

Vol. II-No.27  
29th March, 1955 (Tuesday)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)



*(Vol. II contains Nos. 21—40)*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

  
FOUR ANNAS (INLAND)

ONE SHILLING (FOREIGN)

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

1535

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 29th March, 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EXPORT OF KYANITE AND SILLIMANITE

\*1589. Shri S. N. Das: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of existing restrictions on the exports of kyanite and sillimanite;

(b) whether Government propose to remove these restrictions;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to the delay in announcing the Government's policy as to the export of these minerals, forward mining programme and operations have been very much hampered; and

(d) if so, what were the reasons for this delay?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Exports of both Kyanite and Sillimanite are at present licensed freely.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Some representations to that effect had been made but exports had to be regulated from time to time having regard to our reserves, internal requirements and overseas demand.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know since when this export had been made free?

Shri Kanungo: Last quarter of 1954.  
25 LSD

1536

Shri S. N. Das: May I know what were the total production, indigenous consumption and allotment for export in 1954?

Shri Kanungo: The quota allotted for export was 20,000 tons. We have not got the internal consumption figures.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the extent to which this quota was exported, and if the full quota was not exported, may I know the reason?

Shri Kanungo: Out of the total quota for 1954, we do not know how much was actually exported, but in the previous years, much less of the quota was being exported.

तिब्बत में भारतीय व्यापार एजेंसियां

\* १५९०. श्री भक्त वर्यन : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हाल ही में तिब्बत के सम्बन्ध में किए गए भारत-चीन करार के साथ संलग्न नोट के पाठ की धारा १२ के अनुसार क्या तिब्बत में भारत की तीनों व्यापार एजेंसियों को १२ महीने खुला रखने का निर्णय किया गया है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री सादत अली खां): जी, हां।

श्री सादत अली खां : मौसम पर इसका इन्स्तर इन गर्मियों में जो सरकारी एजेंसियां खुलेंगी वे बारहों महीने चालू रहेंगी ?

श्री सादत अली खां : मौसम पर इसका इन्स्तर है। जैसा मौसम रहेगा वैसा किया जाएगा।

श्री भक्त वर्यन : जहां तक मुझे मालूम है अभी तक साल में छः महीने यह व्यापार एजेंसियां तिब्बत में खुली रहती हैं। मौसम का क्या यह



मतलब हैं कि अगर ज्यादा बर्फ पड़ी तो उनको बन्द कर दिया जाएगा ?

**प्रधान मंत्री तथा बैरिस्टर-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू):** हम कोर्ड जॉन्ट से नहीं बंद करते हैं, लेकिन बर्फ अटकाव डालती है।

#### GANDAK PROJECT

\*1591. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 301 on the 23rd November, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the technical scrutiny of the Gandak Irrigation and Power Project of Bihar has since been completed; and

(b) whether the Commission has considered the desirability of assigning priority to this project?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Technical scrutiny of the project prepared by the Government of Bihar showed that it required modifications in several important aspects. The Bihar Government were advised accordingly. The modified project will be examined, when received.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I enquire if the Government of Bihar, while submitting the report to the Government of India, assigned any priority or recommended any priority to be given to this scheme?

**Shri Hathi:** There was no question of priority assignment before this technical committee.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** How many stages of scrutiny has a project report to pass through before it is finally sanctioned by the Government?

**Shri Hathi:** Generally, there are no stages prescribed as such, but when the project comes for scrutiny by the C.W.P.C., they make several suggestions; then some of them are accepted; or some further discussion may be

necessary; and till the final stage is reached, it may have to pass one or two stages.

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** There is the further fact that the Planning Commission has laid down that these projects must be examined by the Technical Advisory Committee, which has, of course, the advantage of the advice of the C.W.P.C.

**श्री बिभूति मिश्र:** गंडक प्रोजेक्ट की जांच में कितना समय लगेगा ?

**श्री हाथी:** मैं अभी नहीं बता सकता कि कितना समय लगेगा।

#### ASSETS OF I.N.A.

\*1592. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1501 on the 29th September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether any Trust Deed regarding the assets of the Indian National Army and the Indian Independence League Funds has been drawn up; and

(b) if so, the main items of the Deed?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) and (b). The assets of the Indian National Army and the Indian Independence League are at present in the custody of the custodian of Property, Singapore. The Custodian has been approached for the recovery of our share of the assets. On receipt, this will be amalgamated with the existing Indian Scholarship Fund. A Trust Deed for this Fund has been created with the Commissioner for the Government of India in Singapore and the Federation of Malaya, as Trustee. He is assisted in the task of selection of candidates for scholarships by a Committee comprising:

(i) The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malaya or his nominee;

(ii) the Principal of the Technical College, Federation of Malaya, or his nominee; and

(iii) four Indians resident in Malaya to be nominated by the Commissioner at his discretion.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know how many scholarships will be given every year?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The scheme contemplates 25 scholarships for pre-university students and 5 scholarships for university students.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know the total amount involved in this scheme?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The original funds stood at about 2,60,000 Straits dollars and when the Indian National Army funds are available, it will be another Rs. 1,52,000.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether it is a fact that the amount will not be handed over to us unless necessary legislation is enacted?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Some legislation is needed

### रीडियो स्टेशन

\* १५६४. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री १२ मार्च, १९५५ को दिए गए तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ८१० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जयपुर और इंदौर में रीडियो स्टेशन खोलने में अनुमानतः कितना व्यय होगा ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० कैसकर): स्टूडियो तथा ट्रांसमीटर आदि के बनवाने में जयपुर केंद्र पर ४,०५,००० रुपए और इंदौर केंद्र पर १२,१२,००० रुपए खर्च होने का अनुमान है।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: यह स्टेशन कब से आरम्भ होंगे ?

डा० कैसकर: जयपुर के लिए तिथि निश्चित हो गई है कि यह स्टेशन ६ अप्रैल को आरम्भ हो रहा है। इंदौर के लिए हम आशा करते हैं कि १५ और २१ मई के बीच में किसी तिथि को यह स्टेशन चालू होगा।

### RATIONALISATION OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

\*1595. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government agree with the views of the International Planning Team that the methods of management and production falling far short of meeting modern demands for efficiency, are mainly responsible for the present deficiencies in the small industries and that rationalisation would go a long way to remove stagnation and retrogression of the Indian small industry; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Government agree generally with the views of the International Planning Team

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 131.]

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether the Government has ascertained the total cost that will be involved in modernising the means of production of the small-scale industries?

**Shri Kanungo:** Steps will be taken up when the programmes from the State Governments are submitted to the Central Government.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether the Government has any definite idea as to in which industry or in which area they want to make a beginning?

**Shri Kanungo:** It depends upon the selection of the State Government.

**Shri Heda:** May I know whether the branch units that were to be formed in certain States are formed and working?

**Shri Kanungo:** No, not yet.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know whether the proposed Development Commissioners under this scheme will look to the sales and arrangements for sales in respect of small-scale industries?

**Shri Kanungo:** That is one of their functions.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know the expected increase in employment possibilities when the whole scheme is worked out?

**Shri Kanungo:** That is too wide a guess to make now.

#### ASIAN PRIME MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

\*1596. **Shri Heda:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Experts Committee has been set up as tentatively decided by the Asian Prime Ministers' Conference at Bogor;

(b) if so, the Indian personnel on the Committee; and

(c) the subjects that such a Committee would deal with?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) The Committee of Experts has not yet been set up. It will, no doubt, be a matter for discussion at the forthcoming Asian-African Conference.

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

**Shri Heda:** After the categorical statement of the Prime Minister of Ceylon, what are the reasons for the delay in setting up this committee?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** What is the categorical statement to which the hon. Member refers?

**Mr. Speaker:** Will he state what is the categorical statement?

**Shri Heda:** It is the statement that appeared on the 1st January in the Indian Press. It stated:

"Sir John Kotelawala, Prime Minister of Ceylon, said here today that the experts committee, proposed by the Bogor Conference to examine the scope of inter-regional economic co-operation, would meet in Colombo shortly."

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The answer must be given by Sir John Kotelawala

#### RAILWAY FREIGHT ON JUTE

\*1597. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government propose to reduce Railway freight rate on jute, as recommended by the Jute Enquiry Commission?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** The question of Railway freight for raw jute was recently investigated by the Railway Rates Tribunal and they came to the conclusion that while the general level of the rates for raw jute was not unreasonable, station-to-station rates representing about 12½ per cent. reduction in normal tariff rates should be introduced for specific movements of traffic from certain stations to Guntur. This has been accepted and revised rates for raw jute from certain stations to Guntur have been introduced with effect from the 10th September, 1954.

**श्री बिभूति मिश्र:** क्या नार्थ बिहार में जूट का जो रेलवे फ्रेट है उसमें सरकार कमी करना चाहती है?

**श्री कानूनगो:** इसके बारे में कोई शिकायत नहीं आई है।

**श्री बिभूति मिश्र:** जिस तरह से जूट के दाम गिर रहे हैं क्या उसी तरह सरकार रेल के किराए में भी कमी करना चाहती है?

**श्री कानूनगो:** इसके बारे में जब कोई शिकायत आएगी तो इस पर विचार किया जाएगा।

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह:** क्या सरकार जूट इंडस्ट्री को सहायता देने के लिए रेलवे फ्रेट कम करना चाहती है?

**श्री कानूनगो:** रेलवे रेट ट्रीब्यूनल ने कहा है कि जो रेट इस वक्त हैं वे बहुत ज्यादा नहीं हैं।

#### BERYL ORE

\*1598. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new deposits of Beryl Ore have been discovered recent-

ly in the Sirkakulam District of Andhra State; and

(b) whether any comprehensive survey has been made of the surrounding area to find out if there are more deposits of the material?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) Yes. Only one new deposit of Beryl ore has been discovered in that area.

(b) The survey work in the area is in progress.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether the beryl ore found in this area or in any other place has been found existing separately from other ores, or it is always found mixed up with other ores?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am afraid I could not give a precise answer to that. I suppose it occurs in various forms and shapes in various places. There is no uniformity. Anyhow, I am unable to give an answer without enquiry.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What part of the beryl was processed here in India and what part of it was sent outside?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** What proportion? That too, I am sorry, I cannot answer without enquiry.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether any efforts are being made by Government to exploit the beryl resources which lie in the mica fields of Bihar.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Beryl is one of the prescribed substances under the Atomic Energy Act and its export is prohibited, except that Government, if it so chooses exchange it for some useful substance or even for money, with any other countries. Therefore, Government is in charge of it all over India and we are trying to develop it, process it. I cannot say off hand how much it sent abroad and what is being done in Bihar. Beryl is found in many places in Rajasthan, Bihar—now there

has been a small find in Andhra—and elsewhere too.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIRS

\*1599. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the names of the Indian commodities which had a good sale at the various International Trade Exhibitions/Fairs held in 1954; and

(b) the approximate value of the commodities sold in these Exhibitions and Fairs?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) and (b). In International Exhibitions and Fairs sale of goods is normally not permissible. They are intended only for commercial publicity.

**श्री डी० सी० शर्मा:** क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि किस नुमाइश या मेले में हमारी वस्तुओं को सब से ज्यादा पसन्द किया गया ?

**श्री कानूनगो:** वाशिंगटन में ग्राइज मिले हैं और दूसरी जगहों पर जैसे सान फ्रांसिस्को वर्गोह में भी हमारी वस्तुएं बहुत पसन्द की गई हैं।

**श्री डी० सी० शर्मा:** क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हमारी कौन कौन सी वस्तुएं सबसे ज्यादा पसन्द की गई ?

