

Tuesday, November 15, 1960
Kartika 24, Agrahayana, 1882 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Second Series

Volume XLVII, 1960/1882 (Saka)

[November 14 to 25, 1960/Kartika 23 to Agrahayana 4, 1882 (Saka)]



TWELFTH SESSION, 1960/1882 (Saka)

(Vol. XLVII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, November 15, 1960/

Kartika 24, 1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Express Telegrams

***43. Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the public has experienced considerable delays in receiving express telegrams;

(b) whether it is also a fact that special instructions have been given for the despatch of telegrams relating to safety of human life in accidents or death;

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to make these beneficial facilities known to public; and

(d) whether Government propose to issue any circular or advertise these special facilities?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Some complaints are received to this effect.

(b) Provisions for according very high priority to such telegrams exist in the rules.

(c) All the provisions in regard to this facility are published in the P. & T. Guide, the Pocket P. & T. Guide, and the Hindi Tar Nirdeshika, which are meant for the use of the public.

1260(Ai)LS—1.

(d) Yes, through normal publicity efforts.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether telegrams relating to human life involved in accidents or death and marked priority get preference over other express and urgent telegrams? If so, is this feature which gives an advantage to the people given wide publicity so that people might take advantage of it?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As I said, all that is published in the P. & T. Guide. But telegrams are given preference as they are marked express or ordinary. Of course, such telegrams that my hon. friend talks of are given priority when they concern human life.

Shri Hem Barua: It is not known to the people. I doubt if it is known. I also did not know it before this. So what I want to know is whether this particular feature which gives a great advantage to the public has been sufficiently publicised so that people might take advantage of it.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I will see what can be done to publicise this more.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether complaints have been received by the hon. Minister that even urgent telegrams reach after ordinary letters?

Shri Ranga: That is correct.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I heard this complaint. We are trying to pull the department up. Unfortunately, the amount of supervision that is available to us is not enough.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact? My hon. friend might also have had the

same experience. This is a long-standing complaint running over years. Express telegrams are received much later than ordinary telegrams. People are being compelled to spend more on express telegrams and at the same time get less convenience.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I am perfectly aware of it. That is why I said that I am trying to get it corrected.

Dr. M. S. Aney: I brought to the notice of the hon. Minister some time ago the case of an express telegram sent by Professor Ranga to me. Has he been able to take it up?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The hon. Member being an older gentleman than myself I am not inclined to lose my temper as he seems to have done.

Shri Goray: That is his natural voice.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I do admit that these delays do occur. We are trying to see how we can correct it so that the service is better than what it is today.

Seth Achal Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the telegraph staff has adopted go-slow tactics after the general strike?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: No, Sir. As a matter of fact, I think we have taken back most of them and I have impressed upon them that they should do their duty better than they did before.

Dr. Vijaya Ananda: May I know whether some express telegrams are not delivered at times?

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Enough questions have been asked.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I request that Question Nos. 46 and 83 may be taken up along with Question No. 44.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): We have no objection.

साधा का उत्पादन

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श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री :
श्री गोरे :
श्रीमती इला पालचौधरी :
श्री साधन गप्त :
श्री सुपकार :
श्री हेम बर्का :]

क्या साधा तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ।

(क) क्या इस वर्ष पिछले वर्षों की अपेक्षा साधाना का अधिक उत्पादन होने की संभावना है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इसका प्रभाव साधाना के मूल्यों पर पड़ा है ?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० बै० कृष्णप्पा) : सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है ।

विवरण

(क) १९६०-६१ के साधा फसलों के उत्पादन के अनुमान अभी उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। देश के कुछ भागों में प्राकृतिक संकटों द्वारा स्थानीय की सफलों को नुकसान होने के बावजूद, हाल के लक्षणों के अनुसार उत्पादन की संभावना सन्तोषजनक है ।

(ख) जी हां । पिछले कुछ सप्ताहों से भाव साधारणतया मुलायम हो गये हैं ।

फसलों की स्थिति

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*४६. श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह :
श्री लुशावक्त राय :
श्री शीतारामण दास :
श्री राधा रमण :
श्री हेम बर्का :

क्या साधा तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ।

(क) विभिन्न राज्यों में बाढ़ और सूखा

से खरीफ की कौन कौन फसलें नष्ट हो गई ;
और

(स) बाढ़ और सूखा के कारण खरीफ की फसल का उत्पादन कितना कम हुआ ?

हृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० वै० कृष्णप्पा) : सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है ।

विवरण

(क) और (स) अभी यह जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है, क्योंकि फसलों के अखिल भारतीय प्रन्तिम ग्रन्तुमानों के प्रकाशित होने के बाद, विभिन्न खरीफ फसलों की पूरी जानकारी केवल मई-जून १९६१ में उपलब्ध होगी ।

Mr. Speaker: He wants Q. No. 83 also to be taken up.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is not our question.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : कुछ दिन पहले साध्य मंत्री, डा० पंजाब राव देशमुख, ने साधाश्रों के संबंध में यह भाशा व्यक्त की थी कि इस बार फसल बहुत अच्छी हुई है और अभी कल परसों साध्य मंत्री ने अमरीकी साधाश्रों का बोरा उपहार में प्रहण करते हुये बम्बई में कहा था कि इससे हमारे साधाश्र के मूल्यों पर अच्छा प्रभाव पड़ेगा । क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जनता को इसका व्यावहारिक रूप कब तक देखने को मिलेगा ?

साध्य तथा हृषि मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटिल) : प्राइस तो घट जाती है और घटी है । और ज्यादा घट जायेगी, तो डेंजर है किसानों के लिये । और ज्यादा नहीं घटना चाहिये ।

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In areas where loans and subsidies are promised to be advanced to growers with a view to fight the vagaries of nature

it is invariably noticed that they are not given in time. Will Government take any appropriate step to see that they are not delayed?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The Community Projects agency is now doing that liaison work. There was some shortage of manure this year because it did not reach in time. Otherwise all other necessities of the farmers, that is, seeds, manure and all these things are given to them before ploughing or sowing starts.

Shri Goray: In view of the downward trend in prices, what steps are Government contemplating to take to see to it that the peasant does not suffer unnecessarily from the adverse prices?

Shri S. K. Patil: The situation is being very carefully watched. That point has not yet come up because there is a trend only. But if we feel that the trend is positively coming, the farmers will certainly be protected.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Deputy Minister referred to the Community Development agency. I do not know whether Government are aware of the recent discussion which was held on the Plan for three days. During that discussion several hon. Members repeatedly charged that without giving certain obligations no bill was passed by the Community Development overseers and engineers who deal with agriculture. May I know whether Government will direct that particular department to see that this is not done?

Shri S. K. Patil: That refers to another Ministry, but I could quite understand that. In the interests of agriculture, we would draw the attention of that Ministry to this.

Shri Goray: May I refer to the answer given just now by the hon. Minister to my previous question and ask him whether, if prices go below a particular point, Government will enter the market and see that grain is purchased at a particular price?

Shri S. K. Patil: I said that the farmers would be protected. There is more than one way of doing so. One of the ways has been pointed out by the hon. Member, but there are quite a few other ways also. We have not yet finalised that because that stage has not been reached. But we are very much aware of that fact and we shall see to it.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: May I know whether Government has made an assessment of the loss of food crops caused by the locust invasion?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There was locust invasion. There were floods and drought. But still the overall situation seems to be better than last year, specially of the major kharif rice crop. Nearly 80 per cent of the rice crop falls under kharif crop and the rice crop in the whole of India this year seems to be better than last year in spite of floods, drought and locusts. We are expecting a better crop than what it was last year.

Shri Shivananjappa: How far has the failure of monsoon in the State of Mysore affected food production?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is only in parts of Mysore and Andhra that there is some damage to the millet crop because of drought. But even in Andhra, specially in the rice-growing pocket and the granary of South India in the delta area we have got a good crop this year.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know the level to which the hon. Minister would like the prices to go down and which he will consider to be safe before he thinks of doing anything?

Shri S. K. Patil: That level also has not been fixed. As I said, it is a fluid situation. We have been constantly watching it. But when there is such a danger, at that time, we shall enter into the thing and see that the farmer does not suffer. We cannot fix that level.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: In the light of the answer given by the hon. Deputy Minister and also the fact that we have sufficient food stocks due to the imports from America, will Government consider the question of abolishing the food zones?

Mr. Speaker: That is a separate issue.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: The Deputy Minister has stated that in spite of the flood and the drought in Orissa and some other States the crop position is better this year. What is the estimate, may I know?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The estimates or the final forecasts have not yet come. But we get reports often as soon as the floods occur. Especially in Orissa, from where the hon. Member comes, this year we had very serious floods twice. But in spite of that in other parts of Orissa and West Bengal there is a very good crop to compensate what has been lost in the flooded area. And we ourselves go round and see. For instance during the last two and a half months I have extensively toured in all these areas—I went by car, by road, by train and by jeep. I could see with my own eyes the standing crop, and I say this year we have a better rice crop in the country than last year.

Shri Hem Barua: In spite of the optimism of the Deputy Minister, may I draw the attention of the Government to the Report for 1960 released by the F.A.O. to the effect that there would be a decrease in the yield of cereals and pulses in India; and, if so, what steps Government have taken to increase their production?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The F.A.O. gives figures of last year's crops, that is for 1959-60, not for 1960-61. The 1960-61 figures have not yet come to us. Only when they come to us we will supply them to the F.A.O. and the F.A.O. will then forecast. Whatever forecast the F.A.O. has made is with reference to last year, not to the coming year.

Shrimati Ilia Palchoudhury: As the Government is aware, the farmer has been able to get very spectacular prices for jute this year. The jute prices were not so good last year. So he did not cultivate as much jute this year. Now, with the spectacular prices obtained, he is likely to cultivate very much more jute next year. What does Government propose to do to prevent this? Because he did not cultivate jute, the crops are good.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is not food.

Shri Supakar: What is the basis of the estimate even in those areas where there have admittedly been devastating effects. Is it the falling down of prices that is the basis of the estimate by the Government to say that the production will be good this year?

Shri S. K. Patil: Surely, when the prices fall down, everybody knows more or less that there is enough food. And so far as Orissa is concerned, I could go further and state that even the stocks they have got now they are anxious to dispose, because they cannot hold on to them for a long time when there is plenty of food.

Shri Supakar: May I know whether that is the only criterion?

Shri S. K. Patil: The actual figures have not yet been published, and would be published, as my hon. colleague has said. Just now the prospect is that when prices fall that is the surest indication that there is no dearth of it.

श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि फसल के अच्छे उत्पादन और अमरीकी खाद्यान्न के आयात के आरम्भ हो जाने से जो खाद्यान्न के मूल्यों में गिरावट आयेगी, उसको देखते हुये अग्र के अन्तर्वान्दीय यातायात के ऊपर जो प्रतिबन्ध लगा हुआ है, उसको भी हटाया जा सकेगा?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : अभी कुछ ज्यादा प्रतिबन्ध तो नहीं हैं। मध्य प्रदेश की बात तो ठीक है। वहां पर भी चन्द रोज में प्रतिबन्ध

में योड़ा तो फक्क होगा जिससे कि वहां का खाद्यान्न दूसरी जगह पर जा सकेगा। पंजाब में भी है लेकिन इतना बड़ा नहीं है कि उसका प्रसर हमारे खाद्यान्न के ऊपर हो।

Shri Sadhan Gupta: In view of the fact that the holding power of the farmer is very limited, and in view of the possibility of the prices going down, have the Government thought out in advance any scheme for fixing floor prices, as well as ceiling prices of course? Because, if it is done at the time things go out of hand, the benefit will not go to the farmers but to the middlemen.

Shri S. K. Patil: I have answered it more than once.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are taking advantage of the question relating to food. This relates particularly to drought and floods, that is the only question here, and the consequent food prospects. There is no question about prices, so far as I can see.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: There is, about prices.

An Hon. Member: Part (b) of question No. 44 refers to it.

Mr. Speaker: "Whether it has affected the food prices"—all right.

Shri Sampath: May I know how far the package programme that has been tried in some selected centres have been found to be effective, and whether Government is considering the question of extending this programme to other centres also?

Shri S. K. Patil: Yes, there have been programmes for seven districts in seven States, and we propose to extend it to all the States, including one of the areas of the Centrally governed territory.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Sadhan Gupta's question relating to prices may be answered.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: My question was this. The hon. Minister said that

when the situation arises and when the prices are going down too far, then they will think of fixing minimum prices—something to that effect. My question was, in view of the fact that when the situation actually arises, at that stage it may be too late to give relief to the farmer, have Government thought out any scheme for fixing minimum prices, that is floor prices in advance, as well as ceiling prices.

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of the question? The hon. Member has only put down a question as to how far the food production this year has affected the prices. And the Minister has already said 'yes' or 'no'.

Shri S. K. Patil: Even this question is under examination. And if we feel that such a situation is going to arise, well in advance of that we shall take measures. I have promised that.

Shri Heda: May I know whether Government has taken into calculation the situation in certain water reservoirs like Nizam Sagar, where water did not come to the full capacity owing to the drought or less rains in the catchment area?

Shri S. K. Patil: That is true. That also goes to the Irrigation Ministry, but we are vitally interested in it. But that adds to that problem which faces them.

Shri Tyagi: Is it a fact that owing to the recent fall in the prices of foodgrains, some of the State which had bought quite a lot of foodgrains for stock-piling purposes are facing a great loss, because they cannot sell it at the price at which they bought it?

Shri S. K. Patil: That is so. Therefore, as I said, in Madhya Pradesh, I think, in the next few days we shall have some form of modified zone system where much of the quantity of the stored grain would be available outside, and possibly that would be done in Punjab too.

Shri Tyagi: Who will meet that loss?

Shri S. K. Patil: The loss has to be met either by that Government or the Central Government.

Anti-Sea-Erosion Works in Kerala

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***45. Shri Kunhan:
Shri Kodiyan:**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 541 on the 19th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Kerala State Government have submitted the overall long range plan for anti-sea-erosion works to be undertaken;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Government of India have accepted the proposals?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Government of Kerala have not submitted, as yet, their over-all long range plan for anti-sea erosion works. They have, however, furnished an outline of their programme for anti-sea-erosion works to be undertaken in the Third Plan period. This programme envisages the construction of 25 miles of protective walls with the requisite groynes, to arrest encroachment of the sea at the following places:

- (1) Warkala
- (2) Neendakara
- (3) Chavara and Panmana
- (4) Ayiramthengu
- (5) Thrikunnapuzha
- (6) Chellanam
- (7) Nayarambalam
- (8) Pazhangad
- (9) North of Pazhangad
- (10) Manassery
- (11) Kozhikode and Beypore
- (12) Tellicherry
- (13) Azhikal and Cannanore

This programme is estimated to cost Rs. 300 lakhs. While the Government of India have agreed, in principle, to the size of the proposals of the State Government for anti-sea-erosion works in the Third Plan, the question of the pattern of financial assistance for such works, is still under consideration.

Shri Kunhan: Every year a lot of losses are taking place in Kerala. May I therefore know how long it will take to finalise this scheme?

Shri Hathi: In fact, provision has been made in the Third Five Year Plan. Provision was made in the Second Five Year Plan also.

Shri Tangamani: I find that the provision for the Third Five Year Plan is about Rs. 300 lakhs. May I know how much has been set apart for the current year, which is the last year of the Second Five Year Plan?

Shri Hathi: The total provision for the whole of the Second Plan was Rs. 185 lakhs. The position is that for 1960-61 it is Rs. 30 lakhs.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: In the statement it is said that the question of the pattern of financial assistance for such works is still under consideration. May I have a clarification, what the consideration of the pattern of financial assistance means?

Shri Hathi: That is, whether financial assistance will be 100 per cent loan or 50 per cent loan or some loan and some grant, is under consideration.

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Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that this problem is presenting itself in Andhra, Bombay, Madras and Orissa States? I would like to know whether the Government have any proposal at all to help these State Governments in the field of anti-sea-erosion?

Shri Hathi: Schemes for anti-sea-erosion are formulated by the State Governments. We have made a tentative provision of Rs. 5 crores.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Especially in the monazite mining areas, I learn that protective walls are not being put up and erosion is causing incalculable harm to the mining area. What urgent steps are being taken by Government?

Shri Hathi: We have provided works at the monazite area also.

Shri Jinachandran: Is it not a fact that in the case of flood control, the Centre is giving 50 per cent and the State is paying 50 per cent? Why this discrimination in the case of anti-sea-erosion?

Shri Hathi: There is no question of as a rule the Centre giving 50 per cent for flood control. It is all generally loans.

Dr. M. S. Aney: What is the total acreage of land which is to be covered by anti-sea-erosion works?

Shri Hathi: The total coast-line of Kerala is 350 miles.

Dr. M. S. Aney: How many years will it take according to the programme which the Government is now launching?

Shri Hathi: The Kerala Government has given a programme for about 80 miles to be completed by the end of the Fourth plan.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether the Government has got any report that the encroachment of the sea during the last year was bigger than in any other year?

Shri Hathi: We have some information that at various places there was encroachment.

Shri Kunhan: Out of the sum of Rs. 185 lakhs, how much has been spent during the Second Plan?

Shri Hathi: Out of Rs. 185 lakhs, they have spent Rs. 155.60 lakhs up to March 1960; Rs. 30 lakhs are earmarked to be given in the current year.

Railway Accident near Ferozabad

*47. { Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether several railway passengers were thrown away from the moving train near Ferozabad on the 18th September, 1960; and

(b) if so, the details of the same?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir; three passengers, while travelling by 2 Down, Agra Cantt-Tundla-Kanpur Passenger Train on 18th September, 1960, were beaten and thrown out between Ferozabad and Makhanpur Railway Stations by certain miscreants. One of the passengers died and the other 2 received injuries. The case is under Police investigation.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: What was the main reason for the accident? Is it over-crowding or some accidental mishap? If it was due to over-crowding, what special steps have the Government taken?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Enquiry is being made. The police are investigating.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether any departmental enquiry was held into this and whether it was as a result of communal riot at Ferozabad or it was just an accident in the train?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The police are holding an enquiry. We do not do it.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Is it not a fact that often accidents take place at the Ferozabad station? There is no other station which had more accidents than Ferozabad. What is the reason?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I cannot say it is often. It is an accident. It will be investigated.

Shri P. G. Deb: How much compensation has been paid to the railway passengers?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No question of compensation.

Shri Rajendra Singh: The question is whether the passengers who have fallen victim to the accident have been given some money or not from the Government?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Compensation is paid only in the case of casualties due to train accidents. Here, this casualty was not due to any accident.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know how many people were arrested, and whether some of the people arrested were interrogated.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No arrests have been made yet. The police are investigating.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: The Deputy Minister said that investigation into the accident is still going on. The Minister says that it was not an accident. I would like to know whether any enquiry is being made.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I am afraid the hon. Member did not follow me. I said it was not a train accident.

Operating Ratio on S. Railway

*48. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation regarding high operating ratio on the Southern Railway has since been carried out;

(b) if so, who conducted the investigation; and

(c) what is the conclusion arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) In addition to the continues scrutiny of the financial results of railways, normally exercised, an intensified investigation

was initiated as soon as a definite deterioration in the financial results of the Southern Railway came to notice through the results of 1957-58.

(b) The Southern Railway Administration has conducted investigations, taking into account also suggestions given by Railway Board's Officers in correspondence or in discussions, supplemented by investigations conducted by the Efficiency Bureau of the Railway Board.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 16].

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: In the very long statement that has been laid on the Table of the House, one of the reasons given is that coal for the Southern Railway is transported by the rail-cum-sea route. The other reason is that goods traffic on this Railway is less. May I know, in order to wipe out this deficit, is there any proposal with the Railway Board or with the Railway administration of the Southern Railway to carry coal by rail only?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): The hon. Member should not forget that coastal shipping is also required in the national interest. This transportation of coal to the south is not due to shortage of wagons, but to give help to maintain the coastal shipping.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: That means to say that this subsidy for coastal shipping will continue for ever.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not say for ever. If other types of traffic offer to coastal shipping and coastal shipping is enabled to maintain itself, perhaps this sort of indirect subsidy will not be necessary.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement we find that the percentage of earnings by passenger traffic is much higher in the Southern Railway than in the other Railways: 35 per cent as compared to 30 per cent. May I know whether, in view of this fact,

the passenger amenities will increase accordingly?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I do not admit that passenger amenities on the the Southern Railway are in any way inferior to other Railways.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement we also find that the average price of coal per ton will be Rs. 65 in the Southern Railway as compared with Rs. 42 for all the Railways. May I know whether, in working out the net profit, the balance of Rs. 23 will be taken as a subsidy instead of showing that there is always a net loss in the Southern Railway?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: That factor is kept in view, of course, when assessing the finances of the Southern Railway.

Shri Achar: May I know whether the consumption of coal per mile in the Southern Railway is more than what it is in the Northern Railways?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: By and large, this is the same as in most other Railways.

Shri Achar: Is it not a fact that most of the locomotives in the Southern Railway are very old and they are using more coal?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, Sir. That is not a fact.

Committee on Extra Departmental Staff of P. & T.

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*49.	Shri Tangamani: Shri D. C. Sharma: Shri Hem Raj: Shri S. M. Banerjee: Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Shri Bhakt Darshan: Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Shri Prakash Vir Shastri: Shri Narayanan Kurty Menon: Shri Damani:
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Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer

to the reply given to Starred Question No. 70 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have come to a final decision on the recommendations of the Committee on Extra Departmental Staff of the Posts and Telegraphs Department; and

(b) if so, what are the decisions?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) The consideration of the recommendations of the Committee is in the final stage and a decision is likely to be taken soon.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that this report by the Rajan Committee was submitted as early as 1958, may we know why there has been such a long delay in finalising it?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: That is because we had to consider the recommendations of the Pay Commission with regard to this also. After the recommendations of the Pay Commission were submitted, we have been working at it very hard, I can assure the hon. Member; and it has taken some time to come to a final decision.

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that the present salary of this extra-departmental staff is only Rs. 22 per month, and they number about 100,000, may I know whether it will be finalised at least by the end of this year?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The hon. Member should realise they are only part-time, and therefore they cannot expect the same pay that is given to permanent servants of the Government. At the same time, we are trying to see what could be done to alleviate the difficulties from which these persons suffer. As a matter of fact, some recommendations were made by the P. & T. Board which I did not accept because I thought the scale recommended was too low. It went back to them, they reconsidered it

and sent it back to me. When I have considered it, it will be put up to the Finance Ministry to decide what should be done.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the P. & T. Board is considering the recommendations or some departmental heads?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Of course, they have got to be departmental heads.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether such extra-departmental staff who have served for more than five years and have qualified themselves will be absorbed in the regular channel?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The question was so long that I really could not get at the cream of the question.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether any instructions have been issued to absorb into the regular channels such extra-departmental staff as have qualified themselves and have served for more than five years in extra-departmental work?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Such appointments are made occasionally when we find that the person who has served the time the hon. Member mentions deserves to be made permanent.

Shri Bhakt Darshan: The hon. Minister last time said that a decision would be taken shortly. Now he has changed the wording and says that it will be taken soon. May I know whether a decision will be taken during this session?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Words have changed according to circumstances. The fact is that it is being considered very urgently.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Sir, last time also you were pleased to direct the hon. Minister to give us a time limit. We would like to know whether the committee recommended any pay scale; if so what is the recommendation? If Government considered it low, what are the other considerations they have before them?

We would like to have some idea about it. After all, it is three years now.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Again, the question has been so long that I have not been able to get at the cream of the question.

Mr. Speaker: How long will the hon. Minister take to arrive at a conclusion?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I have explained the difficulties we are working under. As I said, I have sent back the recommendations to the P. & T. Board because I did not accept them. They have made further proposals which are being examined. Afterwards, it has got to be submitted to the Finance Ministry before a final decision is made. I can tell him that I hope to lay the decisions that have been made on the Table of the House before the end of this session.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the decisions taken on the recommendations made with regard to the pay scales will be implemented retrospectively, so that the employees may not suffer because of the delay on the part of the Government?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The hon. gentleman talks to himself, and I cannot even follow what he says.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, there is a limit to this.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Ministers find it difficult to catch the questions because more than one question is put in the same question. Let the question be short and cryptic, and then it will be answered properly.

Shri Hem Barua: My submission is this that this difficulty seems to concern a single individual, namely the Minister. When it concerns a lot of people, as he himself says, and he refuses to listen to everybody, the fault must be somewhere else.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: There are other Ministers who are able to catch;

only the hon. Minister is not able to catch.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Perhaps I am rather hard of hearing.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This has taken a lot of time. The report was submitted in 1958 and it has not yet been implemented. Last time it was in a semi-final stage, this time it is in the final stage. I want to know whether the pay scales are going to be implemented retrospectively.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Repeated questions like this are not going to hasten the proceedings any further. As fast as it could be done, it is being done.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has been taking some time naturally, and the hon. Members are satisfied with the explanation for the delay, but they want to know whether the recommendations will be implemented retrospectively.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: That is a suggestion for action. I can assure them that I would consider the matter sympathetically.

Acquisition of Land in Delhi

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*50. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Strared Question No. 41 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state at what stage is the question of starting a revolving fund for the development of land acquired in the Union Territory of Delhi?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): The Government of India have decided to start a revolving fund for the development of land acquired in the Union Territory of Delhi. Necessary provision in this regard will be proposed for incorporation in the budget estimates for 1961-62.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is going to be the amount of this revolving fund?

Shri Karmarkar: What exactly will be proposed in the Budget I am not able to say, but it will be reasonable.

Shri D. C. Sharma: For how many acres of land will this revolving fund be used?

Shri Karmarkar: Round about 8,000 acres I think.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Government have a new authority to administer this revolving fund, or will the DDA administer it?

Shri Karmarkar: That is too early for me to say.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Has any scheme been finalised of the area which will be acquired through this fund?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. That is receiving our active consideration.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: In addition to the land which was notified to be acquired last year, some 34,000 acres, has some other land been notified to be acquired this year?

Shri Karmarkar: What was notified was about all the land that could be acquired reasonably for developmental purposes.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: My question was whether some additional land has been notified to be acquired.

Shri Karmarkar: My answer was that new land had been notified. What was notified—34,000 acres—was about the land that in our opinion could be reasonably developed. This does not require any new notification unless accidentally some other land has remained.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What will be the rate paid to the persons from whom the land is acquired, and what will be the rate at which Government will let it out to others for building purposes? There have been cases in Delhi itself when the rate paid to the original owners has been $1\frac{1}{2}$ or $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas per square yard, whereas the same land has been charged Rs. 17 to

Rs. 18 per square yard later. May I know what the ratio will be here?

Shri Karmarkar: What prices the land will fetch will depend upon the authorities who decide that question. As to what price we shall charge, I can only assure the House that it will be reasonable development charges. The idea is not to profiteer over the purchase of land.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Will part of the land acquired for development of Delhi be allotted to the Scheduled Caste people?

Shri Karmarkar: I am mystified by this question because so long as the Scheduled Caste friends are here in Delhi, part of it will go to them, such of them as want to purchase.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Are Government aware that the Scheduled Caste people in the Delhi area are being evicted? Government are throwing them away on the streets.

Shri Karmarkar: We have not made any distinction between the Scheduled Castes and the others. As the House already knows, in all matters we are paying special attention to the interests of the Scheduled Castes, but the law does not make any difference where any conflict with the law is concerned.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: There is some misunderstanding. My question is whether Government are aware that Scheduled Caste people who have been staying there for years together are now being evicted from their places by the Delhi Development Authority?

Shri Karmarkar: I am not aware of any such cases. I should be grateful if the hon. Member would bring such cases to my notice where people are unlawfully being evicted. If they are being lawfully evicted, my hon. friend will have no quarrel with me.

Shri Heda: May I know whether Government are aware of the rising trend of prices of house-sites in Delhi, and if so, whether this quantum of land that is being acquired will be

an adequate factor for stabilising the prices?

Shri Karmarkar: Where the prices were rising, since we notified the land, our information is that the prices have ceased to rise, because nobody can give any land to anybody else. Therefore, there is no question of prices rising except in respect of land owned by individual parties, in which case we can help very little.

Shri Khimji: May I know how much land has been already acquired, and at what price it is proposed to be sold?

Shri Karmarkar: Subject to correction, out of the land notified, nothing has been acquired; we propose to acquire it.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The hon. Minister has stated that the only question to judge is whether the eviction is being carried out lawfully or not. Our question is this. In the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, not only here, but elsewhere also, is it not the policy of Government to see that their lands are not touched because of the fact that they cannot get any new land again at that price?

Shri Karmarkar: The question which I have been ascertaining for myself all the time is whether there have been any such cases. If there had been any such cases, I had requested the hon. Member to bring it to my notice. If there is any *mala fide* action, we shall see to it that it is stopped. If there is *bona fide* action, I can assure the House that we shall not stop it.

Shri Tyagi: May I know the plan or the pattern of allotment of these lands to those who want to put up their own houses? What will be the criteria? Will it be according to the highest tender or will it be allotted by names or to co-operative societies? Have Government considered all these schemes?

Shri Karmarkar: The question is under consideration at the moment. Our policy is to encourage co-operative societies in this matter. With regard to individual plot-seekers, what the policy will be is a matter which we have yet to decide, but I can assure the House that it will be very reasonable.

Shri Ansar Harvani: Is it not a fact that as a result of the programme of slum clearance, the Scheduled Caste people are the worst affected people, and when they are evicted from there, those lands are allotted to the rich people instead of being allotted to these Scheduled Caste people?

Shri Karmarkar: As I have said, our policy has always been to take a sympathetic view in the case of Scheduled Caste people. There is no doubt about that; there is no change in that policy. If there are any cases of illegal eviction, I shall be grateful if hon. Members would bring them to my notice, and I shall go into the matter.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: The hon. Minister has been laying stress on legal and illegal eviction. May I know what the position in law would be where a Harijan has been evicted from a place where he has been staying on for years, even before this notification came, when there was no question of dearth of land at all? Now Government want to evict him from that land. Will that step be legal, because he has been holding on to that land for more than twenty years?

Shri Karmarkar: In every case where slum clearance is effected, there is always a provision made for proper allotment of land for such people. My hon. friend has not improved the position either for himself or for me by again trying to support a vague allegation without substantiating it. I would like to know whether there are any such cases.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: May I know whether these sites will be

made available to the people of the low income and the middle income groups?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, most of them will go to the low income and the middle income groups, because the majority of our people belong to these two categories.

Suicide committed by an Employee of Regional Directorate of Food, Calcutta

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 51. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:
 Shri Mohan Swarup:
 Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
 Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
 Shri B. Das Gupta:
 Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:
 Shri Subiman Ghose:

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

(a) whether one of the employees of the Regional Directorate of Food, Calcutta committed suicide in the month of September, 1960;

(b) what was the cause of the suicide;

(c) whether he was under suspension at the time of suicide;

(d) whether any enquiry has been held in this regard; and

(e) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):
 (a) to (e). Shri Rajeswar Chatterjee, a Junior Godown Keeper in the Department of Food, committed suicide on 19th September 1960. He was, at the time, under suspension in connexion with his participation in the strike of Central Government employees in July, 1960. The facts of the case have been fully investigated. Shri Chatterjee was one of 58 employees against whom disciplinary proceedings had been initiated in connexion with the strike. 14 of these cases had been finalised by 17-9-1960.

In these cases certain minor punishments were awarded. In Shri Chatterjee's case, the report of the Inquiry Officer had been finalised and submitted on 17th September 1960. There was no avoidable delay in the conduct of the departmental enquiry.

During the period of his suspension, Shri Chatterjee was paid his subsistence allowance at the rate of Rs. 111 p.m. as against his normal emoluments of Rs. 170 p.m. There was no delay in the payment of subsistence allowance. These are the facts of the case. In the absence of any note left by Shri Chatterjee or other definite evidence, it is difficult to state the reasons which might have prompted him to commit suicide. Every effort has been made to give such relief as possible to the bereaved family. Apart from personal contributions which have been made, the Prime Minister has sanctioned an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 2,500 to the family.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister has stated that there was no delay in the proceedings. I want to know whether it is a fact that Shri Rajeswar Chatterjee was suspended on 13th July, 1960, the charge-sheet was issued on 19th August, 1960, and his evidence was taken only on 16th September, 1960, and he committed suicide on the 19th September, 1960. I want to know why this delaying tactics was adopted, namely that he was suspended in July, charge-sheeted in August, and his evidence was taken only in September. May I know the reasons for that delay?

Shri A. M. Thomas: After all, between the strike and the finalisation of these disciplinary proceedings, only two months have passed. It is true that the charge-sheet was given on 19th August, 1960, but that took only about a month, during which time what exactly should be the general policy concerning these employees was decided, and then instructions were issued; so, there has been no delay on that account.

Even with regard to the other factor, after the giving of the charge-sheet,

this employee wanted time to file his statement; he also wanted some documents to be given to him, and those documents were given; then, he wanted further time to give explanation etc. It was because of these things that there has been even this little delay.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know when these charges were framed against Shri Rajeswar Chatterjee for alleged participation in the strike? He normally resided at a place called Hridaypur which is at a distance of 20 miles from Calcutta, and, therefore, it was not physically possible for him to have attended office, on account of the stoppage of trains. Was this also taken into account, that as far as his past record went, he had seen active service on the Kashmir front?

Shri A. M. Thomas: This explanation that is being given today by my hon. friend has not been given even by the deceased employee, because, according to him, it was as per the general collective decision that had been taken that he absented himself from duty.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I think it was in July that the hon. Minister had stated that mere participation in a strike would be dealt with leniently, and that actually past records would be taken into consideration. In view of that, may I know whether the departmental heads have been informed of this policy, and whether these suspensions are being withdrawn on that basis?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The Departmental officers have been informed of this. You would find that even in the cases that have been finalised, only minor punishments have been given such as censure, and only in a very few cases increments have been stopped, so that the general policy has been one of considerable sympathy as far as these employees are concerned.

I may also say that a distinction has only been made in the case of persons who were guilty of acts of sabotage,

violence and intimidation; and to ascertain whether they had been guilty of such acts, some enquiry had to be conducted.

Shri Mohan Swarup: May I know whether any assistance has been given by the Department to the bereaved family?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes, assistance has been given. I have already stated that his family has been paid the difference between the subsistence allowance and the salary, and also the gratuity admissible under the Liberalised Pension and Gratuity Rules, namely Rs. 1170; The Prime Minister has paid Rs. 2500; the Food Secretary has made a personal contribution of Rs. 200.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know how many employees of the same Department are still under suspension, and how many cases have been finalised so far?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In this Department, there were only 58 cases; 55 cases have been finalised, and only three still remain under enquiry.

Shri B. Das Gupta: May I know whether before he was suspended he was asked whether he had joined the strike or not?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It was his own admission that he joined the strike.

Shri B. Das Gupta: What was his version?

Shri A. M. Thomas: His version was that in pursuance of the collective decision taken by the Union, he had resorted to strike.

Shri Submian Ghose: Since the hon. Minister says that the decision was given on the 17th September, may I know whether the decision was conveyed to him on the same day or the next, or whether the information was at all conveyed to him that a decision had been taken in the matter?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The decision was not taken on the 17th September. The report was submitted on the

17th September. Having regard to the circumstances also, he had no financial difficulties.... (*Interruptions*). Besides the subsistence allowance paid to him, a sum of Rs. 2,000 was paid to him by the Rehabilitation Ministry. That was with him. Apart from his general financial situation, he was not hard up for cash or anything like that. On the very same day of his suicide, he went out collecting donations for Durga Puja. It is very difficult to ascertain what exactly has been the cause of the suicide, but it is learnt from police inquiry that he was generally depressed because of the general failure of the strike (*Interruptions*). If anybody has to take responsibility, the public will judge who has to take it. (*Interruptions*).

