



Friday, April 10, 1953

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE OFFICIAL REPORT

PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.....21.11.2014.....
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

1945

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1946

Shri Alagesan: The other State Governments also are considering their development plans regarding minor ports and the Centre is considering giving assistance to them.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is not a question of considering or not. I asked whether other State Governments have also approached the Central Government for similar loans.

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. They have got their own development plans for their minor ports. They want assistance from the Centre. It is under the consideration of the Central Government.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the improvements which are sought to be effected in that port with the assistance of this loan?

Shri Alagesan: It is proposed to spend the amount on the following capital works, and special repairs and replacements:

Dredging equipment Rs. 400,000;
Repairs and strengthening of the pier Rs. 80,000; Electric power supply Rs. 100,000; Water supply Rs. 125,000; Cranes Rs. 350,000; Workshop equipment Rs. 50,000; Lighters and barges Rs. 275,000.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister cannot go on with so many details.

Shri Alagesan: He wanted the details.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But, the House does not want. I cannot allow the details to be given taking the time of the House.

Shri Nanadas: What are the other State Governments that have asked for similar loans?

Shri Alagesan: All the maritime Governments.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Arising out of the answer given by the hon. Deputy Minister, may I enquire whether the Travancore-Cochin Government have

The House met at Two of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

OKHA PORT (IMPROVEMENT)

*1255. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bombay have approached the Government of India for financial assistance for carrying out certain essential improvements in Okha port; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give such assistance?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the amount of assistance which is going to be given to that Government for improvement of that port?

Shri Alagesan: We propose to give 20 lakhs.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What is the rate of interest for that loan? When will that loan be repaid?

Shri Alagesan: It will be interest free for the first ten years. Then, it will be repaid in twenty equal annual instalments with interest at the rate of 4½ per cent.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I could not get the figure, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Twenty lakhs.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether other State Governments have also asked for similar loans?

asked for any loan for the development of any port?

Shri Alagesan: I should think so; if the hon. Member puts a separate question, I shall supply the information.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question relates to Okha.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Arising out of the supplementary, Sir.

Shri Gidwani: Is the loan interest free?

Shri Alagesan: It is interest free for the first ten years.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members must attend to what is being said. Next question.

WHEAT PRICES IN DELHI

*1256. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any decision has been taken in connection with the present price structure of wheat in Delhi?

(b) What are the alternative arrangements made for the supply of indigenous wheat falling short due to the inability of the Punjab Government to be able to fulfil their obligations on account of a weak crop forecast in that State?

(c) Will the supply have to revert once again to imported wheat?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes. It has been decided to maintain the present issue prices of wheat and atta in Delhi.

(b) and (c). Efforts are being made to move as much wheat from Punjab and P.E.P.S.U. to Delhi as possible. Stocks of imported wheat held by the Centre in Delhi will be released as and when necessary to supplement the availabilities of stocks of indigenous wheat.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know if the conditions which existed before the introduction of two prices in Delhi, one for controlled wheat and one for imported wheat, are still existing and how long they are likely to continue?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): So long as extra quantity—extra to the ration—is supplied, extra price will be charged.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: In view of the fact that the Delhi Government has imposed a ban upon the hotels on serving rice, may I know whether their wheat quota is going to be increased?

Shri Kidwai: But, they want rice, not wheat.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या कारण है कि दिल्ली में देशी गेहूं नहीं बल्कि बाहर का गेहूं दिया जाता है जो कि ज्यादा दाम में उन को जा कर पड़ता है। ?

श्री किशवर्द्धि : बाहर का गेहूं इस सबब से दिया जाता है चूंकि देशी गेहूं दिल्ली पैदा नहीं करता।

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: In view of the fact that on account of failure or weak crop in the Punjab, they could not fulfil their promise for the supply of wheat to Delhi, may I know...

Shri Kidwai: That is not correct; Punjab has fulfilled its promise.

PURCHASE OF WHEAT BY PAKISTAN

*1253. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan purchased any quantity of wheat from India in the year 1952-53; and

(b) if so, how much and of what value?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). There was an agreement between us and Pakistan under which we exchanged 38,578 tons of wheat with Pakistan rice. The value of the wheat at the prevailing market prices abroad was Rs. 229 lakhs.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the price per maund at which this wheat was supplied to Pakistan?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): The quantity of rice has been given. I think a calculation can easily be made. It was at a much cheaper price than the imported rice.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether it is a fact that the rice which Pakistan gave in exchange for wheat is of very inferior quality?

Shri Kidwai: The very rice Pakistan exchanged with Japan; they supplied 50,000 tons for 1 lakh tons of wheat.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know how the price of rice imported from Pakistan will compare with that imported from Burma, China, etc.?

Shri Kidwai: The price is much lower than that for rice imported from Burma, Siam, China or from anywhere else in the world.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the wheat supplied to Pakistan was indigenous wheat or imported wheat?

Shri Kidwai: Ships on the way were diverted to Pakistan.

Shri Heda: What are the prospects of another deal this time?

Shri Kidwai: As Pakistan has decided to reduce the rates for Japan of 1:2, we do not expect any further deal.

NON-PAYMENT OF SUGAR-CANE PRICES TO GROWERS IN BIHAR

***1259. Shri L. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that many cane growers of Bihar who supplied sugar canes to the various sugar mills of their area have not received payment of their canes from the mills last year?

(b) If so, have Government any idea about the amount of the said money lying with the sugar mills of Bihar?

(c) Have some steps been taken to ensure payments to the cane growers?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). Out of the total amount of Rs. 10.19 crores due from mills on account of price of cane supplied in 1951-52 season, a sum of only Rs. 1.5 lakhs remained unpaid on 15-3-53. This small balance represents mainly sums due on account of disputed or lost cane receipts, and no further action to expedite payment is considered necessary.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether the Government are aware of the fact that the cane growers did not get the necessary permits from the Mills even this year and as a result of which, thousands of acres of cane are still standing in the field and will not be harvested before the closing of this present season?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): If the hon. Member gives me details, I will forward them to the Bihar Government for necessary action.

Shri Altekar: In what time do the farmers get the price after the cane is supplied?

Shri Kidwai: Sometimes the same day; ordinarily within a week. But, last year, they had to wait for months.

श्री विष्वाति विश्वे : क्या यह सही है कि सुगोली मिल के पार्टनर्स के बीच में मगज्जा होने के कारण और एक पार्टनर के पाकिस्तान में बले जाने के कारण पार साल और इस साल शुगरकेन भ्रोअर्स को ऊब के दाम नहीं मिले ?

श्री विष्वाति विश्वे : आप की इतला गालिबन सही होगी, मुझे भालूम नहीं ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Jaipal Singh:

श्री विष्वाति विश्वे : क्या आनरेबल मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृता करेंगे कि

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is giving information. I have already called Mr. Jaipal Singh.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In view of the fact that the amount unpaid is to the tune of one and odd crores,...

Shri Kidwai: 1.5 lakhs.

Shri Jaipal Singh: ... may we know the reasons why Government have considered it not necessary to take any action?

Shri Kidwai: The reason is, the amount is admittedly due and is not being paid. There is some dispute and the State Governments are looking into it.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether Government have received similar complaints from other States?

Shri Kidwai: What about?

Shri Nanadas: To the effect that...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. The question refers to non-payment in Bihar.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if, on account of late payment of the price of sugar cane in the last season and also during the current season...

Shri Kidwai: Not in the current season.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: ...may I know if there is any apprehension that the area planted for the next crushing

season may be lower than in the season now ending?

Shri Kidwai: I don't think so.

RICE RATION FROM RAILWAY GRAINSHOPS

*1280. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railwaymen are now being given 4 ozs. of Rice ration from the Railway Grainshops on the Southern Railway system and if so, why;

(b) whether there is a demand from Railwaymen to give 12 ozs. of Rice ration from the Railway Grainshops at the fair-price shops rates and if so, what action has been taken; and

(c) whether it is the policy of the Railway administration to encourage supply of commodities through the Railway Grainshops and Co-operative credits institutions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Railway employees who draw cereal ration at non-concessional rates from the Railway Grainshops situated in the Madras State get 4 oz. of rice in their cereal ration as the scale and composition of ration for such employees conform to that obtaining in the Government Fair Price Shops functioning in the area.

(b) Such a demand was made in June 1952 but Government could not agree to adopt a scale different from that obtaining in the Fair Price Shops.

(c) Railway Grainshops deal only with a limited number of commodities and are also meant mainly for employees who are entitled to grainshop concessions. Government have more than once made clear their intention to encourage the growth of Co-operative Stores on Railways.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Railway staff in the Madras State are requesting the Government to give more rations than four ounces in view of the fact that rationing is now cancelled in Madras State?

Shri Alagesan: But they are free to buy in the open market. Rice and other things are all freely available.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether there is any difference between the prices in the fair price shops and prices outside? If not, why more rice is not supplied to Railway workers?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is making a suggestion. He may ask a question. Is there any difference?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, there is a difference. In some places there it is lower.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Is it a fact that these co-operative credit institutions are not working properly because proper help is not being given to popularise the scheme by the Government?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know whether the hon. Member is referring to Railway co-operative societies.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Of course.

Shri Alagesan: Recently an officer has gone into the working of these societies and his recommendations are under consideration.

Shri Nambiar: In view of the fact that the prices outside are higher than in the Railway grainshops, may I know whether the grainshops will issue more than four ounces of rice?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is making a suggestion which will be considered by Government.

Shri Nambiar: This is part of my question.

Shri Alagesan: As far as the concessional cardholders are concerned, they are getting their scale of rations which is more—7 ounces of rice and 5 ounces of wheat and/or millets.

Shri Venkataraman: May I know whether the employees who have opted for grainshop concessions are getting the same as four ounces or are they getting anything more? If so, how much?

Shri Alagesan: Just now I said they are getting more—7 ounces of rice and 5 ounces of wheat and/or millets.

Shri G. P. Sinha: May I know whether the rations supplied by general controlled shops is more or less than the quota supplied to Railway employees in Madras?

Shri Alagesan: They are equal.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know what reasons Government have for continuing to call these Railway grainshops fair shops, when obviously from the reply the hon. Minister has given, they are unfair shops?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unfair in their favour.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to supply only the partial needs of these Railway workers through these grainshops?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a matter of policy. We are getting into big questions. Next question.

CENTRAL TOURIST TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*1261. **Shri L. J. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether there is a Central Tourist Traffic Advisory Committee in India?

(b) If so, what are the functions of the Committee?

(c) How many tourist traffic centres are in India and what are their names?

(d) What is the income from the foreign tourist traffic in India during the year 1952-53?

(e) What are the development schemes for expanding the tourist traffic centres in India?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Yes. This Committee advises Government on all matters relating to the promotion of tourist traffic in India.

(c) In a country of India's size with a wealth of archaeological monuments the number of places of tourist interest is not inconsiderable. Presumably the hon. Member wants information in respect of places which are generally visited by tourists to this country. If so, the places generally included in their itineraries are Agra, Ajanta-Ellora, Banaras, Bombay, Calcutta, Darjeeling, Delhi, Jaipur, Kashmir, Madras, Mysore and Sanchi.

(d) On the basis of sample surveys conducted by the Reserve Bank of India, the tourist spendings for 1952 have been computed at Rs. 2.5 crores. Figures for January, February and March 1953 are not yet available.

(e) Development of a tourist centre depends upon its accessibility and accommodation facilities available. The provision of these amenities is, however, the concern of the State Governments and the Government of India are at present concentrating only on co-ordination and publicity. The Government of India have, however, in certain special cases subsidised the construction and improvement of roads to important key tourist centres.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know, Sir, how many foreign tourists visited India in 1952, and how many of them were Americans, how many Russians and how many Chinese?

Shri Alagesan: As far as 1952 is concerned, the total number of tourists was 25,448 of which Americans were 4,889. I do not have just now the figures relating to the other countries, but I can supply them to the hon. Member.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that a tourist office has been opened in New York, and if so, what are the activities of this office?

Shri Alagesan: Its activities are mainly publicity and doing propaganda for seeing our places of tourist importance.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether there are such offices in countries other than the U.S.A?

Shri Alagesan: Just now, no, Sir.

Shri Punnoose: May I know, Sir, whether Government are aware that a large number of tourists visit Cape Comorin, and may I know whether it is included as one of the tourist centres?

Shri Alagesan: Cape Comorin is such a beautiful place. Some of them go. But generally the tourists come here on a visit of seven or ten days, and it is not possible to include all these places of interest.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: The hon. Minister has just mentioned that special facilities are made available in Ellora, Ajanta and such other places. May I know what special facilities are made available and also whether any efforts are being made to start dust-proof roads in that area where a large number of tourists come?

Shri Alagesan: I know, Sir, the roads leading to Ajanta and Ellora are not quite good. I hope the State Government will take it up.

Shri N. M. Lingam: May I know if Government have any special schemes for the development of hill stations for tourist traffic and if they are giving any subsidy for local tourist offices opened in the hill stations?

Shri Alagesan: The development of hill stations as tourist centres was one of the subjects which were considered at a recent conference held with the representatives of the various State Governments. The question of giving subsidy, of course, did not figure, but it is very much under the consideration of the Central Government and the State Governments as well.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, if the road from Puri to Konarak

to see the Konarak temple is being subsidised or built entirely by the Government of India?

Shri Alagesan: It is being subsidised to a very great extent. The subsidy is even much more than what we give to others.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What amount of foreign exchange did this industry earn for us in 1952?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has been given in the answer. Rupees two and half crores.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if Government consider the advisability of giving a regular cleaning to the stations before the tourist season starts, and renewing posters advertising places of interest in the stations?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are all suggestions for action. Everything will be considered by Government.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, why, when Trivandrum is connected by air, no places of archaeological interest in Travancore-Cochin are included?

Shri Alagesan: It is not as if they are not included. I only said that the stay of these foreign tourists is rather short and they are not able to visit all the places. We have brought out publicity material regarding Travancore-Cochin and other places as well. It is for them to choose the places where they will go. Of course, we give our advice.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the tourist organization has got any activities regarding visitors to Kashmir also?

Shri Alagesan: Yes. The Kashmir Government is co-operating with us, and they have opened a tourist centre, and we are providing all publicity and encouragement.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Mettur Dam in Salem District is one of the....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are we going into all the important places in India?

Shri Punnoose: Are the Government aware that Ooty and Kodaikanal, the two leading hill stations in the South have recently deteriorated due to neglect?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Tourists do not want to go there.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Already, the hon. Minister has stated that he is

considering the question of hill-stations with the State Government. We cannot go into every one of them in detail here.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether there has been any sitting of the Regional Travel Commission for Asia and the Far East, and if so what were the main items discussed about?

Shri Alagesan: I could not catch the question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is a little too rapid for us. Will he repeat his question?

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether there has been any sitting of the Regional Travel Commission for Asia and the Far East, and if so what were the main items discussed about?

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice.

मध्य प्रदेश में छोटी सिचाई परियोजनायें

*१२६२. श्री जांगड़ : ज्ञात तथा हृषि मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने वर्ष १९५३-५४ के बारे में अपने राज्य की छोटी सिचाई परियोजनाओं की सूची केन्द्रीय सरकार को दे दी है ; यदि हां, तो सरकार ने उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Yes. Four of the schemes have been considered and accepted for financial assistance involving a loan of Rs. 23,45,119 and a grant of Rs. 1,49,665. The fifth is for a programme of special minor irrigation schemes for which a loan of Rs. 1 crore has been asked for. This includes 67 schemes of which 23 have been approved in 1952-53 and a loan of Rs. 44.45 lakhs sanctioned. For the remaining schemes, necessary details showing the economies and productivity have not yet been furnished on receipt of which these will be considered.

श्री जांगड़ : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि जिन छोटी योजनाओं के लिये मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने आप के पास मे अनुदान या महायता मानी है उन योजनाओं से कुल कितने एकड़ जमीन की सिचाई हो सकेगी ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would like to have notice.

श्री अलगू राय शास्त्री : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इसी तरह की किसी योजना के लिये उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने भी कुछ मांगा है ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : जी हाँ । मांगा है और दिया भी गया है ।

काश तथा हृषि मंत्री (श्री किल्वई) : मांगा भी है और पाया भी है ।

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know, in the schemes supplied by the Madhya Pradesh Government in what part of the State these projects are demanded?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That will be very difficult to give, for I may have to go over the whole map of Madhya Pradesh.

श्री अलगू : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इन योजनाओं के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार ने जितना अनुदान और सहायता दी है उस के अनुपात से मध्य प्रदेश सरकार कुल कितना रुपया खर्च कर रही है या करेगी ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : हम समझते हैं कि जितना रुपया खर्च करना चाहिए उतना वह खर्च करेगी ।

श्री किल्वई : और शायद उस से भी ज्यादा खर्च करना पड़े ।

श्री अलगू राय शास्त्री : मैं यह जानना चाहता या कि उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार को इस काम के लिये कितना रुपया दिया गया है और यह कि उस रुपये का कितना हिस्सा उन जिलों में खर्च होगा जो कि स्केयर्सिटी डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स (अभाव ग्रस्त ज़िलों) के नाम से मशहूर हैं ?

श्री किल्वई : इस बक्त हमारे सामने कागजात मौजूद नहीं हैं । लेकिन आमतौर से लोगों की शिकायत है कि पू० पी० गवर्नरेंट को बहुत ज्यादा रुपया दिया जाता है और उस का ज्यादातर हिस्सा मशरकी ज़ज़ला में खर्च होता है ।

श्री अलगू : क्या मंत्री महोदय बँडलांगे कि मध्य प्रदेश के प्रत्येक ज़िले में छोटी योजनाओं की संख्या कितनी है और वह कहाँ कहाँ है ।

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am unable to give the list.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How is the hon. Member interested in Madhya Pradesh?

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: May I know whether the tubewell project is also included in this scheme, and how much amount the Madhya Pradesh Government have asked for?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does it refer to tubewells?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Tubewell is not included in that scheme.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know, since the hon. Minister has referred to Uttar Pradesh...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I had just allowed one question. I am not going to allow any more questions about Uttar Pradesh. The question relates to Madhya Pradesh, and we cannot go over to Uttar Pradesh.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What makes an irrigation scheme a minor scheme?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a known thing.

Shri Kidwai: When the expense are below a certain figure.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What is that figure?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The State Government knows it. It is below a certain amount.

“इंटरेनिंग ब्लौक” योजना

*१२६३. श्री अलगू : (क) काश तथा हृषि मंत्री बत गाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने “इंटरेनिंग ब्लौक” योजना को विभिन्न ज़िलों में विशेषतः मध्य प्रदेश में आरम्भ कर दिया है ?

(ब) इन “इंटरेनिंग ब्लौक” ज़िलों के किसानों को सामान्यतया क्या सुविधाएं दी जाती हैं ?

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इन "इन्टेंसिव ब्लॉक" क्षेत्रों के बाहर वाले किसानों को कृषि सम्बन्धी कोई सुविधायें नहीं दी जातीं जिन में तकावी, खेतों का सुधार तालाबों और कुंओं का सोदना, खाद या बीजों का बांटना शामिल हैं?

(घ) क्या सरकार को इस शिकायत के बारे में पता है कि "इन्टेंसिव ब्लॉक" योजना के अन्तर्गत स्वीकृत रूपये को पूरी तरह से काम में नहीं लाया जा रहा है और काफी रुपया अभी पड़ा हुआ है?

(इ) क्या इन "इन्टेंसिव ब्लॉकों" को किसी समय विकास ब्लॉकों अथवा सामूहिक परियोजनाओं में परिवर्तित करने का प्रस्ताव

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) Loans repayable within a period of two to fifteen years are given through the State Government for the purchase of capital equipment and carrying out permanent improvement schemes such as construction and repairs of private irrigation tanks, wells and reclamation of lands etc. Short term loans repayable by the 30th June of the next year are also given for supply schemes such as distribution of improved seeds, fertilisers, etc. Subsidy is also given to meet the unremunerative portion of the cost of the abovementioned schemes.

(c) The State Governments have their ordinary system of taccavi and seed and manure distribution all over the State. It is only in respect of assistance from Grow More Food funds of the Central Government that a stipulation has been made that in order to get the maximum value out of such assistance, the work should be concentrated in 'Intensive Blocks' where supervision and concentrated effort can be more easily arranged.

(d) No. Our experience has shown that a substantial portion of funds sanctioned is utilised.

(e) Yes. Some intensive blocks are being taken up in the community projects.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या में जान सकता हूँ कि प्रत्येक एरिया (क्षेत्र) में किस बाधार पर

इन्टेंसिव ब्लॉक्स की संख्या निर्धारित की जाती है?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : नोटिस

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Mr. S. N. Das.

श्री जांगड़े : आप ने मेरे प्रश्न का मतलब ही नहीं समझा। मैंने कहा था....

He did not follow my question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called on Mr. S. N. Das.

Shri S. N. Das: Since the introduction of this 'Intensive Blocks' scheme, may I know whether any assessment has been made of the improvements made in the various States as a result of this scheme?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is too early to make the assessment.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या में जान सकता हूँ कि सरकार जो रकम माझनर इरीगेशन प्राजेक्ट्स के लिये दे रही है क्या वह इन्टेंसिव ब्लॉक में शामिल है?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : जी नहीं, वह तो अलग है।

Shri Dabhi: May I know the names of the Intensive Block areas in the State of Bombay?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is not possible to give the names now. It is a very big list. Moreover, the question relates to Madhya Pradesh.

Shri T. N. Singh: The hon. Minister stated that it is too early to assess the improvements made. May I know whether any check-up is kept by Government either periodically, six-monthly or even yearly in such matters?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): I think the present food position in the country is an indication of the success of these intensive blocks.

Shri T. N. Singh: I could not follow the reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The present situation of the country does not permit it?

Shri T. N. Singh: Is that the reply?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have not been able to follow it myself. Will the hon. Minister repeat the answer?

Shri Kidwai: I said that the improved position of foodgrains in the country is an indication of the success of this Intensive Block scheme.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: In view of the fact that the Intensive Block system of cultivation has been in existence for over two years now, will the hon. Minister be pleased to let us know by how much the yield per acre has increased in the first year, and how much in the second year?

Shri Kidwai: The increase of Orissa rice is 50 per cent. over the last year's production.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: I am talking of the blocks all over India. What has been the increase in yield per acre every year, during the last two years?

Shri Kidwai: I said the result of it is that in Orissa alone, the increase in the rice crop has been 50 per cent. of last year's production, and last year, there was an improvement of about 15 per cent. over the previous year.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what is the percentage of area covered by these intensive blocks and community projects, so as to affect the food position?

Shri Kidwai: I would ask the hon. Member to give specific notice of these questions, and the figures will be supplied.

Pandit Lingaraj Misra: May I know whether the increase in Orissa was due solely to the intensive blocks?

Shri Kidwai: Let us hope so.

Shri Jangde: क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश में कुल कितने इंटेंसिव ब्लॉक्स हैं और उन पर कुल कितनी रकम कर्ज या मांट के रूप में दी गई है और प्रत्येक ब्लॉक पर कितना रुपया व्यय किया गया है ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The total number of blocks is 56, and the acreage will range up to 8,84,000 acres. I cannot give the figures, so far as expenditure is concerned.

Shri Jangde: क्या यह सही है कि प्रत्येक इंटेंसिव ब्लॉक के लिये जितनी रकम लर्ज के लिये निश्चित की जाती है, जब वह पूरी रकम व्यय नहीं होती है तो वही ही रकम समाप्त हो जाती है और उस रकम को दूसरे

इंटेंसिव ब्लॉक पर लर्ज नहीं किया जा सकता और अगले बर्ष वह उसी इंटेंसिव ब्लॉक पर लर्ज नहीं हो सकती ?

Shri Kidwai: 'जितना रुपया दिया जाता है अगर उस से कम लर्ज होता है तो वह दूसरे ब्लॉक पर लर्ज नहीं किया जा सकता । वह दूसरे साल के बजट में आ जाता है ।

Shri Bhulabhai Patel: आप ने इस प्रश्न के उत्तर में यह बतलाया है कि फूड पोजीशन जैसी अब हो गई है उसकी बजह से इंटेंसिव ब्लॉक्स की सफलता अपने आप स्पष्ट हो जाती है । अब मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या फूड पोजीशन ऐसी हो गई है कि अब बाहर से अनाज मंगाना बन्द किया जा सके?

Shri Kidwai: यह एक दम से तो नहीं किया जा सकता । लेकिन हम यह महसूस करते हैं कि जितना हम मंगाते हैं उतना लर्ज नहीं होता और हमारा स्टाक बढ़ता जा रहा है और हम मंगाना भी कम करते जा रहे हैं । तीन साल पहले ४७ लाख टन मंगाया था, उस के बाद पिछले साल ३९ लाख टन मंगाया था और इस साल २४ और २० लाख टन के दरम्यान मंगा रहे हैं । अगर हम बन्द कर देते हैं तो लोग एक दम शोर करना शुरू कर देंगे कि जानें की कमी हो जायेगी । इसलिये बन्द नहीं करते हैं । लेकिन हमारा इरादा है कि अगर यही हालत रही तो तीन चार साल के बाद बिल्कुल इमोर्ट करना बन्द कर देंगे ।

Shri Chinaria: May I know, Sir, what are the things taken into consideration in locating these 'intensive blocks'?

Shri Kidwai: The possibility of as much production as possible.

Shri Jangde rose—

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

EASTERN SHIPPING CORPORATION

*1264. **Sardar A. S. Salga:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the Eastern Shipping Corporation which was set up in 1950, is running smoothly and what amount Government propose to invest in the same in 1953-54?

(b) What facilities the Indian Ships get in important overseas trade routes of the country?

(c) Has the company shown profit since its inception and if so, how much?

(d) Has any plan been drawn for its expansion by the company?

(e) If so, what is that plan?

(f) What proportions of capital, have been contributed by the Managing Agents of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and by Government?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Eastern Shipping Corporation is running smoothly since its inception. The Government of India propose to invest Rs. 74 lakhs in the Corporation in 1953-54.

(b) Indian ships will have to operate on the ordinary commercial basis like other ships on the foreign trade.

(c) Yes. The amounts of the profits are as follows:—

1950-51	Rs. 1,38,254.
1951-52	Rs. 22,53,530.

(d) and (e). Yes. The Corporation has drawn up plans for the expansion of its activities to cover the India/Far East and India/East Africa trades. Orders have been placed for building three cargo vessels and proposals for further expansion are under consideration.

(f) The present issued capital of the Corporation is Rs. 3 crores of which 74 per cent. (Rs. 222 lakhs) has been contributed by the Government of India and 26 per cent. (Rs. 78 lakhs) by the Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., Bombay, who are the Managing Agents of the Corporation.

Shri K. K. Basu: What percentage of the overseas trade is catered to by this Eastern Shipping Corporation?

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice for that.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is this Eastern Shipping Corporation a member of the Baltic Exchange? If not, why not?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Baltic Exchange? Is it a member of the Baltic Exchange?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know, Sir. I should like to have notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that a passenger-cum-cargo vessel is going to be built for Andamans trade? If so, may I know the tonnage and the place where it will be built?

Shri Alagesan: It is the idea to have one built for the Andamans trade also, Sir. I cannot say how long it will take to build the vessel.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister stated that orders had been placed for 3 cargo vessels. May I know on which firm or country the orders have been placed? Is it on our own concerns?

Shri Alagesan: The orders have been placed on the Visakhapatnam Shipyard.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know, Sir, if the Eastern Shipping Corporation is entirely separate from the Scindia Steam Navigation Company, that is to say, do the Scindias manage both the Scindia Steamship Navigation Co. and the Eastern Shipping Corporation?

Shri Alagesan: They hold 26 per cent. of the shares and they are the Managing Agents of this Eastern Shipping Corp.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know, Sir, whether there is any time limit fixed—apart from the provisions of the Company law—as to the managing agency of the Scindias?

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What is the total tonnage that is under the control of the Eastern Shipping Corporation?

Shri Alagesan: They own two vessels, Sir. The tonnage is 10310 dwt. each.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister said that the Company is running smoothly and making profit. May I know whether any dividend has been declared since 1951-52?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have the information here. I was able to give the figures of profits only. If the hon. member wants it, I can supply it.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the investment of Government on this concern, may I enquire whether any

special provision has been made for managing agency commission, and if so, what it is?

Shri Alagesan: They are all details; I do not have them with me here.

Shri Kelappan: What is the total share of the Government in the capital of this concern?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He gave it.

Shri Alagesan: 74 per cent.—222 lakhs.

Shri Kelappan: What is the total capital?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: 3 crores.

Shri Alagesan: I gave all that in the answer.

EXTENSION OF ROAD TRANSPORT SERVICE IN HYDERABAD

*1265. **Shri Vittal Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how Government propose to invest the sum of Rs. 22 lakhs provided for in the Budget for Road Transport Services in Hyderabad State?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The provision of Rs. 22 lakhs in the Railway Budget for road transport services in the Hyderabad State is a tentative one for investment as the Railways' share of the capital in the proposed state road transport corporation.

Shri Vittal Rao: May I know, Sir, whether any interest will be charged as and when the investment is made?

