



Friday,
19th December, 1952

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

**PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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

THE Dated.....20.11.2014.....

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

1851

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 19th December, 1952.

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

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Short Notice Questions and Answers

FALL IN PRICES OF RAW JUTE

I. **Shri B. K. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the sharp fall in prices of raw jute in the country?

(b) What are the causes of such fall?

(c) How do the present prices compare with the prices prevailing during these months last year?

(d) What is the gap between the cost of production and the present average price of raw jute in the rural areas?

(e) Is it a fact that mills are purchasing jute from Pakistan in preference to Indian jute and a sort of slump in the market is apprehended?

(f) What steps Government propose to take to ensure an economic price to the jute growers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I, Sir, make a statement in reply to all these questions, (a) to (f)?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The price of raw jute has always been subject to considerable fluctuations both from year to year as well as from month to month. The trade deadlock between India and Pakistan after the devalua-

tion of the Indian Rupee and the spurt in world demand and price for jute goods which followed the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, resulted in a considerable increase in the price of raw jute which went up from Rs. 35 per maund which was the controlled price till February 1951, to Rs. 106 per maund in the middle of June 1951. International demand for jute goods slackened thereafter and by the middle of June 1952 the price of Assam Bottoms had come down to Rs. 28 per maund. Prices had fallen to Rs. 25/8 per maund in the middle of August 1952 and after recovering to Rs. 28/8 per maund in the middle of September, there has again been a downward trend. Prices in the last thirty days have fluctuated between Rs. 22/8/- and Rs. 25/- per maund for Assam Bottoms and comparable quality.

It is said in some quarters that this depression in prices is due to free imports from Pakistan. Statistics do not bear out this story. While the deliveries to mills from July to November in 1951 in India was fourteen lakhs of bales, imports from Pakistan for this period was 11 lakhs bales; this year Indian jute was for the same period 17 lakhs bales while Pakistan jute was about half of what was imported last year. The position is somewhat bad in Bihar where prices during the second fortnight in November had slumped to Rs. 13/8/- in Saharsa, Rs. 15/8/- in Darbhanga though appreciably it was higher in Purnea. This variation is partly due to quality, as Purnea quality is superior and partly to freight and transport charges which from the outlying areas are said to be as much as Rs. 7/- per maund to Calcutta. According to officers of Bihar Government, 60 per cent. out of an approximate total of 10 lakhs of bales produced in Bihar have been purchased.

Prices for raw jute react quickly to variations in the prices of jute manufactures. During the last one month there has been hectic activity in the

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Calcutta Fatka market which has depressed the prices of jute manufactures by about 15 per cent. to 17½ per cent. This brought down the prices of raw jute also from Rs. 28/- to Rs. 22/8/-.

Government have been watching this position with concern. I had discussed this matter during the end of last month with Mr. Moncur, the Chairman of the Indian Jute Mills Association, when he was in Delhi. The Secretary of the Commerce and Industry Ministry was in Calcutta on the 6th December and had talks with the Jute Mills Association and other concerned persons. Subsequently, a joint Secretary of the Ministry was sent to Patna and he proceeded from there to Calcutta to investigate the position. The Food and Agriculture Ministry had sent a Deputy Secretary to look into this matter. When I was recently in Calcutta, I had talks with the Chief Minister, West Bengal, on this matter. As a result of these discussions, it has been decided that as a first step, the Fatka market in Jute should immediately be closed. The Government of West Bengal have issued necessary orders to this effect yesterday.

Government are asking the I.J.M.A. to send a representative to make a survey of the availabilities of jute in the outlying areas, particularly in Bihar, so that direct contact might be established with mills and the growers.

The Railway administration is looking into the question of movement of raw jute from the outlying areas. The ancillary problem whether there is a case for readjustment of freights to assist the growers in the relatively remote areas will also be considered.

Government have suggested to the I.J.M.A. that they must increase their purchases of Indian raw jute in spite of the fact that they are now supposed to hold about nine weeks' stocks and it is hoped that this suggestion will be acted upon.

The long term question of a survey of the areas where jute is grown so that jute growing in remoter areas and whether growth of jute of inferior quality like Mesta and Bimli are to be discouraged will have to be considered by Government. The various Ministries in Government now propose to examine this aspect of the matter.

As a result of the steps taken above, it is hoped that the price position of jute will materially improve, but Government are keeping a careful watch on the situation and will not hesitate to take other steps that may become necessary.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know, Sir, whether Government has any idea of controlling the import of jute from Pakistan? Are they stopping it or controlling it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, I have already mentioned that the amount of jute that has come in so far is roughly half the quantity of what came in last year. The position really is that in regard to better quality hessian, continental mills who obtain their supplies from Pakistan will get an advantage over India if we do not import some of the high quality jute from Pakistan. It is that position mainly that makes the Government of India allow the import of jute. But if it turns out that import of jute from Pakistan, which is very highly priced, interferes with the off-take of Indian jute, surely Government will consider what steps are necessary for that purpose. But the present indications are that no such steps will be necessary.

Shri B. K. Das: Is it a fact, Sir, that during the last 3 months raw jute prices have gone down by 30 to 40 per cent., while hessian prices have gone up by more than 4 per cent. and sacking prices have fallen only by 7 per cent.? Has it been worked out?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid, Sir, that the figures in my possession will not bear out the statement made by the hon. Member. Sir, I think there has been a movement which is not disproportionate in regard to the prices of hessian and jute. In fact, it is true that sacking prices have got depressed more than even the prices of raw jute, because there has been very great diminution in the off-take of sacking and the stocks of sackings with the mills have augmented considerably during the last two months.

Shri B. K. Das: Now that considerable help has been given to the jute mills by giving a sufficient amount for their foreign propaganda, will it be possible for the Government to fix any price for raw jute in this country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This question has been considered and is still under consideration. We are afraid that if we fix a price for raw jute today, it will have to bear some relation to the price of manufactured goods and our fears are that if a reasonable or a rational price is fixed for raw jute it may further depress the market. Often times, in a matter where jute is sold by the grower the Government price is more the ceiling than the floor, and unless Government

comes forward to buy the jute, fixing of prices at the moment may adversely affect the interests of the jute grower.

Shri Barman: It has been appearing in the columns of newspapers from time to time that large scale smuggling or unauthorised import of Pakistan jute is going on in the Khulna and 24-Parganas border. In view of that, has Government taken any steps to stop such illegal smuggling of jute which is depressing price here?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The information that Government have in their possession does not bear out the statement of the hon. Member.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The hon. Minister has stated that the Fatka market is going to be closed. In view of that, how far it is calculated that the price will go up? What will be the price of jute now, and how will it compare with the economic price? I am asking this question because we know that the price that is being given to the cultivators is far below what they have to spend.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The second part of the question deals with the question of the economic price, and the economic price is a matter of comparison between it and the price of other articles. At the present moment, if the price of rice is taken as the basis, then the economic price for the standard quality jute produced in India, called the "bottoms", might be somewhere in the region of Rs. 23-24 in Calcutta. But it is a matter on which I cannot say anything with authority. So far as my expectations in regard to an improvement of the position by reason of the closing down of the Fatka market are concerned, we do expect that conditions will materially improve. If the prices of manufactured goods reach the position that was obtaining before this hectic activity, say, in the case of hessian in 1948-49, then automatically the price for raw jute may rise to Rs. 27, and that will be, I should think, under present conditions an economic price.

Shri L. N. Mishra: From the statement of the hon. Minister it appears that Bihar jute growers have to pay exorbitant transport charges. May I know therefore whether there is any proposal to end this transport problem of the Bihar growers?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have already explained in my statement that we do realise that Bihar jute growers in outlying areas have to pay something like Rs. 7 a maund for transport to Calcutta. It is a physical problem. We have to consider two issues: either to discourage outlying areas from growing jute, or to find out if we can give some other facilities. The problem is being examined.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Do Government propose to set up some jute mills in Bihar as suggested by the Government of Bihar?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We are dealing with an extremely narrow problem. At the moment, we are trying to help the people that have grown jute. The long range problem of setting up mills in various parts of India is a different thing altogether. I am afraid I cannot say anything at this moment on this particular subject.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether Government are contemplating the fixation of floor prices for raw jute so that the growers will get a modicum of economic price.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have already answered the question. I have said that we find that at the present moment the fixation of a price will not benefit the people on whose behalf we want to fix the price.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: The hon. Minister made a reference to Mesta and Birli jute. May I know whether Government are aware that as a result of the precipitate collapse of the price of this particular quality of jute, hundreds of thousands of families, mostly in the Vishakapatnam and Srikakulam districts are facing ruin and if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to stabilise the price of this particular variety?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I may take the information from the hon. Member in regard to hundreds of thousands of families facing distress, but I might at once tell the House that people do not regard either Mesta or Birli as jute. It is only used as an adulterant and in fact it is because of this problem of Mesta and Birli that we have to allow superior quality jute to be imported from Pakistan, so that these varieties can be mixed with the superior quality jute. So, one of the things that we are considering is whether we should not discourage the production of what are called jute adulterants, e.g. Mesta and Birli.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister said that import of jute from Pakistan is not the cause of falling prices, because only half the target of imports has been allowed. May I know whether our target of production in India has increased and if so, whether Government have taken into further consideration the target which they settled beforehand and have they come to a conclusion about the floor price of raw jute?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Sir, there are a number of issues involved. I do not know if I would be able to answer satisfactorily all the points of my hon. friend. The present season's production including Mesta and Bimli is expected to be in the region of 44 lakhs of bales, and on the basis of last year's consumption, i.e. for the twelve months ending the 30th June 1952, the mills consumed 61 lakh bales. It, therefore, shows that even allowing for a carry-over of stocks with mills of about 9 lakh bales, there is a deficit, and the deficit has to be filled up or the mills should gradually curtail their working hours. The hon. Member can draw his own conclusions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question. We have spent sixteen minutes over this one question.

ATTACK ON MANICKGANJ BY PAKISTANI Forces

II. Shri Barman: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Pakistani Forces attacked Manickganj, a border village of Jalpaiguri district of West Bengal on 7th December, 1952?

(b) Did the forces use firearms, and if so, what are the casualties and damages done to any Indian nationals or properties?

(c) What are the ostensible causes of such aggression?

(d) What are the conditions of Indian nationals living in the Indian enclaves in Pakistan near about that place of incident?

(e) How many times has Jalpaiguri border been transgressed by Pakistan Forces up till now, and what are the damages committed by such transgressions up till now?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). On the 7th December 1952, about 25 Pakistani nationals trespassed into Indian territory and forcibly reaped paddy in Burirjote, Kotwali

P.S., Jalpaiguri District. On the arrival of a West Bengal patrol party, they retreated to Pakistan territory. Simultaneously, firing from Pakistani territory started and about 30 rounds were fired. The West Bengal patrol did not return the fire. There was no casualty or damage to property on our side.

(c) to (e). Information has been called for and when received will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Barman: What is the interval of time between the entry of Pakistan forces and the arrival of our forces on the scene?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: As I said before, we have not got detailed information, but I should think that since there was a patrol party in the neighbourhood our Police must have arrived on the scene before long.

Shri Barman: What are the nearest military or police outposts on either side of the border?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have not got this information with me here, but as I said, the detailed information will be placed on the Table of the House when it is received from the West Bengal Government.

Shri Barman: In view of the fact that an India-Pakistan Conference is going to be held on the 20th inst., may I ask the hon. Minister to consider the desirability of having some police outposts in the enclaves in view of the difficulties experienced there?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): As I stated the other day, the position of these enclaves both in the Indian territory and in Pakistan territory is extraordinarily difficult. They are completely surrounding by the other territory. It is difficult enough to send supplies, etc., to keep the police party there. I suppose a police party occasionally goes. But even that police party is surrounded by foreign territory while coming and going. The only real solution is, as a result of cordial adjustment, to put an end to the enclaves. In any event, the Conference to which the hon. Member referred, is one of officials to deal with the passport situation. These other matters are dealt with normally by East Bengal and West Bengal officials in conference locally.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF LABOUR COMMISSIONER DELHI

III. Shri N. P. Sinha: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the attention of Government

has been drawn to the remarks made in a judgment by the Supreme Court of India delivered the other day against the "Callous indifference or utter inefficiency and slackness apparently prevailing in the office of the Chief Labour Commissioner, New Delhi" in an appeal preferred by the Industrial Colliery, Dhanbad, against the decision of the Central Government Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad.

(b) If so, do Government propose to make a statement regarding this dispute.

(c) What steps, if any, are proposed to be taken against those concerned.

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Government have seen press reports of the judgment referred to by the hon. Members.

(b) It appears that the Regional Labour Commissioner Dhanbad held conciliation proceedings on the 22nd October 1949 and submitted a report which reached the Chief Labour Commissioner on the 25th October 1949. The report was, however, not transmitted to the Central Government until the 18th November 1949. Meanwhile on the 7th November 1949, the workers went on strike, apparently under the impression that seven days had elapsed after receipt of the report of the Conciliation Officer by Government. The Industrial Tribunal and the Supreme Court have held that as the report was, in fact, not received by Government until the 18th November 1949, the strike was illegal.

Two factors appear to have been responsible for falsifying the belief of the workers that they were going on a legal strike after the expiry of the prohibitory period mentioned in section 22(1) (d), namely,

(1) that the Regional Labour Commissioner submitted his report to Government through the Chief Labour Commissioner and not direct, and

(2) that there was then no provision, either statutory or administrative, for informing the parties of the date of receipt of the conciliation report by the appropriate Government. Soon after the present case came to the notice of the Government these defects were rectified. Necessary instructions were issued through their letter No L.R. 1(93) dated the 22nd December 1949, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 14.]

Under those instructions, the Conciliation Officer is required to submit his report to the appropriate Government direct within two days of the

completion of the enquiry, copies thereof being sent simultaneously to the parties concerned, and the appropriate Government is required to inform the parties concerned, of the date on which it receives the report of the Conciliation officer. Since the issue of those instructions, no inconvenience has been reported from any quarters. As, however, there is a lacuna in the Act in that no provision exists for enabling an interested party to know the date on which a conciliation proceeding is to be deemed to have concluded, it is proposed to make suitable changes in the law when the Act is next amended.

(c) The Chief Labour Commissioner did not apparently expect such an urgent and statutory report to pass through him and had not made any special arrangements for dealing with them. It may also be mentioned that the Chief Labour Commissioner had returned from leave only on the 25th October 1949, i.e. the very date of receipt of the Regional Labour Commissioner's report, and had to deal with much accumulated work. Government do not, therefore, consider any special action necessary beyond drawing the attention of the Chief Labour Commissioner to the need for expeditious disposal of work.

Shri N. P. Sinha: May I know if seven hundred or more employees will have to face and bear the consequences of an illegal strike which became technically illegal, under most unfortunate circumstances?

Shri Abid Ali: It is a fact that they went on strike which has been held to be illegal.

Shri N. P. Sinha: Section 26 of the Industrial Disputes Act provides for illegal strikes or lock-outs, one month's imprisonment or fine or both. May I know whether they are going to be prosecuted because the strike has been technically illegal?

Shri Abid Ali: No, Sir, there is no such possibility.

Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: In view of the following remarks of the Supreme Court Judge that this hardship had been thrown upon the employees for no fault of their own, what special steps are Government going to take to save the workers from bearing the consequences of the illegal strike?

Shri Abid Ali: No action has been, or is proposed to be taken against the workers for having gone on strike.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know what steps Government propose to take in order to remove the lacuna which has resulted in the strike of the workers being termed 'illegal'?

Shri Abid Ali: I have already stated that administrative instructions have been issued. No hardship has been reported; if any hardship still exists, we will take appropriate action.

Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: The hon. Minister stated that the Chief Labour Officer had returned from leave on that day, there were arrears of work accumulated and therefore he could not attend to this matter. Is it not a serious matter and somebody else also must have been responsible for it. Has Government enquired whether any other officer also was responsible for this and, if so, what steps Government propose to take to expedite disposal of such important work, which may not result in serious consequences, in future?

Shri Abid Ali: I note the suggestion for action.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether Government are persuading the employers to pay the workers for the strike period?

Shri Abid Ali: No, Sir.

LATE ARRIVAL OF CALCUTTA MAIL IN MADRAS

IV. Shri Natesan: (a) Will the Minister for Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Calcutta Mail due in Madras on the 13th December, 1952, arrived after a delay of six and half hours, and was held up on some stations between Rajahmundry and Madras?

(b) If so, at what stations and by whom was it held up?

(c) Was any damage caused to the Mail, and what was the amount involved?

(d) What steps are proposed to be taken to prevent a repetition of such occurrences?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Calcutta Mail due in Madras at 6.50 hours on the 13th reached at 13.30 hours, i.e., 6 hours 40 minutes late.

(b) The train left Waltair right time and reached Rajahmundry four minutes late due to loss on run:

Detained at Nidadavolu 57 minutes for crossing trains which were badly delayed.

Detained between Nidadavolu and Tadepalligudem 194 minutes at all the three intermediate stations and between stations due to alarm chain having been pulled, removal of washers from vacuum hose couplings, disconnecting electric couplings and damaging glass shutters of carriages.

Detained between Tadepalligudem and Bezwada 29 minutes due to alarm chain having been pulled, 7 minutes for engineering restrictions and crossing of trains.

Bezwada 103 minutes waiting for relief engine due to failure of the train engine of the Calcutta Mail which is scheduled to run through.

Between Bezwada and Bitragunta 13 minutes due to cautious driving through stations.

Between Bitragunta and Madras 3 minutes made up.

Total loss on run 403 minutes minus 3 minutes made up.

Arrived late 400 minutes i.e. 6 hours 40 minutes.

(c) Yes, by breaking of glass shutters. Exact amount involved is not yet known, but is not expected to be heavy.

(d) Detentions other than 'engine failure' due to interference with the trains by mobs creating disturbances. Prevention of repetition of such occurrence is essentially a law and order problem for the State Government who are fully aware of the position.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. the Railway Minister like to make a statement on this.

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): Sir, trouble in a sporadic form started on the 8th instant, with demonstrations at a number of railway stations such as Guntur, Narasapur, Tadepalli, Muddanuru, Palakol. The mobs held up trains by standing on the track and pulling up alarm chains.

The position deteriorated further on the 13th and the 14th, particularly on the Bezwada-Rajahmundry section. At Bezwada on 15th December, after about 6-30 P.M. a big crowd mobbed the station and did not let the Delhi-bound Grand Trunk Express proceed, and later extended their activities to the station office and the carriages. They

forced the Railway staff out from their places of work and did not allow any work to be done or trains to pass for about 24 hours.

The disturbances reached the climax on the 16th. At about 9-30 A.M., the mob went into the Control Office and the Office of the Assistant Transportation Superintendent, Movement, and stopped the staff from working. Goods sheds and parcel offices were looted. Section 144 has been promulgated and the situation is reported to be under control. The Grand Trunk Express mentioned earlier left at about 7-30 P.M. on the 17th.

At Anakapalle, wagons were looted, cabins were set on fire, and the track was interfered with.

At Nellore one passenger bogie coach was set on fire. Rails on Pennar bridge were removed. They have since been restored by the Railway.

At Bhimavaram, level crossing gates were smashed; telegraph, signal and electric wires were cut; windows and name-board were smashed; the pumping engine was slightly damaged; the overhead water tank was emptied; and passenger vehicles were damaged.

At Guntur, the goods shed and the parcel office were looted and damage to railway property was caused.

At Godavari, the mob attempted to set fire to the station building.

At Ongole, signals were pulled down and obstructions placed on the track. Track keys were removed for about three-fourth of a mile.

At Waltair, heavy damages were caused to track and Railway equipment and Loco shed stores were damaged.

Arson and looting at stations and from loaded wagons, damage to Railway equipments such as signals and track, interference with rolling stock and telegraph wires on varying scale were indulged in at many other stations and also on the branch lines connecting with the North-East main line.

Trains services were disrupted badly on the North-East line between Bezawada and Waltair and also on its branches.

There was considerable dislocation of train services on the Waltair-Cuttack section also.

No injuries to any staff have so far been reported. Owing to the local

officers and staff being fully occupied with the emergency, it has not been possible to make a reasonable assessment of the extent of damages to the railway and public property. At a very rough estimate, it may be anything up to Rs. 50 lakhs. Very close liaison is being maintained between the Railway Administrations, the local Government and the local and Railway Police.

The position is reported to be under control and coming back to normal. It is hoped that with effect from the 19th instant some of the important through trains, viz., Madras-Calcutta Mails, Grand Trunk Expresses and the Madras-Puri passengers will resume running by the normal routes. These trains will carry armed escorts.

Shri Natesan: Were trains coming through Rayalaseema area also similarly held up?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I am not aware of that, Sir.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Tanjore also?

Shri Nambiar: That is due to cyclone.

Dr. Rama Rao: May I know if all this expression of indignation of Andhra is due to the failure of the Government of India to come out with definite steps for the formation of the Andhra State?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Hon. Members opposite perhaps know more about it than we do.

3-15 P.M.

FORMATION OF ANDHRA STATE

V. Shri Raghubramaiah: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state in view of the grave situation fast developing in Andhra and the necessity of assuring the Andhra public that their cherished goal is in sight what immediate steps Government propose to take towards the early formation of the separate Andhra State?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, In furtherance of the statement I made in the Council of States on the 9th December, 1952, and in terms of that statement, the Government of India have decided to establish an Andhra State consisting of the Telegu speaking areas of the present Madras State, but not including the city of Madras, and intend to take early steps to this end in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution. Government are appointing Mr. Justice K. N. Wanchoo, Chief Justice

of the Rajasthan High Court, to consider and report on the financial and other implications of this decision and the questions to be considered in implementing it. Mr. Justice Wanchoo will report by the end of January 1953. On receipt of this report, Government will take other necessary steps, they are anxious to avoid all possible delay in establishing the new State. They hope that the establishment of this State will be brought about with the

friendly co-operation of all the people concerned.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the statement made by the Prime Minister, will the question of forming an Aikya Kerala, a separate Kerala province be considered?

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

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 19th 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)

11-23 A.M.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform hon. Members that I have received a communication from Shri Chandikeshwar Sharan Singh Ju Deo, requesting that as he is unwell he may be granted leave of absence from all the sittings of the House during this Session.

I have received another letter from Dr. Shaukatullah Shah Ansari that he has been laid up in bed for more than a month and a half and hence his inability to attend the present session of Parliament.

Is it the pleasure of the House that permission be granted to the two hon. Members to be absent from all the meetings of the House during this Session?

Leave was granted.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

DECISIONS ON ESTIMATES COMMITTEE'S
RECOMMENDATIONS

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): I beg to lay on the Table a statement showing the decisions taken by Government on the recommendations of the Estimates Committee's Fifth Report on the Central Water and Power Commission and Multi-purpose River Valley Projects, promised in reply to starred question No. 150 asked on the 10th November, 1952. [Placed in Library. See No. P-101/52.]

441 P.S.D.

COLLECTION OF STATISTICS BILL

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to facilitate the collection of statistics of certain kinds relating to industries, trade and commerce.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to facilitate the collection of statistics of certain kinds relating to industries, trade and commerce."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce the Bill.

COFFEE MARKET EXPANSION
(AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Market Expansion Act, 1942.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coffee Market Expansion Act, 1942."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce the Bill.

CENTRAL SILK BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1948.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Central Silk Board Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I introduce the Bill.

RUBBER (PRODUCTION AND MARKETING) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Rubber (Production and Marketing) Act, 1947.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Rubber (Production and Marketing) Act, 1947."

The motion was adopted.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: *I introduce the Bill.

RESOLUTION RE. FIVE YEAR PLAN—Concl'd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with further discussion on the following Resolution moved by the hon. the Prime Minister:

"This House records its general approval of the principles, objectives and programme of development contained in the Five Year Plan as prepared by the Planning Commission."

I thought there would be discussion for one hour but it has been reduced by the short notice questions. I will call the hon. Minister at 12. I will allow Members who have not spoken yet five minutes each.

Shrimati Maydeo (Poona South): I am very thankful to you, Sir, for allowing me at least five minutes. I feel it is a privilege to support the Resolution placed before the House. I had heard with interest and care the speeches made by the Opposition parties in the last few days but I thought that when they attacked and criticized the Plan, the words did not come from their hearts but from their mouths because before resuming their seats they could not but appreciate the toil and the pains the Planning Commission Members had taken to place before this House such a comprehensive Plan. As the time at my disposal is very short, I will just take up the points which I want to say. I agree with Dr. Mookerjee and the hon. Minister that health is of utmost importance to our country and some more allocation should have been made. At the same time I feel that the amount allotted for the indigenous systems of medicine is far less than it should be. Out of Rs. 17,87,00,000, only Rs. 35 lakhs have

been allotted for the indigenous systems of medicine which include the Ayurvedic, the Unani, the Homoeopathy and the nature cure. I think that even it was accepted by foreigners that indigenous systems of medicine are, of course, very valuable and important. It is stated in the Report of the Health, Survey and Development Committee—3rd volume of the Bhole Committee—

"The fact that indigenous medicine plays such a very important part in the life of the Indian people is frequently minimized or even ignored. And yet it represents a very tangible reality that must be faced openly whenever plans are elaborated for improving the health conditions of the country particularly since its population is growing rather than diminishing. New indigenous schools are being founded. They are subsidised by the Governments in several Provinces. The Osmania University of Hyderabad has a Medical College which is a Unani Medical College. The Medical Practitioners' Act of Bombay of 1938 admits graduates of indigenous schools to the Medical Register.

