

Par. 82.I.1.52

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Friday,
5th December, 1952

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price Six Annas (Inland)
Price Two Shillings (Foreign)

THE
PARLIAMENTARY
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

DEBATES
19.11.2014

1107

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 5th December, 1952.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MAINTENANCE OF DISPLACED PERSONS

*938. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what is the total number of the displaced persons, unattached women and children, old and infirm and their dependants for whose care and maintenance the Government of India have assumed responsibility?

(b) What is the number in the Homes and Infirmaries set up for them, and the number still receiving doles outside?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) 75,041.

(b) Number in permanent liability camps, Homes and infirmaries 63,183.

Number still receiving doles outside 11,858.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Out of these aged and infirm, may I know how many constitute a permanent liability on the Government?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I want notice of this question.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What is the number of unattached women and children or the dependents of the aged and infirm who have been trained in various vocations in the camps?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I want notice of that question.

Shri Gidwani: Have Government received any representations regarding

grant of doles to orphans, widows and infirm and old displaced persons?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): We have been receiving applications from time to time and we have been dealing with these applications.

Shri Gidwani: Is it not a fact that after a particular date the maintenance allowance and doles are not being given because applications were not received within the due date?

Shri A. P. Jain: This question does not relate to maintenance allowance but it relates only to infirmaries and homes and those applications are being dealt with even now.

Shri Gidwani: It relates to doles?

Shri A. P. Jain: No, but nor to maintenance allowance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: For unattached women and children, old and infirm, the Government of India have assumed responsibility?

Shri A. P. Jain: There is a maintenance allowance scheme under which a person who has left property in West Pakistan and comes under certain categories gets monthly maintenance allowance. There is another scheme under which unattached women, old and infirm, are admitted either to the homes or they are given doles if immediate arrangements for them are not there. This question relates to the latter scheme.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any non-official organisations have offered their co-operation in running these homes?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Yes.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What are those?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Such as the Kasturba Trust, The Save The Children Committee, The Arya Pradeshak Pratidinhi Sabha, the Trust For Sindhi Women and Children, etc.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any of these have been given grants or loans to help them?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Yes.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know the total number of grants?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Government bears the entire expenditure on 17 homes run by the Trusts.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know the number of infirmaries set up by the Government State by State?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I can give the names of States if the hon. Member wants.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: It is a simple question. It will take a long time to read the names. The number of infirmaries may be given.

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: 65.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Can you give the number of infirmaries for West Bengal?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: About 20 in the Eastern Zone.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how many private associations have offered help in the State of Madras and how many infirmaries have been established there?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: There is no infirmary in Madras.

ADVERTISEMENTS

*939. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether the Advertising Consultant's Branch under the Ministry takes up the business of advertisements for private individuals or firms as well?

(b) What was the total number of press advertisements released by this Branch during April-September, 1952?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 2,553.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know the number of newspapers and periodicals in which these advertisements were made?

Dr. Keskar: About 200, Sir.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know what percentage of the total number was in the Indian languages?

Dr. Keskar: The majority, 75 per cent. were in Indian languages.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Any other foreign language?

Dr. Keskar: No other language excepting English.

Shri Namblar: May I know, Sir, whether in these advertisements, political considerations are involved and whether certain papers controlled by certain parties are refused while certain parties are allowed to put in their advertisements?

Dr. Keskar: Not at all. The contrary is the case.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know the percentage of the amount spent on the advertisements, those in English and those in Indian national languages?

Dr. Keskar: I have not understood. What is meant by Indian national languages?

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: Indian languages.

Dr. Keskar: The figure is practically equal, Sir.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how the advertisements are distributed between dailies and weeklies?

Dr. Keskar: It is not possible for me to answer it now.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Do the Ministries avail of this Branch very frequently?

Dr. Keskar: The present position is that all display advertisements are entirely given by this Ministry while classified advertisements are directly given by certain Ministries.

Shri Damodara Menon: Are there any conditions which a paper has to satisfy before it is entitled to get an advertisement?

Dr. Keskar: Yes.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: What is the total amount spent for these advertisements?

Dr. Keskar: The total amount spent on the display advertisements is about Rs. 2,95,500/-

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister said that there are some conditions which a paper has to satisfy before it is entitled to get an advertisement. May I know what are those conditions?

Dr. Keskar: I would require notice. The conditions are purely economical.

and qualifications are probably those that other commercial advertisements also ask for.

Sardar Hukum Singh: Is it the extent of circulation or are there any factors that determine the selection of these?

Dr. Keskar: The circulation is the main factor

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Does Government maintain a black list of newspapers which are not to be given advertisements?

Dr. Keskar: Government maintains a list of newspapers. Whether it is black or red, it is very difficult for me to say.

EXPORT OF GAS-MAKING COAL TO AUSTRALIA

*940. **Dr. Ram Subbag Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India exports gas-making coal to Australia;

(b) if so, how much gas-making coal has so far been exported to Australia during this financial year; and

(c) whether any more gas-making coal is expected to be exported to Australia this year?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) 54,289 tons during April-October 1952.

(c) Yes.

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: Does India export this gas-making coal to any country other than Australia?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am sorry, I am not in a position to give the information asked by the hon. Member, now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should not that be included in the question? Hon. Members want to reserve something for supplementaries. When you put the question, not only Australia, but other countries also may be included. It is rather delicate for the Speaker to ask the Minister to be ready with every question in the world. Along with Australia, any other country might have been included.

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: This question arises in this way. Suppose any thing is exported to any other country, we shall have to compare the prices, etc.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why was it not included: whether gas-making coal is exported to Australia and any other

country? This could easily have been done. Why should it be put in as supplementary?

Shri T. N. Singh: May I make a submission on the point that you have raised? It is usually when we get information about a particular thing being done with a particular country that the thing comes to our notice and we ask questions about it. We cannot definitely say whether other countries are, or are not getting coal. So, it would have been inadvisable, without adequate information in our possession to ask for information regarding other countries about which we do not know. When the Government replies, it is a legitimate offshoot of that question. There should not have been much difficulty.....

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Order, order. Even when sitting at home and tabling the question, the hon. Member may give an opportunity to the Government to consider whether export takes place to any other country also. Suddenly how does it spring in the mind of the hon. Member that he should put this question? If it is relevant now, it must have been relevant then. If it was irrelevant then, it is irrelevant now. I am not going to admit that question.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What is the quantity of gas making coal exported by India to Australia and what is its ratio to the total quantity?

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: That is the main thing; that is what we wanted to know.

Shri K. C. Reddy: The total of all kinds of coal exported is as follows:

1949	2,07,817 tons
1950	2,46,252 "
1951	1,32,418 "
1952	1,85,202 "

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wants the proportion; it is put in another form; he wants the percentage of export to Australia in relation to the world export.

Hon. Members have misunderstood my statement. What I want is this. The object of a question is to elicit information from the Government, wherever an hon. Member is not able to get adequate information from other sources, which are published documents, etc. There are a number of matters. It is for that purpose that questions are asked. It is not for the purpose of cross-examining, and taking the Government by surprise. The hon. Member who tables the question could have easily put this question, and

included whatever comes in his mind. Then, the Government will be prepared. After these questions are put, there will be supplementaries which have to be asked for by other hon. Members. Therefore, let it not be an occasion for putting questions to Government and taking them by surprise. Real object is to elicit information wherever information cannot be collected from other published documents or in the library or elsewhere. That is the object.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Out of the 1,32,418 tons, gas coal came to about 49,025 tons. Mostly, it is gas coal.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Would it be advisable to ask or morally justified to ask what proportion of our total production is exported to Australia and what proportion is consumed here?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What I wanted to say is that as the hon. Member who has tabled the question thinks now on the spur of the moment, he could have thought of these questions earlier. I am not saying that for other Members here, because, unless all these questions are handed over to them, they may not be able to know what the questions are. It is only when the information is given that they can ask supplementary questions. They cannot table additional questions. It was really with respect to the hon. Member who tabled the question that I said, why he should not think of all the pros and cons and try to elicit information so that Government may come prepared with that. There is no meaning in asking Government to come prepared anticipating every possible question in the world.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Particularly so with regard to figures where one has to be very careful.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Is gas prepared out of coal here in this country? If so, where, in what quantity, for what purpose?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise out of this question.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Why?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have not got this information, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does everything relating to gas coal arise out of his question? Next question.

TRADE WITH PAKISTAN

*941. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the value of Indian imports from Pakistan since 1st July of this year; and

(b) the value of India's exports to Pakistan during the corresponding period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). During the four months from July to October 1952, our imports from Pakistan were Rs. 6 crores and 24 lakhs, and our exports to Pakistan Rs. 9 crores and 25 lakhs.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the price of wheat which was diverted to Pakistan is also included in the value of exports given?

Shri Karmarkar: These figures are for actual exports and imports. I should presume that it is included.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the main items of our export to and import from Pakistan?

Shri Karmarkar: For these four months?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes.

Shri Karmarkar: Particularly for the four months. I have no information. But I can say generally about our exports and imports. It is a long list. I stand corrected. Here are the commodities. It is a long list.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Could not this question have been included in the question? It must be a long list: pepper, ginger, everyone of these things.....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How would it be possible?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. If the hon. Member wanted a break up, they could have submitted a list, instead of taking the time of the House, reading the 100 items, barring the other questions here.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The whole difficulty is this. There were several things which were on the list before. Now-a-days most of the things are going out of trade. Normal trade is decreasing gradually. It was not possible at the time when I asked the question to ask.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Did the hon. Member discover this thing within 10 days?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes. There are several things.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would not allow that.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Several things used to be exported. Now they are not exported.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a lame excuse. When the question was tabled, he must know. In between, does the hon. Member expect the hon. Minister also to have information of what happened within these 10 days?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That is the whole difficulty. Here is a question relating to imports and exports from 1st July until today. Everything until today comes in.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What I say is, the value of the imports is here, asked. Why not the hon. Member ask, what are the items of imports along with that? Why should he reserve that for a supplementary question here and take the hon. Minister by surprise? Even if he should have the information, why should he take the time of the House by going on reading item by item?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I wanted...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I won't allow that. This is most unreasonable.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I want to ask another question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I won't allow any more question. This seems to be taking more time. There are one hundred questions here. How can I allow a fair opportunity to other Members also to come forward with their questions, and supplementary questions?

Shri Gadgil: May I respectfully submit, Sir, that up till now, the hon. Speaker and your good self have been very liberal enough to allow a fair measure of relevant supplementary questions. I do not know what happened today. But, I respectfully submit that so far as even this particular question is concerned, the policy with regard to import and export with respect to Pakistan has changed so often and so frequently that some latitude may be given to some Members who are anxious to get information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would have done the same thing even if the hon. Member had been on this side.

Shri Gadgil: If ever I happen to be on the other side, you will find me to be more amenable.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is nothing that has happened today. I remember distinctly that on a previous occasion also I said that hon. Members should not have up their sleeves some questions which they could have tabled along with the original question. I am not saying this for other Members who have not tabled the question. If they have any supplementaries even on the spur of the moment, let them by all means put them. When the hon. Member has asked for the value of the trade, he could have asked for the list of articles also. It is not as if I have changed. It is on account of the change in the question.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: If a Member has to put questions along with the original question for all the information he wants, what is the difference between a Starred and an Unstarred question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not going to argue hypothetically.

Shri Velayudhan: Does it mean that a Member who has tabled a question should not ask any supplementaries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He can ask supplementary questions arising out of the answer—certainly. If the answer happens to be negative, there is no supplementary. Even then, there may be some supplementaries arising out of that. As I said, when Members ask for the value of trade, they could have asked for the list of articles also, and then put supplementaries arising out of the answer. There is no good asking me for rulings about these matters. Every hon. Member is in a position to sit in this Chair and decide for himself. It is expected that every Member should take special care to see that the time of the House is not wasted by reading the rules, as if he is the Speaker himself. That is what I expect of all hon. Members.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the special discriminatory levy of Rs. 2/8/- per maund on all exports to India is still being continued by Pakistan?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): It is Rs. 2/8/- per maund on jute. That is my information.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is there any discriminatory fee also on the exports that we make to Pakistan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not think. To the best of my information, there is no discriminating fee as such, but the import duties which have been raised merely because we are more or

less having a monopoly of exporting to Pak'istan, often act in a discriminatory manner.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether a duty of 30 per cent. has just been fixed on certain articles such as betel leaves which were free of any duty previously?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I will not be able to give any precise details. It is true that there has been an increase in duties, and it also seems to be a fact that our betel leaves are not going there. As the break-up of these figures will show, while in the month of July, we have been sending about Rs. 13 lakhs worth betel leaves, in the month of August, it was Rs. 4 lakhs, in the month of September, it was Rs. 19,000 and in the month of October, it was Rs. 6,000. Obviously, something is being done to restrict imports or exports from this country, of betel leaves.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Government has not yet enquired as to what that something is that they are doing?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government has enquired, but in a matter of allowing of imports by a country which is a sovereign country, Government are unable to help in the matter except by communications we have through diplomatic channels.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether there are any extra facilities not available to other countries provided for the imports and exports we are having with Pakistan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would only say this. The discrimination, so far as we are concerned, is exercised only in regard to Jute where there is discriminatory duty. Of course, there is also a certain amount of duty in the matter of license of kutcha bales and pucca bales, and India happens to import only kutcha bales, and therefore, even there, the increased licence fee for kutcha bales exports is a discriminating factor. And as hon. Members in this House are aware, the Government of India have entered a protest at the meeting of the Signatories of the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs which was held recently in Geneva against this discriminatory practice.

Shri Gidwanji: Is it a fact that betel leaves from Pakistan are brought into India through Indian airways?

Shri Karmarkar: That is a fact, and on enquiry, I find that last time we imported Rs. 4 lakhs worth of betel leaves from Pakistan as against our exports of Rs. 1 crore to Pakistan.

Shri Damodara Menon: Are Government aware of any new restrictions imposed by Pakistan on import of betel leaves from India?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: These restrictions are coming one after the other. I am unable to assign any priority to them.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh rose—

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it not a fact that.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called Dr. Ram Subhag Singh.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What has been the outcome of India's protest to the G.A.A.T. organisation over Pakistan's discriminatory treatment of levying Rs. 2/8/- per maund on Jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The Chairman of the meeting of the G.A.A.T. asked both parties, India and Pakistan, to submit their replies. Pakistan wanted time to submit their reply, and therefore, the meeting came to an end. The matter is now in the hands of what is called the Inter-sessional Committee which deals with such complaints.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether any negotiation is being carried on between India and Pakistan in London in regard to resuming normal trade between the two countries?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What I would say is that when the value of exports and imports had been gone into, the policy also could have been asked. But, I have no objection. I shall give the rest of this time for this question.

Shri Gadgil: May I know whether within the framework of the present policy, the Government have explored the possibility of taking effective steps on their own part with respect to the trade with Pakistan?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: My hon. friend who has been occupying this position before must know that in matters dealing with another country which is sovereign, the steps have got very limited effectiveness. To the extent it can be effective, we are pursuing every method and trying to negotiate with Pakistan in this matter. But it might also be—I do not mind saying this—that an undue interest in this matter would perhaps retard the effectiveness rather than increase it.

Shri Gadgil: It was suggested here that betel leaves from Pakistan are allowed here. But will not a policy of stopping import of Pakistan betel leaves into India, not necessarily as a

retaliatory policy, go a long way to change the attitude of the Pakistan people?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: My hon. friend has got to recognise the geography of the situation. These matters of trade and commerce have got a certain amount of geo-politics behind them. What happens is, some betel leaves are produced in an area of India which can go only to Pakistan, and can go to nowhere else. In these circumstances, Government have to think twice before banning these betel leaves going into Pakistan because the alternative is our own people are mulcted. Should we, for the sake of what is a matter of prestige, make our people suffer even though they can possibly sell their betel leaves in a particular area? Therefore, the matter is really being considered, and I think, at the moment, we are not freely permitting betel leaves to go into Pakistan from the area which the hon. friend has in mind.

Shri Gadgil: May I suggest

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I am afraid we are entering into a discussion. If the hon. Member wants to have a discussion, he may table a motion for that.

Shri Patasdar: I want to ask a question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No.

JUTE

*942. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the substitutes found by those who were buying jute from us in the past and how far have these substitutes replaced the supply of our raw jute and jute goods during recent years?

(b) What was the maximum export duty imposed on jute and how has it been reduced?

(c) How far has the reduction in export duty helped our jute industry?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) So far as jute goods are concerned, I would invite the hon. Member's attention to the answer given by me on the 16th July 1952 to Sterred question No. 1791 by Shri A. C. Guha. Export of raw jute is not allowed and no information is available about the extent it has been replaced by substitute fibres.

(b) The maximum export duty on raw jute has been Rs. 115/- per bale for long jute and Rs. 4/8/- per bale for

cuttings. These rates are still in force although no raw jute is now exported. If the hon. Member has jute manufactures in view, then the maximum duty for hessian was Rs. 1,500/- per ton which came into force on the 20th November 1950. It was subsequently reduced to Rs. 750/- per ton on the 18th February and to Rs. 275/- per ton on the 7th March 1952. The maximum duty on sacking was Rs. 350/- per ton from the 30th March 1951 to the 7th May 1952, when it was reduced to Rs. 175/- per ton.

(c) The main object of export duty on jute manufactures is to absorb the gap between the prices in India and the prices abroad. It is not therefore so much the reduction of export duty as the present lower prices of Indian goods which have helped the Indian industry by restoring the competitive strength of its products.

पंडित मुनोहर दत्त उपाध्याय :

सरकार की ओर से क्या कार्रवाई हुई है विशेष रूप से अमरीका में इस बात के जाहिर करने के लिए कि हमारे

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अग्रेजी में बोलिये ।

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: What steps have been taken so far by Government, especially in America, to show to our customers there that our products are the cheapest and the best? What amount has been spent over it, and what agencies have been employed for the purpose?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a matter in which the Government does not take any steps normally, excepting such aid as they render through diplomatic channels. I understand that the Indian Jute Manufacturers' Association has launched upon a propaganda effort in the United States of America, and the Government is watching with great interest the result of those efforts.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Is it a fact that our American customers have got used to substitutes, and they are reluctant now to come back to our products, especially packing materials.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is undoubtedly a fact that the American users have got accustomed to paper substitutes. We hope that their reluctance to revert to jute bags is being slowly broken down.

Dr. Ram Subhas Singh: On a point of order. How does this American propaganda arise out of this question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am glad the hon. Member has put this question. But I am here also to decide which question is right, and which wrong.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know, since the raising of the rate of export of jute that started in the beginning of the year, whether that rate has been maintained, and also the figures for the recent months?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I think I have given the figures before, and I could give the figures again, but unfortunately, I have not got them here.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister, may I know whether the Government has given any financial aid for the propaganda on jute bags in the United States of America?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is what the hon. Minister has answered just now.

Shri B. S. Murthy: That question was different. It related to the kind of propaganda that is being carried on, and the hon. Minister referred to the propaganda done by the Association.

May I know whether the Government has given any financial aid?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, Sir. Government has given a token aid of \$25,000 towards the propaganda that is being conducted in the United States of America on behalf of jute products.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the Government will request these trade organisations to open out trade relations with non-dollar areas to tide over the slump in the jute industry?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I can take that suggestion from the hon. Member.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: May I know whether the increase in our export in the beginning of this year was in respect of packing materials or hessian?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would very willingly oblige the hon. Member, but unfortunately I have not the figures, because the question did not relate to that. I am quite willing to supply the information to the hon. Member privately, or if he chooses to put a question, it will be answered.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the comparative value and quality of the substitute which they are using in place of jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. Member has in mind, the substitute being used in the United States of America, it is largely paper bags.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Naturally it will be cheaper.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Very slightly cheaper.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: I want to know the exact percentage by which it is cheaper so that we also could see whether the price of jute manufacture in this country can be reduced to that extent. What efforts are being made by the Government in the matter in this respect?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I had the information with me, but I am afraid I did not bring it here, but I shall give the information to the hon. Member if he wants it.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether the demand for hessian in the United States is again looking up?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The hessian market is one of those extremely temperamental markets, and I cannot positively say whether it is looking up or not, because one week we do find that it is looking up, but in the next week we find it depressed again.

TEA (EXPORTS)

*943. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the value and quantity of tea exported from India in each of the years from 1947 to 1951;

(b) the names of countries that are competing with India in respect of world tea-supply;

(c) how far the policy of the Government of India to re-export tea to European Continent through U.K. is successful as against the free market policy of other tea-producing countries; and

(d) the demand for Indian tea in the world market in the first quarter of 1952-53?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 40.]

(c) There is no difference now in the policy of Government of India and that of other tea-producing countries as regards re-export of tea to European countries through U.K.

(d) The total exports of Indian tea during the first quarter 1952-53 was 57.1 million lbs.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the South Indian export tea which can compete with the best type of Ceylon tea has been freed of the double taxation, as recommended by the Export Promotion Committee?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Government has received any complaints about the indigenous chests for tea, whether a picture appeared in a newspaper showing Indian tea in Indian chests, and Pakistan tea in foreign chests, with the Indian chests broken?

Shri Karmarkar: Both about the chests and the newspaper, I should like to have notice.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Was not this question put on a number of occasions earlier?

Shri Karmarkar: It has been put times out of number.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In answer to part (c) of the question, the hon. Minister stated that there is no difference now in the policy of the Government of India and that of other tea producing countries as regards re-export of tea to European countries through the United Kingdom. May I know what was the difference before this?

Shri Karmarkar: There was no difference earlier. We did not mind tea being exported, after its import into the United Kingdom. At a certain stage, it was our aim in the postwar period to establish auction centres for Indian tea in Calcutta and Cochin. In the past, re-exports of Indian tea were not permitted for fear that foreign buyers might switch over their operation from Calcutta but free exports through the United Kingdom were permitted. However in the context of a sharp fall in prices and the need to find increased outlets for tea, it was found that re-export from U.K. to continental Europe should be permitted.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how we are faring after we have left the International Tea Marketing Expansion Board?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice about that.

Shri Sarmah: What are the other countries, if any, from which Britain imports tea?

The Minister of Commerce and Industries (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Ceylon happens to be our major competitor; the other countries are Pakistan, Indonesia, and East Africa.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir...

Shri Sarmah: rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member comes from a tea area. I am sure he knows that Ceylon, Indonesia etc are producers of tea.

Shri Sarmah: Mr. Deputy Speaker, my next question will elucidate what I am driving at. What is the difference between the wholesale price in Britain and the ceiling price that is fixed by Britain for retail sale and the average market price in Britain last month?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I understand that in respect of a Short Notice Question that I answered in this House hon. Members have tabled a demand for a half-hour discussion. I believe it has been permitted by the hon. the Speaker. I think these questions can be appropriately asked at that time. I shall have all the figures at my disposal and I will give all the information that I possibly can.

Shri Sarmah: Subject to correction, I suppose rationing of tea in Britain has been lifted since then i.e. when we had the discussion last. Therefore, I just want to know if it is possible for the hon. Minister to give the information as to what is the difference between the wholesale price in Britain and the ceiling price for retail sale in the open market. It is important in this way...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He need not explain the importance.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I shall give all that information at that discussion.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether Government have envisaged any plan for the expansion of our tea trade with other countries as we have come out of the International Tea Expansion Board.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Yes, Sir; it is under our consideration.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: It was thought that when re-export from England would be allowed, the price would rise. It is on this idea that re-export was permitted. Is it a fact that after the re-exports, the prices have fallen?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That may be a fact, Sir.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: May I know, Sir, whether there is a demand by the tea industry that further re-exports should be allowed also to America, to which it has not yet been allowed.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: At the present moment, I do not think we have any understanding with the United Kingdom to limit their re-exports in regard to any country. I think they are free to do what they like.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: In view of the fact that permission to re-export tea from the United Kingdom to other countries has not raised the prices and also in view of the fact that that permission has affected the Calcutta tea market by limiting its export area, will Government consider...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members are making suggestions after suggestions. The Government will consider everything. But this is not the occasion for making suggestions.