Shri Alagesan: The Railway participate in the establishment of the Road Transport Corporation by putting in capital.

PORUGUESE RAILWAY

*1266. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total length of Portuguese Railway worked by the Southern Railway?

(b) Where is the company, owning this railway registered?

(c) When is the contract of this company going to expire?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 51.04 miles.

(b) In England.

(c) The Contract between the Government of India and the Company

owning the W.I.P. Railway, in regard to the working of this Railway will expire on 1-1-1956.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Cannot the agreement be terminated now?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): Why should it be?

Shri Jaipal Singh: What are the reasons for the Company promoting this being registered in England?

Shri Alagesan: Sir, it has been registered in England and we are only working agents; it runs in Portuguese India.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the Government gets any remuneration or commission as the working agents?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir.

OVERCROWDING IN BOMBAY SUBURBAN TRAINS

*1267. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any overcrowding in suburban trains in Bombay even after the recent increase in trains since January, 1953 on each of the Central and Western Railways;

(b) whether and if so, how many more, coaches are needed to reduce overcrowding in the suburban trains of each of the Central and Western Railways;

(c) whether any more suburban coaches were received in 1952-53 and whether any are expected in 1953-54;

(d) if so, how many;

(e) whether any orders are going to be placed for more suburban coaches, on each of the Central and Western Railways; and

(f) if so, for how many and when?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) It is difficult to assess exactly how many coaches would be required to eliminate overcrowding completely. A rough estimate would be over fifty.

(c) and (d). Yes. 16 were received during 1952-53 by the Western Railway. None are expected in 1953-54.

(e) and (f). The Rolling Stock programme is now being examined and the need for more coaches will be considered. No decision has yet been made on the composition of the programme.

डाक के टिकट

*१२६८. श्री बलबन्त सिंहा मेहता : क्या संचारण मंत्री बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) डाक व तार विभाग ने समय समय पर टिकटों की जो सीरीज निकाली हैं उनमें सब से अधिक लोक प्रिय कौन सी रही;

(ख) वर्तमान सीरीज में अब तक कितने टिकट छप चुके हैं और वे कब तक चालू रहेंगे ;

(ग) इनका देशों और विदेशों में कितना स्वागत किया गया ;

(घ) क्या सरकार इस सिरीज में रामकृष्ण परमहंस, गौरांग महाप्रभु, रमण ऋषि महात्मा गांधी, और अरविन्द घोष के टिकट निकालने का विचार करती है ?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Out of the postage stamps issued by the P. & T. Department since Independence, the Mahatma Gandhi stamps, the current archaeological series and the latest Saints & Saint-poets series seem to have been best received.

(b) The quantity printed in the current archaeological series is 3021 million stamps from the date of their introduction viz., August 15, 1949 upto March 31, 1953. The series will remain in circulation until replaced and/or withdrawn.

(c) Stamps worth about Rs. 62 crores have been sold in India and abroad during the course of the last three and a half years. These stamps have thus been very well received.

(d) The proposal is under consideration.

श्री बलबन्त सिंहा मेहता : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इन स्टाम्प्स को निकालने की सरकार की अगली योजना क्या होगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर: अगली योजना विचारा-धीन है, किन्तु माननीय सदस्य को यह जात होगा कि १६ अप्रैल को हम रेलवे शताब्दी के उपलक्ष में एक नया स्टाम्प निकाल रहे हैं जिसका रूप माननीय सदस्य ने देखा भी होगा ।

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री कृपा करके बतलायेंगे कि किन किन सज्जनों ने ऐसे टिकट निकाले हैं और उनके उपरके उपलक्ष में कितने कितने रुपये बत्तीर इनाम के दिये गये हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : यह व्यक्तिशः नहीं कहा जा सकता कि किन लोगों ने ऐसे टिकट निकाले हैं क्यों कि रूप की अन्तिम स्वीकृति तो विभाग द्वारा विचार विनिमय करके दी जाती है और इसलिये उम टिकट के निकालने का एक व्यक्ति को श्रेय या दायित्व नहीं मिल सकता ।

श्री बलबन्त सिंहा मेहता : क्या रेलवे शताब्दी प्रदर्शनी की भाँति पोस्टल शताब्दी मनाने की भी कोई ऐसी योजना है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : अवश्य है ।

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether Government propose to print stamps bearing the picture of the Gujarati poet saint Shri Narasi Mehta, the famous poet who sang the 'Vaishnava Janato.....' song, which was so dear to Gandhiji?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I may inform the hon. Member that we have received a number of representations and suggestions regarding various high personages and leaders from Bengal, Orissa, Gujarat, South India, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, and Narasi Mehta is one of the personages mentioned from Gujarat.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether Shri Narayana Guruswamy is included in this list?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not quite follow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has just now said that a number of suggestions have been made about various personages and they are with the Ministry. Certainly they will consider all of them and we cannot go into the details whether individual names have been included or not.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether any special stamp is used for the President which is not available to the public?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is not under consideration at all for the present Sir.

Shri G. P. Singh: May I know whether there is any permanent body which looks after these stamps?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is no special body but the staff look after these things.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I know whether these stamps which have had a good response are printed in Switzerland and what are the reasons why Gandhiji's stamps have been consigned to the archaeological series as the hon. Minister said?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think my hon. friend is entirely mistaken. Gandhiji's stamps are not consigned to the archaeological series, but they are a different set. The archaeological series constitutes what is known as definitive series and these are in vogue. Gandhiji's stamps were by way of commemorative stamps and they are not of the archaeological series.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Why are they printed in Switzerland?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have already mentioned that in reply to a previous Question that we have now got a photogravure press at Poona and the stamps are being printed by that press.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know how the selection is made; is it by the Minister or by a Committee?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The selection is made by the department and last time it confirmed after consulting by the Prime Minister himself.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether government contemplate to introduce birds, animals and flowers which are unique in the world?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We are trying to find suitable subjects for a definitive series which will bear relevant and appropriate pictures of agricultural and other aspects of national life.

SURVEY OF POST OFFICES IN DELHI

*1268. **Shri Punnoose:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, has issued instructions to the Director of Postal Services to conduct a survey of all post offices regarding lack of amenities to staff in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether the survey has since been completed;

(c) whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the same; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government on the Report?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Not yet.

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

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether representations have been received by Government from the Union of Posts and Telegraph workers regarding the lack of amenities in many post offices?

Shri Raj Bahadur: From this and other Unions we have received representations about the provision of necessary amenities etc.

Shri Punnoose: Can the hon. Minister say in how many post offices in Delhi they have got the minimum amenities at the present time?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That depends upon the particular standard of amenities. We are trying to find out what are the amenities required.

Shri Punnoose: Are Government aware of the fact that in many post offices there is this lack of facilities?

Shri Raj Bahadur: They depend upon the availability of necessary accommodation and we cannot have them unless we are able to find better accommodation for the offices.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Is that confined to Delhi or other parts also?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Our attempt is not restricted to Delhi alone but to all other areas also.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Deputy Minister has visited the post offices in Delhi and considered what are the amenities required?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In all humility, I can say I have visited more post offices than my hon. friend has.

Shri Punnoose: May I know what has been the result of such visits?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already stated that they are looking into that.

FREIGHT CHARGES OF AIR MAIL

*1270. **Shri Vittal Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the freight charges for the conveyance of air mails are more than those charged on personal effects and other luggage carried by air-passengers?

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

(c) What are the respective freight charges?

(d) Do Government propose to revise the freight charges for air-mails?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) For conveyance of (First class mail) the mail rate is higher than the freight rate. For other classes of mails, the rate is less than the freight rates.

(b) In air conveyance, mails are given priority over passenger and freight traffic.

(c) For mails.—For first class mail: Rs. 3 per ton mile. For other mails including parcels Rs. 1-12-0 per ton mile.

For Commercial freight.—The air companies can charge for commercial freight (i.e. personal effects and luggage of passengers etc.) a rate varying from Re. 0-14-0 to Rs. 2-12-0 per ton mile, though in actual practice the average is nearer the maximum.

(d) No.

Shri Vittal Rao: May I know, Sir, whether these higher freight rates are being paid with a view to subsidising the Air companies?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No, Sir; because we want to give priority to the first class mails, namely letters and post-cards etc. The air companies, however, are also benefited.

Shri Vittal Rao: Will these high rates continue even after the formation of the Air Transport Corporation?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Sir, there are two reasons for these comparatively higher rates firstly, we want to give priority to the conveyance of first class mails. Secondly the amount and weight of mail is not a fixed one; it varies from day to day. They have got to keep in view the accommodation necessary for these mails.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, are perishable commodities given priority in the matter of freight rates?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Perishable commodities do not come within the category of first class or other class of mails.

Shri Dabholi: May I know whether it is a fact that if the post cards are carried by rail and not by air, it will greatly reduce the cost per postcard?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Of course, the air freight is higher than the rail freight.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What I wanted to know was whether perishable commodities had priority.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Perishable commodities fall within the category of ordinary freight and they are conveyed as such.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Do they or do they not have any priority? That is my question.

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is no question of priority in that they are not mails.

RECRUITMENT IN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

*1271. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure followed in the recruitment and selection of classes III and IV staff in the Posts and Telegraphs Department;

(b) whether there are any selection Boards or Commissions for the purpose; and

(c) whether Government propose to constitute any public service commission for the Posts and Telegraphs Department?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Recruitment and promotions are made either by competitive examinations or qualifying examinations, or by seniority cum fitness or selection as per statement laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 46.]

(b) For promotion in some cadres there are Departmental promotion committees.

(c) No.

Shri Nanadas: Sir, in the absence of the Public Service Commission, may I know what are the methods adopted to eliminate nepotism, favouritism and corruption in the selection of the personnel?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Non-gazetted staff are not selected by the U.P.S.C.

श्री जागेंद्र: क्या मंत्री महोदय की जानकारी में यह बात आई है कि ऐसी पोस्ट्स के लिये जितनी सीटें हरिजनों के लिये सुरक्षित रखी

जाती हैं उनके सम्बन्ध में अधिकारियों ने यह बताया है कि वे सीटें फ़िल-अप हो गई हैं, लेकिन बाद में पता लगाया तो यह पता चला कि फ़िल-अप नहीं हो पायी हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जितनी संख्या में आवश्यक क्षालिकेशनस के हरिजन उम्मीदवार चाहिये वे उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाते हैं, इसी लिये उनकी संख्या जितनी उनके रिजर्वेशन के अनुसार होनी चाहिये उससे कम रहती है और यह बात ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को मालूम है।

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the Government have avoided the system of competition in the grades mentioned and whether they have replaced it by direct recruitment?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is not for all the grades or classes of services in Classes III and IV. It is only in respect of clerical and certain allied cadres that we are thinking of providing selection by a different procedure.

Shri Nanadas: May I know how the present system helps the appointment of an adequate number of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes persons in these services?

Shri Raj Bahadur: A new method has been evolved by which we are trying to eliminate the procedure of examinations for recruitment to clerical posts etc. and this has also been incidentally done with a view to absorb as many people as possible from scheduled castes and scheduled tribes for the posts reserved for them.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether class III and class IV people are recruited in such a way that they may not have to learn the language of the region in which they have to work?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This is a very wide question, because in these two classes there are different kinds of posts and the method of recruitment also is different for different posts.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether Government have not received complaints of corruption and nepotism in the selection of personnel?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This is a very general question. If there is any specific complaint, he may bring it to my notice.

Shri Nanadas: How far are Government satisfied with the existing system?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We are satisfied with it; otherwise, we wouldn't have it.

Shrimati Kamla Mati Shah: Are there women in this Department?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is no discrimination against women candidates.

Shri Nanadas: May I know the approximate number of personnel appointed in this Department every year?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is difficult to give the number. It varies from year to year.

** ** ** **

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Question List is over. I shall revert to the unanswered questions of Members who were absent earlier. Is Mr. P. T. Chacko here? I find he is not here still.

Shri Vitthal Rao: May I put that question for him, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will allow him if the hon. Minister agrees.

Shri V. V. GirI: I have no objection.

PARALLEL TRADE UNIONS

*1257. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether parallel and rival trade unions are functioning in almost all the major industries and industrial centres;

(b) whether the existence of parallel trade unions in the same industrial concern has often made trade unions ineffective; and

(c) what steps, if any, Government propose to take to remedy this evil?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. GirI): (a) Yes; two or more trade unions are functioning in some of the major industries and in some industrial centres.

(b) The ideal arrangement would be to have one union in one industry and naturally the existence of parallel trade unions in the same industrial concern tends to weaken the trade unions and consequently made them less effective. Sometimes, however, a parallel trade union in the same industrial concern exists only in name and does not very much affect the effectiveness of a strong trade union functioning on proper trade union lines.

(c) While Government would welcome any move towards elimination of

unhealthy rivalry among trade unions, this is a matter in which they cannot intervene. It is for the workers themselves to discourage formation of trade unions by refusing to join more than one union in the same industry.

Shri Vital Rao: Are Government aware that in several industrial concerns the employers themselves start the rival unions with a view to disrupting the unity of workers in the other unions?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is quite possible.

Shri Nambiar: Is it a fact that Government refuse to recognise legitimate trade unions with proper representation, while they recognise weak unions, thus allowing rivalry?

Shri V. V. Giri: I am not aware of it.

Shri Nambiar: With regard to a particular union in South India.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it is a single case, he may intimate it to the hon. Minister.

Shri Nambiar: No, Sir. I want to know...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No arguments in this matter. Hon. Members are entitled to elicit information by way of supplementaries in regard to facts not within their knowledge. Here is a particular case within the knowledge of the hon. Member. It is open to him to give that information to the hon. Minister for the purpose of redress. That is the difference between a supplementary for eliciting information and a suggestion for action.

Shri Punnoose: Are Government prepared to apply democratic methods where there is difference between rival trade unions and recognise only that union which has the largest measure of popular support?

Shri V. V. Giri: They always take a democratic view of things.

Shri Punnoose: No, Sir. My question was...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His question was an indefinite one. I would ask some other hon. Member to put his supplementary—**Mr. Nanadas.**

Shri Nanadas: Are Government satisfied that none of the trade unions work against the welfare of the workers?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is quite possible that there are many trade unions which are not working for the welfare of the workers.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Have Government ever tried to follow the system of taking a secret ballot in an industrial concern where there may be more than one trade union in order to find out which one is the most popular?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have answered this question during the Budget debate.

Shri K. K. Basu: Have Government any special liking for recognising trade unions affiliated to a particular class of persons or organisations?

Shri V. V. Giri: I do not think so.

Shri A. M. Thomas: What are the trade unions organised on an all-India basis which have been recognised by the Labour Ministry for consultation purposes in regard to policy and other matters?

Shri V. V. Giri: The All-India Trade Union Congress; the Indian National Trade Union Congress; the United Trade Union Congress, and the Hind Mazdoor Sabha.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is it or is it not a fact that in the steel industry, especially at Jamshedpur, certain unions get greater facilities from their employers for their organisation than others?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have no information about it.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Can Government stop any trade union from functioning in the labour field? I want to know, because some Opposition Members have questioned Government's action in recognising certain unions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is not a general discussion. This question was in the name of somebody and I allowed somebody else to put it and I have allowed ever so many supplementaries also.

Now, there are two short notice questions, which the House will take up.

Short Notice Questions and Answers

DETENTION OF TRAINS IN BELLARY DISTRICT

I. Shri Sivamurthi Swami: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state: (a) whether the trains that pass through Bellary District area are held up by the local people and stopped for hours together due to the reaction of inclusion of Bellary-Port in New Andhra State.

(b) if so, how many trains and on how many stations such occurrences have taken place so far;

(c) whether any Railway property has been destroyed;

(d) what precautions have been taken by the Railway department to prevent such occurrences in that area; and

(e) since when are the demonstrators stopping the train?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) There have been a number of cases of detention to trains on this account.

(b) The information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 47]

(c) Besides the damage to the ceilings of some carriages and the tampering of the track referred to above, insulators were broken at Kottur station on 28-3-53. The cost of these damages is not yet known.

(d) An effective liaison is maintained with the Civil and Police authorities to ensure timely and suitable action. Speed restrictions have also been enforced. The Southern Railway have also been instructed to immediately consider the expediency of patrolling the line.

(e) From 26th March to 29th March and again on 3rd and 4th April, 1953.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: Referring to item (3) of date 28th March which reads thus:—

"No. 298 Mixed train from Raichur to Gooty was detained between Kupgal and Adoni by a mob numbering about 5,000 which reacted on No. 5 Mail which was detained at Adoni for 88 minutes,..."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the question? He is reading out the answer.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: My question is, with reference to this item, has any damage been caused to the station, or the train, or to the passengers on that date?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have any more information. All the available information has been supplied in the statement.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: May I know whether it is a fact that all the trains running towards Karnataka and not merely those that passed through Bellary district, were similarly detained and the whole communication was

upset for hours together, especially on 3-4-53 when Bellary Day was being observed for demanding Bellary District for the United Karnataka province?

Shri Alagesan: All the available information is contained in the statement.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Do Government know that the trouble arose because some of the legitimate demands of the Bellary people were not respected?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know whether this is the way to enforce legitimate demands.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Deputy Minister cannot be asked questions about politics, if on account of a particular statement regarding linguistic division they took the law into their hands. I allowed this question only to enable hon. Members to ascertain the amount of damage caused to railway property and not for the purpose of giving vent to the feelings of those who were not satisfied with the decision.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Is it not a fact.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I do not want this occasion to be used for the purpose of trying to upset or change the decision regarding Bellary.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what action Government has taken to induce the demonstrators to keep calm?

Shri Alagesan: It is a question pertaining to law and order. Various incidents occurred and I hope the House will agree with me in condemning them.

RAILWAY COLLISION ON THE GAYA NAWADAH

RAILWAY LINE

II. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state (a) whether it is a fact that there occurred a head-long collision between the 282 Down and 281 Up goods trains on the Gaya Nawadah line between Tilaya and Wazirgunj on the 1st April, 1953, resulting in deaths of some people and serious injuries to others;

(b) if so, what were the circumstances in which this collision occurred;

(c) the total number of persons died and injured in the accident;

(d) the estimated loss to the Railway;

(e) the cause, so far known, of the accident; and

(f) when the relief van reached the place of accident?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (c). Yes. At about 1.40 hours on 1st April 1953 Nos. 281 Up and 282 Down Goods Trains collided head-on at mile 319/5 between Wazirganj and Tilaya stations. Five persons died, one was grievously injured and 20 received minor injuries. All of them are Railway staff.

(b) and (e). A Senior Officers' Joint Enquiry was held on 2/3-4-1953. The accident was due to one of the two trains having been despatched without Line Clear having been obtained.

(d) About Rs. 43,808.

(f) Relief train with Medical van from Gaya reached the site of the accident at 6-30 hours.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether any persons responsible for this accident have been arrested and are being prosecuted?

Shri Alagesan: The Assistant Station Masters of both the stations were arrested and let on bail.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that persons other than railway employees were travelling by that train?

Shri Alagesan: All the persons injured are railway employees.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, what is the reason for the delay of three hours for the arrival of the relief van, while the distance between the place of accident and Gaya Station is only 22 miles?

Shri Alagesan: As soon as information was obtained the relief van was sent with all despatch.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: वहां की टेलीप्राप्त लाइन वर्किंग आर्डर में थी या नहीं ?

Shri Alagesan: I have no information; it should have been in working order.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know, Sir, whether the line clear was given or not and whether without the line clear the train started?

Shri Alagesan: Wrong line clear was given.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: What steps are Government taking for giving the wrong line clear?

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether Wazirganj and Tilaya stations are interlocked or not?

Shri Alagesan: Yes.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

VISHAKAPATNAM PORT

994. Shri Nanadas: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the daily loading and unloading tonnage capacity of Vishakapatnam Port?

(b) What was the annual total tonnage of goods loaded and unloaded at Vishakapatnam Port during the years 1947 to 1952, year-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when ready.

SUGAR FACTORIES IN ANDHRA

995. Shri Nanadas: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the sugar factories and their crushing capacity in the proposed Andhra State?

(b) What has been the annual total output of sugar in the proposed Andhra State since 1947?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A statement showing the names of sugar factories with their crushing capacities and output of sugar since 1947-48 in the proposed Andhra State is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 48.]

LIGHT HOUSES

996. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the Kerosene-lit light house on the Madras High Court Buildings has been electrified?

(b) If so, the cost involved in making the required modifications?

(c) Do Government propose to electrify other Light Houses in the country?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes,

(b) Rs. 11,000 (approximately).

(c) Yes; wherever possible.

AIRLINES (PASSENGERS)

997. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of passengers carried by India's internal and international airlines in the year 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): 410,196 and 24,284 passengers were carried on India's domestic and international airlines respectively.

ALL INDIA T.B. CONFERENCE

998. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what are the conclusions and recommendations of the All India T.B. Conference held at Mysore from the 2nd February, 1953?

(b) What are their proposals regarding the B.C.G. vaccination Scheme and the new drug for the treatment of T.B.?

(c) Are any of the Indian firms or pharmacies able to produce the new drug of the standard required?

(d) If so, which are such firms or pharmacies, and what quantity can they produce annually?

(e) Have steps been taken to produce the drug at Government level?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 49.]

(c) and (d). So far as Government are aware the following firms have schemes for the production of Isonicotinic Acid Hydrazide and the approximate quantities which they are likely to produce annually are as follows:

(i) Messrs. Sarabhai Chemicals, Baroda. ... 3,000 lbs.

(ii) Messrs. Albert David Limited, Calcutta. ... 3,300 lbs.

(iii) Messrs. Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works Limited, Calcutta. ... 1,500 lbs.

(e) Government have no proposal for the manufacture of this drug.

FERTILISERS (PRODUCTION)

999. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers produced in the country during the year 1952 and the value thereof;

(b) the total quantity of fertilizers imported during the year 1952 and the total cost on that account;

(c) the allotments made to different State Governments during the year 1952; and

(d) the opening stock for the year 1953?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) At present only two chemical fertilizers are produced in the country, viz. Superphosphate and Ammonium Sulphate. 2,66,932 tons of these fertilizers valued at Rs. 8.71 crores, were produced in the country during the calendar year 1952.

(b) 2,34,952 tons costing Rs. 9.04 crores.

(c) A statement showing the allocations of sulphate of ammonia and superphosphate made to State Governments and other interests during 1952 is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 50.]

(d) The opening stock of sulphate of ammonia with the Central Government as on 1-1-53 was of the order of 15,000 tons. The stock with the State Governments was 1,30,000 tons. Since superphosphate is no longer distributed through Government, the opening stock of this fertiliser is not known.

TAMPERING WITH RAILWAY LINES

1000. Shri Balakrishnan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) in how many places fish-plates were removed on the Southern Railway in the years 1951-52;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have announced that a reward of Rupees 250 would be given to informers about the culprits; and

(c) if so, how many cases were booked?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): The information is being collected and will be furnished as soon as it is available.

DEAD LETTER OFFICE

1001. { Shri Bahadur Singh:

Sardar Hukam Singh:

(a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what was the number of parcels received in the Dead Letter Office as unclaimed due to the addresses of the senders and addressees having become faint and illegible during the year 1952?

(b) Could any of these be delivered to the senders or the addressees after opening by the Dead Letter Office?

(c) What happened to the rest?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No separate record is kept of Parcels with faint or illegible addresses. 12,890 parcels were however received by the Dead Letter Offices during 1952.

(b) Yes, Sir. 10,249.

(c) They were treated as 'dead' and disposed of under the departmental rules i.e., they were held in deposit or sold by auction or destroyed according to the nature of the contents.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGES

**1002. { Shri Bahadur Singh:
Sardar Hukam Singh:**

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what is the number of Telephone Exchanges in India on the 31st January, 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): 762, including private exchanges and licensed Telephone systems.

MINIMUM WAGES ACT (STONE INDUSTRY)

1003. Shri Jajware: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the Minimum Wages Act is applied to Stone Industry?

(b) Is it in force in Pakur and Rajmahal Stone Quarries in the Santhal Parganas, Bihar?

(c) Do the labour of stone quarries enjoy the same benefit of maternity, bonus, etc. as the labour in other fields?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, is applicable to employment in stone breaking or stone crushing only.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes, assuming the reference is to the maternity benefit and bonus provided for in the Mines Maternity Benefit Act, 1941.

IMPORTED FOODGRAINS (WASTAGE)

1004. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of imported foodgrains lying in stock with Government on the 31st December, 1952;

(b) the total quantity and value of foodgrains wasted or spoiled due to

bad storage at ports or due to any other reasons during the year 1952; and

(c) the total quantity and value of foodgrains wasted during transit in India during the same period?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The total quantity of imported foodgrains in the Central Government storage on the 31st December 1952 was 4,13,670 tons valued at Rs. 2,402 lakhs.

(b) Total quantity of foodgrains lost in storage through deterioration and dryage at ports during the year 1952 is 448 tons valued at about Rs. 2.5 lakhs. This figure is for the period January to October 1952.

(c) Total quantity estimated to have been lost or damaged in transit by rail during the year 1952 was 2491 tons valued at Rs. 9.8 lakhs. Information regarding loss during transit by road is not available.

TELEGRAPH OFFICES FOR DARBHANGA DISTRICT

1005. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar have made some recommendations for opening telegraph offices in some parts of the Darbhanga District; and

(b) if so, what are the names of places and the reactions of the Government of India?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The Bihar Government had asked for the terms for opening telegraph offices at Loukaha and Loukhi and these have been communicated to them.

CENTRAL TRACTOR ORGANISATION

1006. Shri B. N. Roy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage of land reclaimed State-wise by the Central Tractor Organisation in 1952-53; and

(b) whether Government propose to increase the number of tractors in the Central Tractor Organisation during the year 1953-54?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) The total area reclaimed by the Central Tractor Orga-

nisation upto the 30th March, 1953 during the season 1952-53 is as follows:

Name of State	Area of 'kans' infested land	Area of jungle land (ploughed)
Uttar Pradesh	16,800 acres	18,254
Madhya Pradesh	23,900	,
Madhya Bharat	40,500	,
Bhopal	13,500	,
TOTAL	91,700 acres	8,254 acres

In addition, 7621 acres have been tree-felled and 13,264 acres made ready for plowing.

(b) Yes. 30 heavy tractors have already been ordered and are likely to be received in 1953-54.

RAILWAY LINES FOR BIHAR

1007. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes for construction of new railway lines or for the restoration of dismantled lines or for extension of the existing ones, both approved and pending execution in Bihar; and

(b) the total cost likely to be incurred thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Madhepura-Murliganj construction and the Bhagalpur-Mandar Hill restoration are the only two approved works and both these are in progress. No other new lines, restoration of dismantled lines or extension of existing lines has yet been approved in Bihar.

(b) The total cost likely to be incurred is Rs. 32.15 lakhs on the Madhepura-Murliganj construction and Rs. 61 lakhs on the Bhagalpur-Mandar Hill restoration.

QUARTERS FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

1008. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of quarters estimated to be required for the Railway employees in India at the end of the year 1953;

(b) the total number of quarters available at present;

(c) the total number expected to be completed during the year 1953-54; and

(d) what is the contemplated provision for the rest?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Complete information on the four points raised is not readily available and is being collected. It will be laid on the Table of the House and communicated to the hon. Member as soon as it is available.

DRAPRIM—ANTI-MALARIA DRUG

1009. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the test that has been made with regard to the Anti-Malaria Drug "Draprim" which has achieved tremendous result at the New York Research Laboratory?

(b) Is it a fact that by the same medicine "Draprim" malaria infected African village was completely cleared of the disease?

(c) Do Government propose to examine the medicine and try it in those places where malaria is in violent form, specially in the Chhattisgarh Tract of Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) It has been reported in scientific papers that 209 men, women and children were placed on suppressive prophylactic "Draprime" treatment for one entire malaria season under medical supervision in the Belgian Congo. The dosage administered was 25-mg. once weekly per adult. At the end of the season infection in the community was extremely low as compared to those in neighbouring villages.

(c) Intensive laboratory trials of the drug were initiated in 1951 and large scale field trials were undertaken in 1952 and are still in progress in certain States. The Madhya Pradesh Government have been requested by the Malaria Institute of India to undertake trials of the drug and the matter is under the consideration of the State Government. No special request was made by the Malaria Institute of India for conducting trials in the Chhattisgarh tract and the selection of the venue has been left to the discretion of the Madhya Pradesh Government.

PRODUCTION OF BETEL-NUTS

1010. **Shri H. S. Prasad:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the production of betel-nuts in India is sufficient to meet the internal demand?

(b) If not, what are the countries from where betel-nuts are imported into India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) No.

(b) Betel-nuts are imported into India from Ceylon, Strait Settlements, Malaya and East Pakistan.

ASSISTANCE TO BIHAR FOR IMPROVEMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1011. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of Central assistance to the State of Bihar in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53 for the improvement of Agriculture; and

(b) the item on which the amount was spent year-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 51.]

