made and that has been promulgated. The idea of the fundamental rights has been thrown to the wind. The provisions that are contained in this Bill are militating against the provisions of Article 14 and 19 of the Constitution and those Articles will stand in the way of promulgating this Bill, inasmuch as an arrangement is being made that only a certain amount of gold can be held, that the people will not be allowed to follow the traditional industry that they were following, that the avocation of life which they have chosen for themselves will not be allowed to be followed by them, that there would be a class of person or persons whose houses will be searched and who will be asked to deposit or declare the gold that they are in possession of. All these things will militate against the very provisions of the law. Such a provision in law is *ultra vires* of the Constitution.

I do not know under what advice, in what manner, this action has been taken and this House is being asked to debate upon a Bill which cannot stand scrutiny before a Court of Law. That is why I say that the provisions of the Bill are derogatory, they are not conducive to the good administration of the country, and they positively militate against the fundamental rights of all citizens of our country, which they possess. I was thinking what name should be given to this Bill. I had put it down also I would suggest that this Bill be called The General Corruption of People and Adulteration of Gold Act. This is the only meaning that will come to this Bill. It will bring about corruption in all the people of our country. Every one of us will try to act dis-

honesty and will not disclose things and will also manouvre for something. At the same time what will happen is this. You are forcing the people to take to adulterated gold. What for is the gold to be adulterated? On the one hand, we are making a law to stop food adulteration and to see that the people are not cheated; but, on the other hand, we are going to encourage adulteration of gold. What we have come to, I do not quite understand. It might be a good thing to have promulgated a law at the time of emergency, which provided that under Article 359 the fundamental rights would be suspended and they cannot be challenged, under the very same Article and therefore the Articles 14, 19 or 31 would not come into play. But in this case there is no such thing and the Articles 14 and 19 will come into play. Therefore, I will submit that this law, as it is being made, is an absurdity. It is the height of absurdity. It is an unthinkable thing and it is a thing which cannot be passed into a law. I would, therefore, warn the Government that they would be depriving nearly 10 lakhs of people from their means of livelihood by perpetuating this measure. I would submit, Sir, that the Government should cry a halt on this thing and thus will not deprive a large number of people their means of livelihood. If at the same time they promulgate this law, it will open the floodgates of corruption. Each Officer will act in a corrupt manner and each man will try to act in a corrupt manner. This is too much. This Bill cannot stand scrutiny for a moment.

I was listening today to all the speakers and I have taken down the names of one and all. With the exception of one lady Member, each one has spoken against this Bill. Let the Government take stock of this position

and realise that this is not a Bill which is agreeable to the House and this Bill should not be put on the statute book.

श्रीमती सुमद्रा बोशी : (बलरामपुर) :

सभापति महोदय, आज जो गोल्ड कंट्रोल बिल सदन के सामने पेश है मैं उस का हृदय से स्वागत करती हूँ और मंत्री जी को इस के लिए मुबारकबाद देती हूँ कि वह इस बिल को सदन के सामने लाये।

अभी मेरे से पूर्व माननीय सदस्य जोकि बोल रहे थे उन्होंने यह कहा कि खाली एक लेडी मेम्बर को छोड़ कर सभी वक्ता जोकि बोलें हैं, वे इस के खिलाफ ही बोलें हैं। बाकी लोगों ने क्या कहा है वह सब को मैंने सुना नहीं है इसलिए यह मैं नहीं कह सकती कि उन्होंने ने क्या कहा है। लेकिन जहाँ तक महिलाओं द्वारा इस बिल का विरोध किये जाने का सवाल है मैं समझती हूँ कि उस का कारण सदियों से चला आ रहा है स्पर्ण आभूषणों आदि के प्रति उन का मोह है। लेकिन यह कौन नहीं जानता कि पैसे वाले और मालदार जोकि सोने का इस्तेमाल करते हैं वह उस के लिए गरीब आदमियों को एक्सप्लोट करते हैं और उन का शोषण करते हैं। इस के कारण मुल्क में कम्पशन बहुत होता है। इस से ईर्ष्या होती है, द्वेष होता है, गिबत चलती है, चोरी की जाती है और डाके मारे जाते हैं। इस के अतिरिक्त यह जो सोने का इस्तेमाल होता है यह महिलाओं को बेवकूफ बनाने के लिए भी होता है। बेवकूफ बनाने का मतलब यह है कि उस का जो आदर और रिगार्ड घर और समाज में होता चाहिए, शिक्षा में उस का जो स्थान होता चाहिए, उस सब के बजाये कभी कभी सौना, जेवर और दहेज दे कर उस को मूर्ख बनाने की कोशिश की जाती है। इसलिए अगर खासी महिलायें इस के खिलाफ बोलें, तो उस में कोई आश्चर्य या सन्देह की बात नहीं होनी चाहिये। इस के अलावा गोल्ड कंट्रोल का विरोध महिलाओं के नाम से भी होता