Shri B. Das Gupta: I want to ask a question about his salary.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Is it a fact that on the 16th September, when he was giving evidence, he was threatened by the officers and humiliated in the worst possible way. He was even told, 'Ask your wife to earn'. It is these things which led to the suicide and the hon. Minister is saying something else.

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is absolutely baseless.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Has there been any inquiry about it?

Shri A. M. Thomas: A detailed inquiry has been conducted and the insinuations made by my hon. friend are absolutely baseless. (*Interruptions*).

Shri S. M. Banerjee: You have killed him, not we.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I request for a half-hour discussion on this.

Shri B. Das Gupta: The Minister said that he was getting a basic salary of Rs. 120. I just want to know.....

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow him to know anything more.

Shri B. Das Gupta: He was getting only Rs. 40 per month.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions on this. I am also watching. When any hon. Member wants to ask a question, I allow it. Just now while we were on the previous question, I allowed Shrimati Renu Chakravarty to ask a question, even though I had called for the next question on the agenda. I did so because I thought that some elucidation ought to be made. I have allowed every hon. Member whose name appears on the order paper to ask questions once, twice; if in spite of that, any hon. Member persists in asking any more question, I will have to go to the next question.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The point is that the Minister has given wrong information.

Mr. Speaker: How will the hon. Member be satisfied with the information? The hon. Minister is not going to accept what the hon. Member says. I cannot do anything more than allow hon. Members opportunities to ask questions.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I ask a question of policy arising out of this.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Inland Water Transport

*52. **Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the provision of Rs. 667 lakhs for the development of Inland Water Transport in the country during the Third Five Year Plan period have been increased as recommended by Gokhale Committee;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) if not, how this amount is being allotted to the different States; and

(d) what amount has been allotted to Orissa?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications

(**Shri Raj Bahadur**): (a) There is a provision of Rs. 600 lakhs for the development of I.W.T. during the Third Plan period. The Ministry of Transport and Communications taking into account both the limitations of the available resources and the recommendations of the Gokhale Committee have in consultation with the State Government drawn up tentative schemes of Rs. 667 lakhs, which are yet to be finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement giving the tentative break-up for each State Government is laid on the Table of Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 17.]

(d) Rs. 50 lakhs.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I know whether there is any possibility of increasing this target of Rs. 600 lakhs in the Third Plan for developing inland water transport as it has been neglected in the Second Plan?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Planning Commission after examining the various priorities have come to certain conclusions and it is only up to them to consider whether any increase in allocation is possible. So far as the schemes for Orissa are concerned, as the figures show, an amount of Rs. 50 lakhs has been set apart.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I know whether the Government of Orissa had asked for more money than the sum allotted? If so, what are the schemes for which they had asked for and whether all the schemes have been approved?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It will be a long list. I have got it with me. They asked for a total provision of Rs. 25 crores covering their schemes, but it has not been possible to include all the schemes. The Planning Commission have, in consultation with us, been able to allocate what is supposed to be more or less the highest for any State.

Shri Tangamani: From the statement, I find that Rs. 10 lakhs have

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been allocated for Madras State. Is this allocation meant for dredging, widening and deepening the Buckingham Canal?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as Madras is concerned, the schemes are for improving terminal facilities of the Buckingham Canal at Madras, improvement of Buckingham Canal and two paths.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that foreign companies like the Joint Steamer Company operating their services on the Brahmaputra are very heavily subsidised by Government to the tune of lakhs of rupees, do Government propose to replace these services by agencies of Government or corporations sponsored by Government during the Third Plan period?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There are many factors involved in the consideration of this question, and it would be appreciated by the hon. Member that as much as about 60 per cent. of the total import-export cargo from and to Assam is carried by inland water transport through the Joint Steamer Company and other inland water transport companies. It is supposed that 80 per cent. of the inland water transport cargo is carried by the Joint Steamer Company and it will not be possible, in view of the big stretch of Pakistan waters coming in between, to replace them immediately.

Shri Achar: May I know the amount that might be required if effect is to be given to the various schemes supported by the Gokhale Committee?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The total amount involved in the recommendations was to the tune of Rs. 167-60 crores. They recommended Rs. 50 crores for the Third Plan. Out of that, we proposed schemes costing Rs. 40 crores and over. The Planning Commission have found it possible only to spare Rs. 6 crores for the purpose.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Is there any possibility of having water transport between Delhi and Agra?

Shri Raj Bahadur: If we can have water all round the year up to the required depth in Jumna between Delhi and Agra, that might be possible.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: We can have a dam and allow the water to accumulate.

Shri Hem Barua: Admitting everything that the hon. Minister has said about the services rendered by the Joint Steamer Company operating on the Brahmaputra, may I draw his attention to the fact that there is a company that has been periodically threatening deadlock and all that, and that it has been propped up by Government through public finances? In view of this, will Government reconsider the position and refuse to whip up an unwilling horse?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Joint Steamer Company is not unwilling horse. In fact, it is making its own dividends. Also, we cannot say that it is threatening us all the time.

Shri Hem Barua: It has been.

Shri Raj Bahadur: We cannot say that it is threatening us all the time or that it has been unreasonable. We have provided as much assistance as we thought was necessary, for example, for keeping the river channel navigable and other matters. We have advanced certain loans also. It would be difficult to replace it immediately keeping in view the international character of the inland water route.

Of course, as a long-term objective it may be possible or desirable to Indianise this particular sector of the industry.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: The Gokhale Committee suggested Rs. 50 crores; the Government of India suggested Rs. 40 crores and the Planning Commission has allotted Rs. 6 crores. How is this proportion worked out? How can Land Water Transport be developed in this way? Could not Government ask more money from the Planning Commission?

Shri Raj Bahadur: This question can be put to the Planning Commission. I can only say that keeping in view the overall resources of the country and the respective priorities of the various schemes and projects they had allotted Rs. 6 crores.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

इस्पात का आयात

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :
श्री सं० अ० मेहबूबी :
*५३. श्री प्र० ग० देव :
श्री आचार :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री २६ अगस्त, १९६० के तारीकत प्रश्न संख्या ८१३ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेलवे बोर्ड ने इस बीच में एक लाख टन से अधिक इस्पात का आयात के लिये विदेशों में आदेश दिये हैं।

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो वे देश कौन कौन से हैं; और

(ग) इसका प्रति टन मूल्य क्या है?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री स० व० रामस्वामी) :

(क) जी हाँ। लगभग ६६,००० टन इस्पात के लिये आर्डर दिये जा रहे हैं।

(ख) और (ग). जापान, हालैंड, यूनाइटेड किंगडम, वेस्ट जर्मनी, स्पेन, यू० एस० ए०, फ्रांस, बेल्जियम, नार्वे, स्वीडन और इटली। लागत-भाड़ा सहित इसका औसत दाम ६७५ रुपये प्रति लांग टन है।

Overpayment to Contractors

*५४. { Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Question No. 423 on the 16th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report of Special Police Establishment regarding the over-payment made to contractors engaged in the doubling of Rajkharaswan-Barajamda line of South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what are the findings; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). The investigation by S.P.E. is still in progress.

यमुना पर सड़क का दूसरा पुल

*५४ श्री भक्त दश्म :
श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री :

क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २६ अगस्त, १९६० के भ्रतारांकित प्रश्न संस्था १५७२ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दिल्ली में हुमायूं के मकबरे के पास यमुना नदी पर सड़क के दूसरे पुल के निर्माण में घब तक क्या प्रयत्न हुई है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : पुल के लिये प्राप्त टेंडरों की जांच निर्माण सलाहकार बोर्ड द्वारा कर ली गयी है; टेंडर भेजने वालों में से जिस का टेंडर सबसे कम लागत का है उससे बात-चीत कर बोर्ड द्वारा उसका टेंडर निर्माण, आवास तथा संभरण मंत्रालय के पास मंजूरी के लिये भेज दिया गया है। पुल के मुख्य भाग पर काम इस टेंडर पर निर्णय होते ही शुरू कर दिया जायेगा।

Exports of Frogs

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:
Shri Assar:
*५५. { Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Koratkar:
Shri P. B. Patel:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to export frogs for biological studies;

(b) what is total number of frogs being used by students in India for biological studies;

(c) whether the Government is aware that due to scarcity of frogs for biological studies scientific researches are being held up in India; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to breed frogs on an extensive scale?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (d). This question will be answered by my colleague, the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs in due course.

Haldia Port

*५७. { Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the supply of Labour for working the Haldia port during the current season has been entrusted to a firm of foreign contractors; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to extend the registered Dock Labour Scheme to Haldia port?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As Haldia is situated 65 miles to the South of Calcutta, on the opposite bank of the Hooghly, special arrangements for supply of labour are necessary for working the anchorage at Haldia. Last year these arrangements were entrusted to a well-known Calcutta firm having rupee capital and registered in India. The Calcutta Stevedore Labour Unions are however opposed to similar arrangements being made this year and have demanded that workers registered under the Calcutta Dock Labour

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

Scheme should be engaged to work the anchorage at Haldia. The feasibility and the economics of engaging registered dock labour at Haldia is at present under detailed consideration in consultation with the Calcutta Port Commissioners.

Indian Airlines Corporation

*58. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2363 on the 8th September, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since approved the revised freight rates of the Indian Airlines Corporation; and

(b) if so, when they are going to be introduced?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The revised rates were introduced from 1st November, 1960.

Medical Education in India

*59. { Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of Principals and Deans of Medical Colleges in the country was held at New Delhi recently to recommend measures for the expansion and improvement of medical education in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karanmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 18].

Irrigation and Power Seminar at Bangalore

*60. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shrimati Renu
Chakravarty:
Shri Khimji:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the important recommendations of the Seventh Irrigation and Power Seminar held in September, 1960 at Bangalore;

(b) whether those recommendations have been considered by Government; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House showing the important recommendations of the Seventh Irrigation and Power Seminar held at Bangalore in September, 1960. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 19].

(b) and (c). These recommendations are under consideration of the Government.

Edible Products from Cashew Apple

*61. { Shri Warior:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

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

(a) whether Government have received any report from Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore about investigations into the development of edible products from cashew apple; and

(b) if so, what steps Government contemplate to take for the utilisation of the fruit on a commercial scale?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information has been brought to the notice of the State Governments concerned and the fruit processing industry which is being and will be encouraged to undertake production of items which may be liked by the consumers.

Train Accident near Jhajha

*62. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any accident took place near Jhajha station, Eastern Railway on or nearabout the 5th September, 1960;

(b) if so, the causes of the accident and the number of the dead and the injured;

(c) the extent of loss suffered by Railways;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the families of the dead and to the injured;

(e) whether any enquiry has been held into the matter; and

(f) if so, by whom?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, a goods train dashed against the dead and buffer.

(b) The accident was due to failure of the railway staff. Two persons were killed and four other received minor injuries.

(c) Rupees One lakh sixty thousand approximately.

(d) As the injured and the dead are military personnel, Defence Ministry are concerned with the question of compensation.

(e) and (f). A joint Enquiry by Senior Scale Officers was held.

Centralised Traffic Control

*63. { **Pandit D. N. Tiwari:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given

to Starred Question No. 164 on the 5th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Central Traffic Control Stations on N.E.F. Railway have been installed;

(b) how far this has increased the carrying capacity of the tracks; and

(c) the places where they have been set up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) These are proposed to be set up on Siliguri-Alipurduar-Amingaon sections of the Northeast Frontier Railway.

River Survey

*64. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many feeder rivers have already been hydrographically surveyed by the Ganga Brahmaputra Water Transport Board in Assam;

(b) in which of the surveyed rivers feeder services have been started;

(c) whether any plan for survey has been finalised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 20].

(b) No feeder services have been started in any of the rivers in Assam.

(c) and (d). A programme for survey of rivers is prepared on an annual basis. A statement giving the programme for the surveys to be carried out in Assam during 1960-61

survey season is laid on Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 20].

Indian Seamen

*65. { Shri Ramji Verma:
Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 9,000 Indian Seamen employed in foreign ships have been dismissed;

(b) what are the reasons attributed to these dismissals;

(c) have the Seamen Welfare Officers at various foreign ports made any formal protest against these dismissals; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to find alternate employment for these dismissed Seamen?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

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

Allocation of Shipping

*66. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 963 on the 31st August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government has examined the representation of the National Shipping Board to increase the allocation for shipping in the Third Five Year Plan; and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). As has been stated in the draft outline of the Third Five Year Plan, the question of increasing the allocation for shipping in the Plan will be considered before the Plan is finalised.

Lower Air Fares for Tourists

*67. { Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Air India International have introduced lower air fares for tourist class from October this year; and

(b) if so, how it compares with the rates of other foreign Air-lines regarding tourist class?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir. Air India International have, in common with other international operators, made with effect from 1st October, 1960 some reductions in their tourist class fares on some of the sectors.

(b) Most of the airlines operating international air services including Air India International are members of an organisation called International Air Transport Association. This Association fixes the fares and freight rates to be adopted by all its members. The fares offered by Air India International are, therefore, the same as those offered by other member-airlines.

Coal Supply to Railways

*68. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal supply to the Railways has improved in quality and quantity since 1st June, 1960;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) what steps are being taken to maintain and ensure full supply of right type of coal; and

(d) what saving Railways estimate thereby annually and this year?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Overall loco coal stock position has improved to the extent that stocks

have gone up from 6·0 days' consumption on 1st June, 1960, to 11·2 days' consumption on 31st October, 1960. Some improvement has also been made in the quality of coal supplied.

(c) With a view to improve and ensure supply of right type of coal, a new organisation for coal inspection has been set up in the B. & B. coal-fields and Railways inspection introduced from 10th August, 1960, for coal received from the Public Sector collieries situated in Karanpura and Bokaro coalfields. Similar inspection is proposed to be extended shortly to the coal coming from collieries in the private sector.

(d) It is difficult to make any reasonably correct estimate of savings on account of this factor.

असंनिक उड्डयन प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र

*६६. श्री रवम देव : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में असंनिक उड्डयन के प्रशिक्षण केन्द्र कितने हैं और वे कहां कहां स्थित हैं ;

(ख) इन केन्द्रों में प्रवेश पाने वाले प्रशिक्षणार्थियों की योग्यता और आयु कितनी होनी चाहिये ; और

(ग) क्या इन केन्द्रों में सभी पढ़ाने वाले भारतीय हैं ?

असंनिक उड्डयन उपमंत्री (श्री मोहोउड्डीन) :

(क) और (ख) : सभा की मेज पर सवाल के मुत्तलिक एक स्टेटमेंट रखा जाता है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट १, अनुबन्ध संख्या २१] ।

(ग) जी हां, जनाब ।

Apple and Ginger Marketing Committee in Himachal Pradesh

*७०. श्री S. N. Ramaul: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Himachal Pradesh Administration is considering to appoint an Apple and

Ginger Marketing Committee similar to the Potato Committee; and

(b) if so, what will be the criterion to nominate the members on that Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Postal Cheques

*७१. श्री Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Post Office Savings Bank cheques are not being accepted by the Life Insurance Corporation given as premium of insurance;

(b) if so, what are the objections of the Life Insurance Corporation for not accepting the same; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government to see that these cheques issued by the postal savings bank depositors are honoured?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):

(a) The Life Insurance Corporation were not accepting such cheques until recently.

(b) As Post Offices were not Members of Clearing Houses, the Bankers of the Life Insurance Corporation were unwilling to accept these cheques for clearance.

(c) Post Offices will now become members of clearing houses, wherever the facility exists. In some important places like Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Delhi and Nagpur they have already become such members. Instructions have been issued by the Life Insurance Corporation in July, 1960 that such cheques should now be accepted.

Bridge across River Ganga

*७२. { Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Kalika Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Question No. 273 on the 10th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether any decisions has been arrived at about the construction of a bridge across the Ganga near Ghazi-pur;

(b) if so, when would the work start; and

(c) what is the schedule of its completion?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir. Within the allotment of funds for the Railways' Third Five Year Plan, as included in the Draft outline it is not possible to provide for any new bridge across the River Ganga.

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

Monkey Menace in New Delhi

***73. Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the monkey menace is assuming great proportions in South and North Avenues endangering both life and property;

(b) whether it is a fact that several complaints have been made to the New Delhi Municipal Committee;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that no effective action has been taken on them for the last three years; and

(d) whether any concrete steps are proposed to be taken urgently in the matter?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) The New Delhi Municipal Committee have reported that monkeys are rarely seen in the North and South Avenues and the monkey menace cannot, therefore, be said to be assuming great proportions in these localities.

(b) During 1960, seven reports are stated to have been made to the New Delhi Municipal Committee in this regard.

(c) and (d). A statement indicating the action taken and steps proposed to be taken in future is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Action taken by N.D.M.C.

The New Delhi Municipal Committee have been taking appropriate action to check the monkey menace as will be seen from the following details of monkeys caught during the last three years:—

(1) September 1958	13 monkeys
(2) January 1959	47 monkeys
(3) September 1959	25 monkeys
(4) February & March 1960	30 monkeys
TOTAL:	115 monkeys

In fact, monkey catching is a specialised job for which the services of expert monkey catchers and special equipment are necessary. During all the four operations referred to above, the New Delhi Municipal Committee had the services of expert monkey catchers from other States. A party of monkey catchers got from Mathura had to return disappointed as they could not catch a single monkey during a period of seven days and they are not willing to resume their operation again.

An advertisement was put out in September, 1960 in *Hindustan Times*, *Nav Bharat* and *Milap* for acquiring the services of some expert monkey catchers and they were offered Rs. 15 per monkey caught, but there has been no response.

Action now proposed to be taken by the N.D.M.C.

The New Delhi Municipal Committee propose to purchase air guns to scare the monkeys.

Karnafuli Dam in East Pakistan

*74 { Shri Mahanty:
Shri Halder:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnafuli Dam about to be completed in East Pakistan will submerge Indian territories; and

(b) if so, if any agreement has been reached on the construction of this Dam?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The area likely to be submerged is being ascertained.

Tube-Well

*75. **Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have given financial assistance to the State Governments of U.P., Bihar and Punjab for the construction of irrigation tube-wells during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the amount given State-wise in the years 1956-57 to 1959-60;

(c) whether these States are required to repay the amount to the Centre;

(d) if so, what is the amount due for repayment from those States till now; and

(e) what was the total area expected to be irrigated through these tube-wells and what is the achievement?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (e). A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) Yes; assistance is given in the form of long-term loans.

(b) The loans sanctioned were as follows:—

Name of State	1956-57	1957-58
	(Rs. in lakhs)	(Rs. in lakhs)
U.P.	236.93	163.99
Bihar	23.18	6.48
Punjab	39.88	74.65

From 1958-59 onwards however, separate loans, intended specifically for tubewells construction, are not being sanctioned. Under the revised procedure for affording financial assistance to State Governments, a consolidated loan for minor irrigation as a whole, including tubewell schemes, is sanctioned and the State-Governments have the discretion to divert funds from one scheme to another under the 'Minor Irrigation' head.

(c) Yes.

(d) The entire amount is outstanding as the loans are repayable in fifteen annual equated instalments commencing from the fourth anniversary of the date of drawal of the loan.

(e) A tubewell in these States on which irrigation has fully developed is expected to irrigate about 400 acres. Separate statistics for the area irrigated by tubewells constructed during the Second Plan period are not available. But the total number of tubewells working in the three States during 1959-60 was 8,340 and the area irrigated by them was about 24.83 lakh acres.

पश्चिमी रेलवे का हायर सेकंडरी स्कूल,
रतलाम

*76. श्री डामर : क्या रेलवे मंत्री ११ दिसम्बर, १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ८०७ के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रतलाम में पश्चिमी रेलवे के हायर सेकंडरी स्कूल की इमारत के लिये १६६०-६१ में कितनी राशि स्वीकृत हुई है ; और

(ल) क्या स्कूल की इमारत का निर्माण कार्य आरम्भ कर दिया गया है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री से० बे० रामस्वामी):

(क) लगभग ३७० लाख रुपये सचं का अनुमान लगाया गया है और रेल प्रशासन उसकी छानबीन कर रहा है।

(ख) जी नहीं। अभी नहीं।

Haldia Anchorage

*77. { Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme for lightening of food and other ships at Haldia has been put into effect;

(b) whether Calcutta Port authorities have been intimated about this;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is favouring the idea of lightening ships at Tuticorin and other ports instead of Haldia; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration in consultation with the Port Commissioners.

(c) and (d). The general practice has always been for deep-drafted vessels to lighten at Madras or Visakhapatnam before proceeding to Calcutta. There can be no question of such vessels lightening themselves at Tuticorin. Lightening at Madras or Visakhapatnam will be unnecessary to the extent that a vessel can be lightened at Haldia. Haldia anchorage can however be worked only during the fair weather season from November to February and it has also to be ensured that the cost of lightening at Haldia does not prove uneconomical to the importer.

दिल्ली मास्टर प्लान

*७८. श्री प्रकाश बीर शास्त्री : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की छपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली की मास्टर योजना में, जिस रूप में वह प्रकाशित हुई है, पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ क्षेत्र सम्मिलित हैं और वे दोनों सरकारें उन क्षेत्रों को देने को तैयार नहीं हैं;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो उन क्षेत्रों को सम्मिलित करने से पहले उन सरकारों से परामर्श न करने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का उन सकारों से आग्रह करने और उन क्षेत्रों को दिल्ली मास्टर प्लान में सम्मिलित करने का विचार है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री कर्मरकर) :

(क) संलग्न क्षेत्रों के लिये एक समन्वित योजना की आवश्यकता को ध्यान में रखते हुए दिल्ली की मास्टर योजना के प्रारूप में कुछ ऐसे क्षेत्रों के बारे में जो संघीय क्षेत्र दिल्ली से बाहर पंजाब एवं उत्तर प्रदेश में पड़ते हैं, कितिपय अस्थाई प्रस्ताव दिये हुए हैं। इन राज्यों की प्रशासकीय सीमाओं में हेर फेर करने का विचार नहीं है। उत्तर प्रदेश एवं पंजाब में आने वाले इन संलग्न क्षेत्रों के लिये ये राज्य ही वास्तविक योजनायें तैयार करेंगे।

(ख) योजना प्रारूप में समाविष्ट करने से पहले इन प्रस्तावों पर पंजाब एवं उत्तर प्रदेश दोनों सरकारों के संबंधित अफसरों से बातचीत की गई थी।

(ग) यह प्रस्ताव नहीं उठता।

Second Shipyard

Shri Kunhan:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri S. A. Mehdil:
Shri Warior:
***79. Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Narayananukutty Menon:
Shri Maniyangadan:
Shri M. K. Kumaran:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 564 on the 19th August, 1960 and state:

(a) the further progress made in setting up the Second Shipyard at Cochin;

(b) whether the negotiations for technical collaboration with U.K., West Germany, Japan and Sweden have since been concluded; and

(c) if so, with what results?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The Kerala State Government are already taking necessary steps for the acquisition of about 100 acres of land required for the Second Shipyard and it is expected that the work will be completed in about six months time.

(b) and (c). The question of obtaining technical/financial collaboration for this project from foreign countries is still under consideration of Government and it may therefore not be in the public interest to disclose the progress made so far in this regard.

Export of Coaches

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
***80. Kumari M. Vedakumari:**
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been entered into with Pakistan Railways for the export of 60 coaches built at the Integral Coach Factory;

(b) whether any negotiations have been conducted with the Government of Ceylon by the Chief Administrative Officer, Integral Coach Factory, for supplying them with coaches built in this factory; and

(c) what is the present capacity of the factory?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir. But against a global enquiry of 20 B.G. and 60 M.G. Coaches, State Trading Corporation has submitted a tender for the supply of these coaches from the Integral Coach Factory. This tender has yet not been decided.

(b) No, Sir. Only a delegation consisting of an Officer of State Trading Corporation and two Officers of Railways visited Ceylon in August, 1960 for exploratory talks with the Ceylon Government for finding out possibilities of export of Railway equipment and rolling stock to that country.

(c) About 600 B.G. Coach Shells per year.

Kandla Port Free Trade Zone

***81. Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 67 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) the progress, since made in consideration of the suggestions for Kandla Port Free Trade Zone;

(b) the number of suggestions considered; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The

suggestions received have been considered at meetings held within the Ministry as well as with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The State Government of Gujarat and the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce have been also brought into the picture. Clarifications are being obtained on certain important points, and it is hoped that a final decision on the subject will be taken soon.

Jamuna Hydel Scheme

*82. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the second phase of Jamuna Hydel Scheme has started;

(b) if not, the reason for this delay; and

(c) decision of the Government regarding starting work on first phase?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Project report for the second phase of the scheme has so far not been received for clearance by the Planning Commission.

(c) The initial works on Stage I are in hand.

Rise in Prices of Foodgrains

*83. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

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

(a) whether prices of foodgrains in some of the States rose as a result of severe damage to crops due to the recent floods;

(b) if so, which are those States and

(c) to what extent the prices rose?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) to (c). Although there had been some damage to the kharif crops due to floods this year in the States of Orissa, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and also due to drought in Andhra Pradesh and Mysore, the prices of foodgrains, on the whole, are satisfactory. The all-India index number of wholesale prices of rice has come down from 115.3 in August to 106.8 which is the lowest as compared to the figures for the corresponding periods of the last three years. The index number of wholesale prices of wheat which stood at 97.5 in February, 1960, started declining and after a slight rise in July, it has come down to 90.2 in the first week of November. The prices of coarse grains have been showing mixed trends.

Supply of Sugar to Orissa

*84. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government have asked for 4,000 tons of sugar for meeting the needs of the flood affected people in that State; and

(b) if so, the quantity supplied so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Establishment of Central Mechanised Units in States

*85. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Kadiyan:
Shri Subiman Ghose:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for establishment of a Central Mechanised unit in each State to ensure maximum efficiency and utilisation of the construction equipment available at the

irrigation and power projects within its territory has been finalised; and

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

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) At a meeting of State Ministers held at Bangalore on 10th September, 1960, which was presided over by the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power, a recommendation was made that a Central Mechanical Unit should be set up in each State to ensure proper utilisation of machinery and for the improvement of operating and maintenance Standards.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House giving the main features of the scheme. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 22].

Sugar

Shri Rajendra Singh:

Shri P. G. Deb:

Shri Ram Kri han Gupta:

Shri S. A. Mehdhi:

Shri Hem Barua:

Pandi D. N. Tiwari:

Shri Rajeshwar Patel:

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:

Shri Vidaya Charan Shukla:

Shri Sarju Pandey:

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Shri Wodeyar:

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Shri Raghunath Singh:

Shri Rami Reddy:

Shri Achar:

Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Shri P. C. Borooh:

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:

Shri Narayanankutty Menon:

Kumari M. Vedakumari:

Shri Damani:

Shri Osman Ali Khan:

Shri P. R. Patel:

Shri Khushwaqt Rai:

Shri Supakar:

*86

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

(a) whether any decision has been taken to decontrol sugar;

(b) whether there is a proposal to export sugar to U.S.A. and other countries;

(c) whether it is a fact before sugar can be exported to U.S.A., India is required to become a member of the International Sugar Council;

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by Government of India in this regard;

(e) the quantity of sugar, if any, exported so far during the current year, country-wise; and

(f) the amount of foreign exchange earned?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The matter is under consideration.

(e) and (f). No sugar has so far been actually shipped, but out of the export quota of 50,000 tons released on 17-9-1960, 10,575 metric tons have been sold upto 7th November. Out of this 7450 metric tons is for the Federation of Malayan States and 3125 metric tons for Middle East countries. Shipments will commence in the second half of November. On this quantity, the foreign exchange earnings are estimated at Rs. 46 lakhs.

All India National Cleanliness Day

*87. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**

{ **Shri Radha Raman:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in and the extent to which All India National Cleanliness Day on the 2nd October, 1960 was observed in the country;

(b) the nature of participation of the general public, throughout the country; and

(c) what important aspects of the observance attracted the greatest response?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is

laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 23].

Fire in Railway Godown at Howrah

*88. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 42 on the 2nd August, 1960 regarding fire in Railway Godown at Howrah and state:

(a) whether the enquiry has since been completed;

(b) if so, what are the findings;

(c) the loss sustained by the Railway;

(d) what are the articles consumed by fire and the value of each category of articles;

(e) whether any unclaimed property has since been claimed by anybody after the fire; and

(f) how many fire brigades were engaged and the time taken for extinguishing the fire?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Enquiry has not yet been finalised.

(c) Rs. 55,000 (Approximately), on account of destruction and damage to the goods stored in the godown.

(d) A list showing category of articles destroyed by fire is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 24].

(e) No.

(f) Six fire brigades were engaged to fight out the fire which was brought under control within 5 hrs. of its outbreak, but about 41 hours were taken to extinguish the same completely.

Nutrition

*89. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.N. Children's Emergency Fund is assisting India in an "expanded nutrition programme" for the development and distribution of productive foods in certain parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have so far taken to utilise this assistance, and what are the areas of the country where this is already undertaken or is proposed to be undertaken?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far, the Governments of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh have availed themselves of the assistance offered by the U.N.I.C.E.F. in this regard. They have been allocated \$ 165,000 and \$ 217,000 respectively, for technical supplies, equipments, stipends etc. The representative of the U.P. Government are having discussions with the U.N.I.C.E.F. for implementing the scheme in Uttar Pradesh.

Integral Coach Factory, Perambur

*90. **Shri T. B. Vital Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to manufacture spare parts for Coaches at the Integral Coach Factory;

(b) whether the Railway Board is aware of the fact that due to lack of spare parts for these coaches considerable difficulty is experienced in carrying out repairs; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, how the supply of spare parts is likely to be made?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (c). The Integral Coach Factory are already supplying spare parts for integral Coaches to the Railways except such of the items as are easily manufactured in the Railway Workshops or are easily purchased locally from the market.

(b) Sometimes difficulty is experienced in arranging immediate replacement of certain coach fittings which are frequently stolen from the carriages, when such fittings are not available in stock.

Welfare Fund for P. & T. Staff

*91. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri A. M. Tariq:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer the reply given to Starred Question No. 40 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state the progress since made in the establishment of Welfare Fund for Posts and Telegraphs Staff?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): The Fund was established on 11th November, 1960.

Price of Chittaranjan Locomotive

*92. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of locomotive manufactured in Chittaranjan has further come down as a result of more production;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) how does it compare with price of locomotive manufactured in 1959?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The average cost of a W.G. loco manufactured in Chittaranjan Locomotive Works during:

1958-59—Rs. 4.09 lakhs excluding proforma dividend charges.

1959-60—Rs. 4.10 lakhs excluding proforma dividend charges.

Abolition of Food Zones

{ Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
*93. { Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:
Shri Assar:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

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

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision for abolition of food zones; and

(b) if so, what is the decision of Government in this respect?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). No decision has been taken to abolish all food zones. The position is reviewed from time to time and such adjustments are made in the zonal arrangements as are considered necessary.

Railway Accident near Howrah

*94. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Subiman Ghose:
Shri Halder:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have investigated into the causes of accident to 40 Down Delhi Howrah Janta Express on the 5th October, 1960 at Howrah station; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). A joint enquiry by a Committee of Senior Scale officers was held to investigate the cause of the accident. According to their findings, the accident was due to the failure of the Railway staff.

Flood Control in Orissa

54. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1039 on the 19th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government have supplied by now the details of the flood control schemes which they intended to take up in 1960-61;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes received;

(c) whether all these schemes have been approved by now; and

(d) whether the construction of 3'-0" diameter R. C. Hume pipe sluice at 37th mile of Bhargavi left at Kapileswarpur Pratap Sasan, has been completed by now?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hahl): (a) and (b). Details of two schemes have been received so far. The names and other particulars of these schemes are given below:

- (1) Closing the mouth of Kachradhar at Barbil; and
- (2) Closing the mouth of Hemasagar Jore at Kanpur. The scheme at (1) above is estimated to cost Rs. 68,800 and relates to the closing of the off-take of the Kachradhar from river Kender near village Barbil by means of an embankment. This scheme is expected to afford protection to the island between rivers Devi and Kendal.

The scheme at (2) above is estimated to cost Rs. 65,000 and envisages the closing of the mouth of the Hemasagar Jore by means of an embankment to protect villages Pokharigaon, Polsora, Deuli etc.

(c) These schemes have not yet been approved as intimation regarding their approval by the State Flood Control Board is awaited from the Government of Orissa.

(d) A reply from the State Government, as to the progress of the execution of this work, is awaited.

New Railway Lines in Orissa

55. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many railway lines have been recommended by the Government of Orissa to be included in Third Five Year Plan;

(b) the names of those lines;

(c) whether the Orissa Government has suggested any priority lines; and

(d) if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (d). A statement showing the new railway lines in the order of priority recommended by the Government of Orissa is given below.

STATEMENT

New Railway lines recommended by the Government of Orissa for inclusion in the Third Five Year Plan

S.No.	Name of New line	Gauge	Length (in Miles)
1	Rourkela - Talcher-Nergundi-Paradip	BG	163
2 (a)	Rayaghada-Nowrangpur-Jeypore-Koraput	BG	150
	(b) Rayaghada-Gunupur	BG	35
3	Bangriposi-Rairangpur	BG	25
4	Gopalpur-Aska-Bhajanagar-Durgaprasad-Paulbhani-Balligude	BG	150
5	Nayagarh - Palaspongga-Keonjhar-Anandpur-Tomka Hill (Connecting 214th mile on Howrah-Madras Main Line)	BG	110
6	Barabil-Koiri-Dumaro	BG	30

Diet Kitchens in Orissa

56. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the progress made in implementing the scheme for employment of Dietitians and establishment of diet kitchens in Orissa State so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): During the First Five Year Plan, one diet kitchen was established in the Orissa State and a non-recurring grant of Rs. 4,000 was sanctioned by the Government of India. The Dietitian was to be employed by the State Government. During the Second Five Year Plan Period, the State Government do not propose to establish any diet kitchen in the State.

Co-operative Farming Societies

57. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to state the number of co-operative farming societies formed upto June, 1960, State-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): The information is being collected from the State Governments and would be placed on the Table of the House as and when available.

Dacoities in Trains on N. Railway

58. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of dacoities committed in running goods and passenger trains of the Northern Railway between Delhi and Moghulsarai since the 1st April, 1960 so far;

(b) the value of goods and cash looted in these dacoities; and

(c) the number of travellers and railway employees injured in these dacoities?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Nil.

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

Sheep Breeding Centres in Himachal Pradesh

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

(a) the number of sheep breeding centres opened during 1960 so far in Himachal Pradesh and the progress made by them so far;

(b) the number of sheep of Indian and foreign breeds in these farms; and

(c) the number of sheep supplied to people during the current year so far?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) During 1960, one sheep and wool extension centre was opened in Himachal Pradesh. Necessary equipment and medicines have been provided in the centre.

(b) Nine indigenous and seven half-bred Polworth rams have been given to this centre.

(c) Thirty-six.

Corruption cases on N. Railway

60. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number and nature of corruption cases committed by the Northern Railway employees during 1960;

(b) the number of persons acquitted, class-wise; and

(c) the number of persons convicted, class-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) (i) Number of corruption cases detected upto September, 1960 is 88;

(ii) Nature of these cases is given below:—

(1) Accumulation of wealth disproportionate to known sources of income;

(2) Acceptance of illegal gratification;

- (3) Cheating;
- (4) Misappropriation;
- (5) Falsification of records;
- (6) Misuse of passes & P.T.O's;
- (7) Misuse of Railway materials & labour;
- (8) Acceptance of materials & works below specification; and
- (9) Issuing excessive materials to Contractors.

Mobile Library Service on N. Railway

61. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1034 on the 19th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether mobile library service has since been provided on the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, on what sections?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). No. The Staff Benefit Fund Committee has sanctioned the funds at a meeting held this month and necessary action to provide mobile libraries is being taken.

