

# **LOK SABHA DEBATES**

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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, September 29, 1964/  
 Asvina 7, 1886 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Delhi State Central Co-operative Store

- +  
 \*451. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:  
 Shrimati Laxmi Bai;  
 Shri Yashpal Singh;  
 Shri Vishram Prasad;  
 Shri Indrajit Gupta;  
 Shri Bade;  
 Shri Kapur Singh;  
 Shri S. M. Banerjee;  
 Shri P. C. Borooah;  
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti;  
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam;

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi State Central Co-operative Store is being prosecuted on charges of black-marketing and/or other malpractices in regard to one or more commodities;

(b) if so, the names of the accused; and

(c) the nature of the charges?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Shri Ram Lal, Managing Director, and Kumari Shakuntala Sulhan, Secretary, Delhi State Central Co-operative Stores.

1283 (A1) LSD—1.

(c) The charges are that the Delhi State Central Cooperative Stores—

(i) sold gur from unlicensed premises;

(ii) failed to maintain complete and correct accounts in respect of sale of gur; and

(iii) failed to submit regularly to the Director of Food and Civil Supplies, Delhi Administration, fortnightly returns of stocks, receipts and deliveries as required under the Delhi Khandsari and Gur Dealers' Licensing Order, 1963.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that in spite of the irregularities, to use a mild word, and the malpractices uncovered with respect to this co-operative store, this co-operative society has not been included among the ten or more co-operative societies into whose affairs an inquiry has been ordered as to their financial condition and working? If so, what are the reasons therefor?

Shri B. S. Murthy: No, Sir. This store is also included amongst other co-operative societies to be inquired into.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it a fact that in the committee of inquiry which has been constituted to inquire into the working and financial conditions of those ten or more co-operative societies, the chairman of this co-operative store, the Delhi State Central Co-operative Store, who is apparently involved in this, but who may not be an accused for reasons best known to Government themselves, but who is involved in this transaction, is himself a member? That means the judge and the accused, near-accused, are the same.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** A committee has been constituted to go into the question of vested interests and the spurious nature of certain societies. It is an all-Indian committee and Shri Brahm Prakash is a member of this committee.

**Mr. Speaker:** So many times questions have been asked here as to why action has not been taken against Shri Brahm Prakash. This was the complaint Members wanted to make. Now the question is, when he himself was concerned with the particular society, which is certainly under doubts and against which inquiries are being made, why should the chairman of the same stores or company, whose affairs are being inquired into, be made a member of the inquiry committee.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** This is scandalous, to say the least.

**The Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri S. K. Dey):** If I may explain, there is a misunderstanding....

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Explain it away.

**Shri S. K. Dey:** I am not explaining it away.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** You are going to.

**Shri S. K. Dey:** There is a committee that has been appointed by the Ministry with Shri Ramnivas Mirdha, Speaker of the Rajasthan Assembly as chairman to look into the question of spuriousness in co-operative practices and vested interests in co-operatives throughout the country. Naturally, we have to have representations from various organisations. Ch. Brahm Prakash, who is the Chairman of the Delhi State Co-operative Society, happens to be the General Secretary of the Co-operative Union, and in that capacity he has been included. This has nothing whatever to do with the

specific enquiry that is being conducted into the Delhi State co-operative societies' affairs.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** If you have no objection, Question 473, which is connected with this, may kindly be answered.

**Mr. Speaker:** If you help me, we can reach that.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** I promise not to put any more supplementary question, but even then may not be reached. Does the answer given by the hon. Minister satisfy you? You yourself put a direct question to the Minister.

**Mr. Speaker:** It should satisfy the House.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** This enquiry is a complete farce, then.

**Shri Ranga:** It is a farce.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will you not agree, ensconced in that high chair?

**Mr. Speaker:** Should we sit down, suspend all business?

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** You yourself have been a Judge.

**Mr. Speaker:** What does he want of me? Two questions have been asked.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** I am not putting a question. I am only trying to elucidate the answer further. A person involved, concerned, in this case, has been appointed on the enquiry committee. What is the enquiry coming to?

**Mr. Speaker:** That might mean I was not a good Judge.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** You were good judge Sir, but they are not a good Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. He should allow the Members to proceed further.

**Shri Raghubath Singh:** It may not be a very good Opposition also.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : उन के खिलाफ आरोप हैं और उन्हीं को समिति में लिया गया है। जिन्होंने इतने घोटाले किये हैं उन्हीं को इस कमेटी में लिया गया है इससे हमारा विरोध है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार ने इस बात पर गौर किया है कि इसी सदन में कई दफे सरकार को यह सुझाव दिया गया कि जो मुलजिम हो उसे जज नहीं होना चाहिये, तो जिन के खिलाफ एन्क्वायरी हो रही है जब तक उन्हें नहीं हटायेगे वहां से तब तक यह एन्क्वायरी कैसे कम्पलीट हो सकती है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यही तो मैंने आप से पहले कहा था जिस का उन्होंने जवाब दिया। मेरा ख्याल है कि मैंने भी यही सवाल किया था।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : उस का जवाब नहीं आया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जवाब आ गया।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : यह जो ख्याल है कि इन लोगों के आफिस में रहते हुए इम्पार्शल एन्क्वायरी नहीं हो सकती, इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या राय है, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : सवालों के समय राय नहीं पूछी जा सकती है।

श्री बड़े : क्या यह बात सत्य है कि इस कोऑपरेटिव स्टोर के बारे में, श्री ब्रह्म प्रकाश के बारे में जैसे गुड़ के सम्बन्ध में एन्क्वायरी हुई वैसे ही स्टील के सम्बन्ध में भी एन्क्वायरी हो रही है।

Shri B. S. Murthy: Yes, Sir.

श्री बड़े : स्टील की एन्क्वायरी.....

Mr. Speaker: I do not follow that. He has put a question. The answer has been given "yes". Then, he stands up and again begins to argue. How can I proceed with the question?

Shri Ranga: There are two enquiries against the gentleman.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, there are two, that has been admitted. Now, we should proceed further.

Shri Ranga: The conscience of the party should assert itself.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: They have no conscience or the conscience is not awake.

Shri B. S. Murthy: As far as the gur case is concerned, I have given the answer that a case has already been registered, and it is now pending. In regard to the second one, as regards steel, the police have enquired into the case, and there is a *prima facie* case that the steel and iron from this store has been sold, not directly but indirectly, to unlicensed persons, and that case also is being launched against this store.

Shri Kapur Singh: I want to ask about this all-India enquiry committee. In view of the widespread malpractices revealed every now and then in the co-operative sector, is it within the competence of this enquiry committee to go into the entire question of the law and practices of co-operation in this country and to revise them?

Shri S. K. Dey: I do not think malpractices are as universal as the hon. Member is trying to make out, but certainly malpractices are there, and we are trying to nip them in the bud. You cannot do anything about it unless you really make a study. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow Members to proceed in this manner. Unless I identify a Member, he should not begin to speak.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सवाल बड़े महत्व का है, इस में सब को मौका मिलना चाहिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : महत्व का सवाल है तो क्या श्रीों को छोड़ दूँ। मैं दूसरी बार सवाल पूछने की इजाजत नहीं दे सकता।

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether it is within the purview of the committee to go into the whole thing.

Shri S. K. Dey: To go into what?

Mr. Speaker: To go into the allegations about the working or irregularities committed by the co-operatives in general.

Shri Kapur Singh: My question was whether a thorough overhaul and re-examination of the basis of law and practices of the co-operative sector are also within the competence of this committee? Is that committee going to do that also?

Shri S. K. Dey: After having ascertained the facts and studied the working in different parts of the country, the committee will make its recommendation and if these recommendations call for amendment of the existing laws, that will be taken care of.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: How far is it correct that many of the mistakes which are being committed by these co-operative stores are due to ignorance and not due to dishonesty?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I do not know how to answer this question.

Mr. Speaker: He need not then answer it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether serious charges have been levelled against the Delhi Co-operative Stores and the conduct of its Chairman who is one of the members of this House and whether they were referred for legal opinion to the Solicitor General and if so whether the Solicitor General has sent all the

papers with his remarks before he was murdered? If not, what is going to happen?

Shri B. S. Murthy: We have no information as far as allegations made by the hon. Member are concerned.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It is not an allegation. But he should not say about the allegation: he should say what the facts are.

Mr. Speaker: The Deputy Minister says that he has no information. He should not say about allegations but about facts.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He can say whether the case was referred to the Solicitor General or not. The hon. Law Minister is here. He can say.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot ask him.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : ब्रह्म प्रकाश जी के ऊपर गुड, स्टील और कोयला तीनों के सम्बन्ध में मामले हैं और यह कमेटी उनकी जांच करने जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिस के ऊपर आरोप हैं उसी को इस कमेटी में क्यों लिया जा रहा है?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The committee will go into the matter concerning the spuriousness and otherwise of the societies. This committee will not go into the working of the stores.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मेरे सवाल का जवाब नहीं आया।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप के सवाल का दो दफा जवाब आ चुका है। दो अलहिदा अलहिदा कमेटियाँ हैं। एक कमेटी वह है कि जिसके चैयरमैन राजस्थान के स्पीकर हैं, वह जनरल तरीके से कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज को देखेंगे। उस कमेटी में ब्रह्म प्रकाश को लिया गया है। और जिन कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज के वरखिलाफ एनक्वायरी हो रही है उसको दूसरी कमेटी कर रही है, उसमें वह यानी ब्रह्म प्रकाश शामिल नहीं हैं, वह कमेटी अलहिदा है। मैं जो समझा हूँ वह यही है।

**Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:** In ordering the prosecution of certain office bearers of these co-operative stores and also taking a decision with regard to the irregularities about the sale committed by the stores, may I know whether the case of Chaudhuri Brahm Prakash was particularly taken into consideration and whether his position as the joint secretary of the All India Co-operative Union and his position high up in the co-operative hierarchy was not allowed to stand in the way of considering these matters dispassionately, and objectively?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** This matter has been referred to the police and they have made a thorough enquiry and after they have been able to get sufficient information and evidence they launched prosecutions against Ramjilal and Miss Sakuntala Sulhan. There is no case now pending or being thought of against Chaudhuri Brahm Prakash.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** On what basis the members of this committee are being appointed and when this committee is going to submit its report finally?

**Shri S. K. Dey:** I do not know which committee the hon. Member is actually referring to. Enquiry committee for Delhi State?

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** Yes.

**Shri S. K. Dey:** There is no committee here which is making any enquiry. Prosecution has been launched. Also, certain audit has been done by the Auditor General's representatives and now the Registrar himself is taking action.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if under the existing laws which govern these co-operative societies, only that lady and that gentleman are liable to prosecution or whatever it is, and the directors of the co-operative bank are immune from that?

**Mr. Speaker:** A legal question cannot be asked. Next question.

## Treatment of Handicapped Children

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\*452. { **Shri Surendra Pal Singh:**  
**Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Bade:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the group of handicapped children from the Occupational Therapy Institute, who went to some western European countries for treatment and consultations some time back, have returned to India and are undergoing some special treatment prescribed for them by foreign specialists; and

(b) if so, how they are reacting to the new treatment, and what are their future prospects?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) and (b). Fourteen handicapped children who went abroad have returned. Their examination by Specialists abroad and the discussions with them of the problems involved have been of use both to the patients and the escorting staff of the Institute. The benefit extended also to the psychological aspect of the patients which is an integral part of treatment in such cases.

It is too early to assess the results in their entirety, but the follow up treatment prescribed by foreign specialists is being undertaken.

**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** Are the doctors of this occupational therapy institute competent enough to give all the recommended treatment to the children or do they need the help of foreign specialists for giving this special treatment?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I will not be able to answer this question. To the extent they asked for help, we have given the help to those children to go abroad. This is a voluntary organisation. About the other details, I am not aware.

**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** In view of the obvious success of this foreign trip of the handicapped children, is there a proposal to send more batches of such handicapped children to the European countries in future?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** Government as such do not send these children for treatment. It is a voluntary organisation. They came for some assistance, and the assistance was given from the discretionary grant of the Education Minister.

**Shri Yashpal Singh:** May I know whether the Government is aware of public complaints that favouritism was practised in selecting the children there?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I am not aware of them, Sir.

श्री बड़े : क्या यह बात सच है कि राज्य सरकारें इन हैंडिकैप्ड बच्चों को विशेष मदद करती हैं लेकिन सेंटर उनको कोई मदद नहीं करता ?

विधि तथा सामाजिक सुरक्षा मंत्री (श्री प्र० कु० सेन) : यह सही नहीं है। सेंटर मदद देता है।

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन लड़कों पर कुल कितना खर्चा हुआ, और उस खर्च का कुछ हिस्सा इन लड़कों ने भी दिया या सारा खर्चा सरकार ने बरदाश्त किया ?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The cost of the entire trip was Rs. 54,000. The Government was approached for a grant of Rs. 10,000, of which only Rs. 7,000 was given from the discretionary grant of the Education Minister.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Has the Government any census or any calculation as to the approximate number of such handicapped children in this country who require different types of treatment, and what is the total number of institutes or institutions which are functioning at present and how many children get that treatment?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is too wide a question.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that some of the children who have gone abroad have been offered some assistance, and free treatment was offered to some of them, and may I know also whether the Minister is going to help those children to go abroad again and get this particular treatment which is not available in our country?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The hon. Member is very much connected with the institute and she is giving information.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is exactly the reason why I called her!

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** She has given the information. If any request for any help comes, I think it will be considered accordingly.

#### Income-tax Appellate Tribunal

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Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Indrajit Gupta:  
Shri Kapur Singh:  
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:  
\*453. Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri Vishram Prasad:  
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
Shri D. D. Mantri:  
Shri A. S. Saigal:  
Shri P. K. Deo:  
Dr. L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri Himatsingka:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation against the abolition of the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal has been received from the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry;

(b) if so, the main points stressed in the representation; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the representation is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3267/64.]

(c) The matter is still under consideration.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह:** क्या सरकार ने यह ब्याल किया है कि अभी हजारों केसेज अनडिसाइडेड पड़े हुए हैं। अगर इन का एवालिशन कर दिया गया, तो सरकार उन केसेज के मुताल्लिक क्या करेगी?

**The Minister of Law and Social Security (Shri A. K. Sen):** It is one of the factors which we are taking into account. It is certainly a very serious matter to be considered.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह:** क्या सरकार का यह ब्याल है कि हाईकोर्ट में कोई नई बांच इस के लिए कायम की जायेगी?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** If there is a decision to abolish it, we shall think of the alternative then. There is no such decision yet.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Is it the Government's view that the abolition of the Appellate Tribunal would help the Government in substantially preventing the evasion of income-tax?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** I do not think so. The Government has not yet considered this matter. We do not think it is a fact at all. If at all, the tribunals are fully competent and they have been competent to deal with these cases all these years.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** Since the blanket powers given to income-tax authorities have given rise to widespread arbitrariness, may I know what legislative action, if any, Gov-

ernment propose to take to restore the balance in this department?

**Mr. Speaker:** This is about the tribunal alone.

**Shri A. K. Sen:** This is a matter for the Finance Minister to answer.

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय:** अभी कितने केसेज पेंडिंग पड़े हुए हैं और उन को निबटाने के लिए शासन द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

**श्री प्र० कु० सेन:** आप दिल्ली की बात पूछते हैं?

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय:** जी हां।

**Shri A. K. Sen:** The pending cases are very little. Does the hon. Member want to know about Delhi?

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय:** जी हाँ।

**श्री प्र० कु० सेन:** दिल्ली के मेरे पास आंकड़े नहीं हैं। अगर उस के लिए अलग से नोटिस दिया जाय तो मैं जवाब दे सकता हूँ।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय:** उन को निबटाने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

**श्री प्र० कु० सेन:** जल्दी काम हो रहा है। ट्रिब्यूनल का काम जल्दी हो रहा है।

**Shri Surendra Pal Singh:** May I know what percentage of the appeals disposed of by the Tribunal are subsequently referred to the High Courts?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** An extremely small percentage of cases.

**Shri A. S. Saigal:** May I know how long the Government will take to decide the objections which have been raised by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry owners of Bombay?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** I do not know.

**Mr. Speaker:** This is about the abolition of the Tribunal.

**Shri A. K. Sen:** We have considered representations from various chambers of commerce, tax-payers' associations and various other bodies, and what the final decision will be is yet to be seen.

**Shri A. S. Saigal:** These cases are pending before you. Will you be kind enough to see that a decision is properly taken as early as possible?

**Mr. Speaker:** No case is pending before me!

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** May I know at what level this proposal is pending consideration, what are the main reasons or grounds adduced in favour of this proposal of abolition of Appellate Tribunal and what is the Government's view with regard to the creation of a High Court of Appeal for revenue matters separately?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** There have been no reasons advanced when the Chief Justice mentioned about the High Court taking over the work of Income-tax Appellate Tribunals. I should have thought, if a movement was found necessary from the present position sufficient advance could be achieved by giving the appellate authority to High Courts both on facts and law. The main reason given by the assesseees is that on facts there is no appeal to the High Courts, and in such cases there would be a case really for consideration. But there is really no reason advanced for its abolition.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** What will be the new type of machinery that would replace the present one if the Government ultimately decide to abolish the Appellate Tribunals?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a hypothetical question.

**Shri Ranga:** Is it not a fact that apart from the opinion expressed by the Chief Justice, there has been no representation given to Government by any responsible organisation in favour of the abolition of the Income-tax Tribunal?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** All the representations are against the abolition of the Income-tax Appellate Tribunals.

**Shri Basappa:** May I know whether the Government has considered the volume of work that would be increased in the High Courts if they take over this work, and how it is going to be met?

**Shri A. K. Sen:** Speaking for myself, I do not think High Courts would be at all capable of handling these thousands of cases which come up before the Income-tax Appellate Tribunals. They can deal with appeals.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** Question No. 454.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I suggest that Question No. 472, which is also on sugar production, may be taken up.

**Mr. Speaker:** If it is convenient, the Minister may answer that also.

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** I will read both the answers.

**Mr. Speaker:** By the way, are those Members who have given notice of that question present here now—Shri P. C. Borooah and Shri P. R. Chakraverti? No? In that case, it cannot be taken up.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Sir, it is left to your discretion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Unless the Member is present, it cannot be taken up.

### Production of Sugar

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- \*454. { Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:  
 { Shri Bagri:  
 { Shri M. L. Jadhav:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target set for production of sugar for 1963-64 has been achieved;

(b) if so, the reasons for acute shortage of sugar in the country; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to increase the production?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) and (b). The production of sugar in 1963-64 is 25.2 lakh tonnes upto 15th of September 1964, as against the requirement of 33 lakh tonnes estimated in the beginning of the season. This accounts for the shortage of sugar in the country in the current year.

(c) Measures to step up production of sugar in 1964-65 are under consideration.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** It is seen from the statement given by the hon. Minister that there is a shortage of nearly 8 lakhs tons of sugar for 1963-64 and that is the reason for the acute shortage of sugar in the country. In that case, may I know whether Government will consider the possibility of stopping the export of sugar to foreign countries so that it will be possible to have reasonable distribution of sugar in the country?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** After making an estimate of the production in 1964-65, if there is going to be any acute shortage, certainly we will consider banning exports.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** May I know whether the Government has got any assessment before it whether the sugar mills that have gone into production and that will go into production will reach the target envisag-

ed by the Government? What is the latest position regarding production by sugar mills?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is not a question of want of capacity in the mills today. It is a question of supply of cane to the sugar mills, which is being diverted for the production of gur. The estimate of expectations for 1964-65 are optimistic and I am hoping that it would be possible to reach a sizable production during 1964-65.

**श्री बागड़ी:** क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि दक्षिण के चीनी कारखानों जिन पर कि कम लागत लगती है लेकिन चीनी की कीमत उत्तर के मुकाबले में ज्यादा होती है और उत्तर में चीनी की कीमत कम मिलती है इसी तरीके से दक्षिण में किसानों को गन्ने की कीमत ज्यादा और उत्तर में कम मिलती है, तो क्या इस उत्तर और दक्षिण को लड़ाने के व्यवहार को सरकार अभी भी जारी रखने का विचार कर रही है?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think there is any disparity. As a matter of fact, the sugarcane price in the South is a little lower. As far as the price of sugar is concerned, the price fixed for the northern mills is higher than that for the southern mills.

**Shri Tulshidas Jadhav:** May I know what remedial measures have been taken to increase the production of sugar in the country, either by the expansion of the existing factories or by the opening of new factories?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** That is quite a different question relating to licensing capacity and bringing about more capacity. Here the question is about utilizing the capacity by making available more cane.

**Shri Himmatsinhji:** May I know whether Government have made any definite commitments for the export of sugar and, if so, how much?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I think I have already answered that question.

**Shri Himmatsinhji:** I am asking about the quantity.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is roughly 2.5 lakhs tons.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** According to the statement of the Minister, the shortage of sugar production is due to diversion of cane for production of *gur* and *khandsari*. I would like to know whether Government propose to give more incentives to the farmer increasing the price of sugarcane so that the entire sugarcane crop may be diverted to the sugar mills and, if so, what is the scheme?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** That would mean increasing the price of sugar.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** No, by reducing the huge profits.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** That is taken into account. Hon. Members need not imagine that huge profits are earned by the sugar mills and, therefore, there is cushion to increase the sugarcane price without any corresponding increase in the price of sugar. As a matter of fact, we have gone into the whole question. Another difficulty is the parity in the agricultural sector between the prices of foodgrains and sugar. If you give more and more to sugarcane, naturally there will be greater diversion to sugarcane production as against production of foodgrains.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** What remedies has the Government in mind to cure the unhappy malady of sugar mills' capacity lying idle in the north for lack of cane and more cane being diverted to *gur* manufacture in the south because of the lack of capacity for manufacture of sugar? Further, what attention is Government paying....

**Mr. Speaker:** Thus far and no further.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As far as making available more cane for the northern mills is concerned, we are taking into account the various measures and I hope to announce them

very soon. It is still in the stage of consideration.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri A. P. Jain.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** What about the south? Only one portion of the first part has been answered.

**Mr. Speaker:** I allowed only one question.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** But only one part of that question has been answered.

**Mr. Speaker:** That part in itself is a question by itself.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The hon. Minister has unequivocally announced that the price of agricultural produce will be based on a remunerative return to the grower. In calculating the price of sugarcane will he keep this in mind and will the price of sugarcane be remunerative to the grower irrespective of the fact as to what parity it bears to the other food crops?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As a matter of fact, I have tried to make a calculation. The present price of sugarcane is quite remunerative.

**Shri A. T. Jain:** No, no.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : कृषि मंत्री ने कहा है कि हम चीनी का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के उपायों पर विचार कर रहे हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में वह क्या उपाय कर रहे हैं। और किसानों को क्या सुविधायें दे रहे हैं।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The various inputs, like fertilisers, and the plant protection programme and all those things are being offered now. In addition to that, the price also is a factor and that is also being taken care of.

**Shri Ranga:** What is it that is being done in order to enable the peasants to increase the per acre production in addition to the fertilisers them-

selves? Are the fertilisers being supplied to them either free or as a part of the additional price that they should be willing to pay so that it would not touch their pockets and, at the same time, they can increase production by using these fertilisers?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** There are two or three aspects with regard to increased production, for example, the variety of cane which is being raised. Therefore we are improving the varieties. As a matter of fact, we have achieved significant success in evolving new strains which give increased production per acre. In addition to that, better fertilisation and better plant protection programmes are there. In calculating the cost all these are being taken into account and we are trying to find out what would be the per acre return. Today if we take that into account, taking into account even an average production, the return which the farmer is able to get is quite attractive.

**Shri K. N. Tiwary:** What was the number of sugar mills in UP and Bihar four years ago and what was their number in the south, and in Maharashtra and how many new mills have been increased in Maharashtra and in the South?

**Mr. Speaker:** Not so many "ands" in between. These two may suffice.

**Shri K. N. Tiwary:** How many sugar mills in U.P. and Bihar are closed due to economic reasons?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not have the number of mills, but if the hon. Member wants to know whether there has been an increase in the number of mills in the south, definitely it has increased. It is a natural thing because sugarcane production and the return are better there and therefore the laws of economics come into play.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri D. N. Tiwary.

**Shri D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether any instructions have been sent to State Governments not to

license new sugar mills in those areas where there is already a deficit of sugarcane for the existing factories?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The licensing is done centrally here. This fact is taken into consideration. It is only wherever cane is available or there is potential development for cane, the licensing is made.

**Shri Daljit Singh:** May I know whether any foreign country has offered to set up sugar factories in India and, if so, the decision taken thereon?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think any foreign Government has offered.

**Dr. Sarojini Mahishi:** In view of the fact that sugarcane is lying for days together in the factories and due to the defective machinery the recovery is also many a time less and as a result the farmers suffer and because the cost of production of sugarcane is linked up with the recovery, may I know what relief the Government is going to give to the producers under such circumstances?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** In one or two individual cases, there might be some breakdown in the machinery and this might happen. I do not think this is a general complaint.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next Question. Questions 464 and 475 relate to the same subject. Mr. P. R. Chakraverti who has tabled Question No. 475 is not here. So, Question 464 may also be replied to a along with Question 455.

#### Agricultural Production in Third Plan

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\*455. { Shri Hem Raj:  
Shri K. C. Pant:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the States which have fulfilled their targets of agricultural production during the Third Five Year Plan till its third year and which have not, with their names separately;

(b) the percentage by which they are lagging behind; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to bridge the gap between targets and actual production?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). Under the Third Five Year Plan, year-wise targets of production for different crops have not been laid down. However, a statement indicating the Third Plan targets of agricultural production in regard to food-grains and the principal commercial crops for each of the States, as also the actual production for the years 1961-62, 1962-63 and 1963-64 is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3268/64].

As against the targeted index number (with base 1949-50-100) of 176 envisaged for the production of all agricultural commodities by the end of Third Five Year Plan, the index number of production for 1963-64 has been 140.5. The targeted levels of production are likely to be reached in regard to jute and sugarcane. In regard to foodgrains, cotton and oilseeds some shortfalls are expected to occur in the Plan targets.

(c) Another statement indicating the measures being taken to intensify agricultural production and to ensure achievement of Plan targets is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3268/64].

#### Agricultural Production

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Shri Rameshwar Tanti:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shri Bishanchander Seth:

Shri B. P. Yadava:

Shri Dhaon:

Shri Yashpal Singh:

Shri R. S. Pandey:

Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Shri Gokulananda Mohanty:

\*464. Shri M. L. Jadhav:

Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:

Shri Baswant:

Shri M. N. Swamy:

Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:

Shri Kishen Pattnayak:

Shri Rameshwaranand:

Shri H. C. Soy:

Shri Jashvant Mehta:

Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken for the intensification of the Agricultural Production Programmes in the country;

(b) whether further thought is being given to the reorientation of agricultural development programmes; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines of the plans, if any, formulated in this behalf?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) to (c). The Government has been giving continuous thought during the recent past on the reorientation of agricultural development programme with a view to increasing agricultural production within a short period. A statement showing the measures taken for the intensification of Agricultural Programme in the country is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3269/64].

**Shri Hem Raj:** From the statement I find that between the planned target for the Third Plan and the final estimates which have been given for 1963-64, there is a great difference in production. May I know whether, at least in the case of States like Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh which are thought to be the granary provinces, any effort has been made to find out the cause of low production in these States?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** For the last two years, there has been stagnation in the production. That is mainly due to the adverse weather conditions also. That is why now we are taking all measures for the purpose of seeing that the level of production increases so that even under

the adverse weather conditions the level could be much higher. We are hoping this year it should be possible to have considerable additional production particularly if the rabi crop is also good.

**Shri Hem Raj:** The Prime Minister during the debate on the no-confidence motion stated that the Government will try to see that all the States become self-sufficient in foodgrain requirements. May I know what steps Government are taking to make each and every State self-sufficient in food production?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think the hon. Prime Minister made such a statement. I do not think that it would be possible to make every State self-sufficient in regard to food.

**Shri K. C. Pant:** May I know whether agricultural production is assessed on the basis of theoretical results expected from certain inputs or on the basis of crop-cuttings, and the margin of error for which Government allow in making this assessment?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** The production estimate is made on the basis of random sampling crop-cutting. Before that, we make an estimate of the potential for production on the basis of the inputs.

**Shri K. C. Pant:** May I know the margin of error for which Government allow?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As far as the crop-cutting process is concerned, the margin of error is between 1 and 2 per cent; it has been cross-checked and found that it might be only between 1 and 2 per cent. But as far as the potential is concerned, it is only an estimate.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have submitted to the hon. Ministers so many times that when a question is put by an hon. Member, the Ministers should have a look towards me also and find out whether I am allowing the question or

not. Sometimes, it so happens that the Minister beings to answer it and he goes on, though I have not allowed the question.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I am sorry.

**Shri Shinkre:** In this case, the question had already been allowed, but the answer had not been given fully. That was why the hon. Member was repeating part of his question which had not been replied to.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have to decide whether full answer has been given or not.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** The whole House is grateful to the hon. Minister for saying that he is giving continuous thought to this programme. May I know the actual results of the continuous thought that he has given in the field of production?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As far as my thought is concerned, it is too early for it to yield any results.

**श्री यु० सि० चौधरी:** माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि दो तीन सालों में लगातार जो पैदावार है वह तीन स्टेट्स में यानी उत्तर प्रदेश, राजस्थान और पंजाब में वहीं की वहीं है, यानी पैदावार बढ़ी नहीं है। सरकार ने इसके मूल कारणों में से एक कारण यह बताया है कि मौसम या बारिश इत्यादि का खराब होना है, या बारिश का न होना है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस कारण के भ्रलावा और कौन कौन से कारण हैं पैदावार बढ़ाने में बाधक होने के ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप तो खुद जमींदार हैं। आपको इसका ज्यादा पता है।

**श्री यु० सि० चौधरी :** हमको तो मालूम है ही लेकिन गवर्नमेंट भी बताये कि और कौन कौन से कारण हैं उसको भी तो पता है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** जब आपको मालूम हैं और सरकार को मालूम नहीं हैं तो आपको नहीं पूछना चाहिये।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया है कि हम आने वाले वर्षों में पैदावार बढ़ायेंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उत्पादन विदेशी पद्धति अपना कर बढ़ाया जायेगा या हमारे देश की पद्धति जो है, उसके द्वारा ही बढ़ाया जाएगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : कोशिश करके देश के अन्दर ही पैदावार बढ़ायी जाएगी।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैंने यह पूछा है कि देशी पद्धति अपना कर अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ायी जाएगी या विदेशी पद्धति अपना करके ?

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know whether we shall use our own resources or get assistance from elsewhere. . . .

श्री कछवाम : यह सवाल नहीं है . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : असल में मिनिस्टर साहब और मैं दोनों ही "पद्धति" का मतलब नहीं समझ सके हैं।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : अगर विदेशी पद्धति से देश की पैदावार को बढ़ाया जा सकता है तो हमें उसका इस्तेमाल करने में भी कोई एतराज नहीं है। अपनी पद्धति तो हम इस्तेमाल कर ही रहे हैं और करते ही रहेंगे।

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: May I know whether one of the main hurdles in increasing agricultural production is the lack of irrigation facilities, and if so, may I also know whether the expansion of irrigation facilities is hampered because of short supply of cement, and if so, how the supply of cement is going to be augmented?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Yes, for minor irrigation programmes, there is a shortage of cement. We are taking steps to see that more cement is available for them.

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : अभी कृषि मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि हम अपनी पैदावार बढ़ाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और इसके लिए देशी और विदेशी दोनों पद्धतियों को अपनाया जाएगा। मैं मंत्री महोदय को यह बात पटुचा कर जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उनको पता है कि राज्य सरकारों ने किसानों को ऋण दिये हुए हैं तकावी के रूप में और किसानों ने बोरिंग करा लिया है, मशीनें लगा ली हैं लेकिन बिजली घर वाले उनको बिजली का कनेक्शन नहीं दे रहे हैं और यह कह देते हैं कि उनके पास पैसा नहीं है और यह बात सारे पंजाब की मैं कह रहा हूँ। यह जो गतिरोध उत्पन्न हो गया है, इसको दूर करने के लिए आपका कृषि मंत्रालय क्या कर रहा है जिससे पैदावार बढ़ सके ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : मैं मेम्बर साहब का बहुत मशकूर हूँ कि उन्होंने यह चीज हमारे नोटिस में लाई है। इसका हमें भी पता है और हमने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को इन कमियों के बारे में कहा था। जैसे की कमी या और जो जो कुछ कमियाँ हैं, उन में जो कुछ मदद हम दे सकते हैं, उसको देने के लिए हमने पूरा पूरा वादा किया है। आपको यह जानकर खुशी होगी कि पंजाब में बहुत सारे ट्यूबवैल्वज को जिनको बिजली नहीं मिली थी, अब उनको बिजली मिल चुकी है और जिन को अभी भी नहीं मिली है, उनको बहुत जल्दी मिल जाएगी।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : अध्यक्ष महोदय . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने इतना लम्बा सवाल किया और जवाब भी उसका आपको मिल गया।

श्री रामेश्वरानन्द : मैं छोटा किये देता हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब नहीं।

Shri Kandappan: Is Government in a position to start soil conservation

on its own initiative without expecting a major share from the farmer, as is the case at present?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** We are giving subsidy for soil conservation, and I do not think it will be possible to increase it. After all, the farmer also should contribute something for the improvement of his own land.

**Shri A. P. Sharma:** What steps do Government contemplate to provide irrigational facilities in those areas, particularly in Bihar, where there are no such facilities at all, for the purpose of increasing food production?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** We are encouraging minor irrigation programmes in a big way so that wherever the major irrigation programmes are not able to reach, minor irrigational facilities will be made available to the people.

**Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** How far has the creation and functioning of the Central Agricultural Production Board helped in improving agricultural administration for better co-ordination and implementation of agricultural programmes?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is now possible to discuss across the table between two or three concerned Ministries and take decisions on the basis of the understanding reached between all the Ministries instead of passing files from one Ministry to another.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर गया है कि माननीय अजित प्रसाद जैन के मंत्री पद से हटने के बाद से इस वक्त तक 22 लाख टन पैदावार कम हुई है और यदि हां, तो इस 22 लाख टन की कमी को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है ?

**श्री कपूर सिंह :** इनको फिर मंत्री बना दिया जाए ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** आपने इसमें क्या यत्न किया है कि उनको फिर मंत्री बनाया जाए ?

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** मैं तो चाहता हूं कि देश की तरक्की हो और ऐसे लोग रखे जायें जो पैदावार बढ़ा सकें ।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** इनकी वजह से वह पीछे रह गये हैं ।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** In 1961-62, there was a record production. I think it was after Shri A. P. Jain's becoming the Minister. Therefore, he is responsible for that increased production.

**श्री गुलशन :** तीसरी योजना में सरकार का यह विचार है कि कृषि उत्पादन को बढ़ाया जाए, उसमें क्या इसका भी ध्यान रखा जाएगा कि किसानों को खाद, बीज, खेती बाड़ी के औजार, ट्रैक्टर इत्यादि सस्ते दिये जायें ? क्या इन चीजों को सस्ता देने की कोई योजना है ?

**श्री शाहनवाज खां :** कुछ ट्रैक्टर तो हम बाहर से दरामद कर रहे हैं, इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं और उसमें खास करके कुछ रशियन ट्रैक्टर हैं जो कि लगभग छः हजार रुपये में मिलते हैं और किसान उनको बहुत ज्यादा पसन्द कर रहे हैं और दूसरे हम खुद कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि देश में सस्ते ट्रैक्टर तैयार हों ।

**श्री गुलशन :** खाद, बीज, औजार इत्यादि के बारे में पुछिया सी, कल्ले ट्रैक्टरों की बात कह दित्ती है एनां ने . . . . .

**श्री शाहनवाज खां :** मैं आपनू बीज दा बी जवाब दे देना हां । (इंटरप्शन)

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** टक्कर दो पंजाबियां बिच है, मैं की करां ।

**श्री शाहनवाज खां :** अब आगे जो रबी की फसल बोई जानी है उस में किसानों को बीज सप्लाय करने के लिये गवर्नमेंट ने

इन्तजामात किये हैं, और जो तमाम कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज हैं, बनाए हैं, उन के जरिये बीज और जो अच्छे किस्म की विलायती खाद है वह भी उनको देने के इंतजामात किये गये हैं। खाद पर भी कुछ सन्निडी है।

**श्री गुलशन :** मेरे सवाल दा जवाब अपने बी नहीं मिलिया है।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** जवाब मिल सकता ही नहीं है।

**Shri Liladhar Kotoki:** May I know whether the target of 100 million tons of foodgrains to be achieved at the end of the Third Plan still stands, and whether Government can assure the House that, with the steps that are indicated in the statement, they are confident of achieving this target by the end of the Third Plan?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** We are very hopeful of achieving this target, and by the grace of God we shall do it.

**Shri Koya:** In the statement, at least in the case of one State, Kerala (item No. 6), the target is 14,651, and the actual is only less than one-fourth. Has the State Government given any explanation?

**Mr. Speaker:** There is too much of noise, we are not able to follow the proceedings.

**Shri J. B. Kripalani:** You indulge in humour. What can we do?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** अब मैं अपने आप को कुछ काबू में रखूंगा।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think the hon. Member is correct. It is 1,465 and not 14,651. There is some mistake.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The hon. Deputy Minister has said that they are making arrangements for seed. What are the requirements of wheat seed for the whole country, and how much have they arranged through the co-operative societies and seed stores?

**Shri Bade:** They have got no seed.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think I have the figures here now, but we are trying. For U.P. they require seed in view of the flood situation, and for that we are trying to arrange from Punjab to get the necessary seed.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** In the statement, item No. 14 says that special measures are being taken for the current kharif crop. I would like to know about irrigation, fertilisers etc. I want to know, first of all, what these measures are, and whether any of them are outside the Plan expenditure, and which States have already taken advantage of them.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** With regard to minor irrigation, many States have already spent whatever the Plan allotment has been, and they are being given further assistance for the purpose of taking up the minor irrigation programmes. With regard to some of the special programmes which we are taking up, all those special programmes are being taken up outside the Plan, and special assistance is being given to them.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know if Government are aware of the fact that in U.P., the traders have already paid to the cultivators for the next kharif crop, which means that the control of the market price will be in the hands of the traders and not in the hands of the Government, and the price will continue to rise under their monopoly? May I know what steps Government have taken to see that such a situation does not arise?

**Mr. Speaker:** Has Government any knowledge about traders already purchasing the grains?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** It has come to our notice that some traders have given advances to the cultivators. But the Government is going to take very effective steps in the very near future.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** May I also give this information? We are going

to announce a minimum price which the farmer would be entitled to get. This minimum price will be based on its being remunerative and incentive. We are going to make an announcement soon and also publicise it widely so that no farmer will sell it at a lower price.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is one problem. The question is about those who had already sold.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It is not a purchase. They advance money and that does not mean that they have fixed a price. They agree to fix the price at the time of harvest according to the prevailing market rate. The market rate will be indicated in such a way that it cannot go below a certain level. This is for wheat and rice.

**Shri Ranga:** Have Government thought of advancing money themselves to the farmers upto fifty per cent of the value of the marketable crop so that they need not depend upon merchants? Have they given up their policy of making profits in the sale of fertilisers to the farmers?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** There are two separate questions. Advancing of money will be one of the functions of the foodgrains corporation. Unfortunately, the hon. Member is opposed to State Trading Corporation ... (*Interruptions*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### Community Development Institutions

\*456. { **Shri K. N. Tiwary:**  
           { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are taking steps to make suitable changes in Community Development Institutions to make these more useful for farm programmes;

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(b) if so, on what lines; and

(c) whether an additional Development Block officer in each block has taken charge of agricultural development as a specific job?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-3270*][64].

(c) No. Neither was it intended.

**श्री क० ना० तिवारी:** यह जो स्टेटमेंट दिया गया है उसमें दिखलाया गया है कि एक्सटेंशन आफिसर्स और ब्लॉक डेवलपमेंट आफिसर्स के काम बांट दिये गये हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही है कि सारे देश में सभी एक्सटेंशन आफिसर्स और ब्लॉक डेवलपमेंट आफिसर्स के काम नहीं बांटे गये हैं। यदि यह सही है तो कौन कौन से प्रदेश ऐसे हैं जहाँ यह काम बांट दिये गये हैं और कौन से प्रदेश ऐसे हैं जहाँ यह नहीं बांटे गये हैं।

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** I do not think the break-up of the figures is available with us.

**श्री क० ना० तिवारी:** मैंने पूछा था कि यह चीज सब जगह लागू हो गई है या नहीं। और यदि नहीं लागू हुई है, कौन कौन से प्रदेशों में लागू हुई हैं और कौन कौन से प्रदेशों में नहीं हुई है।

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** It is a recommendation of the Ram Subhag Singh Committee and those recommendations have been accepted by all the State Ministers when they met recently in a conference. Therefore, we hope that all the States are interested in putting these recommendations into force.

**Shri A. S. Saigal:** May I know whether the department is getting proper co-operation from the sister departments in the States to speed up production?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** How long does the Minister of Community Development propose to take to withdraw jeeps from the CD blocks?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** I may clarify the issue. As soon as the emergency was declared we have issued instructions to State Governments that no new jeeps should be given to the blocks and those jeeps that are in first-class condition in the border areas should be surrendered to the Defence authorities.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** My question was about the withdrawal of jeeps which exist at present in the CD blocks; the answer is that no new jeeps would be given.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** For those blocks which are being started anew, there is no question of giving them new jeeps. But there is one difficulty. Certain blocks are today under the Panchayati Raj institutions. The samitis are in charge of these blocks. Wherever it is possible to persuade the samiti, we are trying to get as many blocks as possible switched on to the samitis.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Sir, I would submit that this is the third or the fourth short notice question of this type regarding the supply of foodgrains. Before this session concludes, if the hon. Minister can make a statement giving all the details about the supply of foodgrains to the various States, it will be very helpful.