है। कभी कहा जाता है कि ट्रेडीशनल जेवर नहीं मिलते हैं। कभी कहा जाता है कि सुहाग की निशानी ले ली जाती है। आज समय इतना बदल गया है कि आज के ज़माने में अगर कोई ट्रेडीशनल की बात कर के इस बिल का विरोध करता है, तो मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब होता है।

अभी कम्यूनिस्ट पार्टी के माननीय सदस्य, श्री नम्बियार, ने इस बिल का विरोध किया। मालूम नहीं कि वह कम्यूनिस्ट पार्टी के दोनों ग्रुप्स की तरफ से बोल रहे थे या सिर्फ अपने ग्रुप की तरफ से बोल रहे थे। उन का विरोध कुछ समझ में नहीं आया, क्योंकि कम्यूनिस्ट पार्टी ने जब पहले गोल्ड कंट्रोल का विरोध किया था, तो यह कहा था कि सरकार सिर्फ सोने पर कंट्रोल कर रही है, लेकिन लोगों के पास जो इतना सोना पड़ा है, जब उस को लेने का सरकार का विचार नहीं है, तो फिर कानून बनाने का क्या फायदा है। आज जब सोना लेने की बात आ रही है, तो वह उठ कर इस का विरोध करते हैं कि सोना क्यों लिया जाता है।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : बिल में सोना लेने की बात नहीं कही गई है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : माननीय सदस्य जरा इस विधेयक को पढ़ें।

श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी : इस आधार पर भी इस बिल का विरोध किया जाता है कि किसी व्यक्ति के पास जो जेवर हैं, उन के बारे में क्यों पूछा जायेगा। ताज्जुब की बात यह है कि स्वतंत्र पार्टी के माननीय सदस्य, श्री यशपाल सिंह, ने कहा कि यह बिल पास करने से हिन्दुस्तान के ४४ करोड़ लोगों का अपमान होगा। मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि अगर हिन्दुस्तान के ४४ करोड़ आदिमियों के पास सोना हो, तो फिर हिन्दुस्तान की शक्ल ही दूसरी हो। उन्होंने एक दर्दनाक नक्शा खींचा कि

लोग पानी के लिए क्यू में खड़े रहते हैं, लोग दूध के लिए क्यू में खड़े रहते हैं, वगैरहा उन्होंने कहा कि इस बिल से उन को और भी तकलीफ होगी। मैं बड़े आदर के साथ उन से यह पूछना चाहती हूँ कि वह हिसाब-किताब लगा कर बतायें कि हिन्दुस्तान में सोना कितने लोगों के पास है। उन्होंने करोड़ों आदिमियों का नाम ले कर इस बिल का विरोध किया, लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि अगर इतने लोगों के पास सोना हो, तो हिन्दुस्तान की शक्ल ही दूसरी हो। कुछ मुट्ठी भर लोगों के लिये, जिन के पास सोना है, लेकिन जिन का परसेंटेज और गिनती कम है, एक तरक्की-पसन्द और अच्छे कानून का विरोध करना बहुत ही अनुचित बात है।

इस से भी ज्यादा ताज्जुब मुझे यह बात सुन कर हुआ कि सरकार देवताओं के पूजन में भी दखल देने लगी है। यह कोई नई बात नहीं है। बहुत भरसे से इस देश में—और दुनिया के सभी देशों में भी—पैसे वाले और धनाढ्य लोग देवताओं के ठेकेदार बने हुए हैं मुझे याद है कि जब हम लोग छोटे थे और किसी से छू जाते थे, तो हम को कहा जाता था कि सोना पानी में डाल कर हिलाओ और अगर वह पानी छिड़क दिया जाये, तो छूत मिट जाती है। यह भी कहा जाता है कि अलंकारों से सुशोभित कर के ही कन्यादान किया जाता है।