RIVER VALLEY PROJECTS (INVESTIGATIONS)

*944. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to make a statement on the investigations which are being carried out in various states under the direction of the Central Water and Power Commission in connection with River Valley and Hydro Electric Projects?

(b) How many of these are nearing completion, which of these schemes for which investigations have been made will be taken in hand in the next two years and what is the nature of the financial arrangement between the States concerned and the Centre, as also the agency of execution of these Projects?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Shri S. N. Das: In view of the importance of this question, it would be better if the hon. Minister just disclosed the names of the projects of which the investigations had been completed or were being carried on.

Shri Hathl: Yes, Sir. I will tell the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The statement has been laid?

Shri Hathl: The hon. Member wants to know the names of the various projects.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it a long statement?

Shri Hathl: It is not long. I can read it out.

(a) The following are the projects in various States on which investigations are being carried out by the C.W.P.C.:

- (1) Kosi Project in Bihar.
- (2) Narmada Projects (Tawa, Punasa and Broach) in Bombay and Madhya Pradesh.
- (3) Dihang and Manas Projects in Assam.
- (4) Mahanadi and Jonk Projects in Madhya Pradesh.
- (5) Ganga Barrage Project in West Bengal.
- (6) Tikkarpara and Naraj Dams Projects in Orissa.

(b) Investigations on the Sabarmati Project in Bombay and Harangi Project in Coorg have been completed and the Project Reports are under preparation. The investigations on the Kosi, Narmada (Tawa, Punasa and Broach), and Ganga Barrage Projects are nearing completion. As regards execution, financial arrangements, and agency execution, the position is as follows:—

Kosi Project: The investigations on this project were completed in June, 1950 and a Project Report was prepared. As a result of examination of this Report by an Advisory Committee, who recommended certain changes, further investigations were taken up. The Project has been accepted by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the Five Year Plan. The Financial and technical responsibility of the Central Government, Government of Bihar and the Government of Nepal, the programme of construction and agency of execution have not yet been settled.

Ganga Barrage Project: As a result of investigations carried out so far, a Project report has been prepared and is under examination, in consultation with the Government of West Bengal and the Planning Commission. The various points referred to will be examined only after the Project has been approved by the Planning Commission.

Sabarmati Project, Harangi Project and Narmada Projects: Further action on the various points can be taken only after the Project reports have been prepared and if, on the basis of the Project Reports, the Projects are found to be technically and financially feasible. It is not possible to give any definite information at this juncture.

Shri T. N. Singh: In reply to part (b) of the question, it has been stated here that the financial and technical responsibility of the Central Government, the Government of Bihar and the Government of Nepal about the programme of construction and agency of execution has not yet been settled. May I know if it is not a fact that there was some arrangement with the Government of Bihar regarding the allocation of expenses on this investigation?

Shri Hathi: On the question of investigation there was an arrangement. The question is about the execution of the project itself. That is yet not settled.

Shri T. N. Singh: The investigation, as I am told, Sir, will be charged to the project ultimately. Therefore, we would like to know why the arrangements regarding these expenses have not been disclosed to us so far, as they will be charged to the project.

Shri Hathi: The arrangement for the investigation was that 50 per cent. should be borne initially by the Government of Bihar and 50 per cent. by the Government of India subject to further adjustment. That was the original arrangement.

Shri T. N. Singh: What is the meaning 'subject to further adjustment'?

Shri Hathi: It was to be adjusted later on.

Shri T. N. Singh: Is it not a fact that the Finance Ministry has ruled that 'subject to further adjustment' only means that all other additional expenses will be charged to the provincial Government?

Shri Hathi: The Finance Ministry later on clarified that the remaining 50 per cent. will be charged to the Bihar Government.

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: What has been the expenditure so far incurred for the Kosi project?

Shri Hathi: The total expenditure incurred on investigation upto August 1952 is Rs. 76,85,769.

Dr. Ram Subbag Singh: Has this been incurred wholly by the Central Government or a portion is borne by the State Government?

Shri Hathi: Initially by the Central Government, Sir.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know, Sir, whether any river valley projects in Madras State have been included in this investigation?

Shri Hathi: No, Sir.

Shri C. Bhatt: From the answer given by the Deputy Minister we know...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member need not say he knows. What is the question?

Shri C. Bhatt: I am now lucky enough to catch your eye, Sir. I want to know that when the projects of Narmada are completed, will they be included in the first Five Year Plan or the second Five Year Plan?

Shri Hathi: As I said, Sir, the investigations on Narmada are nearing completion. Whether it will be included in the Five Year Plan or not, is not yet settled.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know, Sir, whether there are any rivers in Madras State for undertaking these projects?

Shri Hathi: The rivers can be looked at on the map.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Neither the question nor the answer need have been put. That is not the way the hon. Minister should answer.

Shri Hathi: Sorry, Sir.

Shri S. N. Das: In view of the fact that Kosi project has been included in the Five Year Plan, may I know whether any time limit has been fixed for the preparation of the project estimates?

Shri Hathi: No time limit has been fixed.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether there is any project under investigation anywhere in South India?

Shri Hathi: Sir, I have given the list.

Shri Rameshchandra Reddi: May I know, Sir, why the Krishna River Valley Development Project has not been taken up for investigation?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The report itself has not been published.

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, is it a fact that on the investigation of these various projects nearly a crore of rupees have been spent, 25 lakhs and odd on Madhya Pradesh projects, 64 lakhs or so on Kosi project etc., and is it also true that with regard to the allocation of this expenditure the Government have not yet come to any arrangement and that some States want to be absolved of any financial responsibility in this matter?

Shri Hathi: Regarding the first question as to what is the total amount of expenditure, I would

require notice. I can only reply to the other question after I look into the papers.

Shri T. N. Singh: On a point of order, Sir. We find that these irrigation and planning questions have been coming off and on and the hon. Minister concerned has never been present in this House for the last so many days. So it is very difficult to get accurate and full information. May we request you, Sir, to at least direct that the hon. Minister should find time to be present, because this relates also to the Planning Commission and irrigation and all sorts of things?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I submit, Sir...

Shri T. N. Singh: Is he the hon. Minister in charge of Irrigation, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister is entitled to speak on the floor of the House.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I submit, Sir, my colleague is now engaged in giving the finishing touches to the Plan. He could hardly come out. Therefore, if some of the hon. Members feel that they are in any way slighted, we would like to apologise to them. But, certainly we feel that the Deputy Minister is quite competent to answer the questions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I understand such questions are really very important. A number of schemes have been undertaken. Each of the schemes costs, even in the investigation stage, crores of rupees and, of course, when they are going to be executed they will cost many more crores. These questions can get not only one hour but a number of hours. Under these circumstances they must be split up. Each project should be taken up and thrashed threadbare. Now, I understand that the Planning Committee Report will be presented to the House on the 8th. Three days will be allowed for its discussion. Under these circumstances, hon. Members will kindly read the report and then come forward and discuss them on the floor of the House. I therefore defer further questions to that day. Certainly, during the discussion of the Planning Committee Report, the hon. Minister will be here; but I do not assume that the hon. Deputy Minister does not know as much as the hon. Minister.

Shri T. N. Singh: One procedural matter, Sir. A statement was said to have been made in reply to this question. The question was covering all kinds of investigation and projects and

so I thought that the statement would contain various details. It is a small thing and but for the insistence of some hon. Members it would not have been read in reply to the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister read out a long statement. I did not look into that statement. If all this information was available he could have put it in that statement.

Shri Hathl: What I read was the same thing, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is available to all the Members. What is the difficulty?

Shri T. N. Singh: Sir, I thought this information will be laid on the Table and would contain various details about various projects. Instead of that a summarised thing giving in general what is happening there was read out. It was laid on the Table so that our colleagues here in the House could not follow what the answer was.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Questions which involve long answers are necessarily and naturally not read out in the House in reply for one question will take the whole time. Of course, we will see that as many details as are expected to be asked in a question are provided in the answer and that the documents are available to the Members.

Shri B. Das: Sir, I speak on the point of order raised by Mr. T. N. Singh. It is expected of every Minister who is a Member of this House to be present at Question-hour. If you look into the proceedings of this House, the Planning and Irrigation Minister is never present in this House. It is an insult to the House and to the Members of this House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think there is anything in this point of order. The hon. Minister is sufficiently well represented by his Deputy who is sitting here in flesh and blood. This question might have been raised when there was no other Minister dealing with the matter and assisting the principal Minister. When there are Deputies here it is intended that they must assist their principals. As between the original Minister and his Deputy this House ought not to make any difference. If, on the other hand, the Deputy Minister says that he must ask his principal Minister, then this can arise. But he is quite confident that he can answer all these questions. We need not go into that matter now. There is no point of order.

MACHINE TOOL FACTORY

*945. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to the answer to my Starred Question No. 584 asked on the 9th June, 1952, regarding the establishment of the Machine Tool Factory at Jalahalli near Bangalore and state whether the remaining three hangars have come and been erected?

(b) Have Government surveyed the annual requirements of lathes and machine tools in the country and if so, what are they?

(c) How far have the requirements been met by private concerns?

(d) Will these private Machine Tool Factories be affected when the State-owned factory begins production in August 1953, as contemplated?

(e) If so, what protection do Government intend to give to these private concerns?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The erection of the structural parts of the three remaining hangars is complete, but flooring, electrification and partitioning remain to be done.

(b) The estimated demand for machine tools is worth about Rs. 5 crores per annum. It is not practicable to give the split-up of the requirements for each category of machine tool separately. However, the requirements of lathes of all sizes are estimated at 1200 number per annum.

(c) The private industry have been in a position to meet almost all the requirements of the country in respect of simple, and primary (or general purpose) types of machine tools only. Production of larger sizes is insignificant. In the case of lathes, for example, production in sizes of 7" and below is more or less sufficient to meet the country's needs. Production of 8½" lathes has only just commenced.

(d) It is the intention of Government that the production in the State-owned factory should be complementary to and not competitive with private industry.

(e) Does not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether the further plants and machineries that will be required for the full fledged production of machine tools in the factory had been imported as was mentioned by the hon. Minister on the last occasion?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I do not quite follow the question of the hon. Member Sir.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Last time, the hon. Minister said that further plant and machinery are under shipment. I want to know whether all those have come?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Sir, orders for machinery worth about a crore of rupees have been placed and the machinery has begun to come. Parts of it have already come and the other parts are on the way and they are expected as early as possible.

Shri S. C. Samanta: In answer to part (b) of the question, the hon. Minister said.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member need not repeat what the Minister said. He may content himself by saying, arising out of the answer to part (b) of the question

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any representations from private machine tool manufacturers' associations, especially Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Associations, have come that they are being deprived of their right of manufacturing these things which they are manufacturing now?

Shri K. C. Reddy: A representation has been received from the private industry and the representation was carefully examined and the Government are of the opinion that no competition is contemplated in the programme which the Government have at present for the manufacture of tools.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know Sir, whether the Machine Tools Manufacturers' Association has been consulted or is being consulted now before taking to production in the factory?

Shri K. C. Reddy: They were consulted twice before—once in 1950 and again in February this year. An assurance has been given that they will be consulted at every important stage of the expansion of this industry.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the training schools proposed to be started—as was stated by the General Manager during the hon. Minister's recent visit there—are under construction?

Shri K. C. Reddy: We are still awaiting the proposals so far as the training school is concerned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think it is time the questions come to a close.

Shri V. P. Navar: In view of the fact that fifteen minutes have been spent on digressions in regard to procedural matters, may I ask whether it will be possible for you to extend the Question hour today by another fifteen minutes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There was no digression. Those matters were entirely relevant to the proceedings in this House and they therefore naturally formed a part and parcel of the Question-hour.

Shri V. P. Navar: We have only been able to get through with eight questions today.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it the hon. Member's point that whatever he speaks is not a digression and whatever comes from the Chair's mouth constitutes a digression? The Question-hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

POWER PRODUCTION FROM DAMODAR VALLEY AND BHAKRA-NANGAL PROJECTS

*946. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Estimates Committee in their fifth report for 1951-52 under para. 83 has observed that in the case of Damodar Valley Corporation and Bhakra-Nangal Project, the importance of irrigation is relegated to a secondary place and power production is given priority;

(b) who is responsible for giving this priority to power production as against irrigation;

(c) how much power has already become available from this project and where and how it has been utilised; and

(d) whether the principal beneficiary has been Delhi and the townships round about it?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes Sir.

Presumably the hon. Member refers to para. 82 of the Estimates Committee Report.

(b) to (d). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 41].

FINAL OVERALL PLAN OF DAMODAR VALLEY PROJECT

*947. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the observation made by the Estimates Committee in their fifth report for 1951-52 in para. 54 that no effort has been made by the Government or the Damodar Valley Corporation to make final over-all plans of the work

and arrive at the revised estimate of expenditure in keeping with the revised plans and the current economic conditions?

(b) Have any final over-all estimates been since prepared?

(c) If so, do Government propose to lay a copy thereof on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Revised estimates for the project were prepared in August, 1952.

(c) A copy of the revised estimates is laid on the Table of the House. [Copies placed in the Library. See No. IV. M. 4(9a)].

COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE WORK OF D. V. C.

*948. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the committee appointed to examine the work done by the Damodar Valley Corporation; and

(b) the terms of reference and the approximate time for submission of report?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). A copy of Resolution No. DW.10, dated 20th September, 1952 which gives the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 42].

REPORT AGAINST ONION EXPORTER

*949. **Shri Namblar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a report in 1951 against Shri C. Ramachandran Pillai, an Onion Exporter of Tuticorin (Madras State) by the Dy. Chief Controller of Exports, Madras to the effect that he (the exporter) should be black-listed as he has gone against the Export Trade Control regulations and if so, what action has been taken; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the above Shri C. Ramachandran Pillai was again issued licence for export of onions in 1952?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). No report has been received against Shri C. Ramachandran Pillai. It is presumed, however, that the hon. Member is referring to Shri C. Ramachandran Pillai. If so, a report against his export activities was received some-

time ago and orders have since been issued debarring him from obtaining licences in future. Two licences for the export of onions were, however, issued to him early this year when the allegation against him was under investigation.

EXPORT OF FISHING NETS

*950. Kamari Annie Mascarene: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether fishing nets are exported to Ceylon from Travancore-Cochin State;

(b) if so, under what conditions; and

(c) whether permits to export nets are given and if so, whether to Travancoreans or those outside the State?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). Exports of fishing nets to Ceylon are allowed. The quantity allocated for export until the end of the year was equivalent to two hundred thousand lbs. of yarn. Licences are being issued on the first come first served principle to any one in the States of Madras and Travancore-Cochin from the ports of Dhanushkodi, Tuticorin, Alleppey, Quilon and Cochin. Exports from other ports are not allowed. No other conditions have been imposed.

विस्थापित व्यक्तियों के शिबिर

*९५१. श्री बास्मोकि: क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्तमान वर्ष में देश में विस्थापित व्यक्तियों के कितने शिविर चलाये जा रहे हैं और किन-किन स्थानों पर ;

(ख) उन पर कितना व्यय हो रहा है ; तथा

(ग) जब तक इनके चलते रहने के क्या कारण हैं ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 59 Relief camps. A statement showing the location of camps is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 43].

(b) During the current financial year an expenditure of about Rs. 91 lakhs have been incurred upto 30th Septem-

ber, 1952 in respect of these camps as also certain permanent Liability Camps in the Eastern zone.

(c) The reasons are mainly as follows:—

(i) All inmates admitted before the new influx from East Pakistan have not yet been rehabilitated; and

(ii) Heavy admissions have been made due to the recent influx as a result of the introduction of Passport System.

पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से आये विस्थापित व्यक्ति

*९५२. श्री बास्मोकि: क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अवतूबर, १९५२ के प्रथम सप्ताह तक भारत में पूर्वोक्त पाकिस्तान से कितने विस्थापित व्यक्ति आये हैं ;

(ख) उनके पुनर्वास के लिये क्या पग उठाये गये हैं और किन-किन स्थानों पर उन्हें फिर से बसाया गया है ; तथा

(ग) सरकार को इन विस्थापित व्यक्तियों पर कितना व्यय करना पड़ा ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 31 lakhs approximately.

(b) Various types of rehabilitation loans are granted for house-building, agriculture, business, trade and profession. Built houses, homestead and agricultural lands are also provided. Displaced Persons have been rehabilitated all over the States of West Bengal, Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Bihar, Orissa, U.P. and Andamans.

(c) Rs. 3564.22 lakhs upto 31st March, 1952.

INTERNATIONAL TEA MARKET EXPANSION BOARD

*953. Shri A. C. Guba: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the International Tea Market Expansion Board is a limited company incorporated under the Companies Act of the U.K.?

(b) If so, who are its shareholders?

(c) How have its shares been divided?

(d) How is it being managed?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes. The International Tea Market Expansion Board is incorporated under the U. K. Companies Act as a company limited by guarantee but not having a capital divided into shares.

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

(d) The administration of the Board is carried on by the Executive Vice-Chairman, who is a paid employee of the Board, under the guidance of an elected Chairman of the Board. The Board itself functions under the directions of the Central Tea Boards of the member countries, which are the Board's Governing Bodies.

PRODUCTS OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

*954. **Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether Indian goods which are manufactured in small scale industries are exported to foreign countries;

(b) whether the standard of goods manufactured in small scale industries in India is the same as those of similar foreign goods;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to standardize the quality of such goods manufactured in India, and

(d) if so, what steps were taken so far?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Although generally speaking, the quality of small-scale goods manufactured in India is not of a high standard; in some cases like the sports goods industry and the carpet industry, our products can compare favourably with those of foreign countries.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government of India have passed the Indian Standards Institution (Certification Mark) Act No. XXXVI of 1952, authorising the Indian Standards Institution to formulate standard specifications of goods manufactured. The Institution have set up over 20 sectional committees, which are at present engaged in development of standards for articles of importance to cottage and small scale industries; 24 Indian standards for such articles have already been published and over 100 are under consideration.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS IN U.P.

*955. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to

state the number and particulars of the Community Projects in U.P.?

(b) What is the amount that is proposed to be spent on each of these Projects?

(c) Are any estimates prepared for these Projects and if so, will a copy thereof be laid on the Table of the House?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The information will be found in paragraph 2 of the Operational Agreement No. 8 regarding Community Development Programme, copies of which were laid on the Table of the House in answer to starred question No. 461 dated 4th June, 1952 in the House of the People.

(b) The information will be found on pages 32 to 34 of the pamphlet "Community Projects—a Draft Outline", copies of which have been circulated to the Members of the House.

(c) The budget proposals which have been received from Uttar Pradesh Government regarding these projects are incomplete and the matter is under communication with that Government.

IMPERIAL PREFERENCE

*956. **Shri Naadad:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of the U.S.A. asked India to give up the preferential treatment that is being accorded to imports from the U.K.;

(b) if so, what is the attitude taken by the Indian Government; and

(c) whether the question of Imperial Preference was discussed in the course of discussions leading to the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade)?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) One of the aims of GATT is "the substantial reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade and the elimination of discriminatory treatment in international commerce". Some discussion of a general nature on the preferential tariff treatment enjoyed by U. K. and her Colonies under the Indo-U.K. Trade Agreement, 1939, took place during the negotiations leading to the Agreement referred to.

OIL REFINERY

*957. **Shri Namasdas:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations have been completed with the Caltex Ltd., for setting up an oil refinery in India;

(b) if so, what are the terms of the agreement reached; and

(c) if not, what is the main hitch in the arrangement being finalised?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) No, Sir. They are expected to be started shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There has been no hitch. The negotiations are expected to commence early next year.

QUARTERS FOR STAFF OF DELHI STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

*958. **Shri Bhabha Boman:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the budget estimates of the Delhi State Electricity Board for 1952-53 provides a sum of Rs. 10,00,000 for the purchase of land and building of staff quarters for Distribution Branch Staff but that no arrangement has been made as yet to purchase the land?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for the delay and who is responsible for it?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Board have approached the Government of India for a loan of Rs. 55 lakhs for the construction of houses. The matter is under consideration.

INTERNATIONAL IRRIGATION AND POWER SCHEMES

*959. **Shri Tetikkar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any treaties or agreements with other countries in connection with international irrigation and power schemes; and

(b) if so, the schemes under consideration?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) There are no treaties between India and any other country in connection with international irrigation and power schemes. There is, however, an Inter-Dominion Agreement between India and Pakistan dated 4th May, 1948, regarding the supply, for the time being, to some Pakistan canals of waters from rivers in India. There
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is also a provisional arrangement between Punjab (I) and Punjab (P) regarding the supply of power to the latter from the Mandi Hydro-Electric Scheme.

(b) Does not arise.

CHEAP RADIO RECEIVING SETS

*960. **Shri F. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for making available to the average man radio receiving sets at a cheap price;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what progress has been made in the matter and when the cheap sets may be expected; and

(c) whether Government have explored the possibilities of introducing the "Wired Broadcasting Scheme" in small towns in return for license fee, and whether this Scheme has already been introduced in any States and if so, in which?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Karkar): (a) and (b). Government have no separate scheme for making cheap radio sets available; All India Radio has however made available testing facilities and given technical advice to radio manufacturers with a view to encourage the production of cheap sets.

(c) The question of wired broadcasting was examined some time ago but this system was not considered feasible.

TEXTILE RESERVED FOR HAND LOOM PRODUCTION

*961. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply to parts (b) and (c) of my starred question No. 1784 dated the 16th July 1952 regarding mill and handloom cloth and state what are the items of textiles already reserved for production exclusively by the handlooms?

(b) What action has been taken on such representations?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) A list of fabrics reserved for the handloom industry is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 44].

(b) This is explained in the Press Note dated 25th November, 1952, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 45].

ORIYA TEACHERS IN HIRAKUD AND BURLA SCHOOLS

*962. **Shri R. N. S. Deo:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that on account of the want of sufficient number of Oriya teachers at Hirakud and Burla High Schools, the Oriya Officers and employees posted there find it difficult to have their children taught properly;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no provision for teaching the students of all classes of the High Schools in Oriya medium; and

(c) the name of the University to which these schools are affiliated?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is provision for teaching the students of all classes of the High School in Oriya medium.

(c) Utkal University.

BUILDINGS IN HIRAKUD AND BURLA

*963. **Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of buildings in Hirakud and Burla which were found leaking this year during the rainy season and the total cost of such buildings;

(b) the action taken against the contractors concerned; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to construct better buildings in future?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a)—

Hirakud

1½ per cent. Rs. 88,000/-

Burla

8 per cent. Rs. 841,000/-

(b) Wherever the leakage was due to the fault of contractors, it is being rectified at their cost.

(c) In the more important buildings recently constructed the roofs have been covered by brickballast and lime concrete instead of earth. No other steps are considered necessary.

AMRAVATI COMMUNITY PROJECT CENTRE

*964. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state the number of Government Officers who are working in the Community Project area at Amravati Centre in Madhya Pradesh, for the development of the proposed area?

(b) What are the designations of the

said officers with their respective number?

(c) What is the progress of work made at this centre up till now?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a) 50.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 48].

(c) Survey of the project area has been completed and budget estimates have been prepared and submitted to the Government of India. In addition to this, some work has been done by way of distribution of fertilisers, inoculation of cattle against rinderpest, construction of soakage pits, improvement of wells and of means of communication and opening of two key village centres.

TEA PRICES

*965. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the internal prices of tea in wholesale and retail markets in India?

(b) How do they compare with those prevailing before the present fall in prices?

(c) Has there been an increase in the profit margin of the tea traders and if so, what?

(d) Is internal tea selling at below cost price?