At first sight it seems strange that these ancient indigenous systems are able to compete with modern scientific medicine. It was not strange in the 17th and 18th centuries when the two worlds first entered into contact. At that time European medicine was developing new theoretical foundations but in practice, in the treatment of disease it was hardly more effective than Greek, or Hindu, or Arabic medicine. But today? Nobody can deny that scientific medicine during the last hundred years has made tremendous strides. Bacteriology and immunology have permitted us to combat communicable diseases most effectively and to eradicate many of them. Modern surgery is able to save thousands of human lives that would have been lost only fifty years ago".

That means it would not be proper to under-estimate the modern bacteriology and surgery, but at the same time we must take care of our indigenous systems so that they may not die. I would like to say that the Government has made real efforts and appointed Committees after Committees, first the Yodh Committee, then the Chopra Committee and then the Pandit Committee but even after their reports are out, for the last four five years things are at a standstill. In

*Introduced with the previous recommendation of the President.

spite of their optimistic views and conclusions of all these Committees, the Government appears to be reluctant to deviate from the established routine. It may be perhaps due to the dogmatic attitude or a sort of fear complex. This deviation would be apparently incongruent with the established systems of medical relief in the world.

I will just say another point and finish my speech. I find that in the Five Year Plan Rs. 65 lakhs are allotted for research on family planning and when I read some of the lines in Volume II, chapter XXXII, I find this rhythm method mentioned therein. I am afraid that some more lakhs will be wasted on a method which is not a method at all. It will be an utter folly to go behind any method which will not be useful and which will not give out the results or reduce the population of the country, even by minus one per cent. I just had a mere chance to be present at a lecture in Poona by Dr. Abraham. It was a great surprise to me when he said that he did not advocate the rhythm method. He did not suggest it for India. Many people were under the impression that Dr. Abraham had to do something with this method but he said, "I had no choice. I was sent on behalf of the WHO exclusively to propagate this method but I would like to point out that this is not going to help at all." During the rhythm period when there is the most urgent desire to ask the people to abstain is like telling a man to fast when he is dying with hunger. So, I can assure you that there is no reason or no necessity for finding out any new methods or for making research. What is necessary is that there should be sufficient number of clinics which will be readily available for advice to all the poor people or village women in our country and they should get the materials for contraception at a very cheap rate. We should manufacture those materials in our country instead of spending money on research about methods, which are not new, at all and which are known to all the people.

I would have liked to say something about social welfare also; but I have no time.

Shri N. Somana (Coorg): At this stage of the debate, it would not be necessary or proper for me to enter into a discussion of the principles underlying the Plan or touch any details contained in the Plan. In the first place, it is my duty to pay a tribute to the planners and all the officers concerned for having produced this plan,

which in my opinion, gives a correct and practical picture to the whole of our country as to what the Government and the people ought to do during the period of the Plan and the years to follow. There may be imperfections in the Plan; but I do not think it is necessary to quarrel over that. As the hon. the Leader of the House said, planning is a process; it is not static. At every stage, not only the Members of this House, but also the country at large can have a say in the matter and any changes and alterations can be made so far as the Plan is concerned. Generally, if that is accepted as the basic principle of the Plan, it ought to be our duty to accept this Plan as a whole and give our full support to this Plan and see that it is put through as quickly as possible.

In this connection, I have to make one or two observations so far as the agricultural problem is concerned. I feel that the question of production of food has been left in an uncertain state. From the Planning Commission's report, we find that neither have the targets been definitely fixed, nor the periods. Our experience of the Grow More Food campaign has been rather sorrowful. If the same state of affairs were to continue, I do not think that our goal of achieving self-sufficiency in food within the period of the Plan will be possible. A more definite scheme should have been made. I think it is possible to lay down definite proposals so that the States may be in a position to put through their schemes as early as possible. Especially with regard to minor irrigation schemes, a definite period ought to be fixed by which time the States should be able to push through their schemes and thus help to solve the food problem.

So far as the land policy is concerned, to which some reference has been made, my humble view is that at this stage it would not be very proper to disturb the middle or small owners of land. We may take up the question of the large scale holdings so that beyond an upper limit, whatever it is, the balance may be distributed. For instance, taking the case of a tenant at will. The Planning Commission has recommended that in the course of five years, if the owner is not in a position to come back and cultivate the land, the tenant will have a right to take over the land. My humble submission is that if such a law is to be introduced, it would certainly disturb the whole system of cultivation. Every landlord, simply because he has to take over possession of land at the end of four years, will come back and occupy the land. I am sure there will be disturbance in the

[Shri N. Somana]

cultivation and the very object with which we have started this Plan will not be achieved. It is my view therefore that for the present, so far as the first Five Year Plan is concerned, it is better to leave these small and middle owners and only deal with the question of large owners.

On going through the whole of the report, I was sorry to find that not much attention had been paid to horticulture. Coming from South India, I have to state that at least 25 per cent of our daily food consists of fruits and vegetables. The Planning Commission has only devoted two pages for that. They have not taken up this matter seriously. Especially with regard to fruit cultivation, I am sorry to note that they have not laid down any definite programme. It is absolutely necessary that more attention should be paid to fruit cultivation, especially fruits like oranges, apples, etc. There is a great scope for improvement in this direction.

Next, with reference to the Chapter on Forests, I feel that sufficient attention has not been paid. They have given a very valuable report containing several pages of statistics. But, I feel that definite proposals have not been made. They have divided the forests into four regions. So far as the southern region is concerned, it has got vast potentialities which have not been properly investigated. As my hon. friend Mr. Nijalingappa pointed out yesterday, Malnad, coming under the southern region of forests has not been given sufficient attention. The potentialities are so great that they are bound to produce enormous wealth. I hope this problem may be examined.

One other matter I have to refer to and I have done. In the matter of irrigation and power projects, so far as my State of Coorg is concerned, I am sorry to state that no attention has been paid either to agriculture or irrigation or power. There are many schemes which have been examined and which have been recommended by my State, but they have not even been referred to. There is, for example, the Barapole hydro-electric scheme which will have power not only to my State, but also to the State of Madras. It is on the West coast. It is capable of producing about 36,000 kw of power which will be able to supply electricity to my State and to the West coast of the Madras State. I hope the Planning Commission will consider this project as a necessity and include it in this Plan.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Lala Achint Ram; three minutes.

लाला अचिन्त राम (हिसार) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सिर्फ दो एक बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स (displaced persons) के बारे में मैं ने पढ़ा है कि एक चैप्टर (chapter) में लिखा है कि गवर्नमेंट ने डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स पर डेढ़ अरब रुपया खर्च किया है, करीब तीस करोड़ रुपया १९५३-५४ में खर्च कर दिया जायेगा। इस के अलावा ईस्ट बंगाल से आने वालों के लिये भी बहुत खर्च किया गया है। यह सब ठीक ही कहा गया है। यह भी कहा गया है कि गवर्नमेंट कुछ नहीं कह सकती कि और कितने रिफ्यूजीज आयेंगे। उन की पोजीशन बिल्कुल फ्लुइड (fluid) है और हो सकता है कि किसी वक्त और भी ज्यादा आयें। लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वेस्ट पाकिस्तान से आदमी आये हैं उन के रिहैबिलिटेशन (rehabilitation) के मुतालिक गवर्नमेंट ने जो कुछ कहा है उस से बड़ी गलतफहमी हो जाती है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बात ठीक नहीं है। मेरे रुझान से तो गवर्नमेंट को एक कमीशन बनाना चाहिये और वह कमीशन जो फंसला देगा उस से लोगों का तसल्ली हो जायेगी।

कम्पेनसेशन (compensation) के बारे में, जहाँ पर सारी प्राब्लेम्स (problems) को डिस्कस (discuss) किया है, वहाँ पर मैं समझता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट ने कोई रुपया नहीं रक्खा है, लेकिन जनता इस बात को आशा रखती थी कि प्लैनिंग कमीशन (Planning Commission) रिहैबिलिटेशन के लिये कुछ रुपया जरूर रखेगा। हालांकि मैं जानता हूँ कि प्लैनिंग कमीशन की इस बारे में कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं है, फिर भी मैं चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस बात का ऐलान कर दे कि गवर्नमेंट अपने बायदे पर क्रायम है, वह अपने फाइनेन्शियल रिसोर्सेज (Financial Resources) के मुताबिक

जरूर कम्पेन्सेट (compensate) करेगी, भले ही वह कम्पेन्सेशन की रकम पचास फी सदी, हो, चालीस फी सदी हो या तीस फी सदी हो, लेकिन जो बायदा हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने किया था उस पर गवर्नमेंट डटी रहेगी।

साथ ही मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ, प्लैनिंग कमीशन की सिफारिशों के बारे में लोगों ने कहा कि जनता में जोश नहीं है, यह बात गलत है। लेकिन यह बात जरूर है कि इस के लिये मुनासिब तरीके इस्तेमाल किये जायें जिस से जनता के अन्दर प्लैनर्स (planners) के लिये श्रद्धा हो। जो भी प्लैनर्स हैं, या मिनिस्टर, डिप्टी मिनिस्टर हैं, पार्लियामेंटरी सेक्रेटरीज हैं, या पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर्स हैं जो यह कहते हैं कुंएँ खोदो, नहरें बनाओ, सड़कें बनाओ, वह जा कर गांवों में कम से कम साल में पन्द्रह दिन खुद भी काम करें, तभी लोगों में श्रद्धा पैदा हो सकती है। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि जो तरीका मैं बतला रहा हूँ उस पर अमल किया जायेगा।

दूसरी बात यह है

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय: तीन मिनट हो गये।

लाला अश्विन्त राम : मैं अभी खत्म कर रहा हूँ। तो दूसरी बात जो है वह करप्शन (corruption) के मुतालिक। इस के लिये मैं यह अर्ज करता हूँ कि जहां इस प्लैन (plan) के अन्दर बहुत बड़ी बड़ी बातें करने की कोशिश की जा रही है, खाने का इन्तजाम किया जा रहा है, कपड़े का इन्तजाम किया जा रहा है। लेकिन इस सब को देख कर मुझे ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि यह सब मसले एक ऐसे आदमी के हैं जो कि शेर के मुंह में जा रहा है। आप उस के खाने का इन्तजाम कर रहे हैं, कपड़े का इन्तजाम कर रहे हैं, लेकिन पहले उसे शेर के मुंह में से तो निकालिये वह शेर का मुंह करप्शन है। सब से पहले जो जनता पिस रही है वह करप्शन से।

पहले उस को आप निकालिये। और उस का तरीका यह है कि आप सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट को एक ऐन्टी करप्शन ट्रिब्यूनल (Anti-Corruption Tribunal) बनाइये, और उस के मातहत जितने प्रदेश हैं, वहां भी ऐन्टी करप्शन ट्रिब्यूनल बनाइये। फिर उन को तीन हक दिये जायें। पहला यह कि यह ट्रिब्यूनल खुद प्रोसीडिंग्स (Proceedings) इनिशिएट (initiate) कर सकें, दूसरे यह कि वह समरी ट्रायल्स (summary trials) कर सकें, और तीसरे यह कि वह कड़ी से कड़ी सजा दे सकें। मेरा ख्याल है कि अगर हम ऐसा करेंगे तो आप को करप्शन के दूर करने में जरूर कामयाबी होगी। इस के लिये आप को बहुत अच्छे और चोटी के आदमियों को लेना पड़ेगा। मेरी तजवीज तो यह है कि बाबू पुरुषोत्तम दास टंडन इस के लिये बहुत मौजू हैं। उन की अध्यक्षता में यह सेन्ट्रल ऐन्टी करप्शन ट्रिब्यूनल बनायें और इसी तरह स्टेटों में भी किया जाय तो आप को जरूर कामयाबी होगी। जैसे पंडित जी का होना हम लोगों के लिये बहुत जरूरी है, जैसे गांधी जी का होना बहुत लाजमी था, देश को आजादी दिलाने के लिये, इसी तरह मैं समझता हूँ कि टंडन जी की भी बड़ी अहमियत है। अगर उन की खिदमात हम इस काम में इस्तेमाल करें तो इस काम में जरूर सफलता होगी।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि इन तीनों बातों पर अमल किया जाय।

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): It is at the fag end of the second year of the Five Year Plan that I am given an opportunity to speak on the Five Year Plan, and that too for five minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Other hon. Members have taken sufficient time.

Shri Nambiar: Yes, Sir, I know that.

My point is about labour. In the Plan it is stated that labour must be contented with what they get or even less, and they must work for more production, i.e. that they should pro-

[Shri Nambiar]

duce more at a lower wage level for the benefit of the profiteers. And the Government are unable to get the profits from the profiteers. That is the policy enunciated by the Five Year Plan. And they also state in the Five Year Plan that there must be an industrial peace and harmonious working relations. What is this "harmonious relations" that they want? They say:

"As a last measure, differences should be resolved by impartial investigation and arbitration. At times, the State may even have to intervene and impose a settlement. Although the efforts of the parties should be to secure internal settlement of disputes."

And they say:

"Direct action on either side which violates this obligation should be punishable by law."

That means that you impose a settlement on the worker and if he does not accept it, he will be punished by law; he will be sent to jail. This is how you treat the worker and you want whole-hearted support from the working classes of this country to make this Plan successful. With regard to the unemployed labour in the countryside, with regard to those millions and millions of agricultural workers, you have no plan. They will continue to starve, and you want their co-operation. You want the co-operation of the starving millions to whom you cannot give any employment, the co-operation of the workers whom you threaten to send to jail if they do not accept your imposed settlement, and you want co-operation from the middle-class employees.

With regard to the middle-class employees, you state in Chapter XXXIX of the Plan:

".....an ad hoc enquiry conducted by the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment last year illustrate the position of the employment opportunities for the technical and clerical personnel.....This means that of every 100 unemployed technical persons, only about 12 persons could be provided with jobs, while in the case of clerical jobs the vacancies were only 4 for every 100 unemployed registrants. This indicates that, while the problem of unemployment amongst the technical personnel is serious enough, in clerical cadres it is at least thrice as bad.

The first Five Year Plan lays an emphasis on increasing agricul-

tural production and at the same time creating a base for future industrial expansion. This limits the immediate expansion of employment opportunities for the educated unemployed."

For the educated unemployed you are not going to give any satisfaction or any employment. Therefore, I ask, if not to the agricultural worker, if not to the industrial worker and to the educated unemployed, then to whom are you going to give relief through your Five Year Plan? You are going to give relief, I know, to your own followers, the Landlords and the big bourgeois class.

You say that Rs. 400 crores of money is kept for communications in the Plan. With the Rs. 400 crores are you going to produce more or start more railways? What the plan says is that they want to repair the old outmoded engines and locomotives. By 1956, 2,092 locomotives are to be replaced; 8,535 coaches and 47,533 wagons are to be renewed. Therefore, there will not be a single mile more on the railway, and all this money is to be spent for renewal. Renewal means that Rs. 200 crores of money will go to the British companies who produce the locomotives now. In Chittaranjan you say that you are going to produce locomotives, but here is the agreement entered into with the Loco Manufacturing Co. of England, which states at the end:

"The L.M. Company has undertaken to manufacture locos completely with the parts and boilers to be manufactured here in terms of agreement with the target date of five years, i.e., 1955. Each year some minimum quota has been fixed so that after 5 years, 120 locomotives and 50 spare boilers are to be manufactured by the India made parts by the trained staff."

The Plan promises that by the end of 1956 we will get 300 locomotives from Chittaranjan, but here the agreement which you have entered into with the Loco Manufacturing Co. of England, states that at the end of 1955 there is a possibility of 50 spare boilers and 120 engines to be produced in India. Subsequent to that, I have got information from Chittaranjan that they have said that even what has been promised is impossible. Therefore, they have to go back upon what the British company of manufacturers already promised. So, this is the Plan.

The Plan says that Rs. 170 crores of revenues the Railways must con-

tribute. The Railway every year contributes Rs. 32 crores for interest charges. The Railway every year contributes Rs. 30 crores for general revenues. Apart from this, they have now to contribute Rs. 170 crores to the general revenues for the success of the Plan. And what does it promise to the Railway worker? The Railway worker cannot get a single pie more. He will be told that there will be retrenchment. He will be told: "If you 'misbehave', if you say that you want more wages, then there is the law to impose an award on you which if you do not accept, you will be put in jail." This is the promise that you give to the worker.

Let not my friends here understand that we this side of the House are against the Plan, but we are telling you that without the help and co-operation of the millions, without the help and co-operation of the toilers of this country, you cannot make any Plan successful. Therefore, what we say is: Make your Plan in such a way that you will get the willing co-operation of the masses, and then you can go forward. Therefore, it is wrong to say that those who non-co-operate with the Plan will do so at their own peril. The point is you bring in a Plan which is not workable, which it will not be possible to implement successfully. And then you put the fault on our side, and you say: "Here are the Communists, here are the Socialists, here is the Opposition, and because of their 'non-co-operation' the Plan has failed." You do not want to give anything more to the worker and to the people, and you want after five years to say against us that these fellows have spoiled it. Therefore, you think that after 1956 you can go to the electorate and say: "We were thinking of doing some good to the people, but these fellows are responsible for its failure. Therefore, you must vote for us so that we will see that something is done at least in the next five years. These fellows are the betrayers." This is the political game which you want to play, and you say we are against the Plan. Think well and go ahead with a Plan which will be accepted by all and which will get their willing co-operation. If you make your plan suitable to them, and change it, the whole country will be behind you. Then you can go ahead.

Shri Lakshmayya (Anantapur): Sir, I am the only Member to speak on behalf of Rayalaseema. May I be allowed to speak?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may speak.

Shri Lakshmayya: I am grateful to you for the opportunity given to me to speak on the Plan, for five minutes, at least on behalf of Rayalaseema which is a chronically drought-stricken and famine-ridden area.

The Plan is the best of its kind in a democratic State based on democratic principles, and it is to be implemented by democratic methods and peaceful means.

The Plan is a complete and comprehensive one designed to achieve progress and development in all spheres of activity. It is first and foremost an attempt on the part of the Government to organise the nation's resources, men, money and materials, to promote industries, and transports and develop social and other nation-building activities, such as education and public health. However best and however comprehensive the Plan may be, it has not done due justice to the backward tracts in the country, particularly to Rayalaseema which is a famine-ridden area. Rayalaseema, you are aware, Sir, once was a land of plenty and prosperity but now unfortunately has been reduced to a 'famine Zone' and it has rightly been observed, that the ryots of Rayalaseema, before they emerge from one famine are engulfed by another. It has been like that for the last one century and the foreign rulers have neglected that area purposely, to suppress the rebellious and strong spirit of Rayalaseema people, lest they might create some trouble.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What are the suggestions of the hon. Member? Everybody knows all this.

Shri Lakshmayya: Now, to develop the economic growth and prosperity of this backward tract, I request the Government to constitute an economic Board with statutory powers for the formulation of schemes and the execution of irrigation projects in these areas, and provide it with adequate funds by the Centre as well as the State Governments for a limited period of ten years. If this is done, Sir, I am sure, the area will really become a land of plenty. In Rayalaseema, at present, agriculture is a gamble in rain though the land is very fertile. I would therefore suggest that irrigation facilities should be provided for this area, and large as well as small scale industries should be started before long. I come from Anantapur which ranks first in an alphabetical order and stands first in poverty also among the Rayalaseema districts. When the hon. Prime Minister, who is also the Chairman of the Planning Commission recently visited that district, we requested him to take up the

[Shri Lakshmayya]

Tungabhadra High level channel as a famine work and include it in the Five Year Plan. But unfortunately our voices were not felt. Again we made a representation to the hon. Minister for Planning to take up this scheme but to no effect. You can feel the urgency of providing drinking water supply to millions of people in a number of villages in the districts of Bellary and Anantapur, in several big towns like Bellary, Uruvakonda, and Guntakal, where there has been scarcity of drinking water, for a long time; and you consider the question of feeding the mouths of millions of people in the dry districts of Bellary, Anantapur and Cuddapah; and also you think over the important problem of eliminating the standing famine from these three districts. If the Tungabhadra High level channel is taken up, it would irrigate three lakhs of acres of land. Not only would it solve the problem of drinking water, but also solve the food problem in that area to a great extent. After all, we are making a request only for food and water, which are the basic needs of any people. At least, now, it is not too late, it may be included. The 'Chambal project' has been included, recently and it is our misfortune our project does not find a place in the plan. Sir, this project will uplift the backward area, and afford some protection to the unfortunate people of Rayalaseema. Our request may be reconsidered with sympathy and kindness. Give us the ready hand, not the ready tongue. Any amount of sympathy will not fill the bellies of starving people. Use the means, God will give the blessings for my 'Rayalaseema.' As for this Plan trust in God and do the right, and go ahead. Then our Plan will achieve great success.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now I call upon Mr. Nand Lal Sharma. He will be the last speaker before I call upon the hon. Minister.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Give me only five minutes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have given enough time to all hon. Members.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: I am very sorry I could not get any time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I cannot allow now. There have been full four days for discussion, and I cannot call all the 500 Members of Parliament even with the best of intentions. I have tried to adjust the time between all sections of the House.

An Hon. Member: Within this time we could have been accommodated.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Nand Lal Sharma.

