



Thursday, April 16, 1953

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE OFFICIAL REPORT

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

2083

2084

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 16th April, 1953

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COTTON CULTIVATION

*1340. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of land under cotton cultivation in the year 1952-53; and

(b) whether Government propose to effect any increase in the cotton acreage this year?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) About 137 lakh acres according to the latest available estimate.

(b) Looking to present acreage Government thinks there is room for increase. But the Government is more keen on increased production in the same area.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Does the cotton acreage for 1952-53 show any increase over the previous year's?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, actually it varies; but it does show an increase. There was an increase of 2.4 million acres in 1950-51; in 1951-52 there was an increase of 1.6 million acres, and this year there was, I think, a slight increase of 0.1 per cent.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What are the factors to which the decrease could be attributed?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It depends upon the rains, mainly. If there is timely rain cotton is cultivated. If rains are

delayed then they sow other crops in place of cotton.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the target production was reached and whether there was any increase in the yield per acre?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The yield figures are not yet available for the year 1952-53; but we are satisfied with the progress made. We have, however, not completely reached the target.

सेठ गोविंद बास: माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी यह कहा कि कितनी भूमि अभी कपास उत्पन्न करती है उस से बढ़ने की सम्भावना है। तो इस बढ़ने से जहां पर अनाज उत्पन्न होता है उस भूमि में तो कमी नहीं हो जायगी?

डॉ पी० एस० देशमुख: हम यह इंटीग्रेटेड प्लान के मुताबिक कर रहे हैं जिस में हम यह चाहते हैं कि अनाज की भी बढ़ोत्तरी हो जाय और कपास भी उत्पादा हो। इस पैकुड़ शंका या भय करने को आवश्यकता नहीं है। यह उस प्लान के मुताबिक हो रहा है।

UNEMPLOYMENT

*1341. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of special survey conducted by the Directorate of Employment Exchanges in India, it has been disclosed that the number of educated unemployed who were registered upto the end of October last is near about thirteen lakhs; and

(b) whether it is a fact that these figures are mostly from large cities of India?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) No, Sir. The correct figures is 1,26,498.

(b) No.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: In view of the alarming increase all over India of unemployed persons, have Government given any attention to this problem with a view to finding out ways and means of finding employment for more and more persons?

Shri V. V. Giri: Government is certainly giving attention to this problem. I may also suggest that there should be more initiative on the part of the educated unemployed as well. For instance there is the *Bhoodan* movement and some of the unemployed may come forward with proposals as to how they can utilise and take advantage of this movement, get into lands and start some co-operative industries and so forth. Certainly all these matters are being considered.

Mr. Speaker: This is not asking for any information: It is making suggestions and carrying on arguments.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know what is the percentage of unemployed persons who have been employed by Government and the percentage who have been employed by the private sector through the agency of the employment exchanges?

Shri V. V. Giri: I am not in a position to give an answer off-hand.

Shri H. N. Shastry: May I ask when is the committee, hinted by the hon. Minister of Labour in one of his recent speeches to probe into the question of unemployed, going to be set up by Government?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is such a big question and I may tell the hon. Member that when I stated about it it was more in terms of loud thinking rather than putting forward any practical proposals.

Shri Kelappan: May I know, Sir, how many educated unemployed are every year being added on to the number already unemployed?

Shri V. V. Giri: Notice, Sir.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir what effective steps are being taken by the Government to reduce unemployment among educated men?

Shri V. V. Giri: The various projects that are in operation now, the Com-

munity Projects, the Five Year Plan, etc., which are providing so many other avenues, all these must reduce, in the end, unemployment.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know, of the figure given, what percentage are technicians and what percentage are clerks?

Shri V. V. Giri: As regards educated unemployed, who are on the live registers today the following are the details:

Matriculates	92,767
Intermediate pass	11,902
Graduates of Engineering	832
Medical	150
others	14,368
Making a total of	1,20,019

on the 31st December, 1952.

NORTHERN RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*1342. **Shri Nambiar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Northern Railway Advisory Committee was held recently in New Delhi;

(b) whether Government propose to place on the Table of the House the report of the meeting and its recommendations; and

(c) what action Government propose to take on these recommendations?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes; on 20th January, 1953.

(b) The Proceedings of Local Advisory Committee Meetings are confidential documents. Two copies of the minutes of the meetings of these Committees will however, be placed in the Library of the House for the use of hon. Members.

(c) Some of the recommendations have been examined and action taken as found necessary, others are still under investigation.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, when the local consultative committees, which, as indicated in the Budget Speech of the hon. Minister of Railways, are to take the place of these Advisory Boards, will be constituted?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: We have made some progress in this respect. But the progress has not been as satisfactory as we would like it to be. Still we are making all efforts to constitute them early.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, why these reports are treated as confidential, as the recommendations of the Advisory Boards are to be implemented for the benefit of the passengers and the people?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Because they are confidential.

Mr. Speaker: They are going to be placed in the Library of the House. They will cease to be confidential when they are placed there.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether these local Advisory Committees have already been abolished?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Yes, Sir, they have been.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: What are the specific reasons for setting up new consultative committees in place of Advisory Boards?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Actually, Sir, the functions of the Local Advisory Committees are much the same as the functions of the Local Consultative Committee. But to bring them in line with the new reorganisation of Railways we have considered it necessary to change the system.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESEARCH IN TUBERCULOSIS

*1343. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the Government of India have given a grant to the Indian Council of Medical Research for a scheme for epidemiological research in Tuberculosis and if so, what is the amount of the grant?

(b) What is the nature of work contemplated and have any suggestions been made by the Indian Council of Medical Research regarding the expenditure of the amount so granted?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The Government of India have under consideration the question of payment during 1953-54 of a grant to the Indian Council of Medical Research for a scheme of epidemiological research in tuberculosis.

(b) The purpose of the study is to assess the comparative utility of the different anti-tuberculosis measures under Indian conditions. The Indian Council of Medical Research will utilise the grant for the payment of salary and allowances of the research staff and other contingent expenditure.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether this research scheme contemplates the setting up of statistical side and also experimental epidemiology?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Yes, Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether any efforts will be made to study epidemiology in relation to industrial workers suffering from tuberculosis?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Certainly, Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, what special steps will be taken under this scheme to study incidence of tuberculosis among the industrial workers of India?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The scheme is in its infancy; the actual details have not been worked out. I am anxious that we should have a survey of the incidence of T. B. among industrial workers.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether in this experimental epidemiology, laboratory tests will also be conducted on animals?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: These details will have to be looked into.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty: The hon. Minister has given the figures of grant for payment of salaries etc. of staff engaged. Could I know who bears the actual expenditure for the research side?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Indian Council of Medical Research will be given money by the Government of India. The scheme at the moment contemplates an expenditure of Rs. 3.26 lakhs, out of which 1 lakh has been budgeted for this year. In addition, we are going to get International help also in the form of equipment, transport vehicles, mobile dispensaries etc.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether any expert has been provided by WHO and whether any materials have been given to the research organisation?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: The Tuberculosis Research Office of W.H.O. at Copenhagen have supplied experts and they are also giving equipment, e.g. transport vehicles, mobile X-ray units, X-ray films etc.

STUDY GROUP OF WATER TRANSPORT

*1344. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the reply given to my starred question No. 1954 regarding study group of inland water transport asked on the 22nd July, 1952 and state:

(a) whether the final report of the study group of inland water transport has since been received by Government;

(b) if so, what is the scheme that has been suggested by the group;

(c) what other recommendations and suggestions are made by them; and

(d) whether the report has been considered by Government and if so, what decisions have been taken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No: the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East expect to finalise the report by December 1953.

(b) and (c). The recommendations in the final report are not expected to differ materially from those in the interim report which were indicated in the reply referred to by the hon. Member.

(d) Further progress has been made in formulating the pilot project with shallow draft tugs, in consultation with an Inland Water Transport expert provided by the United Nations. The other recommendations will be considered in due course by the Government of India consultation with the State Governments.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the report of Mr. J. J. Suri submitted to the United Nations has been received by the Government of India, considered by them and any decisions taken?

Shri Alagesan: He has submitted an interim report to the United Nations Organisation. He also gave his views to the Inland Water Transport Board here.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether any proposal is under consideration to appoint a second Inland Water Transport Board for the South Indian rivers?

Shri Alagesan: Not exactly rivers. There is a proposal under consideration to have an Inland Water Transport Board established in the State of Travancore-Cochin.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, to what extent the recommendations made in the interim report have been given effect to so far by the Ganga and Rampur Transport Board?

Shri Alagesan: Sir, the final report has not yet been received. The matter is still under consideration.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Has this Inland Water Transport Board gone into the question of monopoly transport by river between Bengal and Assam specially for tea garden merchandise and other goods?

Shri Alagesan: I should like to have notice of that particular aspect.

Shri Damodara Menon: May I know, Sir, whether the Government of Travancore-Cochin has submitted to the Central Government any scheme for the development of the Inland Water Transport industry?

Shri Alagesan: Not yet, Sir.

COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND

*1345. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the Coal Mines Provident Fund has been brought on a par with the Employees Provident Fund Scheme?

(b) If so, has it been given effect to?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) to (c). The matter is under consideration.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the coal employers have approached the Government not to increase this provident fund or old-age pension unless and until coal prices increased?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is not correct. The Trustees Board of the Coal Mines Provident Fund passed a resolution in favour of putting the same on a par with the conditions in the Employees Provident Fund Act.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, how much sum has been contributed by the employers in 1952 and how it will differ when this consideration takes place?

Shri V. V. Giri: I shall be glad to have notice. Then I shall provide the hon. Member the information.

Shri Nambari: May I know, Sir, whether the contribution of the staff

is 6½ per cent. or 12½ per cent. for provident fund in this scheme?

Shri V. V. Giri: 6½ per cent.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether an equal amount is paid by the employers and if so, whether they get the interest charges, and if so, at what rate?

Shri V. V. Giri: The hon. Member may kindly refer to the Act. I cannot give these details now.

TELEGRAPHIC FACILITIES FOR TRIBANIGAN

*1346. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some representations have been made to Government for extension of Telegraphic facilities to the people of Tribaniganj Bazar in Saharsa District of Bihar; and

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

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Is it a fact that the local people have offered to meet the deficit if any on their own account and have also offered free accommodation for the office?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: We have not heard of it. But if the local people will meet the deficit, the work will be started immediately.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know the terms for opening new telegraph stations in rural areas?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Well, it has been publicised in the Press also. We provide a telegraph office at every place having a population of 5,000 and the permissible limit of loss is Rs. 500. This particular place has a population of less than 5,000 and therefore, the permissible limit of loss does not apply to it. We have already asked the P.M.G. to examine and, if possible, to reduce the loss by employing extra-departmental staff. As soon as the scrutiny is complete and when we find that there is no possibility of a loss or guarantors come forward to meet the deficit, we will start the work.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know if this policy will be applicable all over India—I mean reduction of population and the other things?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Certainly so. The policy is for the whole country.

Mr. Speaker: Next question, No. 1347.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is another question on the same subject, Sir, No. 1355. May I suggest that that may also be put?

Mr. Speaker: Is the hon. Member, Shri Buchhikotaiah, present in the House.

The hon. Member is not present here.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That could be answered.

Mr. Speaker: No, only Question No. 1347.

BEE-KEEPING INDUSTRY

*1347. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have any scheme to popularise bee-keeping industry?

(b) Do Government propose to increase the production of honey in India?

(c) What is the total yield of honey in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Popularising of bee-keeping as a cottage industry is the concern of State Governments though the I.C.A.R. is assisting on its research aspect.

The following action has been taken by the Central and State Governments to develop bee-keeping industry:—

1. The I.C.A.R. have established two Regional Bee-keeping Research Stations, one in the North (Kulu, Punjab) and the other in the South (Coimbatore, Madras) for studying certain fundamental problems connected with Bee-keeping. A scheme to study the morphology and biology of the Indian Honey Bee, *Apis Indica* Fabr has also been sanctioned by the Council at the Allahabad University, Allahabad.

2. In the training for extension workers in the States, the States of Madras, Punjab, Mysore, Bombay, Orissa, and Hyderabad have included Bee-keeping in their syllabuses.

3. The Ministry of Commerce and Industry have established a Khadi and Village Industries Board and this

body has set up a Production Programming Committee for drawing up a scheme for village Industries, including Bee-Keeping, for implementation in 1953-54. The recommendations of this Committee will be available shortly.

(b) Yes.

(c) No information is available.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know, Sir, what is the amount sanctioned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for this purpose?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, the amount sanctioned is Rs. 97,110 for 1953-54.

Shri Joachim Alva: Do the officers of the Research Council do research work or do they survey very important bee-centres like North Kanara district?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The research workers do not do this. But the Agriculture Ministry looks after it.

Shri Nanadas: May I know, Sir, what are the countries that are successfully carrying on Bee-keeping on a commercial basis and whether we have drawn any lessons from those countries?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We are aware of the development in Bee-keeping in the various countries of the world of which it would not be possible to give a complete list here. But we have tried to benefit by their experience and research.

सेठ गोविन्द बास: माननीय मंत्री जी न अभी यह कहा कि यहां पर कितने शहद की उत्पत्ति होती है, इस के अक नहीं है, मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या बाहर से यहां भी शहद आता है और यदि आता है तो कितना आता है?

डॉ. पी. एस. बेशुत्र: यह तो कामस एन्ड इंडस्ट्री विभाग से पूछना होगा।

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether Government have any idea of the immense quantity of wild honey produced in the forests of India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We do not chase these wild things. We leave it to others.

SUPPLY OF PENICILLIN TO GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS

***1348. Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is compulsory for Government institutions to buy Penicillin bottled in Government factory;

(b) whether it is a fact that a directive has been issued to Central and State Government institutions for not inviting tenders for the supply of Penicillin; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) to (c). No specific directive has been issued to Central and State Government institutions making it compulsory for them to obtain their Penicillin requirements from the Government Penicillin Bottling Plant installed at Bombay. As the prices which have been fixed for the Penicillin bottled at the Plant are fully competitive, a circular letter was sent to all State Governments requesting them to issue instructions to Government hospitals and medical institutions in the States to obtain their Penicillin requirements from the Indian Penicillin Committee. Similar instructions have also been issued to Central Government institutions. The establishment of the Penicillin Bottling Plant is the first step taken by Government towards the establishment of a State Factory for manufacture of penicillin in India which is at present under construction at Pimpri (near Poona). Government are of the view that the capacity of the Government Bottling Plant should be fully utilised.

Dr. Amin: May I know, Sir, what are the other firms that are bottling Penicillin in India?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I do not know of the other firms, but if the hon. Member puts a separate question, I will answer it.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know the estimated requirements of the various hospitals in the country and what is the percentage that is being bottled here?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: 1.5 million mega units of penicillin are bottled here in this plant, but the requirements for the whole year are 9 to 10 million mega units.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What type of penicillin is being bottled in this factory; is it procaine penicillin or any other kind of penicillin?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: All sorts of penicillin.

GORAKHPUR AERODROME

1349. Shri Sinhasan Singh: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gorakhpur aerodrome is maintained by the Government of India:

(b) the reason for not connecting Gorakhpur with air lines; and

(c) whether Government propose to connect this aerodrome by air line and if so, when?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been possible to provide a halt at Gorakhpur on any air service, because the additional cost to the operator would have been out of proportion to the advantage to be derived from it. In other words the traffic potential of Gorakhpur is not enough to justify a halt. Permission to include it on a service operated by Airways (India) was granted in 1952, but the operation of the entire route was abandoned before the halt could be introduced.

(c) There is no proposal at present.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: Is it not a fact that Gorakhpur is the biggest sugar producing industrial area in India?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I take the information from the hon. Member.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: Does the Government not know that there are about 27 sugar mills.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is now suggesting arguments as to why there should be a stop there.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: There are 27 sugar mills and one jute mill and that is the centre of the O. T. Railway.

Mr. Speaker: I think this need not be answered.

Shri Nanadas: May I know how the traffic potentialities of an area are taken into consideration?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The traffic potentiality is mainly judged in the basis of the issue of first and second class railway tickets from the station as it is presumed that if a halt is provided it is mostly the first class and second class railway traffic that is diverted from Railway to Air. If it is found

that the number of passengers travelling by first and second class from that station is not equal to meet the cost of the Air Company, the Air Companies are reluctant to start stoppages there.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the estimates of traffic was made about 3 or 4 years ago and whether Government are in possession of the latest traffic figures?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: At present, as the hon. Member is aware, the Air services are operated by private companies. Whenever a private company finds that there is traffic potentiality at a particular place, they themselves apply to the Air Transport Licensing Board for a halt at that station and the Air Transport Licensing Board, after taking into consideration all factors, either grant licences or reject. For Gorakhpur, as I have already stated, the licence was granted to a private operator but the whole route was found by that operator to be uneconomic and it was dropped and therefore the halt was not started at Gorakhpur.

TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR EXPORT OF COTTON BALES

***1350. Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that about one lakh cotton bales for export are detained at Delhi, Ferozepore and other stations of Bikaner Division of the Northern Railway for lack of transport facilities?

(b) Have Government received any representation from the merchants in this regard?

(c) If so, what steps have been taken for the early despatch of these cotton bales?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, the number of bales of export cotton, registered for despatch and awaiting clearance on the Delhi, Ferozepore and Bikaner Divisions of the Northern Railway is reported to be much less than one lakh. I place on the Table of the House a statement showing the quantum of export cotton traffic cleared during the period from 1st January, 1953 to 21st March, 1953 and that awaiting despatch on 21st March, 1953, ad hoc quotas for the annexure No. 23.]

(b) Yes.

(c) From about the beginning of March, 1953, ad hoc quotas for the movement of this traffic from the Delhi

and Ferozepore Divisions to Bombay were fixed. This arrangement has considerably helped to expedite the clearance. It has however, not yet been found feasible to appreciably assist the movement of such traffic on the Bikaner Metre Gauge Division mainly due to the recent heavy movement of gypsum for Sindri, but steps are being taken to improve the movement of export cotton traffic.

Shri K. P. Sinha: When was the representation received by Government and when exactly is the clearance expected?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know the time, but representations were received some time back.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know, Sir, if the contracts for other shipments had to be cancelled for these three months, February, March, April, and what was the loss incurred by the Government by way of loss of foreign exchange?

Shri Alagesan: There is no question of loss, Sir. The statement gives the number of wagons that have been moved in this period of three months and the outstanding now is about 60,000 bales.

Shri K. P. Sinha: By which time is the clearance expected?

Shri Alagesan: Even now we have started allotting more wagons for this traffic.

MYSTERIOUS DISEASE IN POONA AND AHMEDNAGAR

*1352. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a mysterious disease whose symptoms are an intense thirst, loss of appetite and gradual weakness, has been raging in some parts of Poona and Ahmednagar during the last one and a half year;

(b) whether leading medical men and members of a visiting team of Medical Scientists sponsored by the World Health Organisation and the Unitarian Service of America have been investigating the cause of the said disease and if so, with what result; and

(c) how many persons have been reported to have suffered from and died of it?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) A disease whose

main symptoms are frequent micturition and inordinate thirst has occurred in parts of Ahmednagar and Poona Districts in Bombay State since October, 1951. These cases first came to the notice of the State Government in February, 1952.

(b) Field investigations were carried out and a mobile hospital with accommodation for 50 beds has since been established by the State Government. Investigations regarding the nature of the disease and the efficacy of different modes of treatment are in progress. Some of the members of the visiting team of Medical Scientists of the Public Health Group (Dr. Karl Evang, Dr. J. Gordon and Dr. E. Grzegorzevski) were taken to the mobile hospital and an affected village. They have offered no definite opinion on the nature of the disease but took note of the various investigations which have been made by the State Government.

(c) Up to the end of March, 1953, about 960 persons have suffered from the disease and 28 of them have died. These deaths cannot, however, be directly attributed to the disease.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether the disease is contagious and, if so, what preventive measures have the Government taken to prevent the disease from going beyond limits?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid the question is premature. The doctors have not been able to give an opinion.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the disease was found in an epidemic or an endemic stage?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The disease was in an epidemic form and it has now considerably been put down.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Was the disease discussed at a symposium held recently by the physicians of India and what were the recommendations made by the symposium?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The disease was not discussed at any symposium. The State Government is making investigations. It appears that this was due to infection.

PRICE OF SUGAR-CANE IN MADRAS

*1356. **Shri Eswara Reddy:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Madras Government are or were in correspondence with the Central Government on the issue of raising the price of sugar-cane which was fixed for the year 1952-53?

(b) If so, what are the proposals of the Government of Madras and what action the Government of India have taken thereon?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The Madras Government were requested to consider how far the unearned profit on account of 'Freight advantage' enjoyed by the sugar factories in the Madras State could be shared by them with the cane growers. The Madras Government in consultation with their Sugar Advisory Committee have evolved a formula whereby payment of additional cane price over the minimum cane price fixed by the Government of India will be made by mills on a voluntary basis as a prescribed proportion of the price of sugar on a graduated scale. The Central Government has approved this arrangement which will have effect from the beginning of the season 1952-53.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know in what way this formula differs from the formula in force in U.P. and Bihar in regard to cane and sugar prices?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: This has no connection with U.P.

Shri T. N. Singh: In what respect does it differ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is no formula for U.P.; there is a fixed price in U.P.

WRAPPER TOBACCO RESEARCH STATION, DINHATE

*1357. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how far the installation work of the Wrapper Tobacco Research Station at Dinhate (West Bengal) has advanced?

(b) What is the total amount involved in the installation capital and recurring?

(c) Has any experimental field work on wrapper tobacco commenced in that station?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) 43.64 acres of land at Dinhate for the establishment of the Research Station were made available by the West Bengal Government on 21st February, 1953. Arrangements to have the land fenced and cultivated with wrapper tobacco are under way. A small staff (one Agricultural Assistant and one curer) has been appointed.

(b) The total expenditure is estimated to be:

Capital—Rs. 3,01,800

Recurring—Rs. 73,510.

(c) Not yet.

Shri Barman: What are the reasons for this inordinate delay when we had lost the research station in Pakistan in 1947?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Most of the time was taken up in acquiring the site.

Shri Barman: What is the value of the wrapper tobacco imported into this country, and from which countries is it imported?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am afraid this must be referred to the Minister of Commerce and Industry.

Shri Barman: Is there any part of the country where wrapper tobacco is grown now?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got the necessary information.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this wrapper tobacco is imported into this country?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As I said, I have not got the information.

INVOLUNTARY UNEMPLOYMENT

*1358. **Shri H. N. Shastri:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether on the 24th June, 1944, a letter No. NL-1891 was sent on behalf of the Government of India, Ministry of Labour, to all the State Governments on the subject of compensation to industrial workers for involuntary unemployment?

(b) If so, is the policy underlying the said letter still applicable?

(c) If so, have the industries implemented the proposals embodied in the said letter?

(d) If not, what steps do Government propose to take to ensure the implementation of the said proposals?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Gir): (a) A scheme for payment of compensation for involuntary unemployment due to shortage of coal, raw materials or changes in the line of production was circulated by the Government of India, Department of Labour with their letter No. L-1891, dated the 12th June, 1944, for adoption by State Governments and employers.

(b) The Scheme which is still in force, is optional and any employer could make use of it.

(c) State Governments reported that only few employers gave effect to the Scheme.

(d) The question of payment of compensation for involuntary unemployment is proposed to be discussed at the next meeting of the Standing Labour Committee.

Shri H. N. Shastri: Pending the appointment of the committee referred to by the hon. Minister, is it contemplated, due to the deteriorating situation in the country, to bring forward a brief amending Bill in this respect in the present session of Parliament?

Shri V. V. Giri: I do not know if it can be done in the present session. There is no time, but I think the matter must be seriously considered.

Shri Nambiar: May I know what is the rate of doles or unemployment benefits?

Shri V. V. Giri: What is proposed is this. The main features of the scheme are these. The benefits are to be determined in either of two ways: 75 per cent. of the ordinary rate of pay for the first fortnight of unemployment and 50 per cent. of the ordinary rate of pay for the second fortnight of unemployment, with possibly a flat rate of benefit for persons drawing lower levels of income—a flat rate which would be about 75 per cent. of the average of the lower rate of wages obtaining in the undertaking.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know the total number of concerns that have applied for this benefit, and the number that has actually implemented this scheme?

Shri V. V. Giri: I must say that very few have applied and very few have taken these suggestions.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Can you give the percentage of such firms?

Shri V. V. Giri: I am sorry I am unable to give it.

Shri Algu Rai Shastri: What are the causes for this voluntary unemployment among industrial workers?

Shri V. V. Giri: Due to various causes, namely, the breakdown of the industry, want of coal supply, and so forth

Shri Namadas: May I know whether mica miners are eligible for this concession?

Shri V. V. Giri: Everybody is entitled.

Shri Nambiar: One more question.

Mr. Speaker: No. Next question.

LAND RECLAMATION IN MADRAS

*1359. **Shri Raghuramaiah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any land reclamation operations have been undertaken in Madras State; and

(b) if so, in which areas and the extent of acreage involved?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The Central Tractor Organisation have not undertaken land reclamation operations in Madras State. Information in regard to the work done by the State Government in this direction has been called for and will be placed on the Table of the House when available.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether any preliminary survey has been made by this Government in the agency tracts of Visakapatnam, Sreekakulam and East and West Godavari Districts?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The only thing that we know about is that there is a proposal for extending the activities of the C. T. O. to certain areas in the Salem district, and the question of their extension to the agency tracts of the Madras State is being considered. These areas are not commanded by any irrigation project and if the proposal is finally accepted, we will have to buy some new tractors to be sent to this area.

Shri Raghvremaiah: May I know whether any units of the C. T. O. have been provisionally assigned to this area for this work?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: For the time being, we cannot spare any of our tractors.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is there any particular reason why the C. T. O. has not extended its activities to the Madras State?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Because the Madras Government did not ask for it.

RAILWAY LINES FOR MADRAS

*1360. **Shri Boovaraghhasamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of representations received from the public of the Madras State for construction of new Railway Lines on the Southern Railway during the year 1952; and

(b) what were those new lines requested for construction?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) It is not possible to state definitely the number of representations received from the public of Madras State for the construction of new lines on the Southern Railway as no separate record is maintained of such representations.

(b) As far as can be gathered, representations were received mainly for the following lines:—

- (i) Division of the main line via Kakinada.
- (ii) Chamarajanagar - Satyanan-galam.
- (iii) Mangalore-Hassam.
- (iv) Trivandrum to Cape Comorin.
- (v) Kovvur-Ramapada Sagar Dam Site.
- (vi) Dingigul-Gudalur.

Shri Boovaraghhasamy: May I know when the Government are going to consider the construction of the following new lines:—

(1) Connecting Kumbakonam and Vriddachalam...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is clearly making a suggestion for action. If he has only suggestions to make, and no information to ask for he may communicate his suggestions to the hon. Minister by letter.

Shri Nanadas: Among the lines mentioned just now, may I know which have been given priority?

Shri Alagesan: We are undertaking the Mangalore-Hassam line in the current year.

Shri Muniswamy: In constructing new lines, do the Central Government consult the State Government and if so, on what points?

Shri Alagesan: Certainly. They urge the importance of the new con-

structions that have to be undertaken and it is considered in the Central Board of Transport.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is it a fact that dismantled railways will be reconstructed first before new lines are constructed?

Shri Alagesan: That question has been very widely discussed during the Budget discussions.

Shri Nambiar: Have Government received any representation for a railway line connecting Kumbakonam and Vriddachalam?

Mr. Speaker: I think we are going into details.

Shri Nambiar: No, Sir. The question was whether any representations were received by him with regard to new lines, and in the list that he read out this railway is omitted. Therefore, I want to know whether any representation has been received in respect of it or not.

Shri Alagesan: The list I have given is not exhaustive. There have been representations regarding other lines too, and I will place the rest of the information before the House after collecting it.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Sarmah.

Shri Beli Ram Das: I have been authorised by him to put this question.

Mr. Speaker: Then it will come at the end.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I would prefer to answer it, and just now.

Mr. Speaker: He may answer it, but it will come at the end only.

FAMINE AND DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN MADRAS

*1362. **Shri Vallatharas:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are aware of the announcement of the Chief Minister of Madras State made on the 20th March, 1953 in the State Legislative Assembly that the problem of the suffering of the people in the Madras State, especially in the Southern District of Thiruchirapalayam and Ramanad, has assumed such a dimension that the Madras State at this juncture cannot cope with;

(b) whether Government will lay on the Table of the House a statement

of the conditions of famine and drought that had led to such an announcement:

(c) whether the Central Government have been approached by the Madras State for any relief in connection with the said problem;

(d) what steps the Central Government propose to take or have taken to prevent further developments in the said State; and

(e) whether it is a fact that deaths of people and cattle are happening on account of famine conditions?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The press report of the speech of the Chief Minister of Madras has come to the notice of the Government of India.

(b) and (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 24.]

(c) Yes.

(e) The State Government have not sent us any reports of deaths.

Shri Vallatharas: What was the financial aid given by the Central Government in 1952-53 so far as Rayalaseema was concerned?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Most of the facts are mentioned in the statement laid on the Table. But if my friend wants a complete answer I can give it to him.

Shri Vallatharas: I went to the Notice Office, but they said there is no statement.

Mr. Speaker: I shall enquire into it as to why it was not available.

Shri Vallatharas: In view of the seriousness of famine conditions in Tamilnad, has Government under contemplation any scheme or do they propose to formulate any scheme for providing permanent irrigation facilities to the affected areas in respect of some six or seven districts—Tiruchirapalli, Ramanad, Salem, Tirunelveli, etc.?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The investigation was already made by the committee that was sent there; and their report is under consideration.

Shri Eswara Reddy: May I know whether Government propose to declare all these famine affected areas as 'famine areas' and apply the Famine Code in all these areas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is the business of the State Government.

Shri Vallatharas: In view of the fact that the survey and other consultation afforded by the local departments there have proved fruitless in averting the aggravation of the scarcity and famine conditions, will the Government be pleased to consider deputing some one from the Cabinet, or the Deputy Minister, to go and personally verify the situation?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether this Government cannot advise the State Government to declare certain areas as famine areas and apply the Famine Code?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We will go to the next question.

SCARCITY CONDITIONS IN "REDDI SEEMA"

*1363. **Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are food scarcity conditions in "Reddi Seema" in West Godavary District, Madras State;

(b) whether people have to go to a distance of five miles to get drinking water;

(c) whether there is also scarcity of fodder; and

(d) whether any arrangements have been made to arrest the exodus of people from that area?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) We have not received reports from the Madras Government indicating any special scarcity in this area. Arrangements for dealing with scarcity areas are the responsibility of the State Government.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Has it been brought to the notice of the Central Government that this "Reddi Seema", that is the Agency parts of West Godavari district, have been affected by famine?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think such questions should be permitted. Really, he has to agitate it in the Madras Legislature and invite the attention of the Government concerned to the state of things in that particular area.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it not a fact that the representations of the people from this area to the Madras State Government have not been of any avail?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think hon. Members perhaps do not realise that though this House is sovereign it ought not to interfere with the autonomy of the State Governments or other local bodies. Otherwise the whole administration will practically be at sixes and sevens. They must confine themselves only to broad questions of policy and the responsibility of the Government of India. They should not try to have a probe into the administration of the States.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Sir, on a point of information. If the State Government fails, what is the remedy?