Regional Forest Research Centre, Jabalpur

62. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1623 on the 26th August, 1960 and state:

(a) what is the result of Government's consideration of the proposal to set up a Regional Forest Research Centre at Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) whether any survey has been carried out in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No. decision has yet been taken.

(b) No.

Production of Foodgrains

63. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the production of foodgrains in 1950-51;

(b) the plan target for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the target for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation under the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reason for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Production of foodgrains in 1950-51 was fifty million tons.

(b) The target in terms of total production in First Five Year Plan was 61.6 million tons against which the achievement in the last year of the First Plan i.e. 1955-56 was 65.8 million tons.

As regard finances there was no separate provision in the Plan for the Grow More Food Programme. The total provision for the Centre and the States was about Rs. 195 crores for agriculture which included research, education, training, etc. for the five-Year period and the expenditure was Rs. 181 crores approximately.

(c) The revised target for Second Five Year Plan period in terms of total production in 1960-61 was 80.5 million tons against which the final estimate of production in 1959-60 is 71.8 million tons. The Plan allocation for agricultural production (including Land Development and Minor Irrigation Schemes) for the five year

period is about Rs. 201 crores against which the expenditure upto 1959-60 (actuals for the first three years i.e. 1956-57 to 1958-59 and revised estimates for 1959-60) is tentatively placed at Rs. 155 crores.

(d) Important reasons for the shortfall are short supply of fertilizers due to shortage of foreign exchange, delay in full utilisation of irrigation potential particularly under major and medium irrigation projects, initial difficulties in organising seed farms set back to land reclamation and development programme due to shortage of tractors and spare parts, short supply of iron and steel for agricultural purposes.

Production of Cotton

64. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the production of cotton in 1950-51;

(b) the plan target for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the target for the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons, if any, for the shortfall in achieving the physical targets?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) 29.71 lakh bales.

(b) First Five Year Plan target 42.29 lakh bales.
Achievement during
(i) 1954-55 42.27 lakh bales.
(ii) 1955-56 40.20 lakh bales.
Financial allocation Rs. 60.0 lakhs.
Amount utilised Rs. 58.19 lakhs.
(c) Target for Second Five Year Plan 65.0 lakh bales.
Amount spent so far--
(i) Cotton Extension Schemes Rs. 15.98 lakhs*

(ii) Cotton Research Schemes Rs. 40.42 lakhs.**

*For the years 1956-57 and 57-58. Under the revised procedure Group-wise sanctions are issued and as such no separate figures of expenditure for cotton are available for these Schemes thereafter.

**For the years 1956-57 to 1959-60. Revised Estimates amounting to Rs. 18.0 lakhs have since been proposed for 1960-61.

(d) The shortfall in production of cotton was chiefly due to adverse seasonal conditions experienced during the last three seasons. The short supply of fertilizers, lack of irrigation facilities, paucity in supplies of pesticides and equipment were the other contributory factors in the non-achievement of the targets of cotton production.

Production of Oil-seeds

65. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the production of oil-seeds in 1950-51;

(b) the plan target for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the target for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation under the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons, if any, for the shortfall in achieving the physical targets?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) 51 lakh tons.

(b) First Five Year Plan target--55 lakh tons.

Achievement--56 lakh tons.

Financial allocation--Nil.

Actually spent--Nil.

(c) Second Five Year Plan target—75.50 lakh tons.

Achievement in 1958-59—69.07 lakh tons.

Achievement in 1959-60—63.52 lakh tons.

Financial allocation for Oilseed Development—Rs. 29.19 lakhs.

Financial allocation for Oilseed Research—Rs. 15.00 lakhs.

Amount actually spent on Oilseeds Development Schemes during 1956-57 and 1957-58—Rs. 1.20 lakhs*.

Amount actually spent on Oilseeds Research Schemes upto 1959-60—Rs. 4.30 lakhs.

*Under the revised procedure for release of Central assistance to the States for Plan schemes, in force from 1958-59 onwards, only groupwise payment—sanctions are accorded and it is left to the States to adjust the expenditure on individual schemes within the ceiling for the group.

(d) The shortfall in production is attributable mainly to adverse climatic conditions during 1959-60 in the country at the time of sowing and/or during the period of growth of the crops, viz., groundnut, castor, linseed and sesamum.

Production of Jute

66. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the production of jute in 1950-51;

(b) the plan target for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the target for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made to far, together with the financial allocation under the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) 32.8 lakh bales.

(b) Target for the First Plan: 53.7 lakh bales.

Achievement during the year 1955-56 41.98 lakh bales.

Financial allocation in the First Plan Rs. 80.0 lakhs.

Amount actually spent Rs. 47.74 lakhs (grants)

Rs. 13.26 lakhs (Loans)

(c) Target for the Second Plan: 55.0 lakh bales.

Achievement during the Second Plan: 51.58 lakh bales in 1958-59.

Rs. 45.48 lakh bale in 1959-60.

Financial allocation for Second Plan: Rs. 90.86 lakhs.

Amount actually spent during the Second Plan: Rs. 64.70 lakhs upto the end of 1959-60.

(d) The shortfall in the production of jute during 1959-60 was partly due to fall in the price of raw jute in 1958-59 as a result of larger jute crop during that year and partly due to unfavourable weather conditions.

Development Blocks

67. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of development blocks opened in 1952-53;

(b) the plan targets for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent;

(c) the targets for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) 211½ blocks.

(b) 1200 blocks were proposed to be allotted during the 1st Five Year Plan out of which 1065 blocks were taken up during the same period. Financial allocation for Community Development Programme in the country for the 1st Five Year Plan was Rs. 96·5 crores out of which 52·0 crores were spent during that period.

(c) Target of allotting 2022 blocks during the 2nd Five Year Plan was envisaged out of which 1842 blocks were allotted till April 1960. Rs. 170 crores have tentatively been allocated for Community Development Programme during the 2nd Five Year Plan out of which Rs. 135·3 crores have been spent upto 31-3-1960 (i.e. first four years of 2nd Five Year Plan).

(d) Lack of trained manpower was the main reason for the shortfall in achieving the target, in the 1st Five Year Plan. Targets in Second Plan are hoped to be achieved.

Community Development Programme—Villages Covered

68. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of villages covered under the Community Development Programme in 1952-53;

(b) the plan targets for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent;

(c) the targets for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) 25,264.

(b) The First plan target in respect of villages was 120,000 out of which 105,800 villages were covered by blocks during 1st Five Year Plan. Financial allocation for Community Development Programme in the country for the 1st Five Year Plan was Rs. 96·5 crores out of which Rs. 52·0 crores were spent during that period.

(c) The Second plan target in respect of villages was 280,000 out of which 274,000 have been covered till April, 1960. Rs. 170 crores have tentatively been allotted for Community Development Programme during the 2nd Five Year Plan out of which Rs. 135·3 crores have been spent upto 31-3-1960 (i.e. First four years of 2nd Five Year Plan).

(d) Lack of trained manpower was the main reason for the shortfall of achieving the target in the First Five Year Plan. Targets in Second plan are hoped to be achieved.

Community Development Programme—Population Served

69. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the population served under the Community Development Programme in the year 1952-53;

(b) the plan targets for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent;

(c) the targets for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) 1.6 crores.

(b) One fourth of the rural population was proposed to be covered during the First Five Year Plan (i.e. about 7.4 crores) out of which Rs. 6.86 crores was covered during the same period. Financial allocation for Community Development Programme in the country for the 1st Five Year Plan was 96.5 crores out of which Rs. 52.0 crores were spent during that period.

(c) The target for the Second Five Year Plan was to cover 13.5 crores of population out of which 12.3 crores were covered by blocks till April, 1960. Rs. 170 crores have tentatively been allocated for Community Development Programme during the 2nd Five Year Plan out of which Rs. 135.3 crores have been spent upto 31st March, 1960 (i.e. First four years of the 2nd Five Year Plan).

(d) Lack of trained manpower was the main reason for the shortfall of achieving the targets in the 1st Five Year Plan. Targets in the Second Plan are hoped to be achieved.

Primary Agricultural Societies

70. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number of small-sized primary agricultural societies in 1950-51;

(b) the plan targets for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent;

(c) the targets for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) 1,04,998.

(b) No target for the organisation of primary societies was set in the First Plan. The number of primary

agricultural credit societies, however, rose to 1,59,939 by the end of 1955-56. There was no specific financial allocation made for this purpose in the First Plan. The question of the actual amount spent does not, therefore, arise.

(c) In the Second Plan, no specific target, regarding the number of small sized agricultural credit societies to be organised, was set. However, during the first 3 years of the Second Plan period 14,753 new small sized primary agricultural credit societies were established. During 1959-60 it is estimated that 16,000 more new societies would have been organised. The Plan did not make any specific financial allocation for the purpose. However, an amount of Rs. 16.58 lakhs was given as managerial subsidy to the societies up to the end of 1958-59. During the year 1959-60, they would have received a subsidy of about Rs. 75 lakhs.

(d) Does not arise.

Co-operatives

71. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Community Development and Co-operation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the membership of village co-operatives during 1950-51;

(b) the plan targets for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the targets for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation under the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) 44.08 lakhs.

(b) The First Plan did not lay any target for membership nor did it provide any specific financial outlay in this behalf. However, the membership of village cooperatives increased to 77.91 lakhs by the end of 1955-56.

(c) The Second Plan envisaged increase of membership to 150 lakhs by the end of 1960-61. This was enhanced to 200 laks by the National Development Council in November, 1958. By the end of 1958-59 the membership rose to 119.01 lakhs. It is estimated that by the end of 1959-60 the membership has risen to 150 lakhs. There was no specific financial allocation for increasing membership as such. The Question of actual expenditure, therefore, does not arise.

(d) The question of shortfall will not arise until the achievements for 1960-61 are known.

Irrigation Potential

72. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the additional irrigation potential created in 1950-51;

(b) the plan target for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the target for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation under the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The

total area irrigated from all sources at the end of 1950-51 was 51.5 million acres.

(b) First Plan	(1) Target	8.5 m. acres
	(2) Achievement	2.9 m. acres
	(3) Allocation	Rs. 469 crores. (including multi-purpose projects)
	(4) Expenditure	Rs. 380 crores.
(c) Second Plan	(1) Target	12.00 m. acres
	(2) Anticipated achievement	9.00 m. acres
	(3) Allocation	Rs. 381 crores.
	(4) Anticipated expenditure	Rs. 390 crores.

(d) The reasons for short-fall have been mainly difficulties in the matter of construction of field channels, lack of technical personnel and shortage of foreign exchange.

Installed Capacity of Electricity

73. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the installed capacity of electricity in 1950-51;

(b) the Plan target for the First Five Year Plan, the achievement during the same period together with the financial allocation and the amount actually spent during the First Plan period;

(c) the target for the Second Five Year Plan period, the achievement made so far, together with the financial allocation under the Second Five Year Plan and the amount actually spent so far; and

(d) the reasons for the shortfall, if any, in achieving the physical targets?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):

(a) Installed Capacity in 1950-51 was 2.3 million KW.

	Benefits		Allocation	Actual expenditure
	Target	Achievement		
(b) First Five Year Plan	1.3 Million KW	1.1 Million KW	Rs. 260 crores Public Sector)	Rs. 260 crores (Public Sector) +Rs. 32 crores (Private Sector) +Rs. 10 crores (Self generating industry)
(c) Second Five Year Plan.	3.5 Million KW	2.4 Million KW*	Rs. 427 crores (Public Sector)	Rs. 410 crores (Public Sector) +Rs. 37 crores (Private Sector) +Rs. 28 crores (Self generating industry).

(d) The progress in the First Five Year Plan was almost satisfactory. The shortfall in the Second Five Year Plan has occurred mainly because of foreign exchange difficulties that arose during the early years of the Second Plan, resulting in enlisting several generating schemes in the 'non-core' category. The completion of some of the major Hydro-Electric Projects such as Bhakra-Nangal, Koyna, Rihand, Hirakud Stage II has also been delayed to some extent.

*Estimated.

Telephone Connections in U.P.

74. **Shri Sarju Pandey:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone connections given in Uttar Pradesh during 1958-59 and 1959-60 respectively; and

(b) the total amount spent in this connection during 1958-59 and 1959-60?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a)

1958-59	1959-60
2848	3563

(b) It is not possible to determine the expenditure on giving of individual telephone connections but the cost involved in installations at subscribers' premises only were Rs.

Rs. 4,99,566 in 1958-59 and Rs. 4,24,528 in 1959-60.

Leprosy in U.P.

75. **Shri Sarju Pandey:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether any financial assistance has been given by the Central Government to the State of Uttar Pradesh for the prevention and cure of leprosy in the year 1959-60?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): A lump sum grant-in-aid of Rs. 44.05 lakhs, which included an amount of Rs. 18.13 lakhs in respect of the 'Schemes of Public Health for control of Diseases (including Leprosy)' was sanctioned to the Government of Uttar Pradesh during 1959-60.

State Governments are free to regulate the expenditure on schemes within a group.

Primary Health Centres in U.P.

76. **Shri Sarju Pandey:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the names of the places where Primary Health Centres have been opened so far during 1960-61 in Uttar Pradesh?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

स्पिती घाटी में हवाई अड्डा

७७. **श्री हेम राज :**
श्री वी० चं० शर्मा :

क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पंजाब सरकार ने स्पिती घाटी में हवाई अड्डा बनाने के लिये एक प्रस्ताव दिया है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है और यदि हाँ, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला ; और

(ग) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का उक्त हवाई अड्डा बनाने के लिये पंजाब सरकार को कोई अनुदान देने का विचार है ?

असनिक उद्घायन उपमंत्री (श्री मोहिउद्दीन) : (क) और (ख). पंजाब सरकार के कहने पर स्पिती घाटी में हाल ही में मौके का सर्वेक्षण किया गया था मगर वह मौजूद नहीं पाया गया ।

(ग) सवाल ही नहीं उठता ।

Railway Time Table

७८. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the reports regarding non-availability of railway time-tables in almost every zone within a very few days of their publication on the 1st October, 1960; and

(b) whether adequate numbers of them would be printed in future?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) There have been a few complaints regarding non-availability of Time Tables at certain stations on some of the Zonal Railways. Because the supply of Time-Tables is done generally on the basis of demands at various stations by instalments proportionately with the number of copies received from the

press, non-availability was felt on account of heavy demands in the initial stages at certain points.

(b) Adequate number of copies of Time Tables are printed, based on demand and experience gained from record of past sales. As the public demands for the time-tables always fluctuate, it is difficult to anticipate the requirements with absolute accuracy. In the circumstances, the print order of the Time-Tables as well as the supplies are so regulated that the wastage on account of te copies ultimately remaining unsold is reduced to the absolute minimum taking into consideration the high cost of production of Time-Tables.

Irrigation Schemes

७९. **Shri S. C. Godsora:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Major and Medium irrigation schemes completed during the Second Plan period till 1959-60;

(b) the number of major and medium irrigation schemes completed in Bihar during the above period; and

(c) the places of their location?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) 259 schemes in the major and medium irrigation sector are reported to have been completed before the First Five Year Plan. 90 schemes are reported to have been completed during the First Plan and 112 during the Second Plan upto March, 1960.

(b) 5 schemes in the medium irrigation sector are reported to have been completed before the First Plan in Bihar. 28 such schemes are reported to have been completed during the First Plan and 11 in the Second Plan upto March, 1960.

(c) A statement of completed schemes in the medium irrigation sector and their location in Bihar is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I annexure No. 25,

General Strike

80. Shri Subiman Ghose: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees have lost services and how many employees are still under suspension for the last strike category-wise in Howrah, Sealdah and Asansol Divisions, Eastern Railway; and

(b) whether a statement giving the following information would be laid on the Table:

(i) the number of employees against whom court case was started and no charge sheet given but are still under suspension;

(ii) the number of employees who have been discharged or acquitted or court cases withdrawn but still under suspension;

(iii) the number of employees against whom court cases are pending but who were not suspended;

(iv) the number of cases initially started, disposed of and still pending, separately;

(v) the number of employees involved in the cases initially and the number of employees still standing trial; and

(vi) the number of employees against whom court cases are pending and also suspended Division-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No. of employees who have lost their services:—

Category	Nos. in		
	Howrah Divn.	Sealdah Divn.	Asansol Divn.
Commercial Clerks	1
Office Clerks	1
T.T.Es.	3
Cabinmen	1
Fuel Checkers	1
Khalasis	1
TOTAL	8

No. of employees still under suspension:—

Category	Nos. in		
	Howrah Divn.	Sealdah Divn.	Asansol Divn.
Personnel Inspector	1		
Asstt. Lab. Welfare Insp.	1	..	..
Fitter-in-charge	1	..	..
Comml. Clerks	9	3	..
Asstt. Station Masters	1	1	..
Office Clerks	1	3	..
Fitters	2	1	..
T.T.Es.	2	..	1
Leading Firemen	1	..	..
Driver	..	1	..
Ticket Collectors	..	1	..
Train Examiners	..	2	..
Charge Hands	..	1	..
Conductor	..	..	1
Firemen	..	..	4
Guards	..	..	1
Shunter	1	..	..
Coal Transit Inspector	..	..	1
Khalasis	5	1	..
Cell men	1	..	..
Cleaner	2	2	1
Firemen Gr. II	1	5	..
Jamadar	1	..	..
Gangmen	..	3	..
Keymen	..	1	..
Watermen	..	..	1
TOTAL	30	25	10

Figures in regard to

	Howrah Divn.	Sealdah Divn.	Asansol Divn.
(b) (i)	..	..	..
(ii)	20	..	4
(iii)	..	..	..
(iv) No. of cases initially started (including police cases shown in brackets)	779 (328)	457 (124)	1380 (981)

	Figures in regard to		
	Howrah Seal- Divn.	dah	Asan- sol Divn. Divn.
No. of cases disposed of	749	472	1370
No. of cases still pending	30	25	10
(v) No. of employees involved in police cases	328	124	981
No. of employees still under trial	9	1	5
(vi)	9	1	5

General Strike

81. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees have lost services and how many employees are still under suspension for the last strike, category-wise, in Adra District of South Eastern Railway; and

(b) whether a statement giving the following information would be laid on the Table:

- (i) the number of employees against whom no court case was started and no charge sheet given by Administration but still under suspension;
- (ii) the number of employees who have been discharged or acquitted from the court case or court case withdrawn but still under suspension;
- (iii) the number of employees against whom court cases are pending but are not suspended;
- (iv) the number of cases initially started, disposed of and still pending, separately;
- (v) the number of employees involved in the cases initially and the number of employees still under trial; and

(vi) the number of employees against whom court cases are pending and who are suspended?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Number of employees who lost their services Nil.

Number of employees still under suspension:—

Category	No.
A.S.Ms.	4
Guards	3
T.T.Es.	2
Clerks	3
S.P.W.I.	1
Fitters	2
Drivers	6
Chargemen	2
1st Firemen	1
2nd Firemen	4
S.T.J.M.	1
T.P.Ms.	4
Shed Khalasis	2
TOTAL	35

(b) The required information is given below seriatim:—

(i)	Nil.
(ii)	26
(iii)	Nil.
(iv) No. of cases initially started [including 667 police cases, men mentioned in (v)]	768
(s) No. of cases disposed of	733
No. of cases still pending	35
(v) No. of employees involved in police cases	667
No. of employees still under trial	Nil.
(vi)	Nil.

Baitarini Project

82. Shri N. M. Deb: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the steps Government have taken to expedite Baitarini Project in Orissa?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The Government of Orissa had prepared a project report for the Bhimkund Multipurpose Project on Baitrani river. This was examined by the Central Water and Power Commission and the State Government are revising the project report in the light of the comments of the Central Water and Power Commission.

Cast Iron Sleeper Plates

83. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay on the Table a list of foundries on whom orders for supply of Cast Iron Sleeper Plates were placed during the years 1959 and 1960 (upto September) stating the quantity of the order placed on each foundry and the quantity actually supplied by it during each year?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 26].

डाक तथा तार कर्मचारी

पृष्ठा. श्री नारायण दीन : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि लखनऊ में पिछले दिनों गोमती में आई बाढ़ का असर डाक तथा तार विभाग के काफी कर्मचारियों तथा उनके परिवारों पर पड़ा है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि अनेक कर्मचारियों की बीवियां और बच्चे खो गये हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो ऐसे कर्मचारियों को सहायता देने के लिये विभाग ने क्या विशेष सहायता कार्य किये हैं ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहुदुर) : (क) जी हां, कुछ कर्मचारियों पर असर पड़ा है ।

(ख) सरकार को इस सम्बन्ध में कोई सूचना नहीं है ।

(ग) नियमानुसार बाढ़ की अप्रमाणित राशि मंजूर की गई है ।

P. & T. Employees

85. Shri Narayananarkutty Menon: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of cases charged against P. & T. employees in the Madras Circle in connection with the recent strike with break-up of figures for each postal engineering and R.M.S. Division; and

(b) how many cases ended in acquittals?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 27].

Cultivation of Cashewnuts in Maharashtra

86. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government have recently submitted any scheme for extending the cultivation of cashewnuts; and

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme?

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

(b) The scheme aims at extension of area under cashewnut by 80,000 acres during 1959-60 and 1960-61

mainly in Ratnagiri District. The scheme envisages:—

- (i) Survey of the area suitable for Cashew cultivation;
- (ii) Establishment of Cashew Seed Farm and Demonstration Centre;
- (iii) Distribution of selected and graded cashew seeds to the cultivators free of cost;
- (iv) Grant of Tagai loans to the cultivators @ Rs. 60 per acre (upto a maximum of Rs. 6,000 to anyone individual); and
- (v) Provision of technical advice to the growers as regards planting of cashew and after-care.

Motor Accidents

87. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of motor accidents that took place in Tripura and Manipur during the first half of the year 1960; and

(b) the number of persons who died in these accidents?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 44 and 31 respectively.

(b) 8 and 9 respectively.

Savings Bank Accounts and Postal Certificates

88. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 331 on the 5th August 1960 and state the further progress since made in settling the claims of Savings Bank Accounts and Postal Certificates in regard to displaced persons?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): Further exchange of verified lists has not yet started. The Liaison Officer

will be taking up the work of exchange of verified lists at Karachi by about the end of this month.

Foodgrain Prices

89. Shrimati Ila Falchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have recently suggested to State Governments that in order to secure stability in foodgrain prices they should evolve a system of licensing wholesale foodgrain dealers and that rigid conditions should be prescribed for grant of licenses;

(b) if so, full details of the proposal; and

(c) the reactions of State Governments thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) and (b). No, Sir, no recent instructions have been issued on the subject. Last year, in pursuance of the decision to introduce state trading in foodgrains, the whole-sale traders were licensed throughout the country.

(c) Does not arise.

Gliding Training Centre, Hyderabad

90. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 46 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) the upto-date progress since made in the setting up of a gliding training centre at Hyderabad (Deccan);

(b) the nature of the progress made; and

(c) when it is likely to be started?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (c). The site for the Gliding Centre near

Hyderabad has been selected and is being surveyed in detail. A preliminary estimate for the construction of the gliderdrome is under preparation.

The Gliding Centre will be started as soon as the work on the development of the gliderdrome is completed.

Paradip Port

91. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri B. C. Mullick:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 69 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state the upto-date progress made regarding the development of port facilities at Paradip in Orissa?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The results of further model tests being conducted by the Poona Research Station are still awaited.

Loans to the Government of Orissa for development of Paradip during the current year will, as usual, be given towards the end of the current financial year.

Existing port facilities at Paradip are:—

- (i) Short facilities:
 - (a) 3 temporary wooden jetties;
 - (b) 2 open storage areas; and
 - (c) Vast area of land estate.
- (ii) Harbour Craft:
 - (a) 2 tugs;
 - (b) 1 pilot vessel;
 - (c) 1 service launch;
 - (d) 1 survey launch; and
 - (e) 1 lighter.

Development schemes costing Rs. 99 lakhs as recommended by the Intermediate Ports Development Committee, have been included in the tentative Third Plan for development of Paradip Port. As soon as these

schemes are executed, the port will be able to handle 2.5 lakh tons of traffic.

Committee on Inland Water Transport

92. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 37 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) the latest position about the examination of recommendations of the Gokhale Committee on Inland Water Transport; and

(b) which of the recommendations have been implemented so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). There has been no change in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in reply to Starred Question No. 37 on the 2nd August, 1960.

Overcrowding in Trains

93. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether overcrowding on main line trains still continues; and

(b) if so, what further steps are being taken to reduce overcrowding?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, on some sections on certain main line trains;

(b) Within the provision available in the 2nd Five Year Plan, it has not been possible to increase passenger transport capacity to an extent to eliminate overcrowding altogether. However, the available resources have been so utilised that the extent of overcrowding between different

railways as well as different sections of the same Railway, are evened out and overcrowding reduced to the extent possible.

The more important steps taken to relieve overcrowding are—

- (i) running of additional trains subject to line capacity being available and provision of additional rolling stock both for running new trains and for strengthening of existing trains.
- (ii) retention of over-aged coaches in service by proper repairs.
- (iii) withdrawal of dining cars and air-conditioned coaches where not fully utilised and their replacement by III class coaches; and
- (iv) introduction of diesel rail cars wherever possible to cope with the short-distance traffic.

Kharagpur-Waltair Passenger Trains

94. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had assured that the 325 and the 326 Up and Down Kharagpur-Waltair Passengers will be running from the middle of 1960 on the South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, why these two train services have not been restored by now?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Prior to 22nd May, 1959, Nos. 325Up/326Dn Passenger trains used to run between Khargpur and Waltair. With effect from 22nd May, 1959, the runs of these trains have been curtailed on the Khargpur-Khurda Road section to conserve capacity for the movement of essential goods traffic. It was then the intention to restore these services from the middle of 1960 as it was expected that sectional capacity would be augmented after the completion of various engineering works,

including installation of the Tokenless Block Instruments at all stations between Khurda Road and Nergundi. No assurance was, however, given about the restoration of these trains by the middle of this year. It has not been found possible to restore these services on the above-noted sections so far and it will also not be possible to do so in the near future for the following main reasons:

- (i) As an experimental measure, a pair of tokenless block instruments were installed between Khurda Road and Retang. In the course of working these instruments, certain unsatisfactory features were discovered necessitating an alteration in the design. Consequently tokenless Block Instruments of a modified design have been indented for and will be installed as and when received from abroad. Some time will naturally be taken for the staff to get accustomed to handling the same.
- (ii) Rebuilding two bridges between Basta and Haridaspur washed away during the last two unprecedented floods in Orissa. Two hours blocks are being provided daily at site for diversion of track. Speed restriction on the Garh Madhupur-Haridaspur section has already curtailed capacity.
- (iii) Capacity has to be kept to move an additional train of coal every day to South of Cuttack with the development of the South Balandia Colliery by the National Coal Development Corporation.
- (iv) Movement of Ore from Jajpur-Keonjhar Road has also to be stepped up both towards Calcutta Port as well as to Paradip Port.
- (v) Engineering works connected with increasing the length of

loop lines at stations between Nergundi and Vizianagram (to deal with longer goods trains), as also doubling the track between Nergundi and Khurda Road are to be taken on hand very shortly and this will mean speed restriction and blocks affecting the section capacity of the existing single line between Nergundi & Khurda Road.

Allotment of Wagons to Bansapani Sector

95. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days on which and the number of wagons that

were allotted to the Bansapani Sector for movement of iron ores from Bansapani area to the Steel Mills from the 6th June, 1960 to the 19th September, 1960;

(b) the number of days on which wagons were allotted to the Bansapani Sector for movement of Iron ores for export from Bansapani Sector to Calcutta port during the same period; and

(c) what was the corresponding demand for wagons in this Sector during this period for Steel Mill supply and for exports respectively?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):

(a) No. of days wagons were allotted.

	June 1960 from (6-6-1960)	July, 1960	August, 1960	Sept. '60 (upto 19th)	No. of wagons allotted (In terms of 4-Wheelers)
Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	25	31	31	19	
Rourkela	12	24		7	14,279
Durgapur	7	..	25	12	

(b) Five days.

(c) Indents registered in terms of 4-wheeler wagons during this period are as given below :—

	Steel Mill Supply	For export
6th to 30th June, 1960	3587	252
July, 1960	4932	72
August, 1960	3532	115
September '60 (upto 19th)	2228	111

कच्चे तेल के आयात के लिये जहाज भाड़ा

66. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में स्थित तेल शोधक कारखानों ने १६५७, १६५८ और १६५९

के बर्षों में भारत में कच्चा तेल आयात करने के लिये विदेशी नौवहन समवायों को कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा का भुगतान किया; और

(ख) भारतीय और विदेशी जहाजों को जहाज भाड़े के रूप में कितना कितना भुगतान किया गया ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) तेल शोधक कारखानों द्वारा १६५७, १६५८ और १६५९ के वर्षों में कच्चे तेल का आयात दरों में जहाजी भाडे के रूप में क्रमः श ६८८२४५३३, ६०६७१६५० और ५४८४१४३६ रुपये दिये गये ।

(ख) यह सारी राशि विदेशी जहाजों को दी गयी ।

दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति

६७. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या खात्य तथा कृषि मंत्री २६ अगस्त, १६६० के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ८१५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में एक ऐसा विवरण सभा की टेबल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे जिस में दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति की सिफारिशों को संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में कार्यान्वित करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्यवाही का उल्लेख हो ?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० व० कृष्णप्पा) : केन्द्रीय शासित त्रिपुरा और हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्यों की रिपोर्ट की प्रतिया भेजते हुए, उनसे द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना के बाकी समय में या तृतीय पंच वर्षीय योजना में शामिल करने के लिए समिति की सिफारिशों के सम्बन्ध में उपयुक्त योजनायें बनाने को कहा गया था । सम्बन्धित प्रश्नासनों ने बतलाया है कि उन्होंने समिति की सिफारिशों पर आधारित योजनायें तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में शामिल कर ली हैं । तृतीय योजना काल में सम्बन्धित प्रश्नासनें विभिन्न योजनाओं को कार्यान्वित करेंगे ।

भारत-भूटान सङ्केत

६८. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २५ नवम्बर, १६५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २७६

के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत और भूटान को मिलाने वाली सङ्कों के निर्माण में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) क्या एक विवरण, जिस में सङ्कों की दूरी, उन के शहर और समाप्त होने के स्थान और उन पर होने वाले अनुमनित व्यय का उल्लेख हो, सभा पटल पर रखा जायेगा; और

(ग) इन सङ्कों का निर्माण देजी से पूरा करने के लिये क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) से (ग) . यह सङ्क असम के गोलपारा ज़िले में नार्थ ट्रॉक रोड पर स्थित गुरुभाषा से शहर हो कर भारत-भूटान सीमा पर स्थित हतिसार तक जाती है । यह लगभग पच्चीस मील लम्बी है और मंजूर किये गये तस्वीरें के अनुसार इस के बनाने पर १४.४३ लाख रुपयों के खर्च होने का अनुमान किया गया है । इस समय असम प्रदेश की सरकार से मिली सूचना के अनुसार सितम्बर, १६६० के अन्त तक इस सङ्क का १६ मील का टुकड़ा बन कर तैयार हो गया था तथा १५ मील के दूसरे टुकड़े पर रोड़ी बिछायी जा चुकी थी । और इस सङ्क पर बनने वाली ४१ पुलियों में से ३० पुलियां व २७ पुलों में से २२ पुल बन चुके थे । इस प्रकार यहां पर निर्माण कार्य नियत कार्यक्रम के अनुसार पूरा हो रहा है और संभावना है कि यह सङ्क मार्च, १६६१ तक बन कर तैयार हो जायेगी ।

अन्ती-वस्तु आर-संचुला सङ्केत

यहां पर निर्माण कार्य भूटान की ओर से मिलने वाली सङ्क का एक दूसरा रास्ता चुने जाने के कारण बन्द कर दिया गया था ।

बंजर भूमि प्रवर समिति

६६. { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
 श्री राम कृष्ण गुप्त :
 श्री हेम राज :

क्या खात्य तथा कृषि मंत्री ५ सितम्बर, १९६० के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १०८० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में कृषि योग्य बंजर भूमि के बारे में नियुक्त की गई प्रवर समिति के कार्य में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

कृषि उपर्युक्ती (श्री मो० वै० कृष्णप्पा): समिति ने पंजाब, पश्चिम बंगाल, केरल, मध्य प्रदेश, बिहार, उड़ीसा, मैसूर, और आन्ध्र प्रदेश नामक आठ राज्यों का दौरा किया था, जिस में से पंजाब और पश्चिम बंगाल के सम्बन्ध में रिपोर्ट पूरी कर ली गई है और सरकार को भेज दी है। केरल, मध्य प्रदेश, बिहार और मैसूर के सम्बन्ध में रिपोर्ट का प्रारूप तैयार है और शीघ्र ही सम्बन्धित राज्यों से लिये हुए सदस्यों के साथ विचार विनिमय के बाद पूरी कर दी जायेगी। आन्ध्र प्रदेश की रिपोर्ट अब तैयार हो रही है। समिति मद्रास और जम्मू व काश्मीर का शीघ्र ही दौरा करने वाली है। इन राज्यों के सम्बन्ध में रिपोर्ट लगभग दिसम्बर, १९६० के अन्त तक तैयार होने की आशा है। राज्य सरकार से मांगा गया दित्ता (data) प्राप्त होने के बाद उड़ीसा के सम्बन्ध में रिपोर्ट तैयार की जायेगी।

Crop Insurance Scheme in Punjab

१००. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
 Shri Balakrishnan:

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

(a) whether Government have recently received any scheme for crop insurance from Punjab Government;

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

(c) whether it has been approved?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement showing the details of the scheme is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 28].

(c) The scheme is still under consideration of the Government of India.

Model Town Planning Legislation

101. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1041 on the 19th August, 1960 and state the further progress made in the finalisation of Model Town Planning Legislation?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): This matter was reviewed in a conference of the State Ministers of Town & Country Planning held in Bangalore on the 7th November, 1960. It was then resolved that a Committee consisting of (1) Shri I. D. Jalan, Minister, L.S.G. and Panchayats, West Bengal (2) Shri T. Subramanya, Minister of Law, Labour and L.S.G., Mysore, and (3) Shri M. A. Manickavulu, Minister for Revenue, Incharge of Town Planning, Madras State, be set up to scrutinise the Model Town and Country Planning Act and suggest improvement.

Co-operative Societies

१०२. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
 Shri Radha Raman:

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

(a) whether the question as to the participation of States in the share capital of primary Co-operatives should be direct or indirect through Apex and Central Co-operative Banks has been finally considered by the Planning Commission; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided that State partnership in primary societies should, as a normal rule, be indirect, viz. through apex and central banks. In case the State Governments, for special reasons, prefer to participate in the share capital of primary societies directly, they may do so, but in such cases they should not nominate directors to the board of directors of the primary societies. If however, it is not considered feasible or reasonable to do away with nomination altogether the authority to nominate directors should be delegated to the central co-operative banks.

Barauni-Samastipur Broad Gauge Line

**103. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the estimated total expenditure and the expenditure so far incurred on the construction of a broad gauge line from Barauni to Samastipur on the North-Eastern Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (i) Total estimated cost of the line is 183.73 lakhs.

(ii) Expenditure incurred upto end of October, 1960 is 31.51 lakhs.

Nalagarh Committee

**104. { Shri Inder J. Malhotra:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Kumari M. Vedakumari:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Agadi:
Shri Sugandhi:
Shri Achar:
Shrimati Renuka Ray:
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the

reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1293 on the 23rd August, 1960 and state:

(a) what further progress has been made in the implementation of the recommendation of the Agricultural Administration Committee known as Nalagarh Committee; and

(b) which of the States have now submitted their proposals and what action has been taken on these proposals?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). The proposals received from the Government of Punjab have been examined and approval of the Government of India conveyed to them. Proposals from other States are still awaited. They are being continuously reminded to expedite their schemes.