12 Noon

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा (सीकर) : धर्मण शसिते राष्ट्रे न च बाधा. प्रवर्तते । नाशयो व्याधयश्चैव रामे राज्यं प्रशासति ॥

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे पास पांच मिनट का समय रह गया है, अतएव मैं मंगलाचरण के अर्थ के सम्बन्ध में कुछ अधिक कह नहीं सकूंगा । वर्धापन में जरूर हृदय से देना चाहता हूं । इस दुःखी भारत इस बुभुक्षित भारत की निवृत्ति के लिये और स्वर्ग का स्वपन दिलाने के लिये जो इस ऊंचे आदर्श पर प्रयत्न किया गया है उस के लिये मैं योजना आयोग के कार्यकर्ताओं को हृदय से वर्धापन देता हूं । किन्तु मैं एक बात अवश्य निवेदन कर दूँ । कुछ की दृष्टि अमरीका की ओर है, कुछ की दृष्टि रूस की ओर है । दुर्भाग्य से आप के इस धर्मासन की ओर दृष्टि किसी की नहीं है जिसके ऊपर भगवान धर्म अभी भी विराजमान हैं । मेरा यह दृढ़ विश्वास है कि दो हजार उनहत्तर करोड़ का खर्चा कोई बहुत खर्चा नहीं है, यदि कार्य करने वालों के मन में धर्म भावना दृढ़ हो जाय । इस से भी बढ़ कर अमरीका और रूस और जर्मनी की योजनाओं की ओर ध्यान दे रहे हैं, महाकवि कालिदास ने ऐसी दिव्य योजना का उल्लेख किया है—

पृथूय दिष्टां दुदुर्धर्षित्रीम् ॥

इस पृथ्वी के अन्दर से पृथु महाराज ने पहली योजना के अनुसार चमकते हुए रत्न और दिव्यातिदिव्य औषधियों को निकाल कर हमारे यहाँ दिखाया था । तब हमारे यहाँ तो चार फूटी कौड़ी भी खर्च नहीं हुई और राम ने समुद्र पर पुल बांध दिया इस देश के भालू बन्दरों को साथ ले कर । उन्होंने एक कौड़ी भी खर्च नहीं की । लेकिन उस में एक बात थी । वह दो हजार उनहत्तर करोड़ रुपयों की ओर

ध्यान नहीं देते थे। अगर उन को यह ध्यान होता कि हम को कौशल के खजाने में से रुपया निकलवाना है तो हर एक को ध्यान होता कि कुछ रुपया उस के भी हिस्से में आवेगा। इसलिये मैं निवेदन करता हूँ कि आप ने जनता के सहयोग के लिये बार बार कहा है और "क्रूसेडिंग स्पिरिट" (crusading spirit) यह शब्द आप के प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने भी कहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि "क्रूसेड" शब्द सेक्यूलर स्टेट (secular state) में आ ही नहीं सकता है। क्रूसेड (crusade) शब्द का अर्थ ही है 'धर्म भावना से प्रेरित हो कर काम करना'। मेरा यह विश्वास है कि, चाहे हिन्दू हो या मुसलमान हो, भारत निवासी में ईश्वर की भावना मर नहीं गई है। अगर उन के अन्दर धर्म की भावना दृढ़ कर दी जाय कि देश और जाति की रेंब करना हमारा सब से बड़ा धर्म है तो मैं समझता हूँ कि लोग प्राण भी देने को तैयार हैं, रुपया तो क्या वस्तु है।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (बिलासपुर) :
मतलब उस का वही है।

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा : मैं अब दो चार शब्द योजना के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूँ। इस योजना के अन्तर्गत भोजन और कृषि के सम्बन्ध में बहुत सी बातें कह दी गईं, मैं ने इस आयोग की रिपोर्ट को देखा है, किन्तु दुर्भाग्य से मुझ को ऐनीमल हसबैंडरी (animal husbandry) के चैप्टर (chapter) को पढ़ने पर कहीं एक अक्षर भी उस के लिये नहीं दीखा जिस के लिये यह कहा है कि वह सब से बड़ी आवश्यक वस्तु है, जिस से एक हजार करोड़ रुपये प्रति वर्ष की ग्रास नेशनल इनकम (gross national income) बतलाई गई है। यह इनकम गो धन के द्वारा बतलाई गई है, परन्तु गो हत्या बन्द करने के लिये कोई शब्द नहीं

कहा गया। सारे भारतवर्ष में १६० गोसदन हैं ३५-३६ करोड़ व्यक्तियों के निवास के बीच में १६० गोसदनों को आप पांच वर्ष में स्थापित करना चाहेंगे। मैं उस के लिये भी आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। किन्तु जब तक गोवध को गोहत्या करने वालों को आप कानून द्वारा नहीं रोकेंगे तब तक आप को सफलता नहीं मिलेगी क्योंकि ट्रैक्टर के द्वारा आप का काम नहीं चलने वाला है।

इसी के साथ मैं आगे चल कर स्वास्थ्य के बारे में कुछ निवेदन कर दूँ। स्वास्थ्य मंत्राणी महोदया यहां हैं नहीं। स्वास्थ्य के सम्बन्ध में भी खर्चा बहुत कुछ बतलाया गया, क्षय रोग पर, मलेरिया पर, मच्छर मार पाटियों पर। किन्तु शुद्ध घी और शुद्ध दूध की प्राप्ति के लिये जो बच्चों के लिये और माताओं के लिये सब से आवश्यक वस्तु है, और जिस के द्वारा फिर न मलेरिया उन पर प्रभाव डाल सकेगा और न क्षय रोग ही आ सकेगा, उस शुद्ध दूध और घी की प्राप्ति के लिये कोई उपाय नहीं दिया गया है। 'दूध तो आप के डब्बे का है और तालीम है सरकार की।' यह डब्बे का दूध, बाहर का पाउडर मिल्क (powder milk) आ कर काम नहीं करेगा।

साथ ही मैं स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा के सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ कह देना चाहता हूँ। आयुर्वेद के द्वारा जो स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा सब से कम खर्चे में भारतवर्ष में चल सकती है उस की ओर कुछ ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। शिक्षा विभाग के सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ कहना है। मौलाना साहब उपस्थित नहीं हैं। परन्तु मुझे दुर्भाग्य से कहना पड़ रहा है कि संस्कृत शिक्षा को बिल्कुल मटियामेट करने का प्रयत्न करने का इन्होंने ने दृढ़ निश्चय कर लिया है। संस्कृत यूनीवर्सिटियां यहां भारतवर्ष में चलती थीं। आप आज मनुष्य के लिये रोटी प्राप्त करने

[श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा]

के लिये अमरीका और इंगलैंड तक दीड़े जा रहे हैं। किन्तु आप की खोपड़ी को बनाने वालों जो दिव्यातिदिव्य सिर में मशीन है, उस मशीन का सर्वनाश करते चले जा रहे हैं। फ्री एजुकेशन (free education) के नाम से भारत वर्ष में आज तक संस्कृत और हिन्दी फ्री पढ़ाई जाती थीं। अभी भी पाठशालायें और विद्यालय और आप के ऋषिकुल जैसी बड़ी बड़ी यूनिवर्सिटियां, जो आप के राष्ट्रीय ढंग पर चलने वाली संस्थाएँ थीं, उन को आप ने मार देने का प्रयत्न किया है। उन में शर्त लगा दी है कि पांच पांच अध्यापक न रखो तो पाठशाला नहीं चला सकते। जहाँ एक कौड़ो फीस नहीं ली जाती थी और धार्मिक भावना से राष्ट्रीय भावना से लड़कों को शिक्षा दी जाती थी सिम्पल लिविंग और हाई थिंकिंग (Simple living and high thinking) की, उस के बदले आप कालेज के लड़कों और कालेज की लड़कियों को बढ़ाते जा रहे हैं जिन की दृष्टि फिर रूस और अमरीका की ओर होगी और भारतवर्ष की ओर नहीं जायेगी।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं केवल एक शब्द राजस्थान के बारे में कह देना चाहता हूँ जहाँ से मेरा निर्वाचन हुआ है। मैं समझता हूँ कि राजस्थान की राजनैतिक परिस्थिति इस समय बहुत गन्दी हो रही है। क्षमा करेंगे, अगर मैं यह कहूँ कि वहाँ राजपूत, जाट इत्यादि जातियों को आपस में लड़ाने का प्रयत्न हमारे कुछ कांग्रेसी भाई कर रहे हैं, इस के लिये मैं सभी कांग्रेस वालों को दोष नहीं देता, लेकिन कुछ कांग्रेसियों ने अपने स्वार्थ के लिए वहाँ ऐसा किया है और मैं आप की चेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि यदि आप ने अलवर और भरतपुर से ले कर और पाकिस्तान तक की सीमा तक चलने वाली

इस वीर भूमि को इस प्रकार झगड़ों में डाल दिया तो आप की यह झगड़ा सम्भालना कठिन हो जायेगा। केवल १६ करोड़ रुपये राजस्थान के लिए दे कर इस प्रदेश से अन्याय किया है। वहाँ की सारी बड़ी बड़ी स्टेट्स को, जो उन्नति की योजनाएँ रखती थीं, उन सब रिवास्तों को मिला कर महा राजस्थान बनाया गया है, वहाँ की रेलवेज को आप ने ले कर के समस्त रेलवे सिस्टम को अपने हाथ में कर के जहाँ नई लाइन्स बनने वाली थीं उन्हें रोक लिया है वहाँ किराया भी डबल कर दिया गया, इसलिये मुझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जनता के दुख व कष्ट ज्यों के त्यों चले जा रहे हैं और मैं यहाँ पर राजस्थान के रेलवे सिस्टम की ओर विशेष रूप से रेलवे विभाग का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

बस एक शब्द मैं केवल योजना बनाने वालों से और कहना चाहता हूँ, कि जिस बीमार को बाहर से कोई औषधि मिलने को कोई उम्मीद न हो और अपने घर में ही उस औषधि को तलाश करना हो, वह अगर स्वयं अपने घर वालों को ठीक करने का विचार नहीं करता है तो इस से बढ़ कर दुर्भाग्य की बात और क्या हो सकती है।

आज हमारी भारतमाता के अंग भंग हो गये, टुकड़े हो गये, और आज इसी कारण उस के बच्चों को देश में अनाज खाने को नहीं मिल रहा है, क्योंकि अन्न पैदा करने वाले प्रदेश तो हम से बाहर चले गये हैं, और खाने वाले आप के यहाँ हैं। दुख तो इस बात का है कि भारतमाता के टुकड़े, कटी हुई भुजाओं और उस के कटे हुए सिर को पुनः मरम्मत करने की तरफ आर घोगों ने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया, और भारत की तरफ से अखंड बनाने की

कोई योजना आप ने नहीं रखी है, मैं समझता हूँ कि जब तक आप यह नहीं करते, आप का कल्याण होने वाला नहीं है। याद रखें कि यह लाल और हरा ऊपर नीचे से आप को घेर चुका है, और लाल वाले और हरे वाले आप को खा जाना चाहते हैं। आप ने कोई ऐसी योजना नहीं बनाई है जिस से इस वायलेट (violet) द्वारा इस रेड (red) और ग्रीन (green) दोनों को इस श्वेत में मिला कर धर्म चक्र की विजय कर सकें, अगर आप ऐसा करेंगे तो हमेशा विजय आप की रहेगी।

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): I feel deeply grateful for the extent of praise and the degree of support which the Plan has received in this House and outside. There is hardly one important feature of the Plan which has not met with a wide measure of approval. In the volumes of the Plan, vast amount of material has been assembled. This fact has been given very liberal recognition by one Member after another. The Planning Commission's stress on food self-sufficiency, the amount of attention that has been paid to agricultural development, irrigation and power, have been very widely welcomed. The Planning Commission's land policy opens a new chapter in agrarian relations and this feature has also been appreciated almost unanimously. Significant improvement is sought to be made in respect of unemployment situation through measures connected with expansion of village industries and small-scale industries.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

The construction of common production programmes has been noticed with very great approval in other respects too.

Take the question of labour policy. In spite of what we have heard just a little while ago, the new basis for industrial relations evolved by the Planning Commission (An Hon. Member: 'Reactionary') has had wide acceptance on the part of those concerned. (Interruption). I am not now dealing with the labour

problems and I will not be distracted. On any other occasion I will take it up. In the matter of housing for industrial workers—I cannot say that it is very adequate provision—but it does make a very large improvement on the existing conditions. What we are doing in the matter of basic education, control and eradication of malaria, has been commended. There is so much else also which forms common ground, the increased provision for basic industries and transport, the provision for scarcity affected areas, for local works, for minor irrigation. Still who can deny that there has been opposition to the Plan, from the disagreement expressed here? But, one thing should be noticed regarding disagreement. If you scan all the speeches that have been made, you will discover that whatever has been provided, whatever is being offered, is acceptable. Nobody would have anything taken out of it. But they say that it is not enough. More is asked for in every direction. I can understand that attitude. I myself would agree with it. It cannot be helped at this stage. It may be that if we all co-operate not only in carrying out the Plan but in overstepping the target of the Plan much more can be done. If less is done, because some people do not give their co-operation, then we shall all suffer. Most of all, the common man, the poor man on whose behalf we all speak here, will suffer. This is the peril for all of us.

I would now address myself to just a few of the major issues raised in the course of the discussion. Obviously, I cannot take up for answer all matters of detail, nor can I deal with the numerous references to local problems, projects and difficulties. Not that they are not important, but there would be other occasions, and other ways of doing them justice. However, I think I should clarify the position regarding one or two general aspects of the matter. We have heard that there is dissatisfaction in some States. That dissatisfaction was expressed here abundantly. The complaint is that provision has not been made for a number of very important schemes. Some of the schemes were specifically mentioned here. In connection with that, I have to make this point that the programmes of the States are the minimum, not the maximum. It should be possible for any State to enlarge the size of its Plan if it is in a position to find the additional resources, provided that the imple-

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mentation of all that is already included in the Plan is assured. Furthermore, certain increased allocations which were provided in the Plan could not be distributed in respect of the different States—minor irrigation, local works, scarcity-affected areas, community projects and some other allocations also. When they are distributed as among the different States, several things which now do not appear there, would be found there and the size of the Plan for the States will certainly rise further. Thinking particularly of the case of U.P. which was referred to here, I might point out that it should be possible to remove the discrepancy between the size as announced and as provided for here on that basis. It may apply in different degrees to other States. For example, take the question of Bengal. There you have the Ganga Barrage and several other projects.

Coming to the criticism which has been levelled at the Plan, I feel, and say so in all humility, that it does not raise any very serious problems. It leaves the Plan intact. I do not mean to say that no flaws were discovered or pointed out, or that no useful suggestions were made, or that nothing was said that we need pay heed to. There was much, but my point is that so far as the principles, objectives and programmes of development contained in the first Five Year Plan are concerned, these things for which the approval of the House is being sought remain unaffected.

I would like now to take up the contents of the Plan in relation to the various points of criticism. A Plan to be acceptable must satisfy certain fundamental tests. I shall put these tests before the House. First and foremost, the Plan must adopt a correct approach. The approach, of course, comprises both the objectives and methods, and the choice of methods and selection of objectives. Secondly, a Plan must be an adequate Plan. It must make the fullest use of the resources of the nation. At the same time, it should not be so designed as to incur excessive risks. The third test is regarding the balance in the Plan. Is it a balanced Plan? Is its scheme of priorities sound? Lastly, a Plan must be an effective Plan. It must be a workable Plan and under that head several tests come in. Take the first—the question of approach to the Plan. There are some who

question the very basis of the Plan. What is right for us is wrong for them. With them, there is no use arguing. I am referring particularly to the remark made by the hon. Member, Prof. H. N. Mukerjee who said that this Plan has no philosophy proportionate to the needs of the country. As far as I can recollect, these were his words. It may be that our philosophy and his philosophy are not of the same kind, but we have a philosophy which meets the needs of the people and which also is suitable to the conditions of this land. We can only justify that by the results, by the fruits, of the Plan. Whatever may be our differences regarding that, it is no use misnaming whatever approach the Plan offers. Calling it a Plan of *status quo*, a Plan that perpetuates inequalities, a capitalistic Plan, etc. is not correct. It is not a Plan of *status quo*. It is a forward looking Plan. It is a Plan for change. It is a Plan for technological change, for economic change, for social change.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): What do you do for reducing rural indebtedness?

Shri Nanda: If there is time I will deal with that question also. It is not as the hon. Member Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani said a capitalistic Plan with slight touches here and there. It is not a question of slight touches. It is a radical Plan. It is a Plan which seeks the abolition of privileged and unearned income. It aims at realising social and economic equality. It seeks to provide security for the people and raise their standard of living.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): The Constitution has said that.

Shri Nanda: I have not followed the remark, but I need not attend to it. Possibly, the meaning is that although we say so, we do not mean it.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): You have left the private sector untouched.

Shri Nanda: I will come to the private sector also.

The idea of my hon. friend's remark is perhaps that we are paying lip homage to this principle but are doing nothing about it. It is not correct. It is not denied that to achieve an object of that kind certain steps have to be taken, an environment, a new environment,

has to be created, the institutional framework has to be changed and new methods of economic organisation have to be evolved. That is all quite true. And this is what the Plan has done. It has examined the implications of this approach and set out the lines on which we are to advance. It accepts the fact that the economy of the country has to be transformed; it accepts the fact that the State has to play a crucial role; it has to take up increasing responsibilities; it has to initiate development; it has also to take various steps to bring about social and economic equality. Various things connected with that are interspersed throughout the Plan.

I may cite a few of these just to illustrate that it is not simply an idle aspiration, but is meant to be implemented. In the Plan hon. Members will find in various places references to the new set-up that must be evolved, co-operative organisation, new cadres, etc. Without that hon. Members on that side or this may say anything. But nothing can happen. The other essentials are re-organisation of agricultural system, land policy, examination of the whole question of the system of distribution, State-trading, etc. Another essential factor to which I would like to invite the attention of hon. Members is "progressive socialisation of agricultural marketing and processing industries in rural areas through the agency of co-operatives". There is reference to finance in several paragraphs. And finally it has been brought out very clearly that the whole mechanism of finance, including insurance and stock exchanges have to be refitted into the scheme of development, the Plan, and this is not to depend on the private motive.

Further, regarding fiscal policy, it has been stated that it should aim at enlarging the public sector. The Plan also refers to the private sector and public enterprise with a view to reduce inequalities. Hon. Members know that the recommendations regarding death duties have already been adopted. But the consequence of that is not fully realised. It has been brought out that a high rate of progression in income-tax rates, the structure of controls to regulate prices and profits, death duties can make a significant contribution towards reduction of inequalities.

With regard to capital formation and savings, it has been very pronouncedly stated that the Planning Commission prefers not individual savings, not even corporate savings,

because it is realised that corporate savings in the conditions of today means concentration of economic power in certain hands, in a few hands. Therefore the preference of the Planning Commission is for co-operative savings. These are a few references which hon. Members can themselves make in those volumes and they will find these and several other things.

It was said that whatever we may say, the speed is so slow. It may take a hundred years and yet we may not have reached the goal. That is not true. We are not believers in gradualism. We want rapid change. But there is one qualification. It must be rapid of course, but there should be orderly development. Subject to that condition that there should be orderly and peaceful development, let us go as far as we want, as fast as we can. But I do not agree with those friends whose conception is that there is no change unless things start toppling around them, unless there are upsets, although it may take years thereafter to repair the damage. I do not consider that speed fast really, where if we try to hasten, make forced progress, we come to a situation where we have to go back—we go forward two steps, we have to go four steps backward. It happened in the country where planning started.

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta—North-West): The hon. the Prime Minister has on many occasions said that industrialisation has to be a forced march.

Shri Nanda: I was referring to an experience in recent history that it does not do any good to a country to try to force pace. In those earlier years their agricultural production went down by 50 per cent., because of extravagant experimentation.

An Hon. Member: What country are you referring to?

Shri Nanda: It is very well known.

I am thinking now of our country, its future, and I can state with confidence that we are laying down strong foundations for a really good, stable, strong superstructure. The foundation is invisible and it takes time to lay a strong foundation. No one can say that nothing has been done while the foundations were being completed. Without foundation what happens is that you build, it comes down and again you build. We do not want to build like that.

I have got another point in mind in relation to the Plan. The hon.

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Member from Gujerat the other day said: "If you do not want private enterprise, tell us now. Why keep it in suspense? Abolish it if you want to." He said that we should know that the country will suffer, because we have not got the machinery, we have not got the personnel and we will make things worse. I have to inform him that in the first place let us not equate private enterprise with capitalism. There can be private enterprise which is not capitalist enterprise. There is room for large numbers of small individuals working in their own way. There is also room, and should be increasing room, for co-operatives. What I am thinking of for the future of the country is that large-scale trade, large-scale industry will be run on behalf of the community; and small-scale industry, cottage industries, retail trade will be in the hands of the co-operatives.

That does not mean that there is going to be no function for the kind of private enterprise that is now a part of the economy of the country as it stands now. As long as we do not find an alternative which serves the interests of the community better, we will let them remain. The moment an alternative is found which serves the interests of the community better, there will be no hesitation in making the change. And I am sure that the members of that section of the community will themselves, for the greater good of the nation, accommodate themselves and help to enable us to carry out that programme better, than it would otherwise be, by the help of their experience. Meanwhile, as long as they are there, we recognize that they should be enabled to function effectively, that they should not be harassed. But they should of course be properly controlled in the interests of society. This is the position so far as that point of view is concerned.

I was surprised to listen to another criticism of the Plan from the Gandhian view-point. I am also supposed to be a person having something to do with the Gandhian outlook. It was stated that the Plan goes as far away from the Gandhian outlook as anything can be. This is quite wrong. I can say with confidence that this Plan embodies as much of that outlook as is possible in the circumstances of the country now. When we see in the Plan the amount of concentration on the resources and energy on the rural

sector, food self-sufficiency, land reform, cottage industries, village industries, small-scale industry, basic education—when we take all these things together they make a very sizable part of the Plan. I have absolutely no regrets on the score. If anything more can be done there is the willingness to do it. A start has to be made. Along the lines where the progress is smooth and it succeeds, we can go much further in that direction. This is the first test regarding the approach of the Plan.

The second is: is the Plan adequate, the size of the Plan, the scale of programme of development? There are two sets of views on that: One is a rather pessimistic view. It was reflected very prominently in the speech of Dr. S. P. Mookerjee, namely that this is too high an expectation, how can we waste resources of this order. (he took out one after another) the revenues of the State, it is not possible to raise all these taxes, loans: no hope. Then he came to deficit financing. He says it is something which is abominable. Then, as regards external aid, he and several others feel that this is a very risky affair; so we cannot really raise the resources which we have provided in the Plan. So the position is, according to him, that the resources of the Plan cannot be realized.

There is an extension of that view-point. I heard some hon. Members saying—I do not remember the names—not only that you will not be able to raise the taxes, etc. but that you should not try to do that, do not try to raise more taxes, people will resent it, do not borrow because it is inconsistent with self-respect to borrow, and so on. And it was said that targets will not be realized. That was also very strongly asserted here.

One argument brought up in that connection was: where is the purchasing power, we have attained the targets regarding cotton, jute, sugar, etc. This is what was said. This is not true. We have not. Not in the matter of cotton; not in the matter of jute; and even in regard to sugar, if we take gur and sugar together, no. But the point made was having been able even in regard to these two or three to increase production, the people cannot consume it.

This point has been very adequately dealt with by my colleague, the Finance Minister, that if the purchasing power is really at such a low ebb it will be reflected in the price

level, and that will be the opportunity for an enlarged deficit financing. Therefore, purchasing power can be poured into the economic system. The purchasing power arises there. (Interruption). I understand this point, and if the hon. Members do not understand that, it can be explained to them at greater length on some other occasion.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Dr. Schacht's economics!

Mr. Chairman: I would ask hon. Members not to interrupt him. Let him proceed.

Shri Namblar: We cannot understand; that is the difficulty.

Shri Nanda: Sir, my time is being encroached upon. Is it really such a difficult feat? The Plan says that all that we are attempting to do is, five per cent. of the income is at present being utilised for investment, and we propose to raise it to 6-3/4 per cent. by the end of the five year period. How do we do it? Every year, of the additional income we take away 20 per cent. only. And that gives us this. (An Hon. Member: What?) The order of investment which is being visualised by the Plan. Not only that. But of the rest of investment in the country.....(Interruption). Sir, these are matters on which it is not a question of simple vocabulary; it is a question of understanding of a different kind. It was in the name of the peasant. We were told the peasant is indebted, the peasant is living in straits, how can you make him pay more, how can you have additional indirect taxes? All that we are taking out, as I explained, is from increased incomes. There is no question here, so far as the Plan is concerned, of curtailing the standards of consumption though it should not be. I imagine hon. Members there might support a programme of that kind for they are bringing up again and again: how much cloth at the end of five years, how much food at the end of five years? They should know that more of that means the less of investment.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Is it not the object of Government to utilise the increased income for raising the standard of living in India?

Shri Nanda: It is one hole out of which two things flow in two directions. It can flow into consumption, it can flow into investment. The more it goes into consumption, the less in investment. Increased consumption and investment not to the same extent, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: I request the hon. Members not to make a running commentary on what the hon. Minister is talking. It disturbs the line of reasoning and snaps the thread of thought. If hon. Members have any objections, when the Minister finishes his speech, they may put questions to him, and it is not fair that on every word uttered by the Minister, a comment is made.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Comments and clarifications.

Shri Nanda: We are questioning the preparedness and the capacity of the people to pay. I am sure if the situation is explained to them, if they realise that what is being taken away from them goes back to them four-fold, will increase their prosperity, their standards, then the people will be glad to pay. They will not grudge to pay but what each one of us will and how it will spare the other provisions, is a matter for each one to choose and decide. At the same time, Dr. S. P. Mookerjee, who does not happen to be here now, on the one side tells us "limit your objectives, do not fritter away your resources, do not be too ambitious" and then he tells us again just five minutes later "do these things". How many things he asks: "clear all the slums of the country in five years, rehabilitate everybody, give employment to all the middle classes, have rural housing, have more of the consumers goods, have more basic industries".

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): On the top of it the Ganga Barrage.

Shri Nanda: Dr. Mookerjee says "more education, more provision for tuberculosis". All these things put together will mean five to ten times....

Shri B. S. Murthy: On a point of order, Sir.

Several Hon. Members: No point of order.

Mr. Chairman: What is the point of order?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Can the hon. Minister misquote Dr. Mookerjee in his absence?

Shri Gadgil: Who is responsible for his absence?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has no right to say that. If Dr. S. P. Mookerjee was here, he could contradict or give personal explanation. It is a question of finding out what Dr. Mookerjee said and what the hon. Minister is saying. The hon. Mem-

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ber has no right to go into that question. When the hon. Minister is in the middle of his speech, it is not fair to interrupt him. There is only very little time for the hon. Minister to reply.

Shri B. S. Murthy rose—

Several Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Nanda: I was only recapitulating the observations of Dr. S. P. Mookerjee. The record of his speech can be referred to for that. He said "do not be ambitious, reduce your targets, do not do all these things" and on the other side he wants all these things should be done. This is what I have said. I will now come to the other set of views.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

The other point of view is that what we are attempting is too little. They may lightly talk of the figures of increase in the national income given in the Plan, they may ridicule five per cent. in five years and they may say "In 27 years the income will be doubled but who will be alive for 27 years?" Sir, this was made clear that in the first place this doubling of our capital income is really trebling the income. Moreover, it should be possible, if there is enough co-operation, to reduce that period to 20 years. Twenty years for doubling the per capita income which means 15 years for doubling the income of the country. The hon. Member, Prof. H. N. Mukerjee made a remark which I am still not able to understand. He said in 27 years this country will be coming back to the position it occupied in 1938. This is something which I cannot comprehend but I will not stop for any explanation on that now. Is it possible to very much accelerate this rate? After this five year period what do we propose to do? We are taking 20 per cent. of the additional income during this period of five years and then we step up to 50 per cent. of the additional income so that 6-3/4 becomes 10 per cent. in about ten years and 20 per cent. at the end of this period. Twenty per cent. for purposes of investment is no small thing. Is any alternative suggested to us? Suppose we agree that we will raise the scale of development, the order of investment? What are the means suggested for that? Of course, this cannot be the means for raising consumption which is being urged again and again.