PROCUREMENT OF RICE IN ORISSA

1012. Shri K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice procured in the State of Orissa during the current year and how it compares with the last year;

(b) what is the system of procurement; and

(c) the rate of procurement?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Procurement of rice during the current year upto 15-3-1953, the latest date for which figures are available, amounted to 1,37,600 tons compared with 67,949 tons during the corresponding period in 1952.

(b) Procurement of rice in Orissa is done on the monopoly system through procurement agents appointed by the Orissa Government.

(c) The procurement prices of rice approved for 1953 are Rs. 15-9-0, Rs. 12-4-0 and Rs. 11-6-6 per maund for superfine, fine and coarse rice respectively.

SCARCITY CONDITIONS IN MANIPUR

1013. Shri L. J. Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (c) of starred question No. 903 asked on the 3rd December 1952 regarding Scarcity conditions in Manipur and state:

(a) whether 1402 maunds of rice imported from Assam Government stocks, which were lying unsold there in the State godown have now been sold;

(b) if so, at what rate;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to sell the said rice at a reduced rate and what are the reasons for delay in disposing of this rice;

(d) whether it is a fact that rice is deteriorating; and

(e) the estimated amount of loss caused by non-disposal or disposal at the reduced rate of the said Assam rice?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (d). Out of the rice imported from Assam, there are only 520 maunds left unsold. The rest of the quantity was sold at the subsidised rate of Rs. 15 per maund. The balance of 520 maunds is quite fit for human consumption and is being returned to Assam.

(e) Does not arise.

TABULATORS

1014. Dr. Amin: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how much amount will be allocated to each State out of the provision of Rs. 1,50,000 on account of mechanical aid for vital statistics to Part A States?

(b) What is the cost of running a mechanical aid for the tabulation of vital statistics?

(c) Have the Central Government inquired whether any mechanical tabulators are employed by Part A States for the maintenance of statistics other than health?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The question of allocation of the amount will be considered by Government in the light of requirements of each Part A State during the year.

(b) The cost of running mechanical tabulators will depend on the volume of work done in respect of vital statistics in each State.

(c) As far as the Government of India are aware the State Governments do not possess mechanical tabulators for maintenance of statistics other than health.

HEALTH CENTRE AT NAJAPGARH

1015. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of constructing a Primary Health Centre at Najafgarh giving separate figures for land, building, furniture and equipments;

(b) the total number of staff employed in this Centre and the annual expenses incurred thereon; and

(c) the number of Secondary Health Centres attached to this Centre, their location and the approximate distance from the Primary Health Centre?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The total cost of constructing a Primary Health Centre at Najafgarh so far incurred is Rs. 4,51,820 approximately as per details given below:

Land	Rs. 26,906/-
Building	Rs. 4,06,439/-
(including staff quarters, subsidiary building and services etc.)	
Furniture	Rs. 7,452/14/6
Equipment	Rs. 11,021/14/9
(including medicines etc.)	
TOTAL	Rs. 4,51,819/13/3

(b) The following staff is employed in Primary Health Centre, Najafgarh:

(1) Medical Officer of Health (Male)	1
(2) Medical Officer of Health (Female)	1
(3) Public Health Nurses	4
(4) Sanitary Inspector	1
(5) Midwives	4
(6) Trained dais	4
(7) Junior staff (peons, ward boys, ayas, chowkidars etc.)	14
	<hr/>
	29

The recurring expenditure on the salaries, allowances of the staff and contingencies is Rs. 68,300 for 1952-53.

(c) The following two Secondary Health Centres are attached to the Primary Health Centre, Najafgarh:-

1. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Chawla.

2. Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Mitraon.

No. 1 is located at a distance of about four miles and No. 2 at a distance of about two and a half miles from the Primary Health Centre.

MERGER OF BOMBAY SUBURBS POST OFFICES WITH GREATER BOMBAY

1016. Shri Gidwani: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state when the post offices in the suburbs of Bombay which were merged in the Greater Bombay in April, 1950 are going to be transferred to the City of Bombay and given Bombay Delivery District numbers?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Bandra, Khar, Santa Cruz, Juhu, and Vile Parle Post Offices in the suburbs of Bombay are already in the jurisdiction of the City of Bombay. The question of the transfer of the others is still under examination.

LABOUR IN IRON WORKS AND COAL MINES

1017. Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta: (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the minimum wages of a labourer in Iron Works and Coal Mines?

(b) Are they paid for weekly holidays?

(c) If not, do Government propose it for them?

(d) After how many years of service is a labourer made permanent with full rights and privileges as provided under the relevant rules?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giridharan): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

गन्ने का उत्पादन व्यवस्था

१०१८. श्री श्री० चिनिस्टर : जात्या तथा हृषि मंत्री बताने की हृषा करेंगे कि बिहार और उत्तर प्रदेश में गन्ने का उत्पादन व्यवस्था प्रति एकड़ कितना है ?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): It has not been possible yet to conduct a cost of production enquiry about sugarcane and the required information, based on properly planned enquiries, is therefore not available.

चावल का उत्पादन व्यवस्था

१०१९. श्री श्री० चिनिस्टर : जात्या तथा हृषि मंत्री बताने की हृषा करेंगे कि :

(क) जापानी प्रणाली द्वारा चावल उत्पादन में प्रति एकड़ उत्पादन व्यवस्था कितना

पड़ता है और भारतीय प्रणाली द्वारा कितना;
और

(क) जापानी प्रणाली द्वारा चावल
उगाने पर चावल के उत्पादन में कितनी
वृद्धि होने का अनुमान है?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). No wide scale enquiry into the cost of production of rice under existing methods has so far been undertaken. Experiments are being conducted, however, by the Government of India and by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to get more information about the economic aspects, as also other aspects, of the Japanese method of cultivation. The experiments will be carried on both on research farms and on cultivators' fields. It is known, however, that the practices recommended under the convenient name of "the Japanese method of cultivation" are sound practices and will result in increased yields. Plots of paddy cultivated under this method have given yields exceeding 6,000 lbs. What the actual increase will be will depend on various factors such as the amount of fertiliser applied, how well the land is cultivated, how well the seed bed is manured, how good the seeds chosen are and so on.

Post Offices in U.P.

1020. Shrimati Kamlendra Mati Shah: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices opened in Uttar Pradesh, district-wise in the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1951-52;

(b) the population per post office in U.P.; and

(c) the special postal arrangements made in the hilly areas of U.P. which have no motorable roads?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement giving the information is attached. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 52.]

(b) 11,093 in 1951-52.

(c) No special arrangement was made for any particular area, but a post office was opened if it satisfied the criterion of population of 2,000 or more and the permissible limit of loss. A post office was also opened if a con-

tribution to cover the loss in excess of the permissible limit was forthcoming.

The number of post offices opened in the different hill areas is as follows:-

	Dehra Dun	Garhwal	Tehri (Pauri)	Almora (Dehra Dun)	Nainital
1947-48	1	6	Nil	1	Nil
1948-49	9	28	6	45	13
1949-50	6	17	Nil	11	6
1950-51	3	1	Nil	2	Nil
1951-52	6	1	3	Nil	1
Total	25	53	9	59	20

In the case of Tehri Garhwal, 6 post offices were opened under special conditions. These were opened in 1948-49 on the then State authorities agreeing to its own employees conveying the mails. When the State merged with the Uttar Pradesh, the Pradesh Government agreed to offer Non-returnable Contribution so that the post offices might function within the permissible limit of loss.

MINIMUM WAGES FOR MICA MINES WORKERS

1021. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state what is the scale of the minimum wages fixed for the labourers working in Mica Mines by the different States?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): The Governments of Ajmer, Bihar, Madras and Rajasthan have fixed minimum rates of wages under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The minimum wages fixed by them are shown in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 53.]

चलते डाकघर

1022. श्री नवल प्रभाकर: क्या संचरण मंशी बतलाने की हृपा करेंगे :

(क) उन शहरों के नाम जहाँ चलते डाकघरों की स्थिति है और ऐसे डाकघरों की संख्या ; और

(ल) दिल्ली में चलते डाकघरों की संख्या कितनी है और वे किन रास्तों पर चलते हैं ?

1993

Written Answers

10 APRIL 1953

Written Answers

1994

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a)

Cities	No. of Mobile Post Offices
Delhi	1
Kanpur	2
Madras	1
Nagpur	1

(b) One; the route followed by the Mobile Post Office, Delhi is given in the statement, placed on the Table.

STATEMENT

The route followed by Mobile Post Office, Delhi.

Garage	D 15-40
Delhi G.P.O.	A 15-42
	D 15-50
Opp. Lalpat	A 15-55
Rai Market	D 16-45
Delhi R.M.S.	A 16-50 To drop mails for D 16-55 Delhi R.M.

Lahori Gate	A 17-05
	D 18-10 To close mail bag
Connaught Place (Opposite Snowwhite)	A 18-30 for Delhi Air B and deliver the same to Mail Motor of Schedule No. 15 (week days) Sohd. No. 7 (Sunday) and Schedule No. 13 (P.O. Holidays) at this point at 18-45 hours.
Gole Market	A 19-00
	D 19-30
North Avenue	A 19-35
	D 19-50
South Avenue	A 19-55
	D 20-10
Constitution House	A 20-20
	D 20-40
I.R.C. Exhibi- tion	A 20-50
	D 21-05
Delhi Air (W)	A 21-15 To drop mails
	D 21-25 from Delhi Air & Delhi R. M. S. 9
Delhi G.P.O.	A 21-50 To keep account bag and other articles in the office safe.
	D 21-55
Garage	A 21-57

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

4055

4056

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 10th April, 1953

The House met at Two of the Clock
[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

3-2 P.M.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE
INDIAN CENTRAL COCONUT COMMITTEE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that upto the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Indian Central Coconut Committee, 6 nominations were received. Subsequently 4 Members withdrew their candidature. As the number of remaining candidates is thus equal to the number of vacancies in the Committee, I declare the following members to be duly elected:—

1. Shri Kamal Krishna Das.
2. Shri P. T. Chacko.

INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND
REGULATION) AMENDMENT
BILL, 1952

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

By way of explanation I would like to state that this Bill was introduced in the last session. It had a very limited scope and even at that time the Ministry was considering certain other amendments which covered a wider field. It was anticipated that the Amendment Bill of 1952 would be 81 PSD.

passed in the last session, but that was not possible. Since further amendments are sought to be made, the House would have to consider two Amendment Bills, if another Bill is now introduced. To avoid the inconvenience that would be caused to the House thereby, it has now been decided to withdraw the Amendment Bill of 1952 and introduce one Amendment Bill covering not only the amendments proposed in the 1952 Bill but also the new proposals that are now on hand.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT AND
REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted.

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

RESOLUTION RE INVESTIGATION
INTO WEALTH AND PROPERTY
OF GOVERNMENT OFFICERS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further discussion of the Resolution moved by

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker] -

Sardar Hukam Singh on the 28th November 1952:

"This House is of opinion that Government should take steps to investigate into the wealth, fortune, or property, whether held in his own name or of any member or members of his family, jointly or severally, or any person who -

(a) holds an office under the Constitution; or

(b) is a responsible officer of the Government of India or of any State in India; and in particular, is authorised to place contracts, issue licences, collect revenues or taxes, or control the procurement, storage, distribution, movement or sale, of, any commodity; and in particular, any person who is about to relinquish his post or office or retire from Government service; and for this purpose appoint a Commission which should be authorised to call for any witness or document and make a thorough investigation into all the possessions of such an officer.

This House is further of opinion that if as a result of such an investigation any officer is found to be owning, or holding, or to have accumulated any property, which in the opinion of the Investigation Commission is substantially in excess of what could be accumulated by an honest and upright officer, the matter should be reported to this House which will after such further consideration take such action as it deems just and necessary in each case."

I would like to bring to the notice of the House that there are as many as six motions on the Order Paper. The House has already spent 3 hours and 17 minutes over this resolution and as many as 15 hon. Members have participated in the discussion. If the House is desirous of proceeding with the other resolutions, I would like to know how long the debate on this resolution should continue and when I should call upon the Minister to reply. Shall we have it up to five o'clock?

Some Hon. Members: Five o'clock would be all right.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How long would the hon. Minister take to reply?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): About half an hour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then I shall call him at 4-30.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): Shall I have an opportunity to reply after the Minister, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have no objection. Then we shall close this resolution at 5-15.

Then, I would like the House to discuss at least the next two resolutions. Shall we take one hour over Mr. Nambiar's resolution?

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): I would take about 25 to 30 minutes: then it is left to other Members.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Gidwani.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): It is the general feeling in the country, on which there seems to be no two opinions, that corruption is prevalent throughout the country. The reason is that today our Government is complacent about this evil. They do not try to find out the real culprit. If ever a case in which high officers are involved is taken up after a great deal of agitation, it takes a long time to bring them to book. I will read to you, Sir, only a small paragraph from a book by Shri Shibanlal Saksena, who was a Member of Parliament, regarding this matter. He has written a letter to the Congress President—not the present President but Babu Purushottamdas Tandon when he was the President of the Congress—in regard to some corruption matters, and this is what he says:

"I ask you, Tandonji, to kindly ponder over these letters. The Inspector General of the Special Police Establishment, who is the highest anti-corruption officer of the Government of India, registers a case against some of the highest officers of the E.P. Railway and according to the rules, demands immediate transfer of these officers to enable a proper investigation to be carried out.

Mr. Nilkanthan, Staff Member of the Railway Board, was in duty bound to accept the request of Mr. Bambawala and should have transferred these officers according to rules. But he went out of his way not only to refuse the transfers, but even pleaded good reputation on their behalf. Obviously, Mr. Nilkanthan was personally interested in shielding these officers and so he went out of his way to refuse the transfers. The reason given for refusal is most interesting."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the book he is reading from?

Shri Gidwani: I am reading from the book "Why I have resigned from the Congress" by Shri Shibanlal Saksena, M.A., an ex-Member of Parliament. He wrote a letter to the Congress President. It is a published document. I am reading from that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already said previously that when hon. Members want to make reference to any particular official, previous intimation may be given to the Minister concerned so that he may be ready to answer. If an hon. Member suddenly brings up a book—after all it may be in print—and reads from it, the Minister must have an opportunity. I have been reiterating in this House that when any particular instance relating to the conduct of any particular officer in his public capacity is referred to, that matter may be intimated to the Minister previously so that he may be ready to answer.

Shri Gidwani: How is it possible when we are to speak on any particular Resolution to inform the Minister beforehand?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How is it possible for the Minister to answer it? (Interruption). It is not as if they have to give the names for having the permission of the Minister to refer to them: only to put him on guard. It is another matter if we do not want to finish this and drag it on to some other day. When references are made to particular officers, the information may be correct or not. In view of the fact that the officers have no opportunity of explaining their own conduct here or of defending themselves, this is a wholesome rule, from whichever side an attack may be made upon the integrity of a particular officer.

Shri Gidwani: The Minister may be given an opportunity.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When?

Shri Gidwani: Later on. He need not give a reply to it immediately. Sir, this will be a very bad precedent.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is what is being adopted. When they want to bring individual cases of officials to the notice of the House there are ways of bringing it. I am not saying that any permission is necessary either of the Speaker or of the Government: only intimate to them "I am going to refer to such and such person".

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Shahabad South): Then he will have to furnish the whole story.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): He has to give a draft version of his speech, and not merely say—"I want to refer to X" because unless the Minister knows what actually the charges are he cannot be ready with the reply. And if we are expected to give a list of all the points to the Minister beforehand, then there is practically no debate. In this case I hope, Sir, you will kindly consider this fact, as the hon. Member himself has stated, that he is referring to a document which has been published and obviously Government must have knowledge about it. Of course the hon. Minister may have thrown it into the waste paper basket.

Dr. Katju: I cannot be expected to read everything that has been published.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: He is expected to know if there are such allegations.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: It was referred to in Parliament also.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as publications are concerned, if it is a publication by Government, Government must be expected to know all about it. Any other publication by any individual person may be referred to. I am not objecting to the reference to any such publication, whosoever might have published it, whether it is Shri. Shibanlal Saksena or others. But it is an allegation made on the floor of the House against an important officer. What are the chances for the Minister to explain? That is exactly what I would like to know.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I would beg of you, Sir, to appreciate the logic of your ruling. Very often charges are hurled against us by the Government. Some documents are thrown at us which we are supposed to reply to. We should also be supplied beforehand with the particulars so that we may be able to reply. Then there is no debate on either side.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members would have seen that individual hon. Members are not allowed, so long as I have been here, and ought not to be attacked by Government or any other side.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Not individual hon. Members. I would ask you, Sir, to appreciate the seriousness of your ruling. Suppose charges are made against a political organisation. There may be persons who are not here to give a reply. Very often the Prime Minister and the Home Minister have thrown such documents before the House and said "this is the sort of

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

speeches which are being made". We should be supplied with the particulars beforehand so that we may be able to give a reply. I would request you to appreciate the seriousness of your ruling. It will be impossible for us to carry on.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have no objection to consider my ruling. There is a world of difference between officers of the Government and any other person.

Dr. N. B. Khare (Gwalior): There should be no discrimination.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Here it is a question of aspersions being cast on an officer of the Government without any notice to the Government and when the officer is not here to defend himself. If it is the intention of the House to carry on with this Resolution so as to give an opportunity to the Minister, I have no objection. If any hon. Member wants to have the right to refer to an officer even without giving notice, all right, Government will have its own time to give an answer.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): Sir, would you please consider the object of bringing in a resolution like this? When instances of alleged corruption are referred to, the object is not that Government should immediately conduct an investigation into the matter. But we want to refer to something just in the air, something published in the newspapers as well as pamphlets, etc. and we do not expect from the Ministers an immediate factual reply to every single allegation in detail, but we want to give a general view of the situation wherein we find these kinds of reports being circulated. Unless we have the right to refer to reports which are being circulated or to cases of alleged misconduct which have come to our notice, not without making up our own mind, we cannot represent the case.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has misunderstood me. I am not objecting to his referring to such cases at all. All that I am saying is suppose there is a statement and a court of law has come to the conclusion and decided the matter there is no further proof necessary and they can say "it should be referred to and notice should be taken of it". But with respect to matters which are merely in the stage of allegation, the other side must have an opportunity to say whether they are true or false. I am not saying that they are not relevant. They are all relevant. But the other side must have

notice. Subject to that I would ask hon. Members to continue. There is no difficulty.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That is, not mention names but only say A, B, C?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Oh, yes.

Shri Gidwani: Sir, I am reading some of the letters published in this book exchanged between Shri Bambawala and Shri Nilkanthan. These letters are now in possession of the Government.

"D.O. No. 6686 31/CSR/49-D,
Inspector General of Police, Delhi,
Special Police Establishment.

Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi,
Dated the 19th October, 1949.

**SUBJECT:—Case against Eye Testing
Staff of E.P. Railway, Delhi.**

DEAR SHRI NILKANTHAN,

A secret enquiry into allegations of corruption and misconduct has been made by Railway Sectional Officer, Shri R. B. Nangia.

The evidence so far collected has been scrutinized by my Prosecuting Inspector attached to the Headquarters, who has prepared the report incorporating it (copy enclosed).

2. The results obtained so far necessitate the formal registration of a case against the D.M.O. Dr. H. S. Chachhi, Dr. T. S. Arora and Dr. Amar Nath and Inder Singh, Optician.

3. Smooth investigation will not be possible, unless these officers are transferred, as most of the witnesses are Railway employees, who will not find themselves safe, in case they make free and true statements, while these officers are here.

4. I would, therefore, request that early steps be taken to move Dr. Chachhi away from Delhi.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) T. A. BAMBAWALA.

Shri V. Neelakanthan,
Member (Staff) Railways,
Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.

No. 6685/31/CSR/49-D, dated 19th October 1949.

Copy to Shri Daya Chand Jain, Chief Administrative Officer, E.P. Railway, Delhi, with a copy of the report of the Prosecuting Inspector for information.

LETTER NO. 3.

with the request that early steps be taken to transfer Dr. Arora, and Dr. Amar Nath from Delhi.

(Sd.) T. A. BAMBAWALA.

No. 6687/31/CSR 49-D, dated the 22nd October, 1949.

Copy together with a copy of the

(Sd.) HARI RAM ANAND

For Inspector General of Police,

D.S.P.E."

This is the reply from Shri V. Nilkanthan:-

"Ministry of Railways,
New Delhi.
D.O. No. E49EL2/29/3/D,
25th November, 1949.

DEAR SHRI BAMBAWALA.

Reference your D.O. No. 6686/31/CSR/49-D, dated 19th October 1949, the Railway Board have given very careful consideration to the request. From the information made available to them, they can, however, see no justification for taking the action suggested, which they consider would result in serious damage to the morale of the service. Dr. Chachi is an officer who has consistently earned excellent reports throughout his service, and the Board feel themselves to agree, on the facts placed before them, that there are not any grounds for transferring him from Delhi. The Railway Board, therefore, much regret that they are unable to accede to your request.

2. The Board, however, consider that this appears to be a case which is better fitted for being dealt with departmentally and would be glad if the S.P.E. will make available to them such evidence as they may have collected and as can be disclosed in order to enable them to consider further action.

3. I should like to add that if the Board's view given above is not acceptable to you or to the Home Ministry, H.M. Railways, desires that no orders should issue unless the case is circulated both to the H.M. Home and to H.M. Railways. In cases which affect the interests of officers of standing in Railways and where the Railway Board's views differ from yours, H.M. Railways has ruled that on receipt of the Railway Board's reply unilateral orders from the Home Ministry or H.M. Home should not be obtained and acted upon until H.M. Railways is consulted.

Yours sincerely,
V. NILKANTHAN."

Shri T. A. Bambawala,
I.G.S.P.E., New Delhi.

Note sent by Mr. T. A. Bambawala on 4th February 1950, to Mr. Ghoshal, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

If you have objection, I will not mention the names.

Shri Shibanlal further says in his letter to Shri Tandonji: "The staff member of the Railway Board says that if the accused officer is transferred, it could result in serious damage to the morale of the services. There is also the threat that if the I.C.P. did not agree to drop the investigation, the Railway Minister would intervene and get it dropped by reference to the Home Minister."

Mr. Bambawala was shocked at the letter. Here we see the highest officer of the Government of India, who was in charge of eradicating corruption, confessing his helplessness to eradicate it. He complained that the Staff Member had not only refused to transfer these officers but that there were many other cases in which such normal requests for transfers had been refused. Thus the request for the transfer of the Chief Engineer in the B.N. Railway against whose brother a corruption case was being investigated, was refused. An officer who was accused of having cheated the Railway of several lakhs of rupees, instead of being transferred was granted leave. The Chief Engineer refused to transfer a subordinate Engineer for similar reasons. Does not this behaviour on the part of this officer in the Railway Board give room for a strong suspicion that whenever a high Railway Officer gets into the clutches of the S.P.E. he has only to see this officer and get the case again himself dropped. Should such a person be allowed to remain Staff Member of the Railway Board for a minute longer? Can corruption in Railways be stopped so long as such a man is at the helm of affairs of the Railway? Will not this behaviour of the Railway Board Member and the support he has obtained from the Railway Ministers demoralise the Anti-Corruption Department itself?"

Thus one of the highest officers who was appointed to eradicate corruption and the other officer who was in charge of investigation have left. Mr. Nangia who investigated the case has left. He was forced to leave his service. He was victimised and harassed.

Then I will refer to the Import and Export offices. Everybody is aware that corruption in those departments

[Shri Gidwani]

is increasing and everybody talks about it that without paying something nothing can be done. I am not referring to the two cases that are going on in Delhi. I am referring, Sir, to two cuttings from the *Times of India*; one of them relates to the judgment of a Special Judge in Bombay:

"Special Judge V. S. Bakhlé said today (17th January 1953), we find a bribe being freely demanded in the Export and Import Control Office.

Shri Bakhlé made this observation while convicting Mr. M. K. P. Nair, a clerk in the office of the Deputy Chief Controller of Exports and Imports, of accepting a bribe.

Remarking that the offence deserved a deterrent punishment, the Special Judge sentenced Shri Nair to nine months R.I.

"The Exports and Imports Control Office is one which in the wider public interest should be absolutely free from any corruption of this type", the Judge said.

Shri Nair was accused of demanding a bribe for helping a businessman to obtain an income-tax registration number from the office of the Controller of Exports and Imports."

There is another case. I had put a question about it but which was not allowed.

I will now refer to it from another cutting from the *Times of India* dated 19th February 1953, page 5:

"A charge-sheet was preferred three years after his arrest, against G. R. Mankikar, former Assistant Deputy Chief Controller of Exports, the principal suspect in what is known as the 'Export Scandal Case', before Mr. V. M. Gehani, Presidency Magistrate, Ballard Pier Court, Bombay, on Wednesday.

Among the 14 charges made against him are that he aided and abetted in the cheating of the Government of India by dishonestly inducing the Customs Department to permit the export of certain goods, the export of which had been banned, and abetted fabrication of documents.

Other former employees of the Export Department, G. J. Kale,

B. M. Sapre, P. M. S. Mehta, S. G. Kamat and R. N. Devi, a merchant R. R. Shah, and R. N. Desai were also charge-sheeted on different counts connected with the alleged offences. Eight more persons, who had been implicated in the case were ordered to be discharged as the sanction of the Government of India for proceeding against the principal accused in the matter on two related offences was not given it is stated.

All the 16 suspects had been taken into custody by the Yellow-gate Police during a period spread over ten months in 1950".

Now, Sir, from these two cuttings that I read before you, you will see that many cases of corruption are occurring in the country and very few are brought to light. In that matter also, sufficient vigilance is not exercised and higher officials are interfering and trying to shift their responsibilities to their subordinates. My object in bringing these things to the notice of the House is to point out that we should not be complacent, and if we take the present attitude that we have taken or say that to talk of scandals is a scandal, then, we will go on multiplying a series of scandals. It is therefore high time that the Congress Government—which has been in power for the last 5½ years without any obstruction, because they have an absolute majority and they can do what they like and take any measure they want and the Opposition parties will help them if they want their co-operation in such matters, should wake up. Unfortunately, the whole attitude is an attitude of complacency: an attitude which indicates as if nothing was wrong. The other argument that is advanced is that in other countries in the world, things are worse. I have never heard that kind of argument. Supposing five thefts are committed in another house and two in my house, it is a poor consolation to say that, in my house because five thefts are not committed conditions are better and needs no improvement. That is no argument. We have to set up a very high standard. I need not refer again to the cases that are pending. But, you see, Sir, that these are not isolated cases. These are two out of a large number of cases that have come to light. There are innumerable cases of that nature which go undetected. Therefore, the resolution which has been brought by Sardar Hukam Singh should be supported by the Government. I see no reason why the Congressmen should vote against this

harmless, good and beneficial resolution. It will do good to the country. Government should come forward and say, "we accept the resolution, and see no objection in accepting and implementing it." It is high time that we took some adequate and effective measures to eradicate corruption. In other countries, you have seen, in Egypt, what action they have taken even against the King, and other officers; in Iran and other countries, Governments are taking very strong action against corruption. Therefore, I would appeal to my Congress friends who stand for purity of administration to extend their support wholeheartedly to the resolution. Yesterday they were talking of khadi being the mother of independence. Khadi, if it represented anything, represented purity; it represented sacrifice; it represented service; it represented our identification with the masses. If we allow this kind of corruption to go on, and if we take a complacent attitude, we will have to face very bad days. Therefore, I would appeal to my Congress friends—I am not in the Congress now—to support the resolution. Government should also welcome the resolution and accept it.

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): Mr. Speaker, I rise to move an amendment to the Resolution under discussion that:

"This House is of further opinion that notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, no person who volunteers to give information regarding receipt of illegal gratification or bribery by any government servant shall be proceeded against under any such law."

Mr. Speaker: I have not been able to follow. Where that portion is to be added?

Shri Punnoose: At the end.

Mr. Speaker: Will he repeat his amendment? Is it put on paper?

Shri Punnoose: It is No. 26.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. It has already been moved.

Shri Punnoose: It is with a definite objective that I move this amendment. The question of corruption in our administration and in our social set up is not a new one. There is no point in saying that from the date of the Congress coming into power this rot began in this country. No. Sir. It was there throughout. The coming of the Congress into power has not checked corruption. I am sure there will

be very little difference of opinion upon this count. Many hon. Members on the other side, will admit in this House that they have not been able to check corruption. I believe that hon. Home Minister himself, in informal talks, could generously admit that they have not been able to register success in this.