जैसा कि मैंने अभी कहा है, इस देश में भरसे से यह कोशिश रही है कि देवताओं को ठेकेदारी भी पैसे वालों के हाथ में होनी चाहिये—जिस के हाथ में सोना हो, उस के हाथ में होनी चाहिये। अगर सोना नहीं होगा, तो देवताओं का पूजन नहीं किय जायेगा। जिन देवताओं की यह परिभाषा की गई है, जिन का यह नक्शा खींचा गया है, उन को मानने के लिए . . . (Interruptions)

श्री गौरी शंकर कक्कड़ (फतेहपुर) :
माननीय सदस्या विधेयक को पढ़ें ।

श्री सिंहासन सिंह : देवताओं को चाहे
जितना सोना दे दिया जाये, कोई रुकावट
नहीं है ।

श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी : माननीय सदस्य
श्री यशपाल सिंह, ने कहा है कि सरकार
देवताओं के पूजन में दखल देने लगी है । यह
बात नहीं है । जिस तरह पहले देवताओं
के पूजन का नाम ले कर सोने से लोगों का
शोषण किया जाता रहा है, आज उसी तरह
देवताओं और ट्रैडीशन्स का नाम ले कर
जनता को मूर्ख बनाने की कोशिश की जा
रही है । इस तरह गलत बातें कह कर इस
बिल का विरोध किया जा रहा है ।
(Interruptions)

इस के अलावा फंडामेंटल राइट्स का
नाम ले कर भी इस बिल का विरोध किया जा
रहा है । यह कहना बहुत नामुनासिब है कि
अगर यह कानून पास हो गया, तो लोगों के
मौलिक अधिकारों पर, उन के फंडामेंटल
राइट्स पर, आघात होगा । मैं कहना चाहती
हूँ कि ज्यों ज्यों समाज और देश तरक्की
करेगा, ज्यों ज्यों हम लोग समाजवाद की
तरफ बढ़ेंगे, लोगों के अधिकारों पर जरूर
कुछ न कुछ पाबन्दी लगेगी । कुछ माननीय
सदस्यों की तरफ से कुछ मुठ्ठीभर लोगों के
फंडामेंटल राइट्स का नाम ले कर हर समय
किसी न किसी कानून का विरोध किया जाता
है । मैं निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि आखिर
दुनिया के, और हिन्दुस्तान के, गरीब लोगों
के भी कुछ अधिकार हैं—अच्छा खाने-पीने
का अधिकार है, अच्छे मकान में रहने का
अधिकार है, जीवन का अधिकार है, उपाजन
का अधिकार है । अगर कुछ लोगों के कुछ
अधिकारों पर रोक लगा कर हिन्दुस्तान
की जनता को ज्यादा से ज्यादा अधिकार दे
दिये जायें, तो फंडामेंटल राइट्स का नाम

ले कर कानूनों का विरोध करना बहुत ना-
मुनासिब बात है ।

आज जो कानून सदन के सामने आया
है, हम उस को बिलकुल करते हैं । गोल्ड कंट्रोल
आर्डर के बारे में यह कहा गया है कि उस से
कोई फायदा नहीं हुआ, सरकार फेल हो गई
है, वगैरह । मैं निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि
जो भी कानून बनता है, उस को ट्राई किया
जाता है और अगर उस में कोई कमी रहती है,
तो वह पूरी की जाती है और उस कानून में
संशोधन किया जाता है । गोल्ड कंट्रोल आर्डर
का अब तक जो भी नतीजा रहा हो, उस में
जो कमियाँ रही हैं, उन को दूर कर के इस
बिल को पास करना चाहिये । किसी बिल
को ब्लैक बिल कह कर उस का विरोध करना
बिल्कुल नामुनासिब बात है ।

मुझे आशा है कि सरकार इस बिल के
साथ प्रोसीड करेगी और ज्वारंट सिलेक्ट कमेटी
को भेजने के बाद इस बिल को ठीक तरह
से पास करायेंगी ।