One other thing was suggested. We should tap the profits of private industry. Actually there must be some

very serious misconception about the size of those profits. I have got the figures here—1950-51: Rs. 98 crores. Of this Rs. 40 crores were collected by way of tax, Rs. 24 crores dividends and Rs. 34 crores retained. This, compared with the size of the investment, is a very large figure and then we leave this in the private sector, we also leave with it certain obligations and responsibilities. The private sector has to perform those obligations. It has to make the investment. It has to run that sector. So, there is really no favour shown to the private sector so far as this aspect is concerned.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): On a point of personal explanation. I take advantage also of the presence of the Finance Minister. I said in reference to the profits of the jute industry,—I am quoting what I actually said.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Leave alone the records. What does the hon. Member want to say by way of personal explanation?

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: He referred to the quantum of profits which has been mentioned by certain Members of the Opposition. I had referred to a certain figure, Rs. 50 crores for the jute industry and I have referred to that figure with the qualification which this record will show that the jute industry could make it and it is the Capital of the 5th of April which shows it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may remember that the Finance Minister said that he does not agree with that, and that is an incorrect figure according to him. Therefore, there is no misunderstanding so far as this matter is concerned. He does not agree.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I submit there was some misunderstanding. I referred to the possible profits in the hands mainly of foreign capitalists. (Interruption). He referred to profits actually made. There is a misunderstanding. The Finance Minister talks about profits actually made. I referred to profits potential which they themselves admit, which are in the hands of foreign capitalists whom we can treat in a particular fashion if we wish to do so.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no misunderstanding so far as this is concerned.

An Hon. Member: Misquotation.

Shri Nanda: This is not a matter which has advanced beyond the stage of judgment; this could be examined and re-examined.

Another aspect touched frequently by hon. Members and which is being shown up as a deficiency of the Plan is the aspect of employment. We have been told that our Plan is not a Plan for employment for all. It is a Plan for employment for all. Only there is no claim being made that employment will be given to everybody during the course of the next three years. That is not possible in any kind of a plan under any kind of system.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Nobody expects that.

Shri Nanda: Nobody expect full employment for everybody during the next three years. But, we expect full employment for everybody during the succeeding Five Year Plan, and every five year period is going to improve the position more and more rapidly. What exactly is involved in this question is employment. Taking this five-year period, really is it a small achievement? In the chapter on employment some calculations have been made. They are not complete. From the fact that in the rural sector production is going to be increased and all the resources are going to be applied to increase irrigation, have we reckoned how much it will mean in the matter of increased employment? I have got some figures worked out. But, I think I should not take up the time of the House in giving an idea as to what actually it amounts to.

Some Hon. Members: Give it.

1 P.M.

Shri Nanda: Execution of minor irrigation works which will cost about 113 crores will provide additional employment for about 60 crore man-days. It is not possible to work out in terms of units, that is, so many persons employed, because our problem of unemployment in the rural areas is largely a problem of under-employment or disguised employment. Reclamation and land development programmes will cost 35 crores and will create employment for ten crore man-days. Thirty lakh persons will get employment as a result of this. The provision of irrigation will result in intensive cultivation and increased employment to the members of 60 lakh families cultivating 20 million acres which will benefit by the irrigation schemes. Extension of cultivation to 7.4 million acres will

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provide full employment for about seven and a half lakh families. In addition, intensified cultivation measures including use of improved seeds and fertilisers, manures, etc., are expected to call for increased efforts to the extent of 25 per cent. or 30 per cent. per worker for at least 25 per cent. of the agricultural population by 1955-56. This is not a very insignificant achievement, when as a result of the implementation of these programmes these results come about.

I come now to the question of priorities. As I explained earlier, priorities are not questioned. All that we have offered and all that is intended to be done is acceptable. The only question is, do more of these things, and all other things. That is really not a question of priorities, but it is a question of raising the size of the Plan. As I have already explained, in the circumstances of the country, this is the best that can be attempted.

Now, I come to the fourth test, the effectiveness and workability of the Plan. Is it a Plan at all: that was the question raised time and again. The hon. Member Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee and other Members also, said that it is only a bundle of schemes and unless it is hundred per cent. planning, it is no planning; that we must have crop planning and all kinds of planning covering every aspect of our economy. We are told that we have not made a survey of the manpower resources.

Shri Damodara Menon (Kozhikode): Shall we continue after Lunch, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We shall go on now. I will allow this time for re-assembling. I will finish this Resolution before we disperse. The same interval we shall have for Lunch, as usual. We will sit till 1-30.

Some Hon. Members: There are amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendments will be put to vote.

Shri Nanda: One serious charge made against this Plan was that if we are really planning, it should offer a solution for all the problems and difficulties of the country, that this Plan does not do that, and that this Plan does not also create all kinds of statistical and other equipment which is, in the eyes of those who have read text books about planning a pre-requisite of planning. My own view is that in the circumstances of this country, it would be over-planning. We do not need all that at the moment. It would take so

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many years to complete that kind of basis for planning that we might in the meanwhile have wasted precious opportunities for years and years.

I now come to a very important question, the question of public co-operation. Its importance cannot be exaggerated. It is only on the basis of widespread agreement and large scale co-operation of the people that a Plan of this kind can be accomplished. In respect of public co-operation, we were again and again being told that we cannot expect public co-operation in a full measure. Why? It is said that our administration is such that it arouses antipathies, that it creates antagonisms between the people and the administration. One particular feature which was stressed was corruption. We recognise that there is an amount of corruption and that corruption must be eradicated, tackled effectively and removed in order to create confidence among the people, to create more confidence. This aspect of corruption has been thoroughly gone into in the Plan. Various remedies and steps have been suggested. Corruption in the relations between the administration and the people is one thing. Then there is another kind of corruption, which is not bribes paid to officers, but the funds of the State are embezzled. Some illustration was given here and some clarification was called for. I am not concerned with that at the moment, but I would just like to point out that although corruption of that kind may be of sufficient volume and it needs to be tackled very strongly, this other kind is not of such huge proportions as what was stated here in the House yesterday would lead one to believe. I only wanted to say that in fairness to those who are concerned.

Then the question of administrative efficiency. I do not want to take up the time of the House. There is not enough time. I will state the fact that a very great deal of care has been taken in the study of that problem and a series of recommendations have been made which, taken together, must lead to a very great deal of levelling up of the efficiency of administration. I will not take time on that issue. I want to consider now a much more important question that was raised. That was the enthusiasm of the people. How can you enthuse the people? I have still not been able to understand what is wrong, and why we should not be able to enthuse the people if

we want to. The essence of the Plan is that the essential needs of the people will be met more and more. If a country which is now in the grip of scarcities and has to depend on food from outside, can set before itself a goal of self-sufficiency in food, it is not a very small thing by itself. There can be nothing which will create more enthusiasm for those millions of people working on the land than the sight of water. These are the figures here of the acreage which is going to be brought under new irrigation by minor irrigation works and major irrigation works. That is going to increase the production. That is going to increase employment not only directly on the land, but also, as a result of the greater availability of raw materials, employment in various other occupations, in factories small and large; and also in the tertiary sector. So, it is not something which is very negligible. If we only put it properly to the people, they will understand it, because it affects them, and they know what it means for them. It is only a question of making an appeal to them, bringing the knowledge to them of the implications. Of course, when the thing comes, they will see it, but before it comes and when the attempts are being made, let not those attempts be thwarted by misrepresentation of what the state of affairs is.

Then it was said in respect of the issue of public co-operation, that it is not a national Plan. But, before I come to that, I want to dispose of a rather delicate question, the question relating to the Bharat Sevak Samaj. Again and again, hon. Members made observations which were entirely inappropriate, unapplicable to the situation, and had no bearing on realities. It is said that the Bharat Sevak Samaj has received money from the Government. Not at all. We have no money at all really. It is said that the Bharat Sevak Samaj is going to be provided with rupees four crores under the Plan. That also I do not see anywhere. The money allocated for social welfare activities may be spent through any agency. There may be scores of agencies. Whichever is most suited for a particular purpose may be selected. (Interruption).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There has been sufficient discussion for five days. He need not interrupt now.

Shri Nanda: I remember all the questions that were raised in my

presence, and I have also seen the records and I am answering all the questions. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let there be no running commentary.

Shri Nanda: It is stated that the Bharat Sevak Samaj is an auxiliary of the Congress, that it is a friend of the Congress, and that it is not really a non-political organisation. Hon. Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani at least was fair so far as the persons with whom she is in contact here dealing with the Bharat Sevak Samaj were concerned, and conceded that they want to have it kept on a non-political plane. But the charge is that all over people in strategic positions are Congressmen, and that it is really intended to develop the influence of the Congress. It is a matter of detail, but since the question was brought up, I refer to that. Before any kind of set-up was created, an attempt was made to secure the names of conveners from all the parties who were associated, and I personally again and again asked for names of persons who could be introduced into this work, but at that stage minds were not made up altogether, and no suggestions were made of names of persons who could be selected for this work. Even now, let us take the list of the conveners in the various States. I hardly find a very active Congressman in the list of conveners. If there are some here and there because nobody else could be found, I do not think that it is anything for which we should apologise.

Regarding the Bharat Sevak Samaj, I wish very humbly to state again that we should not condemn it out of hand on certain assumptions. It is something which the country needs, a non-political, non-official organisation which will engage itself in constructive activity where all parties can come together for things which are for the good of the nation. If we cannot do that in a democracy, if we must go on only fighting, and if we cannot meet for constructive purposes, democracy will be in very serious jeopardy. What I was pointing out was that if at a certain stage for certain constructive purposes co-operation is not forthcoming, it is a different matter, but actually on a point of fact, there is nothing to warrant the kind of inferences that have been drawn. (*Interruption*).

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल (बिलासपूर) :

चोर की दाढ़ी में तिनका ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is not the only hon. Member in the Opposition. A number of things have been stated here. The hon. Minister is answering various points that have been raised and doubts that have been created. No hon. Member need take that all the arguments are against him. The hon. Minister may kindly go on.

Shri Nanda: It was said that this Plan was not a national Plan; that it was a political stunt; that it was a Plan of the Congress Party. So far as those who were concerned with the preparation of the Plan are concerned, I can say categorically that there was no kind of narrow political view at all present in their minds. It is not at all a Plan which has been made with a view to serve the interests of any party. No questions of the interests of any party are involved in it. I do not see where and how the question arises, because as I said, the reaction regarding the things which I enumerated was that they were good things, they should be done, and that more of them should be done. So, where does the question of any party interest arise there? If all the things are such that they can disagree with them mostly, then there is no question that there is a separate special point of view of the Congress Party which is going to operate in the implementation and formulation of this Plan. It is a national Plan in the sense that in the first place, it was worked out in relation to the needs of the whole nation. Secondly, it was publicised, and information about the Plan went out to all parts of the country, and the reactions, opinions and suggestions that resulted, reflect the minds of the people of the country. Between the period of the draft outline and that of the final Plan, there were consultations in which the hon. Members who spoke in that strain were associated. Now it is really odd for them to say that though they were associated in that manner, their views have not found full place. Let the hon. Members examine the contents of the draft outline and the contents of the final Plan. They will see evidence of the impact of whatever thought and whatever opinions emerged during this period. They may notice their own suggestions also finding a place in the document.

Shri Namblar: All underground.

Shri Nanda: It is not possible for every suggestion of everybody to be accommodated in the Plan. No Plan could be formulated on that basis. Even within a party, it may not be

[Shri Nanda]

possible to accommodate every viewpoint. Therefore to the best possible extent, to the utmost extent, every point of view was adjusted. Actually when criticism was made, nothing tangible was pointed out, which really went contrary to the expressed opinions of the hon. Members who had taken part in these consultations.

I understand that the House would be rather restive, and I should not take much more time. There were several questions raised, to which answers are being demanded, and I can give those answers, but I would not take up the time of the House now. There will be other occasions for that.

I should, in conclusion, just submit that it is not the intention to put up this Plan as something which is perfect. It is not at all perfect. It has many flaws. We are aware of those flaws. Some of them are inevitable in the present circumstances. But there will be always an effort to improve it. It is a blueprint. It is possible that everybody might find some little thing here and there, with which he cannot entirely agree. Several things can be adjusted in course of time, as we go along. Those who are in a mood to help and co-operate in reconstructing the country's economy, will find a good deal to do, and a great deal of room and opportunity for work of the most useful kind. It is not a very spectacular Plan, it is not a very big Plan, that is true. But it is big enough. It is not an easy Plan; as the hon. Prime Minister said, it is going to need the utmost effort on the part of all of us, to work out and realise and implement the Plan. The tasks and the targets of the Plan are of no mean order. Yet they require the utmost application of energy on the part of all of us, to achieve those targets. The objectives and proposals of the Plan were not conceived in any narrow party-spirit. It is an honest Plan. I can say that with absolute confidence that it is an honest Plan, a straightforward Plan. It may be that in material terms it does not produce anything big immediately though it does in that direction also. But chiefly what we have in view as the results of this Plan is that it places before us the prospect of becoming bigger and better in course of time. We need not remain in the category of under-developed countries, and we can, as a result of this Plan, a few years later, become a fully developed country. We need not depend on anybody, as a result

of what is visualised for the next three years. Just three years is not a very long period. My humble appeal to the various hon. Members connected with parties here and outside is that it should be the endeavour of everybody to give his utmost towards the successful implementation of this Plan. I have to think of Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee again, because he said something very significant. He said that the Plan has no life, and that let the hon. Prime Minister put life into it. It is not one person who can put life into a Plan of this kind. All of us have to unite and then the Plan will become a living thing. I place the Plan in the hands of the people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Except where any hon. Member wants his amendment to be put separately, I now propose to put all the amendments to the vote of the House.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): I want mine to be put separately.

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Trivandrum): I want mine to be put separately.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I want mine to be put separately.

Shri Chinaria (Mohindergarh): I want to say one sentence only about my amendment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He can't make a speech now.

Shri Chinaria: Only one sentence.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is not the time for it. It is now over.

Shri V. G. Deshpande (Guna): I want my amendment also to be put separately.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the hon. Member's amendment? What is its number? Hon. Members are not sure about the amendments themselves.

पंडित अलनू राय शास्त्री : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा भी एक संशोधन है जो नम्बर ११ पर है। मैं उसको बापस लेता हूँ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right.

Shri Gidwani: My amendment also should be put to vote.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the amendments to the vote of the House.

Shri Chinaria: I withdraw my amendment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall put it to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and congratulates the Planning Commission for their strenuous labours and single-minded devotion to the completion of their task and further calls upon the Government to take steps to enlist the co-operation towards a successful execution of this Plan of every political and social organisation and of the public in general whose well-being is the object of this Plan."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that the policy and the plan are permeated by a sense of over expectation and unwarranted optimism, and the economic calculations on which they are based will inevitably lead to a disorganisation of the entire economic system."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

(i) That for the words "records its general approval of" the words "takes into consideration" be substituted; and

(ii) that the following be added at the end:

"but regrets that they fall far short of a real effort to achieve a social order for the promotion of the welfare of the people, even as directed by Articles 38 and 39 of the Constitution."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and congratulates the Planning Commission and appreciates the strenuous efforts made by the Planning Commission in the completion of its huge task and further calls upon the Government to take necessary steps to enlist co-operation of all sections of the public in this country, whose well-being is the object of this Plan."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but feels constrained to express its disappointment at the low targets fixed by the plan particularly for the increase in the national income."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and suggests that for a proper implementation and execution of the plan and for creating fervour in the country, the following preliminary steps should as soon and as far as practicable be taken namely:

(1) The introduction of more and more responsible democracy through formation of autonomous statutory bodies in each village union with M.L.A's and M.P.'s as *ex-officio* members with power and responsibility to plan, organize and execute the programme in their respective areas;

(2) voluntary levelling down of the income and the way of living of the upper urban class in Indian life by patriotic persuasion and acceptance;

(3) ruthless austerity measures in the administrative sphere; and

(4) a renewed persistent emphasis on *swadeshi* and banning import of all unnecessary foreign goods in the interest of nation."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but regrets that the plan lacks proper emphasis on the preventive side in the planning of wealth and by giving undue emphasis on the foreign system of the so-called scientific treatment, has lost sight of the indigenous and local methods of easy and natural treatment which deserve immediate research, publicity and encouragement."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but regrets that in planning housing, the plan does not pro-

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

vide for reconstruction of new villages by clustering together the innumerable small, scattered and out-of-the way 'basties' in the rural areas."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and congratulates the Planning Commission for their labour and further calls upon the Government to take immediate and adequate steps to socialize the means of production including land to make the Plan a complete success."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and urges that Government should include, the Kistna Valley Scheme as recommended by the Khosla Commission in the Five Year Plan and take immediate steps for the implementation of the same."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but regrets that the Five Year Plan suffers from several limitations and lays stress only on production, paying very little attention to equal distribution and towards providing gainful employment to fifty million unemployed and under-employed and hence fails to restore faith in the people and to mobilize the masses for reconstruction."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but is of opinion that the industrial policy is reactionary and tends to continue and intensify class domination."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but is of opinion that the policy and the plan do not aim

at a planned economy and are devoid of any scope for a centralised economic planning, besides being a total abstention from making any attempt to inaugurate or devise a policy or scheme to establish a socialistic order of things."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but is of opinion that the policy and plan tend to severely regiment the national economy and lower the standard of living of the bulk of the population."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but is of opinion that the policy and plan do not envisage any scheme to have the plan worked out free from corruption and waste."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but is of opinion that the policy and plan to effect a land reform is misconceived and portentuous of very grave consequences, without a proper and adequate data regarding land ownership and distribution being prepared beforehand."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but wishes to draw the attention of the Planning Commission to the provisions made by it for providing irrigation facility and other improvements in U.P. and especially so in the Eastern parts of it which are disappointing and inadequate and urges upon them to allot more funds for the purposes aforesaid."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but regrets—

(a) that the Plan has totally ignored to examine and adopt modern trends of man-power mobilisation which envisage the integration of defence with socio-economic planning;

(b) that the Plan has overlooked the possibility of utilising the defence organization not only for national service in emergencies but also for appropriate nation-building activities which do not hamper the efficiency of military training;

(c) that the Plan has made no provision for education and training facilities for the defence personnel to enable them to be resettled in civil life and to help the implementation of the various programmes chalked out by the planners;

(d) that the Plan discloses no programme for absorption of ex-servicemen, with their training and discipline, in the contemplated socio-economic drive;

(e) that the Plan gives no indication of building up potential nation-wide reserves, not only for war emergencies but also for civilian national-service activities;

(f) that the Plan does not seek to enthuse the country for national service by satisfying the aspirations of every patriotic citizen to be associated with national defence;

(g) that the Plan has failed to explore the possibility of manufacturing defence material requirements as far as practicable in this country, at least to save foreign exchange;

(h) that the Plan, in indicating priorities, has not adopted a unified approach, taking into consideration not only the socio-economic but also the defence needs of the country; and

(i) that the Plan has failed to attempt an integrated solution of the various problems (including those of the Backward classes and the refugees) by correlating Defence with socio-economic programmes."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and suggests—

(a) that an agency of officials and non-officials should be creat-

ed in each group of villages to advance loans and grants and to help the villages with all possible modern equipments and technical guidance to increase the village production and thus to utilise the man-power in villages in building our national economy;

(b) that our defence forces should be utilised to execute our First Five Year Plan as most of the countries in the world are utilising their defence force in building their socio-economic plans;

(c) that collective and co-operative farmings should be started among the Harijans, backward classes and other agricultures labourers in each group of villages to improve the economic condition of the poor class of people in villages;

(d) that 'Ghata-prabha' project in Karnatak should be included in the First Five Year Plan; and

(e) that immediately new small irrigation projects and roads should be undertaken in the scarcity areas and that the present provision for scarcity areas should be increased as it is too small to meet the situation even in Southern India."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and welcoming this gigantic and completely co-ordinated plan as an earnest attempt on the part of the Government to eradicate famine, poverty, backwardness and unemployment from the land, assures the Government of its whole-hearted support to the stupendous task undertaken, that will change the very face of India."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and, while congratulating the Planning Commission for their strenuous labour and single-minded devotion to the completion of their task, regrets that the Plan presents a great disparity between the objectives in the industrial sector and those in the rural sector, that there is no promise of full employment in the urban sector, that after the completion

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker] of the Plan, as at present conceived, private vested interests will be more firmly entrenched in power in the industrial sector, that even in the rural sector there is no deadline set for basic reforms such as fixation of ceiling on land holdings, that that part of the Plan dealing with public administration amounts to a mere repetition of pious platitudes, and that in respect of foreign aid, the Plan fails to insist on and secure assistance from U.N. agencies, rather than from individual countries."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but regrets that the Planning Commission has neglected unirrigated areas 90 per cent. of the total area in the Agricultural Schemes and have overlooked unirrigable dry areas 40 per cent. of the total altogether by not locating even a single Community Project anywhere in them out of fifty-five and this House therefore urges upon the Government that the dry areas like Mohindargarh (PEPSU) if they do not come under any large or small irrigation Project or Fubewell Scheme, be given priority in other Development Plans and Community Projects etc."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and suggests—

(1) that the cultivable waste land be given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for cultivation and the State Governments should be made to make adequate provision of loans to these castes for cultivation from the money allocated for such purposes under the Five Year Plan;

(2) that the Government should consider its first duty to provide houses to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe people suitable for human habitation as they are today living in filth, squalor and insanitation;

(3) that the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be adequately provided with funds to start cottage industries such as shoe-

making, tanning and rope-making etc. and a provision of at least 5 crore rupees should be made for this purpose;

(4) that the Government should make provision in the Five Year Plan for Rs. 25 crore to acquire lands for building sites for these castes;

(5) that a provision should also be made in the Five Year Plan of about Rs. 3 crores for the implementation of the various Acts such as Social Disability Removal Act directly concerned with the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(6) that a provision of Rs. 50 crores should be made in the First Five Year Plan for Foreign Scholarships and Technical, Medical, Engineering education in this country for the students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(7) that a provision should also be made in the Five Year Plan for Rs. 25 crores for making arrangement of drinking water to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(8) that there should be separate "Ministry for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes" in Government of India and the Minister so appointed should be of cabinet rank and should be taken from Scheduled Castes;

(9) that a separate colony should be established for Scheduled Castes where they are in majority and a separate provision of Rs. 50 crores should be made in the Five Year Plan for this purpose;

(10) that there should be provision of free legal aid to the people of Scheduled Castes who are harassed by caste Hindus in the rural areas;

(11) that those members of the Scheduled Castes who want to migrate from Pakistan to India should be afforded all possible financial and other aid for doing so and special attention be paid to their rehabilitation problem and that a special provision be made for this purpose in the First Five Year Plan;

(12) that the members of Scheduled Castes residing in Jammu and Kashmir should be afforded all facilities provided by the Constitution; and

(13) that the people from Scheduled Castes should be appointed on the committees and in

services in various stages of the Planning Commission."

The motion was **negated**.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"and suggests—

(1) that the available land in the villages should be distributed among the Harijans and Advaitas to improve their down-trodden condition and to make them independent in their livelihood;

(2) that the present provision for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is too small to improve their condition within the required period;

(3) that a special provision should be made for the rehabilitation of Tanning industry as cottage industry among the Scheduled Castes who eke out their livelihood by Tanning and Shoe industry."

The motion was **negated**.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added:

"and is of opinion that Ganga Basin Scheme should be taken into consideration and should be included in the Five Year Plan development scheme."

The motion was **negated**.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but at the same time disapproves of the organisation and activities of the Bharat Sevak Samaj."

The motion was **negated**.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original Resolution, the following be substituted:

"This House records its general approval of the principles and objectives of installing a planned economy in India in terms of the Resolution of the Government of India in March 1950 but is of opinion that the final draft of the First Five Year Plan as prepared by the Planning Commission fails to reflect in any adequate measure the national aspirations of the people of India and to formulate a programme for the most effective utilisation of the country's resources so as to secure all citizens the right to an adequate means of livelihood, the distribution of the ownership and control

of the material resources of the community as best to subserve the common good and to ensure that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of wealth and means of production to the common detriment in the real meaning of the Directive Principles of State Policy as enunciated by the Constitution of India."

Those who are in favour of the amendment will please stand up in their seats. There are 52 hon. Members in favour of this amendment. Now, those hon. Members who are against the amendment will please stand up in their seats. The 'Noes' have it, as there is an overwhelming majority against the amendment.