Multipurpose Blocks

**105. { Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Subodh Hansda:**

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

(a) whether the training and production programme in the tribal and backward areas through the agency of the Multipurpose Blocks has been taken up; and

(b) what is the main idea of this programme?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes.

(b) To improve the economic condition of the tribals by extending to them facilities for learning improved methods of Agriculture and to acquiring improved skills in arts and crafts which enable them to improve production both in quality and quantity and to improve their standard of living. The idea behind the programme is that as far as possible, the tribals should be encouraged to produce such things which they consume themselves except for certain items for

which raw materials may be locally available and for which there should be an outside market.

Welded Rails

106. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
 Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the welded rails for railway track have any advantages;

(b) if so, what are those advantages; and

(c) whether it has any disadvantage also?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Briefly, Welding of rails minimises the number of rail joints, which are the weakest points in track and reduces maintenance costs. It gives smoother and less noisy running.

(c) Depending on their welded length, difficulties may arise in handling or transporting such rails, provision and maintenance of expansion joints, care in maintenance to avoid effects of creep and to guard against buckling.

Manmad Station, C. Railway

107. **Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2233 on 20th March, 1959 and state:

(a) the progress since achieved in the work of extension of the down platform of the Manmad station on Central Railway and when the work is likely to be completed; and

(b) when the work of remodelling of Manmad Railway Yard is to be taken up?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The work has since been completed in July, 1960.

(b) Owing to paucity of funds and due to the postponement of Igatpuri-Bhusawal electrification, the scheme for remodelling the yard at Manmad has been kept in abeyance for the present.

Reinstatement of Railway Employees in Kerala

108. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Railway employees who were suspended or dismissed in connection with the Central Government Employees Strike are still to be reinstated in Kerala;

(b) if so, the number involved; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in reinstating these employees?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No. Sir.

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

केन्द्रीय यंत्रीकृत फार्म, सूरतगढ़

१०६. { **(दा० राम सुभग सिंह :**
 श्री हेम बरुआ :

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

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय यंत्रीकृत फार्म सूरतगढ़ के प्रबन्धक हाल ही में रुस गये थे ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उन्होंने कृषि के रुसी तरीकों सम्बन्धी अपने अध्ययन के आधार पर भारत में खात्या का उत्पादन बढ़ाने का कुछ सुझाव दिये हैं ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उन के मुख्य मुख्य सुझाव क्या हैं ?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० व० कृष्णप्पा) :

(क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग). उनकी रूस यात्रा का घ्येय संगठनीय और अन्य विचारों से रूस के राजकीय यांत्रिक फार्मों के कार्य का स्वयं दृष्ट ज्ञान प्राप्त बरना था, जिस से वह ज्ञान सूरतगढ़ फार्म जो कि रूस की मशीनों से बनाया गया है, के कार्य को सुधारने के काम में लाया जा सके। यह यात्रा इस विचार से बहुत सफल हुई। रूसी यांत्रिक फार्मों के संगठनीय पहलुओं का विस्तृत ज्ञान तो प्राप्त हुआ ही, इसके साथ विशेष रूप से कार्य की अवस्थायें और कर्मचारियों को किस प्रकार प्रेरणा दी जाती है, जिस से अनुकूलतम उत्पादन होता है, का भी ज्ञान हुआ। वे उन के फार्मों में वित्रि प्रकार की मशीनों की कार्यप्रणाली को भी देख सके। सूरतगढ़ फार्म के लिये रूस से अतिरिक्त पुँजे और सामान प्राप्त करने में अनुभव की गई कुछ कठनाईयों का हल निकालने में भी इस अवसर से लाभ उठाया गया। उनका निर्णय है कि रूस के फार्मों के संगठन और सूरतगढ़ फार्म के संगठन के आधार में कोई अन्तर नहीं है लेकिन उनका अवलोकन भविष्य में केन्द्रीय यानिक फार्मों सम्बन्धी मामलों को सुलझाने में बहुत लाभदायक होगा।

Irrigation in Purulia District West Bengal

110. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of experts from Technical Co-operation Mission recently toured Purulia Mission (West Bengal);

(b) if so, the purpose of the tour;

(c) whether the team has given any suggestions regarding the improvement of irrigation there; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (d). No information is available.

Push Buttons in Lady Compartments

111. **Shri Sarju Pandey:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 809 on the 26th August, 1960 and state:

(a) the reasons for not providing push buttons in ladies compartments on the Northeast Frontier, Southern and South Eastern Railways;

(b) in what other railways push button arrangements have since been provided;

(c) whether Government contemplates to provide push button system in other compartments also; and

(d) the benefits achieved from this arrangement?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Instructions have been issued to Central, Eastern, Northern, North-Eastern, Western and South Eastern Railways to provide push button arrangements in ladies compartments as an experimental measure. It is not considered necessary to provide this facility at present on the North East Frontier and Southern Railways where travel conditions are comparatively safer.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) So far there has been no occasion necessitating the operation of this device. It is premature to assess the benefits derived from this arrangement.

Water Troughs

112. **Shri Anirudh Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1132 on the 17th March, 1955 and state what further progress has been made in the construction of water troughs and shelter for animals since 1955 upto the 30th September, 1960?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The number

of stations, provided with water troughs and/or shelter for animals since 1955 to 30th September, 1960 is indicated below against each Railway:

Northern	19
North-Eastern	64
Central	11
South-Eastern	6
Western	25
Eastern	7
South-Eastern	18
North-East Frontier	Nil.

Land in Delhi

113. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of urban and suburban lands released in Delhi this year for house sites; and

(b) the acreage of land that still remains frozen?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Presumably the intention is to elicit information in respect of 34070 acres of land that was notified for acquisition by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi on the 13th November, 1959. If so, it may be stated that 16 colonies comprising an area of 466 acres of land, the layout plans of which had been fully sanctioned by a competent local authority, have so far been released.

भाण्डागार

११४. डा० राम सुभग सिंह : क्या साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस वर्ष केन्द्रीय भाण्डागार निगम का देश में कितने भाण्डागार स्थापित करने का विचार है; और

(ख) उन के निर्माण पर कुल कितना व्यय होगा ?

साथ तथा कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री श्र० म० यामस) : (क) और (ख). चालू

वर्ष में केन्द्रीय भाण्डागार निगम का २०,५१६ टन वाले १४ और भाण्डागार किराये के स्थान पर स्थापित करने का विचार है।

यह ४४,०४१ टन क्षमता वाले २६ भाण्डागार जो पहले ही किराये के स्थान में स्थापित किए गए हैं के अतिरिक्त होंगे।

केन्द्रीय भाण्डागार निगम का चालू वर्ष में १७ केन्द्रों पर ३४,६०० टन क्षमता वाले भाण्डागार ३० लाख की अनु-मानित लागत पर बनवाने का कार्यक्रम है। इस कार्यक्रम के अनुसार ४ केन्द्रों पर ७,६०० टन क्षमता वाले भाण्डागारों का निर्माण कार्य पूरा हो चुका है।

Demurrage Charges

115. Shri M. B. Thakore: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that demurrage charges received by the Government each year are on the increase; and

(b) the demurrage charges collected during 1955, 1956, 1958 and 1959?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Separate statistics for demurrage collected by the Railways are not maintained. Statistics maintained for the wharfage and demurrage charges together show gradual increase. This is partly due to increase in the traffic carried on the Indian Railways and partly due to greater delay in loading or release of wagons and removal of consignments by the trade.

Andul Bridge Causeway

116. Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways had received any recommendation from the West Bengal Government for widening the Andul Bridge Causeway of South-eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether any step has been taken in this connection; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir. A request was, however, received for widening the footpath on Bridge No. 17 near Andul station on Howrah-Khargpur Section and the State Government was informed that apart from technical consideration, widening of the footpath would result in vehicular traffic using the bridge, which is definitely unsafe.

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

Creation of Class IV Posts in I.A.R.I.

117. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission any steps are being taken to create Class IV posts in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute for the monthly men and daily-paid staff paid from the contingencies, who are being regularly employed year after year; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Most of the monthly-paid staff of the Institute have been brought on to the regular establishment and the remainder will be absorbed in regular vacancies as early as possible.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Time Table

118. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railway time Table was not available at the Simla City Reservation Office on the 1st October, 1960 and the passengers could not be informed of the exact timings of the departure of trains; and

(b) if so, what were the causes of the delay in the publication and issuing

of these time tables to the various stations and reservation offices?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Time Tables are generally despatched to various points sufficiently in advance of date of publication of Time Table. As the Northern Railway Time Tables are printed in a private Press which observed the Dussehra holidays which preceded the date of publication of time-tables, there was some delay in the despatch of timetables to some points. The copies of the Time Table were, therefore, received by the Station Master, Simla on 1st October 1960 evening. Time Tables for City Reservation Office, Simla are despatched by Station Master, Simla. As the next day 2nd October 1960 was Sunday and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, the Station Master's office was closed. The time-tables were, therefore, despatched to the City Reservation Office on 3rd October 1960. However, the delay in the despatch of timetables from the Office of Station Master, Simla to the City Reservation Office, Simla has been suitably taken up.

Drinking Water at Balasore

119. Shri Mahanty: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether about 400 passenger travelling by the 318 Down Puri Passenger, on the 26th September, 1960, who had been stranded at Balasore Station, on the S. E. Railway, due to disruption of train services, did not get drinking water from the taps at the Station premises; and

(b) if so, the reason for non-availability of drinking water in the said station?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b): Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to train No. 302 Down Puri-Howrah Express and not 318 Down Puri-Howrah Passenger. From the morning of 26th September, 1960, 302

Down Puri-Howrah Express was stalled at Balasore as it could not proceed further due to flood water rising above the danger level in the bridge between Rupsa and Basta. There were nearly 400 passengers in the train and there had been no shortage of drinking water at any time. The 302 Down Express train left in the morning of the next day, i.e. 27th September. Normally water supply to the platform is regulated only at train timings. On this day, due to exceptional circumstances, continuous supply of water had to be maintained from 6 a.m. of 26th September. The overhead storage could not cope up with this continuous supply for so many passengers and the flow in the taps got reduced at 16.00 hours. The main outlet valves had to be closed for some time to enable the overhead tank to recoup the supply. Even during the period when the valves were closed, supply of drinking water to the passengers was maintained by water carriers from the station storage.

Accident at Sindi Station

120. Dr. M. S. Aney: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious accident that occurred at the Railway station Sindi on the Central Railway resulting in the death of Joshep Fernandes a young sportsman belonging to the Hockey team of Gujarat Vidyapith proceeding to Nagpur for the Inter University Match of Hockey.

(b) whether it is a fact that the young boy died as his head was hit by the Signal board standing on the Sindi Station when the train was passing through that station onwards towards Nagpur;

(c) the distance of that Signal Board from the Railway track on which the train was running;

(d) whether it is a fact that there had been two similar accidents before owing to the persons being hit by the same Signal Board;

(e) whether the Railway authorities have made any enquiry into the aforesaid accident;

(f) if so, the findings thereof;

(g) whether Government propose to remove the signal board from its present position to some place more distant; and

(h) whether any and if so, what compensation has been given to the members of the family of the deceased sportsman?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b): On 26th September, 1960 at about 10.08 hours while 1 Down Bombay-Calcutta Mail was running through Sindi station of the Central Railway, one passenger Shri Joseph Fernandes who was leaning out of a compartment of the train hit the Down Starter Signal post of the station. He fell down from the train and subsequently died as a result of the injuries sustained by him.

(c) The signal post does not infringe the prescribed schedule of moving dimensions of trains.

(d) No.

(e) Yes.

(f) The death of the deceased was due to his own negligence.

(g) No.

(h) No compensation is due in this case.

Books on Railway Book Stalls

121. Shri Subiman Ghose: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether books like (i) 'Indian Struggle' (ii) 'Indian Pilgrim' by Netaji Subhas and any book of history on the activities of I.N.A. are kept anywhere in India in any bookstall recognised by railways; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b)

Books entitled 'Indian Struggle', 'Indian Pilgrim' and those relating to history on the activities of I.N.A. are now not being sold at railway bookstalls, as, generally, there is no demand for such books by the passengers.

New Lines in Kerala

122. { Shri Kodiyan:
Shri Kunhan:
Shri Narayananakutty
Menon:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kerala Government have requested the Centre to construct any new railway lines in the State during the Third Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, which are the lines proposed by the State Government;

(c) whether the construction of any of these lines will be taken up during the Third Five Year Plan period; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 29.]

(c) and (d) It has not been possible to include any of the proposals recommended by the State Government in the draft outline for the Third Plan.

Price of Sugarcane

123. { Shri Agadi:
Shri Sugandhi:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 144 on the 2nd August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the accounts pertaining to the payment of sugarcane prices for 1958-59 season have been finalised as per the Price Linking Formula for Mysore and Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the prices determined for Mysore and Andhra Pradesh State-wise and/or factory-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) The price linking formula has since been referred to the Tariff Commission for examination vide Government Resolution No. 63(6)-TR/60 dated the 3rd October 1960. The additional price will be determined only after the Commission's Report has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Nagarjunasagar Project

124. { Shri Agadi:
Shri Sugandhi:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 943 on the 31st August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the information asked for from the State Government regarding the Nagarjunasagar Project proposed irrigable area within and outside Krishna Basin, the quantity of water required for irrigation and other details thereof are received;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Andhra Pradesh Government have reported that the data are being collected from the Special Chief Engineer of the State.

Rail-Cum-Road Bridge near Bombay

125. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra have approached the Centre about the possibility of constructing a rail-cum-road bridge across Thana creek near Bombay;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and
 (c) the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (c). The State Government have recently intimated that they had decided to pursue their proposal for a Road Bridge independently.

Miraj-Kolhapur Line

126. Shri Assar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received the report from Divisional Superintendent, Southern Railway that the Miraj-Kolhapur railway line is dangerous for travel;

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

(c) whether any immediate action has been taken by Government to convert this line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir.

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

Supply of Jawar to Andhra Pradesh

127. Shri Rami Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Centre to supply Jawar (Milo) for use in the drought affected areas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any arrangements have been made for its supply; and

(c) the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). Yes. The Andhra Pradesh Government have requested for the supply of milo for distribution in the drought-affected areas of the State and arrangement has been made for the import of milo from U.S.A. This

is expected to start arriving in December and will, when received, be supplied to the Andhra Pradesh Government.

Cancer

128. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Cancerology Conference in Tokyo has circulated literature warning against the use of cancer causing chemicals in the production of food-stuffs;

(b) what are those chemicals; and

(c) whether steps have been taken by the Government to prohibit the use of such chemicals for production of food-stuffs in India?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

जंघाई स्टेशन

१२६. श्री रामशरण : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को विदित है कि उत्तर रेलवे के जंघाई स्टेशन पर अभी तक बिजली नहीं लगी है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उक्त स्टेशन पर लगभग ३ वर्ष पहले आवश्यकतानुसार बिजली लगाई गई थी और कुछ समय बाद पिछली फिटिंग के बेकार हो जाने के कारण दुबारा बिजली लगानी पड़ी ;

(ग) जंघाई स्टेशन पर वे बिजली लगाई जायेगी ; और

(घ) पिछली फिटिंग के बेकार हो जाने के फलस्वरूप रेलवे को कितनी हानि हुई ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :
 (क) जी, हाँ ।

(ख) बिजली के द्वारा तीन साल पहले लगाये गये थे । वे बेकार नहीं हुये हैं ।

फिटिंग के जो सामान चुराये जा सकते थे वे नहीं लगाये गये थे।

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश के हाइडल अधिकारियों से पावर मिलते ही स्टेशन पर बिजली लगाई जायेगी।

(घ) ऊपर भाग (ख) के उत्तर को देखते हुये सवाल नहीं उठता।

Import of Locomotives

130. **Shri A. M. Tariq:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any locomotives have been imported during the years 1958-59 and 1959-60;

(b) if so, the number thereof and from which countries; and

(c) the value of those locomotives?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 184—from Poland, Austria, U.S.A., U.K., Japan, Yugoslavia, West Germany and Group of Firms from West European countries, viz., France, Belgium, Switzerland and West Germany.

(c) Rs. 14.12 crores (F.O.B.).

Post and Telegraph facilities in Spiti Valley

131. { **Shri Daljit Singh:**
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1349 on the 23rd August, 1960 and state the progress made so far for providing telegraph facilities under the wireless system at Kaza and Lara in Spiti Valley and also to provide a Sub-Post Office at Kaza?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): Rent and guarantee terms have since been accepted by the Punjab Government for opening a wireless station at

Kaza only. They have been addressed to provide suitable accommodation for the wireless station.

Orders have been issued for converting Kaza extra departmental branch office into a sub office guaranteed by the Punjab Government.

Medical Colleges in Andhra Pradesh

132. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants given by the Rockefeller Foundation to the various medical colleges in Andhra Pradesh (with break up) during 1959-60; and

(b) the projects for which the grant was given?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): Grant amounting to \$10,000 has been made available by the Rockefeller Foundation to Andhra Medical College, Vishakapatnam during 1959-60.

(b) For research in Physiology in the Department of Physiology under the direction of Dr. P. Brahmayya Sastry.

Regulated Markets

133. **Kumari M. Vedakumari:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of regulated markets functioning at present in India under the various Agricultural Produce Markets Acts; and

(b) the number of States where no such regulated markets exist?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) 701 markets.

(b) 9 States and Union territories.

Flood Control in Orissa

134. **Dr. Samantsinhar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the list of the projects with cost of each which have been received by

the Centre from the Orissa State Government for various phases of the flood control during the Second Plan period;

(b) which of the projects have been accepted by the Centre up till now; and

(c) in what way, both financially and technically the Centre has helped the State to execute the projects?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) A list of flood control schemes received from the Government of Orissa so far during the Second Plan period, showing the estimated cost of each scheme, is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 30.]

(b) Out of the total number of 226 schemes, included in the lists received from the State Government, details in respect of only 5 schemes have been furnished. The State Government have been requested to furnish relevant details in respect of the remaining schemes in order of their priority to enable the Central Government to consider them in the light of the funds available for the purpose.

(c) Financial assistance

During the Second Plan period, Central loan assistance has been sanctioned to the Government of Orissa for the execution of approved flood control works, as shown below:

1956-57	Rs. 65 lakhs
1957-58	Rs. 45 lakhs
1958-59	Rs. 30 lakhs
1959-60	Rs. 30 lakhs

There is a provision of Rs. 29.90 lakhs in the budget for 1960-61 for providing loan assistance to the Government of Orissa for the execution of approved flood control schemes.

Technical assistance

All schemes approved by the State Flood Control Board costing Rs. 10 lakhs each or above, are technically scrutinised by the Central Water and Power Commission. A representative of the Central Water and Power Com-

mission is a member of the State Technical Advisory Committee and also of the Flood Enquiry Committee set up by the Government of Orissa in 1959. In addition, whenever the State Government ask for the assistance of the technical officers of the Central Water and Power Commission, including inspection of work sites, the same is arranged, as expeditiously as possible.

P. & T. Buildings in Orissa

135. Dr. Samantsinhar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted in 1960-61 for Post Office buildings in Orissa circle; and

(b) the names of the post offices that would have new buildings from the above allotment?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Rs. 1,74,000 (Additional amounts, if necessary, would, however, be made available to the circle according to requirements).

(b) (i) New Post Office buildings expected to be completed during 1960-61;

1. Chaibasa.
2. Dharamshala.
3. Jajpore.
4. Pattamundai.

(ii) Proposals sanctioned and expected to be taken up for construction:

1. Basta P.O.
2. Binjharpur P.O.
3. Jaleswar P.O.
4. Jeypore P.O.
5. Phulbani P.O.
6. Rayagada P.O.
7. Soro P.O.

गेहूं का उत्पादन

१३६. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि एक शास्त्रवेत्ता श्री एन० टी० सिनसिन और उन के सहयोगियों ने साधारण गेहूं के साथ "कौच" धास की कलम लगा कर गेहूं की एक नई, लाभदायक और प्रतिरोधक किस्म निकाली है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या भारत का इस किस्म के गेहूं से फायदा उठाने का विचार है?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० ब० कृष्णप्पा) :

(क) जी हां। शास्त्रवेत्ता एन० ब० टस्टिसिन (न कि सिनसिन) और उनके साथियों ने गेहूं और "कौच" धास की किस्मों की कलमों से नई किस्मों को विकसित किया है।

(ख) जी हां। इसी प्रकार के प्रयोग भारत में पिछले बहुत से वर्षों से किये जा रहे हैं लेकिन अभाग्यवश कौच धास की कोई भी किस्म जिनकी भारत में परीक्षा की गई, गेस्ट्रा जैसे मुख्य रोगों की प्रतिरोधक नहीं पाई गई।

T.B. Sanatoria in Madras State

137. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received for enlarging the T. B. Sanatoria at Perundurai, Madras State;

(b) if so, the steps taken for helping the expansion;

(c) what is the present capacity for beds;

(d) how many more beds are likely to be included this year; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that climatic conditions of Perundurai yield quick results?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar): (a) Yes.

(b) A grant of Rs 25,000/- has been sanctioned towards the construction of a rest house for poor patients at the Sanatorium.

(c) to (e). Information is not available as it is a voluntary institution.

Post Office Savings Bank Accounts

138. Shri Kalika Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what was the total deposit in Post Office Saving Bank Accounts at the end of financial year 1959-60 and by what percentages the figure is above those of the years 1955-56 and 1950-51;

(b) whether Post Office cheque system in the Savings Bank accounts is being discontinued;

(c) whether the complaint that the Small Savings Deposits are withdrawn towards the end of the financial year and again redeposited still continues in some of the States; and

(d) if so, in what States?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Rs. 3,86,74,87,717. The figure for 1959-60 shows increase by 32 per cent and 109 per cent over the figures of 1955-56 and 1950-51 respectively.

(b) No.

(c) No such complaint has been received.

(d) Does not arise.

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER WAKF ACT

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under sub-section (6) of Section 66A of the Wakf Act, 1954:—

- (i) The Patiala and East Punjab States Union Wakf Board (Dissolution) Order, 1960 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1032 dated the 3rd September, 1960.
- (ii) The Travancore-Cochin Wakf Board (Dissolution) Order, 1960 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1075 dated the 17th September, 1960. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2411/60].

ANNUAL REPORT OF I.C.A.R.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Sir on behalf of Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the year 1957-58. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2412/60].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER MOTOR VEHICLES ACT

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Sir, I beg to relay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a copy of Notification No. 127/60 published in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 5th July, 1960 making certain amendment to Andaman and Nicobar Islands Motor Vehicles Rules, 1939. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2338/60].

Sir, I also lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under

sub-section (3) of Section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939:—

- (a) The Motor Vehicles (Diplomatic and Consular Officers' Vehicles) Registration Rules, 1960 published in Notification No. S.O. 1047 dated the 30th April, 1960 [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2413/60].
- (b) Notification No. H(T) 14-447/59 published in Himachal Pradesh Administration Gazette dated the 24th September, 1960, making certain amendment to the Punjab Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940 as applied to Himachal Pradesh. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2414/60].
- (c) Notification No. 90/60 published in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 10th May, 1960 containing Andaman and Nicobar Islands Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal Rules, 1960. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2315/60].

NOTIFICATION UNDER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE (DEVELOPMENT AND WAREHOUSING) CORPORATIONS ACT

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): Sir, on behalf of Shri S. K. Dey, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1105 dated the 24th September, 1960, issued under section 10 of the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1960. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2416/60].

ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND WAREHOUSING BOARD

Shri B. S. Murthy: Sir, on behalf of Shri S. K. Dey, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the National Cooperative Development and Warehousing Board for the year 1959-60, under sub-section (3) of Section 15 of the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing)

Corporations Act, 1956. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2417/60].

AMENDMENTS TO INDIAN ELECTRICITY RULES

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of certain amendments to the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 422 dated the 7th April, 1960, under sub-section (3) of Section 38 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-2418/60].

12.03 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FIFTY-SIXTH REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): Sir, I beg to present the Fifty-sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.03½ hrs.

PREFERENCE SHARES (REGULATION OF DIVIDENDS) BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri B. Gopala Reddi on the 14th November, 1960, namely:

"That the Bill to regulate dividends on preference shares of certain companies be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Naushir Bharucha, Shri Mulchand Dube, Shri Aurobindo Ghosal, Shri Bimal Comar Ghose, Shri Mool Chand Jain, Shri Prabhakar, Shri M. R. Masani, Dr. G. S. Melkote, Shri Radheshyam Ramkumar Morarka, Shri Narendrabhai Nathwani, Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan, Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha, Shri G. D. Somani, Shri Ramsingh Bhai Varma and Shri Morarji Desai, with instructions to report by the 5th December, 1960."

Shri Moraka.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the present Bill aims at giving some relief to the holders of preference shares for what they suffered because of the new scheme of company taxation which was introduced by the Finance Minister in February 1959. The present difficulties arose because, in the year 1959, the Finance Minister simplified the scheme of company taxation and, as part of that simplification the principle of grossing up of dividend was abolished. Because that principle of grossing up of dividend was abolished many shareholders and, particularly, the preference shareholders suffered serious diminution in their dividend income.

When the scheme was introduced the Finance Minister said that he was abolishing the Wealth Tax and was reducing income-tax from the companies and that would save the companies as much as 11 per cent. It was the expectation of the Finance Minister that this 11 per cent would be passed on to the shareholders and the result would be that the shareholders would not suffer any diminution in their income. In any case, they would not suffer any serious diminution. He said that under the new scheme the Government did not expect and did not propose to gain any additional revenue. All that the Government wanted was that instead of having one scheme of taxation they would have another which would be simpler and which, at the same time, would not change the status of the different shareholders. Experience has shown that that expectation did not materialise.

Before I go further I may here read what the Finance Minister said in his various speeches. In the year 1959, this is what he said:

"The legal fiction of deeming the income tax paid by the company as having been paid by the shareholder and the complicated

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process of grossing the dividends received by the latter will be abolished. The overall tax rate hitherto applicable to Indian companies will be so fixed that the yield will be equal to the present annual gross yield less the annual credit now given to the shareholders."

A little later, he said:

"For purposes of advance payment of tax by companies under Section 18-A of the Income Tax Act, I propose a rate of 20 per cent for income tax and 25 per cent for super tax, that is to say, a total of 45 per cent. This rate will secure the same revenue as is at present derived from the taxes on the wealth and profits of companies and I propose, therefore, to abolish the Wealth Tax on companies and the Excess Dividends Tax."

So, the Finance Minister, again and again, said that he did not propose to raise any additional revenue by changing the system of company taxation. He repeated that assurance in the Budget which he presented this year. In his Budget speech, he said:

"The House will remember that last year, for purposes of advance payment for the assessment year ending the 31st March, 1961, I had provisionally adopted a rate of 45 per cent for company taxation. We have not had sufficient experience of the effect of this rate. I do not, therefore, propose to make any change in this rate but to adopt it as the final figure."

Because there was an apprehension at that time that this rate would yield to the Government more revenue, the Finance Minister said that he did not have enough experience of the new structure and, therefore, he was not in a position, at that stage, to say either way.

When the Finance Bill came up for discussion in this House in April, the hon. Minister Dr. Reddi, while moving this motion yesterday also referred to the relevant portion—what the Finance Minister said was this. It was with reference to the dividend on preference shares. People expressed apprehension that the companies may not be able to maintain the dividend which the preference shareholders got and that their dividend would suffer and so they wanted some sort of intervention by Government. This was the assurance given by the Finance Minister at the time of the discussion of the Finance Bill.

He said:

"However, Government would like to make it clear that when they reduced the effective rate of tax on companies, they had expected the benefit which is derived by the companies may be passed on to all the shareholders, preference as well as ordinary. While no special action is required for passing on the benefit to the ordinary shareholders action will have to be taken by the companies in order to give suitable increase to the dividend received by the preference shareholders. Government still hope that the companies will do so. It is proposed to watch the situation for some more months and if it is found that the companies do not make suitable provision in this regard, Government may have to bring in suitable legislation with a view to secure to the preference shareholders a suitable increase in the dividend, etc."

In pursuance of that, this Bill has been brought. But this Bill does not give relief to the preference shareholders to the extent to which they have suffered. I will give you figures presently to prove as to what extent

they have suffered under the new system of company taxation and to what extent this Bill would give them relief. If the Government had not raised any additional taxation by these measures and if the preference shareholders also do not get what they got previously or they get less in a way, apparently the benefits must be left with the company. To repeat: Government does not get more. The preference shareholders are given less. Then who benefits? Naturally, it is the company. The contention of the companies is otherwise. Government must find out whether this benefit is left with the company or is given more to the ordinary shareholders. Apparently, the preference shareholders are the worst sufferers in the whole scheme. These preference shareholders are generally purchased by institutions who are, by law, compelled to invest money in securities which are of a safer nature. They sacrifice the right to share in the growing prosperity of a concern only in consideration of the assurance that they would get a sure and steady income and their investment would remain safe. If their income in subjected to the same fluctuations as the ordinary shareholders, why should they not choose to become ordinary shareholders? The LIC is the biggest preference share-holder. Then there are other institutions, such as charitable trusts, etc. The funds of widows and orphans are generally invested in such shares. In recent years their income has already suffered because of the general fall in the rupee value. When the money value falls in a country, the persons with a fixed income always suffer. You impose another suffering by means of a fiscal measure, reducing their income. That would be an unbearable hardship on these people.

After all, it is a contractual obligation. The company undertook to give them certain fixed dividend and the shareholders gave to the company certain fixed sum of money. If it is violated either by the company or by

the shareholder, it is the duty of the Government to come to the rescue of the aggrieved party. The hon. Minister can very well say that they had come to the rescue of the aggrieved party by means of this Bill. I would presently show that it is good as far as it goes but it does not go far enough.

The preference shareholders get only a fixed dividend but if it is subjected to the fluctuations, not only monetary fluctuations but fluctuations due to fiscal and other measures, then it becomes difficult. Who are to absorb these shocks? Should it be the company or the Government? So far as the shareholders are concerned, they have purchased an immunity; they should be immune from such shocks and their dividend income should remain steady. The Finance Minister said that under the new scheme of taxation, the companies were going to get relief to the extent of 11.5 per cent in the total tax payable by them. From 56.5 per cent the tax was reduced to 45 per cent. It is a matter of enquiry as to where this 11.5 per cent has gone: whether the company has retained it to build up its reserves or whether the equity or ordinary shareholders have been given more or whether it has again gone by way of taxation to the Government. It is quite apparent that the preference shareholders—leave alone getting more—did not even get what they used to get. It is, therefore, obligatory on the part of the Government to see that the rights of the preference shareholders are in no way taken away by means of the fiscal measures. Now let me give some figures. Before the new scheme of company taxation, for every Rs. 100 the preference shareholder got Rs. 7 in cash plus Rs. 3.22 by way of benefit under the grossing up, for 7 per cent tax free shares.

That means he got Rs. 7 cash and Rs. 3.22 nP. credit making a total of Rs. 10.22. Before this Bill was introduced and after the new shares were

[Shri Morarka]

introduced the position was that instead of Rs 10.22 he got only Rs. 7.00. That means he suffered a loss of Rs. 3.22, which in percentage comes to about 32 per cent. Now, after the passing of this Bill he would get in all Rs. 8.75. That means instead of Rs. 10.22 which he originally got and which was reduced to Rs. 7.00, this Bill would give him relief to a certain extent and he would get Rs. 8.75. Even then there is a difference between Rs. 10.22 and Rs. 8.75. He will still get substantially less. Sir, there is no earthly reason why this poor shareholder should suffer when the company prospers, when the Government does not need more revenue and when the company do not say that it wants to violate the sanctity of the contract. Surely there is some flaw somewhere, and when the Government has gone to the extent of remedying some defect, I do not see why the Government cannot remove this malady completely and give full relief to the preference shareholders.

Take the question of taxable preference shares—7 per cent taxable. A shareholder used to get Rs. 7.00 gross under the grossing system. After the abolition of the grossing system and before this Bill came that Rs. 7.00 was reduced to Rs. 5.60 when the new scheme came into existence. Now, with the passing of this Bill instead of Rs. 5.60 he would get Rs. 6.00. That means he would get 40 nP more. Even then he would get one rupee less than what he should have got.

Therefore, in both the cases, the examples of which I have taken, even after the passing of this Bill a preference shareholder would get 14 per cent net less than what he used to get before the new scheme of company taxation came. Now I ask, Sir, is it fair to impose this burden of 14 per cent on the preference shareholders particularly when the Government claims that the scheme is not devised to earn additional revenue? When the Government does not need additional revenue, why is it that the preference shareholders alone should be made to

suffer to the extent of 14 per cent even after this Bill is passed? As I said, without this Bill they suffer to the extent of 32 per cent and with this Bill 14 per cent.

Now, the Bill provides that if any company wants to give more they can change their articles under section 106 of the Companies Act and give more. Sir, you know that under the Companies Act the preference shareholders have no voting rights. The voting rights belong only to the ordinary shareholders. Are the ordinary shareholders likely to exercise their voting rights to amend the articles in order to give more to the preference shareholders? If the company and the ordinary shareholders were such that they were likely to do it, there would have been hardly any necessity for this Bill, there would have been no necessity for the Government to intervene at all. They could have maintained the rate of dividend and things would have moved quite smoothly. Therefore, the provision in this Bill to the effect that if any company wants to increase the rate of dividend it can alter the articles as provided under section 106 of the Companies Act....

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): What about clause 5 which has an overriding effect?

Shri Morarka: Sub-clause (2) of clause 5 reads:

"(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, a company may, in the manner provided in Section 106 of the Companies Act, increase the amount of dividend in respect of a preference share beyond the limit specified in section 3 or section 4 of this Act."

Shri Naushir Bharucha: What about the first part?

Shri Morarka: The first part is only about the provisions of the Bill.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It has an overriding effect.

Shri Morarka: Sub-clause (2) of clause 5 empowers the company to

give more. I do not know what is the effect of it. In any case the company can do it, whether this clause is there or not, because there is no prohibition. I do not know why it was considered necessary to put this clause here. But even assuming for a moment that it was necessary, what I submit is that it is not possible for the preference shareholders to persuade the ordinary shareholders to change the articles so as to sanction more dividend to the preference shareholders.

Now, I beg to submit again that the confidence of the people, the general investing public, in preference shares, which by the Companies Act of 1956 suffered a serious blow inasmuch as the voting rights were taken away, will diminish if you are going to give another blow to these shares by reducing even the income, the return or the dividend on them. In that case, Sir, I think the market for the preference shares will continuously shrink and it would not be a healthy thing for the growing jointstock enterprises or the jointstock sector in this country.

At the time when the voting rights were taken away it was argued that so far as the preference shares are concerned their income is assured, they do not suffer any diminution and, secondly, even when the company goes into liquidation they will have the first right in the division of assets. It was argued, therefore, that these people were not likely to suffer at all and they should not have the same rights in the management of the company as ordinary shareholders. Therefore, we followed the pattern in England and other places where the preference shareholders were not given any voting rights. Accordingly here also the voting rights were denied to preference shareholders. I have nothing to say against the preference shareholders being deprived of those rights. My main point here is that when it is nobody's intention—I can understand if somebody says that he wants these people to suffer a diminution in their income—

that these shareholders should suffer a diminution in their income, these poor shareholders who have a fixed income are suffering not only by the general fall in money value but also by such fiscal measures whereby there is actually a physical reduction in the rate of dividend.

12.28 hrs.

