



Friday,
15th May, 1953

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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

Gazette & Debates Section
Parliament Library Building
Room No. P-6015
Block 'G'
Acc. No..... 25174

THE

Dated..... 21.11.1954.....

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 15th May, 1953

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EDUCATIONAL ADVISERS

*2189. **Shri T. S. A. Chettiar:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state how many Educational Advisers, it has had in the year 1952-53 from the Technical Assistance Programme?

(b) What is the cost incurred in securing these advisers?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Four.

(b) About Rs. 23,300 upto 31st March, 1953.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I take it, Sir, that the expenses of these advisers are met by the T. C. A. programme?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Have the Government assessed the usefulness of these advisers?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir. We are convinced that they are useful to us.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: What is the total number of foreign advisers in the Education Department?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The list shows that there are four educational advisers who are giving us advice in various capacities. Besides these there are about a dozen technical personnel who are also assisting us in various works.

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Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, in which lines the Four Advisers given by the Technical Assistance Programme are now engaged?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: One of them is working as educational consultant in connection with the T.C.A. educational programme. The second one advises the Government of India on the organisation of the Indian Institute of Technology, Khargpur. Then there are two who are working on the Secondary Education Commission, set up by the Government of India to survey the secondary educational system in the country to make recommendations for its reorganisation.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know, Sir, whether these advisers are attached to any educational institutions?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: One of them, as I said, is attached to the Khargpur Institute.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: May we know the nature of the advice tendered and some of the improvements that have been effected on their advice?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is very difficult for me to specify the nature of the advice tendered. We are generally impressed by the advice that we get from them and we derive benefit from it.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: How many are attached to the Secretariat?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I believe, Sir, that the educational adviser in connection with the T.C.A. general programme is attached to the headquarters here.

HELP TO MADRAS

*2190. **Shri T. S. A. Chettiar:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Government of Madras have approached the Gov-

ernment of India for help to tide over their deficit in this year?

(b) What is the amount of help requested by them?

(c) What is the amount of help that has been promised by the Government of India?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Not for the current year but aid to the extent of Rs. 10 crores was asked for sometime last year.

(c) Nil.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister for Finance has had a talk with his colleague the Commerce Minister, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, and in the light of that talk he would consider the matter?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have had an informal talk with him, but I have not yet received from him the quantitative assessment of the situation. When that is received we shall try and see how the requirements of the scarcity conditions in the South of Madras could be met.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know, Sir, whether the conditions north of Madras, particularly in Andhra, also would be borne in mind when this question will be considered and also the prospect of a new State coming into force?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That takes us into a different subject.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are famine areas in Andhra also—that is what he means.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Famine areas in Andhra have been dealt with over last year and I am not aware of any outstanding problems, except of course the problem of taking measures permanently to eliminate scarcity. In that respect some sort of statement is being placed before the House.

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is reported in the South Indian dailies, especially in the "Madras Mail" that the Central Government is not in a position to finalise schemes for aid because of difference of opinion between the two Governments concerning the medium through which the amount is to be spent and the control over the fund allocated. May I request the hon. Minister to clarify the position and allay the fears of the public?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no controversy in regard to the medium or the control.

Shri Velayudhan: The hon. Minister stated that he has not received a quantitative assessment of the situation. Does it mean that the Madras Government have not informed him?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister said from Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, is it not so?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is right, Sir.

Shri Raghavachari: Is the Government aware that scarcity conditions in Rayalseema particularly Anantapur district, still continues, this year also?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have not denied that scarcity conditions are not continuing. But the question here is what action is to be taken to meet the scarcity conditions. I am not aware that there is any residual action still left so far as the immediate relief of scarcity in the northern areas is concerned.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that in the mind of the people in South India there is a general fear that there is a terrible conflict between the Finance Minister of the Central Government and the State regarding the.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why is it assumed?

Shri Velayudhan: It has come in the Press; it has come everywhere and the public is entitled to know about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question hour ought to be used for the purpose of allaying any differences and eliciting information. What is the good of making suggestions that there is a conflict between this State and that State and the Union and the States?

Shri Velayudhan: Because people are suffering between the two.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is no good proceeding on that line.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Recently the hon. Minister for Commerce and Industry made a statement to the effect that the famine situation as pictured by the Madras Government is a very exaggerated one. May I know, Sir, whether the Government have anything to say about this statement—whether it is true or not?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not responsible for any report of alleged statements made by my colleague, but to the best of my knowledge he made no such statement and if any such statement has appeared in the papers, then he has been misreported.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know, Sir, the amount of loan and grant asked for by the Madras Government for the current year and last year and how much has been sanctioned by the Government of India?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The position is this. The Madras Government sent a letter on the 17th April 1953 through the Ministry of Food and Agriculture giving an account of the cost of relief measures undertaken so far in the drought-affected areas of Madras State from 1st October, 1951 to 28th February, 1953. The total given was Rs. 916 lakhs. Now this includes some items which are admissible for a contribution either in the form of a grant or a loan from the Centre and other items which continue to be the concern of the State Government. So far as the items which are eligible for assistance are concerned, their total comes to nearly Rs. five crores. Of that Rs. 320 lakhs is for relief works and about Rs. 100 lakhs is for gruel centres, fodder operations, and so on and so forth. This latter is entitled to a grant of about half the amount, and Rs. 1 crore and 47 lakhs have been given to the Madras State as a grant.

In regard to relief works, that is to say Rs. 320 lakhs accommodation has been found by the Centre by the purchase of the Government securities owned by the Madras State to the extent of Rs. 2 crores, which is in excess of the 50 per cent. assistance that is undertaken by the Centre.

Shri Kelappan: Is Government aware that almost famine conditions prevail among the fishermen folk in the western coast due to scarcity of fish?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I am not aware of this, but I shall take steps to find out if there are any special pockets of scarcity or famine conditions such as those mentioned by the hon. Member.

Shri Raghuramiah: Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister may I take it that the Madras Government have apprised the Government of India about the existence of acute famine conditions in Rayalaseema and particularly the coastal districts like East Godavari?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Sir, the Madras Government have placed all the material that is available with them at our disposal. If there is any difference of opinion it is in regard to the form which assistance from the Centre should take, and in that matter there are bound to be different points of view where the Centre has its own responsibilities and the Madras Government has its own responsibility. Our attempt should be to try to find out some kind of a *via media* for reconciling these two views so that relief is carried to the people who are entitled to relief.

STONE-AGE RELICS

*2191. **Shri Madhao Reddi:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Stone-Age relics estimated to be about 200,000 years old, have been unearthed by the Archaeologist of Saugor University, at Deori, a village 22 miles from Saugor?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): Some red sandstone palaeoliths have been discovered but their date can be specified only after the geological stratification has been carefully examined.

Shri Madhao Reddi: May I know whether this matter has been referred to the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology for taking steps to exercise the necessary care of archaeological sites?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware that the matter was referred to the Advisory Board, but the Department has kept itself in close touch with all the developments and they know all about it.

Shri Madhao Reddi: May I know whether Government propose to take steps for further intensive survey of that area and for the excavation of the remains?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, if necessary a programme in consultation with the Director of the Archaeological Department will be made for the survey.

FOREIGN PERSONS IN INDIAN ARMY

*2192. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether there are persons of foreign nationality holding honorary rank in the Indian Army and if so, how many and what are their ranks?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, for what reasons and what are the qualifications necessary for such honorary ranks?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). There are three holders of honorary rank in the Indian Army who are not citizens of India, namely, His Majesty the King of Nepal, who holds the honorary rank of General, and two ex-Prime Ministers of Nepal who hold the Honorary rank of Lieutenant General.

These ranks were conferred because of the close association of Nepal with our Armed Forces.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether there is any reciprocal arrangement with Nepal in such matters, whether any Indian citizen has also been given an honorary rank in the Nepalese Army?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: General Cariappa.

Shri Satish Chandra: There is no question of reciprocity in this. It is an award which is conferred by the Government of India and nothing is demanded in return.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it is the policy of the Government to confer honorary military ranks on persons coming from countries which are closely connected with India?

Shri Satish Chandra: As I said in the main reply, there are only three dignitaries on whom these ranks have been conferred and who hold the same at present. It all depends upon the merits and special considerations at a particular time.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Is Government contemplating to give honorary ranks to Indian nationals also, to those who are interested in the Defence Department or the Defence organisation?

Shri Satish Chandra: That is already done, for the information of my hon. friend I may say that there are about ninety persons holding honorary ranks in the country.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Government confer these honorary ranks on those who were already having those ranks but from whom those ranks have been withdrawn?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Satish Chandra: I do not know what the hon. Member means. If he puts a specific question the answer could be given.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. There is too much of subdued noise in the House—it is not even subdued, it

is a loud noise. Let all Members settle down.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether any honoraria are paid for these honorary ranks, and may I also know whether these honorary officers can exercise any powers over the Indian Army and, if so, what are such powers?

Shri Satish Chandra: They hold honorary ranks which itself implies that they are not paid anything.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I know the distinction.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is what he has replied.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I said honoraria.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is exactly giving what he wanted.

Shri Satish Chandra: Obviously the King of Nepal is not paid anything for holding this rank. That is implied in the answer. The only thing is that due honour and courtesies are shown to them when they visit our troops.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I asked something more. I want that to be answered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It won't be answered. Hon. Members are not at all satisfied with the answers.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I want to know whether they can exercise any powers by virtue of the honorary ranks conferred upon them. That is what I had asked.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. A question is put, it is in English, so all hon. Members can understand it. An answer is given. Whatever is not given, let the hon. Member come to any conclusion. But he cannot cross-examine as in a court of law.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am pointing out.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members can put supplementary questions. It is open to the Minister to answer or not to answer. But I cannot allow a cross examination if an hon. Minister is floored or an hon. Member is floored on this side.

COLLECTION OF FINE IN VILLAGES OF MANIPUR

*2193. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Manipur imposed col-

lective fine of Rs. 35/- per family on several villages there without any exception on account of the activities of some anti-social elements in 1951 and 1952; and

(b) if so, how many villages and houses (families) were affected and what the collection of the fine amounted to?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No; the amount of fine varied from Rs. 30/- to Re. 1/- and the fines were imposed in 1951 and not in 1952.

(b) 20 villages and 1522 families were affected. The total amount collected was Rs. 22,633/-.

Shri Rishang Keishing: What was the basis of selection of the victims of punitive fine?

Dr. Katju: A collective fine is imposed, and that means that the collective authority goes into the villages, assesses the paying capacity or, what I may call, the incriminatory capacity of every single family, and imposes a fine. There is no question of any particular basis.

*** Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know if before imposing the fines full enquiry was made about the complicity of each family in the village?

Dr. Katju: I think so. This is 1951, hon. Members will see.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether punitive fines were imposed in any other village in India, in any other place?

Dr. Katju: I think collective fines are becoming a common feature now.

Shri Rishang Keishing: What was the reason which necessitated the imposition of this punitive fine on these villagers?

Dr. Katju: Anti-social activities and, I believe, activities of a subversive kind. I may add that afterwards Rs. 1,468 were refunded in suitable cases.

Shri Rishang Keishing: Is it not a fact that these punitive fines were imposed on the villagers because the villagers could not give information of the whereabouts of the absconding Communist leaders?

Dr. Katju: I think the other way of putting it is that probably these people

were charged with harbouring offenders—I am not using the word Communists.

Shri N. R. M. Swamy: Were there any protests by any of the families that they would not pay the collective fines?

Dr. Katju: I do not know.

Shri Rishang Keishing: In view of the fact that an overwhelming majority of these villagers have nothing to do with the activities of the anti-social elements, which has been proved by the results of the last election, will he consider the returning of the fines?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is all this? Are we debating this matter? Asking the withdrawal of the fines is another chapter.

Next question.

GRADE II POSTS

***2194. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether 300 permanent posts of Grade II of the Central Secretariat Service were sanctioned in its initial constitution;

(b) whether all have been filled up so far;

(c) if not, what is the number of posts lying vacant and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Cabinet issued directions in 1948 that the initial constitution of Grade I and II should be completed very soon; and

(e) whether there are any cases that have remained under consideration for the last two or three years?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) to (e). A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 12.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was any examination undertaken since 1948 to find out the necessity of continuing all these 300 posts?

Shri Datar: The object was to continue all of them, and the examination had to pass through various stages and therefore there was this delay.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it now proposed to fill all these remaining vacancies with permanent people?

Shri Datar: All the posts have already been filled.

TRIBAL POPULATION IN TRIPURA

***2195. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of tribal population has gone down in Tripura from 77 per cent. to 30 per cent. during the last 20 years; and

(b) if so, what are the causes of it?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). It is not possible to compare the percentages for 1931, and 1951 since 30 'Primitive Tribes' were included in the Census of 1931 while only 18 Schedule Tribes were shown in the Census for 1951. The increase in non-tribal population was due to the heavy influx of displaced persons from East Pakistan.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know whether Government are aware that due to Jhum cultivation, some people left the State of Tripura and went to Assam and they have again come back to Tripura and many of them died in the way?

Dr. Katju: May I ask the hon. Member how does it concern the population?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If people die, there will be a decrease in population.

Dr. Katju: I will give the figures. As a matter of fact there has been no decrease in population. The House would take note of two facts. In 1931 the enumeration authorities included 30 primitive tribes. In 1951, 20 years later, the census authorities only included 18 scheduled tribes. It is not a question of percentage. The tribal population of 30 primitive tribes in 1931 was 1,92,324 and in 1951, it was 1,96,273 of 18 scheduled tribes. The percentage has fallen because the population of Tripura has increased from 3,82,000 in 1931 to 6,43,000 in 1951 due to influx of refugees from East Pakistan. The number of tribal people of 18 scheduled tribes is as much of the 30 primitive tribes in 1931.

Shri S. C. Deb: May I know whether Tripura tribes had been included in this schedule?

Dr. Katju: Of course 18 of them have been included.

HILL TRIBES OF TRIPURA

***2196. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the hill tribes in Tripura and their present population Tribe-wise;

(b) the amount of loan sanctioned by the Government by way of agricultural loan and the number of tribal population which has received the loan so far;

(c) the population of the landless roving tribes who have been settled and the acreage of lands thereby involved since the integration of the State till February, 1953;

(d) what percentage of the budget of Tripura for the year 1952-53 has been earmarked for the administration and development of the tribal people; and

(e) whether special schemes have been drawn up for the development of the tribal people in Tripura during the next three years and if so, what they are?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) A statement showing the names and the present population of hill tribes in Tripura is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 13.]

(b) Amount of loan Rs. 2,07,167/-

Number of tribal families who received the loan, 1,885.

(c) Population of roving tribes, settled. 7,800.

Acreage of lands. 1,015.

(d) On an average 5 per cent. of the budget estimates of Tripura for 1952-53 has been utilised for the development of the tribal people.

(e) Special schemes for 1953-54 for Productive Irrigation, Medical Relief, Water Supply, Education and Road Construction are being finalised by the Chief Commissioner.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether there are still some hill tribes who have not been classified as scheduled tribes by the Government?

Dr. Katju: I said just now that they were considered to be primitive tribes and only 18 have been classified as scheduled tribes. I do not know about 12.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether those primitive tribes were considered as scheduled tribes?

Dr. Katju: There is a difference of 12 and therefore they were not considered as scheduled tribes.

Shri Jaipal Singh: With the reduction of the inventory of scheduled tribes in this particular State, may I know whether, once they have been excluded from the scheduled tribes, they have been put among other backward classes for purposes of scholarship and other things or not?

Dr. Katju: That will be a matter for the Backward Classes Commission to consider.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I want to know where they are now? They were there in the Schedule in 1931. Primitive tribes are entitled to certain privileges under the Constitution. I want to know under what category they are now.

Dr. Katju: Please do not get angry. They are in their homes. We are considering as to whether there had been enumeration among the backward classes or not. That will be a matter precisely for the Backward Classes Commission. So far as considerations regarding their improvement are concerned, that is a matter for the Chief Commissioner. He will undoubtedly look into the matter.

Shri Jaipal Singh: The hon. Minister has completely misunderstood me. What I want to elicit from him is this. They are ordinary citizens now. The Government of India has earmarked certain sums for awards as scholarships to certain people. Now there are two categories, scheduled tribes and scheduled castes. Do they the "excluded" tribes come in or not as among the other Backward classes? Obviously they are scheduled castes, and not tribes.

Dr. Katju: For the purpose of giving scholarships and other such purposes, they are undoubtedly backward. As to the enumeration of backward classes, that will be a matter for the Backward Classes Commission.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Has any missionary effort been made on behalf of the Indian Government to win these tribes to Indian culture?

Dr. Katju: I think there is. I am not quite sure. Some Ramakrishna Mission people are working. That is a matter for private agencies, not official agencies.

Shri Meghnad Saha: There ought to be missionary effort on behalf of the Indian Government so that they may be won to Indian culture?

Dr. Katju: What exactly is meant by missionary effort? Government is utilising official agencies for their improvement in a variety of ways. We understand the word 'missionary' in a different sense.

LOANS TO STUDENTS

*2197. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a Press Report of the reply of Sardar Ujjal Singh, Finance Minister of the Punjab to a deputation of the Punjab Pursharthi Sabha at Jullundur, published in the Tribune, Ambala on the 6th April, 1953 and the Hindustan Times on the 7th April, 1953 to the effect that the educational loans would be adjusted towards the claims of the parents of the students concerned and loans found not adjustable would be treated as grants; and

(b) if so, whether Government have issued instructions to other State Governments to follow the same policy?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Yes.

(b) No, not even to Punjab Government.

Shri Gidwani: I understand that no such instructions have been issued to the Punjab Government from the Centre. I want to know whether the statement of Sardar Ujjal Singh, Finance Minister of the Punjab is based on facts.

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: We have referred the matter to the Punjab Government to get the true facts of the case and until we are in possession of the facts, it is premature to say whether the statement is correct or not.

Shri Gidwani: Have any instructions been issued by the Centre to that effect?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: No, Sir.

ACQUISITION OF LAND FOR AERODROME AT CHARRA (BIHAR)

*2198. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint enquiry by the Defence and Land Acquisition Departments was made in

1949 about the lands acquired for the aerodrome at Charra in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that by regular survey it was found that over and above the acquired lands there were buildings and roads constructed on unacquired lands;

(c) when the owners of those unacquired but used lands are expected to be paid compensation;

(d) whether it is a fact that most of the owners of those unacquired lands are poor and illiterate; and

(e) whether there are other aerodromes in Bihar where such things have happened?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes.

(b) An area of 34.10 acres was found under irregular occupation of Government. Government have no information about the existence of buildings other than brick kilns on this area.

(c) They have already been paid compensation.

(d) Government have no information.

(e) Not to the knowledge of Government.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know when these unacquired lands were occupied by the Defence Ministry?

Sardar Majithia: Somewhere in 1943.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what were the difficulties in giving compensation to these persons?

Sardar Majithia: The question has been put and I have already answered that. An enquiry was held and as a result of that enquiry, it was found that some area was in the possession of Government which was not originally acquired and as soon as that came to light, the compensation was paid.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether Government has any intention to return back those lands to the owners?

Sardar Majithia: If the Government does not need them, they will be returned.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I wanted to know the cause for this unnecessary delay as the question was enquired into by the Land Acquisition Depart-

ment and the Defence Department jointly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The enquiry was going on.

Sardar Majithia: It has already taken place and as a result of that enquiry, we have already paid the compensation and the unauthorised occupation is no longer there.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Vittal Rao; absent. Next question.

Shri Nambiar: May I put the question on his behalf, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not now. Has he got any authority?

Shri Nambiar: Oral authority.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He must wait till the second round if he has got any authority.

Shri Nambiar: It is an important question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

RECRUITMENT OF SUBJECTS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR TO I.A.S. AND I.P.S.

*2200. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether there are any discriminatory regulations against the subjects of the State of Jammu and Kashmir for recruitment to the I.A.S. and I.P.S.?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for retaining the same?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). Persons domiciled in States which have participated in the All-India Service Scheme are eligible for the two All-India Services referred to. As the State of Jammu and Kashmir has not participated in the scheme, persons domiciled in that State are not eligible.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire why the Jammu and Kashmir Government has not participated in the Central Scheme?

Shri Datar: It is not for me to say.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire whether it has anything to do with any special arrangements that have to be finalised between the Centre and that State?

Shri Datar: It is likely.

Shri Nambiar: May I know in which other States persons are not eligible for the I.A.S. and I.P.S.?

Shri Datar: It is not a question of being eligible. The question is whether they participate I may inform the House that there are certain services which are Union Services, for example the Audit and Accounts and others. They are open to all citizens of India including citizens of Jammu and Kashmir. These services, the I.A.S. and the I.P.S. are All-India services common to the Centre and the States, and they are only for the States participating. If the States participate, they are entitled.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the States which have not participated?

Shri Datar: Except Jammu and Kashmir, all have participated.

BHOPAL AND BARODA ARCHAEOLOGICAL CIRCLES

*2201. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Bhopal and Baroda are the two new Archaeological Circles to be opened in the near future?

(b) How many Archaeological Circles are working at present and what are their boundaries?

(c) Will Government have a uniform policy in regard to exploration and preservation of monuments?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes.

(b) Seven, as per statement laid on on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 14.]

(c) Yes.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know if there is any possibility of opening more Archaeological circles?

مسئلہ آف ایجھو کوکشن ایبلڈ نہیں
مسئلہ ایبلڈ سائٹلائک دسچ (مولانا)
- ازاد - ضرورت نہیں ہے

[The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): There is no need.]

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether some provision for training technical staff is also provided in this Archaeological department for improving and for having a uniform policy?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. From the Government Department side, there is no arrangement for training personnel in the Archaeological department.

Shri Velayudhan: Previously, there was a chart or a board regarding the short history of each monument hung on the spot. This has been removed from many monuments in Delhi and other places. Is there any special reason for removing them?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I am not aware that all these boards have been removed. If the hon. Member gives me information, I shall make enquiries.

DACOITIES IN P.E.P.S.U.

*2202. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the number of dacoities that have taken place in P.E.P.S.U. since the State came under direct rule of the President?

(b) Are the Panchayats still functioning there?

(c) What are the main causes of tension between the Bishweddars and the tenants in P.E.P.S.U.?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Two. Out of these, in one dacoity, one of the dacoits was shot dead in an encounter with the police and the remaining six alleged accused were all arrested. The other dacoity is purely a technical one.

(b) The so-called Kisan Panchayats had been functioning for some time in some villages of the old Patiala State. But there has been a marked change in these villages since the commencement of the President's rule. The Adviser has visited many villages and after his visit, no case has come to his notice in which the so-called Panchayats have decided cases or imposed fines or other punishment. This answer does not cover Panchayats which were established under the law.

(c) I can only give a general answer and the answer is: The main cause of tension is a feeling among the tenants that in the past, Bisweddars had been imposed on their villages by unsympathetic Rulers, thus extinguishing their prior rights and converting them from peasant proprietors to occupancy tenants, or even in some cases, tenants-at-will. This induced many tenants to withhold the rents which in in its turn brought numerous

Shri K. P. Sinha: Have any steps been taken by the Government to see that the tenants are not ejected?

Dr. Katju: As I said as soon as the P.E.P.S.U. Bill which was recently passed by this House receives the assent of the President, the President proposes to pass the necessary legislation on this subject.

Shri Bogawat: May I know if the number of dacoities has gone down since the President's rule and whether there is peace in the State?

Dr. Katju: Considerably. As I said, there have been only two dacoities. The law and order situation has very much improved.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know the number of dacoities committed last year in the same period?

Dr. Katju: I cannot give figures straight off.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that there are four main gangs of dacoits operating in P.E.P.S.U. and may I know how many of these gangs have been liquidated?

Dr. Katju: There were many gangs operating in P.E.P.S.U. Most of them have been liquidated. As to how many remain, I cannot say off hand.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Panchayats set up in about 70 to 80 villages in P.E.P.S.U. by certain parties have been brought round or not?

An Hon. Member: Which parties.

Dr. Katju: These people have now become more sensible and they are now acting according to law. They are not now resorting to any anti-legal practices at all.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the police is being used to collect arrears of rent of the last 5 or 6 years and if so whether the tenants are being put to difficulties or whether they are accepting to pay?

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

Shri Nambiar: It relates to P.E.P.S.U.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Merely because there is P.E.P.S.U., any question cannot be asked. The question relates to dacoities and not police.

Shri Nanadas: Arising out of the answer to part (c) of the question,

may I know what steps Government have taken to alleviate the fear of the tenants since the taking over of power by the President and with what results?

Dr. Katju: We have taken many steps and have restored confidence in the peasantry. But, as I said just now, the President proposes to enact the necessary legislation as soon as the law is passed.

JALIANWALA BAGH

*2203. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have taken the Jalianwala Bagh (Amritsar) under their direct control?

(b) Is it now closed to any public meeting or any kind of public function?

(c) What do Government propose to do with this Bagh?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (c). The Jalianwala Bagh is not under the direct control of Government. The Jalianwala Bagh National Memorial Act of 1951 declares the Bagh to be a National Memorial. A Trust has been created and certain Trustees appointed.

(b) The Trustees of the Jalianwala Bagh have decided that no public meeting should be held within the premises of the Bagh.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know whether any construction is going to be made as a memorial in this park?

Shri Datar: That is a matter for the trustees.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether any plan regarding any memorial has been prepared or is under contemplation?

Shri Datar: That is what I stated. It is for the trustees and not for the Government of India.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: In view of the fact that Jalianwala Bagh is of national importance, do Government think that it should be taken over by the Government and some memorial constructed there?

Shri Datar: No, Sir.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not understand the hon. Member's question. An Act has been passed and Government has appointed trustees.—How else does Government take over? By making the district magistrate in charge of it?

Shri Kelappan: The Deputy Minister said in the reply that public meetings are prohibited in that area. Will the Government reconsider that question?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The decision was made by the trustees and it has the fullest approval and concurrence of the Government. We felt that if public meetings take place of any kind, naturally rival meetings could also take place and the place would become a forum sometimes for, if not actual, verbal conflict and that would spoil the atmosphere of the place. So it is decided that all meetings of any shape or kind should be avoided.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know whether Government can tell us about the progress, if any, in regard to the construction of a memorial on the site by the Trust concerned?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If the hon. Member means putting up some structure as a memorial, there has been no progress. In fact, it is doubtful if any structure will be put up. Many people think that it should be left as it is without any structure, with only some kind of a tablet and the like, but a good deal of progress has been made. First of all, some property has been acquired round about. It has been rounded off. Five or six years ago some of the place had been destroyed by fire. That has been cleared. Progress has been made in improving the place, not in putting up any definite memorial.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Is the Government aware that since very early days the Jalianwala Bagh has always been open to public meetings of non-communal political character? Why has this new ban been imposed now?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is because Government is aware of the fact and of the experience gained during that period that it approved of this decision of the Trustees.

JUDICIAL COMMISSIONER'S COURTS IN PART 'C' STATES

*2204. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) which Part 'C' States are still having only judicial commissioner's courts as appellate jurisdiction for their civil and criminal cases; and

(b) whether any step has been taken to extend the jurisdiction of the neighbouring Part A or Part B States High Court appellate jurisdiction to these States?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). Courts of Judicial Commissioners are functioning in all the Part C States except Delhi and Coorg. The question of extending the jurisdiction of the High Courts of the neighbouring Part A or Part B States to these States was considered and it has been decided that it is not necessary for the present to disturb the existing arrangements in Himachal Pradesh and Vindhya Pradesh. The question in so far as it relates to the other Part C States is under consideration in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Thomas.