The motion was **negated**.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That for the original resolution the following be substituted:

"Having considered the Report of the Planning Commission this House regrets that—

(a) no account has been taken of suggestions to augment the resources available for developmental expenditure and by not doing so, the Planning Commission have failed in making a correct technical appraisal of the resources available;

(b) the basis chosen for calculation of resources available for implementation of the Plan in a mixed economy is undefined and vague;

(c) no steps have been taken to secure a more balanced regional distribution of income and employment;

(d) a lack of comprehensive appreciation of the immediate needs of the country and the future claims of the people invalidates most of the conclusions of the Commission;

(e) an inadequate provision for rehabilitation of refugees, especially from East Bengal, and the absence of an integrated programme for treating the refugees as part and parcel of the community and thus advancing social and economic interests to the maximum extent considerably whittles down the efficiency of the Plan;

(f) the lack of an integrated policy of development of small-scale industries with large-scale industries and agriculture minimises the value of the recommendations pertaining to the former;

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

(g) the Plan after execution will not raise the standard of living above that in 1950 and this would fall short even of the modest claim made in the preliminary Planning Report issued in 1950 of the standard of living reaching at least the 1939 level; and

(h) finally the Plan as a whole is vitiated by inadequate provision for additional employment and imperfect appreciation of agrarian needs and reforms.

This House is further of opinion that the Planning Commission should be abolished forthwith and in order to implement, assess and revise the Plan, a Sub-Committee of the Cabinet be appointed and be charged with the duty and responsibility of presenting an annual White Paper to Parliament prior to or with the Budget on the progress of different schemes, Central and State."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"but regrets—

(a) that so far as the rehabilitation of the urban displaced persons is concerned, the Planning Commission while admitting that the problem of urban resettlement in the case of the displaced persons has been one of considerable complexity due to the essential difference in the

economic pattern of the incoming and outgoing population and further stating that the urban economy in India does not offer scope for quick expansion and absorption of new elements, have offered no solution for the same;

(b) that the Planning Commission have made assumption that most of the agriculturists from the West Pakistan have been settled and in the case of displaced persons from East Pakistan nearly 70 per cent. have been settled while there was no factual data before them;

(c) that the Planning Commission has vaguely stated that certain steps in the direction of giving a measure of compensation to displaced persons have been taken but have not produced any concrete scheme of compensation; and

(d) that the amount proposed to be spent for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons from the West and East Pakistan is inadequate to meet the requirements of the situation."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"This House records its general approval of the principles, objectives and programme of development contained in the Five Year Plan as prepared by the Planning Commission."

The House divided: Ayes, 286: Noes: 62.

Division No. 8]

AYES

[1-30 P.M.]

Abdus Sattar, Shri
Achal Singh Seth
Achint Ram, Lala
Ashuthan, Shri
Agarwal, Shri H. L.
Agrawal, Shri M. L.
Akarpuri, Sardar
Alagesan, Shri
Altekar, Shri
Alva, Shri Joachim
Amrit Kaur, Rajkumar
Anandchand, Shri
Asthana, Shri
Balasubramaniam, Shri
Balmiki, Shri
Bansal, Shri
Barman, Shri,
Barrow, Shri
Barupal, Shri
Basappa, Shri

Bhagat, Shri B. B.
Bhakta Darshan, Shri
Bharati, Shri G. S.
Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das
Bhatkar, Shri
Bhatt, Shri C. S.
Bheekha Bhal, Shri
Bhonsle, Shri J. K.
Bidari, Shri
Birbal Singh, Shri
Bogawat, Shri
Borooah, Shri
Booe, Shri P. C.
Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri
Brahmo Choudhury, Shri
Buragohain, Shri
Chacko, Shri P. T.
Chanda, Shri Anil K.
Chandak, Shri
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati

Charak, Shri
Chatterjee, Dr. Susilranjan
Chaturvedi, Shri
Chaudhary, Shri G. L.
Chinaria, Shri
Chaudhri, Shri M. Shafiee
Dabhi, Shri
Damar, Shri
Das, Dr. M. M.
Das, Shri B.
Das, Shri B. K.
Das, Shri Bell Ram
Das, Shri K. K.
Das, Shri Ram Dhan
Das, Shri S. N.
Das, Shri N. T.
Datar, Shri
Deb, Shri S. C.
Desai, Shri K. K.
Deshmukh, Shri C. D.

Deahmukh, Shri K. G.
 Deshmukh, Dr. P. S.
 Deshpande, Shri, G. H.
 Dholakia, Shri
 Dhusiya, Shri
 Digambar Singh, Shri
 Dube, Shri Mulchand
 Dube, Shri U. S.
 Dubey, Shri R. G.
 Dutt, Shri A. K.
 Dutta, Shri S. K.
 Dwivedi, Shri D. P.
 Dwivedi, Shri M. L.
 Elayaperumal, Shri
 Fotedar, Pandit
 Gadgil, Shri
 Gandhi, Shri Feroze
 Gandhi, Shri M. M.
 Gandhi, Shri V. B.
 Ganga Devi, Shrimati
 Ganpati Ram, Shri
 Gautam, Shri C. D.
 Ghose, Shri S. M.
 Ghulam Qader, Shri
 Gopi Ram, Shri
 Gounder, Shri K. P.
 Gounder, Shri K. S.
 Gupta, Shri Badshah
 Hari Mohan, Dr.
 Hazarika, Shri J. N.
 Heda, Shri
 Hembrom, Shri
 Hyder Husein, Ch.
 Ibrahim, Shri
 Islamuddin, Shri M.
 Iyyani, Shri E.
 Iyyunni, Shri C. B.
 Jain, Shri N. S.
 Jajware, Shri
 Jangde, Shri
 Jasani, Shri
 Jatav-vir, Shri
 Jayashri, Shrimati
 Jena, Shri K. C.
 Jena, Shri Niranjan
 Jethan, Shri
 Jha, Shri Bhagwat
 Jogendra Singh, Sardar
 Joshi, Shri Jethalal
 Joshi, Shri Krishnacharya
 Joshi, Shri Liladhar
 Joshi, Shri M. D.
 Joshi, Shrimati Subhadra
 Jwaja Prashad, Shri
 Kakkan, Shri
 Kale, Shrimati A.
 Kasliwal, Shri
 Katham, Shri
 Katju, Dr.
 Keshavajengar, Shri
 Khan, Shri S. A.
 Khedkar, Shri G. B.

Khongmen, Shrimati
 Khuda Baksh, Shri M.
 Kirollakar, Shri
 Krishna Chandra, Shri
 Krishnamachari, Shri T. T.
 Krishnappa, Shri M. V.
 Kureel, Shri B. N.
 Kureel, Shri P. L.
 Lal, Shri R. S.
 Lallanji, Shri
 Lakshmayya, Shri
 Laskar, Prof.
 Lotan Ram, Shri
 Mahodaya, Shri
 Mahtab, Shri
 Majhi, Shri R. C.
 Majithia, Sardar
 Malaviya, Shri K. D.
 Mollah, Shri U. S.
 Malvia, Shri B. N.
 Malviya, Pandit C. N.
 Malviya, Shri Motilal
 Mandal, Dr. P.
 Masuodi, Maulana
 Masuriya Din, Shri
 Matthen, Shri
 Mayo, Shrimati
 Mehta, Shri Balwant Sinha
 Mehta, Shri B. G.
 Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
 Mishra, Shri L. N.
 Mishra, Shri Lokenath
 Mishra, Shri M. P.
 Mishra, Shri S. N.
 Misra, Pandit Lingaraj
 Misra, Shri R. D.
 Misra, Shri S. P.
 Mohd. Akbar, Sofi
 Mohiuddin, Shri
 Morarka, Shri
 More, Shri K. L.
 Muchaki Kosa, Shri
 Mudaliar, Shri C. B.
 Muthukrishnan, Shri
 Nair, Shri C. K.
 Nanda, Shri
 Narasimhan, Shri C. B.
 Naskar, Shri P. S.
 Natawadkar, Shri
 Nateean, Shri
 Nathwani, Shri N. P.
 Nehru, Shri Jawaharlal
 Nehru, Shrimati Uma
 Neewi, Shri
 Nijalingappa, Shri
 Pannalal, Shri
 Pant, Shri D. D.
 Paragi Lal, Ch.
 Parekh, Dr. J. N.
 Parmar, Shri R. B.
 Petekar, Shri
 Patel, Shri B. B.

Patel, Shri Rajeshwar
 Patel, Shrimati Maniben
 Pateria, Shri
 Patil, Shri P. B. K.
 Patil, Shri Shankargauda
 Pawar, Shri V. P.
 Pillai, Shri Thanu
 Prabhakar, Shri N.
 Prasad, Shri H. S.
 Rachiah, Shri N.
 Radha Raman, Shri
 Raghunir Sahai, Shri
 Raghunir Singh, Ch.
 Ram Das, Shri
 Ram Saran, Prof.
 Ram Subhag Singh, Dr.
 Ramanand Shastri, Swami
 Ramaswamy, Shri P.
 Ramaswamy, Shri S. V.
 Ranbir Singh, Ch.
 Rane, Shri
 Rao, Diwan Raghavendra
 Raut, Shri Bhoja
 Reddy, Shri H. S.
 Reddy, Shri Janardhan
 Roy, Shri B. N.
 Rup Narain, Shri
 Sahu, Shri Bhagabat
 Sahu, Shri Rameshwar
 Saigal, Sardar A. S.
 Sakhare, Shri
 Saksena, Shri Mohanlal
 Samanta, Shri S. C.
 Sanganna, Shri
 Sankarapandian, Shri
 Sarmah, Shri
 Satish Chandra, Shri
 Satyawadi, Dr.
 Sen, Shri P. G.
 Sen, Shrimati Sushama
 Sewal, Shri A. B.
 Shah, Shri R. B.
 Shahniawaz Khan, Shri
 Sharma, Pandit Balkrishna
 Sharma, Pandit K. C.
 Sharma, Prof. D. C.
 Sharma, Shri K. B.
 Sharma, Shri B. C.
 Shastri, Pandit A. B.
 Shastri, Shri H. N.
 Shivananjappa, Shri
 Shobha Ram, Shri
 Shukla, Pandit B.
 Sidhananjappa, Shri
 Singh, Shri D. N.
 Singh, Shri Babunath
 Singh, Shri H. P.
 Singh, Shri L. J.
 Singh, Shri M. N.
 Singh, Shri T. N.
 Singh, Shri S. C.
 Singh, Shri S. S.

AYES—*contd.*

Sinha, Shri A. P.
 Sinha, Shri Anrudha
 Sinha, Shri B. P.
 Sinha, Shri G. P.
 Sinha, Shri Jhulan
 Sinha, Shri K. P.
 Sinha, Shri N. P.
 Sinha, Shri Setya Narayan
 Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan
 Sinha, Shrimati Tarkeshwari
 Sinhasan Singh, Shri
 Sodhia, Shri K. C.
 Somana, Shri N.
 Subrahmanyam, Shri T.
 Swaminadhan, Shrimati Amma
 Syed Ahmed, Shri
 Syed Mahmud, Dr.
 Tandon, Shri
 Telkikar, Shri
 Thimmaiah, Shri
 Thomas, Shri A. M.
 Tivari, Shri V. N.
 Tiwari, Pandit B. L.
 Tiwari, Shri R. S.
 Tiwari, Pandit D. N.
 Tripathi, Shri H. V.
 Tripathi, Shri V. D.
 Tudu, Shri B. L.
 Upadhyay, Shri M. D.
 Upadhyay, Shri Shiva Dayal
 Upadhyay, Shri S. D.
 Valashnav, Shri H. G.
 Valahya, Shri M. B.
 Varma, Shri B. R.
 Velayudhan, Shri
 Vidyalankar, Shri
 Vishwanath Prasad, Shri
 Vyas, Shri Radhelal
 Wilson, Shri J. N.
 Wodeyar, Shri

NOES

Achalu, Shri
 Ajit Singh, Shri
 Bahadur Singh, Shri
 Basu, Shri K. K.
 Chakravartty, Shrimati Renu
 Chatterjee, Shri N. C.
 Chatterjee, Shri Tushar
 Chaudhuri, Shri T. K.
 Chowdary, Shri C. R.
 Chowdhury, Shri N. B.
 Damodaran, Shri N. P.
 Das, Shri B. C.
 Das, Shri Sarangadhar
 Dasaratha Deb, Shri
 Deo, Shri R. N. S.
 Deshpande, Shri V. G.
 Doraswamy, Shri
 Gidwani, Shri
 Girdhari Bhol, Shri
 Gurupadaswamy, Shri
 Hukam Singh, Sardar
 Jaisooriya, Dr.
 Kelappan, Shri
 Kripalani, Shrimati Sucheta
 Krishnaswami, Dr.
 Majhi, Shri Chaitan
 Mascarene, Kumari Annie
 Menon, Shri Damodara
 Mishra, Pandit, S. C.
 Mukerjee, Shri H. N.
 More, Shri S. S.
 Murthy, Shri B. S.
 Namblar, Shri
 Nanadas, Shri M.
 Narasimham, Shri S. V. L.
 Nathani, Shri H. R.
 Pandey, Dr. Natabar
 Patnaik, Shri U. C.
 Punnoose, Shri
 Raghavachari, Shri
 Raghavalah, Shri
 Ramasami, Shri M. D.
 Randaman Singh, Shri
 Rao, Dr. Rama
 Rao, Shri Gopala
 Rao, Shri K. S.
 Rao, Shri P. R.
 Rao, Shri P. Subba
 Rao, Shri Vittal
 Reddi, Shri Madhao
 Reddi, Shri Ramachandra
 Reddy, Shri Eewara
 Rishang Keishing, Shri
 Saha, Shri Meghnad
 Shakuntala, Shrimati
 Sharma, Shri Nand Lal
 Shastri, Shri B. D.
 Singh, Shri R. N.
 Subrahmanyam, Shri K.
 Swamy, Shri N. R. M.
 Verma, Shri Ramii
 Waghmare, Shri

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to make two announcements. First of all, I have received notice of half-an-hour discussion regarding famine conditions in South Maharashtra. The hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture is unable to be here tomorrow. In view of the importance of the half-an-hour discussion, I shall take it up after the normal business of the day is over.

The other announcement I have to make is that the hon. the Prime Minister will make a statement today at 3-15 P.M. as soon as the House re-assembles after lunch in answer to a short notice question regarding the formation of an Andhra province.

The House is adjourned till 3-15 P.M.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till a Quarter Past Three of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at a Quarter Past Three of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

DELIMITATION COMMISSION BILL
 3-19 P.M.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri C. C. Biswas on the 10th December, 1952:

"That 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, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

Shri M. D. Joshi (Ratnagiri South): I want to bring to the notice of the House one or two points for consideration. I shall refer to the comments made by one or two friends as regards the constitution of the Commission. With regard to the composition of the Commission very unkind criticism was made by certain hon. Members. It was said that judges will not be competent to express any opinion or to decide questions as regards delimitation. I am surprised when hon. Members say that experienced judges who decide various complicated questions will not be able to decide questions of delimitation of constituencies. I do not agree at all with the view expressed that judges should not form members of the Commission.

Then I have to offer a few remarks as regards clause 8. It has already been pointed out by certain hon. Members that clause 8 (b) will do injustice to the Scheduled Castes and Harijans. We are not yet out of the rut of caste prejudices and caste inhibitions. Ordinarily what happens is that a candidate appeals to people of his own caste and generally a Harijan candidate finds himself in a quandary of difficulties. It may not be fair to him if he is put in a single member constituency. It will be much better, therefore, if a Harijan seat is allotted in a double member constituency in which he will fight his election with a member of another community. That will be fair to him; that will make his election easier and that will induce constituents of other communities also to vote for the Harijan or backward class member.

Secondly in clause 8 (i) (e) it is said that all constituencies shall, as far as practicable, consist of geographically compact areas. Some remarks have already been made by my hon. friend Mr. Dhobi in this regard. What I wish to point out is that there are difficulties met with by candidates when they come out on their electioneering campaigns. In spite of the fact that constituencies are created in geographically compact areas, what happens is that administrative areas such as taluks, do not coincide with geographically compact constituencies. It will be very easy, it will be more convenient for electioneering campaign and for contesting members or would be members if the administrative units as well as electoral areas coincide. I would, therefore, suggest that the question of reforming taluk constituencies or reforming taluk administrative units be taken in hand by Gov-

ernment simultaneously with the question of forming these constituencies. What I mean to suggest is that the question of re-forming administrative units, if taken in hand simultaneously with this, will ultimately go a long way to establishing one administrative unit which will be co-extensive with one electoral constituency. That will be easier for administration and that will be easier even for election.

The third point is as regards clause 8(3) (c). It is laid down here that the Commission will "consider all objections and suggestions which may have been received by it before the date so specified, and for the purpose of such consideration, hold one or more public sittings at such place or places as it thinks fit".

Our experience in this respect was very sad. In the case of the last Delimitation Commission, when the constituencies were formed they were notified in some unknown place in the Collector's office and the public did not know anything about it. I remember that in my district, constituencies were formed and were notified thrice. But we did not know anything about it. My hon. friend opposite, Mr. More, complained that Congressmen were in the know of things. Well, I am a Congress Member, I was President of a District Congress Committee, and I did not know anything about it.

I therefore suggest that these sittings of the Commission may be announced beforehand, they may be properly notified to the public, and all the decisions taken, provisionally or otherwise, may be well advertised and announced.

I do not think I need take more time of the House. I have placed these suggestions for the consideration of the hon. Minister.

Shri V. B. Gandhi rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So much has already been said on the consideration motion. I will give him an opportunity on the clauses.

The question is:

"That 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 there-

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with, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now proceed with the clauses.

Clause 2. — (Definitions.)

Shri Barman (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

In page 1, after line 11, insert:

"(e) 'associate member' means a member nominated under section 5."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

In page 1, after line 11, insert:

"(e) 'associate member' means a member nominated under section 5."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 3.—(Constitution of Delimitation Commission.)

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): I beg to move:

(i) In page 1, line 15—

for "three members" substitute "five members".

(ii) In page 1, line 16—

for "two members" substitute "four members".

(iii) In page 1, lines 16 and 17—

omit "or has been".

Sir, my first amendment proposes that instead of three members of the

Commission there may be five members. As you are aware, Sir, delimitation is a very important task, and for such an important task it is better we have a broad-based Commission. A Commission consisting of three members as is envisaged in the Bill may not be adequate for the purpose in view. The matter is such a complicated one, it requires a lot of forethought, deliberation, and a lot of work and also cool judgment. It is therefore better to have a larger number of members on the Commission. So I feel that instead of three members it is more advisable to have five members.

My second amendment is merely consequential to the first. I want to substitute "four members" for "two members" in line 16.

In my third amendment I have suggested the omission of the words "or has been" from lines 16 and 17. Some Member pointed out the other day that retired judges should not be appointed to the Commission, because there may be a possibility of influencing them. If judges who are already in the High Courts or in the Supreme Court are appointed, this charge of partiality or favouritism or brining in of influence on those members may not be there. As you are aware, Sir, retired judges are becoming politicians nowadays. And so, with the hope of achieving something in politics, with a view to gain the goodwill of Government and thereby being benefited in the long run, they may yield to the pressure of certain groups, particularly to the pressure of certain groups in the Congress. So, just to avoid this possibility I have proposed that these words "or has been" may be omitted. This will make the Commission more impartial, and there will not be any suspicion in any quarter in the country so far as the work of the Commission is concerned. I suggest that this deletion is very necessary. There are so many judges in the High Courts and in the Supreme Court, and we may pick up four or five of them and put them in the Commission. I hope that this amendment of mine will be accepted by the hon. Minister, as also the other amendments which I have moved.

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): Sir, I am sorry I cannot accept these amendments. It is proposed that the Delimitation Commission will have a number of associate members joining them for the work of delimitation in each State. And we are going to increase the number of associate members. If we have a Com-

mission consisting of three members, two judges and the Election Commissioner, that ought to suffice. Also, it may not be possible to get so many judges. Then they will have all to be retired judges. Serving judges, it is very difficult to get. As a matter of fact, there is no provision in the Constitution now for the appointment of *ad hoc* or temporary judges. Therefore Chief Justices of High Courts are very unwilling to spare their judges for other work. The result is we have got to depend on retired judges in many cases. Otherwise we cannot have persons possessing high judicial qualifications. So I am sorry that I cannot accept these amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

- (i) In page 1, line 15—for “three members” substitute “five members”.
- (ii) In page 1, line 16—for “two members” substitute “four members”.
- (iii) In page 1, lines 16 and 17—omit “or has been”.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

- * “That clause 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4.—(Duties of the Commission.)

Shri Barman: I beg to move:

In page 1,

- (i) line 26. omit “other than Jammu and Kashmir”; and
- (ii) after line 27, insert:

“Provided that duty of the Commission shall not extend to the State of Jammu and Kashmir.”

I submit that this amendment of mine will solve many a difficulty. At every time we have to mention Part B States, we have to mention the qualifying clause “other than Jammu and Kashmir” though in so far as this Bill is concerned, Jammu and Kashmir is entirely outside the purview. So in my amendment I am suggesting that once for all we say in this clause 4 under the duties of the Commission, that the duties of the Commission will not extend to the State of Jammu and Kashmir. And we need not repeat this qualifying expression “other than Jammu and Kashmir” at all places

wherever the words ‘States B’ are mentioned. This is mentioned in clauses 4, 5 and 8. So far as clauses 4 and 5 are concerned, there is no difficulty about the meaning but I would ask the hon. Minister to consider clause 8. In clause 8 (1), there are two parts (a) and (b). In part (b) where the Commission is concerned with delimitation within the States, it is clearly mentioned “other than Jammu and Kashmir” but in part (a) there is no such expression used. It says “the number of seats to be allotted to each of the States in the House of the People.....”. Here no exception of Jammu and Kashmir is made as in all other sub-clauses and parts. So, this part has to be amended further stating here “each of the States other than Jammu and Kashmir”. My amendment, if accepted, will solve the problem and will also help us to eliminate this qualifying clause from all other places. That is my submission.

Shri S. N. Das (Darbhanga Central): Before the hon. Minister replies I would like to draw your attention to my amendments to clause 4 which I beg to move:

- (i) In page 1, line 26,— for “other than Jammu and Kashmir” substitute: “and to delimit such territorial constituencies”.
- (ii) In page 1, after line 27, insert:

‘Provided that the duty of the Commission shall not extend to the State of Jammu and Kashmir as regards readjustment of representation of territorial constituencies of the Legislative Assembly of the State is concerned.’

I have moved these amendments with a view to bring in Jammu and Kashmir within the purview of this Bill. The reasons for this are that when the first delimitation was made, it was left for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly to select their representatives and thereafter to be nominated by the President. Now, in view of the fact that the whole territory of India has a right to send representatives to the House of the People, I think the representatives coming from Jammu and Kashmir should be elected directly on the basis of adult franchise and not to be nominated by the President and it is for that purpose that I want to just limit the scope of the Bill to the representation or adjustment of territorial constituencies in the Legislative Assembly of each State but as regards the representation of Jammu and Kashmir to the House of the

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People is concerned, Jammu and Kashmir should be brought under the purview of this Bill in view of the fact that there is no necessity now for debarring the people of Jammu and Kashmir from sending their representatives to the House of People. It is not enough that the Legislative Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir should nominate or select their representatives. Those representatives are just nominated by the President. It has been said that Parliament will by law decide the procedure and the method by which the representatives of Jammu and Kashmir will be represented in this House. Therefore, I submit that it is time that this Delimitation Commission Bill should apply to Jammu and Kashmir also so far as the representation of that territory to the House of the People is concerned and so far as the representation of the people to the Legislative Assembly of that State is concerned, this will be left as they are at present because they are framing their own constitution and they have been allowed to do so. They have their representatives there but so far as the representation in the House of the People is concerned, I think Jammu and Kashmir should be brought under the purview of this Bill.

Shri Biswas: The present Delimitation Bill has been prepared on the basis of Section 4 in Part II of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. I will read that section. Section 3 of the Act provides that the allocation of seats in the House of the People shall be as shown in the First Schedule. In the First Schedule come the names of Part A States, Part B States and Part C States. Part B States include Jammu and Kashmir and the number of seats allotted to Jammu and Kashmir is six. Then in section 4 of the Act it is laid down that the seats allotted under section 3 to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, etc., shall be seats to be filled by persons nominated by the President. Subject to this all the other seats in the House of the People shall be filled by persons chosen by direct election. It is on that basis that this Bill has been framed. So, unless this clause is amended, we cannot have this amendment, and this Bill does not profess to be a Bill to amend the Representation of the People Act. And I do not know personally—I have not read the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir recently passed by the Constituent Assembly there—whether there is any provision regarding this subject in that legislation. I think we can leave matters as they are, and

then if it is decided that these seats shall no longer be filled by nomination by the President, then we will make these changes, but in point of fact, as the hon. Member pointed out, they are elected and then their names are submitted to the President who nominates them for the purpose of filling these seats. In these circumstances I am not accepting the amendment.