Mr. Speaker: It is not for me to point that out here during the Question-hour. There are constitutional remedies which he may follow.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether this Government propose to enquire whether there are scarcity or famine conditions in that area?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

JAGADHRI LIGHT RAILWAY

*1364. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what agency is running the Jagadhri Light Railway?

(b) When does the term of the agreement of the agency expire?

(c) Do Government propose to take over the Railway?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The Jagadhri Light Railway Company, who owns the Railway.

(b) Under the order authorising the construction of this Railway the District Board of Ambala has the option to terminate the contract and purchase the line on 11th August 1962 or at intervals of 10 years thereafter.

(c) No.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know why this outmoded line is still being kept?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The question may be put to the District Board of Ambala.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know the number of Light Railways that are still under private management?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Sir, that is a different question and I would like to have notice.

DECREASE IN ACREAGE OF FOOD PRODUCTION

*1367. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is a decrease in acreage of food produce in the year 1952-53 according to the Directorate of Economics and Statistics?

(b) If so, how much is the decrease as compared to that in the year 1951-52?

(c) What States have shown this decrease and what are the causes?

(d) In which States were the conditions for the growth of food crop favourable?

(e) What was the condition in Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 25.]

(d) and (e). Conditions for the growth of the crops were favourable in almost all the States, except in parts of Bombay, Madras, Madhya Pradesh, Hyderabad, and Mysore where some crops, particularly millets, have been affected to some extent due to want of adequate and timely rains.

In Madhya Pradesh the condition of Kharif crops was not satisfactory due to want of rains in September to October, 1952 at the growing period and also due to the attack of rice-bugs in some parts of the State. Although the sowings of rabi crops were affected to some extent due to want of sufficient rains in October and November, the rains received from January have improved the condition of the standing rabi crops considerably.

CLAIMS COMMISSIONERS

*1369. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the functions of the Claims Commissioners appointed by the Ministry?

(b) What is the jurisdiction of each?

(c) What are the terms of their appointment and qualifications required?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The functions are to enquire into and

determine claims for compensation arising out of accidents to trains carrying passengers.

(b) In respect of minor accidents, the District Judge or District Magistrate of the civil district is *ex-officio* the Claims Commissioner. For major accidents, *ad hoc* Claims Commissioners are appointed to deal with all claims that may arise out of them.

(c) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 26.]

Shri K. C. Sodhia: How many major accidents were enquired into by these officers?

Shri Alagesan: Sir, I cannot give the number offhand.

QUININE

*1370. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of Quinine manufactured in India during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53;

(b) the total number of factories where quinine is manufactured in India;

(c) the total quantity of quinine imported from and exported to foreign countries and value thereof during the last two years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to develop the industry?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) The information has been called for from the Governments of Madras and West Bengal and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) Two—one at Mungpoo in West Bengal and the other at Naduvattam in Madras.

(c) The imports of quinine during the last two years are as follows:—

Year	Quantity	Value
	lbs.	Rs.
1950-1951	284	14,808
1951-1952	41,775	15,29,082

Figures regarding exports of quinine are not available.

(d) The State Governments of Madras and West Bengal who own the quinine factories are experiencing difficulty in marketing even their present production and stocks of quinine salts are accumulating with them. The Special Cinchona Committee which was set up to go into various matters relating to quinine has just submitted

its report and the whole matter will be examined in consultation with the producing State Governments in a Conference to be held shortly.

Shri P. T. Chacko: What is the amount spent by the Government for cinchona production in West Bengal and Madras, and what is the value of the quinine which has been manufactured from these plantations?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I have no information now.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In view of the answer given that the State Governments are finding it difficult to market this quinine, may I know what is the reason for it—because there is already a very high incidence of malaria in the country?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The main reason is that most State Governments prefer to use the synthetic drugs that are now in plenty in the market.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know the cost of imported quinine as compared to the cost of quinine produced in India?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I would like to have notice.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know whether indigenous product of quinine has to compete mainly with foreign imported quinine?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: There is no pure quinine imported at all. So the question of indigenous product of quinine competing with foreign imports does not arise. It is a question of synthetic drugs which are competing.

Shri Biju Ram Das: The Government is aware that Assam also grows quinine. May I know the quantity produced by Assam?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No quinine is produced in Assam. It is produced only in Madras and Bengal.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR PENNADAM

*1371. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loss to Government on account of the accident that took place to the Goods train near Pennadam Railway Station, between Virdhachalam and Trichinopoly on the Southern Railway on the 31st March, 1953; and

(b) the main reasons of the accident?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Rs. 17,000.

(b) The cause of the accident is under enquiry.

Shri Muniswamy: Is it not a fact that certain accidents do often occur in Southern Railways?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Accidents do take place off and on.

Shri Namblar: May I know whether this accident was due to a Canadian engine being used or due to any other reason?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: As I have stated the matter is being investigated. We have not yet received the full report.

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): There is no mistake in the engine.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Arising out of the answer given by the Parliamentary Secretary that accidents do take place very often, may I know what steps are being taken to avoid them?

Mr. Speaker: The question is too general. He cannot be expected to give a definite answer

RICE

*1372. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how much rice is going to be procured and how much will be imported during the year 1953;

(b) how much rice is going to be kept in reserve at the end of the year 1953; and

(c) the result of decontrol and relaxation of control on rice in different States?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). It is estimated that internal procurement of rice may reach a figure of 19 lakh tons of rice during 1953. The quantity of rice to be imported in 1953 has not been decided. It is too early to estimate the quantity of rice that may be left over with Government at the end of the year.

(c) Allowing for seasonal variations, prices of rice on the whole have declined and availability in the open market increased inasmuch as the off-take from Government shops has gone down.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether it is a fact that the hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture said in Bombay on 26th March, 1953 that there would be no import at the end of this year, the average imports comes to 8 lakh tons every year and we would be able to procure 10 lakh tons rice this year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: What appeared in the papers was that our local requirement of rice will be met by the surplus States in India itself. What we import will go for the reserve and not for internal consumption. There is a demand of 9.5 lakh tons rice from deficit States in India. At the same time we expect that surplus States like Orissa and Madhya Pradesh will be able to give 9.5 lakh tons rice. We hope to meet the internal demand by internal procurement itself. What we import will go for the reserve. That is what he said.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the visit of the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture to Burma is in connection with the import of rice from that place?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes. It is to negotiate for a barter of 5 lakh tons of rice. We hope he will succeed. We hope to import 5 lakh tons at favourable prices and build up a comfortable reserve.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: In view of the enormous propaganda made by the Government regarding this new method of Japanese rice cultivation, may I know whether Government propose not to import rice from foreign countries?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): That is the aim. We are working towards its fulfilment.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Is Government aware that because of the various differences in price in various Provinces in the procurement of paddy, there is less procurement and that we should procure more if the prices are at a reasonable level?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Procurement prices do vary. In surplus States it will be less, in deficit places it will be more. There is not so much difference between the surplus and the deficit States on account of the difference in procurement prices. We do not expect any shortfall in our procurement targets. On the other hand it is encouraging. The lowest procurement rates exist in Orissa and the highest procurement rate is also reached there.

Shri Algu Rai Shastri: I want to know from what country you are going to import rice.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The major exporting country of rice to India is Burma. Then come Thailand and China. China prices are higher. This year probably we may not import. It depends upon the barter that is being negotiated with Burma. If we are successful, we may not import from other countries. 5 lakh tons rice from Burma will suffice.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know the difference in the prices of imported rice and procured rice in the country?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There is a lot of difference. Our indigenous rice costs less than our imported rice. Sometimes the difference is 100 per cent., sometimes it is 50 per cent.

CLOSING DOWN OF SUGAR MILLS IN U. P.

*1374. **Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 30 sugar mills have been closed down in Uttar Pradesh during March, 1953 for want of cane;

(b) if so, whether the production of sugar will fall in 1953-54; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to maintain the target of sugar production in 1953-54?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No. Only 13 sugar factories in Uttar Pradesh had closed down by end of March this year as against 23 closed by the corresponding date in the previous season.

(b) The Member is presumably referring to the anticipated fall in production of sugar during the current season, and not 1953-54. The production during the current season is estimated between 12 and 13 lakh tons as against 14.97 lakh tons during 1951-52 season and 11.16 lakh tons in 1950-51. The 1951-52 season was, however, an abnormal one when due to a bumper crop and low prices of *gur*, there was a considerable diversion of cane from *gur* to sugar manufacture. Excluding the 1951-52 season, the production during the current season will be more than in any of the eight preceding seasons.

(c) The Five Year Sugarcane Development Schemes are being extended to all important sugar producing States for a further period of 3 years with the object of increasing yield of cane per acre and its sucrose content.

Shri Punnoose: May I know why 13 factories have been closed down this year?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Because they have finished all available cane.

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether proper price is not given to the cane producer in all these cases?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That is not the Government's view.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether there is any possibility of opening some sugar factories in the Andhra area?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: That does not arise out of this question.

सेठ गोविंद दास : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी यह कहा कि ये १३ शक्कर के कारखाने इसलिये बंद हुए कि उन के पास जितना गन्ना था वह सब पेर दिया। क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि और गन्ना होता तो ये कारखाने इतने जल्द बंद नहीं होते?

रक्ता संगठन मंत्री (जी त्यागी) :
मौसम खराम हो गया।

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let the Minister concerned give the reply.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If more sugarcane was available, that would have been crushed.

LOCUST INVASION

*1375. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to an article under the caption "Heavier Locust Invasion Feared" by P.T.I. published on page 6 (column 3) of the *Hindu Standard*, Delhi, dated the 3rd April, 1953;

(b) whether it is a fact that locusts had already started breeding in Pakistan and the Middle East; and

(c) the precautionary measures Government have already taken or are likely to be taken in order to ward off the invasion of locust swarms in India?

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

(b) Breeding of locusts is reported to have commenced in some Middle East countries and in regions to the West of India.

(c) We cannot prevent the invasion of swarms from outside India. Some countries to the West of us, where locust swarms originate have set up anti-locust organisations. We have recently sent a team to Iran to assist that country in destroying locusts. A statement, showing our arrangements for destroying locusts and hoppers is placed on the Table of the House. Attention of the Member is also invited to the reply given to the starred question No. 479 by Sardar Hukam Singh on the 4th March, 1953.

STATEMENT

The action taken to meet the threatened Locust menace

The Central Locust Organisation which is responsible for control operations in the scheduled desert areas in Rajasthan, Punjab, PEPSU, Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch has divided them into three Circles, each in charge of an experienced Entomologist with Headquarters at Bikaner, Jodhpur and Palanpur. At other places which are important from the point of view of locust strategy, particularly along the Indo-Pakistan borders, there are outposts which are equipped with insecticides, hand and power dusting and spraying machines and motor transport. The strength of the Organisation has been increased temporarily to meet the menace. Additional insecticides and equipment have been obtained. Many of the places have been equipped with radio transmitting facilities for quick and timely action. More vehicles as also dusters and sprayers and wireless sets are being obtained.

As regards cultivated areas in the States which are threatened with locust invasion, preparations have been made on the above lines, according to the requirements of the State concerned.

Shri L. J. Singh: I find from the statement that precautionary measures have been particularly taken in the scheduled desert areas in Rajasthan, Punjab, PEPSU, Bombay, Saurashtra and Kutch for control of locust menace. May I know whether there is no likelihood of locusts invading other parts of India?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The likelihood is worked out very scientifically and if my hon. friend wants the information, I can supply.

Shri L. J. Singh: What are the measures taken in other States?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Almost all the States partake in the locust menace control scheme.

63 P.S.D.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

JHANSI RAILWAY STATION

*1351. **Shri Dhulekar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation was made for the provision of sheds on platform at the Jhansi Railway Station during the year 1952-53;

(b) whether on the said representation, the Railway Board took decision to provide covering on the passenger platform at Jhansi during the year 1952-53; and

(c) if so, why no action has so far been taken in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Fabrication of the steel work is in progress and it is therefore not correct that no action has been taken so far.

IMPORT OF BOILERS

*1353. **Shri Kasliwal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether a firm in Vienna has been given an order for 99 boilers?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): An order for 24 locomotive boilers has been placed with Messrs. Waagner Biro A. G. Vienna.

CALCUTTA PORT (DEFICIT BUDGET)

*1354. **Shri Kasliwal:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Budget estimates of the Calcutta Port for the year 1953-54 have shown a deficit?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for the same and what steps Government propose to take to meet the deficit?

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

(b) The estimated deficit is mainly due to the substantial reduction in the volume of traffic expected to be handled during 1953-54 as compared with the previous year. The Commissioners are already considering ways and means of balancing their revenue and expenditure and will come up with the necessary proposals on the basis of the actual trend of traffic during the next few months.

BEE-KEEPING INDUSTRY

***1355. Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what steps were taken by Government to improve the bee-keeping industry in 1952; and

(b) whether any proposals were made by the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Bee-keeping recently?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Reference is invited to the reply to Question No. 1347 by Sardar A. S. Saigal answered today.

(b) I am not aware of the proposals referred to but I am writing to the Council to find out what their proposals are.

ANTI-COMMUNIST SLOGANS ON POSTAL COVERS

***1361. Shri Sarmah:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government allowed certain parties in Calcutta to carry on anti-communist slogans on postal covers as alleged by Shri Hiren Mukerjee in his speech on Demands for Grants for the Ministry of Communications on the 28th March, 1953?

(b) Do Government propose to clarify the position?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) In one case, the Society for the Defence of Freedom in Asia was inadvertently allowed on 12th June 1952 to use a die bearing the slogan "Communism has nothing to offer but chains" in the franking machine licensed by them. No other case has come to our notice.

(b) This was brought to the notice of the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on 20th February 1953. The Director-General instructed the Postmaster-General, Calcutta on 6th March 1953 to cancel the permission for the use of this slogan. The orders were immediately given effect to.

POSTAL FACILITIES IN LACCADIVE ISLANDS

***1365. Shri N. P. Damodaran:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the postal facilities available to the people living in the Laccadive Islands, off the Malabar Coast?

(b) What steps are Government taking to provide more postal facilities to these islands?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Prepaid unregistered letters and post cards can be sent at present to the Laccadive islands.

(b) The existing arrangements are being reviewed.

COMMUNICATION FACILITIES FOR LACCADIVE ISLANDS

***1366. Shri N. P. Damodaran:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the communication facilities now existing between the Laccadive Islands and the mainland of India?

(b) Have Government considered the possibility of connecting these islands with the mainland by air or steamer service?

(c) If so, what are the conclusions arrived at by Government?

(d) Have Government considered the possibility of developing these islands as tourist centres and if so, with what result?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The only communication with the islands is usually by means of 'odams' or country craft.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No.

HEALTH SURVEY OF SCHEDULED AND TRIBAL AREAS

***1368. Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have undertaken any health survey of Scheduled and Tribal areas; and

(b) if not, when the survey is to be conducted?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) No such proposal is under consideration. The matter is primarily for the State Governments to consider. They will be consulted.

COMMITTEE ON JUTE

***1373. Shri Rajagopal Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the personnel of the Expert Committee appointed by the Central Government to go into the question of jute production in India?

(b) What are the terms of reference?

(c) When is the Committee expected to submit its report?

(d) Has the Committee been asked to visit the jute-growing areas in Vizagapatnam and Srikakulam Districts to study the conditions of cultivators of Bimli and Mesta varieties of jute?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The personnel of the Expert Committee is as under:

(1) Shri K. R. Damle, I.C.S., President, Indian Central Jute Committee, and Additional Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture—Chairman.

(2) Shri I. G. Kennedy, Vice-President, Indian Central Jute Committee, Calcutta—Member.

(3) Dr. H. K. Nandi, Director of Agriculture, West Bengal—Member.

(4) Dr. J. S. Patel, Director of Agriculture, Bihar—Member.

(5) Dr. B. C. Kundu, Director, Jute Agricultural Research Institute, Indian Central Jute Committee—Member.

(6) Shri K. C. Basak, Director of Economic Research, Indian Central Jute Committee—Member Secretary.

(b) The Committee will inquire into the possibilities of increasing the acreage under jute in zones where superior qualities can be grown, and of reducing the acreage in areas where only inferior qualities of jute are grown. It will also prepare estimates of the probable cost of the various measures suggested by it, and indicate how the cost should be met.

(c) The report of the Committee is expected to be ready within about three months.

(d) No.

LAND RECLAMATION IN RAJASTHAN

1056. Shri Bheekha Bhat: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage reclaimed from forest land under the "Grow More Food" Campaign in different States since 1950 year-wise; and

(b) the area reclaimed by jungle clearance in Rajasthan?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A statement showing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 27.]

RESEARCH INVESTIGATOR AND STATISTICAL ASSISTANT

1057. Shri Nanadas: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications were received by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics in December, 1952 for the posts of Research Investigator and Statistical Assistant separately for each category;

(b) how many of the above posts were reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and how many of them were selected; and

(c) why these posts were not referred to the Union Public Service Commission?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The Directorate of Economics and Statistics received 217 applications for the posts of Research Investigators (Grade II), 138 applications for the posts of Statistical Assistants and 252 combined applications for both categories of posts. Of these 607 applications only 9 were from Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes candidates.

(b) There were two vacancies and both of these were reserved for the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes Candidates. The applications received are still under consideration.

(c) The posts in question have been classified as Central Service, Class III posts and under the prescribed rules, recruitment to these posts is not made through the Union Public Service Commission.

SCHEDULED CASTES EMPLOYEES IN RAILWAYS

1058. Shri Nanadas: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts for which applications were invited by the Railway Service Commissions during the years 1947 to 1952 year-wise;

(b) the number of posts reserved out of them for persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately;

(c) the number of reserved posts filled up by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) the number of reserved posts that lapsed for want of suitable candidates?

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

POSTAL FACILITIES IN HILL DISTRICTS OF U. P.

1059. Shri Bhakta Darshan: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many new post-offices, telegraph offices, telephone exchanges and public call offices were opened in Dehra Dun, Garhwal, Tehri-Garhwal, Almora and Naini Tal Districts and at which places during 1952-53;

(b) the number of such offices closed down during the year 1952-53;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) how many of them are proposed to be opened in each of the above districts and at which places during 1953-54?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) A list is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 28.]

(b) No office has been closed.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Whatever Post and Telegraph Offices, telephone exchanges and public call offices will be justified under the policy adopted by the Government, and which has been given publicity in a press note issued on the 28th March 1953 (copy placed on the Table of the House in answer to Shri B. N. Roy M.P.'s Starred Question No. 1074 asked on the 30th March 1953), will be opened in due course. Details will be worked out by the Postmaster-General, U.P.

TRANSMITTER FOR AMRITSAR GOLDEN TEMPLE

1060. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee has requested the Government of India for permission to instal a special transmitter and run a separate broadcasting station in the Amritsar Golden Temple for transmission of special Kirtan (devotional music) and reading of scriptures?

(b) If so, do Government propose to grant permission for the same?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Government has received no such request.

(b) Does not arise.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES

1061. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) what number out of 45,22,964 who got registered with the Employment Exchanges throughout India, as stated in the information supplied in Serial No. 103 of the Statement showing action taken on assurances etc. given during the First Session of the House of the People, actually got employment; and

(b) what are the annual establishment costs of all the Employment Exchanges throughout India, together with the machinery necessary to keep them going on and other incidental charges?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 12,84,948.

(b) The actual expenditure on Employment Exchanges incurred during the year 1951-52 was 42,02,800.

ELECTRIFICATION OF RAILWAY LINES

1062. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the rail mileages electrified during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952;

(b) the total expenditure incurred on the work for each of the above three years;

(c) the comparative running and maintenance costs per mile under the electrified system and the coal engine system; and

(d) the programme of electrification of railway lines for the year 1953?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The total rail mileages electrified during 1950-52 and expenditure incurred thereon are as follows:—

	Mileages	Costs
1950	Nil	Nil
1951	4.72	Rs. 4,42,288
1952	0.75	Rs. 63,000

(c) The comparative running and maintenance costs per B.G. train mile under electric and steam traction depend on the price of coal, density of

traffic, price of electricity and other factors. In the Bombay Suburban area the figures may be taken as follows:—

Electric traction—Rs. 2.97.

Steam traction—Rs. 5.43

(d) The Up and Down through line between Bandra and Borivli comprising about 25 miles on the Western Railway has been programmed for electrification during 1953-54.

PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

1063. Shri Jasani: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what quantities of foodgrains are likely to be procured in the year 1953?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): About 25 lakh tons is the approximate estimate.

CONTROLLED SUGAR

**1064. { Shri Bahadur Singh:
Sardar Hukam Singh:**

(a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what was the balance of the stock of controlled sugar on the 31st December, 1952?

(b) What quantity out of this has since been released for sale up to the 31st January, 1953?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The total controlled stocks of 1951-52 sugar with the sugar mills on 31st December, 1952, were 3.03 lakh tons. The entire quantity was released during the month of January, 1953.

ACQUISITION OF AIRCRAFT FOR TRAINING PILOTS

1065. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number, types and total cost of aircraft, if any, acquired by the Government of India, for purposes of training pilots in India, up to 1st January, 1953;

(b) the number of such aircraft still in service;

(c) how many pilots have been trained so far on these aircraft; and

(d) what is the number of pilots undergoing training on these aircraft at present?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a)—

Aircraft type	No.	Cost	Remarks
		Rs.	
(1) Tiger Moth	80	13,86,890	Bought before the war
(2) Other Moths	4		
(3) Chipmunk	36	179,14,786	
(4) Anson	12	37,32,160	Bought after the war
(5) Dakota	2	2,84,479	
(6) L-5	15	1,05,000	
(7) Tiger Moth	2	16,000	
	Total 151	72,39,315	

(b) 28 Tiger Moths, 30 Chipmunks, 10 Ansons, 2 Dakotas and 5 L-5s.

(c) Upto the 31st March 1953, 1902 'A', 70 'A' 1 and 385 'B' pilots have been trained at the Flying Clubs. These have been trained by the Clubs both on the aircraft owned by the Clubs themselves and those loaned to the Clubs by Government. It is not possible to separate the number of pilots trained at the Clubs on Government aircraft alone. Besides these pilots, the Civil Aviation Training Centre, Allahabad has trained 20 Assistant Pilot Instructors, 48 'B' pilots and 32 pilots for conversion courses on Dakota aircraft.

(d) On the 1st March 1953, 111 pilots for 'A' and 92 for 'B' licences were under training at the Flying Clubs. The Civil Aviation Training Centre, Allahabad, has under training 4 pilots for 'B' licence, 18 for Dakota conversions.

PATNA-RANCHI ROAD

1066. Shri N. P. Sinha: (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what amount has been spent over the construction of a new road in place of the old Patna-Ranchi road a portion which has gone under water near Tilaiya Dam?

(b) How many miles of the old road have submerged and how many miles of the new road have been constructed?

(c) Was there a bridge over the old submerged road?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Rs. 20 Lakhs including cost of two major bridges.

(b) A length of 1½ miles of the old road was submerged during the last monsoon. The length of new road is 4½ miles.

(c) Yes, a small bridge over a tributary of the main river Barakar.

CLERKS IN N. E. RAILWAY

1067. Shri Dhusiya: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what is the total number of clerks in the N. E. Railway?

(b) How many of them are permanent?

(c) What is the number of permanent and temporary clerks in this Railway who belong to Scheduled Castes?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 7,421.

(b) 5,866.

(c) (i) Permanent 58.

(ii) Temporary 36.

CENTRAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
CUTTACK

1068. Shri Sanganna: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the working of the following sections at the Central Rice Research Institute at Cuttack (Orissa):

(i) Botany (ii) Agronomy (iii) Chemistry (iv) Entomology.

(b) What machinery has been set up for carrying out the field trials of all the improvements effected by these sections?

(c) Is it a fact that a block of 5,000 acres of land round about the Institute has been annexed for development?

(d) Is it a fact that this block of land has been acquired by Government?

(e) What is the progress of development on this land?

(f) What amount has been spent so far for the purpose of development of this land?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The investigations in these four sections relate to fundamental problems of breeding for resistance to adverse conditions such as diseases, drought, flood, salinity, etc. Search for such useful characters in the large world collection maintained at the Institutes is the main work of the Botany Section. Breeding techniques for the incorporation of such useful characters in important rice varieties of this country also form part of the work of the Botany Section.

This involves fundamental studies in the Cytology and Genetics of rice. The investigations on the optimum environmental conditions necessary for getting the best out of rice varieties form part of the work of the Agronomy Section. These form the basis of cultural and manurial practices and their modifications for general application. The time, dose and mode of application of manure is one of the main studies in this section. The testing of the use of simple implements in cultural operations for increasing the efficiency as well as reducing the costs is another major problem dealt with in this section. The Agronomy section works in close collaboration with the Chemistry section in relating the various cultural and manurial requirements on the basis of soil conditions such as fertility, availability of nutrients, and nutrient uptake of the plant, etc. The Entomological section carries out fundamental studies on the binomics of rice pests in relation to agronomic practices as well as devising controls of the major insect pests at the vulnerable periods of their life history. Testing of different insecticides including cheap indigenous materials in relation to the cost is another problem. Search of parasites of the insect pests of rice is also under study for biological control.

(b) There is a Farm Section in the Institute which carries out large scale field trials of all the improvements arising out of the work of the different sections of the Institute. In addition, these improvements are also demonstrated in 16 villages round about the Institute, which have been taken up for carrying out the improvement programme. At present, the machinery for this work consists of the Superintendent of the Central Rice Research Institute Farm, assisted by some Grow More Food field staff of Orissa State Department of Agriculture.

(c) and (d). No. The Central Rice Research Institute, is carrying out propaganda and demonstration of improved methods of agriculture in the villages round the Institute covering an area of approximately 5,000 acres.

(e) As a result of demonstration and propaganda of intensive cultivation methods carried out so far in this centre, the villagers have taken to some of the methods advocated such as green manuring, transplanting, application of fertilisers in time and growing of a second crop of rice in lands where water facilities are available in the second crop season namely, December to April. An additional estimated quantity of 13,500 maunds of

paddy and 11,500 maunds of potato have been produced by adopting improved methods.

(f) The amount so far spent for the purpose of development of these lands is Rs. 7,400 only by way of salary paid to the Grow More Food staff by the Orissa State Government. Taccavi loans to the extent of Rs. 1,24,261 have been advanced by the Government of Orissa for the purchase of seeds and fertilisers granted by the Government of India, on the recommendation of the Director, Central Rice Research Institute.

कृए लोदने में मध्यप्रदेश को सहायता

१०६९. श्री जांगड़े : क्या साला तथा कृषि मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) १९५२-५३ और १९५३-५४ वर्षों के लिए अपने राज्य में गहरे कृए लोदने के हेतु क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने ट्रैकटरों, अन्य मशीनों और विशेषज्ञ कर्मचारियों की सहायता मांगी है ;

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में क्या उस राज्य सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से अनुदान की श्री प्रार्थना की है ; और

(ग) इस विषय में केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The State Government asked for the loan of 14 boring machines, 14 compressors, 28 tank trailers and Army Engineering personnel for working these units.

(b) No.

(c) Due to shortage of equipment the Government of India are not in a position to spare the boring machines, compressors and tank trailers required by Madhya Pradesh. The Centre has, however, offered to make available 20 Water Lorries to the State Government. Efforts are being made to find out whether the requirements of the State Government can be met from a source other than the Army Stores.

राजोम के माल और शिवरात्रि मेले

१०७०. श्री जांगड़े : क्या रेल तथा यातायात मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्वीय रेलवे में रायपुर चमतरी लाइन पर स्थित राजोम के भाव और शिवरात्रि मेले में जाने वाले यात्रियों से, रेलवे को टिकटों की बिक्री द्वारा गत पांच वर्षों से प्रत्येक वर्ष कितने रुपये की आमदानी हुई ;

(ख) गत पांच वर्षों में प्रत्येक वर्ष उक्त प्रयोजन के लिये कितने अतिरिक्त व्यय करना पड़ा ; और

(ग) इन मेलों में आने वाली जनता को सरकार ने कौन कौन सी सुविधायें प्रदान की ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The revenue earned by the Railway from sale of tickets to passengers to and from Rajim in connection with the Maghi and Shivratri Fairs held there during the last 5 years is as follows:-

1948	... Rs. 7,480
1949	Rs. 9,759
1950	... Rs. 12,569
1951	... Rs. 3,951
1952	... Rs. 7,179

(b) No expenditure is separately booked on account of special arrangements made on such occasions and, therefore, the information requested is not readily available.

(c) Special trains were run as required in addition to the strengthening of the regular passenger service by addition of third class compartments. The following amenities were also provided:

- (1) Adequate supply of drinking water.
- (2) Special medical arrangements.
- (3) Provision of temporary latrines.
- (4) Special lighting arrangements at Rajim.
- (5) Cleaning of station area at Rajim by appointment of extra sweepers.

FORBESGANJ-RAGHOPUR RAILWAY LINE

1071. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply to unstarring question No. 145 asked on the 18th February, 1953 regarding Forbesganj-Raghpur Railway line and state:

- (a) the names of the flowing channels of the Kosi River that fall on the way;
- (b) for how many years the said area is free from annual visitation of Kosi floods; and
- (c) what is the estimated cost of restoration of the Railway line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The following 13 flowing channels of the Kosi river fall in the way:—

- (1) Chukradhar.
- (2) Bhrhi Dhar.
- (3) Sawraw Dhar.
- (4) Khuwria Dhar.
- (5) Sursur River.
- (6) Chear Nulla.
- (7) Genra Dhar.
- (8) Kosi Old Bed (1st crossing).
- (9) Buchahia.
- (10) Kosi Old Bed (2nd crossing).
- (11) Bells Dhar.
- (12) Burhar Dhar.
- (13) Two unnamed nullas near Raghupur.

(b) Detailed records are not available with the railway.

(c) Rs. 1 crore approximately.

RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER RIVER GONDAK

1072. Shri B. N. Roy: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that during the last about sixteen years, no attempt had been made to reconstruct the Railway bridge over the River Gondak between Chhitanni Ghat and Bagaha stations on the N. E. Railway; and

(b) whether its reconstruction will begin in the year 1953-54?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) In 1925 the River Gondak outflanked this railway bridge and a new bridge to suit the present regime of the river has been considered but not yet approved.

(b) No.

DAMAGE TO TRAINER AIRCRAFT

1073. Sardar A. S. Saigal: (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether a two-seater single-engined trainer aircraft of the Hind Flying Club was damaged on a landing strip on the 27th February, 1953?