(e) Are Government considering the fixation of higher wholesale price for internal tea, in view of the high retail prices to give relief to tea-growers?

(f) What other steps have been taken in this regard?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The average wholesale and retail prices per lb. of tea at present are:

	Wholesale			Retail		
	Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.		
Darjeeling	1	2	0	2	0	0
				10		
Assam	0	10	0	2	12	0
				1	8	0
				10		
Doors	0	12	11	2	0	0
				1	4	0
				10		
				1	10	0

(b) The corresponding figures for January 1952 are:

	Wholesale			Retail		
	Rs. a. p.			Rs. a. p.		
Darjeeling	1	2	3	2	8	0
	1	3	0	2	4	0
Assam	1	3	0	2	4	0
	1	3	0	2	4	0
Doors	1	1	3	1	12	0
	1	1	3	1	12	0

(c) Information is under collection. Some reductions have been made in the retail prices of packeted teas of the lower grades. Full information in this regard is, however, under collection.

(d) According to the Report of the Official Team deputed to inquire into the tea industry, the level of Auction prices has not been sufficient to meet the production costs of many average-medium estates and smaller gardens.

(e) and (f). No, Sir. But, the question of giving relief to the tea growers in all possible directions is now engaging the attention of the Government of India.

MACHINE TOOLS FACTORY

*967. **Shri Thimmalah:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Managing Committee or Board for the Machine Tools Factory to be started at Bangalore; and

(b) if so, the functions of the Committee or Board?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

COAL DEPOSITS IN MADHYA PRADESH

*968. **Sardar A. S. Sakral:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state in how many parts of Madhya Pradesh easily workable coal deposits have been found?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): Thick and fairly easily workable seams are found in the Korba Coalfield in Bilaspur District and in the Gld Korea State, now merged with Madhya Pradesh.

BIMLI JUTE (EXPORT)

*969. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government have made any inquiries about the feasibility of exporting Bimli jute to other countries, as the Calcutta jute millers are not purchasing this variety?

(b) Is it a fact that before the export of jute from this country was banned, there was a large market for the commodity abroad?

(c) Have Government received any representations from the jute-growers of Srikalulam and Vakkilapatnam Districts in this connection?

(d) Have the Madras Government made any suggestions to the Centre in respect of marketing Bimli jute and if so, what are they?

(e) Is it a fact that large scale smuggling of jute from East Bengal is hitting the jute-growers of India hard?

(f) Are there any proposals for improving the quality of jute grown in India, especially in the above two districts?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) No. According to information available with Government, substantial quantities of Bimli jute were purchased by Mills in the past and the purchase of the current year's crop would also shortly commence.

(b) Yes. But it cannot be said that the market available was a large one.

(c), (d) and (f). The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given on the 3rd December 1952 by the Minister of Food and Agriculture to parts (a), (b) and (c) of Starred Question No. 906 by Shri Rajagopala Rao.

(e) Government have no specific information on this point.

POWER FOR JUTE MILLS FROM DAMODAR VALLEY

*970. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the possibility of supplying power to the jute mills round about Calcutta from the Damodar Valley Power Stations;

(b) if so, when the supply is likely to be started; and

(c) what would be the maximum quantity envisaged to be supplied during the period of the Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

The matter is under the consideration of the Government of West Bengal and the D. V. C.

(b) and (c). The information has been called for from the D.V.C. and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

AGREEMENT FOR SETTING UP OIL REFINERIES

346. **Shri Nanadas:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the agreements entered into with the Burmah Shell Company and Standard Vacuum Oil Company for the setting up of oil refineries in India?

(b) Were negotiations carried on with these firms for the manufacture of synthetic petrol?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what led Government to give up the plans for synthetic petrol manufacture and accept the foreign firms' offer for setting up oil refineries?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Certain heads of agreement have been reached between the oil companies mentioned and the Government of India by the exchange of letters. Discussions are proceeding with a third oil company, the Caltex Limited, for the establishment of a third refinery. It would, therefore, be undesirable at this stage to give any details on the heads of agreement reached. The attention of the hon. Member is, however, invited to the Press Notes issued on 30th November 1951 and 15th December 1951.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question of manufacture of synthetic petrol was not considered in the context of these discussions. The proposal for the manufacture of synthetic petrol is still under the consideration of Government.

EXPORT OF COAL TO JAPAN

347. Shri N. P. Sinha: (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state how many tons of coal have been exported to Japan in 1950, 1951 and 1952?

(b) What varieties of coal were exported and what was the price per ton?

(c) Is there any contract between the Government of India and that of Japan in respect of the supply of coal?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) —

Year	Tons
1950	96,881
1951	543,319
1952 (upto September)	589,630

(b) Both coking and non-coking coals comprising selected grades A and B were exported. The base ex-

port prices F.O.B. Calcutta have been as follows:

	1-10-51 to 31-12-51	1-1-52 to 31-3-52	From 1-4-1952
	Rs. a p. Rs. a p. Rs. a p.		
Coking { Selected A	32-10-0	34-10-0	35-10-0
Coking { Selected B	31-10-0	33-10-0	34-10-0
Non- { Selected A	31-13-0	32-13-0	33-9-0
Coking { Selected B	30-13-0	31-13-0	32-9-0

The approximate average price for export to Japan prior to 28th February 1951 was Rs. 30/7/- per ton F.O.B. Calcutta. During the period from 28th February 1951 to 30th September 1951, the average F.O.B. Calcutta price for Japan was Rs. 41/7/- per ton.

(c) There is no formal contract.

PRODUCTION IN GRADIN COLLIERIES

348. Shri N. P. Sinha: (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the total quantity of all varieties of coal produced by the Indian Government Railway Collieries, Girdih (Bihar) during each of the years 1948, 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) Are the Collieries running at a loss and if so, to what extent annually?

(c) Is the loss due to a fall in output and if so, do Government propose to develop mines in Jat Khuti Hills with a view to increasing the output?

(d) Are there other workable reserves in these Collieries capable of yielding coal with less than 30 per cent. of ash content?

(e) What steps are contemplated by Government to effect economies in expenses in order to level down the annual losses?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) —

1947-48	4,88,000 tons
1948-49	4,45,983 tons
1949-50	3,73,960 tons
1950-51	3,26,097 tons
1951-52	3,09,004 tons

(b) Yes, the losses were as follows:

1948-49	Rs. 29,26,956
1949-50	Rs. 40,97,666
1950-51	Rs. 47,74,183
1951-52	Rs. 46,78,933

(c) The loss is due to fall in output, higher tub rates, low output per man shift, surplus labour and difficult mining conditions. Arrangements have already been made to start coal production from the non-coking coal Bhadua seam of Jat Khuti Hill.

(d) Yes; Upper Kurbarbar seam with a reserve of about 2 million tons of coking coal, selected A Grade.

(e) The following steps have been or are being taken to reduce the losses:—

- (i) Recruitment of labour and staff has been practically stopped for the last 3 or 4 years.
- (ii) It is proposed to discharge surplus labour and staff which cost at present more than Rs. 12 lakhs annually.
- (iii) Consumption of colliery stores is being strictly controlled and is restricted.
- (iv) All other working expenses are being strictly controlled.
- (v) Increased output from Bhadua Sel. B—non-coking coal is proposed.

MICA EXPORTS TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND U. S. S. R.

349. **Shri N. P. Saha :** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total quantity of mica exported to Czechoslovakia and Soviet Russia in the calendar years 1949, 1950 and 1951?

(b) Has Brazil Mica been imported into India during the above three years and, if so, how much in each of the said years?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Exports to Czechoslovakia:

Year	Tons
1949	7
1950	14
1951	113

There were no exports to Soviet Russia during these years.

(b) No, Sir

RECOMMENDATIONS OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

350. **Shri Madhob Gowda :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the recommendations of the Fourth Meeting of the Cottage Industries Board held on 17th March, 1952 and the steps taken to implement the same?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 47.]

CENTRAL SILK BOARD

351. **Shri Madhob Gowda :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay on the Table of the House the programme of work of the Central Silk Board for the year 1952-53 and also its budget?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The Central Silk Board was last reconstituted on the 9th April 1952. This Board held its first meeting at New Delhi on the 22nd September, 1952. Since then two meetings of the Technical Development Committee and one meeting of the Standing Committee of the Board have been held wherein important decisions regarding the development of the sericulture industry were taken. Grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 1,60,390/- against various sericultural development schemes of the State Governments were sanctioned. A further grant-in-aid of Rs. 1,00,000/- for the establishment of Sericultural Research Stations in Mysore, Madras, West Bengal and Assam was also sanctioned. Besides watching the various development schemes for which grants are given to the various State Governments, the Board has under consideration a programme of work during 1952-53. A statement "A" is placed on the Table of the House giving details of this programme.

During the financial year 1952-53, the Central Silk Board has been given a grant of Rs. 4,50,000 by the Central Government and the Board propose to spend Rs. 4,71,699/- (including carry over of Rs. 21,699/- from last year) in the manner indicated in statement 'B' placed on the Table of the House. [For statements 'A' and 'B' See Appendix V, annexure No. 48.]

MACHINERY AND TOOLS IMPORTED FROM U. K.

352. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay :** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the amount and valuation of machinery and tools imported from the U.K. in the year 1952?

(b) What kind of machines have been imported and how many of them have reached their destinations in India?

(c) How many of such machines are for starting new factories and how many are for replacements?

(d) What are the number and valuation of vehicles imported from the U. K. in 1951 and 1952 and for what States?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Carmakar): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 49]

(c) Government have no information.

(d) Presuming that the reference is to motor vehicles, a statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 50.]

PLY-WOOD FOR TEA-CHESTS

353. Shri Beldi Ram Das: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what quantity of ply-wood was imported into India in the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 up-to-date for tea-chests?

(b) What percentage of the imported ply-wood was used in Assam for tea-chests?

(c) Is it under the contemplation of Government to start a ply-wood factory in Assam?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) —

Year	Quantity (No. of sets)	Value (Rs)
1949-50	Not recorded	1,30,19,830
1950-51	Not recorded	50,94,050
1951-52	2,582,062	1,42,80,470
Five months		
April to		
August, 1952	431,017	27,80,312

(b) Government have no information.

(c) No, Sir.

AMERICAN ENGINEER ENGAGED ON BHAKRA-NANGAL PROJECT

354. Shri K. Subrahmanyam: (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the American engineering expert, engaged on the Bhakra-Nangal Project, has resigned?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for the same?

(c) Have Government paid any compensation to him in lieu of the uncompleted term of the contract?

(d) Is it proposed to replace him by another foreign expert?

(e) Is the work on the project adversely affected by his resignation?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a) No, Sir.

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

ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES IN HIRAKUD (EXPENSES)

355. Shri P. Subba Rao: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the per capita expenditure on anti-malarial measures in Hirakud and Burla is Rs. 4/- per annum?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): Expenditure on anti-malarial measures depends more on the area of pools and stagnant water treated than on population. On population basis, the expenditure on the Hirakud Dam Project works out to about Rs. 3/- per head per annum.

ANTI-MALARIAL MEASURES IN HIRAKUD

356. Shri P. Subba Rao: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) what anti-malarial measures are being taken by the Anti-malarial Officer in the Hirakud Project areas; and

(b) the total amount spent per annum by the anti-malarial office on account of (i) pay of staff; (ii) medicines, and (iii) other anti-malarial measures?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathl): (a) (i) Anti-malarial measures in the form of survey and anti-larval and anti-adult control by means of spraying DDT and oiling the various water collections in Hirakud, Burla, Chipla and Baragarh colonies of the Hirakud Dam Project are being conducted by the Anti-malaria Officer.

(ii) Prophylactic measures, distribution of Paudrine is adopted in small isolated and distant places where the anti-adult and anti-larval measures are not undertaken.

(b) During 1951-52. —

(i) Pay of staff: Rs. 20,885.

(ii) Medicines: Rs. 26,218.

(iii) Other anti-malarial measures such as work-charged establishment: Rs. 32,308.

QUIT NOTICES ON VILLAGES IN HIRAKUD PROJECT AREA

357. Shri B. N. S. Deo: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in February, 1952, notices were issued

to thirty-eight villages in the Hira-kud Project area to quit their lands and houses before the next rainy season; and

(b) whether it is a fact that in the case of most villages in respect of which such notices were issued, no compensation had been assessed and fixed?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b) Precise information has been asked for from the Orissa Government and will be placed on the Table of the House.

AGAR-AGAR FACTORIES

358. Shri Samanna: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are Agar-agar factories in India;

(b) if so, their number;

(c) whether any plant was ever installed at Rayagada (Orissa) to manufacture Agar-agar; and

(d) if so, what happened to that plant?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (d). There is only one factory in India, namely, M/s. Jeypore Sugar Co. at Rayagada in Orissa, producing Agar-agar. The factory is closed at present for want of power and expects to resume production this month.

ANNUAL BUDGET FOR A COMMUNITY PROJECT

359. Shri K. C. Sodha: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state the annual budget of one Community Project area under (i) a village unit, (ii) a mandi unit, and (iii) a development block?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (i) Rs. 5,832/- (Average).

(ii) Rs. 75,789/- (Average).

(iii) Rs. 7,22,300/- (Average).

EXPORT AND IMPORT OF FILMS

360. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the countries to which Indian films have been exported during the period from January 1950 to October, 1952 and their number; and

(b) the countries from which films have been imported into India?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmakar): (a) Information required is not available as cinematograph films are not separately specified in the foreign export trade returns of India.

(b) Imports are mainly from the United Kingdom, Belgium, Canada and the United States of America.

MATCH FACTORIES IN HYDERABAD

361. Shri H. G. Valaasav: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many match factories there are in Hyderabad State?

(b) At what places are they situated and whether all of them are working?

(c) What is their productive capacity?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Twelve, so far as our information goes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 51.]

(c) About 9,000 cases of 50 gross boxes of 60 sticks each per annum.

AMERICAN EXPERTS EMPLOYED ON BHAKRA DAM

362. Shri Punnoose: (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state what is the total number of American Experts so far employed on Bhakra Dam separately for construction and designs and how many more are required to be employed every year till completion?

(b) what is the total number of American experts required till completion of Bhakra Dam?

(c) What is the maximum and minimum pay of the present American incumbents, both inclusive and exclusive of Indian Income Tax?

(d) What is the total annual expenditure on the pay and allowances of these experts, separately, inclusive and exclusive of Indian Income Tax?

(e) What is the budgeted expenditure on their travel from U.S.A. to India and back including their families and personal effects?

(f) What is and will be the expenditure on their other facilities on the project such as rent free accommodation, and conveyance, etc.?

(g) What additional facilities other than those provided in the agreement have been given to them and at what cost to Government?

(h) What was the number of American Experts originally anticipated to be employed originally and the number now anticipated?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Bathi): (a) to (h). A list of the American Experts so far, engaged in connection with the construction of the Bhakra-Nangal Project giving their designation periods of contract and other terms of employment is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix V, annexure No. 52.]

Information on the other points is being collected from the Government of Punjab and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

SILK-WORM SEEDS (IMPORT)

363. Shri Madiah Gowda: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of silk-worm seeds imported from foreign countries during the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 and the cost thereof; and

(b) whether any arrangement is made by the Central Silk Board to purchase the same in a lump and to distribute it to various States?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 1950-51 — 13,520 ozs. plus 5190 layings (one laying is the group of eggs laid by one silk-moth).

1951-52 — 40 ozs.

Information regarding cost of the silk-worm seeds is not available.

(b) No, Sir.

DISPLACED PERSONS TRAINED IN ARTS AND CRAFTS

364. Shri N. L. Joshi: (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state how many displaced persons were trained in different arts and crafts in the year 1952 at different training centres started by Government in the country?

(b) How many of them received loans from Government to pursue the crafts they were trained in?

(c) What is the amount of loan granted for the above purpose in this year?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Figures for the year 1952 are not readily available but the total number of displaced persons trained upto the end of September, 1952 was over 62,000.

(b) and (c). The information is not available.

INSPECTION OF TEXTILE MILLS

365. Shri N. L. Joshi: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether any inspection tours were undertaken by the officers of the Union Government in the Industries Department in the year 1952 for purposes of inspecting the management and working of the textile mills in the country?

(b) If so, who were the officers who undertook such tours and which were the places they visited?

(c) Do Government propose to place relevant portions of their reports on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). There are regional officers who are vested with jurisdiction over particular areas and regularly tour in that area. The Textile Commissioner and his Deputy also undertake inspection tours. A report of the tour programmes of the several officers has been called for and would be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

COFFEE

366. Shri Madiah Gowda: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of coffee that is generally required for internal consumption;

(b) the quantity of coffee that is produced in 1951-52 in India and the estimated quantity that may be produced in 1952-53;

(c) the quantity exported annually for the last five years; and

(d) the price of Plantation A and Arabica cherry, per owl, in pool auction, from the month of March, 1952, till now, each month?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmakar): (a) About 18,800 tons during recent years.

(b) 1951-52	20,864 tons.
1952-53	21,000 tons (estimated)
(c) 1947-48	3 tons
1948-49	3,117 "
1949-50	3,894 "
1950-51	300 "
1951-52	2,200 "

(d) —

Month	Pilo	A	Arbi Cherry flax
	Rs.		Rs.
March	196/7/0		185/7/-
April	207/7/0		182/9/-
May	238/11/0		210/13/-
June	952/0/0		222/8/-
July	269/6/0		226/3/-
August	299/12/0		236/14/-
September	316/14/0		268/10/-
October	304/6/0		259/3/-
November	257/1/40		225/8/-

WOOL (EXPORT)

367. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the total quantity of wool exported in the year 1951-52 shows any decrease compared to the export figure for 1950-51 and if so, by what quantity?

(b) What have been the reasons for the decrease, if any, in wool export?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes. The decrease is by 7,076,441 lbs.

(b) The main reasons for the decrease in exports during 1951-52 are the general trade slump which affected the woollen textile industry abroad, and the fall in demand from abroad.

EMBANKMENT FOR JAMUNA

368. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether the proposal for constructing a 10 mile embankment to prevent the Jamuna from flooding Delhi's low-lying areas has been sanctioned by the Government of India?

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

(c) What would be the estimated expenditure?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The construction work can start only after the scheme is sanctioned. It is not possible to indicate any definite date at this stage.

(c) Rs. 13.14.000.

IMPORT OF FOREIGN FILMS

369. Shri N. B. Chowdhury: (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state how many foreign films have been imported into India during the year 1951-52?

(b) What is the number of U.S.A. films imported during 1951-52?

(c) What is the number of U.S.S.R. films imported during the same period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmachari): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 53.]

5089
Date 20/12/52

**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

1643

1644

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 5th December, 1952

*The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock.*

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that I have received the following letter from Shri Kanayalal Nanabhai Desai:

"As I am not well I have not been able to attend up to now this session of Parliament and it seems I will not be able at all to attend this Session. Hence under article 101 of the Constitution I beg to apply for leave from attending this session. I have to request you kindly to get it sanctioned."

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave be granted to Shri Kanayalal Nanabhai Desai to be absent from all the meetings during this session?

Leave was granted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that another hon. Member has asked for leave of absence. I have received a communication from Shri A. K. Gopalan saying that he is laid up and indisposed and that he may be granted leave of absence for this session. Is it the pleasure of the House to grant him the leave?

Leave was granted.

Shri G. H. Deshpande (Nasik-Central): Where is the hon. Member Shri A. K. Gopalan now? In India or outside?

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Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is too late. The leave has been granted. He must have put his question earlier.

Shri G. H. Deshpande: But at least this information can be given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not now.

Shri Gidwani (Thana) rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there any short notice question today? Has the hon. Member received intimation that it is for today?

Shri Gidwani: I have got it in my hands. It does not say anything about the date. I have only received the pink coloured copy of it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has it been admitted? I shall look into it. After it is admitted, it will come up perhaps the next day. I have not got it. I shall look into it.

An Hon. Member: I do not think it is put down for reply today. Some more particulars are perhaps wanted from the hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should not take up the time of the House in this way.

**MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL
OF STATES**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Secretary will now read messages from the Council of States.

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following two messages received from the Secretary of the Council of States:

- (1) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to

[Secretary]

inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 3rd December, 1952, agreed without any amendment to the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Bill, 1952, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 24th November, 1952."

- (2) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 3rd December, 1952, agreed without any amendment to the Indian Power Alcohol (Amendment) Bill, 1952, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 25th November, 1952."

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER REQUISITIONING AND ACQUISITION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY ACT, 1952**

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following notifications under sub-section (2) of Section 17 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952:

(i) Notification No. 9535-WII/52, dated the 25th November, 1952; and

(ii) Notification No. 9586-WII/52, dated the 26th November, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. P-84/52.]

INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL—concl.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the Bill further to amend the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): It seems the hon. Minister Shri Tyagi has not yet laid on the Table the letter he had received from Lala Shri Ram.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He said he will do so.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Perhaps he wants to use it for the purpose of the third reading.

The Minister of Revenue and Expenditure (Shri Tyagi): It is a long letter. If it is the intention of the hon. Members to make it a part of the proceedings, then I fear it will be more a sort of advertisement of those firms than otherwise. I wanted, in fact, to avoid both the advertisement of the firms as well as their criticism and therefore I read the most relevant portions. But the letter is here and I thought that instead of making it a part of the proceedings which even hon. Members want to see it will come to me and see it.

Shri S. S. More: I had been twice to the Parliament Secretariat office and that letter was not made available to me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unless there is any portion in it which is so confidential, the hon. Minister may kindly lay it on the Table. It would not be printed in the proceedings, but it will be kept in the Library.

Shri Tyagi: Very well, Sir. I hereby lay it on the Table. [Placed in Library. See No. P-86/52.]

Clause 21.—(Amendment of section 32 etc.)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House has passed clauses 2 to 20. I find that there are no amendments to clause 21. The question is:

"That clause 21 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 21 was added to the Bill.

Clause 22.—(Insertion of new section 32A, etc.)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment of Shri Sivamurthi Swami wants to omit clause 22. It is out of order. Anybody else wants to move his amendment?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay (Pratapgarh Dist.—East): I want to move mine. I beg to move:

In page 7, lines 47 to 49, for "standing in the reserve fund established under sub-section (1) of section 32 and the special reserve fund" substitute "so credited".

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): We accept it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does it make any difference in substance, or is it merely a question of language?

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: It does make a substantial difference.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister accepts it.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Still, I would like to make a few submissions.

The object of this amendment is to build up a special reserve-fund. The Industrial Finance Corporation has been created with the object of helping industries generally and big basic industries in particular. We have included shipping also as one of the industries to which help should be given by this Corporation. This industry requires a very large capital and so far, for want of capital it has been the close preserve of foreigners. If at all, therefore, we mean to help such big industries, it is necessary to have a special reserve fund. In this Bill, provision has been made for a reserve fund but my point is that there should be a special reserve fund. The provision already in the Bill is not sufficient, and we must separate this special reserve fund from the ordinary reserve fund. I want this additional reserve fund to be created, so that in time of need it might prove useful. We have now raised the limit of the loans to individual concerns from Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. one crore. In view of the inclusion of big industries to which loans may be advanced, the raising of this limit is perfectly justified. But along with it it is very essential that we should create a special reserve fund. But I do not agree with the amount that has been fixed. That amount is too small and a higher amount should have been fixed. But there is one redeeming feature and that is that we have now got the borrowing power—we can borrow against securities. Up till now we could not borrow against securities; we had to sell the securities. At times this could not be done. Now we can borrow up to a limit of Rs. 25 crores against bonds and debentures, which is five times the paid up capital. There is all the more reason why the amount of the Special Reserve Fund should be increased.

We have all along been very anxious to finance our industries. But during the debates in our excitement over the demand of list of loanes, we ignored a most important aspect of the Bill, and there was not much discussion over it. When the names of certain firms to which loans were granted were given, there was no criticism on the merit of the loans. But there was a good deal of excitement over it and consequently we ignored certain important provisions of the measure.