श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश के हाई कोर्ट को दूसरी जगह ले जाया जा रहा है?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called Mr. Thomas.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I enquire whether it is a fact that the hon. Minister for States has suggested to the various "C" State Governments that with a view to effecting economy in expenditure, it is desirable to have common Courts and common heads of Departments especially in Departments like Education and the like, and if so, what has been the reaction of the various State Governments?

Dr. Katju: This question relates only to the High Courts and the Judicial Commissioners' Courts. This point was considered, and as I said, the result was that in Vindhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh the old system is to continue. In regard to the other "C" States excepting Coorg and Delhi, the matter is still under consideration.

श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि विन्ध्य प्रदेश के हाई कोर्ट को तोड़ कर दूसरी जगह ले जाया जा रहा है?

डा० काट्टू: मैं ने तो अभी अप्रैली भाषा में जाब दिया कि कोई ऐसा इरादा नहीं है। पहले कुछ तज्ज्वला पेश हुई थी, वह तक कर दी (छोड़ दी) गयी।

Shri A. M. Thomas: I did not get any answer to my specific question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will wait.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी: मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह कौन से कारण हैं कि जिन की वजह से विन्ध्य प्रदेश के और हिमाचल प्रदेश के कोट्स को बड़े हाई कोर्ट में शामिल करने का विचार स्थगित कर दिया गया?

डा० काट्जू: वजह यह है कि दरवापत (मालूम) करने पर यह मालूम हुआ और स्टेट गवर्नरमेंट ने दृतलाया कि जो ज्युडिशियल कमिशनर कोट्स (नेतृत्व आयुक्त न्यायालय) वहां मौजूद है वहां तुरन्त मकानों के फँसले होते हैं, साठ भर के अन्दर अन्दर फँसले हो जाते हैं, बल्कि महीनों में ही फँसले हो जाते हैं। इस के मुकाबले इलहाबाद हाईकोट में इन मुकाद्दमों में बरसों लग जाते हैं और उन को कोई शिकायत नहीं है। इनसाफ भी अच्छा होता है तुरन्त भी होता है, जनता भी खुश है और गवर्नरमेंट भी खुश है।

Shri A. M. Thomas: I did not get any answer to the specific question put by me whether there was a suggestion thrown out with regard to having common Courts—High Courts and Judicial Courts—and common heads of Departments.

Dr. Katju: That would have been a very expensive proposition.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, whether the Government are considering the necessity of shifting the Judicial Commissioner's Court, Tripura, to Assam? If so, why?

Dr. Katju: This matter is under consideration.

Shri Nambiar: May I know why?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This matter is under consideration.

Shri Biren Dutt: Has any protest been received against this proposal from the Bar Association of Tripura?

Dr. Katju: I cannot add to the answer that the matter is under consideration.

Shri Biren Dutt: Has the hon. Minister received from the Bar Association of Tripura any representation not to shift?

Dr. Katju: I must confess that I cannot give an answer straight off. I must have notice.

ALLOTMENT OF URBAN EVACUEE LANDS

***2205. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to refer to the answer to starred question No. 1199 asked on 26th June, 1952, and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the question of allotment of urban evacuee lands;

(b) if so, what is the basis of allotment; and

(c) whether it is a fact that temporary allotment of these lands is open to even non-displaced persons and no preference in this respect is shown to the displaced persons?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) and (b). The question of allotment of urban evacuee land is still under consideration alongwith other urban evacuee properties such as houses, building sites, etc.

(c) Temporary allotment is made to non-displaced persons only when displaced persons are not forthcoming.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: How long will the consideration take?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: We hope very shortly.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Is it a fact?

Shri Nanadas rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let the hon. Member who tabled the question be allowed to put the question.

Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Is it a fact that the request of many of the displaced persons for grant of urban lands has been turned down, while the land is given to non-displaced persons?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): Non-displaced persons have been given only where displaced persons are not forthcoming and take the land.

Shri Nanadas: May I know, Sir, whether these lands will be granted to the landless agricultural labourers or to the agriculturists who have got

sufficient money to carry on the agricultural operations?

Shri A. P. Jain: We are considering the whole question, and unless the scheme is decided, we cannot give any answer to any question of that kind.

'EFFICIENCY AUDIT'

*2206. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any staff to conduct 'efficiency audit' of various offices in the Central Secretariat and other departmental offices; and

(b) whether they have any rules for guidance in this kind of 'audit'?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Madiah Gowda: May I know whether they have got any other machinery to judge the efficiency in the working of the various staffs in the Secretariat and other offices?

Shri Datar: The Government of India propose to establish an organization of methods division as recommended by the Five Year Plan.

OVERHAULING OF AIRCRAFT

*2207. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state how many aircrafts and engines were overhauled in 1951 and 1952 (separately) in the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd.?

(b) What were the overhauling charges for the same?

(c) Was this overhauling work done purely by Indian personnel?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) 85 aircraft and 763 aeroengines were overhauled at Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. during 1951. 73 aircraft and 570 aeroengines were overhauled during 1952.

(b) Approximately Rs. 130 lakhs in 1951 and Rs. 87 lakhs in 1952.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, the break up of the figures supplied by the hon. Minister according to Defence and civilian?

Shri Satish Chandra: I have given the total figure, and I think my hon. friend will not insist on getting the figures for the air force. It will not be advisable to give them out.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister will kindly look at the Chair and answer.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether any personnel have been sent overseas to have better training in the matter?

Shri Satish Chandra: The personnel has been trained.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister and all hon. Members must look at the Chair and answer so that every corner of the House can hear.

Shri Satish Chandra: The work is being done entirely by Indians, except for the Shop Superintendent who is a foreigner. Indian personnel have already been trained for this purpose.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether there is any instance recently of the Hindustan Aircrafts Limited also overhauling the aircrafts of other nations such as the Royal Air Force which are operating in Malaya?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): It is not possible for me to give an immediate reply for this. In fact, I would like to have notice, but I am afraid if there are other customers coming forward, they may perhaps render service on commercial lines, but regarding the specific case of aeroplanes going for war, I do not believe such planes have ever been given any service till now.

Shri Nambiar: Is the information correct that Templer's aircraft from Malaya was brought to the Bangalore factory and was repaired recently, i.e. within the period of a fortnight?

Shri Tyagi: I am afraid I have no information ready at hand. But if the hon. Member writes to me, even when the House adjourns I will give the information.

Shri Raghaviah: May I know, Sir, whether we are also overhauling the French planes that are going to Indo-China to be used in the war against the democratic forces there?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: On such things the hon. Member will kindly write to the Minister and if he does not get the answer, then come to the House.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether any specific instructions have-

been issued to the Hindustan Aircraft factory not to take planes belonging to enemy countries or countries engaged in war?

Shri Tyagi: There is no enemy country, as far as India is concerned. Whenever any outside planes are taken in for repairs in the workshop, I believe permission is sought and every case is judged by the Ministry on merits.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know, Sir, how the hon. gentleman over there gets such intimate information about Malaya?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. Next question.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Sir, I have a question. May I know what is the customary international law about repair of planes or ships of belligerent countries—countries that are fighting with each other?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are not entering into a discussion. There are books on the subject in the Library which can be referred to. Next question.

FACTORY OPERATED UPON BY FORGERS OF POSTAL EQUIPMENTS

*2208. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether a big underground factory operated by an All-India gang of forgers of postal equipments has been brought to light in the District of Manbhum in Bihar by the Police of Bihar and Delhi acting conjointly;

(b) if so, what kinds of equipments or articles were being manufactured;

(c) what use was being made of those forged articles;

(d) whether it is a fact that the managers of the factory were receiving Money Orders from Delhi, Aligarh, Meerut, Asansol and other places;

(e) how and when was the clue obtained; and

(f) what actions, if any, have been taken against those responsible for running and maintaining the factory?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): So far as Delhi Police are concerned the answers are (a) No.

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

Information from Bihar Government is awaited, and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

BOOKS SENT TO U.S.A.

*2210. **Shri Telkikar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of books and publications sent to U.S.A. from India, under the Indo-American Agreement on the exchange of books and publications in the year 1952; and

(b) to which category of subjects did majority of the books sent to U.S.A. from India and from U.S.A. to India, relate?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) 1152.

(b) Books sent to U.S.A. related to: Agriculture, Commerce, Economics, Health, Meteorology and Transport.

Books received from the U.S.A. related to: Agriculture, Commerce, Communication, Defence, Labour and Public Administration.

Shri Telkikar: May I know, Sir, at what places in India these books are made available for the public?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Books received from the United States of America are in the Central Secretariat Library of the Government of India.

Shri Telkikar: Is there any proposal to come to such an agreement with other countries of the world?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir. The matter is being considered.

श्री एस० सौ० सामन्तः: क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जान सकता हूँ कि इन किताबों के प्रकाशन और तब्दीली के लिये १९५२ के वर्ष में कितनी रकम रक्सी गई थी और उस में से कितनी रकम हुई है ?

श्री के० श्री० मालवीयः: इस में खाली दो हजार रुपये सरकार के लिये हुए और वह किताबों के आने जाने के सिलसिले में लिये हुए ।

Shri Telkikar: Is there any arrangement to circulate these books in different States?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. There is no arrangement as such, so far as I know.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether these books that are sent to the U.S.A. are only English books or books in other languages of India?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This exchange is with regard only to official publications.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that any of the books sent from India are subject to the scrutiny of Senator McCarthy?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not know.

BUILDING LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*2211. **Shri Telikar:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the conditions laid down for granting the building loans and/or developed plots to individual displaced persons?

(b) Are ready-built houses or developed plots sold to individual displaced persons?

(c) What are the terms of payment in cash and by instalments?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 15.]

(b) Yes.

(c) In the case of sale on cash, cost price is recovered. In the case of sale on instalment basis, a portion of the cost is usually recovered in advance and the balance in equated instalments spread over a number of years.

Shri Telikar: May I know, Sir, whether there is any possibility of more plots being made easily available to the public?

Shri A. P. Jain: We are not putting up any more plots, but whatever remains over will be made available.

Shri Gidwani: Is the scheme being followed in all the States or only in some particular States?

Shri A. P. Jain: Conditions vary from State to State. The scheme is followed in some, not in others.

Shri Raghavaiah: What is the percentage of interest that is demanded on these loans given to these refugees and can the poor refugees afford to pay the interest also?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the argument about the rate of interest?

Shri Raghavaiah: My question is what is the percentage of interest.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the percentage of interest?

Shri A. P. Jain: The percentage of interest depends upon the borrowing rate of the Government from time to time. Ordinarily it was 3½ per cent. but recently it has been raised to 4½ per cent.

Shri Gidwani: The Minister said that in certain States facilities are given to displaced persons. May I know whether in places where it is not given, it will be given if the displaced persons ask for it?

Shri A. P. Jain: Certainly. Every time we are watching the state of affairs in the States. Wherever necessity arises we take necessary action.

OVER-WORK AND UNDER-STAFF

*2212. **Shri Punnoose:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Unions and Associations in Central Services have been granted the right to represent to the appropriate official authorities on such problems as over-work and under-staffing etc.;

(b) whether a Government Servant who is a member of the Union/Association, has the right to represent to his Union/Association that he is heavily over-worked and his office is under-staffed;

(c) whether he can inform the Union/Association of the actual volume of work of all kinds performed by him and in his office; and

(d) whether the Union/Association concerned can quote the information and statistics of work to substantiate the validity of the representations to the appropriate official authorities for sanction of more staff, creation of more supervisory posts and upgrading the status of the offices etc.?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Ordinarily, representations in such matters should be made to the Head of the Office or Department by the Government servants concerned. But they are not precluded from bringing such matters to the notice of their duly recognised Union/Association.

which may, if it thinks fit, make a representation on their behalf to the authorities concerned in accordance with the provisions of instructions governing the recognition of Associations. Such representations can be made only on matters of common interest to a class of Government servants represented by the Association, and not those concerning an individual Government servant.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am asking the hon. Minister to stop for sometime. I have no objection to keeping quiet for the rest of the Question hour. How long can I ask hon. Members, as if like school children, not to talk here like this? I will have to take more drastic action hereafter. Hon. Members who want to talk like this may kindly go out into the lobby as long as they want. It is impossible to hear anything.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: You should have a hammer by which.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am hammering myself.

Shri Datar: (c) and (d). A Union! Association or its members may make use of such information for the purpose of making their representations as is within their personal knowledge and can be communicated without infringement of the provision of the Government Servants Conduct Rules, or the Indian Official Secrets Act, 1923, prohibiting the unauthorised communication of official documents or information.

Shri Punnoose: In answer to (a), the Minister said that complaints have been received. May I know what steps have been taken to meet those complaints?

Shri Datar: Government are taking all steps to reduce over-work and remove under-sufficing.

Shri Punnoose: May I know Sir, whether disciplinary action is taken against any officer for complaint to their Union or Association with regard to over-work and under-staff?

Shri Datar: Sir, I have no information on that point, because it was not related to this question.

Shri Punnoose: Am I to understand that the only condition imposed is that no official secrets shall be revealed?

Shri Datar: Subject to correction, that is so.

Shri Namdhari: For exploiting the Government servants, will the Government consider granting the designation of 'Exploiter-General' to the hon. Communist member?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

. आर्डनेस फैक्टरी, कानपुर

*२२१३. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: क्या रक्षा मंत्री वह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशि इस समाचार में कोई तथ्य है कि कानपुरत की आर्डनेस फैक्टरी से लगभग ६० हजार रुपये की लकड़ी गायब है;

(ख) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कई जांच अधिकरा (कॉर्ट आन इन्वेस्टिगेशन) वियुक्त किया गया था; तथा

(ग) यदि हां, तो वह विस निष्कर्ष पर पहुंचा ?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) A report was received by the Director General, Ordnance Factories in March, 1953 regarding the loss of Hailu planks at Small Arms Factory, Kanpur. The value of the loss is reported to be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 53,000/-.

(b) Yes. A Board of Enquiry was ordered by the Director General, Ordnance Factories on the 25th March, 1953 when the loss became known.

(c) The report of the Board has now been received and is under examination. It is not considered desirable to disclose the findings of the Board till the Government has come to definite conclusions.

Shri Raghunath Singh rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question hour is over.

Shri Raghunath Singh: Only one question, Sir

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. The question hour is over. There are some short notice questions.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: On a point of order, Sir. There has been a sudden cutting off of water-supply both in Old Delhi and New Delhi and especially.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not allow the proceedings to be interrupted.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: Sir, it is a very important and urgent matter....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is wrong. Hon. Members should kindly intimate to me earlier. I cannot allow anything to interrupt the proceedings of the House. Shri U. M. Trivedi.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Am I authorised to put the question, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

LATHI CHARGE BY POLICE IN DELHI

Sardar Hukum Singh (on behalf of Shri U. M. Trivedi): Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 63 persons excluding satyagrahis were injured by lathi charges by the Delhi Police on the 12th May, 1953 at 7-45 P. M. near the Dewan Hall;

(b) whether it is a fact that no medical assistance was rendered to any of the injured persons;

(c) whether it is a fact that the shoppers in the area in Lajpatrai Market were lathi charged and driven out by the Police;

(d) whether it is a fact that one Lekhraj a bystander was beaten till he lost consciousness on the road adjoining the Dewan Hall;

(e) whether it is a fact that a story was circulated of acid bottle and/or acid bomb and/or brickbats being thrown on the Police or the Magistrate to cover the police excesses:

(f) whether it is a fact that Dr. Satyawati, a Lady of Etawah aged 80 years was beaten by the police till she became unconscious; and

(g) whether it is a fact that Shri Amolak Singh and his younger brother the owners of the National Hotel were dragged out and beaten?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I feel that the House will get a clearer and more connected picture if, instead of answering each part of the question separately, I give an answer in the form of a narrative.

A public meeting was organised at the Dewan Hall at 6-30 P.M. on 12th 149 P.S.D.

May, 1953 by the Jan Sangh and allied organisations. A number of excited speeches, inciting people to break the law, was delivered at the meeting by a large number of gentlemen including several M.P.'s. It was announced by Shri V. P. Joshi that the ban on meetings and processions would be defied and that he would lead a procession to the residence of the Prime Minister for staging a demonstration. On the conclusion of the meeting the audience came out and formed into a procession equipped with black flags. The Magistrate on duty called on them to disperse and to refrain from violating the District Magistrate's prohibitory order. This was the signal for violence by the demonstrators, some of whom snatched the turbans of the Sub-Inspectors of Police while others commenced throwing brick bats. A number of bottles was also thrown. One of these hit the back of the Magistrate and then dropped to the ground and broke, whereupon its contents burst into flames. Another bottle was picked up intact. When the Magistrate found that the processionists were not prepared to disperse and were continuing their attack on the Police, he ordered a lathi charge. Some of the demonstrators ran away but the rest continued their attack on the Police. The women demonstrators took a particularly active part. They formed a cordon round Shri V. P. Joshi and grappled with the women Police who were employed to reach Shri Joshi. A woman Sub-Inspector had her hand bitten while other women demonstrators also assaulted the women constables. The number of persons arrested at the end of the lathi charge included 14 women and 46 men. Four Policemen received injuries caused by brickbats. All the injuries whether on the side of the Police or on the side of demonstrators were of a simple nature.

2. I now come to the specific points mentioned in the question. It is not possible to say how many persons in all from among the public were injured. Among the 60 persons who were arrested by the Police, 7 were found to have injuries and all of them received medical attention either from a doctor or, in two cases, at a Hospital. It can be affirmed that the lathi charge was made only on persons who were actually taking part in violent demonstrations and had refused to disperse; whether or not they were so called Satyagrahis is more than I can say.

3. It is not correct that persons who were shopping in the Lajpatrai Market were lathi charged. Some of the

fleeing demonstrators attempted to hide inside the shops but were pushed out by the owners of the shops. It has not been possible to locate any person named Lekh Raj among those who are known by the Government to have been lathi charged. Similarly, neither Dr. Satyawati nor Shri Amolak Singh or his brother is among the persons arrested. It is therefore not possible to say whether they were in the crowd that was lathi charged. No lady was however beaten into unconsciousness nor was any person dragged out from the National Hotel and beaten by the Police. No such complaint was made to the Magistrate who remained on the spot for more than an hour after the occurrence.

4. Finally it is not correct that the reports of throwing brick-bats and of bottles containing inflammable liquid are unfounded. One of the bottles that was retrieved intact is still in the possession of the Police and its contents are being analysed. Finally I regret to say that violence is being preached in the name of Satyagraha.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Could I know, Sir, how long after the actual arrest were persons who had injuries on them medically examined?

Dr. Katju: I have answered that. The injuries were simple and 7 were attended to either by a doctor or, in two cases, they were admitted into a hospital. Four policemen and 7 others were injured.

Sardar Hukam Singh: That was not my question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How long after the incident were they medically treated?

Dr. Katju: I could not give you, Sir, the answer by hours and minutes. I imagine, very soon.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Could I know, if out of the total number of persons arrested at that time, some were released since then?

Dr. Katju: I should require notice, Sir. Some may have been released afterwards.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is this the first statement of the Government that is being given in Parliament or has the Government made any statement of its version previously also.

Dr. Katju: We considered whether a Press Note should be issued or not. When I got notice of the short notice question, I thought it better to give an answer here.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact, Sir, that some of the persons who were injured in that incident have been arrested yesterday from their homes?

Dr. Katju: I do not know.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that one of them was suspected of having a spine fracture and has he been examined?

Dr. Katju: If that is so, I shall make enquiries and see that the man is examined.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that one V. P. Joshi, of whom mention has been made, has been removed to the *kotwali* with an under-wear and a banian because his shirt and dhoti had been torn to pieces?

Dr. Katju: That is all imagination: all sorts of exaggerated reports are being spread.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that some police *dandas* and *lathis* have been left on the spot because they have been broken by excessive and violent use of them?

Dr. Katju: This is also a question of imagination.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have the authorities taken stock of the police *dandas* and *lathis* that were taken back by the police officers, because I still maintain that I am in possession of a *danda* that has been passed on to me which shows government ownership?

Dr. Katju: May I enquire in my turn whether my hon. friend was there?

Sardar Hukam Singh: I have not been understood, Sir. I just now said that this has been passed on to me when I was asked to put that question. This question was not given notice of by me; and because this question has been entrusted to me, that *danda* was also entrusted to me. That shows that it is government property.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Is any hon. Member entitled to bring a *danda* into the House?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Nobody showed the *danda* here.

Shri Punnoose: The hon. Minister said that a large number of gentlemen including some M.P.s. called upon the people to break the law. May I know how many cases have been filed against them?

Dr. Katju: I shall have to consider that question very carefully, because so far we have been following a policy of—shall I say—a little indulgence in this matter.

Kumari Annie Mascarene rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: But questions about ladies have not been asked.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid the hon. lady member is a little late in this matter. I will proceed to the next Short Notice Question.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: I protest against this treatment of me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no ill treatment of ladies either here or there.

RISE IN PRICES OF RICE IN WEST BENGAL

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report of sharp rise of rice prices in all the districts of the State of West Bengal outside Calcutta Rationing Area and of the prevalence of acute famine conditions in the Sunderbans in the district of 24 Parganas and in the district of Howrah;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statements of the Food Minister of the Government of West Bengal and the Chief Minister of that State on the floor of the West Bengal State Assembly last week to the effect that an area of 3,060 sq. miles, involving a population of nearly seven lakhs in the Sunderbans is in the grip of famine and that the West Bengal Government is prevented from undertaking any comprehensive relief and rehabilitation measures in this area by the non-sanction of an allotment of Rs. 1½ crores which they asked from the Central Government for relief;

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the large influx of destitute people from the adjacent famine and scarcity stricken areas of 24 Parganas and Howrah into Calcutta;

(d) what steps have been taken by Government so far to check these alarming shooting up of rice prices in the Muzzafarpur district of Bengal just before the monsoons; and

(e) whether Government have received any reports from the West Bengal Government to the effect that the

so-called Kidwai Plan of Food Procurement which was put into effect since January, 1953 has practically broken down and whether they have asked the Central Government to exempt West Bengal from contributing 2 lakh tons of rice to the Central Rice Pool and a further increased allotment of rice quota for West Bengal?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) There has been some rise in the prices of rice in Bengal, which is a seasonal phenomenon at this time of the year. Scarcity has been reported in some parts of Basirhat Sub-Division and Diamond Harbour Sub-Division of the Sunderbans area and the District of 24 Parganas. There is no scarcity in the district of Howrah.

(b) No official report has been received. We have however seen a press report of the Statement of the West Bengal Food Minister on the subject.

(c) No. The report received from the Bengal Government makes no mention of this.

(d) There is no alarming rise in the prices of rice. The question of taking any steps does not therefore arise.

(e) No such report or request has so far been received from the West Bengal Government.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If you will permit me, I would like to give some details obtained from the West Bengal Government which cover about 26 lines.

In accordance with the report received from the West Bengal Government today there is partial distress in P.S. Hasanabad Haroa and Sandeshkhali in Basirhat sub-division and in P. S. Mathurapur in Diamond-Harbour sub-division of the Sunderbans area. In the district of 24 Parganas also, there is partial distress due to Aman Paddy crop damage caused by insects and pests and inundation of saline water through breaches in embankments. The total area affected in the Sunderbans is 1,460 sq. miles and the population affected is about 5 lakhs. The State Government have already undertaken test relief works in the distressed areas for which they have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 85,000/- for the Sunderbans area. They are proposing to sanction an additional amount of Rs. 6,63,698/- This is under the consideration of the State Government. The State Government have also sanc-

tioned another amount of Rs. 50,000/- for distribution as gratuitous relief. According to the State Government there is no scarcity of stocks and there is adequate inflow of rice and paddy into these areas consequent to withdrawal of ban. The real cause of the distress is lack of purchasing power due to partial failure of local crops. The prices of rice in the Sundarbans area, in general, have showed an upward trend and were between Rs. 20/- and Rs. 25/- per maund on the 6th May, 1953. But these prices are about Rs. 12/- below last year's prices at this time. According to the State Government scarcity conditions are not obtaining in Howrah district. There is also no scarcity of stocks in that district. In the Howrah district the price of rice was between Rs. 22/8/- and Rs. 23/2/- per maund on the 6th May, 1953, which was slightly higher than last month's price, but is still about Rs. 18/- below last year's price at this time.

With regard to part (e) of the question I would like to add Sir, that the Kidwai Plan is not so easily breakable as has been suggested in this part of the question.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: With regard to part (e), have the Government any information as to whether the procurement target of three lakh tons in West Bengal has been reached so far, and is there any reason to suspect that there has been large scale exemption of big landholders and capitalist farmers from the levy contrary to the original plan of the Government, and large-scale hoarding is being indulged in by anti-social elements?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have no information so far as the latter part of the question is concerned. But I can tell my hon. friend that the West Bengal Government has so far procured 1.77 lakh tons of rice.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: What was the target?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Three lakh tons.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the answer given, does not the Government consider that it amounts to an overall modification of the Kidwai Plan, because there is no chance of procuring further rice in the face of the lean season that is coming?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We do not think so. In any case we have got sufficient stocks and if the West Bengal Government asks for more we will be in a position to give it.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the Government aware that the principle of levy on the basis of data collected from papers, does adversely affect the outflow of foodgrains from the small peasants and the middle class peasantry and there is concentration of foodgrains in the upper level which has led to this acute food situation in these areas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: This is a matter for the West Bengal Government to consider.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: What is the contribution of West Bengal from their procurement to the total allotment of rice for feeding the Calcutta rationed area? Is the West Bengal Government required to contribute any further rice to the Central Pool over and above this? What is the total quantity of rice in the balance with West Bengal?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The position is that we had originally expected that the West Bengal Government would be in a position to give us one lakh and a half tons of rice for Greater Calcutta. If there is any possibility of this quota not being fulfilled, the Central Government will be pleased to consider any suggestions in this matter.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether Government's attention has been drawn to the sad state of affairs prevailing in the neighbouring State of Bihar and if so what action has been taken by Government to lower down prices?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am not in a position to make a statement in this behalf.

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the Government aware that in view of the inflow of saline water resulting in low productivity of land and also the acute food situation for the last three years, there has been a large scale transfer of land from the small peasantry to the richer ones: In Hasanabad Haroa sub-division alone there have been 4,500 such transfers which is much too high considering the average rate?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I think the West Bengal Government is taking adequate steps so far as that matter is concerned, and they are trying to construct a road, fairly long, and they are also installing tube-wells.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions on this.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: I want to submit....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Let me conclude. Whenever I find that the hon. Members are just going about beyond the question and trying to find some more questions, then I ask them to stop and proceed to the next question. I am thoroughly satisfied that they have exhausted their questions so far as relevant questions are concerned. All right, Mr. Basu.

Shri K. K. Basu: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a statement made by the Food Minister in the West Bengal Legislature that in spite of the recommendation of the Planning Commission sanctioning nearly Rs. 46 lakhs for the development of this particular area the Central Government has so far granted only Rs. 15 lakhs in spite of the repeated demands and requests made by the West Bengal State?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would request my friend to address this question to the hon. the Finance Minister.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister says that the scarcity conditions in the stricken areas are due to the lack of purchasing power of the people. Has Government any plan under their contemplation to bring down food prices within the purchasing power of the common people?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As the Food Minister's speech has been referred to. I would suggest that if the hon. Members will look into it they will find that adequate relief measures are being taken by the West Bengal Government already.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is it that the hon. Member Pandit D. N. Tiwary wanted to submit?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: A similar question about Bihar was tabled but it has been replied that Government is not prepared to accept that question. May I know why there is this differential treatment?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. the Food Minister is absent. Even this question was tabled long ago. Therefore, in view of the pressure—hon. Members came and asked me that the hon. Minister, Dr. Punjabrao Deshmukh may be asked to reply—with some hesitation he accepted because he is not in full possession of the facts. Similar enthusiasm was not exhibited by the hon. Member!