Shri S. N. Das: The hon. Minister has mentioned.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has no right of reply.

Shri S. N. Das: On a point of clarification. It has been said by the hon. Minister that the Constituent Assembly of Jammu and Kashmir has not framed this constitution so far. I would like to remind him that this constitution provides that the Parliament has the right to show what will be the procedure for representation of Jammu and Kashmir State in this House. It is this House which will decide the procedure. I would request the hon. Minister to see to this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has been watching the proceedings in this House. Once again he is making suggestions which were made already.

Shri Barman: In my case.....

Shri Biswas: As a matter of fact, my hon. friend knows wherever there is any reference to any Indian statute, it is usual to say "excepting Jammu and Kashmir". That formula has been followed in this case.

Shri Ghulam Qader (Jammu and Kashmir): On a point of information. This provision has been kept only for that one-third of the Kashmir population of the territory which is under enemy occupation. Therefore this provision has been given for the time being.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member says, let there be no division because one-third of the territory is in the occupation of the enemy and therefore, any delimitation at the present time may not be convenient. Very well.

I take it that these amendments are not pressed.

Shri Barman: I do not press.

Shri S. N. Das: I also do not press.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5.—(Associate Members.)

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): I have got two amendments, numbers 25 and 39.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Before that, there is an amendment No. 7, by Mr. Barman that the words, "other than the State of Jammu and Kashmir" be omitted. It is the same as before. Then, Mr. Biswas, Law Minister.

Shri Biswas: Am I to move my amendment to clause 5, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister must say whether he wants to move the amendment or not.

Shri Biswas: I beg to move:

In page 2, for lines 6 to 19, substitute:

"itself from that State, if its population according to the latest census figures—

(a) is not less than ninety lakhs—seven persons, three of whom shall be members of the House of the People representing that State and four shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State;

(b) is less than ninety lakhs, but not less than twenty lakhs—five persons, two of whom shall be members of the House of the People representing that State and three shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State;

(c) is less than twenty lakhs and the State has a Legislative Assembly—three persons, one of whom shall be a member of the House of the People representing that State and two shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State; and

(d) is less than twenty lakhs and the State has no Legislative Assembly—two persons who shall be the members of the House of the People representing that State."

If you look at the clause, Sir, as framed by the Select Committee, you will find four categories of States are indicated.

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The question is as to the number of Associate Members who will be associated with the Delimitation Commission, in the various States. The States were divided into Part A, Part B, Part C States having a legislative Assembly, and Part C States having no Legislative Assembly. These are the four categories. It was pointed out to me by several Members here that that does not do fair justice to States with reference to their population. In a Part A State, for instance, Assam, the population is 90.44 lakhs. In Part B States, however, there are at least four States which have a larger population. Hyderabad has, for instance, a population of 186.55 lakhs. Mysore has a population of 90.75 lakhs; Rajasthan has a population of 152.91 lakhs; Travancore-Cochin has a population of 92.80 lakhs. The grievance made was that although these four Part B States have each a larger population than one of the Part A States, it is not right that the representation of these Part B States should be less than that of a Part A State. Therefore, what I have done is to retain these four categories, but, instead of saying Part A, Part B, Part C State with a Legislative Assembly and Part C State without a Legislative Assembly, I have gone by the population basis. I have taken 90 lakhs as the lower limit of population as regards the Part A States. In other words, this formula which I have adopted will include all the Part A States which are now within category A, and it will also bring in the four States from Part B, namely, Hyderabad, Mysore, Rajasthan and Travancore-Cochin, each of which State has a larger population than 90.44 lakhs of Assam. So far as the third and fourth categories are concerned, I do not think there will be any change. Therefore, in order to meet the objections which appeared to me to be legitimate, which were advanced by several Members here, I ventured to think out a new formula which would meet them. This does not introduce substantial changes. The number of Associate Members will be a little more,—that is, instead of five, they will have seven, only in the case of the four Part B States, whose names I have given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendment moved:

In page 2, for lines 6 to 19, substitute:

"itself from that State, if its population according to the latest census figures—

(a) is not less than ninety lakhs—seven persons, three of whom

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shall be members of the House of the People representing that State and four shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State;

(b) is less than ninety lakhs, but not less than twenty lakhs—five persons, two of whom shall be members of the House of the People representing that State and three shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State;

(c) is less than twenty lakhs and the State has a Legislative Assembly—three persons, one of whom shall be a member of the House of the People representing that State and two shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State; and

(d) is less than twenty lakhs and the State has no Legislative Assembly—two persons who shall be the members of the House of the People representing that State."

Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain): I have got an amendment to this amendment.

I beg to move:

That in the amendment moved by **Shri C. C. Biswas**, for the words "ninety lakhs" occurring in parts (a) and (b), the words "seventy-five lakhs" be substituted.

I am very glad that a mistake that was made has been rectified by moving the amendment which the hon. Law Minister has just brought before the House. As he has explained, those Part B States whose population was greater than some of the Part A States will be equated with the Part A States so far as representation of Associate Members is concerned. One of the Part C States also, which was to have under the original Bill three members will now be having five members. Now, by my amendment, I particularly wish to invite the attention of the hon. Law Minister that the State of Madhya Bharat with a population of 79,54,154 is the only State with a very large population which has been left out. There are eight Part B States out of which Kashmir is out of the question. Now, out of the remaining seven Part B States, three are in South India and four in North India. All the Part B States in South India are given representation with seven Associate Members; but only one State, that is Rajasthan from North India out of the other

four States, will benefit by this amendment. I would strongly appeal to the hon. Law Minister just to be a bit more liberal and to accept my amendment so that at least two Part B States out of the four Part B States in North India may get that benefit. Looking to the population of Madhya Bharat it is less than the population of Assam only by 10,89,000, whereas, if we look to the other side, there is a wide gap. Those States which will have five Associate Members represented on the Commission, after Madhya Bharat, will have a population of 40 lakhs at the most. There is a wide gap between the upper side and Madhya Bharat is much nearer to those States which will be having seven Associate Members. The hon. Law Minister who had been a very eminent High Court Judge for a very long period will see the balance of equity and justice on this side and I would request him to accept this amendment so that one of the major Part B States in North India may also be benefited and can have representation equal to those other States.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): I also join the same appeal.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): Appeal dismissed!

Shri Biswas: I am sure, if I explain...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let me ask the hon. Minister if he accepts the amendment.

Shri Biswas: If I explain the basis on which I have taken the population figure of 90 lakhs to be the limit for category "A", I am quite sure my hon. friends will not press their amendments.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: After all, it is only for the purpose of Associate Members.

Shri Biswas: It is only for the purpose of Associate Members, but then, Sir, either do away with any distinction between Part "A" and Part "B", put them all on the same basis, and say either for Part "A" or for Part "B", the number of Associate Members will be seven, but if you want to keep a difference between the two, then, what I did was, I took the smallest State under Part "A". That was Assam, and it had a population of 90.44 lakhs. And so I said, any Part "B" State with a higher population ought to be treated on the same footing as Part "A". It was not my object to rope in as many Part "B" States as I could. Taking the figure of

90 lakhs which is the population of the smallest Part "A" State, I said: "Well, those which have a large population in Part 'B' group, ought to be placed on the same footing". And so, I said they also should come within the first category. The result is that four out of eight Part "B" States do come within the first category. My hon. friend suggests that Madhya Bharat should be equally drawn in making five States like Part "A" States, leaving out three. Why leave the three alone? I could quite understand if you say Part "A" and Part "B" States should be all treated alike. After all, it makes no difference if the number is five or seven. They are Associate Members with no right to vote. I could quite understand an argument or an amendment that Part "A" and "B" States, whatever their population, should be treated on the same footing. But I have explained the basis on which I have framed my amendment. After this, if the hon. Member presses his amendment, he may do so and I leave it to the House.

Shri Heda (Nizamabad): We have to express our gratitude to the hon. Law Minister for bringing his amendment. In fact, I had given notice of six amendments because I felt that everywhere, whether it is relative or not, we are thinking in terms of Part "A", "B" and "C" States, and I had brought out an amendment in which I had suggested the population of 50 lakhs as the basis. Of course, we now know how the mind of the hon. Law Minister is working. His idea was that the population of the lowest Part "A" State should be taken as the basis, as he has just now explained that as Assam happened to have a population of 90.44 lakhs, he took the basis of 90 lakhs. I have no quarrel over it, because, so far as the principle is concerned, that has been accepted. That is the first and foremost thing. In every matter we should never think in terms of Part "A", "B" and "C" States unless the Constitution compels us, but treat all the States equally. At the same time, as my hon. friend Mr. Radhelal Vyas has made an appeal—this is just an appeal; there is no opposition or displeasure—we have just to see the size and importance of a State—I am also pleading for only that State of Madhya Bharat.

Undoubtedly, such a big State as Vindhya Pradesh was being treated as Part "C", but that problem has also been solved as it is having a population of more than 20 lakhs. Therefore, it will get five members, and I think now full justice is done to Vindhya Pradesh.

Therefore, I join with the appeal of Mr. Vyas and appeal to the hon. Law Minister that he should accept my figure of 50 lakhs. I think it is a fairly big population to demand seven Associate Members. If this 50 lakhs is not acceptable, he can have it as 60 or 75 lakhs. But, that the basis of the smallest Part "A" State should be the basis for this population figure, somehow or other I think is not so reasonable and as...

4 P.M.

Shri Biswas: It will not make any difference at all.

Shri Heda: It will.

Shri Biswas: Seventy and fifty is just the same. So, why do you press fifty? That amendment of Mr. Vyas will suffice.

Shri Heda: Practically it does not make any difference, but it is possible many more States will come in in the future.

Shri Biswas: No new Part "B" State will come in.

Shri Heda: As we are thinking of one State today, that is possible. My only appeal is that when we think of a population basis, 90 lakhs is an odd figure and a very big figure. Have 50 or 75 or something like that. Therefore, I join with Mr. Vyas and I appeal to him to accept the amendment.

Shri V. G. Deshpande (Guna): I also appeal...

Shri Biswas: I said I do not object, and leave it to the House. If the House wants it, I have no objection, except that then the disparity between the largest Part "A" and the smallest Part "B" to be entitled to seven seats will be very, very great. The largest Part "A" State, namely Uttar Pradesh with a population of 632 lakhs will be on the same footing with a State with a population of 75 lakhs. However, I have no feeling in the matter. I leave it to the House.

Shri V. G. Deshpande: I am also appealing to the House that it is no question of having the smallest Part "A" State being equated with any Part "B" State. The principle enunciated by the Law Minister is very sound. What he said was that the smallest "A" State namely Assam has got a population of 90 lakhs, and we feel that a State having a population of 70 lakhs is in the same population group. As

[Shri V. G. Deshpande]

we have found that Uttar Pradesh having a population of some crores is equated with Assam, similarly, we find a Part "C" State like Vindhya Pradesh which has been given the position of a Part "B" State with 20 lakhs of population will be equated to a State with 70 lakhs of population. Therefore, our only appeal to him is that this State with 70 lakhs of population should be equated with Part "A" States, and the formula suggested of 75 or 50 lakhs being the basis should be accepted so that this Part "B" State, viz., Madhya Bharat should be included. I hope the Law Minister and the House will accept this simple request from the Members of Madhya Bharat.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Heda is not moving any of his amendments?

Shri Heda: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is moving.

Shri Heda: I beg to move:

- (i) In page 2, line 7, for "Part A State" substitute "Part A or B State with a population of 50 lakhs or more according to the latest census figures".
- (ii) In page 2, line 10, for "Part B State" substitute "Part A or B States with a population of less than 50 lakhs according to the latest census figures".

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I beg to move:

(1) In page 2,—

- (i) in line 10, for "five persons, two of whom" substitute "seven persons, three of whom"; and
- (ii) in lines 11 and 12, for "three shall be members of the Legislative Assembly", substitute "four shall be members of the Legislative Assembly".

(2) In page 2, for lines 27 to 29, substitute:

"(a) shall be made by the respective Speakers of the several Legislative Assemblies and House of the People within one month of the commencement of this Act".

I do not understand the approach made by some hon. Members to this provision, some Members trying to include Madhya Bharat, some Members trying to exclude it. This sort of approach is not at all good, and they should, I think, adopt a different

approach altogether to this problem. The problem is very simple and at the same time very important. I put this question to the hon. Minister whether he wants to continue the distinction between Part "A" and Part "B" States even in this matter of delimitation. Part "B" States are already experiencing a sort of inferiority complex, and they are not properly treated in so many other matters by the Government of India, and there is a lot of agitation to do away with this artificial distinction between Part "A" and Part "B" States. I want to know what purpose is served by drawing this distinction even here, in the matter of delimitation. So, I propose that no distinction should be made between Part A and Part B States. At least in this matter, there should be equal treatment of both Part A and Part B States. It is not a question of including four Part B States along with Part A States, or excluding one Part B State out of the fold. That is not the question. The important question is whether we are giving an equal treatment to all the States irrespective of their category.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even for a small State, the hon. Member wants a big Assembly?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: we should not approach this on the basis of population. We must approach this on a different level altogether. There is a feeling, as I told you earlier, that Part B States have been treated very badly at the hands of the Government, as inferior to Part A States.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is in the Constitution. Can it be remedied by this?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: That feeling is there, as I said earlier. No distinction ought to be made at least in the matter of delimitation. So, I suggest that seven members should be appointed even for Part B States, whether or not they are thickly populated. This approach of bringing down the population figure to 75 or 50 lakhs is not at all relevant to the issue. I therefore suggest that seven Associate Members should be drawn from all the Part A and Part B States, irrespective of their category. That does not in any way involve any difficulty, and no harm will be done, if the hon. Minister accepts this proposal. I want to know what the reasons are for making a distinction of this nature; such a distinction creates a very bad feeling in the

minds of the people of the Part B States. I propose that my first amendment may be accepted by the hon. Minister.

In regard to my second amendment I would like to speak a few words. In this amendment I propose that the Associate Members should be appointed within one month, by both the Speakers of the Legislative Assemblies in the various States, and the Speaker of this House. In the Bill I find that two months' time has been given for the appointment of Associate Members by the Speaker of the House of the People, while only one month has been given for the Speakers of the State Legislative Assemblies. I do not know why these different time-limits should be there for the appointment of Associate Members, and why the appointments cannot be made within the same time-limit. The Speaker of the House of the People and the Speakers of the various Legislative Assemblies, can both appoint Associate Members within one month or within two months. I feel that the time-limit should be uniform for both. I would therefore request the hon. Minister to accept this amendment of mine also.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: I beg to move:

- (i) In page 2, line 24, after "having due regard to the" insert "political".
- (ii) In page 2, line 33, after "a right to vote" insert "but they shall have a right to sign any final decision of the Commission provided that if they disagree on any point they will give their dissenting note."

As regards my first amendment, I would like the word 'political' to be inserted just before the word 'composition' in line 24, on page 2 of the Bill. The amendment is a very simple one. As a matter of fact, you Sir, in your wisdom have used the same words 'political composition' in your report of the Select Committee. There it has been stated that the Speaker should have due regard to the political composition of the House or the Assembly. The word 'composition' is rather a vague one, because in matters relating to elections and in the context in which it has been used here, it may mean different things. Different interpretations may be made as to whether it is used with reference to the Scheduled Castes and other general seats, whether it is just the

size of the House, big or small etc. So, I want that the word 'political' should be specifically mentioned, as it has been mentioned in your report of the Select Committee. I think it is not very difficult for the hon. Minister to accept this amendment, because if the word 'political' is specially mentioned in the Bill, it would be possible for the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly or the House of the People to take into consideration the political composition of the House. There are different parties in the country, and as this is a matter connected with elections, I think all doubts should be removed from the minds of the people that the party in power wants to take an unfair advantage of the situation. In view of the fact that the Speaker also belongs to a particular party,—and so it has been expressed by some persons in Orissa, as I mentioned it the other day—I feel that the word 'political' should be specifically included in the Bill, before the word 'composition'. If this is done, the Speaker will be enabled to take into consideration the different parties in the House, and the persons from different political parties.

As regards my second amendment, it relates to sub-clause (4) of clause 5. It has been stated in the Bill that none of the Associate Members shall have a right to vote or to sign any final decision of the Commission. The purpose of my amendment is to see that the dissenting note given by the Associate Members is also duly incorporated. It is not in my mind that the Commission would bring about any interpolation there; it consists of judges of the High Court or the Supreme Court, and the Chief Election Commissioner. But, I do suggest that the dissenting notes, if any, be recorded, so that in case of any future trouble or any doubt arising in future, reference may be made to these records. That is the purpose why I have moved my amendment.

Shri Biswas: May I explain the basis of the appointment of Associate Members? The object of it is to make available to the Delimitation Commission, the benefit of expert local knowledge. The larger the area of the constituency or the larger the population of the constituency, the larger ought to be the number of members who are taken as Associate Members, because we want people who will know as much about the conditions of the local areas as possible to help the Commission. One man cannot be expected to have as much knowledge of a very large area as two. From that point of view

[Shri Biswas]

there has been a variation of the number according to population. That is the main principle. If that is kept in view, then this suggestion to eliminate altogether the difference between Part A States and Part B States falls. There is no political discrimination at all, except that because the population varies, we have got a variable number of Associate Members. I accepted the first proposal to insert four Part B States only because their population was large. The original recommendation of the Select Committee might well be justified, that is withdrawing the higher representation from Assam in the Part A group. Rather than doing that, we tried to place four States from Part B on the same footing as Part A States. Now, if we adopt 70 as the minimum, that will include very many. It will only leave out two States in Part B, and add six States to Part A. I do not think that would be quite right.

And, then, as regards the amendment suggested by Mr. Chowdhury, the insertion of the word 'political'. Well, in the Select Committee's Report, you will find many things indicated although there is no express provision in the body of the Bill. That ought to be enough. If we insert the word 'political' it will automatically exclude other considerations, as if the Speakers will have to go only by what appears to them to be the political composition of the House. There might be other considerations. The object should be to make the Associate Member group as representative as possible, and that also explains the reason why the selection by the Speaker of the House of the People is deferred till the selections have been made in the States, because then the Speaker here would be in a much better position to judge what representation has already been given by the Speakers in the States. He will try to balance the whole thing by introducing persons who ought to satisfy other conditions. The object is not to make the selections simultaneously. We gave the first choice to the Speakers of the local Assemblies because they would be in a much better position to know who are the people who may be depended on to represent particular areas most effectively. After that is done, then the Speaker here will have regard to the representation of those particular States in the House and then make a selection out of the members coming from that State. So, I suggest with respect, that the recommendation

which has been made by the Select Committee appears to be the wisest.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: One clarification, Sir. Will this note of the Select Committee be sent to the Delimitation Commission?

Shri Biswas: What is proposed is this. The names of those selected by the Speakers in the Legislative Assemblies of the States will be forwarded to the Delimitation Commission and they will be made available to the Speaker of the House of the People before he makes his nomination, so that there may be no overlapping, and if there is any defect or deficiency of representation in the States that will be made good as far as practicable by the Speaker's nomination here. That is the idea.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Select Committee Report may also be looked into. The hon. Member wants to know this. The word 'political' is in the report. He wants to know whether the Commissioners will have a copy of the report sent to them so that they may look into this. The hon. Minister may send them a copy.

Shri Biswas: Certainly these documents will be available to all. There is no hide and seek about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Even the discussions on the floor of this House may be looked into. I think it is enough.

Shri Biswas: The Associate Members will have the right to send notes of dissent. I need only draw attention to clause 8(3)(a).

"The Commission shall—

(a) publish its proposals, together with the dissenting proposals, if any, of an associate member who desires publication thereof,....."

So, if an Associate Member thinks that his note of dissent ought to be published, it will be made public. There is no hide and seek about it. Sir, the deliberations of the Select Committee have been guided under your wise leadership in such a way as to secure absolute justice.

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah-Jhalawar): I will mention that only two States are excluded.....

Shri Radhelal Vyas: On a point of order, Sir. Can the hon. Member make a speech now?

Shri Kasliwal: I will only appeal to the hon. Minister to accept the case of P.E.P.S.U. and Saurashtra also,

Why should they be deprived of the seven members?

Shri N. Somana (Coorg): I want a clarification, Sir. In part (b) of clause 5(1), it is stated that two persons who shall be members of the House of the People will be associate members. I want to know what would happen to Bilaspur; it has got only one member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Bilaspur will also have three.

Shri N. Somana: There is only one member in the House of the People.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He cannot create one member. The maximum is two. If there is only one member then it will be one. I will put the amendment. Does the hon. Minister accept the amendment of Shri Radhe-lal Vyas?

Shri Biswas: I have said, I have no objection; I leave it to the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That in the amendment moved by Shri C. C. Biswas, for the words "ninety lakhs" occurring in parts (a) and (b), the words "seventy-five lakhs" be substituted.

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

In page 2, for lines 6 to 19, substitute:

"itself from that State, if its population according to the latest census figures—

(a) is not less than seventy-five lakhs—seven persons, three of whom shall be members of the House of the People representing that State and four shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State;

(b) is less than seventy-five lakhs, but not less than twenty lakhs—five persons, two of whom shall be members of the House of the People representing that State and three shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State;

(c) is less than twenty lakhs and the State has a Legislative Assembly—three persons, one of whom shall be a member of the House of the People representing that State and two shall be members of the Legislative Assembly of that State; and

(d) is less than twenty lakhs and the State has no Legislative Assembly—two persons who shall

be the members of the House of the People representing that State."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As regards the other amendments, they are barred. Mr. Gurupadaswamy, is not your amendment barred?

The question is:

In page 2,—

- (i) in line 10, for "five persons, two of whom" substitute "seven persons, three of whom"; and
- (ii) in lines 11 and 12, for "three shall be members of the Legislative Assembly" substitute "four shall be members of the Legislative Assembly".

The motion was ~~negated~~.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think Mr. Chowdhury is now satisfied with the word 'political'. I need not put the amendment before the House. The object is that first of all the members must be nominated by the Speakers of the various Assemblies, because they are more representative so far as the political parties are concerned. Then the Speaker here may take that into consideration and nominate members of parties who have not got representation already.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: There may be elimination also, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is for the purpose of enabling him to add those people who have not been nominated by the Speakers in the various Assemblies.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: A member of a party is nominated as an Associate Member in the Assembly. On that ground, a member of the same party may be eliminated in the House of the People.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Provision has to be made for some other member of any other party. But if there are no other political parties, then certainly the member from the same party may be nominated. It is only to see that sufficient representation is given to members of all parties. If the hon. Member wants his amendment to be put to the House, I will put it.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I want to have it put, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

In page 2, for lines 27 to 29, substitute:

"(a) shall be made by the respective Speakers of the several Legislative Assemblies and House of the People within one month of the commencement of this Act".

The motion negatived.

Shri Heda: I beg to move for leave to withdraw my amendments.

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Chowdhury, do you want to have your amendments put to the House? Is the member not satisfied?

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: Yes, Sir, I do not press.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 5, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member Shri S. N. Das has an amendment seeking to add a new clause 6A.

Shri S. N. Das: I beg to move:

In page 2, after line 39, insert:

"6A. *Physical disability.*—If the Central Government or, as the case may be, the Speaker concerned is satisfied that any Member or an associate member of the Commission is not functioning or is unable to function due to physical or mental disability, he may declare his office vacant and may appoint or nominate another person to act in his place in accordance with the provisions of section 3 or as the case may be of section 5."

In my opinion, there is a lacuna in this clause 6. There is provision in it for filling up of vacancies that arise due to death or resignation. But supposing a member is not able to function due to certain physical or mental disabilities, then there is no authority for the Government to declare that post vacant. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to consider accepting this amendment, which seeks to remove that lacuna. I think it would be better if this clause is inserted.

Shri Biswas: The hon. Member wants to say that in addition to what clause 6 provides, namely, a vacancy arising out of death or resignation, a post may fall vacant otherwise too, i.e. due to physical or mental infirmity. We expect that in such a case the member would resign his office if he cannot function. That is what we contemplate. If a judge of a High Court finds that he cannot carry on, because he falls ill, we expect him to resign. That is what is provided for. Therefore, I do not think the amendment is necessary. Then, if you look at sub-clause (5) of clause 7 you will find that it is provided there that the Commission as well as any group of associate members shall have the power to act notwithstanding the temporary absence of a member or associate member. So, I do not think my hon. friend will press the amendment.

Shri S. N. Das: I do not press it.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clause 8.—(Manner of making re-adjustment etc.)

Shri Gadgil: I want to move my amendment No. 30.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What about the Government amendment—No. 42?

Shri Biswas: I beg to move:

In page 4, after line 21, insert:

"Provided that the Commission may, if it finds it necessary so to do, continue either or both of the existing three member constituencies, whether with or without alterations in their boundaries, reserving therein one seat for the scheduled castes and another seat for the scheduled tribes."