**Mr. Speaker:** Every day we are having, either in the form of questions or in any other form, a discussion on the food problem and the food supplies. A demand has been made that before this session concludes, if the Minister can make a statement about the supply of foodgrains to the various States that are contemplated, how they are to be supplied, etc., then probably the Members would welcome it. If it is possible for the Minister to do it, he might make it.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I can give an idea of the likely supply; on the last day I shall try to make a statement.

12.00 hrs.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

#### Supply of Foodgrains to Mysore

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S.N.Q. 7. { **Shri R. G. Dubey:**  
**Shri M. Rampure:**  
**Shri Chandriki:**  
**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:**  
**Shri Shivamanjappa:**  
**Shri Mohsin:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has abruptly cut down the quota of wheat allotted to the Mysore State for the month of September by 50 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some deaths have occurred due to starvation in Hadagali Taluk, Mysore State; and

(d) if so, whether any food stuff has been sent to the acute scarcity areas of Bellary and Raichur Districts?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) and (b). Owing to an unexpected strike in one of the ports in U.S.A., some of the steamers bringing wheat were delayed and import of wheat during September fell below expectations. Supply of wheat to various deficit areas and other recipients had, therefore, to be regulated keeping in view the expected availability of wheat. Taking into account the actual distribution of wheat through fair price shops in Mysore during the previous months, the RDF, Madras was advised to arrange to issue 5,000 tons of wheat for sale through fair price shops in Mysore State during September. Later, on receipt of representation from Mysore

State that this quantity was inadequate, the quota was raised to 10,000 tons.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The State Government allots suitable quantities of foodgrains to various districts keeping in view the requirement of each district. Supplies are made from Central Stocks according to the allotments made by the State Government. Necessary supplies against the allotments made by the Mysore Government have been given to the Districts of Bellary and Raichur.

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** May I know whether the admitted conditions of acute shortage of food supplies continues even today, because, there have been several food riots in Navalgaon, Harihar and Rajendragarh and recently at Bellary, where there has been a serious riot and the police have had to resort to firing, and so, may I know whether more emergency food supplies have been arranged for Mysore State? (*Interruption*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Illicit talks should be more subdued.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** The requirements of Mysore have been indicated and on that basis we have also indicated to the Mysore Government what we would be able to provide them during these months. Unfortunately, we had to make a cut in September, but that cut was restored later on. Therefore, with the available quantity, it is for the Mysore Government to find out where they should distribute these supplies. We cannot give directions from here.

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** As against the normal quota of 10,000 tons allotted to the Mysore State, what is the exact amount of foodgrains that were sent during the month of September, and I should also like to know whether any amount of foodgrains were despatched out of the ad hoc quota of 20,000 tons of wheat and 10,000 tons of rice.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As a matter of fact, I have got the figures of wheat

supplied to Mysore from January onwards, but I will give the figures from April onwards—April 4,400 tons; May 6,800 tons; June 6,300 tons; July 6,700 tons and in August 10,000 tons. In September also we had agreed to give 10,000 tons but we had to cut it down because of these unforeseen circumstances. Later on we increased this quota and these 10,000 tons are being made available during September.

**Shri Chandriki:** Has it been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that when licensees and permit-holders go to central godowns and deposit the amount, they have to wait for several days for releasing of the quota and this has caused embarrassment to the people there?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I have received this allegation. I have immediately passed it on to the Regional Director of Food there to make the necessary enquiry into it. In one case it was found that because the orders of allotment had not reached the godowns they were not able to supply. That was the main reason. Now we are taking care to see that allotments are made sufficiently early and also to indicate to the licensees to go there after the allotment orders reach the godowns.

**Shri Shivananjappa:** May I know the actual quantity of wheat and rice supplied to Mysore against these allotments (*Interruption*).

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I gave the figures up to August. In August we supplied 10,000 tons and in September also we hope to supply 10,000 tons. (*Interruption*).

**Shri Shivananjappa:** May I know whether the hon. Minister has received any complaint so far about lack of co-ordination in the movement of foodgrains especially from Andhra Pradesh (*Interruptions*).

**Some Hon. Members:** rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** We are having a statement made about all the States.

**Shri Nath Pai:** May I submit, Sir...

**Shri Ranga:** Raichur and Bellary...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order—not two at a time.

**Shri Nath Pai:** I am always willing to surrender, when you call me, to Professor Ranga. Sir, some of the questions that arise as supplementaries out of the first question of Shri Dubey are such that not only the Mysoreans are interested in them but all of us, and if you would be willing I should like to put a question.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not barring it out completely. I am only saying that a statement is going to be made by the Minister.

**Shri Nath Pai:** That is quite different. (Interruption).

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Does the Union Ministry take note of the complaints sent by every town or the various centres of a State where they have scarcity of food? Do they refer those complaints straight to the States concerned? It happened recently in my constituency—Bhatkal. No grain was available there for four days and we referred the matter to the Ministry here. May I know what action has been taken on that?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As I have already stated, from the Centre we cannot be looking into the requirements of each town or city. Therefore, it should be the responsibility of the State Government. But when representations are made we pass it on to the State Government for necessary action.

**Shri Basappa:** May I know whether the Minister is aware of the fact that Jowar costs about Rs. 90 to Rs. 95 per quintal and it is moving from Bellary to Hyderabad; if so, what action is being taken in that respect?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I am not aware that Jowar is selling at Rs. 90 or Rs. 95 a quintal.

**Shri Ranga:** In view of the fact that Raichur and Bellary have been in the chronically deficit as well as famine zones, would the Government consider the advisability of making an

*ad hoc* allotment for these two districts in consultation or cooperation with the local government?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As I have already stated, it is for the State Government to decide to which area they should send the foodgrains. If they ask for any increased allotment, in view of any difficult situation, we always take that into consideration and make *ad hoc* allotments.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Is it a fact that as a result of the acute shortage of foodgrains in many State-subsidised shops and shops run by the Government there has been resentment on the part of people in Bellary and Raichur and other famine-stricken areas and far from meeting their demands the response of the Government has been to lathi charge the crowd which asked for foodgrains and fire on them. As he said that processions do not lead to replenishing of the empty foodgrain godowns, does he think that firing on crowds will somehow bring foodgrains?

**Mr. Speaker:** The latter portion need not be answered.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I do not think the Central Government is responsible for this. The maintenance of law and order is the responsibility of the State Government. Therefore, that is quite a different thing. As far as foodgrains are concerned, we are trying our best to supply to the deficit areas to the extent possible.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** Is it a fact that wheat supplies are not according to a phased programme but according to the pulls of the States and because of that Rajasthan, specially Alwar, is suffering very much? Will the hon. Minister please...

**Mr. Speaker:** Should I allow this question?

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** When that is the position...

**Mr. Speaker:** No, Sir. I cannot allow it.

श्री हुकम चन्द कल्लवाय : क्या यह बात सही है कि मध्य प्रदेश को जो कोटा एलाट किया गया था उस में भारी कटौती कर दी

गई है ? मध्य प्रदेश में गेहूँ जाता ही नहीं है और क्या यह सही नहीं है कि मध्य प्रदेश के मंत्री यहाँ पर इसीलिए रुके हुए हैं ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** माननीय सदस्य स्वयं फैसला करें कि क्या यह एलाऊ किया जाय ?

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### All India Handicrafts Board

\*450. { **Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Handicrafts Board has deputed experts to Japan to study tools and techniques employed in Japanese handicrafts and to purchase the tools;

(b) if so, the achievements of the Experts' Team; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for the purchase of such tools?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):**

(a) and (b). One officer of the All India Handicrafts Board has been deputed to Japan for making a selection and preparing a list of tools and equipment which might be suitable for use of Indian craftsmen. He is still in Japan and will submit his report on return.

(c) Rs. 69,000/-.

### National Road Plan

\*457. { **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:**  
**Shri Hem Raj:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri B. N. Kureel:**  
**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**  
**Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Transport Division of the Planning

Commission has suggested drawing up of an integrated national Plan in which National Highways, inter-State roads, State Highways and other major roads are included;

(b) the steps, if any being taken to evolve such an integrated Plan for road development in the country; and

(c) what would be the targets and capital outlay for road development in the Fourth Five Year Plan under such an integrated road Plan?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Planning Commission have suggested that to establish a national road plan on an integrated basis, technical advisory bodies, to be designated as Road Planning Boards, consisting of the representatives of the various interests concerned, may be constituted, both at the national level and in the States. The State Governments and Administrations of Union Territories have already been advised to consider setting up such Road Planning Boards in their respective States/Union Territories. Necessary action to set up a Road Planning Board at the Centre is also being taken. No decision about the financial outlay and physical target for the Fourth Plan has yet been taken as it is dependent upon the total resources which have yet to be determined.

### Foreign Collaboration in Indian Shipping

\*458. { **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**  
**Shri Vishram Prasad:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri Mohammad Elias:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's approval has been recently given to any foreign collaboration projects in Indian shipping;

(b) if so, the names of the foreign and Indian partners concerned; and

(c) the quantum of foreign participation in equity capital in each case?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (c). No specific approval of Government is required to be taken by Indian Shipping Companies since foreign participation in the share capital of the Indian Shipping Companies upto 40 per cent is permissible under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. However, several proposals of foreign collaboration in the Indian Shipping Companies have come to the notice of Government at the time of according sanction for the acquisition of ships. A statement giving the names of shipping companies (with relevant details) which have been permitted to acquire ships is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library see No. Lt-3271/64].

#### Consolidation of Holdings

\*459. { Shri Sham Lal Saraf:  
Shri Onkar Lal Barwa:  
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:  
Shri Bishanohander Seth:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken to launch an effective programme for the consolidation of holdings;

(b) whether targets have been fixed to achieve the objective in consultation with the State Government; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) 13 States and 12 Union Territories have included consolidation of holdings as a pattern scheme in their Third Five Year Plan with an aggregate target of 31 million acres and outlay of Rs. 19.74 crores. The scheme

is eligible for a Central grant of 25 per cent of gross expenditure. The total area consolidated in the first three years of the 3rd Plan is about 20 million acres.

#### Rice Mill Machinery

\*460. { Shri M. Rampure:  
Shri K. N. Tiwary:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up plants to manufacture rice mill machinery in the public sector; and

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

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) No decision has been taken in the matter.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Foodgrain Trade

\*461. { Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Baswant:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a panel of agricultural economists has been constituted by Government to undertake a study of the foodgrain trade; and

(b) if so, the precise terms of reference of the panel, and when it is expected to submit its report?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). The Government of India have constituted a Panel of Economists for advising the Minister of Food and Agriculture on all economic matters relating to food and agriculture referred to them and not for undertaking any specific study, such as study of the foodgrain trade. Individual members of the Panel have, however, undertaken ad-hoc studies on specific aspects of the foodgrains trade.

**Import of Fertilisers**

- \*462. { Shri Raghunath Singh:  
 Shri Ramgopalwar Tania:  
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:  
 Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
 Shri B. P. Yadava:  
 Shri Dhaen:  
 Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the speech delivered by him on the 28th August, 1964, while inaugurating the Conference on 'Agricultural Development and Economic Progress' and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are importing fertilisers to the extent of Rs. 40 crores in the current financial year;

(b) whether any plans to utilise natural manures are under consideration; and

(c) the broad details thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) A sum of Rs. 33.30 crores has been allocated for arranging imports of nitrogenous fertilisers during 1964-65.

(b) and (c). Encouragement to the State Governments for maximum utilisation of organic manurial resources is one of the important activities of the Government of India. The following is the progress in respect of the more important of these resources:

(1) *Urban Compost*:—A scheme for preparing of urban compost from solid city wastes on All-India basis was sponsored in 1944. The level of production reached by the end of the Second Plan was 2.85 million tonnes, against the target of 3.00 million tonnes. By the end of the Third Plan, a level of 4.4 million tonnes of production is expected to be reached.

(2) *Utilisation of sewage/sullage*:—By the end of the Third Plan, it is expected that about 40,000 acres of

land would be irrigated, by utilising 250 million gallons of sewage water per day.

(3) *Rural Compost*:—The scheme was initiated in 1957-58 to boost production of quality rural compost, in addition to farm-yard manure that was and is already being prepared and used. By the end of the Second Plan, the level of production of rural compost had reached 66.0 million tonnes, which is expected to rise to 130.0 million tonnes by the end of the Third Plan.

(4) *Green Manuring*:—This scheme was also initiated in 1957-58 to intensify green-manuring practice. By the end of the Second Plan, 10.5 million acres of land was being green-manured and this figure is expected to rise to 34 million acres by the end of the Third Plan.

**Construction of Godowns**

\*463. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether separate programmes for the construction of godowns have been undertaken by Ministries of Food and Agriculture and Community Development and Co-operation and Central Warehousing Corporation.

(b) if so, what is the object in independent programme being followed for identical purpose by these organisations;

(c) whether this arrangement results in getting more storage space constructed than required at the same place; and

(d) what difficulties are anticipated if these programmes are coordinated in one Department?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purpose behind the construction of godowns by the Department of Food, the Warehousing Corporation and the Cooperatives is not

identical. The godowns of the Department of Food are used exclusively for the storage of foodgrains owned by the Government for buffer stock operations. The godowns of Central Warehousing Corporation, on the other hand, are utilized by cultivators, traders, and other institutions for storage of agricultural produce, seeds, manures, fertilizers, agricultural implements and "Notified commodities". The godowns of the cooperatives are meant to facilitate development of cooperative marketing of agricultural produce and cooperative distribution of production, requisites, and are available only for members' produce.

(c) As the godowns of the three organisations have different aims to serve, the question of more storage space being constructed than required at the same place does not arise.

(d) As the godowns of the three organizations are intended to serve three different fields of activity, there is no need for their integration in one Department but care is taken to ensure that there is no overlapping of activities in the same sphere.

#### खाद्यान्नों का सट्टा

465. { डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :  
श्री राम सेवक यादव :  
श्री बागड़ी :

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

(क) क्या सरकार को दैनिक बीर घर्जुन के 20 अगस्त, 1964 के अंक में प्रकाशित इस समाचार की जानकारी है कि जाली नामों पर गैर-कानूनी सट्टा किया जा रहा है और इसका खाद्यान्नों के मूल्यों पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो मामले में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ;

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री बि० सुब्रह्मण्यम) : '(क) जी हाँ।

(ख) फावर्ड मार्केट कमीशन द्वारा दिल्ली पुलिस की अपराध शाखा की सहायता से

इस मामले की छान-बीन की गयी थी। यद्यपि, यह सन्देह था कि चने आदि के सट्टे सरसों की खली, मेथी आदि, मुक्त जिन्सों के नाम पर हो रहे थे किन्तु प्रमाण न होने के कारण किसी भी व्यक्ति के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही नहीं की जा सकी। तथापि, फावर्ड मार्केट कमीशन ने पहली जून, 1964 से सरसों की खली और मेथी के सट्टे पर भी रोक लगा दी है।

#### Mysore Sugar Company

\*466. Shri Shivananjappa: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mysore Sugar Company at Mandya has contracted with the ryots of the area to take supply of four and a half lakhs tons of sugarcane for crushing during 1964-65;

(b) whether it has failed to take supplies from the ryots so far;

(c) if so, the estimated loss to the cane-growers; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to compensate the ryots?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) The quantity of cane contracted by the Mysore Sugar Company, Mandya for 1964-65 season is 4.22 lakh tonnes.

(b) No, Sir. The factory is taking cane for crushing, as usual.

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

#### Supply of Buffalo Milk by D.M.S.

- \*467. { Shri Bade:  
Shri Brij Raj Singh:  
Shri Gokaran Prasad:  
Shri Lahri Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Buffalo milk is not being supplied by the Delhi Milk Scheme at present;

(b) whether only toned milk is being supplied from all the milk booths of the Delhi Milk Scheme;

- (c) if so, the reason therefor; and  
 (d) the time by which the present difficulty is likely to be removed?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The quantity of buffalo milk procured has gone down considerably, so that all of it has to be converted into toned milk. The reasons for the reduction in supplies are:—

- (i) Agitation among milk suppliers because of procurement through Cooperative Societies at the Milk Collection and Chilling Centre at Kithore, U.P.
- (ii) Greatly increased price in the Delhi market of products like cream and ghee which makes it more profitable for suppliers to divert milk for their manufacture.
- (iii) Unhealthy competition by private purchasers particularly in regard to price and quality of milk purchased.
- (iv) Increased seasonal demand due to 'shradhas', festivals, etc.
- (v) Effect of heavy rain and floods on fodder crop, which has affected the production of milk.

(d) All efforts are being made to restore the normal supplies. It is not possible, however, to specify the exact date.

#### Development of Ports

**Shri P. R. Chakravarti:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
 \*468. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**  
 † **Shri Mohammad Elias:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has questioned the assumption on which India has pro-

grammed to develop a net-work of major ports along her east and west coasts;

(b) how far the present rate of growth and economic development justify the increased investment in expansion of port facilities;

(c) the names of the ports which are likely to be developed with the World Bank's finances; and

(d) whether the Calcutta Port Authorities who are incharge of the planning and execution of the Haldia Project have been asked to scale down their estimates and prepare a revised plan?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) From time to time, views have been exchanged with the World Bank on various projects for which foreign exchange assistance is required by India. Major Port development has been one of the subjects discussed. India has already a network of major Ports on the two coasts. New major Port projects at present under execution relate to Mangalore and Tuticorin. We are also developing the new satellite Port at Haldia. For the Haldia project, sizeable foreign exchange is required and therefore an application has been made to the World Bank and is under their consideration. The Bank has always taken a special interest in the Haldia Project but they want some additional economic data to be gathered. A Study Group has been constituted to conduct the studies required by the Bank and collect the requisite data. This team will complete its work in about four months. The Bank have promised a quick decision as soon as the additional data has been furnished to them. The Bombay Port Project is already covered by a loan from the International Development Association, an affiliate of the World Bank. The foreign exchange requirements of Calcutta and Madras Ports are also covered by loans from the World Bank.

(b) Judiciously planned, ports stimulate development. Additions to port capacity are decided with reference to the existing and anticipated traffic. The future capacity is a question of judgment of likely traffic with margin for unforeseens.

(c) We have made a request to the World Bank for a loan for the Haldia Project. There is no other proposal relating to major Ports pending with the World Bank except a request to the Bank to agree to the use of some savings in the current Bank loan to Madras Port for financing the proposed installation of an iron ore handling plant at Madras.

(d) Yes. A suggestion to this effect was made to the Calcutta Port Commissioners in June 1964.

#### Inland water transport

- \*469. { Dr. L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Mohan Swarup:  
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:  
Shri Pottekkatt:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a perceptible decline in the use of river transport in our country; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to resuscitate and rehabilitate inland water transport?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A technical organisation is being set up in the Ministry of Transport to deal exclusively with the development of inland water transport. Schemes estimated to cost Rs. 7.57 crores have been included in the Ministry's Third Plan for the development of inland water transport in the country. The organisation that is being established will give necessary guidance to State Governments to expedite the implementation of the current Plan schemes and also to formulate and execute schemes during the Fourth Plan period.

#### Calcutta Port Marine Services

- \*470. { Shri Indrajit Gupta:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Krishnapal Singh:  
Shri Pottekkatt:  
Shri A. V. Raghavan:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a plan to merge various Port marine services under the Calcutta Port Commissioners;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Assistant Harbour Masters have represented that the proposed reorganisation will affect them adversely; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction in the matter?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) In place of the existing two pilotage cadres of Assistant Harbour Masters and Hooghly Pilots in the Port of Calcutta a new Service called the 'Calcutta Pilot Service' has been constituted with effect from the 10th June, 1964.

(b) and (c). The Assistant Harbour Masters had made representations earlier against the new scheme but they are now satisfied with the concessions since extended to them by the Port Authorities and have accepted the scheme.

खाद्यान्नों का एक राज्य से दूसरे राज्य में लाना, ले जाना

471. { श्री विजयलक्ष्मी मांछे:  
श्री बी. ना. कुरील:

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

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में खाद्यान्नों के लाने ले जाने का विनियमन करने के लिए एक उच्च स्तरीय केन्द्रीय समन्वय समिति बनाने का सरकार ने निर्णय कर लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो समिति में किन किन विभागों के प्रतिनिधि होंगे ; और

(ग) यह समिति कब तक बन जायेगी ?

साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री बि. सुब्रह्मण्यम) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न ही नहीं उठते।

### Sugar Production

\*472. { Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri P. B. Chakravarti:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the achievement of the Third Plan target of sugar production is likely to be hampered by various hurdles mainly that of finance;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the efforts being made to ensure that the lag is eliminated?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) to (c). Every effort is being made to ensure that the Third Plan target of sugar production is achieved.

### Co-operative Societies of Delhi

\*473. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Buta Singh:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 42 on the 8th September, 1964 and state:

(a) the terms of reference of the inquiry instituted into the constitution, working and financial condition of the co-operative societies in the Union Territory of Delhi; and

(b) the names and designations of the members of the Committee of Inquiry?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and

Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) The enquiry is being conducted by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Delhi, under Section 43 of the Bombay Co-operative Societies Act, 1925, as extended to Delhi, which provides the terms of reference. The enquiry is to be made about the constitution, working and financial condition of the society.

(b) No committee of enquiry has been appointed.

### Committee on Jute Development

\*474. { Shri Indrajit Gupta:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new Committee has been set up for jute development;

(b) if so, its functions and composition; and

(c) whether adequate representation has been given to the jute growers themselves?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3272/64].

(c) There are two representatives of Jute growers on the Central Committee for Jute Development.

### Agricultural Production

\*475. Shri P. B. Chakravarti: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to make an all out effort to step up agricultural production through Panchayati Raj Institutions; and

(b) how far the Panchayati Raj institutions and co-operatives have been brought together to meet the requirements of increased agricultural production?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** (a) The following important steps have been specifically suggested to gear the Panchyati Raj institutions to programmes of increasing agricultural production:

- (i) They have been asked to formulate detailed plans of action for each crop season (Kharif and Rabi), indicating precise time-schedules for various operational components, particularly in relation to organisation of supplies and credit in collaboration with the co-operative institutions; as also fullest utilisation of irrigation potential, maximum use of local manurial resources, organisation of plant protection measures and widest coverage of fertilisers and improved seeds.
- (ii) Each of these institutions should have a sub-committee on Agricultural Production for formulating appropriate programmes with the assistance of the technical officers concerned, and periodically reviewing the progress of their implementation.
- (iii) The office-bearers of these institutions should be fully involved in the follow-up of the programmes and see that the operational schedules are being adhered to and the supplies and services promised are being made available.
- (iv) The assistance of progressive farmers should be secured in guiding and helping their fellow-farmers in achieving the village targets.

(b) The principal steps taken for ensuring effective co-ordination between the Panchayati Raj and Co-operative institutions to meet the requirements of increased agricultural production are as follows:

- (i) The Panchayati Raj institutions should promote the development of co-operative institutions within their area.
- (ii) The village co-operative should be represented on the Agricultural Production Committee of the Village Panchayat which draws up village agricultural production plans so that production programmes and their credit requirements are appropriately tied up.
- (iii) Production requisites, e.g., fertilisers, are indented by the co-operative institutions in consultation with and based on the targets indicated by the Block Panchayat Samitis.

#### Escape of Mr. Walcott

\*476. { Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Buta Singh:  
Shri Shiv Charan Mathur:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 31 on the 8th September, 1964 regarding the escape of Mr. Walcott and state when the reports together with the findings and decisions of Government thereon will be laid on the Table?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo):** The report together with a memorandum giving the decision of the Government of India thereon was laid on the Table of the Sabha on 28th instant.

**Unloading of Grains at Ports**

- \*477. { Shri P. C. Borooah;  
 { Shri P. R. Chakraverti;  
 { Shrimati Savitri Nigam;  
 { Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether two U.S. experts recently visited New Delhi to advise Government on speedier unloading of grains at the ports;

(b) if so, the improvements in the unloading arrangements suggested by them and the action taken in pursuance of those suggestions; and

(c) whether it is a fact that despite increased imports of foodgrains their prices have continued spiralling higher and higher during the current month, particularly in Delhi, and if so, to what extent?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The team which consists of 4 U.S. experts is at present engaged in studying conditions at various ports and will submit its report after completion of its tour.

(c) Yes, Sir. The All-India Index Number of whole-sale prices of cereals rose from 146.9 in the first week of September, 1964 to 149 in the second week of September, 1964. Prices in Delhi have also risen. Of late, in some areas prices have started showing a downwards trend also.

**Industrial Estate in Orissa**

**1405. Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:** Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial estates in Orissa set up under the Panchayat prize competition scheme till 31st July, 1964;

(b) whether any amount was given by the Centre to the Government of Orissa for the said Scheme during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** (a) Starting of Rural Industrial Estates is not a part of the Panchayat Prize Competition Scheme in Orissa. However, 33 industrial estates have been taken up in the prize winning panchayats till July, 31, 1964. Panchayat Industries under the scheme will be located in these industrial estates.

(b) and (c). No central assistance is given to the Panchayat Prize Competition Scheme as such, but the Government of India give loans to the State Governments for the construction of Rural Industrial Estates on hundred per cent basis. The loan assistance given for the purpose to the Government of Orissa in the last three years is as follows:—

1961-62	Rs. 16.24 lakhs
1962-63	Rs. 3.69 lakhs
1963-64	Rs. 14.18 lakhs.

**Consumer Cooperative Stores in Orissa**

**1406. Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:** Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the towns selected for organising Consumer Cooperative Stores under Central Scheme in 1964-65;

(b) whether the Stores in towns which came under the Central Scheme in 1963-64 have started functioning;

(c) the number of people benefited by each store; and

(d) the number of such stores functioning in the State of Orissa at present?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** (a) So far the following towns have been selected for organising consumer cooperative wholesale stores under the

centrally sponsored scheme in 1964-65:—

Machhapatam  
Dibrugarh  
Silchar  
Dinspur  
Barauni  
Srinagar and Jammu.

(b) All the wholesale stores excepting one in West Bengal have started functioning.

(c) As consumers' cooperative stores cater to the needs of members as well as non-members information relating to the actual number of persons benefited by each store is not available.

(d) 4 wholesale stores and 40 primary stores/branches are functioning in Orissa at present.

#### Fruit Products Order, 1955

1407. Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the breaches of the provisions of the Fruit Products Order, 1955 promulgated under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 to govern the Fruit and Processing Industries in India by a number of unorganised food products manufacturing concerns in the country, particularly in observing fully the hygienic conditions; and

(b) if so, the measures which Government propose to take to ensure strict observance of the provisions of the above Order?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Yes.

(b) The following measures have been taken to stop un-authorised manufactures of fruit products:

(i) Inspection of markets in cities and towns have been intensified to find out unauthorised production of fruit and vegetable products.

(ii) Such manufacturers are advised to obtain licence under F.P.O. Technical guidance is given to them for setting up proper fruit preservation factories conforming to the hygienic and sanitary requirements that have been laid down in Fruit Products Order, and to manufacture products according to the specifications laid down in that Order.

(iii) The unauthorised products manufactured in unhygienic places and found not conforming to the standards that have been laid down in the Fruit Products Order are seized, detained and destroyed by the Inspectorate Staff under Fruit Products Organisation.

(iv) The unauthorised manufacturers are prosecuted if they continue to contravene provisions of Fruit Products Order, 1955.

#### Uniformity in Prices of Sugar and Wheat

1408. Shri Achal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar is being sold at Rs. 1.50 per kilo in one State of India whereas in another adjoining State it is being sold at Rs. 3 per kilo and likewise wheat is being sold at Rs. 18, 30 and 45 per maund in different States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether efforts are being made to bring uniformity in prices in all the States?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) to (c). The prices of sugar have been ranging from Rs. 1.22 to Rs. 1.41 per kilogram during the month of August, 1964, in important markets of various States in the Country. The difference is not unduly high. As regards the prices of wheat which are ranging in various States, attention is invited to the Review of the Food situation circulated separately.

**Santa Cruz Airport**

1409. { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Murli Manohar:  
Shri Baswant:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a concrete plan has been prepared for the expansion of the Santa Cruz Airport to provide more space for passenger facilities;

(b) if so, the nature and details of the expansion scheme; and

(c) the estimated cost thereof?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo):** (a) to (c) In order to provide given by the Centre to the Govt. facilities, additions and alterations to the International Wing of the terminal building at the Santa Cruz airport costing Rs. 12.55 lakhs are being carried out to provide *inter alia* the following:

- (1) Expansion of arrival hall;
- (2) Expansion of customs hall;
- (3) Extension of baggage claim area;
- (4) Extension of visitors and passengers hall;
- (5) Extension of transit area;
- (6) Additional toilets;
- (7) Pantry for the transit dining hall;
- (8) Construction of press room;
- (9) A new wide staircase to give independent access to the transit hall on the first floor;
- (10) Air conditioning.

**Wheat from Australia**

1410. { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Baswant:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised a sale contract for the pur-

chase of 75 thousand tons of wheat from Australia;

(b) if so, the terms of the contract; and

(c) when the wheat would be made available to India?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The purchase is on deferred payment basis, shipment being completed in September/October. It is not desirable to disclose the price.

(c) As a result of the recent diversion of 3 wheat ships bound for the U.K. 36000 tons have already been received. The balance is expected in October/November 1964.

**चीनी की मिलें**

1411. श्री बागड़ी: क्या स.स. तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश के विभिन्न राज्यों में चीनी की कितनी मिलें हैं और प्रत्येक मिल की उत्पादन क्षमता कितनी है?

स.स. तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बा० रा० चहलान): अपेक्षित सूचना का विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया है [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया। देखिए संसदीय LT-3273/64]

**Social Defence (Care) Scheme**

1412. Shri Ramā Chandra Mallick: Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance was given by the Centre to the Government of Orissa for the implementation of Social Defence (Care) Schemes in the State during 1963-64; and

(b) the amount given or proposed to be given for the same purpose during 1964-65?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Grant has been sanctioned to the State Government so far for 1964-65. It will be done when a proposal from the State Government is received.

**Hearing of Applications for re-count of Votes**

**1413. Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state;

(a) the total number of cases in which the Election Commissioner was himself present at the time of the hearing of applications for the re-count of votes;

(b) the dates, names of the candidates and constituencies; and

(c) whether it is in conformity with the election rules?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):** (a) and (b). The Chief Election Commissioner was not present on any occasion at the time of hearing of an application for the re-count of votes. However, on receipt of a request from Shri N. Dandekar, a candidate at the election from the Gonda Parliamentary Constituency at the General Elections of 1962, that the order of re-count passed by the Returning Officer be set aside, and also on receipt of a similar application from Shrimati Subhadra Joshi for setting aside the order passed by the same Returning Officer in respect of the counting in Balrampur Parliamentary constituency, the Chief Election Commissioner went to Gonda on the 5th March, 1962 and heard the parties.

(c) This is in conformity with the power of superintendence, direction and control of all elections vested in the Commission by the Constitution.

**Milk Chilling Plant at Kithore**

**1414. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Milk Chilling Plant at Kithore (Meerut District) is ready for Commissioning;

(b) if so, the capacity of the plant; and

(c) the estimated expenditure in setting up the plant?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) It was commissioned on 4-9-1964.

(b) It is rated to deliver 2,000 litres of milk per hour.

(c). Rs. 2.78 lakhs approximately.

**National Highway 31**

**1415. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to provide a diversion to National Highway No. 31 near Kishanganj town for West Bengal as recommended by the Joint Select Committee at the time of considering the Bihar and West Bengal (Transfer of Territories) Bill, 1956; and

(b) whether land has been acquired for this purpose or the acquisition proceedings started in this behalf?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin):**

(a) The Joint Select Committee recommended that the proposed boundary between Bihar and West Bengal should follow the eastern limits of the municipal boundary of Kishanganj town and that the National Highway passing through the Kishanganj town should be suitably realigned so that the eastern portion of this Highway may run along-side of the municipal boundary. But the Joint Select Committee did not incorporate the latter part of their recommendation

in the provisions of the Bihar and West Bengal (Transfer of Territories) Bill or the Act. However, the necessity of the construction of a bye-pass round Kishanganj town is under examination.

(b) Proceedings to acquire land for the bye-pass will be started if the necessity for the bye-pass is accepted.

#### Fire in Lighthouse at Porbandar

1416. { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Murli Manohar:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fire broke out in the Light House at Porbandar on the 6th September, 1964;

(b) if so, the details of the incident and its causes; and

(c) loss, if any, caused by fire?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fire was caused by a short circuit and the transformer was damaged.

(c) Rs. 220 (approx.).

#### Bridges on Calcutta-Bombay National Highway

1417. Shri V. B. Deo: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the absence of any road bridge over the rivers Sankh and Bala on the Jashpur-Gumla portion of the Calcutta-Bombay National Highway, considerable delay is caused in the clearance of traffic;

(b) whether Government have under consideration any scheme for the construction of road-bridges over these two rivers; and

(c) if so, whether this project would be taken up during the current plan or in the next plan?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The Jashpur Nagar-Gumla road does not form part of any National Highway. It is a State road and therefore its improvement is essentially the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

However, under the Central Aid Programme for the development of State roads of inter-State or economic importance approved in May 1964, the Government of India offered to the Government of Madhya Pradesh a grant-in-aid of Rs. 13.34 lakhs to meet two-third of the estimated cost (Rs. 20 lakhs) of improvements to the Jashpur Nagar-Gumla road in Madhya Pradesh, including the construction of bridges across the Sankh and Bala rivers.

The work relating to the improvement of the road portion was sanctioned in March, 1955. During the course of execution of the work, the State Government came to know that the Government of Bihar had a proposal for the construction of Sankh (Upper) Hydel Project which would submerge a considerable portion of the Jashpur Nagar-Gumla road. The State Governments of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have selected a new site for the proposed bridge over the Sankh river. The estimated cost of the bridge over the river Sankh at the new site and of the connecting road links is now more than twice the amount of the original estimated cost of improvement of the road along the existing alignment and the question of distribution of the grant-in-aid originally allotted for the project is under correspondence with the State Governments.

#### Tourist Development Corporation in Kerala

1418. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottakkatt:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the matter of establishing a tourist development corporation in Kerala; and

(b), the reasons for the delay in setting up the corporation?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). The matter primarily concerns the Government of Kerala who have been requested to send the necessary details. The information, on receipt from the State Government will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

#### Roads in Kerala

1319. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottekkatt:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reclassify the roads in Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that many roads are dangerous for want of proper maintenance; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to increase the allotment of funds for road maintenance?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

#### National Highway in Kerala

1420. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottekkatt:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the nature of the road from Aroor bridge to Ernakulam on the National Highway in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a new road by reclaiming land along the coast from Aroor bridge to the site where a new bridge is proposed to be constructed at Ernakulam; and

(c) what other steps are proposed to be taken to cope up with the expanding activities of Cochin area?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is a proposal to construct a new road from Aroor bridge towards Ernakulam to act as a by-pass for the congested area through Mattancherry town near Cochin. The new road will at present join the existing bridge between Wellington Island and Cochin. It will also serve as an approach to the new bridges proposed for the existing two bridges on Wellington Island. The details for fixing the alignment are under consideration.

(c) The proposal for the construction of a bye-pass around the town of Ernakulam, and also for widening the carriage way of National Highway 47 to double lane in the fourth five year plan period is under consideration.

#### Road mileage in Kerala

1421. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottekkatt:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are considerable regional disparities between Malabar and Travancore-Cochin in the matter of road mileage; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to balance the uneven distribution of the total mileage among different districts and regions in the State of Kerala?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

### Tank Boats in Kerala

1422. { Shri Pottekkatt:  
Shri A. V. Raghavan:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the licensing rules to provide licensing of tank boats with wooden hulls to carry petroleum products through the inland waterways of the State of Kerala;

(b) whether under the rules in force in Kerala non-hazardous petroleum products are also prohibited in such boats; and

(c) the steps taken to utilise the inland waterways of Kerala to carry petroleum products?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin):**

(a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it becomes available.

### Agricultural Credit

1423. Shri Manabendra Shah: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a scheme of routing agricultural credit through commercial banks;

(b) if so, when the scheme is likely to be implemented; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Mysore Government have already put this scheme into operation?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):**

(a) No such scheme has been drawn up as yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise; however a scheduled bank in Mysore has set up on its own initiative, an agricultural development section to assist farmers in the district of South Canara.

### Organisation for spraying of Insecticides

1424. { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
Shri Murli Manohar:  
Shri Brij Raj Singh Kotah:  
Shri P. C. Deo Bhanj:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are creating an organisation for spraying of insecticides on the standing crops in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the programme; and

(c) the States and territories affected by the scheme?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** (a) to (c). Insecticides can be sprayed from the ground, and from the air. The Government of India are considering expansion of the aerial spraying facilities against crop pests and diseases in the country. The services of a U.S. Expert have been obtained to advise the Government in the matter. Details will be worked out keeping in view his recommendations.

### Cooperative Credit Supply

1425. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state the percentage of co-operative credit supply at the All India and Bihar State level according to Rural Credit Survey Report and to what extent there has been an up-to-date increase in their percentage?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and**

**Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** The percentage of credit disbursed by primary agricultural credit societies to the total borrowings of all rural families is roughly as follows:

	All India	Bihar
(a) According to Rural Credit Survey Report (1951-52)	3%	1.1%
(b) According to Rural Debt and Investment Survey (1961-62) (Provisional estimates)	17%	3.0%

#### Staff of Cooperative Department

##### 1426. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state the State-wise figures of expenditure incurred on the maintenance of staff of Co-operative Department out of Plan provisions of First and Second Five Year Plans and from annual budgets?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when ready.

#### Dum Dum Airport Building

1427. { Dr. Ranen Sen:  
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:  
Shri Vishram Prasad:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan has been prepared for the extension and improvement of the building of Dum Dum airport;

(b) if so, when the work is likely to start; and

(c) the total capital outlay involved?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c). It is not proposed to extend or improve the

existing building at Dum Dum airport. Two new buildings are being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.4 crores, one for handling international traffic and the other for air traffic control facilities.

#### Burning of a training Aircraft

1428. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
Shri Namblar:  
Shri Imbichibava:  
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shri N. R. Laskar:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a two-seater training aircraft was burnt at Patiala in the first week of June, 1964;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been held; and

(c) the details of the enquiry?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The report of the Investigating Officer is under examination.

#### Institute for the Blind

1429. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Dhaon:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the Enquiry Committee appointed to probe into the affairs of the Institution for the Blind, Panchkuin Road, New Delhi;

(b) if so, their main recommendations; and

(c) the action Government are taking to implement them?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations of the Committee are:

(1) The institution should be taken over by the Delhi Administration/ Central Government and it should be shifted to a cleaner and healthier locality.

(2) Till the above suggestion is implemented:

(i) the managing Committee should undertake repairs to the building for the safety of the inmates, bath rooms and latrines should be covered, drainage system should be thoroughly overhauled and connected with the Municipal Sewage System;

(ii) the standard of education should be improved by engaging suitable qualified and experienced teachers; pay scales of teachers should be revised and their service conditions improved; up-to-date books and appliances should be used; set syllabus should be followed;

(iii) Light engineering trades should be introduced;

(iv) the practice of sending children for making collections should be stopped forthwith;

(v) a whole-time accountant should be appointed to maintain accounts and whole-time executive to manage the affairs of the Institute; and

(iv) hostel facilities should be improved and nutritious food, and suitable bedding and clothing provided to the inmates.

(c) Recommendations at (1) above have been brought to the notice of the Delhi Administration who are considering them.

About the recommendations at (2) above, the Managing Committee of the Institution has been informed and also assured of Government assistance for effecting improvements. Their proposals are now awaited.

#### Delhi-Hardwar Bus route

1430. { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
Shri Kolla Venkalah:  
Shri Nambiar:  
Shri Imbichibava:

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Uttar Pradesh have lodged a protest with the Central Government against the issuing of permits by the Delhi Administration to private operators of Delhi region to ply their buses on the nationalised Delhi-Hardwar route in contravention of the existing rules; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction to U.P.'s representation in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin):

(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### I.A.R.I. Estate, New Delhi

1431. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether roads and streets of Indian Agricultural Research Institute Estate, New Delhi fall within the jurisdiction of C.P.W.D.;

(b) if so, the number of streets and lanes that are lying unrepaired for several years; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes, since July, 1962 prior to which period, they fell within jurisdiction of the Delhi Corporation.

(b) At present the road from the Botany Division to the Dairy Farm is lying unrepared. The remaining streets and lanes have been repaired.

(c) The road mentioned at (b) above has heavy traffic and the existing specifications were considered inadequate by the C.P.W.D. After experiments, the specifications have been finalised and the work will be taken in hand shortly.

#### Shuttle Steamers Service

**1432. Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a shuttle steamer service between Rangoon and Madras and Vizag to repatriate Indians from Burma;

(b) if so, the names of the shipping Companies which have agreed to undertake this work;

(c) when it will start; and

(d) the facilities that will be provided to the passengers?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (d). At the instance of the Government the Mogul Line Ltd. started shuttle services between Rangoon-Madras and Rangoon-Visakhapatnam for the repatriation of Indian nationals from Burma in July 1964. The passengers are provided with all normal facilities that are extended to passengers of the ships of the Mogul Line Ltd. Apart from this, concessions in the fare are given to certain categories of deck passengers.

**Bridge on Gandak at Gatheml Ghat**

**1433. { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to construct a

bridge over Chhoti Gandak at Gatheml Ghat, Bihar, which will connect the States of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, when and the total amount to be spent?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** It is presumed that the question pertains to Chhoti Gandak Bridge near Guthni Bazar. In that case the position is as follows:

(a) and (b). Yes. In July 1964, the Government of India approved the construction of the bridge at an estimated cost of Rs. 18,43,700, and also sanctioned a grant equal to one third of the cost from the Central Road Fund (Ordinary) Reserve. The balance of the cost of the bridge is to be shared equally by the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. The Notice Inviting Tenders for the work is likely to be issued by the Bihar Public Works Department very shortly. After the tenders are finalised, the work will be taken up for execution.