- (b) Has an inquiry been instituted?
- (c) If so, with what result?
- (d) What were the causes of the accident and who are responsible for this?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) and (d). The accident is still under investigation.

S. K. G. SUG'R MILL LTD, MIRGUNJ

1074. Shri Jhulan Sinha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the S. K. G. Sugar Mill Ltd., Mirgunj (Saran, Bihar) has sought permission to lay its tramway lines for facilitating transport to and from Bhorey and Katia Thanas;

(b) whether it is a fact that the application for the above-mentioned permission has been supported by the Government of Bihar;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said scheme has now been held up for want of the said permission; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to give the required permission?

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

(c) and (d). The scheme is at present under the consideration of the Government.

MOBILE HEALTH UNITS

1075. Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how many, out of the rupees five lakhs provided in the budget for 1953-54, mobile health units for rural areas are expected to be provided, and how they are proposed to be allotted State-wise; and

(b) whether these will be distributed only through States or whether they will be distributed direct to individual institutions also?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) The mobile health units will be allotted to the State Governments concerned.

PURCHASE OF BOGIES UNDERFRAMES FROM BELGIUM

1076. Shri Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many bogies underframes complete and fully erected but without wheels and axles were indented for from Belgium during the year 1952-53;

(b) the number of bogies received during the year 1952-53;

(c) when the balance is expected to be received;

(d) whether the bodies for these underframes will be constructed in the Railway workshops; and

(e) if so, the workshop or workshops at which these bodies will be built?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 975 Broad Gauge; 50 Narrow Gauge.

(b) and (c). Delivery will start only from June 1953 and is expected to be completed by 1st April 1954.

(d) Yes, partly, the balance by Hindustan Aircraft Limited.

(e) The Workshops of the Central, Western, Northern, Eastern and Southern Railways and Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore.

PURCHASE OF WAGONS FROM BELGIUM

1077. Shri Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many wagons complete in all respects but without wheels and axles in semi K. D. condition were indented for from Belgium during the financial year 1952-53;

(b) how many have so far been received;

(c) when the balance is expected to be received; and

(d) the cost of each in the Indian currency?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 29.]

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PETROL TANK WAGONS

1078. Shri Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many bogies petrol tank wagons MBTP type complete in all respects but without wheels and axles were indented for during the year 1952-53;

(b) how many out of these have been received during the year 1952-53;

(c) when the balance is expected to be received; and

(d) the cost of each in the Indian currency?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 120.

(b) Nil.

(c) The tank wagons are expected to be received in India by February 1954.

(d) Rs. 19,220 ex-Works, and approximately Rs. 26,900 each landed in India.

NEW RAILWAY PROJECT

1079. Shri Dhulekar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government considered a project for providing railway communications in the area covered by the former Indian States of Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Nowrang, Panna and connecting them with Lalitpur, Harpalpur, Banda, Kamasin and Karwi etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that the project was abandoned on account of the proposal to work out another scheme called the Chambal River Multiple Scheme and whether this scheme has not materialised so far; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to re-examine the project referred to in part (a) of the question?

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

(b) No. The projects were not proceeded with because they were unremunerative.

(c) There is no intention at present of reviving these projects.

BORE IN RIVER HOOGHLY

1080. Shri Kasliwal: (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether a heavy bore came up the River Hooghly in February, 1953?

(b) If so, what was the damage caused to shipping in the river?

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

(b) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 30.]

JUTE GROWING AREAS

1081. Shri K. P. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total acreage of land expected to be released during 1953 for production of rice from jute growing areas in view of the recent Trade Agreement with Pakistan?

(b) What amount of additional production of rice is expected from this released area?

(c) What is the programme for reaching self-sufficiency in jute now?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No area under jute cultivation is expected to be released for production of rice as a result of the recent Indo-Pak. Trade Agreement.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No change in the programme for jute production is envisaged as a result of provision for import of jute from Pakistan under the Agreement.

MOBILE HEALTH UNIT

1082. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of the vehicles and equipments which constitute a mobile health unit;

(b) the equipments which will be supplied with such unit;

(c) the approximate number of persons it will serve daily;

(d) the number of persons employed in each of these units and the approximate expenses incurred on the staff of each unit; and

(e) how many such health units have been supplied to State Governments, giving separate figures for each State and the cost borne by the Centre in each State?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The cost of a van with built-in equipment, excluding the cost of instruments, medicines and other necessities is estimated to be Rs. 32,000 to Rs. 34,000 depending on the specifications.

(b) The units are equipped with drugs, dressings and such instruments as are required for various minor operations;

(c) Approximately 120 patients judging from the experience in Delhi.

(d) The number of persons employed in each unit is given below:—

(1) Civil Assistant Surgeon, Grade I.	1
(2) Compounder	1
(3) Dresser	1
(4) Driver	1
(5) Cleaner	1

The approximate expenditure that will be incurred on the staff is Rs. 9,600 per annum.

(e) The question of allocation of the mobile health units to various State Governments is under consideration. In all cases the Central Government will bear the cost of only the vehicle and the equipment that constitute the unit. The expenditure on the staff and maintenance of the unit will have to be borne by the State Governments concerned.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE ON RED CROSS

1083. Dr. Amin: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) who are the members of the International Committee of the Red Cross; and

(b) the amount of donations paid by each member during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952 for administrative expenditure of this Committee?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The International Committee of the Red Cross is composed of Swiss citizens whose number may not exceed 25. Their names are given in the attached list. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 31.]

(b) The members are not obliged to pay any donations to the International Committee of the Red Cross. But the Governments signatory to the Geneva Conventions and the National Red Cross Societies are expected to and do contribute to the funds of the Committee.

IMPORT OF RICE

1084. Shri M. R. Krishna: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities of rice imported from Pakistan, Burma, Thailand and China during the years 1951 and 1952; and

(b) in how many cases the quality of rice inspected at the Indian Ports did not conform to the original samples?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The quantities of rice imported are as follows:

(In Tons)					
Pakistan	Burma	Thailand	China	Total	
1951	1,58,028	3,20,672	2,19,595	65,779	7,64,069
1952	18,710	8,75,576	1,39,383	1,50,099	7,28,718

(b) The number of cases in which quality of rice inspected at the Indian Ports was not found to conform to the standard type samples or specifications laid down in the Agreements are:—

Pakistan	Burma	Thailand	China	Total	
1951	51	65	85	7	158
1952	2	78	28	Nil	108

TUBE-WELLS DRILLED IN PUNJAB

1086. Prof. D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number of tube-wells drilled in the Punjab and PEPSU during the year 1952 under the 'Grow More Food' Scheme?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Punjab—137.

PEPSU—Nil.

PROCUREMENT PRICES OF FOODGRAINS IN PUNJAB

1087. Prof. D. C. Sharma: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the rates of procurement prices fixed for different foodgrains in the Punjab?

(b) Are these rates lower than the rates of last year?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, they are the same as those of last season in respect of rice, wheat and barley. In the case of *bajra* and *jowar*, the current year prices are higher than those of last year, by -/10/- and -/8/- per maund respectively than those of last year, by Rs. 10 per maund throughout the year as against the sliding scale of last year.

STATEMENT

The procurement prices of different foodgrains during the current season.

(In reply to part (a) of Question No. 1087)

(In Rupees per Br. maund)

Rice	Basmati	24-10-0 (ex-10/-)
	Superior like Parimal, Hansraj, Mushkin, etc.	21-14-0
	Sone	18-8-0
	Regmi	17-13-0
	Dara	16-2-0
Bajra		8-12-0
Jowar		8-8-0
Maize		10-0-0
Barley		8-6-0
Wheat		13-0-0 (till 15th July '53)
		12-12-0 (there after)

TICKETLESS TRAVELLING

1089. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of ticketless travellers on the Northern Zone Railways during the year 1952-53; and

(b) if so, what money was realised as penalty and what as fare during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Information in respect of the financial year, 1952-53, is not yet available. Hence information relating to the calendar year 1952, is given in reply to the question.

(a) 11,54,626.

(b) The amount of money realized as fare from ticketless passengers during the year 1952, was Rs. 17,71,548 while the amount of money realized as penalty from them during the same period was Rs. 3,88,776

OILCAKES (REMOVAL OF CONTROL) ORDER

1090. Shri Bansal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether, under the Oilcakes (Removal of Control) Order, 1952, restrictions on the movement, production, price and distribution of oilcakes have been removed in all States except Hyderabad;

(b) whether restrictions in regard to Hyderabad have also been removed in February 1953;

(c) whether, under the Order, the State Governments are authorised to

procure upto 50 per cent. of oilcakes produced by any mill at prices to be fixed by them;

(d) the rates at which the State Governments are procuring oilcakes and the use to which oilcake is being put;

(e) whether it is a fact that oilcakes are being sold in the market at much higher prices than are given to the mills by the State Government; and

(f) whether it has been brought to Government's notice that the use of oilcakes as fertilizers is wasteful considering the alternative use to which it can be put and the prices that can be obtained for the same?

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

(d) A statement giving the available information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX. annexure No. 32.]

(e) Yes.

(f) Edible Oilcakes are good cattle-feed, and there is shortage of such feed in the country. State Governments have, therefore, been advised to use as manure substitutes like bloodmeal, fishmanure, meatmeal, sludge, etc., and leave edible oilcakes for cattle-feed as far as practicable.

पंजाब के लिए डाक और तार मंत्रणा समिति

१०९१. डा० सत्यवाहो : क्या संचरण संक्रीय है वर्ताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पंजाब में डाक और तार मंत्रणा समिति नियुक्त की गई है;

(ख) यदि हां तो उस समिति के सदस्य कौन हैं;

(ग) क्या इस समिति में अनुसूचित जातियों का कोई प्रतिनिधि है;

(घ) यदि हां तो अनुसूचित जाति के सदस्यों का नाम क्या है; और

(ङ) किस धारापर इस समिति के सदस्यों का नाम-निर्देशन किया गया है?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) Yes.

(b) I lay on the Table of the House a statement showing the composition of the Committee.

(c) No. Representation on the Committee is not given on communal basis.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The members are nominated to represent various interests as indicated in the statement referred to in the reply to part (b).

STATEMENT

Chairman: Postmaster-General, Ambala.

Members:

Nominees of Punjab Government

(1) Shri Mangat Raj, Secretary, Local Self Government, Punjab (Official).

(2) Thakur Balwant Singh, M.L.A. (Non-official).

Nominee of PEPSU Government

(3) Sardar Balwant Singh, Dy. Secretary (Home), PEPSU, Patiala.

Nominees of Jammu and Kashmir Government

(4) Shri D. N. Jinsi, Superintendent, Telegraph and Telephone, Srinagar.

Nominee of States Ministry for Himachal Pradesh and Bilaspur

(5) Shri Mahesh Chandra, General Secretary, Himachal Pradesh Government.

Member of Parliament

(6) Shri Amarnath Vidyalankar, M.P. 135, North Avenue, New Delhi.

Representatives of Trade and Commerce

(7) Seth Radhakrishna, Secretary, Punjab Textile Manufacturers Association, Amritsar.

(8) Shri J. D. Gupta of the Punjab Registered (Iron and Steel) Stock Holders' Association Ltd., Treasury Road, Ambala City.

MONEY ORDERS AND INSURED LETTERS LOST

1092. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of money orders and insured letters lost in 1952-53 and total amount involved therein;

(b) how many of them were recovered and the amount handed over to the payees or remitters;

(c) the number of lost money orders and insured letters on which inquiry is pending; and

(d) what action has been taken against the persons concerned?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

WELFARE INSPECTORS

1094. Shri Ramji Verma: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of Welfare Inspectors employed on the ex-O.T. Railway Section including Fatehgarh section of N. E. Railway and the number of those that are employed in the rest of the sections of the N. E. Railway along with their grades and categories on the two sections separately?

(b) How many of the Welfare Inspectors meant for the ex-O.T. Railway section are functioning as Welfare Inspectors and how many of them are devoted solely to investigate the grievances and other duties actually required by the Railway authority?

(c) Is there any Welfare Officer for controlling these Welfare Inspectors?

(d) If so, what are his qualifications in the field of labour relations?

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

The required information is given in the statement below:—

Number of Welfare Inspectors employed in the ex-O.T. Railway section including Fatehgarh section of N.E. Railway with grades and categories.		No. of those employed in the rest of the sections, with grades and categories.			
Category	Number	Grade	Category	Number	Grade
Welfare Inspectors	3	260-350	Welfare Inspectors	2	260-350
do	5	200-300	do	4	200-300
do	8	150-225	do	8	150-225
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 14			

Personnel Inspector		Hours of Employment Regulation Inspector			
Category	Number	Category	Number		
do	2	260-350	do	1	200-300
do	1	150-225	do	3	150-225

(b) All Welfare Inspectors in the O.T. Section including Fatehgarh Section are doing Welfare and Personnel work.

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(c) and (d). There are no Welfare Officers as such. All Welfare Inspectors work under the direction of the Personnel Officers at Headquarters and the Regions. At present there are four Personnel Officers who possess diploma in Social Welfare of the Calcutta University.

SALUR-BOBBLI RAILWAY LINE

1095. Shri Rajagopala Rao: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the amount allotted for the restoration of the Salur-Bobbili Branch-line on the Eastern Railway during the year 1953-54?

(b) Was the amount set apart last year, fully spent on the project?

(c) What is the total cost of the restoration?

(d) How long will it take for the complete restoration of the Branch-line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Rs. 2 lakhs have been provided for the restoration of the Bobbili-Salur Branch in the 1953-54 Budget.

(b) With adjustments yet to be made, the allotment of Rs. 6 lakhs made during 1952-53 will be fully spent.

(c) The total estimated cost is Rs. 10.8 lakhs including Rs. 2.6 lakhs chargeable to other than Railway Expenditure.

(d) The work is expected to be completed during the current year (1953-54).

INDIAN RAILWAY RATES TRIBUNAL

1096. Shri Ramachandra Reddi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the expenditure incurred on the Indian Railway Rates Tribunal so far up to the 31st March, 1953;

(b) the number of applications admitted and the number disposed of in each year;

(c) whether there was any retrenchment in the establishment of the Tribunal after its inception; and

(d) if so, when and to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The yearly expenditure inclusive of pay and allowances of the Tribunal Members, office staff, payment assessors etc., is as under:—

Year ending	Amount
	Rs.
31-3-1950	1,37,000
31-3-1951	1,71,000
31-3-1952	1,80,000
31-3-1953	1,68,000*

*(Approximate)

(b) The number of complaints and applications filed and disposed of in each year are as shown below:—

Year ending	Number filed	Number disposed of
31-3-1950
31-3-1951	5	...
31-3-1952	8	8
1-3-1953	5	5

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

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**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

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

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Thursday, 16th April, 1953

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

9-15 A.M.

**DEATH OF SHRI T. S. SANKARA
AIYER**

Mr. Speaker: I regret to have to inform the House of the death of Shri T. S. Sankara Aiyer, who was a Member of the old Central Assembly. I desire on behalf of the House to express our sense of the loss on the passing away of Shri Sankara Aiyer and to convey our condolences to his family. The House may stand in silence for a minute to express its sorrow.

The House stood in silence for one minute.

**FINANCE BILL AND CENTRAL
EXCISES AND SALT (AMEND-
MENT) BILL**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri C. D. Deshmukh:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1953-54, be taken into consideration."

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Side by side, there will also be further consideration of the following motion:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, be taken into consideration."

Kumari Annie Mascarenha (Trivandrum): Yesterday, I was just referring to the extravagant expenses of a spendthrift who had neglected, while carrying on his business, his wife, and subsequently, when he found himself unable to carry on business any more, he wrote a letter to his wife, expressing deep regrets for past negligence, promising rich amends in the future, in the mean time, explaining the business that he has launched, which is to fruition after five years and give her all the pleasures and palaces of the world. At the end of that letter—and that is the important point that I want to stress—he wrote a postscript with an SOS message: you will kindly sell your wedding ring and other jewellery that you have inherited from your father and send the amount to pay back the interest on the heavy debt. That postscript is the prototype of this Bill which the Finance Minister has presented before this unhappy nation.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

At this juncture, with the SOS message of the Tea Bill, it is necessary that we should examine the background of this Bill in order to understand the position of our national economy.

We have an increasing national debt, which has now more or less accumulated to almost three times the amount of our national income. We have a deficit expenditure which is depending completely on loans or taxation. We have to meet the expenses of confronting the misery and stagnation of unemployment. We have a heavy load of taxation starting with consumer goods, from sugar, tea and

[Kumari Annie Mascarene]

coffee to Income-tax with all its gradations. We have to meet the perversities of nature like famine and drought dancing like "blind Furies with the abhorred shears cutting the thin-spun web of life". We have, (to add insult to injury), to confront the vices of the administration in denying equity and justice to the common man. Finally, we have the economic programme of the Five Year Plan, promising El Dorado to the nation, sitting tight on the nation, to be executed without delay so that the amount invested in it may fruition. In the light of these facts, we have this Bill to fill up the gap.

This is not the first time in the history of our country that we have had to confront deficit financing. In normal times, and in times of depression, it is sound public finance to borrow in order to form capital. Deficit financing is either met by loans or taxation. But, strangely enough, we have both. In either case, it will be an income to the nation. But, what surprises me most is that while the financing of deficit expenditure is always followed by its natural and economic consequences of increasing the income per capita and solving unemployment, our experience in India today is that with all our deficit expenditure, with our loans, with our taxation, unemployment has increased to the extent of stagnation. What I wish to ask the Finance Minister is, how is it that in India we have failed to achieve the logic of our economics as other countries have achieved. Fall in the purchasing power of the common man, fall in the level of prices and fall in the standard of living are evidence enough to prove that there is something radically wrong with our national economy.

The situation is all the worse in South India. We are none the wiser for deficit financing; we are none the wiser for the loans, for the taxation, for the increase of tax. All economic and industrial activities in the south are at a stand still. But we are not exempted from the incidence of taxation. We are not reaping the benefits of capital formation. This distorted policy of differential treatment is bound to paralyse the extremities of the body politic with far-reaching political consequences. A time is fast approaching when the problems arising out of neglect and indifference will create such a situation and attain such a stature as to defy solution at their hands. In Travancore-Cochin State, industrial activity is at a stand-still. The coir industries which had engaged

the masses are closed up; titanium which is a rare industry in whole of Asia is closed up; the Travancore Sugars and chemicals are closed up; the F.A.C.T. is working only to half capacity; cashew-nut and handloom industries are closed up; the rayon industry in which we had invested 10 crores is closed up; the Travancore potteries electrical and allied industries are closed up; now rubber and tea are also dying. (An Hon. Member: Which is open?) To add insult to injury, the mineral resources of that State had been exploited by the Industry and Commerce Ministry. I am sorry that the Minister is not present here. (Some Hon. Member: He is present.) I am sorry. The other day, the hon. Mr. Matthen, from the other side, had been referring to the Hopkins Williams Agreement. Our richest resources, a resource which had been paying a large revenue to the State had been the minerals in Travancore. It has been told to this House by a Member from the opposite side that back-door agreements had been going on without the knowledge of the Central Government or the State Government with regard to that industry. This is not the first time that the Travancore-Cochin State had been exploited.

And I wish to ask the Travancore-Cochin representatives on the other side whether they stand a party to this exploitation. (An Hon. Member: Yes.) I wish to ask them whether the poor, starving, miserable, forsaken wretches are allowed to be exploited in this manner with their consent. (Interruption). I am asking them whether they will raise a protest by resigning from this House. These are facts before the House. (Interruption).

An Hon. Member: That is not our object.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: That is not your object. Your object is different.

The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi): We are responsible Members.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: When the people sent them here as representatives, had they not given them promises? I have received letters from my constituency very recently, asking me: "We have sent you there. Did you inform the Central Government that tapioca is being exported from Travancore, and during this time of scarcity we are starving and we cannot get rice, we cannot get tapioca. Did you make any mention of this to the Central Government"?

Shri P. T. Chacko (Meenachil): Prices have gone down in tapioca.

Kumari Annie Mascarenhe: I sent a Short Notice Question to the Minister, and yet no answer is coming forth. Naturally a deficit area, industrially a neglected area by the Centre, and constructively an ignored area by the planners, it is impossible for us to appreciate the rosy picture painted by the Finance Minister to justify the steadily increasing expenditure which we, the Southerners, have to bear with equal responsibility, if not more. We are more than convinced that our salvation lies not in your hands. We are more than convinced day by day that an independent South alone can feed us. (An Hon. Member: No, no). With unemployment and famine staring us in the face, with a steady drain of our life blood, it is impossible for us to agree to your fantastic notions of co-operation and nation-building. With these experiences stinging us to the quick the Prime Minister and his colleague, the Finance Minister, tell this House: "The economic condition of the peasant has improved really". Sir, it is the picture of a landscape vainly gay, painted upon crumbling clay. Time will not tarry when the landscape will crumble to ruin.

It is clear from the speech of the Finance Minister that they are running the postal system at a heavy cost—I do not question the correctness of his answer. The rural post offices are increasing and have increased, but I wish to ask them who is bearing the brunt of that loss. I happen to be the President of the Extradepartmental Service Employees' Union in Trivandrum. I know how they suffer. They are paid about Rs. 20 a month, and they have to pay the building rent, they have to maintain themselves and they have to run the rural post office. I am asking them in all honesty whether they have got any respect for the Constitution which demands equal pay for equal service. These Post-masters are recruited, they say, from retired and ex-servicemen. In my constituency, 80 per cent. of such people are young men recruited fresh, and the Deputy President of the Union is a man who has rendered 30 years of service. They have to go back without pension, without any allowance, without a provident fund, just rendering service. Is it not exploitation? Is it human. I ask you. Have you no measures of relief? If you want to spread your postal system and give rural post offices, you have to spend from your pocket today, so that tomorrow you may reap.

Then, Sir, one word about the Tea Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must resume her seat. I have given her a lot of time. Mr. Ramaswamy.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy (Salem): While welcoming the Finance Bill for the very many measures of relief it gives, I wish to stress three points, viz., the financial position of the Madras State, the over-centralization in Delhi and the ineffectiveness of the economic control over expenditure.

That there is no additional taxation is certainly a matter for satisfaction; that the level of exemption has been raised and that the single house owner is also exempt from taxation—these are all measures of relief, but one or two points I fail to understand. In spite of what the hon. Finance Minister stated with regard to exemptions of super-tax, I still fail to be convinced why people who are in a position to pay super-tax should be exempt. I hope the Finance Minister will further explain the position in his reply to the debate.

I also do not understand why there is not a total ban on the import of toilet requisites. Unless it be the Finance Ministry and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry have a softness for these toilet articles which are imported from abroad, I expect the duty should be imposed in such a manner that there should be absolutely no import of these baubles, as I would call them, these meaningless sophisticated artificialities. I also submit that the duty imposed upon the import of textiles from Britain is not enough, and I wish to speak about that more anon when the amendments to these Clauses come.

My friends Mr. Vallatharas on the other side, and Mr. Natesan on this side, have spoken about the grave situation in Madras. I only submit that the picture that they have given is an under-estimate of the gravity of the situation there. The situation is, if at all, a matter which must immediately draw the attention of the Central Government, and it is imperative that the Central Government must rush to the help of Madras State. My friends have described the economic position in that unfortunate State. I shall now emphasize the financial position of that unfortunate State.

The Madras Government have been very orthodox in preparing their budgets. During the war period, they have been able to accumulate a reserve of Rs. 50 crores out of revenue surplus, and even as late as 1948-49, they have been able to contribute to the Reserve Fund to the tune of Rs. 4.9

[Shri S. V. Ramaswamy]

crores—nearly Rs. 5 crores. But, unfortunately, the finances of Madras State depend on an agricultural economy, and as you know, agriculture depends entirely upon the decrees of fate, those of nature. It has so transpired that this unfortunate State, this miserable State, has not received its due quota of rain for the past six years in succession—not one year, but six years in succession—with the result that famine began to rear its ugly head in Rayalseema in 1951, and it began to spread to the southern districts as well, and to be brief and to be pointed. Madras State—Tamil Nad—is in the grip of famine. The situation was so grave that the hon. Prime Minister and the Food Minister travelled through Rayalaseema, and finding the condition bad there, they promised support. On that promise, the Madras Government has spent Rs. 10 crores on famine relief alone. As against this, the Centre has contributed only Rs. 2 crores as loan, and Rs. 48 lakhs for running gruel centres. Now the position has become such that no additional taxation is possible. The law of diminishing returns has begun to operate even in the matter of existing taxation.

The sales tax which was introduced to replace the loss of income by the introduction of prohibition is also showing diminishing returns because the purchasing power of the people has gone so low, and industry, trade and commerce and everything is on the downfall. The result is that there is a revenue gap which is developing fast and into menacing proportions. In 1950-51, the revenue gap was Rs. 1.26 crores. In 1951-52, it was of the order of Rs. 5 crores, and in 1952-53, it was to the tune of Rs. 6 crores. Heroic attempts have been made by the Madras State to fill up the gap by increasing taxation, as, for instance, the excise duty on petrol, and the surcharge on passenger fares. But even with this, my humble submission is that they cannot make both ends meet. The position is such that loans alone cannot relieve the situation, because the State has not got the wherewithal to repay the loans. So unless there is a grant—and I understand the Madras Government have asked for a grant of Rs. 10 crores—the State will not be able to tide over the difficulties in which it finds itself today.

Long before the Centre thought of a Five Year Plan, the Madras State had launched upon certain schemes of power and irrigation, which are really worthy of commendation. They have the power projects like the Machkurd project, and the Mayar project, and irrigation projects like the Tunghabhadra and the Lower Bhavani pro-

jects, not to speak of the Manimuthar, Mettur, and the Malampuzha projects.

An Hon. Member: Rampadasagar project also.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: All these schemes were launched, and the estimated outlay on them was Rs. 85 crores, and the State has spent over Rs. 75 crores on these programmes. They have reached the stage of completion, when we can expect the returns to operate. In 1951-52, the Madras Government actually spent about Rs. 17.6 crores, and in 1952-53 about Rs. 18.5 crores. In 1951-52, the Union Government has contributed Rs. 6 crores from the Special Development Fund, and Rs. 7 crores in 1952-53 as loan. In all a loan of Rs. 13 crores has been advanced. In 1953-54, in order to complete these projects, Rs. 16 crores are necessary, Rs. 7½ crores for the Andhra area, and Rs. 8½ crores for the Madras area. The question is how this gap is going to be filled, and how the schemes are going to be completed. This is a stage at which you cannot give up or slow down these schemes, for the simple reason that with a little more effort, these schemes will come to fruition, and they will begin to pay the dividend. It is, therefore, necessary that the Centre advances the amount that I understand has been asked for by the Madras Government, to the tune of about Rs. 10 crores, in order to enable them not merely to complete these schemes which are at the final stage of completion, but also to meet the extraordinary famine condition prevailing there. We have heard of the Rayalaseema famine, so far, but now the time has come for you to hear of famine in Madras. Unless the aid is given in right time, you will have a situation which will be assuming menacing proportions very fast. It may be that it is not a good precedent to give a grant to a particular State, to the tune of Rs. 10 crores. But I would very humbly and respectfully submit through your courtesy, Sir, to the hon. Finance Minister, that the situation in Madras is extraordinary, and never was such a situation heard of in the annals of that State.

Now, I would like to submit a few suggestions for the consideration of the hon. Finance Minister. I would suggest that a Minor Irrigation Works Commission be started. I have a great admiration for the major works no doubt, but major works, in my humble opinion, create only patches of prosperity whereas there are pockets of depression in several other areas. In

order to diffuse and spread the entire financial resources of the country over the whole of it, to see that employment is given over a wider area, I submit that a Commission should be appointed to investigate into and assess the water resources in every nook and corner of the country, and see that as far as possible minor irrigation works are given preference, so that the people in the locality will be able to get the benefit of the money spent, and make use of the water that is going waste now. In that connection, I would earnestly like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the enormous quantity of water that is running waste from the Western Ghats into the Arabian Sea. Long ago, in 1897 a European engineer got the brilliant idea of the Periyar lake, by means of which he diverted the water that was going waste into the Arabian Sea, back into the Madura and Ramnad districts, to make them fertile. I want more of such schemes to be undertaken. Plenty of water God has given us, but that is going waste into the Arabian Sea. If only all this water could be harnessed and diverted back towards the east of Western Ghats, then the whole of the Tamilnad area will be smiling with prosperity. I would impress on the hon. Finance Minister, the urgent need for this Commission, to find out ways and means of diverting the water which now goes waste into the Arabian Sea, so as to irrigate the lands east of the Western Ghats, and make the area prosperous.

I would also submit that the Rs. 3½ crores that the hon. Finance Minister has been pleased to allocate for utilisation through voluntary organisations, is not enough. I should have thought that more amount should have been placed at the disposal of the voluntary organisations, because the system has been in vogue and in practice in the Madras State, known as the *firka* development scheme. There, the Government have been operating on the basis of one-third help by the Government, and two-third help by the people themselves. It is a very salutary provision. If only you could find Rs. 10 crores, you could get Rs. 30 crores worth of work in kind, labour or material. And all told, you will have Rs. 30 crores. This ratio of 2 : 1 should be kept in mind, and I would request the hon. Finance Minister not to think of it lightly, because in Madras at any rate, we have got very many well-organised voluntary institutions which have been doing tremendous work, and incidentally I may also tell the hon. Finance Minister that that will also help in ushering in an era of prosperity in the forgotten

distant State,—that unfortunate State of Madras.

The other point that I would urge is that I am not satisfied with the pattern of industrial development in this country. There is only lip sympathy shown for the small-scale industries. So many deputations have gone to Japan, and yet we are developing on the lines of the U.S.A. and England. The system of large-scale industries is not suited to the genius or the social set-up of this country. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to pay greater attention to the fact that what we should copy is the system that obtains in Japan, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and such small countries, where the social set-up is very much akin to ours, and the resources also are only limited. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to pay attention to the fact that a re-orientation in the pattern of industrial development is urgently called for. I would submit that a greater emphasis should be laid on the development of small-scale industries, not merely from the strategic point of view, but also from the point of view of giving wider scope for employment in the country which is now being haunted by this ugly spectre of unemployment everywhere.

I was submitting earlier that there was ineffective control over expenditure. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to give pointed answers to the several points that I am raising, with reference to the Explanatory Memorandum to the General Budget.

On page 25, I find that a sum of Rs. 89 lakhs has been spent on service charges for getting the contribution from the International Monetary Fund. Does it take, I ask, nearly Rs. 90 lakhs to get some money out of the International Monetary Fund? What is this service charge which is so excessive?