**श्री कानूनगो:** हमारी हैंडिक्रैफ्ट प्रोडक्ट्स ज्यादा पसन्द किए जाते हैं।

**श्री डी० सी० शर्मा:** क्या माननीय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वह हैंडिक्रैफ्ट प्रोडक्ट्स जो हैं वह किस किस प्रान्त में बनाए गए हैं और क्या यहां उन पर कुछ क्वालिटी कंट्रोल रखा जा रहा है ?

**श्री कानूनगो:** यह सब सूबों में बनते हैं और सिर्फ उत्तर प्रदेश में ही क्वालिटी कंट्रोल है।

**Shri R. S. Diwan:** May I know whether as a result of the popularity of our

articles the foreign Governments have put in any demand for our articles here?

**Shri Kaniungo:** Governments have not put in any demands.

#### EMPLOYEES OF THE HIRAKUD PROJECT

\*1600. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of the employees working on the Hirakud Dam Project are temporary;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any proposal to put them on a permanent cadre;

(c) whether Government have considered the same; and

(d) if so, what is their decision thereon?

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

(b) to (d). The question of providing them with alternative employment on the completion of the project is receiving the earnest attention of Government. It is one of the terms of reference of the Technical Personnel Committee appointed by Government. The Committee's report is awaited.

**Shri Gidwani:** What is the number of qualified engineering technical staff working under the project?

**Shri Hathi:** Engineers, Class I and II, 139.

**Shri Gidwani:** How many of them have been confirmed and how many of them are temporary?

**Shri Hathi:** 83 are temporary.

**Shri Gidwani:** What has happened to the proposal of establishing an Indian Engineering Service, as suggested by the Planning Commission?

**Shri Hathi:** That is under consideration.

**Shri Gidwani:** When will the consideration be over?

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** This

question was taken up at the last meeting of the Co-ordination Board of Ministers. There was a consensus of opinion that we should pursue this idea.

**Shri Raghavachari:** May I know whether the other river valley projects also would be included in the scheme?

**Shri Hathi:** The Service will include all engineering staff at all the projects, if a common service like that is evolved.

#### PORTUGUESE CUSTOMS OFFICER

\*1602. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Portuguese Customs officer was given a permit to visit Bombay during December, 1954; and

(b) whether similar facilities are given by the Portuguese authorities to Indian Government employees to visit Goa?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) and (b). Yes.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Is it true that the Portuguese Government officials who are given permits by the Indian Consulate have been coming to Bombay and staying with Indian Government officials to carry on anti-Indian propaganda in Bombay?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** No, Sir. It is not true. As a matter of policy, permits are not being granted to Portuguese government servants and their families to come over to India.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Has it come to Government's notice that the Deputy Chief of Customs of the Portuguese Government came to Bombay and stayed there for some time during Christmas and carried on anti-Indian activities there?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** We do not know whether anti-Indian activities were carried on by this gentleman. But a permit was granted on the 8th of December, to one Mr. Pinto, an officer

of Portuguese Customs and his wife and daughter to spend sometime in Bombay.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** May I know whether all these excessive courtesies are warranted by the fact that Portuguese ships go from Karachi to Bombay, counteracting the stoppage of Indian ships going from Bombay to Goa?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** We are a courteous Government, Sir.

#### BRITISH TEXTILES

\*1607. **Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing the duty levied on British textiles imported into India?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (Placed in Library. See No. S-105/55).

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** May I know if such heavy duty imposed on foreign silks is helping the manufacture of such silks in India?

**Shri Kanungo:** Yes, Sir.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know what is the reason for the cold silence being maintained by the Government of India in spite of the propaganda being done by the United Kingdom that India is very unfair to British textiles?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** We are a rather cold people.

#### INDIANS IN BURMA

\*1611. **Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians now living in Burma;

(b) whether any representations have been received about their safety in areas outside a radius of five miles from Rangoon; and

(c) whether there are any Indians living in Zeyawaddy?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) According to unofficial information the number of Indians in Burma is believed to be between six and seven lakhs. Complete 1953 census report is not yet available.

(b) Some representations alleging insecurity have been made by local Indians to the Indian Embassy, Rangoon, who have taken up this matter with the Government of the Union of Burma.

(c) A large number of Indians continue to live in Zeyawaddy.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** May I know what is the percentage of Indians now living in Zeyawaddy, in view of the grant that was made by the British when Zeyawaddy was established that 90 per cent. of the population of Zeyawaddy shall always be Indians?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** Yes, Sir. The total population of Zeyawaddy is about 20,000 of which approximately 15,000 are Indians who are mostly cultivators.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** May I know if the Zeyawaddy sugar factory has been taken away by the Government of Burma and now Indians are not employed there?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** We have no information.

#### भारत-बांध द्वारा सिंचाई

\*१६१२. डा० सत्यवादी: क्या सिंचाई और विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पंजाब, पेश्व और राजस्थान की सरदारों के बीच भारत-बांध द्वारा सिंचाई के लिए प्रत्येक राज्य के हिस्से के बारे में कोई कगार हो गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक राज्य का हिस्सा क्या है?

**सिंचाई और विद्युत उपमंत्री (श्री हाजी):** (क) जी हां।

(ख) जलराशि जो २६ मई से २० सितम्बर की अवधि में सींचत होगी उसमें तीनों संबंधित राज्यों के हिस्से इस प्रकार हैं :—

पंजाब	६२.२६ प्रतिशत
पंजु	२२.४२ प्रतिशत
राजस्थान	१४.२२ प्रतिशत

डा० सत्यबादी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि यह तो तकसीम की गई है यह किस बुनियाद पर की गई है ?

Mr. Speaker: What is the principle of this distribution?

श्री हाथी : यह जो पानी बांटा गया है यह यह देख कर बांटा गया है कि कितनी जमीन है और उसको कितना पानी मिल सकेगा ।

डा० सत्यबादी : जिन जिन इलाकों को पानी दिया जाएगा उन्होंने भाखड़ा बांध के बनाने में कितना कितना भार उठा रखा था ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जिन इलाकों को पानी दिया जाने वाला है उन्होंने इसके खर्च में कितना भार उठाया है ?

श्री हाथी : उतना ही होगा । In the same proportion.

श्री बंसल : क्या सरकार को यह मालूम है कि पंजाब के उन इलाकों में जिनको अभी तक कहीं से पानी नहीं मिला है, इस बात पर बहुत असंतोष है कि भाखड़ा बांध का पानी, बजाय इसके कि पंजाब के पिछड़े हुए इलाकों को दिया जाता, दूसरे प्रान्तों को दिया जा रहा है ?

श्री हाथी : आप किस इलाके की बात करते हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पंजाब के पिछड़े हुए इलाकों की ।

श्री बंसल : मैं पंजाब के उस हिस्से की बात कहता हूँ जो गुड़गांव और रोहतक जिले में है ।

श्री हाथी : हिसार जिले में तो पानी मिलेगा ।

But I don't think we are going to irrigate that area.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the agriculturists are actually

charged any fees for the supply of water, and if so, whether the rates are different in different States?

Shri Hathi: The rates are, of course, different in different States and betterment levy and water cess are being charged.

#### SCHEDULE OF RATES (P.W.D.)

\*1613. Shri K. C. Sodhia: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) whether indices of prices of various building materials are maintained by Government;

(b) if so, whether the present indices and wages of labour are on the downward trend;

(c) when the P.W.D. Schedules of rates were last revised; and

(d) whether it is contemplated to revise them again now?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) The C.P.W.D. maintains indices of prices of building materials for those places where there is concentration of work.

(b) At certain places like Delhi, Bombay and Madras, prices of building materials are on the downward trend, whereas at others like Calcutta and Patna, the trend is upward. Wages of labour are generally on the upward trend except in certain places like Delhi, Bombay and Hijli, where they are more or less, steady.

(c) A statement is placed on the Table. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 14]

(d) The Schedule of rates for Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta, which are out of date, are at present under revision. Those in respect of other places do not at present need revision.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: The schedule of rates in certain places is shown to have been revised. I want to know whether the last revision was on the upward level or on the downward level?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I cannot give an off-hand reply because in certain cases it was upward and in certain others it was downward.

**RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR  
AMBASSADOR IN DUBLIN**

**\*1615. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a house has been purchased in Dublin for use of our Ambassador there;

(b) if so, when and at what price;

(c) the amount spent annually for its maintenance; and

(d) whether it is occupied at present?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) and (b). No, Sir; but a house was rented in July, 1950, on a fifteen-year lease. The rent paid is £735 per annum.

(c) The actual amount spent for maintenance is not known, but an enquiry is being made.

(d) The house has not been continuously occupied. A small staff has now been sanctioned and it is intended that they should occupy the house.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Is it a fact that ever since it was taken on lease, none of the successive Ambassadors ever stayed there but always stayed in a hotel?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** Yes, Sir; that is so because the house was not furnished. It is gradually being furnished. There was also no staff there. Therefore, the Ambassadors could not stay there for any length of time. They went there usually for two or three days at a time and it was much less expensive to stay in a hotel. I may add that the Irish Government are very much anxious that there should be some physical place representing the Indian Embassy there and in fact they produced a house and told us to take it. It is difficult for us to disoblige them.

**INSPECTORATE FOR INDIAN MISSIONS  
ABROAD**

**\*1616. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inspectorate for Indian Missions abroad have dealt with any cases of indiscipline found in Missions abroad during their recent tour;

(b) whether they have brought to light the unsuitability of any officer for service abroad; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) to (c). No, Sir.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether such an Inspectorate was started before also?

**The Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I will answer that. Inspectors have gone from time to time—Inspectors of the External Affairs Ministry and Finance Ministry. But I think it is the first time that they have now started it in an organised way.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether any other facts have been pointed out by the Inspectorate and whether the Government is scrutinising them?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Of course; many recommendations, such as criticisms etc. are made in their reports and the Government naturally deals with them.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** May I know whether any irregularities in regard to the purchase of some buildings by our Embassies and Missions abroad have been pointed out by this Inspectorate, and if so, which are these embassy buildings?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** So far as I know—naturally, I have not got the full report—there is no reference to buildings in that report. There may be here and there some but it has not come to my notice.



**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What is the function and scope of this Inspectorate?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Naturally, to inspect.

#### TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTRE

\*1617. **Shri Subodh Hasda:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Technical Training Centre has been started at Jhargram Project Block in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the nature of training imparted there; and

(c) the amount of money spent thereon so far?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** (a) The training centre has not yet started. The construction of the building is in progress.

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

**Shri Subodh Hasda:** May I know whether priority will be given to the students of the locality?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** Naturally, Sir.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** May I know the number of trainees that are likely to be accommodated in these training centres?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** The total number of trainees would be 180.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** How many training centres do the Government propose to open throughout the country?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** I cannot give the exact number so far as the entire country is concerned.

#### STAFF OF MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

\*1619. **Shri Ramji Verma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of displaced Central Government Servants serving under the control of the Ministry of External Affairs in the N.W.F.P. Tribal Area and Agencies were declared surplus sometime back;

(b) whether it is also a fact that simultaneously fresh recruits, and displaced State Government servants were appointed in the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) The number of displaced Central Government servants, who came to India from areas formerly administered by the late External Affairs Department, was so large that it was not possible to absorb even a small proportion in the Ministry of External Affairs and most of them had, therefore, to be declared surplus. All displaced Central Government servants who approached the Ministry for employment were, however, directed to the Central Transfer Bureau for employment to be found for them.