Among them the building up of a Special Reserve Fund is a great necessity for the Corporation.

The other point I wish to make is that we cannot build up the Special Reserve Fund easily unless we divert the guaranteed dividend of the Reserve Bank and also of the Government shares to it. Unless we do it we cannot speedily create the Special Reserve Fund. That is why I have suggested that the guaranteed dividend and also of the Government investment in the Corporation should be directed to the making up of the Special Reserve Fund. By passing the proviso to clause 13 yesterday we have undertaken the responsibility of unlimited guarantee for loans. In our anxiety to have funds for helping these industries we have undertaken a heavy responsibility. Otherwise there cannot be any justification for it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendment moved:

In page 7, lines 47 to 49, for "standing in the reserve fund established under sub-section (1) of section 32 and the special reserve fund" substitute "so credited".

Shri Kasliwal (Kota-Jbalawar): Clause 22 proposes to create a new section, 32-A regarding a Special Reserve Fund. The hon. Minister has not told the House anything about the necessity of the Special Reserve Fund, as far as I could gather.

Secondly, up till now Government have paid about Rs. 26 lakhs for the guarantee of interest to the shareholders. Government have also received certain money as their share of profits or interest. All this is going to be placed in a Special Reserve Fund with the result that Government will be paying all the time and will not be receiving any money. I would like to know the necessity for the creation of a Special Reserve Fund and why all this money will not go to the general revenues of the Central Government.

12 Noon

Shri M. C. Shah: I have already stated the absolute necessity of a Special Reserve Fund in the course of my speech. Government had given Rs. five crores for the Reserve Fund to the Reserve Bank. Now we are going to have bigger funds at our disposal. It is always better for the Corporation to have its financial position strengthened by a Special Reserve Fund. It has also been provided that the Special Reserve Fund will not be touched by any shareholder. Nobody will have any right in it except the Government and the Reserve Bank of India.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): On a point of clarification. Will the Special Reserve Fund be taken into account in calculating the borrowing power of the Corporation. Will these Rs. 50 lakhs be counted towards the borrowing power of the Corporation?

Shri M. C. Shah: It does add to the credit of the Corporation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

In page 7, lines 47 to 49, for "standing in the reserve fund established under sub-section (1) of section 32 and the special reserve fund" substitute "so credited".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 22, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 22, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 23 was added to the Bill.

Clause 24.—(Amendment of section 34 etc.)

Shri M. C. Shah: I beg to move:

In page 8, line 35, after "section 5" insert "or sub-section (2) of section 21".

Dr. M. M. Das (Burdwan—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

In page 8, line 38, omit "under sub-section (6)".

According to the original Act, the accounts of the Corporation were audited by two private audit firms appointed by the Central Government and the Auditor-General of India had nothing to do with the audit of the accounts of this Corporation. This matter came before the Public Accounts Committee on more than one occasion and the Committee came to a unanimous decision about this matter. Its decision was that in corporations like this where huge sums of public money are invested, the Auditor-General of India should be associated with the accounts and audit. The Auditor-General himself approved this decision of the Public Accounts Committee. The Government was informed about this decision of the Public Accounts Committee. Now in this amending Bill, to comply with the decision of the Public Accounts Committee, the Auditor-General has been associated with the

audit of the accounts of the Corporation.

But the manner in which the Auditor-General has been associated is not very satisfactory. Provision has been made in the amending Bill for the appointment of two auditors, one to be elected by the shareholders of this Corporation other than the Reserve Bank and the Central Government, and the other auditor to be appointed by the Central Government in consultation with the Auditor-General.

Now, the whole financial responsibility of this Corporation lies upon the shoulders of the Central Government. No doubt there are shareholders such as the scheduled banks, the insurance companies, the investment trusts, and the State co-operative banks; but they are shareholders without any risk. Every pie that has been contributed by these shareholders is guaranteed by the Central Government. Not only the repayment of the principal has been guaranteed, but its interest and in some cases the incidental charges also have been guaranteed.

Considering this cent per cent financial responsibility of the Central Government, I submit it would have been more desirable to have the accounts of this Corporation audited by the Auditor-General of India. This was necessary not only to inspire public confidence but also to avoid unnecessary criticism. But, technically speaking, as this Corporation has got some non-official shareholders, the whole responsibility of audit could not be given in the hands of the Auditor-General.

Even then the provisions in respect of audit that have been made in this Bill are defective. Parliamentary control over the expenditure of Government is not complete unless and until the audit report is placed before the Houses of Parliament and an opportunity is given to Parliament for examination of those reports and their further recommendation. So far as the present provisions in this Bill about audit are concerned, no opportunity is given to Parliament for examination and report by their committee except in some special circumstances. My amendment proposes that every audit report of the accounts of this Corporation should be laid before both Houses of Parliament for their examination and recommendation.

Shri M. C. Shah: I accept that amendment.

Shri N. Somana (Coorg): I thought Mr. Guha's amendment was also going to be accepted by Government. Mr. Guha wanted to move the deletion of the reference to sub-section (6) so that all the audit reports, that is even the reports under other sections, may be submitted to Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: My amendment is the same thing.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have not got any amendment in the name of Mr. Guha, nor is he here. Therefore I will only put those amendments which have been moved.

The question is:

In page 8, line 35, after "section 5" insert "or sub-section (2) of section 21".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

In page 8, line 38, omit "under sub-section (6)".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid the Chair is put in an embarrassing position. At least the hon. Members who move the amendments must say 'Aye'; of course the others who support it must also say 'Aye'. Whether it comes from the Government or the other side, if sufficient voices are not there I will immediately rule it out. I cannot merely take things for granted.

The question is:

"That clause 24, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 24, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 25.— (Amendment of section 35 etc.)

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I beg to move:

In page 8, line 44, after "substituted" insert "and the following shall be added at the end:

"together with the names of the concerns to which the Corporation has granted loans and of the concerns whose loans have been guaranteed by the Corporation or in whose favour it has entered into under-writing agreements as well as the names of members of the Board of Directors of all such

concerns including the Directors nominated by the Corporation if any, and the amount of loan granted to each one of these concerns, the amount of loans guaranteed and the extent of under-writing agreements if any with such concerns."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it in order?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: That is for you to judge, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us see the original wording. What does the Minister say? Is it not beyond the scope of the Bill?

Shri Tyagi: I think it is out of order, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then why should the hon. Minister wait till I suggest? I shall see whether I can make this relevant as far as possible. Section 35 of the Act deals with returns. In this clause they say that in subsection (3), for the word "two" the word "three" shall be substituted; that is three months instead of two months.

Shri S. S. More: No, Sir. This relates to part (i) of clause 25.

Shri K. K. Basu: It relates to sub-section (2) of section 35 of the parent Act where Government propose some further amendment.

Shri M. C. Shah: Instead of "classification" we have said "statement showing the classification". It is rather more clarifying. That is all.

Shri K. K. Basu: But you have to define what is classification.

Shri M. C. Shah: A statement showing the classification.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid this is out of order. Absolutely no amendment has been moved except the statement of classification. It is only a grammatical one. There is no substance. Hon. Members will kindly bear this in mind. It is not merely a rule. It is a rule of procedure which is consistent with the progress of all such amending Bills. The amending Bill lays importance on a particular portion. In that particular portion matters of substance or a matter of form are sought to be interfered with. Even though a particular section is untouched indirectly it has got consequences elsewhere on account of which the other amendments are necessitated. They will arise even though the Government or the sponsor of the Bill might have overlooked it. This is a

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matter of form. Therefore there is no intention to amend sub-section (2).

Shri K. K. Basu: The classification is there. We want to define what should be included in the classification. We feel it is not given to the public. The Government as a shareholder of the particular concern is, under the ordinary law, entitled to know the details.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I agree. There is no doubt about that. The intention of the hon. Member is very clear. That is not my point. All that I am submitting is that so far as the classification in general is concerned, what exactly is put into, what are the items that have been brought in, all the additional information has to be given. It does not form part of the original Bill. Nor is it intended to say "if they gave only one category of names of persons, you can add". It merely says, "a statement of the classification". Nothing more than that. If the word "classification":

Shri M. C. Shah: This was, Sir, in the Select Committee Report on the State Finance Corporation. They have incorporated this clause there. So we have taken that Select Committee's suggestion. We have agreed.

Shri S. S. More: I want to know whether they have any objection, any inherent objection to seeking that sort of information. They can very well accept. As a matter of fact Mr. Shah and Mr. Tyagi have been very candid in admitting the theoretical superintendence of this House in all these matters. What is theoretically admitted is not practical. They can accept it, Sir. It is much in the interests of the Government and the public.

Shri Tyagi: It is not relevant. How can I introduce it in the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry this is beyond the scope of the Bill. Any other suggestions?

Shri M. C. Shah: Instead of two months, we say three months.

Shri K. K. Basu: Can we discuss this amendment?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: this clause may be discussed.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The original Act provides that there should be a classification in the form required by the Reserve Bank and the Government but we do not find in the report

that has been handed over to us any consistent or systematic form of classification. I have here in my hands the first and the fourth reports. In the first report we find two classifications, province-wise and amount-wise. In the fourth report there is one classification of loans and advances sanctioned industry-wise and State-wise. So, we would like to know from the hon. Ministers what is the exact form of classification. This is very important because these classifications are to be put in the report which will be presented to the Parliament. The information that we obtain from these classifications should be as complete as possible but so far these annual reports do not seem to have followed any consistent line of action in this matter and I want to know from the hon. Ministers what has been the exact form in which they have asked the Corporation.

Shri Tyagi: All sorts of information, practically every information is asked for from the Corporation. Every information is supplied to the Government. The fact that I was not able to put before the House one information does not mean that the Government has not got that information in their possession. The very fact that according to the prescribed statement they are required to submit information within a period shows that whatever the Government or the Reserve Bank prescribes, that very information will have to be provided. Therefore the margin is enough. Any type of information can be prescribed and whatever the Government or the Reserve Bank asks for is available. There need not be any fear of their keeping anything from the Government or the Reserve Bank.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: That is not my point. Here, the original Act provides that the Central Government or the Reserve Bank may require a classification of its loans and investments and of loans guaranteed by it and under-writing agreements entered into by it. This is in sub-section (2) of section 35 of the original Act. I want to know what is the exact form of classification that the Government or the Reserve Bank has required the Industrial Finance Corporation to submit to them because I find from the next sub-section that these statements have to be laid before the Parliament. Here it is not a question of Government keeping back anything. Government is required under the statute to place these statements before the Houses of Parliament. In the

reports we do not find that any consistent line has been followed by the Government or by the Reserve Bank so far.

Shri M. C. Shah: My colleague has already replied and I may just say there are regulations to be framed under the Industrial Finance Corporation Act and certain regulations have already been framed. In those regulations there is Schedule D which shows all that information about classification. It is a big one. The hon. Member may just look into that. At the same time we have stated that, if necessary, all these suggestions will be considered and if any addition or alteration is to be made, it will be made.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there any provision for getting the names of the Corporations to whom loans are granted?

Shri M. C. Shah: That cannot be in the Regulation. It comes within the powers of the Government. There is a prescribed form in the Regulations.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In the prescribed form?

Shri M. C. Shah: The form is there in the Regulations.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the form contain any provision for any classification or sub-heading where the names of the Corporations to whom loans are granted, are noted?

Shri M. C. Shah: That is not there, because it is published.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is to be furnished to the Government?

Shri M. C. Shah: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not to be placed on the Table of the House?

Shri M. C. Shah: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that the hon. Member wants is that in this regard Government should get information regarding the loans instead of having to ask the Corporation from time to time ad hoc to give such information, and that it must be in the prescribed form, and that regularly and as a matter of course, the names of these persons who have borrowed must come to the Government.

Shri M. C. Shah: We do get that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But, it is not in the prescribed form.

Shri M. C. Shah: It cannot be in the prescribed form.

Shri S. S. More: Why not?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: After all, the form is prescribed by the Central Government and the Reserve Bank. Whatever is there, is there. We get all the information. We get the names also.

Shri Jhunjhunwala (Bhagalpur Central): If we require any particular information, for a particular purpose, can further headings requiring further information be added?

Shri Tyagi: It is a question as to whether Government has it or not. I thought the proper question germane for the discussion just now was whether the Act gives power to the Government or not. The Act does give the powers. So long as the Act gives the power, Parliament may be satisfied. It is a question of what information Government may choose to have. We may ask for any other information. At any time, we can change the schedule. After all, the House has given power to the Government, to frame Regulations. The question is whether this power should vest with the Government or not.

Shri S. S. More: We do accept that the power of control by seeking information should vest with the Government. Our anxiety is whether the Government is exercising that power, by keeping all the material at the disposal of Parliament, to exercise the necessary vigilance. That is the point. Therefore, the Government has not discharged its responsibility to the present House. That is our contention.

Shri Tyagi: It is really surprising. I do not know what is there that the House does not really possess. I have told you so many times that every loan that is granted is granted after informally the Minister is consulted. We are always in possession of full facts. Why should we add it in the prescribed form, when we already have that information, as regards the names of the loanees. I have said the responsibility is mine that I am not placing it on the Table of the House. I have taken that responsibility on myself repeatedly, Sir. It is not as if I am ignorant of what is happening.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment only seeks to impose an obligation that the names of those persons should also be included. But, there

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is no obligation under the original Act for the names to be submitted to the House. It is only a question of furnishing to the Government. The hon. Minister has said that all the information is available with the Government, and not that they are not available with the Government. Therefore, it is another thing to say that the House must have the right to ask the Government.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): With your permission, Sir, may I submit, it is quite true, as you have been pleased to observe, so far as the original Act is concerned, this amendment is beyond the scope of the Act. At the same time, the rules of procedure are only meant for one purpose, that is, to achieve the object in view. So far as the previous names of loanes are concerned, Government have taken the position that as the hon. Finance Minister is not here, they are not in a position to give the names. I can appreciate that. So far as the future policy is concerned, Government have not said that in the future they will not publish the names. If the Government accepts that and the House wants it, the rules of procedure can be waived. What is the difficulty? The House wants it. Hon. Minister has no objection. Why do not they agree to this amendment being accepted even if it is beyond the scope? There is no rule that even if the House agrees and the hon. Ministers agree, the scope of the province cannot be widened. The hon. Mr. Tyagi has been quite anxious and the hon. Mr. Shah has been quite anxious to give this information to the House. Only the hon. Finance Minister's absence has stood in the way. We all appreciate that.

Shri Tyagi: Not only that. This has to be examined. It is not that I have agreed with all your views. I only said that the Finance Minister will examine it when he comes back.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Now it is coming to that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are on clause 25. That relates to section 35. Section 35 relates to Returns to the Central Government. Sub-section (2) says that the Corporation shall furnish to the Central Government such and such returns. Sub-section (3) lays down that the Corporation shall furnish to the Central Government and the Central Government should place the statement on the Table of the Central Legislature. That does not include the amend-

ment even if it should be admitted waiving all technical objections. For, that amendment only says that the Corporation shall furnish these particulars; it is not as if sub-section (3) is amended so that these particulars must be placed on the Table of the House. There is no such amendment. This amendment does not go to that extent at all. We are not on the point whether there should be a statutory obligation on the Government to furnish that information to the House or not. We are in an earlier stage, whether it must not be obligatory on the Corporation to furnish these particulars to the Government. As a matter of fact, the hon. Minister says that Government has got all that information. Therefore, this would only be trying to do a thing that is already being done. Further, it is a matter of policy. It is not the subject matter of any amendment now. After the hon. Finance Minister comes, in view of the Prime Minister's statement, what is to be done, is a different matter. I need not go into that matter now. Even assuming that this amendment may be allowed, this is a matter which is already being done under the rules prescribed. It is the Central Government that is prescribing the rules. They are getting all this information. Under these circumstances, what is intended by this amendment, whether this amendment is allowed or not, is already being carried out. The other matter can be taken up at another opportune moment after the hon. Finance Minister comes back. It is not appropriate to the issue before the House at present. Now, I will put clause 25 to the House.

The question is:

"That clause 25 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 25 was added to the Bill

Clauses 26 to 31

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are no amendments to any other clause. I will put all the other clauses together.

The question is:

"That clauses 26 to 31 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 26 to 31 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri M. C. Shah: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Shri L. N. Mishra (Darbhanga cum Bhagalpur): Sir, we are for a welfare State. For a welfare State we need an increase in our national wealth and regularity in flow of our national income, according to the renowned Professor Pigou. For an increase in national income, it is necessary that our economic life should be industrialised. Fortunately, with the raw materials that we have, India has a great industrial future. For industrialisation, planning is necessary and for planned industrialisation, we should have a systematic and orderly supply of capital. This Industrial Finance Corporation is a step in that direction. I think that in its short span of life, it has been able to play a formidable part in providing a stimulating force to a number of industries in our country that had either a stunted growth or could not see the light of day for want of capital. Therefore, I think that this Industrial Finance Corporation has filled a big gap in our economic life and it has been able to provide strength and capital to a number of industries which could not have seen the light of day without its co-operation. It is too early to give a verdict over that, because, even in advanced countries it has not had its full trial as yet. It is a new experiment in our economic life. I am sure in no time it will be able to become a great force in mobilising the capital of our country.

The Industrial Finance Corporation was organised primarily to provide long-term loans to industries on a limited scale, and capital to those industries whose growth was retarded for want of capital. Its main function, in my mind, has been to supplement the capital market, rather than to replace it. Its subsequent role has proved that it was necessary, and its utility can never be denied. The help that it has rendered to a number of industries whose progress was held up owing to want of capital is well known to those who are interested in its working and development. In the case of specially those industries which were designed to manufacture machinery, an almost blood-transfusion was made by this Industrial

Finance Corporation and almost dying patients were helped to survive by its aid.

Criticism has been made against it on the ground that a number of industries could not get aid from it. I am not in a position to refute those charges. But I may say one word. These days when it is not possible for even the commercial banks to meet all the demands of the industries and trade, how can it be possible for the Industrial Finance Corporation to extend financial assistance to all industries? This argument does not hold good when we find that out of Rs. 14 crores granted by the Corporation, only Rs. 7.25 crores could be utilised by the industries up to June, 1952.

Again, criticism has been made that the rate of interest being raised from five and a half to six per cent. with a rebate of half per cent. is too high. In this connection I may say that the Industrial Finance Corporation too has to behave commercially for the purpose of its resources. It floats loans in the market and gets capital by borrowing. The charges of borrowing came to four and a half per cent. in the market, and so it is not possible for the Corporation to lower the rate of interest on its loans to industrial concerns. Even then, the present rate charged by it compares quite favourably with the rates in the market.

Coming to the services that it has rendered to our economic and commercial life, I may say that immense assistance was given by the Corporation in the course of the last one year, when with inflation well under control the sellers' market was being turned into a buyers' market. We know how many industries were almost on the verge of collapse; and this Corporation came forward, advanced money to these industries to survive, and further deterioration of the situation was checked. You know, Sir, theoretically financing of industries and industrial finance are two different things. Financing of industries is done by the commercial banks or similar other agencies, while industrial financing is done by bodies like the Industrial Finance Corporation. But in our country this Industrial Finance Corporation has made no such distinction. It has helped many of those industries whose progress was retarded for want of working capital, and we know how especially after the Korean War when prices shot up, it was not possible for industries to develop and meet its daily needs in absence of more capital. This Industrial Finance Corporation came for-

[Shri L. N. Mishra]

ward and aided. And it was because of this that out of Rs. 15 crores, Rs. six crores were granted to the new types of industries, Rs. five crores were granted to those industrial concerns which needed expansion and modernisation.

Before I conclude, I would like to make one or two suggestions regarding this Corporation. I suggest that the Industrial Finance Corporation should advance money to private limited companies also. This provision will be in the direction of helping those small-scale industries which occupy a very important position in our Five-Year Plan. Therefore, I think that private limited companies should be allowed to get benefit from the Industrial Finance Corporation.

Secondly, it should also subscribe to the Share capital of companies as is done by the Industrial and Commercial Corporation of England. And recently, Pakistan, too, has taken a step in that direction by establishing the Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation which seeks to promote industries like jute, ship-building, chemicals and heavy industries. I think if this Corporation decides to subscribe to the share capital of companies, many of the companies will have very fine days.

The Industrial Finance Corporation should have a well-organised economic research department. Up to this day, its working and functioning have not been on well-planned lines. Therefore, it is necessary that it should have an economic research department.

Lastly, I welcome any step for its nationalisation. I know it has done remarkable things, but any step for its nationalisation will be really a great step, and that will be a thing to be commended upon.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): May I say a few words?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Of course, any hon. Member can speak, but the hon. Member has already spent so much time over this matter. Those who have spoken ought to give an opportunity to other Members who have not spoken at all.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I will be very brief in my remarks.

Shri K. K. Basu: Let newcomers be given the first chance.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Hazari-bagh West): Also those who have spoken only once.

Shri Morarka (Ganganagar-Jhunjhunu): Sir, before we finally part with this Bill, I want to make a few observations, not by way of criticism, but by way of suggestions.

We have seen from the debate in this House that this House is very much concerned with the activities of this Corporation. This concern is not merely academic. This House is concerned mainly because huge public finance is involved in this Corporation. Today, the amount involved is more than Rs. ten crores. In due course, it may be even Rs. 100 crores, or perhaps even more. Therefore, it is quite natural that this House should feel concerned about the activities and welfare of this Corporation. For this reason, this House is very anxious to have some sort of Parliamentary control over its activities. One way in which this control can be exercised is by discussing the annual report which is placed before this House. Here I must say that the type of report that is placed before us is quite uninformative and insufficient. Government can very well prescribe for the Corporation to submit this report in more detailed form, and then at least for one day in every year we should have the opportunity to discuss the activities of this Corporation, thereby censure the unhealthy activities and other features of this body.

Another point is that since a lot of dissatisfaction has been expressed by this House about the loans being granted to some of the directors of the Corporation or concerns in which they are directly or indirectly interested, whether the directors are industrialists or not, it does not matter—as a matter of principle, it should be laid down by Government that no director who is directly or indirectly interested in any concern should be able to take loan for his concern from this Corporation. If this Corporation wants to give a loan, or if any such concern wants to take a loan, then, at least the interested director of the corporation should first stand aside by resigning his post. You know, Sir, very well that even under Section 86(d) of the Indian Companies Act, any director of a public limited company cannot take any loan from that company itself even if he is the virtual owner of the company. Here in this corporation the entire amount that is involved is of the public. It is very essential that

we must very strictly adhere to these principles. It may be that these loanee concerns are very sound concerns, but even then why give the loan at all to a concern in which a director of this Corporation is directly or indirectly interested? If he has interest in a concern and that concern wants a loan, let him resign from that and then submit an application for the loan, standing on the same footing as any other person. This is the most reasonable request that can be made, and I think the Government, as a matter of policy should dictate that in future no loans should be given by this Corporation to any concern in which any director of this Corporation is directly or indirectly or even remotely interested.

The second point is that the report which has been supplied to us does not make any mention at all of the defaults which have been committed by the 13 concerns referred to by the hon. Minister. I am very surprised why the auditors of this Corporation have neglected to make any comments on them. From the letter of the Chairman read out by the hon. Minister, we came to know that 13 concerns have committed defaults. We also want to know something as to how much money is involved in these thirteen concerns, what is the nature of default they have committed, what steps has the Government taken to recover the amounts. We do not know even whether the management of any of these concerns has been taken over by the Government. If it has not been taken over by Government, then we would like to know whether any extension of time has been given, and if so, what time has been given etc. All these things should be incorporated in this report. It should be laid down by regulations that the auditors should make a detailed report about the various defaults by various parties, the total amounts involved for each default, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for the recovery of the amounts etc so that a fuller report may come before the House.