Again on page 73, I find that on the Cinchona plantation in Bengal, they have spent nearly Rs. 97 lakhs for getting an income of Rs. 14,000. Where has all this money gone? A little while ago, the answer was given by an hon. Deputy Minister 'I do not know the figures', but I stood up to point out the figures. I hope the hon. Finance Minister will explain the position and satisfy the House on this point. At page 96 you will find that a sum of Rs. 6 crores and 60 lakhs is going to be spent for the building of the capital of Bilaspur. After all it is a Part C State and I do not know why such a large amount of public money should be spent on building a capital. I would also invite your attention to a provision of Rs. 5.15 crores made for filling the gap in

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revenue of Part C States. I would ask the Finance Minister: Is it necessary still to continue these Part C States and spend enormous amount of money on small bits of territory. It was just for the sake of prestige that the whole paraphernalia of Government was set up in these States—a Legislative Assembly, a Council and all that. It is much better that they are amalgamated so that we can have more money for nation-building activities. I also do not know whether our Finance Minister would also agree to the abolition of the Council of States in which case we shall have a saving of Rs. 25 lakhs.

I also earnestly submit that the control of these dams must be provincialised. Several points were raised with regard to the Hirakud Dam. I wish to point out that Rs. 173 crores was the estimated sum to be granted for all the major works; now they want an additional sum of Rs. 50 crores. The engineers have placed, I submit with all sense of responsibility, Government in a very difficult position. They have committed Government to a sum of Rs. 170 crores. Government can go neither forward nor backward. Now they want another Rs. 50 crores. The end is not still in sight. Not merely that. They had originally estimated power production to be 9,33,000 kilowatts; now they say firm power will be 3,41,000 kilowatts and in rainy season it will be only 545 kilowatts. What is wrong about these estimates? Can estimates vary so much? What is wrong with the engineers who have estimated in this manner? What has been done to pull them up?

In this connection I would like to point out that the Centre should take a firm stand with regard to certain reforms in the State. For instance, take the question of the jury system and the assessor system. I know it is utter waste. If the Centre could insist upon the abolition of these sections in the Criminal Procedure Code it would be possible for the provinces to save a lot of money. I would submit that the Finance Minister must prevail upon his colleague the Home Minister to see that the sections dealing with the jury system and the assessor system are deleted from the Criminal Procedure Code in which case the Code will be simplified. The upper houses in the States should also be abolished, on grounds of economy, if for nothing else.

Another point about which I want to stress is the over-centralisation that prevails now. I do not see any reason why the All-India Medical Association, the T.B. Association, the All-India Educational Institute, the Reserve Bank

and several other institutions should be centralised in this city of Delhi, complicating the system of transport, living conditions, etc.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Did the hon. Member say Reserve Bank?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Yes, Sir. There is no reason why the Reserve Bank should be here. It can very well be in a central place like Nagpur, even from the point of view of strategic reasons. It would relieve pressure on accommodation.

Another point I would like to make is: there is a proposal to spend Rs. 50 lacs on the construction of a building for the Supreme Court.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must now resume his seat. There are several hon. Members, some of them who are anxious to participate in the debate, wish to speak for the first time.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: That I consider, Sir, is unnecessary now and that money should be saved for some other more useful purpose.

Shri B. L. Tudu (Midnapore-Jhargram—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak today in connection with the lot of the aboriginal tribes. Though I attempted several times before to put up our grievances before the House, I was not able to catch your eye. Due to my deficiency in English, I do not know whether I will be able to express myself clearly or not, I feel it would have been better if I was allowed to speak in my mother tongue, Santali or in my provincial language, Bengali.

It is we, the aborigines, who have made this country inhabitable by cutting jungles, with the attendant risk of fighting the wild animals, by levelling the grounds, filling up the ditches, etc., and still we are where we were. I am sorry to observe that we are deprived of the opportunity of enjoying most of the fruits of our labours.

You know, Sir, that for thousands of years we have been neglected. For the past nearly hundred years, some well-wishers have tried their best for our uplift in various ways; but due to lack of finances and other difficulties they could not redress all our grievances. Yet we are grateful to them for these partial benefits even. The British Government made provision for the representation of the general public in the Government in 1935, but unfortunately

we were neglected. After independence the leaders of the country, Mahatma Gandhi, our President Dr. Rajendra Prasad, our Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and our Home Minister Dr. K. Attri and others of the Congress made some provision in the Constitution so that some special privileges may be given for our uplift, with a view to bridge the gulf between us and the other advanced people of the country. Seats in the legislatures of the Centre as well as the States were reserved, so that our grievances may be voiced. We are extremely grateful to them. Though the Prime Minister and our Home Minister are extremely anxious to redress our grievances, they are hard-pressed by other departmental matters. So, though they are anxious, they could not do much for us.

The well-drawn up Five-Year Plan, I have no doubt, will help the average people, but I doubt whether it will help much the aboriginal tribes whose standards are much below those of the average people.

They cannot even imagine our grievances as they are not accustomed to all these difficulties. One of our renowned Bengali poets had rightly said:

“चिरमुखीजन भ्रमे कि कस्तन
व्यवितवेदन तुलिते प.रे
कि यातना विषे दुःखिवे मे किन
कम् अशी चये दर्शनि पारे”

A person cannot feel the pain of poison if he is not bitten by a poisonous snake. So it is in our case. In this House there are discussions about different plans, schemes, Committees, scientific researches etc. about which most of our members cannot even imagine. That is our condition here. In spite of that, I am really grateful that the present Government has appointed one member of our tribes as a member of the Backward Classes Commission to put up our grievances before them. But I think that the said number is not adequate. May I request the House in this connection that, if possible, in all Committees etc. our representatives are kept not to give any instructions or orders but only to acquaint them with the origin of our grievances so that they can make the necessary plans for our development.

In connection with the grow-more-food campaign, I have to say something. The grow-more-food campaign of the Government is more or less successful, but had the plan been implemented in more varied ways, the results would have been much better. It is really very difficult to point out actually

where the defect lies, because there are so many channels lying between the Government and the public through which Government help is coming to us. The help given by the Centre is dried up somewhere in the middle so that the needy persons are actually getting less benefit than they are intended to receive. It is my earnest request that some attention may kindly be given in the matter of redress. I would like to request the Agriculture Ministry particularly so that our young generation may get some practical help from agricultural institutions etc. For the upliftment of the economic condition of our people, provision may kindly be made for getting lands for cultivation permanently whether under the *Bhag Sanga* or 'rented system', and for services in workshops, railways and in other government and private enterprises.

10 A.M.

Regarding education, our benevolent Government is spending much by granting stipends to students who are prosecuting their studies in the colleges. It is true that practically none of the parents can afford the expenses of college education, and the Government cannot grant stipends to all the candidates who apply for the same. It is my request that, if possible, some means may be devised by which all the students can get at least some help in the prosecution of their studies regarding admission fee, college fee, examination fee, caution money etc. and from the rest of the grant, the most deserving students may be given stipends for continuing their higher studies. Then everybody will understand that the Government is doing something for us all and not merely to a few. Our people are striving hard for their mere existence. I would request the Government to make some arrangements by which the tribal Members are empowered to look into these matters during the off-session period—whether things are done properly or not—and to keep in contact with the local authorities for the upliftment of the aboriginal tribes, both educationally and economically.

I further say that the Harijans and the major portion of the Scheduled Caste people are also in the same condition as we are, and their case may also be favourably considered.

In connection with the services, some Government posts are reserved for our people. In a number of cases, a suitable candidate is not found for the post and the post is made 'general'. Why should these posts be made 'general'. Why not the Government train candidates from our community

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to fill up these posts? We are getting only 10 years time. There is a provision of some percentage—five or six—for the backward people. Why only 5 per cent.? Why not more than 5 per cent.—any percentage which the House thinks should be given to us for the upliftment of our community. And I hope the House will not consider this as a sacrifice for us.

श्री कें. सौ. जैना (बालासोर—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप ने मुझे हाउस में बोलने का जो मौका दिया, उस के लिये मैं आप का आभारी हूँ।

माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने सावधानी के साथ जो वित्त विधेयक बनाया है उस के लिये मैं उन को भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ। हाउस में देखा जाता है कि हमारे विरोधी दल के सदस्य वर्ग बेकारी की शिकायत करते हैं। यह बात सही है कि हमारे देश में बेकारी फैली हुई है, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आजादी मिलने के साथ ही साथ हमारे यहां बहुत से स्कूल कालेज आदि खोले गये हैं। जो हमारी शिक्षा अंग्रेजों के शासन के समय से चली आ रही है वह ऐसी है कि हमारे स्कूलों और कालेजों से जो लड़की, लड़के निकलते हैं वे (१) आफिस में बैठकर कलमचाष के सिवा और कोई (२) दैहिक मिहनत के साथ काम नहीं करना चाहते हैं।

हमारी बेकारी की ज़िम्मेवारी हमारी शिक्षा है। जब तक इस शिक्षा में परिवर्तन नहीं होगा तब तक देश में बेकारी फैलती रहेगी। हमारी सरकार काफी कोशिश कर रही है कि शिक्षा किसी तरह से बदली जाय, इसलिये हमें धीरज के साथ प्रतीक्षा करनी चाहिये।

मैं उड़ीसा से आया हूँ और वहां के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। मुझे एक हिन्दी

की कहावत याद आती है। सो है “बाले के लड़के को दूध की शिकायत”। बालों के घर में काफी दूध मिलने की आशा की जाती है, उनके लड़कों को दूध न मिलना तो ताजुब की बात समझी जाती है। इसी तरह हमारा जो उड़ीसा है वहां काफी खनिज पदार्थ हैं लेकिन दुःख की बात है उड़ीसा में उनको इस्तेमाल करने के लिये कोई कारखाना नहीं है। इसलिये मुझे बहुत शर्म आती है और मैं सरकार से अर्जुन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे उड़ीसा की उन्नति के लिये वहां पर कोई कारखाना खोला जाय। उधर काफी क्रोमाइट है, काफी लोहा है और काफी दूसरी चीजें हैं उनको इस्तेमाल किया जाय। लेकिन खेद की बात है कि उधर अभी तक कोई कारखाना नहीं बन पाया।

हमारे हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के लड़कों की पढ़ाई के लिये सरकार ने जो कुछ सुविधा की है उसके लिये मैं सरकार को धधाई देता हूँ। लेकिन इसी के साथ साथ मैं उन विद्यार्थियों की कुछ कठिनाइयों की ओर सरकार का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। उनको जो स्टाइरेंड दिया जाता है वह ठीक समय पर नहीं दिया जाता है। हमारे पास कालिजों में पढ़ने वाले बच्चों की शिकायतें आती हैं कि उनको समय पर स्टाइरेंड नहीं मिलता है। इसलिये मैं सरकार से अर्जुन करता हूँ कि उन की इस कठिनाई को दूर करने के लिये कोशिश की जाये।

मैं बालासोर कांस्टीट्यूटेंसी से आया हूँ और वहां की कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। बालासोर एक ऐसी जगह है जहां पर मैं समझता हूँ कि भैलेरिया घर बना कर बैठ गया है। मैं तो समझता हूँ कि बाला-

सोर ड्रिल में जितने आदमी बसते हैं उनमें से ६० प्रतिशत आदमियों को मैलेरिया बुखार पकड़ता है और बहुत आदमी इस के शिकार हो जाते हैं। इसलिये मैं सरकार से अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि इस की रकावट के बास्ते वह भारत सरकार की तरफ से एक चलता दवाखाना का इन्तज़ाम हो जिससे कि गरीब आदमियों के पास मदद पहुँच सके और वे मैलेरिया से छुटकारा प्राप्त कर सकें। इसके लिये सरकार की तरफ से कोई कोशिश की जानी चाहिये।

हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के लिये सरकार की तरफ से कुछ नौकरियां सुरक्षित हैं। लेकिन मुझे जहां तक मालूम है जो अफसर उनकी नियुक्ति करते हैं वे ईमानदारी से नहीं करते हैं। कभी कभी हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के स्थान पर दूसरों को ले लिया जाता है। इस लिये मैं सरकार से यह अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि जो स्थान उनके लिये नियुक्ति हैं उन पर उन को नियुक्त करने के लिये ईमानदारी से कोशिश हो और जो अफसर नियुक्त करते हैं उन से भी मेरी विनाशी है कि वे ईमानदारी से अपने काम को निभावें।

अन्त में मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

श्री रणदमन सिंह (शाहडोल-सिद्ध—रक्षित—अनुसूचित आदिम जातियां) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपको धन्यवाद है कि आप ने मुझे भी बोलने का मौका दिया।

अर्थमंत्री महोदय ने जो कुछ रचनात्मक कार्य किये हैं और करते जा रहे हैं उनके लिये मैं उन को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। मंत्री महोदय ने जो फाइनेंस बिल पेश किया है उस पर आज कई दिनों से चर्चा हो रही

है और कई महानुभावों ने उस पर अपने अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं और उन बातों पर काफ़ी प्रकाश डाला है जो कि जनता के हितार्थ हैं। मैं भी अपने कुछ चन्द मुझाव वेश करना चाहता हूँ।

सरकार को जब कभी हम कहते हैं कि लंबे में और कुछ कभी होनी चाहिये तो सरकार अपने कर्मचारियों के बारे में शिकायत समझ कर फ़ौरन नीची श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों को निकालना शुरू कर देती है जिससे वह बेचारे बेरोज़गार हो कर भूखों भरने लगते हैं। नतीजा यह होता है कि उन में खास तौर से बेकारी बढ़ जाती है और फिर उन की ओर सरकार की तरफ से कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता। वैसे ही हमारी सरकार दूसरे देशों की नकल करने में बहुत कुशल है लेकिन इस बात की नकल नहीं करती कि बरतानिया बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी की कट्टर दुश्मन है। वहां की सरकार खुद इस कार्य की ज़िम्मेदारी लेती है कि वहां की जनता को काम में और रोज़गार में लगावे और काम दे। अगर वह किसी तरह से नौकरी या रोज़गार नहीं दे सकती तो कम से कम कुछ आर्थिक सहायता तो देती है जिससे कि वे आदमी भूखे न भरने पायें। लेकिन हमारी सरकार अपने ऊपर इस तरह की ज़िम्मेदारी हरणिज़ नहीं लेती है और जो कुछ कार्य करती है उससे देश में बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी बढ़ती जा रही है। हमारे मंत्री महोदय अपने भाषण में कहते हैं कि जनता को सरकार के काम में मदद देनी चाहिये जैसे सड़क, नहर, कुर्चां, मकान वगैरह बनाने में। उन से कहा जाता है कि सोयमश्रम बिना बेतन काम करो। यहां तक कहा जाता है कि काम ही पूजा है और पूजा में दूजा की ज़रूरत नहीं

[श्री रणदमन सिंह]

है। लेकिन मैं सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि भूसी जनता किस तरह से इमदाद दे। एक कहावत है : "चार कोर भीतर फिर देव और पीतर" यानी जब कोई आदमी स्थाया पिया होगा तभी उसका मन काम करने में लगेगा। भूसे का कोई काम में मन नहीं लगता। मिसाल के तौर पर मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि अभी विशालपटनम के जहाजी कारखाने में करीब आठ सौ कर्मचारियों को घोखेबाजी और दुर्घट्याग से निकाला गया है और आज वह बेचारे भूसों मर रहे हैं और उनके लिये कोई व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है। मुश्किल की बात ये है कि चाहे सरकार कितनी भी पंच वर्षीय योजनायें देश के सामने रखे लेकिन उसको खुद मालूम नहीं है कि जनता को क्या चाहिये और अपने ध्येय पर पहुँचने के लिये उसे किस रास्ते पर चलना है। ऐसी सूरत में यह योजना ग्राही जनता के बास्ते आसामान के तारे के समान है कि देखने में तारे न बर ज़रूर आते हैं लेकिन इस्तेमाल में कभी नहीं आते। कई बार हमारे बहुत से कांग्रेस भाइयों ने इन बुटियों पर खुले आम तो नहीं पर परदे की आड़ में प्रकाश ढाल कर अपना दृष्टिकोण बताया है। विरोधी दल के आदमी योड़ा खुलासा कर देते हैं जिससे कि सरकार नाराज़ सी हो जाती है। लेकिन इन बातों पर सरकार की नाराज़ नहीं होना चाहिये और सब का सहयोग लेना उचित है। जनता की इन्हीं बजहों से सरकार की बातों पर और योजनाओं पर भरोसा नहीं है और जब तक किसी कार्य में सफलता प्राप्त होना मुश्किल है। और यह काम तभी सफल हो सकता है जब सरकार अपनी नीति को बदल कर

गांधी जी के उसूलों पर चलने की चेष्टा करेगी।

एक तरफ योजना का विकास करना और दूसरी ओर बेकारी और मध्याचार को बढ़ाना तथा साथ ही सहयोग व सफलता का प्राप्त करना, कहां तक सम्भव हो सकता है? मैं तो अब तक कहना कि बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी की सही तादाद मालूम करने के लिये सरकार एक कमेटी बनाये और उस के द्वारा देश भर की बेकारी और बेरोज़गारी को मालूम करे और जिस प्रान्त में जैसी बेकारी हो, उस को दूर करने की चेष्टा करे और उसके बाद अपनी योजना को चालू करे तो शायद कुछ सफलता प्राप्त हो सकती है। इसी तरह दफ्तरों में कुछ कागजातों के काम का बढ़ावा बढ़ात हो चुका है। मिसाल के तौर पर जैसे और लोगों का (नान गैंडेड लोगों का) सैलैरी बिल इकट्ठा बनाया जाता है उसी तरह यदि गैंडेड अफसरों का सैलैरी बिल बनाया जाय तो क्या हज़र हो सकता है, क्योंकि एक एक अफसर का अलग अलग सैलरी बिल बनाने में काम ज्यादा बढ़ जाता है और समय ज्यादा लगता है।

अब मैं कुछ दो तीन बातें विन्ध्य प्रदेश के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। विन्ध्य प्रदेश के लिये जो रकम केन्द्रीय सरकार से दी जाती है उस को यांट कह कर क्यों दिया जाता है? अभी तक सरकार ने कोई ऐसा स्वर्च विन्ध्य प्रदेश को नहीं दिया है जिस में विन्ध्य प्रदेश का कोई हक न हो, क्योंकि सन् १९४९ में विन्ध्य प्रदेश जब पांठ सी हुआ तब से कुछ न कुछ बचत सरकार के जिम्मे होती गयी। सन् १९४९-५० में ७० लाख के करीब, सन् १९५०-५१ में ७० लाख के करीब और सन् १९५१-५२

में ७६ लाख की बचत अदा हुई। इस के अलावा सरकार से इनकम टैक्स व एक्स-साइज़ का जो हिस्सा हमें मिलना चाहिये था वह भी हम को नहीं मिला है। इस तरह से हमारी सुरक्षित निधि करीब साड़े चार करोड़ के केन्द्र में जमा है। जिस में से सरकार से सन् १९५२-५३ के बजट में ९० लाख और सन् १९५३-५४ के बजट में एक करोड़ ७६ लाख के करीब खर्च के लिये दी जा रही है, यानी जुमला दो करोड़ ६६ लाख खर्च के लिये सरकार दे रही है। इस के बाद भी दो करोड़ ३४ लाख के करीब रुपये की बचत हमारी ही आप के पास में है। फिर इस को ग्रांट्स कैसे कहा जाता है सरकार चाहे तो ग्रांट्स के रूप में भले ही दे, हमें कोई ऐतराज़ नहीं है। *लेकिन कभी कभी यह भी कहे कि यह रकम विन्यु प्रदेश ही की है, क्योंकि ऐसा न कहने से साल दो साल बाद सरकार यह कह सकती है कि विन्यु प्रदेश को इनाम या सहायता कब तक दें। साथ ही यह भी कहा जाता है कि विन्यु प्रदेश में जितना खर्च है उतनी आमदानी नहीं। इसलिये यह खत्म या मंजर क्यों न कर दिया जाय। सरकार से इसलिये अनुरोध है कि ऐसी गश्त तिकड़म लगा कर विन्यु प्रदेश को ऐसी (मंजर की) स्थिति में न लावे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स व शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लिये जो रकम सरकार देती है उस रकम को खर्च करने के लिये विन्यु प्रदेश में जो कमेटी बनी है उस में उन जातियों के जिलेवार कोई भी मंम्बर नहीं है जिससे उस कमेटी द्वारा उन जातियों को विशेष फ़ायदा नहीं हो पाता। इसलिये रकम बेकार में खर्च हो जाती है। इसलिये वहां की प्रान्तीय सरकार को केन्द्र द्वारा सूचित किया जाय कि जिलेवार मंम्बर उस

कमेटी में शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स और शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट की जनता के चुनाव द्वारा रखे जायें, जिससे इस रकम का वहां की ग्रीब ट्राइब जनता पर्याप्त फ़ायदा उठा सके।

विन्यु प्रदेश में तकावी देने का जो नियम प्रान्तीय सरकार ने ट्रैक्टर खरीदने के लिये रखा है उस में एक तो ज्यादातर पार्टी बन्दी के नाते से कांग्रेस वालों को ज्यादा तकावी देते हैं, दूसरों को नहीं और दूसरे सिक्कं उन को तकावी देते हैं जो फ़राउसन ट्रैक्टर खरीदने को तय करें। मैं सरकार द्वारा जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा क्यों करते हैं एक ही कम्पनी को ऐसा क्यों फ़ायदा देते हैं। इस के अलावा वह ट्रैक्टर छोटे भी होते हैं और वे पहाड़ी मुल्क में काम नहीं दे सकते। इसी तरह पम्पिंग सेट खरीदने में दिया करते हैं जिससे वहां की जनता को जिसे वास्तव में तकावी मिलनी चाहिये वह बेचारे परेशान होने पर भी नहीं पाते। ऐसी हालत में वहां की आर्थिक समस्या में कैसे सुधार हो सकता है। सरकार से विन्यु निवेदन है कि इस तरह के पक्षपात-पूर्ण व्यवहार को प्रान्तीय सरकार द्वारा विन्यु प्रदेश से फ़ीरन दूर करने की कोशिश की जाये।

बजट की बाबत एक बात और है जो बजट सरकार से मिलता है वह इतना देर में मिलता है कि प्रान्तीय सरकार खर्च नहीं कर पाती जिस से वह लैप्स हो जाता है। सिक्कं काशजी दिलावट का एक ढांचा रह जाता है जो जनता के लिये न के बराबर है। फिर सी पार्टी स्टेट को दिये हुए खर्च की रकम को खर्च करने का भी पूरा अधिकार नहीं है जिससे वह समय पर खर्च नहीं कर पाते। मंजूरी लेने में और लिखा पढ़ी करते करते उनका समय बरबाद हो जाता है। इसलिये वह रकम फिर से लैप्स हो जाती है। अस्तु

[श्री रणदमन सिंह]·

उन्हें यह अधिकार प्राप्त होना चाहिये कि वह खर्च कर सके और साथ ही उन्हें यह चेतावनी दी जानी चाहिये कि यह रकम देहातों में जनता के हित में ज्योदा खर्च हो, जैसे तालाब, बांध, कूएं, पंचिंग बगैरह में और सड़कों बगैरह के बनाने में। यहां से रकम जनता के हितार्थ ली जाती है और फिर दूसरी चीजों पर बेकार खर्च कर देते हैं।

एक बात मुझे और कहनी है और वह यह कहनी है आदिवासियों की बाबत। आदिवासियों के बारे में एक कहावत है “गुरीबी में आटा गील”। इस तरह से जब कि आदिवासियों की बाबत सरकार को मालूम है कि यह लोग खुद नीकरी पेशा पसन्द नहीं करते और न शिक्षा को प्राप्त करने के लिये अब तक इच्छा प्रकट करते हैं और न उस में दिलचस्पी लेते हैं। फिर भी ऐसी हालत में अगर कोई मुश्किल से आदिवासी शिक्षा प्राप्त कर के और सरकार में कोई जगह पाने की या कोई काम करने की कोशिश करता है तो उस के साथ दुर्घटनाक हालत किया जाता है और उस का अनादर किया जाता है। (इस समय घंटी बड़ी)। बस साहब, थोड़ा सा एक मिनट और दीजिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : नहीं जी।

श्री रणदमन सिंह : कभी नहीं बोला साहब। थोड़ा एक मिनट और दीजिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अच्छा, ठीक है।

श्री रणदमन सिंह : तो अभी एक हाल की बात है। मध्य प्रदेश के एक आदिवासी ने किसी तरह बी० ए०, एम० ए० पास करके सरविस की। दस महीने सरविस करने

के बाद उस को सरविस से निकाल दिया गया। यह बड़े खेद की बात है। जब एक मिसाल के तौर पर वह आदिवासी लड़का भरती हुआ था और शायद उस को देख कर बहुत से आदिवासी उत्साहित होते, जैसे कि सरकार की योजना में है कि आदिवासियों को और शेडूल कास्ट वालों को प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय तो उस लिहाज से वह परीक्षा पास कर के नौकर हुआ तो दूसरे भाई भी उस तरफ आकर्षित होते, लेकिन उस को प्रोत्साहन देने के बजाय वह निःत्साहित किया गया। ऐसी हालत में इन जातियों की उन्नति और सुधार होता बड़ा मुश्किल है। इसलिये मैं सरकार से चाहता हूँ कि जैसे सरकार ने अपनी योजना में कम से कम, पांच प्रतिशत के लिहाज से उस को बना कर तैयार किया है, उस लिहाज से इन आदिवासीयों को जो कि मुश्किल से कोई उत्तीर्ण होते हैं, उन को किसी न किसी हालत में ज़रूर कोई पेशा या रोजगार सरकार अपनी तरफ से दे ताकि उन को प्रोत्साहन मिले और अपनी आर्थिक कठिनाई को दूर करते हुए वे शिक्षा की प्रगति को बढ़ाने में भी उत्साहित हों।

बस में सरकार से विनम्र निवेदन के साथ अर्ज करता हूँ कि वह मेरे सुझावों पर अवश्य ध्यान दे और विन्यय प्रदेश के बारे में जो मैं ने अर्ज किया है उस पर भी अवश्य ध्यान दे जिस से कि वहां ऐसी त्रुटि न होने पावे और सरकार वहां गुरीब जनता के हितार्थ में ध्यान दे।

Prof. S. N. Mishra (Darbhanga North): I want to congratulate the Finance Minister for a very successful career of our State finances during the last year and also for keeping our national economy in a state of fairly sound health. After the war, I think we can claim for the first time that we have broken the back of inflation. The general price level seems to have

moved definitely in favour of the consumers. The anti-inflationary policy initiated by the Government a couple of years ago seems to have resulted not only in greater price stability but also in bringing the general credit situation under control. Then, Sir, there has been an extraordinary phenomenon in our country, *viz.* the price recession has been followed by an increase in production. This is probably a phenomenon which has not happened in any other country in the world. And I think it is a matter of no mean satisfaction that our post-war peak level of production was reached in 1952. So I now feel that we have almost turned the corner so far as the economic situation is concerned. Also, the period of economic convalescence is almost over; and with the Five Year Plan the country now seems to be fairly launched upon the high road to progress and prosperity.

It is in view of all these things that it would be no exaggeration to say that if to Sardar Patel goes the credit for political consolidation of the country. I think, the name of the present Finance Minister will go down in history for the economic stabilisation of the country.

But to say all this is not to overlook some of the weaknesses that have crept into our financial position. I feel that after Independence we have almost eaten up our cash balances and now it stands at a precarious level. We have almost used up Rs. 200 crores of our cash balances. In the same way we have increased our public debt to the extent of Rs. 400 crores. And we are poorer in the matter of currency reserves to the extent of Rs. 650 crores. These are danger signals which point out that in the career of our finances we have now reached a stage when we cannot expect to cover our budget by any further raid on our cash balances or by loans and that this can only be done either by foreign aid or by created money.

Then there are some portents rising on the international horizon which I think the Finance Minister would do well to take into account. Only recently the *London Economist* pointed out that there was some sort of a slump coming in America towards the end of 1953. And there is another thing, though very happy and auspicious—the Korean peace prospect is brighten up. Thank God. Particularly we in India are very much anxious that some solution should come up. But I think that so far as the repercussions in economy are concerned, these two factors may well weigh with us so that we may take precautions to

cushion off some of the adverse consequences that may follow in their wake. I am apprehensive that some of the pipelines of our revenue may be choked in consequence thereof. I would therefore like the Finance Minister to take these factors into account.

Then I would like to refer to some of the suggestions regarding the nationalisation of banking and insurance which have been made in this House, not only by the Members opposite but also by Members on this side. As you know, Sir, we in the Congress Party are pledged to nationalisation of key industries as our objective. We are also in favour of nationalising such sources of investment. But it is an objective. At what time, to what extent and in what circumstances and manner this should be done is a matter for practical and pragmatic considerations. And if the same objective can be achieved by not getting involved in some of the difficulties which may overwhelm us I think we should not insist on some doctrinaire approach towards nationalisation. I feel that the same objective can be achieved by the establishment of a National Investment Board. This is an idea which has fascinated me. So far as the origin of this idea in this country is concerned, I hope you will remember that the National Planning Committee appointed by the Congress had first mooted this idea. And this idea has also been elaborated by eminent socialist thinkers like G.D.H. Cole.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the idea of a National Investment Board, I find that the hon. Member of the Praja Socialist Party, Mr. Damodara Menon, who had vigorously taken up the idea of the nationalisation of banking and insurance sometime back, seems to have lost the battle as he could not convince the Finance Minister by the rationale of his argument. But I want to take up this idea in a rather practical way. I have suggested that this National Investment Board under the aegis of the State can serve the same purpose. I am definitely of the opinion that if, short of nationalisation of banking and insurance, we want to control investment, if we want to direct investment in a proper channel, if we want to prevent bad investment and also guide and stimulate investment in a positive sense, then this National Investment Board can be of great advantage.

So far as the composition of this National Investment Board is concerned, I would suggest that there should be representatives of the Government at the Centre and also of

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the Governments in the States; there should be representatives of the Reserve Bank, the Industrial Finance Corporation and other financial institutions. In this way this National Investment Board would be a representative and effective body and can be very helpful in controlling the main sources of investment.

It would be needless for me to emphasise that if we are pledged to a policy of full employment as our ultimate objective and if we have a National Plan to implement, there is no doubt that we will have to resort to some such course. Sometime back the Minister of Commerce and Industry had hinted that something would be done to attract investment in some desired channels. I think this idea would also meet his point of view, because in my opinion the National Investment Board should be able to guarantee a certain return over a certain period in desired channels of investment. It should not be only a controlling body but, if possible, it should also be a financing or an investing body. But all these things will have to be decided after taking into account the balance of considerations. I leave the idea at that.