#### Cape Comorin-Bombay National Highway

**1434. { Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Vishwanath Pandey:  
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to sea erosion in May, 1964 some part of the Cape Comorin-Bombay National Highway had breached; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to prevent the sea-erosion?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) No. Due to sea action in May 1964, submersion of the National Highway 47 (Quilon-Alleppey Section) occurred periodically at Purakkad (miles 41 and 42) but the road, did not actually breach.

(b) The construction of a Sea Wall for protecting the affected coast line is in progress.

**Fire Accident at Palam Airport**

1435. { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
 Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:  
 Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an underground fuel storage tank near the apron at Palam Airport caught fire and exploded on the 28th May, 1964; and

(b) if so, what was the cause of the accident and the extent of damage caused?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo): (a) The Pump House connected with the Burmah Shell underground fuel storage tank near the apron at Palam Airport caught fire on the 28th May, 1964. There was no explosion of the underground fuel storage tank.

(b) The report on the fire incident was received by the Government of India only on 26th September, 1964 and is under examination.

**Training in Cooperative Management**

1436. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up a National Institute for training in co-operative management; and

(b) if so, the details of this scheme?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are being worked out.

**Gur Prices**

1437. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Factories

has urged the setting up of central authority to regulate the prices of gur; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. E. Chavan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shortage of Rice and Wheat in Maharashtra**

1438. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was serious shortage of rice and wheat in Maharashtra in June, 1964;

(b) if so, the quantity of rice and wheat supplied by the Centre; and

(c) whether this quantity was adequate to meet the requirement of the State?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. E. Chavan): (a) The supply position of rice and wheat in Maharashtra was difficult in the month of June, 1964.

(b) Following quantities of rice and wheat were supplied to Maharashtra State during June, 1964 from Central stocks:—

(Quantity in '000 Tonnes)

Rice.	24.2
Wheat.	100.6
Total.	124.8

(c) Foodgrains requirement cannot be calculated precisely. Supplies to any State for any particular period is arranged in consultation with the State Government keeping in view the overall availability of foodgrains with the Centre and the requirements of other States.

**Computer Project**

1439. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Food and Agriculture Organisation Experts visited India in May last and conveyed the offer of the F.A.O. to supply data processing equipment; and

(b) if so, how this offer is proposed to be utilised?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). As a follow up to the visit of two Russian experts in September, 1963, we were informed by a senior officer of the FAO, who visited India in May, 1964, that it may be possible for India to get data processing equipment of Soviet manufacture costing about one million dollars under the Expanded Technical Assistance Programme, if an approach in this regard is made to the UN Technical Assistance Board. An outline scheme was accordingly sent to the UN Technical Assistance Board, who have since approved the same. Under this scheme it is proposed to set up four computing centres in Maharashtra, U.P., Mysore and New Delhi. The details of the project are being worked out in consultation with the State Government concerned. This project will assist in more expeditious compilation of statistical material.

**Sheep Breeding Scheme**

1440. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposed sheep-breeding scheme in Kodakanal has been abandoned;

(b) whether Government propose to open a major station in Jaipur and a Sub-station in Mysore;

(c) the total expenditure involved in this scheme; and

(d) whether this scheme will be financed by the U.N. Special Fund also?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) The main Sheep and Wool Research Institute is being established at Malpura in Rajasthan. Of the two sub-stations attached to it, one is being set up at Bhuntar in the Kulu valley (Punjab) and the other is proposed to be established at Kodakanal in Madras State.

(c) Rs. 326.00 lakhs.

(d) Yes, to the extent of \$777,500, mainly in the shape of foreign experts, equipment, etc.

**Memorandum from Food Grain Traders**

1441. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of Federation of All India Grain Trade Chambers have submitted a memorandum to him;

(b) what are the main suggestions and difficulties put forward by them in the memorandum; and

(c) how far Government have agreed or disagreed to their suggestions?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3274/64].

**Admission in I.A.R.I.**

**1442. Shri Vishram Prasad:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while admitting students for Ph.D. degree in the faculty of Agricultural Economics, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, a second division arts graduate has been preferred over a first class M.Sc. in Agricultural Economics; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to prevent such discrepancies in future?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Admission to post-graduate courses of the Indian Agricultural Research Institute is made on the basis of the academic record of the candidates from Matriculation onwards as well as their performance at the interview held by the Post-Graduate Council of the Institute. Candidates called for interview are not necessarily only those with 1st Class in their last University examination but also those with good 2nd Division in that examination and with superior previous academic record. The overall merit order of the candidates is worked out on the basis of the weightage given to their academic record plus the credit earned by them for their performance at the interview.

The candidate referred to in the Question was not selected because his performance at the interview was very unsatisfactory.

(b) The question does not arise because there was no discrepancy in admission in the case referred to above.

**दिल्ली में वेश्यावृत्ति**

1443. { श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी :  
श्रीमती सावित्री निगम :  
श्री स० च० सामन्त :  
श्री सुबोध हंसदा :

क्या समाजिक सुरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सरकार ने राजधानी में

वेश्यावृत्ति की रोकथाम के लिये क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

**विजिमंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री जगन्नाथ राय) :** राजधानी में वेश्यावृत्ति को रोकने के लिये अब तक निम्नलिखित उपाय किये गये हैं :

(1) महिलाओं तथा कन्याओं का अनैतिक व्यापार दमन अधिनियम, 1956 दिल्ली संघ-क्षेत्र में 1-5-1958 को लागू कर दिया गया था। इस अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत, केसों को अधिनियमानुसार निबटाने के लिये, एक विशेष पुलिस अधिकारी को एजेंसी का भी निर्माण कर दिया गया था। विशेष पुलिस अधिकारी, दिल्ली की सहायता के लिये नगर-क्षेत्र के लगभग सभी स्टेशन हाउस अधिकारियों को अधिमूचित कर दिया गया है।

(2) विशेष पुलिस अधिकारी को, अधिनियम से सम्बन्धित सामान्य महत्व के मामलों पर सलाह देने के लिये एक सलाहकार-निकाय 14 मई, 1958 को स्थापित किया गया था। इसके निम्नलिखित सदस्य हैं :—

1. श्री मोर मुश्ताक अहमद
2. श्रीमती कस्तूरी बिशन नारायण
3. श्रीमती शकुन्तला लाल
4. श्री रूप नारायण खन्ना
5. श्री आर० एच० धेबर

(3) इस अनिष्ट को कम से कम करने के उद्देश्य से दिल्ली के होटलों पर निकट एवं नियत सतर्कता से काम लिया जा रहा है।

(4) इसी प्रकार उन तथाकथित नृत्य-स्कूलों तथा भोजनालयों पर, जो "जैम ऐशन्स" का आयोजन करते हैं, कड़ी निगाह रखी जा रही है।

(5) विशेष पुलिस अधिकारी के पास अधिकारियों का एक जाल है जो वेश्यावृत्ति के विरुद्ध जनता की शिकायतों को ग्रहण करता है तथा उनकी जांच करता है।

(6) उन महिलाओं को जो नैतिक संकट में हैं तथा/अथवा जो वेश्यावृत्ति में फंसी हुई हैं आश्रय देने के लिये तथा उनके अन्नयन के लिये दिल्ली प्रशासन निकट भविष्य में एक महिला संरक्षण-गृह स्थापित कर रहा है। यह गृह दिल्ली प्रशासन द्वारा दी गई निधि से भारत स्थित नैतिक तथा सामाजिक स्वास्थ्य विज्ञान संस्था द्वारा चलाया जायेगा।

#### Wheat Smugglers Gang

1444. { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a wheat smugglers gang has been traced in Delhi in June; and

(b) if so, the number of people convicted so far?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three truck drivers and the leader of the gang were arrested. The case against this gang is still under investigation.

#### Rural Reconstruction

1445. { Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:  
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1111 on the 21st April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the report of the Afro-Asian Conference on rural recons-

truction held at Kuala Lumpur in February, 1964 has since been received and examined;

(b) if so, what are its main points; and

(c) what steps are being taken to implement those recommendations which have been accepted by Government?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). The Report of the Afro-Asian Conference on Rural Reconstruction has been received just recently (September 18, 1964). It is under examination. Information will be laid on the table of the Sabha on completion of the examination.

#### Inspectorates for Social Services

1446. { Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Dhaon:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up five regional inspectorates;

(b) if so, the reasons for setting up the same; and

(c) the other measures being taken to improve the standard of social welfare services in the country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) To improve the standard of social welfare services in the country, training and orientation courses, seminars and training camps are organised for the benefit of the personnel working in the field.

### Distribution of Gur and Dry Fruit

1447. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in certain States, Co-operatives have been given the monopoly for distributing gur and dry fruit, and that gur in particular has been sold at very high rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints that the gur sold by certain Co-operative Societies in Rajasthan was of a very poor quality and fit only for the consumption of cattle; and

(d) if so, what has been done to investigate the matter and to fix the responsibility?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) and (b). Government are not aware of any absolute monopoly given to the co-operatives in any state for distribution of gur and dry fruits. Only in Rajasthan the State Marketing Society was given a monopoly for the procurement of gur from U.P. and its distribution. The co-operatives were also appointed as sole distributors of dry fruits imported by the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation.

(c) and (d). Complaints were received by the Government of Rajasthan about the sale of inferior quality of gur at high prices by the State marketing society. The matter was investigated and the inquiry report is under the consideration of the state government.

### Earthquake Belt around Delhi

1448. { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
Shri Vishram Prasad:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there

is an earthquake belt around Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether any attempt has been made or is being made now to determine the extent of the earthquake belt, and its potential danger to the Capital?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo): (a) Delhi State and its neighbouring areas lie in a minor seismic belt associated with a "fault" in the crust of the earth in which earthquakes of slight to moderate intensity have originated in the past.

(b) Attempts have been made, and are being made, by Geological Survey of India, to determine the extent of the "fault" and the seismic belt around Delhi. During the last 150 years, no major earthquake has originated in the belt, but epicentres of earthquakes of slight to moderate intensity have been located.

### Development of Hill Areas

1449. { Shri Hem Raj  
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
Shri Bagri:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Hill Development Advisory Committee has set up a working group to prepare a Master Plan for the integrated development of the hill areas; and

(b) if so, what particular aspects of the problems of development of this region will receive the attention of the working group and when this group is likely to submit its recommendation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The problems of the hill areas will be examined by the Working Group in an integrated manner and the recommendations to be made by them will particularly cover problems

of communications, roads, cropping pattern, horticulture, forestry, fisheries, animal husbandry, soil and water conservation, development of agricultural implements, promotion of proper marketing facilities and such other related aspects. Since a considerable amount of survey and collection of basic data is involved the submission of the report by the Working Group will take some time.

#### Hand-made Paper Industry at Varanasi

1450. { Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All-India Crime Prevention Society is considering to establish with the assistance of funds given to it by the All India Khadi and Village Industries Commission, a hand-made paper industry at Varanasi and a cottage match factory at Lucknow for providing employment to discharged prisoners;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance given by the Commission to each of these two units; and

(c) when these units will go into production?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) Yes; Sir.

- (b) Hand-made paper unit Rs. 75,000/-  
Match unit Rs. 19,500/-

(c) It is expected that the hand-made paper unit will go into production by December, 1964. The match unit, is expected to start production as soon as the requisite licences have been obtained.

#### Allocation for Agriculture

1451. { Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
Shri K. N. Tiwary:  
Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which

have failed to utilise the agricultural plan allocations upto the end of the third year of the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) the extent to which the utilisation has fallen short of allocations; and

(c) the extent to which the production targets remain still to be achieved?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). A statement showing the shortfall in the utilisation of agricultural plan allocations for the years 1961-62 and 1962-63 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3275/64]. The information for the year 1963-64 has not yet become available.

(c) As against the targetted Index number (with base 949-50-100), of 178 envisaged for the production of all agricultural commodities by the end of the Third Five Year Plan, the index number of production for 1963-64 has been 10.5. The targetted levels of production are likely to be reached in regard to jute and sugar-cane. In regard to foodgrains, cotton and oil seeds some shortfalls are expected to occur in the Plan targets.

#### Rice Production

1452. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rice production during 1963-64 in the Eastern Region comprising Assam, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and other areas, recorded a rise over that of the previous season;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether it is a fact that despite this rise in production, rice supply in different areas in the region continues to be scarce and its prices higher than those in the previous year and if so, Government's reaction thereto?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. B. Chavan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By about 15 per cent.

(c) The prices of rice in West Bengal this year are lower than those during the corresponding period of last year. In the States of Assam, Bihar and Orissa, however, the prices this year are higher as compared to last year.

The distribution of Government foodgrains through fair price shops has been stepped up wherever found necessary.

#### Fixation of Prices of Forest Produce

**1453. Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Board of Forestry has worked out any plan for the fixation of fair prices of forest produce; and

(b) if so, how are they being implemented by the States?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No, Sir. The Central Board of Forestry has, however, set up a committee on the supply of forest raw material to forest based industries, the terms of reference of which, *inter alia* include the formulation of policy regarding the reasonable price for forest raw materials supplied to forest based industries. The above Committee has not yet finalised its report.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Development of Fruit and Vegetable Production

**1454. { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri B. K. Das:  
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how much

money allocated for the development of fruit and vegetable production during the Third Five Year Plan has been spent so far?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** The information required is being collected from the State Governments etc. and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

#### A Tourist's Complaint

**1455. { Shri P. R. Chakravarti:  
Shri K. N. Tiwary:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the letter from Mrs. Henrietta Kogan of Los Angeles (U.S.A.) published in the *Statesman* of 4th July, 1964 under the heading—'A Tourist's Complaint';

(b) whether Government have examined the different issues raised in the letter, especially to the distribution of a folder issued by Air India; and

(c) whether these complaints are verified and steps taken to obviate the difficulties caused to the tourists from abroad by misleading publicity outside India?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes Sir. Mrs. Henrietta Kogan's letter published in the *Statesman* under the heading of 'A Tourist's Complaint' has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) The various issues raised in that letter have been examined and the facts briefly are as follows:—It appears that the travel arrangements of Mr. & Mrs. Kogan were handled through a Travel Agency in Los Angeles. This agency was apparently so careless that it gave them a brochure brought out by Air India which is at least 7 years old. This fact was not brought to the attention of their clients by the agents at any time. According to Mrs. Kogan the agency had made a booking at Grand Hotel at Calcutta. But at the

last minute Mrs. Kogan decided to make alternative plans, in contradiction to the arrangements already made by the Travel Agents and requested PAN AM in Bangkok to secure bookings for them at Spences Hotel just one day before they actually left for Calcutta. Although Mrs. Kogan has mentioned in her letter to the Statesman that PAN AM had received a confirmation, she told the Director General of Tourism definitely when she visited the Tourist Department that no confirmation had been received by either PAN AM or by themselves when they left Bangkok for Calcutta.

On arrival in Calcutta Mrs. Kogan found that the hotel rates were too high as compared to what had been shown in the brochure. The fault lies entirely with the Travel Agency in Los Angeles who gave their clients a seven-year old brochure expecting the hotel rates in India to be the same as they were at the time when this brochure was issued. In fact, in both the hotels where she claims they were overcharged, it has been found that the charges were in accordance with the current rates being offered by the hotels and that there is no basis in the allegation made by Mrs. Kogan.

As regards their flights to Srinagar, while Mrs. Kogan has dwelt on the inconvenience caused, she has not mentioned the fact that after their visit to the Tourist Department reservations were obtained for them and they left for Srinagar where, it is understood, they spent four or five days as per schedule. It is learnt from the Indian Airlines that because of unfavourable weather conditions, flights had been cancelled the day before, thereby causing a very heavy rush and, therefore, the reservation of the Kogans could not be confirmed.

Regarding other minor complaints raised by them have already been brought to the notice of the hotels concerned.

(c) The inconvenience caused to Mr. & Mrs. Kogan is primarily due to the fact that they had been misinformed

by their Travel Agency. The Kogan by trying to make their own arrangements and having accepted advice from obviously wrong sources created many problems for themselves. This, in addition to the unfavourable weather conditions, resulted in their being dissatisfied with everything.

#### National Policy for Children

1456. { Dr. L. M. Singhvi:  
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are actively considering the formulation of a National Policy for children and

(b) if so, what are the proposals under consideration and what would be the main conceptual and programmatic features of such a policy?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati M Chandrasekhar):** (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Government of India, however, have initiated some child welfare programmes during the third plan. Any future policy of the Government in respect of child welfare will be based on the results achieved thereof.

#### मावा लाने से जाने पर रोक

1457. श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : क्या साफ़ तथा कृपि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने मावे या मावे की बनी हुई चीजों को दिल्ली में लाने और बाहर ले जाने पर रोक लगा दी है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो यह रोक कितने समय के लिये लगायी गयी है; और

(ग) कितनी मात्रा के लाने व ले जाने की अनुमति दी गई है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क) से (ग). मावे व दूध की बनी हुई अन्य चीजों को दिल्ली में लाने और बाहर ले जाने पर आजकल कोई रोक नहीं है। दिल्ली में इन चीजों के आयात पर ऐसी रोक 22 मई, 1964 को लगाई गई थी लेकिन 20 जुलाई, 1964 को यह रोक हटा ली गई।

### हाब्सर लांच और नौसेना के जहाज में टक्कर

1458. श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : क्या परिवहन मंत्री 2 जून, 1964 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 103 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि बम्बई के निकट 10 मई, 1964 को हुई एम० एल० 'सुलतानी' और आई० एन० एस० 'बेतवा' के बीच हुई टक्कर की जांच का क्या परिणाम रहा ?

परिवहन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : मुख्य अधिकारी, जल परिवहन विभाग, बम्बई, से प्रारम्भिक जांच रिपोर्ट अभी प्राप्त हुई है। जहाजरानी का महानिदेशालय, बम्बई उसकी जांच कर रहा है।

### कोटा में पलाईंग क्लब

1459. { श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा :  
श्री यशपाल सिंह :

क्या असेनिक उड्डयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोटा (राजस्थान) में एक पलाईंग क्लब खोलने का भारत सरकार का विचार है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है ?

असेनिक उड्डयन मंत्री (श्री कानूनगो) :

(क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

### "CYCOCEL"

1460. श्री P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new chemical called "CYCOCEL" has been lately developed in the laboratories of Michigan State University to increase food production;

(b) whether in a recent conference at Geneva the Agricultural Scientists of various countries claimed to have achieved better results by the use of this chemical, especially in unfavourable soil and drought conditions;

(c) whether it has been tried in India; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy-Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The use of the chemical compound 'CYCOCEL' technically known as chloroethyl-methyl-ammonium chloride for enabling plants to resist drought conditions and to have shorter and sturdier growth has been developed by Dr. N. E. Tolbert of the Michigan State College, U.S.A.

(b) The subject was discussed at a Plant Growth Symposium held at Geneva where plant scientists from Israel, U.S.A. and Germany reported that in the green-house, plants treated with 'CYCOCEL' could survive under drought conditions, required less water, had greater tolerance to salinity, and made the plants shorter and sturdier.

(c) So far as is known, this has not been done.

(d) Question does not arise.

### Backward Hilly areas of Punjab

1461. श्री Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the backward hilly areas of Punjab have

been visited by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1963-64 and 1964-65 so far; and

(b) the names of places visited by him and problems noted thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Wells for Scheduled Castes in Punjab**

**1462. Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells that have been sanctioned under Centrally sponsored schemes during the years 1962-63, 1963-64 and 1964-65 so far, for providing water facilities to Scheduled Castes in Punjab; and

(b) the expenditure involved therein?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) There is no scheme for the sinking of wells under the Centrally sponsored programme, but this scheme is included in the State Sector. The number of wells sanctioned under the State Sector is as under:

1962-63	33 new wells, renovation of 200 old wells, installation of 184 hand-pumps and construction of 3 diggis and 13 boulders.
1963-64	29 new wells, renovation of 130 old wells, installation of 186 hand-pumps and construction of 3 diggis and 1 boulders.
1964-65	100 new/old wells and the same number of hand-pumps, diggis and boulders as in 1963-64.

(b) The information is given below:—

1962-63	Rs. 1.00 lakh
1963-64	Rs. 0.76 lakh
1964-65	Rs. 0.80 lakh

#### **S.C. & S.T. Commissioner's visit to Punjab**

**1463. Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes visited Punjab during 1963-64 and 1964-65 so far; and

(b) the names of places visited by him and problems noted thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) and (b). The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes visited Punjab (Jullundur), once during the period in question. He had discussions with Chief Minister, Punjab, about the problems of Scheduled Castes, particularly of scavengers.

#### **Uplift of Scheduled Castes in Punjab**

**1464. Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to Punjab State by the Central Government for the uplift of Scheduled Castes during the Third Five Year Plan period, yearwise; and

(b) the amount spent so far year-wise?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) The information is given below:

Year	Amount allotted
	(Rs. in lakhs)
1961-62	37.78
1962-63	42.96
1963-64	38.15
1964-65	49.24

(b) The information is indicated below:

Year	Amount spend
	(Rs. in lakhs)
1961-62	38.53
1962-63	42.77
1963-64	38.15
	(Anticipated)
1964-65	49.24
	(Anticipated)

#### Ambar Charkha in Punjab

1465. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given, year-wise, for propagation of Ambar Charkha in Punjab State during the Third Five Year Plan period so far;

(b) the number produced so far; and

(c) the centres opened so far?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jagannatha Rao): (a)

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	Grant	Loan	Total
1961-62	2.72	4.29	7.01
1962-63	1.14	0.68	1.82
1963-64	4.09	2.15	6.24
1964-65 (upto 13-8-64)	0.39	0.37	0.76
Total	8.34	7.49	15.83

(b) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) (i) Number of Saranjam Karya-laya—5.

(ii) Ambar training centres 1234

(iii) Ambar production centres 151.

#### Ranaghat Coopers' Camp

1466. { Shrimati Renu  
Chakravarty;  
Shri H. P. Chatterjee:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware

of the pitiable living conditions at Ranaghat Coopers' Camp;

(b) whether the leaking roofs of the camp premises are not being repaired;

(c) whether it is also a fact that four or five cases of snake-bite in these barracks have taken place due to overgrowth in the surroundings; and

(d) the action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jagannatha Rao): (a) and (b). Government of West Bengal have been authorised to carry out essential repairs to the Camp premises within the ceiling limit of expenditure laid down for normal repairs. A proposal from the State Government for incurring expenditure on special repairs to the premises is also under consideration and is likely to be sanctioned shortly.

(c) No. The fact is that one employee was bitten by a snake on 6-6-1964 inside his quarter.

(d) Government is alive to the need for keeping the premises under proper repair but their attempts in this direction are being largely thwarted by the presence of a large number of squatting refugee families who have refused to leave the premises with rehabilitation benefits offered by Government, as well as by frequent pilferage of corrugated iron sheet roofings.

#### ग्राम स्वयं सेवक सेना

1467. श्री मोहन स्वरूप: क्या सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अनेक राज्यों के विकास ग्राम्यकों ने ग्राम स्वयंसेवक सेना को खत्म कर देने की सिफारिश की है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या राय है ?

सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ब० सू० सूति) : (क) जी नहीं। जुलाई, 1964 में विकास आयुक्तों के वार्षिक सम्मेलन, जिसमें विलेज वालंटियर फोर्स स्कीम की प्रगति की समीक्षा की गई थी, का मत था कि स्कीम ने दोनों सुरक्षा और विकास सम्बन्धी कार्यों में ग्रामीण जनता के उत्साह को लगाने में उपयोगी कार्य किया और उन्होंने यह सिफारिश की कि वर्तमान स्थिति में स्वैच्छिक श्रम का उपयोग केवल उत्पादन कार्यक्रमों की कार्यान्विति तक ही सीमित रहना चाहिए।

(ख) भारत सरकार ने सम्मेलन की सिफारिशें मान ली हैं और राज्य सरकारों को उन्हें कार्यान्वित करने की सलाह दी है। इस स्कीम को ग्रामीण निर्माण कार्यक्रम के साथ जोड़ने के बारे में विचार हो रहा है।

#### गुलमर्ग में होटल और रज्जूपथ

1468. श्री मोहन स्वरूप : क्या परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग द्वारा गुलमर्ग में एक होटल और रज्जूपथ के निर्माण की कोई योजना तैयार की जा रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो योजना की रूपरेखा क्या है; और

(ग) उस पर कितना रुपया व्यय होने का अनुमान है ?

परिवहन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) से (ग). आवश्यक सूचना सभा पटल पर रखे गये विवरण में दी गयी है। [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया, देखिये संख्या एल टी—3276/64]

#### Sugar Mills in Uttar Pradesh

1469. Shri Balgovind Verma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh which have continued working after 15th May this year; and

(b) whether Government are considering a proposal to set up sugar factories at such places in the areas of those factories where they are in great demand by the cane growers in order to ease the situation?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) During the crushing season 1963-64 the following two sugar factories in U.P. continued working after 15th May, 1964:

1. The Oudh Sugar Mills Ltd., Hargaoon, District Sitapur.
2. The Hindusthan Sugar Mills Ltd., Golagokarannath, District Kherli.

(b) The Government considers on merits applications for licensing of additional capacity received from all parts of the country.

#### Mile-stones on National Highways

1470. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Asian Highway Television team which visited India during June, 1964 were puzzled by the distance indicators which are written in miles at some places and in kilometres at some other places;

(b) whether all the mile-stones on National Highways have been changed from miles to kilometres; and

(c) if so, how many have been changed and how many are yet to be changed?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (c). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Japanese Broadcasting Corporation and the Australian T. V. Teams which visited India in June 1964 for filming the Indian portion of the Asian Highway from Teheran to Dacca. These teams did not send any report on the point mentioned in part (a) of the question. Installation of kilometre stones along National Highways is already in progress. However, as the work involved in installing kilometre stones along the entire length of 14925 miles of roads included in the present National Highway System is quite considerable, the completion of the entire task is likely to take some time. The existing milestones are not being removed at present and the kilometre stones are being installed on the other side of the road so as to keep the two types of stones separate.

#### General Elections in Kerala

1471. { Shri P. K. Deo:  
Shri Solanki:  
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1105 on the 17th April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether a final decision has been taken in the matter of holding the next general elections in Kerala in 1965; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

Prior to the President's Proclamation on the 10th September, 1964, the Election Commission consulted the political parties in Trivandrum and decided to hold the General elections to the Kerala Legislative Assembly

in or about the middle of February, 1965. The Election Commission has not taken any other decision yet after the President's Proclamation.

#### Weather Reading Instruments

**1472. Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in June 1964 a balloon carrying weather reading instruments suddenly fell on the roof of a temple in Howrah and damaged it;

(b) if so, how it happened; and

(c) the loss sustained due to this?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). To obtain meteorological data of the upper air, the Meteorological Observatory at Dum Dum airport sends up balloons carrying meteorological instruments, twice daily. When the balloon reaches its maximum altitude, it bursts and drops gradually along with the instruments. One such balloon, with the instruments, fell on the roof of the Howrah Samaj Nader Nemai Mandir and damaged some tiles of the roof of the temple. The cost of replacement of the broken tiles was about Rs. 10.

#### Co-operative Sugar Mills

**1473. Shri Krishanpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1729 on the 31st March, 1964 and state the particulars of the different places in Uttar Pradesh where the establishment of co-operative sugar factories has been permitted?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** The matter is still under consideration.

### अमरीकी वन विशेषज्ञों का दौरा

1474. { श्री कर्णो सिंह जी :  
श्री विधवाध पाण्डेय :

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

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार के अनुरोध पर अमरीकी वन विशेषज्ञों ने अप्रैल, 1964 में राजस्थान प्रान्त का दौरा किया ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे विशेषज्ञ किस सम्बन्ध में राजस्थान प्रान्त के दौरे पर जाये थे ;

(ग) क्या उन लोगों ने अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसमें क्या क्या सुझाव और सिफारिशों की गयी हैं ?

साक्ष तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शम्भूनाथ झा) : (क) भारत सरकार के अनुरोध पर नीचे लिखे सदस्यों की एक उच्च स्तरीय दल ने इस देश में जल और भूमि के साधनों का सर्वेक्षण करने के लिए मार्च-मई, 1964 के दौरान देश के विभिन्न राज्यों का जिनमें राजस्थान भी शामिल है दौरा किया :—

मि० जोन स्पेन्सर:—

परामर्शदाता ए आई डी० वाशिंगटन, जोरडन तथा ब्राजील । रीजनल डायरेक्टर, रिजन 7 (डेनवर) । योजना, निर्माण, परिचालन जल विकास प्रायोजनाओं के रख-रखाव के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं ।

मि० एलिस हट्ट:—

मि० डन विलियमज, प्रशासक, एस सी एस । वाशिंगटन के अधीन उप-निदेशक के सहायक । नार्थ-वेस्ट यू०एस०ए० में वाटर-

शैंड यूनिट के निदेशक । जल प्रयोग तथा भूमि संरक्षण परामर्शदाता, फोर्ड फाउन्डेशन, भारत ।

मि० नौरजन टिप:—(वन सेवा) सहायक निदेशक, डिवीजन आफ फ्लड डिप्लेन्स एण्ड रिवर बैसिन प्रोग्राम । यू०एस०ए० के वाटरशैंड डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम के साथ सीधे सम्बद्ध ।

(ख) राजस्थान का दौरा करने का उनका मुख्य उद्देश्य राजस्थान नहर योजना और संगठन का पुनर्गठन करना था ।

(ग) अभी नहीं ।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता ।

### Air Agreement with Nepal

1475. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri. Dhuleshwar Meena:  
Shri Mohan Swarup:  
Shri Rishang Keishing:  
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 395 on the 3rd March, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the details of the Air Transport Agreement between India and Nepal have since been examined; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A text of an Agreement relating to Air Services between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government of Nepal has been initialled in New Delhi on 1st August, 1964. The Agreement is yet to be signed and ratified.

### Study Team on Panchayati Raj Finances

1476. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:  
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 923 on the 7th April, 1984 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the study team on the Panchayati Raj Finances have since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the Study Team on Panchayati Raj Finances have been classified into the following three categories:—

- (i) recommendations on which action is due by the State Governments.
- (ii) recommendations on which action is due by the Central Government.
- (iii) recommendations of a general nature to be kept in view while formulating policy in future.

All the State Governments except Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Rajasthan have considered the recommendations on which action is due by them and they are generally in agreement with the important recommendations. The recommendations on which action is due by the Central Government are being processed in consultation with the State Governments and the various concerned Departments of the Government of India. No immediate decision is required on the recommendations falling under category (iii) above.

### Translation of Laws into Hindi

1477. { Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:  
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 175 on the 5th June, 1984 and state:

(a) whether the question of providing assistance to the States for translation of their laws into Hindi has since been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) and (b). Laws in the Hindi speaking States may be translated into Hindi by the State Governments themselves. The question whether any assistance should be given to non-Hindi speaking States for translation of their laws into Hindi is still under consideration in consultation with the State Governments.

### पंजाब में कुटीर उद्योग

1478. श्री बागड़ी : क्या सामाजिक सुरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1963-64 में पंजाब में कुटीर उद्योगों की उन्नति के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार ने किस प्रकार की योजनाएँ स्वीकार की हैं ; और

(ख) उपरोक्त अवधि में कितनी धन-राशि स्वीकृत की गयी और कितनी उन योजनाओं पर खर्च की गई ?

विधि मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री जगन्नाथ राव) : (क) साधारणतः पंजाब में कुटीर उद्योग से सम्बन्धित योजनाओं जैसे खादी, ग्रामोद्योग, दस्तकारी, करवा उद्योग तथा रेशम उत्पादन का सम्बन्ध (क) उत्पादन तथा विपणन (ख) प्रगति तथा उन्नति और (ग) प्रशिक्षण से है। खादी तथा कुटीर उद्योग प्रायोग, प्रान्तीय ख दो

तथा ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड, खादी के लिये अनुमोदित संस्थाओं तथा निम्नलिखित ग्रामोद्योगों को अनुदान तथा कर्ज देता है :—

1. अनाज तथा दालें तैयार करना
2. ग्राम में तैयार होने वाला तेल
3. ग्राम में तैयार होने वाला चमड़ा
4. कुटीर में तैयार होने वाली दियासलाई
5. गुड़ तथा खांडसारी
6. खजूर से तैयार हुआ गुड़
7. न खाये जाने वाले तेल तथा साबुन
8. हाथ से बना कागज
9. मधु मक्खी पालन
10. ग्राम में बनाए जाने वाले मिट्टी के बर्तन
11. सूत्र
12. बढ़ई तथा लोहार के काम
13. चूना पत्थर
14. गोबर गैस

1963-64 के दौरान पंजाब में हस्त-शिल्प उद्योग की प्रगति के लिये अनुमोदित योजनाओं का सम्बन्ध गलीचे तथा झुगिट बनाना, कलात्मक धातु के बर्तन, प्रलाक्षा-कार्य, पत्थर तथा संगमरमर, संगीत यंत्र, चमड़े की बिया चीजें, लाख के गजरे, बर्तन बांस का काम, खिलौने तैयार करने का काम, झुगिट उत्पादन फुलकारी, पण्य शालाओं की स्थापना, होशियारपुर में लकड़ी उपचार यन्त्र स्थापना, हस्तशिल्प सहयोगों की प्रगति, नमूना प्रगति तथा हस्तशिल्प के प्रचार से है ।

(ख) अनुमोदित जितना खर्च किया गया

(लाखों में)

हस्तशिल्प	13.28	13.24	
करघा उद्योग	7.95	2.74	} 31-12-
रेशम उत्पादन	6.36	1.21	
			63 तक

करघा उद्योग और रेशम उत्पादन के सम्बन्ध में 1963-64 के पूरे वर्ष की संख्याएं तथा खादी और ग्रामोद्योग की संख्याएं मालूम की जा रही हैं और यथा समय सभा के पटल पर रखी जायेंगी ।

**ग्रामोद्योग प्रवेश में खादी तथा ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड**

1479. श्री गौरी शंकर कक्कड़ : क्या सामाजिक सुरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि ग्रामोद्योग खादी ग्रामोद्योग बोर्ड के भूतपूर्व अध्यक्ष श्री कोंडा लक्ष्मण बापूजी ने बोर्ड के कार्य संचालन के सम्बन्ध में अखिल भारतीय खादी ग्रामोद्योग आयोग के अध्यक्ष श्री यू० एन० देबर को कोई पत्र लिखा है ;

(ख) क्या उसमें रुपये के गोलमाल किये जाने और बोर्ड के कुछ अधिकारियों के आचरण के विरुद्ध कुछ शिकायतों की गई हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

**विधि मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री जगन्नाथ राव) :** (क) तथा (ख). हां, श्रीमान ।

(ग) आयोग के अध्यक्ष महोदय ने श्री कोंडा लक्ष्मण बापूजी को पत्र का उत्तर देते हुए उनकी प्रतिक्रिया की सराहना की थी और उनको सलाह दी थी कि वे इस सम्बन्ध में श्री बिम्बा रेड्डी से बातचीत करें । रकम

के गोलमाल तथा अधिकारियों के आचरण के विरुद्ध शिकायतों के सम्वन्ध में आयोग जांच पड़ताल कर रहा है।

#### Sugar Factories

1480. { Shri M. L. Jadhav:  
Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:  
Shri Chandak:  
Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued in 1963-64 for setting up new sugar factories, and the number out of them in the co-operative sector and the number in private sector;

(b) the number of applications for grant of such licences for sugar factories in the Co-operative sector pending with Government; and

(c) the policy of Government in issuing licences for establishing new sugar factories?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) Nil.

(b) 82.

(c) Subject to the availability of capacity for licensing, all applications are examined on merits from the point of view of existing cane availability and future cane potential in the area. Preference is given to a co-operative over a joint stock concern if there are applications from both the parties for the same site.

#### Loss of Sailing Vessels

1481. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether three sailing vessels on their way from Bombay to Jaffrabad were wrecked of the South Coast of Saurashtra in last June;

(b) the reason for the wreck; and

(c) casualties if any, and amount of property loss?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Among the sailing vessels which were wrecked off the Saurashtra Coast in June 1964, there was only one (viz. S. V. Ramprasad) which was on its way from Bombay to Jaffrabad.

(b) Severe cyclonic weather.

(c) The vessel with cargo was a total loss. There was no loss of life.

#### Employees Provident Fund

1482. Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Provident Fund contribution still to be realised from the employers for the period ending 30th June, 1964;

(b) whether Government of India propose to introduce an amendment to the Employees Provident Fund Act to provide for recovery of dues as a 'Charge' superior to even secured debts; and

(c) whether some officials have been appointed to work as certificate officers for work regarding recovery of arrears in different regions?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao):

(a) Rs. 395.26 lakhs. The break-up of this amount is as follows:—

(in lakhs)  
Rs.

(i) Provident Fund dues prior to the coverage of establishments under the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 . . . . .	75.20
(ii) Provident Fund dues as a result of cancellation of exemption granted to establishment . . . . .	54.86
(iii) Post coverage accumulations . . . . .	265.22
TOTAL . . . . .	395.26

(b) A proposal is under consideration.

(c) It has been decided as an experimental measure to appoint four Certificate Officers in the West Bengal Region to deal exclusively with cases of recovery of Provident Fund arrears under section 8 of the E.P.F. Act, 1952. The Government of West Bengal are taking necessary steps to make the said appointments early.

#### Welfare of S.C. and S.T.

1483. { Shri Rama Chandra Mallick:  
Shri Kajrolikar:

Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount allotted for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 1963-64 was not fully spent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure full utilisation of the allotted amount in future?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) As the figures of actual expenditure for 1963-64 have not yet been furnished by the various State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations the precise position is not yet known.

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

#### Legal Assistance for S.C. and S.T.

1484. Shri Rama Chandra Mallick: Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount sanctioned for the grant of legal aid to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people in some States for 1963-64, was not fully spent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure full utilisation of the allotted amounts in future?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inadequate response from the beneficiaries.

(c) Publicity regarding the details of the scheme has been given by the concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administration.

#### Package Programme

1485. Shri Tan Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Panchayat Samitis in which the package programme is to be introduced this year; and

(b) whether a Panchayat Samiti standing first in overall development in a State is given preference?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The Intensive Agricultural District Programme (popularly known as the 'Package Programme'), being implemented in one district in each State, has been taken up in 244 blocks this year (1964-65) out of the total number of 303 blocks in these districts. It is intended to cover the remaining blocks during the next year. Similarly, the Intensive Cultivation Programme of paddy has been introduced in 75 districts covering 646 blocks and the programme for millets in 53 districts covering 354 blocks. The Intensive Cultivation Programme of wheat is being launched from the Rabi season of the current year in 20 districts covering about 200 blocks. In Rajasthan, 6 Panchayat Samitis in 3 districts of Alwar, Kotah and Jhalawar have been selected for the implementation of the Intensive Cultivation Programme of Millets and 10 Panchayat Samitis in 5 districts of

Jaipur, Bharatpur, Ganganagar, Chittor and Udaipur for the Intensive Cultivation of Wheat Programme.

(b) The selection of districts and the blocks within the districts for the implementation of the Intensive Agricultural Programmes is made by the State Governments on the basis of certain well defined criteria laid down for the purpose.

These are:—

- (1) The district should, as far as possible, have assured water supply;
- (2) It should have a minimum of natural hazards i.e. there should not be problems requiring long-term attention, such as, susceptibility to floods, drainage problems, acute soil conservation problems, etc.;
- (3) It should, as far as possible, have well developed village institutions like cooperatives and panchayats; and
- (4) It should have maximum potentialities for increasing agricultural production within a comparatively short time.

Once a district has been selected on the basis of the above criteria, as many blocks as possible within the district having production potential are brought within the fold of the programme. No such consideration as the Panchayat Simiti standing first in overall development in a State is taken into account in selection of areas.

### भेड़ों का आयात

1486. श्री मन सिंह : क्या क्राच तथा कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या आस्ट्रेलिया से भेड़ें आयात करने के सम्बन्ध में राजस्थान सरकार ने कोई प्रस्ताव भेजा है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

साक्ष तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री  
(श्री शाह नवाज खाँ) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता ।

### Survey of Food Consumption

1487. Shri D. D. Mantri: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1 on the 11th February, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the proposal to conduct food consumption and nutrition surveys throughout the country has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, how much expenditure is likely to be incurred thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) no, Sir. The matter has not yet been finalised. The four pilot studies have been completed; the results are under examination.

(b) Does not arise.

### Foodgrain Price Indices

1488. Shrimati Laxmi Bai: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the month-wise wholesale and consumer price indices of foodgrains during the last six months?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): The required information is given in the following statements:

- (i) Index numbers of wholesale prices of cereals as a whole during January to August, 1964.
- (ii) Index numbers of consumer prices for food during January to June, 1964. Figures for the months of July and August, 1964, are not yet available.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3277/64].

**Delivery Schedule of Ships**

**1489. Shri M. S. Murti:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to non-availability of foreign exchange at the proper time, the delivery schedule of ships at the Hindustan Shipyard has to be postponed; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to speed up the programme?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) The general foreign exchange shortage prevailing at present had its effect on the delivery schedule of ships at the Hindustan Shipyard also.

(b) The Hindustan Shipyard Limited has recently appointed a Committee of Directors to go into the question and make recommendations for consideration of the Government. The recommendations are under consideration of Government.

**अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों की सूची**

**1490. श्री पं. सा० बाहूपाल:** क्या सामाजिक सुरक्षा मन्त्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकारों द्वारा अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित आदिम जाति तथा पिछड़ी जाति के बच्चों को जो छात्रवृत्तियाँ दी जाती हैं, उसके लिए क्या इन जातियों की सूची में हिन्दुओं के प्रतिरिक्त मुसलमानों व ईसाईयों को भी शामिल किया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे कौन कौन सी जातियाँ हैं ?