We find that the economic efficiency of this Corporation has been very low. Sir, as much as ten crores of rupees are put at the disposal of the Corporation, but only Rs. seven crores have been availed of by the loanees, and the Corporation has encountered a loss. We have compared this corporation with the ordinary bank but can you give any instance of any Bank which would suffer such heavy losses merely on the ground of the loanees not taking advantage of the loans sanctioned. We do not know from

this report whether the loanees did not take advantage of the loans, because of the Government machinery involving delays in executing necessary and proper documents etc. It is very essential that the Government should take steps to see that in future no such inefficiency is pleaded, and soon after a loan is sanctioned, it should be availed of by the party concerned. In the meantime the Government must take care to see that the funds of this Corporation are invested in some of the Government securities or other liquid assets which can be easily liquidated, so that the amounts sanctioned may be made available to the parties concerned when required. There should be no more excuses in future for the Corporation, to say that because the loanees did not take advantage of some of the sanctioned amounts, the Corporation has suffered a loss. It is a very lame excuse especially these days when the money market is so tight that one can easily invest huge amounts in the industrial concerns, at very economic rates of interest. When that is the position, we cannot understand why this Corporation with a huge capital of Rs. ten crores and more should suffer any losses on grounds of inefficiency, and still ask for more money from Government to pay the guaranteed interest to the shareholders.

I hope the Government would take these suggestions seriously and do something in the matter.

Shri Sarangadhar Das rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has already spoken.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I want to say a few words, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The scope of the third reading is very limited. I would invite the attention of hon. Members to Rule 114 of the Rules of Procedure, which reads as follows:

"The discussion on a motion that the Bill be passed shall be confined to the submission of arguments either in support of the Bill or for the rejection of the Bill. In making his speech a member shall not refer to the details of the Bill further than is necessary for the purpose of his arguments which shall be of a general character."

I think enough has been said already about these details.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: You will kindly allow me to speak, Sir. I am anxious to speak, particularly for the reason that the hon. Minister has not replied to certain questions that I had put to him, satisfactorily, and

when I stood up, you, Sir, had told me that I should not intervene, when the Minister is speaking.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think the hon. Member had an opportunity to speak on this Bill.

Shri K. K. Basu: Before the Minister.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: My point is that the hon. Minister has not replied to the points that I had raised. When he was speaking, I wanted to intervene and ask him why he had not replied to these points, but you stopped me from doing so. That is why I want to speak again.

Shri M. C. Shah: I have already replied to the points raised by my hon. friend Mr. Sarangadhar Das.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members, in spite of all that the Government say, may still not be satisfied. What then is the procedure to adopt? Are the same questions to be allowed to be repeated again? The hon. Minister says that he has answered all the points already and that he has nothing more to say. Are we to go on with the same things again? I would request each and every hon. Member to place himself in the position of the Chair and think for a moment what he will do. There is a question put, and the hon. Minister says: "This is all that I can say". Am I to squeeze the ear of the hon. Minister? What is it that can be done? There is obviously no purpose served by going over the same ground again. I only want to regulate the debate so that suggestions may be made, and questions may be put. If the replies are given, very well, they may be accepted or rejected. If they are not replied, then there are other methods. Under these circumstances, to say 'I shall make another speech again', is not proper. When the hon. Minister replies, he replies to whichever points he can; with respect to the other points, he may not reply, and possibly he cannot. In these circumstances, I am not prepared to allow any questions to be repeated merely because they have not been answered.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: When an hon. Member is speaking, the Minister can intervene in one thing or another. That is allowed, but when a Minister speaks, the Chair does not allow us to intervene, if we try to.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Far from it, I have been allowing all hon. Members to intervene and have their doubts cleared.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I have a further point to make, in this regard.

That is why please allow me to speak, and I would not take much time.

I want to say one thing about the granting of loans to particular firms, the Bengal Potteries for instance. The Bengal Potteries was started some 35 or 40 years ago, and has gone through many hands, and now it is working with a capital of Rs. 25 lakhs.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is irrelevant. Sufficient time has been allowed already to go into the details of the administrations of the Corporation. We are now in an Amending Bill. Any reference to the general manner in which this Corporation is working is not in order. Sufficient scope has been given for the purpose of enabling hon. Members to refer to this by way of illustration, to elucidate their arguments as to whether such powers ought to be given or not. But that is only by way of illustration. It is not as if we are going into the administration of each one of those institutions to which a loan has been given. Under these circumstances, I cannot allow any further reference to any of the loans given, because sufficient has been said about this matter already.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I submit that probably I am not able to put my point in the proper way. The principal thing, I want to point out, is that the intention of every one and the Government as well is not to allow big people to eat up small people, by giving these loans. There are about half a dozen small potteries in Bengal which are being killed now. I want to ask: Is that the intention of the Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not so. What I must say is that the hon. Member has not understood me. My point is that it will not be necessary to go into all these details to try to evolve the manner in which the distribution should be made for the benefit of small and medium size industries, etc. It may all be very good to say that there should be a proper distribution as between the various industries. But it is for a Committee to be appointed to make investigations and impress upon the Government that they should do such and such a thing.

So far as this Bill is concerned, one or two instances will be relevant by way of illustration to show how the Corporation has been mismanaged, or to argue whether such powers as are at present given to the Corporation should be given or whether such powers should be taken away, or

that some further checks ought to be maintained. We are not going into each one of them for the purpose of finding out how best the rules and regulations may be framed for the purpose of enabling the Corporation to distribute the loans in a proper way. That is a different matter altogether. Hon. Members will constantly bear in mind what exactly is the scope of this Bill. Here and there some references were allowed, but to go into each one of them is not proper.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: After the letter of Shri Sri Ram was placed on the Table, certain discrepancies about the administration of the Corporation as revealed in the fourth report, have come to our notice. Can we raise that point? It is a general thing.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a general thing.....

Shri Sarangadhar Das: My object was only to place this point so that the Government will take care to remedy it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All that is said by any hon. Member is most well-intentioned. The difficulty is this. We are not now in a discussion on the administration of the Corporation. We are now on a Bill to the extent, of course, of empowering the Corporation or taking away some powers from the Corporation. All that may be relevant by way of illustration. But we cannot go into the administration report of the Corporation. A provision may be made that the administration report of the Corporation should be examined here by this House or by a Committee of this House. We have not got those powers under this Act. I am exceedingly sorry, notwithstanding all my sympathies, that I cannot allow a digression of this sort so far as this matter is concerned. If any letters have been placed to the extent of extracts, further discussion about that matter—what the letter contains etc.—will not be relevant.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move:

"That the question be now put."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He was on his legs.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I have not concluded, Sir. You did not allow me to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But it is open to me to say whether anything is allowed or not allowed.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I bow to that, but at the same time I have had occasion to listen to other speeches on Bills where general matters are brought in so that the Government's attention is drawn to that aspect of the matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have also allowed all that at an earlier stage. There is no need to repeat all that. Is it the contention of the hon. Member that every loan that is given should be taken into consideration here and discussed at length? It is an administration report. The directors are sitting there. What can be done by way of illustration has been done. If any further complaints are made, I am exceedingly sorry I cannot allow discussion on them.

The question is:

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

Shri M. C. Shah: Sir, I have already replied in detail and I do not think any further remarks are necessary.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now stand adjourned till 2-30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till Half Past Two of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

DELIMITATION COMMISSION BILL.

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the readjustment of the representation of territorial constituencies in the House of the People and in the State Legislative Assemblies and for matters connected therewith.

INFLUX FROM PAKISTAN (CONTROL) REPEALING BILL—Contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, further consideration of the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Repealing Bill, will be resumed.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Hooghly): Sir, this piece of legislation will be a melancholy epitaph on the ignoble Delhi pact concluded between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan. Though Pakistan had been systematically flouting that pact and making its principles nugatory, our Government has been labouring under the delusion that that is a wonderful pact and trying to implement it. Really there has been one-sided implementation of the Delhi Pact and that has resulted in considerable misery and hardship to the poor refugees who came from East Bengal, whether to West Bengal or to India. Today Pakistan has the audacity to promulgate the passport system simply because our Government has pursued its weak policy of appeasement of Pakistan. What better can we expect of this Government which has the hardihood of vilifying and slandering the Hindu Mahasabha day in and day out but at the same time, cowers to the Muslim League and Pakistan although they embody the most ferocious anti-Hindu and anti-Indian communalism. It is nothing but self-deception or self-delusion to think that in spite of the introduction of passport and visa system there will really be no hardship to the Hindus of East Bengal who want to come out. In fact, Sir, there has been considerable hardship. I do not know how far the hon. Ministers are aware of it. The latest report is that in Kaimganj which is the Indian part of Sylhet, a part of Assam which is in India, 534 passports have been issued but the Pakistan Government has not allowed any visa. The result has been.....

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): On a point of order, Sir. This Bill has nothing to do with East Bengal. This Bill is being presented here only for the purpose of repealing the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949. Movements between West Pakistan and India were so long being controlled by a permit system. With the introduction of the passport system, the permit system has ceased to be in force. It is only for that purpose that this Bill is being enacted. It is in order to repeal the law under which the permit system was operating. It has nothing to do with the eastern zone at all.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Sir, the hon. Law Minister will appreciate this much that this will be a parliamentary ratification of the position that the passport system has come and is going to stay. We are strongly opposed to it. We are saying that the passport system ought to be repealed. Another Minister of the Cabinet, who knows something about this, hon. Dr. Katju has gone to Calcutta and has been to Agartala and he has delivered a speech appealing to the common man in both India and Pakistan, both East Bengal and West Bengal and Tripura to do their best to have this passport system nullified. I am pressing upon the Ministers that they should also do their best to see that this passport system is nullified and abrogated in the interests of the common man, and in the interests of the.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the passport system prevalent only in East Pakistan, between East Pakistan and India or between West Pakistan and India also?

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: Sir, this problem becomes.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A point of order was raised. I want, as a matter of fact, to know whether this passport system is prevalent in the eastern side or on the western side also.

Shri Biswas: On both sides.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it a fact that the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949, affects only Western Pakistan?

Shri Biswas: It affects only West Pakistan.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is a reference to the permit system here in clause 3. The passport system is both for Western and Eastern Pakistan superseding the present system?

Shri Biswas: The passport system supersedes the permit system so far as Western Pakistan is concerned but it will apply to both Pakistans.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Gurgaon): The freedom of movement envisaged in the Nehru-Liaquat Pact has been nullified by this passport system, which supersedes it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I cannot say that this kind of reference by the hon. Member to suppression by the passport system and this ratification is not relevant, but that is not the main purpose of the Bill. So far as East

Pakistan is concerned, it does not affect and therefore, in so far as it is relevant to East Pakistan the observations may be confined to them.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): Sir, when it is a question of India and Pakistan we cannot separate one part from the other part.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is why I am allowing it.

Shri N. C. Chatterjee: I may say, that in spite of the Ministerial declarations on the floor of this House, the introduction of the passport system, has, in fact, resulted in great hardship to the Hindus who want to go to East Bengal and also to the common man in both countries and, therefore it is desirable that this Government should do their best to have this passport system nullified and abrogated at the earliest possible moment. This Bill seems to accept the position that the passport system has come into force and the permit system of the old days has gone, and therefore the position should be regularised on the basis of recognition of the passport system. What I want to mention is that although people have been getting passports from our Government they cannot enter East Bengal, because they cannot get visas. There is a report in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* that 435 men have got passports from India, but they cannot enter East Bengal because visas are not being granted to them. Now, a responsible Minister of this Government has gone to Agartala and he has heard the people there. He has recognised the disabilities which have been imposed on them. He has told the people that they should agitate, so as to put pressure upon the two Governments for the purpose of seeing that this passport system is immediately nullified or radically revised. I do not know why the common man should put pressure upon our Government. We are here as representatives of the people and irrespective of party affiliations, we are pressing our Government to take steps. Why should the common man exert himself? We are the representatives of the people duly elected to this House. The House of the People demands that our Government should not acquiesce in or accept whatever Pakistan says. Pakistan should be told that she has deliberately violated the fundamental principle of the Delhi Pact and that she is doing something which is most improper. She is really introducing some kind

of economic sanction against us. Her attitude makes impossible all commercial intercourse between the two countries, and the people on both sides of the frontier are suffering. Is that right and proper? Is it in the interests of the refugees who want to go to the other side or want to come out and migrate to India?

The other day a man was bounded out of the office of the Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan in Calcutta. He has not yet got a visa, although he has been trying his best to obtain one. He was told that they were seeing that 'undesirables' did not get into East Bengal. Now, who are undesirables? They are the poor Hindus who have still got property in East Bengal. Yet it is they who are treated as undesirables and they are being kept out. Their family members are still there in East Bengal. I want to say that God had made Bengal one and through the wisdom of no one can the two artificial Bengals be permanently severed from each other. They are integrally connected and are inter-related. It is therefore necessary that something should be done to have this passport system nullified. If our Government is strong, it should say that it is not going to tolerate this kind of violation or repudiation of the Delhi Pact. It should tell the Pakistan Government that it must implement that Pact; otherwise, we will not continue our one-sided implementation of the Pact. If that is done, Pakistan can be brought to her senses. It is no good either for the Prime Minister or any other Minister standing up here and trying to appease Pakistan. In order to pacify Pakistan, the Prime Minister said the other day that "the condition of minorities in India is not wholly satisfactory". This is how our Government still tries to appease Pakistan. This hopeless and senseless policy of appeasement will not work. I have got in front of me the paper *Dawn*. Editorially it has complimented the Prime Minister of India on his confession that "the condition of minorities in India is not wholly satisfactory." And yet it adds: "Though this admission shows a greater sense of realism in the Indian Prime Minister, his observations still remain an under-estimate of a situation which is very grave." You cannot appease these people by making these statements. They do not observe the Pact but their actions are a distortion of the Pact. The great Muslim League paper, the Pakistani paper, the organ of Pakistan which Pandit Nehru is anxious to appease and is so proud of appeasing, has added that Pandit

[Shri N. C. Chatterjee]

Nehru's admissions are nevertheless significant in that "they overthrow his pet thesis—advanced year in and year out—that the Muslim minority is a happy and contented basker in the sunshine of Bharati democracy and secularism." No good will be done to this country by appeasing these people. The people who are still in East Bengal are very unhappy. While trotting out these things which are not true and which have been repudiated so far as West Bengal is concerned, our Government still says that the condition of the minorities here is unsatisfactory. I say that our Government has done its best to implement the Delhi Pact even at the cost of throwing out the refugees who have come from East Bengal and who had been actually settled on land which had been left vacant by people who had gone over to Pakistan. In spite of this, our Government spokesmen are pampering and pandering to Pakistan by saying that the condition of minorities in India is not satisfactory and that our hands are not clean. This kind of statement should be repudiated. It degrades India in the estimation of the world. I am very sorry that the Prime Minister has made this statement. He did it possibly with a view to placate Pakistan, but you cannot placate Pakistan by this kind of pernicious attitude. This is a very deplorable attitude and it should be given up. That is all I have to say.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): I do not want to take much time of the House over this small Bill. As you have pointed out, this Bill has a limited scope. It is really a consequential measure. Our Government have acceded to Pakistan's demand for the introduction of the Passport System and we have by an Ordinance already introduced this system. This Bill merely seeks to regularise the step taken by Government. Therefore, we have not much to say on the Bill itself. But we want to criticise the policy underlying this Bill.

As my hon. friend Mr. N. C. Chatterjee pointed out just now, the introduction of this passport system is injuring the interests of people both in Pakistan and India. What has been the result of the introduction of this system? In this country we were told that two and a half lakhs of people have come from East Bengal. A few days ago, another statement appeared in the Statesman and if I may speak on the basis of the figures that were published therein—of course, if they are incorrect, I may be corrected—the position is

that after the introduction of this passport system one and a quarter lakhs of refugees have come into Assam; Seventy five thousand have come into Tripura and two and a half lakhs have come into West Bengal. This means that nearly five lakhs of people have come into India due to the introduction of the passport system.

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): Two lakhs and eighty thousand have come and your figure about Assam is incorrect.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I am only referring to the report that appeared in the Statesman and if those figures are incorrect, then the Rehabilitation Minister may correct them. Anyway, even if the number is round about three lakhs, it is not a small number. It is a huge number. We oppose this Bill because we consider this to be a flagrant violation of the Nehru-Liaquat Pact. In that Pact, it was specifically laid down that there should be freedom of travel between East and West Bengal. Why was that done? Because, at that time the Government took a realistic view. Government realised that by introducing a rigid barrier between East and West Bengal they would be harming the interests of the common people in both East and West Bengal. This partition is artificial. Calcutta was the capital of Bengal. People from all over Bengal used to come there and work there and earn their living. People from both sides of Bengal, irrespective of the zones, came there and worked there. Therefore, Bengalees had work and interests spread out both in East and West Bengal. By introducing all on a sudden a rigid barrier between the two sides of Bengal, a great hardship would have been caused to the people. Therefore, realising the difficulties of the situation, the eastern zone of Pakistan, namely, East Bengal, was placed on a different footing from the western zone. We ourselves did not introduce the Evacuee Property Act in respect of the eastern zone, as we did in respect of the western zone. We did so, because of the peculiar situation obtaining in the eastern zone. I may illustrate the point by giving an example, although I am sure it is well known. When I went to Tripura, I learnt that there were certain parts in Tripura where the communication was so difficult that people belonging to these parts, if they wanted to go to another part of Tripura, had to go there via Pakistan. In such a situation, it is necessary that there should

be freedom of movement. Therefore, this was laid down clearly in the Nehru-Liaquat Pact. Now when this passport system has come into force people who were living on the other side have had to come over—poor peasants and ordinary people—it has created tremendous difficulties for them. In case the representatives of our Government think that I am speaking only for the Hindus, I would like to point out that this great difficulty is being experienced by Muslims also. In Calcutta it is well known that a large bulk of such people live who have constantly to cross the border. They have got their homes in East Bengal. They work here, and their families are there. They want to go from one side to another every now and then. In the same manner, there are small traders and businessmen who have dealings on both sides of the border. Considering all these difficulties, at the time of the Pact we did not want any rigid barrier to be introduced. The agitation against the passport system is not confined in India alone. That people in Pakistan also are against it has been well demonstrated. If I am to depend upon newspaper reports, demonstrations were held in Sylhet by Muslim women and demonstrations have been held by Muslims in other parts of Pakistan. In India too Muslims have protested against the introduction of the passport system. Therefore, I do not understand how we agreed to the insistence—the unreasonable insistence—of the Pakistan Government. Our Government thought it to be an unwise decision. So, first of all, they pleaded against it, and then they tried to persuade Pakistan. But when they did not succeed, as usual, they again conceded Pakistan's unreasonable demand and agreed to accept the passport system. The result is that untold hardship has been inflicted on the common people. A few days ago when I had an opportunity to talk with our hon. Prime Minister he told me that he appreciated the difficulty. In order to mitigate the hardship of East Bengal Hindus, he said our Government was going to be rather liberal regarding giving migration facilities to people coming from East Bengal to West Bengal. They could come he said with migration certificates. I would like to ask you what is the great difference between a migration certificate and a passport. Even to obtain a migration certificate people from the villages in East Bengal have to go to Dacca. For that also there is an elaborate procedure like supplying three copies of passport size photograph, etc. Only yes-

terday Dr. Mookerjee was showing me a number of wires that he has received from people in East Bengal. One man has wired that he had gone to the High Commissioner's office for the thirty-ninth time and yet did not succeed in obtaining the necessary papers allowing him to migrate. Crowds have gathered in front of the High Commissioner's office in Dacca. Days and days they spend there without getting the necessary facilities to come over to India.

The same difficulties are being faced by the Muslims here, which is very obvious from a letter that has been published in the *Hindustan Standard* of yesterday by one Abdul Majid. It is somewhat long. So I do not wish to read the whole of it. But I would like to read a few lines just to give the House an idea of how this passport system is creating harassment to our people. This is what he says:

"Pakistanis who are living in West Bengal carrying on various vocations are estimated to be several lakhs. The arrangement that has been made for the issue of passport from the Office of the Deputy High Commissioner, Pakistan, Calcutta, is absolutely inadequate. The Pakistan Government introduced the passport system on the 17th October last, but till now only a few thousand passports have been issued against lakhs to be issued. Hundreds of people go every day to present applications for passports, but the office accepts only 50 applications daily. People are suffering untold hardships. Fourteenth of January, 1953, the deadline after which no Pakistani will be allowed to live in India is fast approaching. If matters go on in this way we think only ten per cent. of the Pakistanis living in West Bengal will get their passport. We cannot imagine what will be the fate of those huge numbers of Pakistanis who will not get their passports in time. * * * * *

I would just like to read the last few lines to show what Muslims in India feel about the introduction of the passport system. Here he says:

"We must remember that it is the Pakistan Government who are the sponsors of this system. The India Government again and again argued for the non-introduction of the passport system," but the Pakistan Government insisted and then India agreed. In short, Pakistan Government must

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

make immediate arrangements, so that Pakistanis living in India can get their passports within a short time."

So the passport system has created untold hardships to the Hindus in Pakistan and Muslims in India. Therefore, for whose benefit have we done this?—I would like to know. Our Prime Minister always reminds us that we should always think of the human aspect—we must use the healing touch. I want to know what human aspect is there in this move? This is absolutely contrary to all healing touch, to all human considerations. We have put untold hardships on the poor suffering people who have no facilities. And what will be the result as far as East Bengal is concerned? The result will be that in the face of all these difficulties, only the richer people will be able, after some time to come to India. The poor people will remain there. We do want that Hindus should remain there. Now they will remain there, but without any leadership. The leadership will gradually come away, with the result that they will be in a worse plight. Our object, no doubt, is to try to keep them there, therefore we should do everything that we can to induce the Pakistan Government to protect them and keep them there. By introducing the passport system we have merely created a situation by which after much difficulty the rich will come away and the poor will remain there without leadership to be harassed more and more by the Pakistan Government. Therefore, I would appeal to the Government to reconsider their decision regarding the introduction of the passport system: I would appeal to the House not to support this Bill, but to press their demand for the withdrawal of the passport system. It has been amply proved by demonstrations held all over India that the people of the country are not behind the Government in the policy that Government is following in this matter.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Distt.—West cum Rae Bareilly Distt.—East): On a point of information. I would like the hon. Minister to clarify a point which Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani has raised. As far as I know if Pakistani citizens who are residing in this country—whether in service or doing business—want to go back to Pakistan, no passport is necessary. They are subjects of Pakistan and can return to Pakistan.

Shri Biswas: They are required to take out repatriation certificates or migration certificates.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: There is a lot of confusion in the public mind about this matter. As far as I know, in the case of citizens of Pakistan who want to return to their country, no passport is necessary, just as in the case of any Indian, who may be anywhere, can enter India without an Indian passport.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister.

बीपी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—
रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : मैंने कृपा
करके कुछ बोलने के लिये पांच मिनट
का टाइम दीजिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : जी, हाँ दूँगा,
लेकिन अभी नहीं।

Shri A. P. Jain: As the hon. Member who just preceded me said, the scope of this Bill is a limited one. Throughout the debate that has been going on in this House more emphasis has been laid on the incidental things and very little has been said about the Bill itself. In fact, there has been a lot of confusion and quite a bit of misrepresentation about the provisions of this small Bill.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Others have not been allowed an opportunity to speak so far. There is no confusion. One or two Members have spoken and they have expressed their views.

Shri A. P. Jain: If the Members who have spoken have gone off the mark, I can certainly say that there has been confusion. I do not say that the hon. Member who blurted in shares that confusion. It will be seen when he speaks whether he shares that confusion or not.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I will not be tempted by it.

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as this Bill is concerned, its object is to repeal the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act. Now that Act was applicable only to travel between West Pakistan and India. That Act was not applicable to travels between East Bengal and West Bengal. People could come and go from East Bengal to West Bengal freely. Therefore, all the arguments that have been advanced by my friends with regard to what is happening in East Bengal are totally irrelevant to the purpose of this Bill.