And now I would like to say a few words about our financial or revenue policy for the last six years. Viewing it in a broad perspective of the history of the last six years it seems to me that our revenue policy has been mainly in the nature of concessions to the higher income groups. It had been mainly in the nature of a retreat from the Liaquat Ali Khan budget. It has also been disinflationary. So far as it has been disinflationary it has been so good and so desirable. But I feel now a stage has been reached when the Government must realise the utter futility of pursuing further the present policy of taxation; because this concession has resulted neither in greater investment nor in the success of loan operations. So I feel that the Government must now take into account what has been happening to the capital issues; what has been happening in the loan market. And if we take into account these factors, the conclusion is irresistible that we will have to reorientate our taxation policy. In one sense it seems to me that the fundamental dilemma of the revenue policy does not seem to be resolved. Government does not seem to have made up its mind whether the economic salvation of the country lay through higher taxation and a stricter control or through less control and lighter taxation. The Government must make up its mind—Government has tried to

strike a balance, and I think the balance was justifiable to a certain extent in the given circumstances—but now after having introduced a certain amount of stability we must also import elements of progress in our taxation policy. And particularly so far as this year is concerned, I think there could not have been a more propitious year psychologically for raising direct taxation than this year, namely 1953, and that for a particular reason. We have launched a Five Year Plan and we could have appealed to the nation, with ample justification, to make sacrifices for the implementation of the Five Year Plan. But it seems that the Government does not think that any special or additional effort is required for the implementation of the Five Year Plan. The Government thinks that the implementation of the Five Year Plan is an easy and soft job and therefore it does not think in terms of a special effort or sacrifice.

I have no doubt that had Government been not unduly diffident or pusillanimous and appealed to the nation for greater sacrifices, the nation would have been responsive. But I do not know for what reasons this has not been done. I say that I am conscious of the fact that any reasonable increase in direct taxation would not result in greater revenue. Yes, I am conscious of that, but I am looking at it from another angle. You will realise that after having guaranteed the private enterprise a free and unrestricted play in their domain, with this tendency towards stabilising the present taxation policy, it seems that the status quo is going to be maintained to a certain extent and concentration of wealth is going to continue in the hands of a few. How are we going to reduce this concentration of wealth in a few hands? There has been set up a Taxation Enquiry Committee—we are glad that such Committee has been set up—although there was inordinate delay in doing so. But I must make it clear that we do not expect much from the present Taxation Enquiry Committee. While I say this I speak with all deference to the Members who man this Committee, but I would have felt happier had one or two persons from public life, with a certain amount of political edge in their views, been represented on this Committee. After all, taxation policy is not a matter to be viewed in an economic vacuum. It has also a certain political and ideological touch about it and so I would have felt happier if this Taxation Enquiry Committee included certain persons of outstanding experience and ability from political

life. Taking all social factors into account, I earnestly request for a re-orientation of the taxation policy so that equalitarian trends may be set up in our economy. As the U.N. expert, Mrs. Ursula Hicks, who conducted a financial survey of India under the auspices of the United Nations, has said for the year 1950 it seems the present taxation policy also is "largely a gamble on the willingness of the well-to-do to save". I think it cannot be characterised in any other manner. Considering all these things I feel that in the balance, it seems that our financial policy has some thing more to achieve. So I would like the hon. Minister not to allow himself to be impressed by the atmosphere in Delhi. In Delhi wherever you go, the roughest thing you collide against is silk and satin. But I would like him to remember that conditions in India, particularly in the countryside are not as soft or silken as that. With these few words, I support the Bill.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil): I would like to know from the hon. Member the name of the economist who conducted a survey.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: Mrs. Ursula Hicks.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I hear it as.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He cannot interrupt the proceedings like that.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (Calcutta South-East): We have reached the last stage of the drama when bouquet throwing and stone throwing at the Finance Minister will now culminate in some quotations from Telugu and Marathi combined and also some extracts from Sanskrit.

I would like to refer to some aspects of our national problems not for the purpose of merely criticising the Government but for sounding some notes of warning. Undoubtedly there are some good features in our financial administration and I for one will be the last person to take a pessimistic view of things. At the same time there should not be an undue complacency and there are certain danger signals which are coming in front of us and it will be the height of folly to ignore them. We are passing just now—I believe the Finance Minister himself has admitted it—from a stage of transition which represents a rather painful changeover to the buyer's market and in its wake it is causing jerks to practically all the components of our national economy. Undoubtedly our industrial production has gone up. It is something on which we can congratulate ourselves but at the same time we are witnessing the effect of a

buyer's market. The cost of living index has not decreased. Rather it has shown a slight increase in some areas. Wholesale price index undoubtedly has been reduced and there has been some reduction in the price of raw materials but so long as the purchasing power continues to be low as it is today, it is ultimately bound to affect our production. We would like to know what exactly the Government's plans are, how they propose to anticipate the prevention of what may amount to be a crisis. How it is to be done is a matter which has to be examined from the point of view of the Government, the industrialists as also the workers. Unless all these three interests put their heads together and keep the consumer's interests in front of them, it is not possible for us to get a solution.

Over and above this, there is an increased competition for exports in the overseas markets and that also is telling very seriously on some of our big industrial productions. If we look at the profits for 1952—we have not been able to get them all—it does indicate that there will be less profits in the industrial field in 1952 than in 1951 and in fact, the financial proposals themselves envisage that there may be less realisation from taxes in some spheres at least.

There is accumulation of stocks in some of the big industries. Some factories are closing down. It is a feature which we find to be a common one in almost all parts of India and naturally that is resulting in unemployment. Unemployment amongst the workers and unemployment amongst the middle classes due to the policy of retrenchment and want of occupation are assuming very serious proportions we do not see any constructive approach to the solution of this problem, either in the policy as adumbrated by the Government or otherwise.

With regard to food, there are famine pockets in this country. I would very strongly urge the Government to change the Famine Code completely. That was based on considerations which existed in this country nearly 75 years ago when we were under foreign rule but now sometimes taking advantage of these rigorous provisions of the Famine Code, Government refuses to offer help in areas where people are suffering for want of food. In many cases it is not physical shortage but it is due to the incapacity of the people to purchase at the current prices. Food prices as you know, Sir, absorb nearly 50 per cent. of our cost of living index and unless and until there is a substantial fall in food prices, we can never expect to have a real improvement in the economic condition of the country.

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Now our economy naturally largely depends on agriculture. The whole Planning Commission's recommendations allot 50 per cent. of the total amount to agriculture and so far as the other sectors are concerned, they have not received the shares which are really due to them. Look at the condition of some of the major factories. Today in answer to a question, the Minister of Agriculture referred to the sugar industry. He said 13 sugar factories in U.P. have now closed down. The reason is, no sugar cane is available, and as a matter of humour he said if more sugar cane was available, the factories would not have closed down. Is it a part of the economic planning of the Government that sugar production which reached a certain peak level last year is to be reduced this year? What will be the effect on local consumption? What will be the effect on possible export of sugar outside? What will be the effect on employment? Then, look at tea. I do not wish to go into the details. But, that industry is also presenting problems which have to be taken up from a long term point of view. With regard to jute, the recent Indo-Pakistan Trade Pact has contributed to certain results which have been disastrous to millions of our jute growers. I do not know under what circumstances this Trade Pact was really formulated between India and Pakistan. Of course, the Minister may say that it is not mainly due to the Trade Pact. Let us not quarrel about the quantum of responsibility. But, it is certainly a contributory factor. In any case, the fact remains that the prices of jute have completely toppled down. They have gone down to nearly 10 or 12 rupees in parts of Bengal and Assam. In the U.P., I read about 3 days back that the prices have gone down to Rs. 7 or 8 per maund. While there is a proposal according to the report of the Planning Commission that 3 lakh acres should be allotted for growing jute in the U.P. alone, the Chief Minister there has stated that it may not be possible to have even half of the acreage that U.P. had last year. Last year, U.P. had only 90,000 acres under jute. When the question is raised about the fixation of minimum prices for jute, Government says that it has not made up its mind about it. As it is, the Planning Commission itself puts the issue very clearly and categorically. Maintenance of an adequate degree of control over the prices of different agricultural commodities, it says, continues to be the essential condition of our agricultural planning. The price policy, it says, remains a

pre-eminent factor in the fulfilment of our agricultural plan. But, actually, when you find that prices are toppling down, which may affect not only millions of poor agriculturists, but also the future of the entire industry itself. Government says that it has not yet been able to make up its mind and it has no proposals to make at all. These are industries which are virtually controlled by foreign interests. I have no time to go into the details. But, it is of great importance that the national policy must not be dictated by these foreign interests who control the future of these industries. Things have happened in the past which will certainly indicate the desirability of our dictating the policy and not the policy being dictated to us by agencies which may not be ultimately interested in our national welfare.

I come next to the public sector, the nationalised industries, the State concerns which are coming up in different parts of the country. I certainly would like to take a completely non-partisan, and if I may say so, a national attitude towards the future of these institutions. They belong to the nation. It is of the utmost importance that they must be developed to grow in such a manner that we may be able to become self-sufficient in the directions which they are expected to serve, and also they may give us rich experience for the purpose of expanding our activities in regard to the development of national concerns. But, it is also of the utmost importance that nationalised concerns must not become a bureaucratisation of these concerns. We must be able to devise the means so that these institutions can be managed efficiently, honestly and in a business-like manner. All these three conditions should be fulfilled.

It is a matter of great pain when you hear on the floor of the House that our ship-building yard at Vizagapatam today is being threatened with retrenchment to the extent of about 800 workers, mostly technical men. When we discuss this matter on the floor of the House, we are told that because of want of materials or for some other reason, retrenchment has become inevitable. I do not wish to go into the details. But, I would specially appeal to the Minister of Production, who, I am glad, is present in the House, that he should not allow this retrenchment to come without an impartial enquiry. A demand which has been made on behalf of the Opposition and some Members of the Government party also like Mr. Harihar Nath Shastri, is that there must be an independent enquiry immediately, and

that these 800 and odd people should be restored to service. After an enquiry has been made, if it is found that retrenchment is inevitable in some directions, a proposal should be drawn up and it should be effected in such a manner that we do not lose the services of men who are really technically qualified for the purpose of ship-building. Here, the disclosures which have come out in the report of the Public Accounts Committee are really heart-rending. Mistakes may be committed. Of course, when big attempts are made, big mistakes also are made. It is not about the mistakes that we are worried, but about the speed with which we propose to rectify them and prevent the possibility of the recurrence of such mistakes. It is in this respect that Government should come out with their specific proposals.

So far as the National Laboratories are concerned, we have spent crores of rupees for building them up. I am proud of them. They are institutions, which, as the Prime Minister said the other day, are capable of producing great results. But, I would like to sound a note of warning here. These National Laboratories will remain only fine buildings, may be fine equipment also, unless you are able to equip them with properly trained men. Where are these men to come from? You are now picking up the men from the existing universities and other institutions throughout the country, and bringing them to the National Laboratories paying them salaries higher than what they were getting in their own institutions. It may be right, it may be necessary for the time being. But, unless and until you keep these Universities alive and prosperous and you make it possible for them to produce a generation of men, trained in the highest scientific skill and knowledge, so that with our Indian staff we may be able to equip these National Laboratories, there is no future for these great institutions. Unfortunately, the grants which have been made by the Government for this purpose are utterly inadequate. Unless there is a significant change in the policy of financial assistance to our higher technical institutions, and Universities, the future of these National Laboratories also would be doomed, and their tenure will be of a very short-lived character.

I had suggested at the time of the discussion of the Budget that there should be pre-audit or concurrent audit system with regard to the management of these institutions. If that is done, this sort of startling disclosures, which are more or less of the nature of a post mortem examination, which may give satisfaction to some, but which are nothing but a matter of regret and humiliation to us all, no matter whether we belong to the Government party or the Opposition, can be avoided. These institutions must be run as business-like institutions. Specially, I would suggest to the Government that the relationship between the workers and the employers in these factories must be of a kind completely different from what we find in a normally private-managed institution. We are talking of a Welfare State. We are talking of creating model conditions so far as the workers are concerned. When we have these national factories, which are dedicated to the service of the country, why should it not be possible for us to establish such a relationship between the workers and the employers there that both may join hand in hand and through co-operative effort build up these institutions of national value and national importance? Unfortunately, in many of these institutions, whether they are Ordnance factories or other factories established in different parts of the country, we are getting complaints from the labourers or workers. It is not for us to judge as to who is right and who is wrong. What I am saying is, there is lack of that atmosphere which can produce united work on the basis of common understanding and common service for the attainment of a common purpose.

With regard to the taxation proposals, I do not wish to go into the details. So far as the postal rates are concerned with regard to books and other things, already, it has been said how it is likely to hit the reading public, especially the student community. The Finance Minister is not getting a very large sum out of this taxation. As a gesture towards the development of educational and cultural activities, perhaps, he might have been able to find some substitute in the place of the increased postal rates. With regard to exemption from taxation for donations for charitable purposes. I certainly disagree with the amendment which the Finance Minister has given that if the donation is made for the benefit of a religious community, such a donation will not be exempted. This is the disease of secularism going so deep into the hearts of Government that it may result in corroding the hearts themselves. If someone gives a donation for the benefit of a religious community, or for the matter of that for a particular community, so long as the purpose is all right, why should it not be regarded as a bona fide charity. Even under the existing Constitution, as you know, Sir, the Article makes it

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abundantly clear that there may be special help given to women, children, backward classes, scheduled castes. Supposing you have some orphanage for Hindu children, you have certain widow homes in various parts of the country, and if there is a big donation given for such purposes. I do not see any reason why the Government should withdraw the favour of exemption from the donors to such institutions. Even at this late stage, I would request Government to re-examine it. If there is any unsocial purpose for which a donation is made, it is open for Government to reject it, but merely because a community or a section of the people is helped in accordance with a scheme which is otherwise desirable, the facilities which otherwise would have been open to the donors should not be withdrawn.

With regard to the expenditure which is mounting up, we must be able to regulate it. So far as taxation is concerned, it is difficult; I believe it is not possible to have much more revenues in this country through taxation. Of course, it will take two years before the Taxation Enquiry Committee concludes its labours, but there are certain directions in which we can move, and I would request the Finance Minister to examine these proposals in a detached and dispassionate manner.

I would certainly support the re-imposition of Salt Tax. It will give us at least Rs. 10 to Rs. 12 crores, and it will not affect the consumer. It may affect certain classes of middlemen, and I believe, Sir, that the re-imposition of this tax will bring to the coffers of the Government a decent amount every year through which our development plans may be pursued.

I would urge the Government to re-examine its present prohibition policy. A certain enquiry was conducted in Madhya Pradesh by a Judge or the Chief Justice, and certain ugly disclosures have been made, although the report has not been made available to us. I am not saying that you should encourage people to drink. You can have your own policy. It must be a social matter, but by some revision of the present policy of prohibition which is costing the country nearly Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 crores including what is being spent for keeping the huge Police and C.I.D. paraphernalia, we may easily be able to get at least half that amount, without in any way encouraging any social evil in this country. In fact, even in our present budget we expect Rs. 1½ crores from foreign liquor. So, the possibility of

our getting revenues from liquor is not entirely over-ruled in our budget. We should be able to look into this matter with a certain amount of realism.

I would suggest that we consider the proposal of abolishing the Part "C" States. It is costing us crores of Rupees every year unnecessarily, and now that five years have passed since the Constitution was framed, this whole question should now be reopened and examined not in the light of the interests of individual groups of people residing in some parts of the country, but in the interests of the entire nation. I would certainly ask Government to consider the desirability of abolishing the Upper Houses, not only here but throughout the country. To my mind they are not expected to give us any good results at all. They are totally unnecessary and we may be able to save crores of Rupees every year by this step. It cannot be done overnight.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour): What about the defeated Ministers?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The defeated Ministers will be appointed to the Planning Commission. You can have some more Planning Commissions.

At one stage, the Finance Minister stated that he was examining the possibility of revising the privy purses, not by direct legislation, but through gentle methods of persuasion. Of course, when his methods of persuasion start, they are sometimes very gentle, too gentle to be resisted. This possibility of revising the allotment to privy purses—whether 50 per cent. be ear-marked for development purposes in the areas where these Rajpramukhs or the Rajas and Maharajas reside,—or imposing income-tax on this total allotment may be examined.

Then, I come to this top-heavy administration. I was glad one Member from the Congress Party yesterday spoke with regard to the large number of Ministers and the manner in which the administration is becoming top-heavy. It is becoming a serious problem not only at the Centre, but in fact, in the entire country. My province in particular, being the smallest province in the whole of India, has as many as 32 Ministers. Of course, as the Chief Minister said, reciprocity came from the Centre very quickly, and what Bengal started, the rest of India, at least Delhi, followed very soon. That gives hardly any satisfaction, and the desirability of improving the condition of this top-heavy administration should be taken up.

If we examine the Police budget—I do not wish to go into details—the Police budget discloses an enormous increase throughout the country. Law and order seems the biggest problem in the country today, and not the amelioration of the conditions...

11 A.M.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi (Hamirpur Distt.): You are creating the problem.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The hon. Member says that they are creating the problem. I know it. The problems are created by them. Therefore, law and order is very necessary.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I said you are creating the problem.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The other day, the hon. Member himself created a minor law and order problem by allowing half his body to come inside, and leaving half outside. In any case, the law and order problem also is there. Of course, it will be there in any country, but if there is to be a Police Raj and not a Raj dependant upon the willing co-operation of the people, obviously the very purpose of any Government will fail.

Now, about the money we are spending on the C.I.D. During the last few weeks, I have been having some experiences with regard to the censoring of letters, about the clumsy and inefficient manner in which it is done. Of course, letters are censored, and among the letters I get, it is very difficult to open many envelopes. Practically half the letter is torn and it is pasted in such an inefficient and clumsy manner that you cannot read it. Sometimes, the postage stamp itself is found inside the envelope, and half of the postage stamp is outside. Three days ago, a letter addressed to me from Calcutta was found in an envelope which came from Bombay, and the Bombay envelope had the Calcutta letter. Of course, the climax we find was in U.P. which was reported three days ago. A letter was addressed to the Secretary of the Teachers' Satyagraha Committee. The envelope came, but inside the envelope was a love letter written by a newly married wife, and apparently, the letter which was meant for the Secretary had gone to the poor husband. Of course, where the husband lives no one can trace. I do not know whether my friend Mr. Algu Rai Shastri, who has been appointed arbitrator, knows anything about it or not. These are clumsy ways of doing things. I would certainly suggest that someone in Government do look into these matters so that, if letters are to be censored or the C.I.D. has to work they may work in a proper

manner, and not in this crude, inefficient fashion.

With regard to defence expenditure, we are spending Rs. 200 crores now. Of course, as I said at the time of the introduction of the budget, I shall be the last person to suggest that we should slacken our defence requirements. But this question has got to be gone into. Instead of doing retrenchment, you have got now four Ministers. You have the Prime Minister in charge of defence; you have one Minister for defence organization—I do not know if there is a Minister in charge of defence disorganization—there are two Deputy Ministers also tagged on to it. A Ministry with four Ministers means that the Ministry is looked after by nobody. It is nobody's responsibility. There is no co-ordination.

With regard to defence also, I was rather perturbed when I heard the Prime Minister say that we would be satisfied to have only some second-rate equipments. That is rather a poor way of building up the defence of the country. Second-rate equipment can be blown up by first-rate equipment quickly, and I do not know how our defence organisation will be built up if the basic proposition is that we shall be satisfied to have second-rate equipments and so on.

With regard to the expenditure on defence, I believe Rs. 5 lakhs are spent every day—the Finance Minister may correct me; it was Rs. 5 lakhs previously—on Kashmir alone, which comes annually to Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 crores. Now, what is going to be the future of Kashmir *vis-a-vis* India. That is a very vital question which has got to be decided. Dr. Graham has submitted his report, and in his report he has virtually pointed out that he expects to give no help at all in the solution of the Kashmir problem. Although we have differed in our approach to the Kashmir problem, on the question of Kashmir *vis-a-vis* India, yet I believe there is a large consensus of opinion in India that the time has definitely come when the Kashmir issue should be withdrawn from the U.N.O.—withdrawn, not in the sense that we withdraw from the U.N.O. itself—because we went to the U.N.O. with a complaint of aggression, not on the question of accession. And Dr. Graham, in his fifth report, has virtually expressed his inability to do anything in respect of that.

And therefore we should quietly withdraw it from the U.N.O., and say that we do not want the interference of the United Nations at all, and that the matter should be settled between

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

Kashmir and India. Of course, we have pleaded and we have urged very strongly that it can only be done on the basis of the entire State coming to India, wholly, completely, unequivocally and irrevocably. So far as the rest of Jammu and Kashmir is concerned, which is in the hands of Pakistan, something has to be done with regard to its future. We have pleaded that that territory must be won back for India. We do not wish that any part of our territory should go to the hands of the enemy, but if that is not done, if the policy of the Government is that the cease-fire line will be the ultimate boundary line between India including Jammu and Kashmir, and Pakistan, let us hear that finally. We do not want it at all. But let us know what is the Government policy in this matter, and we would like the curtain to be drawn finally on the Kashmir issue, so far as its finality of accession to India is concerned, and the greater the delay, the greater the risk of misunderstanding and also the possibility of conflict between India and Pakistan.

Lastly, I would like to say a few words on the impending visit of the hon. Prime Minister to Karachi. If the relationship between India and Pakistan improves on a stable basis, I have no objection at all.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: How does it concern the Finance Bill?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Everything is concerned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Everything concerns the Finance Bill.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That shows that it is not merely a law and order problem, but sometimes a problem of constitutional knowledge also.

Unless and until there is some understanding or some possibility of the basic approach of Pakistan towards India changing, I do not think that the hon. Prime Minister should go to Karachi just now. There may be some exploration. There are so many questions such as the passport system, the minorities problem, the evacuee property issue, and the Kashmir issue, the canal water issue etc. In every one of these issues we have been degraded, abused and even misrepresented. The last thing to do is to give any prestige to the present Pakistan administration, which is virtually on the collapse; it had let loose certain forces which are now strong enough to devour the administration itself. Now for us to go and start doing anything for the purpose of giving them a sort of revival will be the highest possible mistake. I am not

suggesting that the two Prime Ministers should not meet. Let me not be misunderstood. But there must be some understanding that the attitude of Pakistan towards some of the basic problems which have divided India and Pakistan, has changed in a satisfactory manner; there must be some proof of it, before our Prime Minister can go to Karachi and meet the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The other day, as the invitation and telegrams were coming here, there were conferences in Lahore and in Peshawar, which were participated in by the Chief Ministers of the States concerned, and also by the Governors of those States, and there was nothing but abuse of the Government of India, of India, of Hindus etc. Now if simultaneously this hot and cold business is blowing, let them blow hot and cold, but so far as we are concerned, we should be extremely careful in our approach to these problems.

Then, so far as the condition in the country today is concerned, the other day, the hon. Prime Minister—we saw it in the papers—at his party meeting read out 12 certificates, or some certificates from some foreign quarters and said that according to some foreign estimates, India is one amongst the 12 best-administered countries in the world. We do not know the list of those countries. We do not know on what pattern, these foreigners who came to this country either for health reasons or for political reasons or various other reasons, chose to give these certificates. But the real touchstone will be not the verdict of foreigners who come to this country as guests, either wanted or unwanted, temporary or permanent, and then go away, but a verdict on the basis of the willing decision of the people themselves, and that must be on the basis of the solution of the immediate problems, economic, social, political and international, on which the safety, prosperity, honour and the economic advance of the people as a whole depend. That will be the real touchstone, and it is a matter of regret to say that so far as that is concerned, so far as the verdict of the people generally is concerned, that verdict is not yet in favour of the Government, and it is rather definitely against it.

सरदार ए. एस. सहगल (बिलासपुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अर्थ मंत्री जी ने जो यह
फाइनेंस बिल पेश किया है, उसका मैं स्वागत
करता हूँ। इस अवसर पर मैं किसी एक
खास प्रान्त की चर्चा करना नहीं चाहता, बल्कि

सारे भारत की उन्नति को दृष्टि में रखते हुए अपने विचार आप के सामने पेश करना चाहताहूँ।

देश के फौजी विभाग के लिये जो खर्च होता है उस पर काफ़ी कड़ा नियन्त्रण रखना जरूरी है, मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जो विभाग ज्यादा पैसा खर्च करता है उस पर काफ़ी नियन्त्रण नहीं है। रक्षा विभाग में सन् १९४७-४८ के बीच जो उसकी द्वितीय रिपोर्ट है उस में जो कड़ी आलोचना की गई है अब तक उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई यह अभी तक सदन के सामने नहीं आया। इसी तरह से सन् १९४६-५० की रिपोर्ट रक्षा विभाग की जांच पड़ताल के बाद सदन के समझ जल्दी आनी थी, परन्तु उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप को बतलाऊं कि फरवरी माह में जब मैं ने उस सम्बन्ध में एक प्रश्न पूछा और उस प्रश्न का जवाब ४ अप्रैल सन् १९५२ को दिया गया, उस के बाद ही १९५० की आडिट रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने आई, उस से पहले नहीं। आडिट रिपोर्ट को देखने से मालूम हुआ कि २३ अक्टूबर, १९५१ को सेकेटरी, मिनिस्ट्री आफ़ डिफ़ेन्स गवर्नरमेंट आफ़ इंडिया ने उस पर अपने हस्ताक्षर किये और उस के बाद आप के कम्प्लोलर जनरल और आडिटर जनरल ने २० फरवरी १९५२ को अपने हस्ताक्षर करके हमारे सामने भेजा। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय अर्थ मंत्री महोदय को यह देखना चाहिये और इसका प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये ताकि फौजी विभाग में जो खर्च होता है उस की रिपोर्ट जनता के सामने और खासकर इस सदन के सामने जल्द आना बहुत जरूरी है और मेरे इस कथन की पुष्टि भारतीय संविधान की धारा १५१ (१) करती है। उस धारा के मुताबिक यह सब चीजें जल्दी ही हमारे सामने रखनी चाहियें। विधान में आडिट रिपोर्ट्स के बारे में सके ६६ पर १५१ (१) में इस प्रकार लिखा हुआ है :

151 (1) The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the President, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament.

लेकिन यह चीज हमारे सामने नहीं रखी गई। उसी तरह से मैं आपसे यह कहूँ कि रक्षा विभाग की १९५०-५१ की आडिट रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने नहीं आई है। यह आशा करनी चाहिये कि जल्द से जल्द वह रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने रखसी जायगी।

[SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTTY in the Chair]

रक्षा विभाग में जो तनखाह दी जाती हैं वह में कहने के लिये तैयार हैं कि वह तनखाह हमारे यहां कम है और यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हमारे देश के अन्दर जो लोग रक्षा का कार्य कर रहे हैं उन्हें हम पूरी तनखाह और पेन्शन दें, ताकि उन में असंतोष की आवाना पंदा न हो और वह पूरी तरह से संतुष्ट रह कर देश की रक्षा का कार्य ठीक तरह से कर सकें। इसी के साथ साथ मैं आप का ध्यान तीसरे और चौथे बांग के सिविल मुहकमों के जो कर्मचारी हैं, उनकी ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ, उन को हमें उनकी लियाकत के मुताबिक तरक्की देनी चाहिये, क्योंकि अगर उनको उनकी वाजिब तरक्की ज्यादा दिन तक नहीं दी जाती और उन्हें कायम मुकाम में देर तक रखा जाता है तो उससे उन लोगों में असंतोष होने की संभावना रहती है। यह सरकारी कर्मचारी सरकार की सलतनत को चलाने वाले हैं और अगर मैं उनको सरकार की रीढ़ की हड्डी कहूँ तो गलत न होगा।

मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि किसी भी देश की सलतनत ठंडे हाथों से नहीं चलती बल्कि उसको चलाने के लिये कड़ाई से कार्य करना बहुत जरूरी है और उस के लिये हमारे साधियों को जो दूसरी विचार-

[सरदार ए० एम० सहगल]

वारा के हैं, बबराना नहीं चाहिये। बल्कि सल्तनत का साथ देना चाहिये। सल्तनत में जो खराबियां हैं उन को दूर करना हमारा और आप का धर्म है और उस में जो भी गलतियां हों उनको हमें और आप को दूर करना होगा। मैं आप के सामने यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जिन नदी धाटी योजनाओं को पंचवर्षीय योजना के द्वारा आप कार्यरूप में ला रहे हैं, तथा भूमि के गर्भ से कीमती चीजें निकालने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं, इस के अतिरिक्त पहाड़ों को सोड कर उस में से खनिज पदार्थ पैदा करने का विचार कर रहे हैं, उस में मैं आप का ध्यान अपने यहां की एक खास चीज़ पर दिलाना चाहता हूं, यह न समझा जाये कि मैं अपने प्रान्त के लिये कह रहा हूं बल्कि देश की तरक्की के लिये रखना चाहता हूं। मैं आपकी आज्ञा से CWINC रिपोर्ट, अप्रैल १९४५ से मार्च १९५० तक के कुछ भागों को पढ़ना चाहता हूं :

"Madhya Pradesh (M.P.) is one of the richest States of India in minerals. There are large deposits of coal, bauxite, iron, copper, manganese, limestone, etc. No large scale industrial use of the mineral wealth has so far been attempted. Absence of cheap power appears to have been the principal handicap. Surveys for the purpose of utilising the water resources of the area were undertaken about thirty years ago but the reports were discouraging. It was at the time brought out that, in spite of the copious rainfall over the entire area, the water resources could not be utilised to produce cheap power or cater for large scale irrigation of the millions of acres of cultivated areas. Recently, however, at the request of the Government of M.P. a fresh reconnaissance was carried out by the CWINC, and it was revealed that potential for power exceeded one million kw, and water could also be made available for perennial irrigation of nearly a million acres of land".

इस तरह से इस रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से आप के जरिये नदी धाटी योजना मंत्री जी को मालूम होगा कि मध्य प्रदेश में कितनी ज्यादा सहूलियतें खनिज पदार्थ तथा नदी धाटी योजना के लिये मिल सकती हैं। इस के साथ साथ इस में यह भी दिया है :

"The Bastar area of the State is a sparsely populated tract. Cultivation is done on a restricted scale and the plentiful mineral resources have not been explored or exploited. A part of this tract is on a plateau at an elevation of over 2,000 feet above mean sea level. The rainfall is good and climate exhilarating. The area therefore offers great scope for resettling and rehabilitating refugees from Western Pakistan. This can be achieved without disturbing or encroaching upon the areas occupied by the tribal population".

इस के साथ साथ में आप का ध्यान सफ़ह ६१ के इस पैराग्राफ़ की तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूं :

"The principal river of this area, the Indravati, has great potential for power development which is absolutely necessary for exploiting the rich iron ores concentrated in two comparatively small areas, aggregating to over 100 crore tons, and containing 68 to 70 per cent. of pure iron, for the manufacture of pig iron, cast iron, steel, etc."