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ORDNANCE FACTORY A. BARNATH

*2199. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister during his visit in January, 1953 to Ordnance Factory, Ambarnath by the Ordnance Employees' Union;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister assured the representatives that he would look into the same and arrange for the redress of grievances mentioned therein; and

(c) what action has since been taken by Government in pursuance of that assurance?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) A memorandum was submitted to the Prime Minister by the Ordnance Factories Employees when he visited Ambarnath in January 1953 to perform the Opening Ceremony of the Machine Tool Prototype Factory.

(b) The Prime Minister agreed to have the representation examined.

(c) The different points brought out in the representation have been considered and wherever any action was required, that was attended to.

GANDHI MEMORIAL FUND'S INVESTMENT IN BONDS OF THE INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION

*2209. **Shri Mohanlal Saksena:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Gandhi Memorial Fund has invested rupees three crores and thirty-five lacs in 1964 Bonds of the Industrial Finance Corporation?

(b) What is the total amount of money paid by Government to the Corporation for paying the guaranteed dividend?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) Rs. 26,89,126/4/6.

HABITUAL OFFENDERS BILL

*2214. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Habitual Offenders Bill, which was under consideration has been finalised; and

(b) whether State Governments have taken steps to enact measures to deal with the habitual offenders in the States?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No.

(b) Bombay, Madras, Rajasthan, Punjab, Saurashtra, Madhya Bharat, Bhopal, Mysore, Uttar Pradesh and Orissa have enacted measures to deal with habitual offenders. The Madras Restriction of Offenders Act has been extended to Delhi and Ajmer States. PEPSSU Bihar and Hyderabad have introduced such measures in their State Legislature. West Bengal are taking steps to enact such a measure. The remaining States have taken no steps to enact such a measure as they do not consider it necessary.

DISPLACED PERSONS' COLONIES AND CAMPS IN TRIPURA

***2215. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a circular has recently been issued by the Government of Tripura, prohibiting entry of outside people in the Displaced Persons' Colonies and Camps;

(b) whether it is a fact that permission is required for the displaced persons to go out of the Camps and Colonies?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No.

(b) Permission is required only for camp inmates wishing to go out at night.

FRIGATES FROM BRITISH NAVY

***2216. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any frigates on loan from the British Navy; and

(b) if so, how many and for what period?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Three ships.

(ii) Initially for a period of three years, which can later be extended by agreement.

MISMANAGEMENT OF RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

***2217. Shri Balwant Singh Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state whether Government are aware that religious institutions, especially the temples in India are mismanaged?

(b) Do Government propose to bring forward legislation to check it?

The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas): (a) Government have no information at present.

(b) State Governments have been requested to supply necessary information on the subject. After the information is received, it is proposed to consider whether Central legislation is required and if so on what lines it should be framed.

EXAMINERS UNDER ALL-INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

***2218. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of examiners appointed under the All India Council for Technical Education during 1952; and

(b) the subjects for which they were appointed?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 16.]

ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE UNDER 'CHARGES IN ENGLAND'

***2219. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the chief items of expenditure under 'Charges in England' shown under head 'G' of Demand No. 13?

(b) Due to what factors is the expenditure under this head increasing year by year?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) (1) Pay and Allowances of Naval Adviser and his staff.

(2) Pay and Allowances of personnel deputed to the U.K. for training and other purposes.

(3) Leave Allowances of personnel.

(4) Passages to India.

(5) Transportation charges of personnel.

(6) Naval Stores.

(7) Oil Fuel drawn by I. N. Ships at outstations.

(8) Additions and alterations to vessels.

(9) Training fees.

(10) Other Miscellaneous charges.

(b) While some of the items of expenditure are more or less definite and constant, other items are of a fluctuating nature and the actual expenditure depends to a large extent on the orders placed, the payments that have to be met, and the adjustments in the accounts in respect of previous years. No particular conclusion can, therefore, be drawn from the figures of actual expenditure for each year. During the last 3 years, however, these figures have been on the decrease and not increase.

SHIFTING OF SUPREME COURT FROM
DELHI TO HYDERABAD

*2220. Dr. Suresh Chandra: (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether Government have received any request from the Hyderabad Government or the Bar Association of Hyderabad to shift the Supreme Court from Delhi to Hyderabad?

(b) If so, do Government propose to take steps early to shift the Supreme Court to Hyderabad?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

WARRANT OF PRECEDENCE.

*2220-A. Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay on the Table of the House the Warrant of Precedence in India as revised up to date and in current observance?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): An up-to-date copy of the Warrant of Precedence is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XIII, annexure No. 17.]

EXEMPTION OF TOBACCO TO ADIVASIS
IN SCHEDULED AREAS OF ORISSA

*2221. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exemption of 40 or 60 lbs. of tobacco allowed to the Adivasis in the Scheduled areas of Orissa State is on the basis of family units or on the basis of consuming members in the family;

(b) whether exemption can be adjusted within the statutory limit at the discretion of the concerned officers of the Central Excise Department; and

(c) if so, what precautions have been provided to guard against misuse of such discretionary powers?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Growers in Orissa,

depending upon the locality, are allowed upto 40 or 60 lbs. of tobacco free for personal consumption and that of the members of the family.

(b) Yes; Sir. The quantity of tobacco eligible to exemption is fixed—

(i) on the normal tobacco-consuming habits of the people in the locality; and

(ii) the number of tobacco-consuming members in the growers household.

The above limits are the maximum and Range Officers have instructions to fix the allowances according to the merits of each case.

(c) The allowances for personal consumption given to the growers have to be entered by the Range Officers against each grower's name in the Departmental Tobacco Survey Book. The Supervising Officers while on tour check from these books a certain percentage of the personal consumption quotas allowed by the Range Officers so that they may not misuse their discretion. Similarly, growers affected can also complain to the Supervising Officers if they are dis-satisfied with the amount allowed free by the Range Officers.

RECRUITING CENTRES IN ANDHRA

*2222. Shri Nanadas: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the recruiting centres of defence personnel at present in the Andhra Area; and

(b) how many new recruiting centres are proposed to be opened there in 1953-54 and 1954-55?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Army and Navy—Vizagapatam.

. Air Force—None.

(b) None.

SMUGGLING OF PAKISTAN SECURITIES AND SHARES

*2223. Shri Nanadas: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the answer to starred question No. 1687, asked on the 29th April, 1953 and state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to check the smuggling of Pakistan securities and shares; and

(b) how the smugglers elude these checks?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) It is not in the public interest to divulge the specific steps taken to prevent smuggling of shares and securities or the possible ways in which such checks are evaded by smugglers. Very broadly it can be stated that the methods pursued in checking smuggling of shares and securities are similar to those pursued in prevention of smuggling of other commodities.

(b) It is not possible to root out this evil completely in spite of the best efforts to prevent smuggling.

HALI SIKKA CURRENCY STABILISATION RESERVE IN HYDERABAD

*2224. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the extent of Hali Sikka Currency Stabilisation Reserve in Hyderabad State and the form in which it existed?

(b) Have the Government of India taken over the said reserves after the demonetisation of Hyderabad currency?

(c) Had the Government of India to bear any extra financial burden for providing I. G. Currency to Hyderabad State due to demonetisation?

(d) If so, to what extent?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The amount held in the Osmania Sikka Stabilisation Reserve is Rs. 3 crores in Hyderabad Currency and the whole of it is invested in Government of India securities.

(b) This Reserve which came over to the Centre on federal financial integration as part of the assets and liabilities of the currency system is held by the State Government on behalf of the Central Government.

(c) and (d). Currency became a Central subject with effect from the 1st April 1950 and the State Government have been managing it on behalf of the Central Government. The losses on the withdrawal of the local currency will fall on the Centre and the profits on the Indian currency by which it is replaced will accrue to the Centre, in the case of coins, and the Reserve Bank in the case of notes. It is impossible to give any figure of the net loss or gain at this stage.

ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF SAURASHTRA, ETC.

*2225. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether any special Committee

was appointed by Government to go into the economic problems of Saurashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat and PEPSU?

(b) If so, who are its members and on what points have they to enquire?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). A copy of the Resolution issued by the Government of India on the 28th April 1953 containing the information asked for by the Member is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 18.]

INCOME-TAX INVESTIGATION COMMISSION

*2226. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the Income-tax Investigation Commission after the initiation of the Disclosure Scheme;

(b) whether any cases were referred after Disclosure to the Income-tax Investigation Commission; and

(c) whether the Income-tax Investigation Commission is functioning at present?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The functions of the Income-tax Investigation Commission after the initiation of the Disclosure Scheme were the same as prior to the initiation.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

APPOINTMENT OF INCOME-TAX OFFICERS

*2227. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that educational qualifications have been relaxed in favour of Scheduled Castes and Tribes candidates for appointment to the 215 posts of Income-Tax Officers (Grade III);

(b) if so, what are the qualifications now prescribed for them; and

(c) whether fresh applications will be called for from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates, in view of the relaxation of the qualifications?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No, Sir.

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

I.C.S. OFFICERS

*2228. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the number of I.C.S. Officers in service at present?

(b) In which year was the last batch of I.C.S. Officers recruited?

(c) Is there any constitutional bar to changing the designation I.C.S. into I.A.S., without tampering with the concessions guaranteed to I.C.S. Officers?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 19.]

(b) 1944.

(c) There is no constitutional bar to the designation being changed. The Government of India, however, decided immediately before the transfer of power that the old nomenclature would continue.

GRANT TO DISTRICT COLLECTORS OF ANDHRA

*2229. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amounts have been granted to the District Collectors of Andhra State by the Centre to be utilised for the purpose of celebrations on the formation of a new Andhra State; and

(b) if so, how much has been granted for that purpose?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

NOTICES SERVED ON MEMBERS OF MADHYA BHARAT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*2230. **Shri N. L. Joshi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty-five members of the Madhya Bharat Chamber of Commerce have been served with notices by the income-tax department to file their returns from 1944-45;

(b) whether any assurances were given at the time of the financial integration by or on behalf of Government regarding assessment of previous accounts; and

(c) if so, what they are?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) It is not a fact that such notices have been issued to 25 members of the Madhya Bharat Chamber of Commerce as such. It is possible, however, that such notices have been issued to certain persons in respect of income which accrued or arose or was received in areas outside the State of Madhya Bharat but in what was previously known under the Indian Income-tax Act as "British India".

(b) and (c). The assurance given was that even though the Indian Income-tax Act applies to Madhya Bharat from 1st April 1950 and thus may in certain cases bring within the scope of assessment incomes arising even before 31st March 1949, Government would, as a special case, so far as Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan were concerned, exempt any income which accrued or arose in these States before 1st April 1949. Necessary provision has been made in the first proviso to paragraph 6 of Part B States (Taxation Concessions) Order, 1950.

INDIAN NAVAL DOCKYARD EMPLOYEES UNION, BOMBAY

*2231. **Shri B. D. Shastri:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Resolution passed by the Managing Committee of the Indian Naval Dockyard Employees' Union, Bombay, on the 27th February, 1953, protesting against the policy of the Government of India under which a number of Trade Union workers were discharged from service without any reasons being assigned for their dismissal; and

(b) what action Government have taken or propose to take on the Resolution?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes.

(b) Government have enquired into the matter and find that no individuals were discharged for their Trade Union activities.

प्रश्निज—सम्पत् सम्बन्धी एशियाई सम्मेलन

*2232. श्री रघुनाथ शिह : क्या प्राकृतिक संतान तथा वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान मंत्र यह बतलाने के कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत ने ट्रिक्यो में हुए सभिः—सम्पत् सम्बन्धी एशियाई सम्मेलन में भाग लिया था ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो भारत के कौन-कौन प्रतिनिधि थे;

(ग) भारत द्वारा प्रतिनिधिमंडल पर कितना धन व्यय किया गया; तथा

(घ) इस सम्मेलन से भारत को क्या लाभ हुआ?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) to (d). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 20.]

IMPROPER BEHAVIOUR OF POLICE CONSTABLES

*2233. **Shri B. D. Shastri:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some police constables have been billeted in the godowns of Plots Nos. 48, 49, 50 etc. North in Basti Harphool Singh under the jurisdiction of Saddar Bazar Police Station, Delhi;

(b) whether Government are aware that some of these police constables behave improperly;

(c) against how many of these police constables, there were complaints of improper behaviour towards the neighbouring residents;

(d) what and against how many, action was taken; and

(e) whether Government have any proposal for the removal of all such police constables and quartering them in proper police barracks thus stopping harassment of the local residents?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

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

"REAL PEARLS UNSET"

*2234. **Shri Damodara Menon:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Government of India have received a memorandum from The Javeri Mahajan Bombay requesting cancellation of the newly imposed duty of 20 per cent on "real pearls unset" in the Finance Bill of 1953?

(b) If so, what action do the Government of India propose to take on the request made?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) Yes; Sir.

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

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

*2235. **Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what steps have been taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Planning Commission on reform of Public Administration?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The specific steps to be taken to implement the recommendations are at present under consideration.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR RECRUITMENT OF SOLDIERS

*2236. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the Starred Question No. 1821 and supplementaries thereto asked on 4th May and state whether the Advisory Committees for the recruitment of soldiers will include the representatives of those who are employed in Military Services?

(b) When will the Advisory Committees be set up in various States?

(c) Will the personnel of these Committees be finalised in consultation with the Central Government?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) The State Governments have been advised to include the local military commander as a member of the Committee.

(b) The State Governments were addressed on the subject on the 23rd April 1953, and it is hoped that the State Advisory Committees will be set up in the near future.

(c) The Committees will be formally constituted by the Central Government on the advice of the State Governments.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RECRUITMENT

*2237. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Government intend to give first priority to the disbanded soldiers in the selection for the Territorial Army recruitment?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): Ex-servicemen are welcomed in the Territorial Army because of their experience, provided that they are within the upper age limit of 35 years and are medically fit.

CONVERSION OF NIZAM GOVERNMENT'S PROMISSORY NOTES

***2238. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government propose to take to convert Nizam Government's promissory notes into Government of India promissory notes when demonetisation of Hali Currency has been completed; and

(b) the exact amount invested in Nizam's Government promissory notes?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The State Government are taking the necessary steps to issue fresh securities expressed in Indian currency in substitution of the existing securities of the State loans which are expressed in Hyderabad currency. It is expected that this process of replacement will be completed by the time the State currency is completely demonetised.

(b) The total outstanding Hyderabad loans amount to Rs. 42.19 crores in terms of Indian currency.

ENQUIRY INTO FIRING BY POLICE ON STUDENTS

***2239. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:**

(a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to refer to his reply given to Starred Question No. 371 asked on 17th November, 1952 and state whether the judicial enquiry into the firing by police on students in connection with mulki agitation on 3rd September, 1952 ordered by Government of Hyderabad with the concurrence of the Government of India has been completed by Justice Jagamohan Reddy?

(b) If so, what are the findings of the judicial enquiry?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Yes. The Hyderabad Government ordered the enquiry into the firing on their own initiative.

(b) I quote the main findings of the enquiry in the words of the Judge himself: "Taking all the circumstances into consideration, and having regard to the mood and temper of the crowd which definitely refused to disperse in spite of being commanded to do so by the Magistrate, and which set fire to the outpost, pelted stones at the police and the fire engines violently, rendering them useless, the firing by the police upon such a crowd was in my opinion, justified. The amount of force used was not excessive and was commensurate with the requirements of the situation."

The report of the enquiry was published by the Government of Hyderabad early in March 1953.

TERRITORIAL ARMIES

***2240. Shri Badshah Gupta:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state the suggestions made and instructions issued to various State Governments regarding the formation of Territorial Armies?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): There is only one Territorial Army which is being raised by the Government of India.

The State Governments at the suggestion of the Government of India have agreed, in the case of their own employees, to make good the difference between Civil and Territorial Army pay during embodiment and to the retention of lien on posts in which they are employed and grant of special casual leave for the period spent in Camp.

Recently they have been requested to set up State Advisory Committees on the lines of the Central Advisory Committee to encourage recruitment and to consider any local problem regarding the Territorial Army.

TEMPORARY ALLOTTEES OF TOWN PATTI

1495. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review applications of the ousted temporary allottees of Town Patti, District Amritsar, (Punjab) were accepted by the Director General Rehabilitation. Government of Punjab, between 1st April, 1951 and 15th June, 1951 and whether they were ordered to be restored to town Patti and if so, their number;

(b) whether any revision petitions against the orders of the Director General Rehabilitation referred to in part (a) above, were filed by any aggrieved person and stay orders issued by the Custodian General, Evacuee Property Delhi and if so, the number of such cases; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, whether the orders of the Director General, Rehabilitation referred to in part (a) above were implemented up till the 28th February, 1953 and if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) to (c). Complete information is being obtained from the Punjab Government.

**RESSETLEMENT OF RURALISTS IN TOWN
PATTI**

1496. Shri A. N. Vidyalankar: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any culturable area was set apart for the resettlement of the ruralists in town Patti during the quasi-permanent allotment of 1950, and if so, its total area;

(b) the number of ruralists who were allowed to resettle in this area up till the 15th June, 1951;

(c) whether any additional value or special cut was imposed on the area referred to in part (a) above by the State Government if so, at what rate;

(d) whether any special cut was imposed on this area in July, 1952 by the State Government and if so, at what rate and the reason for doing so after two years;

(e) whether the rate of special cut referred to in part (c) above was again enhanced by the State Government in January, 1953 and papers sent to the Central Government thereafter for approval;

(f) whether any representation by Sardar Fauj Singh and 52 other allottees of this town was received by the Minister of Rehabilitation Government of India, in the last week of January, 1953 through Shri Amar Nath M.P., against the proposed special cut referred to in parts (d) and (e) above; and

(g) if the answers to parts (e) and (f) above be in the affirmative what decision has been taken in the matter by the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Yes; temporarily. 1870 Standard Acres and 8 3/4 units.

(b) 196.

(c) Yes, originally additional valuation at the rate of 31 1/4, 25, and 12 1/2 per cent. was prescribed for lands in 'A', 'B', and 'C' blocks, but later a uniform additional valuation at the rate of 31 1/4 per cent. was imposed on the entire area.

(d) No. The fact is that the additional valuation referred to in part (c) above, was not given effect to by the districts authorities at the time of general allotment. When this omission came to notice it was rectified in July, 1952.

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes, towards the end of February 1953.

(g) The matter is under consideration.

LAND ALLOTMENT TO BHIL FAMILIES

1497. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about three hundred Bhil families (Non-Punjabi) residing in 'kucha' huts in Rajendra Nagar have been waiting for land allotment for the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-allotment of land up to this time;

(c) what facilities they have been provided by the Displaced Harijan Board; and

(d) when Government propose to settle them permanently and where?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) The cases of 387 Harijan families of Sind for settlement on land are under consideration. Most of them applied for allotment of land only in July and August, 1952.

(b) Non-availability of land.

(c) (i) Materials for constructing Kacha huts were provided;

(ii) Petty contracts were secured for about 40 of them who were unemployed.

(iii) Some cash payments were made for medical aid and cremation of the dead;

(iv) New Delhi Municipality were persuaded not to eject them from their present habitations;

(v) Old and new garments were distributed among them twice.

(d) When suitable land becomes available somewhere.

REFUSAL OF VISAS TO ATTEND KISAN CONFERENCE AT CANNANORE

1498. Shri Buchhikotaiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many foreigners were refused visas by our Government to attend the Kisan Conference at Cannanore;

(b) which countries these persons belong to; and

(c) the reasons for the refusal of visas?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) to (c). It is not the practice to grant visas to foreigners coming to attend conferences of a political character. In pursuance of this, visas may have been refused by our Missions abroad to foreigners who intended to attend the Kisan Conference. The number of such cases is not known.

धूलकोट में खुदाई

१४९९. श्री बलबन्त तिह मेहता : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उदयपुर (राजस्थान) में धूलकोट की खुदाई का काम शुरू किया गया था;

(ख) अब तक की खुदाई में पुरातत्त्वीय महत्व की कौन-कौन सी वस्तुएं निकली हैं और वे किस काल की मानी गई हैं;

(ग) क्या सरकार इस खुदाई कार्य को आगे चालू रखें का विचार रखती है;

(घ) अब तक इस खुदाई पर कितना बन अव्यय हुआ है; तथा

(ज) इस को पूरा करने के लिये अभी किनते बन की ओर आवश्यकता है?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, in 1951-52.

(b) No datable antiquity was found but partial remains of a city have come to light. On the evidence of certain painted, incised and glazed pieces of pottery, the city is supposed to date back to the early Mauryan period.

(c) No.

(d) Information regarding expenditure, which was incurred by the Government of Rajasthan, is not available.

(e) No estimates have been made.

लिटिश म्यूजियम को पुस्तकें भेजा जाना

१५००. श्री बलबन्त तिह मेहता : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अंग्रेजों के

समय में समस्त भारतीय छापेखानों के मालिकों को अपने यहां छपने वाली पुस्तकों की कम से कम पांच प्रतिएं लिटिश म्यूजियम तथा अन्य पुस्तकालयों को अनिवार्य रूप से भेजनी पड़ती थीं; तथा

(ख) क्या भारतीय पुस्तकालयों के लिए यह प्रथा समाप्त कर दी गई है तथा यदि कर दी गई है, तो क्यों?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) No.

(b) Under the Press and Registration of Books Act, two copies of each published work can be requisitioned by the Central Government. One has already been requisitioned for the Parliament Library and the question of requisitioning the other copy is under consideration.

DAMS IN KUTCH

1501. Shri Jasani: (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the number of dams constructed in Kutch State till now since 1948?

(b) How much private land was acquired for this purpose and how much compensation is to be paid for that?

(c) Has any compensation been paid and if so, how much?

(d) What amount still remains to be paid?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) Thirty-four dams. In addition, four major and seven minor irrigation dams are under construction.

(b) 980 acres. The compensation to be paid is estimated at Rs. 58.800-

(c) Compensation to be paid relates mostly to land acquired for constructing dams as famine relief measures. As a result of famine, most of the land owners were not present when their land was acquired. Consequently it was not possible to ascertain the details etc. of the compensation to be paid to them. The Revenue officials of the State are, however, now collecting necessary details and it is expected that payment of compensation will be completed in the course of a few months.

(d) The amounts are being compiled.

SURVEY TO ASCERTAIN HEIGHT OF MOUNT EVEREST

1502. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether any official party of surveyors was sent last year to ascertain the height of Mount Everest?

(b) If so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work is still in progress.

RE-ORGANISATION SCHEME IN TRIPURA

1503. Shri Dasaratha Deb: (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether it is a fact that many of the Government employees are not receiving pay according to re-organisation scale in Tripura?

(b) What are the departments that still await re-organisation?

(c) How long will it take to complete the scheme of re-organisation in Tripura?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) This is so in some cases. As re-organisation involves screening of Government servants and re-fixation of their pay, it takes a little time to implement the orders.

(b) Only the Department of Commerce, Industry and Labour.

(c) The whole process is expected to be completed very soon.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY (FELLOWSHIPS)

1504. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether the Australian Government have offered any fellowships under the Technical Co-operation Scheme for training of Indian students in food technology?

(b) If so, how many fellowships have been offered?

(c) Have they been availed of?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) 12.

(c) Only 5 Fellowships have been availed of.

SCHOLARSHIPS TO SCHEDULED CASTES, TRIBES AND BACKWARD CLASSES FOR STUDIES ABROAD

1505. Shri Rishang Kelshing: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that twenty-two scholarships were awarded to students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Tribes and Other Backward Classes for studies abroad during 1945-46 and if so, what are the names of the students, the countries where they were sent, the subjects they studied, the posts they are now holding and the amount of expenditure involved;

(b) whether the policy of awarding scholarships to students of Backward Communities for studies abroad still continues and if so, how many students are being sent abroad annually since 1947; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to re-introduce the policy?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, Sir, but to Scheduled Caste students only. A statement containing the particulars is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 21.]

(b) The policy of awarding scholarship to backward class students under a separate scheme does not continue. However, they are considered under General Schemes. 2 such students have been sent abroad since 1947.

(c) The question is being considered by the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes Scholarships Board.

TRAINING OF PRIVATE STUDENTS IN U.S.A.

1506. Shri S. C. Samauta: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state: whether it is a fact that private students studying in U.S.A. in technical institutions are not allowed to have practical training in big firms in U.S.A. without the previous sanction of the Government of India?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): No, Sir.

DERA OF MAHANT SANT RAM

1507. Sardar A. S. Saigal: Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dera of Mahant Sant Ram of Dera

Baba Kapur Singh of Barnala in EPSU has been taken possession of by the State Government; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the property of Baba Kapur Singh was founded by his Gurus and the State Government have nothing to do with the management of its properties?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. K. K. Patnaik): (a) Two rooms containing some moveable property of the Dera Baba Tota Singh—not Kapur Singh—in District Barnala, were taken possession of by the Deputy Commissioner as there was a succession dispute between two claimants when the old Mahant died on the 6th January 1953. Since then the possession of the two rooms has been handed over to Ram Pal Singh, one of the claimants, under the interim orders of the Patiala and East Punjab States Union High Court.

(b) Yes. In the old Patiala State, management of the Deras was under the Government, which could appoint and remove Mahants. This practice has since been discontinued.

SALES TAX

1508. Shri A. M. Thomas: (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Government have examined the implications of the judgment of the Supreme Court in the recent Sales Tax Appeals?

(b) Has the Committee charged with the duty of inquiring into the possibility of uniformity in the levy of sales tax and other attendant matters submitted its report?

(c) If so, are Government prepared to state their recommendations?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Amukh): (a) The Government are awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court given recently in three Sales Tax Appeals. The judgment in the case, "the state of Travancore-Cochin vs. Shanmuga Vilas Cashewnut Factory" was delivered only on the 8th May, 1953. It will, therefore, take some time for the Government to examine and assess fully the implications of the interpretation of Article 286 of the Constitution given by the Supreme Court.

(b) and (c). Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Committee of Officials constituted by the Finance Ministers' Conference to examine how the principles agreed to in the Conference may be implemented in practice. This Committee has made no

final recommendations as its proceedings were kept pending the decision of the Supreme Court in the three cases referred to in the answer to part (a).

ALLOTMENT OF LAND TO RURAL ALLOTTEES

1509. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rural allottees, entitled to rural land, were allotted land in the suburban area of villages of Sirsa Tehsil by imposing 12½ per cent. cut.

(b) if so, the number of such allottees, the areas allotted to each, and the name of the village;

(c) the number of such allottees separately, who have been allotted land after October, 1952; and

(d) how many standard acres of land yet remaining to be allotted in Sirsa Tehsil of Hissar district, Fazilka Tehsil of Ferozepore District and Bhagsar Zail of Muktsar Tehsil, Ferozepore District?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

SURVEY SETTLEMENT MAPS

1510. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sale of survey settlement maps of villages of Saharsa and Darbhanga Districts of Bihar has been prohibited by the Government of India;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor.

(c) whether it is a fact that the local people have asked Government to revise their decision on the matter on the ground that reclamation of the land has been held up and many land disputes have arisen on account of non-availability of the village maps and

(d) the decision of Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (d). Preparation and sale of survey settlement maps are the responsibility of State Government. Information has been called for from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

AURANGABAD AND SECUNDERABAD CANTONMENTS

1511. Shri Telkkikar: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Aurangabad and the Secunderabad military cantonments are two of those eighteen cantonments for which Excision Committees were set up to determine the boundaries of excisable areas;

(b) if so, whether reports in respect of these two cantonments have been received; and

(c) if so, when such civil areas as are redundant to the requirements of the army and which are separable, are going to be transferred to the State Government?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No. Sir.