(b) and (c). As and when posts were created or vacancies occurred in the Ministry of External Affairs, requirements were intimated to the Central Transfer Bureau of the Ministry of Home Affairs and the posts were filled on the advice of the Bureau and subject to suitability of the candidates for Foreign Service in accordance with the standards prescribed by the Ministry. In this process fresh recruits and displaced State Government servants were appointed as well as some displaced Central Government servants from the N.W.F.P. Tribal Areas and Agencies, who had been declared surplus.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** May I know the number of displaced Central Government servants from the N.W.F.P. Tribal Area and Agencies?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Fifty-four have been employed in our Ministry, but I am not able to supply the total number of such persons.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** May I know whether any scheme is under the contemplation of the Government of India to re-employ the displaced Central Government servants?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** So far as our information goes, all of them have been

employed in some government office or other.

### THIRD PARTY CLAIMS

\*1620. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number and amount of the third party claims decreed or undecreed outstanding against the evacuees who left their property in India registered with the Custodians of Evacuee Property in

(i) Uttar Pradesh, and

(ii) the rest of India; and

(b) whether any steps have so far been taken to liquidate them in accordance with the assurance of the Minister of Rehabilitation?

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** (a) Unsecured third-party claims are still in the process of registration by the Custodians of Evacuee Property. The required information is, therefore, not available.

(b) Does not arise.

### सीमेंट

\*१६२१. **श्री अनिलसिंह सिंह:** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार सरकार ने भारत सरकार से बिहार राज्य में सीमेंट का मूल्य कम करने की प्रार्थना की है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने उस पर क्या निश्चय किया है?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir. In relation to the freight charged.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

**श्री अनिलसिंह सिंह:** क्या यह बात सही है कि रेल के भाड़े में मेंव रहते हुए भी बिहार के सीमेंट के उपभोक्ताओं को वही दाम देना पड़ता

है जो कि अन्य प्रान्तों में दूर के रहने वालों को, यदि हां तो इसका क्या कारण है?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Yes, Sir, that is a sacrifice that people will have to make for a certain amount of uniformity all over India. Perhaps Bihar residents get facilities in other goods which are denied to people in other parts of India.

**श्री अनिलसिंह सिंह:** क्या यह बात सही है कि दश भर में सीमेंट की एक दूर रहने के कारण उपभोक्ताओं को, गोदामदारों को और कारखाने वालों को उचित दर से अधिक दाम देना पड़ता है?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** That is a question which is more than I can answer.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Is it a fact that the quota of cement for Bihar is allotted from different factories in different States while the surplus is not given to Bihar?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It assumes that there is a surplus. I am not quite sure if there is. It is quite likely that quotas are allotted from different factories.

### EVACUEE PROPERTY IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

\*1624. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the total area of land in Jammu and Kashmir State which has been declared as evacuee property till the 28th February, 1955 in rural and urban areas;

(b) how much of it has been allotted to the displaced persons in the state;

(c) the number of applications for allotment which are pending decision;

(d) the average area of land allotted to each displaced person; and

(e) the number of allotments cancelled subsequently and the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** (a) to (e). The Administration of Evacuee Property Act does not apply to Jammu and Kashmir. The information asked for is not available as the Government of India are not concerned with evacuee property in that State.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Is it a fact that the displaced persons observed a protest day yesterday or the day before, against the policy of the Government in allotting a large proportion of the property that has been left by Muslims who have migrated to local persons, and whether in that protest a few persons have been arrested?

**Shri J. K. Bhonsle:** I read that in the paper as the hon. Member himself has.

**Mr. Speaker:** There is no further information with them.

### निर्माण कार्य

\* १६२५. श्री अमर सिंह डामर: क्या निर्माण, आवास और सम्भरण मंत्री सभा पटल पर एक विवरण रखने की कृपा करेंगे जिसमें निम्न-लिखित बातें दिखाई गई हों:

(क) केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग (सी० पी० डब्ल्यू० डी०) के अन्तर्गत कौन कौन से महत्वपूर्ण कार्य चल रहे हैं; और

(ख) अनुमानतः उनकी कितनी लागत है?

**निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह):** (क) और (ख)। सी० पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० के जरिए से जो बड़ी बड़ी इमारतें बगैरह बन रही हैं उनकी सूची इस मंत्रालय की १९५४-५५ की वार्षिक रिपोर्ट के दूसरे अध्याय में नं० ५ से १४ सफे तक में दी हुई है। यह रिपोर्ट सदस्यों को बांटी जा चुकी है। सी० पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० आज कल जो बड़ी इमारतें बगैरह बना रही हैं उनकी लागत ५५ करोड़ रुपये के करीब होगी।

**श्री भक्त वार्धन:** क्या यह सत्य है कि सेंट्रल पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० के इंजीनियरों का जो तरीका है वह इतना डाइलेटरी है कि उसकी वजह से

बहुत सी रकमें हर साल लॉस हो जाती हैं? यदि हां, तो इसके लिए क्या प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है?

**सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह:** यह गलत बात है। उनका कोई तरीका डाइलेटरी नहीं है। काम इतना ज्यादा है कि वह कई दफा उसको कर पाते हैं और कई दफा नहीं कर पाते हैं जिसकी वजह से काम रह जाता है।

### LAND ACQUIRED FOR CACHMENT AREA

\* 1626. **Shri A. R. Sewal:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the total acreage of land acquired for the cachment areas for the Hirakud, Tungabhadra and Bhakra Dams and by the Damodar Valley Corporation, respectively?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### WATER PUMPING MACHINE

\* 1627. **Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Maheshwari Datt Dimri from Garhwal has invented a Machine that pumps out water from a depth of 50 ft. by mere water force; and

(b) whether any report has been received from the Uttar Pradesh Government about the utility of the invention?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) According to information received from the Uttar Pradesh Government, Shri Maheshwari Datt Dimri of District Garhwal designed a waterlift which on a test by an Engineer of the Government of Uttar Pradesh could lift water to a height of four feet only.

(b) Yes. The State Government have reported that in its present form, the machine is of no use. It can at best work to a height of 10' to 12' with a discharge of six gallons per minute and

that too for a very short period only. It, however, seems to admit of some improvement if some further experiments are carried out and some modifications introduced.

**श्रीमती कमलेंद्रु मति शाह:** क्या यह सत्य है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने इस पम्प के सफल हो जाने पर आविष्कारकर्ता से एक लाख रुपए में पेटेंट खरीदने का बान्द भरवाया है, और क्या यह भी सत्य है कि आविष्कारकर्ता केवल दस हजार रुपए में यह यन्त्र सरकार को सौंपने के लिए राजी है?

**श्री हाथी:** इसकी सूचना मेरे पास नहीं है।

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a matter of opinion.

**श्रीमती कमलेंद्रु मति शाह:** क्या यह सत्य है कि इस पम्प के कुल पुर्जों को एक विशेषज्ञ ने खोल कर रख दिया है और उनको इकट्ठा करने में एक हजार रुपए खर्च होंगे, और अगर यह सच है....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. These are matters within the special knowledge of the U. P. Government.

**श्री भक्त वरुण:** क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि पर्वतीय इलाकों की बहुत सी नदियां ऐसी हैं जिनकी अपार जल शक्ति बंकार चली जाती है और उसका सिंचाई के लिए कोई उपयोग नहीं हो पा रहा है? यदि आई है, तो इस विषय में मंत्रालय क्या कदम उठा रहा है जिससे कि उस जल का उपयोग किया जा सके?

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not think this question arises out of that.

#### LIBRARIES IN INDIAN MISSIONS

\*1628. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state the total number of books supplied to the libraries attached to the various Missions abroad during the year 1954?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** 14,958 books were supplied to 71 libraries attached to the Indian Missions abroad.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether books in other Indian languages are also supplied?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** Books have been supplied in Sanskrit and Hindi and other languages.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya:** May I know whether any assessment has been made to find out as to what languages most attract interest in our friends abroad?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** Is the hon. Member referring to people of Indian descent abroad or foreigners?

**Shri Chattopadhyaya:** Foreigners abroad, friends abroad.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Probably the languages which they themselves know.

#### NATIONAL SCHOOL OF DESIGN

\*1630. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendation of the International Planning Team for setting up a National School of Design, a Customers' Service Corporation and Export Development Offices for efficient marketing and distribution of the products of Indian handicrafts and small industries; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to set up these Organisations?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (b). Two Trade Centres corresponding to the Export Development Offices have been sanctioned. The other recommendations are under examination.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know where these two Export Development Offices or Trade Centres have been set up?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** In the United States of America and Switzerland.

**IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS OF MALAYA  
FEDERATION**

**\*1631. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the immigration regulations of the Malayan Federation forbid visitors taking up any paid or unpaid employment in that country; and

(b) whether there have been any cases recently where Indian visitors have been forced to return to India for contravening such restrictions?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Only one Indian who took up employment as a Watchman without prior permission of the Immigration authorities is reported to have been repatriated.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether Government have any information if there are any Indians there who got that permission from the Immigration Department to take up employment and are in the employ of that Federation?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** Ordinarily the Immigration authorities do not allow persons coming on visit passes to take up employment or to engage in business. Only in cases where the persons have high professional qualifications or technical skill, and if they wish to engage in a profession for which men with suitable qualifications are not available locally, permission is granted.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether any Indians could go to Malaya last year, not for employment but for other business or trade vacations?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** I should think so, Sir.

**HEAVY ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT  
ENQUIRY COMMITTEE**

**\*1632. Shri Heda:** Will the **Minister of Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee appoint-

ed to enquire into the manufacture of the heavy electrical equipment in the country have submitted their report;

(b) if so, what are its main features?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey):** (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee has made an assessment of the requirements of the country in the matter of Heavy Electrical Plant and has come to the conclusion that it is essential for the State to establish a factory for the purpose. The scope of the State factory and the production target for the different items to be made have also been indicated in the Report. The Committee has further recommended that a well-reputed firm of electrical manufacturers should be selected immediately to serve as Consultants for the State factory, the scheme being given high priority.

**Shri Heda:** In the reply, the Parliamentary Secretary referred to a Consultant here. May I know whether the Committee has recommended a Consultant in India or a foreign consultant?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** This was a local Committee consisting of officials and some non-official experts. The suggestion is that we should consult a reputed foreign firm to indicate a basis of co-operation both technical as well as financial.

**Shri Heda:** What would be the cost of this State-sponsored project?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** A sum of Rs. 22 crores was the estimate indicated some years back.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether the Siemens and Associated Electrical Industries have submitted any project report to Government and whether Government have finalised consideration of that report?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** Some reports were submitted years back. Government are going to have fresh reports in this connection.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** In view of the fact that we are behind schedule in the matter of this project resulting in restricting our expenditure to Rs. 2 crores as against Rs. 7 crores provided for in the Plan, do Government propose to expedite this matter and if so, what are the steps taken?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** There has been some unavoidable delay. Certain preliminaries had to be examined. Without being sure about data, we could not proceed with it. Government are taking all possible steps to expedite the matter.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** The hon. Minister said that fresh project report will be prepared. May I know the firms from whom reports will be invited?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** Though we have some names in view, we could not just now disclose the names.

**Shri Heda:** Some apprehension was expressed in the Press that a low return would be available for the capital invested. May we know what is the report in this regard?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** In this case, it is a fact that to start with, there will be certain initial losses. Government have been thinking of manufacturing other types of machinery which may reduce the quantum of losses.

### गोंआ

\* १६२२. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गोंआ स्थित भारतीय बहा वाणिज्यदूत ने १९५५ के दौरान में अब तक गोंआ के व्यापारियों को कितने अनुज्ञापत्र दिए हैं?

बैंगलूर-कार्गु उपमंत्री (श्री अनिल के. चन्ना): १ जनवरी से लेकर २२ फरवरी, १९५५ तक १४ अनुज्ञापत्र व्यापारियों को जारी किए गए।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: इसी काल में हिन्दुस्तानियों को गोंआ सरकार ने कितने अनुज्ञापत्र ईश किए हैं?