Shri Subbaraman (Madurai): Mr.
Chairman, I thank you very much for
the opportunity you have given me to
speak on this Bill. The gold contro-
order has been brought with very good
intention; nobody denies it. It was
brought to prevent smuggling of gold.
Rs. 50-60 crores were drained away
every year. It was also expected that
gold would come out. But as we all
see we have not achieved that object.
It is very good if gold is with the
Government alone, and not with the
private people. It would not give as
much benefit to us as it would give
if it were with Government alone. We
find it very difficult to get foreign ex-
change for our defence and develop-
ment. So, it was thought that if we
had all the gold that is locked up or
hoarded by private persons, we need
not depend upon foreign countries
or we need not raise so much
money for our defence and devel-
opment. But unfortunately all
the expectations were not fulfilled.

[Shri Subbaraman]

It shows that our public needs to be educated. If people know that they can invest their savings in a better way, then they may part with the gold. They do not know it. Also, they do not have sufficient faith in the Government. People invest their money in gold only with the idea that it can be converted into money when they want it to meet their needs. But they have not had any other alternative way of investment by which they can get money as and when they require it. So, they are investing it in gold. So, the first thing we have to do is to educate the public, especially our womenfolk.

Two of our lady members talked in support of the Bill. That is true, but I am afraid their views do not represent the views of the general womenfolk. Our general public and womenfolk should be continuously educated. We have brought about several social reforms like prohibition, removal of untouchability, widow remarriage, prevention of child marriage, abolition of dowry and all that. We have also made legislation in regard to land. But these have been brought after educating the public for a very long time. Only on account of that people became prepared to have such reforms. In the same way, we have to educate our public and our womenfolk. If we do it continuously for some years, then I am sure our people will be prepared to accept this reform or a Bill of this kind.

There is no purpose in simply having a good law if it cannot be enforced. We should not make people disobey the law. As the gold control order stands now, I am afraid it is more disobeyed than obeyed. As many of the speakers before me pointed out, from outside one can be contented that everything is more or less going on all right, but as far as the provision of the gold control order is concerned, there is more disobedience than one sees on the surface. The result of this Bill is that the people are induced to

disobey the law. That is not a welcome thing. More than anything else, obedience to law should be the most important thing that we should look into. If a majority of the people do not obey law, there is no good of the law being there on the statute book. So, I would request the Government that till we make the people prepared to accept the provisions of the Bill, they should not be enforced.

As a result of this gold control order, lakhs of people have been thrown out of employment. Of course, Government have come forward to rehabilitate them in certain ways, but they have not been helpful in any considerable degree. Alternative employment and other concessions that have been set apart for the rehabilitation of the goldsmiths have not reached the goldsmiths. There are lots of difficulties in their getting the benefits and they should be removed.

I would like to impress upon the Minister one thing. We should open branches of the State Bank in small towns and villages. If attractive terms are offered, a great number of people would come forward to invest their money in these banks. They do not have such attractive terms, reliability or security or other reliable institutions and so they are going in for purchasing gold.

Though Government has got very good intentions behind the Bill, I would like to point out that owing to the difficulties in the way of enforcing the provisions of the Bill, they should be so amended that people do not find any difficulty in obeying them.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Sir, when the gold control order came up for discussion on the floor of the House, I think I was the only unfortunate member from the Congress benches who opposed it. I was taken to task for it, not in the official sense of the world, but in a very gentlemanly sense of the world. I predicted that the gold control order would

come to nothing. I am not a sooth-sayer, but sometimes even those persons who are not gifted with the power to see the future can read the future. I think that day I was able to project my vision to the future and I am happy that the gold control order came to nothing.

The gold control order was born under an evil star, conceived at a very inauspicious moment and brought into operation at a very very unfortunate moment, but it came to nothing. The Gold Control Order and the Defence of India Rules pertaining to that and other things have been rolled together and have produced this Bill, which is called the Gold Control Bill. What its fate will be, I will come to that later on. But I want to ask one question.