If you will read sub-clause (2) of this clause, you will find that sub-clause (2) (a) reads:

"all constituencies shall be either single-member constituencies or two-member constituencies;"

Sub-clause (2) (b) reads:

"wherever practicable, seats may be reserved for the scheduled castes or for the scheduled tribes in single-member constituencies;"

Sub-clause (2) (c) reads:

"in every two-member constituency, one seat shall be reserved either for the scheduled castes or for the scheduled tribes, and the other seat shall not be so reserved;"

Sub-clause (2) (d) says:

"constituencies in which a seat is reserved either for the scheduled castes or for the scheduled tribes shall, as far as practicable, be located in areas in which the population of the scheduled castes or, as the case may be, of the scheduled tribes is most concentrated;"

Sub-clause (2) (e) reads:

"all constituencies shall, as far as practicable, consist of geographically compact areas, and in delimiting them, regard shall be had to physical features, existing boundaries of administrative units, facilities of communication and public convenience."

It was pointed out by my hon. friend Mr. Barman and others that there will be a difficulty in carrying out strictly the provisions contained in the above sub-sections so far as the parliamentary constituency of North Bengal is concerned. That constituency consists of the districts of Jalpaiguri, Cooch-Behar and Darjeeling. This is the only three-member parliamentary constituency. There is another, but that is not a parliamentary constituency. It is a State Assembly constituency. That is in Bombay, Nasik-Igatpuri constituency. I did not know at the time this was first mentioned how the matter stood as regards this constituency, but I have found out that it is not a parliamentary constituency. When I stated last time that there was only one three-member constituency, I was referring only to parliamentary constituencies. Therefore, it came to me as a surprise that there was a second three-member constituency of that character. That is not so. I am speaking now of parliamentary constituencies, and I have tried to find out if any way can be found to solve that difficulty. Unfortunately, I could not. The only other alternative that was possible was to make it into two constituencies, each a two-member constituency. That would be giving weightage to this area, which would not be justified. The scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes in this area are a class apart. So far as the scheduled tribes are concerned, there is a concentration there and therefore one seat has to be reserved for them. So far as the scheduled castes are concerned, it is not possible otherwise to provide for their representation, as they are a distinct class by themselves which you do not find in other areas of West Bengal. For instance, here the scheduled castes belong to the Rajbhangshi and Coch category.

You do not find any like that elsewhere among the scheduled castes in West Bengal. Therefore, we have got to give them representation, and you cannot help giving the scheduled castes of this area one seat, if such a seat be reserved for scheduled tribes. And then you must have a general seat, because otherwise you will be doing injustice to the general population. The concentration of the scheduled castes here is not such that you can reserve a seat for them only and be done with it, as if the general population did not require any representation. So, in order to adjust all the various interests which require to be represented in this area, it is not possible to avoid a three-member constituency. At the same time, the dissenting note which was appended to the Select Committee report suggested leaving this matter open to the Delimitation Commission. Bearing that in mind, I have framed my amendment.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

I want to make it clear that the justification for a three-member constituency in an exceptional case is the necessity of securing representation for the scheduled castes, for the scheduled tribes and for the general population—one for each. I hope this will satisfy all sections of the House.

Shri Barman: On a point of information, I have given an amendment—No. 19—for the earlier part of the clause.

Shri Dabhi (Kaira North): I have also not moved mine.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4, after line 21, insert:

"Provided that the Commission may, if it finds it necessary so to do, continue either or both of the existing three member constituencies, whether with or without alterations in their boundaries, reserving therein one seat for the scheduled castes and another seat for the scheduled tribes."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Bheekha Bhai (Banswara-Dungarpur—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

In page 4, after line 21, insert:

"(f) all constituencies shall, as far as possible, be delimited and named in such an indicative manner as to suggest the bigger administrative areas which they cover."

[Shri Bheekha Bhai]

This amendment, though not happily worded, proceeds from the experience during the last general election which I had in my part of the country. The sum and substance of this amendment is that when a constituency consists of a bigger and a smaller administrative unit, the constituency should be named after the bigger unit. I may illustrate this point with reference to the Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Delimitation Order for Rajasthan passed by the President in 1951. On page 428 of the Election Manual this order has been published. Under Banswara District, Bagidora is an Assembly Constituency. Bagidora is a small village. But this constituency includes Bagidora and Kushalgarh tehsils. Kushalgarh is one of the covenanting States of Rajasthan. It had its separate administration, a separate Ruler, with separate full-fledged powers, but now that State has been merged into a small village for the purpose of delimitation. The people there are discontented. When I went there during my election campaign I found that they were quite reluctant to vote. So I would appeal to the hon. the Law Minister to see that such discrepancies be not allowed in delimiting constituencies in future.

I wish to point out another instance. Saira is another constituency in Udaipur District. Saira is a small village; though it is a tehsil headquarters. But the Saira constituency includes Kherwara, Phalasia and Kotra tehsils. Kherwara was a cantonment during the British regime. Kotra was also at one time a cantonment while Saira is a village. Phalasia is a sub-divisional headquarters. So I would invite the attention of the hon. Minister that the constituency should have been called after either Phalasia or Kotra and not after the smaller unit. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to accept my amendment.

Shri Biswas: This relates mainly to the nomenclature of the constituencies. Take the case of the three-member constituency in North Bengal. I cannot call it Jalpaiguri Constituency or Darjeeling constituency. It is not necessary to provide for this in the body of the Act. The Delimitation Commission will name it after the most important district in the constituency.

Shri Bheekha Bhai: I do not press it.

Shri Gadgil: I gave notice of an amendment that 'in page 4 lines 8 and 9 [par (b)] be omitted' I

gave it in those words but they have been wrongly printed. I am prepared to stand down if my hon. friend Shri Thimmaiah wishes to move his, No. 33.

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

In page 4, omit lines 8 and 9.

My object in moving this amendment is that there should be no reservation of seats for the scheduled caste people particularly in a single member constituency. The reason is this. Firstly, it limits the chances of the Scheduled Caste people from contesting the general seat. The right to contest general seat was given to scheduled caste people with a view to give them certain weightage. By reserving a seat in a single member constituency this weightage and this chance of contesting the general seat is taken away to some extent. Another thing is while reserving a seat for the scheduled caste people in a single member constituency the general voters become indifferent and there will be only scheduled caste people to vote for the scheduled caste candidate. This practically amounts to separate electorate which is against the spirit of the Constitution.

Another thing. The Law Minister told me that if there is an absolute majority of the scheduled caste voters it may be possible for reserving a seat in a single-member constituency for the scheduled caste people. But even there, if you reserve a seat in a single-member constituency where there are a majority of scheduled caste voters, this practically amounts to a separate electorate against which Mahatma Gandhi himself fought and got us this joint electorate. Therefore I appeal to the hon. the Law Minister to omit these two lines, namely 8 and 9, in page 4, because this will take away our weightage.

Shri Siddananjappa (Hassan-Chikmagalur): I have an amendment, No. 34, which is to the same effect.

Mr. Chairman: Nos. 33 and 34 are identical. No. 33 has been moved. Let me first place it before the House. Amendment moved:

In page 4, omit lines 8 and 9.

Shri Siddananjappa: My amendment, No. 34, is similar to this.

Mr. Chairman: No. 33 has been moved. No. 34 is the same and therefore cannot be moved. He may speak on No. 33.

Shri Siddananjappa: My amendment, No. 34, is similar to No. 33.

Mr. Chairman: May I just make the position clear? Since amendment No. 33 and No. 34 are the same, and since No. 33 has already been moved, No. 34 cannot be moved. But he may speak on No. 33.

Shri Biswas: Sir, he cannot get No. 34 out of his head!

Shri Siddananjappa: Very well, Sir. In supporting amendment No. 33, which is similar to my amendment, I would like to submit that the Select Committee has recommended that wherever practicable the seats may be reserved for the scheduled castes or the scheduled tribes in single member constituencies. This recommendation of the Select Committee appears to be very simple and also appears to be desirable. But, I submit it is a very important and serious matter.

At the outset I like to submit that it is most unconstitutional. Under the Constitution of India every citizen, otherwise eligible, has a right to be elected from any constituency of his choice anywhere in the country and such a person cannot be prevented from being elected from a constituency of his choice on the ground of his religion, caste, tribe or race, etc. This is a fundamental right which is guaranteed under the Constitution. It is clear that a person belonging to either the scheduled caste or the scheduled tribe has a right, provided he has the other necessary qualifications, to be elected from any constituency of his choice, whether that constituency has a seat reserved for a person belonging to the scheduled caste or the scheduled tribe or not. Likewise, a person otherwise qualified and who does not belong either to the scheduled caste or scheduled tribe has, and ought to have, a right to be elected from any constituency of his choice.

Further, article 330 of the Constitution of India provides that certain seats should be reserved for the scheduled castes or scheduled tribes, and it should be noted that it does not provide for the reservation of constituencies.

If the recommendation of the Select Committee is given effect to, it amounts to the creation of reservation of constituency. That means only a person belonging to that particular tribe or caste can seek election from such a constituency. Others are prevented on the ground that they do not belong to either the scheduled caste or the scheduled tribe. I therefore submit that this recommendation is *ultra vires* of the Constitution, and it is opposed to the fundamental rights

as well as the fundamental principles of the Constitutional law. I oppose the recommendation of the Select Committee and support the amendment moved by Mr. Dodda Thimmaiah.

Mr. Chairman: Let me first find out the reaction of the hon. Minister. Is he willing to accept this amendment?

Shri Biswas: No, Sir. I am sorry I cannot accept this amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Then I will give an opportunity to others to discuss the amendment and then I will call upon him.

Shri Barman: Sir, I oppose this amendment. It has been said by the speaker who preceded me that this kind of provision is taking away the fundamental rights given by the Constitution. I could not follow him. Had it been such a mistake or fault, it would not have been passed into law at all. What he means perhaps is that a member of the general community cannot stand from the place where his house is situated, if it is a single-member reserved constituency. But that does not prevent or debar him from standing from his nearby constituency if he enjoys its confidence. So I do not agree with him there.

The mover of the amendment, Mr. Thimmaiah, has stated one reason. He says that if a single-member constituency be reserved for either scheduled castes or scheduled tribes others may not come and vote. I do not know whether he speaks from his experience or not. But if that is the condition of this country, then God help us! (Shri Biswas: There are different gods for different communities!). One advantage is there. Some times it so happens that in a particular place the scheduled castes are so concentrated that there is more than 50 per cent. In Bengal we have done it in the case of 60 per cent. concentration and there are other advantages of delimiting the other constituencies which are attached to it. In such cases only this procedure is followed, that is a single-member constituency is reserved for either scheduled castes or scheduled tribes. I was going to move an amendment but the hon. Minister has himself moved and it has been passed by this House. I was just thinking to avoid the trouble of a three-member constituency. If in the census of 1951, Cooch-Bihar which has been now merged with West Bengal, comes up to be a scheduled caste majority district it would be advisable for the

[Shri Barman]

Commission to make it a single-member reserved constituency and there would be no necessity for making any three-member constituency at all which is being provided for, as an exception. There is one advantage for the scheduled castes. I do not agree with Mr. Thimmaiah that the other communities, because the constituencies are reserved for scheduled castes, do not come in large numbers to vote. I quite repudiate that. There is one advantage in this single-member constituency for the scheduled castes who are not only backward but also economically very poor. It is their chance of a better representation by a man standing independently. The Select Committee has given its thought and during the last election delimitation was done on this basis and we have not heard any serious objection against single member reservation. I do not think we should alter this.

Shri Biswas: I am sorry I cannot accept this amendment. My hon. friend Mr. Barman has given the reasons. There is nothing unconstitutional about it. On the other hand we might lay ourselves open to the charge that we are not following the Constitution because the Constitution peremptorily declares that seats shall be reserved in the House of the People for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Therefore, merely because we reserve a seat for scheduled tribes in a particular constituency, that is not going against the Constitution. We are acting in the spirit of the Constitution where you make such a provision, and then the question is where the scheduled castes are in a majority, over 50 per cent., not otherwise. It is there only that the question of allotting a reserve seat in a single-member constituency will arise. We have left it to the Commission. Wherever practicable, they will do so. We have a certain number of seats to be allotted for the representation of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. That will depend upon their population, the total population and so on. So, we have got to distribute these seats as widely as possible. So far as scheduled castes in one particular area are concerned—generally they will be over the larger area—the scheduled castes of one place will be represented by a member belonging to another area, but where they are in a majority, then there is no reason for denying them any separate representation. Ordinarily all our seats should be single-member seats allotted in single-member constituencies. We have said that wherever it is practicable that may be done.

5 P.M.

Mr. Chairman: Does the hon. Member wish to withdraw his amendment?

Shri Thimmaiah: Yes.

Mr. Chairman: Has the hon. Member leave to withdraw his amendment?

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment No. 31 in clause 8 by Mr. Somana.

Shri N. Somana: I beg to move:

In page 3, omit line 42.

Shri N. Somana: The proviso to clause 8(1) says:

"Provided that no reduction shall be made in the number of seats in the House of the People at present allotted to any Part C State which has no Legislative Assembly."

I have not been able to understand as to why this limitation has to be made in the case of Part C States, namely a difference between States which have Assemblies and States which have no Assemblies. Of course, I do concede, that when the People's Representation Act of 1950 was passed, there were certain considerations why a certain amount of weightage should be given to these States and deliberately they were given the weightage and since then, I have never been able to find why, in so short a period, the Government has thought fit to remove this weightage and make the distinction also between those States which have State Assemblies and those which have no State Assemblies. This is, in my humble opinion, an indirect method of abrogating the provisions of not merely the People's Representation Act of 1950 but also of the Government of Part C States Act, 1951. If really the Government thought that the time had come when they should review the position of the Part C States, they should have very well done so, but this is an indirect method of trying to cut at the root of these States and see that no weightage is given to them. So, my humble submission is that this limitation to the proviso must be removed and the proviso must be only as follows:

"No reduction shall be made in the number of seats in the House of the People at present allotted to any Part C State."

If it is a question of reviewing the position of Part C States as I stated above the matter should have come in a different form, in the form of a

Bill in this House and not by an indirect method of trying to put these things in the Delimitation Bill and taking away the weightage these States had. I submit, therefore, that this limitation should not be there.

There is also another reason which has prompted me to move this amendment. Of course, it affects directly my State i.e., the State of Coorg. My State has a Legislative Assembly, but there is representation of only one seat. Of course, reduction, may also mean reduction, to nil which would mean that my State which has a Legislative Assembly may not have a representative at all in this House. So, I feel that not merely this may affect my State, but also generally the Part C States which have Legislative Assemblies, which have been given certain weightage on account of the special reasons which, of course, I do not think have now disappeared or that the Government should think this weightage should not be there. I therefore move that this limitation to the proviso may be removed and the words "which has no Legislative Assembly" may be omitted from this proviso.

Shri Biswas: Sir, I regret cannot accept this amendment.

Pandit C. N. Malviya (Raisen): One point, Sir. If the hon. Minister accepts the amendment, that is a different matter. Otherwise, I should be given a chance to speak.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): I also wish to speak, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: Why should the hon. Member assume?

Shri Biswas: Sir, I am not accepting the amendment for this reason. If the facts about Part C States were known, this amendment would not have been tabled at all. Part C States are, under the Constitution, dealt with on a special basis. That is provided for in article 82 of the Constitution. Last time, what was done was, none of the Part C States had any Legislative Assembly. Therefore, weightage was given to them in securing representation in the House of the People, as compared with other States in Part A or Part B which had Legislative Assemblies. Now, except Manipur, Cutch and Tripura, all the rest have got Legislative Assemblies. Therefore there is no question of giving them any weightage in regard to representation in the House of the People. We are not making any reduction in the number of seats which were allotted

to Manipur, Cutch and Tripura because they have not got a Legislative Assembly. The reference to any Part C State which has no Legislative Assembly is only to these three States, nothing more. The object is to retain, as regards these States, the same number as they had before. As regards the other States, there is a Legislative Assembly there, and therefore the number will be determined according to the usual rules.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 3 omit line 42.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: Then, amendment No. 32; Mr. S. N. Das; not here. Amendment No. 14.

Shri Barman: I am not moving.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Heda; not present. Amendment No. 15.

Shri Barman: I beg to move:

In page 4, line 16, after "concentrated" add "but in regard to scheduled castes, care should be taken to distribute the reserved seats in different areas of the State".

Sir, the very same words have been used in the report of the Select Committee. We have accepted that Principle and recorded it. Also during the last election, that was the direction of the President. I am simply asking the hon. Minister to incorporate it in the body of the Act.

Shri Biswas: That was the intention of the Select Committee. That was the principle upon which action was taken last time. So, subject to any drafting changes, I will accept this amendment.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister is accepting this amendment?

Shri Biswas: Yes, subject to any drafting changes. It says 'care should be taken'. I do not know if that is an appropriate expression. I accept the substance of the amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Then, I shall put it to the House. It is for the House to accept or reject.

The question is:

in page 4, line 16, after "concentrated" add "but in regard to scheduled castes, care should be taken to distribute the reserved seats in different areas of the State".

The motion was adopted.

Shri Dabhi: I beg to move:

In page 4, line 16—after “most concentrated” insert:

“provided that a seat for the scheduled castes or the scheduled tribes in a single-member constituency shall not be reserved in areas where members of the scheduled castes or scheduled tribes as the case may be, do not form substantial majority.”

Sir, my amendment makes clear the intention of the Select Committee as the hon. Law Minister just now said. I submit that in clause 8 (2) (d) the words “most concentrated” do not properly convey the intention of the Select Committee or the hon. Law Minister.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

There is no difference in the principle as the hon. Law Minister has accepted, that in single-member constituencies, only in those cases where the members of the scheduled castes or scheduled tribes are in a majority, seats will be reserved for them. My submission is that these words do not convey that meaning. What I submitted on the last occasion and what I submit now is this. There are several districts in which, according to the population of scheduled castes or scheduled tribes, one seat is reserved for them in one Taluka. In that taluka no doubt, the population of scheduled castes can be said to be concentrated, but they do not form the majority. I would just give one instance. In one taluka in my constituency, Cambay, the total number of voters is 67,385, while the number of scheduled caste voters is 6805. In this Taluka, the scheduled caste people only form nine per cent. while the non-scheduled caste people form 91 per cent. Still, in the whole district, there is only one reserved seat for the scheduled castes. It may be said that the population of scheduled castes has been most concentrated in this Cambay taluka. If we make it a single-member constituency, then, it would follow that in that taluka, only nine per cent. would send one representative and 91 per cent. would not be in a position to send any representative. If, in such cases, a single-member constituency is formed, it would do injustice, to 91 per cent. of the non-scheduled caste voters. Actually, this has worked injustice in another taluka. In Naswadi single-member constituency of Panchmahals District, the total number of voters is

57,748. The scheduled tribe voters are 22,003. Here, the scheduled tribe voters constitute 39.8 per cent. and the non-scheduled tribe voters 60.2 per cent. Still, it has been formed into one single-member constituency. Though there are about 60 per cent. of non-scheduled tribe people, they have not been given any representation. In such cases, single-member constituencies should not be formed. If a double-member constituency is formed, in such cases, it could not work any injustice to the scheduled caste or scheduled tribe people and at the same time, it would do justice to the other people also. Taking all these facts which I have placed before the House, I hope the hon. Minister would accept my amendment because it merely makes clear the intention which he himself has in mind.

Shri Biswas: This proviso is really a proviso to clause (b) because he is speaking about single-member constituencies, whereas clause (d) is general in its terms. I suggest for the consideration of the hon. Member that clause (b) in the form in which it has been expressed ought to meet all reasonable requirements. It is stated there:

“wherever practicable, seats may be reserved for the scheduled castes or, for the scheduled tribes in single-member constituencies.”

What was done last time was, not to reserve such seats for scheduled castes or scheduled tribes unless they were in a majority. That was done, but option was left to the Delimitation Commission. They will take all the facts into consideration, and wherever practicable, they shall do this. Thus, it will not be a single-member constituency with a seat reserved for those special classes. So, I do not think, Sir, I should accept that amendment. It is really an amendment to part (b) and not to part (d).

Shri Dabhi: May I ask one question? I gave an example that actually there is one single-member constituency where the scheduled tribes do not form a majority and still the seat is reserved for them.

Shri Biswas: However, in the form in which it is expressed, it is a proviso to part (b) and not to part (d).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I suppose I need not place it before the House.

Shri Kakkan (Madurai—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

In page 4, after line 17, insert:

"(dd) constituencies for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes shall as far as practicable be located in taluks having enough population requisite for two or more seats for the State Assembly so that each taluk as far as practicable will have a general seat besides a reserved seat."

There are taluks which have enough of population for two or more seats. The reserved seat must be in a taluk which has more than two or more seats. I will give one example. In my constituency, Merur Assembly constituency, two taluks are added together—Merur and Madura taluks. Each taluk has a population for one general seat. The two taluks are now added and it is made as a plural constituency, one seat for general and one seat reserved, but previously one reserved seat was in Dindigul Taluk. In Dindigul, not only Harijan population, but also the caste Hindu population are for four general seats. So, the reserved seat in Merur taluk must be transferred to Dindigul. So, I have moved this amendment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. the Minister.

Shri Biswas: I do not accept the amendment. I need not state my reasons. They have been given so many times in the course of my speech, and I do not want to take up the time of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it necessary to place it before the House? I do not think.

Shri Dabhi: I was not allowed to move my amendment No. 18.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When the hon. Member is moving his amendment, he moves all the amendments in his name.

Shri Dabhi: I thought it was left out. I had not said anything about it. Only amendment No. 16 I moved. It is important.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. There are two or three-member constituencies. The object of the delimitation is that there should be single-member constituencies as far as possible except in cases where reservation is necessary for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes where there

may be two-member constituencies. Extending it beyond that is not the general policy of the Bill, but there are two or three cases where as in Nasik, in the same constituency, there is a reserved seat for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, and there is also a general seat. These are exceptions.

Shri Biswas: The amendment relates to part (e). In respect of the words "existing boundaries of administrative units", he wants to delete the word "existing".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry, in the face of what the hon. Minister has said, is there a chance of its being accepted? It is as good as not being moved.

The question is:

"That clause 8 as amended stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 9, 10, 11, the Title and the Enacting formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Biswas: I beg to move:

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

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: the question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

FAMINE CONDITIONS IN MAHARASHTRA

Shri Kanavade Patil (Ahmednagar North): Sir, I thank you very much...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no time to spend in thanking the Chair.

Shri Kanavade Patil: ... for giving me this opportunity for having an half-hour discussion on the prevailing acute famine conditions existing in Maharashtra, and especially in eight districts of Maharashtra.

I have to submit before this House that during the last ten days I have been receiving continuous reports about the very acute famine conditions, and I have to submit especially that I have been informed that conditions in Ahmednagar, Sholapur and

[Shri Kanavade Patil]

Khandesh districts are very serious and call for very immediate relief from the Centre, and also from the State Government of Bombay. The report suggests that there is widespread starvation spreading throughout Ahmednagar, and the fodder condition is also very acute. I have also received information to the effect that the *jowar* crop fodder is not quite available in Ahmednagar district, and thousands and thousands of cattle are reported to have died for want of fodder, and for want of drinking water. It has been reported that thousands of people especially from the southern side of Ahmednagar District, and from Kopargoan, Newasa and other Taluks, migrate to some other places in search of livelihood and maintenance. They are ignorant people. Ahmednagar District is surrounded by other districts where also similar famine conditions prevail. Those people, without knowing that conditions are similar there also, that those areas are also affected, go there in search of livelihood and maintenance, and when they find that there is no support for them in that area, they again try to return back to their own village. I know from the reports in *Kesari*, a leading Marathi paper and in *Navakal* an equally eminent newspaper in Bombay State, that Nevasi taluk appears today to be absolutely deserted.

I have to say that the efforts done by the Government of Bombay, by our Chief Minister Mr. Morarji Bhai Desai, and also by the Revenue Minister, Mr. Hiray, during the last few months are splendid, and they have been appreciated by us. But the amount spent by them is quite inadequate. The amount spent by the Government of India towards giving *taccavi* loans to the peasantry in Ahmednagar and other Districts alone in Bombay State, is Rs. 1,02,93,000. Similarly, they have also granted relief in other ways to the extent of Rs. 1,25,00,000 but these amounts have already been spent, or almost spent, and they are very inadequate.