I do not in the least mean to say that no attempt has been made to check corruption. Many enquiry committees have been appointed, volumes have been written; experts have gone into the question. I do not know, sometimes, experts in corruption themselves have tackled the question. But, the net result is that you and I, people generally, do not feel that in the new set up corruption has been successfully fought and that they can proceed safely. I want to bring it to the notice of the House that there has been a fundamental weakness in all these approaches, in the various enquiries made and in the announcements of good intentions made by the Government. I concede that there are many good men on the other side who really want to do things. I am aware of anxious minds who are spending time over this question. But, one particular factor, I believe, the most important factor, is lost sight of. That is, that corruption can be fought and rooted out only when and if the general masses of our people are given a proper place in the picture. Because, they are the people who are vitally interested in uprooting corruption. I personally, on moral grounds, on philosophical grounds, on grounds of taste, may dislike corruption. But, when I want to get a second class ticket from here to Madras to travel to my place, in conditions of extreme necessity and I do not know—I have never been placed in that type of situation in the past—whether I will not take to some short cut to get the berth booked. But there are masses of people, in this country, workers, poor peasants, small salaried people, millions of them, who gain nothing by corruption, and who stand to gain by rooting it out, and who stand to lose by allowing corruption to prosper. Therefore, I want very much the Government today to liberate the energies of our people and channelise them in that direction. Let the people come forward and point out who have been the oppressors, and who have looted them. Let them come forward and bring the charges. No matter whether or not these charges are as beautifully arranged as the Home Minister would like them to be codified; let them come forward, and say that this Minister, this leader, this officer is doing this havoc or has taken bribes from me. If such a thing is

[Shri Punnoose]

allowed, you will find that many people who pass for gentlemen, who are respected in society today, are not able to answer the charges.

I am aware of cases where greedy men, influential men in society, in search of profit, have participated in corruption. A moneyed man, going in for a contract, enters into a sort of relationship with the officer concerned, gives him a few thousands of rupees and makes profit. I am aware of such men. I have no illusion that by declaring that no proceedings will be launched against people who have been compelled to give bribes, such people who have actively participated in this sort of thing, such big guys will come into the picture. They will never come forward to fight corruption. But the large percentage of cases of corruption has occurred because our people had no other go. In many cases, people give bribes simply because they could not help it. Therefore, I would request the Government not only to accept the Resolution, but also accept this amendment and call upon the people to come forward.

I would point out an instance. I would point out how this question has been tackled in our neighbouring country, China. I am not now, at the present moment, interested in the social order or change that has been brought about in China, but everybody admits that the question of corruption has been most seriously and earnestly tackled; and we have got very authoritative statements from Indian visitors that they have successfully solved it. How was it possible? The "Anti-Three" and "Anti-Five" movements were launched against the corruption of Government officers, and believe me, leading Party men, leaders of the Communist Party, were asked to stand before the people and answer questions and charges of corruption. If such a procedure is taken, and if our people are allowed the initiative, if they are allowed to come forward, I am sure corruption can be fought. But, nothing short of it can do it. Nothing less than this can fight corruption, because it will hide somewhere. It is not very easy to catch these clever fellows who cheat society.

You are aware that according to the present law, the Indian Penal Code, the bribe-giver will also be booked, and last year we passed a law by which it becomes a cognizable offence. This would plainly prevent and hamper the initiative of the ordinary people. Therefore, in order to implement this Resolution and make a determined attack against corruption, nepotism, favouritism and all the rest of it, I

would request this House to accept the Resolution with this amendment, and I am sure Sardar Hukam Singh himself will be happy to accept my amendment.

Shri Khardekar (Kolhapur cum Satara): It is needless to say that I rise to support the Resolution. I found that during the last session even some Congressmen supported it. It was a very pleasant surprise. And that leads me to think that love of honesty is not the entire monopoly of this side.

My only regret is that this Resolution does not go far enough. It refers only to officers. I would like to include legislators. Ministers and persons or Members who are members of the Party in power.

I am more concerned with the corrupt mind rather than with different samples or illustrations of corruption, because, a man is selfish not so much sometimes for himself as it may be due to tribal instincts. Now, supposing I were a Maharashtrian Minister, I would see that my Ministry has more Mahashtrians. A Bengalee more or less does the same. That is a kind of provincial corruption. Then there is the community affair. Supposing Mr. Deshpande or myself, if we were to be Hindu Mahasabhaites, we would not like a Muslim to enter our office as far as possible—I mean, frankly speaking. But then, it is also very likely that if I were a Muslim Minister and also a very great patriot and nationalist, I would see that my Ministry has a good quota of Muslim officials. This is a kind of corruption, I think, from which we suffer a great deal.

From community we come to caste, sub-caste, family, even name. There are some persons who are so great that they adorn a great name, but there are many who are adorned by that great name, and they derive a good deal of benefit. I think although Shakespeare was a great poet, he definitely blundered when he said:

"What is in a name?
That which we call a rose
By any other name would smell as sweet."

It would smell as sweet, but I do not know whether it would fetch half the price, and in this world and in public life, it is not your intrinsic worth that counts as much as your capacity to advertise yourself and to sell yourself properly.

Now, let me come to the question of legislators, because we are legislators, and how and why we should declare

our possessions. Last year, when I was in Poona, I went to see one of the Ministers. That was the first time I went there, and I hope that would be the last. There was a regular *durbār*, with 25 legislators in the house. The Minister himself is a good man. What could he do? He had to see the legislators. And then I asked the Minister: "How do you carry on your work?" He said: "I have to spend two or three hours every day like this." Then I went to the Council Hall, and I enquired why most of those were not active in the Assembly at all. Then I was told, and I believe that is true, that some of the legislators—well, it is their practice—and a practice that brings them something better than the practice of lawyers in the legal profession. So, here, I must disagree with the Deputy-Speaker who very often says that Members should go and see the Ministers and have a few points thrashed out. I would like a law to be made that no legislator should bother a Minister. Let the Ministers do their work, and any important matter should be brought on the floor of the House. Otherwise, there are some of us who go to the Ministers, who know important persons, and as a result that leads to corruption.

I know whenever I go back to my constituency, some highly respectable persons ask me: "You must have met Panditji several times." And if I were to convince them that I have met Panditji several times and if I am inclined to make some money from businessmen and so on, it is quite possible. But they get scandalised and shocked when I tell them: "Well, I have not met Panditji, nor have I any intentions of meeting him." Then, they say: "Why?" Because, first of all, he is a busy man, and secondly, I have always something interesting to do rather than meeting even important persons. So, this kind of corruption, I think is extremely bad.

Now, unfortunately, my friend who spoke the other day was rather critical about me, and I want to say something to him in reply in this connection, as far as corruption is concerned. Now, he said or suggested that I am to be found round 'bars' or something. This is a time when I want to purify myself and make certain admissions and confessions. I will narrate an experience of mine which will convince you as to how this corruption sets in when there are bad laws. During the last election, as part of my election campaign, I was addressing a village meeting, and in a light-hearted manner, I was trying to criticise the Bombay Government and its policy. I said: "Thanks to the Bombay Gov-

ernment now, because of prohibition, everything is so good; one need not go to any particular place; inside a village or outside—all that you have got to do is put your hand like that and a bottle comes up." It was just meant to create some fun. But, surprised I was very much to find that some of the village leaders—well, I could see some glint of appreciation in their eye. And after the meeting was over, I went to my car and started driving myself. My chauffeur said: "Two villagers came and have deposited two bottles in appreciation of your talk." I thought that it must be milk or honey or something like that. Curiosity must be satisfied, and as soon as I got out of the village, I stopped the car, and opened one of the bottles. Lo and behold what was there! Water, not just water, but 'water that had blushed at the sight of the lord'. Now, I was on the horns of a dilemma. If I were to hand over those bottles to the police, I know what the police would do with it.

An Hon. Member: You should have taken it.

Shri Khardekar: Yes, I ought to have, I thought I should throw them out, because I am a law-abiding citizen. But at the same time, I am a great patriot, and I did not want to waste valuable indigenous property. Not being able to decide what to do, I do not remember what I did—for, how can you?

Then about offices and so on. I find only three offices that are not corrupt. One is the post office, the other is the telegraph office, and the third is the Parliament Office. And here, I have some humble suggestion to make to you, Sir. It would be better, whenever there are so many Members very anxious to speak, if you could fix some kind of fees, say Rs. 50 and so on, and then the speeches would become valuable. The condition should be that if the speeches were just tolerable, that Rs. 50 would be returned, and if the speeches were better than that, then some contribution of Rs. 100 should be made. I assure you, Sir, that you would not lose. At the end of the year, all this amount should be collected, and from an unknown admirer, the money should be sent to Mr. Deshmukh, so that on the day of the Budget, he will read out that particular letter saying 'Here is so much money that has come from an unknown man.' If that is done, the House will improve, and there will be much less tedious talk. And here I have to put in a word for the hon. Deputy-Speaker. For, in your absence, he has to sit there. He cannot even yawn, whereas

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we can snooze a bit, and he cannot make his own name significant. His name is Ananthasayanam, i.e., that the man should be sleeping endlessly. But he cannot sleep even for a little bit.

Then, this question of patronage is very important. I think it is the vilest kind of corruption. The intoxication of power is worse than the intoxication of alcohol. Those who get drunk on power go on distributing patronage in such a manner that they are guilty, as I said, of the vilest corruption, and we find persons who have no values in their lives are out to set up priorities, and distribute patronage. They feed those who flatter them, and those who admire their follies; and by creating a list of priorities, in newspapers and so on, honest criticism is put an end to. We saw, for example, in Bombay, the way the *Times of India* is punished, and *Sakal* from Poona is punished. My point is that those in office should be particularly careful. With regard to officers. Ministers and so on,—not so much at the Centre—there is considerable indirect corruption. The Ministers, particularly the State Ministers are very fond of going out, touring—almost picnic they consider it—and they go with their families, and spend a good time. I know one instance when as many as eight to ten persons went along with a Minister. Then, of course, the collector had to be there, the DSP had to be there; the conscience of the Minister was so very much awake that at the end of the third day, he asked for the bill and paid Rs. 4-8-0. The officers had to spend about Rs. 500. They are not going to spend from their pockets. They have to take that money from the merchants and other people. So, this indirect sort of corruption has got to be stopped.

I forgot, in reply to my friend, what I wanted to say. I was telling how a certain stuff comes to me. I would like my friend to tell me how permits go to their particular friends. Of course, I wanted to quote Shri Rajabhoj who chanted earlier sort of devotional song:

‘रघुपति राघव राजा राम,
टाटा बिडला तेरा नाम
सब को परमिट दे भगवान।’

Therefore the lord of permit Permit-Gevind should be able to tell us how permits can be had. I have been quoting enough today, that I have forgotten the other things.

My submission is that this corruption in various forms must be ruthlessly cut an end to. And when we cannot put an end to corruption, as it seems

today, I think it is our duty to follow Plato. Plato, in his 'Republic'—I hope some Members have read it, and those who have read remember—says that if you want to have purity of administration, see that the administrators or the guardians do not have what leads them to corruption. Like gay bachelors, they should be doing their work, eating out in a mess, living, say, in the Constitution House. There need be no starvation or inhibition, but because of interest in other persons, some of us are inclined to be very corrupt.

Then there are elections, where we find a number of corrupt practices going on. And it does not refer to any particular party or group, but it has been noticed allround. I remember one very interesting incident that happened during the last elections. In one part of the country, where bulls are not respected only but worshipped, beautiful bulls were kept standing on the way to the polling booth, and the object, of course, was that those voters who would come that way would naturally bow down to the deity, and then they were led to the polling booth. and the workers told them 'Now you have worshipped the bulls outside. Inside you have to go and all that you have to do is to put your votes for our party bulls, into the box having the bulls as the symbol'. This kind of working on the religious sentiment of the people has happened. It might have happened elsewhere also. This is not a cock and bull story, though cock happened to be my symbol

My point is that there is no use singling out officers. Officers are not a set apart. They are part of the society. The officers are corrupt, because I think we, the Indian people, are corrupt. The corruption amongst officers is in just the same proportion as corruption amongst ourselves. That is my submission.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore): This problem of corruption has focussed a lot of public attention in recent times.

[**PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair**]

Corruption has gone too deep in our body-politic. Nobody can say that after Independence, we have a better record in this, and that the people are satisfied. I feel, after attainment of *Swaraj*, corruption in all its forms has been mounting up, and many social evils have flown from this. On the floor of the House, on many occasions, many hon. Members have drawn the attention of the various Ministers to the

practices of corruption that are prevalent. And we know how the Government of India is too slow in its attitude in curbing this evil. We have many interesting cases of corruption, which are being tried in the courts of Delhi. They are sub judice; we cannot discuss them here. But anyway, Sir, they are very interesting cases. They reveal a lot of things—how, in what form and by what methods corruption is being encouraged and practised by officials. My friend who spoke just now was referring to favouritism and patronage prevailing in the public and Legislature as well as in the Ministry. He was making general remarks about corruption.

I want to draw the attention of the House particularly to official corruption. Corruption among officers, is growing day by day and no effective action has been taken by the higher authorities. I refer to one or two particular cases where Government has not taken effective action. You must have heard of what is called the Ferozepur Cantonment scandal. It is an old case, but till today no action has been taken by the Government. The person who was a victim to this scandal lodged a private complaint to the concerned authorities and he also made a representation that in the Ferozepur Cantonment area the police officials were responsible for this scandal. I do not want to discuss this scandal in detail, because it is so scandalous, so bad and almost nauseating that I do not want to repeat it here; but I only say that till today no effective action has been taken against police officers who were responsible for this scandal.

I refer to another case, Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): What is scandalous? The scandal itself or not taking action?

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: There is another case, Sir, of a man who was guarding Rajghat. Because he took some interest in finding out some corruption in certain departments, he was assaulted by some people who were assisted by officials. So, this shows that the Government is mostly responsible for the growth of corruption in the body politic.

Now, the problem is: what are the measures which should be taken to checkmate this corruption? It is a very important question, Sir. We may discuss about various forms of corruption and we may quote various cases. But the main problem is, how to bring about moral purity, how to

cleanse public administration? It is a very important question and all of us should pool our intellectual resources to find out a solution to this problem.

Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Home Minister to certain old circulars issued by the Punjab Government during the British regime. Those circulars are very interesting and they show how the then Government of Punjab took effective action to checkmate corruption. I do not mean in any way that corruption was not prevalent in those days. It was prevailing, but the action taken by the then Government to overcome it was very effective. Circulars were issued to all the departmental officials that they should conform to certain standards of conduct. The Punjab Government had analysed the various forms of illegal gratification. I am quoting, Sir:

"There is the man who extorts, and there is the man who merely accepts (the gratification). There is the bribe that is given for a particular purpose, whether that purpose is to pervert justice, to obtain a contract, to cover bad work done or to secure an unlawful advantage in any other way, and there is especially in the lower grades of the service, the customary perquisite paid at regular intervals without definite object and, largely because it is the custom".

Sir, this tendency we are seeing even today in all branches of administration but in an attenuated form. It is particularly necessary to note that there cannot be corruption or bribery without two parties. We know that. Unless there is a bribe-giver, there cannot be a bribe-taker. For that, the Punjab Government then in its circular said:

"So long as there are private persons foolish enough or dishonest enough to give bribes, there will always be some officials who will not scruple to take them. Bribe-taking will only stop when bribe-giving ceases, it is with the public, therefore, that the remedy rests."

It goes on to say:

"Every man who gives a bribe is the enemy of the public. One bribe leads to another, justice hides her face, avarice is encouraged, and insecurity increased among the subjects. Treat the bribe-giver therefore as your enemy. Refuse to smoke or

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

drink with him. He has shown discord and injustice; let him reap aversion and contempt".

It says further,

"Bribes are not taken in the bazar but secretly."

So if any genuine complaint is made against the officials that there is a case of bribery or corruption, then those officials should be immediately suspended and put to trial. So quick and effective action should be taken. We have got a department set up for this purpose, that is, the Special Police Establishment. This is going through various corruption cases. I have heard a lot of allegations against this department also. I have received complaints that many cases have been unduly delayed, investigations have been prolonged and evidence distorted and a lot of bribes are being taken by officials from parties. So if these very men, this very department which is meant for checking or eradicating corruption, succumbs to corruption, then how is it possible to cleanse public administration? How is it possible to raise administrative morality? So stricter and sterner action is necessary. The Ministers themselves should take more drastic steps and, if possible, they should set up a Committee of Inquiry immediately to inquire into all the departments and to suggest measures for eradicating corruption. Unless this is done, it is very doubtful whether there can be any co-operation from Opposition to solve other vital problems.

Further, I have got one or two more points to bring to the notice of the Minister. Corruption starts, as you know, from politics. First of all we must be very careful that the Ministers should not take into confidence some of the professional traders in permits. Nowadays their number is increasing in the public, and they are becoming more and more friendly with the Ministers. The Ministers may not know this, but the public are watching. So it is very necessary that the Ministers should take proper care in giving interviews to such people or in mixing with those people. A clever device that is being adopted nowadays is to invite a Minister to a particular party, or a social gathering and to make his friendship and then the friendship of his wife, his sons etc. By that way, they indirectly wield influence over the Minister and the Minister will ultimately become a victim to their

nefarious influence. So, we find that the Ministers are helping these professional corruptors of society to trade in their own way and to amass a lot of wealth. That sort of thing should be immediately stopped. An Enquiry Committee on behalf of Parliament, consisting of parliamentary Members may be set up now to enquire into all these and other matters.

There is an amendment to the resolution by my friend. He has suggested that even the legislators should be included. I have seen during my short experience many legislators who have amassed large amount of wealth both in the States as well as in the Centre. I do not know by what means. It may be by rightful means or it may be by other means. I cannot say. But, anyway, the fact is that many Members of the legislature have a lot of money in their hands and by displaying their money, by displaying their position they are playing havoc against society. Many innocent people are being hoodwinked or falling victims. That should be stopped.

In this connection, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister concerned to the fact that here in Delhi we are seeing lots of palatial buildings in various parts. They are owned by contractors who have taken contracts under the CPWD and other departments. A total valuation of all their properties should be made. I may point out that there was one contractor who was penniless, who came from Punjab and now he is owning 5 or 6 buildings including the Regal Building. He is now rolling in wealth and it would be very interesting for us to enquire as to how this gentleman, within his own lifetime, earned so much. I have seen so many people who within the last few years, say within half a dozen years, have become men of lakhs and they have even millions of rupees in their hands. How is it possible? Except by a miracle, you cannot think of people, having no means of their own before, acquiring so much of property within a few years.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Meerut Distt. —South): Money also produces.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: If you expect people to have any belief or confidence in the existing Government, then you must clear doubt in their minds and show that this ad-

ministration is above corruption, and this stands for its ruthless eradication. Today you ask any man in the street, he will tell you, 'Oh, this administration is full of corruption; without bribe nothing is done'. That is the general feeling. You must destroy this psychological feeling; it is very bad, very devastating. It will have disastrous consequences on the morale of the public. So, unless the administration is pure, unless the Government which administers the country is pure, unless there is a satisfaction among the public that this Government stands for justice and justice alone you cannot expect co-operation from the people for your schemes, for your Five Year Plan and your multipurpose programmes. Much harm is being done by these corrupt contractors and corrupt officials. So, if you want public money to be utilised properly, if you want the development of the country, if you want prosperity of the people you must get the co-operation of the public. And to get public co-operation, mere talking of it is not enough, mere sending of appeals and advertisements in papers is not enough. You must show in action that you are the real enemy of corruption, and that you are out to condemn and suppress corrupt activities. If you show honesty and zeal, then automatically, all the sections of the public will come and support you in all your schemes. Unless this is done, it is very difficult and even doubtful that this administration will lead the country to prosperity.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Chairman: I find that Shri Algu Rai Shastri has already spoken and similarly Shree Narayan Das has also spoken on this resolution. There is no rule allowing a person to speak twice on the same motion.

Shri S. N. Das (Darbhanga Central): I have not spoken Sir. I have only moved my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: On the 28th of November, he is supposed to have spoken and taken ten minutes.

There are many amendments, about 26 amendments on the agenda paper. If I were to allow every Member to have a speech, I think there will not be time enough.

Shri Algu Rai Shastri (Azamgarh Distt.—East ~~and~~ Ballia Distt.—West): Have I spoken, Sir?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Prof. Mathew (Kottayam): I assure you, Sir, that I wish to raise only one or two points for clarification by the hon. Mover of the resolution.

May I begin by saying that we, on this side, are as keen on this question of rooting out of corruption as any on the other side. Whatever corruption exists in the country must be rooted out. Every effective step must be taken and I claim to be as keen as, if not more keen, than, any one on the side of the Opposition. But, Sir, my difficulty is this. I do not quite understand how this resolution could really and effectively help it. I would only concentrate on one essential point of procedure. Say, a Commission is appointed to go into these cases. What cases? It has to go into the savings of every "responsible officer". I do not quite understand what is meant by 'responsible officer'. Who are responsible officers and who are irresponsible officers? So, it has to go into the savings of every officer in the whole of the Union of India to see whether it falls within the legitimate bounds of his salary! That is the first point. I am prepared to swallow this difficulty and to concede that a Commission may be appointed. I know there are hundreds of cases of corruption which may happen during a year. What surprised me was this—I rubbed my eyes to see whether I read it all right—that all these cases should be reported to this House! Is this House to decide what is to be done in each of those cases? Suppose the Commission sends up only one hundred cases. What is this House to do with them? Without some documents, without some data being placed before us, we cannot go into the question and be convinced that these *prima facie* cases of corruption are real. Then what are we to do? Is this legislature to convert itself into a judiciary? How can this Parliament convert itself into a judiciary and say what ought to be done in each case? That is what I fail to understand. If this doubt of mine is cleared, and it is shown how it is an effective way of reducing corruption, I shall certainly vote for the resolution. But, just at the moment, I fail to see the workability of this scheme, of hundreds of cases being reported to this House and this House being called upon to decide in each case what ought to be done. Certainly, it would seem to me that it is not the effective way of doing things. That would be rather going in the wrong way. It was said by

[Prof. Mathew]

some Members that it is not going far enough. As far as I can see, it is a roundabout and impractical method. If this doubt can be cleared and it can be shown to me that this is effective, I shall be most happy to vote for the resolution.

श्री पौ० आर० राव० (वारंगल०) : मैं
इसका जवाब देना चाहता हूँ।

Mr. Chairman: Others also can reply. After all, I cannot call every hon. Member.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Chairman: Pandit K. C. Sharma. He should finish by 4-30.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: I am grateful to you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. The problem is not such an easy one as the resolution supposes to be, because public servants as a class are not very much different from people working in other walks of life. As human beings, they are both related, and the factors that tempt people in other spheres to think of easy money are the very factors which also tempt public servants to yield to temptations. So, you cannot differentiate public servants from others.

The fact of the matter is that this habit of corruption has a long history. It is not a thing that has come yesterday or a few years before today. The root cause is that for centuries we as a people have been influenced by the positional rather than the functional attitude. Any man who does not care to do things remains static. He lacks the courage to face facts. I submit that it is as much corruption to say that because some people are of a particular colour or religion or caste, therefore they should have a State of their own simply because they want a certain fool to be raised to the position of a minister—it is as much corruption to fight for an uneconomic State as it is for a sub-inspector to take a few hundred rupees and send five people instead of seven to a trouble-spot, and with the help of the money send his daughter to school. You go to the marriage market. A handsome young man is there. He does not get the girl. Another fool who is dirty, ugly and characterless gets her, simply

because he has lot of money. Is that not greater corruption? Is the sub-inspector a worse criminal than such a man?

Why do these things happen? Because for centuries we have not had the courage in us to make headway, to fight against heavy odds and difficulties. That has been the bane of our life. What is the secret behind the amassing of wealth? It is the lack of confidence in our children. The parents themselves lack confidence in their children. They believe that their children cannot make their way in life and hence they must leave enough for them.

You take a Minister. He should be there, because he knows the job; he does the job; he is expected to do the job. If he fails in that he fails the people. It is the duty of the Cabinet to see that every man works properly; he is competent; what he has done has brought enough credit to keep him in his office. If people say that a certain man is worthless, that he does not do his job, then the Cabinet's first duty is to kick him off. If you do that with regard to higher officers the sub-inspector would not be corrupt.

Now, I come to the services. What is wrong with them? The other day I enquired how many people from the Ministries were on the U.P.S.C. A certain number was given and it was said that they were all professors of poetry, drama, fine arts and so on. I ask a simple question: are people who look at the skies and delight in imagination competent to judge the character and capacity of the young men who are to face the facts of administration? Face the facts. Is it not true that before you there is a hard and difficult life which requires a lot of courage, patience and hard work? To my mind, never was the world in a more difficult situation than it is today with regard to administration, and India is no exception. Formerly, a certain class of people who were born, bred and trained for administration were there to take up the job. They had many great qualities. That class has vanished today. Common people have come in. They have to learn to face difficulties. You have to change people and make them fit to do the job. You must see that every link in the administration is well-placed.

There are several stages. You have the U.P.S.C. You have the Administrative Training School. From

the stage of a student, you select men and take them up to the stage of their gradation in service. I met some ten or fifteen people who came out successful in the I.A.S. Examination. I asked some of them why they had chosen Government service. To my surprise, all of them said: "Here we get more pay". Now, is Government service a *bania* shop? There is no greater disqualification, to my mind, than for a young man to say that. He should say that he gets better opportunities; he gets better work. Public service is not a profit-making proposition. No administration can be good enough and acceptable to any self-respecting people if public officers are joining the services only for better pay. That is impossible, because once that is accepted, the corollary follows that the man must get a beautiful wife to have an easy way; he must get friends who can give him an easy life and provide comforts. What you read in the papers for the last few days is a necessary corollary to it. Only one man's case has come before the public, but there would be dozens and I daresay that such cases would be inevitable the moment you look at things from a possessional attitude and not a functional attitude.

Now, regarding this resolution, I appreciate its spirit, but it is not acceptable to me, because it reduces the House to the position of a judge. The function of the House is to legislate, not to pass judgments. That is the business of the judiciary. We have changed our old ways, and the Constitution has created three distinct departments, viz., the legislature to make laws, the executive to carry them out and the judiciary to administer justice. So, the function suggested for Parliament in the resolution does not fit in with the scheme of our Constitution.

One word more and I have done. My hon. friend Shri Gurupadaswamy says that everywhere you find corruption. He says that the man-in-the-street talks of corruption: this man is corrupt; that officer is corrupt; and so on. It is not such a simple affair. The fact is that he finds life difficult. His attitude is one of drift. You must have come across people who resort to this drifting way. Supposing a man is sick. Instead of running to the chemist's shop and getting medicine, he says: "What is the good? I cannot be cured. The medicine may not be effective." This is what is called drifting, that is, looking at things in a loose way. This is

the character of a class of people who are incompetent to face facts and meet the difficulties and lacking the will to face danger. I have done.

Dr. Katju: We have had a very full debate on this Resolution. I have heard many speakers, I confess, with a great sense of sorrow and grief. It is not because I do not share the general opinion against the evil of corruption. It is detestable wherever it may be found. But I confess I was hurt by the great exaggeration and the over-statement in many speeches. Not only in this debate, but on previous occasions also, this topic has been dealt with, not with a sense of horror, but with a sense of great relish, great gusto, as if we were enjoying the whole of this discussion.

We are forgetting that the public servants whom we condemn so particularly are our own kith and kin; they are our brothers, our sons, our nephews. and I say respectfully that when you condemn them so broadly, so generally, you condemn yourself, because there must be some defect in the upbringing, some defect in the environment, in the family surroundings, which make these youngmen when they enter into public service to become so horrid as you try to paint them. Indeed, one of my hon. friends here, who made a speech which was generally liked as being humorous, ended by saying that all Indians were corrupt. Therefore the problem was insoluble, because if we are all corrupt we cannot stop corruption. That is why I have a feeling that we do not take this problem seriously and it is becoming almost a fashion these days to indulge in general vituperation on this topic.

Secondly, there is another matter. My hon. friend the Mover of the Resolution started by saying that he read in some newspaper that the Government was going to oppose it. I think he was correctly informed. I am here to oppose this Resolution on many grounds, not only because it is badly worded and badly designed, but I should say because the whole structure is bad. This point was very briefly touched by my hon. friend who preceded me. Just see how it runs. I should like to make a little analysis of it, because we may be apt to forget the structure of this resolution:

"This House is of opinion that Government should take steps to investigate into the wealth, fortune or property, whether held in his own name or of any mem-

[Dr. Katju]

ber or members of his family, jointly or severally, of any person who...

Now look at the ambit of it. It will not be an investigation, it is likely to become an inquisition.

"(a) holds an office under the Constitution,"

Now, the House is aware of people who hold office under the Constitution. The topmost of them is the President himself. The President of India holds office under the Constitution. Then we have the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Judges of the High Courts. I notice that in one of the amendments this was taken note of and there is a suggestion that the Judges should be excluded from this investigation. But not the President. Then you have, of course, the Vice-President. Then we have the Hon. the Speaker, the Deputy-Speaker, the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman of the Council. Then we have the Chairman of the Public Service Commission. Then there are many others—the Comptroller and Auditor-General and so many officers who hold office under the Constitution and this Resolution hits all of them.

Then it says:

"or (b) is a responsible officer of the Government of India,"—

whatever that may mean "or of any State in India". I imagine that every member of the All-India Services, the Indian Police, the Indian Administrative Service, the Indian Financial Service, the Accounts Service, Engineering Service, is a responsible officer of the Government of India.—

".....and in particular, is authorised to place contracts, issue licences, collect revenues",—

That would include in the United Provinces every tahsildar, every Deputy Collector,—

".....or taxes, or controls the procurement, storage, distribution, movement or sale of any commodity".

Every railway officer will come into this because he is handling wagons

and every officer of the Food Department will be covered by this.