श्री अनिल के. चन्ना: इसके लिए नॉटिस चाहिए।

### SOVIET OFFER OF ATOMIC SECRETS

\*1634. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet offer on Atomic secrets has been considered by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, what are the Government's reactions?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) and (b). Government have no information about the offer.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if the Government has received a similar offer from some other countries?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know what the hon. Member means by "offers". There have been conferences; there is going to be a big conference in Geneva next August. We are connected with these conferences. Talks take place. We deal with three or four countries in the matter of atomic energy. We exchange some material; something we get from them. There is no question of any formal offer which, perhaps, the hon. Member is thinking of.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if there is any exchange of material or information between the Governments of India and the U.S.S.R. on this subject?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** No; not that I am aware of.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** May I know.....

**Mr. Speaker:** I am going to the next question.

### WORKS EXECUTED BY C.P.W.D.

\*1635. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of the works executed by the C.P.W.D., in Delhi and New Delhi during the year 1953-54;

(b) the amount of the departmental charges provided in the estimates of those works; and

(c) the actual expenditure incurred on establishment employed on the execution of works in Delhi and New Delhi during the same period?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) to (c). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexe No. 15.]

**Shri Gidwani:** In the statement it is said that the actual amount of departmental charges levied and recovered during 1953-54 was Rs. 50,13,900 on the total cost of works of Rs. 6 crores and something. But, the actual expenditure on establishment employed on the execution of works was Rs. 74,61,800. Has any percentage been fixed regarding expenditure on works?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The question is not clear. But, there is a slab percentage with regard to the levying of departmental charges which varies with the amount of each individual work. It is true that the actual expenditure is more than what we charge. But, this Department is not run purely on a commercial basis.

**Shri Gidwani:** What are the reasons for spending more money, about Rs. 24 lakhs?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It is an accounting matter. We spend more than what we charge because we are not a commercial Department, as I stated earlier. It is a service organisation.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether excess expenditure was charged after the revised estimate or not?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** This represents the actuals.

#### GUJRATI HIGH SCHOOL, BURMA

**\*1638. Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the building of the Gujarati High School situated in Voyle Road, Rangoon has been requisitioned by the Burma Government; and

(b) if so, the amount of compensation paid in this connection?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The School authorities get a monthly rent of Rs. 1,500 from the Government of the Union of Burma.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** May I know if the Government of Burma has provided any accommodation for the teaching of the children of Gujaratis?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** The Gujarati High School in Rangoon is functioning in a building and we have received no complaints.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Have the Government any knowledge about the number of school-going children of Gujaratis in Rangoon?

**Mr. Speaker:** He is going into details. Next question.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** One more question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a small matter. It is no use pursuing it. Next question.

#### BORDER INCIDENTS

**\*1640. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten Indian nationals who were engaged in fixing boundary mark pillars between Indo-Pakistan border near Patamari in Goalpara district of Assam were arrested recently by the Pakistan border police;

(b) whether it is also a fact that bricks, cement and other materials were also carried away by the Pakistan Police;

(c) if so, the steps taken in the matter; and

(d) whether the steps taken have proved fruitful?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) to (d). Some Indian nationals engaged on the construction of boundary pillars on the Rangpur-Goalpara border were arrested by the Pakistan Border Police, who also seized the construction material being used by them.

The arrested persons have been released but some items of the construction material have not yet been returned. The High Commissioner for India in Pakistan has lodged an emphatic protest with the Government of Pakistan against this high-handed action of the Pakistan Border Police. The Government of Pakistan have also been asked to issue instructions for the return of the material and to award exemplary punishment to the offenders. The reply from the Government of Pakistan is awaited.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Under what circumstances were the Indian nationals arrested? When they were released? How many of the items which the Pakistan police carried away are still with the Pakistan Government?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** The materials which they had taken away have not yet been returned so far as our information goes. A number of our boatmen labourers and masons who were engaged in the construction of these pillars were arrested and they were taken over to Pakistan territory. It is also said that they were assaulted by the Pakistan police.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** My question was, how many of the Indian labourers who were engaged in the work were arrested by the Pakistan police, how many of them were beaten and how many have been released up-to-date.

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I have not got the number of people who had been arrested, but all of them have been released.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** In reply to starred question No. 1602, it was stated that we are a courteous Gov-

ernment. May I know whether it is because of that policy of being a courteous Government that Indian nationals are always arrested on the Indian border and beaten also?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** We have not heard from the Pakistan Government as to what is their viewpoint. They might allege that they were not on Indian ground—I do not know. We have not yet heard from the Pakistan Government.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Government of India will approach the Government of Pakistan to release all the persons who have been arrested on Indian borders, before the talks commence between the Prime Ministers of the two Governments?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I have not got the information with me as to whether there are any other Indian nationals in their custody at this moment.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Government of India will approach the Government of Pakistan to give compensation to all the Indians who were arrested and beaten by them or who might have lost their lives during the course of the beating?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Wherever it is considered necessary we have demanded compensation.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Have they got that?

**Shri Gidwani:** They do not repay the debt; they will give compensation!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. That is not the way of talking.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Is it for the Pakistan Government in such instances to have the last say, or have our Government any stand of which they might ever be sure and which they can insist upon?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** As I said, in this particular case certain information was brought to our notice, and we made our approach to the Pakistan Government. Their reply has not yet



been received. Obviously in the absence of their reply, we are not in a position to state what is the viewpoint of that Government.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether that work is going on or that also has been abandoned?

#### LIGNITE MINING

**\*1642. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 210 on the 25th February, 1955 and state:

(a) whether the preparation of a project report on the mining and exploitation of lignite in South Arcot has since been taken in hand and if so, the progress made so far;

(b) whether the excavating machinery belonging to the Indian Mining and Construction Company was purchased for the purpose or was taken on hire; and

(c) the cost at which it was purchased or hired?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) The preparation of the Project Report will be taken in hand, as soon as certain further investigations including drilling and pumping etc. now in hand at Nayveli which are considered essential to confirm the basic data on which such a project report is to be based, are completed.

(b) and (c). Certain items of excavating machinery and equipment belonging to the Indian Mining and Construction Company were made available to the Madras Government in 1953 for use on the Lignite Project originally on a loan basis. Subsequently it was found that the equipment would be required for a considerable period and that it would be most appropriate to treat the equipment as a contribution by the Central Government, towards the project. Accordingly the equipment was purchased by the Central Government at a cost of Rs. 13.48 lakhs from the Indian Mining and Construction Company and given as a contribution to the project.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What is the valuation of this machinery?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Rs. 13.48 lakhs; some of the items were good; some of them had to be repaired and then made use of.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What part are the Madras Government taking in this project?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Till the end of 1954, the Madras Government had taken up the responsibility of going ahead with the pilot project. Since the beginning of this year, the Government of India have taken up the responsibility.

#### NIZAMUDDIN EXTENSION

**\*1643. Chaudhri Muhammed Shaffee:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses newly constructed by Government in the Nizamud-Din Extension, New Delhi, which have been demolished up to 28th February, 1955;

(b) the reasons for the demolition; and

(c) the total loss suffered thereby?

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

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

#### चीनी मिट्टी के बर्तन बनाने का उद्योग

**\* १६४४. श्री अमर सिंह डामर:** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या कथ्य भारत सरकार को चीनी मिट्टी के बर्तन बनाने के उद्योग के लिए १९४२-४४ और १९४४-४५ में कोई अनुदान दिया गया था,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका कहां तक उपयोग किया गया, और

(ग) क्या इसके बारे में राज्य सरकार से कोई प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हुआ है ?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Yes, Sir. In 1953-54 a grant of Rs. 44,000 was paid to the State Government for the establishment of a training-cum-production centre for pottery.

(b) The grant has been utilized to the extent of Rs. 11,785 so far.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** May I know whether the raw materials necessary for the development of this industry are available near the proposed production centre in Madhya Bharat?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is presumed so.

#### CLIPPINGS OF INDIAN LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS

\*1645. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendation of the Estimates Committee contained in para 58 of their Eleventh Report that the examination of the reports and comments through clippings, etc. should be extended to Indian language newspapers also; and

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

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** (a) and (b) . The Press Information Bureau is already examining reports and comments having a bearing on the policies and activities of the Government of India, appearing in newspapers and periodicals in eight Indian languages viz. Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu as indicated in Appendix IX of the report of the Estimates Committee. The scope of the examination will shortly be extended to important newspapers in Assamese, Oriya and Malayalam when the respective language sections start functioning. The question of supplying clippings from important Hindi newspapers and periodicals to the concerned Departments is still under examination.

#### UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

\*1646. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether his help has been sought by the West German Social Democratic Party for the unification of Germany?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** No, Sir.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know whether our Government have received any communication on the subject from our Ambassador at Bonn?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** No.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** May I know whether it is a fact that the West German socialist leader Dr. Ollenhauer had a meeting with the Prime Minister and they discussed the question of unification of Germany and also other problems?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** It is true that the Prime Minister met Herr Erich Ollenhauer. He explained to the Prime Minister his position and his views regarding the future of Germany. As the solution of the German problem is vital to the peace of Europe and the whole world, the Prime Minister listened to him with great interest.

**Shri Heda:** Is it a fact that after this meeting Dr. Ollenhauer wrote to the Prime Minister in this regard?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** No.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Have our Government any considered policy or any considered views on the subject of unification of Germany?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** The Government of India look forward to the unification of Germany, but are reluctant to take any action which might retard the progress of unification.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra:** May I know whether the Prime Minister and Dr. Ollenhauer who is the coming Prime Minister of Germany discussed about the problems of coexistence which has been accepted by our Prime Minister?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** They discuss political matters in general.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** May I know whether any constructive suggestion.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next question.

#### LOW-INCOME GROUP HOUSING SCHEME

**\*1647. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 2 on the 22nd February, 1955 and lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the amount asked for by each State for the loan under the Low-Income Group Housing Scheme; and

(b) the amount sanctioned so far, State-wise?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) and (b). A statement showing the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, Annexure No. 16.]

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know whether any steps have been taken by any State so far to implement the scheme, and if so, what they are?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Most of these States to whom allocation has been made have invited applications for the grant of assistance under the Low-income Group Housing Scheme. Those steps will vary with regard to each State. I would request the hon. Member to wait for some time, and then if he puts a question, I shall give the latest position.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** What is the criterion that guides the Central Government in distributing these grants to the different States?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The requirements of each State.

**Shri Heda:** From the statement I find that generally about 40 to 50 per cent of the requirements were granted to

the States. But in the case of Hyderabad I find that out of the sum of Rs. 9 crores desired, only Rs. 1 crore has been given. What are the special reasons for this treatment?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Actually, the decision with regard to allocation was not made on the basis of any percentage of the original demand. Otherwise, that will only encourage people to pitch up their demand and then get a higher amount by way of percentage. So, the requirements were gone into. It was not based on a percentage of the original demand.

**Shri Dabhi:** From the statement I find that a sum of Rs. 25 lakhs has been allotted to the Bombay State. May I know whether that Government have chalked out any programme for the current year?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** As the hon. Member will find from the statement, the Bombay State asked for Rs. 25 lakhs, and they have been given Rs. 25 lakhs. So, actually the entire demand has been met. I presume they must have formulated a scheme with regard to the disbursement.

#### ALL-INDIA KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

**\*1648. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned by the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board for implementing the Khadi and Village Industries Scheme in Hyderabad State during 1954-55; and

(b) the total amount actually spent during the same period?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 17.]