मैं आप के जरिये से मंत्री महोदय से अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूं कि स्टील प्लैन्ट लगाने के बारे में उन्हें इस एरिया का जहां कि इतना ज्यादा लोहा मिल सकता है, विचार करना चाहिये। जब भी वह और करेउन को अपनी CWINC की रिपोर्ट को देख कर तब कोई कदम उठाना चाहिये। और लोहे का कारखाना इन कारणों से मध्य प्रदेश में लगाना चाहिये :

इस के साथ साथ में आप का ध्यान इस तरफ और दिलाना चाहता हूँ :

"At the request of the States Ministry, a reconnaissance survey was carried out by the CWINC in Bastar area and four suitable dam sites were located where development appeared attractive. Three of them are on the Indravati and one on the Sabari, both tributaries of the Godavari. The power potential of these will be in the neighbourhood of 31,400 k.w. continuous. Besides, the dam on the Sabari river will provide irrigation facilities for an area of about 7 lakh acres".

यह जो चीजें हैं इन को अगर हम जो हमारी पांच वर्ष की योजना है उस में मिला लें तो उन से बहुत कुछ फायदा इस स्थान का हो सकता है जहाँ कि रहने वाले आज बहुत बुरी हालत में रह रहे हैं ।

इस के बाद में आप का ध्यान इस ओर भी दिलाना चाहता हूँ :

Hasdeo Dam Project—Rain gauges were fixed at the dam site and in the catchment area. Gauge, discharge and rainfall observations were in progress till the close of the sub-division.

Later on, the State Government desired to keep in abeyance investigations on the Hasdeo Project and, as a result, the Hasdeo Sub-Division was abolished on 26th December, 1949.

मैं यह कहूँगा कि इस हसदेव डैम तथा अरपा प्रोजेक्ट जो सरवे हो गया है उसे आप पांच वर्षीय योजना के बजट में अभी नहीं तो सन् १९५४-५५, १९५५-५६ या १९५६-५७ में शामिल करें और गौर करें तो आप बहुत बड़ा फायदा यहाँ के रहने वालों का कर सकेंगे । जो ज्यादा से ज्यादा गल्ला आप को देते हैं ।

अब में आप का ध्यान पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ । मैं माननीय अर्थ मंत्री जी से यह कहूँगा कि पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी ने जो रिपोर्ट दी है उस पर भी आप ठंडे दिमाग से गौर करें । और विचार करें कि कौन सी ऐसी खारी है जिस को दूर करना हमारा और आप का दोनों का फर्ज हो जाता है ।

मेरे पूर्व जो माननीय सदस्य बोले हैं उन्होंने प्राहिविशन पालिसी के बारे में बतलाया है । मध्य प्रदेश की जो प्राहिविशन पालिसी थी उस के सम्बन्ध में मैंने सुद अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं और मैं यह कहने के लिये तैयार हूँ एक कांप्रेस-मैन होने के नाते कि जो हमारी प्राहिविशन पालिसी है उस की फिर से छानबीन करनी चाहिये । उस के छानबीन करने पर कोई नुकसान नहीं है जो ज्यादा रुपया आज हमें नहीं मिलता है वह हो सकता है कि ज्यादा तादाद में मिल सके । आजकल की प्राहिविशन पालिसी से स्टेट गवर्नरेंट को नुकसान हो रहा है, इस के लिये आल इंडिया बैंसिस पर हमें प्राहिविशन पालिसी को फिर से बारीकी से छानबीन करके दोहराना चाहिये ।

अंत में मैं यह कहता हूँ कि जो हमारे सी पार्ट्स के राज्य हैं यदि उन में सालाना आमदनी कम है तो जितनी जल्दी हो सके उतनी जल्दी उन को आस पास के स्टेटों में मिला देना चाहिये । मैं तो यहाँ तक कहने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि बी क्लास स्टेट्स के लिये भी अगर कोई ऐसी स्टेट्स हैं जिनको आमदनी जितनी है उस से खर्च ज्यादा है उन के लिये भी हमें विचार करना चाहिये ।

[सरदार ए० एस० सहगल]

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप को धन्यवाद
देता हूँ।

Shri B. C. Das (Ganjam South): The Finance Bill is discussed in the background of the Five Year Plan. The Minister for Planning and Irrigation has called the River Valley projects "the very substance of the Plan". He has said—I am quoting him—

"They are the gems of the Five Year Plan on which the success of the solution of the shortage of our food problem depends."

Then, if that is so, we have to carefully scrutinise these projects when we see them going wrong. Also we have to see that these projects are run properly and are really turned into national undertakings enthusing joyous participation of the people. But are they so? A few days ago we had the report of the Public Accounts Committee before us. We also heard the Planning Minister's reply on the 27th March. Before that on the floor of this House several complaints on the working of the Hirakud project were made by several members from different parties including the Congress party. In the Press of Orissa you find complaints against the working of this project. We have also seen in the all-India Press certain reports—very nauseating reports—about the working of the Hirakud project being published. At last we found the Public Accounts Committee sitting in inquiry to find out the working of this project and submitting a report. What is this report? Certain persons try to make it out as an exhaustive report and that all that is bad and undesirable in the working of the project has been noted in it—which is not a fact. The Public Accounts Committee themselves do not claim this. If we read the reply of the Minister for Planning, we find that the impression he wants to give us is that it is an exhaustive report—that no wrong done there has been left out by the Public Accounts Committee. That is what he has said in his speech on the 27th March:

"The Committee has taken notice of everything wrong that might have occurred. A few lakhs have been wasted and if you take the project as a whole, the loss is very negligible and can be easily ignored."

I am question him again:

"Let us not talk as if a large-scale wastage has occurred in relation to the work that is being done. We have got hundreds of officers engaged in it and out of that four or five cases have been found."

This is what the Minister says. But let us see what the Public Accounts Committee themselves say about the working of the project. The Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in his introduction has succinctly put the charges against the project authorities—I am just quoting:

"The Committee wish to draw special attention to the following facts:

(a) the continued execution of works without detailed sanctioned estimates for five years from the commencement of the project contrary to established practice and rules;

(b) the failure from the very commencement of the project to make adequate arrangements for the storage and caretaking of crores worth of plant, machinery and stores and their proper accounting;

(c) the flouting of financial and account rules by responsible engineers on a scale and in a manner which have assumed grave proportions; and

(d) instances of nugatory and infructuous expenditure, and what is worse, instances of contracts and consequential expenditure involving serious irregularities and disregard of public interest."

This is very serious charge in moderate language. This is what the Public Accounts Committee say.

On the question of appointments we heard the Minister saying that there were only 4 or 5 wrong cases. But, what does the Public Accounts Committee say? I am quoting.

"Obviously, it is not possible for the Sub-Committee to go into each individual case of appointment but certain cases have been brought to our notice which show the unsatisfactory manner in which the recruitment was made."

Madam, I will not go into individual cases. But, if we go into certain cases what do we find? In the case of the Executive Engineer, Stores, Hirakud Project, we will find the way in which he was appointed does not reound to the credit of the Government of India, especially the Central Waterways and Power Commission, because the way he was manouevred into that office is scandalous and this has been clearly mentioned in the Report. I do not say that this was a single instance. The entire system is wrong. Something is wrong in the system. Therefore, for the hon. Minister to say that there were 4 or 5 instances is not right. The Committee have cited some sample instances. Hirakud is not a special case; it is a pointer to us; it is a warning to us that in several instances in India we find corruption rampant. This corruption has to be rooted out, mismanagement has to be done away with. How can we do that? If we do not go to the root of the matter, if we do not properly understand why this corruption raises its ugly head, then it will not be possible for us to eradicate corruption, nepotism, wastage and consequent general demoralisation.

From the Report of the Public Accounts Committee, we find certain glaring facts. Government started work on the Hirakud Project on the basis of the Project Report of 1947, which, according to the Committee, did not contain "any designs or Plans and the estimated costs were no more than lump sums based on guess work". That is one of the charges. You start huge projects without any estimates or designs.

The second charge was, that the project was entrusted to one body for all practical purposes. The Central Waterways and Powers Commission was entrusted with the execution. The same Commission was the Consulting Engineers. Subsequently, its Chairman became the Additional Secretary to deal with multi-purpose projects. So, there was no supervising authority and everything emanated from one head and corruption was inevitable.

Another glaring defect we find is that stores to the value of 5 crores of rupees were brought in 1948, but, for lack of accommodation at Hirakud, they were kept in the open. There was no check and control, and, from the report, we understand that some of them were rendered useless.

Then, right from the beginning a large number of works were undertaken without sanction. As a consequence of that we find Government

undertaking huge projects and abandoning them in the middle. There was the case of the subsidiary canal. Government spent 2 crores on it and found it unnecessary. Because they had no plans in their head, they wasted 2 crores of rupees. There is a case of a bridge being constructed, it is half finished and it is now abandoned. An aerial rope-way was purchased, but was not put into use. Thirty thousand rupees was thrown into the water. You find a catalogue of all this wastage in the report. None can say how huge is the loss as there is no accounting of the stores and works were without sanctioned estimates.

Now, coming to the condition of the people there, what has happened? The Government did not take the people into their confidence. The people were uprooted, they were not properly treated and were not given proper compensation. We find from the Report that only those people who owned lands, the landlords, were given compensation but the real tillers of the soil were simply evicted. They were not given any compensation. The Committee has recommended that they should be given land to be rehabilitated. That has not been done.

What about the workers? They have been treated as chattels. I wish to bring to the notice of the House the case of the President of the Workers' Union. He was discharged and dismissed summarily on the flimsy ground that he broke a mug of water. He was discharged without any explanation being taken from him. That is a scandalous affair. A copy of his complaint has been sent to the Labour Ministry. I think the Labour Ministry will take note of it. No reply has been received till now. It is a fact. And now what happens? The workers are treated miserably; there are no houses for the workers; thereby a large number of workers have to live in the open. Last year, cholera broke out and took a cruel toll of thousands of people, as a consequence of scarcity of water. That was the plight of the workers. If you see the officers, they are living like Nawabs in big bungalows. The people of the country, the people of the province for whose benefit the project is intended are treated as hewers of wood and drawers of water. In such cases, can you expect any justice, can you expect corruption to be eradicated, can you expect enthused participation of the people for making the Hirakud Project a grand national undertaking, of which everybody could be proud?

लाला अचिन्त राम (हिसार) : माननीय अध्यक्षा महोदया, मैं सब से पहले फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब को धन्यवाद देता हूँ और उनको कॉम्प्रेचुलेट करता हूँ। अब तक बहुत सी तकरीरें हुई हैं, हक में भी हुई हैं और बिलाफ भी हुई हैं। उन तकरीरों का अनन्दाज़ा लगाते हुए अगर मैं यह नहीं कहूँगा तो अपने स्थानात को छिपाऊँगा कि हमारे फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब जो रोल प्ले कर रहे हैं वह बड़े महत्व का रोल है। मेरे दिल में उनके लिए बड़ा भारी आदर है क्योंकि इन दो लोन सालों में वे मुल्क के अन्दर जो इकानामिक स्टेबिलिटी लाये हैं उसमें उनका बहुत बड़ा हाथ है। यह अलग बात है कि अगर मैं कुछ नुकसानी भी करूँ। लेकिन सच्ची बात नहीं छिपायी जा सकती। सच बात तो यह है कि उन्होंने जो काम किया है और जिस तरह से वह मुल्क के अन्दर इकानामिक स्टेबिलिटी लाये हैं उससे इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता। चन्द मिट्टों में मैं दो एक मामलों के मुतालिक बात करूँगा मसलन रिफ्यूजीज़ के मुतालिक और पोस्ट मैन और लाइन्स मैन के मुतालिक जिनसे मेरा सम्बन्ध रहा है।

पहले में शरणार्थियों के मुतालिक अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ। आपको मालूम है कि पीछे रिहैबिलिटेशन पर डिबेट हुई थी। उस समय १७ स्पीकर्स बोले थे और उन में से हमारी एक अध्यक्षा साहिबा भी थीं। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने उनको क्रेडिट दिया था लेकिन यह बात कही थी कि जो १६ स्पीकर्स बोले हैं वह उनके बिलाफ बोले हैं और उनका कहना था कि वह उनके बिलाफ एक टाइरेड था। आपको मालूम है कि मैं १५ मिनट बोला था और उसमें से तकरीबन आधा टाइम या उससे ज्यादा टाइम उन की तारीफ में बोला

और गवर्नरमेंट के हक में बोला इस स्थाल से कि गवर्नरमेंट ने रिफ्यूजीज़ के लिए खासा काम किया है और उनको बसाने की कोशिश की है और उनको इसमें एक हद तक कामयाबी भी हुई है और वह हद ऐसी है जो कि खासी है जिसकी हम तारीफ किये बगेर नहीं रह सकते और मैं कॉम्प्रेस का मेम्बर भी इसी बास्ते हूँ क्योंकि मैं समझता हूँ कि कॉम्प्रेस गवर्नरमेंट मुल्क के लिए आन दी होल मुफीद है। लेकिन अगर एक आदमी आपकी सब चीजों को अच्छा समझता है और किसी एक चीज़ को बुरा समझता है उसके लिए अगर यह कहा जाय कि वह गवर्नरमेंट के बिलाफ है और उसकी स्थीच एक टाइरेड है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे गवर्नरमेंट का भला होने वाला नहीं है।

श्री एस० एन० दास (दर्भागा मध्य) : ऐसी शिकायत नहीं है, ऐसा स्थाल सरकार का नहीं है।

लाला अचिन्त राम : ऐसा स्थाल नहीं है तो सं अर्ज करता हूँ कि यह कहना कि जो सोलह के सोलह मैम्बर हैं, और उन के अन्दर मैं भी शामिल था, वह टाइरेड था, उस के साथ कनसिस्टेंट नहीं है, मुनासिब नहीं है। लेकिन उस स्थीच के अन्दर, बजट के बबत जो मैं ने दी थी, जब कि मैं उन १६ मैम्बर में शामिल हुआ, तो जो यह कहा गया कि बैंस्टरन पाकिस्तान से जो रिफ्यूजीज़ आये हैं वे देश की इकानामी में ऐसीमिलेट हो गये हैं, मैं ने इस पर ऐतराज किया था कि यह मुनासिब नहीं है, यह ठीक नहीं है। बदल उन की है, यह ठीक बात है। लेकिन पूरी तरह रीहैबिलिटेट हो गये हैं यह कहना ठीक नहीं है। मैं समझता था कि यह पब्लिक की आवाज़ नहीं है। पब्लिक की आवाज़ इस से मुख्तलिफ़ है। तो मैं कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहूँगा सिफ़र चन्द एक शब्द आप को पढ़ कर सुनाऊंगा। आप को मालूम है

कि इस बक्त नार्दन इंडिया के अन्दर जहां पर कि बैस्टर्न पाकिस्तान से रिप्यूजी आये हैं, बसे हैं, बहुत से अखबारोंत हैं। लेकिन हो सकता है कि कोई अखबारात संघ के स्थाल के हों, या प्रजा सोशलिस्ट स्थाल के हों, या काम्युनिस्ट स्थाल के हों। लेकिन मैं इस बक्त उस अखबार की राय बताऊंगा कि जो प्रो कांप्रेस समझा जाता है। वह इंडिपेंडेंट अखबार है। उस से पता लग जायगा कि आया जो १६ मैस्टर यहां बोले थे उन्होंने पब्लिक का नुकतेनिगाह बतलाया था या मुख्तलिफ़ था। पहले मैं यह अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि यह ट्रिब्यून अखबार है जो नार्दन इंडिया का बड़ा बैलेस्ड अखबार है।

श्री धौ० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर-रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) : क्या नाम है?

लाला अचिन्त राम : ट्रिब्यून। तो उस की रायबताता हूँ।

प्रो० डॉ० सी० शर्मा (होशियारपुर) : यह भी रिप्यूजी अखबार है।

Mr. Chairman: Order, order, I would request the hon. Member to continue, because he would not have very much time to finish his speech.

लाला अचिन्त राम : उस ने लिखा है :

"It may be that Mr. Jain himself is anxious to introduce speed and expedition in what he does for giving relief to the sufferers from partition and that the peculiar intricacies and complexities of the problem stand in his way. But his major assumption is wrong".

उस के आगे फिर बयान यह है कि ऐसी-मिलेशन हो गया है। यह बात गलत है :

"Displaced persons have not yet been "assimilated" in the country's economy in the sense in which Mr. Jain used the word "assimilation."

दूसरी बात उस में यह लिखी है :

"What has been demanded is that they should be afforded suffi-

cient facilities to earn their livelihood with the sweat of their brow and to merge themselves in the economy of India. In this regard the Government have undoubtedly spent large sums of money, but that money is not commensurate with the magnitude of the problem. In addition, there has been lack of sympathy and understanding in dealing with refugees, particularly in regard to their shifting from one place to another."

फिर लिखा है :

"Not infrequently the approach to them has been devoid of what Pandit Nehru once called 'the 'human touch'."

फिर आगे लिखा है :

"Many of them have taken to vocations which are new to them and of which they have little experience. They are still struggling to find their feet. But as they are not in the habit of shouting it should not be interpreted to mean that rehabilitation has been completed".

Mr. Chairman. The hon. Member should not make his references longer than his original speech.

लाला अचिन्त राम : all right, Madam, मैं आपको मंडम ही कहता हूँ। तो एक फिरकरा और कहने की मुश्क इजाजत दें। मुझे कहने की जरूरत नहीं पड़ती, क्योंकि हम अपनी राय तो बतला चुके हैं, सिफ़ पब्लिक की राय बतलाना चाहता हूँ।

एक मानवीय सदस्य : आप तो अपनी राय दीजिये।

लाला अचिन्त राम : मैं तो कहता हूँ कि असीमिलेशन नहीं हुआ। लेकिन हमारी बात को आप कहां मानते हैं, कहते हैं कि टाइरेड है। मैंने पब्लिक की कीरिंग बतलाई भव यह लिखा है :

"Only those who are in contact with them know how many of them

लाला अचिन्त राम

are facing starvation and destitution. An enquiry into their economic condition will at once reveal shocking results. Unfortunately those in authority are incapable of appreciating and understanding their misery.

तो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त जो पिक्चर आगे बताई गई थी वह दर हक्कीकत पब्लिक की पिक्चर है। पब्लिक इस बात को महसूस करती है कि गवर्नरमेंट ने बहुत काम किया है। लेकिन इन हालत के अन्दर तो रिप्यूजीज़ की ऐसी हालत है कि जैसे कोई एक पंछी हो। उस को पकड़ लिया जाय और पकड़ कर उस का दायां पंख भी तोड़ लिया जाय और बायां भी तोड़ लिया जाय और उस के रिश्तेदार और करीबी भी सामने बायल हो गये हो। फिर वह कहां जाय। वह नई लैंड की इकानामी में फिट इन हो गये, यह मुश्किल है। आज उनकी यही हालत है। मैं अर्ज कर रहा था कि उन का एक पंख जो मूरेविल प्रापर्टी है वह वहां रह गई। जो दूसरा पंख इम्म्बेल प्रापर्टी है वह भी वहां रह गई। उन के पर गायब हैं। फिर उन के जो कमाने वाले हैं वह मर गये, रह नहीं गये। आज उन की देख भाल करने के लिये कौन है। इस लिये यह कहना कि नई लैंड में वह ऐसीमिलेट हो गये हैं, मैं कहूँगा कि मुनासिब नहीं होगा।

I hope you will allow me 15 minutes.

Mr. Chairman: He has already taken 12 minutes. I will give him 3 minutes more.

लाला अचिन्त राम: उन्होंने एक बात प्रपनी रिपोर्ट में कही :

"A vast majority of displaced persons from West Pakistan have been rehabilitated and their problem is expected to be largely liquidated by the end of 1953-54."

मुझे खुशी है कि मिनिस्टर साहब ने कम्पेनसेशन के हक्क में तकरीर की कि हम कम्पेनसेशन देना चाहते हैं। अब मैं यही अर्ज करूँगा कि कम्पेनसेशन के बारे में सब को इतिफाक है। मिनिस्टर साहब को इतिफाक है। मैं सिफ़र कायनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब से दरखास्त करूँगा कि आप कम्पेनसेशन दें तो मुझ को सतरा है कि कम्पेनसेशन शायद इस बास्ते कहीं न रुक जाय कि क्योंकि हम तय नहीं कर सके कि मुस्लिम इवेंक्यूइ प्रापर्टी जो यहां पर है उसका टाइटल क्वेश किया जाय या नहीं। मैं इसे डरता हूँ। या फिर कहीं ऐसा न हो कि आप कहें कि पाकिस्तान के साथ आपका मुशाहिदा मुकम्मल नहीं हो सका। मेरी आप से दरखास्त है कि आप इस बात की परवाह न कीजिये कि टाइटल क्वेश हो या न हो। यह मामूली बात है। आप का पाकिस्तान के साथ तय हो या न हो, यह मामूली बात है। जरूरत इस वक्त इस बात की है कि जितने क्लेम वैरीफ़ाइ हुए हैं, ५०० करोड़ के, उस का १० पर सेंट कैश में या बांड्स की शक्ति में दें। अगर आज उन को यह इमी-जियेट रिलीफ़ नहीं मिलेगा, तो उन का रीहैबिलिटेशन मुकम्मल नहीं होगा।

दूसरी बात मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त मिनिस्टर साहब के साथ स्टेट्स कोआपरेट नहीं कर रही है। आज स्टेट्स के अन्दर टू मच आटानामी है यहां पर कम्प्स से रिप्यूजीज़ आते हैं, योल कम्प से आते हैं और वे हस्तिनापुर को भेजे जाते हैं। वहां गवर्नरमेंट कहती है कि जगह नहीं है। कोल्हापुर भेजते हैं, वहां भी कहते हैं कि जगह नहीं है। इस तरह से आज इस मामले में सेंटर का मिनिस्टर डरता है, क्योंकि उन की बात कोई मानता नहीं है। तो आप को ल्याल करना चाहिये कि यह क्यों है। यह जो हक्क आप ने

आटोनामी के नाम से स्टेट्स को दे दिया है, इस वजह से यह नहीं मानती है। यह आप को अस्तित्यार अपने पास रखना चाहिये।

तीसरी बात यह कही है कि जो रिफ्यू-जीज़ वैस्टन्स पाकिस्तान से आये हैं वे करीब ५० लाख एकड़ जमीन वहां छोड़ कर आये हैं। इस वक्त फूड की मिनिस्ट्री लैंड डवलैप कर रही है। उन का स्थाल है कि आठ मिलिअन एकड़ लैंड डवलैप करेंगे। मेरी आप से यह दरखास्त है कि जो लैंड डवलैप हो वह रिफ्यू-जीज़ को मिले। जिन के पास जमीन थी और जो जमीन पर काम करना चाहते हैं उन को जमीन दी जाय। (इस समय फिर घंटी बजी) जस्ट वन प्वाइंट मोर (केवल एक बात श्रीर)। वह सिर्फ़ यह है कि आज आप को मालूम है कि देश में बीमारी बहुत है, खासकर टी० बी० की। टी० बी० बीमारी से आज हमारे पांच लाख आदमी बीमार हैं। एक लाख आदमी टी० बी० से मर जाते हैं। लेकिन आप की सूचना के लिये मुझे यह कहना है कि आज जो रिफ्यूजीज़ हैं उनके अन्दर टी० बी० बड़ी तेज़ी से बढ़ रही है। मैं कल्यान कैम्प में गया था। वहां एक कैम्प में ५०० मरीज़ टी० बी० के थे। आज हम मिनिस्ट्री से कहते हैं कि आप खाने के लिये उन को नहीं दे सकते तो अच्छा, कोई बात नहीं। पहनने के लिये नहीं दे सकते तो मामूली बात है। लेकिन जब वह बीमार पड़ जाते हैं तो कम से कम मरने के लिये तो जगह दें जहां कि वह आराम से मर सके। इस वाले मेरी प्रार्थना यह है कि इस वक्त १३ हजार टी० बी० के बैड्स हैं। आप इन दो हजार नये बैड सेट अपार्ट कीजिये और हैल्थ मिनिस्ट्री के सुपुर्द कीजिये कि जो रिफ्यूजीज़ हैं वे आ कर रह सकें। मेरी आप से यही प्रार्थना है।

प्रांतिर में मैं एक बात श्रीर मिनिस्टर साहब से अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ।

करप्शन के बारे में आपके पास पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट शान्तुकी है और आप इस बात के हक में हैं कि करप्शन और भ्रष्टाचार देश में से भिट जाय। इस लिये भेहरवानी करके उस कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में जो फाइंडिंग दी है और करप्शन के केसेज़ पकड़े हैं, उनको आप कबूल कर लीजिये ताकि मालूम हो कि सेंट्रल गवर्नरमेंट करप्शन दूर करने के बारे में वाक़ई सीरियस है।

डा० जाटब-श्रीर (भरतपुर-सवाई माधो-पुर—रक्षित—ग्रन्तुचित जातियाँ) : मान-नीया सभानेत्री महोदया, आज इस सदन में मैं वित्त मंत्री को बन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने फ़ाइनेंस बिल के द्वारा तमाम बजट का सारांश रख दिया। महोदया, मेरा तो यह मत है कि देश में चाहे कोई भी सरकार हो, लेकिन जिस के राज्य में जनता भूखी, नर्गी और अश-क्षित हो तो उस दशा के लिये वह शासन उत्तरदायी है। आज भारत को स्वतंत्रता प्राप्त किये हुए ६ वर्ष अवधीत हो गये, और देश में इस स्वतंत्रता के आने का ढिंडोरा तो बहुत पीटा जा रहा है, लेकिन जब हम देहतों और शहरों में बसने वाले उन दीन दलित और शोषित भाइयों की तरफ नजर डालते हैं तो हम पाते हैं कि आज स्वतंत्रता आने के पश्चात् भी उन की अवस्था में कोई सुधार नहीं हुआ है, यह हमारा शोषित वर्ग जो हजारों वर्षों से दबाया और सताया हुआ है अथवा जन्म जाति के आत्माभिमानियों द्वारा उनको हमेशा कुचला गया है, जब हम उन की दुर्दशा को देखते हैं तो हम इस के सिवा और क्या कह सकते हैं कि स्वतंत्रता आ तो गई लेकिन वास्तव में वही तक सीमित रही जो इस की लालसा में लग थे। वह उनके यहां नहीं आई, क्योंकि उन शोषित जाति के भाइयों की आज भी वही दशा है जो आज से दस वर्ष पहले थी और मैं यदि अपने उन देहत में बसने वाले भाइयों की

[डा० जाटब-बी०]

हालत का आप के सामने वर्णन करूँ तो महोदया जी, आप ही नहीं बल्कि सारा सदन जो यहां बैठा है अश्रुधारा बहाने लगेगा। भारतीय संविधान में अयोग्यता निवारण सम्बन्धी धारा बनने से पहले कई प्रान्तीय सरकारों ने अयोग्यता निवारण सम्बन्धी कानून अपनी अपनी विधान सभाओं में बनाये, लेकिन दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि कागनेजेविल आफेंस (हस्तक्षेप्य अपराध) न होने के कारण वह कानून मंत्रियों के कार्यालयों और सरकारी दफ्तरों के अन्दर ही सीमित रहे और उसका कोई प्रभाव न तो जनता पर पड़ा और न उन पिछड़े हुए पीड़ित लोगों पर पड़ा, उनकी आज जो दुर्दशा हो रही है वह बड़ी दर्दनाक है और ने भी यहां पर कई बार उसके बारे में सरकार का व्यान दिलाया, इस के अतिरिक्त विधान सभाओं के प्रतिनिधियों ने अखिल भारतीय शेह्यूल कास्ट फेडरेशन के समापति, मंत्रियों ने और भारतीय डिप्रेस्ड क्लास लीग के समापति, मंत्रियों ने और इस सदन के सदस्यों ने इस की ओर सरकार का व्यान दिलाया और भारतीय सरकार पर इस बात का जोर डाला कि वह एक अयोग्यता निवारण और अस्पृश्यता निवारण हेतु कोई विधेयक लाये जो कागजनेविल हो, दस्तन्दाजी पुलिस हो।

श्री एस० एन० दास (दर्भंगा मध्य) : इस बात को कल कहियेगा।

डा० जाटब-बी० : फिर समझ में नहीं आता कि सरकार इस अस्पृश्यता और अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये जल्दी से जल्दी कोई कानून क्यों नहीं पास करती। मुझे बड़ा दुःख है कि जब इस सदन में यह चर्चा हो रही थी उस समय देश के भिन्न भिन्न भागों में इन पददनित जातियों पर अत्याचार हो रहे थे। सरकार का व्यान दिलाया। मध्यभारत में मुरेना परगने में दलित जाति के समुदाय पर उन

रुदिवादी लोगों ने शूटिंग की और सात निर्दोष आदमियों को गोली से उड़ा दिया, बात कुछ भी नहीं थी केवल पंचायत में उस जाति का एक मेस्वर हो गया था। महोदया, इधर आप अस्पृश्यता निवारण का ढोग बना कर व्यर्थ का ढिडोरा पीट रहे हैं। मैं आपको आगे बतलाऊं कि घोलपुर स्टेट राजस्थान में संपत्तीजों के मंदिर में जब गत वर्ष वहां के चमारों ने महादेव पर जल चढ़ा दिया, यह दृश्य को सवर्णों से सहन नहीं किया जा सका और फलस्वरूप आगजी और लूटमार की घटनायें हुईं और करीब चालीस गांवों में आतंक मचा, आग लगा दी गई। लूट मार हुई, नाना प्रकार के अन्याय अत्याचार हुए।

विन्याप्रदेश के बारे में आप को सुनाऊं, वहां के सदस्य भी इस सदन में मौजूद हैं वह भी जानते हैं कि शोषित और परिमणित जाति वाले लोगों ने जब गत वर्ष गांव बाढ़ीन में रेडियो लगाया, तो उन लोगों का घर जला दिया गया और विवाह की तमाम सामग्री लड़ू, कच्चीरी पूरी आदि जो थी, वह सब लूट ली गई अथवा बर्बाद कर दी गई, उन के रहने की ज़र्ज़ूपड़ी बरबाद कर दी। बयां नहीं सरकार एक ऐसा बिल लाती अथवा कानून पास करती जिस से यह चीजें हमेशा के लिये रुक जायें। हमारे श्री रेशमलाल जांगड़े ने भी इसी बात के लिये सदन से मांग की लेकिन यह बड़े दुःख का विषय है कि हमारे गृह मंत्री ने जहां और सब बातों का तो उत्तर दिया लेकिन पिछड़ी हुई जाति के समुदाय जिस का शोषण हो रहा है, की अवस्था में सुधार करने की तरफ अपने भाषण में कोई भी प्रकाश नहीं डाला।

अब मैं कुछ गृह-निर्माण के विषय में कहना चाहता हूँ। आप देखते हैं कि जो पीड़ित लोग हैं, आज भी गांवों में उन के रहने के लिये जगह नहीं है और इसी कारण से उन स्थानों से

बेगर ली जाती है। और उन लोगों पर नाना प्रकार के अत्याचार होते हैं, क्यों नहीं सरकार उन के रहने के लिये व्यान देती और रुपया खर्च करती जब देश का करोड़ों रुपया और और बातों में खर्च कर रही है। रेफ्यूजीज के लिये सरकार करोड़ों रुपया खर्च कर रही है, मुझे उसमें कोई एतराज नहीं, आखिर रेफ्यूजीज भी तो हमारे भाई हैं और जमाने के सताये हुए हैं, लेकिन मैं आप को बतलाऊं कि यह विज़ाजी जाति का समुदाय असली रेफ्यूजीज हैं। आज उनकी अवस्था दयनीय है जब कि वह बचारे देहात को छोड़ शहरों में सड़कों पर बांस के टट्टर, पत्तों की झाँपड़ी और सिरकी के पल्लर डाल कर जिन्दगी के दिन काट रहे हैं और आपको यह भी मालूम होना चाहिये कि वर्षा छतु में मूसलाधार पानी में वह वहीं रात काटते हैं, वहीं परिवार की रोटी करते हैं और वहीं उन की औरतों के बच्चा पैदा होता है। वहीं मृत्यु होती है। मैं ने पूज्य ठक्कर बाबा का व्यान इस और दिलाया था और मैं आशा करता हूँ कि टंडन जी जो इस समय सदन में बैठे हुए हैं वह अवश्य इस और व्यान करेंगे, जिन्होंने गृहवाटिका स्कीम तैयार की, सरकार पर इस के लिये जोर डालेंगे कि वह उनके रहने के लिये जगह दे अथवा गृह-निर्माण की सुविधा दें। आखिर यह कैसी स्वतंत्रता है जिस में लोगों को रहने के लिये जगह न हो। द्रेनों में आप अक्सर आते जाते हैं, द्रेनों और एलेक्ट्रिकामों पर हमारे देश की जवान जवान लड़कियां जिन के सिर पर व अन्य भाग पर कपड़ा नहीं होता, आप के पास आकर एक एक रोटी का टुकड़ा मांगती है, जिस देश के अन्दर ऐसी हालत हो, उसके लिये आप कैसे कह सकते हैं कि वह देश स्वाधीन है?