[DR. SUSHILA NAYAR in the Chair]

Madam Chairman, I, therefore, hope that when the Bill is considered by the Select Committee and when representations are made—the hon. Minister said yesterday that he has received many representations—the hon. Minister and the Select Committee would give due consideration to these things and a little more sympathy would be shown towards this class of shareholders. I hope that their income which is fixed and which is more or less a contractual obligation on the company will not be allowed to suffer.

Then, clause 7 of the Bill says:

"The Central Government may by notification in the official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act."

I really cannot understand what are those elaborate rules which can be made under such a simple Bill. You are asking the companies to increase the preference dividend by 25 per cent on tax-free shares and 7 per cent on taxable shares. What rules can the Government make for this? I cannot understand why this power is being taken, unless it is said that it is absolutely a formal thing and it is as a measure of abundant caution or precaution. I think, Madam, again, that this clause, strictly speaking, is not necessary. I myself being a Member of the Select Committee, I do hope to make these points again before the Select Committee, and I also hope that I would be heard and all these views which I have submitted here would be taken into consideration.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Naushir Bharucha.

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): He is also a Member of the Select Committee.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I only wish to make a brief review of the Bill: otherwise I see there is a possibility of the business collapsing! As a Member of the Select Committee, I propose only to bring out the implications of the Bill without expressing my views on the Bill. I think it would be circumspect to do so and reserve my right to speak in the Select Committee.

Mr. Chairman: Let the hon. Member go on with his speech.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: My hon. friend Shri Morarka has perhaps rightly complained that the revised scheme of taxation on company profits and dividends introduced in 1959 has resulted in or introduced an element of uncertainty so far as the investment habits of certain classes of people are concerned. It is very necessary, because this is a very complicated Bill, to appreciate clearly what the position was prior to the revised scheme of taxation on company profits and also subsequent to it. This House will appreciate that prior to the 1959 Finance Act, there used to exist in the Income-tax Act section 49B. The procedure incorporated in the first sub-section has come to be known as legal fiction to which reference has already been made by my hon. friend Shri Morarka.

Section 49B (1) says as follows:

"Where any dividend has been paid, credited or distributed or is deemed to have been paid, credited or distributed to any of the persons specified in section 3 who is a shareholder of a company which is assessed to income-tax in the taxable territories or elsewhere, such a person shall, if the

dividend is included in his total income, be deemed in respect of such dividend himself to have paid income-tax exclusive of super-tax of an amount equal to the sum by which the dividend has been increased under sub-section (2) of section 16."

Briefly, it really means this. Supposing I am a shareholder of a particular company and I get a dividend of Rs. 1,000, then in the returns of the income-tax which I file, I will show my income from dividends not as Rs. 1,000 but roundabout Rs. 1,300, because in doing so, I am supposed to show the amount of tax which the company has paid on my behalf. Therefore, in claiming a refund, I have to show that the dividend, though it is given in cash as Rs. 1,000, amounts to Rs. 1,300 or roundabout that sum in my returns for income-tax purposes. This procedure is known as the procedure of grossing up. The scale of taxation of the assessee is invariably lower than the rate at which the company has paid the tax. The Act of 1959 I mean the Finance Act—abolishes grossing up, and the complication has started on that account.

What are the salient features of the abolition of this grossing up process? The salient features are, first the legal fiction has been done away with and, as a corollary to that, the taxes on companies have been modified to produce, according to the Government, the same net annual revenue. Companies now have to deduct tax at the prescribed flat rate from the dividend and hand it over to the Government and the shareholder gets a refund. Why did we do away with grossing up? The Government mentioned that there were certain difficulties experienced. First, there was the difficulty in determining the composition of the profits of the company, that is, how much dividend has come from tax profit and how much dividend from exempted profits. Secondly, it was also felt that there were certain difficulties in determining the composition of profits taken to re-

serves in earlier years when the company declared dividends from those reserves. Because of these difficulties in calculating the exact amount liable to tax, the Government said they would abolish the grossing up system.

Then, what were the changes, the legislative changes necessary for doing away with this grossing up? Sub-section (1) of section 49B which entailed a legal fiction has been deleted. Secondly, section 49C, providing for reduction by the amount of the tax credit due to the shareholder when the company obtains relief from double taxation has also been deleted, since this section was related to the legal fiction. Then, section 16(2) of the Income-tax Act, which, pursuant to the legal fiction, provided for the grossing up and determining the amount to be grossed up has also been deleted. Section 18 has been amended and its scope enlarged to provide for deduction of dividend at source and its payment to the Government and for issue of refund certificates. There are certain consequential amendments also. The scheme is proposed to be enforced in two stages which have been already outlined in the speech of the Finance Minister on the budget for 1959-60.

I shall first deal with the tax pattern as it existed prior to the abolition of the grossing up system and the tax pattern as it came into existence after the abolition. The Indian companies paid income-tax of 30 per cent, a surcharge of 1.5 per cent. and a super-tax of 20 per cent, prior to the abolition, and this together made up a total of 51½ per cent. They also paid wealth-tax and excess dividend tax, all of which totalled up to 56 per cent. With the abolition of grossing up, what happened was that in the income-tax and super-tax rates of companies, were combined the net incidence of tax on income, the wealth tax and excess dividend tax. In other words, instead of paying separately, they were compressed in one flat rate. For the purposes of advance payment under Section 18A,

20 per cent was for income-tax, and 25 per cent for the super-tax—which is also called corporation tax—making in all 45 per cent. Therefore, prior to the abolition of grossing up, it used to be 56 per cent. Now, it is 45 per cent. So, the companies gained an advantage of 11 per cent.

What does this 11 per cent. exactly mean? Of course, the wealth-tax on companies was abolished and the excess dividend tax was also abolished. But what does this 11 per cent. in the hands of the companies represent? The Government said that the companies would be retaining this for benefit of shareholder. If I may use a comparison, it is like the retention price for steel which is sometimes increased by the Government, and which goes to the companies. Therefore, this 11 per cent. is surplus money in the hands of the company out of which the companies can afford to step up the dividend on preference shares. Of course, to an extent they will be prejudiced by the new revised scheme of taxation.

What happens actually is this. My hon. friend Shri Morarka gave us an instance as to how preference shares which are taxed and preference shares less tax—both these categories—are affected. I am not going to express my opinion because I shall reserve it for the Select Committee. Shri Morarka said that it is unfair that the preference shareholder who contracted with the company for a certain guarantee, or stipulated amount to be handed to him, should now be prejudiced by the operation of the law in this revised scheme of legislation.

Let us consider exactly the nature of the contract between the company and the preference shareholder. What is the interpretation of this contract? I am aware of the fact that there are two schools of thought amongst lawyers, one taking the same view as Shri Morarka and the other taking a totally different view. Let us consider the category where the company says that the preference shareholder

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

shall be entitled to 7 per cent. free of income-tax in the then existing state of law. What does the prospective purchaser of preference shares think? He thinks, the company gives me 7 per cent. and I will get back refund from the income-tax authorities to the extent of Rs. 3·22. So, the prospective preference shareholder steps up his price and he is prepared to pay more for purchasing the shares because he counts the return at Rs. 10·22.

When the grossing up abolition came, he suddenly found that those Rs. 3·22 were blown off by a stroke of the pen. Who makes good that loss? Is the preference shareholder entitled to it by virtue of his contract with the company? Should the company make good that loss or should the Government pay a part of the loss in some form or another? The Government has paid part of the loss because it has stepped down the taxes to the extent of 11 per cent. Still the shareholder is not completely compensated. Greater trouble arose because there were certain companies which told the shareholders point-blank, "What are you talking of the contract? We have not guaranteed to immunise you from the operation of the law. We have said, we shall pay you 7 per cent. and the Government paid the rest. What you do afterwards between the Government and yourself is not the concern of the company. Our agreement is to pay you 7 per cent. cash and we have paid that. What more do you want from us? If incidentally you were deriving an advantage to the extent of Rs. 3·22 because the Government gave you that refund and now if the Government does not choose to give you that, go and fight it out with the Government." So, the preference shareholder is left between the devil and the deep sea, the devil being either the Government or the company and the deep sea being the other.

Government have now come out saying, let us help out the preference shareholder. They have said, we shall

enact legislation and in that we shall provide that companies which have not paid dividend at a particular rate shall be compelled to pay dividend at that rate. Government have calculated and so far as tax-free preference shares are concerned they have stepped up the rate by 25 per cent. of the stipulated rate and the preference shareholder would be benefited to an extent at least.

Similarly in the other case where the preference shareholder holds the shares subject to the payment of tax, there is that 7 per cent. because in actual practice, both come to the same amount. It is roughly calculated that as a result of the Bill, the preference shareholder who is taxfree will get Rs. 1·20 more and the preference shareholder subject to the tax will also get Rs. 1·20. Therefore 25 per cent. and 7 per cent. is merely a matter of arithmetical calculation and that is how the Government propose to remedy the evil.

As a result of the abolition of the grossing up, a virtual crisis came on the stock exchange. Preference shares collapsed like anything. As Shri Morarka rightly pointed out, preference shares were regarded as a sterling form of investment in that the investors felt that their amount was safe and though there was no possibility of appreciation of capital to any large extent, their income was guaranteed and so it became by and large a sort of customary investment for widows and others who did not like to go in for speculative counters. That being so, Shri Morarka contends that somebody must make good the entire loss. So, what the Select Committee has to consider is the question of principle: Should the Government step in to make good the entire loss suffered by the preference shareholder as a result of the abolition of the grossing up system? Should the Government at all step in and/or should the Government step in to a certain extent only? These are matters on which I will not express my opinion

here. As I said, I am speaking with circumspection, being a member of the Select Committee. I am just highlighting the issues involved. This is one issue.

The second issue is this larger question of interpreting the memorandum of association of the company. Some companies might have worded it in one way and others in another way. So, genuine difficulties may arise in the case of companies even though they may desire to pay more to the preference shareholders. Shri Morarka said, in such cases very probably conflicting interests of the equity shareholder and the preference shareholder would come in and since the preference shareholder has not got a vote, the equity shareholder would not like to have his income eroded by parting with a share of the additional amount to the preference shareholder. I think has fears are unfounded. Why, I shall explain in greater detail in the Select Committee.

Various other issues also arise. Firstly, should the Government create a precedent by intervening in the contractual relations between companies and shareholders? That is the fundamental point thrown out by this Bill. Whether the Government was justified in abolishing the grossing up system, whether the difficulties which they put forward were really genuine difficulties, etc. are matters with which we are not concerned, because abolition of grossing up system is an accomplished fact and we have to proceed from that fact. But there is no doubt that Government were perfectly wrong when they said—it was clear from the budget speeches also—that they will so revise the taxation scheme of the companies that virtually the companies will have the same net amount available for distributing to the shareholders. That is not correct. Not only preference shareholders have suffered, but equity shareholders also have suffered. There is no gainsaying that fact. The diminution in the income of the equity

shareholder ranges between 4 and 10 per cent. Where has that money gone? Of course, it has gone into the pockets of Government. The difficulty put forward by Shri Morarka is really a tussle between Government refusing to part with what it has already pocketed and the poor shareholder crying for justice. That is the real issue. Again I will not say to what extent Government is right; I shall give my views in the Select Committee.

As I said, one issue is: should the Government create a precedent by intervening in the contractual relations between companies and the shareholders; secondly, if the intervention is in preference shares, why not in equity shares? I am not answering those questions; I am only posing them with the object of inviting comments from the House. If necessary, I shall say what I have got to say in the Select Committee. So, the second question is: if intervention in preference shares is regarded as legitimate, why should not the equity shareholders also get some relief?

Thirdly, if intervention is justified, why not intervention to the full extent? Or, why not intervention to a lesser extent? Where will you stop? Again, should not the Government intervene to compel all types of companies to disgorge tax relieves which they say they have released for the benefit of the shareholders? That is also a problem which should be taken into account.

I may here point out that this abolition of grossing up system is going to have totally unexpected results in another direction. I am referring to the shareholders of electricity companies. As the House is aware, under the Electricity Act of 1948, electricity is a highly regulated industry. What normally happens in the case of ordinary companies as a result of this Bill cannot happen in the case of electricity (Supply) companies. I will

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

explain why that is so. Under Schedule VI of the Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948 the clear profit of the electricity companies is restricted to a particular figure, which is two per cent. more than the ruling Reserve Bank rate. The electricity company cannot so charge its rate of electricity as to derive a greater income in order to be able to comply with the provisions of this Bill. You will see that this Bill does not present any difficulties in implementation so far as ordinary companies are concerned. But, so far as regulated industries are concerned, they are working under another Act. Now what is actually happening under the Electricity (Supply) Act is that the benefit of this tax relief by Government, which Government desire should go to the investor and the shareholder, is going to be transferred to the consumer of electricity and not to the investor, because that is the scheme of Schedule VI of the Electricity (Supply) Act. Therefore, this has also a repercussion in a totally different direction. What should be done about it? I will reserve my comments on getting over this difficulty for the Select Committee. So also my views on the question whether any clause should be inserted in this Bill to amend the Sixth Schedule of the Electricity Act.

I have spoken with circumspection and I have not given out my mind and my views on the various issues. I have only highlighted the problems. The purpose why I raise these issues is that I would like to invite my friends like Professor Sharma to stand up and speak, if they are not members of the Select Committee—I do not know whether he is a member of the Select Committee—and give out their views so that we can take into consideration those views in the Select Committee.

It is a good thing that Government have accepted this proposition and they are referring the Bill to the Select Committee. There are many complicated problems connected with

this Bill and I am sure the Select Committee will look into them. For the present, let us wait and see what the other hon. Members have to say on the issues to which I have referred.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Only two members of the Select Committee have spoken on this Bill, contrary, I suppose, to the practice in this House. One hon. Member has spoken with great circumspection and highlighted all the issues contained in this Bill without giving any opinions of his own. The other hon. Member criticised the principle of the Bill in a way, without throwing out any constructive suggestions. He did not fully say whether the entire compensation should be paid by the management or whether it should be enhanced but he only tried to criticise the provisions of the Bill.

Having accepted the principle of removing the legal fiction in March 1959, this is only a concomitant of what has been done previously. Some of the criticisms levelled today are devoid of substance because we are only following what we have agreed to do in March 1959. If the legal fiction was to be continued, it should have been done in March 1959 when the Finance Bill was considered. Having decided then that it should be removed now there is no point in criticising this Bill.

I do not know whether it is between the equity shareholders and the preference shareholders, or between the preference shareholders and the Government, or between the preference shareholders and the companies. All that have been highlighted very aptly by the hon. Member, Shri Bharucha, though no opinion was expressed by him on these points.

Shri Morarka's criticism is mainly on the assumption that the grossing was to continue for all time to come without any variation and it will continue to be at 31.5 per cent. Government gave no assurance to any person

or any company or any preference shareholder that the grossing will be retained for all time to come under section 49B of the Income-tax Act. Secondly even if it is retained, this 31.5 per cent. was again a variable figure. It was varying up and down and there was no guarantee ever given by the Government that this 31.5 per cent. will always be retained. So, these two assumptions do not exist. Government gave no assurance that the grossing will always be kept and that it will always be kept at 31.5 per cent.

Shri Morarka: I am sorry, the hon. Minister has misunderstood me. I did not say that they gave any assurance. I was referring to what a preference shareholder was getting before the new scheme came and what he will get under the new Bill. I said that he will suffer a loss of 3.23 per cent at the rate of 31.5 per cent refundable.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: This point was partly covered or answered by the hon. Member, Shri Bharucha. He has raised the point from the company's point of view.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I analysed it, I have not said. "This is my view."

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: After all, we guaranteed 7 per cent or 10 per cent tax free, and we are giving them 7 per cent or 10 per cent tax free. The rest of the matter you have to settle with the company. Shri Bharucha has himself explained that point very clearly.

Shri Morarka: At that time, the company was giving 7 per cent; also, it was giving to me a credit of 3.23 per cent.

Mr. Chairman: I think the hon. Member is also a member of the Select Committee. He can clarify it there.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Both of them are members of the Select Committee.

Mr. Chairman: They can iron out their differences in the Select Committee.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: As I said, the grossing is not a permanent fixture of company administration or the distribution of dividends. And there was no sanctity about this 31.5 per cent. Therefore, it is not a matter between the Government and the preference shareholder now. It is mainly a matter between the preference shareholder and the equity shareholder.

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): Is it a notice that the 45 per cent will now be increased?

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Who has ever given the guarantee that 45 per cent will always remain at 45 per cent? It can be reduced to 40 per cent any day, or it can be enhanced to 50 per cent. It is a matter for the Finance Bill, and the Finance Minister will announce it on the 28th of February. After all, I am not revealing any secrets of the Government about that figure now. For the time being, the figure will remain at 45 per cent. It may be reduced or enhanced according to the needs of the Third Plan and things like that.

This is mainly a matter between the equity shareholders and the preference shareholders and, to some extent, we expected that they will decide it among themselves. We waited all these months thinking that the company itself will see the reason of it and compensate the preference shareholders to some extent. But many of them, though willing to do it, could not do it because of the provisions of section 106 of the Companies Act, and things like that. This matter was considered by the House and even by the Select Committee and we have decided to have a little revision when the Companies Act comes up for amendment. But that is a different matter.

[Dr. B. Gopala Reddi]

12:59½ hrs.

[SHRI JAGANATHA RAO in the Chair]

We waited all these months. They could not do it or they were not willing to do it. To some extent, we have come to their rescue, namely, 25 per cent . . .

Shri Naushir Bharucha: You started that quarrel and now you are coming to their rescue.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: . . 25 per cent with a provision that if they choose to do it, if they can do it and if they are willing to do it, they can enhance it to whatever percentage they want.

Although it is a difficult process, because the preference share-holders have no voting rights, anyhow the equity shareholders will not be so unreasonable. If large profits accrue to a company, they will also be willing to share them with the preference shareholders. We expect so. There is a provision made here for 25 per cent. That is only the floor level. It is only the minimum that is guaranteed to them. In addition to what they were assured previously they could always be given anything extra. Therefore I do not think that we come very much into the picture except, of course, to the extent that preference shareholders also must be treated with sympathy by the company itself and not by the Government. The Government only comes in very incidentally. But of course these are the difficulties.

13 hrs.

Though it is a simple Bill we wanted it to be thrashed out in the Select Committee. We anticipated all this highlighting of the provisions of the Bill by Shri Bharucha and the criticism of Shri Morarka. We came to certain conclusions. We thought that 25 per cent. minimum with a provision for any enhanced thing will meet the ends of justice. Therefore we came to this conclusion. It is

being referred to the Select Committee. All these critical matters, points of interpretation, whose responsibility it is to make good and why the preference shareholder is getting less than what he was getting previously should be thrashed out in the Select Committee. I am sure the Select Committee consisting of people who know the Income-Tax Act and things like that will consider all these things. There are 15 of them in the Select Committee. We have just now seen that only members of the Select Committee are speaking and not other hon. Members. The composition of the Select Committee is also very proper in that only people who take interest in these matters are put in the Select Committee.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya (West Dinajpur): Only people who are put in the Select Committee take interest?

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Ordinarily hon. Members who are not in the Select Committee should speak.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): They have reserved their speech for the report of the Select Committee to come.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: They have reserved their judgment. It is good in a way. Let the Bill be thrashed out in the Select Committee. Thereafter the report of the Select Committee will be fully discussed in this House. I do not know what amendments and things like that will be moved and accepted by the Government. It is a matter which we can discuss very leisurely in the Select Committee. Therefore I have nothing more to say except that what we have done is not greatly unreasonable.

Shri Morarka: It is perfectly reasonable.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill to regulate dividends on preference shares of

certain companies, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri Naushir Bharucha, Shri Mulchand Dube, Shri Aurobindo Ghosal, Shri Bimal Comar Ghose, Shri Mool Chand Jain, Shri Prabhat Kar, Shri M. R. Masani, Dr. G. S. Melkote, Shri Radheshyam Ramkumar Morarka, Shri Narendrabhai Nathwani, Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan, Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha, Shri G. D. Soman, Shri Ramsingh Bhai Verma and Shri Morarji Desai with instructions to report by the 5th December, 1960."

The motion was adopted.

13.03 hrs.

**INDIAN MUSEUM (AMENDMENT)
BILL**

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Museum Act, 1910, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The Indian Museum, Calcutta, is one of the premier institutions of Asia and was formally established in 1866, but it came into existence some eighty years earlier through the initiative of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, whose collections still form a substantial part of the Museum's rich treasure of antiquities and scientific and art objects. Of the six sections of the Museum, namely, Archaeology, Anthropology, Art, Geology, Zoology and Industry, only the Art section is directly under the control of the Trustees while the others are under the administrative control of the respective Surveys or Departments. With the exception of the Geological Survey, the remaining Surveys and Departments are now attached to the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

According to the Indian Museum Act, 1910, which is the substantive Act of the Museum, all the exhibits in the Museum vest in the Trustees, but they are *de facto* properties of the concerned Departments of the Government of India and the Trustees have only visiting powers. The administration of the Museum is also vested in the Trustees, but again, the different sections are in fact run directly by the different Surveys to which they belong.

This dual control was not satisfactory at any time but in the past this has not mattered so much as today. In recent years, the work of the different Surveys has expanded enormously and demanded more and more of time of the Directors of these Surveys. I may just give two examples.

In the case of the Geological Survey of India, you know how in recent years exploration work has been greatly expanded and the Geological Survey has really come into its own only in the course of the last five or at the most ten years. Similarly, in the case of the Botanical Survey and the Zoological Survey, the establishment of regional stations, the exploration of the flora and fauna of India have been undertaken on a much larger scale and more intensively only in the last five or at the most seven years. As a result today the Directors of these Surveys have to give far greater time to their own Departments and also to tour different parts of the country so that their staying in Calcutta for the Museum where the Board of Trustees meet almost once a month, if not more frequently, is very often difficult.

Simultaneously, great advances have been made in museology all over the world in the last fifty years. Thus, while the Indian Museum has one of the richest collections in Asia, it has grown in an unplanned manner and the whole present organisation is a result of compromises and expeditents.

[Shri Humayun Kabir]

Since 1931, there have been repeated attempts at reforming the work of the Museum. It was then proposed to put the various sections of the Museum under the administrative control of a Director, but as there was a world-wide economic recession in the early thirties, this proposal was not pursued. At least that is the explanation that I can find why the proposal was not vigorously pursued at that time. All of you remember that the years 1930 to 1934 were a period of great economic distress and there was stringency and reduction in almost every department of Government's activities. So this idea of a whole-time Director was not pursued.

In 1946, Colonel Sewell, the then Director of the Zoological Survey observed:

"The impression that I came away with was that the Trustees instead of acting as the trustees of a great and extremely valuable museum were behaving more like the caretakers of a mausoleum."

This coming from one who was himself a trustee is, I think, ample reflection of the way in which the growing needs of the Museum could be met by people who did not have the time to spare for its activities.

I need hardly say that the Indian Museum Act, 1910 has today become completely out of date. Fifty years is a long time for any legislation to retain its usefulness, especially legislation which deals with a growing service. When to that fact you add that during these fifty years there have been vast changes in the Indian political scene and in the Indian educational world, you can easily understand that the Act of 1910 is completely out of date today. I will have occasion to refer later while discussing the constitution of the Trustees how things which were easily accept-

able in 1910 but cannot be accepted today have been allowed to continue simply because the Act has not been amended till now.

Museuology in the last fifty years has made tremendous progress throughout the world and we are today planning our National museums not merely as static repositories of relics of the past but dynamic instruments for the cultural and scientific education of the people. This requires that there should be far greater attention paid to the planning of the museums and that the different services of the Museum are properly organised. The present Bill is, therefore, a long overdue measure for improving the working of the Museum, but at the same time we have tried to make the changes as moderate as the circumstances will permit.

Those hon. Members who have seen the Bill will recall that there are 13 clauses in the Bill. Out of these 13 clauses of the Bill which I am placing before the House, eight are of a purely formal, consequential or verbal nature so that only five clauses have some importance. For example, there is a section in the old Act that members who had been appointed under the Act of 1876 ceased to function from such and such a date. Obviously there is no point in continuing that section any longer. As I have said, out of 13 clauses, eight are of a purely formal, consequential or verbal nature. Three of the remaining five clauses seek improvement of existing provisions based on experience and normal practice of administration. Only two amendments are major.

I will take first the three amendments which deal with procedural matters. Of the three clauses dealing with the improvement of existing provisions, the first is for prescribing a date for submitting budget estimates for the next financial year. Even under the existing Act, annual reports and audited accounts have to be submitted to Government, but there is

no provision for preparation and submission of annual budget estimates or for advance intimation of the programme of activities for the coming year, with the result that there is very often no proper planning, and we do not know beforehand what would be the kind of programme that the museum would like to follow in the next year. It is obvious that it will make for better working if the trustees prepare and submit to the Central Government before a prescribed date budget estimates for the next financial year. I may add that this is a normal administrative procedure adopted in all recognised institutions, and it is surprising it was not done earlier in the case of the Indian Museum.

The second of these three amendments deals with the rules for recruitment and the conditions of services of officers and other employees of the museum. At present, the trustees have the power of appointing officers or servants on such pay as they may think fit, but subject to the previous sanction of the Central Government; which means that in every case where it is proposed to appoint anybody or create a post, an ad hoc reference has to be made. Instead of such ad hoc reference, we are now proposing that general rules should be made which, after approval by Parliament, will become the governing regulations of the museum. This will also lead to the removal of ambiguities and doubts. Under section 13 of the existing Act, all employees of the museum are deemed to be public servants, and this had naturally led them to expect that they would have exactly the same conditions of service in respect of salaries, allowances and pensions. As one who is not a legal expert, this was also my view, but we have now been advised by the highest legal authorities in the land that this is not so and that the employees of the museum cannot claim the same prerogatives as government servants, even though they have been described as public servants for other purposes. Therefore I felt that if

this is the position then it is much better that the position should be clearly stated and that the employees of the museum should be governed by rules framed specifically for the purpose. And, as I have said, these rules will be framed in consultation with the trustees and will be placed before Parliament before they become operative.

The third of these amendments dealing with the improvement of the administration gives Government the power to frame rules subject to approval by Parliament. This rule-making power is of a normal character and deals with matters of detail which cannot be provided by statute. These rules will be laid before Parliament and would be subject to approval, disapproval or modification by Parliament so as to ensure the full control of Parliament over the rule-making powers of Government. Further, I have provided that in making these rules, the trustees will be consulted and any suggestions that they may make will, of course, be given due consideration.

I now come to the two substantive changes proposed in the amending Bill. These deal with the constitution of the Board of Trustees and the assumption by the Central Government of the power to issue directives in matters of policy.

At present there are 18 trustees, of whom seven are officials—six serving the Government of India and one serving the Government of West Bengal. These are government servants. In addition, the Central Government has, even under the existing Act, the power of nominating four persons: so that, if Government at any time wished it could have seen that eleven members of the Board of Trustees were people who always represented its own point of view. But Government has not as a matter of fact tried to exercise any such control and has given full freedom to the Board of Trustees. But at the same time we feel that a bigger body has

[Shri Humayun Kabir]

not been as effective as a smaller body would be; and this was also the recommendation of the Committees of 1931 and 1955. I have already mentioned that the responsibilities of these officers have increased vastly. Their areas have expanded and they are undertaking today work which was not even thought of before. In spite of their best intentions, therefore, it has not been possible for them to give the necessary time and attention to the Museum as trustees. We have also to remember that the Trustees of the Indian Museum are not only trustees but they are also for all practical purposes the managing body. The result has been that because these officers have not been able to give sufficient time, sometime it has turned out that one or two persons have been able to do practically whatever they liked with the Museum and some of the difficulties of the Museum in the last seven to eight years have been due to this fact.

Since 1931, it has been repeatedly suggested that there should be a more compact managing body. The two Committees appointed in 1931 and 1955 went so far as to suggest that the Museum should be taken over completely by Government and run under a Director. We did not, however, consider this desirable or feasible. This institution was originally set up and has been developed by voluntary effort and has a long tradition of its own. We therefore decided to retain the present character of management but reduce the membership of the Board of Trustees from 18 to 11.

The first major reduction is to bring the number of *ex-officio* official trustees from seven to two. We are also deleting the provision giving representation to the British Indian Association and the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. You can well appreciate the reasons why in 1910 the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, which is really a chamber of the European

industrial and commercial interests in the country, was given to such interests representation—and that was the only representation given by the Act in 1910. The British Indian Association was also in those days a fairly important body representing mainly the landlords of Bengal—and you can, again, understand why they of all bodies were given representation on this Board. Their existence on the Board is a relic of the past times and their continuance today can no longer be justified. For, there are many other Chambers of Commerce. And, so far as other bodies are concerned, there are many bodies, even in Calcutta, which are far more active and far more representative than the British Indian Association.

In the existing Act, the Calcutta University is represented by a nominee of the Syndicate. We are suggesting instead that the Vice-Chancellor of the University should be a member. Similarly, in place of an officer of the Government of West Bengal, namely, the Principal of the Art School, we are suggesting a nominee of the Government of West Bengal. There is no radical change: even previously, the West Bengal Government had a representative through the Principal of the Art School. We are giving a wider choice. They may now nominate either the Principal of the Art School or anybody else they wish.

We are also proposing to strengthen the Board by the appointment of two new trustees, namely, the Governor of West Bengal as the Chairman and the Mayor of Calcutta. The appointment of the Governor as *ex-officio* Chairman will give both dignity and status to the Board and also ensure co-operation of the State Government. It seems to me surprising that there was no representative of the Calcutta Corporation on the Indian Museum, and I feel that the Museum must have some connection with civic life, and therefore we are suggesting that the Mayor will be a member of the Board of

Trustees. The association of the Mayor with the Board of Trustees will enable the Museum to function more effectively in co-operation with civic life.

This is the one substantial change, namely, reducing the number of trustees from eighteen to seven and reducing very drastically official representation. For instance, my Ministry had five nominees on the Board of Trustees. In place of that, under the new proposals, there will be only one, namely the Secretary.

The only other substantial change that I am introducing in the Bill is to give the Central Government the power to issue directives to the trustees on matters of general policy. Such directives are not issued except in extraordinary circumstances, but whenever they are issued they are subject to the control of Parliament. In the case of an autonomous body like the Indian Museum, I feel that the power of issuing directives by the Government is more necessary, as otherwise, the Board of Trustees, though largely appointed by the Government, is not responsible to anybody. It is not responsible to the Government because it is an autonomous body and it is not responsible to Parliament because it can say, as an autonomous body, we are not bound to give any reply. The only control that the Government can exercise is through grants, by withholding grant if it came to such an extreme position, I am sure you will agree that that is a measure which should never be adopted. It is far better that, instead of leaving the entire control to a small group, there should be the final overriding authority of Parliament.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): On a point of order, Sir, the hon. speaker should address the House and not a few Members sitting on that side.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I am sorry if I had turned this side. I thought I was addressing the Chair. From this place, the angle is on this side.

In the case of an autonomous body like the Indian Museum, this power of issuing directives is necessary as otherwise, the Board of Trustees, though largely appointed by the Government, is not responsible to anybody. The museum is maintained mainly from public funds and it is both desirable and necessary that Parliament as the supreme body of the nation should have a control over all questions of policy. Even then, we have provided in the Bill that, before any directive is issued under this clause, the Trustees will be given an opportunity to express their views. Of course, full consideration will be given to any such views.

In moving this Bill, I would submit that it is of a nature which is non-controversial. Eight of the clauses are purely of a verbal legal nature. Three are improvements in procedure which have been generally accepted in almost all other Bills which have been enacted by this House in recent times. The two substantial things are about reduction in the number of Trustees and about the issue of directives. These are matters which have been considered by this House again and again and in fact, in recent times, the general tendency of the House has been to see that, even in the case of autonomous bodies, ultimately authority remains with Parliament, since Parliament, as the custodian of the rights of the people and is the body which votes all the moneys that are expended for public purposes, it should have a say in the matter.

With these words, I commend my Bill for acceptance of the House.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Museum Act, 1910, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Chairman, I wish to enquire of the Minister one point: whether he has

[Shri Morarka]

taken into consideration the provisions of the Indian Statistical Institute Act which was recently passed by this Parliament and which institution was given the recognition as a national institute. Since this Bill is of the same type, I would like to know whether the provisions of this Bill are similar to the provisions in that Bill or if they are different, why they are different.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I will deal with these when I reply.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister will reply in the course of his reply.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi): It will help us to understand the point if he makes it clear. There is no radical difference between the two institutions. They are similar institutions.

Shri Humayun Kabir: On this point, I will have one remark to make. The Indian Statistical Institute is primarily an educational and research institute. It is doing new exploration work and therefore, it is quite different from a museum. In the case of the Indian Museum, we adopt the same procedure as in the case of the other national museums in the country and of similar museums elsewhere in the world.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I had given notice of an amendment that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have not received any such notice.

Mr. Chairman: I do not find any. It is not here.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I had sent it. Where is it?

Dr. Samantsinhar (Bhubaneshwar): What about my amendment?

Mr. Chairman: May I know when the hon. Member gave notice of it.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: In the morning.

Mr. Chairman: Then, it is out of order. At least 24 hours' previous notice is required.

Shri Morarka: You may waive it. It is in the discretion of the Chair.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: It can be accepted.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Mr. Chairman, I welcome this Bill. As it has been described by the hon. Minister, it is a non-controversial Bill. It is true that our country has taken about 50 years to wake up to the status, functions and objectives of the Indian Museum. But, still it is good that we are doing something to give a new set-up to this Indian Museum.

I feel very proud of the fact that the Minister wants to make this museum a full self-governing national museum for the eastern region of India. It is a very hopeful sign of the times that we are going to have such museums in all the regions of India and that these museums are going to be not a collection of old and antiquated things, but something that is being renewed every year, every month, every day. That is to say, these museums would represent not something static, but something dynamic, and these museums will be responding to the needs and urges of our people as they arise. I hope that something would be done to have museums of this kind in all the other regions of the country also, so that India is not deficient in this particular kind of educational apparatus.

I think the hon. Minister was very right when he said that the art and science of museums has advanced greatly. If one goes to some of the progressive countries of the world, one finds that the museums are the most cherished objects of those countries. They are not only show pieces to be shown to visitors and travellers.

They are also very effective instruments of public education. There are days which are set apart for school boys and they can go and visit these museums on those particular days. There are days which are set apart for University students. They can go to the museums on those days. At the same time, museums are not thought to be merely silent places where you can look at things and admire them. Some of these museums have very effective service guides. These guides are always there to explain to the visitors the beautiful places and the beautiful spots and the objects which are there. There is no mention of this in this Bill. But, that would be one of the functions of the administrative service to see to it that we have a very adequate number of guides. Unfortunately, guides in my country have not been trained and educated properly. These guides should be such as are well versed in the lore which the museum has to show. I remember I visited last year the museum in Moscow. I was amazed to see the richness of its collection. I was more amazed to see the knowledge of the guide there and the way he explained and interpreted the things and the interest that he took in showing the people round. In my country, guides are generally tired and exhausted persons. They are generally those persons who know little of the museum and less of the things that it contains. Therefore, it is a very sorry tale that they tell. I hope something will be done to make up this deficiency that exists.

I believe that while this Museum will be doing all those services which it should render, at present, it will be, as the hon. Minister said, a very adequate medium of cultural and scientific education. These words are very weighty words. I believe that the scientific aspect of this museum will be more strengthened. This museum is now meant more for scholars and savants than for anybody else. It should be seen to it that some of the popular aspects of this

museum are augmented so that the general public can take more advantage of it than before.