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

पेप्सू में लुदाई

१५१२. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बतलाने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पेप्सू में कोई जमीन पुरातत्ववेत्ता लुदाई का कार्य कर रहा है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसे सरकार द्वारा क्या सहायता दी जा रही है; तथा

(ग) क्या उनके अन्वेषणों तथा लुदाई द्वारा भारतीय इतिहास पर कुछ प्रकाश पड़ा है ?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) A German is understood to have carried out some excavation in PEPSU in 1951.

(b) No assistance was given by Government.

(c) Nothing remarkable, so far as is known to Government.

पंजीयन हरिजन विस्थापित व्यक्ति

१५१३. श्री बी० आर० बर्मा: क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बतलाने को कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिल्ली में पंजीयन हरिजन विस्थापित व्यक्तियों की संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) उनमें धोबी कितने हैं;

(ग) ऐसे हरिजन विस्थापित व्यक्तियों की संख्या कितनी है जिन्हें मकान दे दिये गये हैं;

(घ) इन मकानों में से कितने धोबी विस्थापित व्यक्तियों को दिये गये हैं और वे कहाँ-कहाँ स्थित हैं; तथा

(ङ) क्या सरकार ऐसे धोबी विस्थापित व्यक्तियों की एक सूची सदन पटल पर रखेगी, जिन्हें मकान दिये गये हैं ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (e). All displaced persons have been registered together and no separate record has been maintained in respect of displaced Harijans or any sub section of Harijans. In the allotment of houses also, no distinction has been made between Harijans and non-Harijans, though 882 tenements were exclusively built for and allotted to Harijans. Information regarding the total number of houses allotted to Harijans or washermen is not available and the time and labour involved in collecting this information will not be commensurate with the results achieved.

DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA

१५१४. Ch. Kaghubir Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Department of the Zoological Survey of India has, at present, no building of its own ?

(b) Is it a fact that part of the above Department is housed in Jaba-kusum House?

(c) If so, what is the rent paid for that portion?

(d) Is there any provision made in the next year budget for a building for this Department?

(e) If so, what amount?

(f) Was this Department ever transferred to Banaras from Calcutta?

(g) If so, when and why?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) Rs. 3,000 p.m

(d) and (e). A provision of 1,81 lakhs has been made for a building for the Zoological Survey of India in the budget for 1953-54.

(f) and (g). The Zoological Survey of India was shifted from Calcutta to Kanaras in February, 1942 during World War II because of the danger of specimens preserved in spirit catching fire in the event of a successful air attack.

अज्ञात पनडुड़ी

१५१५. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: (क) क्या देश मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या भारतीय समुद्र में चार बार एक अज्ञात पनडुड़ी देखी गई है जो किसी जहाज को पास आते देख कर भाग जाती है?

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार इस पनडुड़ी का पता लगाने का है?

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): (a) No such report has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

KORIES AND KHATIKS

1516. **Shri B. N. Kureel:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kories and Khatiks who previously belonged to the Scheduled Castes have now been excluded from their Scheduled Castes List in some States;

(b) whether these excluded Kories and Khatiks are still being given same facilities as to the Scheduled Castes; and

(c) if so, the details of the facilities given to them?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The State Governments have been told that such administrative practices in the matter of concessions to backward classes as were in force before the issue of the President's Orders may continue to be followed unless they are inconsistent with any other provision of the Constitution.

PERCENTAGE OF BLIND PEOPLE IN INDIA

1517. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

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(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of blind people in India is comparatively high;

(b) whether their number has been increasing or decreasing during the last four years; and

(c) whether any steps are being taken by Government to minimise their number?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). Attention is invited to the reply given to Shri Hukam Singh's Starred Question No. 1104 on the 11th December 1952, in which it was stated that information regarding the number of blind people in India was not collected at the 1951 Census and, therefore, it was not possible to make a comparison with other countries of the world.

(c) Does not arise.

SUN TEMPLE AT KONARAK

1518. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether the Archaeological Chemist visited the Sun Temple at Konarak?

(b) If so, when and how many times?

(c) What chemical preservation research work has been done up-to-date?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) Twice in 1952 and once in 1953.

(c) Experiments were directed towards stabilizing the decaying stone-surface, to protect the treated surface by the application of a suitable coating and to eradicate algal growth.

'BARGABHIMA TEMPLE'

1519. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the most ancient 'Bargabhima Temple' of Buddhist age at Tamluk in the District of Midnapur in West Bengal is in a dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, whether any archaeological survey has been made?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) The temple is not an ancient one and is not a monument of national importance protected by the Central Government.

(b) No.

नागार्भों द्वारा मुंडवेष्टन (हेड हंटिंग)

1520. श्री रघुनाथ तिहार : (क) क्या गृह कार्य मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह सच है कि नागार्भों ने मुंडवेष्टन पुनः आरम्भ कर दिया है जिसके फलस्वरूप गत सप्ताह तीन घटित मारे गये?

(ल) सरकार इस प्रथा को बंद करने के लिये क्या पर उठा रही है?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): (a) and (b). In the Statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to Starred Question No. 1609, it was mentioned that there were only two cases of head-hunting during 1952-53. The last case was actually on 15th April, 1952. Since then there has been no recent incident of head-hunting upto 27th April 1953. Information regarding any incident which might have taken place since then is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

U.N. SOCIAL WELFARE FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

1522. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether the Government of

India called for and received applications for U. N. Social Welfare Fellowships and Scholarships in the year 1952?

(b) What was the last date for receiving applications?

(c) How many applications were received?

(d) What decision has been taken on these applications by the Government of India in consultation with the U. N. Technical Assistance Administration?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes, S

(b) For the 1952 Programme, the last date for receiving applications was the 9th February, 1952. For additional 1952 awards and the 1953 Programme, the last date was June 30, 1952. The date was subsequently extended to August 27, 1952, and again to October 15, 1952.

(c) 172 excluding unsponsored applications.

(d) 47 candidates were selected by the Selection Board constituted by the Government of India and their names were recommended to U.N.O. Out of the candidates recommended, the U.N.O. has confirmed for the final selection of 27 candidates who have proceeded abroad.

THE
Dated..... 25.11.2014
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

6687

6688

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 15th May, 1953.

The House met at a Quarter Past Eight
of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-37 A.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT
RETRENCHMENT IN ORDNANCE DEPOTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from the hon. Member Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy which says that "the recent strike ballot taken by eighteen thousand employees of Ordnance Depots in Kanpur, Jabalpur, Pulgaon, Panagar and Chheoki against the policy of retrenchment announced by the Government has produced a grave situation which will lead to far-reaching consequences".

Wherefrom does he get this information?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): May I submit.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No submissions. Wherefrom does he get this information? Is it authentic?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I have received a number of telegrams and I have also received information from the employees' organisations.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does it appear in any newspaper?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: No.
Sir. But before.....

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Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let me ask the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It is a fact that certain notices have been issued to some personnel in these Ordnance Depots. The matter has been considered from a very long time past. Conferences have also taken place in Works Committees and with managers and others, because of this patent difficulty that there has been this surplus really for some years past. And we have tried in every way to avoid retrenchment. But it became quite impossible to keep on people who have absolutely no work to do. In fact they clutter up other work. So we were compelled to give notice to a number of people in the Ordnance Depots. It is our desire and our practice to enlarge our work in the Ordnance Factories so that they might supply civil needs also and we might avoid any retrenchment. But this particular matter deals with Depots, not with Factories. That might also be kept in mind. So notices have been issued. Even so the matter is being investigated as to how far any person can be kept and not retrenched. And even if they are retrenched, even then an attempt will continuously be made to take them back whenever an opportunity occurs. That is the position. I do not know that there is any abnormality about it.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): So far as we are concerned we have been informed that 1,362 notices were served, they were to expire on 15th May, that is today, and alternative employment has been provided only to 150. Is the Prime Minister in a position to state if the position is likely to improve—whether more will have alternative employment and that sort of thing?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: All I can say is that we make our utmost effort.

✓ and I believe that that effort succeeds; ✓ in what time I cannot say.

✓ **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know whether for the last three or four days over-time work is allowed in the Delhi Depot and, if so, what is the reason for this over-time work? If the Prime Minister says that there is surplus staff, where is the necessity for allowing over-time work?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know about what the hon. Member says in the last three or four days—✓ I cannot say. It may be just to clear up loose strings.

✓ **Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This matter has been brought up in some form or another from time to time, namely retrenchment in Ordnance Depots. The hon. Minister Mr. Tyagi explained at length the other day that there is no intention to retrench except where absolutely necessary, alternative appointment is also sought to be provided and active steps are being taken, Ordnance Factories are also sought to be expanded so as to produce more even for civilian needs and thus avoid retrenchment as far as possible or allow absorption of the surplus personnel. And in view of the statement that the hon. the Prime Minister has made that every effort is being made to see that these people do not suffer, I do not think it is necessary for me to give my consent to this adjournment motion.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have received an application from Dr. Ch. V. Rama Rao for leave of absence. The letter says: "In view of the severe heat and my delicate health I request you to kindly grant me leave of absence from attending the session, from the 2nd April, 1953, to the end of the present session and oblige".

He has been ailing for some time. Is it the pleasure of the House that the permission be granted—although we are on the last day? Mere heat ought not to stand in the way of any hon. Member continuing to attend here! We shall see as far as possible that heat is avoided inside the House!

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): He is a T.B. patient.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it the pleasure of the House to grant the permission?

Leave was granted.

STATEMENT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Since the last occasion when this House discussed foreign affairs, much has happened in the international sphere and many important developments have taken place. No major problem has been solved, but it may be said that for the first time in several years, large numbers of people have hoped that solutions might be found. The "cold war" has somewhat toned down.

Many evidences of this new approach have come from the Soviet Union and, however some people might view them, they must be welcomed as helping in lessening the tension of the world. In China also there has been evident a desire for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

This House will remember that some months ago a Resolution regarding Korea was sponsored by India in the United Nations and was passed by the General Assembly by an overwhelming majority. That Resolution, as I stated in this House, was no mandate but an earnest approach to find a basis for a settlement. The President of the General Assembly of the U.N. communicated it in this spirit to the Chinese and the North Korean Governments. Unfortunately, both the Soviet and the Chinese Governments rejected that Resolution and our hopes of a settlement suffered a serious setback. Recently, however, new proposals were made by the Chinese Government in regard to Korea which opened the door again to a fresh approach to this problem which was, to some extent, in line with the Resolution passed by the U.N. Shortly afterwards, the Chinese Government put forward fresh proposals, referred to as the 8-point proposals, which were a very close approximation to the Indian Resolution passed by the General Assembly of the U.N. We welcomed these proposals because they seemed to afford a promising and solid basis for a solution of the immediate problem, which was in line with the accepted policy of the U.N. Many other powers also welcomed these proposals.

Two or three days ago, the United Nations Command in Korea put forward certain counter proposals. Any constructive approach to this problem is always to be welcomed. We were glad therefore that these attempts were being made to solve a problem

which had given so much trouble in the past. On a close examination of these counter proposals, it appears that they diverge considerably from the General Assembly's Resolution to which the U.N. stands committed. It appears that the Chinese and North Korean Governments have expressed their disapproval of some of these proposals and stated that they cannot accept them as they are.

So far as India is concerned, we would welcome any solution which is accepted by the parties concerned. We feel, however, that such a solution is much more likely to be found on the basis of the U.N. Resolution, and the Chinese 8-point proposals approximate so nearly to this Resolution that they should form the basis for discussion and we hope a solution. It should be possible to amplify them or to vary them by agreement where necessary. We earnestly hope, therefore, that this avenue of approach will not be given up but will be pursued. In any event, we trust that the negotiations at Panmunjon will be carried on, even though there might be occasional setbacks.

The House is aware that India has often been mentioned in some of these proposals and it has been suggested that this country should undertake various responsibilities. We are reluctant to assume distant responsibilities. But if an agreement is arrived at between the parties concerned and the task suggested for us is within our competence and not opposed to any policy that we pursue, we do not wish to escape that responsibility. That responsibility is all the greater because it is India's good fortune to have friendly relations with the great powers who, on either side are parties to the dispute. If India can serve the cause of peace in any way, we shall gladly offer our services. But such services can only be offered if there is an agreement as regards the solution.

I have referred to the new hopes that have been raised in the minds of innumerable people, hopes that the fear of war, which oppresses humanity, will diminish and the cold war, the horror and burden of which was described recently in eloquent and forceful language by the President of the United States, might end. There is undoubtedly a new atmosphere in the world and the outlook is brighter than it has been for a long time. It is for the statesmen of the world, and more especially those shouldering heavy responsibility in the great nations, to seize this opportunity with

courage and wisdom, and lead humanity towards peace. I am very glad that the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom has recently suggested a conference on the highest level between the leading powers of the world, to meet informally and in privacy and without a rigid agenda, to tackle the problems that afflict mankind and to make every effort to rid humanity of the fear of war. I would earnestly commend this suggestion. The stakes are the highest that the world offers and a war-weary and fear-laden humanity will bless those who will rid it of these terrible burdens and lead it to peace and happiness. President Eisenhower is not opposed to this idea of such a conference but has recently said that the time for it is not ripe.

In the Middle East, I regret to say that the situation has gravely deteriorated. India is deeply interested in these countries of the Middle East and has the friendliest ties with them dating back to long ages past. It will be a misfortune, not only for the countries concerned but for the world, if these problems of the Middle East are not solved peacefully and co-operatively.

The great continent of Africa, from its northern Mediterranean coast to the far south, is in process of dynamic change and eruption. In the extreme south, as is well known a racial policy of gross intolerance and arrogance has shocked the world. In other parts of Africa also, in various shades and degrees, this racial policy is in evidence. It comes into conflict with the rising nationalism and consciousness of African nations. Unfortunately there has been a great deal of violence on all sides and repression which has brought misery to vast numbers of people. No solution of the African problem can be based on racial discrimination or on the suppression of the African people, who have suffered so terribly for centuries past and who must command our sympathy. I earnestly hope that methods of violence will cease there, for this can only bring misery to all concerned.

It has been our misfortune during the past five or six years, to have strained relations with our neighbour country Pakistan. Any calm and dispassionate consideration of India and Pakistan will lead to the inevitable conclusion that there must be friendly and co-operative relations between them. Geography, past history, common cultural backgrounds and innumerable individual contacts lead to this conclusion. Any other conclusion is fraught with unhappiness and disaster for both. I am happy to

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru**]

inform the House that, during recent weeks, there has been a marked improvement in these relations and many friendly gestures have been made to us from Pakistan which we welcome and reciprocate. We shall make every endeavour to dispel the clouds that have darkened our respective horizons and caused unhappiness to so many people. (*Hear, hear.*)

The Governor-General of Pakistan recently stated that the independence and sovereignty of Pakistan must be fully recognised and no attempt should be made to interfere with them. I am surprised that this obvious proposition should have been put forward. There is or can be no desire on the part of any reasonable persons to interfere in any way with the freedom and independence of Pakistan. Certainly India does not wish to do so and desires friendly relations with its neighbour and sister country, each recognising the other's freedom and integrity. I am aware that there are some misguided persons in India as well as in Pakistan who have continually sown the seeds of hatred and illwill against the other country and who talk wildly about conflict and interference. But this Parliament and the country have denounced and repudiated this mischievous outlook and false ideology.

In recent months, a domestic agitation which influences our foreign relations, has demonstrated how utterly irresponsible and mischievous this outlook is. I refer to what is known as the 'Jammu agitation' which has demonstrated to what lengths irresponsible behaviour, harmful to the nation, can go. This agitation has not only injured our cause internationally but has made the very solution, which it seeks, more difficult of attainment. It has been a challenge to the authority of Parliament and an attempt to upset by unlawful and often violent means the decisions of our Parliament. It has been a matter of peculiar regret that those whose primary duty must be to uphold the Constitution and have respect for the laws made under the Constitution, should be guilty of inciting people to violate those laws. I am not merely concerned with the moral aspects of this matter but also with the evil consequences, both national and international, that flow from it.

The world is full of problems and a tortured humanity seeks anxiously for some relief from its fears and terrors. In this tragic drama, a measure of responsibility comes to us in this great country. We have enough

of our problems here and they consume our thoughts and energy, but we cannot isolate ourselves from the great brotherhood of the nations and from the common problems that affect humanity. Whether we wish it or not, fate and circumstances have cast this responsibility upon us and we must discharge it. In the manner that we, in common with other countries, discharge it will depend whether our generation and the next will live in peace and bring about the progressive happiness of mankind or suffer irretrievable disaster. That responsibility can only be discharged if we are united and hold together, remembering always our high ideals and objectives and not allowing ourselves to be swept away by the fear or passion of the moment.

REPORT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Shri T. N. Singh (Banaras Distt.—East): I beg to present the Seventh Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Appropriation Accounts (Civil), 1949-50 and unfinished Accounts (Civil), 1948-49.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION AMENDING GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CORPORATION OF INDIA

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Ministry of Finance Notification No. 5/53, dated the 30th March, 1953 making certain amendments to the General Regulations of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, under sub-section (3) of Section 4 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. S-62/53.]

REPORTS OF THE TEAMS OF OFFICIALS WHICH VISITED SCARCITY AFFECTED AREAS

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Memorandum showing action taken by Government on the reports of the teams of officials which visited the scarcity affected areas of West Bengal, Mysore, Hyderabad, Bombay and Madras, in pursuance of the undertakings given in replies to Starred Questions Nos. 401 and 1718 asked on the 2nd March and 29th April 1953, respectively. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 23.]

**PROGRESS REPORT OF FIVE YEAR PLAN
AND REPORT OF COMMUNITY PROJECTS
ADMINISTRATION**

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers:

- (i) Five Year Plan—Progress Report for 1951-52 and 1952-53. [Placed in Library, See IV. A.2.(15).]
- (ii) Report of the Community Projects Administration for 1952-53. [Placed in Library. See IV. F. 41(a).]

VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF SALARIES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): I beg to lay on the Table.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order, please. It is now two or three minutes since the statement was made. Still hon. Members are talking in groups. I will ask those hon. Members to kindly go into the lobby and talk, not here. I will have to take more severe action; but today is the last day of the session and I do not want to do anything.

Shri M. C. Shah: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement containing information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 686, asked on the 24th March, 1953 regarding voluntary surrender of salaries. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 23.]

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES, PROMISES ETC. GIVEN DURING SESSIONS

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

- (1) Supplementary Statement No. I Third session, 1953 of the House of the People [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 2.]
- (2) Supplementary Statement No. II Second session, 1952 of the House of the People. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 3.]
- (3) Supplementary Statement No. III First session, 1952 of the House of the People. [See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 4.]
- (4) Supplementary Statement No. VI Third Session (Second part) of Provisional Par-

liament, 1951.
[See Appendix XIV, annexure No. 5.]

NOTIFICATIONS AMENDING CENTRAL EXCISES RULES, 1944

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following notifications in accordance with Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:

- (1) Central Excises Notification No. 9, dated the 7th March, 1953.
- (2) " " " No. 11, dated the 15th April, 1953.
- (3) " " " No. 13, dated the 8th April, 1953.
- (4) " " " No. 14, dated the 15th April, 1953. [Placed in Library. See No. S-74/53.]

**CORRECTIONS TO A STARRED QUESTION
re ROLLING STOCK FROM JAPAN**

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the statement correcting the reply given to supplementary to Starred Question No. 1266 asked on the 27th June, 1952.

STATEMENT

In reply to Shri T. S. A. Chettiar's question asked on 27th June, 1952 as supplementary to the starred question No. 1266 by Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay, substitute "ten Metre Gauge Passenger Bogie Underframes" for "ten locomotives".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The time for voting for the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee was fixed till 11 o'clock. In view of the fact that a number of hon. Members have been engaged here, I extend the time till 12 o'clock.

ESTATE DUTY BILL—contd.

10 A.M.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the Bill to provide for the levy and collection of an estate duty, as reported by the Select Committee.

Shri N. P. Nathwani (Sorath): The Select Committee has introduced several changes in the Bill and I consider the changes made by the Select Committee as improvement on the whole.

The first important change that has been made by the Select Committee is to fix the exemption limit and also to

lay down the exemptions in respect of certain kinds of properties. It has been provided in the Bill that property of the value of Rs. 75,000 shall be exempt from estate duty and in the case of an interest in joint family property of a Hindu governed by the Mitakshara school of Hindu law, the limit would be Rs. 50,000.

The criticism is levelled that the above limit is fixed at a low rate and does not take into consideration the various social and economic factors in our country. In this connection, they refer to the depreciation in the value of the rupee and the high cost of living. They have also referred to the economic backward position of the female members in our society and pointed out that they are depending for their maintenance on the head of the family and that they have got no independent source of maintenance. They have also pointed out and bemoaned the lack of social and ameliorative schemes in our country.

Again, other friends who consider that the limit fixed is rather high, referred to the appalling poverty of millions of people in the country, and their exceedingly low standard of living. In these circumstances, I think, that in fixing the limit at 75,000 and in giving exemption in respect of certain kinds of property, the Select Committee has followed the middle path—the middle path between the excess of valour and the excess of caution. I consider the exemption limit as quite reasonable. Taken along with the exemptions granted in respect of other properties, I believe they make due allowance for our special social and economic factors in the country. I consider the limit sufficiently high to cover amongst other things the case of an ordinary residential house belonging to an average middle class person.

Again, this limit accords very well with the trend of public opinion in the country on the question. The Estate Duty Bill was introduced for the first time in 1946. In that Bill, though it was a boom period and money was very cheap, the exemption limit was fixed at Rs. one lakh, and there were no provisions for granting exemptions such as those which are now provided for in the report of the

Select Committee. Again, in 1949, the first Select Committee had submitted its report to the Constituent Assembly; in that report, the Select Committee had approved this limit of Rs. one lakh with the observation that it was a liberal one. During this period, therefore, public opinion has also crystallised in favour of the exemption limit being fixed at Rs. one lakh.

Since 1946, many events have happened in the country which would justify the limit being fixed at a lower level. For instance, since 1946, prices of several commodities, particularly of urban immoveable property, have fallen. Various schemes for developing our resources are getting into strides creating a demand for higher revenues. Lastly, there is today more realisation in the country of the need for removing disparities in wealth. Therefore, if at all the Select Committee has erred, it has erred on the side of liberality, but I say that the limit, taken together with the exemptions of properties, comes very near to the public opinion in the matter. It comes to nearly Rs. 90,000 or Rs. one lakh; in some cases, it may be even more.

In this connection, a reference was made to the high exemption limit of 60,000 dollars fixed in the U.S.A. This statement has been made in at least two of the minutes of dissent, and is likely to create a wrong impression. In the first place, it must be noted that 60,000 dollars is fixed for the federal estate tax. In 1926, when this federal estate tax was introduced in the U.S.A. for the first time, it was thought to fix the exemption limit at a high rate. The intention was only to rope in higher estates and leave the smaller ones to be tackled by the States.

[**PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA
in the Chair**]

Therefore, in the U.S.A., in forty-seven out of forty-eight States, there is either an estate tax or an inheritance tax or a combination of the two. But in fixing their exemption limits for either of the two taxes or for both, several States have fixed them at a very low rate. I have read about at least several States where the exemption limit for an estate is fixed at 10,000 dollars. Again, it must be remembered that a large exemption limit had a special reason, viz., to allow the smaller States to tax the smaller estates, and this intention has been maintained even now. Therefore, the Federal Government does not lower its limit.

It has been argued by some that a distinction in the exemption is made between the interest in a joint family governed by the Mitakshara school of law and other properties and that such distinction compares very unfavourably with other properties. I do not want to repeat the arguments which have been already advanced in support of the fact that no such distinction or unfavourable comparison is being made by fixing two different limits. But I want to add one or two observations of my own. It must be remembered that in case of large property-owners governed by the Mitakshara school joint status is not now the normal condition. As a result of the impact of the income-tax law, the tendency of such joint families is to sever their status and to form partnerships. Therefore, there may be some ancestral property which might have formed the nucleus. But the members of the family come to a partition; the father comes to a partition with his sons and joins them as partner in their business or other activity, so that at the time of his death, he dies leaving property of which he was the sole owner and which devolves by inheritance and not by survivorship on their coparceners. This is a very important factor to be borne in mind, because even amongst Hindus who are governed by the Mitakshara law, self-acquired property or separate property is bound to be far large in comparison with the ancestral property.

The second point is that if the limit of Rs. 75,000 is considered to be a reasonable one, and if it is argued that it operates to discriminate against other properties, the remedy would be not to increase the limit of Rs. 75,000 but to reduce it, namely the other limit of Rs. 50,000.

Then I come to the question raised yesterday by Shri Dhulekar. He asked for raising of the limit of Rs. 75,000 on the ground of morality. I consider it to be a serious question. If our taxation is going to make people dishonest, then certainly we should seriously take that into consideration. But I do not think the limit which has been fixed, taken in conjunction with the exemptions, is such as to make people dishonest. It must be remembered in the first instance that this taxation is different from income-tax. Income-tax returns are to be filed every year, and there is an inducement to suppress income every year, but it is not so in the case of this tax, which would be levied only once, at the time of the death of the deceased, and therefore the inducement is not much.

Then it was suggested that if the limit is raised, there would be no in-

ducement to resort to dishonest practices. I do not share this view. On the contrary, I believe in the old maxim that says that "the more one gets the more and more one desires".

Lastly, it must not be forgotten that in the case of small estates, the burden of taxation would be very small. In respect of estates in the neighbourhood of Rs. one lakh or more, the tax would be between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000.

There is, next, the question about aggregating agricultural and other exempted property in determining the rate of estate duty. I do not want to repeat the arguments already advanced in support of this provision. I wish, however, to say that the inclusion of agricultural land is likely to lead other States, which have not already passed resolutions for enabling Parliament to legislate in respect of agricultural land, to fall in line, because the value of the agricultural land would already be taken into consideration under this measure. Secondly, there is a proposal to treat agricultural land a little favourably, maybe by reducing the scale of rates of estate duty. Therefore, the inclusion of agricultural land is to be welcomed for the sake of uniformity in taxation of agricultural land.

Then, I come to another point. In clause 9, an exemption is made in favour of public charitable purposes. I confess that I do not quite follow the meaning of the expression "public charitable purposes". We know the origin of this expression "public charitable purposes" used in the Bill. In the Bill as introduced in 1946, the words were "public or charitable purposes". In 1948, the then Select Committee changed the words by deleting the word "or", and made it "public charitable purposes". In law, Sir, as you know, the term "charity" has a well-defined legal meaning. It does not coincide with the popular meaning, but there are certain propositions which are well-established in law. I will merely state them with a view to make my point clear. The words "public charitable purposes" are tautology; the word "public" is unnecessary. Charity, it is well established, must be of a public character. The law recognizes no purpose as charitable unless it is of a public character. A purpose must, in order to be charitable, be directed to the benefit of the community or a section of the community, and not to the benefit of particular private individuals. There is no such thing as a private charitable trust. Therefore, the first submission that I wish to make is that the word "public" is unnecessary. But then, I was told.....

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Public trust by the Government and all that.

Shri N. P. Nathwani: No. A charitable trust would include purposes which are only public.

Then I was told that the intention was to exclude charities meant for caste or communal purposes. If that was the intention, I am afraid the language used is inapt because public charitable purposes would include a purpose for a section of the public or for members of a caste or community. If that is the intention, then the language will have to be suitably modified. I personally would welcome such an innovation because I feel that the time has come when the Legislature need not afford any concession in favour of charities which are meant for caste or communal purposes. I quite appreciate the generosity of the persons who give these charities but the value of their bounty is affected by the narrow hidebound outlook of these people. such charities are calculated to perpetuate the differences between caste and caste and community and community, and is inconsistent with the spirit and directive principles enshrined in our Constitution.