".....and in particular, any person who is about to relinquish his post or office or retire from Government service;

and for this purpose appoint a Commission which should be authorised to call for any witness or document and make a thorough investigation into all the possessions of such an officer."

Now, I ask, is it going to be one Commission? If you are going to deal with this on an all-India basis, you may require a hundred commissions, because it is not a joke. It will require about 10,000 officers or 20,000 officers. No one will be safe. Whom have my hon. friends in mind? They have vied with each other in regard to extending its scope. Poor legislators come into it; poor Ministers are "responsible officers" and come into it.

Shri Algu Rai Shastri: Even contractors have been suggested.

Dr. Katju: So, practically you are going to spread the net all over India. So, not one commission will do. If my hon. friend the Finance Minister were here, he would have said that it would require about Rs. 50 lakhs for payment to the members of this Commission and I am perfectly certain that when these Commissions have been appointed, there will be a super-Commission to investigate into the conduct of the members of the Commission themselves. Where will it end? I am not trying to laugh off or laugh out the thing. But here it is; let us understand what it means. Then, how is it to end? Supposing the Commission reports, or does succeed in making a report.

The Resolution further runs:—

"This House is further of opinion that if as a result of such an investigation any officer is found to be owning, or holding, or to have accumulated any property, which in the opinion of the Investigation Commission is substantially in excess of what could be accumulated by an honest and upright officer.....

Absolutely vague,—

"the matter should be reported.....".

To whom? Not to a learned judge in any court of law.—

"to this House.....",

whose conduct is also to be investigated according to amendments moved, because none of us is safe. Legislators are to be subject matter of investigation by the Commission and that matter should be reported to this House!

".....which will after such further consideration take such action as it deems just and necessary in each case."

With all due respect to my hon. friend whom I esteem—and he knows it very well—it is really a hopeless proposition—never heard of it—turning Parliament, a legislature of this kind, into an investigation into the affairs of Deputy-Collector 'A', or Contractor 'B', or licence holder 'C'. Are we going to turn Parliament into an investigating body? It is no function of Parliament. I am speaking with great respect. While we may inspire confidence in the public mind in matters of legislation, experience in other countries has shown that Parliament does not inspire confidence, when it functions on a party basis, in matters of judicial investigation. In the olden days the House of Commons used to sit in judgment over election petitions. In my old college days I have read of them like the case of Charles James Fox in the Westminster Elections. But they found that it was no good. The result is that the House of Commons has now divested itself of that power.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That is why we are dissatisfied with so many of your decisions.

Dr. Katju: Undoubtedly you are. I am not saying that you are not. But I am talking of judicial matters, not executive matters.

This is the structure of this resolution. And one hon. Member has gone a step further and in an amendment that has been moved he says—it is not the Government who have to appoint the Investigation Commission—but twenty-one members of the House should form a Committee who should "consider the necessity, desirability and feasibility of appointing an Investigation Commission" and then the Investigation Commission is to report to the House itself as to what should be done.

My respectful submission is that this resolution as it stands would be the most harmful imaginable. It would

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be injurious to the morale of the country. After all the public services are not so bad as they are painted. Please remember that there are lakhs and lakhs of people there, all our relations, the flowers of our universities. I am not saying that every one of them is absolutely perfect and honest and clean—I wish all of them were. But everybody knows that the Second World War played havoc with public morals and morals of public services also, not only in this country but in other countries as well. The conditions of the war made it compulsory that hundreds of crores of rupees should be spent within a month with no check, and the result was that many people succumbed. But I am sure—I come across most of the public servants myself—that they are honest, hard-working and as proud of Free India as I am and as willing to work to the best of their ability as anybody here. If you condemn them straightoff in general, vague language, blanketing them all, making no distinction, then it is bound to hurt. It is not only bound to hurt; it is also bound to cause very injurious consequences. Because, if once the sense of discipline, the sense of restraint, the sense of self-respect is gone, I do not know where people would stand.

This Resolution has taken no note of what actually is the legal position. I should like to remind hon. Members as to what the actual position is. Under the Standing Rules, the Government Servants Conduct Rules, there is a provision which requires all officers to submit an annual return of their immovable property. These Conduct Rules, in the case of the Indian Administrative Service, will also require submission of returns to Government of the acquisition of movable property also exceeding Rs. 200 in value. There is a proposal to make a similar provision in regard to the Central Services also. And then, wherever there is any suspicion of lack of integrity amongst holders of political offices or among Government servants, it can never go completely concealed. The House will also recollect that last year it passed an Act, which was called the Commissions of Enquiry Act, to go into these matters. This Act is very wide in its terms and it authorises Government to appoint Commissions of Enquiry in which the enquiring officer can go deeply into the matter, is not bound by rules of evidence and can hold any enquiry possible. Similarly, I would also refer to the Act which was passed in 1947 and which was recently amended, the Act which is called the Prevention of

[Dr. Katju]

Corruption Act (II of 1947). The House would recollect that in that Act there is an offence called offence of criminal misconduct. And when a public servant is tried for that offence, the offence of criminal misconduct, evidence is admissible on the side of the prosecution, general evidence, which enables the prosecution to show that the accused possesses more property than he could have honestly acquired by the emoluments of his office. If that can be shown, then the onus is thrown upon the public servant to prove affirmatively as to where he got the property from.

I submit, that these are quite sufficient for all purposes. The difficulty is this. And I am here speaking from some experience. Do you or do you not want a judicial and a fair trial? If you want to proceed upon mere vague, general rumours which may be circu'lated by opponents, rightly or wrongly, who want to condemn a man, then you may as well say: hang him first and try him afterwards. But if you do insist, as the Constitution itself provides, that you must try him and that you must give him a proper chance of clearing himself, then the result to-day is that the judge or the enquiring officer finds himself in a difficulty because people will not come and give evidence. I hear sometimes with great regret "Look at this Congress Government, what a set of—shall I say—half-witted people they are? They have made even bribe-giving an offence"—a bribe-giver according to them is somebody who ought to be given a garland—"Here is the Congress Government which says that a bribe-giver is a serious offender and guilty of an anti-social act". The result is this. Suppose you do not condemn the bribe-giver and the bribe is given and there is no social opinion against that act, it is not condemned by social opinion: the man who gives the bribe and the man who takes the bribe, both are not socially boycotted, both are not made the victims of social wrath. Then the result is that the man will not come and give evidence. And if he does not come and give evidence how are you going to condemn him, how is any Investigation Commission going to condemn him? Some hon. Member said here: make the public informers, give the bribe-givers immunity, they should be immune from prosecutions. Generally they are. But they will not come forward.

My point is that while we are concerned about the prevailing evil, though it is not to the extent that it

is painted, the measure we take to stop this rot should not defeat its own end, should not cause a spirit of general discontent. By a measure so sweeping in its nature which brings in everybody, which lets out no one, which creates an impression to the outside world that Indians stand self condemned, that the Government in this country and everybody in this country is corrupt, from top to bottom, high officers, low officers, legislators. Members of Parliament, highest officers from the President downwards, cannot be trusted and must submit themselves to examination, I say if you create that impression, are you going to lower yourself in the eyes of the world or to raise yourself? I will repeat for the third time that there is no desire whatsoever on the part of the Government, not to stop these things or to allow corruption to be abominable but I found particularly on the opposite benches no inclination, no desire whatsoever to acknowledge what had been done in the past.

I do not want to take a long time but in the speech which was delivered by my hon. friend, Mr. Gadgil, he gave certain figures which I should like just to read in order to refresh the memory of the House. Mr. Gadgil said that in the years 1947 and 1952, 118 gazetted officers were prosecuted, 21 cases were pending and 37 convictions had been obtained. As regards the overall position. I might inform the hon. Members that in the year 1949, the Special Police investigated 576 cases, launched 396 prosecutions and the convictions were 155. In 1950 the figures were 362, 169 and 40, and in 1951, they were 219, 102, and 70. This indicates that Government is not a slave or unconscious of the evil that prevails and of the immense desirability of putting it down but let us take a sober and a serious view of the matter and not be taken away by a general desire for vituperation because the more you talk about it in this general fashion, I submit, you create greater discontent in the general public because whatever we say here, comes from the highest quarters. We are supposed to be the representatives of the people, chosen by 7 lakhs of people and generally—very rightly—the public attaches great weight to what falls from the lips of their representatives. If Sardar Hukam Singh says that the country is corrupt, if some other hon. Member says even in a humorous way that all Indians are corrupt, then what is the effect? Well, we are doomed. Not

only should this Government be got rid of but all the Members of the Parliament also should be got rid of because they themselves say that there should be a special investigation for enquiring into the conduct of each hon. Member. Every hon. Member even on the other side.....

Some Hon. Members: Why not?

Dr. Katju: Everybody including myself. Now, hon. Members might say that if anybody wants to get a passport, he can try to get it with some influence on the Home Minister. Now it is a very laudable enterprise. It is not a corrupt enterprise.

I beg to oppose this Resolution as I said on many grounds. Structurally it is bad, inherently it is not very appealing and the evil that it paints is overdrawn. It is exaggerated. It is unworkable. This Investigation Commission simply is astounding. Sardar Hukam Singh has been an administrator himself. Can he imagine one Investigation Commission will be able to cope with 20,000 to 40,000 responsible public servants, beginning from the President downwards?

An Hon. Member: No.

Dr. Katju: I do not want to tire the House by repeating my arguments or enlarging upon what I have said. When I was hearing my hon. friend, the humorous Member, I was reminded of the English.....

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: So many humorous points.

Dr. Katju: I was reminded of that English proverb "When salt itself loses its savour, where shall it be salted from". If we are all corrupt, how can we endeavour to improve each other? We all stand condemned. The House did not agree with that general condemnation. Sir, I oppose.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Distt.—West cum Rae Bareli Dist.—East): On a point of information. Will the hon. Home Minister inform us whether it is not correct that the Government of Jammu and Kashmir have introduced such a measure and have asked all the officers to do exactly as in the Resolution of Sardar Hukam Singh.

Dr. Katju: It may be that the Jammu and Kashmir Government may have done that. I should like to stand on my own legs and not be directed by the Jammu and Kashmir Government.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: It is a part of Indian territory.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Why should not India accede to Jammu and Kashmir for this purpose?

पंडित अलगु राय शास्त्री : क्या उत्तर प्रदेश ने भी इस तरह की कोई चीज़ की है ?

Sardar Hukam Singh: जी हाँ, की है । At least, once in my life, I have had this opportunity of replying to the Minister. We have been listening so far to the criticism of the Opposition that ours is always a destructive criticism but I wonder whether the Government Benches would offer us any constructive suggestions so far as this Resolution is concerned. At the very beginning I made it clear that I am not happy with the language I have used. I do not restrict the discretion of the officers that I have mentioned. I want that the underlying spirit should be accepted and not anything else. It was said that bad language has been used. I admit that I am no master of this language and I cannot put in beautiful phrases but at least I can disown responsibility so far as this phraseology is concerned because last time also I made it clear that it has been recast by the office and it was not my language. I may admit that perhaps mine has been worse. I do not say mine was better. So far as this stands, I cannot accept the responsibility because it was recast by the office and it is not my language.

We have just now listened to a very devout disciple of Mr. Sherlock Holmes. This is how Dr. Katju described himself, and he can take pride to call himself as a devout disciple of Sherlock Holmes because he was famous for the analysis, criticism and such other observations that he made and he has really followed those footsteps. So far as this Resolution was concerned, I am constrained to note that he was speaking as a lawyer and not with the spirit that underlay the Resolution. He did not pause for a moment to say that really the spirit was there, and if he had come with some amendment, if any Member from the opposite side, if any Member of the Congress Benches had come to suggest that this was not the proper language, this part of it was not practical, this portion of it ought to be substituted by something else, I would have been glad to accept it. As I made it clear on the very first day, I am not really wedded to anything particularly. What I want is the purification of the services.

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

Now we have been told that we are over painting the picture. I rather made it clear in my first opening remarks that I admit that there are a good number of officers with a very high standard. I praised them; I paid my tribute to them; I made it clear on the very first day. Then, to say that I am painting these officers or these public servants as if they are all corrupt, is not a correct appreciation of what I said.

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Government Benches or their spokesmen have only criticised it so far as the language is concerned, that it has a larger ambit, that it touches everybody. One of our friends, Mr. Telkkikar said that it reminded him of the jail experience that everybody was to be searched. When I said this should be investigated into, Parliament has the power, the Government has the power. The resolution if accepted in spirit, they can call upon the officers to file a declaration of their property. That is not objected to in any State. The American President has to file a declaration of his assets when he enters upon his office and when he quits. There is nothing strange in this resolution which may be objected to on principle that is there. I may tell my hon. friends on the opposite side that as soon as this Resolution was published in the papers, Pakistan has adopted it. The U. P. has adopted it; certain other States have adopted it. (An Hon. Member: Kashmir also.) Yes. Kashmir has also adopted it. There is nothing wrong in the resolution; there may be everything wrong in the language; but that can be improved. An amendment can be made; even now I am prepared to accept it. Now, I should say, the only conclusion that I can draw is that the Government is not prepared to take that spirit and proceed according to the gist of the resolution, that is, the underlying motive.

We were told that this was political exploitation. I wondered at the remarks that were made by one of our hon. friends on the other side that there was political exploitation. If even putting this to the House that we should ask the public servants to put in a declaration of their property, is political exploitation, I think there can be nothing far from it. We were told and even now our esteemed friend the Home Minister has argued that it would be painting ourselves too black.

Even on that day, an argument was made out that when the Chinese traveller Huentsang came here, there was no theft at all. Certainly he did say that there was no theft at all. But, because he said that there was no theft, is it an argument that we should remove sections 379 and 380 of the Indian Penal Code?

Shri Nambar: 420 also.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Yes; 420 also. Is that an argument?

Shri Algu Raj Shastri: Section 420 will remain so long as my friends like these are there.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Because Huentsang said that there was no theft, if we say that there are thefts, is it wrong on our part? What I have said is, certainly there is corruption. Whatever percentage it may be, it is not denied; it is admitted on every hand. Leaving aside all these criticisms that have been made, because I find that it was only out of one motive—I use that word—because they wanted that this should not be accepted, I say, it has not been accepted. It is only the intransigence of the Government that is taking up that attitude. Otherwise, practically, I am glad that it has been accepted in this big volume on which we have spent lakhs of rupees.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): Twenty-six lakhs.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Yes, twenty-six lakhs. I will read one line after another to show that much of what I have said has been accepted. (An Hon. Member: Read.) I am going to read out.

Dr. Katju: Then, why press the Resolution?

Sardar Hukam Singh: It is said, we are examining it; but you are repudiating it.

Dr. Katju: Not at all. May I just say a word, Sir. I did not say that I did not like or that I did not admire the spirit of the Resolution. What I wanted to say was that we are doing our best to root out corruption in the proper manner.

Shri Raghavaiah (Ongole): Then, accept the Resolution.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Here it is said in Chapter VI, relating to Reform of Public Administration,

"That service, more specially in a State, which aims to become a welfare State, depends on the goodwill, appreciation and co-operation of the public."

It goes on to say:

"Cooperation and goodwill are obtained when there is a belief in the integrity and efficiency of the administration."

That is the only object in my resolution as well.

Then, how is that integrity achieved? It is said:

"Integrity in public affairs and administration is essential and there must therefore be an insistence on it in every branch of public activity. The influence of corruption is insidious. It not only inflicts wrongs which are difficult to redress, but it undermines the structure of administration and the confidence of the public in the administration. There must, therefore, be a continuous war against every species of corruption within the administration as well as in public life generally and the methods to root out this evil should be constantly reviewed."

Exactly this is what I mean to say. The war should be on all fronts: preventive, curative and punitive also. The wording of the resolution is preventive and curative. The provisions in the Prevention of Corruption Act of 1947 and the sections 161 and 165 of the Penal Code are punitive. They punish the people who have been brought to book. My Resolution is that we should prevent persons from taking that attitude. Then, the report says:

"The opportunity for corruption in various forms might arise almost anywhere in the administration, but it exists in a larger measure in some fields of public activity than in others."

Exactly this is what my resolution says when it talks of those charged with the granting of licences and other things. They really open out the scope for corruption. This is what my resolution says and it is supported here also. Further they say:

"Frequently, however, the remedy comes long after the event.....

An Hon. Member: That is the trouble.

Sardar Hukam Singh: That is exactly why I gave this Resolution, that we should nip the evil in the bud. The report says:

"Some measures to ensure standards in public life when these are grossly abused are necessary in the interest of democratic Government itself. Some machinery for this purpose should be devised in order to enquire into cases of alleged misconduct on the part of persons who hold any office, political or other. Where there is *prima facie* case for an enquiry, such an enquiry should be held in order to find out and establish facts....."

Then it goes on to say:

"The law relating to offences involving corruption has been recently strengthened." The law that I was just referring to—"The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947, provides for the offence of criminal misconduct on the part of public servants in the discharge of official duty, and..... It also provides for cases in which a public servant may be found to have come into possession of pecuniary resources of income which he cannot account for satisfactorily."

This is what my resolution wants:

"It does not, however, provide for those cases in which a public servant's near relations may have been found to have become suddenly rich."

That lacuna, my resolution fills up.

The report proceeds to say:

"We suggest that the possibility of removing this lacuna should be studied and the necessary legislation undertaken."

This is the suggestion and recommendation. This is exactly what I want to say: that it should be placed before Parliament so that Parliament may consider and advise whether it should pass some legislation or appoint some Commission or Board to go into these cases. It is not in the initial stages that one is dubbed as a criminal. The investigation is only for a declaration of his property. Then the report says:

"It would be useful to consider whether public servants should be required to furnish a return each year concerning movable assets acquired by them or their near

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

relations during the preceding year. The present practice in this respect is confined to returns of immovable property."

Exactly this is what my resolution says: that the return should be of movable property as well as immovable property. These are the recommendations made in the Five-Year Plan. My Resolution embodies all these recommendations that we find here. There is nothing strange.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Were these taken from your resolution, or you took them from this?

Sardar Hukam Singh: My resolution was much earlier.

These criticisms that it is impracticable, that it is not worded in good language, that the suggestions that are there would dub the whole nation as criminals are not based on any argument, I find the hesitation of the Government is only due to the fact that, as I said previously, and as also appeared in the Papers as well, it is not prepared to accept anything coming from the Opposition however good that might be. If the Government is so unresponsive, then, it should not expect that the criticisms offered must be constructive criticisms. It should not complain of that. At least in today's debate, Government has demonstrated that it follows the footsteps of the Opposition of which it complained very much.

Mr. Chairman: Now, I shall put the amendments to the vote of the House. I would rather like to know if any of the hon. Members want to withdraw any of the amendments, because the number is very large, as much as 26.

There are two amendments which want to substitute certain matters for the Resolution; others want either to add to or subtract from it. I would like to know if any hon. Member wants to withdraw any of the amendments moved. Otherwise, I will put all of them, one by one, to the vote of the House.

Shri N. P. Sinha (Hazaribagh East): Sir, I withdraw my amendment No. 9.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Or, if the House so agrees, I will put the first two amendments which seek to substitute certain other things for the resolution separately to the vote of the House, and the

rest of them together. So, I will proceed to put the first amendment by Shri S. N. Das. The question is:

That for the original resolution, the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that a Committee consisting of twenty-one members of the House of the People to be nominated by the Speaker be constituted during this session of the House to consider the necessity, desirability and feasibility of appointing an investigation Commission to investigate into the wealth, fortune or property whether held in his own name or of any member or members of his family, jointly or severally, of any person who,—

(a) holds an office under the Constitution; or

(b) is a responsible officer of the Government of India or of any State in India; and in particular is authorised to place contracts, issue licences, collect revenue or taxes or control the procurement, storage, distribution, movement or sale of any commodity; with a view to find whether the person concerned was owning or holding or accumulating any property which in the opinion of the Commission is substantially in excess of what could be accumulated by an honest and upright officer.

The Committee so appointed shall submit its report to the House of the People by the first week of the next session of the House of the People."

The motion was negative.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That for the original resolution, the following be substituted:

"This House views with grave concern the allegations of corruption made in this House and outside against officers of the Government, and is of the opinion that Government should take immediate and strong measures to put down all kinds of corruption among all ranks of officials of the Government of India and the States as also all the legislators including Ministers of Government and with a view to achieving this object, either appoint a Commission with powers of inquiry and investigation or by the reorganisation of the Central Intelligence

Department with suitable powers of investigation, into the wealth, fortune or property of any individual."

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: I will not put the other amendments to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That after the words "take steps to investigate" the word "periodically" be inserted.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That after the words "steps to investigate" the words "if they deem fit" be inserted.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That for the words "of any member or members of his family, jointly or severally" the words "in the name of any person as "Benamidar" be substituted.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That before the existing part (a) the following new part be inserted, and the existing parts (a) and (b) be relettered as parts (b) and (c) respectively:—

"(a) was elected in or after the year 1945 to either House of Legislature of any State".

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That in the amendment proposed by Shri K. S. Raghavachari printed as No. 6 in this list of amendments, the words "and at the Centre" be added at the end.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That in part (a) after the word "Constitution" the following be inserted, namely:—

"or has held such office after the 15th of August, 1947".

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That in part (a) after the word "Constitution" the following be inserted, namely:—

"Or is a member of Parliament or of the State Legislature".

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That in part (b), for the words "a responsible officer" the words "an employee" be substituted.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That for the word "officer" wherever it occurs, the word "employee" be substituted.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That after part (b) the following new part (c) be inserted:

"(c) is a member of the police service and holds the office above the rank of a sub-inspector."

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That after part (b) the following new part (c) be inserted:

"(c) serves as a Minister in the Union or in any of the States."

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That after part (b) the following new part (c) be inserted:

"(c) is a non-official holding Government post or is a legislator of a State or is a member of Parliament."

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That the words "and is about to relinquish his post or office or retire from Government service" be omitted.

The motion was negated.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That for the words "and is about to relinquish his post or office or retire from Government service" the words "before he relinquishes his office or retires from Government service" be substituted.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That for the word "possessions" the words "movable and immovable properties" be substituted.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That after the words "make a thorough investigation into all the possessions of such an officer" the following be added:

"as and when the Commission has sufficient reasons to believe or a complaint being lodged or an information being received from either the government or the public, that such an employee is owning or holding or to have accumulated wealth or property in excess of what could be accumulated by an honest and miserly employee."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That in the last paragraph for the word "officer" wherever it occurs the word "person" be substituted.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That in the last paragraph for the word "officer" occurring for the first time the word "employee" be substituted.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That for the words "upright officer" the words "upright employee of his grade" be substituted.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That the following be added, at the end:

"This House is also of opinion that all persons of the above mentioned categories be asked to declare periodically their wealth, fortune or property, and, if required, specify the sources from which it was acquired and for this purpose the necessary provision be made in Government employment rules".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That the following be added at the end:

"This House is further of opinion that all persons referred to above be required to submit all their assets and possessions at the time of appointments or elections."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That the following be added, at the end:

"This House is further of opinion that henceforth all persons mentioned above be required to submit their annual returns of incomes specifically mentioning their sources."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

That the following be added, at the end:

"This House is of further opinion that notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force, no person who volunteers to give information regarding receipt of illegal gratification or bribery by any Government servant shall be proceeded against under any such law."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: Then, I put the Resolution to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That this House is of opinion that Government should take steps to investigate into the wealth, fortune or property, whether held in his own name or of any member or members of his family, jointly or severally, of any person who—

(a) holds an office under the Constitution; or

(b) is a responsible officer of the Government of India or of any State in India; and in particular, is authorised to place contracts, issue licences, collect revenues of taxes or control the procurement, storage, distribution, movement or sale of any commodity; and in particular, any person who is about to relinquish his post or office or retire from Government service; and for this purpose appoint a Commission which should be authorised to call for any witness or document and make a thorough investigation into all the possessions of such an officer.

This House is further of opinion that if as a result of such an investigation any officer is found to be owning, or holding, or to have accumulated any property, which in the opinion of the Investigation Commission is substantially in excess of what could be accumulated by an honest and upright officer, the matter should be reported to this House which will after such further consideration take such action as it deems just and necessary in each case."

House divided: Ayes, 52; Noes, 174.

AYES

Division No. 6]

Ajit Singh, Shri
Anandchand, Shri
Bahadur Singh, Shri
Banarjee, Shri
Basu, Shri K. K.
Boovaraghassamy, Shri
Chakravarthy, Shrimati Renu
Chaudhuri, Shri T. K.
Chowdary, Shri C. R.
Chowdhury, Shri N. B.
Das, Shri B. C.
Das, Shri Sarangadhar
Deogam, Shri
Gidwani, Shri
Gurupdaswamy, Shri M. S.
Hukam Singh, Sardar
Jaisoorya, Dr.

Khardekar, Shri
Krishna, Shri M. R.
Mahata, Shri B.
Mascaren, Kumari Anzie
Menon, Shri Damodara
Missir, Shri V.
Mookerjee, Dr. S. P.
More, Shri S. S.
Mukerjee, Shri H. N.
Muniswamy, Shri
Murphy, Shri B. S.
Nambiar, Shri
Nandas, Shri
Narasimham, Shri S. V. L.
Nayar, Shri V. P.
Punnose, Shri
Rajabhoj, Shri P. N.

Raghavachari, Shri
Raghavaiah, Shri
Ramasami, Shri M. D.
Randaman Singh, Shri
Rao, Shri P. R.
Rao, Shri P. Subba
Rao, Shri Vital
Reddi, Shri Ramchandra
Rishang Keishing, Shri
Saha, Shri Meghnad
Singh, Shri G. S. ;
Singh, Shri R. N.
Soren, Shri
Subrahmanyam, Shri K.
Sundaram, Dr. Lank
Swami, Shri Sivamurthy
Trivedi, Shri U. M.
aghmare, Shri

[5-15 P.M.

NOES

Abdullahbhai, Mulla
Abdus Sattar, Shri
Achal Singh, Seth
Achuthan, Shri
Agrawal, Shri M. L.
Alagesan, Shri
Amriti Kaur, Rajkumari
Azad, Maulana
Balakrishnan, Shri
Balasubramaniam, Shri
Balmiki, Shri
Barman, Shri
Barupal, Shri P. L.
Basappa, Shri
Basu, Shri A. K.
Bhaga, Shri B. R.
Bharati, Shri G. S.
Bharatiya, Shri S. R.
Bhatkar, Shri
Bhonsle, Shri J. K.
Birbal Singh, Shri
Bose, Shri P. C.
Brajeeshwar Prasad, Shri

Buragohain, Shri
Chandak, Shri
Chandrasekhar, Shrimati
Chatterjee, Dr. Susilranjan
Chaturvedi, Shri
Chaudhary, Shri G. L.
Chettiar, Shri Nagappa
Choudhuri, Shri M. Shaffee
Dabhi, Shri
Das, Shri B. K.
Das, Shri K. K.
Das, Shri Ram Dhani
Das, Shri Ramananda
Das, Shri S. N.
Datar, Shri
Deb, Shri S. C.
Desai, Shri K. K.
Deshmukh, Shri K. G.
Dholakia, Shri
Dhusiya, Shri
Dube, Shri Mulchand
Dutt, Shri A. K.
Dutta, Shri S. K.

Ebenezer, Dr.
Elayaperumal, Shri
Gandhi, Shri V. B.
Ganga Devi, Shrimati
Ganpati Ram, Shri
Gounder, Shri K. S.
Hari Mohan, Dr.
Hazarika, Shri J. N.
Hem Rai, Shri
Hembrom, Shri
Ibrahim, Shri
Iyyani, Shri E.
Iyyunni, Shri C. R.
Jagivan Ram, Shri
Jajware, Shri
Jangde, Shri
Jayashri, Shrimati
Jena, Shri K. C.
Jena, Shri Niranjan
Joshi, Shri Jethalal
Joshi, Shri Krishnacharya
Joshi, Shri M. D.
Joshi, Shri N. L.