मैं तो वित्त मंत्री महोदय से कहूँगा कि यह सब आप के हाथ में है, भेंडार उसी के हाथ

में होता है जो कुबेर होता है, देश का कोष जिस के हाथ में है, और यदि सजान्वी रूपया नहीं देगा तो कोई भी सुधार का कार्य सम्भव नहीं हो सकता।

आज इस बात का बड़ा ढिड़ोरा पीटा जा रहा है कि जो भूमिहीन हैं, कृषिकार मजदूर लोग हैं उन को जमीनें दी जायेंगी, लेकिन मुझे दुस्त के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि वह स्वयं है बहुत से लोग जो दूसरे उद्यमों में लगे हुए हैं, व्यापार आदि करते हैं, खेतिहर मजदूर नहीं हैं भूमिहीन मजदूर बन गये और इस तरह उन्होंने ने नाजायज लाभ उठाया। सरकार नहीं देखती कि यह क्या हो रहा है। चाहे वह दुकान हलवाई की करते हों, लेकिन लैंडलस लेबरर बन कर और भूमिहीन किसान बन कर जमीन ले लेते हैं। लाला जी करते तो व्यापार हैं और दुकानदार हैं, चार आनं की टोपी लगाये हुए नेता हैं, तिलक भी लगाते हैं लैंडलस और भूमिहीन बन कर सरकार की आंखों में धूल झोक कर बंजर जमीन स्वयं प्राप्त कर लेते हैं और उस भूमि को उन्हीं मजदूरों को शिकनी जोत या बटाई की जोत देने वाले हरिजनों को दे देते हैं और दस रुपया लगान का उन से पचास रुपया फ़ी बीचा लगान ले लेते हैं। मेरा यह कहना है कि गांवों में जहां यह आबाद हैं, उन को उस जमीन का मालिकी का हक दिया जाये और बटाई की खेती में शामिलात का हक हो, बंजर भूमि विशेषकर इस समुदाय के लोगों को दी जावे जो वास्तव में खेतिहर मजदूर हैं। ढिड़ोरा तो बहुत पीटा जाता है, लेकिन करा कृष्ण नहीं जाता, यहीं मुझे आपको बताना है।

देहातों में गृह निर्माण के लिये आप लोग उनको जमीनें दीजिये, दासता की शूलना से मुक्त करें। शहरों में उन की दशा में आपको बतलाऊं कि वहां भी ठीक नहीं है। यहीं इसी दिल्ली में जो सारे भारत की राजधानी

[डा० जाटव-बी०]

है और जहां सारे देश की पार्लियामेंट है वहां पर पूज्य ठक्कर बापा के नाम से जो कालोनी कई वर्षों से बापानगर बसी हुई है, वहां पर से लोगों को ग्रब बेदखल किया जा रहा है और मुकदमे चलाये गये हैं, उन बेचारे हरिजनों ने 'पहाड़ को तोड़ कर रहने लायक स्थान बनाया और आज उन की यह दुर्दशा की जा रही है, दर्दनाक है, दयनीय है, यहीं दशा आनन्द पर्वत में जो बसे हैं उन की है। यहीं हालत थान-सिंहपुरी जहां पर हरिजन लोग बसे हैं, है। सरकार शीघ्र से शीघ्र उस भूमि को एक्सायर कर उन लोगों को दे और इसी प्रकार उन के रहने के लिये देहातों में अधिक सहायता न कर सके तो उन के लिये रहने के लिये भूमि के टुकड़े दे दे जिस से वे स्वाधीन हो कर इस स्वतंत्रता का आनंद ले सकें। भारत देश में जहां पर क़रीब क़रीब चौदह करोड़ लोग दुखी हों और जिन की इस प्रकार दुर्दशा हो, उस देश को यह कैसे माना जा सकता है कि स्वतंत्रता आनन्दमय है।

अब में थोड़ा सा आप से चर्म उद्योग के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहता हूं। मुझे दुःख है कि श्री कृष्णमाचार्य इस समय यहां मौजूद नहीं हैं, नहीं तो मैं उन को बतलाता कि चर्म उद्योग की क्या दुर्दशा है। सन् १९४७ में ६३ लाख, ४४ हजार १५७ रुपये का कच्चा चमड़ा विलायत भेजा गया, आशा तो हम यह लगाये हूए थे कि हमारे देश का चमड़ा यहां रहे और यहां के लोग चर्म दस्तकारी का व्यापार करें और उत्पत्ति करें। पहले इस देश का चर्म व्यवसाय काफ़ी बड़ा हुआ था और यहां के बने जूते तथा अन्य चर्म वस्तुयें ऐशिया के सभी भागों में जाती थीं और दूसरे देशों से घन आता था। लेकिन आज हम देखते हैं कि चर्म उद्योग जो देश का घरेलू धन्दा है दिन प्रति दिन गिरता जा रहा है और जूता कारीगर

भुखमरी का शिकार बन रहा है। मैं आपको इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ फ़ीगर्स देना चाहता हूं, जिस से मालूम होगा कि इस घरेलू उद्योग की वर्षों अवनति हुई।

सन् १९४७ में ६३ लाख, ४४ हजार १५७ रुपये का, सन् १९४८ में ६ करोड़, ६४ लाख ८ हजार पाँच सौ चौरासी, सन् १९४९ में ७ करोड़, २० लाख, ४६ हजार ८५७ और सन् १९५० में १० करोड़, २३ लाख, २८ हजार ५१८ यानी क़रीब १ करोड़ से १० करोड़ का चमड़ा विलायत भेज दिया गया और भेजा जा रहा है। आज चर्म उद्योग के दिन प्रति दिन गिरने के कारण बेकारी की समस्या ने भयंकर रूप घारण कर लिया है। जूते का उत्पादन और चमड़े रंगने का काम इन के हाथों से निकलता जा रहा है। बाटा और फ़लंकस जैसी मिलों ने इन के इस घरेलू उद्योग को और भी चौपट कर दिया है। आज के दिन उसी आगरा नगर में जहां सन् १९४५ में ३५,००० जोड़ी जूते प्रति दिन बनाने का ग्रीसत था, आज वह क़रीब केवल दस हजार जोड़ी जूते ही बना पा रहे हैं और लोगों में बेकारी के कारण त्राहि त्राहि मच रही है। कुटीर कारीगरान अत्यन्त संकट में हैं।

आप कहेंगे कि हम इस के लिये कोशिश कर रहे हैं। आप यहां का कच्चा चमड़ा बाहर भेज देते हैं। जो हमारा कच्चे चमड़े का बन है वह यहां से $\frac{1}{2}$ रुपये या एक रुपये का दो पौँड जाता है और वहां से फिर इस देश में ६ रुपये से १० रुपये पौँड आता है। हमारी इच्छा यह है कि इस का टोर्निंग यहीं हो और यहीं गृह उद्योग द्वारा नाना प्रकार की वस्तु बनें। लेकिन आप क्या करें? आप को तो डालर चाहियें, डालर। चाहे आदमी मर जायें, देश तबाह हो जाय, लेकिन विदेशों के लिये चमड़ा भेजे जायें।

कहां गये हमारे बलबंत सिंह मेहता जिन्होंने सदन में कहा था कि बिना उद्योग के भील लोग मास लाते हैं, राजस्थान के अन्दर तो भूखमरी फैल रही है, उत्तर प्रदेश में कारीगरों के जेवर व मकान तक बिक गये हैं। मैं कहता हूं कि आप वहां लंदर फैक्टरी क्यों नहीं बनाते ? जयपुर, भरतपुर में बनाइये, बीकानेर में बनाइये। मैं कहता चाहता हूं कि सरकार को जल्दी से जल्दी इसका प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। मैं आप के विरोध के लिये नहीं कह रहा हूं, किटिसाइज भी नहीं कर रहा हूं। मैं तो केवल आप को बतला देना चाहता हूं कि आप को फ़ोरन इस के लिये कार्य करना चाहिये। अन्यथा भयंकर परिणाम होगा।

जब मैं तुमाव रखना चाहता हूं गृह निर्माण के लिये बीस करोड़ ३३ लाख रुपया तथा कूप निर्माण के लिये १८ करोड़ रुपये हैं। आप को मालूम होना चाहिये कि जब कि आप लोग बिजली के द्वारा ५८ किया हुआ पानी पीते हैं, तब हमारे हरिजन भाई सर्वं हिन्दुओं के कुओं से पानी नहीं ले सकते। उन को दूर दूर से पानी लाना पड़ता है। और तालाबों की ओर भरा हुआ पानी पीना पड़ता है। इस के लिये १८ करोड़ रुपये कम से कम रखने चाहिये। चर्म उद्योग के लिये कम से कम पांच करोड़ रुपय रखें। मैं जानता हूं कि अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये कानून बनेगा। इसके लिये रुपये की ज़रूरत है। अगर आप अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये रुपया नहीं रखेंगे और कानून अमल में लायेंगे तो उसके लिये रुपया कहां से आयेगा ? इसलिये अयोग्यता निवारण के लिये मैं ने दो करोड़ रुपये की मांग की है। विदेशों और यहां की आत्रदृतियों के लिये कम से कम ६० लाख रुपया रखना चाहिये। इस प्रकार से कुल ४५ करोड़ ६३ लाख रुपये होते हैं। यदि आप इस

प्रकार से पांच वर्षीय योजना में प्रबन्ध कर दें तो मैं समझता हूं कि आप काफी सहायता करेंगे। देश का वह अंग जिस में कोड़ा लगा हुआ है, जिसे आप अपने देश का चौथा अंग मानते हैं, वह जरजर हो गया है, सड़ गया है, गल गया है, उस के रोग को दूर करने के लिये औषधिकी आवश्यकता है। मैं नहीं चाहता कि कोई कार्य नारंगी की तरह से हो जो कि ऊपर से सुन्दर दिखाई देता है, लेकिन भीतर फांक ही फांक होती हैं। मैं तो चाहता हूं कि वह खरबूजे की तरह हो जो कि ऊपर से देखा जाय तो कांक फांक ही होती है, लेकिन भीतर से वह एक होता है। परमात्मा वह दिन लावे कि हम सब भारतवर्ष के आदमी एक हों। न कोई छूट छात हो और न यहां पर कोई किसी से नीचा अधिवा ऊंचा हो। इसी तरह से हमारे देश का स्तर ऊंचा हो सकता है। अगर इस को किया गया तो मैं समझता हूं कि देश का कल्याण होगा।

मैं आशा रखता हूं कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री सब बातों पर प्रकाश डालेंगे। कहीं ऐसा न हो कि तमाम बातों का उत्तर देते हुए वह इन को भूल जायें। हमारे भाई आप के भी भाई हैं। मैं आपके मुख से सन्तोषप्रद उत्तर सुनना चाहता हूं।

Mr. Chairman: Shri Thimmaiah—I can only allow you 5 minutes.
12 NOON

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I would like to say a few words about the Bhadra Project in Mysore State which has yet to receive full justice at the hands of the hon. Finance Minister. The project was started in the year 1947 by the Mysore Government and it is one of the biggest multi-purpose projects and it had to be left for want of finance. After integration we expected that the Central Government would take up the execution of the project which is not completed. Even in the Five Year Plan we see that a very meagre amount is allotted for 5 years and that will not be sufficient for the full execution of the project. Perhaps the hon. Finance Minister has no idea about the advantages of the project. It is a project under which about 2.24,000

[**Shri Thimmaiah**]

acres of land will be irrigated and thereby it will increase the production of food by one lakh tons. This will not only solve the food problem but also the shortage of fodder required for the cattle. Also, if this project is executed, it will produce about 18,500 k.w. of electric power including the seasonal power for providing supply to the iron and steel works at Bhadravati where you can increase production of iron and steel.

In the Five Year Plan I see the Government has allotted about Rs. 36 lakhs for 1952-53 and Rs. 40 lakhs for 1954 and 40 lakhs for 1955 and Rs. 40 lakhs for 1956 but the estimated cost of the project is Rs. 18 crores and now a stage has reached when the work can be speeded up provided finance is available. With a little expansion and extension of the organisation and by mechanising the labour to the extent required to speed up the work and also to save working costs, it is possible to spend about two crores of rupees per year. At this rate we can complete the project within 8 years. This fact has been submitted several times by the Mysore Government and the Chief Minister has written to the Prime Minister also and it has not received full justice at the hands of the Central Government. I submit to the Finance Minister that the irrigable area under this project is a dry area with scanty rainfall and it is often affected by famine and the Government of Mysore is spending a lot of money by means of remission in revenue and on relief works. All this amounts to a crore of rupees and this can be saved and the financial position of the Mysore State can be stabilised.

The Finance Minister is well aware that Mysore State is the foremost State which had started huge developmental schemes and large irrigation projects. Naturally, after integration, it cannot be considered on a par with other States. It can be treated as a special case. Also the needs and the requirements of the State should be considered and the necessary finance should be allotted to the Mysore State. The people of Mysore are very particular about the execution of this project which will make the State self-sufficient in regard to food. Therefore, I request the hon. Finance Minister to consider this and see that full justice and sufficient finance are given to Mysore State to complete the execution of this project.

One more point. That is taxation on tobacco growers. I submit to this House that before integration, the tobacco growers in Mysore were en-

joying immunity from taxation and today even the tobacco stem-dust which are used for manure purposes are taxed and the tobacco growers are expected to pay to the tune of Rs. 5,000 to 10,000 as tax. But their property and their earthly belongings will not even amount to Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000. Today they are in a pitiable condition. Therefore I request the hon. Finance Minister to consider this taxation on the tobacco growers liberally. I understand that some representations have been sent to the Central Board of Revenue. They must be considered liberally and it should be seen that the tobacco growers are not taxed.

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): In the course of the debate, deep concern has been expressed by some hon. Members over the proposed retrenchment of surplus labour in the Vizagapatam Shipyard. My hon. friend, Dr. Lanka Sundaram, had particularly devoted the major portion of his speech to this question. In the course of his speech he referred to certain aspects of the working of the shipyard in a detailed manner. I am afraid I have not got sufficient time at my disposal to refer to all the points that were raised by him. So I will confine myself to the retrenchment question and refer even in respect of that only to some broad aspects of the subject.

At the very outset I would like to strike a personal note. As one who has had very intimate and long association with trade unions, whenever a proposal for retrenchment is made, my immediate reaction is not a favourable one. I would like to avoid retrenchment, if possible, and to explore all possible avenue by means of which such retrenchment could be avoided. It is only after a full and careful consideration of all the aspects of the case a conclusive case is made out for retrenchment, that one should agree to it. So in the present case of retrenchment in the Vizagapatam Shipyard, the main question that we have to address ourselves to is whether a full case has been made out for the proposed retrenchment. In regard to this, I think I would do well to review briefly the course this proposal for retrenchment has taken. As early as in 1949, when the Scindias were managing the shipyard and also owned them, they became aware of the fact that the labour force in the shipyard was much larger than was warranted either by the building capacity or their possible building programme. Action to retrench surplus

labour at that time was however withheld because it was felt that the possibilities of developing the yard to its full capacity had yet to be properly explored. In the mean time, the shipyard continued to suffer heavy losses mainly on account of the overheads due to the existence of a large number of surplus workmen. Government had to step in and keep the shipyard running by placing orders on Government account and by paying subsidy.

In January, 1950, the Government of India asked the shipyard to reduce its expenditure. The question of retrenchment therefore came up again. But, this was averted by an agreement between the Labour Union and the management on 26th January, 1950, according to which the workers agreed to accept a voluntary cut in their dearness allowance by one-third so that the necessary savings in the total wage bill could be effected without resort to retrenchment. The shipyard continued to run at a loss.

In 1952 the Government decided to take over the shipyard from the Scindia Steam Navigation Co. The new company took over the shipyard on 1st March 1952 and Government appointed a senior officer as the managing director. It is obvious that the transfer of this yard to the new company automatically terminated the previous agreement between the management and the labour union. The Scindia Co. however requested the Government that for a period of 6 months after the taking over, retrenchment should not take place. It was in pursuance of this understanding that I assured the shipyard workers in July 1952 that no retrenchment would be undertaken. In the meantime, the dispute between the management and labour union had been referred to the Labour Tribunal. By an order dated 14th March 1952, the tribunal ordered the restoration of the cut in the dearness allowance effected by the Agreement of January 1950. This restoration of the cut automatically released the management from its obligation not to effect any retrenchment under the agreement of 26th January, 1950. No action was however taken in view of the assurance given to the Scindia Co. not to effect retrenchment in view of the possibility of developing the shipyard which was still being explored. I have referred to the previous history of the subject because, at the time the retrenchment was undertaken, there was no proposal by the labour union that they would forego a part of their dearness allowance, as was sought to be made out by an hon. Member. Nor was the shipyard under any agreement not to have recourse to retrenchment. That was the posi-

tion in January 1950 and that continued up till March 1952, but not later. Certain provisions for the development of the shipyard have been made in the Five Year Plan; the programme is to build 50,000 dead-weight tons of ships by 1956. In April 1952, an agreement was entered into with a French company who placed two technicians at the disposal of the shipyard. The experts, after detailed examination, have laid down a plan for the development of ship-building at the shipyard. They are of the view that the number of workers in the yard is not only in excess of the present day to day requirements, but also exceeds the number likely to be required when the production capacity and output of the yard will have increased to 4 ships a year as against the present 2½ ships a year. Accordingly, the present requirements as well as the future requirements of the shipyard have been carefully studied for each category of workers in a detailed manner and it has been found that in all 830 workmen are likely to continue to be surplus for a long time. Government are fully aware of the hardships that may be caused to the workers who may be retrenched. For the last one year attempts have been made to explore every possibility of alternative employment. The industrial field in Vizagapatam is very limited and it is impossible to find suitable employment for all these men at once. Attempts have been made to absorb them in the Port and the Railways. Moreover, the conditions of service in respect of wages and dearness allowances prevailing in the Hindustan Shipyard are much more favourable than under any other employer including the Port in the locality. The workers are unwilling to take up any other employment offered to them. Last year, at the instance of the Chittaranjan Locomotive works, a request was made for 16 workmen in different grades to volunteer for transfer from the shipyard. Not a single volunteer was forthcoming in spite of the fact that service in the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works entitles the workers to some special concessions. Government have also considered the possibility of absorbing as large a number of these surplus men in the proposed Oil Refinery by Messrs. Caltex Co., and also in the proposed building of the dry dock at the port. Unfortunately, both these projects are not likely to mature before another two years. It will be ruinous for the shipyard to carry the burden of these surplus workmen for such a long time.

The estimate of total expenses on account of the 830 men now being

[**Shri K. C. Reddy**]

retrenched comes to about Rs. 20,00,000 a year. When the shipyard is being run with a subsidy from the Government, when on every ship, there is a loss which is being made up by a subsidy, this means, payment of doles by the Indian tax-payer for the retention of a large number of men without any work. This is a state of affairs which is undesirable not only from the point of view of the tax-payer, but also from the point of view, if I may say so, of the men themselves.

Every effort has been made for enlisting the co-operation of the labour union before embarking on this measure. It is regrettable that the attitude of the labour union has been unhelpful. It was felt that it would be possible to eliminate a substantial number of the idle workers who are either physically unfit or are superannuated. The presence of such workers in the pay roll was admitted by the labour union in the agreement of 26th January 1950, to which reference has already been made. So, on the 26th January, the Secretary of the labour union was requested to co-operate in the medical examination of the workers to find out those who are medically unfit. The Committee which was to carry out the medical examination, verification of age, etc. was to consist of the Shipyard's Medical Officer, a Labour Officer and the President of the Labour Union. Unfortunately, the Labour Union did not co-operate in this measure. The attitude of the labour union made it clear that prior consultation in the matter of the proposed retrenchment which had been hanging fire for so long would not produce any results. It was under these circumstances that on 30th March 1953, this year, that the Secretary of the labour union was informed by the management that it was proposed to retrench 813 men from various grades from 1st April 1953, on the basis of (i) those who are 55 years of age, (ii) those who are physically unfit and (iii) the balance according to juniority in service.

In this connection, it may be pointed out that under the Trade Union law, it is not obligatory in an industry of this kind for the management to give notice of retrenchment to the union before embarking on a measure of retrenchment.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): Who said so;

Shri K. C. Reddy: It is sufficient if 14 days' wages are given in lieu of notice. As I have already indicated.

there is no agreement in force which bound the management not to effect retrenchment. The agreement of January 26th, 1950 was for no retrenchment so long as the workers accepted one-third cut in their dearness allowance. With the restoration of the cut in March, 1952, this agreement ceased to be effective.

A suggestion has been made that retrenchment is being undertaken to cover the costs involved in the employment of a French firm as Consultants of the Shipyard. The remuneration payable to the French firm and the technical experts lent by them to the shipyard have been disclosed in Parliament on a previous occasion.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** in the Chair]

It is wrong to suggest, I submit, that the workers are being retrenched to enable payment to the French firm. On the other hand, their technical assistance is expected to increase the efficiency of the shipyard and bring about an overall economy in shipbuilding in the future. This will be brought about not only by working the shipyard to full capacity, but also by greater efficiency in the methods used. The terms offered by the company to the retrenched labour are generous judged by any standard. It should enable a large number of affected workmen to rehabilitate themselves within a short time. They are being paid not only their accumulated wages, earned allowance and leave wages and 14 days wages with D.A. in lieu of notice but also some special benefits. These are:

(1) Under the rules the workers are entitled to gratuity at the rate of 15 days for each year of completed service provided they have put in a minimum of 20 years continuous service, but the retrenched workers are being paid at the same rate irrespective of the service put in by them.

(2) Regarding Provident Fund, the Company's provident fund amount to each worker will be paid in full, and thirdly and most important,

(3) A purely *ex-gratia* payment of three months' basic wages excluding dearness allowance will be paid to each retrenched worker as a further rehabilitation grant.

These are the facts of the case. I would like finally to say, that an appeal has been made that this matter should be referred to an Adjudication

Tribunal. Government would, no doubt, welcome if such an Adjudication Tribunal comes into the picture in order to settle the dispute. The Provincial Government—in this case, the Madras Government—have been approached in the matter, and I hope the Tribunal will be set up. So far as the management is concerned, they will offer their full co-operation in order to settle this dispute on an amicable basis.

Dr. Mookerjee suggested that perhaps this retrenchment there was owing to want of supply of materials. I would like to submit that it is not because of that reason that this retrenchment is being undertaken. As I have pointed out in the course of my speech, this has been undertaken after a very thorough and careful examination over a long period of time, and because it was inescapable this measure of retrenchment has been resorted to. I hope, however, when the Adjudication Tribunal is appointed, the whole matter will be gone into and the dispute viewed from all angles and a reasonable and satisfactory solution, both from the viewpoint of labour and management, will be evolved.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: May I ask whether meanwhile the retrenched staff will be reinstated?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot commit myself regarding that.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: What is the use of referring the matter to adjudication after killing them? Keep them alive.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): May I know, Sir.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, Sir.

Shri Meghnad Saha (Calcutta—North-West): With your permission...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will not give permission.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Your predecessor.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, Sir. I will not give permission. There ought not to be interruptions like this.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I find that I have to reply to the observations made by more than 30 speakers in less than 60 minutes.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Two minutes each!

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That comes to a little less than two minutes each.

The discussion has ranged over a very wide field, and if I had the time, I should have liked to have answered almost every Member because of the variety of subjects that they have dealt with. However, I must resist that temptation—particularly, the temptation of dealing somewhat fully with the weighty and constructive speeches which have come both from this side as well as the other side. I shall, therefore, confine myself—that is my usual lot, Sir—to certain selected topics. But before, I proceed to do so, I should like to make one or two general observations.

One is: again and again, we seem to come back to this question of priorities in a state of affairs where almost every matter appears to be an urgent one, indeed, a clamant one. I have no doubt that what the hon. Members have spoken so feelingly about the many subjects nearest to their hearts, has, in a sort of absolute sense, a great deal of validity. Whether it is the subject of rehabilitation or whether it is the subject of the advancement of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes or the backward tribes, or whether it is the fortunes of local areas like Madras, Travancore-Cochin or Vindhya Pradesh, I hold that a good case has been made out for some kind of consideration to the important problems that have been projected. But, as I said, finally we come back to a consideration of what resources we can command, and that really brings in the question of a plan. As I have pointed out before, the present budget really tries to reflect a particular phase of the plan. And, however anxious the Finance Minister may be to meet the needs—the manifold needs—that have been pointed out, I hope it will be admitted that he is limited, circumscribed, by the circumstances in which he has to work. Therefore, I have no direct answer to Members like the hon. Member who is not here, representing Scheduled Castes, who, I think, wanted Rs. 75 crores to be provided for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. If I had the money, I should have liked to have provided.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Thank you for that assurance.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not an assurance, because I am not in a position to provide it. It is the expression of a genuine goodwill.

Shri Nambiar: A very big "if", Sir.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Therefore, I say one has again and again to come back to this question of priorities.

[**Shri C. D. Deshmukh**]

We have, unfortunately, with the dawn of independence, inherited a very bad legacy. Now, that is, shall we say, the culmination of years of dependence on others, and we have a variety of problems not all of which yield to ameliorative measures that we might take or institute. Some of them have perhaps, and to our regret, to take a lower place.

Now, I have mentioned some of these problems. I would like to mention in particular the question of compensation to displaced persons, because I believe it has been the impression that the displaced persons will get compensation which they might be disposed to regard as satisfactory but for the intransigence of the Finance Minister.

Lala Achint Ram: I never said so; nor I believe in it.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I looked at the hon. Member only fortuitously. But, anyhow, the problem is a very complicated one, and it involves a matter of principle. Since the hon. Member has drawn my attention to his own observations, the point is whether the State should undertake the responsibility of paying compensation out of its own revenues.

Lala Achint Ram: That is the assurance of the Government. The point is that an assurance has been given by a responsible Minister of the Government from time to time during the last six years.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is where I differ from the hon. Member. An assurance has certainly been given that compensation will be paid.

Lala Achint Ram: By contribution of Government.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: But this principle has never been conceded by Government that that compensation should, by and large, come out of public revenues. Now, in the meanwhile, Government have never denied their liability for rehabilitating the displaced persons, and crores of rupees have been spent for this purpose, and it continues to be the plan of Government to provide such additional expenditure as may become necessary. It is possible to concede the point that if it were to be possible to pay compensation to some extent, although it is not clear whether it will be to an equal extent, Government might be relieved of the necessity of providing for large sums for rehabilitation.

That is a matter to be considered. It is also true, I think, that many displaced persons who are now occupying houses which have been constructed by Government have not yet been fully rehabilitated, and may find it difficult to pay the book rents which would be in accordance with the book rents resulting from general Government construction. That is a sector where a certain amount of investigation seems to be called for. I myself cannot see the sense of trying to bring local proceedings against the displaced persons who are housed in houses built by Government, if that is going to lead to their ejection, if in the meanwhile they have not been rehabilitated, because you then begin the whole circle over again. Therefore I do hold that that problem requires very careful investigation.

Now, the other question that complicates matters is, of course, the question of titles and the washing of titles.

Shri Gidwani (Thana): May I make one submission to the hon. Minister, Sir?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is these complicated issues which have been remitted to a committee of the Cabinet.

Shri Gidwani: The hon. Minister made an announcement. I would request that instruction should be issued; actually, coercive proceedings are being taken in places, and people are being ejected in the Bombay State.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: As I was saying, these problems have been remitted to a committee of the Cabinet, and the first meeting of this committee is going to take place on the 20th.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Meanwhile action may be stayed.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Today is 16th, and I shall take note of the suggestion that has been made by the hon. Member, because I have a certain amount of sympathy for people whom you house and for whom you have not been able to find an occupation out of the proceeds of which they can pay the rent. It is just ordinary commonsense. So, I shall look into this matter of ejection proceedings, in advance of the date of meeting of the committee.

Similarly, I have a great deal of sympathy for the observations that came from two or three hon. Members who represent the Tribal areas. They made various suggestions. It struck

me that some suggestions really referred to the State Government's administration, as for instance, the taccavi and various other matters. Whatever that might be, it is our duty, I conceive, to examine these speeches very carefully and to see if one could give some kind of encouragement and some kind of cause for hope to these populations which form a very considerable, apart from interesting, percentage of the total population of the country.

After these general remarks, I should like to deal with some of the specific points that were raised relative to the subject-matter of the Bill. The first one, to which I am going to refer, was raised by Shri Deshpande, Shri Ramachandra Reddi, and I think, Dr. Mookerjee. According to them, the benefit of exemption under Section 15B of the Income-Tax Act, should apply even to communal institutions meant for any particular religious community. Now I fear that there is some misapprehension on this point. These communal institutions will be exempt on their income under section 4(3)(i) of the Income-Tax Act, so that there is no complex in this matter, so far as the Government are concerned.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Half-complex, so far as the donation is concerned.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There is no such thing as a half-complex.