So far as the West is concerned, it is true that the traffic in the West has been so far controlled by the permit system. This House has already debated for one whole day the East Bengal situation. This House is fully aware that the passport system has been adopted. It is also aware that we on this side, that is, the Government of India, did not want to impose the passport system. We were strongly of the opinion that the traffic between East Bengal and West Bengal should remain free as before.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Why did you give in then?

Shri A. P. Jain: Every country is at liberty to make its own laws and to take the consequent administrative action to implement it. Pakistan without any reference to us decided to impose a passport system not only for the West Pakistan, but also for East Pakistan. What were the alternatives before us? We told Pakistan that we did not like it; we tried to persuade them not to impose the passport system. But they would not agree. The only alternative left to us was that while Pakistan imposed the passport system we may not do it. Is there a Member in the House who would say 'let Pakistan have passport, we shall not have it'? Again, Pakistan was imposing both passport and visa, and whatever steps we may have taken would have been totally ineffective. Therefore, the next best course left to us was to persuade Pakistan to liberalise the passport system as much as possible. As a result of negotiations we succeeded to a very large extent, because we could persuade them to have three types of passports: a passport available for the whole of India; a passport available for the Eastern Region; and a border passport.

3 P.M.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani has referred to the inconvenience which is being caused to certain type of persons who carry on trade in fish, vegetables etc. on the border. As far as that class is concerned the passports are issued by the district magistrates and the movement there, at least in theory, has been agreed to be a rather free movement. If there have been any difficulties, at least we, on our side, have not created them.

Several questions have been raised and it was said that such and such person has been twice, thrice, four times or thirty times (Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Thirtynine times.) or thirtynine times or even ninety-nine times (Dr. N. B. Khare: 99.9 recurring.) to the Pakistan Commissioner and he has not been able to get a pass-

port. We regret it. But nonetheless we cannot control it, because all entry into Pakistan is controlled by Pakistan and not by us. Therefore, while a certain amount of reference to the passport system may be relevant to the discussion here, yet to base the whole argument on what is happening with regard to the passport system is, I submit with all respect, not relevant to the discussion of this Bill. This Bill has resulted from the imposition of the passport system; it has not caused the imposition of the passport system.

Assuming that we do not repeal this Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, what will be the position? In fact my friend Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani went to the length of saying that we must drop this Bill. Now, the result would be that anybody coming to India will have to obtain not only a passport but he will have to obtain a permit also.....

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: If I may interrupt the hon. Minister, I did not say 'Drop this Bill'. I said this is a consequential Bill as a result of our agreeing to the passport system, and we are opposed to the basic policy which has led to the introduction of the passport system, and we stand here to criticise the basic policy which has given rise to this Bill.

Shri A. P. Jain: She will do well to read her speech because she definitely said that we should drop this Bill. By dropping this Bill are we providing any greater convenience to persons who go from one country to the other, from here to Pakistan or from Pakistan to India? In fact we will be adding one more hurdle. Therefore, whatever may be one's own views about the passport system, this Bill for the repeal of the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act has become a necessity, even with a view to facilitate the travel between the two countries. I have said that the Government of India did not like the passport system. We resisted it. But it was beyond our control, because it was for Pakistan to make any laws or to take any administrative or executive action with regard to Pakistan. And we were left with no alternative except to impose the passport system when they would not agree to giving up their determination to introduce the passport system in Pakistan.

In fact, it has become a fashion in this House that whenever anything connected with Pakistan comes in, the whole history is repeated from the time of partition up to this day. Things relevant and irrelevant are said by persons from whom one expects

[Shri A. P. Jain]

much better. The whole of the Nehru-Liaquat Pact is discussed, although so far as this Bill is concerned it has nothing to do with it. (Dr. N. B. Khare: Sins committed cannot be forgotten). So I submit that the scope of the Bill is very limited. It is a Bill which has become inevitable on account of certain actions that have already been taken, and unless we repeal the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act we will be adding to the difficulties in the travel between the two countries rather than helping free travel.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I had no mind to participate in the debate in the first instance, but I found that I had some urge to intervene and place my submissions also.

It has been just now said that whenever anything between Pakistan and India comes up Members stand up and begin to mention things that are relevant or irrelevant. We are sorry that this subject is really such a serious one, and we regret also the attitude of the Ministers who are so sensitive. Whenever this discussion is taken up they feel somewhat restless. (Dr. N. B. Khare: Guilty conscience). It is not our fault. It is very unfortunate. I can say that because it is only persons who have been displaced that can appreciate what sufferings they have undergone and what are being experienced by those that are coming just now from East Bengal. It is very difficult for others to know the depth of their feelings. I do not say they have no sympathy with us, but if on some occasions we refer to this subject again and again they should not feel so sensitive as they have done so far.

It has been admitted that the introduction of this passport system was beyond their control. We do not doubt the intentions of the Government. Always they come up and say that it was not their intention. They say: we did not want it, Pakistan forced it upon us, and we had no other option. Quite so. We have not complained about their intentions. They are very good-intentioned people, so far as the Ministers are concerned. But what we bewail of is their helplessness, their impotence. We do not say that they do not have good intentions. Certainly, we praise them for that. But ultimately we hear: we are helpless, what can we do, that is a sovereign power, we cannot take up any fight with them. That is the attitude that is being complained of.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What is your suggestion for that?

Sardar Hukam Singh: If you come up to me I will give you. Then it has been said that this only relates to West Pakistan. It has been admitted that this is the direct result of the introduction of the passport system. When this Bill is the direct result of the introduction of the passport system, how are we irrelevant when we discuss the passport system? A perfectly legitimate question arises, namely, why this passport system was introduced, what effect it has got.

I admit that both these questions are separate so far as the East and the West are concerned. I am reminded of what happened when our people were driven out from Western Pakistan and certain legislative measures and regulations were being discussed here. Our Bengal friends certainly had very great sympathy with us. We were warning them that the same fate was coming for them but they did not care then. They sympathised with us but asked us to leave them alone. I should not say I am glad. I pity their conditions. I think that the time has come for them to stand up and take up our cause as well.

So far as this Bill is concerned and so far as West Pakistan is concerned, I think it is a necessity. I have no objection to the Bill but all these things—when it is going to replace the permit system by the passport system, the way in which that passport system is being worked, the hardship it causes to our citizens, should be discussed in this House. One example I might cite. The immediate effect of this passport system was that 100 Sikhs applied to visit Nankana Sahib, the birth place of their founder, and at the eleventh hour they were refused permission. They could not go. I do not know whether the Members of the Government sitting on that side can gauge the resentment of the Sikhs at that time. Even now we find that Pakistanis have been given every facility to visit all their religious places. We welcome them. We support that. We do not say it should be refused. Is the Government so helpless? Is their helplessness expressed here in this House sufficient to soothe us that they cannot do anything and we should continue to suffer? Is it only the placating of Pakistan that would satisfy us? Is it only the Mahatma spirit—I do not mean Mahatma Gandhi's—only the sanctuary spirit? That might be very good so far as these expressions are concerned. But when a Government has to deal with a Government.

it should have certain principles on which they should act and so far, our Government has failed to achieve anything in this respect. The passport system, we did not want it. They introduced it. We were helpless. We had to take it. In every case it was like this. Whenever an opportunity arose, this has been our attitude and we fear that if we go on like this, I should say we are doomed.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): We have heard the hon. Minister for Rehabilitation's legalistic arguments but we feel that although he says that this is only referring to West Pakistan, actually the entire question of passports has to be covered because without that this Bill would not have been necessary. It seeks a formal sanction for the introduction of the passport system. It is true that many people feel that this is a *fait accompli* which we have got to accept and we cannot do anything more about it. But during the East Bengal debate which took place on the 15th November, 1952, Mr. Nehru said that he was quite prepared to reopen the whole question and we were heartened by it for the very simple reason that the ordinary people are undergoing tremendous sufferings which you have heard repeated over and over again. Coming from East Bengal, naturally we feel that this passport system cannot regulate and stop traffic between the two countries especially since there is no border region and there is no natural boundary. You have a house on this side of the border and probably the outer house on the other side of the border. You have your relations on the other side of the border. They have to cross a field and then you come across to Hindustan. You have the natural economic ties which have been repeated over and over again. We have heard how mills and industries are closing down in Pakistan because the labourers cannot go from India. We have heard how our growers of oranges are facing a crisis because oranges cannot go over to Pakistan. So, we are bound by a thousand links and it is necessary to re-open the question again and therefore, I think it is quite right that we again voice our feelings about passport and demand that the question must be reopened and that no such measure as the one that has been brought forward here is necessary.

It is also necessary to reiterate again the volume of opinion which is growing not only on our side of the border but also in Pakistan. We have heard that already in the Pakistan Parliament the question has been raised not

only by the Hindu minority representatives but also by people like Mian Iftikaruddin. On the 25th November, during a debate on the passport system, he made a protest against the introduction of the passport system. Not only he was loud in his denunciation of the Pakistan Government's inability to protect the minorities but also he showed how they had been treated and how the Pakistan had not lived up to its responsibilities and it was only right not only that they should protect the minorities but also that this pernicious system of passport should be withdrawn.

We know Mr. Suhrawaddy's arch-communalism in the past days. But whatever he was above all he was a realist. On the 21st of November at Dacca he openly and strongly criticised the Kashmir issue and the passport policy of his Government. He said:

"I request the Pakistan Government to examine this serious situation that has arisen as a result of the passport and if they find that it is not in the interests of Pakistan they must abjure it".

Besides, we find the movement among individuals is growing. The Pakistan Youth League had declared 21st November as "Pakistan-Hindustan Friendship Day" and we find also that the Pakistan Peace Congress has declared that the rising tide of the democratic movement should take upon itself the task of ensuring the security of the minorities. I will quote another newspaper from Pakistan "Nao-Belal": It writes under the headline "Defeat Imperialist Conspiracy" and says:

"Let us stand by squarely against any communal instigations. Let us build up a huge movement behind the demand of Pakistan-Hindustan friendship so that the diabolical conspiracy being hatched by the imperialist agents in both the countries may be defeated, so that the reactionaries of both countries may not use the religious sentiments of the minorities of the two countries to advance their own ends and bring further deterioration in the relations between Pakistan and India."

On the same day at Karachi 10,000 men and women gathered to demand that Pakistan should come out of Commonwealth and for the revocation of all repressive laws. At Dacca, on the Pakistan day—21st November—under the auspices of the East Bengal Students' Union a big meeting was held and they demanded withdrawal of the passport system. There are some people in Pakistan who like some other people here, do not like this friendship between Pakistan and India. They

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laugh at it. On 26th of November, Janab Mahmud Ali, the convener of the Democratic League reported how the people of Pakistan sincerely hoped for the withdrawal of the passport system. In their opinion it has created more harm than good. Therefore since the volume of opinion both there and here is growing against the passport system, since the economies of the two countries are being shattered by this passport system, since we see that people stand in interminable queues, and are subjected to such harassment and hardship, since the people who are already poverty-stricken are again asked to pay money and hope to face a thousand difficulties, we should remove these difficulties, and we should do away with the passport system. Let us try again so that we can put an end to the unbearable sufferings of the people. Therefore, I would say, let us try again so that we do not need to bring in this Bill so that we would be able to help our people.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): I had not the slightest intention to open my lips on this Bill. But, the speech of the hon. Rehabilitation Minister.....

Some Hon. Members: Rashtriya-bhasha, please.

Dr. N. B. Khare: It is my sweet will. (Interruptions.)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order order.

Dr. N. B. Khare:.....the speech of the hon. Rehabilitation Minister has provoked me to make a short speech.

He was in great pains to show to us step by step how the Pakistan Government compelled the Government of India to agree to the passport system in spite of the Nehru-Liaquat Pact. He gave us every single detail of how the Government approached the Government of Pakistan, how they refused and so on and so forth. Every little detail he gave us. At that time he looked pathetic.

* * *

But, I must say that this measure, as the one passed previously about evacuee property, and even the Nehru-Liaquat Pact, shows the utmost solicitude for the welfare of Pakistan, and in fact, they are against the interests of India. I am constrained to say that the Treasury Benches are occupied by the enemies of India and lovers of Pakistan. I cannot refrain from passing that remark. It may be rather exaggerated or somebody may not like that.

But, that is my innermost feeling and I cannot help expressing it. Every time the Ministers become very sensitive over this matter, because as I said in an interruption it is only a guilty conscience and nothing else. They complain that every time this matter was discussed, they referred to past history. How can the sins of history be forgotten? Sins pursue people from generation to generation. It is impossible to forget them. I know the reasons for their solicitude for the welfare of Pakistan. Because, fortunately or unfortunately, I was in a position from where I could observe very minutely the political activities of the Congress, the Muslim League and the British Government. From there, I know as a matter of personal knowledge,—nobody can separate it from me—what manoeuvres were made, and what games were played. From that it appears to me that this Congress had developed clandestine relations with British imperialism and the offspring is Pakistan. It is natural, therefore, that the Congress Government should show enormous love for its offspring, Pakistan. I do not blame them, because it is the right of every mother, every woman. I am not surprised.

But, to me, it is just a tragedy of history that such measures are brought before this House by a person who bears the honoured name of our hallowed hero, the great Shivaji Bhonsle. For this I am very sorry and I feel mortified that a person of such a name should bring this Bill. After all, we cannot help it. It is going to be passed. But, I may tell you, Sir, and tell everybody that in politics and history, nothing is final; there are no settled facts. There was the great Bengal partition which was regarded as a settled fact by the British. It was annulled. There is another partition also, unwanted by anybody. I may tell you, Sir, that history will repeat itself. In spite of all these wretched measures of influx and deflux, I may tell you that history will repeat itself and I am sure, ultimately, these two Bengals, which are divided, are bound to come together and there will be a united Bengal, in spite of all that my friends opposite may do with their great love towards Pakistan. I have nothing more to say.

Shri Barman (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I have nothing to say about the merits of the passport system.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why do hon. Members start by saying that they have nothing to say and then go on

Announced as ordered by the Chair.

speaking? If they have anything to say, they may contribute; otherwise they need not.

Shri Barman: I said, Sir, that I had nothing to say on the merits or demerits of the passport system, which has been sufficiently discussed several times on the floor of this House. Of course, I also join with the previous speakers in their wish that the sooner this passport system goes—it could only go with the consent of both the parties—the better it is for both Bengals, both for Hindus and Muslims.

I stand here to encroach upon the time of the House to ask the hon. Minister, specially the hon. Minister for Minority affairs whether he has forgotten in the hurry, in the turmoil of the introduction of this passport system, the fate of the few thousands of Indian nationals who are entrapped today in Pakistan. I am just mentioning the circumstances. In the former State of Cooch-Bihar, there were *chitmahal* lands which were entirely in the district of Rangpur which is now in Eastern Pakistan. Similarly, Rangpur district had some *chitmahals* which were within the former Cooch-Bihar State. After the introduction of the passport system, both the Indian nationals in Rangpur, that is Eastern Pakistan and Pakistan nationals inside India in the district of Cooch-Bihar are now suffering miserably. They cannot get out because it is a small piece of land and all round there is foreign territory. Without passport they cannot get out. It is not possible for them to apply for passport because there is no photographer there. Nor can they come to the main district and apply to the district magistrate. Before the introduction of the passport system, I was approached by those people and here I tabled a question. I think it will come towards the end of December. In the meantime, I had written a letter to the district magistrate of Cooch-Bihar whether he knew anything about the condition of these people. They cannot go out for marketing; they cannot sell their agricultural produce. They are surrounded by Pakistan. If any kind of offence is committed there, there is no police help. Consider the fate of these people. The reply of the district magistrate is:

"The difficulties of the people residing in *chitmahals* have already been brought to the notice of the State Government and Government orders are being awaited."

I understand from the newspaper of my district—I am reading from *Uttara Banga*:

"Nothing has been done as yet and the people there are suffering to the extreme."

Similar must be the case of Pakistanis who are entrapped in the district of Cooch-Bihar. I do not know whether by this time the Government of India have sent any instructions to the State Government. I have tabled a question. And I would like to know on behalf of the unfortunate people as to what is their position, and whether Government is going to do anything to relieve their conditions. That is all.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): The previous speakers have already spoken about the difficulties which have been created out of the introduction of the passport system. My hon. friend Mrs. Chakravarty urged upon the Government of India to take all possible steps to have the passport system abandoned. But it is well known that our Government did not want the introduction of the passport system, and if there is any possibility of the Government of Pakistan reconsidering the matter, I am sure, there will be no hesitation on the part of the Government of India.....

Shri A. P. Jain: That is correct.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:.....to respond to such a decision and have the passport system completely withdrawn.

But here, the matter goes a little deeper than that. My complaint against the Government is that in all these important matters, somehow we have allowed the initiative to pass from out of our hands. Pakistan creates a situation and we are helpless to check it. And then we come forward and suggest some palliatives which do not go to remedy the situation at all.

Now, here some of us, had suggested the imposition of economic sanctions. Well, obviously, the Prime Minister was very sarcastic about it and said that it would not produce any results, but actually, economic sanctions—undeclared economic sanctions—have already been resorted to by Pakistan, and all sorts of discriminatory action is being taken by East Pakistan, and we are completely helpless in the matter. I will give you one or two illustrations just now.

One matter which has been brought to my notice is with regard to the precarious position with which the people in Assam—in some parts of Assam—and in Tripura are faced for want of supply of rice. Many of these people used to get their rice from within the Pakistan zone. Now, Pakistan is not allowing such rice to come to our territory. Similarly, there were quite a

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

good number of Muslims who used to get rice from within the lands situated in the Indian border. And the report which came to me yesterday from Calcutta was that our Government, exercising its usual generosity, has permitted ten lakh rupees of paddy to be taken away from within the Indian territory to Pakistan on the ground that such paddy was being grown by Pakistani citizens who had land within the Indian border. Now, our people are starving. They cannot get their supply, and we want to be so just and generous that we are allowing rice to be taken out of our territory to Pakistan. If we really wanted to be very fair, we might have even offered to sell this rice, and not allow the quantity to go out of our control because actually the people who are directly and immediately suffering are our own men. This is one glaring example of misplaced generosity of the healing touch in which our Government have become proficient which really is creating a disastrous position so far as these sufferers are concerned.

So far as this passport system is concerned, as I have said previously, this has been done deliberately with certain motives by the Pakistan Government. Undoubtedly, a large number of Muslims also are suffering, and my hon. friend Mrs. Kripalani has read out a letter which has been written by a Pakistani Muslim who is now in Calcutta and who is finding it difficult to get the passport for going back to East Bengal. But there is ample evidence before us to show that a discriminatory policy is being pursued by Pakistan in granting visa and repatriation certificates. The question which is now invariably put to these people who are in West Bengal or in Assam and who would like to go to East Bengal, is this: "What evidence is there to show that you are a *bona fide* Pakistani citizen and you want to go back to East Bengal for *bona fide* purposes?" Many of them have been asked to produce certificates and documents countersigned by Pakistani officers. Naturally, it is impossible for them to do so because they are now in India. From many of them money has been demanded, and all sorts of pressure are being directly and indirectly, day in and day out, put upon them. Only in yesterday's *Jugantar*, a leading Bengali daily newspaper published from Calcutta, you will see photographs have been printed—the enormous crowds which have now gathered in front of the office of the Deputy High Commissioner of Pakistan in Calcutta, and the way in which people are being subjected to all sorts of harassment and

humiliation. It is stated in that article which is written by an eye-witness that:

"It takes nearly about 72 hours to reach the counter which is about 100 yards away from the main gate and in which there is a queue of about 150 men or women."

72 hours to reach the counter, and then only the application received. After the application is received, the applicant is asked to come a fortnight later. And when he comes there a fortnight later, he is again asked to come a few days later. And there, examples have been given, names have been cited, how people who had submitted their original application on 16th, 18th and 20th October last have not yet got their visas. Mind you, Sir, they got the passport from our Government's office within 24 hours, but then, they have to get the visa and the repatriation certificates, and all these harassments are being forced upon these individuals. Some of the questions which have been put to some people who knew some officers in the office of the Deputy High Commissioner have also been published in newspapers. They are being openly told that they are people who are not trusted by Pakistan and they are not wanted to go back. (An Hon. Member: Undesirables?)

I received yesterday a letter from one Shri Kumud Nath Sarkar which is copy of a letter which has been sent to the Prime Minister with another copy which has been sent to my friend Mr. Biswas. This gentleman was for 30 years a member of the Congress, and he decided to stay in East Bengal after partition. He was appointed a member—he belonged to the District of Pabna—of the District Minority Board. His appointment was gazetted by the East Pakistan Government itself. He was given about three months' time to serve as such a member. During this period he acted independently. He brought to the notice of the authorities in East Pakistan cases of violation of the Delhi Pact, and how the minority was being oppressed. The result was that in 1949 he was arrested suddenly. He came to Calcutta in connection with his daughter's marriage. He went back after a few weeks, and the day after his arrival, he was served with an order and arrested in Pabna—a member of the District Minority Board arrested under the East Bengal Public Safety Ordinance. He was dragged from his house to the Police Station. The next day he was transferred to the Rajshahi

Central Jail with handcuff and rope on, though he was an old man of 64 years. Six repeated orders of detention were served on him. He was kept in detention for 32 months—21 months in the Rajshahi Central Jail and eleven months in Pabna District Jail—without any trial or legal order as such. There were two applications of habeas corpus before the East Bengal High Court, and twice he was ordered to be released by the Dacca High Court, and as soon as he was released, he was put under arrest again and taken back to the jail. Later on, a few months ago, after he had signed a bond, he was released.

He came back to Calcutta in October last. He has written to me.....

An Hon. Member: What was the charge against him?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: An undesirable person! He was arrested under the Public Safety Ordinance.

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): Was it not the reason that he was a Hindu?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The main charge was that he was a Hindu obviously, but of course that could not be written.

Now he is attempting to go back to Pabna for the purpose of selling some of his properties. Some of his properties have been sold already, for so called inability to pay revenues, but he has still a house left in Pabna, and he wants to make some settlement in respect thereof, and for the last three months he has been trying to get a visa to go back. Some of the members of his family are there. He has written to me a letter enclosing the copy of the letters which he has written to the Prime Minister and the Minister of Minority Affairs, asking whether there is any possibility of any relief coming from any quarter. This is not an isolated example. We have a large number of such cases. I have got at the moment three telegrams which I got yesterday. The wordings in the telegrams are as follows:

"Our sufferings for acquiring passport visa repatriation papers intolerable solicit relief anyhow"

This telegram is signed by 32 persons. Another telegram reads:

"Thirty-ninth day attended Pakistan office for passport visa fruitlessly our affairs in Pakistan ruined pray do something"

The third telegram reads:

"Getting Pak-Bharat travel papers almost impossible pray move

last day for return January three months to save us from disaster."

As you know, Sir, 13th January, 1953 has been fixed as the dead line—I have not got the cuttings here, but only last night I got a telephonic message from Calcutta that Pakistani newspapers are publishing and circulating this as widely as possible that if by 13th January, the inhabitants who are living there are not in a position to fulfil the terms of the new regulations, then their properties will be confiscated or that they will be put under arrest. It is true that the Government is not doing it.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: What are the new regulations?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The new regulations are that they must make their declarations before the authorities concerned whether they are Pakistani or Indian citizens. Threats are being held out that unless they fulfil these conditions, their properties will be confiscated or they may be put under arrest. This is not done by Government as such but this is the sort of atmosphere, the panic which is sought to be created there by the authorities of East Bengal so as to harass the minorities and push them out. But what is it that we are doing? The point which I mentioned at the very beginning was this. How is the Government here going to react to it? I can understand my hon. friend's point of view that 'If the East Pakistan Government does not withdraw the passport system, what can the Government of India do?' I quite understand it, because it must be a bilateral act, and it cannot be done by the Government of India as such. But the Government of India can put pressure in various ways. The Government of India by its dealings with Pakistan Government can make it realise that this procedure which Pakistan is following will not be tolerated by Government in India and may in various ways react on Pakistan.