**सामाजिक सुरक्षा विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्रीमती शन्मोक्षर) :** (क) और (ख) राष्ट्रपति द्वारा दिये गये विविध आदेशों के अधीन उल्लिखित अनुसूचित जातियों के अनुसार कोई भी व्यक्ति जो हिन्दू अथवा

सिख धर्म का न हो अनुसूचित जाति का सदस्य नहीं हो सकता है ।

अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के सम्बन्ध में ऐसा कोई प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है और एक अनुसूचित आदिम जाति कोई भी धर्म अपना सकती है । अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों की सूचियाँ, अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों की सूचियों के (सुधार) आदेश, 1956, संविधान (अण्डेमान तथा निकोबार द्वीप) अनुसूचित आदिम जाति आदेश, 1959 तथा संविधान (दादरा और नगर हवेली) अनुसूचित आदिम जाति आदेश, 1962 में मिल सकती हैं ।

भारत सरकार ने दूसरी पिछड़ी जातियों की कोई सूची तैयार नहीं की है । फिर भी मैट्रिक उपरान्त शिक्षार्थ छात्रवृत्तियों की स्वीकृति, धर्म, जाति अथवा आदिम जाति के भेदभाव को छोड़, आर्थिक अवस्था के आधार पर दी जाती है ।

**Sugar Factory in Cachar**

**1491. Shrimati Joytsma Chanda:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 2324 on the 21st April, 1964 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the application forwarded by the Assam Government for grant of a licence to establish a sugar factory in Cachar; and

(b) if so, the decision arrived at in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. B. Chavan):** (a) and (b). The application is still under consideration of the Government.

**सादी आयोग बम्बई**

**1492. श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** क्या सामाजिक सुरक्षा मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या न्याय भवन, शाहपुरा, राजस्थान के अध्यक्ष की ओर से खादी कमीशन, बम्बई के सम्बन्ध में धन के गबन का कोई मामला सरकार के पास प्रमाण सहित भेजा गया है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सत्य है कि यह रकम लाखों रुपयों की है ; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में क्या किसी प्रकार की जांच हुई है और यदि हां, तो सरकार किस परिणाम पर पहुंची है ?

सामाजिक सुरक्षा विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री जगन्नाथ राव) : (क) नहीं, श्रीमान् ।

(ख) तथा (ग). प्रश्न पैदा ही नहीं होते ।

#### Meenambakkam Airport

1493. **Shri Dharmalingam:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to enlarge the Meenambakkam airport in Madras City;

(b) if so, its estimated cost; and

(c) when the work will start?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo)** (a) to (c). The runway at Meenambakkam has already been extended to make it suitable for jet operations at a cost of nearly Rs. 1.26 crores. It is proposed to construct an international wing to the existing terminal building to provide improved facilities for international passengers.

#### Bridge over Ramganga at Moradabad

1494. { **Shri K. C. Pant:**  
**Shri Brij Raj Singh:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a bridge spanning the Ram-

ganga river at Moradabad; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the above project and the time by which it would be completed?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes, the work has been recently awarded to a contractor

(b) The bridge is estimated to cost Rs. 101.50 lakhs and is expected to be completed before the monsoon of 1967.

#### Sugar factory at Kichha

1495. **Shri K. C. Pant:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new sugar factory will start functioning from the next crushing season at Kichha, District Nainital;

(b) if not, the reasons for the inordinate delay in commissioning this plant and the steps taken by Government for expediting the same; and

(c) the production capacity of the above factory and the number of persons likely to be employed therein?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) The factory licensed for establishment at Kichha; District Nainital is expected to go into production during the next crushing season.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The factory will have an annual sugar production capacity of 25,000 tonnes and is expected to employ about 1000 persons.

#### 'Gulabi' Gram

1496. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Gulabi gram used to be grown extensively in Madhya Pradesh, and was a good foreign exchange earner;

(b) whether its production has slumped because of a ban on its export;

(c) whether Government propose to lift the said ban;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) In Madhya Pradesh Gulabi gram is produced mainly in 3 districts. It is true that some quantity of Gulabi gram is exported to foreign countries.

(b) to (e). There is no ban on the export of Gulabi gram from India. The Madhya Pradesh Government had, for some time, during the current year imposed temporary restrictions on the movement of Gulabi gram from Madhya Pradesh to other parts of the country. These restrictions have been removed from the first week of July, 1964. The temporary restrictions imposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government could not have adversely affected the production of this variety of gram.

#### Agricultural Universities

**1497. Shri D. D. Mamtiri:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mysore University of Agricultural Sciences has started functioning.

(b) the amount and the nature of foreign aid utilised in establishing the University; and

(c) how many more universities on this pattern are to be established in the country and the location thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The University of Agricultural Sciences, Hebbal near Bangalore in Mysore State was inaugurated on August 21, 1964. Action regarding transfer to the University of the constituent colleges, research stations and extension education agencies which are now functioning under different

State Departments, is being taken by the State Government.

(b) Since 1952, the Government of United States of America have been providing assistance to institutions in India engaged in Agricultural and Veterinary education, research and extension under two agreements. Under one of these agreements assistance has been provided to Institutions in Mysore which are proposed to be transferred to the Mysore Agricultural University. The assistance has been generally provided in the following directions:—

(a) Assignment of Experts for Advisory work;

(b) Provision of higher training to Indian staff members in United States of America; and

(c) Provision of equipment and library books for the institutions.

The total assistance so far provided to these Institutions is given below:—

1. No. of experts provided/proposed to be provided. 18

2. No. of Indian staff members sent/to be sent to USA for higher training. 48

3. Dollar aid provided for books and equipment . . . \$2,17,609.41

(c) During the Second Plan, one Agricultural University was set up at Pantnagar in Uttar Pradesh and during the current Plan period apart from Mysore five more such Universities one each in the States of Punjab, Orissa, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Andhra Pradesh have been established. No proposals have so far been formulated for the Fourth Plan. All these Universities except Madhya Pradesh University have started functioning. The Madhya Pradesh University is scheduled to be inaugurated on 2nd October, 1964.

#### Production of Vegetables around Delhi

**1498. Shri K. Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any proposals to grow vegetables around the Capital to check the ever rising prices of vegetables;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount to be spent on this project?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah-nawas Khan):** (a) Yes. At the instance of Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Delhi Administration has formulated its integrated proposals for the intensive production of vegetables in the Delhi Territory.

(b) The proposals of Delhi Administration envisage, increasing the production of all important vegetables to ensure reasonable prices for the consumers and a fair remuneration to the producers. This would entail increase in the coverage of area under vegetable cultivation at present from 10,000 acres to 30,000 acres. Kitchen garden in the urban areas will also be encouraged. The salient features of this programme, which is being treated as a 'Crash' Programme, are:—

1. Provision of technical guidance and advice to the vegetable growers in rural and urban areas;
2. Arrangements for the supply of quality seeds, fertilisers, insecticides, equipment etc. through sale depots in different rural and urban areas;
3. Augmentation of Irrigation facilities, including sewage irrigation programme;
4. Arrangements for quick and regular supply of the sludge and compost to the cultivators;
5. Provision of adequate plant protection services to combat the incidence of pests and insect diseases in the vegetable areas;
6. Provision of adequate arrangements for cold storage, ware-

housing and marketing of the produce.

(c) The proposals are still under consideration and it is, therefore, not possible at this stage to indicate the final shape of the scheme and its financial implications.

#### Central Food Service

1499. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to constitute a central food service; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri B. R. Chavan):** (a) and (b). A proposal for the formal constitution of Non-Secretariat Gazetted posts dealing with import storage and distribution etc., of foodgrains under the control of the Department of Food into a Central Service to be called the Central Food Service is under the consideration of Government. No final decision has been taken in the matter, nor have the details been worked out. It is, therefore, premature to say anything at this stage about the details of the proposal.

#### Peanut Butter

1500. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether trials on peanut butter are being made by the Institute of Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition, Delhi to make it acceptable to Indian states; and

(b) if so, the success achieved so far?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Receipts incorporating peanut butter have been developed and trials and further studies are in progress.

### खाद्यान्नों के गोदानों का निर्माण

1501. श्री बीरप्पा : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मन्त्री सभा पटल पर एक ऐसा विवरण रखने की कृपा करेंगे जिसमें यह बताया गया हो कि चालू वर्ष में भारत के विभिन्न राज्यों में केन्द्रीय खाद्यान्न भण्डार गोदाम बनाने का क्या कार्यक्रम है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री डा० रा० चट्टाण) : एक विवरण, जिसमें चालू वर्ष में भारत के विभिन्न राज्यों में केन्द्रीय खाद्यान्न संग्रह गोदाम बनाने का कार्यक्रम दिखाया गया है, सभा के पटल पर रखा गया है। [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया है। देखिये संख्या L.T.-3278/64]

### Family Pension Scheme

1502. Shri Eswara Reddy: Will the Minister of Social Security be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working group set up to prepare the scheme for family pension in the case of workers who are members of the Employees' Provident Fund and Coal Mines Provident Fund, have submitted their report;

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

(c) when the report is likely to be received?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Law (Shri Jaganatha Rao): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Actuarial investigations regarding the financial implications of the proposed Family Pension Scheme are being made and statistical data regarding the rate of mortality, withdrawals and superannuation of the members of the two Provident Funds have to be collected.

### Food Department Cafeteria Co-operative Stores Ltd.

1503. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of Community Develop-

ment and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the liquidator has assessed the financial position of the Food Department Cafeteria Co-operative Stores Ltd.;

(b) if so, how much loss has been incurred by the Store and what steps have been taken by the Government to recover this loss;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed by Government on the General Secretary of this Store for various malpractices and irregularities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):

(a) No, Sir. The liquidator proceedings are still in progress.

(b) It has not yet been possible to make a final assessment.

(c) and (d). The accounts are being scrutinised and responsibilities will be fixed after the completion of the scrutiny.

### Reorganisation of Food Department

1504. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Assistant Directors, Deputy Directors and Technical Officers are working in the Central Secretariat of the Department of Food;

(b) whether it is also a fact that according to the policy laid down by Home Ministry policy matters are to be handled by the Secretariat officers in the Central Secretariat and implementation of the policy decisions and field work are to be done by attached and subordinate offices; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by Government to reorganise the Food Department?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). According to para 3(2) of the statement on measures for strengthening of administration laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 10th August, 1961, "Ministries should only concern themselves with matters of policy, general supervision and enforcement of standards. Executive agencies should consequently be made stronger and given greater responsibility."

The Department of Food is concerned with acquisition, storage, preservation, movement and distribution of vast quantities of foodgrains and the mixed composition of the Headquarters organisation of this Department reflects the essentially executive, coupled with policy-making, nature of its functions. This Department have both Secretariat and executive posts to each of which are entrusted an appropriate part of its Secretariat and non-secretariat responsibilities. According to para 3(1) of the same statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 10-8-1961.

"Ministries need not conform to a standard pattern of organisation. They will be free to vary it within broad limits, to introduce speed and quality of work suited to their circumstances."

The present set-up of this Department has been evolved to suit the requirements of speed and quality of work after much experimentation with various patterns of organisation and has proved most effective. No changes in the organisation are for the present contemplated though the scope for further reorganisation to promote efficiency and speed of disposal is constantly under review. The field organisations are, however, being strengthened by delegating to them enhanced powers in administrative matters generally and in operational matters particularly, and, as far as possible, only matters involving policy-making, direction and control are being looked after by the Department.

### Starvation Deaths

1505. { Dr. P. Srinivasan:  
Shri Paramasivan:  
Shri Mohsin:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases of starvation deaths have been reported so far in any part of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

### Export of Frog-Legs

1506. **Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether government are aware of the fact that frog-legs are in great demand and fetch good prices in some of the foreign markets and that there is great scope for exporting frog-legs from India;

(b) whether it is a fact that frogs of suitable species which are required for this trade are found in abundance in North Bihar;

(c) if so, whether Government have under consideration any scheme to extend necessary financial and technical assistance to private entrepreneurs in North Bihar who may like to deal in this trade; and

(d) if so, the extent of such assistance to be given?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The exportable varieties of frogs are known to occur in northern Indian States including Bihar, but the quantity available is not known, as no survey has been made. A post of Frog Development Officer has been sanctioned recently to carry out such a survey.

(c) Under the scheme for export promotion, the Marine Products Export Promotion Council, Ernakulam, gives assistance to entrepreneurs who undertake to export frog-legs.

(d) Assistance is given in the form of allotment of foreign exchange equal to 10 per cent of the value of frozen frog-legs exported for utilisation in importing various kinds of machinery for processing, consumable stores like packing material, etc.

#### Calcutta-Agartala Air Services

1507. **Shri Biren Dutta:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air fare and freight charges from Calcutta to Agartala have been raised recently;

(b) the reason for such an increase;

(c) whether due to the increase in fare and freight charges essential goods required for Agartala are lying at Calcutta and vice versa; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ease the situation?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fares and Freight rates in the Indian Airlines Corporation are based on the mileage. The fare and freight rate between Calcutta and Agartala had to be increased with effect from 15-8-1964 for freight charters, and from 15-9-1964 for scheduled services, as a result of certain changes in the routes to be followed by aircraft while flying over Pakistan territory which had the effect of increasing the route mileage between Calcutta and Agartala from 196 to 224 miles.

(c) and (d). The Indian Airlines Corporation have reported that there is no accumulation of air freight from Calcutta to Agartala lying at Calcutta. There was some quantity of tea lying at Agartala for transport to Calcutta which was cleared by the first week of September, 1964. The Central Government in the Ministry of Home

Affairs has since agreed to subsidise transport of certain specified commodities by air from Calcutta to Agartala to the extent of 6 Paise per kilo. This will mean that consignments of specified commodities booked from Calcutta to Agartala will be charged @ 54 Paise per kilo as against the revised rate of 60 Paise per kilo. This subsidised rate came into force from 2-9-1964.

#### Mangalore Harbour

1508. { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) how much land has already been acquired in connection with the project for development of Mangalore Harbour into an all weather port;

(b) when it was acquired;

(c) how many families had been displaced thereby and where they have been resettled;

(d) what further action has since been taken for implementation of the port development project; and

(e) how much more land is proposed to be acquired for the project?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). It is proposed to acquire an area of 1207.53 acres of land for the immediate requirements of Mangalore Harbour Project. This area has already been notified for acquisition under the Land Acquisition Act. Out of this area, an area of 43.18 acres of land was formally acquired on 29-8-1964. In addition, an area of 463.08 acres has also been handed over to the Project authorities although legal formalities in respect of this area have yet to be completed.

(c) 275 families have so far been displaced on account of land acquisition proceedings. These include 123 fishermen families and 150 other fami-

lies. Out of these, 268 families have already been rehabilitated, the fishermen families near the sea-shore and the others at a place six miles from the place of their displacement.

(d) The Master Plan and the layout of the port is in the process of being finalised. Meanwhile, administrative approval and expenditure sanction amounting to Rs. 2.16 crores has already been accorded for various items of works e.g. construction of quarters, land acquisition, hydrographic survey, purchase of harbour tug and survey launch, capital dredging etc. A sum of Rs. 1.16 crores has been spent upto July 1964.

(e) It is proposed to freeze land values in an additional area of 1500 acres which may be required for the future development of the Harbour Project.

#### Supply of Rice in Kerala

1509. { Shri A. V. Raghavan:  
Shri Pottekatt:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the quantity of rice supplied through the fair price shops in Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that irrespective of the number of members in a house the quota supplied is uniform to all houses; and

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to increase the quota in cases where a family has more than five members?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

#### Central Hill Areas Committee

1510. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be 1283 (A) LSD—1-15.

pleased to state:

(a) the number of meetings of the Central Hill Areas Committee held so far;

(b) the nature of business transacted and conclusion arrived at;

(c) whether any blue print has been prepared by it for being sent to the Planning Commission for inclusion in the Fourth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, what are its main features?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) One.

(b) A statement showing the main subjects considered and recommendations made thereon by the Central Hill Development Advisory Committee at its first meeting held on 1-5-1964 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3279/64].

(c) Not yet.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Co-operative Credit Societies

1511. Shri M. Malaichami: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of borrowing members in co-operative credit societies has fallen during 1962-63; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to increase the issue of credit to the members of co-operative societies?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A detailed action programme for the development of co-operative credit was circulated to state governments in March, 1964, a copy of which was laid on the Table of the Sabha in reply to Unstarred Question No. 1907 answered on the 7th April, 1964. The implementation of this programme

is expected to increase the issue of credit to members.

### Default in Repayment of Loan

**1512, Shri M. Malaichami:** Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Standing Advisory Committee of the Reserve Bank of India has considered the question of devising a built-in mechanism to tackle the problem of default on account of natural calamities and crop failures; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Standing Advisory Committee of the Reserve Bank of India has recently recommended that the co-operative credit structure should build up credit stabilisation funds both at the apex bank and the central bank levels so that these funds, with the assistance of the national agricultural credit stabilisation fund maintained by the Reserve Bank of India, may be utilised for converting overdue short-term loans into medium-term loans in areas affected by natural calamities and crop failures.

The Standing Advisory Committee has recommended that the credit stabilisation funds in the co-operative banking structure may be formed as below:

- (i) By each central and apex co-operative bank crediting 25 per cent of its net annual profits to these funds;
- (ii) By the state governments crediting all dividend in excess of 3 per cent on shares held by them in the co-operative credit institutions to these funds; and
- (iii) By the state governments (by the Union Government in the case of Union Territories)

making outright contributions partly by way of grants and partly by way of loans toward these funds.

It has been suggested that the quantum of the initial government contribution may range between 5 per cent and 10 per cent of the outstandings of agricultural loans at the central bank level in the states depending mainly on their relative susceptibility to agricultural calamities.

These recommendations are being considered by the Central government.

### Hostels for Children of Scavengers

**1513. Shri Mohan Nayak:** Will the Minister of **Social Security** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have sanctioned funds to start special hostels for children of scavengers and sweepers for their education;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned; and

(c) the number of hostels proposed to be started in the country State-wise?

**The Deputy Minister in the Department of Social Security (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) Funds have not been specifically provided for such special hostels. The Government of India have, however, requested State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to include this scheme in their State Plans.

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

### Import of Seed Potatoes

**1514. Shri Virbhadra Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that permission has been granted to import seed potatoes from abroad;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the import of potatoes will have

an adverse effect on the potato-growers in the country particularly in Himachal Pradesh?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) The import has become necessary owing to inadequate supply of virus-free seed potatoes from the hills to meet the entire demand of the country.

(c) All these factors are taken into account before taking a decision to import seed potatoes.

#### Nagpur-Bhandara Highway

**1915. Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Government have proposed the widening of the Nagpur-Bhandara road, a National Highway; and

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

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes, Sir. There was a proposal from the State Government to provide six feet wide shoulders in the first nineteen miles of this section of the National Highway.

(b) Due to paucity of funds it was not possible to sanction the proposal. The State Government were, however, advised to provide flat brick or stone metal shoulders in this reach out of the maintenance and repairs grant.

#### Indian Agricultural Research Institute

**1916. Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of admissions for Ph.D. and M.Sc. courses if any, reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute; and

(b) if so, the number of candidates of Scheduled Castes/Tribes selected and their percentage in the past three years?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) For admission to Ph.D. and M.Sc. courses at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, 15 per cent seats are reserved for the Scheduled castes and 5 per cent for Scheduled Tribes Candidates. In case suitable candidates from these categories are not available the seats reserved for them are filled from the open list.

(b) The number of candidates of Scheduled Castes/Tribes selected and their percentage in the past three years is indicated below:—

	Sched- Castes	Sched- tribes	Total admitted	Percentage of the candidates to the total admitted
(i) M. Sc.	9	4	13	6%
(ii) Ph. D.	5	2	7	4%

#### Sugar Ration Cards

**1917. Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a letter published in the *Hindustan Times* of 17th September, 1964, that workers are charging-4/- to Rs. 2 per head for preparation of ration cards for the supply of sugar in certain localities of Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the report is correct; and

(c) what action has been taken to put a check on this?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No specific complaint has been brought to the Government's notice.

(c) The Delhi Administration has instructed its Inspectorate Staff to keep a strict watch and to report such instances immediately.

#### Retrenchment of Employees

1518. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 12,00 employees working in various departments of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Eastern Zone have been declared surplus;

(b) if so, whether this is due to the introduction of the decentralisation scheme;

(c) whether the work-load justified such reduction in staff; and

(d) if not, what are the circumstances leading to such decision?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan): (a) No, Sir. The number of staff in and under the office of the Regional Director (Food), Eastern Region, Calcutta, declared surplus is 33 out of a total strength of about 3,850. Efforts are being made to absorb them in other offices.

(b) No, Sir. These staff have been found surplus on the basis of 'norms' prescribed by the Work Study Unit.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Rambouillet Sheep

1519. Shri Brij Raj Singh-Kotah: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rambouillet Sheep are being imported

from abroad for developing an Indian strain in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Proposals for import of 375 Rambouillet sheep are under consideration. When imported, these will be reared at the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute, Malpura in Rajasthan, for experimental purposes.

#### Bridge on Ganges at Patna

1520. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect North Bihar with South Bihar by constructing a bridge over the Ganges nearabout Patna; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The Government of India do not have any proposal to construct a bridge over the Ganga nearabout Patna connecting North Bihar with South Bihar. The bridge, when constructed, would fall on a State road. The Government of Bihar are, therefore, primarily concerned in the matter. It is understood from the State authorities concerned that some model tests for the selection of a suitable site for the proposed bridge are being conducted at the Irrigation Research Institute, Roorkee, and at the Central Water and Power Research Station, Poona. The tests at Roorkee are expected to be completed by the end of the current year.

#### Poultry Development Programme

1522. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open some training courses as a part of Poultry Development Programme;

(b) how many training centres have been opened so far and where;

(c) whether any kind of foreign assistance has been accepted to impart training in poultry development; and

(d) if so, from which foreign country?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) to (d). Facilities for training of poultry farmers are provided by the State Governments/Union Territories at the State Poultry Farms and Poultry Extension Centres as part of their normal activities or under the All India Poultry Development Scheme included in the Second and Third Five Year Plans. The Government of India, however, propose to hold a training course at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar (Bareilly) in the method of determining the sex of day-old chicks under the guidance of a Japanese Expert who is expected to be assigned to the Government of India under the Colombo Plan. The training is proposed to be conducted in three batches, duration of each course being six weeks. About 6 candidates are proposed to be trained in each batch. The training will start only after the Expert has arrived.

#### **Sugar Production**

1523. { Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri P. R. Chakravarti:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commission constituted for going into the question of increasing sugar production has submitted an interim report to Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendation made therein; and

(c) the Government's decision thereon?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) to (c). An interim report has been received and is under examination of the Government. The decision thereon is expected to be taken shortly.

#### **Rocket Launching**

1524. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Civil Aviation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first meteorological rocket to measure wind data in the upper atmosphere was launched from the Thumba equatorial rocket launching base near Trivandrum on the 14th July, 1964; and

(b) if so, the success achieved in firing the rocket and collecting data about weather?

**The Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Yes.

(b) Wind data was collected successfully from a height of 36 to 56 kilometres. The winds below 46 kilometres were generally east-north-easterly, with a speed of about 80 knots. The winds over 46 kilometres had a complex pattern, being strong but variable in direction. Rockets were also fired successfully on the 16th July and the 19th August, 1964. Results of these firings confirm that easterly winds flow with an overlying region of turbulence in the equatorial stratosphere.

#### **Marine Engineering Factory**

1525. { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been reached with a Japanese Marine firm known as 'Yanmar' to set up a marine engineering factory in India;

(b) if so, the details of the project; and

(c) the terms of the contract?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** (a) to (c). No agreement for the manufacture of Yanmar marine diesel engines has been reached. A preliminary report containing collaboration proposals for the manufacture of Yanmar marine diesel engines has been received and is under technical examination in regard to the feasibility of the project.

### Forest Wealth

1526. { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey  
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to augment the forest wealth of India?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** 'Forest' is a State subject under the Constitution. Management and development of forests is, therefore, the concern of the State Governments. The Government of India however, renders all possible technical assistance to the States through the Inspector General of Forests and Forest Research Institute and Colleges, Dehra Dun as well as financial assistance for the development of forestry under the National Plans. In consultation with the State Governments a National Forest Policy was also enunciated in 1952 which lays down the guiding principles for the State Governments for the scientific management of forests and their proper utilisation.

2. Under the National Plans important forestry schemes have been launched and these schemes have been receiving increasing attention during the successive plans. As against an initial provision of Rs. 9.6 crores in the First Five Year Plan, provision for the development of forestry increased

to Rs. 27 crores in the Second Plan and to about Rs. 51 crores in the Third Five Year Plan.

3. During the First Five Year Plan a few schemes of development were taken up. An area of about 75,000 acres was brought under plantations both under the scheme of Economic plantations and the scheme of Rehabilitation of degraded forests. Forest communications of about 3,000 miles were also constructed during the period.

4. In the Second Plan period, projects of greater diversity were undertaken on a larger scale. Emphasis was specially laid on raising plantations of teak, sal, Bluegum, wattle, softwood (for matches and plywood industries etc.). An area of about 4,70,000 acres was brought under the species of economic and industrial importance and degraded forests over an area of 3,20,000 acres were rehabilitated. During this period 6,800 miles of forests roads were constructed.

5. The Third Five Year Plan put special emphasis on measures which will help to meet the long term requirements of the country. Under the State Plan for Economic plantations, it is proposed to bring under plantations an area of 7.01 lakhs acres. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of "plantation of quick growing species" which was introduced in 1962-63 it is proposed to cover an area of about 1,37,000 acres. The scheme aims at meeting the raw material requirements of the wood-based industries viz., paper, match, chipboards, etc. Under the scheme of Rehabilitation of degraded forests, it is proposed to rehabilitate an area of 5.23 lakh acres.

### Jammu-Srinagar Road

1526-A. **Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) by when would it be possible to complete the second road between Jammu and Srinagar according to the

present pace and perspective plan; and

(b) what is being done to expedite the completion of this road?

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) and (b). A second road between Jammu and Srinagar, if ever constructed, would be a State road. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir are, therefore, primarily concerned in the matter. It is understood from the State authorities concerned that a survey of a route (via Rajori and Shupian) was carried out some time ago. No further progress in the matter has, however, been made.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO UN-  
STARRED QUESTION No. 1896,  
DATED 13-9-1963

**The Minister of Law and Social Security (Shri A. K. Sen):** In reply to part (a) of the Unstarred Question No. 1896 regarding wool and khadi production in Rajasthan, answered by the then Minister of Industry in the House on the 13th September, 1963, it was stated that the total amount given by the Central Government for production of wool and khadi in Bikaner District of Rajasthan from 1960 to 1963 so far was Rs. 15.48 lakhs. On re-examination the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has found and intimated to the Government of India that the amount given was Rs. 15.86 lakhs. In view of this, the following correction to answer to part (a) of the question may be made:

"(a) Rs. 15.86 lakhs."

12.06 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A  
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC  
IMPORTANCE

OUTBREAK OF FIRE IN DIVISIONAL OFFICE  
OF L.I.C.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbalah (Adoni):**  
I call the attention of the Minister of

Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The outbreak of fire in the Divisional Office of the LIC in Delhi on the 26th September, 1964."

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra):** The Life Insurance Corporation—Divisional Office building near the Delhi Gate is a modern six storeyed building. On the 26th September, 1964, a message of outbreak of fire in the building was received over the telephone at 18.26 hours at the Headquarters Control of the Delhi Fire Service. Within a minute i.e. at 18.27 hours three fire units from the Connaught Circus and Rakabganj fire stations rushed to the spot covering a distance of about two miles within three minutes. The officer in charge found the fire extensive and serious and summoned additional assistance at 18.32 hours. Between 18.40 hours to 18.50 hours 14 additional fire units arrived on the scene from different fire stations. The Chief Fire Officer personally supervised the control operations with the help of 150 persons and officers of the Fire Service. Six members of the staff received minor injuries and four were overcome by smoke. They were attended to in the Irwin hospital as out-patients. There was no loss of life.

There was no difficulty in the water supply for fire fighting. The fire was brought under control by about 20.55 hours and completely extinguished by 21.20 hours.

The officers of the Police Station Daryaganj had also noticed thick smoke coming out of the building area by about 18.25 hours. A constable was at once sent to the spot, and on receiving his report the Superintendent of Police Central, Deputy Superintendent of Police Daryaganj and all available police force in the police station rushed to the spot and cordoned off the building.

[Shri L. N. Mishra]

The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained definitely. A case under Section 436 I. P. C. has been registered investigation is progressing. The Crime Inspection Team along with photographers have inspected the site. The Superintending Engineer and the Executive Engineer of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking have inspected the building and its electric installations. The Inspector of Explosives from Agra has also carried out a preliminary investigation.

The full extent of loss is still to be assessed. The damage is mostly in third and fourth floors; it was largely confined to wooden partition, furniture, racks containing stationery and files. The policy holders records were in another building and are not affected. The building is fully insured, but not the furniture.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to a news item that some of the employees of the LIC, of this particular Division, were the root cause for the outbreak of fire in this building? If so, is Government prepared to hold an enquiry, as demanded by the employees' association.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** I have seen certain news items. At this stage, it is difficult to say anything either way until the investigations are completed.

**श्री बागड़ी (हिसार):** क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जिस दफ्तर में आग लगी है उस दफ्तर में वित्त मंत्री महोदय या किसी एक सेठ का ऐसा रिकार्ड या जिस की कि नकल कहीं नहीं थी और वह इस दफ्तर में ही रखा था, तो वह किस किस का रखा था और क्या क्या रखा था ?

**श्री ल० न० मिश्र:** मुझ इस बात की कोई सूचना नहीं है।

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the press statement given by the General Secretary of the Northern Zone Life Insurance Employees' Association asking for a thorough probe into this matter; if so, what steps have been taken?

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** I have seen this news. As regards the steps, we are having a full investigation and on receipt of the report we can say anything definite.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** My question has not been answered. There was a question asked by Shri Venkatasubbaiah that the employees were responsible for it. I want to know whether the Association itself has demanded a thorough probe into it.

**Mr. Speaker:** He says that he has seen this news.

**श्री हुता चंद कछराव (देवास):** क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि एल० आई० सी० के दफ्तर में यह दूसरी बार आग लगी है? मंत्री जी ने बतलाया है कि इस की जांच की जायेगी तो उस की जांच रिपोर्ट कब तक मिल जायेगी और उस के पीछे किसी का हाथ है क्या ऐसा भी सरकार को कुछ मालूम पड़ा है?

**श्री ल० न० मिश्र:** यह बात सही है एल० आई० सी० में यह दूसरी आग है। अगस्त के महीने में पालियामेंट स्ट्रीट वाले दफ्तर में आग लगी थी और आसफअली रोड वाली आग यह दूसरी आग है। इस के पीछे किन लोगों का हाथ है या नहीं है यह अभी कहना युक्तिकल है।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछराव:** कब तक जांच रिपोर्ट मिल जायेगी?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** अभी तहकीकात चल रही है।

**श्री यु० वि० चौधरी (मन्दागढ़) :** जैसा कि सरकार ने अभी माना कि इस बिल्डिंग के अन्दर इस स्थान पर वह दूसरी आग है तो क्या सरकार चार, पांच दिन के बाद अपने आफिसर्स से रिपोर्ट लेने के बाद इस स्थिति के अन्दर है कि वह यह बतला सके कि यह जो आग लगी है उस का कोई सामान्य कारण क्या था ? कोई ऐसा कारण जो बहुत लम्बी चौड़ी इन्क्वायरी में तो आने वाला नहीं है कि उस के अन्दर सैवोटैज है, लेकिन कोई सामान्य कारण जैसे कि बिजली की फिटिंग में कोई कमी है या और कोई इसी तरह का कारण आग लगने का है, इस चार, पांच दिन में आप के इंस्पेक्टरों और आप के स्टाफ के नोटिस में आया होगा और वह उन्होंने आप को बतलाया होगा वह कारण तो क्या आप उसे बतला सकते हैं ?

**श्री ल० ना० मिश्र :** इस बिल्डिंग में दो आग नहीं लगी हैं। पहली वह तो एल० आई० सी० के पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट वाले दफ्तर में लगी थी....

**श्री यु० वि० चौधरी :** जी हां, वह दूसरी जगह लगी थी लेकिन एल० आई० सी० के दफ्तर में तब भी लगी थी।

**श्री ल० ना० मिश्र :** पार्लियामेंट स्ट्रीट और आसफ़ अली रोड का बहुत दूर का फासला है। जहां तक आग के कारणों का सवाल है अभी सरकार की तरफ से कोई बात नहीं कही जा सकती है हालांकि तरह तरह की बातें आग के सम्बन्ध में कही जा रही हैं।

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur) :** May I know whether at any time there was a complaint or representation to the Government that there was reason to suspect foul play; if so,

what was the nature of this complaint and, secondly, what steps have been taken to reward the wonderful work done by the firemen for rescue operations?

**Shri L. N. Mishra :** I require notice. I am not aware of this complaint.

**श्री बागड़ी अध्यक्ष महोदय,** मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। जो भी सवाल किये गये उन के बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने जवाब दे दिया कि उन्हें पता नहीं है ? अगर ऐसी बात है तो इस कौलिंग अटेंशन नोटिस लेने की मंशा ही क्या है ?

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** उन्होंने जवाब दे तो दिया कि जो यह वाक्या हुआ उस की तहकीकात हो रही है। अब तहकीकात की रिपोर्ट मिलने से पहले ही अगर मंत्री महोदय कह दें कि उस का कारण यह है तो फिर तहकीकात किस वास्ते कराई जानी है ?

**श्री बागड़ी :** अब जैसे कि मैंने रेकार्ड के बारे में पूछा कि वहां पर किस किस के रेकार्ड थे और क्या क्या थे तो इस का भी जवाब नहीं दिया गया और कह दिया गया कि इसका पता नहीं है....

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** अब इस मोके पर कोई सवाल हो नहीं सकता वह तो तहकीकात के बाद ही कुछ कहा जा सकता है। इस वक्त क्या कहा जा सकता है ?

**Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana) :** I want to ask whether in the light of basic postulates of what is called socialist legality which regards all wilful damage to public property as at par with man-slaughter, do our Government propose to prescribe effectively deterrent penalties for such crimes?

**Shri L. N. Mishra :** This is only a suggestion for action.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) :** क्या सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि बिजली

[श्री यशपाल सिंह]

की फिटिंग का सामान आजकल बाजार इतना चीप क्वालिटी का आता है कि हर वक्त आग लग जाने का खतरा बना रहता है; तो सरकार ने क्या बिजली के सामान की फिटिंग का कोई एक स्टैंडर्ड कायम किया है या किसी खास कम्पनी या ठेकेदार द्वारा यह फिटिंग कराने की उस ने व्यवस्था की है?

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : य तो घर बनाने वाले जानें। हर लोग अपनी अपनी पसन्द की चीजे लगाते हैं बाकी अच्छी चीजें लगानी चाहिएं यह कहने के अलावा और मैं क्या कर सकता हूं?

श्री यशपाल सिंह : आखिर यह सरकारी दफ्तर है तो क्या सरकार ने इस के लिए कोई एक स्टैंडर्ड कायम किया है?

श्री नवल प्रभाकर (दिल्ली—करोलबाग) : यह जांच का काम कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा? जांच के लिए क्या कोई समिति बनाई गई है, यदि हां, तो उस में कौन कौन व्यक्ति हैं?

श्री ल० ना० मिश्र : कोई समिति नहीं बनाई गई है बल्कि अफसरान लोग यह जांच कर रहे हैं और उनका जांच कार्य जल्दी पूरा हो जायेगा।

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): In view of the fact that there are very strong suspicions in the City that this fire might be the handiwork of some saboteurs, may I know whether Government proposes to institute any judicial enquiry in the place of a departmental enquiry or police enquiry which the Government are visualising now?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Not at the moment.

श्री हेडा (निजामाबाद) : यह जो तह-क्रीकात हो रही है, क्या उस में इस दृष्टिकोण को भी बिचार में रखा गया है, जो कि देश में

एक मजबूत होता जा रहा है, कि ये जो अनरल स्ट्राइक्स या अनेक प्रकार के "बन्द" बकैर रह के आन्दोलन हो रहे हैं, उन में वे लोग अपनी ताकत को परख रहे हैं कि क्या वे किसी भी समय देश के सारे काम को ठप्प कर पायेंगे या नहीं?

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): This ought to be expunged. It is almost a slander against the entire class of employees.

Mr. Speaker: I am glad that Mr. Nath Pai is for expunction.

Shri Nath Pai: It is slanderous.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): In view of the fact that Delhi has become a kind of all in centre for fires, explosions and murders, will the Government appoint some committee to go into the overall question including this question?

Shri L. N. Mishra: As regards the first part of the question it is a general statement which I do not accept. As regards the second part of it, my answer is 'No'.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta South West): Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the report that the reason for the fire spreading very rapidly from the ground floor to the third and fourth floors was because of the way the air-conditioning channels had been constructed in the buildings and, if so, will this investigation cover this question in the designing of buildings so that other buildings may be spared of this kind of trouble?

Shri L. N. Mishra: As a matter of fact, our report is that it started from the third or fourth floor.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): The Minister is probably aware that there are two sides of the matter when this type of fire occurs. There are the

people who are in-charge of the buildings and who have neglected their duties. Those persons are also responsible for the occurrence of fire. I want to know whether they take serious action against those who neglected their duties and also whether the Government has got effective fire fighting measures against fires for public sector buildings which cost over Rs. 3 crores.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** So far as the fire fighting measures are concerned, they have done a wonderful job and they have done very well. So far as the question of apportioning of responsibilities is concerned, we are awaiting the report and the needful will be done.

**Mr. Speaker:** Papers to be laid.

12.22 hrs.

#### ALLEGED ILL-TREATMENT OF A MEMBER

**Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur):** Mr. Speaker, Sir—I did not want to raise it since you directed me not to raise it—may I at least make one request that the Minister may make a statement regarding the ill-treatment of Mr. Priya Gupta before the House rises? I was awaiting some information since last week. You said I should not raise it ...

**Mr. Speaker:** Therefore, he has raised it.

**Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati):** We are getting telegrams; we are getting telephone calls.

**Mr. Speaker:** I told Mr. Nath Pai that he should not raise it and, therefore, he has raised it.

**Shri Nath Pai:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is it then? I put it to him, What does it amount to? He

has always claimed that he has co-operated with me.

**Shri Nath Pai:** I try my very best. Sometimes I may not be successful; sometimes I may be failing. . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** Sometimes he is too rebellious in that respect, I hope he will be more cooperative in future. I am taking those steps that he wants me to take.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Before the House rises in this session.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Home Ministry's representative is here.

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra):** About what?

**Mr. Speaker:** There was a complaint that Mr. Priya Gupta was ill-treated inside the jail.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Outside also.

**Mr. Speaker:** There was a complaint that he had been ill-treated—I thought probably inside the jail—inside the jail and now outside also. Wherever he was, the Member of Parliament was ill-treated. I had asked the Home Ministry to find out the facts and give them here. The answer that I received was that the Home Ministry was getting in touch with the State and that as soon as the information is received, that will be given here. I want to know whether they have received any information and if they have not received it, they should try to get it telegraphically before we close here.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** I have received some information from the District Magistrate, Purnea. I may read it out.

It reads thus:

"Shri Priya Gupta. . .

**Mr. Speaker:** That might be sent to me first, and then I shall see whether that has to be read out in the House.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** This shows that Government had the information, but they did not want to give it.

**Mr. Speaker:** I had been informed that they would get the information within a week, and I had been waiting because the week had not expired. I had requested Shri Nath Pai also to wait, because they had wanted time for one week, and, therefore, I had to wait till they got the information. They have not yet informed me whether they have got the information. If they have got it, they might send it on to me, and then I shall fix some time for it.

**Shri Nath Pai:** I am very satisfied with your guidance and ruling and help in this matter in defending the rights of fellow-Members. Since I have appeared to be slightly recalcitrant and non-co-operative, may I submit that had it not been for my effort, it would not have come out that Government were in possession of the information?

**An Hon. Member:** Actually, it is Government which is non-co-operating.

12.26 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### REPORT OF WOOLLEN HOSIERY YARN DISTRIBUTION ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Mannubhai Shah):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Report of the Woollen Hosiery Yarn Distribution Enquiry Committee. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3262/64].

##### UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (EXEMPTION FROM CONSULTATION) AMENDMENT REGULATIONS

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Union Public Service Commission (Exemption from Consultation) Amendment Regulations, 1964, published in Notification No. GSR, 679 dated the 24th April, 1964, under clause (5) of article 320 of the Constitution, together with an explanatory note. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3263/64].

##### STATEMENT GIVING INFORMATION ON POINTS ARISING OUT OF ANSWERS GIVEN ON S.Q. No. 324 RE: EXPORT OF SUGAR TO U.S.A.

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri D. R. Chavan):** I beg to lay on the Table a statement giving information on points arising out of the answers given on the 22nd September, 1964, to supplementaries on Starred Question No. 324 regarding export of sugar to USA.

##### STATEMENT

1. Quantity of sugar exported during August, 1964. 10,553 tonnes
2. Value of the quantity exported in August, 1964 (F.O.B. realisation). Rs. 52 lakhs (Estimated)
3. Quantity proposed to be exported during 1965. 3 lakh tonnes

4. Quantity reserved for Co-operative Societies out of the quantity to be exported during 1965. No such reservation is made. Quantities of raw sugar supplied by Cooperatives for export during 1963 and 1964 were as under :—

Year	Total Quantity of raw sugar procured for export (Lakh Tonnes).	Quantity of raw sugar supplied by Co-operative factories out of quantities shown in column (1) (Lakh Tonnes)
	(1)	(2)
1963	2.52	0.77
1964	2.24	0.98

12.27 hrs.

#### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

##### MINUTES OF EIGHTH SITTING

**Shri Siddananjappa (Hassan):** I beg to lay on the Table the Minutes of the Eighth Sitting of the Committee on Government Assurances held during the current session.

12.27½ hrs.

#### CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO S.Q. NO. 182 re: TRANSPORT CO-OPERATIVES

**The Minister of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur):** In a supplementary question arising out of the reply given to the Starred Question mentioned above, Shri Buta Singh wanted to know whether Government proposed to set up separate financial Corporations to assist the transport cooperatives. I had stated in reply that one of the recommendations of the Study Group on Transport Cooperatives was that the State Governments should set up such Corporations, and funds could be withdrawn from the State Governments or the State Bank of India. The actual recommendation of the Group regarding this is that the financing agencies

for transport cooperatives would normally be the State and District Co-operative Banks and State Financial Corporations which should, in their turn, be able to secure the necessary funds from the State Governments or the State Bank of India, on State Government guarantee

12.28 hrs.

#### DIRECT TAXES (AMENDMENT) BILL—contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri T. T. Krishnamachari on the 24th September, 1964, namely:—

“That the Bill further to amend certain laws relating to direct taxes, be taken into consideration.”

Shri S. M. Banerjee might now continue his speech.

**An Hon. Member:** How much time has been allotted for this Bill?

**Mr. Speaker:** The time fixed is 4 hours.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** I feel that certain provisions of this Bill are welcome provisions, but before I proceed to make my observations on the various clauses of the Bill, I must say that the income-tax arrears or the arrears of gift tax, wealth tax etc. have not been reduced.

When we are discussing this Bill and considering the measures by which relief could be given to the assessee so that he may pay the arrears, what is the picture that we have before us regarding the arrears of these taxes? The gross arrears of income-tax as on 31st March, 1964 amounted to Rs. 290 crores, and the effective arrears of income-tax on the same day amounted to Rs. 170.8 crores. The Finance Minister, according to the *Hindustan Times* dated the 7th April, 1964, is reported to have said at a meeting of the parliamentary consultative committee that the total gross arrears of income-tax amounted to Rs. 292.16

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

crores, out of which an amount of Rs. 123 crores had constituted arrears for three years and more. The figures are Rs. 30 crores for two years, Rs. 48 crores for a year and Rs. 57 crores current arrears, 1963-64. Thus the total effective arrears amounted to Rs. 193 crores, Rs. 71 crores outstanding for three years and more, Rs. 22 crores for two years, Rs. 42 crores for a year and Rs. 57 crores current arrears. Arrears of wealth tax are estimated at Rs. 6.66 crores, estate duty Rs. 4.36 crores, gift tax Rs. 81.5 lakhs and expenditure tax Rs. 43.6 lakhs.

These are figures according to official sources. I feel that no effective steps have been taken to recover arrears of income-tax. I know that in 1957, when I was first elected to this House, I raised a question about the arrears of such taxes in the city of Kanpur only. The figures were revealing when I came to know that in Kanpur alone the arrears of income-tax, gift tax and wealth tax were to the tune of Rs. 4.98 crores.

**An Hon. Member:** What is Shri Ram Ratan Gupta's share in it?

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I do not know. Shri Ram Ratan Gupta is one of those who have been exposed. But there are other Guptas and Singhanias in Kanpur. After raising the question in this House and getting an assurance from the Finance Ministry, this amount was reduced to Rs. 3.25 crores. Even today I know that in Kanpur alone this amount is nearly Rs. 3 crores.

As regards other commercial taxes also, the question was raised in the State Assembly about sales tax. The arrears in Kanpur alone were of the order of Rs. 64 lakhs. We are not discussing sales tax now; we are discussing direct taxes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what effective steps are being taken to realise these arrears.

While speaking on the Finance Bill on 21st April 1964, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari observed:

"Evasion is very wide. That is conceded. In fact, in the last six months that I have been in charge of this Ministry, I have found that our estimates of evasion have been somewhat of an under-estimate. Evasion is much greater. In what we call the sample tests that we are making in particular streets, we find the number of people who have evaded are not small people but sometimes big people also".

The hon. Minister says 'sometimes', but I know it is all times that the big people evade. The policy of the income-tax department—I have nothing against any particular officer; I do not impute any motive; I have the greatest regard for the chairman of the Board who is a person of unquestionable integrity—the policy of the income-tax department is: be kind and polite to the big people and harsh to those who belong to the lower category. When income-tax arrears are due from an ordinary shopkeeper, he is prosecuted, persecuted and humiliated. But what happens in the case of those big people who are responsible for the total income-tax arrears, non-effective arrears of Rs. 292 crores? Cases are pending in courts of law. While announcing his tax proposals in the budget for this year, the hon. Minister said:

"As the House is aware there is a general feeling that the Government is losing a fair share of revenue due to evasion and avoidance. This has been attributed in the past to the prevailing high rates of taxes. But with the reduction in the tax rates now proposed, I hope we shall hear less of this. The proposed slight reduction of tax has been mainly in respect of incomes over Rs. 15,000".

Now, what was the reduction? I know my hon. friend, Shri Morarka, who is not present...

**An Hon. Member:** He is present.

**Shri Bade (Khargone):** Is Shri Tyagi the would-be Finance Minister?

**Mr. Speaker:** He headed the Committee on direct taxes administration.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** A feeling was given to the country that the hon. Finance Minister by his tax proposals had spread the low income group people. But what are the facts? People who are within the income group of Rs. 5,000 pay less—I agree. What are the items? Tax Rs. 92, CDS Rs. 149, total Rs. 241. Under this, they would pay only Rs. 84 as tax. So there is a reduction of Rs. 8. But what happened further on? A person getting Rs. 10,000 per year who was paying Rs. 680 as tax and Rs. 250 CDS, that is in all Rs. 930, now pays Rs. 709. The variation in tax over 1963-64 is plus 29. A person getting an annual income of Rs. 15,000 now pays Rs. 40 more.

Who gets the concession? The entire tax proposal was that those people getting Rs. 20,000 and above upto Rs. 3 lakh should get concession to the tune of Rs. 33,649. This is how the tax proposal has affected the common man. In this particular Bill another concession is being given to those who want to contribute to the Nehru Memorial Fund. Why not a concession be given increasing the exemption limit for income-tax from Rs. 3,200 to at least Rs. 6,000? I say this because the poor middle class, whose backbone has completely been broken with these high prices, should be helped in this way if they cannot be helped in any other way. This was the unanimous request made in this House that the slab should be raised to Rs. 7,500. Some said it should be at least Rs. 6,000, that is upto those who are getting Rs. 500 per month or

Rs. 6,000 a year. They should not be taxed at this hour when Government have miserably failed to hold the price line and are unable to check the price line because of the policy they are pursuing.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta (Alwar):** Will we be included under that?

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Yes.

My submission is that some effective steps should be taken to realise all income-tax arrears.

As regards the proposed clause 13A, as follows:—

“any special allowance specifically granted to an assessee by his employer to meet expenditure actually incurred on payment of rent (by whatever name called) in respect of residential accommodation occupied by the assessee, to such extent (not exceeding three hundred rupees per month) as may be prescribed having regard to the area or place in such accommodation is situate and other relevant consideration”.

I welcome this concession proposed to be given to those employees who are serving in commercial firms. But I think the main purpose of the Bill is contained in the amendment to section 88, as follows:

“in sub-section (1) after clause (i), the following clause shall be inserted, namely:—“(ia) as donations to the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund referred to in the Deed of Declaration of Trust adopted by the National Committee at its meeting held on the 17th day of August 1964”.

This is something extraordinary. It was never done in the case of the Gandhij Memorial Fund or in any other fund. It was done to some extent in the case of the National Defence Fund. I can agree.

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Tyagi):** It was done in the case of the Gandhi Memorial Fund.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Was the Act amended? No. I have got both the principal Act and the amended Act. It was not done. It was done in the case of the National Defence Fund I agree; but for that, it was never done in the history of our taxation or in the history of our Finance Ministry.

**Shri Tyagi:** In the case of the National Defence Fund and the Gandhi Memorial Fund, the same treatment was given.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Unfortunately, from Finance you went to Defence, then you became defenceless, again you are rehabilitated. Naturally, you have forgotten these things of the Finance Ministry, I am sorry. I have got the principal Act.

**Shri Tyagi:** Does my hon. friend want rehabilitation?

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** You rehabilitate me after discharging me? Both of us have been rehabilitated.

**Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara):** He has not forgotten what you have done to the Kanpur factory.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** What is the position today? Supposing I have earned Rs. 5 lakhs, 10 per cent of it I can pay to any charitable institution or National Defence Fund or Gandhi Memorial Fund, or any fund to which I am allowed to contribute; that is what we called allowable expenditure. That is, I shall not be taxed on Rs. 50,000, but if I want to pay Rs. 2 lakhs, then, naturally, I shall be taxed on the balance Rs. 1,50,000. The implication of the present clause is explained by the hon. Finance Minister thus in his Notes of Clauses:

"Clause 5 seeks to amend section 88 of the Income-tax Act. The

effect of this amendment will be that the entire amount paid by an assessee during the previous year as donation to the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund referred to in the Deed of Declaration of Trust adopted by the National Committee on 17th August, 1964 will qualify for rebate of Income-tax under section 88 of the Income-tax Act without application of the monetary limit laid down in sub-section (3) of section 88 of the Income-tax Act (viz., 10 per cent of the total income of the assessee or two hundred thousand rupees, whichever is less). It has been laid down in this behalf that donations to the aforesaid fund will not be taken into account in calculating the above-mentioned monetary limit."

**Shri J. B. Kripalani (Amroha):** That means the Government is making the donation.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Exactly what is the total donation we are receiving? The hon. Prime Minister announced that the total amount is Rs. 9 lakhs. What a poor response! And out of this Rs. 9 lakhs, only one concern has paid Rs. 5 lakhs. Mr. Birla has yet to see what amendment is moved. Dalmia has yet to see what further concessions are likely to be given in the name of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. All these people are waiting patiently to see if certain concessions are given in income-tax, in Wealth Tax, in Gift Tax or any other corporate tax. If some incentive is given, they will give further donations to this Fund. This is a very sad commendatory on the democratic functioning of this Government. It will be really creating blackmarketing or profiteering or racketeering even in the Nehru Memorial Fund.

I am sorry that the name of this beloved leader of this country, who has no parallel in this country, is

being brought in the form of coins, in the form of income-tax rebate. I do not know to what extent they are going to put his name in the dust. I am sorry at this. I am an ardent follower of Nehruji, without getting a ticket from him, mind you. He has been opposing me. Still, I really follow his words as gospel. I know he has given something not only to our country, but to the world, but should we go to this extent? If we did not do it in the case of Gandhi Memorial Fund or any other fund, why should we do it here?

We have done it in the case of the National Defence Fund, because, as very correctly said by the very leaders of this House as well as leaders outside, after all, the country is greater than Nehru. And naturally, I oppose this clause.

Today there is a provision that 10 per cent will not be taxable, but what is the response? No response. So, I feel that this should not be done.

**Shri Tyagi:** The functions of this Nehru Memorial Fund will be practically the same as those of Government, except that non-official help will be obtained, and therefore my hon. friend might keep that objective also in mind.

**Shri J. B. Kripalani:** Why should not the Government directly make the contribution. Why this indirect way, I really cannot understand. If you have to steal from people's pockets, do it honourably.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** As very ably explained by Shri Tyagi and very well replied to by Acharyaji, I should say that in that case, let Government come forward—we will give them sanction—and say that they want to contribute. Nobody will object in the case of Nehruji.

What happened in the case of the National Defence Fund? Much of it 1283 (A) LSD—16.

has been misappropriated. What happened in the case of the Gandhi Memorial Fund. We have a bad history, and whenever some contribution is asked from the common man, he says:

“वा फिर काल की कोठरी में जा रहा है”

People have started telling this, because we could not give a good answer to them. I would only request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly consider the various aspects, the various suggestions given by the Tyagi Committee.

I would like to know from Shri Tyagi what has happened to the Viswantha Sastri Report. There was an income-tax investigation commission appointed under the chairmanship of Shri Viswanatha Sastri. What happened to that? I understand that simply because the Commission made scathing criticism of certain houses, including Birlas, that Commission's report was never published. It is surprising. I would like to know what has happened to that Commission's report and whether all the recommendations of the Tyagi Committee have been implemented.

I am happy that this Bill has brought two or three good items, but generally our expectations of the Finance Minister have been belied.

With these words, I would once again request them not to bring Nehruji's name in this particular thing. Let it be left to the people concerned. If Tatas want to pay Rs. 10 lakhs, or Birla wants to pay Rs. 25 or Rs. 27 lakhs, let them all pay income-tax, let them not be given incentive in the name of Nehruji. That is what I have to submit.

**Shri V. B. Gandhi** (Bombay Central South): The object of this Bill is to remove certain unintended hardships to assesses, and also to provide relief to assesses in certain cases. The Bill as it has come before us has

[Shri V. B. Gandhi]

certainly achieved the object, and hence we welcome this measure. There have been several promises made in this House by the Finance Minister during discussions on the budget, and this Bill, as we see, has also taken care to implement these promises.

This Bill has offered certain concessions and certain reliefs from hardships to a class of assessee. For instance, we have here Clause 3 which allows the exclusion from the total income of an assessee of any allowance specially granted to him by his employer to meet the expenditure incurred on payment of rent for the residential accommodation occupied by the assessee, not exceeding Rs. 300 per month. That is a very timely and a very deserving concession which has long been overdue. It is going to be of great relief to the middle class people, and particularly the Government and other employees with a fixed income are going to benefit from this concession. This need is very urgent in large cities like Bombay and Calcutta. There is one clarification which is sought by some people about this provision and it is whether the 20 per cent allowance for perquisites will be kept out of the calculation of these rent allowances. It makes one feel rather sad to hear what has just now been said by Mr. S. M. Banerjee about the provision in clause 5 in regard to Nehru Memorial Fund. This Fund is going to be used entirely for the purpose stated clearly in the Deed of Declaration of Trust. That there should be any expression of disagreement on a proposal of this kind for the memory of a man of the eminence of our late Prime Minister is, as I said, a very sad commentary on the minds of some Members from the Opposition. After all the fund is going to be used for public purposes. The purposes are stated. I do not think that anybody can have any objection to the purpose as indicated in that Deed.

I will come to two other very important clauses 10 and 18. These two clauses are going to be of great value in unearthing hidden resources, in helping the authorities to secure disclosure of assets of great value and in securing that there should be no evasion of tax. It is provided here that there shall be no registration of any document unless there is a tax clearance certificate produced before the registrar. We were a little apprehensive whether a provision of this kind would involve some kind of inconvenience. But we have now the assurance that there is going to be not much inconvenience felt because there is a provision that a certificate will be granted within a stipulated time or that the party will be informed that no certificate can be granted. That is a very good and sensible provision.

Another clause of importance is the one dealing with the provision which would require that the contractor who secures a contract for construction will inform the income-tax officer about the contract. Now, this is also one way in which concealed assets in immovable property will come to light.

There is one more clause about which I would say a few words before I close and it is about clause 2 which is about the distribution of accumulated profits in the case of companies which are acquired by the Government or other governmental corporations. Here, we agree to the principle that these accumulated profits should not be chargeable to tax as dividend but we find this concession is limited in point of period. It says it will be available for the years "attributable to the accumulation of profits of the company, relating to the period prior to three successive previous years immediately preceding the previous year". If really it is intended to be fair to the shareholders of the companies whose assets had been

taken over or acquisitioned by the Government I do not see why we should be not be generous in our approach and in our offers. After all it is not very likely that the companies would come to know of the Government's intention to acquire their assets or their companies in advance of three years and actually a company whose accounts are made up in the calender year 1964 would have to forego the benefit of this provision up to the year ending 31 December, 1960. I do not really think that this being taken is necessary. I think it would be more fair if we go the full length in our desire to be fair to the sareholders of the companies in this respect.

**Shri Prabhat Kar** (Hooghly): Sir, while moving this amending Bill, the hon. Finance Minister has stated that he had thought over many points which were raised during the discussion on the Finance Bill and after having applied his mind is now making certain changes with a view to give relief to certain section of the assesseees.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : (देवास) :  
अध्यक्ष महोदय, हाउस में कोरम नहीं है।  
केवल 17 लोग बैठ हैं।

**Mr. Speaker:** Let the Bell be rung—now there is quorum.

The bell is being rung—now there is quorum. Shri Prabhat Kar may continue.

18 hrs.

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** Sir, I was saying that the Finance Minister, after consideration, has come out with an amendment of the various tax provisions to give some sort of relief to certain sections of the assesseees. Along with that, with a view to tightening up the tax-collecting machinery so that avoidance or evasion of taxes can be checked, he has come out also with certain changes in the Income-tax Act. Now, I would say that we have found that most

of the time the sympathy is misplaced. In the present State of affairs, with a steep rise in the prices of the daily necessities of life, it is the lower rung of the salaried employees who are hard hit. The persons who draw a salary of five hundred, six hundred or even a thousand rupees, persons who cannot under any circumstances evade a single Paisa of taxation and whose taxes are deducted at the source at the time of payment of the salary, these are the persons who are hard hit.

**Shri R. S. Pandey** (Guna): Sir, on a point of order. Is it permissible for any person to occupy the Prime Minister's seat in the House?

(Shri Bibhuti Mishra was at that moment sitting in the Prime Minister's seat).

**Mr. Speaker:** He might decide it within his party.

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** Sir, these are the section of employees who today are hard hit. The relief granted....

**Mr. Speaker:** It is desirable that the Prime Minister's seat should remain vacant when he is not there; it should not ordinarily be occupied by any other person. That would be a good tradition, if it is established. I would ask Members not to do like this.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय उधर के लोग  
सभी उस जगह पर बैठने की कोशिश करते  
हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर माननीय सदस्य  
उधर होते तो वे शायद यही कोशिश करते।

**Shri Prabhat Kar:** Sir, we suggested that so far as income-tax for this rate of salary group is concerned there should be a relaxation, that instead of having the income-tax imposed on the earnings of Rs. 3,600 it should be raised to at least Rs. 7,500 and the relief should be granted to

[Shri Prabhat Kar]

this section of the employees. Because, today, as it stands, it is very difficult for them even to pay income-tax to the tune of five, ten or fifteen rupees a month.

This year, during the budget speech, no doubt the Finance Minister granted some relief by withdrawing this compulsory deposit scheme. But so far as the tax incidence is concerned it was increased. The totality of the deductions, including the compulsory deposit, has surely been reduced. By the incidence of tax is more than what was the incidence of the tax along with the compulsory deposit. The compulsory deposit was an amount which was returnable after five years, and in the case of those who had deposits of less than Rs. 150 they could get it back within a year. Now the tax incidence in the lower income group has increased.

Today we find that concession is being granted to a section of employees who are drawing house rent allowance, and the relief is given after Rs. 300. It means that a section of employees who are drawing a house rent allowance much more than Rs. 300 a month; and it will mean a section of employees whose emoluments will be roughly between Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 2,500 or more as monthly salary.

When we consider that because of exorbitant house rent, some relief should be granted so far as taxation is concerned, I would like to know why for those sections of the employees who today are forced to live in a situation by which sometimes 25 to 30 per cent of their monthly salary goes for the payment of house rent, nothing has been provided. As I was saying, the sympathy is a misplaced one. You are granting a concession to a section of the employees. No doubt they are salaried employees. I quite agree that any question of tax evasion does not arise in their case.

But you are granting a concession to a section of employees who are for better off compared to the other section of employees who are suffering and whose number is large, and there is no concession granted to them. As I said earlier, during this year's budget, although the compulsory deposit scheme has been withdrawn, the incidence of taxation has increased. What was necessary, considering the present situation, was that tax relief should have been granted to the lowest-grade salaried employees who today are groaning under the rise in prices.

Now, the tightening-up provision in clause 10 is no doubt a welcome provision. With a view to checking tax evasion, clause 10 seeks to insert a new section, section 230A, in the Income-tax Act where the registering authority will refrain from registering any document of a value which is more than Rs. 50,000 until a tax clearance certificate has been produced. And the certificate is only in respect of Income-tax but in respect of various other taxes. This is a welcome provision.

In the same way clause 18 is also a welcome provision. This refers to contracts for house building and the contractor has to submit all the details to the Income-tax Officer. As has been rightly stated, one way of evading payment of taxes is to build immovable properties, and also, almost always in the name of a third person, a benami transaction.

So these provisions are welcome. But I would like to know what efforts have been made to find out whether, with the changes made in the Income-tax or other tax structure, the incidence of tax evasion or avoidance has decreased. As was quoted by my hon. friend Shri Banerjee, the Finance Minister admits that the incidence of tax avoidance has not decreased. How

this thing can be checked, what are the positive efforts made by the Finance Ministry, how to tighten the tax-collecting machinery: these are the things in which we are much more interested today, because we learn often about the unaccounted money. We are told, and rightly so, that many of the effective measures to control the prices or to really keep our economy under proper control are being frustrated because of the huge amount of unaccounted money which is moving in the market. How has this unaccounted money come, and is it not possible for the Government to find it out and check it? It is often being said that unless that is done, it will be very difficult to have a grip over the economy of our country. The Reserve Bank with all its power has failed to do it. I do not know. There was recently some enquiry about the money lying in some banks or vaults; it was said that some money was found. I want to know why this is not done in the case of the big houses. It is a known fact that so far as money is concerned, they are in the vaults. You will find currency notes there, or you will find currency notes converted into silver or gold bars. Why have you stopped with the checking of some accounts only of the film stars? Why can't you go further? Is it not possible to open the lockers in Delhi and Bombay, places where you will be able to find out unaccounted money? Why is this not done, if you are serious about it? So far as the gearing up of the economy and controlling it is concerned, if you are serious about collecting the taxes which are due and if you are to find out the tax evasion, these steps are absolutely necessary. I do not find any positive efforts being made by the Finance Ministry to this effect.

As I have said, in this Bill there are items which we welcome. There are items to which I am not opposed but then I would say you must go further in regard to those items. When

you grant concession by way of income-tax relief to those earning up to Rs. 300, think of the millions of workers who are drawing much less. They are today finding a crisis in their own families; a situation has come about which has created a crisis among them and the stage has reached when they have almost become extinct. Why don't you think of this and grant concessions to them as far as income-tax is concerned?

Now, clause 5 seeks to amend section 88 of the Income-tax Act, and it deals with the donation to the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund. Some hon. Members have said that there should not be any controversy about this. There may not be any controversy so far as the creation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund is concerned and the purpose for which the Fund is utilised is concerned. But what does it signify? It signifies that today we have come to a stage when contributions will not be made to the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund unless you grant concessions and unless you give incentives! This is exactly the meaning of this particular clause. Though we are saying that we should not say anything about this particular aspect, because he was a national leader and not a party leader—with which I agree—the inclusion of this clause to amend the Income-tax Act means that today there will be no contribution to the Fund until and unless you give those contributors a rebate. I would put it like that.

It reminds me of a story. In a village chapel, the priest used to stand on the pulpit and give sermons, but the benches were empty. He thought that in order to draw the people some music and other things, say, a band party, could be given. So, the announcement was made that on a particular Sunday there would be music and band; the people came and after hearing the music, they went away; the benches were again empty.

[Shri Prabhat Kar]

Therefore, another announcement was made that the first item would be the sermon of the priest, when all the members would stand up, and after that, the band or music party would be allowed to play. Similarly, here is the Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Fund. Here is the purpose known to the country; the purpose for which this Fund has been created. It is going to help the building up of the various aspects of our national life. But then the meaning of this clause is, "if you want to get the concession, then, if you contribute to the Fund, you will get income-tax relief." The most important thing is that you get the relief first and then contribute! Is this the way by which you are going to get contributions to this Fund which has been created for the purpose of building up a new India? If one says that such a clause should not be put like that, there would be Members saying that there should not be any controversy about it. But I say this is a great insult to the great personality of India: for contributing to the Fund you are to give some concession so that the people may contribute to the Fund! It is an insult to the great leader of India and an insult to ourselves to include this particular clause and ask the people to contribute and get the income-tax relief.

So far as the provision in relation to the companies which will be liquidated and which will be taken over by the Government is concerned, I agree with the proposition no doubt. It is not a question of liquidation for the promoter, but for the purpose of taking over by the Government, the companies will have to be liquidated. Naturally, the promoters or the entrepreneurs should be given some amount of concession over there. There, I entirely agree with the suggestion made by the Finance Minister that it should be for the last three years' accumulated profit, because he said in his opening remarks that sometimes profits had accumulated when

the company goes into voluntary liquidation and that at the time of distribution the tax would be evaded. So, the period is limited to three years. I agree with that part of the clause.

Then, on the question of charitable institutions, I hold a very strong view. For the proportionate part, it is a tax on dividend. If it is a charitable institution, it is a known thing, which we have discussed on various occasions. We have said that the charitable institutions also will have to be enquired into and we must know what exactly is the type of charitable institution that is functioning, so that it, can get the credit of the concession which is being granted. Today, we have charitable trusts and the charitable trust is utilised for the charity which always should begin at home and for the purpose of the person who creates the trust. Considering that aspect, the concession has to be thoroughly enquired into.

Lastly, so far as the tightening up of the tax-collecting machinery is concerned, it has become very important at this particular stage, and I would like the Finance Minister to take up this issue. On the question of granting some concession on house-rent, I would again appeal to the Finance Minister to consider the case of the low-paid employees who are today suffering very much.

13.19 hrs.

(MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair)

**Shri N. Dandekar** (Gonda): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am in general agreement with the purposes and objects of the Bill. There can be no doubt that some of the concessions that have been sought to be given are due and would ease the hardships of the assessee concerned with those particular matters. I would in particular, as regards the case of the salaried earners, endorse the plea that was made by the hon. Member who just spoke before me, namely, that it is not enough to clear off the hardship

of a particular section of the salary-earners. The salary-earners today,—with the rise in prices that has taken place and the econonitant rise in the cost of living, and also the fact that in the case of the salary-earners there is no question of loss or any suspicion of loss of tax or under-assessment,—are a category of tax-payers who are probably the most severely hard-hit as a result, on the one hand, of rising taxation, both direct and indirect, and on the other hand, of the rise in prices and the rising cost of living. I do not think the tax authorities are fully aware of the extent of hardship that has been suffered by the salaried class, particularly people in the lower income brackets, namely, those earning up to something like Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 per annum. And I would very earnestly.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवायः उपाध्यक्ष  
महोदय हाउस में कोरम नहीं है।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member may resume his seat. The Bell is being rung.

There is quorum now. Shri Dandekar may continue his speech.

**Shri N. Dandekar:** Sir, I was on the subject of concessions to salary earners. I do very strongly support the suggestion that was made by the hon. Member who spoke before me, that the lower limit of total exemption from tax in respect of salary earners in particular ought to be raised very considerably. I have been myself very much in touch, both while I was in public service as well as during the years I was in service in industry, with the conditions suffered by what one may call, the 'white-collar brigade' in regard to their standard of living arising as I have said, from these two circumstances, namely increasing direct and indirect taxation on the one hand increasing cost of living on the other. I do not think it is appreciated that in the case of persons of that category there is also the further fact that the num-

ber of earning members in most salary earners' families is usually only one, rarely two, but never more than two, with the result that most of them not having either additional salary earners, and most of them not having any other sources of income, they are a category of people for whom, I think, the more we can do in terms of reliefs the better it would be. And, while I am not in the least opposed to the relief that is sought in terms of tax-free rent allowance for those who are in receipt of such allowances, my very definite feeling is that the lower bracket of salary earners, who constitute the very large mass of the middle and lower middle class, ought to be assisted in the way I have suggested.

The other reliefs do not I think call for much comment. I think they are just and proper;—for instance, relief in regard to accumulated profits of companies that are being wound up in consequence of their being acquired or being taken over by other government concerns. The only point I have in regard to that is, I wonder why the accumulated profits that are to be exempted from the definition of dividend are only those relating to periods prior to the last three successive previous years. Why those three successive previous years should be excluded from the benefit of this particular provision, I am unable to appreciate, though I am sure that when the hon. Finance Minister replies to the debate he will probably clear up that point. I would say this, if there is no clear-cut reason either of principle or of fact geared to possibilities of evasion and so on, then I would suggest that that little exception to this particular exemption ought to be removed.

There are two other provisions to which I wish to refer. One is in connection with the removal of the limit to the exemption, that is, the tax rebate in respect of contributions for approved charitably purposes. I refer to the proposed removal of the limit in the case of contributions to the Nehru

[Shri N. Dandekar]

Memorial Fund which, does call for comment. It is not that there should be no tax benefit, or rather, tax concession or relief to people who do make such contributions. But I think we are tending, of late, to make a very unfortunate singing out of the late Prime Minister concerning whom personally there can be no question, there is no one who has less than the highest possible respect for his memory, for the position that he held in the affairs of this country and the affection be enjoyed from the public. But I wonder, for instance, how I would feel if I were related to him and found that continuously things of this kind were being attempted almost to a point at which there is some kind of dedication of him. There was a debate the other day, about the proposal to have the effigy of Pandit Nehru embossed on the coins that are going to be minted hereafter. There were references to other matters also. Now this is another one that has come up, namely, that in so far as the upper limit of contributions for purposes of tax rebate are concerned the contributions of Nehru Memorial Fund would be excluded so that contribution to that fund may be made without any limit and they were still be eligible for rebate purposes. Certainly, people ought to contribute, and will be contributing to the maximum of their capacity to a fund of this kind just, as when Mahatma Gandhi died there was an excellent response to the Fund that was raised in memory of the Father of the Nation (*Interruption*). But then there was, as my hon. friend here points out, no amendment to abolish the limit in respect of contributions to that particular Fund. It is difficult on a matter like this, not to be misunderstood. At the same time, I think, we have to observe certain principles of propriety, certain principles of uniform public policy and not single out particular individuals, no matter how highly we esteem them, no matter what their contribution to the progress, and all that goes with it, of this country is. I do feel that this proposal is contrary to public policy.

I do feel it is setting up a precedent of a kind that is unfortunate. I do feel it is making discrimination of a kind that is unfortunate. I personally, for instance, have no less esteem for the late Prime Minister than I had for Mahatma Gandhi; but it seems to me that it is really unfortunate that this kind of thing should keep on cropping up in one form or another in connection with him. I do respectfully urge that I can find no over-riding reasons of public policy or propriety which justify this kind of special treatment in regard to contributions to the Memorial Fund for the commemoration of the late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Sir, I would not say more than that. I will now go on to some of the other benefits and reliefs that are sought to be given. I think they are sound.

In regard to the procedure for tightening up the machinery I would like to make just two general comments. The first is about clauses 8 and 9 which are concerned with fresh demand notices being issued in connection with advance payment of tax consequent upon later returns involving higher self-assessment and so on. I feel this continual revision of the demand for advance payment of tax resulting from this business of self-assessment, provisional assessment, regular assessment,—the whole thing is becoming rather too confusing. And I believe the additional financial returns that are involved in this, as compared with the cluttering up of work in the tax office are trifling. I do not think it is worthwhile. I believe today an over-load position has been reached in tax offices where in connection with all those multiple assessments, and in connection particularly with income-tax matter such as self-assessment, provisional assessment, regular assessment, advance payment of taxes, re-assessment, amendment of a assessment, amendment of mistake in assessment, amendment of mistakes on appeal and so on, every one of them have continual

consequences upon the demand for advance payment of tax. But every one of them has also such an appreciable effect in terms of workload in the tax offices that I think it is time one did consider and weigh this fact against the very little additional money that would be coming in,—which is merely money coming in a little in advance, because it would come in anyhow—even if these changes in advance tax demands were to cover all situations in the tax returns or in the provisional assessments and regular assessments. The situation today as I know it is that so much of the time of the tax officers is continually engaged in these matters that they can devote little time, I would almost say they have very little leisure, to the careful examination of the more difficult cases, as well as of those that involve a considerable amount of tax evasion. There are cases which could not and should not be handled in a hurry; they are cases concerning which the tax authorities need to sit back and think,—they have got to have some little time to sit back and think because it is always a continuous race between those who want to evade or avoid payment of taxes, and the officers of the revenue department bent upon the State getting its full dues. But the tax authorities do not in fact get sufficient time to deal with really important cases I believe that this sort of changes in legislation, though they do result in a little amount of money coming a little earlier than would otherwise be the case, does result merely cluttering up of the taxation machinery.

Regarding the other two provisions for tightening up assessments; which are perfectly good in themselves, my only comment is that they lay down too low a limit. In regard to prohibition of transfers of registry until the production of a tax clearance certificate, I think it is an excellent provision. Similarly, the provision requiring the contractors to report to the tax authorities the fact that they have secured contracts is again an excellent provision. But I do think

these limits of Rs. 50,000 are too low. Today, as a simple consequence of the price rise, a transaction which ten years ago would be of the order of Rs. 30,000 or 40,000 or something of that kind would today be equivalent to double that amount, if not more. Consequently, if one is to get proper benefit out of this, without harassment on the one hand and without cluttering up of the offices of taxation department on the other, I would very strongly urge that these limits of Rs. 50,000 should be raised a little higher. I would suggest a figure of Rs. 1 lakh.

The provisions about estate duty are again excellent. But I think there is some computational difficulty here. I do not want to enter into it in detail just now, but there appears to exist a good deal of computational difficulty in the proposal as to the precise extent to which rebate of estate duty has to be given in connection with properties that are sold for purposes of payment of estate duty, instead of a corresponding relief against capital gains tax. Otherwise, I think these two provisions are also good.

The general comment that I would make is, therefore, that the proposals made in this Bill are in principle sound and I commend them. There are however certain matters of detail connected with the reliefs on the one hand and the tightening up of the machinery on the other which would merit reconsideration.

**Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this Bill mainly because it fulfils the assurances given by the hon. Finance Minister to this House during the last budget session. The Bill has five purposes. One is to give some concessions, as some hon. Members have been pleased to call; secondly, to remove the unintended hardships, thirdly, to tighten up the provisions, fourthly, to withdraw some of the unintended concessions and; lastly, to deal with some procedural matters.

[Shri Morarka]

This Bill has been criticised on the ground that it seeks to give some concessions. I have gone through it carefully and I find that there are only two concessions, if you call them concessions, which are sought to be given. One is, house rent allowance up to Rs. 300 per month is sought to be exempt for the salaried classes. Another concession is to charitable institutions on the dividend income to the extent of proportionate share of the super-tax. The hon. Finance Minister had agreed to both these things at the time of the discussion of the budget. As he could not make any amendments on the spot, he assured the House that he would come to the House with these amendments in due course. I am glad that in fulfilment of this promise he is now coming with these proposals.

At that time it was pointed out to the hon. Finance Minister some of the provisions which are really harsh. For example, if a property was liable to estate duty as well as capital gains tax, if the total incidence of taxation was becoming more than 100 per cent, that was really an unintended hardship. At that time, the Finance Minister assured the House that he would examine the case and, if necessary, bring an amendment to the Act. Similarly, under the gift tax Act, a nominal gift costing Rs. 5,000, while it is exempted from the wealth tax Act is coming within the purview of the expenditure tax Act. That is another hardship which is sought to be removed by this Bill.

The third amendment relates to companies going into liquidation. If the company goes into liquidation with the sole or main object of evading tax in one way or the other, the distribution of the accumulated profits as dividend is subject to taxation. That is understandable. But if as a result of Government's action the assets of the company are taken away and the company is obliged to go into liquidation, if the assets are distribut-

ed to the shareholders as dividend, because there is no other alternative it should not be made subject to heavy taxation. So, we are obliged to the Finance Minister for bringing these amendments.

The hon. Member who preceded me posed the question why this period of three years should be there. At the time of moving the Bill for consideration the Finance Minister has explained it. Unfortunately, Shri Dandekar was not present in the House at that time. According to the Finance Minister, it is quite possible that sometimes these negotiations about taking over by the State takes some time during which the information leaks out and when this information leaks out some of the companies might distribute all the accumulated profits just with a view to evade this tax. Therefore he prescribed this period of three years. All the profits accumulated during these three years would not be exempt from that tax but the profits accumulated prior to these three years would be exempt. So, I think that it is not only rational but equitable and there is sufficient reason behind this.

There are two provisions to tighten up the provisions of the Income-tax Act. One is the registration of certain documents. It is now sought that no document transferring the property or limiting or extinguishing the proprietary title in those properties will be registered by the registering authority under the Indian Registration Act unless a certificate of clearance is obtained from the tax authorities. For that a limit of Rs. 50,000/- is prescribed. That means that property below the value of Rs. 50,000/-.

श्री हुकम चन्द कश्यप : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय  
कोरम पूरा नहीं है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung. Now there is quorum. It was the second time that the quorum bell was rung within half an

hour. I request hon. Members to maintain the quorum. Shri Morarka might continue his speech.

**Shri Morarka:** I was saying that now if this property is below the value of Rs. 50,000/-, there would be no registration and at the time of registration no certificate from the Income-tax Officer would be required. The hon. Member, Shri Dandekar, said that this limit of Rs. 50,000/- is too low. I see an amendment in the name of Shri Bade and others which seeks to increase this limit to Rs. 1,00,000/-. But I shall draw the attention of hon. Members, particularly Shri Dandekar, that in another Act, called the Payment of Tax (Transfer of Property) Act, 1949 where a similar provision existed, there was no limit at all. That means that the registration of any property, irrespective of its value, required such a clearance from the tax authorities. Now the Government says that instead of prescribing no limit at all, they prescribe the limit of Rs. 50,000/-. So, while to Shri Dandekar this limit of Rs. 50,000/- may appear to be on the lower side, under the previous Act which was passed in 1949, namely, the Payment of Tax (Transfer of Property) Act, no limit was prescribed.

But in my view this limit of Rs. 50,000/- is a little on the high side. Therefore I have suggested an amendment, being amendment No. 30 on the list, seeking to reduce this limit to Rs. 10,000/-. When I come to the amendment, I will give my reasons in detail; but here I may say that since the main purpose of this is to plug possible loopholes for tax evasion and to bring those, who have got unaccounted money and who are not assesseees at all, to the Income-tax Department, I think, this limit of Rs. 50,000/- is on the high side because, as you know, it is not unlikely that properties are deliberately undervalued and a large part of the consideration or the value of the property is given in cash outside the account books. If that is so then this limit of

Rs. 50,000/- would not serve the purpose which you have in view.

Besides, it is not a tax measure at all; it is only a regulatory thing. It may be that it may involve a little more work for the Income-tax Department in issuing a certificate, but, I think, the Government must be prepared for that and they must undertake that little more quantity of work if they really want to bring to book those people who through all sorts of transfer of properties without becoming assesseees at all. I, therefore, suggest that this limit of Rs. 50,000/- should be reduced to Rs. 10,000/-. I repeat that it is not a tax measure. You do not charge any duty or tax. It is only a regulatory thing. For that purpose there will be no difficulty at all; on the other hand, it would require people transferring any property above the value of Rs. 10,000/- to obtain a tax clearance certificate from these authorities. When I say this thing, I also know that the agricultural property is completely exempt from this provision. Therefore I think that there is ample justification for reducing this limit from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 10,000/-.

I said that another object of the Bill is to remove the unintended concession also. That has been done in the case of playwrights, artistes, actors etc. Under the Income-tax Act, as it exists, they can deposit up to 25 per cent of their total income by way of annuity deposits, but after this Bill is passed they would be able to deposit only 25 per cent of the professional income and not the entire income. I think that it was never the intention of Government ever in the beginning to give them this facility for the entire income. The intention was only to give this concession in respect of their professional income. To that extent it removes the unintended concession which has been given to these people.

[Shri Morarka]

Other things which are mentioned in the Bill are mostly procedural and they are intended to tighten up or facilitate the proper administration of the Income-tax Act. No doubt, they would involve more work and would make the Act more cumbersome as Shri Dandekar pointed out; but still in the interest of equity and justice they are necessary.

The hon. Finance Minister had given some more assurances at that time. Of course, he has brought this Bill implementing some of them, but some are still left out. I am sure, he must have implemented them by means of departmental instructions or rules which were framed. The most important assurance which the hon. Finance Minister had given was that if the amount of direct taxes collection came to Rs. 1,000 crores annually, he would substantially reduce the rates of direct taxes on earned as well as unearned incomes. We live in that hope and we do feel that sooner or later that expectation of the hon. Finance Minister would be fulfilled and then it would be possible for him to reduce the rates of the direct taxes substantially.

In conclusion, I only want to say that there are many amendments standing in my name and in the name of my hon. friend Shri Ravindra Varma. Most of these amendments are of drafting nature and of clarificatory nature. Only two of them, namely, amendments No. 13 and 16, are of substantial nature. As I have already said, amendment No. 13 proposes to reduce the limit from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 10,000. So far as amendment No. 16 is concerned, it provides the right of an appeal to the person to whom a certificate is refused by the Income-Tax Officer about registering his property. In the registration of property concerned, there are two parties, the purchaser and the seller

or the person who transfers the property and the person in whose favour the transfer is made, that is, transferee. It is quite conceivable that in some cases, after the transaction is completed, the transferer or the person who wants to transfer the property may himself change his mind. Therefore, with the connivance of the I.T.O. he may not like to get the property transferred. In such cases, it should be open to the transferee, that is, a person in whose favour the transfer was to be made, to approach in appeal to the Commissioner for the certificate. The rights which are there can only be exercised by one person, namely, the assessee. Here there are two persons involved, the transferer and the transferee. I request the hon. Finance Minister to have this provision of appeal inserted. I may say that this is not a new provision. I again refer to the Act of 1949 where a similar provision existed and in that provision this right of appeal was specifically and clearly given to the persons so affected, not only to the assessee but to the persons affected by that transaction or who claimed to be affected by that transaction. I hope the hon. Finance Minister will consider my request and if it is possible for him he would accept them.