What is it that is making the government have a hotch-potch of normal civil law and emergency regulations? Why is it that the Defence of India Rules in parts are being combined with some of the provisions of the Gold Control Order? The result is a hybrid piece of legislation. I have heard of hybrid maize, hybrid flowers and other things, but it should be said to the credit of all of us here that here we are going to have a strange piece of legislation, which is neither fish nor flesh nor fowl but which is a combination of all these things. Therefore, my first objection to this Bill as a loyal citizen of India, as a person who believes in the fundamental rights of the citizens of India is this, that the Defence of India Rules should not undergo transmigration in bringing forward a Bill of this kind. When the emergency is over and the Defence of India Rules have become an unessential part of the statute book, you can think of these measures and bring them into being. But I do not understand why this is being done now. I think the constitutional pandits will be able to say much more about it. I cannot dilate on it further but I think this is a kind of monstrosity which we are bringing into being by making a

strange amalgam of these two things. That is my first point.

Secondly, Sir, I hope you would not mind if I were to refer to my own life for one or two minutes. I lost my father when I was eleven years of age. My father was a poor school teacher, working in a primary school and getting only Rs. 8 a month. At the time of my father's death we were four brothers; no uncle, no aunt to support me. My mother became a widow at a very early age. We had nobody to look up to. We had a very small piece of land, about 11 bigas, in the village which could hardly give us enough to eat. I had passed my primary school examination when my father died. But my mother did have a few gold ornaments. As every Hindu, Muslim or Sikh woman has some gold ornaments. She had those gold ornaments and Mr. Chairman, believe me, if my mother, my brothers and I were able to support ourselves during those lean years when we had nobody to depend upon, it was because of those gold ornaments of my mother, which were not many. My poor mother used to sell those gold ornaments and buy our requirements. Sir, perhaps you want to know why I am driving at that point because, as soon as a person is transplanted to the treasury benches his capacity for understanding decreases in proportion to the high place he occupies. So, I say, do not look upon gold as a source of filth, as a source of degradation, as a badge of class distinction, as a badge of social prominence. I want you to look upon gold as a social security for the orphans who live in the villages, for the widows who work in the villages, for poor men and women who have no social security scheme. I know our Finance Minister is thinking in terms of social security schemes. When we have a social security scheme for all the citizens of India, for the old and infirm, for the orphans, for the workers, for the widows, I would say that gold should be done away with. But as long as there is no social insurance for poor people, for

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

orphans and widows, I think gold ornaments are not badges used to beautify persons, they are like the bonds which you can pawn or pledge or sell, which you can dispose of in order to keep your pot boiling in order to feed your children, in order to help your mother or son or daughter. Therefore, I think in terms of social security you should not have a legislation of this kind.

Of course, I know there are some persons who have incalculable hoards of gold. Well, they have that, and you are not going to do anything about them. They are not going to be caught in the meshes of this legislation. They are big fishes which will eat into the meshes of this legislation and get away from them. So, this legislation will be meant only for those poor people who have not much.

Thirdly, the Prime Minister-designate hit the nail on the head when he said that there are two big problems facing the country at this time—the problems of poverty and unemployment. I ask you one question. Why is this so? Because there is uprooting of the people from the hereditary professions. Look at the report which the Planning Commission has published. I would ask the Minister of Planning to go to the Yojana Bhavan and read the report about the Shahjahanpur district in Uttar Pradesh, where it has been said how people are being uprooted from old professions which they have been practising all these years. You take away old professions from them and you are unable to give them any other employment. Where is the social security scheme? You take away the profession from the goldsmiths and then say: become artisans, become mechanics. You turn them out of the paradise and you do not give them a new paradise; it is a case of paradise lost, because there is no paradise regained for them. Therefore, I would say, so far as the em-

ployment potential of this Bill is concerned, it is almost nil, but its unemployment potential is very good. I hope it will add to the unemployment figures of our countrymen.

Then another point. I am a religious man. I believe in the saints of India; I believe in Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Swami Vivekananda and, more than anybody else, Ramana Maharshi. I am a devotee of Ramana Maharshi. I believe in all these saints; I believe in all the gurudwaras, temples and holy places. I am glad Government have exempted these holy places like Nathdwara from the operation of this Bill.

They can have gold. But do you know that one of the biggest scandals in free India—I do not want to mention the name of that scandal—was the result of money which a prince of adventures got from a holy temple? That was exposed by my beloved friend, who is no more, Shri Feroze Gandhi. From where did that adventurer get all the money to gamble away his own prosperity and other people's prosperity? From where? He got that money from a place of religious endowment. I shudder to mention the name of that place. I tremble to give the name of that gentleman.