Jwala Prasad, Shri	Namdhari, Shri	Sen, Shrimati Sushama-
Kajrolkar, Shri	Natesan, Shri	Sewal, Shri A. R.
Kakkan, Shri	Nathwani, Shri N. P.	Shah, Shri R. B.
Kale, Shrimati A.	Nehru, Shrimati Uma	Sharma, Prof. D. C.
Kanungo, Shri	Nijalingappa, Shri	Sharma, Shri R. C.
Karmarkar, Shri	Pannalal, Shri	Shastry, Shri Aligu Rai
Katham, Shri	Paragi Lal, Ch.	Siddananjappa, Shri
Katju, Dr.	Patel, Shri B. K.	Singh, Shri Babunath
Kazmi, Shri	Patel, Shri Rajeshwar	Singh, Shri L. J.
Keskar, Dr.	Pillai, Shri Themu	Singhal, Shri S. C.
Khedkar, Shri G. B.	Prabhakar, Shri N.	Singha, Shri B. P.
Khongmen, Shrimati	Radha Raman, Shri	Sinha, Shri Jhulan
Kirolikar, Shri	Raghuramaiyah, Shri	Sinha, Shri K. P.
Lal, Shri R. S.	Raj Bahadur, Shri	Sinha, Shri N. P.
Laskar, Prof.	Raghubir Singh, Ch.	Sinha, Shri S.
Lingam, Shri N. M.	Ram Dass, Shri	Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Lotan Ram, Shri	Ram Saran, Prof.	Sinha, Shrimati Tarkeshwari
Maitra, Pandit L. K.	Ram Subhag Singh, Dr.	Subrahmanyam, Shri T.
Majhi, Shri R. C.	Ramaswamy, Shri P.	Suresh Chandra, Dr.
Malliah, Shri U. S.	Ramaswamy, Shri S. V.	Surya Prashad, Shri
Mathew, Prof.	Rambir Singh, Ch.	Swaminathan, Shrimati Ammu-
Mathew, Shri	Rane, Shri	Syed Mahmud, Dr.
Maydeo, Shrimati	Raut, Shri Bhola	Telikikeri, Shri
Minimata, Shrimati	Reddy, Shri Janardhan	Thomas, Shri A. M.
Misra, Prof. S. N.	Reddy, Shri Vishwanatha	Tiwari, Pandit B. L.
Misra, Shri Bibhuti	Roy, Shri B. N.	Tiwari, Shri R. S.
Misra, Shri M. P.	Roy, Shri Patiram	Tiwary, Pandit D. N.
Misra, Pandit Lingaraj	Rup Narain, Shri	Uikey, Shri
Mohd. Akbar, Sofi	Sahu, Shri Bhagat	Upadhyay, Shri S. D.
Mohiuddin, Shri	Sahu, Shri Ramchandra	Vainya, Shri M. B.
Morarka, Shri	Saigal, Sardar A. S.	Varma, Shri B. B.
Mudaliar, Shri C. R.	Sakhare, Shri	Varma, Shri B. R.
Mukne, Shri Y. M.	Sankarapandian, Shri	Venkatesam, Shri
Mussfir, Giani G. S.	Satyawadi, Dr.	Vyas, Shri Radhela
Muthukrishnan, Shri	Sen, Shri P. G.	Wodeyar, Shri

The motion was negatived.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): What about neutrals?

RESOLUTION RE SAFEGUARDING OF NATIONAL SECURITY RULES

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that the Safeguarding of National Security Rules 1949 introduced in the Railways, Postal, Defence and all the other Central Government Services to discharge Government employees without recourse to normal procedure of disciplinary rules be cancelled forthwith and all those discharged or suspended under these rules be reinstated."

This is a resolution which has been moved under the circumstances that prevail today. Today the Government servants are afraid that for any reason whatsoever, very often under the guise of political colour.....

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur Distt): On a point of privilege, Sir. There was a voting just now in the House. I was working in the Library, and as soon as I heard the division bell, I came run-

ning to the House, and the door was open. As soon as the bell was stopped, I had entered half inside the lobby, and I was half outside. But I was forcibly dragged out and debarred from voting.

Mr. Chairman: So far as that Resolution is concerned, that has been voted upon already. And the result has been decided. If the hon. Member has got any complaint, he can make it to the hon. Speaker.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I would have voted, had I not been forcibly kept out. I have been debarred from voting, and I have lost my privilege of voting, and at the same time been insulted.

Mr. Chairman: The result of the voting has been announced already. It cannot be changed now. The only question now is that if the hon. Member had been allowed to enter, he would have voted. That is the only point. And in respect of that, the hon. Member can certainly make a complaint to the hon. Speaker.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: My point is that I was forcibly kept out of the gate when I was half in.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): Who did it?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: The gate-keeper.

Mr. Chairman: Do I understand that the hon. Member did vote?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: No, no. I was kept out forcibly when I was half in. When the bell was over, at that time I was half in and half out and he dragged me out forcibly.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I think this is a serious thing and an inquiry should be made into it.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह (बिला बनारस—मथ्य): यदि संसद के किसी सदस्य के साथ दुर्घटनाहार होता है तो उस का प्रतिकार होना ही चाहिये।

Mr. Chairman: Anyhow, so far as that resolution is concerned, it is over and the vote of the hon. Member cannot be added on to it now. But so far as this matter is concerned, it is a serious matter and therefore a complaint should be given to the Speaker and an inquiry should be made and it shall be seen what action is necessary against the person complained of.

Shri Nambiar: This resolution is moved by me after exhausting all other methods to see that the Government servants get their legitimate rights to conduct their business themselves with regard to their trade unions. (Interruptions).

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. There is so much talk in the House that the hon. Member cannot be allowed to proceed unless the talk ceases. I will request hon. Members to kindly hear him.

Shri Nambiar: The Government servants at present have not even got their trade union rights and they are victimised. I have got cases here and I will place them before this House. These Safeguarding of National Security Rules were promulgated in 1949 under the Government of India Act by the then Governor General, Shri Rajagopalachari. In that he states that under normal circumstances if a Government servant is to be discharged from service, he has to be discharged under various procedures. He has to be given a charge-sheet, an explanation is to be obtained, an enquiry is to be made and he must be heard in person. So much of procedure is to be followed before a servant is to be discharged or dismissed from service. But under

these rules all this procedure is denied and summarily a Government servant could be discharged from service. Either he may be suspended or may be dismissed. This is the purpose for which it was promulgated.

In 1949, especially when the rules were promulgated under the then Government of India Act by the Governor General, what was the situation? Does that situation continue today? We have to see. Immediately after the war, not only the Government servants but the industrial workers, ordinary working class as a whole, were suffering under the high prices and low wages. They wanted adequate dearness allowance, they wanted reasonable living conditions and they were agitating. They had hoped that this Congress regime which promised so much in those days would give them something and with all expectations they approached the Government. But the Government rather than hearing them and giving careful consideration to the points raised by them, resorted to repressive measures, and this Safeguarding of National Security rules is one of those measures used against Government servants to deprive them of their bread. This has got the smell of the Preventive Detention Act. Then in 1949, it was known as the Maintenance of Public Order Act in various States. First, under the Maintenance of Public Order Act, a Government servant used to be arrested and detained in jail. While he is kept in detention, he is given a charge-sheet; and there was, as you know, Sir, no enquiry by a court of law. Added to that, he is deprived of his job also. Firstly, he is imprisoned and his family is made to suffer; secondly, he is totally removed from the service under these rules. Therefore, this was a rule against the normal rights of a Government servant.

In 1949, you may remember, as a result of the Central Pay Commission's recommendations the Government servants had some hopes that they would get their wages increased and they would get adequate dearness allowance. When the Central Pay Commission stated that the dearness allowance that they are entitled to is according to a slab system, for every 20 points rise in the cost of living index they were expecting Rs. 5. This was made clear in their recommendations. But when it was applied to the services, it was not given according to the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission.

So far as the Railways were concerned, I know, that when in 1948 they had the right under the minimum wage group to get upto Rs. 60, they

[Shri Nambiar]

were given only Rs. 30. So you can see how their wages and dearness allowance has been reduced to the minimum. Therefore, they wanted that they should be given pay and allowances in accordance with the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. Added to that, for the railway servants they had the grainshop facilities under which they could purchase food and other articles—about 26 items—at reduced rates, and further they had many other facilities. All these facilities were curtailed. The House will remember an inquiry was held by a Committee called the Grainshop Inquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Santhanam and this Committee recommended that the grainshop system must be abolished on the railways with the result that there was another attack on the earnings of the railwaymen. So attacks after attacks came on the railway workers. Therefore, they had to resist them and they resorted to legal, constitutional steps. A legal, constitutional step under the Constitution is the right to strike. Till today that right is not denied, of course, on paper—not denied according to the Constitution. But in practice, they are terrorised and victimised so that they should not go on strike. They will not get fulfilment of the promises which are given to them, they will not get wages and dearness allowance which they are entitled to even under the Pay Commission's recommendations and if they resort to the legal method of strike, they are denied even that right. They are victimised for attempting to go on strike. This sort of situation was there in 1948. In 1948, I hope you will remember, Sir, there was a strike ballot by the All India Railwaymen's Federation. That strike ballot was for enhancing the dearness allowance according to the Pay Commission's recommendations and against the Grainshop Inquiry Committee's recommendations. Even then they tried all methods to see that they get adequate dearness allowance increase and justice at the hands of the Government. The Government did not satisfy the railwaymen; therefore, the railwaymen decided to go on strike.

So also the postal employees. You may remember in 1949, the postal employees threatened to go on strike. Along with them, the railwaymen also. But finally when certain talks were conducted, a section of the railwaymen did not go on strike. But other sections agreed to go on strike and they were preparing and a ballot was taken; an all-India agitation was going on. It was at this time that the Safeguarding of National Security

Rules was promulgated by the Governor-General. That was the situation and that thing continues till today. Even last week there was a case in Kalka, very near here. A railway worker by name Gandhi was issued a charge-sheet under the Safeguarding of National Security Rules. They have given reasons why he is to be removed from service. One of them is that he attended a meeting in which a Communist also spoke and participated. So, the whole thing is a political attack on the Government servants. To say that this is an attack against subversive activities is only a cover. But the real content of the attack is that no Trade Union activity will be permitted to the Government servant. Whatever is given to them, they must accept; they should not agitate against that. That is the idea behind this order. I will read to you, Sir, how the order reads. It reads:

"In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 241, section 247 and sub-section (3) of section 266 of the Government of India Act 1935, the Governor-General is pleased to make the following rules.

These rules may be called the Civil Servants....."

It goes on to say that they apply to all persons serving in connection with the affairs of the Dominion whose conditions of service are regulated by the Governor-General or the Governor of a Province under section 247 of the Government of India Act, 1935. So, it covers the entire Government servants, both Central as well as provincial. It says:

"A government servant who, in the opinion of the competent authority is engaged in or is reasonably suspected to be engaged in subversive activities or is associated with others in subversive activities in such a manner as to raise doubts about his reliability, may be compulsorily retired from service."

You see, Sir, how ambiguous and how all-powerful the wording is. Anybody under the sun, any Government servant whom the official does not like can be booked under this rule, because it says, 'reasonably suspected to be engaged in subversive activities or associates with others in subversive activities'. Anybody may be said to be 'reasonably suspected' or he may be associated with another person who is "reasonably suspected" of any subversive activities. What is subversive activity? Nobody has

defined it and the rule does not say what amounts to a subversive activity. The rules also say, in clause 5,

"Nothing contained in Parts X and XIII of the Civil Service, Classification, Control and Appeal Rules, shall apply to or in respect of any action taken by or proposed to be taken under these rules."

If a Government servant has to be dismissed or discharged, he has to be dismissed or discharged under Parts X and XIII of the Civil Service, Classification, Control and Appeal Rules, which gives an elaborate procedure. So, anybody dismissed under this procedure need not go through the various clauses of the procedure mentioned in those chapters. That procedure is suspended. A Government servant may be removed under these Rules without giving any reason.

So also with regard to the railway. There also you have the same thing reproduced. It says:-

"In the exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 241...These Rules may be called the Railway Service (Safeguarding of National Security) Rules, 1949."

There again, it is mentioned in clause 3:

"A member of the railway services who is, in the opinion of the competent authority, engaged in or is reasonably suspected to be engaged in subversive activities or is associated with others in subversive activities in such manner as to raise doubts about his reliability....."

The same thing is repeated. This is issued separately under the name of the Secretary, Railway Board. The other thing was issued by the Secretary, Home Department. Therefore, it is a sort of move to suppress the legitimate agitation of the Government servants. From this you can understand, Sir, how dangerous a move it was, how it was aimed at suppression of certain minimum rights that are guaranteed to the ordinary railway or Government servant.

In planning this attack, Sir, there was another circular issued by the Home Ministry, which also I want to bring to your notice, Sir. That circular is No. 25/11/49, dated 14th April, 1949 which explains how this is to be implemented. In one of the paragraphs, it is stated:

"Under the ordinary rules, the removal of a permanent government servant involves the holding of an elaborate enquiry amounting virtually to a judicial proceeding with correspondingly high requirements of the quality of evidence and the degree of proof needed. In the case of government servants engaged in or associated with subversive activities, it is clearly impracticable to follow this procedure."

Therefore, they say, in the case of Government servants,

"As a result of prolonged and careful consideration of the position, it was therefore found necessary to make *ad hoc* rules which would enable government compulsorily to retire without recourse to the elaborate procedure laid down by Rule 55."

This is given in the body of the explanatory circular issued by the Home Department. Of course, I can place a copy of this on the table of the House. I am not reading any secret document.

In paragraph 2 you can see something more interesting.

"For the present it has been decided that the following organisations should be listed to be treated as subversive:

The Communist Party,
The Revolutionary Communist Party of India.
The Revolutionary Socialist Party of India.
The Rashtriya Swayam Sewak Sangh.

The Muslim National Guards; and

The Khaksars."

Again, in paragraph 3, it explains,

"The Committee of Advisers referred to in the Standard Form of notice will consist of 4 members."

They are forming a Committee or a Board of Members to go through the cases. There are four members, namely,

"an officer of the Ministry of Home Affairs, an officer of the Ministry of Law, and the Director, Intelligence Bureau, who will function in all cases, and the fourth will be an officer of the Ministry concerned with the particular case."

[Shri Nambiar]

This Intelligence man must always be there.

"The officers of the Ministries will not be below the rank of Joint Secretary. The officer nominated to represent the Ministry of Home Affairs will be the Chairman of the Committee of Advisers."

Of course, this is not a non-official committee. This is a committee containing the Intelligence Bureau officer, as the super-man and he must certainly be there. That is, the C.I.D. is the final person to decide it. In an annexure it is said and it is a very interesting thing which the House must know and which I want to bring to the light of day:

"Information about subversive activities or sympathies of Government servants would normally be available through two official channels, i.e., the Police or the officer under whom the Government servant is employed."

One railway servant or Government employee may have sympathy for communism. Then it is enough. He may have read Lenin or Stalin or something like that. If it is found that a Government servant is possessing a book in which Lenin or Stalin is written, that shows sympathy. All the parties whom they considered against the Congress are there, all those parties whom the Home Ministry considered at that time as against the Congress, all those who belong to the opposition against the Congress must be singled out. That was their theory and they brought it like that. They say:

"Information about subversive activities or sympathies of Government servants would normally be available through two official channels, i.e., the Police or the officer under whom the Government servant is employed. Information received from either source should be passed on by the competent authority to the appropriate Provincial Police Authorities. It will be examined by the D.I.G., C.I.D. or I.B. as the case may be who will, in his turn, verify the information, offer his comments and, in all cases, where he....."

Therefore, the whole thing is done by the C.I.D. officials who are the persons giving information apart from the officers of the department.

Now, with regard to how the rules should be applied to the provincial services, the instructions read as follows:—

"Provincial Governments are requested to issue instructions to the provincial authorities to afford the necessary assistance to the competent authorities mentioned in the rules to enable them to take all the necessary action in accordance with the instruction prescribed. Instructions may also be issued to the Provincial Officer mentioned in para. 3(a) of item (ii) above. A copy of the instructions issued by the Provincial Government in this behalf may kindly be communicated to the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Railways for information."

So, it is an all-comprehensive arrangement. Through this, they wanted to isolate a certain ideology, not even the activities. I do not for a moment say that any Government servant should have anything to do with any party, whether it be the Communist Party, or the Socialist Party or any other party, but this rule should also apply to the Congress Party. If a Government servant wears Khadi and dons a Congress cap, he can do anything; on the other hand, if he has sympathy for any other party he is treated as an untouchable. This is how the ordinary, fundamental rights of the Government servants are hard hit.

If these rules were merely there on paper and did not actually affect Government servants, I would have understood, but as the full particulars and details which I have given to the Ministry will show, some 250 railwaymen have been dismissed and 70 of them have in addition been suspended under these rules. I have submitted three lists. Apart from railwaymen, there are employees of the P. & T. Department, civilian employees of the Defence Services and employees of Naval Dockyards and other services. In all, the number will be about 600 men who have been either dismissed or suspended under these rules.

A long agitation against these rules was started and it was continued. Let us see whether the persons affected are top ranking Communists or politicians, or mere ordinary workers. For instance, taking the South Indian

Railway, you have the following names:-

V. Muniswami Naidu—Rolling Stock Labourer, Mettupalayam.

Natarajan—Train Lighting Fitter, Mettupalayam.

Mariassosai—Carpenter, Erode.

Maruthamuthu—Painter, Erode.

Sankaran Nair—Sepoy, Watch and Ward, Shoranur.

T. Arugugam—Pointsman, Karai-kudi.

These sepoys, fitters and carpenters are considered to be persons who ought to be dismissed for reasons of security under these rules. Workers had the right to strike, but despite that they were dismissed. This is nothing but victimisation. I am appealing to the Government, not only in my capacity as an Opposition Member and a Member of the Communist Party, but in my capacity as one who feels sympathy for the families of these people—I am appealing to the Government that they should not victimise these ordinary workers under these obnoxious rules. If they have anything against a certain political party, let them fight it openly. When they found the Communist Party not acting up to their wishes, they banned it. Even today, although they allow us to sit here, if they want to lock us in, they will straightaway take us to the Delhi jail in a moment. We are also prepared to go. But why should they attack the ordinary workers for the sin that they belong to a trade union, for the sin that they voted in favour of a strike ballot? From the South Indian Railway alone, hundred people have been dismissed. It has a total of 50 thousand workers, but they singled out these 100 men who were the founders of the trade union movement there. They were Vice-Presidents, General Secretaries or Secretaries.

Leave aside the railways. You have similar cases, as I said, in the postal department and among dockyard workers. Here is the case of Samuel Augustine who joined the dockyard in 1941 and worked as a fitter. He was discharged. Then Pritam Singh; then Menon. There are so many cases.

Mr. Chairman: He has four minutes more. Already he has taken twenty-six minutes.

Shri Nambiar: I have hardly covered the ground. I am giving you concrete examples. The railwaymen did not keep quiet. They agitated. They went to court. I shall read to you from the judgment in one of these cases, namely, Sambandam against the G. M. Southern Railway.

The petition is No. 14078 of 1950 and was disposed of on 13th November 1951 and the judge says in his judgment:-

"As the question is one of right procedure to be followed in exercise of the powers conferred under the Safeguarding of National Security Rules and as the rights of the petitioner have been clearly infringed, this is a fit case in which the writ must issue. The order dated 6th September 1950 is accordingly set aside. The petitioner will be entitled to his costs, advocate's fee Rs. 100."

That worker was a wireman in Mandapam. He got the order cancelled and he was entitled to Rs. 100 as costs. But what happened? While we thought that everyone would come under the same interpretation and will be taken back to duty, the Railway Board interpreted the judgment as applying to a certain procedure and they said they will change the procedure. So, they cancelled the discharge order and served a fresh notice. Till today this man has not been taken back. At one stage, he got an order that he must pay back his provident fund, allowances etc. That order also is now cancelled. Yet, he is hanging in the air. He does not know whether he is in service or not. These points did not arise for the first time in the South. I had the honour of representing the railwaymen in the South. I went as a trade unionist and met the Deputy Minister and the Minister of Railways. I tried my best. Then, this matter was brought up on the floor of the House. During the last session, on 28th July 1952, all Opposition leaders, including Dr. Lanka Sundaram, Shri Deshpande, Shri Gopalan, Shri More, Shri Menon etc. went and represented this matter to Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri and he said that barring two or three very serious cases, he would apply his mind very sympathetically. We had much hope. But after eight months during the Budget session this year he replied to us saying that he had gone through all the cases himself and had seen no reason to reinstate them except in a few cases, and those few cases, as we were able to elicit in this House during question time will mean twenty cases of discharged men and ten cases of suspended men. As the matter stands they are not prepared to take them back. That is the position.

6 P.M.

It is in this background, Sir, that I am moving this Resolution. But apart from moving this Resolution I have been in touch with the Railwaymen. You can see the number of telegrams

[Shri Nambiar]

that I have received, copies of all of which have been sent to either Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri or Mr. Alagesan. These are telegrams coming from the railway workers of South India and I am prepared to place them on the Table of the House, because the House must know what is the feeling on this matter in South India. Not only the trade unions in the South, but other trade unions as well are agitated over this question and they too have sent telegrams. The United Trade Union Congress which was in session in Calcutta sent a telegram:

"Railway Minister promised liberal consideration Security Rules cases. Now declares reinstatement of 30 out of 100. Most unsatisfactory. Demand reinstatement order."

The All-India Railwaymen's Federation, which has taken up the case has passed a resolution in its session in Assam. That resolution is also here with me and I am prepared to place it on the Table of the House.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has already taken thirty minutes. I would request him to conclude in five minutes.

Shri Nambiar: This resolution says:

"This meeting of the General Council of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation vehemently protests against suspending or forcing to go on compulsory leave of railway employees, under the National Safeguarding Security Rules."

All sections of labour have passed resolutions in support of their reinstatement and for the withdrawal of these orders.

Apart from all this I have got copy of a letter addressed by the Trade Union International under the signature of Stelian Moraru, its Secretary-General, dated the 2nd October 1952, to no less a person than the Prime Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. This letter was forwarded by the Trade Union International of Land and Air Transport Workers with these words:

"We are giving below the text of the letter addressed by the T.U.I. Secretariat to the Prime Minister of India. The land and air transport workers of 24 countries, members of our Trade Union International are deeply worried by the grave injustice perpetrated against the railwaymen in our country."

This body has got a membership of 6,800,000 in twenty-four countries. Certain trade unions in India are affiliated to this World Federation of Trade Unions. It is recognised by the United Nations. That body has appealed to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to reconsider this question.

It is not merely a question affecting certain number of workers. It is a question of right to do trade union work, for which these people have been discharged. I may perhaps be asked: They were considered to be subversive elements; they did not do any trade union work. How can you say that their right of doing trade union work is being impeded?

I can quote to the House extracts from charge-sheets served on these men which will prove beyond any doubt that these are all cases of victimisation for trade union work. One of the charge-sheets reads:

"... You as a member of the Executive Council of the E.I. Railway Road Workers' Union carried on propaganda as a member of the Executive Council of the Union."

In several cases the charge-sheets say: "You agitated for strike: you are a member of a trade union". So agitation for strike or being a member of a trade union is an offence. Agitation for better livelihood is the reason behind the action against these people. not any subversive activities. If it is subversive activities, there is a case for action against them. If anyone wants to sabotage the interests of the country, I for one am not here to support him. Anyone working against the interests of the country may be punished. Sometime back they propagated that the Communist Party indulged in subversive activities and the Party was banned. But today do they say that the ban continues? No. Because they have found it not possible to do so. They found that people did not respond to their propaganda scandals. But why should they victimise the ordinary trade union worker today saying that he is connected with the trade union movement.

We have tried all avenues and all methods. We tried to convince the Ministry; we tried to convince the Government on the floor of the House. We, the Opposition leaders went to the hon. Minister and brought the High Court Judgment to his notice. But in spite of all these, they are not prepared to take these men back.

I have got mass signatures from 5,000 workers. They have understood that my resolution is having a hope of coming before the House and they have sent these petitions signed to me. A copy of this has gone to the hon. Minister. I want to place this also on the Table of the House. I want to take the House into confidence and request it to persuade the Ministry to reconsider the whole question. This is a case of victimisation and about 500 families are suffering in these hard days for no fault of theirs. It is not merely a question of victimisation of certain individuals. This has some political implications. This is an attack made on political grounds. So it is a political matter having international consequence, because the International Trade Unions have intervened. I would therefore request the hon. the Prime Minister to give personal attention to this matter.

I had appealed to Dr. Katju personally. I went to his Chamber and asked him: "Why do you want the National Security Rules to continue? I convinced him that the situation has changed". He told me: "I am considering the matter, but I do not think that I can do it myself. This involves bigger issues." Thus he evaded the issue. I request the hon. the Home Minister, the Railway Minister and the Prime Minister to reconsider this issue afresh. We on this side of the House are certainly prepared to place all the material before them and seek their co-operation. I am not agitating here with a view to put the Government in the wrong and score any debating point. My object is only to get the sympathy of this House, so that it may see that these men are reinstated and this obnoxious rule put an end to. Let us create a situation in which the railwaymen and the Central Government employees may have confidence that this Government will render them justice. Without that confidence there will be no improvement in the state of affair in the country. Your Five Year Plan will not be successful. Let them think in these terms.

Mr. Chairman: Resolution moved:

"This House is of opinion that the Safeguarding of National Security Rules, 1949 introduced in the Railways, Postal, Defence and all the other Central Government Services to discharge Government employees without recourse to normal procedure of disciplinary rules be cancelled forthwith and all those discharged or suspended under these rules be reinstated."

81 PSD.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visaklapatnam): I would like to say a few words in support of this Resolution, generally, because, I am convinced that the problems which this Resolution wants to spot-light are of vital interest to workingman's movement of this land. My hon. friend Mr. Nambiar mentioned that I was one of the people who waited on deputation on the hon. the Railway Minister on the 28th of July last year. I agreed to join the deputation because I was convinced then, as I am convinced now again, that something has gone wrong on account of the attitude adopted by the Railway Administration to the fortunes of these 600 unfortunate railway workers. Let there be no mistake, Mr. Chairman, that I come to defend saboteurs. It is not my line. Twenty-five years of my life I have spent in trade union work. I am for legal, constitutional and trade union rights to be maintained on the highest pedestal. I do not ask for anything more than what is guaranteed to me in terms of the law of the land. If anybody, especially a government servant, is proved to be guilty of subversive activity or is proved to be a saboteur, let the course of the law be pursued. That is all I ask from the Home Minister in particular.

I was rather surprised that after nearly eleven months of review the hon. the Railway Minister was not able to satisfy me at any rate—I am speaking for myself as one of the members of the deputation—that justice was done, and justice was shown to have been done in those cases. I often wonder why, like in the case of the Preventive Detention Act of which my hon. friend the Home Minister is so fond, there is no judicial tribunal to review these cases.

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): I think it is one of the best Acts that you have enacted.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: I am giving you like for like. I think the Home Minister did not catch what I have said. I was saying like in the case of the Preventive Detention Act where there are reviewing judicial boards, why was there not such a provision in the case of the discharged workers. I still feel that it is not beyond remedy at the moment. A procedure of that type can still be adopted, and a proper quasi-judicial review can be done as regards these railway workers.

Having said this, I would like to make one or two general observations with your permission. Sir. This is a legislation born out of war conditions, in 1949. My hon. friend Mr. Nambiar

[Dr. Lanka Sundaram]

made a reference to his talk with the Home Minister and said why these Rules should now be withdrawn, and that is the purport of this Resolution. I want to ask the House to bear with me for a few seconds, with your permission, in what I am going to present to you in terms of the employment conditions created in government service these days. It is not only the National Security Rules of 1949 which are invoked against certain types of trade union workers. Actually there is what is called the Essential Services Rules.

I will give you a case, a very pathetic case, the accuracy of which I am prepared to vouch personally. About 100 conservancy workers—I do not want to use the word 'Scavengers'—of a municipality in my constituency demanded a little increase of basic pay, a little dearness allowance and some uniforms. And I want my hon. friend the Home Minister to remember what happened to them. They were arrested and kept in prison under the Essential Services Rules. I fought the case for the past three years, but there is no redress. The damage has been done. Of course my hon. friend would tell me that it is a matter for the Madras Government. I am trying to present to the House a very faithful picture as to the manner in which lawful trade union activity is sought to be interfered with, and officials of trade unions properly registered and properly conducted—leave aside saboteurs and people guilty of subversive activities—are victimised.

I am glad my hon. friend Shri Jagjivan Ram is here. Only four days ago a letter was passed on to him by my hon. friend Seth Govind Das about the discharge from service of one of the committee members of the Postmen and Lower Grade Employees' Union from Jubbulpore, a union which has nothing to do with Communism, requesting him to look into the case.

I will give my hon. friend the Home Minister another illustration of a case of which I have personal knowledge and which I have been fighting. In company with my friend Mr. Venkataraman who is sitting here, and also of the Deputy-Speaker. This is the case of a trade union official from Visakhapatnam, the Secretary of the local branch of the Military Engineering Service Union. And what was his fault? He wrote a few letters to the higher authorities that the garrison engineer and contractors are defrauding public funds, and asked for an enquiry—please mark my words, Mr. Chairman. And what is the result?

He was given a summary notice of discharge. I make reference to the good faith behind his action, and I hope that justice will be done eventually. Let it be said to the credit of the late Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar that after four months of enquiry he rescinded the order of discharge. And what happened to the case? Here I want you to bear with me for a few seconds. The moment the man went from here to Visakhapatnam with this order of rescission of discharge for the offence supposed to have been committed by him, what happened? The moment he reported to duty he was served with a fresh order of discharge on the ground of inefficiency, and was discharged again. The poor man is twiddling his thumbs, working in a trade union office. My friend Mr. Venkataraman would bear me out when I say this. Out of pity for his condition and his family of seven children, he was given this job where he is trying to earn his meagre bread every day. That case is still being looked into by the Defence Ministry.

Sir, I am saying these things with a full sense of responsibility. Why are these things happening? Because I can tell you, with all the sense of responsibility I can command, that certain types of union workers who are energetic, who are go-getters, are not liked by the employers. In this case I am prepared to make a declaration, and I will prove it here, or as legally required, that the Garrison Engineer had the temerity to come to me and ask me not to sponsor the application of this particular union official with the Government of India. I am making a very bold assertion because the sort of victimisation that is going on is something which my hon. friend in charge of the Ministry of Home Affairs, which frames the rules of conduct and procedure for government departments and government servants, does not unfortunately know.