Shri Heda (Nizamabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as Mr. Morarka has stated, the Finance Minister has come forward with a Bill to fulfil some of the assurances that were given during the Budget session. The Bill is not drafted with the object of tightening the measures or improving the present machinery of collection of taxes. Otherwise, he would have found out certain other measures too. Therefore, I will touch only two or three points.

Firstly, it is very good that the Finance Minister has come forward to give concession to the salaried employees so far as the house rent is concerned. But in my opinion the measure is a little half-hearted be-

cause the upper limit that is there is only Rs. 300. I had come across a very piquant case of a very highly respected organisation, respected by the country and which is formed under the Constitution. It so happened that when the head of that organisation retired and another gentleman was appointed, the newly appointed gentleman refused to go into the house allotted for the head of the organisation.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath** (Hoshangabad): Why not name the organisation, not the person?

**Shri Heda:** That organisation is held in the highest respect.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** That is why it should be mentioned.

**Shri Heda:** As highly respected as this Parliament.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Why fight shy of naming it?

**Shri Heda:** When the head of that organisation retired, the new gentleman who was appointed as the head of that organisation did not go to the house which is meant for the head of the organisation. The reason he gave was that he will have to pay a higher income-tax if he occupies a bigger house which is not more useful for him. He said that the house that he had been occupying was as good and as adequate for his purposes as the other one. So, this is a reason that is felt by the salaried employees and this is the only class from which the taxes can be collected, I may say, hundred per cent correctly. The Finance Minister was good enough to mention 10 per cent and 20 per cent all that. I thought that he would fix some percentage and its ratio to the salary itself and not put a big proviso of the upper limit of Rs. 300.

Then, I come to the point which was taken up by two or three hon. Members about the *benamidars*. The provision seems to be good. But I do not think that it will bring in any fruits

or it will serve any purpose because when somebody constructs a house—I am talking of these *benamidars*—it is more than possible that there will not be a single contractor for the construction of the entire house. It is just possible that there may be no contractor as such. In these days, generally what happens is that the labour contract is given to somebody. The main items are directly purchased and different items like electrical fittings or interior decorations are given to different contractors.

**Shri Bade:** There will be more evasion because of sub-contracts.

**Shri Heda:** Therefore, I do not think this limit of Rs. 50,000 will serve any purpose and, in fact, the limit proposed by Shri Morarka of Rs. 10,000 will also not go very far because if it is the spirit of evasion, they will find different ways. This is not a foolproof measure to stop it. However, it is good as far it goes.

Now, I will come to the companies which have to go into liquidation either because the Government have taken them over or they voluntarily lie to go into liquidation to avoid taxes. When you think of companies as such, you come to a different conclusion. But when you think of share-holders, you might come to different conclusions. The prices of shares vary according to the accumulated profits of the company and, therefore, to think that at the time of liquidation every share-holder was a share-holder from the very beginning of the floatation of the company would not be correct and that is why the Finance Minister has given a sort of exemption of three years, that is, the last three years accumulated profits will alone be taxed. So the point is that the share-holders are not, excepting in rare cases, from the very beginning of the floatation of the company. Generally, they purchase shares in between and from that angle they have not purchased shares at the face value but they have purchased

[Shri Heda]

shares at the enhanced value, at the market value. Therefore, I think this measure though doing some justice may not be doing full justice to them.

With these words, I support the Bill.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur):** Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the most of the provisions of this Bill are commendable and if I offer some criticism to some of them, it is not because I do not commend the general amendments that are being suggested but because I feel that in some cases an opportunity has not been taken to further amend the Bill to ameliorate the conditions of the assessee which are apparent.

14 hrs.

The first thing that strikes me is this. In these days when the value of the rupee has fallen so low that it is not more valuable than 1-1/2 annas of 1938, it is high time that the exemption limit for income-tax purposes which is now Rs. 3600 ought to have been raised to at least Rs. 4800. In my opinion, the time has come now when we must realise and evaluate things in their proper perspective and not stick to mere forms or be so conservative as not to realise that things have changed and the shape of things indicate clearly that in the present-day life the purchasing power of even Rs. 400 has become negligible and it is not even equal to that of Rs. 100 in other pre-war days I would, therefore, suggest that early steps ought to be taken in this direction. This was the proper opportunity to have done that. In any case, I hope the Finance Minister will take note of it and make use of this suggestion when the Finance Bill comes up next before the House.

The other thing which ought to have received the attention of the Finance Minister is this. When this question of direct taxes is being dealt with, something must have been done so as to make the appeals before the appellate commissioner appeals on

matters of fact as well and not merely routine matters, matters in which the income-tax officer merely sits down and tries to hear the complaint that is made against him and then makes a note of the word used by the assessee or his legal representative and then takes the next opportunity to pounce upon him as hard as he could if the language used by the assessee is not proper according to his own wish and pleasure. It is high time that some amendment ought to have been made of this nature whereby the first appeal, so to say, would be heard by a proper person and be heard on facts and also law. Generally, it so happens, as I have already narrated—and I would not like to recapitulate it—that the matter of appeal before the appellate assistant commissioner is entirely a routine matter and no relief is available except perhaps to the extent of a few rupees, annas and pies. Sometimes, the assessments are so illegal and perverse that we have hopes of seeing that if the appeal is heard by a man with sound knowledge of law and discretion and knowing how the discretion should be used and how particular inferences should be drawn legally, there would be no assessment at all on the basis of the facts that are placed before him. But that never happens, and that is never dreamt of by any of the practitioners in the whole of this country. Often one thinks that it is a great thing if an illegal assessment of Rs. 10 lakhs is reduced to Rs. 5 lakhs. Even that is considered as a very big thing if it happens. But nobody would concede the position that even the Rs. 10 lakhs assessment is absolutely illegal and cannot be levied. This could be looked into only if facts could be ascertained, and ascertained positively by an officer who is not in any manner concerned with the revenue of the Government but only with the administration of the law.

Some such suggestion has already been made in our country by the Direct Taxes Enquiry Committee. The

Law Commission has also made such a recommendation on the direct taxes administration. The Law Commission recommended the abolition of the tribunal and suggested a direct appeal both on questions of fact as well as of law to the High Court on the orders of the appellate assistant commissioner. This was what the hon. Chief Justice had said very recently, more or less on the same lines. I feel that the hon. Minister should have looked into this aspect of the matter also, because this was the proper opportunity for doing so, and during this debate, we also would have been able to look into the matter properly and then come to a proper conclusion whether or not such a procedure would be more conducive to the proper administration of the Income-tax Department.

However, as far as the clauses go, as I have said, I do appreciate the amelioration that would come about as a result of what little has been sought to be done. But when I look at clause 2, I cannot refrain from offering a little criticism on that point. I do not know why the limit of three years only has been put in. A suggestion is made that when there is a liquidation, it shall not include any profits of the company prior to three successive previous years immediately preceding the previous year in which such acquisition took place. I see no reasonable indicia to distinguish between three successive years and four successive years or five successive years. If a sort of reserve back the dividends and not by paying fund has been built up by keeping dividends, and if it extends for five or six years, I see absolutely no reason why that is not brought into the picture and amelioration is offered only to the extent of the last three successive years. I would, therefore, say that this is not a very reasonable piece of legislation and the provision ought to have been seen in that light.

So far as clause 3 is concerned, I would say that it is a very good provision, and it has been very much desired by the assesseees as well as the in-

come-tax officers. It is a good provision in that sense.

Coming to clause 5, I would not like to offer any criticisms in derogation of the matter that is contained therein. I would very humbly suggest that in future we should hesitate to create a controversy about the name of our deceased Prime Minister. It should not become a matter of controversy for anybody. In that sense I say that I do not see the propriety of bringing forward such a provision just for the sake of granting income-tax relief. Those who have got the hearts to pay and the desire to make payments will not hesitate to make the payment and would not like to have a mere incentive from Government or from the Income-tax Department or from the Finance Ministry to make the contributions that they desire to make. I shall not enter into any further discussion on this point, because it is a very touchy matter with many, and I do not like that I should indulge any more in it.

Now I will draw attention to cl. 8. I am very much surprised as to why this amendment has become necessary. This is merely a sort of pinprick which will not help anybody except that it will create more work for the income tax department. After all, you have various methods of assessing escaped income, correcting an error, revising orders, reassessments, all sorts of methods by virtue of which you may not lose a paisa of your revenue if you are a little alert. So even if the advance payment has been made one way or the other, just to get a little more, just to earn a little more of interest therein or lose some interest thereon, I do not think it is necessary to have this amendment. Why this amendment has been suggested passes at least my comprehension.

I know that in these days paper work in government departments has increased tremendously, with the net result that even simple assessments of day to day affairs of people who honestly submit their returns are held up,

[Shri U. M. Trivedi]

not on purpose but because the man dealing with it does not reach that particular person. He has got piles and bundles placed one over the other and unless they keep on moving, he does not reach that person's file. The workload itself has increased tremendously. From this it should not be construed that I take a sympathetic view of the income-tax officers' ways. No. This is because I know that some of them are not honest people. Yet, man to man, I feel that the Workload is such that even with honesty and integrity income-tax officers will not be able to dispose of the work before them.

**Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur):** They are over-worked.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** They seem to do over-work.

So I feel that this additional work should not be created for them. It would have been better if this amendment had therefore, not been suggested.

In some cases, I have felt that retrospective operation even of a fiscal measure is not called for. It creates trouble for the officials, for the assesses and for the office also. In no way should such retrospective measures be encouraged. There is absolutely no reason why in September, 1964 we should make a law to take effect from April, 1964. It is a fictional law which should not be encouraged. State Governments generally take the hint from what the Centre does. They go a step further. They make laws with retrospective effect going back to 1958. One State Government has made a law very recently, in 1963, with retrospective effect from 1958. There must be some limit to making these laws effective retrospectively. I would therefore suggest that in making these laws apply retrospectively should not be encouraged. Of course, in this particular case, the Finance Minister is better informed and he may have his reasons for it, but I would persuade him not to fall into the hands of the bureaucracy in this manner, and he

should avoid bringing forward laws with retrospective operation.

**Shri Rameshwar Rao (Gadwal):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, this Bill has been generally welcomed and supported mainly because it is in consequences of the assurances given by the Finance Minister when he made his tax proposals early this year. The Bill proposes to tighten up certain loopholes in the taxation machinery and also prevent evasion.

I shall not take the time of the hon. House in going into very many details of various aspects of the Bill. But I would begin by correcting a misimpression which seems to have arisen regarding cl. 2, that the clause seeks to include the accumulated profits of only three years and not make them subject to tax. As my hon. friend from Jhunjhunu pointed out when Shri Heda was speaking, it is the other way round. It is the accumulated profits prior to three years before liquidation that will not be subject to this tax. This, he explained, was to prevent any firm or company taking undue advantage of the proposed takeover by Government.

My main intention in making observations on this Bill is to draw attention specially to cl. 10. This clause seeks to put a limit of Rs. 50,000 above which all registrations of property require a certificate from the taxation authorities to the effect that no tax is due from the person concerned. The hon. Member opposite, Shri Dandekar, said that this limit was too high while my colleague, Shri Morarka...

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** He said the limit was too low.

**Shri Rameshwar Rao:** I stand corrected. My colleague, Shri Morarka, said it was too high. I am inclined to feel that the main reason for bringing about this provision is to track down tax evasion and to plug loopholes. It is observed in large areas in this country—I do not know if there is

any area which is exempt from this practice—that most registrations are in fact being undervalued. Government is losing in two ways on this account. Of course, there is loss on stamp duty and registration charges which is a direct loss. There is also the implication that quite a large amount of money on real estate transactions is being taken as what has come to be termed either as 'black money' or 'On money'—or "unaccounted money". It is very easy for this unaccounted money to be absorbed in either real estate construction or real estate purchase and sale. I am inclined to agree with Shri Morarka that this limit should be reduced to Rs. 10,000 and I would like to support his amendment in this respect at the appropriate stage. Merely fixing a figure above which registrations cannot take place without a certificate from the tax authorities is not enough to plug this loophole. While by providing a figure of Rs. 10,000 it becomes more difficult for people to register property at ridiculously low prices, it does not avoid the possibility. I would like to urge the Finance Minister to consider whether he would not like to include an "enabling provision" whereby whenever either the taxation authority or Registrar or such government department, as may be specifically authorised, deems such registration to be at ridiculously low prices, it should have the right to take over the property by paying about 5, 10 or 15 per cent over the registration value. That alone will be an effective deterrent to this continued process of undervaluation in registration.

This, to my mind, opens out certain other possibilities too. Once Government is willing to take over such under-valued properties, I do not see why it should be restricted to only properties where registration has been low. It should also extend to properties where returns for wealth tax purposes, or estate duty or other purposes, is found to be unduly low. There also, Government should have the right to take over the property

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giving 5 or 10 per cent extra, whatever be the formula evolved, over the evaluation in the estate duty or wealth tax return concerned. If for any reason the Finance Minister feels that he cannot include such a provision now, I would urge him to consider it and bring in such an enabling provision as early as possible, and at a convenient date.

I would like to draw your kind attention to one other matter in this Bill, and that relates to Clause 19(b) wherein a provision has been made enabling Government to accept or take over property in satisfaction of the whole or any part of estate duty due. I would like to submit to the Finance Minister through you that this provision should be extended to cover all direct taxes. There is no need to limit this facility to estate duty only. It should cover all direct taxes. If any assessee would like to give over any property as payment of taxes, it should be acceptable to Government. I do not see any difficulty in this regard. I hope the Finance Minister will consider these possibilities too.

With these observations, I support the Bill.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. Before I come to the clauses of this Bill, I would request the Finance Minister to give his consideration to the assurances given on the floor of this House. One of these was about the late filing of returns and the penalty thereon. The hon. Finance Minister had assured that this provision would not be taken seriously and latitude would be allowed to the people, but so far as my knowledge goes, the assessing authorities do not care, do not seem even to know about this assurance, and they are taking the same steps, and on the basis of the provision, some people being harassed. So, I would request

[Shri Kashi Ram Gupta]

the hon. Finance Minister to see whether a directive cannot be sent to the authorities concerned, or if it has been sent, to see that they implement it. If the assurance has not reached the taxing authorities, that must be sent as soon as possible.

Dr. M. S. Aney: Immediately.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta: Then there is a system of fixing the district targets for income-tax realisation. As a matter of fact, this is being used to coerce the people. The targets are only meant to give some rough idea, not that they must be fulfilled at any cost, whether practicable or not. Therefore, it is very necessary that the income-tax authorities must be given a directive not to coerce people like that. Especially in the districts where low-income people reside, they have to face these things in a very bad way.

Then, I may point out that there should be a code of conduct for higher authorities when they visit the districts. I have seen that Commissioners of Income-tax or some other higher authorities, when they visit the districts, use the cars of assesses, and there are also some ways in which they are entertained, and honest and simple officers are put in a very awkward position when such officers arrive there. Therefore, there should be a strict code of conduct so far as the tours of these persons are concerned.

Then, what is going on is this. There are some honest officers who have got the human touch. Naturally, they want to see that the small assesses are not harassed, but again the authorities from above try to force them to realise the targets in such a way that even against their will they have to do it.

Then, in my opinion, when there are always controls of this kind and

that kind, there should be a wing in the Finance Ministry to see the effects of such controls. For example, the Gur Control Order of U.P. has given rise to so many smugglers and black-marketeers, so many persons are involved in it and lakhs and crores have been evaded. Unless and until a scientific way is evolved to find out such culprits, this black, unaccounted money will go on increasing. Of course, the policy should be liberal to small persons always.

Then, I have to refer to a very important point. Up till now, dead-ends and royalties under the Mineral Concession Rules were treated as coming under revenue expenditure, but due to certain High Court decisions, there is an anomaly, because some High Courts have taken it as revenue expenditure, while others are treating it as capital expenditure. The income-tax authorities, instead of taking remedial measures, are thinking of realising money on the basis of such decisions. My humble submission is that, in the first place, the Mineral Concession Rules of the Government of India and the Mines and Mineral Concession Rules of the States should tally, and if there are certain judgements on the old rules, then, of course, they cannot be applied now, and cannot be made a general thing. Even if it is so, on practical grounds, never can these expenses be treated as capital expenditure, and if they are treated like that, it will even go to harm our big industries like the steel plants even. Therefore, the necessity is that immediate steps should be taken to remedy this, and an amendment, if necessary, must be brought in to treat this expenditure as revenue expenditure. Personally, I think there is no need of an amendment, even a directive will do. Anyhow, this should be examined, and without any delay it should be remedied.

So far as the low income group is concerned, the present limit is not conducive to the people. It is now quite certain that the present high prices are not going to be lowered. They may not be allowed to rise further, but they are not going to come down, and the present index of prices is such that these people have to face hardships.

Now, I come to the clauses. So far as Clause 5 is concerned, many friends have spoken before me. My humble submission is that Shri Jawaharlal Nehru was a man whose spirit and whose wishes were quite different, and this action of the Government is quite contrary to his own wishes and spirit, because he was a man who never liked the money of the monopoly class to be used in such cases. This Clause is clearly meant to benefit the moneyed class in the name of contribution. Therefore, I have strong objection to it, and in my opinion, it has been put in a hurry. This should be further examined and put off till at least the next Budget comes in. At the same time, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru's name should not be made so cheap as to allow the monopoly capital to use it for their own purposes.

So far as Clause 10 is concerned, I may very humbly say that the process of this clearance certificates is very cumbersome in the Income-tax Department, and people are much harassed. In spite of directives, there is more delay. And now not only income-tax, but Wealth Tax and Estate Duty have also to be cleared. There is no provision and it is not clear whether people who do not pay Wealth Tax or Estate Duty will need to get Wealth Tax and Estate Duty clearance certificates. It is put in such a way that there is confusion. There should be more clearcut wording and it should be bound down upon the authorities to give them within a specified time.

So far as clause 18 is concerned, it is all right so far as PWD business

is concerned. In my opinion there are other class of people for whom there should be an amendment. For instance, the transport people must also be bound down to declare such things at the time of purchase of their transports. Among people who avoid taxes are doctors and lawyers and those people must also be specially dealt with because I have seen an American expert's report that in India tax evasion is done by a certain class of people. So far as the point about limit is concerned, I agree with my hon. friend Shri Morarka on principle. The limit should be lowered down from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 25,000, but not to Rs. 10,000 so that people may not be able to evade these things.

All the amendments which had been brought forward by the hon. Finance Minister according to his assurance are quite all right. Still there are certain things left behind and I hope that in the next Finance Bill there would be no such lacunae and the anomalies would be removed.

**श्री सिंहासन सिंह (गोरखपुर) :**

उपाध्यक्ष जी, इस विधेयक का सदन में सब ओर से किसी न किसी रूप में स्वागत हुआ है। मैं भी इसका स्वागत करते हुए, इसके कुछ प्रावीजन्स की ओर अर्थ मंत्री का विशेष ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

इस विधेयक के द्वारा इनकम टैक्स में और कुछ और टैक्स में रिलीफ दिया गया है। लेकिन जो रिलीफ दिया गया है उसको देखने के बाद ऐसा लगता है कि फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर के ऊपर कुछ दबाव पड़ रहा था—क्योंकि कहा गया कि पांच सौ से ज्यादा रिट पिटीशन अभी पड़े हुए हैं—जिसके कारण उन्होंने बड़े बड़े पूजीपतियों को इस बिल के जरिये रिलीफ दिया है और साथ में कुछ औरों को भी दिया है।

भ्राज देश में महंगाई के कारण चारों ओर हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। आप देखें कि

[श्री सिंहसन सिंह]

इस बिल में बड़े आदमियों को चेरिटेबिल ट्रस्ट के मामले में रिलीफ दिया गया है, कहीं कहीं रोकथाम भी है, कुछ किराए में भी रिलीफ मिल रहा है। किराए की रिलीफ का मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। लेकिन आप देखें कि आज देश में महंगाई के कारण चारों ओर हाहाकार मचा हुआ है। इस समय सरकार को नीचे के वर्ग के लोगों को जिनकी आमदनी कम है कुछ रिलीफ देना चाहिए था। आज जो इनकम टैक्स के लिए टैक्सबिल लिमिट 3000 या 3200 है उसको बढ़ा कर 4200 या 5000 कर देना चाहिए था। इससे ज्यादा लोगों को राहत मिलती और आपको ज्यादा आशीर्वाद मिलता। जितने सैलेरीड क्लास के लोग हैं आज महंगाई भत्ते की मांग कर रहे हैं। चारों ओर से महंगाई की मांग है। हड़तालें भी हो रही हैं। जो कम आमदनी वाले लोग हैं, जिनकी तनख्वाह 3200 है उनको अगर कुछ रिलीफ दे दिया जाता तो यह मांग कुछ कम होती।

दूसरे आज अन्न की इतनी कमी है। अन्न की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार चौथी योजना में कृषि पर ज्यादा खर्च करने का विचार कर रही है। आपने जो प्रवचन दिया था उसमें फाइनेंस बिल का हवाला देते हुए कहा था कि फाइनेंस बिल की बहस के समय बहुत सी चीजें मांगी गई थीं। उन्हीं मांगों को ध्यान में रखते हुए यह रिलीफ मेजर आज लाया गया है। मैं आपको स्मरण दिलाऊँ कि फाइनेंस बिल के समय यह मांग थी कि जो डीजल किसान काम में लाता है वह महंगा पड़ रहा है, उसकी ड्यूटी कम की जाए। किसान इस से मशीनें चलाता है, ट्रैक्टर चलाता है, ट्रैक्टर चलाता है। उस वक्त कहा गया था कि किसान को डीजल आइल महंगा पड़ रहा है। अगर आप यह रिलीफ जो आपने बड़े आदमियों को दिया है, वह आप किसानों को दिए होते तो किसान जहाँ अपने खेत में एक पानी

देता है वहाँ तीन पानी देने की सोचता, जहाँ एक बार खेत जोतता है वहाँ दो बार उसे जोतता। आज काश्तकार को डीजल आइल 12 रुपये टिन मिलता है। इसलिये उसको अधिक पानी देना या अधिक जुताई करना संभव नहीं मालूम होता। उसको कुछ रिलीफ मिलना चाहिए। मैं सोचता था कि जो आपकी दया दृष्टि उधर जा रही है वह किसानों की ओर भी जाएगी क्योंकि आज देश में अन्न की कमी है, और अन्न की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार को ऐसा कदम उठाना चाहिए।

अभी हाल में प्रधान मंत्री का एक वक्तव्य निकला था और वह बहुत सही था कि हम चौथी प्लान में देखेंगे कि कृषि का उत्पादन बढ़ाया जाए। अब तक इंडस्ट्री की तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान रहा है, कृषि की तरफ कम ध्यान रखा है। कृषि की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिये किसान को अविलम्ब रिलीफ दिया जाना चाहिए। मुझे उम्मीद है कि अब इस बात पर ध्यान दिया जाएगा कि जो डीजल इतना महंगा हो गया है उसको सस्ता किसान को दिया जाएगा और किसान के लिए बिजली की दर कम की जाएगी। अगर किसान को इस प्रकार की कुछ सहूलियत दी जाए तो उत्पादन बढ़ सकता है। साथ ही जो नीचे की श्रेणी के लोग हैं उनको भी रिलीफ दिया जाना चाहिए।

इसमें एक और बहुत अच्छी चीज आपने रखी है कि जो पचास हजार की प्रापर्टी का ट्रांसफर कराना चाहे उसे उसके बारे में टैक्स क्लियरेंस सरटिफिकेट पहले दाखिल करना होगा। मोरारका साहब ने कहा कि यह लिमिट ज्यादा है। मैं भी उनके सुझाव का स्वागत करता हूँ। अगर आप इतनी ऊँची लिमिट रखेंगे तो लोग टैक्स से बचने के लिए छोट छोट ट्रांसफर करेंगे, दस-दस या पांच पांच हजार के ट्रांसफर करेंगे। आप लिमिट कम कर देंगे टैक्स एवाइड करने

वाले तो फिर भी एवाइड करने की कोशिश करेंगे लेकिन फिर भी आपके सामने ज्यादा चीज आवेगी ।

दूसरे आपने एक और अच्छी चीज इसमें रखी है कि जो कोई व्यक्ति पचास हजार या इससे अधिक के मकान बनाने का ठेका दे वह एक महीने के अन्दर उसकी सूचना इनकम टैक्स आफिसर को दे दे ताकि पता चल जाये कि रुपया कहां से आ रहा है । लेकिन इस प्रकार के मकान बनाने के ठेके या तो सरकार देती है या कम्पनियां देती हैं । व्यक्ति विशेष बहुत कम ऐसे ठेके दिया करते हैं अगर मोरारका जी दो लाख का मकान बनायेंगे तो वे उसका लेबर का ठेका तो दे देंगे लेकिन और सामान का ठेका नहीं देंगे, वे अपना लोहा, सीमेंट आदि खुद सप्लाई करेंगे । तो इस तरह आपको ब्लैक मनी का पता नहीं चल सकेगा । काफी मकान बने हैं, उनमें बहुतों में ब्लैक मनी लगा है । यहां करप्शन की बहुत बातें होती हैं और कहा जाता है कि ब्लैक मनी छिपा हुआ है । लेकिन मेरा खयाल है कि ब्लैक मनी किसी न किसी रूप में प्रकट है, अधिकतर मकानों के रूप में या सोने के रूप में । आपने कुछ लोगों के लाकर इनवेस्ट किए लेकिन बहुत से बड़े बड़े लोगों के नहीं किए और उन्होंने अपने लाकरों से अपना माल निकाल लिया । अगर आप इनवेस्ट करने से पहले ऐसा आदेश दे देते कि आज से कोई बैंक लाकर से किसी को सामान न निकालने देगी और फिर इनवेस्ट करते तो आपको बहुत कुछ मिलता । लेकिन ऐसा नहीं किया गया । इसी कारण सरकार जो कदम उठाती है उसका उलटा असर पड़ता है ।

जहां तक मकानों का सवाल है, ये तो सामने प्रकट हैं । सन् 1950 से आज तक बहुत मकान बने हैं । अगर आप जिला मजिस्ट्रेटों को आदेश दे दें तो वे पता लगा सकते हैं कि सन् 1950 से अब तक कितने मकान

बने हैं और तब आपको पता लग जाएगा कि यह रुपया कहां से आया । इसमें बहुत से करंट अफसर भी पकड़े जाएंगे और बहुत सा ब्लैक मनी आपके सामने आ जाएगा । इसलिए ठेकेदार के द्वारा मकान बनाने का पता लगाने के बजाय आप जिला मजिस्ट्रेट के द्वारा यह पता लगाएं आप जिला मजिस्ट्रेटों को आदेश दे दें कि जो मकान बने उसकी सूचना वे इनकम टैक्स अफसर को दे दिया करें कि फलों का मकान बन रहा है । यह काम कठिन नहीं है, क्योंकि कोई मकान म्युनिसिपैल्टी में या कसी कारपोरेशन में बगैर परमिट के नहीं बनता है । उसके लिए नक्शा पास होता है और दूसरी और कार्यवाहियां होती हैं ।

चूँकि घंटी बज चुकी है इसलिए मैं अब और अधिक न कह कर फिर एक दफे मन्त्री महोदय का इधर ध्यान दिलाऊंगा कि अच्छा हो अगर वह एक दूसरा संशोधन बिल लाये और छोटे स्तर के तनख्वाह वालों को भी रिलीफ दें ताकि लोगों को मालूम हो कि रिलीफ सरकार द्वारा चारों तरफ बंटी है न कि केवल करोपड़ियों के बीच में ही बंटी है ।

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Bill before us is to be welcomed as an instalment in the rationalisation of our tax system, indeed as a necessary consequence of the experience acquired in operating the parent Act, and in view of the fact that certain unintended hardships had appeared on the horizon of tax administration in our country. One is therefore impelled to say that in so far as the Bill goes, it is very much to be welcomed.

I would, however, also add that this is a somewhat insignificant and small step in that direction. We are entitled to expect a more comprehensive piece of legislation before us for recasting and streamlining the tax system in our country. One is impelled to object to the various omis-

[Dr. L. M. Singhvi]  
sions in the Bill rather than against what it contains.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, you would recall that the Finance Minister had at one time promised to this country that he would bring about a recast of the tax structure in the country. We would like to have an earnest of that promise; we would like to have; successively and progressively, and in instalments if necessary, otherwise in the form of a comprehensive Bill if possible, a complete blueprint of tax reforms in this country which would go far, which would go deep.

I also want to invite the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister to the question of modifying the present machinery of tax adjudication. I would have hoped that an opportunity would be taken while bringing forth this Bill to give us an idea of what changes in the tax adjudication machinery can be effected or is likely to be effected in the near future. Only this morning, Sir, answering a question during the Question Hour, the Law Minister said that the question of eliminating the Income-tax Appellate Tribunals is engaging the serious attention of the Government. You would recall, Sir, that this suggestion had been made at one time by the Chief Justice of India, and the Government naturally felt that the suggestion deserved to be examined in greater detail. I was disappointed, however, when the Law Minister was unable to tell us of the reasons and the advantages adduced as grounds in favour of eliminating the Tax Tribunals and vesting these powers in the High Courts. I should like to welcome the Law Minister's opinion voiced this morning on the floor of this House that the trend of academic analysis is that the High Court should be vested with powers of adjudicating both on facts as well as law. This would, I think, strengthen the structure of the rule of law which we are so anxious to preserve and promote in our country. Because, the arbitrariness of the revenue-collecting officials, the various com-

pulsions which drive them to collect and even to exact taxes, the various modalities employed by them, the various tactics pressed into service by them, have become a bane of the tax administration in our country; and unless a structural, institutional and functional reform is carried out in the machinery of tax adjudication, the assessee would continue to be harassed, would continue to be bedevilled by the tactics of the Income-tax officials.

I would like to refer to one more matter and I would have done. I feel that there is considerable ground for allowing royalty payments based on mining output as allowable business expenditure, as expenditure which would be deductible in the computation of business income. This I say, Sir, in view of the fact that the Taxation Enquiry Committee of 1953-54 as well as the Tyagi Committee felt that where royalty is payable on the basis of production of mining material, it is clearly admissible as deductible business expenditure. The Tyagi Committee said in clear words:

"The royalty payable on the basis of output is clearly admissible under the Income-tax Act.. It was pointed out that these payments of royalty, whatever their mode of calculation and however they may be judicially interpreted, have to be made for the purpose of working the mines and extracting minerals. There is great force in these arguments and we feel that disallowance of royalties in the assessment cases of mining industry would obviously hamper its development and ability to compete in the world markets."

An assurance was sought to be conveyed in this House by the then Finance Minister in this respect that royalty payments based on output are deductible as business expenditure. However, on account of a recent judgment, of the Rajasthan High Court, this is not the position. The result is that royalty payments are no

longer regarded as deductible business expenditure.

Sir, even after the decision of the Supreme Court in the cases of Pingle Industries and Abdul Quayam, the Income-tax Department continued to allow royalty payments based on output as deductible expenditure in the computation of business income. This has ceased to be after the judgment of the Rajasthan High Court. Before this a Full Bench of the Lahore High Court and a judgment of the Privy Council had held that payment of royalty was the price of the raw material or stock in trade and therefore it was considered to be a revenue expenditure. It would be appropriate if the Finance Minister proceeds to give relief in this respect to the mining industry. Otherwise I apprehend that the mining industry in various parts of the country, and particularly in the State from which I happen to hail, would suffer a setback from which it may not recover for a long, long time to come.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** The Calcutta High Court has treated it as revenue expenditure.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** I am aware of that. But unfortunately the Department has proceeded not to permit the royalty payments as deductible expenditure in the computation of business income. I would hope that the Finance Minister would consider this matter on its merits which are intrinsically very convincing and persuasive, and which I hope would be found all the more compelling in view of the objective to which we are committed, namely, the development and promotion of the mining industry in our country. I hope the Finance Minister would be able to tell us, when he rises to reply to this debate, as to what measures and according to what time-schedule he proposes to carry out to streamline the tax administration in this country and to reform the machinery of tax adjudication in our country. He would also, I hope, be able to say or react to the

submission that I have made in respect of permitting or allowing royalty payments as deductible business expenditure in the computation of the business income.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) :** उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस वक्त जरूरत इस बात की थी कि कोई कम्प्रोमिजिसबल बिल लाया जाता, लेकिन माननीय वित्त मंत्री ने जल्द को धोने के बजाये पट्टी को धोने की कोशिश की है। यह समझ में नहीं आता कि थोड़े से आदमियों को रिलीफ मिलने से 44 करोड़ जनता का क्या फायदा हो जायेगा।

इस बिल की क्लॉज 3 में यह व्यवस्था की गई है कि बिजिनेस एक्सीक्यूटिव्स को रेजिडेंशल एक्मोडेशन के किराये के लिए अपने एम्प्लायज से जो स्पेशल एलाउन्स मिलता है, उसको टैक्स रेमिशन दिया गया है। बिजिनेस एक्सीक्यूटिव्स को तो यह टैक्स रेमिशन दिया गया है, लेकिन ग्राम सरकारी कर्मचारी और सरकारी आफिशल को हाउस-रेंट एलाउन्स पर कोई टैक्स रेमिशन नहीं दिया गया है। उन बड़े बड़े आदमियों को और रियायत देने के लिए ही यह बिल लाया गया है। इस बिल में एक क्लॉज भी नहीं है जिससे हम यह जान सकें कि इस बढ़ती हुई महंगाई के जमाने में, जब कि गेहूं चालीस, पचास रुपये मन बिक रहा है, किसी छोटे गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट को कोई रियायत दी गई हो।

यह भी समझ में नहीं आता है कि रेंट टेपिज्म को क्यों ज्यादा मजबूत किया जा रहा है, नौकरशाही के व्ययों को क्यों ज्यादा खुल खेलने का मौका दिया जा रहा है? क्लॉज 18 में लिखा गया है :

"Where any person... enters into a contract for the construction of a building for, or the supply of goods or services in connection therewith to, any other person, the value of which exceeds fifty thousand rupees, he shall within one month of the making

[श्री यशपाल सिंह]

of the contract, furnish to the Income-tax Officer having jurisdiction to assess the contractor such particulars relating to the contract and in such form as may be prescribed."

इसका सीधा सा मतलब यह है कि 46,000 या 48,000 रुपये के कंट्रैक्ट्स दिये जायेंगे और इसमें नौकरशाही के हथकंडे इस्तेमाल किये जायेंगे। जरूरत इस बात की थी कि मकान बनाने वाले—मालिक मकान—के बजाये कंट्रैक्टर का हिसाब देखा जाता कि उसने कितने कंट्रैक्ट्स लिये हैं। कंट्रैक्टर को उस वक्त लिया जाता जब कि वह बड़े-बड़े ठेके ले रहा है, बजाये इसके कि मालिक मकान को रेड टैपिज्म के मातहत और नौकरशाही के अण्डर लेने के लिए 50,000 रुपये की क्लॉज रख दी जाये। सरकार मालिक मकान को मजबूर करने के बजाये कंट्रैक्टर, गवर्नमेंट कंट्रैक्टर, या जो ठेके पर काम करते हैं, उनका हिसाब, उनकी एकाउण्ट बुक, बैंक बुक और बैंक बैलेंस देखे।

जब तक सरकार मुनाफ़ाखोरी नहीं छोड़ेगी, तब तक पब्लिक मुनाफ़ाखोरी को नहीं छोड़ सकती है। सरकार ने हम किसानों की ज़मानों पांच रुपये गज पर लीं और फिर उन्हीं ज़मानों को 250 रुपये गज के हिसाब से बेचा। अगर सरकार इस मुनाफ़ाखोरी की ज़हानियत को दूर नहीं करेगी, तो फिर वह किस तरह यह उम्मीद कर सकती है कि मिल मालिक या कंट्रैक्टर मुनाफ़ाखोरी छोड़ देंगे।

हमारा ख्याल था कि माननीय वित्त मंत्री इस बिल में गरीब जनता के लिए, टायलिंग मासिज़ और एक्सप्लायटिड मासिज़ के लिए कोई रीशनी की किरण लेकर आयेंगे, लेकिन इस सारे बिल में एक जगह भी नहीं कहा गया कि पांच एकड़ का काश्तकार टैक्स से मुस्तसना किया जायेगा, जब कि इस हाउस में हजारों

दफ़ा यह वादा किया गया है कि छोटे काश्तकार को फ्री दीया जायेगा। छोटे काश्तकार को एक पैसा भी रिलीफ़ नहीं दिया गया है। बल्कि सरकार की नीति इस बात से स्पष्ट हो जाती है कि बिड़ला कम्पनी को तीन नये पैसे फ्री यूनिट के हिसाब से बिजली दी गई है, जबकि किसानों को 19 पैसे फ्री यूनिट के हिसाब से बिजली दी गई है। इतने बड़े गैप को भरने के बजाये नये-नये बिल इसलिए लाये जा रहे हैं कि बड़े-बड़े आदमियों की इमदाद की जाये।

मेरी दरख़वास्त है कि अगर इस बिल को सही रूप में लाना है, तो इसमें इतनी क्लॉज जरूर रखी जाये कि जिन लोगों से सेल्ज टैक्स लिया जा रहा है, उनको इम्पैक्टर्ज के मातहत न छोड़ा जाये। आज इम्पैक्टर्ज को इतने अक्षय्यारात दिए गए हैं, जितने ब्रिटिश पीरियड में हाईकोर्ट के जज के पास भी नहीं थे।

मैं आपकी इन्फ़र्मेशन के लिए यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि यू० पी० सरकार ने तम्बाकू पर 75 रुपये मन का टैक्स लगाया है, जब कि उसने तम्बाकू की कीमत 45 रुपये मन तय की है। जिस चीज़ की कीमत 45 रुपये मन है, उस पर 75 रुपये मन टैक्स कैसे हो सकता है? लेकिन इम्पैक्टर्ज को इतने अक्षय्यारात दिए गए हैं कि वे किसानों और प्रोड्यूसरों को इस बात की तरगीब देते हैं कि अगर वे सौ मन पैदा करते हैं, तो वे दस मन तो सरकार को दिखा दें और बाकी नब्बे मन ब्लैक मार्केट में बेच दें। मैं यू० पी० के 52 जिलों की हालत जानता हूँ। हम देखते हैं कि एक गरीब बनिया अपनी छोटी सी दुकान लिए हुए बैठा हुआ है, जहाँ पर वह थोड़ा बहुत सामान बेच कर दो रुपया कमाता है और गुजरे-अधिकात करता है। उसका बूढ़ा बाप भी वहाँ बैठता है, क्योंकि उसका मकान गिर गया है। उसने अपने बच्चे को

भी अपने साथ दुकान पर बिठा लिया है, ताकि वह बाहियात न हो जाये, ताश खेलना और पान खाना न सीख जाये। इंस्पेक्टर उन दोनों को इन्क्यूड कर के यह दिखाता है कि इस दुकान में तीन आदमी काम करते हैं, इसलिए उसको हेवी टैक्स दे दे चाहियें।

सरकार इस बिल में ऐसी व्यवस्था करती कि एप्रिकल्चरिस्ट और छोटे दुकानदार को कुछ राहत मिलती। राहत किनको मिली? राहत उन को मिली है, जो करोड़पति हैं। करोड़पतियों को और ज्यादा रियायत देने के लिए यह बिल लाया गया है।

सेनट्रल गवर्नमेंट ने चीफ मिनिस्टर्स की कॉफ़ेंस में यह सवाल रखा था कि सेल्ज टैक्स को एक्साइज के मातहत कर दिया जाये। यह सीधी सी बात है कि अगर सेल्ज टैक्स एक्साइज के मातहत हो जाये, तो बीस जगह टैक्स न देना पड़े और हमको तसल्ली हो जाये कि धोती-जोड़े और माचिस के बाक्स पर एक जगह टैक्स लिया गया है। लेकिन एक चीज बीस जगह बिकती है और बीस जगह टैक्स देना पड़ता है। जब चीफ मिनिस्टर्स के सामने यह प्रॉपोजल रखा गया, तो उन्होंने कहा कि यही तो हमारी कामधेनु है, इसी से हम लोगों से रुपया वसूल करते हैं, इसी से हम मालामाल होते हैं और आप इसी को बन्द करने जा रहे हैं।

माननीय वित्त मंत्री से मैं यह निवेदन करूंगा कि यथा नाम तथागुण होना चाहिये। उनका नाम कृष्णमाचारी है। इसलिए उन को भगवान् कृष्ण के समान आचरण करना चाहिये। भगवान् कृष्ण ने घी-दूध पर टैक्स छोड़ दिया था। उन के समय घी-दूध, चरागाह किसान, छोटे कल्टीवेटर और छोटे दुकानदार पर कोई टैक्स नहीं था। आज हम देखते हैं कि मिल-मालिकान सेल्ज टैक्स और इनकम टैक्स का 450 करोड़ रुपया मार कर बँटे हुए हैं। उस रुपये को वसूल करने के

लिए कोई तारीख नहीं है, कोई डिक्री नहीं है, किसी तरह का कोई आर्डर नहीं है। लेकिन अगर एक किसान की तरफ़ आबपाशी का पांच रुपया भी बाकी रह जाये, तो उस को पकड़ कर जेल में डाल दिया जाता है।

मेरी दरुवास्त यह है कि देश की हालत बिगड़ती जा रही है। अगर सरकार इसका इलाज नहीं करेगी, तो जनता इसका इलाज जरूर करेगी। हम सरकार के हितैषी हैं। हम सरकार और माननीय वित्त मंत्री से यह आशा करते हैं कि जिस तरह से उन्होंने गोल्ड कंट्रोल के सम्बन्ध में आगे बढ़ कर काम किया है और देश का हित किया है, उसी तरह से वह किसान, छोटे दुकानदार, छोटे टैक्स-पेयर और छोटे गवर्नमेंट सर्वेंट को राहत दें। बड़े-बड़ों की तरक्की और मदद सब करते हैं, लेकिन भगवान् कृष्ण का यह गुण था कि वह दीनबन्धु थे। श्री कृष्ण-माचारी भी दीनों की मदद कर के दिखायें।

**श्री कपूर सिंह (लुधियाना) :** भगवान् कृष्ण तो माखन-चोर भी थे।

**श्री बी० च० शर्मा (गुरदासपुर) :** भगवान् कृष्ण ब्राह्मणों की मदद करते थे।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Finance Minister,

15 hrs.