Therefore, what is the good of stopping the flood in small rivers and small streams while keeping the floodgates open in big rivers? You say that you will not put up a dam on the Beas or on the Indus but if there is a small canal you will put up a dam there. But you must know that the Sutlej or the Beas or the Indus will wash you away whereas these small rivulets and small streams will not do it.

I am happy that you have given exemption to them, but I would say that having learnt from experience of some of these persons who have been misusing the money which they have got as offering at the temples,

you should do something about it also. We should not tamper with them. I think, without tampering with the religious susceptibilities of anybody, without treading over the spiritual domain of anybody, you should do something about it.

Mostly, our Bills are not very carefully drafted, but I must compliment the Finance Minister for drafting this Bill very lucidly and also for going into all its details. Look at the details; there are so many details in this Bill. For instance, I have liked the provision about seizure of property. Even the animal which is going to carry that gold will be seized. The seizure of property, I think, is a beautiful piece in this legislation which in its ingenuity and comprehensiveness, beats everything. Why? Because everything is going to be seized, even the donkey from the owner of the donkey. What a beautiful piece of legislation!

Then, he says that they will have gold at the international price of Rs. 53/58. I may tell you one thing and that is that there is a law of supply and demand all over the world. India is not exempt from that law of supply and demand. India cannot be an exception. I think, the Government of India also cannot be an exception to that law of supply and demand. Why should people give you gold at the rate of Rs. 53/58 when they can get a better price somewhere else? You would seize that. What will you seize? You will not be able to seize anything. Only in the matter of issuing certificates and licences to the dealers you will bring into being a new kind of machinery; but that will come to nothing.

There are two types of legislations in this world. There are some pieces of legislation which follow public opinion; there are other pieces of legislation which are ahead of public opinion. The great Pope of Rome—I think, his name was Pope John; he was a very, very wise man—said, I think, at a consecration which that great Pope John gave that if you

want to reform the world, reform it with small doses; reform it by instalments; reform it gradually, but if you want to have a revolution, have a revolution. Now, here is this Bill. It wants to bring about a social revolution; it wants to bring about a psychological revolution; it wants to bring about a new framework of money calculation. But revolutions never came with the help of Bills passed in assemblies or parliaments. Revolutions have never come as a result of that. Napoleon did not pass any legislation. Other people have not done that. This Bill will be as infructuous as our Bill about the removal of untouchability as our Bill about the removal of dowry, as our Bill about prohibition, as our Bill about prohibiting the marriage of young children. Therefore, I would say to the hon. Minister that he should not have in his mind the moneyed people when he is framing the Bill; he should think of the poor people. He should withdraw this Bill. If he cannot withdraw this Bill, he should try to change it beyond recognition when it goes to the Joint Committee.

I think, the first Bill was born under an evil star and this Bill is born under the *Astagraha* yoga, under the conjunction of the eight planets. I am sure that this Bill will have a very very bad journey. I, therefore, oppose this Bill

Shri Joachim Alva (Karara): Mr. Chairman, it is always a pleasure to speak under your auspices. When you are in the Chair, we are drawn to take part in the debate. I do hope, you will give me a little extra chance.

During the last war certain enactments were made and they were called war-time babies. The war-time babies went off with the war and were forgotten, but they were always named war-time babies. Many people remember that one of the most famous war-time babies was the press enactment made during the last war.

[Shri Joachim Alva]

Likewise, during the Chinese aggression we resorted to or produced some babies and the most important baby was the Gold Control Order.

The Gold Control Order was good by parts. It was good by its name but it was bad in its effects. It was bad by the babies it further produced.

A law is said to be observed or respected in three ways. Firstly, it is sometimes respected by defiance through the backdoor; secondly, it is respected by contempt or indifference and, thirdly, it is defied openly. I think, this Gold Control Order will undergo all the three processes. Firstly, it will be defied by the backdoor; secondly, by contempt and indifference and, lastly, may be openly. No law which is defied in that manner should be on the statute book. We must observe the laws that we place on the statute book. It must command allegiance and respect of the majority of the citizens. If it is going to be defied quietly and invisibly even by the most respected citizens, even by the ladies and gentlemen who sit on the benches of this Parliament, then it is time to have a second look at this law. I have it on the authority of the most important V.I.P. in Maharashtra that prohibition there has led to 7 lakhs of prosecutions, 4½ lakhs of convictions and 6 lakhs of blood tests. Now, you can count the time spent on these blood tests of 6 lakhs of people—how much time the doctor or the civil surgeon took on a single blood test? It took him at least half an hour—test, noting and reporting. If you multiply 6 lakhs by half an hour, you can imagine how much time was gone and wasted. Those doctors could have usefully spent their time on other tests, on the hearts or chests or any other valued part of the body and mind instead wasting time on those blood tests caused by illegal drinking