How is it that we are getting such treatment from Pakistan? I would like to give you a few instances. From East Bengal to West Bengal, there are dues to the tune of about Rs. 25 crores, being loans taken by Central Co-operative Banks, when the two Bengals were one province, and under the Indo-Pak Pact, this amount of Rs. 25 crores—and mind you, it represents the money mostly of poor people or of people belonging to middle class families—is to be repaid to the West Bengal Government. But it appeared

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in the Calcutta papers recently that the East Bengal Government has informed the West Bengal Government that it is not going to make the payment, and that if it is desired, the matter can be settled between the two Central Governments at Karachi and New Delhi. Day before yesterday Mr. Tyagi in the Council of States announced that although 15th August was the date from which repayment of the loan taken by Pakistan from India was to have started, four months have passed and yet no payment has been made, and that the Government is awaiting for the next conference to be held between the two Finance Ministers of Pakistan and India. We have heard of the deplorable condition of our own people in Indian pockets within Pakistan.

So far as the Khasi and Jaintia bills in Assam are concerned, East Bengal has stopped the export of oranges, potatoes, spices etc. which were previously exported to sylhet in large quantities. Day before yesterday there was a telegram from Assam indicating that about 7000 boats in one area in the subdivision of Karimganj alone are sitting idle, thereby putting practically 14000 persons out of work. Does it mean that East Bengal is not taking anything from us? Far from it. It is making its choice. It wants a sufficient quantity of limestone to be sent to East Bengal, and it is being sent from Assam for their cement factory. Pakistan has stopped the export of betel leaves but we are taking their betelnuts. My charge against Government is that there is no attempt whatsoever at putting some pressure on Pakistan. If Pakistan wants limestone to get its cement factory going on in East Bengal, well, obviously the Government of India can say: 'Well, look here, this will not do. You cannot take whatever you need, when you refuse to take things that we could supply to you and which we have been supplying to you for the last so many years.' The Chief Minister and the Governor of Assam visited these areas about a week or ten days ago, and I was reading from an Assam paper an extract from the speeches which they delivered, full of soft words, full of sympathy, and full of assurances. What are the assurances given? "We have big plans for making roads, so that these areas will not be dependent on supplies to and from Pakistan." Then the Chief Minister of Assam said in an expansive mood: "Why worry about a few lakhs in East Bengal? We have 36 crores of people in the whole of India. Your oranges will run from one part of India to another. Why are you

worrying about East Bengal people?" He held out before them fanciful projects of cottage industries, that jam will be manufactured, jelly will be manufactured, and that marmalade will be manufactured, that all sorts of help for cottage industries will come etc. Poor people, unfortunate illiterate spokesmen humbly ask, "What about our immediate present? If we can manage to live for the next one or two years, then we will see about this jam, jelly and marmalade. What about the next twelve months? What are you going to do to save us from immediate destruction?" Of course, to that, there is no reply.

I have given you an instance already with regard to supply of paddy. As you know, timber comes from that area. And about 5000 pieces were dealt with last year—I am taking this from published reports where some indications have been given as to how East Bengal is virtually carrying on a policy of economic sanction only suited to its own needs, the discriminatory policy of economic sanction which has already been pursued by the East Bengal Government. This year, the number removed to East Bengal during the last few months, is even less than 60. The normal price for oranges last year was Rs. fifty, but now it has dropped to Rs. nine.

So far as the number of persons who have been given passport by our Indian office is concerned, in Karimganj alone, 534 persons have been given passports. But not one single visa has been given by East Bengal authorities sitting in Assam. In Agartala, 355 passports have been given by our authorities, and only one visa has been given up till now by the East Bengal authorities. The question that I would like to put to Government is this: Are you really so helpless? Are you so imbecile and so powerless as to do nothing in such a matter? We are receiving kicks from every side, and yet we are going on giving them all supplies that they may want. Obviously at some stage, the Government must move. My friend Mrs. Chakravarty referred to the movement going on in East Bengal against the passport system. That is all right, we do not dislike it, we shall give support to such movements, by all means, let this be continued. But my friend will be living in a paradise of her own if she thinks that there is enough scope for carrying on agitation within East Bengal so as to be able to alter the deliberate policy which is now being pursued by the East Pakistan Government. We are not against peace. She referred, I believe, to the Communist party, when she said

that there were reactionaries in West Bengal, and also in East Bengal, but that it is not a question of reactionaries alone. It is a question of the mentality of the powers that be. She referred to Janab Suhrawardy a friend of mine. I know how Janab Suhrawardy saved himself nearabout 15th August, 1947 by wearing a torn lungi and a torn *genji*. I cannot forget that sight when I saw him in that state with Gandhiji in Calcutta in August, 1947. Of course he then showed that he had changed his mind, that he believed partition was wrong, and so he wanted to devote his whole time to peaceful work. Later, he ran away to Pakistan, and I wish him good luck. But it is not a question of what Janab Suhrawardy can do. What we are discussing in this Parliament is this. What can our Government do? We cannot pass any resolution, or make any suggestion compelling the East Pakistan Government as such to take any action.

I do believe, that if the Pakistan Government is determined to follow a policy of economic sanctions of a discriminatory character which hits us extremely, then we can also devise means to counteract this: there are a number of important commodities without which the East Bengal Government cannot carry on for more than a few weeks. Our Government should take up this attitude: 'Very well, if you proceed in this way, then we also can go along and impose bans and make it impossible for certain things to go to East Bengal or pass through India which are of an essential character.' But that requires courage, that requires certain strength of mind, that requires certain determination to do the right thing. I know that there is no solution with regard to this problem unless and until East Bengal comes into the Indian Union. There is really no other solution. We shall be tinkering with the problem until and unless conditions are created—I hope with the willing cooperation of the mass of the people—whereby either these two provinces become one or East Bengal remains a separate unit but becomes part and parcel of the Indian Union or has some treaty with the Indian Union.

Dr. N. B. Khare: Just like Kashmir.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I will not quote Kashmir. We can have a better arrangement. But so far as the ultimate solution is concerned, that is the only solution.

I would only remind the Government that the present policy of drift which they are pursuing is disastrous. We do

not find Government moving in the matter at all. All these complaints which are coming to us must obviously have come to the Ministers in the various departments in Delhi. I know the Ministries in Calcutta are flooded with such protests. We have to put our heads together and find out some way out of the present impasse. And if we fail to do so, from the way in which public feelings have been roused, I do not know which way exactly this movement will go. We have witnessed during the last few weeks an India-wide agitation. There were protests made by the Congress that such an agitation might take a communal turn. As the House knows this 'East Bengal Day' which was observed throughout the country passed off extremely smoothly. There was no communal disturbance, in fact, and the speeches which were delivered from every platform throughout the length and breadth of the country made no communal references at all. It is a first-class political problem. It is a situation which is being created out of the deliberate obstinacy of a Government which today our own Government due to weakness and timidity has helped to keep in its own position of strength and stability. Therefore, it is essential that before it is too late our Government must suggest in what way it will proceed to avoid a catastrophe.

I like the amendment which my friend, Lala Achint Ram has proposed. It is a practical proposition. Let us at least make this declaration that members of the minority community who wish to come out to India from East Bengal either to West Bengal or to Assam will not be harassed for want of the necessary legal documents which we may otherwise require such migrants to produce according to the normal law of the land. I am hoping that the spirit of the amendment will be accepted by Government, because I know that many of the people who are in East Bengal have failed to produce the necessary documents. Some members of their families are here in West Bengal or in Assam; others are in East Bengal. And persons have written to us most pathetically. Some members of their families have fallen seriously ill: they are being detained in East Bengal and for the last six weeks their people are being prevented from going from West Bengal to East Bengal.

Now the remedy which can be found out must obviously be found out by the Government. I do not want that a situation should arise when the people will take the law into their own hands. That should be the last thing.

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that people should do. But if our Government goes on in the present manner, I do not know how matters will develop. And then it will recoil not only on the head of the Pakistan Government but it will recoil very heavily on the head of our own Government which we are all anxious to avoid.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : स्पीकर महोदय, मुझे बहुत दुःख होता है कि जबभी हमारी रिफ्यूजी प्रब्लेम (Refugee problem) के बारे में कोई बहस हाउस में होती है तो जो हमारे अड्डा भाई हैं, जिन को आप शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट (Scheduled Caste) कहते हैं उन का कोई कगल नहीं किया जाता है। जब भी मैं यहां पर बोलने के लिये खड़ा होता हूं तो लोगों का ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि राजभोज माहूब खड़े हैं और कुछ न कुछ अछूतों के बारे में कहेंगे। क्या कल, हमारे देश में जो अछूतों का मामला है, अब तक जो उन की कथन कहानी रहती है, उस को देखने हुए मेरा फंड हो जाता है कि उन की बात हाउस के मामले ला कर कुछ न कुछ मुड़ाऊं। उन लोगों की फिक्र करना मेरा फंड है।

[SRI PATASKAR in the Chair]

एक माननीय सदस्य : लेकिन आप की टाइम ही नहीं मिलता :

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : टाइम तो नहीं मिलता है, स्पीकर महोदय की मेहरबानी रहती है।

पुनर्वासि मंत्री श्री ए० पी० जैन : तो जब मौका मिले तभी कह दीजिये।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : पूर्वी बंगाल में जो हमारे करीब करीब ६०, ७० की सदी शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं

उन लोगों के यहां आने के लिये जो परमिट सिस्टम (Permit system) और पासपोर्ट सिस्टम (Passport system) लगाया गया है वह बहुत जरूरत का है। हमारे कई भाई पाकिस्तान और हिन्दुस्तान के समझने की लम्बी चौड़ी बात करते हैं, लेकिन वह उस को अमल में नहीं लाते हैं। हमारी पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट इतनी मरुत है कि बहुतो हमारी बात सुनना ही नहीं चाहती है। मिस में जो हमारे शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोगों की कथन कहानी है वह सब से खराब है। वहां जितने मेहरार हैं उन को वहां डबलन रखा जा रहा है और वह वहां से बाहर आने की कोशिश तक नहीं कर सकते क्यों कि आखिर उन को काम तो करना ही है। मानों उन लोगों ने ही ठेका ले लिया है कि उन को ही करना है। आज कल तो पुराना जमाना बदल रहा है। हमारी सरकार को कुछ काम करना चाहिये क्यों कि यह सरकार की ड्यूटी है उन की रक्षा करे। लेकिन माय ही में यह कहना चाहना है कि जो हमारे पूर्वी बंगाल और मिस के लोग हैं उन को बहुत कथन कथानी है और बड़े दुःख की है। मैं गवर्नमेंट से अपील करूंगा कि उन लोगों का वहां से यहां लाने की कोशिश करनी चाहिये उन की खराब हालत के बारे में मेरे पास पत्र आये हैं, श्री श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी ने भी कई बार मुझ से कहा कि तुम मेरे साथ चलो और अपनी आंखों से सारी हालत देखो। मैं कलकते गया और मझे माहून हुआ कि उन लोगों को आने की बड़ी तकलीफ है। बारीसाल, फरीदपुर, खुजना डिबोइन में हम लोगों की वशा तादाद है। मुझे डर है कि उन लोगों को आने का मौका नहीं मिलेगा और ऐसा मालूम हो रहा है कि उनको जबर्दस्ती धनान्तर करना पड़ेगा। मैं ने

मुना है कि उन का मुसलमान बनना लाजमी कर दिया गया है। वह तो बेचारे गरीब हैं, इनने पड़े लिखे नहीं हैं कि पासपोर्ट के लिये डिप्टी कमिशनर या कलेक्टर के पास जा कर खड़े हों। हमारी गवर्नमेंट में भी आज बड़े बड़े लोग हैं मैं उन का नाम नहीं लेना चाहता। लेकिन मैं उन से कहना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वी बंगाल के जो शोड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं उन की हालत बहुत खराब है। श्री मंडल, जो हमारी पार्टी के, यानी शोड्यूल्ड कास्ट फंडेशन की तरफ से वहाँ मिनिस्टर बन गये थे, उन की हालत इतनी खराब हो गई कि यहाँ आने पर फिर उस के बाद उन्होंने सोचा कि चलो मिनिस्टर नहीं बने तो नहीं मही, लेकिन फिर पाकिस्तान लौट कर नहीं गये, और यहाँ से ही इस्तीफा भेज दिया। ऐसी परिस्थिति में शोड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग हैं। हमारे कम्युनिस्ट भाई दोस्ती के बचन बहुत बोलते हैं, कहते हैं कि पीएम (Prime Minister) होनी चाहिये, पीएम तो हम भी चाहते हैं, लेकिन आप किम की ओर से चुन कर आये हैं जो लोग पब्लिक की तरफ से चुन कर आये हैं उन को कभी कभी जनता के लिये आवाज तो उठानी ही चाहिये।

4 P. M.

अभी श्रीमती रेणु चक्रवर्ती ने कहा कि हिन्दुस्तान ने ठीक नहीं किया पाकिस्तान ने ठीक नहीं किया। वह कभी कांग्रेस को सपोर्ट (support) करती हैं कभी अपोज (oppose) करती हैं। वह उन की पालिसी ठीक नहीं है। जो कुछ उन को सच्चा दिखता है वही बोलना चाहिये। वह बात ठीक नहीं है कि कभी सपोर्ट कर दिया और कभी नहीं किया। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि चाहे वह किसी धर्म के खिलाफ बोलें, पर जो वह चाहती हैं वही हम भी चाहते हैं। हम भी इक्वालिटी (equality) चाहते हैं

पर मिलती नहीं। मैं हाउस में और मिनिस्टर साइड में कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह शोड्यूल्ड कास्ट रिपयूजीज की तरफ खास तौर से ध्यान दें और यह कांशिश करें कि वह लोग ज्यादा से ज्यादा संख्या में यहाँ आ सकें, क्यों कि उन के पास पैसा नहीं है। हमारे और दूसरे बड़े बड़े लोगों के पास फंड (fund) है, कमेंटियाँ उन की सहायता करती हैं और इस तरह उन को हर प्रकार की सहायता मिलती है, लेकिन हम लोगों के पास पैसा नहीं है और इस लिये शोड्यूल्ड कास्ट वालों को बहुत तकलीफ हो रही है। इस लिये मेरा पहला सवाल यह है कि जो पूर्वी बंगाल से इधर आना चाहते हैं उन को इस की पूरी सुविधा दी जाये। हम को पासपोर्ट का अगड़ा पसन्द नहीं है। इस की वजह से हमारे लोग नहीं आ सकते। वह यहाँ आना चाहते हैं। मैं नहीं चाहता कि कभी दोनों देशों में अगड़ा हो, लेकिन अगर कभी अगड़ा हो गया तो आप कहेंगे कि राजभोज तुम हम को मिलिटरी के लिये आदमी दो। तो लड़ने को तो हम हैं और खाने को आप है। हमारा महान बटालियन काश्मीर बार्डर के पास काम कर रहा है। यहाँ न हिन्दू महासभा का बटालियन है और न कम्युनिस्टों का बटालियन है। हमारे भोमले साहब जो हैं वह एक मार्शल कम्युनिटी (martial community) के हैं, वह छत्रपति शिवाजी के वंशज हैं। वह यह कंसा बिल लाये हैं। आप के ऊपर बहुत जिम्मेदारी है। मैं दूसरे लोगों की तरह यह बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ। मैं तो आप से यही अपील करता हूँ कि आप इन लोगों की ज्यादा से ज्यादा मदद करें। अगर आप इन की मदद नहीं करेंगे तो वह इस देश के लिये बहुत अच्छा नहीं होगा। हमारे जो पूर्वी बंगाल के शोड्यूल्ड कास्ट के भाई यहाँ बैठे हुए हैं, वह कुछ नहीं बोले हैं। लेकिन मैं ने जो इस रिपयूजीज की हालत

(श्री पी० एन० राजभोज)

देखी उस से मुझे तो रोना आ गया। उन के गढ़ने के लिये जगह नहीं है। रिफ्यू-जीड के लिये गवर्नमेंट ने करोड़ों रुपया खर्च किया है लेकिन यह सबाल अभी पूरी तरह हल नहीं हुआ है। मैं हिरोशिमा गया था जहां बमबारी हुई थी। लेकिन थोड़े ही दिनों में हिरोशिमा में मकान बन गये और वहां रिहैबिलिटेशन हो गया। लेकिन हमारे देश को बाबादी मिले इतने दिन हो गये, अभी तक रिफ्यूजीड का सबाल भी पूरा नहीं हुआ है। इसी बातों में कहना है कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट इस तरह ध्यान दे। जब कोई तप करता है तो उस को राज्य मिलता है, पर जब कोई अच्छा राज्य नहीं करता है तो उस को नुक़्क भी मिलता है। तो यह सबाल अपने देश का है। यह देश हमारा और आप का सब का है। लेकिन जब हम बोलते हैं तो कहा जाता है कि गाली देने हैं। हो सकता है कि मरे साहब ने जो कुछ कहा वह भी इसी कारण कि उन को भी चोट लगी होगी। जिन लोगों में मैं पैदा हुआ हूँ उन की मदद करना आप का मुख्य कार्य है। हमारे जो नेता लोग हैं उन को यहाँ आना चाहिये। मंत्री लोगों ने एक ही काम करने का कोई ठक़ा तो नहीं ले रखा है।

चटगांव में जो हमारे बुद्धिस्ट लोग हैं उन पर भी दूनम हो रहे हैं। हमारी गवर्नमेंट को उन की मदद करनी चाहिये। अगर आप हमारे सबाल को उठावेंगे तो हम में आप जितनी मदद चाहेंगे हम देंगे। मगर आप का दिल साफ़ होना चाहिये। ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये कि पेट में तो कुछ और बात है और ऊपर सफ़ाई है। हम जब गवर्नमेंट की गलती बनाने हैं तो उस को बुरा नहीं मानना चाहिये क्योंकि हम भी अपनी गवर्नमेंट को अच्छा बनाना चाहते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय ने जो मुझे समय दिया है उस के लिए धन्यवाद देता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि जो मुझाव मैंने दिये हैं हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब उन को अमल में लावेंगे।

Shri Tek Chand (Ambala-Simla): That the passport system is pernicious in the extreme admits of no doubt. It requires no debate. It has been realised by our Government as much as by the people of this country that it is full of difficulties and it has created a considerable number of complications. But, is this the matter in issue, is this the subject-matter of the debate this afternoon? My contention before you is that if there was an appropriate occasion when we could air our views, when we could let loose our bottled-up feelings as to the conduct meted out to us by Pakistan, perhaps that would be the proper occasion when we can give vent to our feelings and sentiments and, in all probability, when the opportunity arises, a large number of hon. Members will be more or less of one voice. But, so far as the amendment before the House is concerned, to my mind, it is just a logical issue of what has to follow. The acceptance or rejection of this amendment does not mean that our Government is wedded to the passport system for all time to come or even for a single day if the Pakistan Government were to relent and realise their errors. The passport system is a painful necessity—I do not say it is a retaliatory measure—but such a system is absolutely necessary when one Government in the exercise of the powers that it, no doubt, possesses, but with a view to commit hardships on others, imposes such a system. Not as a retaliatory measure, as I said, but as a defensive measure the introduction of the passport system in this country as well, becomes imperative. That it involves rigours admits of no doubt; but those hardships may be ameliorated. And, my suggestion to the Government is that the hardships that are to be visualised may, for the sake of convenience, be put into two categories. Firstly there are hardships on those members of the minority community in Pakistan who are desirous of entering this country of ours finally and for all time to come but are driven back by the lawless laws, and by the unkindness of those people. So far as those people are concerned who wish to migrate to this country, they should have free access, without any hindrance, without any difficulty, and without any legalistic formalities. They

should not have any difficulty on the ground that Pakistan has not given them any passport and therefore our doors are banged against them. We may be over-crowded, we may be elbowed out, but that does not mean that we should not receive them with open arms. If we have not got sufficient food to give, we will prefer to go on half rations. We are not going to raise this legalistic wall in the way of their entering this country if they so wish to. Therefore, I utilise this occasion to press upon the Government that in the way of those entrants into our country there should be no bar or hindrance.

In the second category are those Hindus, members of the minority community who are in that country or who from our country wish to enter Pakistan. No doubt, any Government in the exercise of its sovereign rights can create laws and impose difficulties and there is nothing to stop them. But we have to remember the definition of citizenship as laid down in our Constitution. I have no doubt whatsoever that if you were logically to accept the definition of citizenship as laid down in our Constitution, the vast majority of the members of the minority community in East Pakistan are entitled to the citizenship of our country, and if I may say so, and to our national status if they wish to acquire it. Therefore any difficulties visited upon them are difficulties visited upon our citizens, and as Dr. S. P. Mookerjee said, there may be occasion or occasions to impose economic sanctions. But one thing has to be realised by our Government, and I have no doubt that the Government is cognisant of the feeling of national ire that is seething all over the country as a result of the treatment which is being meted out by the Pakistan Government to our nationals. The cup of our patience is almost full and if some active measure is not taken in hand quickly, the cup of our patience will soon overflow. Therefore, it is high time to bring diplomatic pressure. We need not necessarily adopt a pugilistic or belligerent attitude. We need not show the mailed fist, but at the same time, the fact that we possess a mailed fist should not admit of any doubt. If and when the occasion arises, that mailed fist should be available for the defence of our citizens and for the protection of their rights.