**Shri Bade:** Sir, is not my name there in the list of speakers?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sorry, it is not there. Shri Trivedi from your party has already spoken.

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I had followed the speeches made by hon. Members with a considerable amount of interest. Broadly, it seems that many have welcomed this measure because it gives a certain amount of relief in cases of hardship—not relief from taxation but relief from hard-

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

ship on the working of taxation laws which cause hardships.

This is not a comprehensive Bill at all; I made no claims of that nature. Of course, some hon. Members had raised the point whether the occasion should not be taken to provide a large measure of relief. I think hon. Members must be aware that in the last Finance Bill, in the case of a person who has a wife and two children the limit was raised to Rs. 4000.

15.02 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** The prices have gone further up.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It has, I agree. But, any way that was done. Somebody did mention it should go to Rs. 4000. I am replying to those suggestions. I only mentioned that some concession was made at the time of the Finance Bill. So far as this measure is concerned, I make no claim that it is something which gives a general relief. In fact, as hon. Members pointed out, I had promised to look into some of the points raised by hon. Members at the time of the Finance Bill and it is in response to that promise that certain reliefs are given where, as I said before, the law is really hard. For instance, in cases where Government of their own volition bring a company into liquidation the entire amount of money that is in the reserves should not be treated as dividend and taxed and some portion of it which need not have been ploughed in with any knowledge that the company will go into liquidation or will be taken over by Government should be separated. Instead of paying the normal income-tax on the entire amount that portion of the amount which has been ploughed into reserves three years before Government's decision was made known would only attract capital gains.

In fact, this Bill is not intended to benefit any particular section of the community, as for instance the capitalists. I think the idea was that the capitalists, people who have a large income, would not benefit considerably because of these concessions because they will be paying a very high rate of capital gains tax, and it is only in the case of the smaller people that it might help.

Similarly, the question of concession in regard to rent has a limitation of Rs. 300. It is not intended to help the bigger people but only the medium and smaller type of people.

I think the general charge that this is intended to help the affluent class is not right. Even in the question of taxation of that income which goes to charity, from which they were exempt, we seek to give some relief only where the beneficiary happens to be a charitable trust which in turn helps only the needy people. Therefore, I would humbly submit that any charge that has been made on the floor of this House that it is intended to benefit any particularly affluent class is not right.

Sir, suggestions have also been made by hon. Members by means of amendments. Some of them want to tighten the provisions. For instance, one set of amendments do not want the three-year limit to be put in respect of companies which go into liquidation where a portion of the amount distributed is sought to be treated as capital and therefore taxed under the Capital Gains Tax. The whole idea is, as my hon. friend Shri Morarka explained, if people with any knowledge of some such thing happening plough their income into the reserves so as to get away from the obligation to pay taxes on dividends, that should be avoided. Hon. Members might ask, why there is a three-year limit? In fact, I think, in a previous wording of this taxation—I think it was in 1954-55—there is a total limit of six years right up to the time of payment. Well I can understand if hon. Members say

that three years is too long a period and two years is the proper thing. It is a matter of judgment, and the judgment of hon. Members may be better than mine. Somebody may say that three years gives a large concession, it should be made into 4 years. But I do not understand the reason for completely taking away this limit which, I think, is inherent in any concession of this nature.

On the other hand, my hon. friend Shri Morarka had suggested that if we put a limit of Rs. 50,000 either in respect of contract or in respect of notification of persons who transfer property or acquire them it is likely to be avoided. It is true. As somebody mentioned, Rs. 48,000 might be the amount so as to avoid this. We will have to watch such cases. In fact, as some hon. Members did mention, provisions of this nature throw an enormous amount of burden on the taxing authority and it is also likely that the area of people to be covered becomes wider. It may be that there might be a *bona fide* transfer of property which is not of a very high value, not above Rs. 50,000. I give this assurance to hon. Members who had suggested this amendment, that I appreciate the basis or the reason for which they have made this suggestion. But let us work this for some time. We are making a change. We are putting in a limit and we are trying to get people outside this limit. If, say, after working for a period of a year or so, even in the six months period that would elapse between now and the Finance Bill next year we find that evasion is there, I would come to the House and say that I will lower it. Therefore, I submit to hon. Members that it is not that I do not appreciate their desire to make the measure cast iron, but I do not want to increase the area unnecessarily, I do not want to increase the area of control. We will have to do it after experience. Therefore, I assure them that I will watch the position. Always any limit is arbitrary. Even

Rs. 10,000 is arbitrary. We are fixing a limit of Rs. 50,000 because that is not on the abnormal side. It may be that for flats in Bombay it may be Rs. 30,000. We will watch the position and see. Anyway, Rs. 10,000 is a very small limit. It may be Rs. 25,000 or Rs. 30,000. I will certainly watch the position and if I need any change I shall come to this hon. House.

Certain fears were expressed in regard to arbitrary refusal or unnecessary delay, and certain provisions are sought to be suggested. I will give this assurance that in the rules that I make I shall put in the safeguard necessary for the purpose, that there should be no undue delay. We shall put a limit by which a person should either refuse or grant the certificate and then leave the party who is affected to take such further proceedings as he wants. But I do not think it is necessary for me to put it in this statute.

Some hon. Members said that I have given certain assurance in regard to self-assessment. I may tell them that this assurance has been conveyed by means of instructions to the income-tax officers. If my hon. friend has any particular instance in which he thinks that it has been ignored, I should be happy to have the details of that particular case. I will look into it. I shall, before long, be meeting the Commissioners of Income-tax and this is one of the things that I propose to tell them, that while we are considering the question of checking evasion we have, at the same time, to be careful in regard to avoiding any harassment which is unnecessary. I shall not lose any occasion to hammer this down to the minds of the officers concerned. And I think if anybody feels that he has been taxed more than what he ought to pay, he immediately comes up and questions the intentions of the officer, though it is not always the case. It is true that I am myself offended sometimes when there is an arbitrary element in taxation or interpretation of taxation. But that

[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

is normal. In fact, if we are injured we always try to rationalise. There is a story in my part of the country that a very rich moneyed man, who was ignorant, had gone to the court, as most of those people of those days were litigants, and he lost the case. He called his clerk and asked him the result of the case and he was told that he had lost it. He immediately asked: "What? Did the lawyer not urge the merits of my case?" The clerk replied: yes, the lawyer spoke for three days. Then he asked: is the judge a fool? Because, according to him, if the lawyer did his best and still he lost the case, the judge must be a fool. That is the logical answer. It is an inherent trait of human nature to rationalise everything when we think something has gone wrong. But, nevertheless, I do not rule out the possibilities of there being a case of harassment here or there, where something is being done in a hasty or abrupt manner. But, by and large, most of these officers are not bad. They may also be harassed sometimes; they may be over-worked or worried or afraid of pressures. Today their position is very difficult. Often many income-tax officers come and tell me that they have been told that unless they do this, or that, they are going to be reported. Of course, once you report against a person there is no relief. The report will come and it will have to be enquired into. So, the other side of the picture should also be understood by the hon. Members.

In regard to one matter raised by my hon. friend, Shri Banerjee, on the question of arrears, may I tell him that as against the budgeted figure of Rs. 440 crores the collection last year was Rs. 524 crores? The collection in the last month was so heavy that the collections in the subsequent months are limping. So there has been an enormous amount of effort and there has been a considerable amount of increase in the collections. I think the collections during the last

month amounted to Rs. 139 crores. And I may tell him that while the book arrears of income-tax in March this year was about Rs. 290 crores, quite a lot of it are amounts which are not going to be recoverable. The effective arrears are about Rs. 170 crores in regard to income-tax, Rs. 6 crores in regard to wealth tax, Rs. 4 crores in regard to estate duty and Rs. 81 lakhs in regard to gift tax. In the totality of collection of about Rs. 524 crores, I think these Rs. 200 crores is not very heavy.

Of course, as I watch the drawals from the Reserve Bank week by week, naturally, I have also to think in terms of what the collections are. And it is very queer that sometimes watching these collections also gives you a certain amount of uneasiness. I have found that the customs revenue is going up, growing up rather fast. When I analysed this, I found that a major item happens to be kerosene. Of course, it is a good thing to have more kerosene because it means a little more supplies. At the same time, it means a certain amount of erosion into the limited foreign exchange that we possess. It is a matter which we have to watch. I do not think the position is really unsatisfactory by itself.

There was one particular point on which hon. Members raised perhaps their protest, or their disagreement or their disapproval, and that is in regard to clause 5, exempting gifts and donations to a particular charity. Some hon. Members said it is something new and one or two hon. Members also averred that when Mahatma died and a fund was started for the purpose of commemorating his memory, no such thing was done. Unfortunately, there they are wrong. I think in 1949 an amendment of the Income-tax Act was undertaken and in the Act, as it stood until 1953 in

section 15(B), there is a proviso to sub-section (2) which reads thus:

"Provided that where any sum paid during the previous year as donation to the fund known as Gandhi National Memorial Fund is in excess of the limits prescribed in this section, the exemption granted under this section shall apply to the whole of that sum."

**Mr. Speaker:** Yet, Shri Banerjee, was sure of his position. One ought not to be so emphatic, particularly when something is brought to his notice. There is always the possibility that one might not know certain facts. So, one should be cautious that there is a possibility that something might not be within his knowledge. When Members make assertions, though they might be doing them with confidence, when it is brought to their notice that "no, that is not correct", or something different has happened, they ought to exercise some caution, because it is just possible that they are wrong or misinformed.

**Shri Bade:** May I submit that the hon. Minister is quoting from the Act as it stood in 1953? Could he quote it from the Act as it stood in 1963?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am sorry, I am quoting from a text-book of income-tax. This was repealed in 1953. I am merely mentioning this.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** It is not in the present Act.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** That is true. It has been repealed in 1953.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** We looked into whatever Act was available. We found a reference to the National Defence Fund but not to the Gandhi Memorial Fund and hence the comments.

**Mr. Speaker:** My remark was in general terms; not in relation to any particular instance. When a Member is asserting something, when once it is brought to his notice that what he is saying is not correct, or the position is

slightly different, he should exercise certain precaution before asserting it again and going still further. Because, there is always a possibility that some facts may not be within one's knowledge.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I just appreciate the position. I had the advantage or disadvantage of having been in this House for a long time. I was here at the time when this amendment was moved in 1949. The concession that given is roughly of the order of 50 per cent; that is to say, whatever money they give, 50 per cent they might get concession in tax.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not talking of the merits or otherwise.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I am going into that matter. Therefore, it means that the money received from that is only 50 per cent. I can tell you when I was thinking of this matter, I was wondering because the only purpose of the fund that we have started in memory of the late Prime Minister is going to be a purely public purpose. I shall not come to this House and tell them that I should contribute an amount equal to that which has been contributed by the people. That is one of the things that I thought of. Finally I was told it would involve a lot of procedural delay and so on that I should accept the position that has been tried in a previous instance. I am merely mentioning this. I am not claiming any more justification then to say that this is a matter which is covered by a precedent and nothing more.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Sometime later you will come to this House and repeal it.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is possible that I may not happen to be here at the time when a repeal would be necessary. All the same, if I happen to be here after 1967 and the hon. Member is also here, he might remind me about that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let us hope that both of you will be there.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It will be a punishment in my case; it might be a benefit in his case.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Great men think alike.

**Shri Yashpal Singh:** You will remain here.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The hon. Member, Shri Dandekar, spoke about this Bill. I must say that I should be hesitant to say anything about any remarks which he made about this Bill and try to controvert it for the reason that while I am only a Finance Minister he has been a man who administered these taxes for a number of years and knows them so well. In fact, I think, he must know more about how these taxes are administered and how these taxes are evaded much more than I. I am not saying it in the sense that he is a businessman but as a person who was member of the Central Board of Revenue in charge of income-tax. We have a very high opinion of his acumen and knowledge of this tax. Therefore I think, while all that he said he said as a person who now occupies a different position, I have no doubt that he realises that the area of evasion is there. Of course, there are cases of harassment which is inevitable when we try to check evasion. When we put that in the rules, it make the position a little more difficult. Ultimately, he would recognise that it is a case of pull devil, pull bake; sometimes the devil wins, sometimes the baker does. Therefore he will not mistake me if I do not attempt it. I accept his compliments in respect of the Bill, not in respect of the Finance Minister; but, at the same time, I would like to suggest that the defects in the working of the Income-tax Act generally have been there even in the time when he was administering it are there when I am the Finance Minister and will continue until the process goes on all the

time when we try to amend it here and there, partly to check evasion and partly to lighten harassment. That process has to go on. I do not think any Finance Minister can say that he has produced an income-tax act which is absolutely perfect. In fact, no legislation can ever be perfect.

The hon. Member, who has very good intention which I appreciate, spoke about the difficulties of the agriculturists. We know it; but it is neither the forum nor the measure which could help. The hon. Member suggested as to why not I reduce the duty on diesel oil. It is merely for the reason that the agriculturist consumes only a very small portion of the diesel oil; other people consume more. Ultimately, if you want to do any good to the people then diesel oil has to be taxed until we reach the time when we have no tax at all which, I think, will be very good and then you will have no Finance Minister at all which will be equally good. Those kind of halcyon days will never occur. I think, in the days as we go on the Government will become more and more complicated; Finance Ministers will become more and more harassed persons and, of course, hon. Members will have to criticise them and they have to adjust their sights from time to time.

But essentially I agree that there are a lot of things that could be improved in the State sphere. I hope, the hon. Member who has spoken will stand for election as a member of the State Assembly next time in which case, I think, he can make his influence felt in regard to an area of administration which concerns the people Assembly.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** They like the Lok Sabha much more than the State Assembly.

**Shri Bade:** He wants that he should become Lord Krishna.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The only trouble about it is that instead of 64 I should have been 16; then I would have appreciated all this. But I cannot do it. Therefore, it is amusing, interesting and also good from a Member who feels kindly towards the Finance Minister. I thank him for it; but I can say no more about it.

I think, I have more or less covered the points. About amendments that have been given notice of in order to improving the Bill, of course, all amendments merit consideration but there is one particular amendment which my hon. friend, Shri Morarka, has given notice of in regard to the provision of appeal. I find that if I accept it, I have to do something in regard to section 230 where similar provisions in regard to different types of people obtain. All that I can promise is in regard to the question of harassment, as regards the question of allowing a person opportunities, we will frame the rules and the rules will come before the House. In regard to the question of appeal, this is a matter which I will examine and find out because if I do anything here, I have to touch section 230. Therefore I will beg of my hon. friend to bear with me for some time. I will have the matter examined and, if necessary, we will bring it up in another amendment. There is always an annual amendment of the Income-tax Act and we will bring it up then.

I would also like to tell my hon. friend one thing. I prefer this three-year limit to be there. As I said, we have to have a limit. He may say: Have two, three or four, but you cannot do without a limit because the moment people know that the company is likely to be acquired, as is the case in the case of electricity companies, then the obvious reaction is, "Why should we declare a dividend this year; we will just put it in the reserves?"; all that you have to do is to pay. Capital Gains Tax provided the area of the spread is something

considerable. Therefore, if the hon. Member had suggested that I should not have the limit as three but as two, I would have perhaps agreed; but since he wants a removal of it, I am unable to accept the removal of the period. As I said, it is a matter of judgement whether two is good or three is good; probably they mean more or less the same. So, hon. Members will please bear with me if I do not accept these amendments; but I will certainly examine the position. If by reason of something like these amendments being incorporated would benefit the assessee, then, I think, I will think about it.

**Shri Kashi Ram Gupta:** May I put one question to him? The hon. Finance Minister has not been kind enough to answer my point raised about the assurance given in this House at the time of passing the Finance Bill that the late filing of returns will not be penalised in the ordinary way and directions will be sent to the ITOs.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have said that we have done that. If there are instances where people are being harassed because the instructions are not followed and if any of these instances are given to me, I will follow it up. We have sent the instructions to the Income-tax Officers. What is being done is as a matter of routine. Any assurances given here are incorporated and it goes out as letters. I have been assured by my officers that it has been done. But if hon. Member has any instance in which he feels that it is not being followed, I am quite prepared to take it up if he will give me the information.

**Shri Yashpal Singh:** The State Governments are running under the control of the Central Government. He cannot avoid the question by simply saying that they are independent. They are running under their control.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** No, they are not.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I put one question myself? The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend certain laws relating to direct taxes, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker.** The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. Clause 2. . . Are there any amendments to it?

**Shri Morarka:** There are amendments in my name and in the name of my hon. friend, Shri Varma, but in view of the assurance given by the hon. Finance Minister I do not propose to move any of them?

**Mr. Speaker:** They are not being moved. Then, the question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 2 was added to the Bill.*

**Mr. Speaker:** Is any amendment being moved to clause 3?

**Shri Chandrabhan Singh (Bilaspur):** In view of the assurance given by the hon. Finance Minister I do not wish to move my amendment.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 3 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 4 to 9 were added to the Bill.*

**Clause 10—(Insertion of new section 230A)**

**Shri Bade:** Sir, I beg to move:

(i) Page 4, line 9,—

for "fifty thousand" substitute—"one lakh".

(ii) Page 4,—

after line 24, insert—

"Provided that the Income-tax Officer shall grant the certificate within fifteen days from the date of the application and if no certificate is granted and no reply is given within fifteen days from the date of the application it will be presumed that the certificate is granted." (2)

Sir, this amendment is to clause 10. In clause 10, there are some restrictions put on registration of transfers of immovable property in certain cases. My submission here is that instead of Rs. 50,000 it should be made Rs. 1 lakh and this amendment should be made:

"Provided that the Income-tax Officer shall grant the certificate within fifteen days from the date of the application and if no certificate is granted and no reply is given within fifteen days from the date of the application it will be presumed that the certificate is granted."

The hon. Finance Minister has just assured now and also he did in the beginning of his speech that he will mention the time-limit in the rules. But instead of mentioning the time-limit in the rules, why does he not mention it in the Act itself?

15.31 hrs.

[SHRI KHADILKAR in the Chair]

Sir, I have seen cases under the Indian Registration Act where the people try to avoid the duties and the court fees. Instead of valuing the

property at Rs. 50 lakhs, they make sub-divisions as part 1, part 2, part 3 and so on of the same building and value them at Rs. 50,000 and Rs. 30,000 and Rs. 20,000 and like that. They avoid the court fees and they avoid the registration also. So, my suggestion here is that instead of Rs. 50,000 it should be made Rs. 1 lakh. Then, Sir, here they have to obtain the clearance certificate from the Income-Tax Officer. I have seen cases under the Wealth Tax Act where whenever a certificate is required from the Income-Tax Officer that no arrears for the last year are pending, they are pending for two years or three years or even four years and then there is no registration if there is no clearance certificate from the Income-Tax Officer. I think that will be harassment and the persons who want to purchase the property and the persons who want to raise money by selling the property will suffer by this. So, there should be some time-limit fixed, that is, if not 15 days, 30 days or it may be two months. We know that in the Income-tax offices there are heaps of cases pending, one thousand to two thousand cases. When the man goes there, the clerk finds out the file and he puts it before the Income-Tax Officer and then after 15 or 20 days the man again goes to the office and comes back. There is a proverb:

“खिसा हो बम और जूता हो तंग,  
तब आता है रंग, मुकद्दमे में।”

अर्थात् पाकिट फुल होनी चाहिये, पैसा भरा होना चाहिये और चूँकि उन के दफ्तर में चक्कर खाते, खाते जूता ढीला हो जाता है इस वास्ते जूता तंग होना चाहिये। जब ऐसा होता है तभी इनकमटैक्स के आफिस में मुकद्दमा ले कर जाने में मजा आता है। This is the proverb. So, I think, some time-limit should be given. Only the assurances will not do. Some time-limit should be fixed so that the persons may know that they will get the clearance certificate within the month or two months or three

months, whatever the time-limit the hon. Finance Minister wants to fix. He gave an assurance in the beginning and today also he has given an assurance. That means, he realises the difficulties. But I do not know why he does not accept my amendment—if not 15 days, let it be 30 days.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Sir, I mentioned that the question of time-limit will be covered by the rules and the rules will come before the House. They will be placed on the table of the House. So far as the raising of the limit is concerned, from Rs. 50,000 to Rs. 1 lakh, he himself has mentioned that limit and there are various cases where the limit is much lower. Having said that, I do not think one could ask for the limit to be raised. I am unable, therefore, to accept the amendment.

**Shri Bade:** What will be the time-limit?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** We will mention it in the rules and we will place them on the table of the House.

**Mr. Chairman:** Now, I shall put amendments No. 1 and 2 moved by Shri Bade to the vote of the House.

*Amendments No. 1 and 2 were put and negatived.*

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

“That clause 10 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 10 was added to the Bill.*

**Mr. Chairman:** There are no amendments on clauses 11 to 17.

The question is:

“That clauses 11 to 17 stand part of the Bill.”

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 11 to 17 were added to the Bill.*

15.31 hrs.

श्री बड़े : I beg to move.

"Page 7,—

after line 39, insert—

"(4) Before imposing the fine the Commissioner shall serve the contractors with notice to show cause why he should not be fined and after hearing him the Commissioner will make an order."

**Explanation**—"contract" means the contract as defined in the Contract Act 1872." (3)

मैं ने अपने इस अमेन्डमेंट में यह चाहा है कि कमिश्नर कंट्रैक्टर को 50 रुपया पर डे फाइन करने से पहले उस को शो काज नोटिस दे कर बुलाना चाहिए और उसे अपनी सफाई देने का मौका देना चाहिए। उसे नोटिस दे कर पूछा जाय कि वह यह बतलाये कि उस पर यह फाइन क्यों न इम्पोज कर दिया जाय? यदि इस प्रकार का कोई नोटिस नहीं होता है तो मैं ने देखा है कि एक्सपार्टी जजमेंट हो जाता है। जब तक कि वह वकील को फ्रीस आदि दे कर उन के सामने जाता नहीं है कोई उस को नहीं सुनता है। यह कह दिया जाता है कि तुम ने कंट्रैक्ट कर लिया है। चूँकि एक महीने के अन्दर तुम ने अपने रिटर्न्स नहीं दिये इस वास्ते तुम पर यह फाइन इम्पोज किया गया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस में शो काज नोटिस की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। कानून का यह साधारण नियम है कि जब किसी को सजा दी जाती है तो सजा देने के पहले उस को सुना जाता है और उस से पूछा जाता है कि वह बतलाये कि उसे वह सजा क्यों न दी जाय। उस को सुनने के बाद ही कोई सजा दी जाती है। पैनल बलाज होने के

कारण उस को सुनने की जरूरत है। मैं समझता हूँ कि फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब यह देखेंगे कि इन बी इंटरेस्ट ऑफ बिजनेस उस को पहले नोटिस दे दिया जाय और अगर उसे सुने पैनलाइज करना ठीक नहीं है।

कंट्रैक्ट के बारे में इस में यह दिया हुआ है : —

"285A. (1) Where any person (hereinafter referred to as the contractor) enters into a contract for the construction of a building for, or the supply of goods or services . . ."

यह कंट्रैक्ट और एग्रीमेंट को लेकर बहुत झगड़ा होता है और बहुत फर्क पड़ता है। कोई कहता है कि यह कंट्रैक्ट है, कोई कहता है कि यह एग्रीमेंट है तो कोई कहता है कि यह एक्जीक्यूटिव कंट्रैक्ट है। इस के बारे में इनकम टैक्स ला में कोई साफ डेफिनीशन नहीं है और इसलिए यह आवश्यक है कि कंट्रैक्ट की परिभाषा दी जाय। अभी होता यह है कि जिनको टैक्स इवेज करना होता है वह 50,000 के कंट्रैक्ट को 25,000, 25,000 के दो टुकड़ों में शो कर देते हैं और उस हालत में उस को रिटर्न्स देने की जरूरत नहीं होती है। इनकम टैक्स ला में टैक्स इवेजेशन इसलिए भी मुमकिन होता है कि उसमें लूपहोल्स रख दिये हैं, दरवाजे और खिड़कियाँ रख दी हैं जिनसे कि यह टैक्स लोग इवेज कर जाते हैं। इस वास्ते मैं चाहता हूँ कि ग्रनएकाउन्टेबल मनी का जो सवाल फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब ने उठाया है वह इन लूपहोल्स को प्लग करने से ही हल हो पायेगा। इस वास्ते मैं चाहता हूँ कि कंट्रैक्ट की डेफिनीशन की जाय और साथ ही साथ यदि उस को सजा देनी है तो उस के पहले उसे कम से कम शो काज नोटिस अवश्य सर्व किया जाय। इसी गरज से मैं ने यह अमेन्डमेंट दिया है।

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I think the hon. Member does not realise that before a Commissioner proceeds to levy a fine under this section, he will certainly have to ascertain the facts to justify the levy of the fine.

The information is to be furnished by the contractor as prescribed by the rules and the provision will have to be made for various items for which information has to be furnished.

The facts relating to those items will be within the contractor's knowledge. I think, therefore, that there is no need for a specific provision here such as the one suggested.

Then, my hon. friend may probably be confusing penalty with fine. If it is a fine, then the circumstances are different. That is why section 131 of the Act does not provide a specific appeal such as the one that is provided for penalty. However, a provision could be made in the rules requiring the commissioner to give the contractor a reasonable opportunity of being heard before levy of a fine. In the circumstances, I find myself unable to accept the amendment.

**Mr. Chairman:** I shall now put amendment No. 3 to vote.

*Amendment No. 3 was put and negatived.*

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That clause 18 stand part of the Bill.

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clause 18 was added to the Bill.*

*Clauses 19, 20 and 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

*The motion was adopted.*

15.44 hrs.

### PRESS COUNCIL BILL

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman):** I beg to move:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India, made in the motion adopted by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 1964, and communicated to this House on the 17th September, 1964, and resolves that the following 30 Members of Lok Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee, namely: Shri Peter Alvares, Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya, Shri N. C. Chatterjee, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri, Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary, Shri C. Dass, Shri L. Elayaperumal, Shri Ansar Harvani, Shri T. D. Kamble, Shri Cherian J. Kappen, Sardar Kapur Singh, Shri M. K. Kumaran, Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar, Shri Shiv Charan Mathur, Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra, Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee, Shri Mohan Nayak, Shri Man Singh P. Patel, Shri Kishen Pattanayak, Shri Shivram Rango Rane, Shri Sadhu Ram, Shri Shram Lal Saraf, Pandit K. C. Sharma, Shri Shashi Ranjan, Shri Vidya Charan Shukla, Dr. L. M. Singhvi, Shri Tula Ram, Shri S. Veerabasappa, Shri Virbhadra Singh, and the Mover."

In 1952, as the House is aware, the Government of India appointed a high-powered Press Commission to enquire into 'the state of the press and its present and future lines of development'. The House is also aware that this commission was presided

[Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman]

over by the late Shri Rajadhyaksha, and it included many prominent persons like the late Acharya Narendra Deva, our present Vice-President Dr. Zakir Hussain, and a number of others whose names I am not mentioning. After about two years, this commission submitted a very exhaustive report on the then existing conditions of the press and had also made recommendations in regard to the measures for the future.

In discussing 'the standards and performance of the press' the commission concluded with the recommendation for the setting up of a press council. This was one of the very important recommendations made by the Press Commission, and the present measure before the House seeks to implement that significant recommendation.

The history behind it is rather interesting. The original Press Council Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha in July, 1956, with the objective of establishing a press council. After undergoing certain modifications, the Bill was transmitted to the Lok Sabha, but lapsed owing to the dissolution of the House in April, 1957. Thereafter, in June, 1962 the National Integration Council stressed the need to establish a council as soon as possible. Various newspapers organisations and particularly the Indian Federation of Working Journalists passed resolutions urging Government to establish the press council at a very early date. The Press Council Bill as passed by the Rajya Sabha in 1956 was examined with reference to the suggestions and comments made in the press as well as by newspaper organisations, the advice of the press consultative committee also was sought, and after deep thought over the various matters, the present Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha who have made a recommendation that a Joint Committee of both the Houses be appointed to consider this measure, for which purpose

the present motion is now before this House.

With your leave, I may point out that the need for having a statutory body was referred to the Press Commission's report itself. They have said in their recommendation at pages 352-53 of the report in paragraph 949 that:

"The fact that the press council in the United Kingdom is a purely voluntary body has undoubtedly handicapped it in the exercise of its authority over the press. Its decisions in certain cases have been the subject of violent controversy particularly by those affected. Even in the last instance the council could not ensure the appearance of Mr. Gunn before it when it was investigating the matter. We feel that a voluntary body of this nature might not have the necessary sanction behind its decision nor legal authority to make inquiries."

In the United Kingdom, Mr. Gunn, the editor of the *Daily Sketch* had put in an insertion in his paper as though it emanated from the man who had really signed the article, but had omitted certain portions from and added certain portions to it, and that became the subject-matter of controversy. The reference is to that case.

Continuing the recommendation, in the succeeding paragraph, namely paragraph 950, at page 353, the commission have made a categorical recommendation, namely:

"We are definite, therefore, that the Press Council to be established in this country should be brought into existence by statute, that its members, individually and jointly, should have legal protection in respect of all the action that they take *bona fide* and in discharge of their responsibilities and that others too who implement their decisions such as a

newspaper that publishes the findings of the Council should also be protected."

The Press Commission had before it, as I pointed out, the example of UK where the Press Council is a voluntary body. I have read out the categorical recommendation of the Press Commission.

The House will be interested to know that the Royal Commission on the Press in the UK in 1961-62—it is rather important; it is subsequent to our Press Commission—were seized of the same matter. They say:

"If, however, the press is not willing to invest the Council with necessary authority and to contribute the necessary finance, the case for a statutory body with definite powers and right to levy the industry is a clear one. We recommend, however, that Government should specify a time-limit after which legislation would be introduced for the establishment of such a body, if in the meantime, it had not been set up voluntarily".

I am going to quote later from the 10th annual report of the Press Council. The House will be interested to know that very eminent persons were there in that body which recommended this. I may also say in passing that only the other day we had a report in newspapers that the Ceylonese Government have introduced a Bill for the establishment of a Press Council and it seems to be—I have not gone through it and so I will not venture to give my opinion—it seems to be very similar to what we are contemplating now.

The Press Council will consist of 25 members of whom the chairman shall be nominated by the Chief Justice of India. There has been some controversy on this point also. The Press Commission had recommended that the chairman should be a person who is or has been a Judge of a High

Court and should be nominated by the Chief Justice of India.

In the earlier Press Council Bill, the Rajya Sabha had made an amendment that the chairman should be nominated by a committee consisting of the Chief Justice of India, the hon. Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the hon. Chairman of the Rajya Sabha. Later on, both the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha on consultation expressed their unwillingness to associate themselves with the committee. They felt that this would create a precedent and would also interfere with the efficient discharge of their duties in the two Houses.

On the recommendation of the Consultative Committee, it was decided that the chairman should be nominated by the Chief Justice of India. I am glad to say that this provision that has been made with the specific consent and approval of the Chief Justice of India. Incidentally, the Indian Federation of Working Journalists also wanted that the Chief Justice should nominate the chairman.

The entire body of 25 members are to be nominated by committee consisting of the Chief Justice of India, the Chairman of the Council and a person to be appointed by the President of India. This committee will have before it a panel of names recommended by various newspaper associations. Thus there is no doubt that the persons appointed to this Council would be such as would inspire confidence in the Press and the public for their standing and integrity.

Some suggestions have been made with regard to the split up of the 13 members representing working journalists. As this is going before the Joint Committee, I daresay that in their deliberations they will tackle this issue and deal with it in whatever form they like.

[Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman]

The powers and functions of the Press Council are also important. The object of the Council shall be to preserve the liberty of the Press and to maintain and improve standards of newspapers. Certain powers have been proposed in furtherance of this object. These powers and functions are in line with the recommendations of the Press Commission. Incidentally, I may say that out of the recommendations made by the Press Commission, excepting one or two matters where they refer to blackmail and all that, the rest of it is practically embodied in the Bill and the clauses are almost to that effect. The important function of the Press Council would be to study the developments which tend towards monopoly and concentration of ownership of newspapers. Here again we are fortified by the recommendations in the Press Commission Report which have referred to these very things. With regard to monopolies that may arise, the House will also be interested to know that the Monopolies Inquiry Commission in their questionnaire have included the question of ownership of papers and acquisition of paper interests. The functions also include study of the ownership or financial structure of newspapers. It will be open to the Council to suggest what remedies are called for.

Here, I would quote from Paragraph 831 of the Press Commission's Report. They say:

"We expect that an investigation of this nature and the publication of the findings of the Press Council would have the direct effect of breaking the monopoly by drawing public attention to it."

I would also refer to Paragraph 853 of the Press Commission's Report dealing with the influence of the advertising interests. With your leave, I propose to read a few lines, because I think they will interest the House:

"It has been stated that newspapers may, of their own accord,

follow a certain policy about news and views, in order not to offend advertising interests. On this subject, the Indian Society of Advertisers have said that the statement is only 'partially correct'. Many newspapers hesitate to publish certain kinds of news, and, when they do, avoid naming individual advertisers. This happens not only in respect of advertisers but covers also people of eminence and generally in the public eye. The AINEC have stated that, while any major adjustments of editorial policy to suit an advertiser's interest is to be deprecated, no newspaper would wish to offend the advertiser 'who deserves the consideration due to a customer'. They however express the view that instances of this kind must be negligibly few in Indian journalism. The remedy suggested by the Orissa Government is that the newspapers should themselves maintain a high standard of integrity and moral sense, and should regard the guardianship of liberty their main justification for existence. The Government of Madras have suggested that public opinion will have to assert itself to remedy such a situation. Here, too, we consider that the exercise of supervision by the Press Council and prompt investigation of instances brought to their notice would assist the newspapers in setting right the position into which some of them have slipped perhaps unconsciously."

The Commission go on to say that from time to time we hear of some irresponsible publications in a section of the press, particularly of a sensational character. The guide line provided by the Press Commission in this matter is:

"The remedy in such cases would be for the journalists themselves to exercise some sort of control on their erring

colleagues, and the Press Council which we are recommending should enable them to bring about a reform" (Para 931).

The only power vested in the Press Council (Clause 13) is to censure the erring newspaper, Editor or journalist. It would be relevant to point out that the Press Commission itself recommended that a body of the Press Council should be there to arbitrate on doubtful points and to censure anyone guilty of infraction of the journalistic code. No other disciplinary power is proposed to be vested in the Council. In other words, it can only express its disapprobation in the form of censure.

Clause 14(2) empowers the Council to exercise the powers of a civil court while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure. It may be noted that this power does not convert the Press Council into a Civil Court. It only gives the powers to the Press Council for certain limited purposes of summoning and enforcing the attendance of a person and examining him on oath, requiring the discovery and production of documents, receiving evidence on affidavit, issuing commission or examination of witnesses or documents. Similar provisions exist in various statutes, e.g., the Advocates Act,—I had the honour to be the Chairman of the Joint Committee on that Bill—the Chartered Accountants' Act, the Bar Council Act etc.

With regard to these powers of a Civil Court given to this Press Council, I must point out that the Clause only states the principles of natural justice that you cannot condemn a man without giving him notice, without knowing his side of the case. You must make him give a statement, and there must be a judicial interpretation of the case after hearing the points of view of both the sides. So, this power is only for the limited purpose of summoning witnesses, securing documents etc.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur):** If the order is not obeyed what happens?

**Shri P. R. Patel (Patan):** Suppose a newspaper editor or journalist is censured and there is no reasonable cause for it, what is the remedy for him?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I am glad you have asked this question. The right to go to the Supreme Court by special leave is always there. Nobody can stop it. It is in article 136, if I remember aright. I have got a distinguished lawyer before me, and my learned friend will confirm that article 136 gives the right to go to the Supreme Court by special leave. There are also various writ petitions open to the High Court and Supreme Court.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Supposing the Press Council calls a witness, and he refuses to comply. Will it constitute a contempt of court or not?

16 hrs.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Yes, that is natural.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** How is it natural? Where is the provision?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** I said so. There is the same procedure as in the court of law. There is the clause in the Bill giving them the powers of a civil court and sections of the Civil Procedure Code are mentioned there.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** Will you please see clause 13(4)? The decision of the Council under sub-section (1) shall be final and shall not be questioned in any court of law. What have you to say about that?

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** That is because the Indian Federation of Working Journalists wanted that there should be a finality to the proceedings of the tribunal. I am glad my attention has been drawn to it. But there

[Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman]

again it does not prevent an appeal to the Supreme Court and the writ procedure.

**Shri N. C. Chatterjee (Burdwan):** Article 136 is still there inspite of clause 13(4) and nothing can take away the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; it cannot be touched by this House either.... (*Interruptions.*)

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Is this a court, contempt of which will be punished? What Mr. Chatterjee says is correct; that position still remains.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Here you have got a body clothed with all the powers. It must act like a tribunal; it must give notice; it must take proper evidence and come to a decision. But that decision can always be challenged in the higher courts either by special leave or by writs.... (*Interruptions.*)

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** The decision of the tribunal shall be final according to clause 13(4).

**Shri C. R. Pattabhai Raman:** My distinguished lawyer friend, Shri N. C. Chatterjee has pointed out article 136 in the Constitution. I was saying that the Working Journalists Federation wanted some finality about the decisions. We can envisage powerful interests stepping in to drag things on, or to stay proceedings. They wanted a quick decision. Supposing a working journalist is involved and powerful interests step in and drag it on for two years, he will be in the streets. It is more to help the under-dog than otherwise that this has been put like that. (*Interruptions.*)

The Bill empowers the Press Council to make its regulations in regard to the manner of holding an enquiry. There again we have given the utmost latitude. This, we believe, would not come in the way of the Press Council trying to arrive at out of court settlements or conciliation between the dis-

puting parties. I envisage that quite a good number of cases will be settled out of court.

The House will note that the measure is largely based on the recommendations of the Press Commission. The Council aims at providing a forum where an erring newspaper can be adjudged by his own compeers in the profession. The penalty imposed is only disapprobation and bringing an erring journalist's action before public notice.

The Bill has another important provision under which the annual report of the Press Council will be placed before Parliament. Parliament will have the opportunity of discussing the working and activities of the Council. In this way, Parliament would be able to go over the actions of Governments, Corporations and such other public bodies which may have anything to do with the Press.

I cannot sit down, Sir, without quoting from the Tenth annual report of the Press Council in England. It was when they were just recovering from Vassell case and the Profumo case which as you are aware, Sir, created a storm.

"What could not be anticipated was the Vassall Tribunal and, hard on its heels, the Profumo-Ward affair the reverberations of which were still echoing when this report was completed.

The theme of the debate on the second Royal Commission, initiated in the House of Lords by Lord Francis-Williams on May 29th, epitomised in a broad sense the dilemmas for the Press in all the issues of this eventful year.

'Part of the basic problem of the Press,' he said, 'and, indeed, part of the basic problem, as I believe, of our whole modern society, is how to maintain, encourage and enhance professional

standards in an increasingly industrialised society'."

Then they go on—I am skipping over the other paragraphs which in my humble opinion are not germane to the present issue—they are talking of the Vassal affair, and then they say:

"With the Vassal affair no doubt in mind, he said: 'What has emerged from discussions and recent controversies is a very considerable and widespread public ignorance of the way in which the Press works and indeed of what the Press is. I hope that the Press itself may perhaps make its workings better known to the public as a whole because there is a good deal of confusion of thought from the failure to understand that... we are considering a profession which is subjected to pressure which no other profession in this country knows.

'When we speak of journalists', he continued, "we are indeed speaking of some 20,000 very different human beings, nearly all of whom are earning their living or trying to earn their living in conditions of exceptional difficulty. It is difficult and dangerous to generalise about any particular group of men in any particular profession.'"

Sir, later on, if necessary, I may deal with it, but now I do not think I will take much longer of the time of the House. With this I commend the recommendation of the Rajya Sabha to this House for consideration.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shri D. C. Sharma.

**Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this Bill, though I think it is a very, very belated effort... on the part of this Ministry... (Interruption).

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** This is not a party question.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Kanpur):** By the way he reminded you, Sir.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The motion has to be placed.

**Dr. M. S. Aney:** The motion is not before the House, Sir.

**Mr. Chairman:** The motion is before the House—Motion moved.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Sir, I welcome this Bill. . . .

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Sir, I rise on a point of order. . . .

**Mr. Chairman:** I have already stated that the motion is before the House.

Motion moved:

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of Rajya Sabha that the House do join in the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Bill to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press and of maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers in India, made in the motion adopted by Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 15th September, 1964, and communicated to this House on the 17th September, 1964, and resolves that the following 30 Members of Lok Sabha be nominated to serve on the said Joint Committee, namely: Shri Peter Alvares, Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya, Shri N. C. Chatterjee, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri, Shri Yudhvir Singh Chaudhary, Shri C. Dass, Shri L. Elayaperumal, Shri Ansar Harvani, Shri T. D. Kamble, Shri Cherian J. Kappen, Sardar Kapur Singh, Shri M. K. Kumaran, Shri Nihar Ranjan Laskar, Shri Shiv Charan Mathur, Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra, Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee, Shri Mohan Nayak, Shri Man Singh P. Patel, Shri Kishen Pattnayak, Shri Shivram Rango Rane, Shri Sadhu Ram, Shri Sham Lal Saraf,

[Mr. Chairman]

Pandit K. C. Sharma, Shri Shashi Ranjan, Shri Vidya Naran Shukla, Dr. L. M. Singavi, Shri Tula Ram, Shri S. Veerabasappa, Shri Virbhadra Singh, and Shri C. R. Pat-  
tabhi Raman."