I am a teetotaler for the last 30 years. When I first went to Bombay, I drank shandy—it is a lovely drink—but I gave it up on finding that a Congressman could not drink. I also came from a family which did not drink. But I am not for prohibition after I have seen the mighty and terrific damages it has done. You have got a policeman right in the corner; you have got a policeman coming right into your bedroom; you have got a policeman coming anywhere and everywhere. That is no good for a respectable citizen and the law which is damaged or violated in this fashion ought to be scrapped out and we cannot really keep it. If there are wise and good men who still think that it should be introduced all over the country, we can only say, we are frittering away our valuable energies and something rotten will really creep inside our State.

We have not yet blocked the ways of smuggling of gold. I am not saying anything new. There is the firm Premchand Roychand of Bombay. It is a well-known bullion firm. This is all in the record of Parliament and in the questions and newspapers. How they indulged in systematic smuggling, one member of the family donates a big stupa, the Bombay University clock tower, and another member of the family indulges in smuggling of crores with the assistance of a foreign diplomat and then we impose the fine of a glorious sum of Rs. 10 lakhs when crores and crores of rupees worth of gold have been smuggled inside the land. If we allow a big fish to run away like this and catch an ordinary man who has got 1 or 5 tolas of gold and give him five years jail, it is time we should reconsider the way we enforce our laws. If we have one law for one set of people and another law for another set of people it would damage the spirit of the law. We do not strictly enforce our rules against smuggling in the manner in which we should do. We have not got

even 100 honest men at the airports and other places who will enforce this law with honesty and strictness. Either they will take a bribe—I do not say all of them but some of them—or be influenced by some other considerations. If there is an officer who has the courage to make a report, his record is affected or he is transferred. Both ways are bad. Either some of them are dishonest or honest people cannot do a good job and the officers above them put them into trouble. Unless we ruthlessly close the doors of smuggling rackets and put them down with iron hand, we cannot enforce the law.

For centuries, men and women have prized gold. It is very difficult to take away gold ornaments from a woman, especially a village woman who has got just one bangle or a set of ear-rings. We have now a new type of young women amongst us who wear nothing in their arms and ears and also sport a cigarette and wine-glass in their hands. It is because these women have learnt undesirable fashions from cinemas and thus a positive calamity has come over us all. I am not talking about these women. These women are, unfortunately, growing in number. It is for us, you and me, to put the women on the right pedestal. Otherwise there is a grave danger. When women go wrong, our country cannot be built up. The foundations of our country will go if our women go wrong because then they cannot produce a fine and valiant race to take charge of the country. I am not mentioning about those women. But I am mentioning specially about the village woman, the hill-tribe woman, the country-side woman or the town-side woman who has just a bangle on her hand and a set of ear-rings on her ear and she prizes it with so much respect and honour and whatever her father or mother or husband hands over to her she treasures most. It is a wrong and unnatural thing to deprive such a

woman of her minimum ornaments. It is time we allow her to treasure it. We must find out the way, as some of my hon. friends have said, by which the Government can allow people to buy a minimum quantity of pure gold on payment of a minimum charge and be allowed to make a minimum number of ornaments, without vulgarity of excessive ornaments. I think that that would at least be a sensible law. Then, if my next-door neighbour has got 500 tolas of gold, I shall have the moral right to go and report against him, and we shall also have the satisfaction that nobody will be deprived of having 20 or even 30 tolas; or whatever minimum we agree upon for possession by a family. In that way we can build up the character of the nation. In any other way if we do it, we shall only bring in corruption, and we shall bring in corruption from the lowest rung, from the level of the sepoy at the airport or the officer at the airport and going up to the higher rungs which I shall not name now, and thereby we shall have systematically corrupted one sector of our public or official life. We have already corrupted the police in the matter of prohibition, and now by means of this gold control we shall be corrupting them in another sector too and thus destroying the foundations of the character of our nation, and that will do no good to us in the future. If we bring in these types of new laws we shall be damaging not only our character but also the economy of our country.