Coming to Clause 2, I am glad that the hon. Minister has reduced the number of trustees. Whether there is any virtue in reduction or increase I do not know, but since he has thought it fit to reduce the number of trustees, I do not want to have any quarrel with him on that score, but there is one thing which makes me very unhappy when I go through the constitution of the board of trustees. I think every autonomous body that we have set up in this House has enlisted the active interest of the members of this House; that is to say, some kind of representation has been given to the members of the Lok Sabha on that body. It has been done so that the Lok Sabha is kept constantly in touch with the activities of that body so that it can, on the floor of the House, present a very clear and coherent picture of that institution. Though according to the hon. Minister the British India Association and the British Chamber of Commerce are things of the past, I must say that the constitution of the board of trustees in this Bill has been done in the same old spirit of the British India Association and the British Chamber of Commerce. Generally they used to rely on nominations, and here also I find that it is one string of *ex-officio* members or nominated members. Of course, I have nothing to say against the Governor of West Bengal. She should be there. I have nothing to say against the Secretary to the Government of India; he should be there. I think sometimes the Calcutta Corporation has two mayors, but I am glad they are going to have only one mayor on this board of trustees. The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta should be there; he represents learning and scholarship and the educational interests of that State. The Accountant-General is a necessary evil everywhere, and I do not

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

see any reason why he should be kept out of it. Then there are four persons to be nominated by the Central Government and one by the Government of West Bengal. I think this has been done in accordance with the laws of proportion that since the Government of West Bengal is having one representative, the Central Government should have four, or vice versa. It is very good arithmetic, and I think it redounds to the credit of the hon. Minister that he has been able to fix such a proportion. Of course, one person should be nominated by the Asiatic Society of Calcutta.

Therefore, I say that when I took at the composition of the board of trustees I find one unrelieved, dreary panorama of nominations. I respectfully submit that the board of trustees should be constituted by giving some representation to the members of the Lok Sabha and some representation to the members of the Rajya Sabha also. Since the Rajya Sabha consists mostly of nominated persons, they may think that it is in agreement with the character of the present composition of the board of trustees to some extent, but here we all come after fighting very big elections, and I believe that we are wedded to the principle of elections and democracy. I think this undemocratic edifice in democratic India will be an anachronism. It will be a museum piece in itself. Therefore, I think something should be done to take away this aspect of officialese from this Bill.

In Clause 3(1) the quorum has been reduced from 9 to 6, and in Clause 3(2) from 6 to 4. This quorum is a ticklish business. When they are discussing such intricate matters, it is not right that six persons out of eleven should constitute the quorum. After all, these persons represent certain academic interests. So, in a body like this where the academic interests take precedence over all other kinds of interests, the quorum

should be higher, for the simple reason that all these interests should have a proper and adequate say in the matters which affect them. If the hon. Minister thinks that the person whose business is going to be transacted on a particular day will alone be present and the others absent, that assumption will not be conducive to the efficiency of the board of trustees.

In Clause 6 a distinction has been made between rules and bye-laws. I am not a constitutional *pundit*, but I think that it is not very proper to bring in these two things. When we talk of bye-laws we talk of some commercial concerns. I think I am right when I say that. When we talk of rules we talk of things which are subject to the rules and enactments of Parliament. So, I would say this thing should be clarified, and this difference between the rules and bye-laws, which is a very invidious kind of distinction, should be done away with.

In Clause 7 it has been said that the trustees may appoint such officers and servants as they may consider necessary or proper for the care or management of the trust property and determine their functions, and that the recruitment and conditions of service of such officers or servants shall be regulated by rules made under the Act. I think the rules have some validity here, but my feeling is that in free India we are trying to make appointments not subject to any boards which are constituted but subject to the Public Service Commission. In my State, a very progressive State, we have two Public Service Commissions; one deals with gazetted appointments, and the other with non-gazetted appointments. That is to say, the appointment of persons has been taken away from the purview of the Government, and handed over to the Public Service Commission. I think that provision should have been kept here also, so that the appointments that are made may not savour

of any kind of favouritism or nepotism. I do not say they will savour of that, but there should be the impression that these appointments are made on the basis of selection by the most competent body we can think of. I think this is a provision that should be there.

Then, I come to the question of issuing directives. I do not quarrel with the term 'directives'. I think directives are necessary. But what do Government think of this board of trustees? Are they to be waiting all the time for directives from the Central Government? Are they non-adults? Are they not competent to deal with the subjects which they are asked to deal with? I think this is undue interference by the Ministry in the work of the trustees. The hon. Minister has said that they are doing away with the dual system, but here I think they are introducing the dual system; that is to say, the board will not be autonomous in the real sense of the term, but it will always be looking up to the Ministry for directives. I do not see what reason is there for giving directives, when the secretary to the Ministry is going to be there, but probably the Minister must also give directives, and the higher officers also should give directives. I think this is something which is going to cramp the initiative of board of trustees. This is something which is going to spoil the good effect which this autonomy will have.

As I said in the beginning, I welcome this Bill, and I think that the Bill is mainly non-controversial. But I hope that even though this has been passed by the Rajya Sabha already, the hon. Minister will kindly accept some of the suggestions which I have made for making this Bill more effective.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I have heard the hon. Minister with great care. Generally, I agree with him that this Act needs to be amended and there is scope for improvement in the functioning and management of

the Indian National Museum of Calcutta. But I want to draw your attention to certain aspects of the present situation.

This Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha and has come here. Now, we are seized of this Bill. During this period, representations were made to us that the matter of amending this Act was before the Government for some years, in fact during the time of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, who was our Education Minister then, the trustees of the Indian Museum had met him and they had carried on lengthy discussions with him in this regard. They had also some correspondence. They had represented to the Maulana Saheb that when a revision of this Act was contemplated, the members of the Board of Trustees should be given a proper hearing, and they should have a full opportunity to place their case before Government. With your permission, I would just read out from a letter of 1957, which the chairman of the board wrote to Maulana Saheb after he had discussions with him, in order to put it on record. He wrote:

"If any modifications in detail be found to be desirable, and if the revision of the Indian Museum Act, 1910 (Act X of 1910) be undertaken by Government, the board of trustees would be given a hearing, and the facts and circumstances as then existing would be examined and considered by Government before any Bill is drafted, which will be done in such consultation with the board or its trustees as the Government may deem fit."

This occurred in 1957. Soon after that, Dr. K. L. Shrimali visited Calcutta, went to the museum, sat with the trustees, and reiterated this assurance. Now, after so many years, the proposal for amending the Act has come before us. I want to know why an opportunity was not given to the board of trustees to discuss it with the Minister and his Ministry.

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

They have complained to us that they never got any opportunity.

As you know, this Indian National Museum of Calcutta is a very important institution. It is an institution which is held in high esteem. The Board of Trustees have during all these years built up an institution of which we can be proud. There may be some defects in their administration, but generally they have acquitted themselves rather well. And there are people, members who are experts, members who have a right to speak about the future of this institution, but no opportunity was given to them to place their case. Perhaps, if I may anticipate the reply that the hon. Minister will give, that letters were sent to them but they did not reply. The information that I have received is—how far it is correct, I cannot say that letters were supposed to have been despatched from the Education Ministry, but they never reached them. Even supposing the letters did not reach them, it was such an important matter that efforts should have been made to get the opinion of the Board of Trustees before the Bill was introduced. But no opportunity has been given to them.

That was why I tried to move that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee. If the Bill had been referred to a Select Committee, the board of trustees would have had an opportunity to place their case; in fact, not only the board, but the Asiatic Society also would have had an opportunity. As the hon. Minister himself has admitted, much of the property belongs to the Asiatic Society. But neither the members of the Asiatic Society nor the members of the board of trustees have been given an opportunity to place their case before Government. I should think that in fairness, such bodies which have done so much work should have been given a proper hearing.

There may have been some defects in the running of the institution, to which the hon. Minister has referred.

I do not belong to Calcutta, and, therefore, I do not have much opportunity to be in touch with the affairs there. But, on the whole, it was functioning normally. There was no crisis of immediate urgency which necessitated that the Bill should be passed in this way without any reference to the Board. I want to support this Bill, but I do not like the manner in which this Bill has been placed before us. Nobody has been given an opportunity to place his case or to suggest what amendments should be brought forward; after all, the Board members have the welfare of the institution at heart, and they could have made very valuable suggestions.

I support most of the provisions of this Bill, but there are certain things which I find it very difficult to support, and to which reference has already been made by the previous speaker. In clause 10, under the new section 12A, Government are taking the power to give directives. Generally, Government have always the power to give directives to autonomous bodies, but I do not know why Government want to take this kind of power here. We have seen that this autonomous body has done a good piece of work, a work of which we can be proud of building up a museum is a thing where experts, connoisseurs of art and others who are really interested in the subject can perhaps give more valuable help, even if they be non-officials. I find that the Board's main objection to this clause is this that not only have Government the power to give directives, but what is "policy" is also to be decided by the Government. So, they fear that in the name of giving policy directions, they may interfere in the day-to-day affairs, and they may interfere in their administrative matters. If Government are so much involved in the actual administration of the museum, perhaps, the normal development of the museum may be retarded. I think I am right in saying that if this institution had been run by the Government as such,

under the actual control of Government, it would not have made the headway that it has made today. Therefore, I have certainly objection to this kind of control or attempt to control on the part of Government. There is a tendency in recent years on the part of the Government and their departments to interfere more and more in the working of the autonomous bodies. This curbs the initiative of the people. This does not allow for free growth of institutions. We want this institution to grow properly. We want that connoisseurs of art and people who are interested in the museum should participate freely and fully and thus build up this institution. In fact, I had tabled certain amendments in this regard, but as they were tabled late, they could not be accepted.

As far as the composition of the Trust is concerned, I am glad that the official element has been reduced. But there are a number of *ex-officio* members. I have no objection to them, but if you notice carefully, you will find that the Government feel that these *ex-officio* members would not be able to function because they will have too much of other preoccupations. Therefore, you find that there is a proviso to clause 2 which says:

"Provided that if any of the Trustees referred to in clauses (b), (c), (d) and (e) is unable to attend any meeting of the Trustees, he may, with the approval of the Chairman, authorise a person.... to do so".

Shri Humayun Kabir: In writing.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: All right. I have no objection to the words 'in writing'. Let it be in writing. That is not my point. The point is that these people will be too busy. Take, for instance, the Mayor of Calcutta. He may be a very perfect gentleman. But we know how much politics there is in the Calcutta Corporation. He may have no time to

attend these meetings. He may authorise somebody to attend the meeting. Next time, he may authorise somebody else to attend the meeting. So people who are not equipped with the background knowledge of the institution will attend these things and as such, they will not be able to contribute to the discussion. The Government themselves feel that these *ex-officio* members will not be able to function; therefore, this provision is there. It shows the weakness of the whole proposal.

Shri Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): Even the quorum has been reduced. That means they are not sure that there will be attendance even.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Exactly. That means, they will put such people there who are not vitally interested in the institution. Put some non-officials there who are interested in this job of building up a museum. People whose primary and first interest is museum work should be put there. Therefore, in the amendment I had given notice of I had pleaded that the Trust should be given power to co-opt some members, at least two or three, so that people who are really interested in the subject can be on the Trust.

As regards the provision that the Governor should be *ex-officio* Chairman, I certainly object to it, because the Governor has too many things to do. The Governor is too busy. You should have a chairman who is really interested in the subject and can devote time to it. Only when somebody takes it up as his first job can this institution be developed. I am, happy that the hon. Minister has reduced the number of officials, but I strongly feel the Chairman should be a non-official, somebody who is really interested in the work, who can devote full time to it.

Another very interesting point raised by my hon. friend, Shri Morarka, is that the rule and bye-law-making powers have been taken away from this institution.

Shri Humayun Kabir: Where?

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Government are encroaching into them.

Shri Humayun Kabir: No, no. Let the hon. Member read it again.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Government are taking more powers in their hands.

Shri Humayun Kabir: That is a different matter.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I qualify it by saying that Government are taking more powers in their hands. If it is an autonomous body, we want the autonomous body to have sufficient powers to function in an autonomous way. If you reduce the rule and bye-law-making powers, you certainly curtail its authority and power. What is the justification for this? The hon. Minister has said that that he is raising the status of the institution by making it an institution of national importance. I would like to draw your attention to the fact that this was already an institution of national importance. This institution is listed under the Government of India Act, 1935, Second Schedule, List I, item 11. Under the Constitution of India, in the Seventh Schedule, List I, item 62, this institution is listed. So this was already an institution of national importance.

Very recently, during this year, we had passed the Indian Statistical Institute Act as well as the Visvabharati University Act.

Shri Humayun Kabir: This year?

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: In the previous session of Parliament.

Shri Humayun Kabir: No.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: We passed the Indian Statistical Institute Act last session. The Visvabharati University Act was passed before. These are institutions of national importance. The Government have not taken away the bye-law and rule making power from these institutions, but

from this particular institution these powers are being taken away. It was said by the Minister that the other one is a research institution; therefore, it should have greater powers. If I understand the functions of a Museum correctly, attached to the Museum a good deal of research can be conducted. I fail to understand how in the case of one institution higher powers are needed and in the case of another national institution, less powers will suffice. Therefore, there must be some other reason which is motivating the Government in reducing the powers of this institution. Hence, I strongly oppose these clauses of the Bill. Otherwise, I am in favour of this amending Bill. I agree that the management of this Museum should be properly conducted, but I do not believe that by taking more powers in their hands Government are going to improve the administration or will be acting in a way which will be conducive to the proper, free and good growth of the Indian Museum.

Shri Indrajit Gupta (Calcutta-South West): The Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to this Bill is, of course, very praise-worthy and nobody can quarrel with it, because the main object, as stated here, is to re-organise and improve the administration of the Museum and ensure conditions for its proper development on modern and scientific lines. But if one looks into the clauses of this Bill, one is apprehensive that something very different from this object will be achieved. After all, we are dealing here with a technical matter, and as far as I know, the administration of museums and what one may call museology, has become a science in the modern world. It is not a thing which laymen can play around with. But if you look into the amending Bill and the changes it proposes to make in the Board of Trustees, you find that the very few people in the existing Board who have any sort of technical or scientific qualifications to deal with these matters or who claim

to have an expert knowledge of such matters are the very people who are being eliminated from the Board, that is to say, people like the Principal of the Arts School, Director of Geology, Director of Zoology, Director of Archaeology etc. who were there in the previous Board. Of course, the hon. Minister may say that this is a means by which the official element is being reduced, but I would say that in this particular context of museum, surely we cannot regard these people simply as officials. At least if they are not replaced or substituted by some other people who are equally qualified, technically speaking, and who have got the scientific knowledge, we cannot accept that these people should be removed simply because they happen to be in the legal sense officials.

Who are these people being replaced by? I agree with most of what Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani said. But she said that the official element was being cut down and that was a good thing. But I find on a proper scrutiny of this Bill that that is not what is happening. If these people are considered in the narrow sense to be officials—the people to whom I have referred—that may be so. But if you look into it, who are the people who are being put in the new Board as proposed by the amending Bill? For example, the Secretary of the Ministry will be there *ex-officio*. Then there are four people to be nominated by the Government of India. Of course, one can theoretically argue that they will nominate people who are not necessarily people who will toe the official line. But that is no assurance as far as we are concerned because more or less, the tendency as we see it today, as Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani has also mentioned, is increasingly to strengthen the official element or to nominate such people who tend to be what one may call conformists. We fear that the same thing may happen here.

Then there is a nominee of the West Bengal Government. As far as

the position of the Mayor of Calcutta and the Vice-Chancellor of Calcutta University and the Governor is concerned no doubt they are eminent public men. But as Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani has mentioned, they will be far too busy to attend the meetings of the Board. Therefore, provision has been made in the amending Bill to the effect that if they are too busy to attend, they can authorise persons in writing to attend on their behalf. That is probably what will happen in 90 per cent of the cases.

Therefore, I do not see that the official element is being cut down at all. What will actually happen is that the proposed composition of the Board of Trustees will, if anything, make it even more amenable to subservience to the Government, for the simple reason that, firstly, the number of officials has proportionately increased; secondly, there is not a single person on the Board, as far as I can make out, except perhaps the representative of the Asiatic Society, who is in any way qualified to deal with these matters or their various scientific, cultural and other aspects. Therefore, I am really surprised at this proposal taken with the other proposal to which reference has already been made about the powers which have been taken under section 12A to bind the trustees by certain policy directions of the Central Government. I do not know what has given inspiration to the Ministry.

14 hrs.

The British Museum in England is, certainly, not conducted in such a way. In the British Museum, the Board of Trustees are, really speaking, the sole authority. Financial control is, certainly, exercised by Government. But, subject to that, the Board of Trustees is the sole authority. And, nobody has ever complained that the British Museum is badly run or not properly administered.

I do not claim for a moment that the Indian Museum in Calcutta is

[**Shri Indrajit Gupta]**

above all criticism. It happens to be situated in my constituency. But that is not the reason why I am speaking on this. The point is, there are many criticisms and complaints which we hear, and of which we have some knowledge ourselves, relating to such matters which require, if anything, more detailed supervision by people who are technically and scientifically qualified to exercise that supervision. There are complaints that a number of rare manuscripts and other things are not kept as well as they should. Some of these things may be getting spoiled due to not being preserved properly. Who is going to go into these matters? How is the Board of Trustees that is going to be set up qualified to go into these matters and understand the problems when that element which was there with scientific knowledge is being abolished altogether?

I must also add my voice of protest at this. The existing Board of Trustees, as far as I know, have never been consulted as to the provisions of these things. It is very strange. People who have been carrying on the administration of the museum for so many years were not even taken into confidence and their views were not ascertained before the Bill was drafted. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is something behind it. I want to know whether the same procedure is being followed anywhere else. This has given rise to certain apprehensions of which, I am sure, the Minister is aware.

When the Bill was first brought up very many reports appeared in the daily newspapers of Calcutta, including respected papers like the *Statesman* and the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. They have written leading articles commenting on this Bill and none of their comments are favourable by any means. They have all voiced the apprehension which is widely felt by the public everywhere that this Bill aims at officialising the administration

of the museum, making it a sort of a sub-department of Government. We do not know what sort of policy directions are going to come in future. There is the apprehension among the people in Calcutta that this may be the first step towards some breaking up and dispersal of these collections.

I am grateful to the hon. Minister that, in the course of the debate in the Rajya Sabha where this apprehension was also expressed, he made some sort of amendment which means that the Board of Trustees has to come to a unanimous decision if it wants to dispose of any part of the collections. But the grace of this amendment is lost by the fact that this section 12A lays down that the trustees have got to be bound by the policy directions of the Central Government of which we are completely in the dark. We do not know what they propose to do in future. They may do anything.

We also find that there is no representative of the public at all on this Board. Why not? I want to know. Of course, this is a scientific, technical and cultural institution. All of us who live in Calcutta know—and I am sure the Minister must be aware of it—that it has now become really a place of public pilgrimage in a way it never was in the days of the British regime. The people who go there in thousands, particularly on holidays, to see the museum are, of course, poor people, perhaps uneducated, perhaps illiterate; but those are the people who make up the majority of people in our country. They are shown around this museum not in a way which is always very conducive to their understanding and intelligent appreciation of what there is. There are very many questions involved in this. I should like to know why at least some representative of the public should not be also taken there, on this Board of Trustees. Why should not a Member of Parliament be there? There are very many unhappy provisions of that type in this Bill.

This institution is a really unique institution; everybody accepts that. It is an institution which is regarded as the pride of the whole country; it is not something so peculiar to Calcutta or to Bengal at all.

I welcome the suggestions made by the Minister in the other House that they propose to bring in a more comprehensive legislation later on to set up a whole chain of national museums in different regions of the country. That is all to the good. But that does not mean that the existing institution of this type which is there at the moment, should, at this stage, be suddenly subjected to this kind of legislative amendment of its Board of Trustees which will, in the long run, make the administration much more bureaucratic, if I may say so with all respect to the persons who are being proposed as trustees, who are nevertheless laymen in every sense of the word. It will be deprived of scientific or technical assistance from people who are in a position to give it to them. I would like to know what is the real purpose, what is the urgency. Why can't this Bill be considered a little more at length; why can't it be referred to a Select Committee? I do not see the hurry for it. The museum is not going to fall down; it is there; it has survived all these years. If there is something else of which we have not been told, I hope the hon. Minister will, of course, tell us what it is.

Therefore, while welcoming the objects and reasons of this Bill I find that the clauses of the amending Bill are such that the objects and reasons may be defeated. It is very difficult to support a Bill of this type. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister not to hurry. It is not a question of prestige; it is a thing which should be looked into a little more carefully. I think the Board of Trustees should be set up in a rather different way so that it can really be adequate and efficient enough to cope with the administration of a great institution like this.

श्री यादव नारायण शास्त्री : (मालेगांव)
समाप्ति महोदय, यह जो बिल सदन के सामने लाया गया है, यद्यपि जितना मकसद इसको पूरा करना चाहिये उतना वह नहीं करता, तो भी मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ।

आजादी के बाद भारत की प्रगति के बास्ते जो कदम हमने उठाये हैं उनमें एक खास कदम यह म्यूजियम का भी है। यह जो बिल सदन के सामने है वह खास तौर से कलकत्ता के म्यूजियम के बारे में है। मुझे आश्चर्य होता है कि इस तरह का पीस-मील बिल सदन के सामने क्यों लाया जाता है। पूरे भारत के लिए जो म्यूजियम हम बनायेंगे वे अकेले कलकत्ता शहर में नहीं होंगे, बल्कि भारत के जो बड़े बड़े शहर हैं उनमें हर जगह ऐसे म्यूजियम बनाना जरूरी है, और इसके बाद यह भी हो सकता है कि हर स्टेट का जो कैंपिटल है वहां भी म्यूजियम बनें।

हमारे मान्यवर मिनिस्टर साहब ने अपनी राज्य सभा की तकरीर में यह भी कहा है कि ऐसे म्यूनियम डिस्ट्रिक्ट सेंटर्स में भी बन सकते हैं। जब यह बात बढ़ने वाली है और हमारी शिक्षा और संस्कृति की दृष्टि से इसकी बहुत जरूरत है, तो सरे देश के लिए बिल लाना चाहिये था। जैसा कि मान्यवर महोदय, प्रोफेसर शर्मा जी ने कहा, खाली विद्यार्थियों के लिए ही नहीं लेकिन हमारे जैसे पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरों को भी ये म्यूजियम एक प्रकार से शिक्षा की चीज हो सकते हैं। हम भी उनसे मालूमात हासिल कर सकते हैं। जब हम बड़े बड़े म्यूजियम देखते हैं और उनमें आर्ट और साइंस की चीजें देखते हैं तो हमारे ज्ञान में भी वृद्धि होती है, यह बात मैं मानने के लिए तैयार हूँ।

[श्री यादव नारायण जाधव]

इसको अच्छे तरीके से बढ़ावा देंगे । इतना ही नहीं जो बात उन्होंने कही मैं भी उसका समर्थन करता हूँ और वह यह है कि म्यूजियम्स में जो हम गाइड्स रखते हैं वे कुशल और अच्छे गाइड्स होने चाहिए जो कि अपने कर्तव्य को योग्यतापूर्वक निवाह सकें और उनको म्युजलीजी का शिक्षण देने का समुचित प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये और इस तरह के शिक्षण की व्यवस्था मैं जरूरी समझता हूँ ।

अभी एक कम्युनिस्ट सदस्य और श्रीमती सुचेता कृपालानी ने यह बात कही कि अगर यह बिल अभी सदन के सामने इतनी देर से लाया जाता है । यह बिल जवाइएंट सेलेक्ट कमेटी के सामने आ जाता तो बहुत से लोगों को उसमें शरीक होने का मौका मिला होता और काफी लोग सामने आते । जो भी जूदा ट्रस्टीज हैं उनकी तरफ से भी एक शिकायत हो सकती है कि यह नया बिल सदन में पेश होने के पहले यदि उनके सामने जाता तो वे उसमें कुछ नई बातें सामने ला सकते थे ।

इस बिल में इस बात की व्यवस्था की जा रही है कि जो म्यूजियम के ट्रस्टीज होंगे उनमें से चार विश्वस्तों में से करीब ३, ४ विश्वस्तों को इस बात की इजाजत और छठ दी गई है कि अगर वह ट्रस्टीज की मीटिंग एटेंड करने में असमर्थ हो तो वह अपनी जगह किसी अपने प्रतिनिधि को उसमें भेज सकता है । दूसरे आदमियों का भेजा जाना यह बात मैं बिलकुल पसन्द नहीं करता । अगर हमें उसको ठीक और अच्छी लाइंस पर चलाना है तो ट्रस्टीज का सुद हर मीटिंग में रहना जरूरी होगा । ट्रस्टीज द्वारा अपना कोई प्रतिनिधि उन मीटिंगों में भेज देना उचित न होगा । जिन शस्त्रियों को हम बतौर विश्वस्तों के ट्रस्टीज के भेजना चाहते हैं और जिनमें से कि इन विश्वस्तों

की इज्जत बढ़ने वाली है अगर वे स्वयं उन मीटिंग्स में हिस्सा नहीं लेंगे और अपनी जगह कोई अपना प्रतिनिधि भेजेंगे तो यह बात अच्छी नहीं होगी । इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस इंडियन म्यूजियम (अमेंडमेंट) बिल में यह जो ट्रस्टीज द्वारा अपने प्रतिनिधि भेजे जाने का प्राविजन रखा गया है कि अगर वह हाजिर न हो सकें तो वे अपने प्रतिनिधि वहां भेज सकते हैं, इस प्राविजन को इस बिल में से निकाल दिया जाये ।

दूसरी बात सदन के सामने जो श्री दी० चं० शर्मा ने रखी कि पार्लियामेंट के कुछ सदस्य और कम से कम एक सदस्य हर इण्डियन म्यूजियम्स पर रहना चाहिए । तो मैं उनकी इस बात से किसी कदर सहमत हूँ । पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों को हर जगह पर अपना प्रतिनिधित्व मांगना चाहिए ऐसा मैं नहीं कहता हूँ । लेकिन यह बात जरूरी होगी क्योंकि हमारे देश में म्यूजियम्स बढ़ने वाले हैं अगर ऐसे लोगों को ऐसे पार्लियामेंट के सदस्यों को जिनको कि साइंस का इल्म है, आर्ट का इल्म है ऐसे लोग अगर उधर जायें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारे संग्रहालय होंगे म्यूजियम्स होंगे उनके सुधार में उनके द्वारा काफी मदद पढ़ूँच सकती है । इसलिये मैं अर्ज करूँगा कि ऐसे पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर्स जिनको कि जानकारी है, इल्म हासिल है ऐसे लोगों को अगर वहां पर प्रतिनिधित्व मिले तो मैं उसका जरूर स्वागत करूँगा ।

यह ट्रस्टीज की कम सदस्यों की जो मैरेंजि बौडी बनाई गई है मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ क्योंकि उसमें ज्यादा सदस्य होने से हमेशा तकलीफ होती है । कम्पैक्ट बौडी रहने से काम करने में सुविधा होती है ।

बोर्ड आफ ट्रस्टीज का एक्स ओफिशियो चेम्बरमें ३३ ड आफ दी स्टेट रहेगा यहां पर

वैस्ट बंगाल का गवर्नर उसका चेअरमैन होगा, ऐसा इस बिल में कहा गया है। सेकिन उस बोर्ड आफ ट्रस्टीज का सेकेटरी कौन रहेगा इसके बारे में कुछ यहां मालूमात नहीं दी गई है। इस के बारे में बिल में अगर कुछ कहा गया होता तो अच्छा होता ।

हिन्दुस्तान में अलग अलग स्थानों पर इडियन म्यूजियम्स बनने वाले हैं। दिल्ली में बनने वाला है, कलकत्ते में है, मद्रास में है और बम्बई में भी होना जरूरी है। इसलिए मैं समझता हूं कि यह जो एक पीसमील में कलकत्ते के लिए या, दिल्ली के लिए या बम्बई और मद्रास के लिये बिल बनेगा तो मैं समझता हूं कि यह अलग अलग बिल लाना गलत बात होगी। एक कम्पैक्ट ढांचा तैयार करके एक ऐसा बिल हमें सदन के सामने तैयार करके रखना। चाहिये जिससे भविष्य में जो अन्य बड़े बड़े म्यूजियम्स बनने वाले हैं उनके लिए भी यह बिल उपयोग में आ सके और उनको भी कवर कर सके। जो स्टेट्स या डिस्ट्रिक्ट म्यूजियम्स बनेंगे उनसे इसको रोशनी मिलनी है। इतना कह कर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं ।

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya (West Dinajpur): I appreciate the anxiety of the hon. Minister to make this Calcutta Museum a dynamic instrument for culture and progress. I also appreciate his anxiety to turn it into a full-scale National museum—'though I would not accept the latter qualification—for eastern region'. It is an Indian museum and let it remain an Indian museum and let it retain its all India character; let it not become an institution for eastern region only. I would feel myself hurt if the scope of the museum is limited in that way as stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons in the original Bill in the Rajya Sabha.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: The situation is in the eastern region.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: The situation has got to be somewhere in the Indian territory, in the west or east or south or north. But let us learn to pride ourselves in having institutions of all India character, in any part or corner of India. I feel that it would have been proper for the Minister to have consulted institutions interested in the museum, which has been built up by the care and anxiety of generations of people of culture and learning. The Asiatic Society is one of the constituents of the governing body. I believe that the Minister has already received the resolution that the council of the Asiatic Society. In that resolution, they say:

"The Indian Museum was brought into existence by the Asiatic Society and the great bulk of the collections of various sections and galleries of the Indian Museum is legally still the property of the society."

Therefore, that body should have been consulted. The Government of West Bengal is another constituent of the new body that is being formed. That body as well as the present Board of Trustees which has been running this institution so long should have been consulted when this Bill is introducing very radical and substantial changes in the constitution and working of the body (*Interruption*). At least, I believe, the request of the Asiatic Society to give it two representatives instead of one was provided in the present Bill should be acceded to. That is the least they deserve to have.

Regarding the other aspects of the Bill, though it is introduced in the name of an amendment there are certain changes so radical that I feel it almost amounts to a new Act. The hon. Minister has stated that a large number of these changes are formal, consequential, verbal and procedural. But the substantive changes that he has introduced are sufficient to give it

[**Shri C. K. Bhattacharya**]

a completely different character from what the Board and the institution is now.

One of these is the constitution of the Board and the second is the vesting of the power of control in the Central Government. Practically it means centralising the whole institution. And that is a radical change which is being introduced and which cannot be put into one of the other categories like formal, consequential, verbal or procedural.

Another change is contained in clause 12 of the Bill which introduced a new section 15A in the Act. In sub-clause (2) (d), of clause 12 it is said:

"(d) the conditions subject to which the Trustees may deliver possession of any property in their possession to any other person."

This introduces a completely new element in the Act which was never there. Why is this power being given to the trustees?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Has the hon. Member seen section 7(b), (c) and (d) of the original Act?

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: I shall be obliged if the hon. Minister kindly reads it for my benefit.

Shri Humayun Kabir: There it is said:

"Subject to the provisions of any bye-laws made in this behalf, the Trustees may, from time to time,—

- (a) deliver, by way of loan, to any person the whole or any portion of,.....
- (b) exchange or sell duplicates of articles contained in any such collection.....

(c) present duplicates of articles contained in any such collection to other museums in India; and

(d) remove and destroy any article contained in any such collection."

All the powers are there. There is nothing new.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: I see, Sir any way, the framers of the present Bill have chosen to deviate from the wordings of the relevant section in the present Act. I do not know why. It requires examination. There the powers of the trustees are definitely stated, but here it is a general power. It is said here: "The trustees may deliver possession of any property in their possession to any other person". This amounts to giving them a very general power of a sweeping character.

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is almost exactly the same.

14.24 hrs.

[**Mr. Deputy-Speaker** in the Chair]

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: I do not know whether it is exactly the same as in the original Act. That I may say after I compare the two and just set the wordings of one by the wordings of the other and find their meanings and implications.

Sir, I say this with one purpose. The Bill is coming in a background, it is not coming in a vacuum. Shri Gupta referred to some criticism in the Calcutta Press. He referred to some comments. Sometime before this, the hon. Minister must be knowing, there was a proposal to transfer this institution to Delhi and the trustees opposed that move. I had myself the opportunity to see one of the communications that went from the Government of India in the Education Department to the Trustees suggesting some such thing. Of

course, that has been abandoned. But the impression lives still in the minds of the people. It is in that background that this Bill has come, and the way changes have been introduced in its constitution rather, I should say, if the hon. Minister does not mind it, smacks distrust of the trustees. The suggestion for directives, the taking away from the trustees the authority to make rules, these do not taste well on the tongue. These should, rather, not have been made. This has created some concern about this particular Bill—changing the constitution, taking away the autonomy of the Board on the one hand and, on the other, to put it under official control from non-official control.

About non-official control I want to say one thing. There are five all-India institutions in Calcutta or near about, institutions of research and culture. They are the Indian Museum, the Victoria Memorial, the Zoological Survey, the Botanical Survey and the Asiatic Society. These are institutions which are centres of research and culture, and when we deal with them there should be some caution so that the tradition that they have built up might not be interfered with. Of these five institutions, the Indian Museum and the Asiatic Society were founded by non-official initiative. In fact, Bengal showed the way how non-official institutions of research and culture may be built up by private initiative, and I would request the hon. Minister to maintain the tradition that has been built up for so many years.

Coming to the Bill and its clauses, the hon. Minister has suggested a smaller body—11 members in place of 18. I would request him to note that out of these 11 people the Government of India has got 6—the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry concerned with matters relating to the Indian Museum, *ex-officio*: four persons to be nominated by the Central Government and the Accountant General. Practically they form the quorum. These 6

people who may be taken to represent the Government of India form the quorum. The quorum has been reduced to 6 and the six representatives of the Government of India form the quorum. So I may say that in the process of reducing the number of trustees the Government of India has come to get the majority in the Board of Trustees.

I should like to make an observation about the appointment of the Chairman. There has been a suggestion that the Chairman may be a non-official. That, Sir, is a very eminently reasonable suggestion. The hon. Minister has stated that he wants to bring this institution under the control and survey of the Parliament. I am perfectly one with him in this move. But when he puts the Governor of Bengal as the Chairman of the body he should be aware that he exposes the Governor as Chairman of the body to the criticism of Parliament. Would it be proper? The conduct of the Chairman may be open to criticism or may require criticism in the Board of Trustees, in the public and in Parliament. Would that be proper? I request him to consider whether these factors should not persuade him to put somebody else as the Chairman and not the Governor of West Bengal. In the British Museum, I might say, the Lord Chief Justice is the Chairman. If the Lord Chief Justice may be the Chairman of the British Museum, some such thing may be done in the case of the Indian Museum too. The Museum should be entirely in the hands of non-officials. Some hon. friend suggested Editors. I thank him for that suggestion and request the hon. Minister to accept it, though it has not come from me.

I have already referred to the Board of Trustees. Clause 9 says that the trustees may appoint such "officers and servants". The word "servants" does not read well; I wish that word could be changed. Between officers and servants there is a gap and that gap remains to be filled, and instead of putting the word

[C. K. Bhattacharya]

"servants" if the Minister agrees to change it to "officers and other employees" I would have been happy. I also suggest that the four persons to be nominated by the Central Government should be non-officials. If he accepts that amendment, the objection that I am taking to this Bill would be removed. That will perfectly fit in with the amendment which he has accepted in the Rajya Sabha—"one of whom to represent commerce and industry". If he agrees that the other three also should be non-officials much of the objection that has been raised against the Bill would be removed.

Then again about the directives to be issued to the trustees, I believe the Asiatic Society itself has made a suggestion. Would it not be proper to accept this suggestion? The suggestion of the Asiatic Society is:

"Provided if there be a difference of opinion between the Central Government and the Board of Trustees, whether the question is one of policy or not, it shall be referred to for decision by a serving or retired Judge of the Supreme Court."