I would not like to weary the House with a further recital of a number of cases. But I would like to spotlight another point of importance. Today the laws of the land have been altered in such a way that there is no provision for a legal strike. I have said so last time, and I am sure the Home Minister would remember what I said when I intervened in the discussion on the Preventive Detention Bill. Why? Because the Government in particular, being the biggest employer in the land involving 25 to 30 lakhs of people in the various Ministries, Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, Telephone Services, Railway Collieries,

Shipyard, Sindri and so on and so forth, are unable to tackle this problem of wages, living conditions and the rights of workers under the trade union law.

The other day, on the 7th of this month, there was a short notice question about what happened in Visakhapatnam. What happened? Without any consultation with the Works Committee and so on, completely destroying all the normal processes available under the trade union law, on the 30th of last month at 2 o'clock the office-bearers of the Shipyard Labour Union were called by the Managing Director and served with an order of discharge, and on the next morning, without even seventeen hours' notice, 813 workers were discharged. Why was such a thing resorted to? If the legal requirement of a fourteen days' notice, which is the normal custom under the trade union law, had been followed, these people would have gone to the labour conciliation officers, an industrial tribunal would have come into existence, and no one could have been discharged.

I am making a reference to all these things for the reason that it is not merely the enforcement of these rules, but the entire type of approach of the Government as an employer which is at fault. I do trust the Home Minister would look into these rules.

There are two things which Government does every time as an employer. It declares on paper that such and such service is an "essential service", naturally seeking to compel the workers to work against their will. Secondly, immediately a strike notice is given it is declared illegal. Previously the Railwaymen wanted to go on strike. In Visakhapatnam they are likely to do so on the 22nd when the strike notice expires. What is the purpose of your declaration when the workers are determined not to work. Nothing on the face of the earth can compel them to work. Circumstances like these should be avoided.

I propose to make one or two constructive suggestions to the Home Minister, to investigate and to see whether he cannot do something to stop the growing deterioration in the policy of the Government as an employer, who have to set a standard for the ordinary employers in the private sector.

Otherwise I can assure him it will not be very long before there will be a major revolution in the working-man's movement, because in Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, Defence Services, collieries, shipyards, everywhere.

there is retrenchment going on, and everywhere there is a clamour against it. When one worker is discharged, the entire Trade Union stands by him. That has been the practice in this country, and the tradition of this country, I am glad it is a very noble and enduring tradition.

The suggestions I would like to make are these. I want the Home Minister to examine whether the conditions of service in Government are uniform for the various Ministries. If they are not, I would ask him to bring about a uniform code of service conditions, especially in regard to recognition of Trade Unions, and Rules of Procedure about enquiries into alleged misconduct of officers of Unions, and if he cannot do that, I regret to say it will not be possible for him to carry on the administration of the land as the Home Minister, for the reason that every particular Ministry, every particular Department in a Ministry, has taken the law into its own hands. I discussed this matter with the Minister for Labour, who unfortunately is not here. Everybody knows, including the Labour Minister, that the directions of the Home Ministry and the Labour Ministry are flouted, with the result that these vitriolic positions as regards unemployment and Union conditions are arising in various parts of the country.

I hope I have said something which will stir my hon. friend into furious activity, in order to see that wherever there is a wrong, it is righted, and procedures which have got to be established for the sake of the harmonious relationship between the employer and the employee, particularly, laws relating to the Unions where the Government stands as an employer are properly laid down.

पटित अलगू राय शास्त्री (जिला आजमगढ़—पूर्व व जिला बलिया—पश्चिम) : सभापति महोदय, मेरे मित्र नम्बियार साहब ने जो प्रस्ताव रखा है मैं खेद के साथ उसका विरोध करने लड़ा हुआ हूँ। आपको यह जान कर प्रसन्नता होगी कि मैं क्यों विरोध कर रहा हूँ। मैं जानता हूँ कि जब यहां विदेशी शासन था तब विदेशी शासन ने अपनी रक्षा के लिये के कायदे कानून बनाये थे। उस समय जो देश में स्वाधीनता की लहर थी उस में सभी देशभक्तों का हाथ रहता था और हमने १९४२ के आनंदोलन में यह देखा कि देशभक्त

[पंडित अलगू रायशास्त्री]

जनता ने उन साधनों को भी नष्ट कर दिया था जो कि जनता के लिये उपयोगी दिखलाई पड़ते थे। वह आन्दोलन ठीक उसी तरह का आन्दोलन बन गया था जैसा कि महाराणा प्रताप के जमाने में उस समय हुआ था जब अकबर की फौजों के साथ उन की लड़ाई थी। उस समय जनता के लोग स्वयं अपने कुंवों में जहर डाल देते थे और अपनी फ़सलों को बरबाद कर देते थे क्योंकि जनता यह समझती थी कि उनसे शत्रुओं को लाभ होता था। इस भावना में अपनी ही चीजों को अपने हाथों से बरबाद करना आवश्यक हो गया क्योंकि उसका लाभ विदेशी हुक्मत को मिलता था और उन्हीं साधनों से विदेशी हुक्मत हमारे ऊपर अपना शासन चलाती थी। उस वातावरण में विदेशी हुक्मत ने अपनी रक्षा करने के लिये इस प्रकार के कानून बनाये थे जिस से लोगों को ज़रा ज़रा सी बात पर जेलखाने में रख सके। एक मामूली कांस्टेबल अच्छे से अच्छे आदिमियों को, बड़े से बड़े आदिमियों को, जिन में हमारे माननीय गृह मंत्री भी हो सकते हैं, बन्द कर दिया करता था। एक समय ऐसा था कि विदेशी हुक्मत ऐसा करती थी। आज जब जनता का शासन स्थापित हुआ है, जब प्रजातंत्र इतने बड़े आधार पर इस देश में अपना काम कर रहा है, जब प्रत्येक बलिग को मतदान का अधिकार है और उसने अपने मत से एक शासन बनवस्था बनाई है, तो उस शासन व्यवस्था के प्रति उसी प्रकार का दृष्टिकोण रखना कि जो विदेशी शासन के प्रति इस देश में रहा, उचित नहीं है, और आज खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उन कायदे कानूनों को यदि जारी रखना पड़ रहा है तो केवल इस कारण कि इस तरह का ऐलीमेंट (तत्व) हमारे देश में मौजूद है जो सरकार को पैरेलाइज करने के लिये और उसके चलते हुए काम को ठप कर देने के लिये अप्रसर है। मैं अपने अनुभव से कह

सकता हूँ कि जहाँ कदापि स्ट्राइक की आवश्यकता नहीं थी, किसी प्रकार की हड़ताल की आवश्यकता नहीं थी, वहाँ आज नारे लगाये जाते हैं बेज़ेज़ का नाम लेकर, और तरह से भी सहानुभूति के आंसू बहाये जाते हैं। जिन लोगों के हित के लिये और जिस वर्ग का नाम लेकर यह कार्य वाहियाँ की जाती हैं उसी वर्ग के हितों के लिये वह धातक हो रही है। यहाँ कहा जाता है कि जो कोई सरकारी कर्मचारी सादी पहन कर या गांधी टोपी लगा कर आता है तो उस पर मौजूदा सरकार वड़ी दयालु रहती है और जो ऐसा नहीं करता है उसके लिये अदयालु रहती है। मैं अपने मित्र से यह पूछूँगा कि वह दिललायें कि इस सेकेटरियट में कितने सरकारी कर्मचारी खद्र पहनने वाले हैं और कितने गांधी टोपी लगाने वाले हैं। मैं नहीं समझता कि सरकार किसी भी तरह से इस भावना से प्रेरित होती है कि कोन खद्र पहन कर आता है और कोन खद्र पहन कर नहीं आता है। एकीशियंसी और इन एकीशियंसी की बात हो सकती है किन्तु सरकार पर यह लांछन लगाना कि जो सरकारी कर्मचारी कांप्रेस के साथ सहानुभूति रखते हैं उन के साथ सरकार नरमी का व्यवहार करती है और जो कांप्रेस के विरुद्ध हैं उन पर सख्ती करती है, यह गलत है। अगर आज इस जमीन में यह कायदे कानून मौजूद हैं तो उसका कारण यह नहीं है कि यह कांप्रेस सरकार, जो कि जनता के मत से यहाँ पर आकर स्थित हुई है, वह चाहती है कि ऐसे रेग्यूलेशन्स रखे जायें या ऐसे कानून रखे जायें, बल्कि उसको विवश होकर उस परिस्थिति के कारण इनको रखना पड़ रहा है जिस परिस्थिति को पैदा करने में हमारे उन भाइयों का हाथ है जो कि इस प्रकार के प्रस्ताव लाते हैं। उनका काम है कि इस प्रकार के लोगों को जो हमारे आवश्यक कामों में लगे हुए हैं उनको छोटे मोटे साम्राज्यकर

वह उभार देते हैं और जिनकी ओर से यह प्रस्ताव आया है उन भाइयों के खिलाफ यह एक अंग है कि लोगों को किसी प्रकार के मुलहतामों पर मत आने दो और जगड़ों को बराबर जारी रखो, कान्ति चिरजीवी हो, कान्ति चलाते रहो। जो भौजूदा समाज का ढांचा है उससे उनको नफरत है। वे यह समझते हैं कि इस ढांचे में जो सरकार होगी वह कोअरसिव होगी, वह सत्ताधारियों की सरकार होगी, पूंजी-वादियों की सरकार होगी। जो डिमोक्रेटिक प्रिसिपल्स हमारी लाइक को चला रहे हैं उनकी ओर उनकी निगाह नहीं जाती है। मेरे बह मित्र यह देखते हैं कि इस सरकार को तो नश्त करना है। इस सरकार को नष्ट करने का उनका तरीका यही है कि इस के जो अंग प्रत्यंग हैं उनको पेरेलाइज किया जाय और वह ऐसे उपायों से जो उनको अपील करें। उसमें सबसे बड़ा उपाय तो यही है कि जो श्रमिक वर्ग है उसके सामने बड़े बड़े नारे लगाये जायं कि देखो तुम्हको मजदूरी कम मिलती है, मिनिस्टर बड़े बड़े मजे कर रहे हैं, वे यों कर रहे हैं; और वों कर रहे हैं और आप दुःख की जिन्दगी व्यतीत कर रहे हैं। भौके बेमौके यहां पर बिड़ला और टाटा का नाम भी आ जाता है और वे सरकार के साथ वाविस्ता कर दिये जाते हैं जैसे कि यह सरकार बिल्कुल उहीं के चलाये चल रही हो। इस सरकार के ऊपर, जो कि बालिग मताधिकार के ऊपर चुनी गयी है और जो लोग चुने गये हैं उनको जनता ने उनकी उन सेवाओं पर दृष्टि रख कर चूना है, जो कि स्वर्णकारों में लिखे जाने लायक हैं तरह तरह के लांछन लगा दिये जाते हैं। यह प्रजातंत्र की बलिहारी है कि कांग्रेस ने इस सिद्धान्त को माना है कि आप जो कुछ भी चाहे कह सकते हैं, और जो कुछ भी बोलना चाहें स्वतंत्रतापूर्वक बोल सकते हैं। जिन देशों में उस प्रकार की सरकारें चल रही हैं जिसके सिद्धान्त कि

हमारे निम्नियार साहब और उनकी तरफ बैठे हुए उनके साथी मानते हैं, उनके विरुद्ध कोई इस प्रकार के नारे नहीं सुनाई पहते, न अखबारों में न रेडियो में उनके विरुद्ध कुछ सुनाई देता है। वहां जो बातें होती हैं वह बाहर नहीं सुनाई पहतों। लेकिन कल तक जो बहां हो रहा था उसका नकशा अब बदलता नज़र आता है। कुछ शान्ति की सी बातें सामने दिखाई पड़ने लगी हैं। अभी हाल ही में डलेस का जो व्यान हुआ है उस में ज़रूर उन्होंने कुछ फॅंडामेंटल्स के बारे में कहा है कि जो एक मजदूर तानाशाही सिद्धान्त पर अवलम्बित सरकारें हैं उन के साथ कोई शान्ति या समझौते की बात चल सकती है, इस में सन्देह है यह बात उन्होंने कही और उन फॅंडामेंटल्स को मैं भी पहचानता हूं कि जिसमें हम श्रमिक वर्ग की तानाशाही को स्वीकार करते हैं, जिस में हम इस बात को स्वीकार करते हैं कि पूंजीवादी प्रथा के ऊपर हमारा विश्वास नहीं। कान्ति के आधार पर हम सत्ता चाहते हैं। जिसमें हम हिंसा को एक उचित सिद्धान्त मान लेते हैं और उसे प्रोत्साहित करने के लिये छपे तरंगें पर काम करने का सिद्धान्त रखते हैं। तो एसी अवस्था में हम उस वर्ग की जिस को आज मजदूर वर्ग कहा जाता है, उस वर्ग की तुलना पूरी सामाजिक स्ट्रेक्चर को देख कर करें तो हमारे समाज में जिस तरह का जीवन का स्तर हमारा है उस को देखते हुए ऐसा नहीं जान पड़ता कि जिन मजदूरों की मजदूरी को कम बता कर उन्हें उकसाया जाता है और भड़काया जाता है, वह बातेव में कम है। जो हमारा पूरा राष्ट्र है, उसकी जो सामाजिक अवस्था है उस के अनुसार सचमुच तुलना करें तो वह इतनी बुरी अवस्था नहीं है। उन को उस स्तर के अनुसार और अनुपात से ही बेतन मिलता है। हो सकता है कि कुछ थोड़े से आदमियों के बारे में, उनके बेतन का अनुपात कुछ भविक हो। अभी

[पंडित अलगू राय शास्त्री]

यहीं उस दिन पता चला कि रशिया में क्या है। वहां के बेतन के स्तर की कुछ चर्चा चली। नीचे मज़दूरी करने वाले मज़दूर का बेतन अगर ३०० रुबल्स है तो ऊपर १० हज़ार और २० हज़ार तक की बात कही गयी थी। मुझ को पूरे तीर पर उसका पता नहीं है, उन के अनुपात का पूरा पता नहीं है। लेकिन स्तर की बात वहां भी दिखाई पड़ती है। वहां भी इसी स्तर का तारतम्य है, जमीन और आसमान का तारतम्य वहां भी है। यहां भी जमीन आसमान है, तो वहां भी जमीन आसमान की बात है। यहां नीचे जमीन है, आसमान ऊपर है, यह वहां भी है। जो टेक्निकल और हाईली स्पैशलाइज्ड काम है उन को कुछ ज्यादा बेजेज (मज़ूरी) देनी पड़ती है, कुछ उन की प्रीवीलैजेंज ज्यादा होती है। एक आदमी को जरूरत पड़ती है कि मोटर कार पर चले, एक दूसरा आदमी पैदल भी चल सकता है। मगर पहां की दुनिया को भुला कर, यहां की जनता की इच्छा से आई हुई सरकार को दफ़ना कर, उसके स्थान पर ऊंची अट्टालिका बनाने का स्वप्न देख कर जो लोगों को भड़काया जाता है, उन को जो कहा जाता है कि तुम दबे हुए हो, तुम्हारा कोई पुरस्तां हाल नहीं है, तुम पिसे जा रहे हो.....

श्री के० के० बसु (डायमण्ड हावर्ड) : यह सत्य है।

पंडित अलगू राय शास्त्री : इस में सत्य का अंश होता तो मैं मान लेता। मैं तो सत्य को मानने तथा, असत्य को त्यागने के लिये सदा तत्पर रहने वालों में से हूँ।

डा० संका सुन्दरम् : कभी भूल जाते हैं।

पंडित अलगू राय शास्त्री : नहीं, ऐसी बात नहीं है। मैंने सत्य की रक्षा के लिये ही जीवन दिया है और उसके लिये आप भी सत्य के अनुयायी बनें तो आपका भी कल्याण हो जायगा।

श्री गिडवानी (याना) : शास्त्री जी, कुछ अध्यापकों का भी हाल सुनाइये।

पंडित अलगू राय शास्त्री : वह भी सुनाता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश के अध्यापक तो गुमराह हैं। “आन क लरिका पाई, त कीरा की बियरी में हाथ नंवाई”, ऐसी कहावत भोजपुरी में है। एक दूसरे का बच्चा मिल जाय तो सांप के बिल में उसका हाथ डालकर उसी आनन्द लेते हैं।

संचरण उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : फिर कहिये, पुनः।

पंडित अलगू राय शास्त्री : भोजपुरी में कहावत है : “आन क लरिका पाई, त कीरा की बियरी में हाथ नंवाई”。 जो दूसरे का बच्चा मिल जाय तो सांप के बिल में उस का हाथ डालकर आजमा सकते हैं कि सांप की बाइटिंग क्या होती है। तो अध्यापक इस तरह मिल गये हैं। लिहो, लिहो करके उन को भुलाया दिया जा रहा है, भड़काया जाता है। उन के दुख से मतलब नहीं, उन के मुख से मतलब नहीं और मेरे भाई उनको भड़काते हैं।

श्री गिडवानी : आप ४० रुपये रोज़ लें और उनको ४० रुपये माहवार आप दें।

पंडित अलगू राय शास्त्री : बहुत अच्छा तो आप उसमें से चन्दा करके उनको दीजिये जभी गिडवानी जी तो अध्यापक तक ही सीमित नहीं हैं। मेरे मित्र गिडवानी जी तो जभी रिप्पूजीड़ से भी कुछ सत्याग्रह कराने का जिक्र कर रहे हैं।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order; I request the hon. Member to speak on the Resolution.

पंडित अलगु राय शास्त्री : मैं केवल यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह मैंने बैक ग्राउंड दिया (पूछभूमि दी) कि इस रिप्रो-यूशन (संकल्प) के पीछे यह राजनीतिक भावना है। इस कारण अगर इस प्रस्ताव को स्वीकार करके हम उन रूस्त और रेग्यूलेशन्स को रद्द कर दें तो हमारे इन मित्रों को बड़ी खुली छट मिल जायगी इस मुक्त की सारी शासन व्यवस्था को उलट पुलट कर देने की। इसलिए मैं पुरबोर और बड़ी गंभीरता के साथ इस प्रस्ताव का विरोध करता हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि इस को स्वीकार न किया जाय।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं समाप्त करता हूँ।

Shri Venkataraman (Tanjore): We have had a very eloquent plea on behalf of the workmen who have been rather badly treated under the Safeguarding of National Security Rules, and my friend Mr. Nambiar made a powerful plea for the scrapping of these rules.

Trade union work broadly falls under two categories. One category is of those who espouse the cause of the workers with a view to remedy all the difficulties which they are undergoing and also to improve the standard of life of the workmen. The other category is that class of people who exploit the difficulties, the miseries and the hardships of the people either to build up certain political backing and following for themselves, or for the purpose of creating a sort of confusion in the country. This distinction has been made not by me, but by the Professor of Industrial Relations in the Oxford University, in describing what is trade union work and what is political agitation. Trade unionists are those who try to improve the standard of life of the workmen by means of constitutional agitation. The political agitator is one who tries to exploit anyhow the grievances and difficulties of the workers with a view to build up the party organization. Therefore, in making a distinction between these

two, one has to be very careful to see that no injury is caused to the real trade unionist either under a mistake of the intentions of that man, or the following which he is leading. I quite agree that instances may occur where an honest trade unionist may be misunderstood to be a political agitator who exploits the situation. Also there are occasions—and I am quite sure you can easily imagine them—in which political agitators may try to masquerade as real trade unionists and play on the grievances of workmen. So, it is impossible to lay down a hard and fast rule and say that all trade union work is of the trade union variety, or to say otherwise, viz., that every agitation is really of a political character. Therefore, everybody who is in charge of administration has to apply the principles to the facts of each case and ascertain whether or not that particular instance is an instance of real, genuine trade union work, or it is an instance of political agitation.

The Safeguarding of National Security Rules were brought into existence at a time when certain parties in this country thought of subverting the Government of the day by means of an industrial outburst. In 1948-49 the philosophy of certain political parties in this country was that they could change the administration of this country by means of an organized uprising of the people in factories, in the Railways, in Posts and Telegraphs, in the fields and in agriculture. They tried that method, and it is common knowledge that at that time many workers were induced to go on strike, not necessarily to remedy the hardships which they were undergoing, not necessarily to improve their standard of life, but with a view to create political confusion. It was in this background that the South Indian Railway Labour Union declared a strike in the South Indian Railway contrary to the directions issued by the All-India Railwaymen's Federation to which they were affiliated.

The All-India Railwaymen's Federation considered their grievances first, and it even directed the taking of the strike ballot. But the Railwaymen's Federation met subsequently and examined the entire situation in the country and then decided that in that context, a strike should not be launched, and therefore they issued a directive to all their affiliated unions not to go on strike. In contravention of those directives, the South Indian Railway Labour Union, which my hon. friend Mr. Nambiar has the privilege of representing, went on strike, and it was an illegal strike.

Shri Nambiar: There was no strike in March 1949. The South Indian Railway Union also withdrew the strike. The hon. Member is wrong. Let him correct himself.

Shri Venkataraman: Now I am not going to bandy words as to the correctness of the date, but I can very easily prove that in contravention of the directives of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation, the South Indian Railway Labour Union went on strike, and it was because of that that the All India Railwaymen's Federation expelled the South Indian Railway Labour Union, and it is because of that that the South Indian Railway Labour Union is today not recognised by the Railway administration. I can also go further and say that All India Railwaymen's Federation refused to take them back into the Federation, because of their failure to obey the mandates of the Federation.

Shri Nambiar: There must be facts.

Shri Venkataraman: I cannot convince persons who refuse to be convinced. My submission is that the object with which the strike was launched was not to improve the service conditions of the workmen. If it were so, they would have followed the line which was set by their own Federation, namely the All India Railwaymen's Federation. Then, what happened? The strike was carried on in a violent manner, and some of the workmen belonging to my Railway Union in the Southern Railway were treated violently, and some of them had to suffer indignities. In spite of these things, the other railway unions stuck on to their duty posts and carried on the work. That is the circumstance under which the Safeguarding of National Security Rules were formulated, so far as the Railways were concerned. My submission is that on the date on which these rules were formulated, there was ample justification for it, and that was done to meet an emergent situation caused by certain political parties in this country, who thought that they could change the order of society, and the Government of the day, by an organised uprising of the peasants and workers of this country.

My next point is this. Are these rules now really against the normal trade union workers, or are they in violation of the fundamental right of workers to organise themselves? Today there are more than two or three lakhs of railway workers who are unionised. If the contention of my hon. friend Mr. Nambiar were correct, then every trade unionist is brought under these

Safeguarding of National Security Rules, and all those people should have lost their jobs. These Rules were meant against such persons who, according to the authorities—they may be right or wrong, and I do not hold any brief for them—were trying to either subvert the working of the railways or to cause dislocation in the services, or utilise these things for their own party advantage. How that is going to be judged is a matter in which there might be difference of opinion. The Government have provided a Board consisting of a member of the Home Ministry, a member of the Law Ministry, and then, as my hon. friend Mr. Nambiar himself expatiated upon, a member of the Ministry concerned. These are men who occupy the status of Joint Secretary in Government. After all, how is the person who occupies the position of Joint Secretary in a Government less competent to handle these cases. I do not see. The persons have no direct personal knowledge and they always examine and scrutinise cases of the particular individuals.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): When the party is not before the Tribunal?

Shri Venkataraman: On the question of representation of parties, the parties are allowed to make written representations... (Interruption). Written representations are always before the particular Board which is constituted.

Shri K. K. Basu: Why not leave it to the judiciary?

Shri Venkataraman: If the cases have to be brought before the judiciary, certainly they will not be brought under the Safeguarding of National Security Rules, but they will be prosecuted for criminal offences and sent to jail. The difference is where certain acts cannot be proved in a court of law but which, nevertheless, are such as to endanger the security of the services, they have got to be dealt with in a different way. The same argument which was advanced in this House with regard to the Public Safety Act applies to this also.

An Hon. Member: No.

Shri Venkataraman: If it can be brought before the court, certainly it will be brought before the court. My friend, Mr. Nambiar, knows that a number of people were prosecuted and many of them were also sentenced. But in such cases where it is not possible to bring them before a court, it is necessary that the Government

has got to resort to a Tribunal which will look into their cases and see whether their continuance in service is in the interest of the service or not. At the same time I am very anxious that the normal, legitimate trade union activity of the workers should be protected. Today we have the Industrial Disputes Act which provides that certain services can be declared as essential services or public utility services. The only handicap of the workers in the public utility services is not that they cannot go on strike, as my friend, Mr. Lanka Sundaram, said; all that they have got to do is merely to give a notice of strike of 14 days. And if after a notice of strike is given the conciliation which is obligatory in the public utility services does not bring about a settlement of the dispute, then the Government is obliged under section 10(1)(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act to refer the case to arbitration or adjudication by a tribunal.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: May I interrupt the hon. Member? But what about the other side of the case? I gave the example of the workers of the Visakhapatnam shipyard—summary discharge without even 17 hours' notice. What is the remedy?

Shri Venkataraman: I will conclude this point and reply.

Now, under the Industrial Disputes Act, those services which are declared to be public utility services have got the right to go on strike only after giving the prescribed notice. And if after the notice is given and the conciliation proceedings take place and the dispute is not settled, it is obligatory on the part of the Government—in fact the language is:

"that the Government shall refer the dispute to adjudication unless they are satisfied that the case is frivolous or vexatious."

Therefore, the worker is amply protected in all those cases in which the services are declared to be public utility services, whereas in a private service the worker has no right to have recourse to adjudication. In the case of the public utility services, the worker has got the right to have his case referred to the tribunal, unless of course the case, as I said, is found to be frivolous or vexatious. Therefore, I do not think that the people in the essential services or public utility services are in a more disadvantageous position than the rest.

My friend, Mr. Lanka Sundaram, asked me: what about certain persons who are discharged, as in the shipyard,

without notice? The law only prescribes that either notice should be given or wages in lieu of notice should be given, and in the case of the Visakhapatnam Shipyard, wages in lieu of notice have been given. I do not at all justify the discharge. I am against the discharge of workers under any circumstances, for this reason that they are thrown out in the wide world without a chance of eking out their livelihood after serving in an industry for a number of years. But that is not to say that in every case where there is a discharge, it is an illegal discharge. The remedies normally open under the Industrial Disputes Act are still open to the workmen at the Visakhapatnam Shipyard and I am quite sure that they will get them.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: That is not true.

Shri Venkataraman: I do not know what is not true; whether the fact is not true, or the law which I am stating is not true.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: If fourteen days' notice is given, the workers would have referred this matter to the Conciliation Board and they would have been inside the Yard and appeared before the Board and the management would have had to justify the discharge. Now, they are thrown out on the streets and this Board, if at all it is created, will take long months to adjudicate the matter. That is the vital difference.

Dr. Katju: On a point of order. Are we not traversing ground which is not covered by the resolution? The resolution merely suggests the withdrawal of these rules, whereas we are discussing the whole of the trade union law.

Mr. Chairman: Yes, this is an argument going on on a point of law and has nothing to do with the resolution. Since Dr. Lanka Sundaram raised this point, Mr. Venkataraman replied to it and now if I say that Mr. Venkataraman should not answer the point just now raised by Dr. Lanka Sundaram, it ought not to be thought that Mr. Venkataraman is not able to answer it.

Shri Venkataraman: I shall not advert to that case. The other matter referred to by Dr. Lanka Sundaram was the case of the M.E.S. Worker. His own instance proved that Government had corrected the mistake.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: And who re-committed the mistake?

Mr. Chairman: I am afraid this case also does not come within the scope of the discussion.

Shri Venkataraman: If you had not allowed Dr. Lanka Sundaram to raise this point, I would not have referred to it.

Mr. Chairman: My difficulty is this. If I allow the hon. Member to discuss this now and another hon. Member wants to reply to him (Mr. Venkataraman) I would be unable to stop him. So, I am nipping the evil in the bud. He may confine his remarks to the other parts of the case.

Shri Venkataraman: I bow to your ruling. I only wanted to correct a misapprehension. Anyhow, the cases are being taken up with the Ministry concerned and I do hope that justice would be done.

I have only one other point to make, and that is that whatever may have been the reasons and the circumstances under which these rules came into existence, the time has now come for re-examining whether they should be continued. The situation in the country has improved. The number of strikes and lock-outs have gone down. Even the report of the Labour Ministry would show that the situation with regard to industrial production and industrial peace has shown considerable improvement. If that is so, Government may re-examine the position and find out whether these rules are necessary at all, and if they think that they are necessary, whether the rigours of the rules may be modified. I think that some of the provisions of the rules may be easily modified in the light of changed circumstances. I therefore appeal to Government to reconsider the matter.

Mr. Chairman: There are only three minutes to 7 o'clock and at 7 o'clock we shall have the half-an-hour discussion. I suggest that this resolution may stop here and may be taken up on the next non-official day.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Can you not call upon someone to speak for these few minutes?