Then, lastly about charitable purposes, I would like to say that some definition either on the lines of section 18 of the Transfer of Property Act or on the lines of the definition given in section 4 of the Income-tax Act should be embodied in this clause 9 because otherwise there would be difficulty in interpreting the exact meaning of the term "charitable purposes". There is some difference between the English law and the Indian law as regards the exact import of this term.

Then I come to another point, viz., that of appeals. In my opinion, it would have been a very desirable improvement if the Select Committee had provided for an appeal to an independent Tribunal on questions of fact. In regard to income-tax, we have already accepted this principle. The hon. Finance Minister gave two reasons for not providing for such a right of appeal. He said that some amount of flexibility was necessary in the initial stages, and secondly, he said in the case of about 95 per cent. of the cases, the question that would be involved would be the question of valuation only.

As regards the first point, no doubt, flexibility is desirable and has its uses, but above all things we want impartiality. And here comes the difficulty. The persons who have to administer

this Act do not have the necessary judicial approach. They are acting with an executive mind, and that is why there is justification for the complaint that public confidence is lacking in them. And secondly, from the point of view of the tax-payer it must be remembered that what is of the utmost importance is the satisfaction that they should get that their case is being tried before an impartial Tribunal to the last ounce of its merit. And this satisfaction is of great importance. It is second only to the satisfaction of winning the case.

As regards the other point referred to by the hon. Minister, I beg to differ from him that in respect of 95 per cent. of cases the only question that would be referred would be the question of valuation. No doubt it would be the most important, most frequent single item of controversy under this Act, but there would also be very important other questions of fact. If we closely scrutinise the various clauses of the Bill beginning from clause 5, I would say we find that many difficult questions of fact are involved. Even on a simple clause like clause 9, many important questions of fact would arise. In the first instance, the question would be when the gift was made, who took the possession, who enjoyed the fruits of that property, whether the transaction was bona fide or not—all these are important questions of fact on which the rights of parties would depend.

But I do not want to minimise the value of the concession which has been made by the Select Committee. I quite agree that so far as the question of valuation is concerned, some special or technical knowledge is necessary, and the Tribunal is not competent enough in all these matters to come to a decision of its own accord. The Court also requires the assistance of experts when some special or technical knowledge is concerned. Looking at it from that point of view, the provision for referring a dispute about valuation to an independent arbitration of two valuers is a very satisfactory thing. Therefore, while I want the provision for an appeal to an independent Tribunal to be made, I would also wish this provision to be maintained.

There are one or two matters about which I will speak very briefly. There is, first, the question about refund. There is provision in clause 61 about giving refund in respect of an excess duty paid under a mistake or when the property is over-valued. But there may be other occasions when subsequent liabilities come to light, when many dormant claims are put

forward and the person accountable might have paid the duty without knowing about them. It would not be fair on the part of the Department not to grant relief in such cases. But I do not find any provision in the Bill to meet this situation.

Lastly, I would say one word about avoidance of duty. Similar provisions about estate tax are in operation in other countries since the last several decades. Many loopholes have been found from time to time, and they have been plugged up. But one important form of avoidance is transfer during one's lifetime. The only vulnerable period is two years, but large estate holders distribute their wealth well in time so that an estate is reduced as much as possible at the time of his death. In our society this tendency is likely to be followed on a larger scale because an adult son, though he is absolutely entitled in his own right to property, would like to carry out the wishes of his father. That is the consequence of our social system today. Therefore, though I know that we are at an initial stage,— I also know that the matter is pending before the Income-tax Investigation Commission—still I think that if we want to achieve substantially either of the two objects set out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons, we will have to devise some method for bringing this transfer also. With these words I support the Bill.

Shri G. D. Somani (Nagaur-Pali): I would at the very outset like to make a few observations on the principle of the Bill as I definitely feel that the Bill, in the way in which it has emerged from the Select Committee, will do more harm than good to the general economy of our country.

In this connection, I would first like to refer to the amendment that is already before the House, that the Bill should be circulated for eliciting public opinion. (*Interruptions.*) I would like to draw the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister to the various representations that were made by the commercial organisations that at least until the findings of the Taxation Inquiry Committee were known the Bill should be postponed. After all, an expert and specialised body, the Taxation Inquiry Committee, is at present engaged in an elaborate study of the entire taxation structure of the country and the incidence of taxation on the various sections of our society and it is only fair and logical that any new taxation measure, especially one of such a far-reaching character, should not have been placed on the Statute Book until the same was reviewed by

such an expert and specialised body, when it is already engaged in examining in all its aspects the present taxation structure of the country.

After all, this is not a new measure. This measure has been a matter of study by various authorities and Committees ever since 1859 and if this Bill could not be placed on the Statute Book so far, it was not due to any lack of desire on the part of the Government concerned, but it was exclusively due to certain formidable complications and difficulties involved in this Bill which difficulties still continue to remain. My submission is that the most fundamental objection to the way in which this Bill has been brought before the House is that it will adversely affect savings and capital formation and thereby more adversely affect our national economy than the benefit that might accrue by the amount of yield from this Bill.

In this connection, I would first like to refer to what the Colvin Committee on National Debt and Taxation in England said in 1927. They said:

"Taking social and psychological effects together, we think that the estate duty is distinctly more damaging to saving than the income-tax."

It does not require much argument to substantiate this opinion of an expert body. After all, human nature as it is, it is only natural to infer that when a man finds that his savings, a large portion of his savings, is going to be taken away by the State, then there is an incentive rather for less work and less earnings and an incentive for frittering away his resources in so many other ways. That is exactly contrary to the basic objective of this Bill which is to assist the State in the implementation of the various development projects. I would like to make a submission to the hon. the Finance Minister to closely analyse the repercussions which it will have on capital formation and on analysis if the House is satisfied that the operation of this Bill will result in drying up the sources of investment and in withdrawing from investment an amount which may be larger than what you might be able to gather from this duty, then certainly, it cannot be too strongly emphasised that this Bill should very well stand over until the needs of our expanding and developmental economy are met in the initial period. After all, the primary objective today is to raise the standard of living of our people and that will be possible only by increasing production by stimulating investment in all directions and by various other ways, so that our un-

[Shri G. D. Somanji]

tapped resources may be exploited to the fullest possible extent. But although no definite estimate has yet been given by the Finance Minister to the House about the probable yield from the duty, supposing, for the sake of argument, the Exchequer gets ten crores from this duty and the operation of this duty inflicts an injury to the extent of 20 crores to our national economy, then I would like to enquire how this Bill is going to promote the development of the country which we seek? The whole point—I most respectfully beg to submit in this connection—is that the approach to this Bill has been more of a psychological and sentimental character to ensure that those who have got wealth should be dispossessed so that this disparity that is existing might be wiped out. I am not against the reduction of this disparity, provided you can bring about this reduction in disparity without adversely affecting the general developmental programme of the country. I would ask a simple question in this connection. Is it worthwhile trying to reduce this disparity if in the process you adversely affect the national development programme which we have under the Five Year Plan? The fundamental object before us is to achieve the development of the country and if this concentration of wealth in the hands of a few assists in the development of the country, then is it not worthwhile at least in the transition period to suffer the disparity rather than do something which will, while doing something to reduce the disparity, adversely affect development in so many directions? I would therefore humbly urge that this aspect, about savings and capital formation, should be much more minutely examined than the way in which it has been done so far. We will have time enough after the transitional period of five or ten years when our resources would have fully developed, to take whatever measures we think fit to remove this disparity. But the position today is—as we have been hearing from the hon. the Prime Minister and other leaders of the country—that we have first to create the wealth before it can be distributed. Suppose, for instance, we today impose a hundred per cent. capital levy and take away whatever wealth at present lies with a small section of our population. Will that help our national economy in any way? Will it make the slightest difference to our teeming millions if whatever is left by way of concentration of wealth in a few hands is taken away? Will we, by drying away these springs of production or investment, be serving the interests of our country? After

all, the Government are committed to the pattern of mixed economy, not because they have got any unduly soft corner for the private sector; the question is, and it has been stressed quite clearly from the Prime Minister onwards, that this private sector would be allowed to continue only to the extent and the period till it serves the broad national objective of development. The moment the private sector fails to make its contribution to the national economy, it will not be allowed to exist and it is in the light of this policy of the Government that I appeal that this question of this levy being rushed through should be examined. My point is that the repercussions which it might have on capital formation and in several other directions may far outweigh the advantages which the small yield from this duty may constitute to the national exchequer.

I would also in this connection like to draw the attention of the House to the repercussions which it might have on the middle classes and the small scale and middle-sized family partnership businesses. The hon. the Finance Minister in his opening remarks on this Bill had hinted that if this Bill led to some of these private family partnership businesses being converted into public limited concerns, that would be a development which would not be unwelcome. I agree so far as it goes but the question is whether in view of the formalities and the necessities of forming a public limited concern, it will be practicable or feasible for the vast number of our middle-sized industries or middle-sized businesses, which are to a certain extent the backbone of our economy, to convert themselves into public limited companies.

Then there is this question of the disruption or dislocation that these middle-class or middle-sized businesses would suffer from the operation of this duty—it was not dealt with by the hon. the Finance Minister. He left it with the remark that if they convert themselves into public limited concerns, that will be a step in the right direction. But he has not pointed out any of the difficulties involved; if they are not able to convert themselves into public limited concerns and if the operation of these death duties disrupts or dislocates the smooth functioning of these institutions, then it will have inflicted a severe hardship on these middle-classes who have been the worst hit by the war and post-war conditions. No safeguards have been provided in

the Bill to ensure against the disruption and dislocation of such businesses. After all, it is too tragic to visualise how, in a family concern when they would be mourning the death of the chief partner, their bread earner, the Government's demand for this duty will disrupt their business permanently and place those families under a permanent hardship. This is also an aspect which should have received more attention from the Select Committee than it has had. My reading of the situation is that whatever may be the yield from this duty to serve the interests of the States for which it is being collected, if a proper study is made of the injury that it will cause to such middle class businesses and the injury that it will cause by drying up the sources of investment into productive channels by the big businesses who might be affected, then the net balance would be that the country would suffer rather than gain by the passage of this Bill at this stage. We are in the midst of a developmental economy. Our resources are at present concentrated towards building up and towards expanding and anything that goes against the incentive to produce, to invest more, to save more should be regarded as a policy which is not desirable at this stage.

I know that several countries have got such a type of death duties, but the conditions differ. Here we have a complexity of inheritance laws and at present we are also engaged in development and certainly we have to see to the circumstances and conditions of the country concerned before we embark upon something, simply because it has been done in other countries. I would therefore, again appeal that certain safeguards or exemptions should be provided in the Bill which would ensure that it will not lead to more harm being done to our economy than benefit.

In this connection I would make one suggestion which might, at least to some extent, meet the requirements of the situation and that suggestion was put forward by the representatives of the Federation. It was that investments in new enterprises approved by the Government should be exempted from the purview of this Bill. Already the Income-tax Act, as it stands today, provides certain concessions to these new concerns including the liberalisation of depreciation and also the declaration of dividend up to six per cent. Now, this is only logical that when the Government, in order to encourage the growth and development of new industries, have provided cer-

tain concessions to the new concerns, it is not too much to expect that any investment made in these new industrial enterprises should be exempt, at least for a period of five or ten years of transition, from the purview of this Act.

This will lead, in the first instance, to a great initiative in building up certain new industries of which the country is in urgent need. On the other hand I may also draw the attention of the House to the fact that if there be no such counter-direction, the Bill might result easily in the people trying to invest their funds in some such sorts of commodities like bullion or jewellery which are less likely to be detected than these productive channels. It might easily lead to the flow of investments in unproductive channels rather than productive channels. Already, I understand that there is some provision in the U.K. Act which provides exemption for certain Government securities. There is no reason why, in the context of the requirements of our country, the Government here should not allow these investments in new enterprises to be exempted from the purview of this Act.

Similarly, so far as charity is concerned, there is already a lot of reference in several minutes of dissent that the public charities should be exempt both as regards duration and as regards the amount. I know some amount has been prescribed, which will be exempt from the duty.....

Shri C. D. Pande (Naini Tal Distt. cum Almora Distt.—South West cum Bareilly Distt.—North): A sum of Rs. 2500.

Shri G. D. Somani: A sum of Rs. 2500 has been made uniformly applicable. My point is that a certain percentage of the value of the property should have been provided—it may be ten per cent. or twenty per cent; but a uniform rate of Rs. 2500 irrespective of the status of the person concerned is not just and fair. After all, he should have an opportunity to contribute a certain portion of his assets to charity if he so chooses. After all, we have got ancient traditions in our country under which people make their gifts for charity at the time of their death. Certainly, subject to certain safeguards that this concession will not be allowed to be misused and subject to certain ceilings the Government should see that instead of a uniform exemption of Rs. 2500, it should be fixed in terms of percentages—whatever reasonable percentage it might be.

[Shri G. D. Somani]

Then the question of dwelling houses. It is really very tragic to find that even in the case of dwelling houses, it has raised too much of controversy. I would have expected that in view of the sentiments of the vast number of people, at least this question of dwelling houses, subject to certain ceilings, should have been decided. I can understand that several rich people who have got a number of dwelling houses in several places should not get exemption for all. But, certainly subject to certain ceilings prescribed, it would have been possible for the Select Committee to provide exemption for dwelling houses for the ordinary common man, for the people who will be affected by this tax.

Similarly, I would also urge that provision should also be made to accept payment of the liability in kind. That is, if a property is valued at a certain figure, it should be open to the party concerned to surrender that property at that amount so that he may not be forced to liquidate the same in order to meet the liability under the Act.

There are many other things which should be said and which may be said later on since the Bill is going to be discussed in the next session. But, I would again urge upon the Government to explore and examine the implications which this Bill may have and to provide at least some amendment which will ensure that the needs of our development which are paramount at present will not be adversely affected.

Shri C. C. Shah (Gohilwad-Sorath): I must confess that I was amazed at the speech of the last speaker. (Interruption.) I have known him long and I have known him to take a reasonable and rational view even when questions of property are concerned. But, I was surprised that in the year 1953 he should still plead that this Bill should be circulated for public opinion and he should plead in the name of national economy, in the name of our development projects and say that this Bill should not be passed at this stage.

I heard the hon. representative of the Ram Rajya Parishad objecting to this Bill on grounds of religion. I could not argue with him. Of course, it was most entertaining to hear him. My hon. friend Mr. Somani speaks in the name of national economy. Well, human nature has a certain capacity for self-deception, but that it can go to this length is something which amazed us, ordinary people.

Estate duty is an ordinary, common form of taxation all over the world. Not only does it not come too early in this country, it comes too late. I can understand a man arguing that the exemption limit should be higher than what it is; that public charities should be exempted to a certain extent; the specific suggestions which one can make with regard to the Bill one can understand. But an outright opposition to the Bill is a thing which I cannot understand. Coming as it does from Mr. Somani, if it in any manner represents the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry—to which he has referred—I regret to say that that is not a point of view which in any event a large majority in this House can ever accept. But I am sure that the members of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have taken a more reasonable view on this as on all other matters and do not share the views which Mr. Somani has put forward and it will be doing an injustice to them to say that he represents them.

He has trotted out the old, outworn arguments of national capital not being formed, savings not being made and he has held out a threat that estates will be frittered away if one is under the fear that he has to pay estate duty. May I respectfully tell him that if men of his class fritter away their estates on this ground, the better it is. The vulgar ostentation of wealth which we find in these days, particularly from that class of people who have suddenly become rich during the war, is most distressing. May I respectfully tell him—if he represents his class—that India lives in the year 1953. Well, I do not want to take the time of the House in arguing with him. But I do hope that in his calmer moments he will think that a modest Bill like this ought not to have met with this kind of treatment from him.

This is a very modest Bill. I know there are some on this side of the House who consider this Bill a very extraordinary measure, something of a great measure which they think is going to be a great leveller of the inequalities of wealth. I do not take that view. This is an ordinary measure of taxation which any modern Government, calling itself progressive, must have, the earlier the better. I do not also share the view, by which some have given pictures of sombre situations, of families being ruined and widows and children being left destitute and all that kind of thing, and estates being washed away. Nothing of that kind is going to happen by this Bill.

Now, consider what this Bill is. Let us once and for all remember that men of property—as my hon. friend Mr. Tek Chand said very rightly yesterday—are, and ought to be, pursued by the tax collector from the cradle to the grave and even after death. It is their lot, and it is their good fortune, that they are so pursued by the tax collector. If I may respectfully say so, payment of estate duty by men of property, is the last settlement of account by them with the society of which they were a part and from whom they have collected their wealth. It is their last settlement of account for all their unconscious sins of omission and commission during their life time. And I hope by properly paying the estate duty they will go with a clean bill signed by the hon. Mr. Deshmukh, so that they may have an easy entry into Heaven.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): Is he the Pope?

Shri C. C. Shah: Yes, as the Papal bulls used to be issued.

Anyhow it is a modest measure. I can understand anybody saying that the exemption limit ought to be a little high considering the conditions in the country. I can understand anybody pleading that hardships in the administration of the Act should be removed. Such constructive suggestions ought to be welcomed.

Only three questions are involved in the Estate Duty Bill: what is the property to be taxed; what shall be the measure of taxation and what shall be the method of collection. These are the three simple questions which arise on an Estate Duty Bill and in each one of them there is ample room for constructive suggestions. In a taxation measure it is very difficult to strike the golden mean. The Select Committee has done its best to arrive at what it calls the greatest common measure of agreement between the various groups. Some thought that the exemption limit should be low; some thought that it should be much high; some thought that the exemptions should be of one nature or the other nature. The Select Committee has undoubtedly, honestly, tried its best to arrive at the greatest common measure of agreement. One may or may not agree with them, because in a taxation measure there is nothing like equity. There will always be hardship in any taxation measure.

Take Income-tax Act for example. My hon. friend Mr. Somani will be able to give one hundred and one cases—I myself can—of genuine hard-

ships caused by the operation of the Income-tax Act, which he would like to remove, which anybody would like to remove. A taxation measure is always a measure which involves some hardships. Therefore, let us recognise that hard cases make bad laws. Take for example quick succession. Mr. Tek Chand argued very eloquently yesterday—and some of us were much impressed by it—dacoits come and kill you, though in very rare cases it happens—there are still some in India. But that is not a normal happening; let us not think of abnormal cases as ordinary. Taxation measures must be looked at from this point of view.

What are the objects of an Estate Duty Bill? There are only three objects: one to make it a source of revenue; secondly to reduce the inequalities of wealth and thirdly the social and psychological effect which it has upon the community as a whole.

Now, as I began by saying that this is a modest measure, I want to point out from the revenue point of view what is the income which it is expected to yield. No estimate has been made. But I may tell, the Planning Commission estimates it at Rs. eight crores to Rs. ten crores. Now, income-tax alone yields Rs. 150 crores, 15 to 16 times more than what the Estate Duty would yield. Do you not consider—I ask my hon. friend Mr. Somani—that compared from that point of view, this is a very modest measure? If by one single measure of taxation, the Income-tax Act, you can take away Rs. 150 crores, do you stop capital formation? Do you discourage savings? Then, do you suggest seriously that by a measure which will lead to a levy of Rs. eight crores to Rs. ten crores you will so much disrupt the national economy, that it should be circulated at this stage?

The second objection is to reduction in inequalities of wealth. In my opinion, though it will be a step in that direction, it is a very modest and moderate step. The Estate Duty Bill taxes property at death and the moment it is introduced men of property—and I am sure Mr. Somani has considered it from that point of view—would immediately begin arranging their affairs and so much transfer their property during their life-time as to leave as little as possible to be subjected to Estate Duty. It is my profession to advise people and I have been advising people to do so. If my hon. friend Mr. Somani comes to me, I will save him as much of estate duty as possible, within the limits of law, of course. Even as a leveller of inequalities of wealth it is a very modest

[Shri C. C. Shah]

measure, only a first step in that direction. That is why when some friends on this side of the House wax eloquent over this Bill and make a sentimental approach to it and think they are doing a very great thing, I beg respectfully to say that though it is a measure in the right direction and has come not a day too late, we are not doing anything extraordinary but something which ought to have been done long ago. But the opinion of all well-known economists on public finance is that the value of the estate duty is not so much as a source of revenue, nor so much as a leveller of inequalities of wealth, but it is the social and psychological effect on the community as a whole. People feel that here are men of property who are being subjected to increasing taxation at every stage, even at death. It brings a sort of psychological satisfaction. It is not jealousy. I can assure men of property it is not jealousy. But it is necessary in their own interest that they should make people, the millions of people in the country, think as to what their attitude is, namely that "the wealth which we possess we possess for you and not for us alone." I do not want to be more eloquent on this. I wish only to say that enlightened self-interest should dictate to them that they should welcome this measure, and not only welcome it but say "we want that a higher rate of duty should be levied on larger properties". They should voluntarily say that. If man does not voluntarily choose equality, if man does not voluntarily give up greed, if man does not want to look to the needs of his fellow brethren, the law must make him do what he will not do voluntarily. It is expected that man will voluntarily do it. But if man does not do it and puts all impediments and hindrances in the way of a Bill like this, the earlier law takes its course the better it is.

Having said this much on the general aspect, if you will give me a few minutes I wish to touch one or two points. I know that I have already outrun my time.

Mr. Chairman: He can go on for three or four minutes more.

Shri C. C. Shah: I only wish to say a few words about one or two points. The first point is about public charities. I do not mind from which side of the House this suggestion comes. I would not like this matter to be considered in a manner that because the suggestion comes from my hon. friend Mr. Somani it should not

be considered and because it comes from this side therefore it should be considered. I personally feel that there should be a greater inducement for encouraging public charities and therefore a larger exemption is necessary in that case. I will not dilate upon that at the present moment. At the proper stage I will do so.

The second point is about appeals to the tribunal. I have carefully read the speech of the Finance Minister. I have no grievance against the Central Board of Revenue as such. But I have no doubt in my mind that they have a departmental outlook, whatever flexibility they may have. People must feel that justice is done, it is not enough that justice is done in fact. Another consideration I would urge is this. The Central Board of Revenue sits in Delhi. These appeals will come from all over the country and it is inadvisable, in my opinion, that all the appeals from all parts of the country should have to come to Delhi. And the man must have a satisfaction that he is personally heard. A district judge in his own district will be able to hear him more expeditiously and more justly than otherwise. I do not mind the first appeal remaining with the Central Board of Revenue, but there should be a second appeal on a question of fact to the judicial tribunal as it is under the Indian Income-tax Act. And there I am fortified in my opinion because under the Indian Income-tax Act after an experience of several years we came to the conclusion that it is better to provide a judicial tribunal under the Act.

11 A.M.

I have outrun my time and do not want to take any more time of the House. With these few words I support the Bill.

श्री एस० सी० तिथल (जिला अन्नीगढ़) :
सभापति जी, मैं ने अपने मित्र श्री सोमानी साहब के भाषण को बहुत गौर से सुना और मैं ने डिसेंटिंग नोट (विमति टिप्पणी) में श्री तुलसीदास किलाचन्द का नोट भी देखा और मृगे सोमानी जी की स्पीच और श्री तुलसीदास के डिसेंटिंग नोट को देख कर कोई अचम्भा तो नहीं हुआ है दूँख जरूर हुआ। ये लोग जनता के नाम पर जनता का ही गला काटना चाहते हैं। ये लोग इस विषेयक के बिलकुल विरोध में हैं और चाहते हैं कि यह

बिल अभी टलता ही जाय ताकि मालदार सम्प्रदाय सम्पत्ति कर देने से बचा रहे।

यह बिल सब से पहले सेंट्रल असेम्बली में १९४८ में आया और उस पर बहस होने के बाद यह बिल सेलेक्ट कमेटी को भेजा गया और सेलेक्ट कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट भी इस बिल पर दी लेकिन यह बिल पास नहीं किया गया, और यह बहाना बना कर टाल दिया गया कि हिन्दू कोड बिल पास हो जायेगा, तब इस बिल के पास करने का अवसर अच्छा होगा, यह बिल में समझता हूँ, ऐसे ही लोगों के असर से टाला गया। इसके बाद १९५२ में चार साल के बाद यह बिल फिर पारियामेंट में आया, इस के बाद यह सेलेक्ट कमेटी में गया और अचम्भे की बात है कि सेलेक्ट कमेटी ने २१ बैठकों के बाद अपनी रिपोर्ट मुक्तिमन की। सिफ़र इस बिल में ८४ धारायें हैं और उन में से ३१ धाराओं में सेलेक्ट कमेटी ने संशोधन किया है, ३१ धाराओं का संशोधन सेलेक्ट कमेटी की एक या दो सिटिंग में हो सकता था, लेकिन ऐसे लोगों के असर से या इनपलूप्ट्स से यह बिल टलता गया और २१ बैठकों में सेलेक्ट कमेटी इस बिल को संशोधित बार के अपनी रिपोर्ट तैयार कर सकी और इस तरह देश का काफी पैसा खर्च हुआ और प्रबर समिति के सदस्यों का समय भी काफी लगा लेकिन फिर भी इस सदन के कुछ सदस्यों की नियत यही है कि यह बिल दो, चार साल को और टल जाय, लेकिन मेरा सरकार से यह अनुरोध है कि यह बिल जल्द से जल्द पास होना चाहिये। मैं तो यह चाहता था कि यह बिल इसी बजट सेशन में पास ही जाता और आगे के लिये मूलतकी नहीं किया जाता, लेकिन लाचारी है, यह बिल सन् ४८ से ५३ यानी पांच साल से बराबर टलता आ रहा है और सरकार को काफी रुपया जो कर के रूप में मिल सकता था नहीं मिला। सरकार को इस का स्थाल करना चाहिये, और इसे पास

कराने में अधिक बिलम्ब नहीं करना चाहिये हमें पंचवर्षीय योजना के सफल बनाने के लिये रुपये की बहुत सम्भ जरूरत है और इस कर से काफी रुपया मिल सकता है। सोमानी जी ने सेविंग का सबाल उठाया, मेरी राय में उन्होंने नये अर्थ शास्त्र का ज्यादा प्रयोग नहीं किया है अगर किया होता तो वह ऐसी बात नहीं उठाते; आज कल के अर्थशास्त्र के अनुसार जो देश सेविंग करते हैं, वह अपनी ट्रेड और इन्डस्ट्रीज को गिरा देते हैं। नये अर्थशास्त्र के सिद्धांत के मूलाधिका जो देश अपनी आय और व्यय को बराबर रखता है वही देश तरकी कर सकता है और जिस मुल्क में सेविंग की कोशिश की जाती है वह मुल्क अपनी इंडरट्रीज को गिरा देता है और बेरोजगारी बढ़ाता है। सोमानी जी का मतलब सेविंग से यह है कि कुछ पंजीपतियों के घरों में देश का रुपया पड़ा रहे, अगर पंच वर्षीय योजना के लिये रुपया मिल जाये और हमारी पंचवर्षीय योजना कामयाब हो जाये, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे देश का अधिक लाभ और किसी में नहीं है। इसी की सफलता पर हमारे उद्योग धन्यों की तरकी निर्भर है इस लिये इस बिल का जल्द से जल्द पास होना निहायत जरूरी है।

मूल्य दुख है कि प्रबर समिति ने इस बिल की भाषा में कोई सुधार नहीं किया, इस बिल की भाषा इतनी कठिन और किल्ट है कि इस का समझना बहुत से लोगों के लिये नामुमकिन है। इस बात को हमारे वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने भी स्वीकार किया है, लेकिन स्वीकार करने मात्र से कोई फायदा नहीं। जब तक इस की भाषा को संरल और समझने लायक न बनाया जाय। यह बिल तो इतना सरल और सीधा होना चाहिये कि हर एक आदमी इस को समझ सके।

मैं तो सरकार से अब भी प्रार्थना करूँगा कि वह कोई न कोई उपाय ऐसा निकाल कि

[श्री एस० सी० सिंघल]

बिल की भाषा इतनी आसान हो जाये कि हर एक आदमी उस को समझ सके ताकि वकीलों को तंग करने की कोई आवश्यकता न पड़े।

* मुझे इस ब्रृत का भी अफसोस है कि यह बिल पूरा बिल नहीं है। इस में अधूरापन है। इंगलैंड में अगर एस्टेट ड्यूटी है तो साथ में सक्सेशन ड्यूटी भी है। इस बिल में भी सक्सेशन ड्यूटी का होना निहायत लाजमी है। जब तक सक्सेशन ड्यूटी नहीं होगी तब तक आप समता और समानता नहीं ला सकते। और बगैर उस के सोशियल जस्टिस नहीं हो सकती। इस बिल के अन्दर जरूरी है कि कुछ क्लाजेज सक्सेशन ड्यूटी के लिये और जोड़ दिये जायें। प्रवर समिति का यह कहना कि सक्सेशन ड्यूटी इस में नहीं आ सकती है और यह कांस्टी-ट्यूशन के खिलाफ है, यह गलत है। मैं इस से सहमत नहीं हूँ। अगर दो चार क्लाजेज इस में सक्सेशन के जोड़ दिये जाते तो कोई भी दिक्कत न पड़ती और कोई विधान के खिलाफ वात नहीं होती।

मैं तो यह भी चाहता हूँ कि किसी आदमी को एक बंधी रकम से ज्यादा इन्हैरिट करने (विरासत में लेने) का अधिकार नहीं होना चाहिये। साथ ही मैं यह भी चाहता हूँ कि अगर कोई आदमी मालदार है तो उस को भी प्राप्ती इन्हैरिट करने का कोई अधिकार नहीं होना चाहिये। जब तक यह क्लाज नहीं जोड़ जायेंगे तब तक आप समता और समानता नहीं ला सकते। इसलिये इन का होना बहुत लाजमी है। इस के विपरीत प्रवर समिति ने एक नया क्लाज ४८ जोड़ दिया है। वह खण्ड बहुत ही आपत्ति-जनक है। सलेक्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में नये खण्ड के लिये यह दलीलें दी गई हैं:

"In practically all countries with a federal structure of Govern-

ment where inheritance or succession duties are paid in the component States side by side with estate duty, the principle of granting relief in respect of such duties when estate duty comes to be paid is well-recognised. The Select Committee feel that a similar relief should be provided in this Bill also within a specified limit".