That is the suggestion of the Asiatic Society which has been one of the constituents of this Board and to which he has given representation. These are certain suggestions that I want to make and I request him to note the concern that is existing in the minds of people about the officialisation of this body which has all along continued as a non-official institution. I would request him to do nothig which would freeze non-official initiative in setting up and conducting such bodies which add to the glory of our country.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal (Uluberia): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I would also like to express certain doubts which have already been expressed by Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani and Shri Gupta. The hon. Member has already expressed in the Rajya Sabha that he would later on bring

a comprehensive Bill. If he has got an intention to bring such a comprehensive Bill, what was the necessity of bringing a piecemeal legislation like this.

Now, Sir, there was an Expert Museum Survey Committee. They recommended that the National Museum should be a multi-purpose museum; they also suggested the development of Victoria Memorial Halls as a Modern History Museum and the Indian Museum as a National History Museum. Of course, the Victoria Memorial Hall has now been turned into a dumping ground of all statues of Calcutta. Government are now trying to reduce the powers of the present Board of Trustees, who, in spite of certain minor defects are very much interested in developing the institution.

The main apprehension of all the speakers, including myself, is this, whether the motive of the Government is to officialise the main functions and policy of the Museum. The Expert Museum Survey Committee said:

"The administration must be progressive, flexible and free from too much red-tapism. For this purpose it will be effective to place the museums under governing bodies with members specially chosen for their interest and experience in museums."

If this is the standard of selecting the members of the Governing body, is the Board of Trustees which is going to be set up under this Bill; sufficiently dynamic to carry on the progressive and flexible lines free from red-tapism. Many previous speakers have referred to the gifts from the Royal Asiatic Society; the Art Section and a substantial portion of the industrial section belonged to the West Bengal Government. But neither the Asiatic Society, nor the West Bengal Government have been

consulted on this matter before bringing this Bill before the House. This raises suspicion in the minds of all concerned as to whether there is any motive on the part of Government behind this Bill. Now a days many offices and institutions functioning in West Bengal are being shifted elsewhere. Even the head offices or commercial undertakings which are located in West Bengal are being shifted to other paces. This has created apprehension in the mind of the people. In most of the dailies in West Bengal this has been badly commented. They apprehend that there is some motive in Government bringing forward this Bill.

As regards the composition, I quite agree with the suggestion made by Shri Indrajit Gupta. This composition cannot work for a specialised institution like this. The four persons who have been deleted and on the basis of which Government are telling this House that they have reduced the official element from the body, should be included in this Board in order to get the benefit of their advice to the institution. Therefore, I would like to submit that the present composition should also be changed as has already been suggested by some previous speakers.

Then, the hon. Minister has already stated in his opening speech that due to dual control and due to unplanned manner in which it was being run, it was necessary to take up the administration and to introduce this Bill in Parliament. From our personal experience, I can say this. The year before last, when the Public Accounts Committee visited the museum, the trustees complained against the Government of India that the Government were not willing to give any amount for purchasing art items and whatever had been given was spent on establishment and building puroses. The complaint was that enough money was not given to purchase art antiquities. Naturally they requested the Public Accounts Com-

mittee to put some pressure on the Government so that the Government may grant them some money for purchasing art items.

There are some people working there as guides and attendants, and gallery keepers. They should be trained for the particular job which they are doing. They should be qualified persons. There are some qualified persons but their number is very low, and it is impossible for the museum authorities now to appoint qualified persons as guides and gallery keepers for financial reasons. For that reason, the Government instead of bringing in this Bill, should have taken into consideration the improvement aspects of running the administration in respect of this museum and also the grant of adequate money to the museums and guidance to the trustees for developing the administration of the museum. I would like to request the hon. Minister not to take too much power in their hands while other institutions of a similar nature are being given more power and their governing bodies are given more powers to run as autonomous bodies.

In the composition of the governing body, I find that four person are to be nominated by the Central Government. I suggest that these persons should have experience in archaeology or should belong to the scientific personnel. Who will be these four persons who will be nominated? Some conditions regarding qualifications for these persons should be stipulated. Then we will be able to restrict the coming in of all shorts of officials by way of nomination by Government.

With these words, I would request the hon. Minister to see whether the Bill can be amended in a better way and can be brought after consulting the committees which have given representations and have made complaints for not being consulted. I would also request the hon. Minister to consider the reduction of official control over this institution.

Dr. Samantsinhar: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Minister for having come forward with this Bill and I also welcome the Bill. Of course, there are some things which should have been considered a little earlier, but in spite of that, I do not think the Bill deserves the criticism which some hon. Members have been pleased to make. Some hon. Members described the Trustees of the museum to be an autonomous body and that the Government are interfering too much through the provisions of the Bill. This is not an autonomous body. It is managed by a board of trustees. Trustee means, some property is kept under him and that property naturally and truly belongs to the nation, that is, the Government of India, and on behalf of the Government of India, it is only the board of trustees that will have to look after the property according to the directions of the Government of India for the nation.

While making these remarks, I may also draw your kind attention to the Statement of Objects and Reasons given in the Bill, wherein it is stated that it is proposed to step up the pace of development of the museum and make it a full-scale national museum for the eastern region of India. So, it is a museum for the eastern region of the country. If I may trace the history a little, this museum first belonged to the then Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal. The original Act was passed in 1910 when Bengal meant also the present East Pakistan and the provinces of Orissa and Bihar. So, Asiatic Society then meant a body covering all those provinces. Prior to that, that is, in 1905, Assam also was a part of Bengal. So, this is not a museum of West Bengal alone. It is a museum, as has been mentioned, of the eastern region. Therefore, while forming the board of trustees, I am sorry that the hon. Minister has not considered this aspect of the matter.

According to the provisions of the Bill, there will be 11 members on the board of trustees. Out of these 11 members, five will be from the Government of India; that is, one will be the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry concerned and four will be nominated by the Central Government. There will be five from West Bengal Government. So, the museum will be controlled equally by the Government of West Bengal and the Ministry here, and only one would be the representative of the Council of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta. When the hon. Minister says that it is a museum for the eastern region, it will be better that the eastern region is also represented in the board of trustees. He has not done that. Therefore, I would request the Minister to consider the suggestion that at least some vice-chancellors of the universities in the eastern region should become members in the board of trustees. Of course there are many universities now. At least the Vice-Chancellors of the universities of Calcutta, Patna, Gauhati and Utkal should be included in the Board of Trustees, because while having the Board in this way, he has not changed the old pattern. I say this because then there was only one university, viz., the Calcutta University, in the eastern region and no other. So, its Vice-Chancellor was there in the Board. Now there are many universities in the eastern region and so the Vice-Chancellors of those Universities should be included in the Board. This will also add to the non-official strength of the Board, because in this 11-man Board, there is the Mayor of Calcutta who can be considered to be a non-official and there is the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University. If the strength of the Board is increased according to my amendment, the proportion of non-official members would be more. The present position of its being full of officials would go.

There is a provision that regular members can be represented by their representatives. So, there would be

no difficulty if the members from outside Calcutta are not able to come; they can also send their representatives. In the rules, there must be a provision that those members who are absent from three consecutive meetings should be deleted from the committee and new members should be appointed in their places.

I request the hon. Minister kindly to consider the suggestions I have made, and bring in the necessary amendments.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nabadwip): With the objects of the Bill, I am in complete accord, because we all want the institution to improve. But how is it being brought about? That is the point to which I would like to draw the attention of the Minister.

The Calcutta Museum as situated in Calcutta is quite rightly taken to belong not only to Calcutta or Bengal, but to India as a whole. The treasures are there available for all people to be proud of, to enjoy and to learn from. But there has been a Board of Trustees who have been a sort of guardian and looked after this institution for years. Naturally they feel they have performed their duties and there has not been any great criticism to make about this august body, represented by men of eminence and men of letters.

The members of the Board of Trustees feel they have been left out while this Bill has been brought forward. There might have been private consultation here and there through some letters, but it is true that the Minister has not called a meeting and ascertained their views. I do not think this has been done. Otherwise, there is no reason why they should feel they have been left out in the cold!

It is also true that this Bill has not been brought in a vacuum, so to speak, because there has been an apprehension that some parts of the museum might be shifted. I am very happy that the Minister has given the

assurance time and again. Even here he said so and in the Rajya Sabha also he has said there is not fear about that. Even as far back as 1954. If I remember aright, there was some question like this and the Deputy Minister—he was, I think, parliamentary Secretary then—went and had lengthy consultations about it. There was this apprehension that something might be shifted. However, it was abandoned; thank God!

There is one thing I would like to point out to the Minister, though it becomes repetitive. If it is the opinion of all sections of the House, it has to be repetitive. I feel it would be better if more time is taken to pass this Bill, because there are clauses in it which do not really find favour with many. There are six Central Government people on the Board and the quorum also is six! In what way do the Board of Trustees have any say? Supposing just those six people are present and you pass something. You have taken unto yourself the right to dictate policies. It becomes rather difficult if policies are decided without the unanimous consent of the Board.

I think the Minister did write to the Chief Minister of West Bengal on 28th August that this amendment to the Bill will be made to clause 15A(1) by adding the words "by unanimous decision". But this amendment was not made when the Bill was taken to the Rajya Sabha. Dr. B. C. Roy, I think, pointed this out. Even though this is put in clause 15A, what about clause 12A? It is not contained in that clause. That is rather dangerous. Why should not "in consultation with the Board of Trustees" or "with the unanimous decision of the Board of Trustees" be embodied in clause 12A also?

There are other institutes which are considered to be of national importance. They have their rights and their internal autonomy is safeguarded by various clauses. But this institute does not seem to have any safeguarding clauses for its internal autonomy.

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri]

On the top of that, they have no power to co-opt!. In an institution like his, there must be power to co-opt, because by and large you have eliminated people who, as the hon. Member opposite, Shri Indrajit Gupta said, are specialists in their own line like the Director of Geological Survey or the Director-General of Archaeology. About museums, who is more competent than the Director-General of Archaeology? Certainly not the Secretary of the Government of India.

I feel a museum should not be judged by how much money it is spending, whether all the money is being utilised, etc. Of course that must be looked into, but surely a member from the Commerce and Industry Ministry has no very high place, whereas a co-opted member who may be very vitally interested in museology as such and who may be a connoisseur of art, should have a greater place, because that forms the backbone of any museum. It is such people who will conduct and formulate the programmes and the lectures that are going to attract thousands of people and also benefit the students.

So, I think this Bill should really have more time to be considered by people who are actually vitally interested like the Asiatic Society who were the nucleus-forming body and the Government School of Art. The Asiatic Society gave their collections to the Indian Museum because they could not find suitable premises to keep them. They should be consulted more fully. Also, the words "in consultation with the Board of Trustees" or "with the unanimous consent of the Board of Trustees" should be included in clause 12A and if possible the Bill be put aside for a time so that there may be fuller consultations. Perhaps it will make people feel that they are consulted and the feeling of apprehension will be allayed. I personally feel that this particular provision that six members or nominees of the Central Government will be

there on the board and six constitutes the quorum a very dangerous provision. If anything is to be taken out, I think that should be taken out first. Because, these institutions form a very vital part in the life of the nation and contribute largely to the atmosphere of the place where they are situated.

I agree with my hon. friend that Vice-Chancellors of various Universities should be co-opted to the Board. The eastern region comprises Assam, West Bengal and Orissa. So the Vice-Chancellors of universities of those States should be co-opted or at least their opinion should be taken. Also, if there is delegation of power, if somebody cannot attend a meeting he can delegate somebody. Otherwise, if a member cannot attend three meetings consecutively, he will automatically be removed from the board of trustees this should be in the Bill. So, there, must be power at least to co-opt people for the time being who will be of real service to the cause of culture, well being and education of the nation, which is the first work that a museum is supposed to do to enthuse and educate the people. I hope the hon. Minister will consider all these aspects.

15 hrs.

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur): The idea of a museum is associated with some bad ideas and some good ideas. When we think of something like a fossil or when we want to put something into cold storage, we call it a museum piece. That is a bad aspect. It is also associated with good ideas; when we wish to preserve something for ever or for a pretty long time because we have affection for it, that is also associated with the idea of museum. Unfortunately, the present Bill has more of the bad concept, bad ideas of museum, than the good ones.

I will illustrate it. The original Act contained some very respectable

persons in the board of trustees, people like Director General of Archaeology, the Superintendent, Archaeological Section of the Museum, the officer-in-charge of the Industrial Section of the Museum, the Director of the Geological Survey of India and so on, who were specialists in some branch or other, who were expected to take some keen interest, specialised interest in the functioning of the museum in a proper manner. Now we have removed them. In the present Bill we have introduced persons who may or may not take so much interest. At least, they cannot take specialised interest in the government of the museum as such.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Who would be the persons that Government would nominate?

Shri Supakar: That is not mentioned in the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would Government not take in to consideration all those specialists or persons who have special knowledge of the subject?

Shri Supakar: But they could be mentioned. My point is that no name has been mentioned and Government have simply taken the power to nominate whom they please.

Shri Narasimhan: That class of people could have been mentioned.

Shri Supakar: We find it included in the list the name of the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministry concerned with matters relating to museum. But the Secretary, as we know, has several functions to discharge in New Delhi and also in other States. He has to look after the museums in all the States. I do not know whether he will have sufficient time to look into the affairs of all the museums.

Shri Kalika Singh (Azamgarh): To say that these persons have been removed from the board, that gives a wrong impression.

Shri Supakar: What we find is that though these persons were included in the board of trustees under the old Act they are not there under the present Bill. Therefore, what my hon. friend has just now said is absolutely incorrect. If my hon. friend goes through the Bill he will find that their names have not been mentioned in the Bill.

Now they have mentioned the Mayor of the Corporation of Calcutta. The Mayor is a busy person. So, also the Accountant-General, West Bengal and others. Government should have taken special care to see that persons who are really interested in the affairs of the museum are included in the board.

The most prenicious thing in the constitution of the board of trustees is that they are supposed to be represented by proxies. Categories (b), (c), (d) and (e) need not attend personally. They can send their representatives.

Then, Government, like Rip Van Winkle, do not seem to be aware of the present needs of the country, so far as the development of museums are concerned. They look at it from the standpoint of the position prevailing in 1910 and not what it prevails in 1960. There is a lot of difference between the condition that prevailed in the year 1910 and the condition that prevails now in the year 1960. In 1910 India was not a developed country; India was under the British rule. Now we have become independent. We propose to develop tourism to a large extent and we find that a lot of tourists from all parts of the world are coming to India and they are travelling through the length and breadth of India.

Then, there are reports that important articles are being removed from places of national archaeological interest. Government should have given thought to all those problems that have cropped up during the last five decades in an intensive

[Shri Supakar]

manner and they should have seen not only to the better administration of the Indian Museum but also to the administration of other museums that have cropped up during the last five decades in the different States of India and they should have come up with a more comprehensive and more exhaustive Bill to cover all the museums in the country.

Whatever the Minister might have said, in the present Bill we find there is too much of officialdom in the administration of the board of trustees, and we know that red-tapism is the usual concomitant of official control. If we bring this redtapism into the Museum, I think things may not improve.

My hon. friend, Dr. Samantsinhar, suggested the inclusion of the Vice-Chancellors of Patna, Utkal and Gauhati Universities in the Board of Trustees of the Indian Museum. In 1910 Bengal also consisted of areas which are now the Bihar and Orissa States. There are also collections from Assam probably. When we revise the Act and give it a new shape in the year 1960, I think, some representatives from the neighbouring States should be included. If this Bill is to deserve the name Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill and as the hon. Minister made the statement when he introduced the Bill that this is to cater to the needs of the eastern zone, it should have representatives of the neighbouring States also along with West Bengal. Probably the Vice-Chancellors may or may not be sufficiently interested. But, I think, the hon. Minister may include the Superintendents of the Patna Museum, which is a fairly big museum, and of the Orissa Museum at Bhubaneshwar. They can make valuable contribution to the proper administration and looking after of the Museum.

So, I feel that this Bill, as it has been brought before the House, is not very satisfactory. If the House passes it today, Government should

lose no time in bringing another comprehensive Bill to cover all the museums in India and also to see the administration of the Indian Museum at Calcutta is carried on by a Board of Trustees which has a greater non-official and specialist element in it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Originally two hours had been allotted for discussion of this Bill during the last session. We had to complete all the stages by three o'clock. That was the decision of the House and unless the House takes another decision we cannot go on with it.

Shri Supakar: The House may agree to extend the time.

Shri Narasimhan: Time may be extended.

An hon. Member: It is an important measure.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Time may be extended up to 5 P.M.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, I beg to move:

That the time allotted by the House on the 3rd September, 1960 vide, the fifty-fifty Report of the Business Advisory Committee) for consideration and passing of the Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill, 1960 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be increased from two hours to four hours.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the time allotted by the House on the 3rd September, 1960 (vide Fifty-fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee) for consideration and passing of the Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill, 1960 as passed by Rajya Sabha, be increased from two hours to four hours."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this measure. While doing so I would like to make some general observations with regard to the importance of museums in our national life.

A museum is an institution which is both cultural and educational. It is an institution which is taken advantage of by the most ignorant people as well as by the most wise. It is utilised both for the purpose of entertainment and for educational and scientific research. Therefore, although I am aware that the hon. Minister is doing all that is possible for the development of museums in all parts of the country, I would like to request him that a national policy and a national programme should be laid down for the development and maintenance of museums at different levels.

There are museums of national importance. A National Museum is going to be started in Delhi. Other museums are of State importance. But I would like to say that in a country like India where the population is so large and the distance from one place to another is such that poor people residing in villages cannot take advantage of the opportunities provided by these national bodies, it is necessary that there should be museums of regional as well as of State importance. Not only that, I would request the hon. Minister to see that every educational institution from the village level to the level of Capital is provided with a small museum. Therefore I would suggest that a national fund should be created at the Centre so that local initiative, initiative taken by individuals or by institutions is encouraged. If certain people who have collected important things of art and culture during their lives want to dedicate those things for the use of the public and if there is some such fund, with the aid of that fund such individuals may be encouraged to start

such institutions in various parts of the country.

As far as our educational institutions are concerned they are lacking in equipment. Although the number of educational institutions is increasing day by day, their equipment is very poor. For the education of the children and also to educate them in things of historical importance and to make them at least inquisitive, it is very necessary that every school and library is provided with a small museum. That can be done only with the help of the State. I know that the State cannot do everything, but if local initiative is taken that initiative should be encouraged.

In our district town one generous person came forward with the collection that he had made during his life. He dedicated all those things and wanted to establish a museum. The hon. Minister had gone there and was very much pleased to see that. Then a sufficient amount had been given for the encouragement and establishment of the institution at the district headquarters. I am very grateful to him for that. Therefore I would like to suggest that there should be a fund so that it may be possible for local people to initiate schemes with the aid of the Central as well as the State Government and there may be museums at least at the district headquarters.

It has been stated in the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill that was introduced in the Rajya Sabha that this Museum at Calcutta is of national importance. There is no doubt about it. Before the establishment of the National Museum in Delhi, this institution was of national importance. This national importance should not be reduced now. But at the same time I would say that in a country like India there should be national institutions of this kind at various important centres, not only on a regional basis but in some of important towns in each State. I have been told that it is the policy of

[Shri Shree Narayan Das]

the Government to have such museums on a regional basis and this is one of them. Although it is of national importance, it is generally to be used by people residing in that region. It is of importance to the States that comprise the eastern zone and they should be given representation on the Board. According to a provision in the Bill the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Calcutta is going to be a Trustee here. Some hon. friends have suggested that Vice-Chancellors of other Universities should also be given a place. So many hon. Members have said that those persons who have been given a place here may not be able to find time to attend the meetings and may not take active interest in it. Therefore there is going to be a provision that nominees should be allowed to represent them in order that there may be a meeting. I think that is defective. Efforts should be made, and I think the Government in the eastern zone should have power to nominate experts or persons of special knowledge or such other persons that might take interest in it. If you just nominate Vice-Chancellors and others on the board of trustees they will not find time or take active interest in it. That will not help the development of the museum. These powers should be given to the Government to find out persons, who may be non-officials or officials, who may be experts in archaeology or museum affairs, and they should be nominated. Therefore the composition of the board of trustees, as has been provided here, seems to be inadequate; rather it may prove in the end to be defective and perhaps an amending Bill will become necessary in the future.

Therefore, I would suggest that the four persons to be nominated by the Central Government, under sub-clause (f), may be either officials or non-officials—because in the administration of these bodies it is a question of cultural, scientific and educational knowledge and background and such persons might be both official and non-official persons—but the qualifying

clause should be that it should be those who are experts or who possess special knowledge with regard to museums. If that is provided, it will be good.

Then, with regard to representation of the Government of India in the capacity of the Secretary of the Ministry concerned, that is for financial reasons and that is necessary. I support it. But, I do not know, in another sub-clause, sub-clause (f), representation from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Ministry is also being provided. I think it will be better if we confine it to experts in whatever capacity it may be. It should not be that the Ministry should be represented, but if such a person is found to be there he may be nominated to the board in his individual capacity, but not by the Ministry. So the composition of this board of trustees is not quite suitable.

The second point is this. Certain hon. Members have objected saying that Government will have the power of issuing directives. Shri C. K. Bhattacharya claimed that this institution is of national importance. I would like to submit that every autonomous body which is formed and which has to spend money allotted to it by Government has got a provision like this. Because, the board of trustees does not concern itself with the policy matters but with the administrative matters. There should be no interference by Government in those administrative matters. But as regards matters of policy I think every institution of national importance should provide for these powers of issuing directives by Government, so that a policy matter may be controlled and regulated by the national body. Now, Government works on behalf of Parliament. Therefore, Parliament should also have the power to issue, through Government, certain directives to be observed by the administrators of such institutions. Therefore, the objection that has been taken is, I think, not a valid objection and should not be there.

I am sorry I was not present in the House when the hon. Minister moved

this motion for consideration. But I would like to know whether this institution has been able, and if so to what extent, to collect some finance for the administration of this museum. One source of income is the contribution from Government grants. What are the other sources of income? I would like to know what the administrators, the board of trustees, who were administering this institution have done, what were their activities. As a whole or as individual members, did they take any interest in this matter? I am not quite conversant with the administration of this institution. I would like to know the present finances of this body and to what extent Government is going to contribute towards its development, as it has been stated that this institution is of regional importance.

15.24 hrs.

[SHRI JAGANATHA RAO in the Chair]

Then, my hon. friend Shri D. C. Sharma suggested that Members of Parliament should also be given a place in the composition of this body. Although in a body like this here it is of national importance we have made such a provision, since this institution is going to be of regional importance I see no necessity for representation of Members of Parliament being provided them. May be a Member may be an expert in this subject. If that is so, in that capacity he may be nominated by the Government. But as Members of Parliament I think there is no necessity to allot a place for them there, because I think they will not be able to contribute to an appreciable extent.

Therefore I would not support that suggestion.

With these words I support the Bill.

Shri Kalika Singh: Sir, the Indian Museum Act was first passed in 1876. At that time there were no State Governments, and therefore it was a Central Museum, established at Calcutta. The intention of the British Government then was to reduce the

status of that museum from an Asiatic Museum to an Indian Museum. Because, before 1857 the British Government were not sure where they were going to establish their region in Asia—in India, or in some other parts of Asia. The British people having their nucleus in Calcutta established the Asiatic Society. They were issuing a Journal of the Asiatic Society. It was only after 1857 that the British people knew that they had to confine their activities to India. Therefore after 1857 they took the first opportunity, in 1876 to pass the Indian Museum Act and to reduce the status of this Asiatic Museum to an Indian Museum.

After 1876, when in 1911 the capital of India was transferred from Calcutta to Delhi, just before that, in 1910 this Indian Museum Act was passed. I think the idea then was to ensure that this museum was not transferred from Calcutta to Delhi. Therefore, they constituted a board of trustees under that Act, and they made that board strong enough to make rules for its own governance. Therefore, that board of trustees was represented by persons who could look to the interests of Calcutta also and at the same time be of an all-India character.

But I find that in the present amendment a great change has been introduced. In the 1910 Act, while constituting the board, they put in 13 persons of an all-India character out of 18 persons who constituted the board. Those 13 persons are, the Director, Geological Survey of India, the Director, Zoological Survey of India, the Director General of Archaeology, the Superintendent of the Archaeological Section of the Museum, the Officer in charge of the Industrial Section of the Museum, four other persons to be nominated by the Central Government, one other person to be nominated by the Council of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, and three other persons to be nominated by the Trustees—I take these three persons also to be of all-India character, because then the persons who were represented on that body on an all-India basis were the persons in a

[**Shri Kalika Singh]**

majority. Therefore, out of 18 persons thirteen were those who were represented there on an all-India basis. Now, in the present Bill, the Board is constituted of 11 members. Out of those 11 members, six are from Bengal and five are represented on an all-India basis. The six persons who are from Bengal are very formidable. Previously, the persons who were from that region were, Accountant General, Bengal, Principal, Government School of Art, Calcutta, one person to be nominated by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, one person nominated by the British Indian Association, Calcutta, one person nominated by the Calcutta University. These were persons who did not have so much of a strong voice against those persons representing the Government of India. But, now, the six from Bengal are very formidable. The first is the Governor of West Bengal himself. Second is the Mayor of Calcutta Corporation. The third is the Vice Chancellor of the Calcutta University. Then, Accountant General West Bengal and one person to be nominated by the Government of West Bengal, and one to be nominated by the Council of the Asiatic Society, Calcutta.

Shri Humayun Kabir: The Accountant General is an all-India figure.

Shri Kalika Singh: Out of the 11 persons, six are now associated with that region.

I take it that this museum is now being reduced from an Indian status to a regional status. Previously, it was reduced from an Asiatic status to the Indian status. It is stated that it belongs to that region and therefore, this sentence has come in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. That is not a fact. The sentence runs like this:

"Subject to the availability of funds, it is proposed to step up the pace of development of the museum and make it a full scale

national museum for the eastern region of India."

If it is the intention to establish a museum for the western region, one for the northern region and one for the southern region, and also one Central museum at Delhi, it is quite all right. Such Boards should be constituted throughout India but on a rational basis. This word 'regional' should not have crept in here. It is a very unfortunate word. Considering, for example, the language policy, we find the word 'regional' nowhere in the Constitution.

Shri Narasimhan: What about Zonal?

Shri Kalika Singh: All the fourteen languages in the Schedule are considered to be national languages. The word 'regional' is not there. Wherever we go, we find people are under the wrong impression that these are regional languages. Here, for the first time, instead of saying national museum, the word 'regional' has been introduced in the Act itself. The regional nature of things we should now avoid because, it creates a wrong impression. If it had been stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that since we were going to establish 4 or 5 other museums in other regions, it was proposed to make it a regional museum, then in that case, it was quite all right. But to make it an all-India museum and at the same time to say that it is for the eastern region is something contradictory.

I support clause 12A. That is very important. That gives a very big power to the Central Government. Previously that power was not given to the Central Government. I think that was for some good reason. The good reason was that the Board was really a Central Board and it was not a regional Board. Therefore, that Board used to have all the powers. That Board had the rule-making power also. Now, when the Board is being constituted on a regional basis,

I think it is quite right. If it is a Central museum, the Government of India must be vested with powers to make rules and to issue directions which should be binding on that Board. Under the 1910 Act, the Central Government had no power to issue any direction or any order which could be binding on that Board. There, the only provision was under section 10(1) that the Trustees shall furnish on the first day of December, each year, to the Central Government a report of their proceedings and to such Auditor as the Central Government appoints in this behalf the accounts, etc., and the trustees shall cause the reports and accounts to be published for general information. The Government of India was only the repository of the documents sent by the Board of Trustees. It could not pass any orders after pursuing that report. Now, section 12A has been added. That is a very good provision. Section 12A says:

"In the discharge of their functions under this Act, the Trustees shall be bound by such directions on questions of policy as the Central Government may give to them from time to time."

This is as it ought to be. This is a Central museum and a national museum. In that case, it is a very good provision. The Central Government must possess all the powers of issuing directions and even, I think, it should have the power to dissolve that Board. I am ready to grant that power to the Central Government.

Then, under clause 15A, the Central Government may, in consultation with the Trustees, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act. This also gives power to the Central Government. Previously, the Board had the power to make rules and bye-laws to carry on the administration.

There are two reasons why this new Bill has been brought forward. First, to step up the pace of development and to make it a regional institution. To the first part, I object. Second part

is to re-organise and improve the administrative efficiency by introducing certain changes in the Act. To that part, I quite agree. Whatever new changes are introduced in the new Act are quite good.

An hon. Member said that the Government of India should establish museums throughout the country. In India, a large part of the population is practically illiterate. For such a country, a museum is the best medium of education. If we have museums attached to all the Universities, all the educational institutions, in all the States, in all the districts, everywhere, small and big—a chain of museums throughout the country—that would be a very good policy. It will really be a medium of education for the whole of India and that should be welcome.

Dr. M. S. Aney: Sir, I welcome this Bill because it comes at a time when the Government of India, as it is constituted at present, is committed to a policy in which cultural progress and cultural activities play a very prominent part. My friend says, it should be. I say, it ought to be. Our negligence of that aspect of our life is one of the great defects from which we have been suffering. Some of the present disabilities of the people of India are due to the fact that this important factor of cultural life had practically gone unheeded, unnoticed by the Government of India then existing. Even in those days, there were people who were thinking of at least a nucleus of an institution which will contribute to the cultural progress of this country and the institution with which we are dealing today is one of those institutions which were started with an object like that. During British days, in spite of their imperialistic and autocratic rule, there used to be some persons who had a broader mind, who used to act with laudable motives. Institutions like the Royal Asiatic Society had come into existence not because of the imperialists but because of such persons who had a broad outlook on humanity, who wanted every country with which they came into contact to develop.

[Dr. M. S. Aney]

When I was a student the idea of a museum was that it was a collection of curios. People used to go and pass some time there just to see things unusual which you do not see in life outside. The museum was not treated as an institution of education, an institution giving incentive to the people for scientific and cultural progress. But now, in view of the fact that we have taken to a very broad programme as our idea, it is necessary that this institution which had come in in an informal way in those days should be developed on proper lines. From that point of view, I think the step that is being taken today by introducing this Bill is a very important one, and so I welcome it.

The Calcutta Museum is really a national museum, but they are thinking of giving it the shape of a regional museum under this Bill. If that is the idea, the Calcutta people will really feel hurt. I am one of those who do not mind where an institution is located in India. If it serves a national purpose, we shall call it a national institution. Because the capital is in Delhi, it is not necessary that every national institution should be in Delhi. In fact, real democracy requires decentralisation in many ways, and if it is essential in any direction, it is in the direction of cultural progress, connected directly with the wishes of the people and their aspirations. It is the people who can give it a proper direction. So, there is nothing wrong in having a national institution in a place like Calcutta; we should welcome it. It is an old institution, and it has now to be developed to cope with our present requirements. From that point of view, the observations made in the Statement of Objects and Reasons are, to some extent, misplaced. That is all that I can say. The idea of regional institutions may be good; you may start them where you want, but let not this institution which has been existing to demonstrate our idea of a national institution so long be looked upon hereafter as a regional institution by any part of India. It

should be so developed as to keep the old reputation and its old prestige also.

The title of the Bill is The Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill.

Shri Narasimhan: Museum is amended!

Dr. M. S. Aney: I think care should be taken to see that this idea of the institution being a national one is properly represented in the title itself.

About the board of trustees, so many hon. Members have made observations. The number of persons has been reduced, but there is a proviso in Clause 2 that if any of the trustees referred to in clauses (b), (c), (d) and (e) is unable to attend any meeting of the trustees, he may, with the previous approval of the Chairman, authorise a person in writing to do so. This is very ambiguous in my opinion. In the first place, I want to know if that person is required to authorise somebody who is already a trustee or not. If this only gives the power of proxy, there is some meaning constitutionally, though personally I do not like the idea of proxy at all, but if it enables the man to authorise anybody who is not a trustee at all, you are introducing a dangerous element. The six officials may meet, induce some three or four friends to remain absent, and get in their place those whom they want. A mischief like that can be played at times. You must try to ensure that there is provision against such a dangerous possibility.

I am glad that this board was an autonomous body till now. Now it is not going to be entirely autonomous, but you have kept it under your control by certain provisions under Clause 10 where you have stated that in the discharge of their functions, the trustees shall be bound by such directions on questions of policy as the Central Government may give them from time to time. They only exercise the limited powers that you have given them,

but the board of trustees are not exactly on the same footing as certain autonomous corporations which you have created. I do not quarrel with this provision because this being a national museum, after the pattern of which other museums will be created, there ought to be a co-ordinating body. The provision enabling the Central Government to keep the ultimate decision in its own hands is therefore important, but does the Central Government consider itself competent to exercise the functions and powers that are to be exercised for purposes of giving a proper national direction to these bodies? For that purpose they may have a board of experts to advise them.

Shri Narasimhan: A Director-General or something like that.

Dr. M. S. Aney: They will take a decision and that will be binding upon the trustees. That will help you in two ways. The power will be exercised in giving proper direction, and secondly, it will co-ordinate the policies to be followed by the various museums, so that cultural progress is expedited.

The board of trustees has been given the power of making recruitment and appointment of persons. This is a departure from the usual policy followed by the Government in the case of these autonomous institutions. The appointments will be of two kinds. Some will be of an administrative nature, and some will be of a technical nature. I do not know whether the board of trustees that you are constituting will be competent enough to make a proper selection of men for both these kinds of appointments. I want the Select Committee to consider this point very carefully.....

Shri Narasimhan: It is not being referred to a Select Committee. It was only a plea made by some hon. Members.

Dr. M. S. Aney: I am sorry. I hope the House will consider this point carefully when the clause-by-clause discuss-

sion is taken up. Some provision should be made to ensure that the body which makes the selection has got competent men on it for making proper selection of persons for the functions which are expected to be performed by them.

With these remarks, I congratulate the hon. Minister on having brought forward this Bill, and I hope that the board of trustees that will come into existence will administer it in the same spirit with which my hon. friend the Mover has been actuated in bringing forward this measure before this House.

Shri Narasimhan: It is quite patent that the hon. Minister has not succeeded in enthusing the House in favour of the Bill. On the other hand, hon. Members have criticised this Bill rather drastically. I think in fairness to the House he should really reconsider whether it is more desirable or not to bring forward another Bill in a better form, which will be more universally acceptable. No doubt, such a thing is rare, but that can be done. The whole House has examined the Bill in its various aspects and found several types of defects, and, therefore, it is not unreasonable on our part to expect that the hon. Minister would respond to the generous sentiments expressed here.

The subject of museology, like all other scientific subjects is becoming a very complicated one. It is not as if the subject of museology and museums in India have not been studied by experts in this country. One important fact which the House has not so far been able to realise, for want of sufficient data here is that the subject of museology has been studied by various experts. The Government of India themselves had called some experts from the UNESCO, and some experts from the British Museum Association; and a committee was also constituted in India for an examination of the conditions and methods of improving the efficiency of this museum. Those reports have been made available, and some of them are in the Library of

[Shri Narasimhan]

Parliament. They are of a very revealing character.

As for the Bill itself, from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, we find that the object is to reorganise, improve the defects and arrange proper development on modern scientific lines and the like. But from the introductory speech of the hon. Minister, we have not been able to understand what the defects were and what the remedies were, and how they are going to be remedied by this Bill. This Bill, as compared with the Act which it seeks to amend, appears to be just the same. The original Act and this Bill are nothing but Tweedledum and Tweedledee. There are ten members there, and there are nine here.