Shri Nambiar: One-third complex.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: But the benefit of exemption to the donors of these institutions will not be available. What I wish to point out is that this is not a new condition that is being put into law. When the provision was made in 1948, the State Governments were informed that the institutions recommended by them for approval should be such as were wholly and expressly non-communal. As the Government gives income-tax rebate in respect of such donations, it means in effect that Government donates to the extent of such rebate, and as a matter of policy, Government would like to confine its donations to non-communal institutions only. In other words, what were formerly thought of as executive instructions have now had to be put into this new provision, because, for general reasons, we wished to avoid cases coming up to the Central Board of Revenue for disposal and approval or otherwise. The whole point is that as the law stood supplemented by executive instructions, it was only a very limited category of cases for which this concession was available, namely All-India

purposes, humanitarian purposes and educational purposes in the case of institutions affiliated to universities. So, all I wish to point out is that we are not making in effect any new provision in this respect.

I next come to the question of customs and excise duties. I shall not deal with the controversial subject of the salt duty. So far as my personal attitude is concerned, the matter is not remitted indefinitely to the future. But it may be that one would have to consider the desirability or otherwise of this measure, at the proper time, and, again expressing my own personal views, I do not judge that that proper time has arrived.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It may come.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I admit that it might come.

Then in regard to the tobacco duty, appeals have been made to me that I should take measures which would avoid harassment to the grower. I am always alive to the desirability of bringing this about, and I should be very glad to receive concrete complaints into which I could investigate. It is very difficult to deal with complaints of a general nature. Whenever I go out to an area which grows tobacco, I do make enquiries as to how the administration is actually being carried out. But I shall feel obliged if hon. Members will make a point of forwarding to me any concrete complaints that may come their way.

I do not think it is true to say that unlimited powers are being exercised by the subordinate officers of the Central Excise Department. It is true that on the basis of their local experience, they can make recommendations to their superior officers, for the proper assessment on any variety of tobacco. But the decision to declare it as fit for assessment at any rate of duty higher or lower according to capability for use, rests ultimately with the Collector of Central Excise, who is required to notify that variety. I do not think, therefore, that it can be generally true that the discretion is being abused by junior Central Excise officers. There was some reference made also to the question of encouraging the production of tobacco. I must confess I am not very familiar with the agricultural aspect of this, but I have been assured that a variety of measures are being taken for improving the quality and yield of tobacco, as for instance, by supplying seedlings of good quality from approved

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nurseries, propagating the use of manures and fertilisers and adopting plant protection measures. Research is also being carried on in the Tobacco Research Stations under the Indian Central Tobacco Committee and the State Governments, and the results of research are published in bulletins and pamphlets issued by the Tobacco Committee.

There was some reference to the desirability of reducing customs duties on some medicinal preparations. Now our difficulty is that some of them are articles which are used for other purposes, as for instance, industrial purposes, and it is not possible to make a distinction between their use for Ayurvedic preparations and their use for such other purposes. The hon. Member who referred to this matter named a few—*Banslochan, Priyangu* and so on. Well, it may be that there is a case here if one can isolate these for a sort of peculiarity of use. It may be that there is a case for modifying the duty on some of these commodities and that matter is receiving consideration in my Ministry.

Then there is the question of the postal rates, I dare say I shall have many opportunities of referring to these in the course of the discussion on amendments, but I should like to give certain figures in continuation of the information that I gave when I introduced this subject. The loss on unregistered packets is nearly 60 lakhs and the loss on registered packets is 18 lakhs. Then on unregistered parcels the loss is about 31 lakhs and on registered parcels it is 59 lakhs. Then on V.P. parcels it is 45 lakhs and insured parcels 17.4 lakhs. Of course, the biggest loss is on postcards which is Rs. 1,32,00,000 which we are not touching. There is also a great deal of loss on registered newspapers and here also we are not, at the moment, thinking of making any change in the postal rates.

One hon. Member said that this proposal has already led—I hope I am quoting him right—to an increase in the price of books—raising of the price of books by local booksellers. I have had inquiries made from booksellers in Delhi and I find that there has actually been no increase. Indeed, there is no reason why there should be an increase because the increase takes place only after the House has approved the increase in the rates. Actually books are ordered and sold in quantity and the transport is usually by railway parcel in bulk. So, it is only purchasers of individual books in the mofussil who may have

to send a single book by book packet or unregistered parcel. In the case of educational institutions, for instance, most of them have arrangements for collective buying either through co-operative effort or by nominating particular companies. I think in this matter, it is possible to exaggerate the hardship that might be caused by a rise in these rates by taking absurd examples, as for instance, the cost of the book being one rupee and then adding on the postal forwarding charges etc. Actually one has to take an average or a representative case. And, taking such a case into consideration, I am not persuaded that the proposals will involve any undue hardship to the public affected.

Now, that is all that I wish to say in regard to this part of my speech, namely, the specific proposals. I next come to the general observations in regard to the political and economic situation that fell from hon. Members. I do not think I am really compelled to go into the two political matters to which Dr. Mookerjee referred, but, on behalf of Government, I must give some answer. In regard to Kashmir, it is no longer true that our expenditure rate is what was quoted by the hon. Member. It cannot be because there are no active operations now and I think it is well-known that the number of troops that are stationed there are not what they were.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: What will be the rate roughly?

An Hon. Member: It is not in public interest.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is not in the public interest that I hesitate to give a reply. I do not think I can be very accurate. One has to station troops somewhere on the frontier and, I think, the only additional expenditure is on account of the fact that they get some kind of field allowance or operational area allowance. But, as I said, for the reduced number of troops there now, it is not very considerable. Anyway, it is not as much as to cause anxiety to the Finance Ministry. I would like to put it that way.

Now, in regard to the question of the meeting of the Prime Ministers, I can only give my own experience. In the matter of arriving at understandings or carrying out the agreements at the international gatherings, whether it is in Washington or in London, the representatives of Pakistan and India have always pulled in the same direction and have generally supported each other, I think, to the

mutual benefit of both countries. In regard to financial matters, it is true that we have had several inconclusive meetings. But, we have always parted with the feeling that we are a step nearer to solution. I still repeat that I have hopes that we shall arrive at some sort of agreement in regard to the outstanding issues during the course of next year.

Now, in regard to other matters, I think the Press in Pakistan and perhaps here have over-played the canal water dispute. But, finally what seems to have transpired is that at the sowing time there might have been some shortage of water from Indian canals and I believe it is now being recognised after a sifting of facts that Pakistan's food difficulties have not mainly or largely been caused by any alleged action on the part of the Indian authorities, even if we assume that some mistakes were made at some short period which in any case did not exceed one or two weeks. So, with this clearing of the atmosphere and with perhaps the improved tone of public pronouncements in Pakistan as well as the views that have been expressed by various non-officials, I would myself judge that the time was opportune for the two countries to try and get together a little. I am confirmed in this by my general study of what happens to the defence budgets in both countries. I think there is now a realisation that this kind of waste cannot possibly continue, and each country is really on the horns of a dilemma. Do you plump for additional security by buying the latest equipment from grudging foreign countries and neglect the basis of that security, namely, economic prosperity; or, do you apply all your resources to developing your economy and neglect immediate problems of security? Now, a balance has to be struck somewhere and I believe the balance is steadily being tilted towards this view, that it is much better at least to arrest this rake's progress on increase of armaments and to try and spare resources for economic development.

That brings me to the next question of defence industries. I think Dr. Mookerjee made some reference to something that fell from the Prime Minister in regard to second-rate equipment. There, I think he oversimplified the problem. The real problem is: can a country like India, or for the matter of that Pakistan, frame its defence budget on the assumption that it will have to fight a major Power in the world? The answer, I think, is obviously No. No matter how perfect your planning may be, you are bound to be defeated by what is in essence, the technological superiority

of that other foreign country. Therefore, one has to have a lesser objective and without meaning any ill-will to any neighbour, I think that every country has to imagine some kind of hostility from a neighbour and it is on that hypothesis that one frames the whole of one's defence budget. Viewed in that perspective, I think most hon. Members would agree that instead of wasting our resources in trying to purchase the latest equipment in almost every sector of armament from foreign countries, it would be better to confine our purchases to what is absolutely essential and then to divert resources in the form of capital for starting industries which will enable us to produce those other things. Now, let me take an example. I think most hon. Members would like to see India equipped with the latest jet fighters, because they have an essential use in any kind of campaign—offensive or defensive—that one might think of. But is it necessary that one should have the latest kind of rifles? It may be that a larger number of somewhat inferior rifles will do the same work as a smaller number of more costly rifles. I only give this as an example. I do not quote this as a particular problem that is being considered.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It should be all right if your friendly neighbour is also dumped with second-rate goods, but your friendly neighbour has first-rate goods from other so-called friendly nations living at a distance and that makes it rather difficult for India.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I get the hon. Member's point and even if one assumes that he is right, I do not think that this equipment will ask for ever. Its rate of wastage and obsolescence is very great, as we have found to our cost. We have tanks and so on and they have been moving up and down the country from one training centre to another and from one border area to another, and we find that they are now showing signs of wear, and I have no reason to believe that the equipment which is in the other country is not suffering the same fate. Therefore, the point still remains that one has to take a decision, and I think it would be a wise decision to try and concentrate more on the establishment of well-selected defence industries rather than waste our substance in buying the absolutely latest, e.g., bomber. It may not be necessary to go in for the absolutely latest bomber. A bomber may do a certain amount of damage in foreign territory, but it would be very much better to have the capacity to penetrate into an area from where the bombers are coming.

Shri Raghavaiah (Ongole): We are discussing military campaigns.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not discussing any campaign, but I think it is a very important issue that has been referred to.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It is only dreamland. You are not looking at future realities.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): What happens when Britain supplies Pakistan from its secret list—from a list about which we do not know?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think that that is true. Britain has not supplied anything to Pakistan which she has not supplied to us.

Shri Joachim Alva: But Pakistan has better air defence and better weapons than we have got, at least in respect of some of them.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If it is a secret list, will it be known only to Mr. Alva?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry for my trenching on the field of my hon. friend the Deputy Minister for Defence, but I have to carry the burden in this debate.

Shri Joachim Alva: It is a well known fact that there is a known list and an unknown secret list from which Britain supplies Pakistan.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Because it is 'unknown' it is unknown to him!

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We should be very glad to get the information which the hon. Member has in his possession. Obviously, that is the commonsense way of dealing with this matter—not on the floor of the House.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: To be 'secretly' passed over to Government!

Shri Joachim Alva: It is not a matter for ridicule.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not ridiculing, I am asking him to send me the information which is in his possession. It is very important information and we should like to check it up. All I say is that I do not know of any such distinction.

Now I come to the cognate subject of retrenchment in ordnance factories. (*Some Hon. Members:* It is very important). Since 1947 attempts have been made to utilise the surplus capacity in the ordnance factories for the production of goods for private industry as well as the other civil government departments. Certain difficulties have, however, stood in the way. And

you can imagine. The first one, of course, is that government departments wish to buy in the cheapest market, and sometimes it happens that the ordnance factories are not able to produce the goods required at the cheapest possible rate. Now, one reason is that their plant, unless special care is taken, is not specially suited for the manufacture of a particular item; or sometimes it happens that it is because of heavy overheads that they have to carry in any particular goods, as they must retain a certain amount of spare capacity against an emergency. Now, this is as regards government departments. And it seems to me—I am only thinking aloud here—the solution would seem to lie in a careful examination of the spare capacity and a determination of the limits of excess up to which other civil departments could buy from the ordnance factory rather than from the open market. In other words, one could say that if it is hundred per cent. more costly, then it should not be bought; but if it is ten per cent. more costly—I think we do that with *khadi* and certain other articles which are produced in the country. I think about ten or fifteen per cent.—well, according to the importance of the factory to the country one may determine these percentages and then issue instructions to the other Ministries to patronize these ordnance factories. It is a problem which requires further attention.

Similarly there has been difficulty in expanding production in the ordnance factories of goods for the private trade. We have not hitherto manufactured for stock but only against orders. This means that, normally, before the ordnance factory can accept an order they have to provide samples, and they cannot always take the advantage of any surplus capacity that may exist till an order is placed on them.

Now, both these matters are being given attention to and a procedure is being devised which will enable ordnance factories to switch on, more flexibly, to the production of goods for other government departments as well as private trade. This, it is hoped, will enable the ordnance factories to be run on maximum efficiency in the sense that any capacity surplus to the requirements of the Defence Services will be utilised for the production of goods for either the government departments or for private industry. So I think this will help in avoiding retrenchment where such retrenchment might otherwise be necessary owing to the fluctuating needs of the Defence Department itself.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We would like to know the figures about retrenchment. This is an important matter.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I can give the figures of actual notices issued. As a result of the fall in demand from the Defence Services for the year 1953-54 of certain stock items of production in the Ordnance Factories, it was anticipated earlier that some 2,000 to 3,000 workers, mostly unskilled but semi-skilled also, might become surplus to requirements. As soon as this position came to notice, steps were taken to expand the possibilities of increasing civil production so as to keep this surplus labour employed and it is expected that as a result of the vigorous measures now being taken, a considerable proportion of these workers can be kept in employment. If, however, it becomes necessary to discharge workers before they are actually discharged, the possibility of finding alternative employment for them in other Defence installations will also be examined. We have a zonal scheme in force for this purpose whereby surpluses and deficiencies in each zone are adjusted and it is only when there is a net surplus there that personnel are discharged and when they are discharged, they are registered with Employment Exchanges run by the Labour Ministry so that when, in future, alternative employment becomes available they should get re-employment. Under Government orders, normally fresh recruitment, if it becomes necessary, is to be done primarily through these Exchanges.

Now hitherto we have issued discharge notices to only 53 persons.

Shri Nambiar: I have just got a telegram from Jubbulpore saying that 105 workers have received discharge notices. I can produce that telegram.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I shall be glad if the hon. Member forwards that to me. This note was drawn up just before the Jubbulpore incident happened. Hitherto we have issued discharge notices only to 53 persons. That is my information. This note was drawn up yesterday as a reply to the points made by hon. Members. Discharge notices were issued to 53 persons who were previously employed in a depot near Calcutta. This was taken over from the Iron and Steel Controller about two years ago with a view to transferring its stocks to other Ordnance Factories and closing down the depot. This process has been completed and therefore the staff which was taken with the depot has become redundant. Apart from these 53 persons only warning notices were issued a few months ago by Superintendents of

Ordnance Factories to a number of personnel intimating that they might become surplus. These are not discharge notices but merely a warning so that the officer concerned might choose to look after alternative employment elsewhere. In fact, however, the possibility of absorbing these persons either in the Ordnance Factories themselves or elsewhere is, as I said, being vigorously pursued and therefore no actual discharge notices have been issued to these personnel.

Apart from that, I am afraid that about 200 people are likely to be surplus in the M.E.S. This is the general position which is, I submit, not too disturbing.

Now, as we are on the subject of retrenchment, I might as well mention what happens in regard to personnel retrenched from the civilian side. I have not been able to verify fully the statement made by one hon. Member that while retrenchment takes place on the one hand, recruitment takes place on the other. I have called for figures which show that as in the case of the Defence Services, the retrenched personnel are registered with Employment Exchanges. I had figures somewhere where they showed that a certain number of them were re-employed. The reason why I am not able to give complete figures is that I have not been able to find out from the various Ministries how many have been recruited. All I can say is that this problem is very much in our minds and that we shall not allow an absurd situation to happen. That is to say, if we can take care of retrenched personnel, then we will ensure that they are recruited first. In theory, of course, they have, I think, the second priority. The displaced persons have the first priority.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: What about scheduled castes?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They do not come in this particular category. They cannot enter everywhere. Logically they cannot. We are thinking of different categories. Your problem is recruitment, not retrenchment.

We are now considering this question and we find one actual principle is failing to be carried out in practice.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Is this done on a zonal basis?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There are hardly any zones so far as other Ministries are concerned.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If I may just point out, appointments are made through Regional Exchange offices. The

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names of the people who are retrenched are not entered in the Registers of the offices where the vacancies arise.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I should like to find out if any kind of zonal exchange could be instituted. Then, we shall investigate the possibility of doing that.

In regard generally to retrenchment, hon. Member opposite has suggested a lot of attractive savings: salt duty to 10 crores; prohibition, any double figure one can think of; Part C States 5 crores; Privy purses 5 crores. Certain other Members have suggested sources of retrenchment or saving in the Ministries. One hon. Member, I think, objected to the total number of Ministers.

Shri Nambiar: And Deputy-Ministers.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Apart from the non-serious aspect of this, I do think he was somewhat hard on Government. Because, it is my belief that a certain number of junior Ministers must be trained in the arena of government. I myself find that apart from giving some kind of assistance to me and some relief so far as the other House is concerned, it gives me the satisfaction of being able to pass on to them whatever I know about the art of governance in my particular section.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Some of them are older.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think it is time, talking seriously, that in India we do create a level below the topmost level for taking over the reins of office. I myself have always gone on the theory that one should try to make oneself dispensable and not indispensable.

Apart from that, really, the work that is involved in these two Houses has raised considerably the burden on the Ministers. As hon. Members expect a little verse from me, I might put that in the form of a verse:

हा वाग्मिता प्रसरतिप्रतिवासरे या
समाद्वये नैक विवेयनिष्ठा ।
सा मन्त्रिणां कार्यसमूहसिद्धी
सम्पद्यते हन्त महान्तरायः ॥

Some Hon. Members: Translate.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That eloquence which goes on from day to day in both Houses relative to various measures of legislation, forms, alas, a very big obstacle in the way of the full execution and successful accomplishment of their duties.

That, Sir, is some justification for allowing a sufficient number of Ministers.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: But, the English proverb is, too many cooks spoil the broth.

Shri Mehnad Saha: Is there not a rule in certain countries that not more than a certain percentage of the elected Members should be on the pay rolls?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That may be a rule, Sir. But, I am quite sure that so far as we are concerned, we should be within that rule.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: If the Upper House is abolished, it may be different.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That may be different. With 750 Members now, it is not worth while going too much into this matter. That is as regards retrenchment and number of Ministers.

Some observations were made in regard to slack financial control, and like King Charles's head, Hirakud now comes to the surface every time. I think that it is necessary to have a sense of perspective in this matter. I myself am not very happy over the fact that the original estimate of Rs. 45 crores has had to be nearly doubled, but then, almost the same thing has happened in every case or is likely to happen—for example in the case of the Damodar Valley. I believe what occurred was that in our enthusiasm generated by the advent of independence—actually, Hirakud was started earlier: the orders were issued by the previous Government not by this Government—we started on these development works without, it is true, making detailed estimates and plans. What worries me about Hirakud, I might confess here, is not so much these irregularities which we would have to follow up, to pursue and to prevent recurrence of, but the actual size, the absolute size of the estimate, and the possible profitability of the enterprise. Now, on that score, I am not yet quite satisfied, although the Orissa Government have not yet approved of the final revised estimate—and I am anxiously awaiting their decision in this matter—because it is my impression that irrigation rates in Orissa are not very high as compared to other States, and therefore, I wonder

now how this aspect of profitability will look in the revised estimates. That worries me very much more than this particular aspect on which so much stress has been laid, perhaps properly, following the publication of the Public Accounts Committee's report.

One hon. Member was—on this side of the House curiously—uncharitable enough to suggest that somehow I am slowing down the work of Hirakud in order to find money for States in which I am interested. My answer is that I am interested in all States. And if we were to follow the logic of the hon. Member, then the Finance Minister would have to be a non-elected Member of the Parliament which seems to be an impossibility after the initial period of six months.

Shri Nambiar: An Upper House Member can come here.

An Hon. Member: He will also be elected.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: He will have to come through some kind of election, and he will have always to be attached to some kind of State. In other words, a Stateless Finance Minister should come, which seems to be an impossibility.

In any case these are the actual figures. Let us see what the basis of fact to this somewhat lightly spoken observation is. This is the actual progressive expenditure on Hirakud:

1948-49—The money sanctioned was Rs. 81 lakhs. Actual expenditure—Rs. 41 lakhs.

1949-50—The money sanctioned was Rs. 3 crores. Actual expenditure—Rs. 2.97 crores.

1950-51—The money sanctioned was Rs. 4.39 crores. Actual expenditure was Rs. 4.67 crores.

1951-52—The allotment was Rs. 8 crores, and the actual expenditure was Rs. 8.58 crores.

1952-53—The money allotted was Rs. 8.85 crores, and the expenditure up to January, 1953 was nearly Rs. 4 crores.

And the budget provision for 1953-54 is Rs. 11.72 crores. I hope, that the hon. Member will go home and chew these figures. I am not asking him to eat his own words.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: What about concurrent audit? Will that be considered?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am glad the hon. Member has raised this point. There has been a certain amount of disagreement between the representatives of Finance and the representatives of the Ministry in regard to the actual financial procedure on accounting and audit because audit is the concern of the Comptroller and Auditor-General. And after a series of conferences, we have remitted the problem to the Comptroller and Auditor-General as a sort of sole arbitrator. In other words, it is not his constitutional duty to advise us on the precise form which accounts as to payments should take, but he has, in view of the importance of the subject, been good enough to agree to pay a visit to the Hirakud works, to go into the difficulties of both sides, so to speak, and to evolve a form of accounts which both the Ministries have agreed and advanced to observe.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I am not referring to Hirakud alone. I am referring to all.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I know the hon. Member referred to the question of pre-audit or concurrent audit in regard to the operations of Government concerns. Now that is a matter which I shall have to take up with him. I do not quite know whether he will find it possible with the staff at his command to do so. At the moment, the position is that these corporations, not companies so much, have their own auditors, and then the Auditor-General also can audit.

Shri B. Das (Jajpur Keonjhar): May I ask one question. Sir? How will you compel the Irrigation Ministry, in view of their performance during the last five years, to abide by the decision of the Auditor-General of the Government of India?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: He is the arbitrator-general.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is quite right. They have agreed. There was no dispute. They have agreed to that.

Shri B. Das: Will they carry out the decision of the Auditor-General? The last five years have belied it.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The new five years are going to be quite different.

I should like to devote a little attention to the question of the Plan. My time is running out, and to deal in particular with the very important observations that were made by Shri Meghnad Saha I think I require an extension of time by about 15 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, the House can sit till 1.30 P.M.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Of course, I should like to deal with another matter, after I finish this, and that is the aid to Madras and Travancore and Cochin. In this, I have listened with attention and due deference to the criticism of a financial policy, and indeed the whole approach to the Plan, by Shri Saha. While I do not accept the criticism, I must say that I agree with the main thesis advanced by him, viz. that rapid development necessitates a substantial stepping up of the rate of investment in the economy. And this in fact, if he will care to read, is the thesis advanced in Chapter I of the Report of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission has considered two or three alternative rates of capital formation, and the implications of each alternative in terms of the level of consumption that is feasible. The calculations showed, for instance, that if capital formation were to be stepped up from the beginning, by as much as two-thirds of the additional income generated each year, then the national income could be increased by over 160 per cent. in about 22 years. But this would necessitate a reduction in *per capita* consumption standards for a period of ten or fifteen years. If, on the other hand, capital formation was raised only gradually, say, by 25 per cent. of the additional income in each period, this would mean an increase of only 80 per cent. in the national output at the end of twenty years. So capital formation on this scale would not involve any significant reduction in present consumption standards. But the results it would produce by way of improvement of living standards would be correspondingly poor, and almost nil. Obviously it would be desirable to avoid both these extremes. At least that is the view that was taken by the Planning Commission. Accordingly they proposed that from 1955-57 onwards, investment should be stepped up each year by an amount equal to 50 per cent. of the additional output. On this basis, investment in the economy would go up to about 11 per cent. of national income by 1960-61 and to 20 per cent. by 1967-68. To step up investment in this manner is not an easy task. How best this could be done has to be examined carefully, and we hope that the Taxation Inquiry Committee will go into all aspects of this difficult and complicated problem of mobilising our resources for development on a big scale.

The real question is whether given the conditions prevailing in the

country at present the rate of investment could be increased substantially even in this initial phase of planning? In the last analysis, it is not the lack of financial resources in the narrow sense, which comes in the way—it is a point which we have made over and over again; any amount of finance can be raised provided the community is prepared to pay the price, and this price is not merely hardship and privation—it is very often disorderly and unbalanced growth.

Prof. Saha referred to the high level of capital formation in the U.K. and France. He has commended the progress made by these two countries in the postwar period. Now the point to bear in mind in this connection is that recovery of production to a level which had been attained in the past is much easier than new development. If a country already has plant and equipment, even though in a depleted form, and if it has also a well-organised system of transport and communications and if it has the necessary 'know-how', then it can increase the national production quite rapidly. The problem in an under-developed economy like India's is that many of these things have to be built up from scratch. And we must not forget that U.K. and France received in the postwar period large amounts by way of external aid.

Now, Prof. Saha also held up the example of the U.S.S.R. There is no doubt that that country has achieved great things, and it has developed at the cost of great effort and sacrifice a pattern of development. Perhaps historically that was the only pattern that could have worked in the U.S.S.R. We do not know. But whether that pattern is suitable under all conditions is a matter on which, I submit, there is room for differences of opinion. As Prof. Saha has pointed out, the plan did not spring like Minerva fully armed, from Lenin's brain. It meant considerable experimentation and trial and error. Even at the very last minute of putting that plan into operation there were wide differences of opinion. If this is true, there is no reason to feel unduly depressed with our present effort, much less to despair of being able to better them in the future. The Five Year Plan does not betoken the end of the journey. The journey is long and arduous and we are only taking the first necessary steps in the direction of our goal. So the emphasis in the Plan is on improvement of agriculture and the building up of the basic services like irrigation, power, and transport, and we think that that accords best with the requirements of

our economy at this stage. But industrialisation, which Prof. Saha has stressed, is the inevitable next stage in the Plans to come. We hope that the scheme of priority will then change accordingly.

Shri Meghnad Saha: Why not in the first stage?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: All that I have said has been useless. Then there are two matters I should like to deal with. One is the state of scarcity and famine in Madras.

I think it is true to say that Madras has suffered from two difficulties. One is, I think, they went all out on development expenditure relying perhaps on forecasts which were made in 1945 or 1946, which were on a very generous scale. Actually, I have figure somewhere here of the size of their Plan, as compared with the size of the Plan of the Bombay State. There is not really very much difference. The Madras Plan was Rs. 14,084 lakhs and the Bombay Plan was for Rs. 14,643 lakhs. I think both States are spending about the same on agricultural and rural development. One is 28 crores and the other is 22 crores. But, on major irrigation and power projects, whereas Bombay was going to spend Rs. 33 crores, Madras is going to spend 84 crores. Bombay is aiming at spending 67 crores on social services, whereas in Madras, the provision in the Plan is Rs. 28 crores. So, when they were overtaken by adversity in the form of short rainfall and so on, I think they found that they had extended too much and could not draw back. We tried to help them as much as we could. The Central aid given in 1951 to 1953, for these two years, to Bombay is Rs. 642 lakhs—I think there will be demands from Bombay to raise this amount—and Madras Rs. 17 crores. In addition we have given very massive ways and means accommodation to Madras. It is true that attention has been concentrated on the scarcity in Rayalaseema and I find on enquiry that we really have not got sufficient information in regard to the extent of scarcity or unfavourable conditions in the South. But, it looks as if a quite large population is affected by scarcity.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether Madras State has not reported that many districts in Tamilnad are rather in a very bad condition?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The report is not in that form. They have given figures of population affected but there is really no proper appraisal of the extent of scarcity in the South. I have seen the statement of the Chief Minis-

ter and whereas it is accepted that so far as famine is concerned, there should be separate provision from the Centre on certain principles, it is difficult to accept that Madras is entitled to a subsidy for a deficit on its revenue working. And, it is that particular point which I have found it impossible to accept so far as the establishment of relief works is concerned, our offer stands, namely, that to the extent of half the cost, we shall advance the money and as there are special difficulties, we should even be prepared to consider other proposals in the way of making further loans for any relief works that may be necessary.

Shri Nambiar: For Cyclone relief, nothing was sent from the Centre.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: From scarcity we are going to cyclone.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): May I know whether the Minister is aware of famine conditions in large parts of Rajasthan?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There too our trouble is that reliable figures are not available. I think such statements were also made by hon. Members. In 3 cases we have sent teams of officers to find out what exactly the situation is and it may be that we may have to make further investigations. It is not a complaint, but I must say that I cannot reconcile the observations that were made by hon. Members here and the information that has come up from the two Governments in regard to the extent of scarcity. However, it is a matter which does seem to call for investigation.

Now, with regard to Travancore-Cochin it is admitted that it is an area with peculiar difficulties. It is true that the population is the densest in India—by densest I mean the density of population—and it is also true that they have suffered from power shortages—I find from statements that I called for, in about 4 years out of 5 sometimes 40 per cent, sometimes half and so on. This year, I think it is 100 per cent. But recently I have got the information that they have restored 40 per cent. of the cut and that is a problem which requires some kind of long term solution and it may be that the Travancore-Cochin Government and the Centre will have to get together and see where that solution would lie.

Then, there are other matters like the supply of rice and the export of tapioca. I find that the export of tapioca was permitted, because there was a surplus of it in the districts

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

which were growing it. From this one may conclude that tapioca is not grown in the district which the hon. Lady Member is representing, because that district seems to be consisting of consumers of tapioca. Now, it is very difficult to reconcile these two interests. We are up against this problem all the time, whether it is tapioca or anything else. Incidentally, I might say that in jute also it is the same kind of problem. One might think in terms of fixing a minimum price as for cotton, but then the question arises: where are we to sell the goods that would be manufactured out of that jute? It is not within our power to sell all those jute goods. I believe an hon. Member said that the minimum price for jute could be raised here and now by a few rupees per maund if the mills could be modernised, but then again, we are on the horns of a dilemma, i.e., if we were to modernise the mills, it will throw about 80 thousand labourers out of employment. This is a kind of problem for which there is no easy solution. All that I can say is that these problems receive constant attention and in so far as tea is concerned, I think the hon. Member will agree with me that the position has improved very considerably. Today, the price of tea is over 3 shillings and I think many gardens are reopening. In regard to rubber, our minimum price has worked well. I think we get Rs. 1-6-0 as against 1 sh. 7 d., which is the outside price.

I shall have only one more observation to make before I sit down. The hon. Lady Member quoted some very gloomy reference from THE MERCHANT OF VENICE. There is another portion of the same play which I would like to quote to her in conclusion. This is what Portia says towards the end of the play:—

"Speak not so grossly.

And I have better news in store for you

Than you expect: unseal this letter soon;

There you shall find three of your argosies

Are richly come to harbour suddenly."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1953-54 be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is another matter, namely, the motion regarding the Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill. Am I to understand that the general discussion should be carried on into the extra one hour allotted for this purpose, or that it should end now? I suggest that the extra time may be devoted to clause by clause consideration and hon. Member can have a separate discussion on the Tea Bill. I shall not be very meticulous. Hon. Members may refer even to matters which touch more than one clause. So, I suggest we may close the general discussion now.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: All that has to be said relates only to the clauses.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then we shall reserve it for the clause by clause stage and I shall put the motion to the House. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter Past Eight of the Clock on Friday, the 17th April, 1953.