यह दलीलें कोई मतलब नहीं रखतीं, और इस नये खण्ड की कोई पुष्टि नहीं करतीं मैं समझता हूँ कि यह खण्ड बहुत प्रतिक्रियावादी (रिएक्शनरी) है। इस नये खण्ड का बढ़ना बहुत अनुचित है और मेरी यह पक्की राय है कि इस को यहां पर नहीं आना चाहिये। सरकार को तो यह करना चाहिये या कि सक्सेशन ड्यूटी जिस प्रान्त और प्रदेशों में नहीं है, वहां भी लगवाती और वह इस सिद्धान्त को ले कर होती कि जो आदमी मालदार है उसे इन्हैरिट करने का कोई अधिकार नहीं रखता और अमुक रकम से ज्यादा कोई इन्हैरिट नहीं कर सकता। जब तक इस आधार पर संशोधन नहीं होगा तब तक यह बिल मुकम्मिल नहीं है।

इस के बाद मुझे कुछ मिताक्षर और दायभाग के बारे में कहना है। दायभाग वालों के साथ पूरा अन्याय है। उन को इस बिल के मुताबिक टैक्स ज्यादा देना पड़ेगा। और मिताक्षर वालों को कम देना पड़ेगा। अगर क्लाक्स में एक मारवाड़ी और एक बंगाली साथ साथ रहते हों और अगर बंगाली के पास दो लाल का माल है वह मरता है तो उस को दोलाल पर मृत्यु कर देना पड़ेगा। लेकिन अगर कोई मारवाड़ी मरता है और उस के तीन या चार बच्चे हैं तो उस को एक पैसा भी टैक्स का नहीं देना पड़ेगा। इस तरह से बंगाली को कर का रेट भी ज्यादा देना पड़ेगा और कर भी ज्यादा रुपये पर देना पड़ेगा ले किन अं मारवाड़ी मरता है तो ड्यूटी देने से बच जाता।

है। यह घोर अन्याय है। टैक्स हर एक के लिये एक सा होना चाहिये। कोई भी पिता भरे, चाहे वह दायभाग का मानने वाला हो या मिताभर का मानने वाला हो, सब को एक सा ही टैक्स देना चाहिये। मिताभर और दायभाग के नाते इस कर में कोई भेद भाव नहीं होना चाहिये।

मुझे एक और अफसोस है कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री ने हमें इस कर की दर अब तक नहीं बताई कि किस दर से कर लिया जायगा। अगर वह यह बता दें तो विचार करने में सुभीता पढ़े। हम समझते थे कि कितना रूपया आ सकेगा। साथ में एक और बात है कि जो भी टैक्स लगाया जाय वह गिफ्ट्स पर भी लगाया जाय, जिस में बैंडमानी की नीबूत न प्राप्ते। किसी को भी बैंडमानी करने का मौका न मिले, किसी को बैंडमानी करने की लालच न हो, हर एक ईमानदारी से काम कर सके। लेकिन इस केंल्ड्रे सेलेक्ट कमेटी ने दो साल का नियम रख दिया है कि दो साल के पहले जो गिफ्ट्स दी जायेंगी उन पर टैक्स नहीं लिया जायेगा। यह बहुत बेजा बात है। लोगों के पास जो कुछ भी होगा उस को बींदों तीन साल पहले से ही इन्हैरिटर्स या अपने बच्चों के नाम कर देंगे और सरकार को बहुत घाटा पड़ेगा। जो लोग ईमानदार हैं और कर से बचने का कोई ऐसा उपाय नहीं करेंगे उन को पूरा टैक्स देना पड़ेगा और जो बैंडमान हैं वह टैक्स देने से बच जायेंगे। इस बिल में यह संशोधन होना चाहिये कि गिफ्ट्स आठ साल पहले दी गई हों या दस साल पहले, उन सब पर टैक्स होना चाहिये, खास तौर से उन गिफ्ट्स पर जो कि सक्सेसर्स (उत्तराधिकारियों) को दी जाय।

सिद्धान्त रूप से तो जीवित व्यक्तियों द्वारा दिये गए दान पर इसी तरह कर लगाना चाहिए जिस तरह कि उस दान

पर कर लगाया जाता है जो मरने से पुर्व किसी व्यक्ति ने दिया हो।

इस के बाद मुझे कुछ ऐपेलेट ड्रिब्यूनल के बारे में कहना है। मैं ने वित्त मंत्री की स्पीच को सुना। वह इस पक्ष में हैं कि डिपार्टमेंट के आदमी हमेशा भले होते हैं, शरीक होते हैं और रूरियायत (लिहाज) कर सकते हैं। लेकिन जहां मामला कचेहरी में पहुंचा वहां रूरियायत नहीं होती और कानून के प्रन्दर काम होगा। हमारे वित्त मंत्री आई० सी० एस० आफिसर रहे हैं। उन को कभी इनकम टैक्स अधिकारियों के पास जाने का मौका नहीं पड़ा है। इन बातों को मैं जानता हूँ मुझे उन अधिकारियों के पास जाने का मौका भी पड़ा है। मैं जानता हूँ कि वह कितने भले आदमी होते हैं और कितने बुरे आदमी होते हैं। अगर उन में से कोई अफसर भला है तो किसी खास आदमी के लिये भला है, हर एक के लिये नहीं, और जो बदमाश होता है वह ज्यादातर लोगों के लिये बदमाश होता है, सिर्फ अपने दोस्तों के लिये भला हो सकता है। फिर एक बात यह भी है कि इन अधिकारियों पर जनता को विश्वास नहीं है। जनता चाहती है कि उन की अपील स्वतंत्र अधिकारियों के यहां हों ; ड्रिब्यूनल से ही लोगों को सन्तोष मिल सकेगा और इन्साफ भी मिलेगा। जब लोग देखते हैं कि अपील भी उसी अधिकारी के यहां है जो टैक्स इकट्ठा करता है तब उस को इन्साफ की बहुत ज्यादा उम्मीद नहीं होती है। मेरी राय यह है कि वित्त मंत्री और जनता दोनों की इच्छा पूरी होनी चाहिये। कर दाता का अधिकार होना चाहिये कि चाहे वह डिपार्टमेंट में अपील करे और चाहे तो वह ड्रिब्यूनल में अपील करे। दोनों तरीके खुले होने चाहियें। जो जहां इन्साफ पा सके वहां पहुंच जाये।

एक बात और भी है। एक लिस्ट सरकार के पास उन लोगों की होनी चाहिये जो मरने पर यह कर दें यानी जिन पर यह कर लग सकें, यह नहीं कि हर एक आदमी

[श्री एस० सी० सिंधल]

जो मरे चाहे उस के पास रुपया हो या न हो, चाहे वह टैक्स की लिमिट में आ सके या नहीं और मरने पर सब के बर बालों को खटखटाया जाये। सिर्फ उन ही लोगों को लिस्ट में रखना चाहिये जो कि टैक्स की लिमिट भा सकें, ताकि नीचे के लोगों को तंग करने का अवसर अधिकारी न पा सकें।

अन्त में मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि बीच के आदमी को कुछ सुविधा भी होनी चाहिये। अगर किसी पर कर लगाया जाय और कर लगाते वक्त उस की मिल्कियत की कीमत भी रखती जायेगी अगर कर दाता समझे कि उस की मिल्कियत उस कीमत में बिक सकती है तो कर दाता को, अधिकार होना चाहिये कि अपनी मिल्कियत का हिस्सा कर में दे सके। इन्साफ यही चाहता है।

मैं प्रार्थना करूँगा कि सरकार मेरे सुझावों पर गौर करे और उन के मुताबिक बिल में संशोधन करे।

श्री लक्ष्मनदाला (भागलपुर मध्य) :
समाप्ति जी, यह जो विषेय अभी संसद के सामने रखका गया है इस में यह तो सभी की राय है कि इस समय कुछ श्रेणी के आदमियों के पास धन बेशी (अधिक) है और कुछ श्रेणियों के आदमियों के पास बहुत कम है। तथा कई श्रेणी के आदमियों के पास कुछ कम है। यह जो फर्क है उस को हमें मिटाना चाहिये। इस में दोनों बातें हैं। नैतिकता भी है और इस में इस की भी आवश्यकता है कि जो धन एक आदमी के पास है, वह उस के पास न रह कर के इस प्रकार से देश के काम में लगाया जाय जिस से गरीब से गरीब आदमी को उस का लाभ हो।

जो बड़े आदमी हैं वह फिजूल खर्च करते हैं और उन की सन्तान बिना समझे बूझे खर्च करती है। वह लोग यह समझते हैं कि हमें अधिकार है हम चाहे जितना और चाहे जिस तरह से खर्च करें। इस में देश का हित होता है या अहित होता है, या इस से देश पर कैसा नैतिक प्रभाव पड़ता है इस की वह परवाह नहीं करते और मनमाने ढांग से चलते हैं। अब इस बात की बड़ी भारी जरूरत है कि यह भावना पैदा हो कि जो धन में पैदा करता हूँ वह केवल मेरे अपने लड़कों के लिये ही नहीं है, परन्तु अब मनुष्य को अपने विचार की सीमा विस्तृत करनी चाहिये और यह समझना चाहिये कि यह सारा देश हमारा है और जितने लोग इस में रहते हैं वह हमारे भाई हैं और जो हमारा पैसा है वह उन के उपकार के लिये लगे। जिस दिन आदमी की यह बृत्ति हो जायेगी उस दिन जो लोग इस बिल का योड़ा सा भी विरोध अपने मन में करते हैं वह नहीं रहेगा। अतएव यह जो बिल इस समय लाया गया है यह बहुत जरूरी है ऐसा सभी लोग मानते हैं।

इस पर, जैसा कि हमारे भाई शाह साहब ने कहा है, दो आपत्तियों उठाई गई हैं। एक तो हमारे राम राज्य परिषद के नन्द लाल जी शर्मा ने सनातन धर्म की दुहाई दे कर के आपत्ति की है। मैं शास्त्रज्ञ नहीं हूँ और न मैं बुलेकर साहब जैसा शास्त्रों का जानने वाला हूँ। परन्तु मैं अपने उन सनातन धर्मविलम्बी भाइयों से यह पूछना चाहूँगा कि जब इस समय भारत वर्ष में लोगों को खाना नहीं मिलता है और यदि हमारी सरकार उनी लोगों से रुपया ले कर उन को खाना और कपड़ा पढ़वाने की चेष्टा करे तो इस से बढ़ कर और कौन सा दूसरा सनातन धर्म हो सकता है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। अतः ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : सरकार ही यदि रुपया खा जाये तो ?

श्री भूनाथनबाला : यदि सरकार रुपया खा जाये तो जिस समय बजट पेश हो उस समय हम लोग देख सकते हैं और यह हमारा और आप लोगों का काम है कि देखें कि कौन रुपया खा जाता है । यह हर एक सदस्य का कर्तव्य है कि वह देखे कि ठीक से काम चलता है या नहीं । सरकार के तो थोड़े से आदमी हैं परन्तु आप का भी तो काम है कि देखें । यहां आ कर केवल यह कह देना कि सरकार खा जाती है, अच्छा तो नहीं लगता ।

दूसरी आपत्ति हमारे भाई सोमानी जी ने की । वह यह है कि इस समय इस बिल के पास हो जाने से हमारे देश में जो हर एक चीज़ की उत्पत्ति है उस में कभी पड़ जायेगी । सरकार की यह नीति है कि इस समय हर एक चीज़ का उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाय । हमारी प्लार्निंग कमीशन ने वर्षों तक बैठ कर इस बात पर विचार किया है कि किस प्रकार हमारे देश का उत्पादन बढ़े । और जो प्लार्निंग कमीशन की रिपोर्ट है वह पार्लियामेंट के सामने रखी गई है और उस को हम सब लोगों ने मंजूर कर लिया है । तो यह काम तो प्लार्निंग कमीशन ने कर दिया और उन की यह सिफारिश है कि इस प्रकार का बिल लाना चाहिये और इस प्रकार का बिल ला कर के कुछ रुपया लेना चाहिये जिस से कि हमारा उत्पादन बढ़े । अब यदि किसी आदमी या किसी संस्था का उस से भत्तेदेद हो कि इस से उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ेगा, इस से कैपिटल फारपेशन नहीं होगा, तब तो उस का कोई अन्त ही नहीं आ जेगा और न हम कोई राय कायम कर सकेंगे । सरकार ने प्लार्निंग कमीशन बिठाई थी और उस ने यह राय कायम कर दी; और उस ने यह कहा कि हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिये और जो हमारी डेवलपमेंट

स्कीम्स ह उन के लिये एस्टेट ड्यूटी बिल लाना बहुत जरूरी है । इस बास्ते यह लाया गया है । अब अगर हर एक स्टेज पर हम उस में शंका करते जायें तब तो उस का कोई अन्त ही नहीं आ जेगा । इस लिये हमारे भाई सोमानी साहब को इस में अब शंका नहीं करनी चाहिये और हमारे भाई सोमानी साहब को और उन के साथियों को पूर्ण रूप से इस बिल का समर्थन करना चाहिये और इस प्रकार का संशोधन आदि तभी लाना चाहिये जिस से इस में बाधा पड़े । परन्तु, हां, वह ऐसा संशोधन ला सकते हैं यदि किसी के ऊपर अनुचित अन्याय होता हो या सचमुच में देश के उत्पादन में बाधा पड़ती हो ।

इतना कह कर जो इस विधेयक की धारायें हैं मैं उन के ऊपर दो तीन बातें कहना चाहता इस को देखने के पहले मैं एक बात कह देना चाहता हूँ । उस बात को मैं अन्त में भी कह सकता था पर पहले ही कह देना चाहता हूँ । सभापति जी ने भी जैसा कहा है, सरकार हम से यह रुपया मरने के बाद ले रही है । जब आदमी जीता होता है तो वह देखता है कि सरकार उस के रुपये से यह यह काम कर रही है । अतएव आप ने कहा कि इस रुपये का कुछ हिस्सा शिक्षा के लिये, कुछ हिस्सा इसका और अच्छे कामों के लिये इग्रामार्क (विशिष्ट रूप से अलग) कर देना चाहिये ताकि जो आदमी मरे उस को यह मंतोष हो कि मेरा जो पैसा जायगा वह इस इस काम में जरूर लगेगा । जब यह बिल पहले पेश हुआ था तब मैं ने उस के ऊपर यह संशोधन दिया था कि इस का रुपया जितना भी आवे वह हमारे देश में जो इस समय बेकारी हो रही है उस को दूर करने में और जो गांवों में लोग भूमि मर रहे हैं उन को खाना देने में लर्ज किया जाय और इस काम के लिये इस से आमद की सारी रकम की अलग रक

[**श्री शनमूनवाला**]

दिया जाये। अतएव जो भी हो किसी न किसी काम के लिये इस रूपये को अलग रख देना चाहिये। जब भी शिक्षा में रुपया देने की बात आती है तो हमारे शिक्षा मंत्री मौलाना साहब कह देते हैं कि हमारी जेब खाली पड़ी है। तो जब एक तरफ जेब खाली है और दूसरी तरफ टैक्स पर आपत्ति होती रहेगी तब हमारे देश का, जो कि बैलकेशर स्टेट कहलाता है, काम कैसे चलेगा। जैसा कि सभापति जो ने कहा था, हम ने यह मान लिया है हमारा जो स्टेट है वह बैलकेशर स्टेट है। ऐसो हालत में सब को सुश्राही कर इस का साय देना चाहिये और इस को हमें मंजूर करना चाहिये।

कुछ बातें लोगों को अलग रही हैं। एक तो यह है कि जो दायभाग से गवर्न होते हैं वह यह कहते हैं कि मिताभर कानून तें गवर्न होने वालों की अपेक्षा उन पर बहुत अधिक बोझ पड़ेगा। इस का जवाब हमारे भाई बैंकटरमण जो ने दिया है। खैर वह एक जवाब है। परन्तु यदि ये दोनों भेद मिटा दिये जायें, यदि ऐसा हो जाये, मैं नहीं जानता कि ऐसा हो सकता है या नहीं, इस प्रकार का संशोधन में ने सोचा नहीं है, परन्तु यदि यह हो सके और दायभाग से गवर्न होने वाले भाइयों की आपत्ति मिट जाये और सरकार को पैसा आने में कमी न हो तो इन दोनों का भेद मिटा देना चाहिये।

दूसरी बात यह है कि धारा ९ में यह आवृत्ति रखा गया है कि इत्यु के दो वर्ष पहले जो कोई अपनो जायदाद को दान कर दे और वह बोनाकाइडो हो तो वैसो हालत में उप के ऊर टैक्स नहीं लगेगा। यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आयी कि दो बरस पहले कर दे और बोनाकाइडो हो। तो बोनाकाइडो का वहां पर क्या अर्थ है यह ठीक मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। हां, यह हो सकता है कि दो

बरस पहले कर दे, जाहे जैन भी हो उसने कर दिया इस में यह क्लाऊ दिये हैं कि जित वास्त। वह दान करे उप वक्त से हो वह उस प्राप्त्यो का पुत्रेशन अपने पास न रखे, जिस को दान किया हो उस को दे दे। और उस से जो आमदनों हो उस को वह न भ गे। यदि यही दो ब ना फाइडी के काइटीरियन (मापदण्ड) हैं तब तो ठीक है। लेकिन इस के अतिरिक्त यदि और भी कोई काइटीरियन है तो वह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। वह साफ कर देना चाहिये। नहीं तो इस में एक बड़ा भारी मतभेद होने का डर है।

तीसरी बात यह है कि इस में ५० हजार रूपये और ७५ हजार रूपये को छूट दी गई है वह क्लाऊ ३४ में है। इस में यह कहा गया है कि ५० हजार रूपये तक की लिमिट उन को लगेगी जो मिताभर से गवर्न होते हैं, अर्थात् जो कोवार्सनरों में हैं। वाको दूसरों को ७५ हजार रुपये तक की छूट दी जायेगी, जो लोग कि अपनी कपाई से पैशा करते हैं। परन्तु यह जो क्लाऊ रखा गया है इस से यह कुछ साफ मालूम नहीं होता है कि यदि एक आमदनी को इनकम दोनों प्रकार की हो, मिताभर ज्वाइंट पैतृक सम्पत्ति से भी कोई आमदनों को हो और उस को अपनी भी आमदनी की दुई हो, इस प्रकार को दो आमदनें हों, तो इस में कुछ डिस्ट्रिक्शन जो बनलाया गया है वह साफ नहीं मालूम होता है। यहां दो चार अच्छे लायसें थे, उन से भी मैं ने पूछा। वे भी ठीक ठीक उत्तर नहीं दे सके। इसलिये मतभेद होने का डर है। इसलिये यह साफ कर दिया जाये तो अच्छा होगा। अगर आर यही कर दें कि सभी के लिये ७५ हजार रूपये रहेंगे, तो यह चीज साफ रहेगी।

सभापति जो, मुझे इनी प्रकार से बहुत सी बातें कहती थीं। परन्तु अब आप ने बहंती

बजा दी, तो में केवल इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि उन के मित्र जो उन की बगल में बैठे थे, डाक्टर काट्जू, उन्होंने कहा कि "He regards this measure as the good God's gift for Lawyers." मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस में ऐसा कोई प्रावीजन आप न रखें कि जितनी भी आप को इयूटी मिले वह तो ठीक है मिले, आप को मिलेगी तो वह तो अच्छे काम में लगेगी और उस को आप अच्छी तरह से चलावेंगे, परन्तु यह जो गिफ्ट है, यदि यह बकीलों के पास चला जाय तो इस में हमें आपत्ति है।

श्री पाटस्कर (जलगांव) : जिस वक्त आप कायदे बनाते हैं तो उस में शब्द लिखते हैं, उन का इंटरप्रिटेशन करना पड़ता है, तो लायर तो आ ही जावेंगे।

वित्त मंत्री (श्री सी० डी० देशनुज्जा०) : उन की एस्टेट से भी वसूल किया जायगा।

श्री शून्मलशाला : यह ठीक है, यह भी एक तरह से इक्विलाइजेशन आफ वैल्य (धन का समानीकरण) है। लेकिन लायर के पास जो जाना पड़ता है तो उन को कोस देनी पड़ती ही है, यह ठीक है, क्योंकि हमारा धन या वह उन को भी मिलता है। यह पाटस्कर साहब बोले उन का कहना ठीक है, क्योंकि वह भी तो इसी क्लास के हैं। परन्तु मेरा कहना यह है कि रुपया देने के अलावा जो परेशानी होती है उस का अन्त नहीं है। परेशानी बहुत बेशी (अधिक) होती है। हम को टैक्स देना हुआ, यदि हजार रुपया टैक्स देना होता है तो बकीलों के पास घूमते घूमते बहुत परेशान होना पड़ता है। कोई कुछ कहता है तो कोई कुछ कहता है। जैसे मैंने अभी उदाहरण दिया कि ७५

हजार रुपये और ५० हजार रुपये में क्या है, यह मैं ने तीन चार आदमियों से पूछा तो उन्होंने कहा कि हम तो नहीं समझते। किसी ने एक बात बताई किसी ने दूसरी बात बताई। तो इस प्रकार के जो प्रावीजन्स हैं इन को आप ठीक कर दें ताकि लायर के पास न घूमना पड़े और जो मतभेद होने का डर है वह भी दूर हो जाये।

आप ने अपने व्याख्यान में बहुत सी बातें अच्छी तरह से सुलझा कर हम लोगों को समझा दीं और जो पहले समझ में नहीं आई थीं वे समझ में आ गई हैं। अतएव प्रमेंडमेंट (संशोधन) रखते समय जहाँ कहीं कोई शंका की बात हो उस को दूर करने की आप चेष्टा करें। अब समय खत्म हो गया है इतना ही कह कर बैठ जाता हूँ।

DELHI ROAD TRANSPORT AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Chairman: It is now 11.30. We shall take up the Delhi Road Transport Authority (Amendment) Bill, and as soon as it is finished, we shall revert again to the Estate Duty Bill and the discussion will continue. Shri Alagesan.

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act, 1950, as passed by the Council of States, be taken into consideration."

I am sorry to trouble the House on this last day for a few minutes with this small measure. This is occasioned by an oversight in my Ministry. They have failed to issue the notification required under section 1(3) of the Act, bringing the Act itself into force. As the House knows, the Act was passed in 1950. Two notifications should have been issued more or less simultaneously, bringing the Act into force under section 1(3) and establishing the Authority itself under section 3(1). The notification establishing the Authority was issued, but due to an error the other notification was not issued. This is the reason for bringing this Bill. Clause 3 of

[**Shri Alagesan**]

the Bill provides for the validation of all actions that have been taken both by Government and by the Authority during this period. It is a very formal clause. The whole Bill is a very formal one, and I hope the House will not take long to pass it.

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): I wish to say a few words.

Mr. Chairman: Let me place the motion before the House.

Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act, 1950, as passed by the Council of States, be taken into consideration."

Shri Nambiar: This amendment is, of course technical and tries to validate certain actions taken. So many actions have been taken under this Act. I do not question all of them, but I wish to refer to some of them, particularly in regard to the treatment meted out to the staff, e.g., conductors, drivers, workers etc. I have reported to the hon. Minister several instances as to how these men were treated. In many cases, the actions were grossly unjustifiable. The General Secretary of a Registered Union recognised by the Authority has been discharged on a flimsy ground. His name is Sharma. He is a conductor himself. This instance was the subject of a question in this House. He has been discharged for the reason that he gave a passenger the wrong change, i.e., instead of paying back two annas, he paid back one anna. That was the error committed by him, and for that he has been discharged. When this matter was taken up, I was told: "Oh, it is only departmental action. It has nothing to do with Trade Union activity." The fact remains that this man is the General Secretary of the Union. This discharge created a lot of tension and excitement. Maintenance of service was threatened. There was a strike. The men waited on the General Manager in a deputation and demonstrated before Scindia House. But the man has not been taken back yet. This discharge was a grossly illegal action. Government and the Authority were not satisfied with this. They have suspended half a dozen active Trade Union members in the shed. That happened only a month back. I can give you the names. I have already communicated the names to

the Transport Minister. They were all active members of the Trade Union, executive members. They were suspended all of a sudden. The reason given was that during their off time inside the shed they conducted some demonstration. Subsequently I negotiated with the Transport Minister and they were asked to give an apology for their misbehaviour. That is the term they used, but they never misbehaved. Now after long negotiation, they have been taken back. So, their Trade Union is being hunted, and all sorts of indirect pressure is exercised to make the Union work not in the interests of the workers, but to support whatever is done by the D.T.S. authorities.

Apart from the labour problem, I have to submit to you about the transport service. I have got all respect for the Transport Minister, but I can say that the feeling of the common man in Delhi is that the transport service is most unsatisfactory. Even if you wait for half an hour or 45 minutes.....

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): One hour.