So, this occasion may be utilised by our Government for assessing and gauging the feelings and the apprehensions in our minds. They should re-

member that our countrymen voice with one feeling the resentment that we as a nation feel against the conduct and attitude of the Pakistan Government. So long as the passport restrictions are imposed by the other side, we shall have to adopt similar measures, but we should relax them as far as we can in order to see that no hardship is caused to the people who want to come to our country, and they are people who have the right to come to our country. Therefore, I may be excused for deviating a little from the subject matter of the amendment, but taking the cue from the other Members who have spoken about their feelings on this subject, although they are not strictly germane to the issue, I am also utilising this opportunity to suggest to Government that they should take note of the feelings in our country and see that while this amendment is necessary and ought to be passed, the day it becomes feasible they should tighten the thumb screws, and there are plenty of thumb screws. They should twist the tail of Pakistan and make their Government realise that we can, if necessary, retaliate. So far, if we have erred, we have erred on the side of generosity. If we have committed mistakes, we have committed mistakes on the side of justice. But if the Pakistan Government adopts this type of course, and persists in it, then the time will not be far off when we would be driven to the position of retaliation and returning the compliment with our mailed fist.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह (हजारीबाग पश्चिम) : सभापति महोदय, यह ऐसा विषय है, जिस पर कुछ बोलने बिना नहीं रहा जाता। इस विषय में अधिक तो बोलना नहीं है, एक ही दो बात बोल कर मैं बंद जाऊंगा। मैं इस लोक सभा के प्रत्येक सदस्य से प्रार्थना करता हूं, बिनय करता हूं, कि भाई कम से कम इस विषय को दलबन्दी का विषय नहीं रखा जाये। याद रखना चाहिये कि एक तो दलबन्दी हमेशा के लिये खराब है और दूसरे में यह कह देता हूं कि आज हो या पचास वर्ष के बाद, यदि देश में शांति और सुख हम चाहेंगे तो दलबन्दी खत्म करनी होगी। आज कौन नहीं जानता कि पूर्वी बंगाल या पश्चिमी पंजाब मिला कर यह सब हमारा

[बाबू रामनारायण सिंह]

एक भारतवर्ष देश था। हम लोग करीब ४२-४३ करोड़ भारतवासी एक भारत माना की मन्तान थी। आज दुर्भाग्यवश, संयोगवश, देश बंट गया। पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान का जहाँ तक हिस्सा है, बहुत से लोग मारे गये, काटे गये, बहुत से आ गये। अब प्रश्न है पूर्वी बंगाल का। अभी भी वहाँ करीब ९० लाख हिन्दू हैं। मभापति महोदय, जितने हम लोग यहाँ पर बैठे हैं, उन लोगों को जरा इस तरह से विचार करना होगा कि हम लोगों में से किसी व्यक्ति को, हमारे भौमके माहब को चाहे अजीत प्रसाद जैन जी को, दुश्मनों के बीच में रख दिया जाये या किसी शेर के सामने इन लोगों को रख दिया जाये, तो इन की भावना कैसी होगी। इस में कोई शक नहीं कि आज ९० लाख के करीब हिन्दू उसी तरह अपने को समझ रहे हैं। आज आप ने जो आज़ादी पाई है वह उन लोगों को बलिदान कर के ही पाई है। यह मान लेना होगा। यदि हम भले व्यक्ति हैं और यदि हम लोग कृत्ज हैं तो इनका मान लेना पड़ेगा कि हम लोगों ने उन की बदौलत, उन का बलिदान दे कर, आज़ादी पाई है। यह मान लेना होगा कि वे हमारे भाई हैं। यिफ़ इतना ही नहीं है। यह भी मालूम होना चाहिये कि हमारे देश में इस तरह की परम्परा चली आती है कि दुनिया के किसी कोने से भी कोई व्यक्ति भारत के शासक के पास पत्र लिखता था कि मैं तुम्हारी शरण हूँ तो उस की रक्षा के लिये वह अपना सर्वस्व त्याग कर देता था। तो मैं सब भाइयों से कह सकता हूँ, सारे हिन्दुस्तान के रहने वालों से कह सकता हूँ, हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार से भी कह सकता हूँ कि वे ९० लाख भारतवासी आप के अपने हैं, आप उन के हैं, वे आप की शरण में हैं, और अपनी रक्षा के लिये वे आप की तरफ देख रहे हैं।

मभापति महोदय, यह मानवता का नफ़ाजा है कि भारतवासी जितने हम ३५ करोड़ लोग हैं वे उन की रक्षा के लिये हम में जो बन पड़े वह करें। और जो बन पड़े के माने यहाँ तक है कि यदि भारतवर्ष का उन की रक्षा के कार्य में नाश भी हो जाये तो भी उस के लिये हमें तैयार होना चाहिये, यदि हम लोग मनुष्य हैं, यदि हम उन को अपना समझते हैं। जब मैं यहाँ इस विषय में किसी तरह का मनभेद देखता हूँ तो बहुत कष्ट होता है। अभी हमारे एक मित्र श्री फ़ीरोज़ गांधी ने प्रश्न किया था जब मुबेना कृपलानी बोले रहीं थी कि क्या उपाय हैं? अजी माहब, या तो हिन्दी में भी बहुत सी ऐसी कहावतें हैं, लेकिन जब अंग्रेज़ी पढ़ना शुरू किया था तो आप ने पढ़ा होगा, बंपर देयर इज ए बिल, देयर इज ए बै, जब आप काम करना चाहेंगे तो उपाय मिल जाते हैं। लेकिन सब में बहुत ज्यादा कष्ट की बात यह आती है कि लोग कहते हैं कि क्या करें।

मभापति महोदय, ३५ करोड़ भारतवासियों की यह सरकार है और इस के हाथ में सारे देश भर की शक्ति और सम्पत्ति है, यह सरकार क्या नहीं कर सकती? करने के लिए हृदय और संकल्प होना चाहिये। मैं कहता हूँ कि यदि आप करना चाहेंगे तो बहुत कुछ कर सकते हैं, करने के लिये दिल होना चाहिये, संकल्प होना चाहिये, बिना संकल्प के कोई काम नहीं हो सकता और जब मैं आप को अमहाय की तरह यह कहने सुनता हूँ कि भाई हम क्या करें, तो मुझे बड़ा दुःख होता है। मैं आप से कहूँगा कि अगर आप चाहें तो सब कुछ कर सकते हैं। इधर से जब कोई बोलता है और हम लोग बात करते हैं तो उधर वाले ऐसा समझते हैं कि हम लोग जो भी बात करते हैं वह हमेशा यही की ही बात करते हैं। लेकिन यह

बात नहीं है, हम युद्ध की बात नहीं करते हैं, और न हम युद्ध चाहते हैं। मेरी इतनी उम्र हो गई है और मैं यह अच्छी तरह जानता हूँ कि युद्ध से क्या क्या कष्ट होते हैं। मैं जानता हूँ कि युद्ध का क्या परिणाम होता है, लेकिन साथ ही यह भी जानता हूँ कि जो देश समाज और जाति युद्ध के लिये तैयार नहीं रहती है उस राष्ट्र, देश व जाति को दुनिया में रहने का कोई हक नहीं है। लेकिन मेरा ऐसा कहने का अभिप्राय यह नहीं है कि युद्ध के लिये तैयार हो जाओ। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि जैसे यहां उधर से असहियों की तरह बात की जाती है नामदों की तरह कि क्या करें वह नहीं होना चाहिये। आप समर्थ हैं, करना चाहेंगे तो सब कुछ कर सकते हैं।

* * * * *

मैं सभापति जी जो कह रहा था वह यह था कि जब मैं उन के मुँह से यह सुनता हूँ और जैसा हमारे फीरोज भाई ने कहा कि बोलो हम क्या कर सकते हैं तो मुझे बड़ा दुःख और तकलीफ होती है। करने के बारे में तो मुझे कहना है कि वह बहुत कुछ कर सकते हैं अगर करने का दिल और संकल्प हो।

जैसे अभी श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी साहब ने कहा था कि उधर से तो लोग कुछ लाने नहीं पाते, लेकिन पाकिस्तान को यहां से चीजें भेजी जाती हैं। ऐसी ऐसी बातें सुन कर लोगों के दिल में कैसी भावना उठेगी? कहते हैं कि हम को उधर से कोई मदद नहीं मिलती, और इधर से हर तरह की मदद दिये जा रहे हैं। इस प्रकार का बर्ताव हो तो लोग क्या कहेंगे? लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि जो कुछ करना है और जो हमारे और भाइयों ने भी कहा है, मुझे इस विषय में दुःख होता है। जैसा मैं ने शुरू में कहा था कि इस मामले में

पार्टी का सबाल नहीं लाना चाहिये। सब को अपने मन की बात बोलनी चाहिये। मैं जानता हूँ कि बहुतों के दिलों में, प्रायः सभी के दिलों में एक ही बात है, लेकिन पार्टी की वजह से बोलते नहीं हैं। लेकिन इस के लिये कई प्रकार के उपाय काम में लाये जा सकते हैं जिन से जो हमारा मकसद है अर्थात् जो लोगों के कष्ट हम दूर करना चाहते हैं वह कर सकते हैं। जैसा हमारे श्यामा बाबू ने भी कहा था कि सब बातों में तरीके निकल सकते हैं। हम लोग तो सत्य-अन्याई लोगों की तरह कुछ बात कह देते हैं। तो जैसे और लोग भी कहते हैं कि एकानामिक संश्लेष (Economic sanctions) लागू करो, अर्थात् रोजगार पाकिस्तान के साथ बंद करो। तो, सभापति महोदय, मैं सब भाइयों से निवेदन करूंगा और सब से अर्ज करूंगा, और जो सरकार में काम कर रहे हैं उन से भी कहूंगा कि भाई अगर तुम्हें कुछ करना ही है तो संसार में उपाय की कमी नहीं है। ऐसा कभी न कहो कि "क्या करूँ"। मैं, सभापति महोदय, आप से कहता हूँ कि कई बार पाकिस्तान से सुलह हुई, अनेक शर्तें हुई और यहां पर आ कर वे लोग ऐसा बोलते हैं कि हम लोगों ने तो शर्तों के मुताबिक काम किया, लेकिन पाकिस्तान वाले नहीं करते। इस के क्या माने? इस का क्या मतलब है? सभापति महोदय, मैं कड़ी बात नहीं बोलना चाहता लेकिन शास्त्र के वचन हैं :

“हितं मनोहारि च दुर्लभं वचः”

अर्थात् हित की बात मीठी होना कठिन है। मैं कहता हूँ कि दो आदमियों में बात होती है और कुछ तय होता है एक आदमी उस बात को मानता है और दूसरा नहीं मानता तो वह किस मुँह से पहले के साथ बात करेगा। पाकिस्तान के साथ बार बार सुलह हुई है और वह बार बार तोड़ते

[बाबू रामनारायण सिंह]

हैं तो वह किस मुंह से, किस माहस से, किस अक्स में यह बात करते हैं। मैं यह कहता हूँ कि एकानामिक संस्थाओं कर सकते हैं। मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहता कि युद्ध कर सकते हैं, लेकिन कम से कम महात्मा गांधी के रास्ते पर चल कर पाकिस्तान से सम्बन्ध तो तोड़ सकते हैं कि पाकिस्तान में कोई न जाने का सम्बन्ध न कोई जाने का सम्बन्ध। वह तो कर सकते हैं। अगर मनुष्य कुछ करना चाहेगा तो उन के लिये रास्ते की कमी नहीं रहती है, हाँ, अगर वह मनुष्य पत्थर हो गये हैं, तो इस का कोई उपाय ही नहीं है। मैं कहूँगा कि हम लोग जो अनुभवों लोग हैं उन की बात पर एक दफा तो अमल करो। किसी ने कहा कि मैं कड़े शब्द बोलना हूँ। लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप ने ३५ करोड़ भारतवासियों का भार अपने ऊपर लिया है। यह आसान काम नहीं है। आप का इतना बड़ा हृदय होना चाहिये, कलेजा होना चाहिये, अक्स होनी चाहिये कि हमारे ऐसे आदिमियों की आलोचना में आप अपना कल्याण देखें। यह नहीं कि कड़ी बात मुँह कर आप लोग क्रोध कीजिये। यह अक्स की बात नहीं है। अगर आप को कुछ करना है तो अवश्य कीजिये। और ऐसी बात न बोलें कि कोई अगर ठीक रास्ता नहीं चलता तो हम क्या करें। जिस को यह बात बोलना है वह इस के बोलने से पहले ही यहाँ से इस्तीफा दे दे। यही धर्म का तकाजा है। यह नहीं कि करेंगे भी कुछ नहीं और बैठे भी रहेंगे।

इसलिये यह सब कहते हुए मैं इस बिल का विरोध करता हूँ और सभी भाइयों से कहता हूँ, खास कर मंत्री लोगों से कि अगर कुछ भी करो तो उस रूल से काम चल जायेगा। इसी तरह सब का कल्याण होगा आप का

कल्याण होगा और हम लोगों का भी कल्याण होगा। और अगर ऐसा नहीं कर सकते तो इस पद से हट जाओ।

Dr. M. M. Das (Burdwan—Reserved—Sch. Castes): My hon. friend Mr. Rajabhoj ventilated some grievances of the Scheduled Castes before this House. His speech gave an occasion to this House for light entertainment. In the midst of the dull and drab proceedings of this House his speech provided this House with an opportunity to laugh. But as a member of the Scheduled Castes myself, coming from Bengal, I stand by, and I think my other friends of the Scheduled Castes should also stand by, every word that he spoke. Although it was taken by this House in a jovial manner, what he said is the true word that every Member belonging to the scheduled castes in this House wants to speak before you, Sir, and this august House.

They say that history repeats itself. Eastern Bengal, now Eastern Pakistan, was not always a Muslim-majority province. The largest number among its population were the Scheduled Caste people. It is the Scheduled Caste people who made that province a Hindu-majority province. And when these Scheduled Castes, for some reason or the other better known to this House, embraced Islam the province became a Muslim-majority one. I do not want to place before you and this House the reasons why large numbers of Scheduled Caste people in Eastern Bengal embraced another religion. Perhaps it will suffice to say that just before partition the treatment accorded to these unfortunate people was worse than that given to the Muslims. The treatment that a Muslim could get from our big brothers (I mean the caste Hindus), the Scheduled Caste people could not expect even now in that part of the country. We, the Scheduled Caste people are suffering much worse than perhaps the other classes of the Hindus. We are suffering in the same manner and we cannot but think that perhaps it is the atonement of the sin committed by our society in the past.

I do not want to dwell upon this particular point because it is the bleeding wound in the heart of every Scheduled Caste Member—not only Member but every Scheduled Caste person who has been educated and who has gathered some

amount of education, learning and reasoning. I had no intention to intervene in this debate, but I thought it my duty to utter a few words to voice forth the grievances of the hundreds of millions of my Scheduled Caste brethren who are still living in Eastern Pakistan. They are illiterate people; most of them are agriculturists; they do not know the intricacies of laws. Today they are the worst victims of communal frenzy.

I appeal to my own Government, only to do this much that the gates of India may remain ever open to these people whenever they find an opportunity to come here. This much I want from the hon. Minister who is piloting the Bill. And if by accepting the amendment, about which my hon. friend Dr. Syamaprasad Mookerjee has spoken just now, it will be possible to keep open the gates of India for those unfortunate sons of the Indian Union, the Minister may kindly do it. No question of prestige should stand in the way when the life and honour of hundreds and thousands of our people are involved.

Shri K. P. Tripathi (Darrang): I have listened to this debate and one point which I want to emphasise is that certain remarks made by Dr. Mookerjee in this House have evoked considerable response and I feel that I should oppose one of them and support the other. Dr. Mookerjee in the course of his speech said that the solution of this problem will lie only in the merger of East Bengal with India. I think this is an unfortunate statement to be made in the Parliament. The chances of merger of East Bengal with India do not exist and therefore any man with any sense of responsibility should not make such statements. I remember before Hyderabad was attacked, Sardar Patel did not speak of this question at all. One never knew that Hyderabad was going to be attacked and it was attacked and the police action took place.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If you advocate that, I shall withdraw my suggestion.

An. Hon. Member: On a point of order, Sir. He has made a statement that Hyderabad was attacked. It was merely a police action.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: No point of order is involved. I should proceed. Certain facts are such that they cannot be washed away. We should be more careful when speaking, particularly those things which we do not want to do. And here is a fact

which has already been consummated. Therefore making such statements does not lead us anywhere. It has lead us nowhere. It leads to unfortunate consequences in East Bengal because this statement will be published in bold headlines in East Bengal and it will be held before the people of Pakistan and they will.....

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The hon. Member has perhaps forgotten that what I emphasised was that I hoped that with the willing co-operation of people of both the areas, there will be a union in that area. There is nothing objectionable in that. The Prime Minister made such a statement.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: If there is a question of a willing union, it is another matter. So, the emphasis should be on the willing union. If that is the statement, I have nothing to say in the matter but whenever such a statement is made, we must be very careful to qualify it completely. It must not be an unqualified statement.

The second statement which Dr. Mookerjee made and which I want to underline strongly is with regard to the situation in border areas. Dr. Mookerjee has tried to emphasise one point which I feel Government often forgets. That is the treatment of people living in border areas by Pakistan. What has happened in Assam? You will realise that there are tribal areas, the Garo Hills, the Khasi Hills and Lushai Hills. These people are tribal. They were having trade relations with areas in Pakistan. Now what has happened? The Pakistani police has been placed there. The merchandise—potatoes, oranges, etc., which used to go to Pakistan have been completely blocked. The other day when a question was put here to the Commerce and Industries Minister whether there were economic sanctions applied by Pakistan with regard to the movement of these commodities, he said "No" but at that very time, we know as a full fact that all these things were not allowed to move into the Pakistan territory although from the same place limestone was being taken because it is necessary for the purpose of running cement factory there. Limestones should go, but oranges shall not go because they do not want them!

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Oranges do not make cement.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: My friend, Dr. Mookerjee, in his marmalade and jelly speech has very rightly emphasised this point but he has unfortunately cast a reflection upon the Chief Minister of Assam but I may tell you that the Chief Minister of

[Shri K. P. Tripathi]

Assam, in his own way, has tried to help the problem in Lushai Hills. The movement there is very difficult. Rice has to be carried on backs of men and by the time it comes to the extremity, it costs Rs. 100 per maund and this is being sold at the controlled rate and Assam is subsidising this. Formerly rice used to come from Sylhet area to these areas. Now Sylhet has gone. The result is people there are on the point of starvation.

Now, Dr. Mookerjee tried to emphasise one point, namely, that Government should behave with Pakistan as a gentleman but it must continue to feel and realise that Pakistan may not behave as a gentleman. Therefore they should have a policy in advance that if Pakistan behaves in a certain way in the border areas, we should have ready plans to divert our trade. This is the point which he tried to emphasise and I will, with all the emphasis at my command, underline this. I tell you, Sir, that Government has not been fully aware of this problem. Until the last October session, when this question was raised from the point of view of Assam, Government did not consider it worthwhile to enquire into this. Then they sent an Expert Committee. The committee enquired and have submitted a report to Government. In the meantime these people are starving. The other day, my friend, Mrs. Khongmen was writing a letter to the hon. Prime Minister. She was drafting it. I saw it. It was a pathetic letter. She was describing in most harrowing terms the conditions of the people living in these border areas. They had cultivated certain paddy on the border. Up comes Pakistan police and fires upon them. These poor fellows run away. I put a short notice question. This was not allowed. Up till now no statement has been made by the Prime Minister. The result is paddy lies unreaped. What will happen to it? This is a situation which is most unfortunate and Government should have taken it into account. It has not shown sufficient awareness of the seriousness. Therefore this question has arisen. You know, these people cultivate oranges and betelnut which are their commodities for exchange by which they live. I think question was put this morning about betelnut. Here is the betelnut grower. If this is not allowed to be exported, all the betelnuts go in waste. How shall these people live? Therefore, I say that Government should have a policy.

Sir, I tell you this cordoning by Pakistan is not an economic blockade

merely as Dr. Mookerjee has stated. It is a deep-seated policy because Pakistan thinks that the tribal people of Assam are not completely Indianised. You will realise, that there was a constant attempt by the British people to keep these tribal areas as a hinterland for themselves. As a matter of fact, a great civilian of England wrote a book in which he advocated that these hill areas should be cordoned off and along with Northern Burma they should be made into a separate territory. That propaganda was there and that propaganda is still continuing. I know of one gentleman from Europe who is still continuing in the Digboi area. He is a great friend of the Naga people who are not joining your elections. He is carrying on nefarious propaganda there. But, Government is unaware of this. It is most unfortunate.

Some Hon. Members: Who is that?

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Now, the policy behind this is this. If economic pressure can be put upon the people of Garo hills, Khasi hills and Lushai hills, what will be the result? The result will be that these hill people will try to go out of India. They will think that it is better to be in Pakistan than in India. It is with this political motive that economic pressure is put. The same economic pressure is not put on the West Bengal side. Therefore the Government thinks that everything is 'OK' there. But, unfortunately in these areas about which people do not know at all, this most insidious and continuous economic pressure is being put so that the people of these hills may be alienated from Indian loyalty and made to go over to Pakistan. Therefore, I completely underline this statement of Dr. Mookerjee that Government should have a policy, a forward policy, that so far as Pakistan is concerned, we will be cent per cent. gentlemen; but, we must have the policy that if Pakistan is not behaving as a gentleman, then our people on the border areas should not suffer and they should have their normal trade and there should be a ready method by which their produce and merchandise could immediately be switched over to other areas. It was said that roads are being built. You will realise, Sir, that road-building in these areas is very difficult. Two years ago, Government of India gave a lot of money. Then, Mr. Santhanam came out with the statement that Assam was wasting public funds, because it is so difficult to build roads there. Therefore, Sir, even if you sanction enough money it

will not be easy to build roads there. Therefore, some quick method has to be devised in order to save these people, to keep their loyalty intact. No quick method is devised. Of course, rice is being distributed. That is the only saving feature. I feel, Sir, that sufficient attention from the Government of India will help to solve this problem, and our nationals will not be tampered with in point of loyalty.

I learn further that in the Khasi hill border, there were mile posts, demarcation posts which have been uprooted and thrown into our territory and a lot of land which belonged to India has been encroached upon by Pakistan. Nothing has been done. How long shall this continue? Therefore, from this point of view, on the border areas, Government of India should have a policy. They should find out what are the border areas in which there are chances of conflict, chances of a trade blockade. These border areas should get a strategic priority if that is possible, and a military priority if it could be given. Otherwise, you would not be able to keep these people with you. I say there are many things which cannot be spoken in this way. They have to be realised and felt and thought in advance. That is what is called policy. What the people expect from the Government is policy, a definite policy of running the country; not in so many words and legislation. There is an amendment of Lala Achint Ram. This amendment we should not have at all. In legislation, we should be on part with Pakistan, in the same way as one nation should be with another. These are matters to be carried out through policy. If the Government of India were resourceful enough and thoughtful enough, and had a policy, such questions would not arise.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): That is our regret from this side.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: I think the Government of India will, hereafter, find out what those areas are in which such a danger exists, the danger to put our people under economic crisis, and thereby tampering with their loyalty. I think these areas will be determined and adequate measures taken.

Mr. Chairman: May I make a suggestion to the House without trying to curtail legitimate discussion in any way? This Bill relates to the repeal of the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, necessitated by the fact that the permit system has been

abolished by Pakistan. Therefore, so far as the question of repealing that Act is concerned, I do not think there is much of opposition. The opposition is to the effect that because Pakistan has done certain things several courses have been suggested to the Government to follow. But, I think, if we carry on that discussion, though relevant, only on that basis, and repeat arguments more or less the same, it would not be proper from the point of view of any side of the House. Though no closure motion has been moved, I thought that hon. Members of this House may feel convinced that, after all, they have made almost all possible suggestions that could be made. Although that is not directly in issue so far as this Bill is concerned. Therefore, it would be better and there will be saving of money and time of the House—I do realise that the question is a very important one; but by making all these suggestions and repeating them, this problem is not going to be solved by this measure obviously if hon. Members agree. I would like to call upon the hon. Minister. I do not want to stifle discussion.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): I only have a few words to say, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: I believe the suggestion probably is not acceptable to the House.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Unless there is a closure motion, I will allow. All the same, I would make one suggestion. Of course, the time at my disposal is very short. I will have to be particular that the same arguments are not repeated and the same suggestions made.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I may assure you, Sir, that I am not in the habit of repeating arguments and I always try to finish in five or ten minutes. I am always unfortunate not to get more than ten minutes. I do not have to go over the same field again as Dr. Mookerjee has very eminently given all the facts. There are one or two points about Government's being firm.

One is, there are Pakistan pockets in India and Pakistanis are given all the advantages, by our Government, while there are Indian pockets in Pakistan where the Indian citizens do not get equal advantages from the Government of Pakistan. This is one thing in addition to what Dr. Mookerjee and the other speakers have given. I was surprised at what Mr. K P

[Shri Sarangadhar Das]

Tripathi said just now about the tribal areas, and that Government does not take any action in those strategic areas. We know from the British times that the British officers who administered these areas, had carried on propaganda and induced particularly the Nagas to ask for independence and they are demanding it now. If there is an Englishman doing any missionary work in that area, I cannot understand how this Government is allowing that man to carry on such disruptive propaganda as was detailed by Mr. Tripathi. This must be stopped. The third point that I want to press is the strengthening of the Assam Railway link, which alone can help the people in Assam to carry on their trade direct with India. After these few additions, I want to say that I feel very sorry that in this House

every time when there is a discussion of the Bengal question, there is no seriousness displayed by the Members of the House, particularly in the Government benches, and all kinds of obstruction are put in. I believe most of the Members of the House know that I come from Orissa. I am not a Bengali, but coming from.....

Mr. Chairman: Is the hon. Member likely to take some time?

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Then, the House will stand adjourned till 10-45 a.m. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, the 6th December, 1952.