I was referring to the report of some of the committee appointed by the Government of India for examining the work of this museum. One of them consisted of Mr. S. F. Markham, Empire Secretary, Museum Association, and Mr. H. Hargreaves, Director-General, Archaeological Survey of India. They have submitted a huge report which is available in the Parliament Library. It makes very interesting reading. Criticising the parent Act, they have said something which applies even to this Bill in spite of the amendment that is proposed. They had stated:

"Trustees are there powerful in name but powerless in action."

They have also stated:

"To put it briefly, it would seem as if the Act governing this Museum, and its bye-laws, have been devised to create a number of trustees with no powers, a series of officials with no supervision, officials with little time to give to their duties, and immense opportunities for procrastination."

This is the kind of comment which has been made by Mr. S. F. Markham and Mr. H. Hargreaves.

Shri Humayun Kabir: In which year?

Shri Narasimhan: In 1936. Twenty years or more have passed, and the hon. Minister thinks as if things have changed, and this is out of date. In their report, they had referred to the organisation of trustees, which it is being proposed to change only now. I think the original Act was passed in 1910.

The Deputy Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Dr. M. M. Das): Only 50 years are over!

Shri Narasimhan: What I am saying is that the organisation is the same, and Government are not making any change, instead of somebody else, they are only putting a Governor there.

Coming to the Governor, I take objection to it. Shri C. K. Bhattacharya has already referred to it. I take strong objection to it for the simple reason that the rules of this House preclude us from criticising the Governor. We do not know which will prevail, whether this rule or whether our right to criticise an institution created by an Act of this Parliament, when something goes wrong. Therefore, it is really a matter of our privilege to see whether such a thing could be done. I would like you, Sir, and the Speaker to pay attention to this matter, as to whether when there is an express provision in the rules that a Governor should not be criticised here, it would be proper to make him chairman of a body which gets grants from the Centre.

Shri Humayun Kabir: What about universities?

Shri Narasimhan: We are not criticising them here generally. Whatever it is, when there is so much of criticism by everybody over this question . . .

Shri Morarka: Two wrongs cannot make one right.

Shri Narasimhan: My hon. friend here remarks that two wrongs cannot make one right. This point requires examination. As a proposition, this is not good; as a model, this is not good.

When an institution of this type is being reorganised under statute, we should always have the benefit of the advice of the State Government concerned in all these matters. For instance, there is an excellent museum managed by the Government of Madras. It has received excellent praise from all these bodies. According to museology, it is an ideal institution. The Government of Madras are proud of it. Supposing tomorrow it is decided to centralise it, what would happen? After all, such an attempt is not called for in these days of democratic decentralisation. If our cultural and educational sites and State institutions of that nature are managed fairly well, it should be our duty to encourage such State institutions, such State enterprise and such State initiative rather than take them over. Therefore, even with the present object, it is not in accord.

Then, there was a committee on museums set up by the Government of India. They made certain recommendations about the National Museum and so on. These were considered by the advisory committee on museums in India; I think those recommendations were approved by the Advisory Committee. They have clearly stated that let us have one national museum in India, let us not have a multiplicity of these institutions. They have defined what a national museum should mean. They have said that it should deal with zoology, anthropology and what not. All these things must be there in a national museum. But a national museum need not be located in one place. The nucleus may be in one place, but it may have several branches in other places; all these could be considered as a unit and as a

national museum. That is what they have stated.

But, now, our Government's proposal is that let us have a multiplicity of these national museums. In all humility, I would say that it is just like making Generals out of ordinary soldiers. Simply by calling the soldiers as Generals, you do not make them Generals. Merely calling a soldier as a General does not make him a General. So, likewise, merely modifying your statute is not going to prove useful. Therefore, I do not think that merely calling a number of institutions as national museums is desirable. On the other hand, there may be a consolidation of existing institutions, instead of dispersing our resources in these difficult days.

Then, there was also a UNESCO committee. One American by name Mr. Lothar P. Wittebourg has also recorded his impressions. I know, Sir, that you are looking at the clock, but by way of explanation, I may tell the House that I had given notice of a resolution on museums in India, and I have fairly studied this matter. For want of time, I would not go into the details. The hon. Minister asked me about the year in which the report I quoted from was made, in regard to some other matter.

16 hrs.

In the summer of 1958, Lothar P. Wittebourg, Chief of Exhibition of the American Museum of Natural History, was invited by the Government of India to advise them on the National Museum.

Shri Humayun Kabir: On a particular problem. He is not a general expert.

Shri Narasimhan: While in India, he visited a number of regional, state and archaeological site museums located in this country. He has recorded his impressions in the journal entitled *Curator* (Vol. III, No. 1, 1960)—a quarterly publication of the American Museum of Natural History, New York. A

[Shri Narasimhan]

friend of mine had showed it to me. I wanted to lay it on the Table of the House. I searched for it, but could not get it. I even asked our Librarian to request the National Museum Delhi to send it to me, but till now I have not succeeded in obtaining it. The following are extracts from the article by Lothar P. Wittebaur. . .

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi (Puri): He may reserve them for his Resolution.

Shri Narasimhan: I have here four pages of quotations, but I will read only two paragraphs.

Mr. Chairman: He may reserve it to a later date.

Shri Kalika Singh: He may lay it on the Table.

Shri Narasimhan: He says:

"The world-wide trend towards relating the great wealth of contents in museums to the needs of people in all walks of life, and to furnish intellectual, social and cultural opportunities not merely for scholars but for everyone, has accelerated greatly since the end of the last world war. Stimulated by the needs of the ordinary people, a few museums for various parts of the world have become newest as well as one of the most effective means of popular education. They reveal to people the extent and importance of their culture; they explain, and they expand the understanding by people of their present way of living; and they show paths of advancement that no other means can convey".

Coming to Indian museums, there is a small paragraph which says:

"Indian museums—are principally store houses of antiquities and oddities of nature, and the 'museum' as it is perceived in reality by the general public..is

a dingy structure containing dingy objects that are piled on top of one another much as in an attic or store cellar. Of all the sources of public education in the world today, the museum is probably the most neglected and least supported and its full potential is the least appreciated or realised".

Then he refers to the Government of India. I would draw the attention of the House and the Minister to what he has said:

"Unfortunately, the present governmental bureaucratic system has many weak points, which many of India's leaders admit. A tendency to shift key personnel from Ministry to Ministry or from one specific job to another within the Ministry is very detrimental to the proper carrying out of long-term projects. As a prime example, no one connected with museum administration in the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs know of the work carried out in Mysore by UNESCO in 1953-55 on 'Museum Techniques in Fundamental Education'. The Mysore work was an extremely worthwhile undertaking which could have been a valuable experiment in general education for a vast illiterate population; so far as I know, nothing further has been done regarding it. The whole problem of the role of museums in India comes to one main point: a lack of insight and direction by the State as the Central Governments which do not yet possess the experience and knowledge to carry out a long-range programme plus a general ignorance of the role and function of the 'progressive museum'."

Therefore, what is needed is a regular Director-General to control the National Museum and attached institutions all over the country. Any other arrangement to look after the National Museum is not good. This

Bill is full of defects; it does not improve matters. It is regressive in character. It is really necessary for Government to consider the opinions expressed in the House. There is nothing wrong if the Minister rethinks and brings forward a more acceptable Bill.

Dr. Melkote (Raichur): I entirely agree with the remarks made by the previous speaker. I had occasion sometime in 1953 and 1955 to visit Europe and came back with an idea of sponsoring a museum of the nature which existed in London. I must say that while the speech of the Minister has been revealing and showed that Government are aware of the necessity and importance of museums, this House has shown a greater awareness of its importance.

The Bill, as it stands today, does not provide fully for all the things that Members want the Government to do. I personally feel that these museums should come up to the mark to serve the needs of different sections of the population. Children go there, students go there, adults as well as the aged go there to learn. So the scope of these museums should be so shaped as to subserve the needs of these different age groups. Children are allowed to go and play at these places. There are instructors posted in these museums to teach the different age groups. A good deal is learnt by the community at large. I had thought that the scope of the Bill would emphasise all these things.

While the remarks of the Minister were quite cogent, in saying that many of the members oftentimes absent themselves and in order that the business of the museum is carried on properly it would be necessary to limit the number, I must say that it is a thing which does not appeal to us. If any members who do not take interest are there, they should not find a place there. Who are the people who naturally take interest in these museums? It is, by and large, people who understand these things, who have the necessary knowledge—essentially scientists,

historians and other people. There should be representation of such groups there. This by itself is a big task. People have to take it as part of their duty.

When I tried to study the way the British museums are run. I came to understand that, by and large, many of these museums have large subventions given to them by the Government, but essentially private agencies, private philanthropists as well as other private people who have knowledge of these things, manage these things. They collect millions of pounds annually and run them efficiently. The only duty that they have in their life is to run these museums and manage their affairs efficiently.

I therefore felt that while it is a good thing that the Government are taking interest in these museums, all the same the views expressed by Members should be respected. For instance, it was said here that the Chairman of this Board should not be a Governor because he is likely to be criticised. Apart from that, I feel that prominent Members of this Parliament who can understand these things ought to be on this body. These museums should become institutions of vital importance for catering to the needs of the different sections of the population. Also there should be scientists, may be those people who are in service, may be those who are retired, who have a good knowledge of these things and who could devote their time and possibly their money also, who should be on this body. In addition, there may be philanthropists associated with it. There are many industrial sections which have various associations. The name of the Asiatic Society was mentioned. I personally feel that some of these industrial and commercial sections could find a place there. These museums should cater to the needs of that community also. They may be able to donate large sums. So the scope of this body should be such as to include all these people, who take a keen interest in these museums.

[Dr. Melkote]

More than this, I personally feel that the selection of personnel there should not be left to any particular individual. I wonder if Government can find it possible to see that the recruitment takes place through the UPSC. Therefore, the scope of the Bill as now proposed being limited, I wonder if the Minister could agree to withdraw it or at least refer it to a Select Committee so that they may incorporate further amendments—even though Government themselves could do it—and bring it before the House for its acceptance. I would then be able to place further ideas before you.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to participate in the discussion with a view to seeking some clarification. I think most of the confusion which has taken place is due to the title of the amending Bill, which is misleading. It refers really to the administration and control of one particular museum in the country and that is the Calcutta Museum. So, more particularly, this Bill should have been entitled, 'The Calcutta Museum Administration and Control Bill, 1960.'

The discussions show that the House is really very anxious to impress upon the hon. Minister to have a very comprehensive legislation dealing with all aspects of the development of museums in this country since 1910. I also would try to add my voice and request the hon. Minister to see if it is possible to have a really comprehensive amending Bill for looking into the developments which have taken place since 1910 in the field of museums in this country.

The scope of the present Bill is very much limited. So, the discussions are somewhat out of place. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it is stated:

"Subject to the availability of funds, it is proposed to step up the

pace of development of the Museum and make it a full scale National Museum for the Eastern Region of India."

I was going through the report of the Expert Museum Survey Committee and their recommendations. They have laid down a pattern for museums in India which are divided into 4 categories, National Museums, State Museums, Regional Museums and Local Museums. To what category does this Calcutta Museum, which the hon. Minister wants to develop as a Regional National Museum, belong? I hope the Committee never recommended 4 or 5 National Museums in the Eastern, Western, Northern and Southern regions of India.

Naturally, the Calcutta Museum serves as a State Museum for West Bengal also because it seems that by developing it as a State Museum it has developed into a National Museum also. It has its own historical development and historical specimens; and archaeological remains from Orissa are there; from Assam are also there and also from Bihar. Naturally, it has developed into a kind of National Museum. If the hon. Minister wants to develop it as a Regional National Museum, naturally, the question will arise whether representatives from the Eastern Region of India will not be associated with it. Therefore, some of my hon. friends have suggested the association of representatives from the Universities of Utkal, Assam and Bihar also. I think they are right because if the Minister wants to develop it as a Regional National Museum, it must have the representatives of those parts of the region.

So far as the central administration of the Indian National Museum and its improvement are concerned, I share what other friends like Shri Gupta have suggested. I would request the hon. Minister to clarify whether this is going to be another

National Museum in the Eastern part of India and, if so, whether he wants to have piecemeal legislation for the administration and control of the individual museums like the Salarjung museums at Hyderabad and other museum in the country. It is wrong to attempt to have piecemeal legislation for the control and administration of individual museums in the country. If the hon. Minister really wants to have proper control of all museums in India, it is necessary that there must be a comprehensive amending Bill to the Act of 1910, which would look into all these aspects.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: Before the hon. Minister rises to reply, I would like to put him a question which he may reply in his speech. When I took objection to the newly inserted clause 15A(2)(d), he said that the powers were already there in section 7 of the Act. He may kindly explain why, with that section 7 existing, this paragraph has been felt necessary to be added. So far as I understand, it would have been enough for his purpose to say—

'conditions subject to which the Trustees may exercise their powers under section 7.'

Shri Humayun Kahir: I am grateful to the House for the interest it has shown in this Bill. There has been a large number of speakers—I confess much larger than I expected. Anyway, it is a good sign; it shows that subjects of cultural interest do attract the attention of the House; and especially in areas where there is no political controversy, the discussion is on individual lines and people approach the problem from their own points of view.

While complimenting the House on the interest shown, I must say that I confess I was a little surprised by some of the remarks. There has been a certain amount of the criticism; I do not deny that for a moment. Of course, a lot of criticisms cancelled one

another. But, what surprised me was that most of the criticisms repeated things which I had already disposed of in my opening remarks. Either the hon. Members were not present here when I made my opening remarks, which, I think, was certainly the case with regard to one or two members, or I failed to make myself sufficiently clear; and it is certainly my failing that I was not able to point out to them that the things which they were saying had already been disposed.

I shall take the remarks of the hon. Members seriatim and try to dispose of every one of them because I do not think that any really valid criticisms have been made. The first comment was by my hon. friend, Prof. Sharma, about the guides and paying attention to the scientific aspects in the development of museums. There are two reasons why the museums have not been able to give better service, and I entirely agree with him that lack of guides is one of them. The second is that in many cases the administrations of the museums are not geared to satisfy these needs. And, that is why, in the present Bill, which is before us for consideration, the greatest emphasis is on the improvement of the administration of the Indian Museum.

My hon friend also asked about the representation of M.Ps. In museums of this type, it is not customary anywhere in the world to have Members of Parliament as such represented; but, certainly, there is no bar either for Members of Parliament to enter as individuals. There is the nomination of 4 members. How they will be nominated, it is difficult to say. It is not that there are no suitable persons; I am sure that there are many in both the Houses.

My hon. friend said something about the quorum which I could not understand. I do not know why he was so much excited about quorum. Really there are not very many changes. Originally, when there were 18 members, the Council or Board could function when there were 9 persons—half of them. Now, when there are 11

[Shri Humayun Kabir]

members, we are providing that the Board of Trustees could function if there are 6 members. So, there is a slight improvement; it is little more than 50 per cent. Similarly, with regard to quorum, when there were 18 members, the quorum was 6. Now, when there are 11 members, the quorum is 4. Here again, if there is anything, there is slight improvement rather than deterioration which my hon. friend fears.

My hon. friend referred to appointment to the Museum Service through the Public Service Commission. I must say that this completely took my breath away. On the one hand, there is a demand that this should be an entirely autonomous organisation and it shall have nothing to do with Government, that the Trustees should be given all powers; on the other hand, they say that the appointments should be through the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission can appoint only persons who are employed by Government. I do not see how the two can be reconciled. In any case, I do not think that the Public Service Commission is the proper authority for recruiting candidates to museums or other autonomous organisations and I say so with great respect to that body. Next time, we may be told that professors in the universities should also be appointed by them or employees in the district boards and municipalities and corporations should be recruited through them. I do not know where we shall end. I am sure my hon. friend, reasonable man as he is, will see the force of this comment and will be satisfied.

Quite a number of hon. Members referred to the directives. I was glad that my hon. friend, Dr. Aney, pointed out how the directives are essential and necessary when large funds are placed at their disposal out of public money. There must be some responsibility to Parliament. These directives are only in matters of policy and not of administration. In many new Bills, this power has been assumed by the Government. Reference was made to

the Viswa Bharati Bill passed in 1951. Since then we have learnt a lot. When the U.G.C. Bill was passed, you may remember that there is a definite provision to this effect. Parliament wants to reserve to itself the general power to issue directives in respect of policy while giving the greatest amount of autonomy in matters of administrations. If there were not this power, they would not be subject to the control of Parliament and they can act as they like. I am sure that it is not the intention of Parliament. There has been a lot of misunderstanding about these directives.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani referred to the question of consultations; she is not here now. Some other hon. Members also referred to this point and they also said that the Bill was being hurried through. I do not know what it means. The consideration of the amendment has been before us since 1935. There were discussions in 1950 and 1955. At every stage, the general pattern was before everybody. The Bill itself could not be sent to all because it was in the process of being drafted and I felt that till the Cabinet had approved it, it was not proper to send it to any outside body. But the main outline or the substantial elements in it were sent to the Asiatic Society on the 1st and to the Trustees on the 2nd of August. There were further letters also but no reply was received from the Trustees. Today, I heard for the first time—it seems—that the trustees did not receive that letter. At that stage, no comments were received. They were received at a latter stage. If the hon. Members go through the Rajya Sabha proceedings, they would find that I had taken into consideration every one of the comments made by them and I had gone as far as possible in meeting their wishes....
(Interruptions.)

Dr. M. S. Aney: Were these proceedings made available to the Members of Rajya Sabha? If so, why were they not made available to the Members here?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The amendments do not come here. If the hon. Member sees the Bill as it was originally introduced and also the Bill as finally adopted by the Rajya Sabha, he will see the changes.

It was also mentioned that the Bengal Government was not consulted. I do not know wherefrom my hon. friends got this information. At every stage, they were consulted. Some of the changes, for instance, the composition of the board of trustees was made at the suggestion of the Chief Minister of West Bengal and he himself acknowledged that fact. That is why there has been no comment from the side of the Government of West Bengal.

One demand of the Asiatic Society which I could not accept in full was their request to have two nominees of theirs. They had one nominee in a board of 21, originally. Now, we are giving them one in a board of 11. Even though we have not given them an additional nominee, the weight of their nominee has gone almost by 100 per cent. I have also written to them that in making nominations—Government has to make 4 nominations—we will take into consideration their views. I have asked them to send some names so that if we find suitable persons from the list suggested by them, we will certainly nominate at least one other member who has the confidence of the Asiatic Society of Calcutta.

One hon. Member—I think, Shri Panigrahi—had certain comments about the name of the Bill. He said that it was misleading because it deals with the Calcutta Museum but it is named 'The Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill'. I am afraid he has not looked at the original Act or other amendment. This is known as the Indian Museum for at least 80 years, if not longer. The Act which we are trying to amend is the Indian Museum Act. How can I introduce a 'Calcutta Museum (Amendment) Bill'? I was surprised at his suggestion, because he is generally a very careful student and he does not usually make suggestions which are irrelevant.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): There is no difficulty in changing the name.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I will come to that in a moment. My hon. friend, Shri C. K. Bhattacharya, referred to the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill and asked why it should be called a National Museum for the eastern region of India. He seemed to suggest that by using that term the dignity and status of that museum was somehow being reduced. Shri Kalika Singh also suggested the same thing. He went further—I do not know where he undertook researches into the history—and said that at one time it was an Asiatic Museum. I have never heard it being called by that name. It was at one time a small museum attached to the Royal Asiatic Society, as it was called at that time. It developed into an Indian Museum and its title was the Indian Museum and that title has continued throughout. So that, it would be seen that there had been no reduction from the Asiatic Museum to an Indian Museum. Certainly, there is no intention of reducing it now to a regional museum.

Shri Panigrahi asked why the advice of the expert committee was not accepted. That committee had suggested that there should be one national museum of India with the natural history section in Calcutta, with archaeology section in Delhi, with scientific section in Bangalore and with agricultural and plants section somewhere in U.P. I told the distinguished experts who constituted that committee that nowhere in the world had I heard of such a thing. This, if accepted, would have meant that in order to get an idea of the culture of the country, one has to travel from Calcutta to Bangalore, to U.P. and Delhi and—God knows how many other places. The whole conception of the national museum of that type was completely wrong.... (Interruptions.) We rejected that idea, whatever might have been the expert advice, as an absurd idea.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: I want one clarification.

Shri Humayun Kabir: Sir, let me continue. In a country like India, I have said, it is absurd to expect that you can have only one national museum in one place. Because of the vast distances, you must have national museums in different parts of India. It is on that basis that I have looked at the Indian Museum of Calcutta, it is on that basis we are trying to develop the National Museum in Delhi, it is on that basis we are trying to develop the Salar Jung Museum in Hyderabad. I hope there will be one or two other national museums of the same status and standard in different parts of the country. I would go further and say that while we cannot have perhaps more than four or five great National Museums maintained by the Government of India, we want that every State museum will be a miniature national museum. Therefore, we have also stepped up considerably the assistance which we are giving to the different State museums so that they can develop those museums as national museums in the real sense, not national museums with a capital letter but national museums in the real sense.

It is in that light, Sir, that I have described here in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the Indian Museum is the national museum for the eastern region of India. I have said 'eastern region of India' because it is located in the eastern region. Nobody can gainsay that fact. Similarly, take the national museum in Delhi. Even though it is in the capital of India, from the very nature of the case it is obvious that people in Delhi and its surroundings will use it far more than a person from, say, Cape Comorin or a person from the borders of Assam or a person from Gujarat. You cannot expect everyone to come to any one centre. That is why we have this conception of a series of national museums, at least three or four to start with. But for that independent bills will be necessary because of the past history. The Indian Museum, Calcutta has a history of its

own. You cannot suddenly merge all that into a general Act. The Bill relating to the Salar Jung Museum, Hyderabad, I hope will be taken into consideration during the current session and passed, and by that we shall establish a national museum in Hyderabad for that region of the country. We have a separate Bill because in that place we have inherited certain things and certain things have come to use with their past history. You cannot lump all of them together into one Act. It may be that a time will come—not today but after ten or twenty years when at least I shall certainly not be here—when we may plan a comprehensive Museum Act for the whole of India, when the different national museums have been established, the State museums have been properly developed and there are district museums in every district and other museums also which will cater to the scientific, archaeological and aesthetic needs of the country.

Then, there was a reference by Shrimati Kripalani to the bye-laws. I do not know where she got this impression that under the new Bill the power of the trustees for making bye-laws was being curtailed. The power of making bye-laws is given in sections 7 and 8 of the original Act. Section 7 of the original Act has not been touched at all. The only amendment that is sought to be made to section 8 is that after the words "consistent with this Act", the words "and the rules made thereunder" are to be inserted. This is a logical development, because in every Act there are rules and if there were no Rules in the past, that was definite lacuna which had to be filled up. Therefore, the power of making bye-laws has not been touched at all. The initiative remains with the trustees. I have also told them, with regard to certain of their apprehensions, that if they frame bye-laws the Government will accept them. If the trustees have not framed bye-laws, certainly the responsibility for that is not the Government's but it is the responsibility of the trustees.

A question was asked, why should there be a difference between the rules and bye-laws. The difference is obvious. The bye-laws are framed by the trustees. The rules can be framed only under the Act and they are subject to the approval of Parliament. Therefore, the rules are those things which will be placed here whereas bye-laws will deal with comparatively minor matters and the trustees will make them. So long as they are not inconsistent with the Act or the rules under them, nobody will raise any objection about the bye-laws.

Shrimati Kripalani also raised some difficulty about the Governor being the Chairman. I think having the Governor as Chairman will help in many ways. The Governor is the head of the State. The Governor is not the head of the Government. In this way, there is a connection with the State. At the same time, the Governor being outside party politics, not being a member of the Government, not being a member of the party in power, he can take a more detached view of many of these things. Another objection raised was that the Governor's conduct may be subjected to questions in Parliament. I do not think it is ever likely. In any case, Governors are already chancellors of universities. Therefore, if being a chancellor of a university does not in any way prejudice the Governor's status, I do not see how making the Governor, the Chairman of the Indian Museum will do so. Anyway—hon. Members are probably not aware or they have not looked up the law—I may say that the Governor is already the Chairman of the Victoria Memorial in Calcutta. The Victoria Memorial is also one of our monuments for which money is voted by Parliament. The Parliament has a right to criticise that expenditure, if need be. That has not in any way interfered with the Governor being its Chairman. Therefore, this objection also, I submit, is not founded on reason.

My hon. friend, Shri Gupta, raised two or three points one of which I thought was very interesting. He rais-

ed the objection that in place of the Director of Zoological Survey and the other officers of the Government, we are putting only the Secretary. I gave one reason for that. At present my Ministry has four or five representatives there, and it is, if I may be permitted to say so, rather surprising that when you have the Director-General of Archaeology you have simultaneously the Superintendent of Archaeology also. How this clause came into the Bill originally is very difficult to understand. Where you have the Director-General of Archaeology why should his deputy also be simultaneously a member? (*Interruption.*)? Further, all these experts are advisers to Government. All these experts are officials and, therefore, their advice is always available to Government. It is not, therefore, necessary to put them in the Board of Trustees. On the contrary, as I stated in my opening speech, their responsibilities have increased so much that they are not able to give that time and attention to the affairs of the museum which is required of them. The Director of Geology, the Director of Zoology, the Director-General of Archaeology and other officers are always on tour during most of the time of what is called the camp season. For the rest of the time they are busy studying their finds, studying and analysing the work which has been done during the winter season and presenting reports to us. Their advice will be available wherever and whenever necessary.

I may also draw the attention of the House to the clause where we have provided that if a trustee, not any trustee but only the *ex officio* trustee is unable to attend, he may send a representative with the previous permission of the Chairman. The reason for that is, it may be that in some particular meeting the agenda deals with archaeology and the Secretary of the Ministry instead of going himself may send the Director-General of Archaeology for that particular meeting. It may be that

[Shri Humayun Kabir]

in another meeting the major subject for discussion is zoology or botany. The Secretary in that case will have the right of sending the Director of Zoology or the Director of Botany as the case may be. Therefore, by making this provision we have kept the way open for securing the advice of these experts and, at the same time, reduced considerably the size of the Board. As I have said, all the committees which have gone into the question of this Indian Museum were agreed on one point, that the size was unwieldy, the size of 18 was unwieldy and it should be reduced.

However, I would add, we are considering the setting up of a number of expert advisory bodies. My own personal view is—I have mentioned this to one or two trustees also—that a museum of this type must have a whole-time Director. Till there is a whole-time Director to look after the different departments and co-ordinate their work, the museum cannot render that service of which it is capable and which we expect from it. I am hoping that as soon as the new Board of Trustees come into being, they will probably take action in this direction.

I have said earlier that there is dual control at every stage, that the trustees are the legal owners, but the real powers are with the departments of the Government of India. That position will be removed when we have a director who will be directly under the Board of Trustees and will be able to pay whole-time attention and not part-time attention.

Shri Narasimhan: There is no provision to that effect.

Shri Humayun Kabir: There is no necessity for that provision. My hon. friend is a sufficiently experienced Parliamentarian to know that in an Act we do not say so and so should be appointed. These are matters of detail which should always be settled by the Board of Trustees themselves.

Shri Kalika Singh: It is now being suggested that the directors will not be appointed. But I think in the Bill, as it stands now, they may be appointed.

Shri Humayun Kabir: My hon. friend has not understood me. What I said was that directors of Botany or Archaeology or Zoology or Geology cannot give whole-time attention. In a museum of this type you must have a director of the museum which is entirely a different thing.

Then there was the question of dispersal of objects. I have made it perfectly clear more than once that there is no question of any dispersal of objects, and therefore I gave an assurance in the other House, and which I would repeat here, that nothing will be taken away without the unanimous consent of the trustees and I said on behalf of Government that if the trustees framed by-laws to that effect, we shall accept them.

Then there was the question of a public representative. My hon. friend Shri Idrajit Gupta mentioned it. Who are the public representatives? It is very difficult to decide who is a public representative and who is not. In any case, how are you to select one? Are you asking the people of Calcutta to have a vote to elect one representative to the Indian Museum, and the people of Orissa and the people of Assam and the people of other parts of the country to do so? The mayor is there in a representative capacity.

Shri Idrajit Gupta and some other hon. friends mentioned—I do not understand how—that official control was being increased. I really fail to understand how this statement was made when we are reducing the number of officials. The Governor is certainly not an official. The Mayor of Calcutta is not an official. The four persons to be nominated by the Government of India will almost certainly not be officials. Perhaps one may be an official and he may perhaps be the

representative of the Geological Survey which is not attached to my Ministry, and I may have to give some representation to the Asiatic Society. Even in the case of the West Bengal Government, it is a nominee. They have greater freedom today than was the case in the past. If you feel that the vice-chancellor of the university, the mayor, the Governor—all these people—are going to knuckle down to the two or three officials who are there, I am afraid you are not paying a compliment to those officers and, may I respectfully submit, not probably showing a proper appreciation of the realities of life.

Shri Subiman Ghose (Burdwan): They might send their their P.A.s.

Shri Humayun Kabir: The Governor will preside and under the Act you will find that there is no question of sending any substitute in the case of the former.

Then, Shri Aurobindo Ghosal asked about piecemeal legislation. I have already replied to that point when I said that a comprehensive legislation may come, but this is not the time for it. He also spoke about dynamism. I do not know what exactly dynamism is. It is a very difficult word and different people understand dynamism differently. But I do hope that a smaller Board will be more dynamical than a bigger Board. It is almost a law physics and I think it is also equally true of human dynamics.

Then he also referred to the question of purchase of objects. We have been increasing the grants. Actually, if I gave you the figures, you would find that the grants are increasing and the way in which grants to this and other museums have been enhanced over the last two or three years. I am speaking off-hand, from memory, but I think out of the provision which was made in the second Five Year Plan, practically the whole amount will have been spent in the last two and a half to three years. We will spend the whole amount, and I have no doubt about it.

Dr. Samantsinhar raised an interesting question about the vice-chancellors of Patna, Utkal and Gauhati universities. I may frankly admit that at one stage I had myself thought that there should be provision for a number of representatives from outside Bengal. But I was advised and advised very strongly from many sources that though it may add to the size of the body, it does not add strength, because they cannot all attend the meetings, especially when you remember that meetings are held once every month and sometimes even twice. But I do say that wherever the Government of India nominates a number of people, I will certainly keep in view the various opinions, wishes and suggestions made in this House and I will see how far I can go in meeting those suggestions and views which I consider to be quite legitimate.

I have, I think, covered practically all the points. I hope that after this clarification, the House will be satisfied that the Bill is intended to improve the Indian Museum and make it a truly national museum and also enable it to function with distinction and with despatch and develop into a chain of museums which will cater to the artistic, scientific and cultural education of this country. I have the Bill will be passed without any dissenting voice.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That this Bill further to amend the Indian Museum Act, 1910, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2—(Amendment of section 2)

Dr. Samantsinhar: I beg to move:

Page 1, for lines 15 and 16, substitute—

"(d) the Vice-Chancellors of the Universities of Calcutta,

[Dr. Samant Sinhar]
Patna, Gauhati and Utkal;"
(1).

Page 1, omit lines 22 and 23. (2).

I have nothing much to say except that in sub-clause (d) of clause 2, "the Vice-Chancellors of the four universities" mentioned in my amendment be substituted. Further, the Governor of West Bengal is the Chairman. The Mayor of Calcutta is also there. Again, the Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University and the Accountant-General of West Bengal are also there. So, what is the good of having another person to be nominated by the Government of West Bengal?

The hon. Minister has also replied in the course of his speech that among the four persons to be nominated by the Central Government, he has kept one for a representative from a different Ministry, and out of the remaining three, he has promised one for the Lok Sabha and the other two for other States also. As I said earlier, in the eastern region, there are at least four States, and the nomination is four. So, I do not know how the hon. Minister is going to have representatives for the different interests and different States. I do not think his promises will materialise. Whatever it may be, I have moved these amendments.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already said that I would try to see how far I can accommodate the other representatives. But I am sorry I cannot accept the amendments.

Mr. Chairman: I shall put the amendments together to the vote.

The amendments Nos. 1 and 2 were put and negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 3 to 13 were added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed".

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.50 hrs.

COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. Chairman: The House will now proceed with the next item on the Order Paper, viz., the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, as reported by the Joint Committee.

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): We have got about 10 minutes now and my speech is likely to take nothing less than half an hour. If you permit me, I will just say that I am moving the Bill and I will deliver my speech tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: He may move the motion.

Shri Kanungo: I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Companies Act, 1956, as reported by the Joint Committee, be taken into consideration."

I beg your indulgence that my speech may be permitted to be made tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman: Yes. The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

16.52 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, November 16, 1960/Kartika 25, 1882 (Saka).

[Tuesday, November 15, 1960/Kartika 24, 1882 (Saka)]

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135	P & T buildings in Orissa	336
136	Wheat production	337

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—contd.

U.S.Q.	Subject	COLUMNS	COLUMNS
137	T.B. Sanatoria in Madras State . . .	337-38	(c) Notification No. 90/60 published in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 10th May, 1960 containing Andaman and Nicobar Islands Motor Accidents Claims Tribunal Rules, 1960.
138	Post Office Savings Bank Accounts . . .	338	(5) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1105 dated the 24th September, 1960 issued under Section 10 of the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act, 1956.
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE . . .			
339-41			
(i) A copy of each of the following papers under sub-section (6) of Section 66A of the Wakf Act, 1954:			
(i) The Patials and East Punjab States Union Wakf Board (Dissolution) Order, 1960 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1032 dated the 3rd September, 1960.			
(ii) The Travancore-Cochin Wakf Board (Dissolution) Order, 1960 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1075 dated the 17th September, 1960.			
(2) A copy of the Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the year 1957-58.			
(3) A copy of Notification No. 127/60 published in Andaman and Nicobar Gazette dated the 5th July, 1960 under sub-section (3) of Section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, making certain amendment to Andaman and Nicobar Islands Motor Vehicles Rules, 1939.			
(4) A copy of each of the following papers under sub-section (3) of Section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939:			
(a) The Motor Vehicles (Diplomatic and Consular Officers' Vehicles) Registration Rules, 1960 published in Notification No. S. O. 1047 dated the 30th April, 1960.			
(b) Notification No. H(T) 14-447/59 published in Himachal Pradesh Administration Gazette dated the 24th September, 1960 making certain amendment to the Punjab Motor Vehicles Rules, 1950 as applied to Himachal Pradesh.			
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—contd.			
(6) A copy of the Annual Report of the National Co-operative Development and Warehousing Board for the year 1959-60, under sub-section (3) of Section 15 of the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Cooperations Act, 1956.			
(7) A copy of certain amendments to the Indian Electricity Rules, 1956 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 422 dated the 7th April, 1960, under sub-section (3) of Section 38 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.			
REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTED . . .			
341			
Fifty-sixth Report was presented.			
BILL REFERRED TO SELECT COMMITTEE . . .			
341-65			
Further discussion on the motion to refer the Preference Shares (Regulation of Dividends) Bill to a Select Committee was concluded and the motion was adopted.			
MOTION RE. INCREASE IN ALLOCATION OF TIME TO BILL ADOPTED . . .			
365-456			
Shri Naushir Bharucha moved that the time allotted for consideration and passing of the Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be increased from 2 hours to 4 hours. The motion was adopted.			

COLUMNS

COLUMNS

BILL PASSED . . .

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir) moved for consideration of the Indian Museum (Amendment) Bill, as passed by Raja Sabha. The motion was adopted. After clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed.

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION . . .

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo) moved that

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BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION—Contd.

the Companies (Amendment) Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee, be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded.

AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1960/KARTIKA 25, (1882) SAKA—

Further consideration of the Companies (Amendment) Bill, as reported by the Joint Committee, and passing of the Bill.