Shri Nambiar: I do not know your experience, you may have a car, but the persons who are travelling by bus, even if they wait for 30 or 40 or 45 minutes, they will not get a bus. There were occasions when people, after waiting so much time, had to walk and go late to their offices and undergo a lot of difficulty. In the peak hours, in the morning as well as in the evening, there is so much rush that the people are not getting the benefit of the transport service. It is said that recently they have put some more fleet of buses but the service as such has not changed. It is not only my experience. It is the experience of the Delhi people.

With regard to the buses, their capacity and maintenance, I have much to say, because the D.T.S. men—the conductors and drivers—have told me that it is impossible on certain occasions to run the buses. Many of the buses are unserviceable except in extraordinary circumstances because of the efforts made by the staff. People get frightened when they see the buses coming and the way in which they behave. And recently there have been some severe accidents. I am not condemning the D.T.S. as such, but I say much attention has to be paid towards the future of the Delhi Transport Service.

Here they have got this authority and it must be given legal status. Of course, it was conducting itself with no legal status so far. We are going to give it, and that too with retrospective effect. Only yesterday we passed a Bill with retrospective effect. This is another Bill to be passed with retrospective effect. At the same time, what are the guarantees given to this House and the people that the D.T.S. would improve? There was a General Manager whom they have changed, and a new man has come. I have no personal quarrel with him. I do not know him, but he is, I have heard complaints from the staff, not a person liked by the staff because he is a person of experience in the General Motors etc. I do not go beyond that, because the Minister will say that he is not here to defend himself. He is not a person liked by the staff at present. That is the trouble. He wants to create some sort of disruption among the staff so that this recognized and representative organization may be by-passed and some sort of workers' committee or some sort of the staff council is brought in supported by the officialdom. Therefore, the Delhi Transport Authority requires thorough change, and the Delhi Transport Service also should warrant a closer attention of this House to see that it is well conducted.

When I go and represent the matter, the hon. Minister says: "After all, we are only here to supervise, and it is the Authority which has to do everything." And when we go to the Authority, they say: "Why do you come to us. Go to the Minister. We cannot give answer to you. We are small persons, executive people. We cannot deal with it." I hesitated to go to the General Manager on many an occasion when there was a crisis. When there was so much trouble here in regard to certain communal tension there was an attempt to stop the bus service by attacking the staff from within, by suspending the workers, so that the workers may go on strike. What communal bias that officer had. I have my own doubts. I brought it to the notice of the Authority that these people may be working in league with certain persons. So it requires careful scrutiny and the officials on whom we have suspicion must be searched. They should not be allowed to go anywhere.

In the capital City of Delhi, when we come here we see that the transport service is so bad. I am coming from Madras. We have got a Government bus service there, and it is

thousand times better than the service here. I can claim it. Therefore, we have got to provide....

Shri Radha Raman (Delhi City): On a point of order. Sir, I should like to know if the hon. Member can speak about the grievances of the D.T.S. staff. Is it within the scope of the Bill? Are these relevant points?

Mr. Chairman: When this Bill is under consideration, every hon. Member can oppose the Bill, can support the Bill, and the Bill can be opposed on this ground also. Therefore I do not think this point arises.

I would request the hon. Member to be brief.

Shri Nambiar: Yes, Sir. I shall make it brief for the convenience of the Minister—and today is the last day.

My difficulty is this. With regard to the law, why should there be a law? They say they have got something like 300 or 400 buses, and they have got their own factory, and they have got their own staff—not much paid. They are ill-paid I know, less paid than in Madras. Why should there be so much of law? Did the Government go into the question and conduct an enquiry into the matter.

The staff themselves, through their union, have volunteered so much of help to the authority saying that this can run on a profitable basis if certain routes are well-planned at peak hours, if certain time-table changes are there if certain so-called condemned buses are brought into repair with the help of the staff. If there is consultation between the Union and the Authority concerned, if the union and the workers are taken into confidence, things can be improved and it will be far more better than it is today. But they do not want the co-operation of the staff; they do not want it to be economical; they do not want to see that the Delhi people are better served. That is my grievance. Otherwise, in the capital City of Delhi you can yourself imagine such a thing can never happen. I can understand it in the mofussil, if it is a district centre. Therefore, it requires careful consideration, and this House must watch.

We, can, of course, allow this Bill to be passed, but all the illegal acts committed against the staff and their Union must also be rectified and the persons concerned must be reinstated, and better co-operation should be achieved between the staff and the Authority. This is my request. Of course, I am making the request to an

[Shri Nambiar]

empty bench. The Deputy Minister is here. The Transport Minister is not here. Anyhow, I have to make a request to him, and I hope he will certainly consider the matter.

Shri Dabhi (Kaira North): While supporting this Bill, I would like to say a few words on the working of the Delhi Transport Service which is operated by the Delhi Road Transport Authority.

I have previous experience of the public buses running in several cities of this country, viz., Ahmedabad, Poona, Bombay, etc., but I have never seen a city where the service is so irregular, so unpunctual, so inefficient and wherein the rates are so high as in this transport service. In most of the routes if you go half a furlong even, two annas are charged. That is about the route.

About negligence and complaints, I had made one complaint in the first session against the rude behaviour and conduct of a conductor. It took about four months even to finish the enquiry and come to a conclusion. And that after repeated reminders! After four months they say that they have taken action, and that without contacting me even.

Then, about the conductors and drivers. We know that in every bus service it is the duty of the conductor to give information to the passengers or supply information at least to strangers. Several times I myself and other passengers have asked them: 'When will this bus start', 'Where will it go' etc. and their answer has been 'I do not know'. Every time the conductor says that he does not know. This is the conduct of these conductors. In many cases when a bus arrives at a bus stop, before passengers get in the conductor gives the whistle and sometimes passengers fall down. Sometimes even before the conductor whistles, the drivers start the bus. This is not solitary instance. I myself have experienced such cases several times. Only a few days ago I had such an experience.

As regards punctuality and regularity, I want to relate some of my experience. At very few places time-tables are fixed. Only a few days ago I had written through the Secretary of Parliament and then they put up some time-table at some places. Even at a place like the Secretariat, from where about a dozen buses start up to this time there was no time-table. When I wrote to them, they fixed

time-table at one or two places and there also the times are not given. They merely say that every 15 minutes or 20 minutes or 30 minutes the bus will come. So, the passengers do not know when it will arrive and when it will start. Several times I have had to stop along with other passengers at the Secretariat. We have had to wait for 20 minutes, 30 minutes and 40 minutes and then afterwards we have had to walk in order to go to North Avenue. Only a few days ago we had such an experience at the Secretariat bus stop. It was raining at that time. The starting time of the route No. 15 bus was eight in the evening. After 20 minutes a bus was to start, then another after 30 minutes. But I arrived there at eight P.M. and we were there up to nine P.M. and in the rain. No bus came, there was no tonga and I and other passengers were drenched and we had to go to North Avenue walking.

Then there are several instances both of negligence of service and bad conduct. My hon. friend, Mr. Nambiar, wanted to suggest that only higher officers were negligent. I say that the conductors are even more negligent. So also the drivers. I will relate an instance of a few days ago. The starting time of the bus from the Secretariat was twelve. There were two buses for route No. 15. But they left the bus and went away saying their duty was over. I do not know whether their duty was over. But no bus started and we had to go to North Avenue walking.

So this is the position of the service. Of course, I have drawn the attention of the hon. Deputy Minister to this state of affairs and he has promised to look into the matter. But I still wanted to bring to the notice of this House the state of affairs in Delhi.

Lastly, this is the capital of India and here we must have an ideal bus service. So even from this point of view also, I hope Government will see that all this negligence, irregularity and unpunctuality is set right, and an ideal bus service is run in the capital of India.

Mr. Chairman: Before we proceed with further discussion of this Bill, I will request hon. Members not to go into very deep details about any defects in this service, because after all it is a very small Bill and is technical. Hon. Members may make out

any points in brief if they have got any grievances of this nature. But if they go into details of their experiences, it will take a long time. I should think this Bill should be finished within a very short time; we should be able to finish it in five or ten minutes.

Shri Begawat (Ahmednagar South): I do not want to repeat what my friend, Mr. Dabhi, has already said. But it is a disheartening thing that the bus service in the capital city should be so inefficient that people have to wait for hours and hours. Yesterday I had written to the Minister. I can say that only two days back about 200 people had to wait for nearly an hour and a half on route No. 27, and the conductor came and he took only four or five people and went away. So many ladies and children were left there and they had to hire some tonga or some taxi or some other conveyance. We have been experiencing this for a year. Here in the capital city the bus service ought to be a very ideal service. Just look at Bombay. How efficient the service is. I say this is all due to the negligence of the employees. They do not care for the public and the management is not so strict as it ought to be. It is the duty of the higher officers, also to look to the convenience of the public. If they do not do it, they are not discharging their duty. Even Members of Parliament are inconvenienced. What about the poor ordinary people? Ladies who had to go to Vinay Nagar or Lajpat Nagar at night time could not get any service. There were no tongas also. It is very disgraceful on our part, when the Government is managing all this service, that people should be troubled and inconvenienced.

So I want to bring this to the notice of the Government. The officers and all the employees should behave properly and do their duty. I can say this is all due to the instigation of some people. These conductors and the employees are behaving so badly that they do not care for the public convenience. So my humble suggestion is that the Minister should note all these things and instruct the officers also and see that this service is as efficient as in Bombay.

Shri Raja Ram: सभापति जी, इस विषयक के सम्बन्ध में मैं चन्द बातों को आप के सामने

और सभा के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। देहली रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट के विषय में आमी जिन सदस्यों ने अपने विवार रखे हैं मैं उन से लफज बलफज इतिहास करता (शब्दश: सहमत), हूँ।

मैं जानता हूँ कि देहली रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट की हालत एक दारु शिखाफा (राजधानी) जैसे शहर में इस कदर खगड़ है कि कोई भी आदमी उस की तारीफ तो क्या कोई ऐसा लफज भी नहीं कह सकता जो कि सन्तोषजनक हो। सवारियों की तकलीफ के बारे में, कंडक्टर के अपने व्यवहार के बारे में, ड्राइवरों के बलाने के बारे में जितनी भी बातें यहाँ पर कही गई उन में और भी इच्छाका किया जा सकता है। सदन के सामने सदाचार भी आये हैं। उन से भी यह बात जाहिर है कि डी० टी० एस० का इन्तजाम निहायत ही खराब और खस्ता है और जितनी जल्दी इस तरफ तब्ज्जह दी जाय वह मुनासिब है। ऐसीडेंट्स (दुर्घटनायें) तो हम रोजाना सड़कों पर देखते हैं। जिन हमारे सदस्यों को इस तरफ व्याप देने का मौका मिला होगा वह जान गये होंगे कि बहुत बार यह ड्राइवर लोग इतनी ग़फ़लत करते हैं जिस से साल के अन्दर बहुत सी जानें भी चली जाती हैं। लोगों को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह पहुँचने में कितनी तकलीफ होती है, कितनी कितनी देर तक हम सड़कों पर लड़े हो जाते हैं तब कहीं जा कर बस मिलती है। यह सब बातें सामने आ चुकी हैं। लेकिन मैं एक और बात की ओर तब्ज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि यह बिल इस बात को ऐमेन्ड (संशोधित) करता है कि २७ मार्च, १९५० को जो काम हो जाना चाहिये या वह नहीं हुआ और हम चाहते हैं कि वह अब हो जाये। यह छोटी सी बात नहीं है। हम कैपिटल में बसते हैं और यहाँ पर पार्लिया-

[श्री राधा रमण]

मेंट भी है, मिनिस्टरस भी हैं और हमारी केन्द्रीय सरकार के मातहत यह दिल्ली रोड ट्रांसपोर्ट है। तीन साल एक गलत काम को हो जाते हैं और यह बड़ा ताज्जुब मालूम होता है कि तीन साल में न सिर्फ उस अधारिटी के किसी जिम्मेदार आदमी ने, न सिर्फ उस की जो सुपरवाइजरी बाड़ी है उस ने, बल्कि मिनिस्ट्री तक ने इस बात का ख्याल नहीं किया कि इतनी जबरदस्त गलती हमारे डिपार्टमेंट से हो रही है और उस को जल्दी से जल्दी रफा करना चाहिये। तीन साल के अरसे में जितने भी इस गलती के नतीजे के तौर पर काम हुए हैं उन को हमें लाचारी में कानून बना कर मंजूर करना पड़ेगा या सही करना पड़ेगा। यह तो हम करेंगे। इस के लिये हमारे पास कोई चारा नहीं है। मगर जब हमारे सामने ऐसे मौके आते हैं तो हमें यह जरूर देखना चाहिये और मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि हाउस के सामने जब आप यह बिल पेश करते हैं और चाहते हैं कि यह मंजूर किया जाय, तो हमें यह बताया जाय कि तीन साल तक जिन असलास (व्यक्तियों) की बजह से, या जिन अफसरान की बजह से यह गलती हुई है उन के सम्बन्ध में गवर्नरमेंट ने या डिपार्टमेंट ने क्या कदम उठाया है। अगर इस शहर में कोई, छोटी सी भी बात या गलती होती है तो उस का एक बड़ा भारो खिमियाजा आप को उठाना पड़ता है और उस से सरकार का प्रेस्टिज (प्रतिष्ठा) कमज़ोर होता है। उस से जो लोगों को गवर्नरमेंट पर भरोसा है वह कम हो जाता है और आम लोगों का असंतोष बढ़ जाता है। अगर वह कोई दो चार दस पांच रोज़ की गलती हो तो यह समझा जा सकता है कि यह एक मामूली बात है जिस को नज़र अन्दाज़ किया जा सकता है। इस को बन्द दिन पहले आजाना था। लेकिन एक चीज़ को तीन साल

गुज़र जायें जहां पर कि सेंटर हो, जहां पर एक मिनिस्ट्री भी हो, सुपरवाइजरी बाड़ी भी हो और एक इंडिपेंडेंट स्टेट्यूटरी अधारिटी (स्वतंत्र अनुबिहित अधिकारी) भी हो, और फिर भी उन के जरिये एक गलती हो बड़ा ताज्जुब होता है। किसी आदमी का दिमाग़ उस को मंजूर नहीं करना चाहता। इस से गवर्नरमेंट के प्रेस्टिज का बहुत लास (प्रतिष्ठा तथा मान की हानि) होता है और आम लोगों को बड़ा असन्तोष होता है कि जब हुकूमत इन छोटी छोटी चीज़ों में इन बातों का ख्याल नहीं रख सकती तो एक बड़ी हुकूमत को कैसे इंसाफ और ऐफिलेशनी (कार्यक्षमता) के साथ चला सकेगी। तो मैं अपने मंत्री महोदय से और सरकार से यह अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि आप जो यह बिल यहां लाये हैं हम उसे जरूर पास करेंगे और जो कुछ भी इस असना (समय) के अन्दर कार्यवाहियां हुई हों उन को मंजूर भी करेंगे, उन्हें कानूनी तरीके पर ठीक करने के लिये यह बिल पास करेंगे, लेकिन हमें संतोष होना चाहिये कि इस किस्म की कार्यवाहियां आइन्दा कर्तव्य बन्द हो जायेंगी और जो लोग इस किस्म की गलती के जिम्मेदार हैं उन को ऐसी इवरतअंगेज (प्रासजनक) सजा मिलेगी ताकि आइन्दा गवर्नरमेंट को इस लिस्ट की तकलीफ न उठानी पड़े कि वह इस किस्म की गलतियों को यहां ला कर मंजूर न कराये। मैं जो एक बात अर्ज़ करना चाहता था। वह मैं ने कह दी। बाकी इस के अलावा मैं यह जरूर समझता हूँ कि दिल्ली ट्रांसपोर्ट अधारिटी के इन्टिजाम के मुतालिक हमारी सरकार का ध्यान बहुत जल्दी खिचना चाहिये। हमें यह बतलाया गया है कि दिल्ली की ट्रांसपोर्ट (यातायात) की समस्या रेल के जरिये नहीं बल्कि बस के जरिये बहुत जल्द दुर्लक्ष होगी और एक स्कीम भी

सामने रखी गई है कि जिस के जरिये यह कहा जाता है कि जितनी भी कठिनाइयां इस के मुतालिक नजर आ रही हैं वहूत जल्दी दूर हो जायेंगी। लेकिन किस तरीके पर यह चीज तरकी कर रही है उस से हमें यह भरोसा नहीं होता कि जितने असना में यह काम हो जाना चाहिये उतने असना में हो जायगा। इसलिये मैं भंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूं कि यह सेंटर है, यहां आप की सेंट्रल संरक्षार रहती है, वहां पर लोगों का ध्यान खास कर लगा रहता है। इस लिये जरूरत है कि कम से कम वक्त में दिल्ली ट्रांसपोर्ट अथारिटी के उन तमाम इन्तजामों को जो खराब नजर आते हैं दूर किया जाय और यहां को बस सर्विस को एक ऐसी बस सर्विस बनाया जाय कि जो दूसरे शहरों के लिये एक नमूना हो। जब हम बम्बई, कलकत्ता और दूसरे बड़े शहरों को बस सर्विस का ध्यान करते हैं तो हमें दिल्ली पर शर्म आती है। दिल्ली को बसों की हालत और टाइमटेबिल वर्ग रह की हालत, और यहां के कंडक्टरों और ड्राइवरों का जो रवैया है, यह सब चीजें दूसरे शहरों से नोचो और पिछड़ी हूई नजर प्राप्त हैं। इसलिये इस बात को बड़ी भारी जरूरत है कि जब हम यहां रहते हुए इतने बड़े तमाम मुल्क को आंखें अपने पर लगाये हुए हैं तो हम इस बात को जिम्मेदारी को महसूस करें कि जल्दी से जल्दी इस इन्तजाम को ठीक किया जाय और खास तौर पर उन अफसरान को गलतियों को किसी तरह भी न ज़रूर प्रदान न किया जाय जिनकी जिम्मेदारी पर यह बस सर्विस चल रही है, क्योंकि यह हमारी इनएफिसेंशी को बढ़ाने का एक बहुत बड़ा ज़रिया बना जाता है। इन अल्फात के साथ इस बिल को जो कि आपके सामने रखा गया है सपोर्ट (समर्थन) करता हूं और यह उम्मीद करता हूं कि तमाम साहिबन जो इस सदन में हैं वह यह जानते हुए

कि तीन साल पहले यह गलती हुई थी और इस गलती को ठीक करना ही हमारे लिये मुनासिब है, इस बिल को मंजूर करेंगे।

12 NOON

Mr. Chairman: It has been sufficiently discussed.

Shri Raghavaiah (Ongole): Only five minutes, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Shri Raghavaiah: Before giving assent to this piece of legislation brought to this House for giving new life to the Act, we would like to give a few suggestions to the Government of India for running these D.T.S. buses in an efficient and useful manner, useful to the public and to the workers also.

Before making any suggestions, we would like to criticise the present administration of the D.T.S. I do not want to add to the catalogue of grievances that have been made by hon. Members both on this side and on the side of the Government. Suffice it to say at present, that a stage has come when inefficiency in the running of the D.T.S. will not be tolerated even for a moment. Grievances after grievances have been made against the workers of different strata. Before going into that, let us consider for a moment whether the salaries paid to these employees are living wages at all. A conductor gets less than Rs. 100 and a driver gets at the most Rs. 100 or Rs. 110. Sir, you know how difficult it is in this city

Mr. Chairman: Salaries of workers are not germane to the consideration of the present Bill. This is a formal Bill and I do not think that in this discussion we should go into the question of the salaries of drivers and conductors. However, as he has started it, I will request him to be very brief.

Shri Raghavaiah: Sir, you know that even for Rs. 70 or Rs. 80 it is very difficult to get a small house with one or two rooms in the city. It is sickening to look at one or two room houses in old Delhi for residence. Under such inhuman conditions, you expect the drivers and conductors to work in an efficient manner. I do not want again to go into the depths of the workers' grievances. The Minister of Transport must know them a great deal. All that I would like to appeal to him is to have a human understanding and enable the workers, the conductors

[Shri Raghavaiah]

and the drivers in the transport services to work. Sir, you know in the International Labour Conferences it is an accepted truth that there should be eight hours work and the workers should not be asked to work more because it will result in premature deaths and premature loss of vitality. Even at this stage, the very fact that the hon. the Railway and Transport Minister has not recognised this simple truth that there shall be only eight hours work and not more is really deplorable.

I would just like to make a few suggestions for the efficient running and administration of the transport services. The first thing is that you should not go on asking the drivers and the conductors as to the timing of the buses. There should be a notice board at the Secretariat, at the place from where the buses start and according to the time table the buses should start. One bus comes at 4.2 P.M. and another at 4.22 P.M. The buses are running at 20 minutes intervals. You know that in Bombay and Madras and cities like that you have got bus services at five or ten minutes intervals. The people need not stand in queues as they stand before ration shops whenever there is food scarcity. That should not be the fate of passengers especially in this capital city of New Delhi. It should not be the lot of passengers in the capital of India. It is also a deplorable fact that the buses do not run to time. Sometimes the buses do not have lights. Yesterday night I wanted to board a bus; the conductor told me that the bus will not be going to its destination as there were no lights. In the case of the next bus into which I got the holding rod was broken. This is the way in which the buses of the Delhi Transport Service are run. I have come to know that they have a workshop. It is surprising that in spite of it the buses should ply in this way—with lights not functioning, the holding rods broken, etc.

For the efficient functioning of the service, the following are necessary: better conditions of service to all the employees, from the lowest to the highest; confirmation of the temporary staff; increase the frequency of the buses, say five minutes or ten minutes. There should also be proper distribution of buses on the routes. For instance, certain routes, like, Goal Market, for instance require a greater number of buses.

I hope the hon. Minister will take into consideration all the suggestions and give effect to them immediately

and not make promises only to be broken, as is the case with the Government of India.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): This Act was passed in the year 1950. This amending measure is said to be to correct a technical error. But it is a substantial error. Government have failed to implement the Act though it was passed three years ago. They say that through oversight they could not implement this Act. I have of late been observing that this Government is specialising in the art of oversight; also they are specialising in the art of shortsight.

Shri S. S. More (Sholapur): What about insight?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: My hon. friend Mr. More says that they are not showing any insight. I want the hon. Minister to show hereafter at least better insight into this matter.

I want to refer to one or two important things about the management of the Delhi Transport. Again and again on the floor of this House we are complaining that this Government is most inefficient, most incompetent to manage its affairs. And that is most reflected in the D.T.S. The inefficiency in this case is hundred per cent, or it will go even more than hundred per cent. This bus service cannot be called a service. It is a mess-service.

Shri S. S. More: Disservice.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Yes. And you are rendering a great disservice to the country. People come from overseas to this country and see that the bus service in this capital city is most disorganised and inefficient. It is a sad commentary on the efficiency of the Government.

I want to say one or two things about the management. People have complained that it is not properly managed. Some of them have complained...

Mr. Chairman: Much has already been said. I would request the hon. Member not to repeat them.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: I will only make one observation.

Mr. Chairman: Has not the hon. Members said enough so far?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Only individual grievances have been stated on the floor of the House. Each Member has a catalogue of grievances. But I have to make some observations. The staff in the

D.T.S. have not been provided with enough amenities and conveniences. The inefficiency is partly due to the criminal neglect of the staff. If you want to improve the efficiency of the service it is imperative that you should provide a high standard of amenities to the staff.

I am seeing overcrowding everywhere. If you want to avoid overcrowding and if you want to regulate passenger traffic you must increase the number of buses. Many M.P.'s from the South Avenue are complaining and Mr. Basu was telling me just now that there is not one single service available from South Avenue to Connaught Place or any important centre in the city.

It is necessary that the whole matter should be considered and the D.T.S. should be well planned, well organised and well managed. I leave it to the hon. Minister to take proper steps to see that the service is conducted properly.

Shri K. K. Basu: I wish to raise one or two points. Sir, I shall not repeat a single word of what has been said.

Mr. Chairman: Why did he not stand before? I have been allowing repetition also! I would request the hon. Member to be very brief.

Shri K. K. Basu: Absolutely brief Sir.

I would only urge the hon. Minister to explain the legal position regarding certain contracts entered into on the authority of the President. Clause 3 tries to validate certain action taken under the authority of the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act. But as you know, our Constitution envisages that contracts entered into in the name of the Union can be done by the President or a properly authorised body. What I would like to know is this. Suppose a certain thing has been done on the authority of the President delegated to certain individuals or officials connected with the transport body. On the basis of that authority he might have entered into a contract with a third party. I want to know whether section 3 of this Act is sufficient validation for all the actions done under the authority of the President as envisaged in our constitution. Sir, you are an eminent lawyer and you took a leading part in the framing of this Constitution.

Shri Alagesan: I am grateful to the Members who participated in this debate and made various useful and helpful suggestions. I shall take the

last point first. We are assured by the Law Ministry that clause 3 which we are putting in is sufficient to validate all actions that have been taken including contracts entered into and various other acts that have been taken in pursuance of the obligations that have been placed both on the Central Government and the Authority. This clause is sufficient to validate all those things. I can assure the hon. Members that there is no further legal difficulty about this matter.

The bringing of this Bill, for this particular reason, has done some good. In a way it has given an opportunity for the hon. Members of this House to focus their attention on the working of the D.T.S. I can, at the very outset, say that we are not very much satisfied with the way in which the D.T.S. is working. We would like to provide more amenities, remove the present irregularities and the unpunctuality that has been complained about and put the service on an even better footing and it is good that the Members of this House had occasion to pass these remarks. I am in entire agreement with the Members who said that in this capital city, we should provide a capital bus service which should be a model and an example to other services that are run in other cities. As it is, I am sorry I cannot claim that and I can assure the House that we shall take every step to improve the conditions that are at present obtaining. That does not mean that several improvements have not already been effected.

Many members of this House ought to be familiar with the old and rickety buses that the old GNIT Company was running in this city. Those who have seen the GNIT buses will be able to realise what an improvement the present bus service offers and there are many Members in this House who have had occasion to travel in the old buses and who also travel in these DTS buses and they can realise the improvements we were able to effect.

In this matter, I can tell the House that many members of the public and also hon. Members of this House as well as the other House have complained to me personally of the way in which this service is working. Especially I should like friends who are interested in labour to take note of this point, especially about the courtesy aspect of the conductors and drivers. In fact, an hon. Member of

[Shri Alagesan]

this House complained to me that a small child fell down from a bus and hurt herself because the bus was not stopped sufficiently long for the child to get down and for other passengers to get down. I can enumerate cases that have come to my notice but I do not want to take the time of the House. We are looking into all these things. In fact, a school has been started to give training in courtesy and in other aspects to the staff but I am sorry to say that the Union is not looking with favour upon this effort. I hope the Union also will co-operate in this and see that maximum courtesy is shown to the passengers. After all, We have to develop a new philosophy both in the minds of workers and others. It is not the Delhi Road Transport Authority or the Central Government that is the master of this bus service. The real masters are the passengers who travel by paying. Drivers and conductors are bound to be courteous and helpful to their masters. I wish those friends who are very much interested in labour welfare take note of this and also take proper steps.

As far as increasing the amenities to the public is concerned, we have already got about 34 buses in February and put them on the road. But, many of them are on replacement account. We hope to get another contingent of 30 buses by the end of July. Before the financial year is out, we hope to get also another contingent of about 70 buses. Many of them may go to replace old buses. But, still the number of buses on the road will be more than what it is at present, and will be sufficient to give satisfaction to the public with respect to regularity, punctuality and all that.