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether this body is an autono-

mous body or it is controlled by any agency?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** At the present moment, it is a body attached to the Ministry.

#### EXPENDITURE INCURRED IN KOREA

\*1650. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the answer given to unstarred question No. 239 on the 3rd September, 1954 and state whether any amount has been actually received in recovery of the expenditure incurred by India in connection with the Korean Armistice?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** The final figure for expenditure incurred by India in connection with the Korean Armistice and recoverable from the two Commands is Rs. 90,20,000. Half of this amount has been recovered so far. Action is being taken for the recovery of the balance.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What was the total expenditure incurred by the parties?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** About Rs. 90 lakhs.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** What was India's share of it?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** This expenditure is to be met by the North Korean and Chinese Command and the United Nations.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### इस्पात संयन्त्र

\*१५६२. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री २५ फरवरी, १९५५ को दिए गए तारीकित प्रश्न संख्या २४२ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) विदेशी हितों और भारत सरकार के बीच भारत में इस्पात संयन्त्र स्थापित करने के लिए कण देने के प्रश्न पर जो बातचीत चल रही है उसमें क्या प्रगति हुई है;

(ख) ब्रिटिश हितों ने कौन सी शर्तें प्रस्तुत की हैं और भारत को उससे क्या लाभ होंगे;

(ग) ब्रिटिश सरकार का इस योजना की ओर क्या रुख है और वह इसके बारे में कितना समर्थन कर रही है, और

(घ) इस परियोजना में भारत सरकार द्वारा कितनी राशि लगाई जाएगी?

**वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनगो):**

(क) से (घ)। अभी इस दिशा में कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है, शीघ्र ही एक ब्रिटिश दल के आने की आशा है।

#### POWER FROM BHAKRA NANGAL PROJECT

\*1601. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the **Minister of Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of the Scheme that has been drawn up to utilise the power generated by the Bhakra-Nangal Project; and

(b) the percentage of this power proposed to be utilised for industrial and rural electrification purposes respectively?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) The detailed load survey conducted in all the participating States has taken into account the existing demand as well as the anticipated demands of power during the next ten years.

(b) No percentage can be fixed for different types of load, such as industrial and rural electrification. These loads will be taken up as and when they arise till the generation capacity available from time to time is fully utilised.

#### RUBBER CULTIVATION

\*1603. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the **Minister of Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether Government have any scheme for extending the cultivation of rubber?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** The

question of including a suitable scheme of planting of rubber in the Second Five Year Plan is under consideration.

#### STEEL PLANT

**\*1604. Thakur Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the comparative claims of the sites that were visited by the Russian experts in connection with the location of Iron and Steel Plant;

(b) the reason for selecting a site in Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) what is the relative advantage of the site selected to the sites rejected by the experts?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) to (c). The Soviet Team of experts considered six sites for the Steel Plant, namely Gondia, Bilai and Champa in Madhya Pradesh, Durgapur in West Bengal, and Sindri and Bokaro in Bihar, as well as the alternative of locating the plant in Madras or Mysore State. On the basis of a comparative examination of the availability of raw materials like iron ore, steam coal, and limestone, the cost of transportation of these raw materials and of the finished products and the water and power resources, the Soviet Team of experts recommended the Bhilai region of the Madhya Pradesh State as the most economical location for the establishment of the steel plant. The Government considered this Report and the opinions given by the Indian experts and approved of the recommendation of the Soviet experts.

#### YARN

**\*1605. Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have prohibited the purchase of yarn by owners of spinning plants;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much additional yarn will be available to handloom industry every month on this account?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) No, Sir. There are orders, however, that a producer having a spinning plant cannot purchase yarn except with the permission of the Textile Commissioner.

(b) and (c). The object of the order is to ensure that supplies of yarn to the handloom industry are well maintained. It is not possible to estimate, however, what additional supplies would be thus available.

#### LABOUR EMPLOYED IN OIL REFINERIES

**\*1606. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing the number of Indian technical and non-technical labour employed at present in the Burmah-Shell and Stanvac Refineries separately?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** The total number of Indian technical and non-technical (i.e., skilled and unskilled) labour employed by the two refineries as on 10-3-1955 was as under:—

Standard-Vacuum	478
Burmah-Shell	643

#### इस्पात

**\* १६०८. श्री आर० एस० तिवारी:** क्या बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत इस्पात उत्पन्न करने के लिए क्या लक्ष्य निश्चित किया गया है, और

(ख) क्या द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना की कालावधि के बाद विदेशों से इस्पात का आयात करना आवश्यक होगा?

**बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनगो):**

(क) अभी कोई लक्ष्य निश्चित नहीं किया गया है। हमारा वर्तमान अनुमान ६० लाख टन इस्पात पिछों से अधिक का है।

(ख) जब तक द्वितीय पंच वर्षीय योजना का पूरा रूप तैयार न हो जाए यह कहना सम्भव नहीं

हैं कि हम उसकी कालावधि के बाद इस्पात की दृष्टि से आत्म निर्भर हो जाएंगे।

#### SLACK COAL

\*1609. **Shri Kelappan:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a plant for upgrading the fuel value of slack size coal of all grades; and

(b) the quantity of slack coal that is being wasted at present?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the proposal to wash the coal to reduce its ash content and thereby increase its fuel value. Certain recommendations made by the Coal Board for the setting up of washing plants for washing metallurgical coal produced in the country are now under Government's consideration.

(b) It cannot be said that any quantity of slack coal is being "wasted" at present. Slack coal is used mostly for brick burning purposes, but owing to the inadequate wagon supply for movement of coal it is not possible to supply the full requirements of slack coal and due to this cause there is some accumulation of slack coal at the pit-heads.

#### HONNEMARADU PROJECT

\*1614. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of **Planning** be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1322 on the 17th December, 1954 and state the progress achieved so far in regard to the finalisation of the Honnemaradu Project in Mysore State?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** The Project is still under Technical Examination.

#### COTTON

\*1618. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the contracts, if any, that Government have entered into with (i) Egypt and (ii) Uganda during the year 1954-55 for the purchase of cotton; and

(b) when the cotton is expected to reach India?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

#### यूरैनियम, मोनाजाइट आदि

\* १६२२. **श्री राम शंकर लाल:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भूतत्वीय विभाग ने अभी हाल में बुंदेलखंड तथा विन्ध्य प्रदेश का सर्वेक्षण किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सर्वेक्षण के परिणाम-स्वरूप इन क्षेत्रों के किन किन स्थानों में यूरैनियम, मोनाजाइट तथा अन्य खनिज पाए गए हैं?

**प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैद्येशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू):** (क) जी हां, और यह अभी जारी है।

(ख) अभी तक इन प्रदेशों के थोड़े हिस्सों में यह काम किया गया है। यूरैनियम, मोनाजाइट वगैरह बहुत कम मिले हैं।

#### छोटे पैमाने के उद्योगों का बार्ड

\* १६२६. **श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी:** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) छोटे पैमाने के उद्योगों के बार्ड की ६ जनवरी, १९५५ की बैठक में जो निर्णय किए गए थे उनको क्रियान्वित करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है अथवा करने वाली है; और

(ख) इन सिफारिशों को क्रियान्वित करने के लिए कितने धन की आवश्यकता होगी?

**वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग उपमंत्री (श्री कानूनजी):**

(क) इस सम्बन्ध में सदन की मंजूरी पर एक विवरण उपस्थित किया जाता है। (वैशेष परिशिष्ट ८, अनुबन्ध संख्या १८)।

(ख) इस कार्यक्रम को क्रियान्वित करने के लिए बनाई जाने वाली योजनाओं पर यह निर्भर होगा। राज्य सरकार से इन योजनाओं की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है।

**अपरिष्कृत (क्रूड) तेल**

\* १६२६. श्री आर० एस० तिवारी: क्या उत्पादन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आसाम की बृहस्पति घाटी में स्थित नहोस्कीटिया से जलाने का अपरिष्कृत तेल निकाला जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रति दिन कितने पीपे (बैरल) तेल निकाला जाता है;

(ग) इस अपरिष्कृत तेल का अनुमानित मूल्य क्या है; और

(घ) सरकार को इस से प्रति मास कितना लाभ होता है?

**निर्माण, आवास और सम्भरण मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह):** (क) नहोस्कीटिया के कुआँ से क्रूड आयल निकाला जा रहा है।

(ख) प्रति दिन लगभग १,५०० पीपे (Barrels)

(ग) लगभग १५ रुपये प्रति पीपा (Barrel)

(घ) नहोस्कीटिया में तेल निकालने का काम एक गैर-सरकारी कम्पनी कर रही है इसीलिए सरकार को कोई व्यापारिक लाभ नहीं होता।

**निष्क्राम्य सम्पत्ति की बिक्री**

\* १६२७. श्री भागवत भा आजाद: क्या पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने बड़े बड़े शहरों के सारे निष्क्राम्य घरों को बेचने का निर्णय कर लिया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह निर्णय सभी प्रकार की निष्क्राम्य अचल सम्पत्तियों पर भी लागू होगा?

**पुनर्वास उपमंत्री (श्री जे० क० भोंसले):** (क) और (ख)। इस सम्बन्ध में जो निर्णय होगा उसका समावेश विस्थापित व्यक्ति (प्रतिक्लृप्त तथा पुनर्वास) अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत बनाए जाने वाले नियमों में किया जाएगा। नियमों का आलेख अधिनियम की धारा २९ के अधीन बने हुए मंत्रणा बोर्ड को परामर्श के लिए भेज दिया गया है।

**INDIAN INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES**

\* 1639. **Shri Wodeyar:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to refer to the answer given to starred question No. 1469 on the 29th September, 1954 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken on the number of persons to be absorbed in the proposed Indian Information Service and the Indian Broadcasting Service; and

(b) the basis on which the persons will be selected for absorption in these services?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keshkar):** (a) and (b). As stated in reply to starred question No. 1469, dated 29th September, 1954 there is no proposal of introducing or forming any all-India information or Broadcasting Service. The scheme of organising posts of like nature on the information and news side in the several media units under this Ministry, viz. Press Information Bureau, Publications Division and News Services Division of All India Radio into one or more cadres is under examination in consultation with the authorities concerned.

Similarly a scheme for the formation of a Programme Cadre and Engineering Cadre of the All India Radio official staff is also under examination.

No final decision has been taken regarding the strength of the proposed cadres or the details of the recruitment procedures.

## G.A.T.T.

469. **Shri Tulsidas:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the conclusions arrived at and recommendations made at the Ninth Session of the G.A.T.T.; and

(b) the decisions of Government in this respect?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to conclusions and recommendations arising from the review of the General Agreement. A copy of the Press Communique issued by the G.A.T.T. Secretariat, dated the 22nd March, 1955, is attached. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 19.]

(b) No decisions have been reached yet.

## SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

470. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 976 on the 9th December, 1954 and state:

(a) whether Government have since sanctioned any amount out of the funds allocated for small and village industries under the Five Year Plan, for providing loans for venture capital, as recommended by the International Planning Team; and

(b) if so, whether a definite allocation of these funds would be made to the State Finance Corporations for advancing ordinary loans to the small industry?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) Yes, Sir. The amounts sanctioned to the State Governments may be utilised for venture capital also.

(b) No definite allocations of these funds have been made to the State Finance Corporations. But the State Governments can, if they wish, disburse the loans sanctioned to them by

25 LSD

the Centre through the State Finance Corporations.

## COAL

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

(a) whether there has been recently any decrease in the consumption of metallurgical coal by the Railways; and

(b) if so, the quantity of decrease?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) and (b). The consumption in 1954 was about 50,000 tons less than in 1953.

## UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATIONS

472. **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafie:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the financial contribution made by India to the United Nations Organisations so far;

(b) the aid received by India from the U.N. Agencies in terms of money; and

(c) the strength of the U.N. Personnel and their nationalities who are working in India?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) A statement showing the financial contribution made by India so far to the United Nations Organization is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 20.]

(b) and (c). The information asked for by the hon. Member is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House when ready.

## RESTRICTIONS ON EMBASSY STAFF AND VISITORS

473. { **Chaudhri Muhammed Shafie:**  
**Shri Ibrahim:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and extent of restrictions now imposed by the Government



of U.S.S.R. on the Indian Embassy Staff in Russia;

(b) whether there are any reciprocal restrictions on the Soviet Embassy Staff in India; and

(c) the restrictions imposed by the Soviet Government on other Indian visitors to the Soviet Unions?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) There are certain restrictions on the travel of all foreigners in the U.S.S.R. and as such they apply to the members of the Indian Embassy as well. Before 22nd June, 1953, travel was forbidden beyond an area of 25 miles radius of Moscow without special permission. Travel was also prohibited to certain specified localities within this area. On June 22, 1953, these restrictions were relaxed and a large number of areas outside the 25-mile radius, previously prohibited to foreigners, became open to them. Inside this radius, the number of forbidden localities was reduced.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As already stated these restrictions apply to all foreigners and no distinction is made between Indians and other visitors.

#### MOTOR VEHICLES

**474. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of motor cars, trucks and motor cycles imported into India during the years 1951 to 1954, separately for each year; and

(b) the number of these vehicles manufactured in India during these years?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) A statement is attached. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 21.]

(b) Complete motor vehicles are not as yet being manufactured in India. They are now being assembled from

parts and components manufactured in the country according to the programmes approved by Government, the rest of the parts being imported.

The production of motor vehicles during the years 1951-54 was as follows:—

Year	Cars	Trucks	Total
1951	12,385	9,884	22,269
1952	6,952	8,339	15,291
1953	4,936	8,990	13,926
1954	5,435	9,027	14,462

Motor cycles are not yet being manufactured in the country.

#### CONDITIONS OF DISPLACED PERSONS OF TRIPURA

**475. Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether a memorandum has been received by Government from the Tripura Committee of the Communist Party of India on the conditions of the displaced persons of Tripura;

(b) whether certain proposals have been made in that Memorandum; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to give effect to the proposals contained therein?

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

(c) A statement containing various points made in the memorandum and action taken on them is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 22.]

#### INDIAN MUSLIM WOMEN

**476. Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Muslim women now in Pakistan whose husbands are still in India;

(b) the number of Indian Muslim minor children now in Pakistan whose parents are still in India;

(c) the number of destitute Indian Muslim widows and unmarried women who are still in Pakistan;

(d) whether any representations have been made to Government for their repatriation to India;

(e) whether Government contemplate to repatriate them to India;

(f) if so, the terms and procedure that should be adopted by such persons who wish to return to India?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) to (d). Government have no information.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS

**477. Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of agricultural products that has been carried by air from Tripura to other areas of India during 1954-55;

(b) the percentage of industrial products that has been carried to Tripura by air from other parts of India during 1954-55; and

(c) the effect of such movement on the price of agricultural and industrial products purchased and sold in Tripura?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) to (c). Information is not available.

#### COTTAGE INDUSTRIES IN TRIPURA

**478. Shri Biren Dutt:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the recipients of the aid given to Cottage Industry in the State of Tripura;

(b) the principles followed in selecting such recipients; and

(c) the number of applications for such aid received by the Government of Tripura?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) A statement is attached. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 23.]

(b) Under the Tripura State Aid to Industries Rules, 1949.

(c) 1067 applications are reported to have been received.

#### DEMARICATION OF BOUNDARY BETWEEN BIHAR AND EAST BENGAL

**479. Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference was recently held between the officials of Pakistan and Bihar Governments at Tatulia in Dinajpur District in East Pakistan in connection with the demarcation of boundary between Bihar and East Bengal;

(b) if so, the result of the Conference;

(c) whether the boundary between the two countries has been demarcated by means of pucca pillars; and

(d) whether it has been done by a joint survey of both the Governments to avoid future dispute?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) and (b). The meeting held between the Directors of Land Records and Surveys of Bihar and East Bengal at Tetulia (East Bengal) on the 4th and 5th January, 1955, was one of the series of meetings being held between them for the demarcation of the Indo-Pakistan boundary between Bihar and East Bengal. At this Conference, it was decided that the Bihar and East Bengal Governments should prepare the mosaics for the areas covered by the Mahananda and Kartua rivers, respectively. The question of demarcation of the riverine boundary covered

by the above-mentioned rivers will be discussed at the next meeting of the two Directors at Dacca early next month.

(c) The pillar positions have been finalised in certain areas of the Bihar-East Bengal boundary. Agreement has also been reached on the specifications and other details of boundary pillars to be constructed on the border. Actual demarcation by means of pucca pillars has not, however, commenced.

(d) Yes, Sir.

#### MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**480. Shri Ramji Verma:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the displaced permanent Central Government servants absorbed in the Ministry of External Affairs were not treated at par with other permanent employees of the Ministry for purposes of promotion;

(b) whether it is also a fact that purely temporary employees continued to officiate as Assistants whereas permanent upper division and lower division clerks were made to work as lower division clerks;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) how the interests of these employees who have suffered on this account are to be protected?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) No; not after it was decided that they should be treated as Central Government employees.

(b) and (c). Yes. Any person promoted to officiate in a higher grade in a long-term vacancy under the rules current at that time is not reverted in order to make room for some one else who becomes eligible for promotion later by a change in the rules. Changes in the rules do not generally have retrospective effect.

(d) The question does not arise.

#### JHARGRAM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK

**481. Shri Subodh Hasda:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) the number of different types of buildings constructed at Jhargram Community Development Block in 1954; and

(b) whether these buildings are for sale or for the use of the Government officials?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** (a) and (b). Information has been called for from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

#### मध्य भारत की सहायता

**४८२. श्री अमर सिंह डामर:** क्या योजना मंत्री सभा पटल पर एक विवरण रखने की कृपा करेंगे जिस में निम्नलिखित बातें दिखाई गई हों:

(क) वे विकास परियोजनाएँ कौन-कौन सी हैं जिनके लिए मध्य भारत सरकार ने १९५३ तथा १९५४ में केंद्रीय सरकार से सहायता तथा कर्ण के लिए प्रार्थना की है,

(ख) वे परियोजनाएँ कौन सी हैं जिनके लिए केंद्रीय सरकार ने ऐसी सहायता तथा कर्ण देना स्वीकार कर लिया है?

**योजना उपमंत्री (श्री एस० एन० मिश्र):** (क) और (ख)। अपेक्षित विवरण सभा की मेज पर रख दिया गया है। (बैलिये परिशिष्ट ८, अनुबन्ध संख्या २४)।

#### विदेशों में भारतीय

**४८३. श्री अमर सिंह डामर:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पश्चिम, मध्य पूर्व तथा सुदूरपूर्व क्षेत्रों में वे देश कौन-कौन हैं जिन में भारतीय अधिकतम संख्या में हैं?

**प्रधान मंत्री तथा वैदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू):** आज तक के आंकड़े प्राप्त नहीं हैं।

कामनवेल्थ देशों में से भारतीय अधिकतम संख्या में ब्रिटिश मलाया और सिंगापुर, ट्रीनिदाद और टोबागो, ब्रिटिश गायना, फिजी द्वीप समूह, युगेन्डा, श्रीलंका, अदन और गुनेडा में हैं।

दूसरे देशों में भारतीय अधिकतम संख्या में बर्मा, डच गायना, इन्डोनेशिया, स्याम, नेपाल और मडगास्कर में हैं।

यह ध्यान में रखना चाहिए कि अधिक व्यक्ति जो ऊपर के आंकड़ों में सम्मिलित हैं, कामनवेल्थ देशों में रह रहे हैं, वे भारतीय नागरिक नहीं हैं परन्तु केवल भारतीय वंशज हैं।

#### INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS

484. **Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing the new industrial undertakings as well as expanding undertakings, Statewise, for which licences have been issued during 1954-55?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** A statement is attached. (Placed in Library. See No. S-106/55)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)



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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 29th March, 1955

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES ETC.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table the following Statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by Ministers during the various Sessions shown against each:

- (1) First Statement—Ninth Session, 1955 of Lok Sabha.

[See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 31].

- (2) Supplementary Statement No. IV—Eighth Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha.

[See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 30].

- (3) Supplementary Statement No. VIII—Seventh Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha.

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- (4) Supplementary Statement No. XIV—Sixth Session, 1954 of Lok Sabha.

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- (5) Supplementary Statement No. XIX—Fifth Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.

[See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 27].

- (6) Supplementary Statement No. XXIV—Fourth Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.

[See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 26].

- (7) Supplementary Statement No. XXIX—Third Session, 1953 of Lok Sabha.

[See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 25].

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION RE:  
ANDHRA

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table, under clause (3) of Article 356 of the Constitution, a copy of the Proclamation made by the President on the 28th March, 1955, revoking the Proclamation made by him on the 15th November, 1954, in relation to the Andhra State. [Placed in Library. See No. S—102/55].

MESSAGE FROM THE RAJYA  
SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha, that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 28th March, 1955, agreed without any amendment to the Salaries and Allowances of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 1955, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th March, 1955."

## FINANCE BILL

**Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak):** I beg to present a petition signed by a petitioner in respect of the Finance Bill, 1955.

\*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR  
1955-56—(Contd.)

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now take up the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Defence, and I shall call upon the hon. Minister to reply. If the Minister takes—as I presume, he will—50 to 60 minutes, we shall have about four hours left. Five hours have been allotted to the Communications Ministry. Now, if the debate regarding the Communications Ministry is not completed today, the difficulty will be that the two Ministries to be taken up tomorrow, which are, I believe, allotted two hours and three hours, cannot be taken up. We shall always be lagging behind by one hour. So the alternative is that we either sit today for one hour more and finish the debate regarding the Communications Ministry or curtail the time of the other two Ministries, which are the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Natural Resources. The time allotted for the Ministry of Health is two hours and that for the Ministry of Natural Resources, three hours. So I would ask what the House wishes to do.

**Shri-mati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat):** We are actually working almost every day an extra half an hour or one hour. So I would submit that we can sit for an hour extra and finish the debate regarding the Communications Ministry and then continue, according to the allotment of time tomorrow with the other two.

**Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour):** We can have half an hour each day....

**Shri Gidwani (Thana):** I would suggest that we cut one hour from the time allotted to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

**Mr. Speaker:** There are two proposals. I am not going to have a discussion to a very great extent on them. One is that we sit one hour extra today and the other is to cut off one hour from the time allotted to the Ministry of Natural Resources tomorrow. What is the sense of the House?

**Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda):** There are some meetings of Select Committees fixed. Immediately after the House rises, we have to attend those meetings. If the House sits up to 6 p.m., then we have to sit after 6 p.m. and go up to 7 or 7-30 p.m.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then the upshot is that some time has to be cut off from the allotment to the Ministry of Natural Resources. That is what it comes to.

**Shri Gadgil (Poona Central):** Half an hour.

**Mr. Speaker:** So we do not sit then today for one hour more.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** At least for half an hour more.

**Mr. Speaker:** We will come to a compromise. We sit for half an hour more today and cut off half an hour from the time allotted to the Ministry of Natural Resources.