**Shri Sinhasan Singh** (Gorakhpur):

Sir, before the discussion starts on this Bill I want to raise a point of order in respect of this Bill which has been discussed in the Rajya Sabha from where it has come here with this recommendation that this House do join in the recommendation of the Rajya Sabha in giving out thirty names along with their names for a Joint Committee.

As it appears from the Bill, the President had given consent under clause (3) of article 117 of the Constitution for the consideration of the Bill by the Rajya Sabha. Now, consideration of the Bill is the second stage to introduction; the Bill must first be introduced, and then it can be considered. My point is whether the Bill has had the permission of the President for its introduction in the Rajya Sabha or not. It means that this Bill is covered either by article 109 or article 110 or some article which draws the attention of article 117. If you look to article 117(1) you will find that no such Bill which contains provisions enumerated in sub-clauses (a) to (f) of clause (1) of article 110 shall be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The President cannot give permission for its introduction in the Rajya Sabha, but what the President has given is that he has given his sanction only for the consideration of the Bill. (*An Hon. Member*: Introduction). Not introduction, consideration. Consideration is the first stage which follows introduction. This Bill has been introduced there and it has been considered there. And then they have commended it to this House for joining in the Joint Committee. So, my submission is whether this Bill could at all be introduced in the Rajya Sabha and later on considered, unless we get the permission from the President.

This Bill, by some provision or other, has attracted article 117 of the Constitution which by sub-article (1) of that article says that a Bill "making such provision shall not be introduced in the Council of States", and by sub-article (3) says that the Bill "shall not be passed by either House of Parliament unless the President has recommended to that House the consideration of the Bill." That is my submission, and I request that you may be pleased to make a ruling.

**Mr. Chairman**: The hon. Member has not seen the last page of the Bill, as printed, where it has been stated that the President, has, "in pursuance of clause (3) of article 117 of the Constitution of India recommended the consideration of the Bill by the Rajya Sabha."

**Dr. M. S. Aney**: Not introduction, but consideration.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh**: He has only permitted the consideration. He has not permitted the introduction.

**Shri Shinkre** (Marmagao): The objection is not valid. If the consideration has been allowed, then it automatically follows that the introduction has been allowed. (*Interruption*).

**Mr. Chairman**: I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Member to article 117 of the Constitution.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh**: There is a Financial Memorandum attached to the Bill. This Bill, somehow or other, covers the financial provisions of the Constitution and for the financial provisions of the Constitution, two stages are provided. One is introduction and the other is the consideration. Under article 117, any Bill concerning finance cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. It can be considered in the Rajya Sabha with the consent of the President. The President has given consent only for its consideration and not for its introduction. So, I have raised this point, since this is a point

which has every chance of being passed over unless it is raised. I would like to have your ruling on the matter.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** May I invite your attention to sub-rule (2) of rule 65 of the Rules of Procedure? It says:

"If the Bill is a Bill which under the Constitution cannot be introduced without the previous sanction or recommendation of the President, the member shall annex to the notice such sanction or recommendation conveyed through a Minister, and the notice shall not be valid until this requirement is complied with."

So, it is mandatory under the Rules of Procedure also. *Mutatis mutandis*, it applies to official Bills as well.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** With great respect, I may point out that there is a little confusion on the matter. I may point out to my esteemed friend that first of all this Bill does not make any provision for any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (f) of article 110. The definition of a money Bill is given in article 110. I may invite the attention of the hon. Member to article 110 of the Constitution, which appears in Part V. Sub-clause (1) says:

"For the purposes of this Chapter, a Bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters, namely—".

I do not want to tire the House by reading sub-clauses (a) to (g).

With your leave, I may draw your attention to article 117 of the Constitution which says:

"(1) A Bill or amendment making provision for any of the matters specified in sub-clauses (a) to (f) of clause (1) of article 110 shall not be introduced or

moved except on the recommendation of the President."

Then, sub-clause (3) of article 117 says:

"A Bill which, if enacted and brought into operation, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be passed by either House of Parliament unless the President has recommended to that House the consideration of the Bill."

As very rightly pointed out by you, Sir,—if I may say so with great respect—the recommendation of the President is contained at the back of the Bill.

It may also interest the House to know that the "President, having been informed of the subjectmatter of the Press Council Bill, 1963, as introduced in the Rajya Sabha, has been pleased to recommend, under article 117(3) of the Constitution, the consideration of the Bill in the Lok Sabha." This has escaped notice of my esteemed friend. This morning's bulletin he may not have seen. It may also be noted that this Bill does not make any of the provisions from (a) to (g) referred to in article 110. Really, therefore, article 117(1) does not come in and the Bill can be introduced in Rajya Sabha. It has been introduced twice in that House, and in the first time, because this House was prorogued, it fell.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (Rai-ganj):** In fact, when the first Press Council Bill was introduced, it was introduced in the Rajya Sabha and it was passed by Rajya Sabha. It would have come to the Lok Sabha but for the fact that the Lok Sabha ended before the Bill could come here. Therefore, the objection that the Press Council Bill cannot be introduced in the Rajya Sabha is invalidated by the fact that the First Press Council Bill was introduced there and passed there and because the Second Lok Sabha was prorogued it

[Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya]

could not come here. The precedent is already there, and I do not know why this objection comes at this very late stage.

**Shri Heda (Nizamabad):** This involves a very simple question. Now that the Financial Memorandum is attached to the Bill it is very clear that this is a Money Bill. When it is a Money Bill it should have been introduced in the Lok Sabha. It is not a question as to which is a superior House and which is an inferior House; it is a question of deciding the rights of the two Houses. As I said, when the Financial Memorandum has been obtained and it has been included in the Bill it is very clear that it is a money Bill and it should have been introduced in the Lok Sabha. Instead of that, an effort has been made to introduce it in the Rajya Sabha. When permission was sought, it was not for the introduction but for the consideration of the Bill which is a later stage. If the permission had been sought for its introduction, the matter would not have been like this. Therefore, there seems to be some lacuna.

**Mr. Chairman:** May I point out to the hon. Member that the definition of Money Bill is exhaustively given in article 110 of the Constitution. From the exhaustive definition of various clauses given there it is clear that his argument is not tenable.

**An Hon. Member:** That it is not a Money Bill?

**Mr. Chairman:** It is not a Money Bill in that sense in which it has been defined here.

**Dr. M. S. Aney:** Then why has that financial recommendation been made?

**Mr. Chairman:** Under article 117(3) as the hon. Minister pointed out correctly.....

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Article 117 (3) comes after introduction of the Bill. Consideration of a Bill cannot precede its introduction.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** When any amount is drawn from the Consolidated Fund of India....

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** My point is whether a Bill can be considered without its being introduced? First leave of the House is taken to introduce a Bill and unless that leave is granted the Bill cannot be introduced. That is the procedure. If it is a Bill which has any financial consideration, even to introduce it in the Lok Sabha the sanction of the President must be there. No such Bill can be introduced without prior consent of the President even in Lok Sabha and much less in Rajya Sabha. What the President has given here is in regard to consideration of the Bill under sub-article (3) of article 117.

16.19 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** A point of order has been raised, Sir, and it needs your intervention.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Sinhasan Singh has been very particular in urging that point of his. We had some controversy over the Salaries Bill also. There also he urged the same point. To convince him I had referred that matter to the Attorney-General as well. Probably he knows that the opinion received by me is against him. Now he might proceed further.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** I intend to write to the Attorney-General to find out what a money Bill is, in that case. He has stated in the last paragraph that though the Bill covers provisions relating to money, yet it is not a money Bill. I intend to write to him to find out what is a money Bill according to him.

After all, two kinds of Bills are introduced in this House—the money Bill and the financial Bill. Let us distinguish between the two. Money Bill is defined in articles 109 and 110. The Financial Bill is covered by articles 113 and 114. Article 117 covers both Bills in regard to their introduction and consideration. Clause (1) of article 117 says that no Bill which comes under sub-clauses (a) to (f) of clause (1) of article 110 shall be introduced in the Lok Sabha without the consent of the President. So, prior consent of the President is necessary even for introduction in the Lok Sabha, much less for the introduction in Rajya Sabha. Now my contention is that the consent of the President is there at the last page for the consideration of the Bill in the Rajya Sabha, but not for its introduction. No Bill can be considered without it first being introduced. And for the introduction of such a Bill the previous consent of the President is necessary. Let us forget, for the time being, whether it is a Money Bill or a Financial Bill. So long as the consent of the President is not obtained, the Bill has not been properly introduced.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, he has shown that it could not be introduced.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Then, there is a financial memorandum attached to the Bill. The object of this Bill is to constitute a Press Council, which will have its Chairman, officers and other paraphernalia, which means this Bill is going to involve some financial obligation from the Consolidated Fund of India. That is why a Financial Memorandum is attached to the Bill. Only in the case of those Bills which involve a financial expenditure from the Consolidated Fund a Financial Memorandum is attached. In this case, such a memorandum is attached.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, I have followed his point.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** Sir, may I draw your attention to one point?

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not think there is any need. He takes the old plea that the old Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha, it was passed by the Rajya Sabha but it could not be passed by the Lok Sabha because that had been dissolved by then, therefore, there is a precedent. So, if the old Bill was passed by the Rajya Sabha, why should there be any objection to it now? That is his contention.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** The permission of the President for the old Bill was exactly in the same words as the permission for this Bill.

**Mr. Speaker:** That would not be a valid argument. If there was a mistake there and it was condoned at that time, it was overlooked at that time, merely because of that could we proceed now? That is not a valid argument.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** I am merely drawing your attention to a precedent.

**Mr. Speaker:** The President cannot overrule the substantial provisions of the Constitution. We are bound by the Constitution. But I cannot agree with Shri Sinhasan Singh, as I have told him more than once earlier. If he reads article 110(1), it says:

"For the purposes of this Chapter, a Bill shall be deemed to be a Money Bill if it contains only...."

—I will lay emphasis on this word "only"—

"...provisions dealing with all or any of the following matters, . . ."

Now, if the Bill contains only the provisions about (a) to (f).....

**Shri Sinhasan Singh:** Incidental to them.

**Mr. Speaker:** When such things are enumerated and then it is said "incidental to them", then too they must

[Mr. Speaker]

be analogous to them. Shri Chatterjee would support me that interpretation. That is the legal interpretation. When certain things are enumerated and then a clause says about certain things ancillary or of that sort, then they are necessarily these. Only if a Bill contains only the provisions about imposition, abolition, remission, alteration or regulation of any tax or the custody of the Consolidated Fund, appropriation of moneys, declaring of any expenditure, receipt of money, that is, so far as it is covered by any of these provisions in (a) to (f), then it would be a Money Bill and it could not be introduced in the Rajya Sabha. But if there are provisions in the Bill that involve an expenditure as a result of its passing and money shall have to be withdrawn from out of the Consolidated Fund of India and the provisions are not simply confined to the drawing of the money or imposition of taxes, then it is only a financial Bill and the sanction that is required of the President is under article 117 (3) and not under article 117(1) or 117(2).

So far as the other position that Shri Sinhasan Singh has taken, namely, that the sanction obtained is only for consideration and passing and not for introduction, of course, no Bill can be considered or passed unless it is introduced, but the sanction might be needed only for consideration and passing and not for introduction. When it is a financial Bill, it can be introduced without the permission or consent, but there ought to be a permission obtained before it is considered and passed. This Bill contains many other provisions besides the one involving expenditure and it is not a Money Bill; it is only a financial Bill and it has been rightly passed.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: May I also draw your attention to article 110(3) where it says:—

"If any question arises whether a Bill is a Money Bill or not." your decision should be final. As for the precedent, if I remember aright, a similar point was raised and you had given a decision to the effect.....

Mr. Speaker: If a question arises afterwards whether that was a Money Bill or not, then, of course, if I have given a certificate it cannot be questioned in a court or anywhere else. No other institution, body or court can question that if I have given that certificate. But here when we are still considering it, I have to rely on other provisions.

We might proceed with it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The hon. Minister is slightly overzealous.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for clearing up the mental fog that was going to envelop this House. I welcome this Bill, though I believe that it is a very belated attempt on the part of the Ministry, for which the new Minister is not at all responsible, to implement the recommendation of the Press Council.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: You have started at 4.20!

Shri D. C. Sharma: Fortunately the Press Council made many valuable suggestions and recommendations but, unfortunately, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting has been very very tardy in implementing them. I think, this is the last of the series of those recommendations which has come to us for legislation. I think, the objectives of the Press Council are unexceptionable and are in conformity with the democratic traditions of our country as also in consonance with the role which the press has always been playing in this country. I think if we look back upon the history of the press for a few years, we will find how zealously and sometimes, I should say, mis-

takenly, the liberties of the press have been guarded by this democratic country. When the emergency was declared, one newspaper in this metropolitan city of Delhi published a fictitious letter from a fictitious widow saying that her husband had been killed in NEFA fighting and that the country had done a very great harm to her by not making due preparations for emergency. That was, I think in the *Indian Express*. No action was taken against that newspaper. At the time of emergency, something must have been done to put an end to such slanderous attacks on the Government and something should have been done not to take away the urgency of the emergency.

Again, only recently, the Home Minister served some kind of notices upon some newspapers in this country. They had violated some of the provisions of the Indian Penal Code. But the next day, they were withdrawn. I can only submit very respectfully that my country....

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Their quotas were stopped.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** .... can be very proud of the way in which it has guarded the freedom of the press and I hope it will continue to do so.

Then, I say about the standards of journalistic ethics. Of course, journalism can be divided into two parts: the pre-Independence journalism and the post-Independence journalism. And I must say with due humility and with due sense of responsibility that the ethics which great journalists of this country practised before India became free are a beaconlight for the journalists of all the countries all over the world. They upheld the dignity of the profession, the honour of the press, the prestige of the country and they sacrificed everything for the State. I think there are very few countries which have such a great record of sticking to noble, high and great journalistic

standards as this country had before it because free. Of course, now also we need not be ashamed of what we are doing. But there is no doubt about the fact that the clear stream of journalism which was there before Independence has become muddy on account of certain influences that have been playing upon the nation, for instance, the influence of monopoly capitalists, the influence of concentration of the possession of these newspapers in the hands of a few persons. All these things have led to certain deterioration of standards but still I do not think there is anything in India about which we should feel ashamed when we compare it with journalism that is practised in U.S.A. and even in U.K. When I compare some of the papers published in my country with some of the papers published in other countries which have phenomenal circulations I think, our press is so far, comparatively speaking, very clean in upholding the standards for which our country has been known.

Now, Sir, this Press Council is going to promote research and provide common services for the press. I do not know how it is going to be done. I have looked into the Financial Memorandum and I do not think that with the paltry sum that has been allocated for the Press Council, we can provide these services. I welcome this promotion of research and I believe that as research is needed for scientific advancement, as research is needed for the promotion of studies relating to humanities, similarly research is needed for upgrading the professional standards of journalism. But I do not know in what way this is going to be done and how much money is going to be spent. I am referring to this point only because I do not want that in the objectives we should have only pious wishes and we should not have the power to gratify the wishes of the people which we are going to excite.

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

Then I come to common services for the press. What are they going to be for? Are they going to be hand-outs from the Press Information Bureau? Are they going to be hand-outs from the Public Relations Departments of the States? Are they going to be the communiques which are doled out by the various Ministries? If that is our conception of common services for the press, I would say that it is a very low ideal that we are placing before ourselves. No doubt, by doing all these things, they are doing good work, and I do not deny it. But I believe that when we think of common services for the press, we have to think in terms of objective reporting which some of the news agencies like the P.T.I. and others are doing.

We also believe that there should be other kinds of services also. Foreign observers have said that in my country unfortunately the newspapers are politics-oriented; there is too much of politics in the newspapers; there is no social reporting and there is no economic reporting, and there is no type of scientific reporting which is not in conformity with our politics. If our Government can do something in order to give the newspapers something on which they can lay their hands, so far as these things are concerned, I would welcome it. But I do not know what kind of agency they are thinking of for this purpose. I have read through this Bill very carefully and I find that they have not contemplated any kind of apparatus or machinery for giving the people these kinds of services. I hope something will be done in this regard now.

It is also said that the press council will see to it that journalism is taught as a subject like chemistry or physics or English literature or politics or economics. I do not find anything in this Bill to tell me whether the schools of journalism which are already to be found in different

places in the country, such as the school of journalism in Delhi, the school of journalism in Nagpur and the school of journalism in the Punjab University etc. are going to have any say in this matter. Therefore, I would say that the hon. Minister should come forward with very concrete proposals in regard to these things so that all the objectives of the Bill are realised to the fullest extent possible. It is no use placing grandiose objectives before the public without doing anything for the realisation of those objectives.

Now, I come to the formation of the council. I would submit very respectfully that this is a complicated Bill, coming from a Ministry with which I seldom associate the word 'complicated'. If a Bill like that had come from the Finance Ministry, I would have thought that it was in the fitness of things that the Finance Ministry should be dealing with problems in that way; for 'Complications' thy name is the Ministry of Finance'. But it comes from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, a Ministry which serves the needs of the public directly without any bamboo walls or any other kinds of walls between it and the public, a Ministry which is not only a purveyor of news but also a Ministry which gives the people an insight into the problems that confront mankind, a Ministry that also educates people in what is called good taste and wholesome feelings; if we bear this in mind, then we see that the way that the Press Council is going to come into being will be a very complicated one. The Chairman—he will be nominated by the Chief Justice of India. I do not know why. I have great regard for the Judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court. Of course, the Press Council is going to have some kind of judicial authority. The hon. Minister said that it is going to be a tribunal. Of course, it can be like a tribunal. But I do not

understand why the Chief Justice should be brought in to nominate the Chairman. Is it going to be a judicial body altogether? No. It is going to be mainly a public body, serving the needs of the public, the millions of newspaper readers, and you bring in the Chief Justice of India to nominate the Chairman.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** You have no chance.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** He may be the most admirable person for all I know. But I would like that the Chairman of the Council should be a person who has more to do with the public than with anything else.

Then about the members. In the first category, there will be 13 members out of whom 6 will be editors of newspapers and 7 working journalists. I do not know what kind of arithmetic has been employed in this. How many working journalists are there in this country and how many editors? I think we should have an arithmetic of human relationships also. I feel that the number allotted to working journalists is very very meagre. I do not like to take away the rights of editors. They are grand people. I do not want to say anything against them.

16.42 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

But if you are going to have 6 editors, you should have a larger number than 7 of working journalists. I know the relations between working journalists and editors. I do not want that everywhere working journalists should be at a disadvantage. No. I think the ratio between editors and working journalists should be changed in proportion to the duties they perform and the work they do.

Again, it is said that Indian languages will have three representatives. As India advances, the number (Ai) LSD—9.

ber of Indian languages papers will increase. English is a dying language....

**Shri R. S. Pandey (Guna):** Then why are you speaking in that language?

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** So that you may also die with me.

English is a great language, but I must submit very respectfully that Indian languages are going to assume greater and greater importance as years pass. But here you give them only 3 representatives. I think this is not very fair to Indian languages papers.

Then there are 6 members from among persons who own or carry on the business of management of newspapers. Why do you bring in monopoly capitalism into this picture? Of course, you will say you are taking managers only. But they are persons who take their orders from their masters. I feel this is something which has got to be looked into.

Then again, in the field of education, literature, law and culture, I do not want to see persons nominated in the same way as persons are nominated to the Rajya Sabha, as persons interested in education, literature, law or culture. Of course, I welcome this provision. I would insist that science should also be represented because scientific journalism is playing a very important part all over the world. There are papers which stand for the popularisation of science, and so to persons in the fields of education, literature, law, and culture science should have been added to this, because we cannot rule out science from the purview of journalism these days.

And what about the representatives of the people? There will be three Members, two from the Lok Sabha, and one from the Rajya Sabha. I think we represent millions of readers of newspapers, and I think that

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

the moment a gentleman or lady comes to Parliament, he or she reads newspapers more or less as a religious duty. And here we are going to be given only three seats.

Therefore, I would say that the composition of the Press Council should be changed altogether, in terms of principles, in terms of the ratio between one type of representatives and another. More than that, I think that the Members of the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, who represent the people of India, should have a greater say in this matter than any others.

Of course, I do not want to say anything about other things, inviting panels of names and all that. I have said already that all this procedure is very cumbersome, and I feel that this method will not lead to the smooth functioning of this Council, and, will not also lead to the happy relationship which should exist among the members of this Council.

I have nothing to say about the Chairman and Secretary, their emoluments and other things, but what is the power given to this Council?

"...if it is satisfied that it is necessary so to do, it may censure the newspaper, the editor or journalist, as the case may be."

Of course, censure is very good, and censure may change a person, may reform a person, but I feel that if the Press Council is coming into being only for the purpose of censoring some persons, it is not going to achieve much. I do not say it should be a punitive body and it should take upon itself the role of punishing people. I do not say anything like that, but how are you going to censure a newspaper, in what way will you do so? What is the machinery, what is the apparatus, what is the procedure? I think that unless we are told about the procedure of this

censure, this Press Council will be a body without any teeth. It will be just a kind of advisory body, a body which will pass harmless resolutions, and which will do things which will not carry journalism very far.

If it is only censure, what is the good of saying all that is said in Clause 14, that the newspaper shall furnish such and such information etc. Recently, a journalist in U.K. refused to furnish information about a thing which he had written, and he went to jail for that.

Clause 14 says that the Council shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court. Here is a giant, but we are saying to that giant that it will have the strength of a giant, but that it will not use that strength. It will have the functions of a civil court, but then, those functions will fructify only in words of censure.

I would, therefore, say that if you want that this Council should have something worthwhile to do, it should not fall between two stools. You should not say that you should have the power of a civil court but then you cannot do anything except censoring. I think we must move one way and we must move that way fully and not go half way.

I welcome this provision in clause 18 that we will get the annual report from this Council and we will be able to discuss it. I submit that there was a time when we used to have no-day-yet-named motions and we used to discuss these reports. We are not doing that now. I think the report of this Press Council will also go unnoticed as so many other reports are going unnoticed.

Before I finish, I want to make an observation about appointments. I know how the Chairman is going to be appointed. But how are the other functionaries of this Council going to be appointed? I think they should be

appointed through regular channels of the UPSC and in no other way. This is the safeguard which we need; it should not be that the Chairman appoints the Secretary and the Secretary appoints other functionaries.

There is the provision about delegated legislation and I hope that if the delegated legislation contravenes the provisions of the Act we will have the right to discuss it and set it right.

The Financial Memorandum says that there will be a small staff to begin with and it is anticipated that the annual expenditure would not exceed Rs. 2.30 lakhs. This is a big thing for which we have been waiting all these 10-12 years. I do not think that a 'small beginning' should be made. Like the Goddess mentioned in Greek mythology the Press Council should come into being in a full-fledged way; it should not be a kind of embryonic things. This amount is too little. The Memorandum also says that an initial non-recurring expenditure of about Rs. 20,000 may be necessary. This is a very big venture upon which we are launching in free India and I feel that there should be election of a direct nature. I also say that great things require a lot of money for fructification but the sums mentioned here will bring into being an anaemic, bloodless and ineffective, not a very helpful Press Council. I say that the Press Council should deliver the goods and safeguard the interests of journalism and readers of newspapers and for all these I am sure we will require more funds than are given in this Financial Memorandum.

श्री बड़े (खारगोन) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब प्रेस काउंसिल बिल आया तो सारे देश में, प्रेस के मन में और जनता के मन में इसके सम्बन्ध में बड़ा आनन्द हुआ। एक तरह का उत्साह उत्पन्न हुआ कि डिमांडेसी अथवा प्रजातन्त्र प्राप्त होने के बाद यह पहला कदम उठाया गया है जिसमें कि प्रेस को कुछ

स्वतन्त्रता मिलने वाली है। जिस प्रकार से बार काउंसिल है, मेडिकल काउंसिल है उसी तरह से यह प्रेस काउंसिल होने जा रही है। लेकिन इस में दो बातें हैं जिन को इस सदन को धीरे धीरे कमेट्री बनने जा रही है उसको मुख्यतया देखना चाहिये। एक तो यह कि इस प्रेस काउंसिल को न्यूज़प्रीट के बारे में पावर देनी चाहिए। इस समय जो सजा गवर्नमेंट के हाथ में है उसे इस प्रेस काउंसिल को देना चाहिये क्योंकि हम देखते हैं कि न्यूज़प्रीट के बारे में काफी हो हल्ला होता है। हमने अपने मध्य प्रदेश में देखा है कि जो समाचारपत्र वहाँ से निकलते हैं उन पर यह आरोप लगाया गया है कि उन समाचारपत्रों के द्वारा न्यूज़प्रीट को ब्लैक मार्केट में बेचा गया है। इस प्रकार का आरोप लगाने का कारण यह है कि उन का जो सर्कुलेशन होता है वह इतना ज्यादा बतलाया जाता है जिसका ठिकाना नहीं है। जो गवर्नमेंट के तारीफ करने वाले समाचार पत्र होते हैं उनका जितना सर्कुलेशन बतलाया जाता है उसको गवर्नमेंट मान लेती है और उसी सर्कुलेशन के अनुसार उनको न्यूज़प्रीट मिल जाया करता है। फिर उनके सर्कुलेशन से ज्यादा जितना न्यूज़प्रीट उनको मिलता है वह ब्लैक मार्केट में चला जाता है। इसलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट ने जो सत्ता न्यूज़प्रीट के बारे में अपने पास रखी हुई है वह उसे इस प्रेस काउंसिल को दे देना चाहिये। अगर यह सत्ता प्रेस काउंसिल को नहीं दी गई तो यह प्रेस काउंसिल काम करे या न करे, इसका कोई विशेष महत्व नहीं है। मैं ने देखा है कि जो न्यूज़प्रीट इस तरह से ब्लैक मार्केट में जाता है वह ज्यादातर येलो प्रेस, जिस को आप गटर प्रेस कह सकते हैं, के पास जाता है। अभी हमने देखा कि हमारे माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय के ऊपर एक समाचारपत्र ने कीचड़ उछाला था। लेकिन वह बहुत सस्ता, गटर प्रेस का समाचार पत्र था, जिसकी कोई कीमत नहीं है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो बिना किसी प्रमाण के किसी के खिलाफ लिखना शुरू कर देते हैं उनको न्यूज़प्रीट कहाँ

[श्री बड़]

से मिलता है। यदि इस को देखा जाये तो उन को न्यूज़प्रिंट उन्हीं समाचारपत्रों से मिलता है जो कि गवर्नमेंट की तारीफ करने वाले प्रेस हैं और जिन को अपने सकुलेशन से अधिक न्यूज़प्रिंट मिलता है। उन को न्यूज़प्रिंट ज्यादा मिलने से वे उसे ब्लैक मार्केट में बेच देते हैं। इस लिये मैं समझता हूँ कि न्यूज़प्रिंट के बारे में इस प्रेस कौंसिल को अधिकार दे देना चाहिये।

दूसरी बात ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स के बारे में है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैंने यह देखा है कि ज्यादा ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स उन्हीं समाचारपत्रों को मिलते हैं जो गवर्नमेंट की तारीफ करते हैं। ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स देने का अधिकार भी इस प्रेस कौंसिल को दिया जाना चाहिये। जैसा कुछ लोग कहते हैं, और मैं ने बम्बई और इन्दौर में देखा है कि एलेक्शन के समय में जो लोग वोटर्स लिस्ट छापते हैं और गवर्नमेंट की तारीफ करते हैं, उन को भी ज्यादा ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स मिलते हैं। मैं एक बार एक प्रेस में बैठा हुआ था समाचार देने के लिये। मैंने देखा कि वहां के मालिक ने कहा कि उद्योग मंत्री का फोटो छापना शुरू कर दो और उन को सन्तुष्ट करने के लिये उद्योग मंत्री जी की फोटो छपनी शुरू हो गई। उसके एक महीने के बाद मैं फिर वहां चला गया तो देखा कि उद्योग मंत्री के यहां से उन को कुछ ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स मिल गये। इसी प्रकार से जिस डिपार्टमेंट में प्रेस वाले को काम होता है उस के मंत्री के फोटो छापना वह शुरू कर देते हैं। पहले ही से समाचारपत्र के अन्दर उन के बारे में बड़े बड़े शब्दों में उन की तारीफ प्रकाशित होनी शुरू हो जाती है और उस के बाद उन को ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट मिलने लग जाते हैं। इसलिये इन ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स के बारे में भी प्रेस कौंसिल को अधिकार दिया जाना चाहिये।

तीसरे मैं ने देखा है कि जो प्रिमेम्बल है इस बिल का, उस में गलत शब्दों का प्रयोग

किया गया है। मुझे उस पर आब्जेक्शन है। उस में लिखा हुआ है :

"to establish a Press Council for the purpose of preserving the liberty of the Press."

इसमें फ्रीडम ऑफ द प्रेस होना चाहिये, लिबर्टी ऑफ द प्रेस नहीं होना चाहिये। लिबर्टी से ऐसा मालूम होना है कि कोई बड़ी बन्दिश उन के ऊपर है जिस से उनको लिबर्टी आप दिलाया चाहते हैं। मुझ इस लिबर्टी शब्द पर आपत्ति है और उस की जगह पर यहां फ्रीडम का शब्द होना चाहिये।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may continue tomorrow.

17 hrs.

#### STATEMENT RE FLOOD SITUATION

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table of the House a supplementary statement on the flood situation in the country. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3266/].

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The statement will be distributed to the Members.

17 0½ hrs.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF BACKWARD AREAS\*

Shri Umanath (Pudukkottai): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this question relates to the steps taken by the Government to implement the recommendations of the Planning Commission's Study Team for the development of the markedly backward areas in various States. This report makes certain important recommendations. Many of these

backward areas in various States require the undertaking by the Government of certain major projects but what used to stand in the way was, from the economic standpoint, they were called 'uneconomic' and were given up. But now, this report gives certain criteria for the approach towards developmental projects in these areas. For example, this report says:

"The avenues of stimulating natural growth in backward regions through promotion of agricultural and other allied activities in conjunction with promotion of growth in industry, trade and commerce through special incentives, and even uneconomic measures for a time have to be fully explored in a systematic manner by competent authorities over a period of time and adequate measures taken without any loss of time."

Again, on the question of exploitation of natural resources in these backward regions, the report says:

"Apart from investigations, exploitation of natural resources will have to be undertaken even though, on purely economic criteria, such exploitation may not be desirable."

As far as transport, extension of power and communications for the backward areas are concerned, this report recommends that heavy investment will have to be made in the backward areas on a surplus basis itself. The fulfilment of the long-standing urge of the backward areas in various States, particularly of Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram and Arantangi in the Madras State are bound up with the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report. Being a scarcity area, devoid of perennial irrigation and any in-

dustry worth the name whatsoever, the people of these areas, ever since achieving Independence, had reposed high hopes on the Government for ensuring them irrigation facilities as the starting point for their development itself. This elementary urge of theirs found expression in their demand for the past 17 years for a major project connecting the river Cauvery with the irrigation tank systems by a canal. In pursuance of this urge, I raised this question during the discussion in this very House on the report of the Mid-term Appraisal of the third Five Year Plan, and I placed the demand that the Planning Commission should send a study team to Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Arantangi and other such backward areas in the Madras State. To this, the Planning Minister, in his reply to the debate, stated:

"A special team has been appointed for Uttar Pradesh. Four districts have been selected.... This is a sort of pilot study in which all the factors creating this backwardness and the factors impeding the development of such areas will be studied.... Very soon the report of this team will be out and then that will give us a pattern....."

Mark the words, "that will give us a pattern".....

"....which we can apply to all these areas so that the district of the hon. Member will also be covered as also the area of Pudukkottai."

The report is out, and the Government have announced their decision to accept the recommendations. So, when I asked the question on the 17th September in this very House whether they got the pattern out of this report—because we were promised that a pattern will be got out of the report and it will be applied

[Shri Umanath]

to all the other areas—the hon. Minister replied:

"The pattern of development of backward areas in different States will have to be based on studies of the economic and social conditions of these areas."

Again, this is going topsy-turvy. At that time, when I demanded that a team must be sent for having this study, I was told that the report would come; and that we would get a pattern out of that report. After getting the report, I asked the question, "Did you get a pattern?" I am again sent back to the old position, with the reply that the pattern will be got only after the studies of the economical and social conditions of the local areas are undertaken.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा (कोटा) :

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हाउस में कोरम नहीं पांच बजा है।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member may resume his seat. The Bell is being rung.

There is quorum now. Shri Umanath may continue his speech.

**Shri Umanath:** What respect will this Government draw with such shabby performance?

To enable the inclusion of these backward areas for special developmental measures in the Fourth Plan, this report has made the following concrete recommendation in Chapter V, Paras 13 and 15. It says:

"It is imperative that the backward areas in different States should be identified well before tentative decisions are taken even at the State level about allocations under the State's Fourth Five Year Plan. If the backward

areas in different States can be identified by the end of financial year 1963-64, the various working groups which will be appointed at the State level for agriculture, irrigation, power, roads etc., will be able to study closely the levels and problems of development of these areas, and recommend allocations and measures for accelerated development during the Fourth Plan...."

So, to enable the inclusion of these areas in the Fourth Plan, it clearly stipulates that the identification of these areas must be done before the end of 1963-64. Sir, the financial year 1963-64 is over, and we are approaching the end of 1964-65 and yet the Madras Government has not identified Pudukkottai, Arantangi and other areas. These areas which have already missed the three Plans stand the threat of missing the Fourth Plan as well.

I hold the Government of India responsible for this state of affairs. The report was in their hands in January, 1964 itself. What action was taken to get the areas identified by March, 1964? Far from it. In 1964-65, the Government of India accepts a recommendation that was to be implemented in 1963-64. Can there be anything more ridiculous than this?

Now, the report while recommending that specific outlays and targets for the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh for 1964-65 must be settled in consultation with the U. P. Government, also recommends, that similar outlays and targets for similar areas in other States should be settled after discussion between the Planning Commission and the respective State Governments.

While the Government of India have discussed with the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh and settled the matter, for 1964-65, they have not

discussed the matter with the Chief Minister of Madras and Chief Ministers of other States.

In the matter of appointment of a study team, special favour was shown to Uttar Pradesh, while ignoring the claims of Madras. When I said then that the people of Pudukkottai were construing it as Uttar Pradesh patriotism, some of my friends on the other side were a bit upset. What have they done now? In the matter of implementation of the recommendations of the study team, also, the promptness with which the needs of Uttar Pradesh are met are in crying contrast to the total neglect of similar areas in Madras and other States.

Sir, the people of Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram and Arantangi will not tolerate this step-motherly treatment any longer. They have already been pushed to the point of desperation by the Government. Due to droughts almost every year, what little crops they grow are destroyed and yet they are not granted kist remissions due to the State Government's stinginess.

Being already a scarcity area, the impact of the present food crisis is more painful in this area than in others. The people will not suffer humiliation any more. Henceforth, the Government will have no moral right to blame the people, if they resort to direct action.

In conclusion, I want straight answers to the following questions: (1) What action Government proposes to take to identify backward areas in Madras and other States? (2) What concrete step Government proposes to undertake socio-economic studies in Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Arantangi areas of Madras and evolve concrete plan of their development? (3) Which is the body that proposes to undertake those studies and by what time? (4) When does the Planning Commission and the Government of India propose to discuss these matters with the Chief Minister of Madras and

other States? (5) What action the Government has taken to constitute special areas cell in each State? (6) What is the concrete procedure the Government is going to adopt to ensure that all these specific plans and outlays for these areas would be surely included in the Fourth Plan? On the replies to these depend many of the urges to be fulfilled in these areas.

**Shri D. C. Sharma** (Gurdaspur): I want to know one thing. Backward areas are not to be found only in one State of India. The problem of backward areas is not confined only to Madras. I want to know the criteria of Government for calling an area a backward area. Also, what have you done so far for upgrading these backward areas economically and socially and what are you going to do, so far as the Fourth Plan is concerned?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh** (Gorakhpur): Sir, I want to put only one question.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sorry. He should have given notice in advance.

**The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am glad the hon. Member has raised this discussion. It is a very important matter and this gives me an opportunity to clarify some of the basic concepts in this regard.

So far as the Planning Commission is concerned, for quite some time this matter was engaging its attention. Even in the Third Plan the concept of the balanced regional development, the development of specially backward areas from the economic, social and other points of view was considered so that the development of the country may proceed in a more or less integrated and balanced manner. Even as early as August 1962 the Planning Commission issued a letter to all the State Governments to furnish information on indication of State regional

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development and identify the backward areas within their territory. We did receive certain suggestions from some of the State Governments, quite a number of them, though not from all State Governments. But while going through them we found that there are various gaps in the selection and it was not precisely done with reference to the indicators mentioned in the letter of the Planning Commission. This was the finding of the Joint Team also.

Therefore, on a demand from this House in the budget discussion, the late Prime Minister directed that a study of the eastern districts of U.P. should be made and a joint team was formed, of the Planning Commission and the State Government, to go into this question most thoroughly for a scientific examination of the problems in the area to find out the pattern of development which will emerge. That is why in the last budget discussion I said that it is a sort of pilot study.

**Shri Umanath:** That was during the mid-term appraisal.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** I did not mean that the same thing will be applied to other areas; but when I said even about the pattern, we said that they will be able to evolve some pattern. So, when I said that at that particular point of time, this was perhaps the thinking. After the report, as the hon. Member has himself quoted, they did not suggest a uniform pattern for the development of the whole country. I do not want to quote again from this. They themselves suggested that actually the pattern will be determined of any area's development, particularly of this area, by what they said the pattern of natural resources in it. For example, if I may amplify, the particular area which was studied by this team, namely, the four districts of eastern UP, the governing factor there is the water table which is very high and it is an excellent area for lift irrigation, tube-wells and other wells. They

can go in for a very intensive saturated irrigation in this area to develop the irrigation potential in the country. There may be other areas, hilly areas, where other resources may be there. Therefore, this is the finding of the committee that the pattern will be determined by the type of natural resources that may be available.

**Shri Umanath:** The concrete plan will be evolved from the type of natural resources, but the general approach is given.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** I am sorry. I am answering the specific point. He said that there is some contradiction in my reply then and now and I am answering it. Now the position is that there cannot be an all-India pattern in the area's development in a nature like that. Each area varies; the natural resources and various other factors come in. Therefore this Team has suggested that first the area should be indicated on certain specific indicators. He has asked a number of questions many of which will be answered by my reply.

The first and foremost question is to identify the area on some scientific basis where the indicators of economic development determine to what extent the potential is there; the natural resources are there and to what extent an area can be said as backward. These indicators on a very scientific basis have got to be determined. Therefore the Planning Commission as a result of a series of meetings have now identified selected indicators and accepted 15 indicators on which each district will be determined as backward. For example, density of population is one. A district where population is very dense..

**Shri Umanath:** But these indicators were formulated even.....

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** It is now. Earlier they were asked to give information; but, as I said, it was full of gaps and

the areas selected were not on scientific basis. So, after this report the Planning Commission have selected 15 indicators, like, density of population, the rural population as percentage of total population, cultivable area, net area sown, percentage of irrigated area to total crop area, percentage of double cropped area to total area, per capita gross value of agricultural output etc. So, each State Government is asked to identify the area on the basis of these selected agreed indicators.

**Shri Umanath:** Any time limit?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** We are anxious that these identified areas on these agreed selected indicators should form a part of the Fourth Plan; so I think, it should be done early. The State Governments themselves are anxious. Hon. Member himself is here championing for Ramanathapuram or Pudukkottai; similarly, other hon. Members must be having other areas in mind. The pressure is much more in the State Assembly than here. So, I have no doubt that very soon on this basis identification of the areas will emerge.

**Shri Umanath:** I am in Parliament. That is why I am giving pressure from here.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** I say, this democratic pressure is very natural and it should be there.

Then, the joint team has suggested that the pattern of development, as the hon. Member quoted, should be based on socio-economic studies of the areas concerned. So, as soon as the areas are identified, the State Governments will be requested to appoint special teams for making studies as a study was made in the four districts of eastern U.P. and the pattern of development for that particular area will emerge. So, the second

stage will come after that. He has asked me a special question about Madras. All these questions are answered by the time-schedule about this matter. After the areas are identified and the pattern of development emerges as a result of scientific studies, intensive socio-economic studies, by special teams in these areas, then the question of providing of necessary pattern of development and including it in the programme will all come. So, I think, it will be done at that stage. I have no doubt, and the Planning Commission is very keen about it, that in the Fourth Plan such areas should be identified. As a result of special studies, the pattern of development in these areas should emerge and a special provision will be made. In U.P., for example, after the study was made, we have provided some funds, on the recommendations of the joint team itself, to the extent of Rs. 10 crores in this Plan, Rs. 4 crores this year and Rs. 6 crores next year. A committee has been formed. We want the committee to be stronger there, in this area, and the special programme suggested by the team for which financial assistance has been provided by way of accelerated assistance should take place. Similarly, after these areas are identified and the pattern of development is evolved as a result of these studies, I have no doubt that in the Fourth Plan itself there will be clear indications of the development of these areas. I think these were some of the questions which I have answered.

**Shri Umanath:** Has the Government any idea about the time within which these things will finish and they can be included in the Fourth Plan? May I know whether the Government has got any idea about the time-limit so as to be able to include it in the Fourth Plan. These things can go on for a number of years. Now the Fourth Plan is coming....

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** We wanted it to be included in the Fourth Plan. Now, the time schedule of the Fourth

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Plan is to be finally approved by this House by the budget session of 1966.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा राजस्थान के  
लिए क्या किया गया है ?

Shrimati Savitri Nigam (Banda):  
Sir, on a point of information.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: No more questions. The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

17.24 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, September 30, 1964/Asvina 8, 1886 (Saka).