My hon. friend Mr. Nambiar said that the buses are not in good condition and the workers are afraid of taking them out on the road. It is a fact that in the several routes, we have to miss the scheduled timings of several buses every day. This is due to this fact. Though the buses are there ready in the shed, the drivers and conductors who have to take out the buses do not appear at the last moment. The buses are in good condition; but they are unable to take out the buses and several buses have to be missed on the various routes, causing great inconvenience to the public. To obviate this, the Authority has necessarily to employ daily-rated people. Here, I can say that a large number of these daily-rated people have been put on the monthly rate basis. But, still when the employees who have been employed on the monthly

rate basis do not turn up at the last moment, and thereby cause a good deal of inconvenience to the public, the Authority has to resort to employ daily rated people, so that the buses which are in a good condition may not be left in the shed. Now, there are two depots. We want to increase the number to four and the work is on hand. Also a pucca workshop is being built and then, we hope to keep the buses in a much better condition. I think that is all as far as the public aspect is concerned.

Shri K. K. Basu: Then, the Members aspect?

Shri Alagesan: My hon. friend Mr Nambiar was pleading for proper treatment to the employees in the bus services, drivers, conductors, etc. I can quote a few figures which will show how they are treated, whether they are treated better than before or not. The average pay—pay and other allowances included—of a driver is about Rs. 127 whereas formerly he was not getting more than Rs. 85. A conductor at present is getting about Rs. 104 whereas formerly he was getting round about Rs. 80. Then the number of buses that are now running is roughly about 193 whereas the old bus service was running only about 120 buses. The total number of employees in the old GNIT was 1200 roughly. The present number of employees is 1760. So, there is an increase of about 47 per cent. in the strength of the staff, but I would request you to look into the total wage bill. The total wage bill which was previously Rs. ten lakhs approximately is now about Rs. 28.4 lakhs. i.e. for an increase of 47 per cent. in the strength of the staff, the wage bill has shown an increase of about 150 per cent. These figures will show whether there are better conditions obtaining for the workers or not. As I said, a large number of daily rated staff have been brought on the monthly roll. Rest room and canteen facilities have been provided. A Chief Medical Officer also has been appointed. He is required to go round the families and treat even the families of the workers. A recreation fund also have been started. A Labour Welfare Officer has been appointed and various steps have been taken. Labour has been associated with the D.R.T.A. Advisory Committee by taking a representative of the labour organisation. These are the steps taken with regard to the question of treatment of labour.

My hon. friend Mr. Nambiar has raised the question of an individual

employee. He raised it previously also through a separate question. Though I should not like to take long, I should like to place the particulars of that case before the House. This conductor whose name is Sharma, has been in service from 15th August, 1948. His record of service has been uniformly bad. From 15th August, 1948 to 30th January, 1951 he was warned thrice: strictly warned twice; cautioned once; severely reprimanded once; finally warned once; last chance given once; and his good conduct bonus stopped thrice. This is the record of this employee. He has been the General Secretary of the D.T.S. Workers Union since March, 1951. The management was very lenient in dealing with him in all these cases of irregularity. On 29th October, 1952 he was charge-sheeted for some further irregularities, namely, misappropriation of revenue and serious misconduct. His explanation was considered by the Departmental Committee consisting of A.G.M. Administration A.G.M. Traffic and the Traffic Superintendent, Karol Bagh Depot, which has been set up by the G.M. for examining cases of misconduct of employees. It is usual for this Committee to invite representatives of the D.T.S. Workers Union as observers at the Committee's sittings. While the case of Suresh Sharma was examined, and he was heard in person by the Committee, Driver Balak Ram, the Vice-President of the Union, was present throughout the discussions. It is reported that Balak Ram was convinced of the correctness of the charges, but he desired that Suresh Sharma may be given a last warning. The Committee recommended termination of service with effect from 28th November, 1952.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

Suresh Sharma appealed against this recommendation of the Committee, but the D.R.T.A. decided to reject the appeal and terminated his service. This in short, is the history of this particular individual, and I leave it to the House to judge whether this particular individual was shown all the consideration—and in fact, even more consideration and extra consideration than is due to an employee—or not. I have nothing more to add.

I am sorry, as I said in the beginning, for having troubled the House with this measure. We sincerely regret the error in not having issued the notification, and I apologise to the House for the error. I hope the measure will be passed without further delay.

Shri Nambiar: Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Minister to my queries, may I seek some clarification? He gave the details of the pay and allowances, the total wages bill etc. of the staff. May I ask him whether the staff are working for eight hours a day or more...

Shri Alagesan: Yes.

Shri Nambiar: Let me complete my query: may I ask him whether a single one of the employees has been provided a house in the city, or whether anything in that direction is contemplated and whether any houses will be constructed for any of this staff? As we understand, the D.T.S. is going to be permanent in Delhi, whether these considerations are there, and I want to know whether those drivers who have to come to duty at five in the morning etc., are provided with any bus service or given a cycle or any other facility to come because there is...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is making another speech.

Shri Alagesan: He is making a supplementary speech on the Bill.

As far as the hours of work are concerned, they are required to work for nine hours with one hour rest. Including this one hour of rest, they are asked to work for nine hours.

The housing problem has been brought in in this supplementary speech. They are all inhabitants of this city, and like other employees of Government, they have to come by bicycle or other conveyance. I have nothing more to add.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act, 1950, as passed by the Council of States, be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are no amendments to the clauses.

Clauses 1 to 3, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Alagesan: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill be passed."

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): I want one clarification.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the point.

An Hon. Member: You may speak.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I am not speaking. I am only putting a question.

May I know whether the Minister is aware that there are several of these drivers and conductors who have been making requests that some facilities should be provided to them for their conveyance from their respective residences to the place where they must take out the buses? May I know whether the Minister will see that at least a special bus is provided to pick them up at four o'clock or five o'clock in the morning so that their inconvenience will be lessened?

Shri Alagesan: I have to inform that staff buses are provided to bring the operating staff from their houses. There are enough number of buses to bring these employees.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, there is an half-hour discussion.

An Hon. Member: We cannot be taking it for another ten minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will take it up and disperse five minutes earlier. There is no harm.

Shri Vallatharas (Pudukkottai): In the light of the statement.....

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): It was fixed for 12-45.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now we have finished this. Am I to proceed then with the Estate Duty Bill?

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak): Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If I take up the Estate Duty Bill, I will have to close it at 12-45. We are at 12-35 now. If the hon. Minister has any inconvenience, I will put it off to 12-45.

Shri M. C. Shah: The Finance Minister is going to reply. He is not here. Anyhow, I am here. We may continue.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I speak, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. I will take up this half-hour discussion. There are barely ten minutes.

FAMINE AND DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN MADRAS

Shri Vallatharas (Pudukkottai): In the light of the statement of the Chief Minister of Madras State in the Madras Legislative Assembly in March last that the famine conditions and the suffering of the people had assumed very serious dimensions throughout the State that his Government could not cope with it and that the national plan for the State had been completely upset. I asked question No. 1362 which was answered on the floor of this House on the 18th April, 1953.

I had asked for information about the conditions and the nature of the famine and drought which made the Chief Minister make that desperate statement referred to above, and also the measures particularly adopted or proposed to be adopted for preventing or mitigating the situation. The answer given by the hon. Food Minister confined itself to a mere and bare statement of the districts and areas affected by the famine. Thus this discussion arises.

It is an admitted fact that the areas presently affected are the 13 districts of Tamil Nad. There are other areas about which I am not referring. The present malady has exclusively concentrated itself over the 13 districts of Tamil Nad, of which Tiruchirappally and Ramnad are the worst affected, and in Tiruchirappally my constituency of Pudukkottai is the worst affected. I made a detailed reference to the development of the famine conditions in my district in my speech on the Finance Bill last month and I emphasised the desirability of the urgent need for a revision of the policy of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to attend to and concede the immediate needs by permanent facilities of water for drinking and irrigation purposes for reclaiming once-cultivated lands but since lying fallow, to be provided with irrigation facilities instead of devoting attention substantially to reclaim new lands by mechanical cultivation.

The present famine conditions are not the creation of this year or the previous year. They had appeared a decade before, gradually developed without interruption and acquired

serious dimensions in 1950 and 1951 and have reached the crisis at the end of 1952.

It is painful to observe that neither the State Government nor the Central Government nor the leading political party in whose hands power is vested, have paid sufficient attention, and the little attention they had paid so far has proved to be ineffective, misguiding, outside the purpose and practically ended in waste of money and official energy.

Ever since 1950, the State Ministers, economic experts and highest officers of the Centre had openly admitted the ever-growing menacing conditions of famine, but their expressions and promises, have proved to be empty words and time-serving statements. Neither the Centre nor the State have at least applied themselves earnestly to the problem since the statement of the Madras Chief Minister in March last. The Revenue Minister had clearly admitted in March itself that for six years there was no rain and to prevent mass mortality, 2000 gruel centre had to be opened in consonance with the view expressed by Dr. Shetty, the hon. Minister of Finance, when he presented the Budget in 1951. Now the present Finance Minister, Shri Subrahmanyam, had on the 14th March said:

"We were in the grip of an unprecedented famine and in the assessment of the magnitude of the disaster and the extent to which necessary relief measures would cut into our resources we had erred on the wrong side. As against an estimated outlay of about six crores, we have already spent ten crores on famine relief and expenditure continues to be incurred".

Then came the Chief Minister statement in the Assembly a few days later.

In my speech on the Finance Bill in April last, I pleaded for deputing a Minister of the Food and Agriculture department to go to the spot forthwith, study the things in person and do the needful to avert or mitigate the existing conditions.

Now the Commerce and Industry Minister had gone on a tour of the Tamil Nad area last week. Thanks to the Press, a good deal of information about his tour and his feelings are given. It was a grave disappointment to me when I read the news from one of his statements that he was visiting the distressed areas in the South to fulfil a tentative agreement he had with one of the leaders of the Tamil

Nad Congress party some four or five months ago and that he would probably once again come in the middle of June to cover the rest of the Tamil Nad districts which he was not covering now. Let it be aside.

I will give a gist of his utterances because they are very important and related to this question. He has said that he went to meet the people and understand their difficulties. These are his very words:

"I understand the Centre had rendered substantial help to Madras."

He refutes that the Central aid had not been to the extent required by the State, and that the expenditure of ten crores is a bogey raised by the State Government to get more money from the Centre. This latter portion is repudiated by the hon. Minister. He says, that the general opinion is that Trichy district including my constituency Pudukkottai division has been neglected both by the Centre and the State and that Pudukkottai division is worst affected, that ten crores were spent by the State but this amount had not produced much impression, and the condition of the people is still one of suffering, but the officers were doing extremely well, that the expenditure does not seem to have been of much avail, that they have to see what was the defect and what could be done to improve things and what further help the Central Government could give, and that the territory is in distress and thousands and thousands of acres are lying barren or with crops withering or withered; and drinking water is absolutely scarce. Then he says that he will return to the Centre and tell the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister what he had seen and see what could be done in this matter. He has also pleaded on behalf of the Government, that "famine is God-made and not man-made, and do not get angry with the Government."

These are the extracts from his statement. In the administrative and executive side there is something fundamentally wrong resulting in the expenditure of ten crores of rupees and which expenditure has not been helpful to ease the situation, to any extent. There is either a terrible waste by investments in wrong places where conditions are not bad or a terribly wrong and foolish policy pursued wherein the money has been mulcted without any decreation. This is a disastrous condition. So the position has been made difficult. Not only has there been not any improvement in the last two years, but during the last four months the Government have not done their duty.

[Shri Vallatharas]

Now, after many people have died or have suffered lingering deaths what is the use of thinking that we will be doing this thing or that thing in the future. Now, some urgent work must be done. The State Government has not got money; it cannot cope with the present circumstances. I must straightway say—because there is no *mala fides* in the State—I do not rush to make that charge—the conditions there warrant that the Government of the Madras State deserves to be assumed by the Centre and carried on by it for a few months at least. I do not attribute any failure on the part of the State Government. As a matter of fact they are incapable for want of finances. Ten crores have been spent. At the same time I am able to endorse my own previous statement that I made on the Finance Bill and the statement made by the present Minister who has toured that place that they have not left any trace or relief for any of the people there.

Now I give my suggestions. Locally, in every district, with the M. Ps, the M. L. As and the Collector, under directions from a Minister of the Central Government, preferably the Commerce Minister or the Food Minister, whoever he may be, a Committee must be formed, and in consultation with all of them, something urgent must be done: I gave an example already that I was prepared to co-operate with the Government and get the work done by the people i.e., digging a channel from Cauvery to irrigate lands in Pudukkottai division and Manapparai taluk. I met the hon. Minister of Agriculture and pleaded with him that we can even bear the entire expenditure of that scheme if really the Central Government felt the scarcity of money. We are prepared to co-operate with them. In every constituency, in every district, people are prepared to come to co-operate. I think the tour of the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry should have given him an idea of how strong the feeling is that the Central Government should take the responsibility and do something. He has suggested in the course of his statement that some permanent work must be started so that permanent facilities may be granted. In these circumstances, I suggest two concrete things. One is, in my opinion, a Committee consisting of the M.Ps and M.L.As in every district, under the direct guidance of the Central Minister should consider what things should be done, and where and if any place the co-operation of the local people either in money or in labour is available, that

must be taken at once and irrigational work must be started.

The second is rural agricultural employment. There is no use granting money for removing silt in a tank or for having some road constructed. Unemployment must be relieved in a manner in which not only the purchasing power of the people may be increased but at the same time some benefit of permanent utility must be created for the benefit of the people there. Under these circumstances, I submit that the Government may be pleased to depute exclusively for this purpose for some time, at least for a month, a Minister of the Cabinet to be in charge of this matter and to see that the situation is remedied, or else I would preferably submit—without any ill-will or friction—that the Government of Madras should be assumed by the Centre, for it is a question that people may be dying. That is my humble submission. I am very serious in this matter. The hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry has said that he is a member of the South, and he is also a leading Congressman. He should advise the Prime Minister as well as the Finance Minister—who is a Famine Minister—to come to the help of the South.

The Finance Minister is a Famine Minister. He wants money not only for these things, but also for the Five Year Plan. After many have died or suffered untold miseries of a lingering death, you cannot revive them afterwards. As Mr. Rajagopalachari has said, the Five Year Plan has broken down so far as Madras is concerned. Its entire structure has failed, when the Ministers fold their hands and cry aloud looking at the Himalayas: "Oh Shiva, come to our help: what are you going to do?" So please come to our rescue, or else you will see 50 lakhs of people would face a very serious situation and people will say you are not doing anything even though you have got the resources.

Shri N. P. Damodaran (Tellicherry): May I know whether famine conditions are now existing in the coastal area of the Malabar district, especially among the fishing community and whether the Government is aware that the municipal councils of Tellicherry and Cannanore have by resolutions of the respective councils requested the Government to go to the help of the starving millions immediately? Have Government received any reports from the district authorities or from the State Government of Madras about the existence of famine conditions in Malabar? Are

Government aware that the leading Malayalam Daily *Mathrubhumi* has been publishing reports and writing editorials to focus the attention of the Government and the public on the famine conditions existing in the coastal areas of Malabar and requesting Government to go to the help of the starving people there?

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): May I know whether Government have ascertained the reason why the number of gruel centres has been reduced from 2,000 to 800 during the last few months, though they are aware that the scarcity conditions in the Madras State have only deteriorated and the situation is very bad.

I also want to know to what extent the Five Year Plan is executed in the State of Madras, particularly what irrigation and water conservation measures are taken to relieve scarcity conditions, and the acute shortage of water which has arisen on account of the failure of the monsoon for the past five years in succession.

Shri B. S. Murthay (Eluru): When last year the hon. the Prime Minister visited Rayalaseema he made some promises. The Bhattacharya Committee had also gone there and submitted its report. But so far nothing substantial has been done. May I know whether the Government is serious about doing something by the people of Rayalaseema, who are subjected to untold miseries year after year.

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): A major portion of the speech of the hon. Member who raised this discussion was devoted to, I am constrained to say, the sphere of the State Government rather than that of the Central Government. I would like to reiterate that relief of scarcity areas is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and it is very wrong to treat this House as a sort of substitute for the Madras Assembly. We at the centre are concerned only with certain items of expenditure. Especially, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture can, if there is scarcity of food stocks, rush food stocks there. We can also, if it is an extreme case of urgency, reduce the price of foodstuffs and make it available to them. We can also recommend to Finance Ministry to give them 50 per cent. of gratuitous relief. That might be done. We might also supply them with foodstuffs when and if any cheap price shops are to be opened.

Now, so far as these things are concerned, my hon. friend who spoke first had put in a question on the 16th April, and a fairly detailed reply was given. It has been complained that some of the gruel centres have been closed. My friend has just pointed this out. May I say that, although on humanitarian grounds we try to assist the State Governments wherever it is possible and wherever it is our policy to do so, we cannot after all—as has been pointed out by my hon. colleague the Finance Minister yesterday in the other House—make exceptions in many cases. It may be that in a particular State the circumstances are very pressing, the scarcity is very acute and something special has to be done. All the same I think the House will realise that we have to treat all the States on a basis of equality. And from that point of view I can assure the House that the Centre has done the utmost it could in the case of Madras.

I cannot understand the somewhat contradictory complaints. On the one hand it is pointed out that the Madras Government has been stating and that the hon. the Chief Minister also has been stating that this relief is beyond their capacity. If this fact is correct then the hon. Members of the House must admit that the Cabinet in Madras is thoroughly apprised of the situation, they know the gravity of the situation and they are pressing this Government for greater relief. On the other hand, more or less in the same breath, we have a complaint that the Madras Government is callous, incompetent, that it is not paying any attention, that it should even be taken over by this Parliament or by the Centre. This sort of no confidence to be moved in the Parliament, I do not know how far it is correct to do so or even to criticise the Madras Government in such language.

I do not wish to weary the House with any figures. I have got them and I am prepared to read them, what we have done, what relief we have been giving. My friend has said that although some money was given from here and the Madras Government also spent money it was all uselessly spent. Here also the Centre would not be the main arbiter or judge as to how far the money has been well spent or not. I personally think the individual opinion of an hon. Member is certainly entitled to respect, but all the same we cannot neglect the well constituted Government of Madras and accept his alle-

gation or his complaint. I do not think. I can take much more time because the Finance Minister is also going to say something.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Rayalaseema.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are there any deaths? The hon. Member said there are so many deaths. Otherwise it will go on record.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, Sir. According to our information there is not a single death, and I do not think any situation would be allowed to arise where there will be any death. So from that point of view I am in a position to reassure the House that we as well as the Madras Government will certainly see that there is no starvation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What are the amounts spent? The House and also the country at large would like to know.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Of course, this is based on the reply of 16th April. The Government of India have agreed to meet 50 per cent. of expenditure on gruel centres subject to a maximum of Rs. 48 lakhs. In this connection a grant of Rs. 47 lakhs has already been paid to the State Government. In addition, the Government of India have sanctioned a loan of Rs. two crores to Madras and have purchased securities amounting to Rs. 14.39 crores to enable the State Government to finance both their famine relief and capital expenditure schemes.

I would also like to point out that in order to give relief to the scarcity affected people, the State Government have opened 3306 fair price shops in the affected areas which are serving a population of more than 74 lakhs of people. The State Government are running 5184 relief works on which more than 3.5 lakhs of people are employed. Up to 15th March, 1953 the State Government have spent a sum of Rs. 326,01,078 on relief works, and have disbursed Rs. 203,65,869 under AGL and LIL Acts, Rs. 21,61,515 under subsistence loans, Rs. 28,50,919 for deepening of wells and Rs. 19,85,287 for pumping installations. In addition the State Government have spent Rs. 90,98,141 on gruel centres, Rs. 1,76,265 on fodder supply and have sanctioned an expenditure of Rs. 4,22,493 for public health measures and about Rs. 28 lakhs on drinking water supply.

The loan of Rs. two crores was sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance in October, 1952. The grant of Rs. 47 lakhs was paid partly in Feb-

ruary and partly in March, 1953. The Centre also purchased securities amounting, as I have already said, to Rs. 14.39 crores.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Finance Minister.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Nothing about Rayalaseema.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member need not take any particular point. The hon. Finance Minister.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I have had occasion to explain the principles on which Central assistance is extended to States for the relief of famine or scarcity. So far as the actual appraisal of the situation is concerned, necessarily, we must depend on reports that we received from State Governments in the absence, at any rate, of any statements to the contrary. It is only recently that such statements, shall we say to the contrary, are being made. It will be our duty now to put these observations to the Madras Government in order to ascertain what their view is in regard to the assessment of the situation. We have also had the advantage of a personal visit to that tract not necessarily for these purposes but also for other purposes by my hon. colleague. Now it may be that in a few days time, after we receive the views of the State Government, we shall be in a position to form a view as to what the extent of scarcity is, whether in the districts from which the hon. Members who have spoken have come or in any other districts whether in the south of the State or whether in the north of the State. So far as the north of the State is concerned, the problem is somewhat different and I shall come to it later.

Now, in regard to the actual relief measures. I think it is very unjust to insinuate that the Madras State has been entirely supine in this matter. I do not think that the fact their resources are somewhat strained would compel them to contract these elementary obligations. Now to what extent relief works have been undertaken has indicated by my hon. colleague. Here again there may be difference of opinion as to the extent to which such operations are required and that is a matter in which we shall have occasion to go especially when, so far as I am concerned. I get some quantitative idea from my hon. colleague in regard to the residual relief work that was to be done. I am persuaded to think that the addi-

tional requirements of the situation would not be very large and that by themselves, they would not pose a very unwieldy financial problem.

1 P.M.

Now, so far as the north of the State is concerned, as I said this morning, I am of the view that the immediate needs of the situation have been met because that scarcity has been with us for some time and the only question that is left therefore is the long-term question of how these recurrent famine and scarcities are to be eliminated. That question may arise in regard to the north of the State, as for instance the Rayalaseema area. It may arise even in the south. To what extent it arises in either of these two territories, it is not possible for me to say but I am conceding that for the moment, there is something that can be done which would enable us to deal with this long-term situation. As I had occasion to indicate before, it can only be done by the inclusion of the works that appear necessary in this respect in the Plan and to the extent to which they did not find a place in the priorities of the Plan, by reconsidering those priorities, if that is possible. And that is where again the State Government comes in. Because, unless the State Government indicates to us that on a reconsideration of the problem, they are prepared to entertain an alteration of any priorities, it is not for the Centre, even if they have the willingness to meet the wishes of the people, to make any change. After all, when the Planning Commission determines the Plan, it merely indicates the figure. It is not as if all the money is found by the Centre. The Centre gives assistance on a planned basis to all the States. So far as the Madras State is concerned, the total measure of assistance has already been indicated to them. To the extent to which assistance is not received from the Centre, it can only be substitution of one work for another. Therefore, other resources have to be raised by the State itself or the disposal of the assistance which they receive from the Centre has to be re-arranged, and that money has to be laid on certain other works. Therefore, it is not within our power to say that we shall now give you a loan only for this purpose and not for any other, because, that would immediately create a deadlock. Nor can we indicate to them that a certain work should be taken up if we are not prepared to say that we shall find the finance for it. Therefore, essentially it is a question of alteration of the priorities in the Plan, and it is a matter for the State Government and the Plan-

ning Commission to settle. To the extent to which such questions can be settled, so far as I am concerned, I should see no objection to agreeing that whatever assistance is given from the Centre shall be applied, shall we say, to minor work (a) in Rayalaseema instead of minor work (b) somewhere else. This position is generally true, but it has become somewhat complicated this year on account of the projected partition of the State. That is a fact which hon. Members must take into consideration. After all, it is no use Members of Rayalaseema asking me what exactly is intended to be done. By whom? Because the whole question.....

Shri B. S. Murthy: By the persons concerned.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is where confusion arises. If the Centre is held responsible for almost everything, then, we must devise a unitary form of Constitution. It cannot be done under the present Constitution. We are prepared to bear our own share of the responsibility and we are prepared to give a certain amount of guidance either directly or through the Planning Commission.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What will happen to the people if you deny your responsibility and the Madras Government deny their responsibility?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not a question of denying responsibility. I say it is a question of exercise of responsibility by the proper State authority. So far as Madras is concerned, there are new State authorities which are about to emerge towards the end of the year. Till they emerge, it does not lie within the power, as far as I can see, of any Government, either at the Centre, or the present Madras State Government, to say that the following new works which are not included in the Plan shall be started. That is a proposition which, I think, has only to be stated.

Shri Lakshmayya (Anantapur): On a point of information. Sir, is there any chance of the high level canal of the Tungabhadra project being included in the Five Year Plan, in view of the promise made by the hon. Prime Minister, particularly for the benefit of the Rayalaseema and other adjacent areas?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not know about that.

Shri B. S. Murthy: He did make that promise.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am only concerned with what is mentioned in the report of the Planning Commission. The hon. Member has not been listening to my arguments. It is not my case that anything is to be denied or that anything is not to be started. To me—it means either to the Finance Ministry or the Planning Commission—it does not make very much of a difference. Here, I am speaking after making an examination of what the Planning Commission's feelings in this matter would be. If it appears to them, and if it is considered by them, that the elimination of famine and scarcity conditions has become a far more urgent and immediate issue, then I think they will certainly be very glad to agree that certain works be substituted for something else. Whether such a substitution is possible, it is not for me to say, and I am not saying that these works can be substituted only in the same field, viz. irrigation. It may be that room can be found for additional irrigation works by contracting something else, such as education, or may be transport, or tarring of roads, or any thing else. As I say, it is for the new State Governments that are about to emerge to first find out what their share of the Plan is and what the needs of the situation are in regard to this problem, which has somehow become a far more immediate and urgent problem, namely, the possible elimination of the recurrence of these scarcities. Therefore, if hon. Members will have a little patience, then I think that they will give a fair chance to the new Governments that will be coming in, and the matter can then be considered in a cool and dispassionate manner. But it does not indicate any kind of apathy towards the suffering of the people. As I have already postulated, so far as the immediate requirements of the situation are concerned, if there is any residual action to be taken, it will be our duty, that is to say, of the Central Government and the Madras Government, to sit together and find a way out. So far as long-term solutions are concerned, there is nothing very much that can be done till the new Governments are in the saddle.

Shri N. P. Damodaran: I put a question this morning about famine conditions in Malabar. It has not been answered.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have no information. We have not received any representation. At least so far as I am concerned, we have not seen the municipal committee's representation. It necessarily concerns the

State Government in the first instance.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Is it the same question that was answered in the morning?

Shri N. P. Damodaran: Yes.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have undertaken to find out if there is any distress among the fishermen community in Malabar. I have undertaken to find out what the situation is.

Shri Nambiar: What happens to the gruel centres which have been closed? Is there any prosperity of their being reopened?

An Hon. Member: Prosperity of their being reopened?

Shri Nambiar: I am sorry, Sir. I mean, is there any prospect or possibility of their being re-opened?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members have heard the statement at length. If the local Government starts gruel centres, the Centre will bear half the cost. That is what has been stated. They should be satisfied with that. Why should they discount the services of the local M.L.As. and ask these questions here?

Shri Nambiar: Are we not entitled to ask?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. I am afraid hon. Members here are under the impression that they are the custodians of the whole of India, notwithstanding the fact that in the various States there are responsible Ministers and M.L.As. who have been elected under adult suffrage as much as we have been elected to Parliament.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is an encroachment on the rights of the M.L.As. from Madras.

MESSAGES FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATES

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

(1) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 14th May, 1953, agreed without any amendment to the Air Corporations Bill.

1953, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 8th May, 1953."

(2) "in accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to inform the House of the People that the Council of States, at its sitting held on the 15th May, 1953,

agreed without any amendment to the Tea Bill, 1952, which was passed by the House of the People at its sitting held on the 9th May, 1953."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now stand adjourned *sine die*.

The House then adjourned sine die.