I will draw the attention of the House to the report given by the *Bombay Chronicle* in its issue of 16th December, 1952 in which it has been stated—I will read only some relevant portions—

"The resolution was no more political stunt. It was passed by representatives of all political parties..... Their detailed reports about the extent of the scarcity,

relief measures already introduced and the number of people working on the relief works failed to convince the delegates. The general complaint was that the Government measures were too little or too late and they were meant more for immediate help than for assuring permanent relief to the tracts doomed to scarcity every now and then. In Ahmednagar district alone, the damage was estimated at Rs. 13 crores and there are seven other districts which are hit by famine"

Ahmednagar, Sholapur and West Khandesh being the worst sufferers, the Conference has urged that the relief machinery should work faster and more effectively if the distress is not to have a permanently paralysing effect on Maharashtra. This is the condition which has been described in the leading article of the *Bombay Chronicle* dated the 16th of this month. It is also suggested, and I think it should be true, that the damage in Ahmednagar district alone due to the famine is to the extent of Rs. 13 crores. If that is the real situation existing in Ahmednagar and other adjoining districts, then the small amount which the Government of Bombay is spending or has spent till now must have been quite insufficient and inadequate to meet the sufferings of the famine-stricken people. I have been doing my best during the last three or four days, to bring this catastrophic situation to the notice of the hon. Ministers of Food and Agriculture, and also the fact that very worse conditions are prevailing in Ahmednagar and other adjoining districts. I was absolutely glad when I found that the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture, Mr. Kidwai, was very sympathetic and anxious to personally understand the difficulties of the people. He has also hinted at the fact that if possible he would visit Ahmednagar and other adjoining districts, to have personal knowledge of the sufferings of the people in the famine-stricken area. In reply to the short notice question which I tabled on the 15th of this month, it was replied by the hon. Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Deshmukh, that only two talukas in Ahmednagar district have been affected. I very humbly submit that, that was the information which he gave from the report of the Bombay Government. That report, to my knowledge, is not true or correct. It is not a fact. On the contrary we have got information suggesting that nearly eleven talukas in Ahmednagar district alone have

been affected. I shall just read out what has been written in a Marathi newspaper, *Kesari* dated 16-12-52.

“नगर जिल्ह्यातील तेरापैकी अकरा तालुक्यांत बुष्कालाचं स्वरूप अत्यन्त उग्र असून त्याचे दुष्परिणाम पुढील ८ ते १० महिने जिल्ह्यातील सुमारे ५ ते ७ लक्ष लोकांना जाणवणार आहेत।”

I shall now translate it. According to the correspondent of the leading Marathi Newspaper, it has been stated that worst famine conditions prevail in about eleven out of thirteen talukas in Ahmednagar district, and five to seven lakhs of people found in the grip of famine. And then he has given a very detailed report. I do not want to reproduce it here, but I may say roughly that about 450 villages have been found in the grip of famine, in Ahmednagar district alone, and in most of the villages having a population of 200 or 300, the people are leaving these villages. These villages or big towns like Vambori are being deserted. Because drinking water is not available, the people are wandering from village to village. The cattle have been purchased by the butchers at abnormally low prices. In the weekly cattle bazar at Valaki and Kashti in the Bombay State, bullocks and other cattle worth about Rs. 500 to Rs. 700 have been sold at abnormally low and nominal prices of the order of Rs. five or ten, to butchers, who take them only for the purpose of slaughtering them. Thousands of people are striving to get water. There is drinking water scarcity, and I find from this report, that people are bringing water from a distance of eight to ten miles, for drinking alone. In view of this my humble submission before the House is that immediate efforts must be made to supply water to the suffering people. The Government should be kind enough to make immediate arrangements for fodder and other scarcity needs of the people, so that their families and cattle could be preserved. Special grants are immediately necessary in this matter. If some big grants are not made by the Centre the people would, in my opinion, be facing extinction. They are now migrating from my district to various other places. They should be given to understand and persuaded to return to their villages with the assurance that they will get employment there. Constructions of wells, and irrigation dams also should

be undertaken. Lastly, I have to submit that cattle camps are necessary.

Lastly, I request the Centre and the Ministers of the Centre to grant us more grants to meet the difficulties arising out of the famine in the districts of Ahmednagar and other adjoining areas. I would also submit that the famine has been recurring periodically in these parts. I therefore appeal to the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture that some permanent relief may be given to the suffering people in our district, for which the people of the famine affected areas in Maharashtra will be very grateful to the Centre.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are a number of hon. Members who have given their names for speaking. I shall give two minutes to each of them, only for this purpose. Let them put any questions, or bring any facts to the notice of the hon. Minister, so that he may take note of them and reply to them.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): I have taken note of them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall call the hon. Members in the order in which I have got their notices to speak. First, Mr. Bogawat.

Shri Bogawat (Ahmednagar South): My hon. friend has said much about the conditions in Ahmednagar district. Now I want to say that not only Ahmednagar district, but several other districts of Maharashtra, and neighbouring portions of Maharashtra including those in the Hyderabad State, and Bijapur, are all seriously affected by this famine. It is a very big famine, and the most acute famine during the last 50 years, as the ex-speaker Mr. Firodia said in one of the meetings. There is no water in wells. They are dried up, and there is no possibility of any irrigation from wells. The conditions have come to such a stage that it is possible that several hundreds of people may die. There is an important report in a leading article that some people have died, but I am not sure of it. All I can say is that people are wandering here and there because there is no work for them and there are no implements at their disposal. It is the most severe condition that prevails in several parts of Maharashtra. Under such conditions, I humbly beg for help from the Centre. If immediate

*Expunger as ordered by the Deputy-Speaker.

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[Shri Bogawat]

help is not given by the Centre, the State Government cannot cope with this serious situation. It is only the Centre that can save Maharashtra and the people of Maharashtra. My humble submission is that if some projects on the rivers Kakkidi or Mula are undertaken, lakhs and lakhs of people will come for work, and these projects can be finished very soon. Without entering into any repetition, I most humbly request the Central Government and the Food Minister to visit these parts and see the sufferings of the people, and give sufficient help.

Shri G. H. Deshpande (Nasik—Central): Sir, I am constrained to say that the gravity of the situation has not been properly appreciated by the officers of the State Government concerned. From my district, I am receiving reports by letters that the situation is getting more and more worse. Nearly six lakhs are affected. Malegaon taluka is entirely affected, Yevla taluka, entirely affected, Chandor entire taluka is affected and some portions of the Niphad taluka and Satara. From Chandor and Niphad talukas there are some 25 to 30 villages which are in the grip of scarcity conditions for the last two years. Very serious and sincere efforts are being made by the hon. Revenue Minister of the Bombay Government. But, as I have said the situation is not very properly appreciated by the officers concerned. The question of drinking water has become very serious in certain cities and certain talukas. For instance even in Nasik Road—which is not declared as scarcity area—we had last year only ten inches of rain and this year they had only twelve inches. There is a large population and people are suffering for scarcity of drinking water. I should like to draw the attention of the Government of India here because they run their a Security Press there and they have some drinking water supply arrangements there. Last year in consultation with the District Officers of the place concerned I approached these high officers there. They were not in a position to appreciate the calamity of the common man. When the families of the common people were not getting drinking water, these high officers wanted to have the enjoyment of the luxury of good baths and their gardens going on. That is how our people try to meet and redress the grievances of our common people. That is really our hardship.

Two urgent needs are there. One is, you must give employment to all

the needy people. And the second is, you must make adequate arrangement for the supply of fodder. When you undertake to give employment to the people, you must consider and try to give them employment in such a way that it would remove the possibility of famines any more. We have suggested that percolation tanks should be undertaken. We have suggested minor irrigation works to be undertaken. Popular contributions have come forward even in famine conditions. I am receiving the report from the Superintending Engineer and from the Executive Engineer of my district that for want of funds from the State Government the works are withheld, since last six months. Even under famine conditions people have paid their popular contributions but why funds are not coming from the State Government, I do not know.

I have written to the Chief Engineer and the other officers concerned but I have not got the reply. If you do not give employment to the people, if you do not make adequate arrangements for the supply of drinking water. I do not know how you are going to save the life of the people and the life of the cattle. If this is not done, what will happen in the coming season? If you do not help them by now, you will have the calamity repeated in the next year. That is why I say that the intensity and the extensive nature of the calamity, of the sufferings of the people is not properly appreciated by the State Government officers concerned. It is not only restricted to my district, which is a very extensive district. The people are suffering in Sholapur district also. The conditions are serious there. It is not that we are here only for Maharashtra. Even the adjoining district of Bijapur is affected. There are certain other tracts in the Bombay Presidency that are affected. I would like to draw the attention of the Government of India and also others concerned to run to the help of the Bombay Government. The widespread calamity deserves your attention. The Bombay Government are doing whatever little they can but the Extensive and intensive nature of the calamity requires the attention and aid of the Government of India and it should be timely. That is all that I have to say.

Shri M. D. Joshi (Ratnagiri South): Sir, I shall not take much time of the House in recounting over again. . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may state any further points or make suggestions regarding other affected areas.

Shri M. D. Joshi: In this House, Sir, we have come across the hardships and tribulations of Rayalaseema. But in Maharashtra, the phenomenon of famine is not unknown. It is a periodical visitor. And this year the toll it has taken is very serious. There is one district in Maharashtra from which I come, which is a permanent scarcity district, namely Ratnagiri. It is not mentioned in these famine reports, it is true; but what the district yields to the utmost extent in the year does not last us for four months. I am mentioning all this here because they have to engage the attention of the State Government and the Central Government too. If the State Government and the Central Government sat together and tried to solve the problem earlier, we would not have had to meet with this situation. Therefore it is my humble suggestion to the Central Government that all medium type projects such as those mentioned by an hon. friend here, may be safely undertaken in order that such calamity may be further averted.

Shri Altekar (North Satara): Sir, I have received information from the President of the District Congress in North Satara that the position in the eastern part of the district is very precarious. So also the position in the eastern part of South Satara is causing anxiety. I would like to submit, that the relief work should be undertaken which will be of such a type that it will remove the calamities from being repeated hereafter. I would just make some suggestions. Silt and mud in the Ner tank in Khatar taluka and Pingli tank in Maan taluka in the eastern areas of North Satara district and other tanks in North and South Satara are accumulating and they should be removed so that they may be fully filled with water which would be available for the adjoining portions which are being watered by these tanks. Similar works of new tanks of such type should be undertaken in the eastern part of South and North Satara districts. I would also like to make another submission, that the Khodshi Krishna canal which supplies water to Walva and Tasgaon taluka should be taken to the eastern parts where there is scarcity of rain and insufficiency of water. This can be augmented by waters from the Koyna by erecting a dam near Nisra 30 miles south-east from the place where the great Koyna project dam is

to be constructed. Large portion of water from the great Koyna project dam is to be perpetually discharged in the Koyna bed below and that should be taken from Nisra to join the Krishna river at the Khodshi reservoir. It will then irrigate thousands of acres and will make famine almost impossible in those areas and beyond. I am making these suggestions and I will not take much time of the House. This is all I have to say on this point.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): Sir, words are not enough to describe the terrible conditions that are prevailing in Maharashtra.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would request the hon. Member to make concrete suggestions.

Shri S. S. More: I specially invite the attention of the Minister in charge of Food and Agriculture to the conditions, the heart-rending conditions which are prevailing in Sholapur district and Jath taluka of South Satara and also Indapur taluka of Poona district which together constitute my constituency. As a matter of fact, my complaints to the officers have not relieved the distress. For the information of the hon. Minister I may be permitted to say that in Madha taluka 25 villages were visited by workers and out of a total population of 23555, 9123 people have migrated and out of the total cattle population of 25,000, 11,621 cattle were left on the road by the villagers and about 1,353 actually died. In Mohol taluka 91 villages were personally visited by workers. The population of this taluka is 1,05,071. Out of this, 11,930 people had migrated and 24,772 or more were in search of employment. Out of a total cattle population of 85,539, 12,422 were left on the streets and 557 have died. As a matter of fact, from Jinti taluka Karmala there have been reports of five starvation deaths and the statements of the relatives have been recorded by persons who are members of the Bombay Legislative Assembly. I visited my constituency in September. The whole of the Barsi taluka was under famine conditions but the local officers started work only of road construction and that too for a mile long. Thousands of people were coming there in search of work and the officers were waiting for the rainfall, and when some rains fell, these meagre works were discontinued. I realise the difficulty of Government and I am not having any wild expectations. But if the damage done to Ahmednagar district is Rs. 13 crores the damage to Sholapur district would run into at least Rs. 20

[Shri S. S. More]

crores. We are already poor and we suffer from economic anaemia and if we suffer this much damage, we cannot bear it. This sort of letting out of the blood will finish us entirely, and I do not know what is going to happen to this part of the country. Therefore, I make a very sincere request to the hon. Minister concerned, and particularly to Dr. Deshmukh, who is contemplating a visit to this part to make a personal survey and not rely so much on the bureaucratic machinery, because they always try to minimise the hardship of the people. I can only quote what Prof. D. R. Gadgil, who is now the Chairman of a Famine Relief Committee appointed in collaboration with all the different political parties including the Congress and others, has stated. He has stated that such a famine has not been seen in Maharashtra for a good many decades past. This is the only thing that I am submitting for immediate consideration. If red tapism comes into operation, I do not think any relief will be given to the people in time.

Shri Pataskar (Jalgaon): I shall not take very long. I only want to make a few suggestions. Apart from the districts which have got endemic famine like Sholapur and Ahmednagar to which references have been made, there are two districts of East and West Khandesh which are akin to Berar but which are unfortunately in the grip of famine this year, and they were also affected by famine last year. The officers there are not even inclined to believe that there could be a famine in Khandesh. But I have been there during the last forty years, and I have always claimed that we did not know a single famine. But as a matter of fact, for the last two years, the people of this area have been exposed to famine. What can be done is not to take up small minor irrigation projects in that area, because only where there is perennial water currents you can take up such small irrigation projects. Here, in this area of Khandesh these small projects have been tried and they have failed. Therefore, you must undertake some big project like the Girna river project. Otherwise, these famine conditions will not disappear. When we are talking of Maharashtra, I want to remind you that there are famine conditions in other parts of Bombay State also. Scarcity conditions prevail in some parts of Karnatak areas and in Ahmedabad district and Kaira district and some other parts of Gujrat also. But not only in Maharashtra, but

wherever there is scarcity in the whole State of Bombay, all the available resources of the present Government of Bombay should be utilised. Unfortunately, those resources are insufficient to meet the needs of all these people. Probably, it is on this account that the officers and others concerned are reluctant to declare famine or scarcity areas. Therefore, it is desirable that my hon. friend Dr. Deshmukh should go to these parts and bring to bear a different outlook on this matter. If we assure the State Government of help, I am sure the State Government will come forward with some relief. Another suggestion I would make is that it is no good trying to spend money on making roads or giving temporary relief. I know that the whole of the Dhond-Manmad Railway (part of central Railways) was constructed by the former bureaucratic British Government during the time of a famine and as a famine work. They spent rupees eight crores also on irrigation in those famine areas. If the money that is now going to be spent by us in crores is not to be wasted, I would suggest to the Central Government to take up three or four big River Valley schemes which are ready. One of them is the Girna project. You will not be able to find all the money for these projects, but whatever money has to be spent, if it is spent on the construction of the dams or canals or parts of these schemes which are ready, I think it will incidentally provide relief to the areas where endemic famine conditions prevail. Therefore, not only in regard to Maharashtra, but wherever there is scarcity in Bombay, relief should be given. Unless relief is given by the Central Government, it is not going to improve the position. Therefore, I would request the Central Government and particularly the Finance Minister to give relief to the Government of Bombay.

श्री श्री० एम० राजगोख (शोलापुर—

रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) । उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज जो यह सवाल उठा है, दुष्काल के बारे में, उस की हालत बहुत बुराब है। सब जगह के हमारे पार्टीज के लोग इकट्ठा हो कर जो कुछ यहां पर आप के सामने रखते हैं मुझे उम्मीद है कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय

इस के बारे में जरूर ध्यान देंगे, क्यों कि वहां की परिस्थिति बहुत खराब है। मैं शोलापुर जिले की तरफ से चुनाव में आया हूं और वहां की परिस्थिति से खास कर के शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग बहुत अफैक्टेड (affected) हैं। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि वहां जो कामगार लोग हैं उन की तरफ ध्यान देना चाहिये। उन को पेट भर अनाज नहीं मिलता। मेरे मित्र श्री गायकवाड़ जो बम्बई स्टेट शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट फंडेशन के प्रेसीडेंट हैं और हमारे शोलापुर जिले के मिनिस्टर बाबर और रणसुंगारे ने बहुत खत मुझ को लिखे हैं। इसलिये मेरी प्रार्थना है कि कम से कम सब पार्टी के लोगों की एक कमेटी बनाई जाय और हमारी गवर्नमेंट को और प्राइम मिनिस्टर को इस पर जरूर ध्यान देना चाहिये। यह हमारे पूरे महाराष्ट्र का सवाल है और महाराष्ट्र के सब लोग इकट्ठा हो कर हम लोग आप के पास आये हैं।

एक दूसरी बात और है और वह यह है कि प्राहिबिशन (prohibition) से १४ करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हो रहा है। मैं सजैस्ट कर रहा हूं।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why are you unnecessarily bringing in prohibition? The hon. Member should address himself to famine conditions. From whatever quarters Government are able to get revenue, let them get. Why should he attack prohibition now? Let him not be prompted by other considerations.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : १४ करोड़ रुपये का जो नुकसान हमारे प्रान्त में होता है इसलिये मैं बोल रहा हूं। दूसरी कोई बात नहीं है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member more anxious to get famine relief, or is he more anxious to get rid of prohibition?

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : वहां पर तालाब का काम शुरू होना चाहिये। गरीबों के लिये वहां तालाब बनाये जायें, कुओं के बारे में, जानवरों के चारे के बारे में और कई जगह राशन नहीं मिलता, इन सब के बारे में इन्तजाम होना चाहिये। कई प्रकार के काम हैं जिन से गरीब लोगों की, सब लोगों की भलाई होती है वह शुरू करने चाहिये। सब लोगों के को-ऑप-रेशन (co-operation) से यह काम होना चाहिये। मैं देशमुख साहब से और किदवाई साहब से अपील करता हूं कि इस दुर्भिक्ष में हम लोग ज्यादा अफैक्टेड हैं इस लिये कम से कम हम लोगों की तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिये।

Shri Gadgil rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is an exceptional situation. So, even though the discussion is only for half an hour, we are exceeding the time. I would request the hon. Minister to give his reply after all the various points have been made by the different hon. Members.

Shri Kidwai: I shall not merely answer, but I will make some suggestions also.

Shri Neswi (Dharwar South): Sir, similar conditions prevail in Karnataka, which is called the Southern Maharashtra. So, Karnataka also comes into the discussion. The district of Bijapur, some six talukas in Dharwar district i.e., Hirekeru, Ranibennur, Haveri, Ron, Navalgund, and Gadag and some four talukas in Belgaum district i.e., Athani, Savadathi, Ramadurg and Rayabhadra have been similarly affected and adequate measures have not been taken by the State Government. To be true to my conscience, the Karnataka part of the Bombay State, I should say, has been neglected like anything by the Bombay Government. This is a fact well known to all people. So, I want to draw the attention of the Central Government to supplement whatever deficit is there in Karnataka. There are so many schemes which can be taken up, and by which the famine conditions can be alleviated. There are so many rivers the waters of which can be harnessed. There is the Tungabhadra river and you have a Bairanpad scheme there which can be taken up

[Shri Neswi]

and large areas of land can be brought under irrigation. There is also another Madagmasur lake, for which a scheme has possibly been prepared and it should be investigated and taken up. Then there is the Ghatapraha scheme. Then there are so many tanks in the district of Dharwar and some other parts of Karnataka. These tanks have been filled with silt. If the silt is removed, these tanks can store a lot of water and thus famine conditions can be averted. So, I want to draw the attention of the Government to supply as much finance as possible and see that all these tanks are repaired and the water that is stored there is used for the cultivation of the crops. Certain talukas of the Dharwar district are growing paddy of the best type. The tanks there are repairable and if that is done scarcity conditions will not prevail. Then there are certain works like approach roads and collection of mettle which can be taken up immediately and employment provided for as many people as possible. I request the Central Government to see that the real conditions are well assessed and necessary help given.

Shri Gadgil (Poona Central): Sir, the Conference to which reference was made by my hon. friend, Mr. More, stated that "in the opinion of the Conference relief of men and cattle and the maintenance of a minimum stability in the structure of the economy requires a very much larger and more coordinated effort." For that purpose I request the Food Minister to pay the State of Bombay a sum of Rs. ten crores.

Shrimati Maydeo (Poona South): Sir, a day or so back I received information from the Superintending Engineer, Deccan Irrigation Circle, who is in charge of all the dams in Deccan that the rains have failed this year, and the water level in all the reservoirs is much below what it is every year. He has no peace of mind. He cannot take leave. He is going all over the districts and he does not know how to meet the situation. This situation is there for the last month and a half, but up to now no famine works have been started or no grass depots, opened in the villages where cattle are dying or are being sold for from rupees five to rupees twenty-five each. It seems the Bombay Government is unable to meet the situation by itself. So, I would request the Centre to come to their help to meet the situation.

Shri K. L. More (Kolhapur cum Satara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir I rise to request the Central Government to rush forth immediate help to

the Government of Bombay. I do appreciate the efforts so far made by Government, but they are inadequate. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to come forward with substantial help.

Dr. Suresh Chandra (Aurangabad): Sir, I come from a constituency which is a Maharashtrian constituency in the Hyderabad State: that is why I get up to speak.

Much has been said about the famine conditions prevailing in the Maharashtra areas of the Bombay State. In Aurangabad and certain other taluqs of Aurangabad such as Kannad and Bhokardan famine conditions are prevailing. There is also scarcity of water. The Hyderabad Government have already granted certain concessions to that area. I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to those conditions and request him to rush some relief measures to that area as early as possible.

6 P.M.

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा (पटना पूर्व):
मैं समझती हूँ कि आपको समझाने में गलतफ़हमी है; मैं अपने लिए नहीं कह रही हूँ। चारों तरफ़-ऐसे इलाके हैं, जो फ़ैमिन (famine) से एफ़ेक्टेड (affected) हैं जिनके बारे में अभी तक कोई सुनवाई नहीं हुई। मैं ने सोचा कि जब हर निर्वाचन क्षेत्र की बात यहाँ पर आ रही है तो मैं भी क्यों न एक बड़े इलाके और बायरे को लेकर उस के बारे में आपसे कुछ सिफ़ारिश कर दूँ। आप की तो मालूम ही है और बहुत से ज़ख़बारों में भी यह बात पढ़ने को मिली है कि गोरखपुर और उत्तरी बिहार के इलाके की तरफ़ कहत का कितना असर है। मैं अपनी कांस्टीटुएन्सी के बारे में नहीं कहती, क्योंकि यह तो खुदग़र्जी हो जायगी, मैं तो दूसरों के लिये यहाँ पर, आप से उन की सिफ़ारिश कर रही हूँ और उन की आबाज़ आप तक पहुँचा रही हूँ। मैं आप की ख़िदमत में यह अर्ज़ करना चाहती हूँ कि साख़ कर हमारा जो उत्तरी बिहार का और पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश का जो

इलाका है और जो अकाल से बुरी तरह ग्रस्त है, उस की तरफ भी ध्यान देंगे और उस के लिये आप मदद का प्राविजन (Provision) करेंगे और सिर्फ बम्बई और महाराष्ट्र के झमेले में ही नहीं पड़े रहेंगे। बस मुझे इतना ही अजब करना था।

Shri Kidwai: Sir, before I deal with Maharashtra I must thank the last speaker for her pleading for the Eastern districts of U.P. Last year we had a very severe famine in that area, but I never found the Members representing that area so vigorously pleading for that area, as I found the Maharashtra Members doing today. I think Maharashtra should be congratulated for sending representatives who can plead their cause, and do it so vigorously. I assure those friends that whatever scheme the Bombay Government draws up, either for test works or for any other relief, we will help them financially as much as necessary.

As my hon. friends know, the responsibility for famine relief lies with the State Governments, but in the course of the last few years we have been sharing with the State Governments larger and larger burdens. And today we have agreed that we will contribute half of the expenses, some in the form of aid and some in the form of loans. Therefore, I would advise my friends who come from Maharashtra that on return from here they should discuss the relief mea-

asures, the suggestions they have made. They should discuss those schemes with the representatives of the State Governments. Fortunately the three Ministers concerned in this relief work in Bombay Government come from Maharashtra.

Shri S. S. More: That is our danger.

Shri Kidwai: Naturally they will be as worthy as the representatives here are. I hope the representatives of this area in the State Assembly would be equally vigorous and any scheme that the Bombay Government draws up we will help them financially and otherwise also.

Hon. Members would be aware that a committee was recently appointed to study the conditions in Rayalseema and Kolar Gold Fields Area and to suggest permanent measures of relief. That Committee has been asked to visit this area also. We are also sending an officer from our Office, to study the situation. He might have either left this morning or would be leaving this evening. If we have to make any special suggestion to the Bombay Government we will do it. But I assure the Members that all the help that may be required to meet the situation, in fodder or foodgrain or cash, will be given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House stands adjourned till 10-45 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, the 20th December, 1952.