**The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** That is right. Life is made of compromises.

**The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju):** Shall I take half an hour?

**Mr. Speaker:** As much time as the hon. Minister wants.

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

## DEMANDS RE: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

**Dr. Katju:** We have had a very constructive debate on these Demands and I am very grateful to the House for their appreciation of the very fine work of our Armed Forces and also of the Defence Ministry in the past year.

I need not say that we have listened with the greatest care to every suggestion that has been made here because I am very glad to say that the House has dealt with this particular matter not in a partisan spirit. We are all interested in the security, integrity and independence of our country, and all of us are actuated by one simple desire, namely, to see to it that our armed forces should be kept in good strength, in good mettle and should be the finest in the world, and I recognise that everything that has been said by every side of the House has been moved by that desire. I can only give a very sincere undertaking that every single suggestion will be examined very carefully and considered on merits, and we shall try our best to act in accordance with it, if it is feasible to do so.

I am, as the House knows, a little new to this particular Ministry. I have got colleagues of great experience and knowledge and, if I may say so, great ability, and it was to me a very refreshing experience that their work should have been appreciated by different Members who took part in this debate. I have travelled to some extent during the last three months and I have visited ordnance factories, ordnance depots, cantonments, air centres, naval training centres, and I have been struck by one thing, namely, how our Army and our Armed Forces of all descriptions—Army, Navy and Air Force—are scattered over all parts of India. They are in Kashmir in the north and down in the south. I was deeply moved to see the Air Training School close to Madras, at Tambaram, one of the finest institutions that I have seen. Wherever you go, in every military

station, every military training centre, you see before you India in miniature complete unity—a symbol of unity and a symbol of patriotic endeavour. When I go into these centres, I see before me young men coming from all parts of India who make absolutely no distinction between themselves, whether they are from the north or from the south or from the east or from the west; there is no provincialism in the Army. Every Indian soldier, airman or naval rating considers himself to be an Indian first and an Indian last, and devotion to India is his ruling passion. That is, I suggest to my hon. friends here, a very very refreshing, exhilarating and inspiring experience. Here and elsewhere in the newspapers and public meetings and discussions you listen to complaints based on provincialism, linguistic provinces etc. and all sorts of things are said about casteism, this, that and other things. But, the moment you enter into the precincts of a military area, the thing simply evaporates and it does not exist. That is one of the most wholesome features of our Indian Army.

Hon. Members have naturally insisted that our Army should have all the support that modern equipment can give to it. Some hon. Members said that we should increase our Budget, that the Army should have all the resources that they want, all the money that they require. The conditions in India during the last 7 years have been abnormal. Conditions in the world have been abnormal. I do not think that any particular decision has yet been taken as to the size of our Army. Our Navy and Air Force are in their infancy and they are expanding forces. In the pamphlet which is called a *Brief Statement of the Activities of the Defence Ministry*, which has been circulated to Members, hon. Members would have seen that there has been expansion and progress all round in the Navy and in the Air Force. Figures have not been given; they could not be given. But, the House may take it

[Dr. Katju]

from me that our utmost desire is to expand them as quickly as possible within our limits, within our necessities and these services would not suffer for want of funds. But, so far as our Land Forces are concerned, there has been expansion and for a variety of reasons. But what the peace-time strength should be is a matter of large policy to be decided when normal conditions return.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair].

Probably all would agree—as one hon. Member, my friend from Rajasthan, suggested—that a big, ill-equipped Army is of no use these days. What is desirable is that the number may be comparatively small, but it should be well-organised, well-located and mobile and it should be well-armed. It should have all the facilities that modern equipment provides. There was a great deal of talk about nuclear weapons, atomic energy and all that. Now, our views on this matter are well known. We hate nuclear weapons. We do not want them. Our whole foreign policy is based upon it. We hate bombs, atom bombs and hydrogen bombs and it would be ridiculous, I suggest, for India, with its declared policies and with its very limited resources to think on those lines at all. And, therefore, all that we can do is to base our Army and to equip our Army with what are called conventional arms.

Some anxiety was expressed rather in a contradictory way. It was said that you should modernize the Army. You should give them the very best weapons. In the same breath, it was also said that you should not import arms from abroad and that they should be reduced to the minimum. It is rather contradictory, though the contradiction is apparent, because I have seen for myself these Ordnance Factories, and so far small arms are concerned, they are doing their very best. We are self-sufficient—I am not saying self-sufficient in entirety. We

should like to have some of the arms which are at present not manufactured in our Ordnance Factories. As my hon. colleague, Shri Satish Chandra, said the establishment of a new type design in a factory takes time; it may take two years, it may take three years. Therefore, I quite recognise that in the world today, in different countries, there is a race for improvement and it may be that, while we are improving a particular variety and after two or three years of labour we congratulate ourselves that we have got a very fine thing, we may find that in another country in Europe or elsewhere they have hit upon a new design and they are bringing that forward. For us to establish that particular design or to make even an improvement on the existing one will take two to three years, and, therefore, to that extent, we may be a little backward. But, as the Prime Minister said, self-sufficiency is our goal and our aim and we want to be as self-sufficient as possible and I may assure the House that there should be no fear, no apprehension that our Army is equipped with outmoded or out-of-date arms or even second-rate arms. That is not so. There may be difference of a little kind in some arms—to use a colloquial phrase “fifteen annas or fifteen and a half annas in the rupee or nineteen shillings in the pound”. But, actually, I think, so far as conventional arms are concerned—leaving aside tanks—these are big things—we are fully equipped and our Ordnance Factories are rendering exceptional service.

I shall have to come to the Ordnance Factories again at some length, but I may point out here that the main purpose of the Ordnance Factory is the manufacture of lethal weapons. That does not exist for the purpose of sewing coats. There may be a tailoring factory at Shahjehanpur or for general stores of different kinds. But, the main purpose of an Ordnance Factory is the manufacture of arms,



the manufacture of arms for peace-time strength and the manufacture of arms still more for emergencies. Today we have got large stocks of different kinds and, therefore, what are called orders by Armed Forces are comparatively moderate because they do not need it. Supposing they have got a large number of rifles, they say to the Ordnance Factory that they do not require a very large number for the next year because they can carry on. But, if an emergency arises, then the Armed Forces will signal to the Ordnance Factories, within 2 months we will require this, within 3 months we will require that and so on and the result of that will be that we will have to provide them with these things. Please remember this, that most of the machinery or at least a very significant part of the machinery of the Ordnance Factories, is adapted only to the manufacture of those lethal weapons and nothing else. It cannot be converted—I am speaking broadly for manufacturing different kinds of goods. It can only be used for the purpose of manufacturing lethal weapons. We must have all these machines there because no one knows when a demand may come and they must be kept fit for use. So, there must be a continuous series of what are called “trickle orders” and the machinery must be kept employed so that it may not get out of use or get rusted when an emergency comes. But, the difficulty is that that machinery is there and if you ask me there is so much of idle capacity and why don't you use it for such and such purpose, the answer is that that particular machine cannot make anything excepting that particular kind of arms and therefore it cannot be used. That is an aspect of the matter which I would ask the House always to bear in mind.

Coming back to the Forces, stress was laid by a lady Member—and others also touched it—that it is desirable that their morale should be very high. It is God's blessing, as I said, that our Armed Forces consist of patriotic individuals. They have got their

grievances; they complain of this, that and the other thing, but it only remains at the stage of making representation. So far as the performance of their duty is concerned, I say with pride they do their duty most wholeheartedly; and we and the Service Headquarters are fully alive to the requirements of this particular matter.

One thing which struck me most—and it is a factor which I believe, was mentioned by Mrs. Uma Nehru—is the question of married quarters. I think it is desirable in every way that married people should, so far as can be arranged, live together. I do not want to go into details. But, from the social point of view, from the economic point of view, from the point of view of simple living and disciplined life, a good and happy life, it is desirable that it should be there. In the British times—I do not know how the figure was arrived at—so far as other ranks were concerned, it was said that married quarters should be provided to the extent of 7 per cent of a unit. A unit included both married and unmarried men, and on enquiry, I was told, taking it very roughly, that 60 per cent of a unit may be said to married people. Out of this 60 per cent, 7 per cent of the whole, that is, out of 60 people, seven were provided or should have been provided with married quarters. That would work out roughly to 10 or 11 per cent of the married people. This was too low, and some years ago, after Independence, a committee sat upon it and it considered that the proportion should be raised. There was an enormous discussion and then it was said that there was difficulty about finance and about building of houses because it was a troublesome matter. Then they came to the conclusion that, instead of 7 per cent, it should be 14 per cent., and the 14 per cent. would work out to about 22 per cent of the married people. That having been decided, owing to paucity of funds, and not only because of other requirements, this could not be given sufficient priority, and the result is that



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houses have not been built even to the extent of 20 per cent. Effort is being made every year; money is provided—Rs. 1,00,00,000 or Rs. 80,00,000 or something like that—and a number of houses are built, but this limit is not reached. Some rented quarters are also taken wherever possible, but there is difficulty.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Why is the money lapsing every year?

**Dr. Katju:** Just be a little patient, Money is given every year, but is given for constructions—and constructions of a variety of things, which include married quarters for officers and men. But there is an allotment for distribution of the funds budgeted for some purposes, for training schools, for wireless centres, etc. The money which is allotted for this particular priority, namely, married quarters, is not very sufficient. What we propose to do is to pay the utmost or the maximum attention during the coming two or three years to make sure that at least the 20 per cent limit or 14 per cent per unit limit, is reached. I shall consult with the Army Headquarters and the Naval Headquarters to see whether we cannot make this progress in the coming year or in the next year. After that has been done, we shall further consider whether increase in the total quantity of married quarters is not possible. The subject has engaged the attention of hon. Members and I only wanted to assure them that we are fully alive to its importance and we shall try and give a push on to it in the coming two years, so that this grievance—I think well-founded grievance—is removed to an appreciable extent.

Shrimati Nehru referred to the facilities for education. That is also an important matter, because military centres, air centres and naval centres are situated sometimes close to an urban area, may be within a canton-

ment and there may be educational institutions available—high schools and other schools—and the children can go there, but sometimes they are situated miles away from an urban area and the result is that something has got to be done. I am very glad to say that in this particular matter, there is plenty of voluntary effort on the part of officers' wives and other people interested to see that the education of small children does not suffer. I have myself visited small centres and small schools which are opened in the centre itself, but grown-up boys may have to go some distance to attend a high school or a middle school, and for that purpose the military authorities provide concessions and provide transport. I shall further look into this matter so that all reasonable facilities are given to the children of the military personnel, particularly Other Ranks, and no one suffers from lack of education. I would like to say broadly that the provision of amenities and facilities of all kinds is a matter of the deepest concern to the Ministry and also to the Army Headquarters. Something was said about medical aid. There may be some difficulty in some particular area—I do not know—but wherever I have been, I have rather congratulated the military people on the first-class hospitals that they have got. I went to Allahabad and I thought I was going into an extraordinarily fine building. I asked "What is this?" and they said "It is a hospital."

**Shri A. K. Gopalan (Cannanore):** There are hospitals but there are no medicines in the hospitals. There should be medicines there.

**Dr. Katju:** There is the Army Medical Corps and absolute care is taken to see that the troops of all the three wings are absolutely fit because it is our job to keep them fit. In the Army Medical Corps, there has been an increase in staff. More doctors

will be taken and I should like to assure every single Member of the House to be quite certain that the health of every single soldier, airman and naval rating is as carefully looked after as it is humanly possible to do so and there shall be nothing left, either by way of increasing the strength of the medical staff of providing medical facilities, proper buildings, proper equipment, drugs, etc., to look after their health.