Now, take the case of the Soviet Union. There, even the women have to wear big watches which mere males wear anywhere else and which perhaps our women will feel shy of wearing. But then they in the Soviet Union said, 'No, we shall have to wear them; we may be in a state of very great deprivation, in a state of great hardship of life, but our women

[Shri Joachim Alva]

shall have to wear exactly the same nickel watch which the men wear, and thus build up our land. And now, they are turning to gold, and slowly they are turning to finer things. How are they doing it? They as individuals had no gold to sell or to wear. But they had plenty of gold in the coffers of the State; they had enough gold there to throw on the coffers of Berne, Paris, London or New York or Tokyo and thereby they exhibited their strength and wealth to the other countries of the world. When they were desperately in need of wheat and other necessities, they had the gold in their coffers which they were prepared to throw off on the coffers of the world. That was possible only because they had enforced the same pattern of life for all. But that pattern of life cannot be kept for ever with the same rigidity. And slowly, they will be relaxing it and everybody shall have ultimately the pleasure of even having gold inside their teeth or wearing gold ornaments. But we today are going in the wrong way and adopting a wrong type of procedure. We cannot sustain this order of life with the same rigidity of enforcement, because of the ultimate corruption that will creep in, and the various agonies of life that would result therefrom which would make our nation rue the day we enforce such unnatural laws.

This Bill has seven chapters and 43 clauses. But what is the use of it all? If we are going to increase merely the small laws of irritation, what is the use of it all? People are very inventive, and crooked people are always inventive, and they will find ways and means by which to defy the law. As the custodians and as the law-makers here we have got to see that we have a law which reaches down to the meanest citizen, and we have to consider whether it will be a law which will be respected

or which will be openly violated or violated by the back-door or observed with indifference or contempt. As law-makers, we have to enquire into the spirit and origin of laws, and how they are going to travel down to the farthest ends of the land. Unless we do that, enforce such principles, we shall not be able to preserve a good State.

The cases of suicide by goldsmiths have indeed been very alarming. We have not heard of cases of suicide among other categories of people, but we have heard of many cases of suicides amongst goldsmiths, who have been honest people and who have been devoted to their craft for months and years and centuries together. I am afraid that even the Finance Ministry at the Centre and the State Governments have not looked into those cases, sympathetically and they have not given their children what they needed, they have not given their families and children the relief that they were in need of, and have not given those people who have been ruined and who have been ruined in their business or found out speedily alternative sources of employment.

We must judge our laws in the spirit that I have enumerated above.

We must produce gold in our country. We have to build up our country in such a way that our gold will be the sheer production of our industrial undertakings, and our factories will produce and produce so much that every worker will be proud to say 'I have put in so many hours of work, seven hours or six hours a day for a week, and I have produced so many goods in the factory'. If we do that, then we can be proud of our industrial production, and then we can afford to ignore the spirit and influence of gold. But if our economy is a mixed economy, we shall have to respect the wishes and sentiments of all the sectors; we must give some

real respect and attention to the real producers of our national wealth.

These are the points that I have made, and I do hope that when the Bill goes to the Joint Committee, they will make the harsher measures less harsh, and they will see to it that the law is not openly violated, and with that end in view, I hope that they will set apart a certain minimum amount of gold which each family can have or which each daughter or each woman shall have the right to possess, and which will be guaranteed in its purest form.

This 14-carat-business is a bastard thing, if I may put it in that vulgar way. It is an impossible thing. The history of the world does not know anything of this kind of 14 carat business. Even for a fountain-pen, everybody wants the best of pens. So,

in the best we have something in its purest form. Either deal with the purest form or nothing. I would like a man to drink the best quality of drink rather than die by taking illicit liquor, and ruin his eye-sight and damning his intestines and passing on to his next generation a very bad physical form.

श्री ब० रा० भगत : सभापति महोदय,

आपकी और माननीय सदस्यों को राय हों

तो कल इसका जवाब दिया जाए . . .

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister can continue his speech tomorrow.

17.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, June 5, 1964 | Jyaishta 15, 1886 (Saka).