Mr. Chairman: That would be giving him a right to speak on the next occasion. I do not want to do that. I suggest that we start the half-an-hour discussion.

**EAST PAKISTAN REFUGEE
WOMEN'S HOME AT CHUNAR**

Mr. Chairman: We shall now take up the half-an-hour discussion. I want to suggest that since the time allotted is only half-an-hour and six or seven

hon. Members are desirous of taking part, the opener may take five minutes and the others two or three minutes. I think the hon. Minister will require ten minutes.

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): Ten minutes will do.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. T. K. Chaudhuri is going to open the discussion. Will he be satisfied with five minutes or would he require more time?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I will take ten minutes.

Mr. Chairman: There are three other hon. Members who want to take part. They will have to be satisfied with a minute or so. I think those who want to take part should only put questions and nothing more.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: The main purpose in my seeking to raise this discussion in the House is to draw the attention of the hon. House to the condition of the inmates of the East Pakistan refugee women's home at Chunar, in the wider background of the misgivings in the minds of the public in Bengal about the treatment meted out to East Bengal refugees when they are taken out of West Bengal. I do not say that all these misgivings are always warranted by facts, but the existence of these misgivings is a fact and I feel in the background of what has happened in Chunar the authorities should have been more careful and should have given more attention to the administration of this Camp.

You know, Sir, that conditions of living of the women inmates of the Chunar Camp was referred to by the hon. Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani in the course of the Budget debate on Rehabilitation on the 21st of March last, on the basis of certain information given to her by another hon. Member, Shrimati Uma Nehru. She informed us that these girls who were taken to Chunar were given only one set of clothes in six months. Mrs. Uma Nehru also confirmed this and said that they did not have even proper winter clothes in the biting cold of Chunar. She informed us further that she had given this report to the hon. the Rehabilitation Minister and she expressed the hope that the hon. the Rehabilitation Minister must have, by the time she was speaking, taken steps to redress this state of affairs. We do not know what the hon. Minister did, but evidently the passing of the winter and the advent of spring and summer

solved the question of lack of warm clothes at least. But there were other grievances with regard to food, with regard to insufficient rations. It was reported that every day there was shortage of food for 20 to 25 inmates of the camp. There were grievances of lack of supply of soap and other amenities.

7 P. M.

I do not say that these amenities were not provided by the Government, but there was something wrong in the administration of the camp which somehow or other led to the denial of these amenities, in actual practice, to these wretched girls.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Distt.—West cum Rae Bareli Distt.—East): There is no quorum.

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): His own party people are not present.

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): You better look back and speak please.

An Hon. Member: The Government is not here.

Mr. Chairman: Now there is quorum. The hon. Member may go on.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Anyway it seems that the girl students went on strike several times even before the recent disturbances took place which was either put down forcibly or they were persuaded to withdraw those strikes on false hopes and assurances that were given to them. I understand that several representations were made to the higher authorities also which produced absolutely no results. In the end it seems from the 1st of March or some time before that a new lady-principal was appointed when the conditions improved a bit and we are told that most of the girls seemed to feel that at least their grievances with regard to food and other things were being redressed gradually. I do not know what happened in the mean time, but this new lady-principal was transferred to some other place and the old lady-principal was again reinstated. Then the girls went on a strike on the 18th. We are told they were forcibly taken out of the camp and they had to live for five days without any food or shelter in a spot near the Chunar railway station. On the 23rd or 24th they were suddenly again taken back to the camp forcibly, and we are told that they were beaten and some force and violence was used against these young girls. About 250 of them were there and they were mostly of the ages of 11 to 16.

I do not have the time to go into the details, but this is a very serious matter. These girls were all very young girls. Why they were allowed to go out of the camps and why they were again taken back into the camps with police help in police trucks, jeeps and lorries forcibly, it surpasses all imagination.

Then after a few days some 26 or 27 of them were arrested. We do not know who arrested them, on what charges and who were the arresting authorities. And it is not known up till now where they are kept at present; they were taken to an unknown destination.

My main question to the hon. Minister is: why were the conditions in the Chunar camp allowed to deteriorate to such an extent? No steps were taken to see that the legitimate grievances of these very young and tender girls were redressed in proper time.

I would like to put another question. There has been a large measure of misgiving in the minds of the people of my State about the treatment that is meted out to Bengal refugees taken from West Bengal. The hon. Minister is probably not unaware of that fact and he should have been more careful. But it seems evidently he allowed things to drift on. With these few words, I resume my seat.

Mr. Chairman: There are three more persons who have signed this requisition for discussion paper. Does any one of them want to raise questions?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): May I know whether on previous occasions, before the 3rd of March, any complaints were received by the said Mrs. Mitra about the food, clothing, system of teaching, etc. and whether any of them were forwarded to the Rehabilitation Ministry by her?

Is it a fact that the quality and the quantity of the food and other amenities were improved after the taking over of the Chunar Home administration by the said Miss Kalsi and immediately there was an antagonisation between the staff and the student refugees?

On the third night, it is alleged that Miss Kalsi became unconscious. Is it a fact that the first medical help which was brought to her at 2 o'clock in the morning was by the refugees in company with the chowkidar who got the nearest doctor and not by the staff itself and what was the reason for this? Was it that medical help was delayed by the staff who were in a responsible position?

[Shrimati Renu Chakravarty]

There is another point which is of very great importance. In view of the fact that these things have happened and in view of the fact that the Chunar Home is dealing chiefly with women refugees, whether Government is going to enquire into the whole matter and take the help of Advisers or they are going to appoint an Advisory Committee to look after and help in the running of this rehabilitation centre?

Lastly, the Bengal Government in the Assembly said that they know nothing about what has happened to these people because once refugees go outside Bengal, they have absolutely nothing to do with them. This is a very serious situation because they are people from Bengal and when the Bengal people ask the Bengal Government about it, the Bengal Government just gives an answer like that without seeing or trying to find out what the situation is. These are the few questions which I wanted to ask.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): In view of certain incidents which adversely affect the Government policy of rehabilitating East Bengal refugees outside Bengal, does Government propose to hold an enquiry by Members of Parliament belonging to all parties and may I know how many of the inmates have been arrested in connection with these incidents and, if possible, the charges against them?

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Tushar Chatterjee: absent. Shrimati Uma Nehru.

श्रीमती उमा नहरू (चिला सीतापुर व चिला खेरी—पश्चिम): जनाब चेयरमैन साहब, यह चुनार का किस्सा जो इस हाउस के समाने आया है, मुझे बहुत दख़ के साथ कहना पड़ता है, कि यह सारा बनाया हुआ किस्सा है और मुझे रंज है कि जो भी कन्स्ट्रक्टिव (रचनात्मक) काम हम करते हैं कुछ न कुछ हमारे पीछे एक आफत सी लगो हुई रहती है। मैं आप को यह बताऊं कि मैं खुद उस होम में गयी थी जहां पर कलसी थी जिस का चर्चा आप आज सुन रहे हैं।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Is this a question or a speech?

Mr. Chairman: She is giving information.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: She is making a speech. Can we also make speeches?

Mr. Chairman: No question of speeches.

Shri Algu Rai Shastri (Azamgarh Distt.—East cum Ballia Distt.—West). She is giving information.

Shrimati Uma Nehru: I do not want to take the time of the House.

साली दो एक पोयट (point) बताती हूँ।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I would like to know one thing. In future, if such a discussion takes place, please do not limit us to questions. Let us also be given the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Chairman: On the point to which the discussion relates, the persons who know something about that must take part and must inform the House as to how things have happened. This is the real purpose of the discussion.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Then do not limit us to put questions only. We should put our case.

Mr. Chairman: If I allow all these persons to make speeches, it means that it would go beyond half an hour. Then, the real purpose of the discussion is lost.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: We are losing time, Sir.

Shri Punnoose: Last time, when we...

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. I request the hon. Member to be brief.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू: जनाब चेयरमैन साहब, मैं दावे से बोल रही हूँ, क्योंकि मेरा सूपरविशन का चार्ज है। यह मजाक नहीं है। मैं आप को बता दूँ कि मैं इन दूसरी तरफ के लोगों को देखती हूँ तो मुझे कहना पड़ता है कि खुदा की मार इन पर है और इन की बकल पर भी। इन की समझ में नहीं आता कि एक मकान हम ने तैयार किया, एक कंस्ट्रक्टिव काम हमारा है और वे यहां उस को नष्ट करने के लिये खड़े हुए हैं। मैं उन को यह बता देती हूँ कि यह जो कंस्ट्रक्टिव काम हम कर रहे हैं वे इसे नष्ट नहीं कर पावेंगे।

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: What are these charges. These are very objectionable charges. We strongly object.

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. This is not the way in which objection should be taken.

Shri T. K. Chandhuri: May I make a submission, Sir?

Mr. Chairman: There is no question of submission. The hon. Member Shrimati Renu Chakravarty is making a speech. If an hon. Member wants to object to the manner of speech of another Member, this is not the way. I can understand the insinuation made by the Member and I can understand her (Shrimati Renu Chakravarty's) feelings also. Let Shrimati Uma Nehru complete her speech. (Interruptions). Order, order, I request the hon. Member Shrimati Uma Nehru not to indulge in advice or indulge in invectives. Here is a discussion. She knows something about it. Let her say that and give the information. This is not the time when advice can be given or any sort of aspersions can be made on this or that matter.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू: मैं जनाव चेयरमैन साहब, ऐडवाइस देने खड़ी नहीं हुई हूं, क्योंकि मैं ऐडवाइस उन को दूंगी जिनके कुछ दिमाग हों। लेकिन मुझे आपसे सिफं यह कहना है कि मैं उस मकान से डील कर रही हूं, उस अपने कुटुम्ब से जिसकी मैं मां हूं। और आज मेरे उस घर में कोई बाहर वाला छिप कर आवे तो मैं जरूर दखल दूंगी।

मुझे आप से एक बात कहनी है कि जिस बक्त हमारे कामरेड भाई और कामरेड बहन वहां थुसीं और वहां देखा और कलसी का, जिसका चर्चा है, तो मुझे अफ्सोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है, मैं कहना नदीं चाहती थी कि कलसी जो वहां पर अपने आप को स्थापित करना चाहती थी। पूँछे रज है कि जो मेरी रिफूयूजी बहनें वहां ईस्टनैं पाकिस्तान से मुसीबत में आई उनके लिये यह नई मुसीबत पैदा हुई। मिसेज मित्रा जो वहां नोकर रखी गयी है, वह मैं आप को बताऊं कि निहायत रिलायबल (विश्वासीय), आनेस्ट (ईमानदार) और निहायत ट्रस्टफुल

(विश्वस्त) स्त्री है। वह उस इंस्टीट्यूशन की मां है। वह वहां से छट्टी पर गई हुई थीं। छट्टी के बाद जब वह वापस हमारे यहां पाती हैं तो यह आफ़त खड़ी होती है। कलसी जो एक टैम्पोरेरी ओरत रखी गई थी, ओर जो पूरी बात जानते हैं उन्हें पता है कि कलसी ने किस तरह वहां इन्तजाम किया अपने आप को स्थापित रखने का, जिस की बजह से यह सब तमाशा और झगड़ा हुआ।

जहां कमज़ोरी होती है वहां ये मित्रपुस पड़ते हैं। मैं ज्यादा नहीं कहूंगी, क्योंकि हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब पूरी बात बतावेंगे। लेकिन इतना आप से बता दूँ कि मिसेज मित्रा जो निहायत आनेस्ट हैं उन को हम ने वापस बुलाया। बस उन को वापस लाने के हम गुनहगार हैं।

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): I know something about this. If you will allow me two or three minutes, Sir, I shall finish.

An Hon. Member: Can't help.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I have personal knowledge.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Have you given your name to speak?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The previous speaker did not.

Shrimati Uma Nehru: I did.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has finished. I request Dr. S. P. Mookerjee to speak.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I have not risen at Mr. Feroze Gandhi's order, but on the Chairman's order.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I only questioned your right to speak.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I know something about the facts of the case—there need be no heat or passion about it—because I wrote to the Minister. Some of these ladies came to Delhi in March, and about 12 to 15 of them saw me. Of course, I can only say what their version was. I am not saying anything as regards what happened from the other side. The Minister was not here. So, I telephoned to the Secretary of the Ministry, Mr. Chandra. He was good enough to receive them.

Now, very briefly put, their griev-

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

ance is fairly old. Of course, there is no question of Bengali or non-Bengali at all here. Here, in fact, all the people who are in charge of the institution—most of them—are Bengalis. So, let there be no allegation made here that in this institution anything was done by non-Bengalis against Bengalis. That will be most unfortunate. That is not the allegation. These ladies had serious complaints against the people who were in charge of that institution, about their management, about some misappropriation—they did not get their food, they were not properly looked after, and so on. Then this Punjabi came, as Mrs. Nehru said, in a temporary capacity. Some of them were instigated by the local staff to organise some sort of strike against this Punjabi on provincial grounds, and they did it. They did it for a while. And then, this Punjabi lady explained to them that no provincial question should be allowed to be brought up and she should be trusted and given a chance. They said they were fully satisfied with the management now and they were much better looked after than by Mrs. Mitra. I also know Mrs. Mitra. She had a very good record. There was nothing against her. She comes from East Bengal, and she has a very good record. So, I requested the Minister to see that the matter was looked into. All sorts of allegations were made. Some may be based on facts. Some may be unfounded. But the inmates were scared and extremely nervous. The Minister rightly pointed out to me that this institution is in the hands of the U.P. Government, and he said it would be very awkward for him to interfere. Still he said, after he got my letter, that he was having the matter looked into.

What I suggest is that there should be no politics in this. No one wants that politics should be brought into it. The interests of these refugees should be properly looked after, and I do not want anything should be done which should give the impression in any part of Bengal that our unfortunate brothers and sisters who come outside Bengal are not being properly looked after. But, there should be some enquiry made. May be, Mrs. Nehru, Mrs. Sucheta Kripalani and Mrs. Renu Chakravarty—let these three Members of Parliament go and visit the place, hear both sides, see what has happened and restore normally as soon as possible. Serious allegations have been made and they should not be hushed up.

श्री रूप नारायण (जिला मिर्जापुर व ज़िला बनारस—पश्चिम—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : चेयरमैन साहब यहां पर जो लोग सदस्य बोल रहे हैं, उहोंने वहां जा कर नहीं देखा है। लेकिन जब मैं ने चुनार के झगड़े की खबर पाई तो मैं वहां गया और मैं ने वहां दो तीन दिन रह कर सारी परिस्थितियों की जांच की। वहां सारा झगड़ा बाक़र्ड़ी में प्रिसिपल के ट्रांसफर को लेकर हुआ था। मिस कलसी के आने से पहले वहां की लड़कियों की हालत अच्छी थी। मिसेज़ मित्रा वहां पर थी तो कोई शिकायत नहीं थी मिसेज़ मित्रा जब वहां से छुट्टी गई और वापस आने वाली थीं तो यह झगड़ा हुआ। मिस कलसी वहां नहीं रखी गयी थीं तो कभी कोई शिकायत किसी लड़की ने नहीं की थी कि खाना अच्छा नहीं मिलता, कपड़ा अच्छा नहीं मिलता। यह कभी सुनाई नहीं दिया। जब मिसेज़ मित्रा बंगल जाने लगीं तो लड़कियों ने उहोंने वापस बुलाने को लिखा। इस बीच जब मिस कलसी आई तो स्टाफ़ से उनकी नहीं बनी। इस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि मिस कलसी ने लड़कियों को उभारना शुरू किया। मिस कलसी ने लड़कियों को मिला कर काम बनाना चाहा और मिलाने के लिये लड़कियों को सिनेमा तक दिखाया गया। मिस कलसी ने खुद सिनेमा दिखाने के लिये उन को बाहर जाने के लिये अलाउद्दीन किया है। कुछ उन के साथ मैं काम्युनिस्ट लोग हूँ। मिस कलसी ने लड़कियों को बताया कि तुम को २५ रुपये मिलते थे, उस मैं से ५ रुपये मिसेज़ मित्रा ले लिया करती थीं और तुम को नहीं देती थीं। इस तरह से वहां एक ऐजीटेशन लड़कियों में पैदा किया गया। यह ऐजीटेशन यहां तक बढ़ा कि जब मिसेज़ मित्रा का तार आता है कि मैं फिर चुनार आती हूँ तो वहां का बातावरण कुछ हो गया। जब मिसेज़ मित्रा किले

के अन्दर आना चाहती हैं तो उम समय लड़कियां करीब २५० लड़कियां आ कर गेट पर एकदम ऐसी सट कर खड़ी हो जाती हैं कि कोई भी आदमी उस फाटक से पास नहीं कर सकता । हालत यहां तक पहुँची कि चौबीसों घंटे लड़कियों का वहां पहरा हो गया और उन्होंने वहां पर अपना ही पूरा इन्तजाम कर लिया । जो कुछ भी था सब का इन्तजाम उन लड़कियों ने अपने हाथ में कर लिया । वहां पर पूरा कंट्रोल उन का हो गया ।

तब अधिकारियों में एक सनसनी फैली कि क्या किया जाय । लड़कियों का मामला था । कोई उन को छू नहीं सकता था, कोई उन के साथ कुछ कर नहीं सकता था सिवाय समझाने बुझाने के । समझाने बुझाने के लिये कई आदमी गये, कांग्रेस के लोग भी गये । लेकिन किसी तरह से लड़कियों ने एक बात नहीं सुनी । जब लड़कियां किसी तरह से राजी नहीं हुईं तो यह तथ दुमा कि "अच्छा तुम जहां जाना चाहती हो, वहां चली जाओ, हम इन्तजाम कर देते हैं । तुम जहां जाना चाहो, हम तुम को जबरदस्ती नहीं रख सकते हैं और न रखना चाहते हैं ।" लड़कियों के नाम लिख लिये गये कि वे कहां कहां जाना चाहती हैं । इसके बाद उन को जाने के लिये अलाऊ किया गया । लेकिन उन लोगों के बाहर जाने पर वहां पर काव्यनिट पार्टी के लोग इकट्ठे हो गये और उन्होंने उन को एक्सप्लाइट करना चाहा । उनका वहां प्रोपेरेडा शुरू हो गया और लड़कियों ने कहीं भी जाने से इन्कार कर दिया । हालत यह हो गयी कि चुनार स्टेशन के पास किले के बाहर लड़कियों ने धरना देना प्रारम्भ कर दिया । और यह जो कहा जाता था कि उनको खाना नहीं दिया गया—अभी कम्युनिस्ट सदस्य ने कहा है—यह बात नहीं है । असल में वह जगह कम्प से दो भील की दूरी पर है, इसलिये खाना कम्प से नहीं

हो सकता था लेकिन अधिकारियों ने पब्लिक से कह कर उनके खाने का इन्तजाम कराया और उनको खाना दिया गया, इसलिये यह कहना कि खाना नहीं दिया गया, गलत है । आपने यह भी कहा कि उनको जबरदस्ती बाहर कर दिया गया और फोर्म से बाहर कर दिया गया, तो यह भी चीज ठीक नहीं है बल्कि यह उनकी इच्छा पर छोड़ दिया गया था, और उनकी इच्छा पर उनको वापिस भेजा गया । जब वे किसी तरह नहीं मार्नी, तब उनमें से जो रिय लीडर थीं और कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी के लीडर के हाथ में काम कर रही थीं, उनको मित्रायुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट जेल में थोड़े समय के लिये भेज दिया गया और उनके जाते ही सब मामला शान्त हो गया और.....

Mr. Chairman: It is more than 7-20 p. m. now. The hon. Minister had to start at 7-20 p. m. Shri A. P. Jain.

Shri Tyagi: When a girl becomes a communist, she does not listen to anybody.

Shri A. P. Jain: I would like to point out that the Home is being run by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, and its administration is under the direct control of the State Government. Moreover, the questions raised relate to the maintenance of law and order in the State, and therefore the subject is more properly a matter for discussion for the State Assembly.

However, as the questions raised concern displaced persons. I would like to make a brief statement of the facts. Three points have been raised by Mr. Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri, and they are as follows:

1. That on the 19th March 1950, or thereabouts, some 200 or 250 inmates of Chunar Home were driven out of the camp forcibly by the Camp Authorities with the help of the Armed Police;
2. That these persons had to live under open sky for five days without food, except what was supplied by public charity; and
3. That these persons were forcibly taken back to Chunar Home, beaten mercilessly and surrounded by police, preventing all communications from outside.

The reported facts, as received from the Uttar Pradesh Government are as follows. Shrimati Nalini Mitra, who

[Shri A. P. Jain]

had been the principal of the Home since its inception had to proceed to West Bengal in November 1952, after serving for 1½ years, as she had been offered an appointment in the Provincial Educational Service of West Bengal. In her place Kumari Kalsi, Vice-Principal of Dehra Dun Home was appointed temporarily. As Shrimati Mitra had during her tenure of office managed the Home satisfactorily, the Government of West Bengal was requested to spare her services for the Home on deputation for her re-appointment as principal. Here, I may state that I had personally visited the Chunar Home in the month of November 1952.

Not one single complaint was made against Mrs. Mitra. On the other hand, the entire staff, the inmates, as also the officers of the U.P. Government made to me a unanimous request that I must request the Chief Minister, West Bengal, to lend us the services of Mrs. Mitra. I wrote to the Chief Minister, West Bengal, and he was good enough to lend back the services of Mrs. Mitra. Therefore, I have no reason to think that Mrs. Mitra is anything except a very desirable type of Principal.

On the appointment of Kumari Kalsi, there was an agitation for her removal, presumably at the instance of the Bengali staff. Thereupon, Kumari Kalsi tried to win the support of a section of the staff and of the inmates of the Home by giving various concessions and facilities, some of a very undesirable type which it is not necessary to mention. This gave rise to the formation of two groups in the Home—one supporting Kumari Kalsi and the other opposed to her. Now, this opposite group had nothing to do with Mrs. Mitra, because at that time she was in Bengal. On the day previous to the arrival of Shrimati Nalini Mitra, the group favouring Kumari Kalsi was greatly agitated and set afloat a rumour that certain members of the staff were conspiring to poison Kumari Kalsi. The House will remember that until then Mrs. Mitra had not returned to the Chunar Home. A lady doctor and the Assistant Surgeon of Chunar were called, but they found that there were no symptoms of poisoning.

Mrs. Mitra arrived the next day morning, that is, on the 4th March 1953. But her entry to the Home was forcibly resisted by some inmates, mostly those who were favouring Kumari Kalsi. Now, Sir, a change came over and the group which was opposing Kumari Kalsi began to favour the return of Mrs. Mitra.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: High politics!

Shri A. P. Jain: In view of the persistent agitation and acts of violence, it was not found possible for Shrimati Mitra to enter the Home for the next fortnight. These women resisted, and resisted strenuously, the entry of Mrs. Mitra back into the Home for 15 days. During this interval assurances were given that their legitimate grievances would be looked into, and a section of the inmates, and perhaps of the staff, persisted in the demand that Kumari Kalsi should be retained as Principal and that 6 members of the staff who opposed Kumari Kalsi should be removed. They made certain allegations about misappropriation and other things. On the 13th March 1953, Kumari Kalsi left Chunar to join the post in Dehra Dun. On that occasion, a rumour was set afloat that Kumari Kalsi had been murdered and thrown into the Ganga, and 14 girls left the Home to trace the whereabouts of Kumari Kalsi. (Interruption). Two communications were handed over to me—one by Dr. Mookerjee and another by Prof. Saha—in which both the allegations about poisoning and about the murder of Kumari Kalsi had been made. But Miss Kalsi is hale and hearty, alive and kicking, in Dehra Dun.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Kicking whom? Not the Minister?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not the Minister, but those who supported false allegations.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Kicking them from Dehra Dun?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, they will be kicked.

Women social workers were called from Lucknow and Allahabad to help in pacification. The services of a lady doctor and an officer of the Government of West Bengal were also obtained for the purpose. These ladies, as also the Regional Director, the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police made strenuous efforts to pacify the agitators. The inmates were assured that inquiries into the grievances would start immediately and that suitable action would be taken against those found at fault. They were further informed that the trainees when they had completed their course of training could be sent to Allahabad and other production centres, and if any of them did not wish to stay in the Home or to go to the production centres in the State, the U.P. Government would be prepared to consider repatriating them.

to West Bengal in consultation with that Government. In spite of those assurances, these persons remained adamant and in fact, became rowdy and violent and locked up some of the teaching staff. The leaders amongst them instigated the inmates to leave the Home. On the 18th March 1953, 32 women with their children left the Home. Sometime later some more women and children escaped by opening the bolts of the gates and thus altogether 154 inmates of the Home left and squatted in the passenger shed in front of the Chunār railway station.

On the 19th March 1953, Shrimati Mitra was taken inside the Fort. All efforts by the District Magistrate and the social workers to persuade women and children in the passenger shed to return to the Home proved fruitless and the situation at the railway station became threatening. In view of the prevailing situation, six ring leaders were arrested on the 20th March 1953 by constables after overcoming resistance. The agitators were again made the offer of going back to the Home or to the Production Centre or of being repatriated to West Bengal, but they refused to leave the shed. As it was undesirable to permit the agitators to squat in the shed any longer, six more ring leaders were arrested and the rest were brought back to the Home on that date.

Some of the inmates who were brought back to the Home assaulted the Principal, the Assistant Inspector of Training and some members of the staff. The doors and furnitures of the Home were also damaged. A contingent of Armed Police was therefore requisitioned on the 23rd March 1953 to maintain law and order and to assist in the arrest of the other ring leaders. 28 women were arrested on the 23rd March 1953. This time no resistance was offered and no force was used. All the 40 women who were arrested together with their 21 children were repatriated to West Bengal. From the facts stated above, it will be seen that the statement that 200 to 250 inmates of the Chunār Home were driven forcibly out by the home authorities with the help of the police is not correct. As a matter of fact, about 150 inmates of the Home left of their own accord. These inmates squatted on the passenger shed outside the Chunār station and created a problem of law and order for the local authorities. No arrangements for the supply of food to these persons could be made under these circumstances. There has been no beating or manhandling of the women inmates inside the Home, but on the 20th March 1953 some force had to be used to arrest six ring leaders

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who had offered resistance. The force used was the minimum required. The situation is now fully under control and normalcy has been restored. The State Government have at different stages taken the assistance of the lady workers and they are considering the question of appointing an advisory committee of non-officials. They are also looking into other allegations and grievances.

I might state that questions of this type raise a very delicate situation.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: May I know who actually made these enquiries, on the basis of which the hon. Minister is reading out the report?

Shri A. P. Jain: The Regional Director of Exchange and Resettlement, U.P., has personally visited the place. He is a senior I.A.S. Officer with about twenty-five years standing and the information is based on his report.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): All these are subsequent to the event.

Shri A. P. Jain: The U.P. Government have at all stages co-operated with this Ministry in finding accommodation for not only women and children but for rehabilitating about a thousand families from West Bengal. All that has happened here and the type of allegations that have been levelled against the U.P. Government give a sense of grievance to that State which has been, I have no doubt, doing its best. I would like to read a few sentences from a telegram which I have received from the Chief Minister of U.P. which will give an idea to the House that questions of this kind raise difficulties in the way of finding accommodation for the Bengal refugees. This is what the Chief Minister has telegraphed:

"Have been throughout anxious to help displaced persons and to give every possible assistance to Central Government in the settlement of refugees. State Government have been put to considerable loss and also a certain amount of strain and we did not allow ourselves to be deflected from the path of service by any self-regarding considerations. Chunargarh incident however has brought vividly home to us the hazard of the course adopted by us. In view of the latest experience.....we would beg the Ministry to leave us alone."

Later on, he says:

"Shall feel grateful if Central Government were to take over all settlements directly under their own control and supervision."

[**Shri A. P. Jain]**

Rehabilitation is a difficult and delicate task. I have to seek the cooperation of State Governments who are primarily responsible for running the homes and if a difficult situation in regard to law and order arises they have to deal with it. Any unfair criticism here is bound to cause difficulties and while I do not mind providing necessary information to the House, yet, I would request hon. Members to be circumspect in their criticism.

Dr. S. P. Mukerjee: Our criticism is not against the U.P. Government. Has anyone in the House criticised the U.P. Government? So far as I know even outsiders have not.

Shri A. P. Jain: What else is it?

Shri K. K. Basu: Is the United Provinces Government above criticism?

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATES.

Secretary: I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of the Council of States:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 97 of the Rules of

Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States, I am directed to enclose a copy each of the following Bills which have been passed by the Council of States at its sitting held on the 9th April, 1953:

1. The Scheduled Areas (Assimilation of Laws) Bill, 1953.

2. The Travancore-Cochin High Court (Amendment) Bill, 1953."

SCHEDULED AREAS (ASSIMILATION OF LAWS) BILL AND TRAVANCORE-COCHIN HIGH COURT (AMENDMENT) BILL

Secretary: I beg to lay the following two Bills, as passed by the Council of States, on the Table of the House:

1. The Scheduled Areas (Assimilation of Laws) Bill, 1953.

2. The Travancore-Cochin High Court (Amendment) Bill, 1953.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Tuesday, the 14th April, 1953.