It brings me to another point. Something has been said about the strength of the army and the strength of what was called the "Home Front" or the second line of defence. With the general principles I entirely agree. Really, I think that it is desirable, in these days of very costly paraphernalia in the shape of equipment and all other things, that we should keep our regular army in peace-time as low as may be consistent with the interests of security and efficiency because it may be expensive, but our second line of defence should be strong; we should have reserves; we should have territorials; and more particularly, the National Cadet Corps, and what we are now establishing the National Volunteer Force, should be on the soundest lines and should be expanded. The House must have read in this report—and the figures have been mentioned—that the results in the National Cadet Corps have been very, very encouraging. It has been expanding. Previously it was a sort of a provincial affair. The Central Government gave a grant of 25 per cent and I think they provided military instructors. But in order to develop this further, the proportion of the Central grant has now been increased from 25 to 50 per cent., and the number has increased. Last year, as the report shows, the total number was more than 1,00,000—it was 1,01,000—and now I should like to say this quite definitely that I consider the National Cadet Corps as an organisation of the highest national importance. You sometimes hear about indiscipline among students—very pain-

ful indeed. But I am personally satisfied that if our students, University students, school students, were induced to become members of the National Cadet Corps, it will leave a lasting lesson on them in discipline, good manners, proper life, etc. Inasmuch as the N. C. C. nowadays is engaged mostly in camps, doing social welfare work, it comes into direct contact with the villagers; it is taught something for the good of the community; it is imparted lessons in patriotism, devotion to duty, devotion to India. I would be very happy indeed if instead of a lakh, in the course of the next two, three or four years, the number would increase by one hundred per cent, and become two lakhs or three lakhs. I am certain that neither the Central Government nor the State Governments would consider that development as a matter of concern. Today we are spending on the National Cadet Corps, both the Central Government and the Provincial Governments, somewhere about Rs. 2 crores and 40 lakhs. I consider every rupee spent on this as well spent and I am sure it would yield us enormous dividends. I would not be personally sorry if this Rs. 2 crores 40 lakhs were to be increased to Rs. 5 crores or even Rs. 7 crores so that our N. C. C. may develop.

I should in this connection like to say just one word. It is desirable that throughout the States of India, every single part of India, every organisation which seeks to impart military training in an organised manner to students should become a part of this national organisation. In some States we have got provincial schemes. Very desirable; very fine. They are doing good work. They were started probably when the National Cadet Corps was not in existence, or was in its infancy and they wanted to do something for the benefit of their students. But I want that all these should now come under the umbrella, under the shelter of this National Cadet Corps organisation, because it again represents like the army of India, the unity of India. Every student, whether he is a student in the Punjab, or whether

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he is a student in Madras, if he belongs to the National Cadet Corps, imbibes a lesson, unknown to himself, **that he is a member of an organisation which spreads throughout India.** Therefore, in him is inculcated a sense of unity, a sense of devotion to India as a whole, and not to any part of it.

I appreciate very much the encouragement that the House has given to this new scheme of the National Volunteer Force. I, and I am sure all the Members attach the greatest importance to it. It is a scheme which was **intended to replace the old Auxiliary Territorial Army** and it is on a much larger footing. The scheme is that in five years it should be five lakhs. The idea is to train one lakh each year. The scheme has been prepared and work on it has started. Two hundred camps are being opened and we are fully confident that in five years the target will be reached. If in the first one or two years the response is good, I shall personally be extremely happy and I should be very willing to increase the figure of 5 lakhs to 7 lakhs or even to 8 lakhs. In fact, I want it to be unlimited. What we want is that all the citizens should become members of this body, undergo training, spend a month or two, as required, in the camps and be available for the service of the country—God forbid—if an emergency arises.

I should like to say just one or two words about one particular matter which has been raised. The hon. the Prime Minister mentioned about the use or employment of foreign personnel. It has a long history about it. We have our own Army now for the last seven years. We started with a number of British officers, who as the Prime Minister said, rendered distinguished service and we are deeply grateful to them. But the number is gradually diminishing. For instance, in the Navy in 1949, the foreign personnel was 129; now it is reduced to 26. In the Hindustan Aircraft Limited—which is called HAL in the mili-

tary circles, the number of foreign experts or technicians employed about five or seven years ago was about 259. Since then it has been reduced to 7. I should like to assure the House, without going into great details, that we are making our utmost efforts to replace foreign personnel by training our own people and we are making good progress. You have only to visit any factory to see the results with your own eyes. The Navy is sending a large number of people for training abroad—ratings, officers,—similarly airmen and army people. Sometimes people ask: why do you send them? We send them because we cannot avoid doing so. At the same time in different parts of the country training schools are being opened, so that the necessity of sending people abroad for training may be minimised. The two things go together: If training schools are established, you want instructors, and you have to send Indian officers abroad so that they may receive the proper training and become instructors in these schools. They require equipment for training. That is also being ordered. The point that I am making is that the House should rest assured that we want to become self-sufficient not only in the manufacture of arms but also in the trained personnel. We do not want to depend upon other people if we can help it.

Mrs. Chakravartty mentioned about a particular gun. She asked whether we are manufacturing guns; bren guns, I think she said. Well, we are manufacturing. Whatever we can, we manufacture, provided it is required. In the Army, as it is, we do not require them. The Armed Forces some years ago said that they had sufficient bren guns at their disposal. So, we stopped their manufacture. Now, if they place an order, we shall again manufacture it. In the Ordnance factories every effort is being made to increase designs, and to establish new designs, and so far as conventional weapons are concerned to manufacture them. But there must be an order. It is not a sort of a show-room. It is not an exhibition for that purpose.

The procedure is that the Armed Forces send orders and the ordnance factories comply with them.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I take it we are sure that we can manufacture bren guns—all the essential parts, the blue prints and everything?

**Dr. Katju:** We have got brains; we have only to add guns to have bren guns.

But there must be orders. The army must send orders. It is no use manufacturing anything if the orders are not there.

Something was said about the salaries and my hon. friend Sardar Hukam Singh raised a point about the Junior Commissioned Officers and the Senior Commissioned Officers. When I heard him, it reminded me of the old history—Senior Commissioned Officers were in the good old days called the King's Commissioned Officers. Indians were taken into the Army but they were not given Commissions unless they went to Sandhurst or somewhere else. There were Junior Commissioned Officers—people, respectable, highly intelligent, devoted to duty who had risen from the ranks, namely Subedar Major and Jamadar and people of that class. He strongly pleaded for the removal of all these distinctions. I am afraid that he rather over-simplified the complicated problem. Today there is no such thing as JCO or KCO. The Indian officer gets a Commission. The condition precedent is a particular age limit. He must be—I think—17 or 18. He must go to the National Defence Academy which has recently been established or to the Joint Services Wing at Dehra Dun. It is open to any jawan of the Indian Army, if he is competent, alert, brilliant, to go to the National Defence Academy provided he is within the age limit. Every Indian commissioned officer goes and gets some commission that way. So far as the junior commissioned ranks are concerned—jamedars, subedars etc.—there is no recruitment to ranks at all. It is all—I understand—by promotions from the other ranks. A jawan

becomes a naik; a naik becomes a havildar and then Jamadar, Subedar, Subedar-Major. It goes up. By the time one becomes a Subedar-Major, one may be 40 or 45 years. I do not know how an individual of 40 or 45 would fit in as a Second Lieutenant when his other companions would be lads of 22 or 23. It is not an easy matter; it is a complicated matter—recruitment of JCOs directly but I do not want to go into these matters further....

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** It may be complicated but why should we retain this Junior Commissioned Officer class? Where is the necessity?

**Dr. Katju:** Give it some other name; if it is a question of some other name, I will be prepared to call it by some other name.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Where is the necessity to have a distinction between the two—to discriminate between the JCOs and other Commissioned Officers?

**Dr. Katju:** Today the situation is this. Apart from the names the distinction is that between the Jawans and the other ranks and the commissioned officers, there is an intermediary or link and the link is a fairly substantial one.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Exactly that was the point. The old sahib wanted an intermediary but why should our sahib want it?

**Dr. Katju:** You must provide. It is a very complicated problem and I assure you that I will consider it and see what can be done about it. The more I consider it, the more I am faced with complications. If you take it away, what is the channel of promotion left to the jawan? Today if a jawan is competent and does his duty well, then he becomes a naik, then he becomes a havildar, jamadar, subedar, subedar-major and so on. I will not pursue the matter any further....

**Shri Nand Lal Sharma (Sikar):** Give senior commissions direct.

**Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur):** That will happen in Ram Rajya.

**Dr. Katju:** I will get this problem examined. But it is not so rosy or simple as my hon. friend put it!

Then comes the question of the salaries that we pay to all our Indian officers. The hon. Member from Rajasthan put in a strong plea for them. I was deeply moved. Probably he was thinking of the higher salaries of the war time; then there were different conditions. The House is aware that immediately after attaining Independence in 1947 we had a Pay Commission appointed for the purpose of grading the salaries for all the civil services and we had a Pay Committee for the Army; I am told that after lengthy discussions and after a labour of a year or two, the Committee reported this scale—the present scale. This has been there for seven years and I do not know whether you can deal with this matter in a lop-sided fashion; it is difficult. Because, if you revise the salaries, you have got to keep in view the pavs of the civil services. By the way, I may say that if Sardar Hukam Singh's proposals were accepted, and if you make all the JCOs—their number, I understand, is about 1,300 or more—commissioned officers, it will mean an expenditure of Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 crores. Any way it will mean more expenditure—a large expenditure.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** I never suggested that all of them should be given senior status. I rather suggested economies that should be effected if one were to go into them.

**Dr. Katju:** So far as our Commissioned Officers are concerned, there is one factor which I should like to emphasise and that is that our Second Lieutenant starts with Rs. 350. But along with this salary, he is given other concessions which ought to be taken notice of. For instance, all Government officers are required to pay ten per cent. of their salary for their house rent—whether it is a Government house or a house requisitioned for them. The Officer of the Second Lieutenant's rank is asked to pay only five per cent. That may mean a convenience to him or an economy to him of about Rs. 25 or so. Similarly, he gets electricity at concessional rates;

he gets a kit allowance. If I am not mistaken, he is paid every month what is called disturbance allowance for the transfers. It is rather a funny word. The net result of all these concessions is that we may safely add Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 altogether to his emoluments. That ought not to be lost sight of.

That again brings me to the question or proposition which my hon. friend from Rajasthan put forward and with which I am disposed to agree, that is, that you may reduce the strength of your Army but make it efficient and make it contented and make it an effective Army and let people live in fairly comfortable conditions. I agree. There is no difficulty about that. We shall get it examined.

That brings me to another matter. In the general debate, I think one hon. Member said that prohibition should be introduced into the Indian Army. I think it was Mrs. Renu Chakravartty who said that we should not imitate the British pattern. Some Members said that there should be an Asian pattern for our Indian Army. It is very fine; I am rather attracted. Being a strong prohibitionist myself I personally think that the Indian Army should make an effort to forget the past—not in the path of gallantry, devotion to duty or how best to serve the country, but—in their method of living. I have moved greatly among them for several years both in Bengal and here and I noticed that—call it economic conditions or call it pressure of economic forces—the stories that we hear about this and that are all grossly exaggerated. They live a very decent family life and they are changing their mode of living. They are now trying to accustom themselves to the Indian way of living—simple living, austerity and all that. I would not like to put any pressure of any kind but would leave it to the officers themselves. And what do they want? They want that the Indian Army or the Indian Armed Forces should become the idols of the nation. When they were serving under the British regime, everybody knows that

they were living a rather secluded life. They kept out of the national current. It so happened that, as soon as Independence came, they were tested, they were put to a test—I think a test of fire—in Kashmir, and the achievements of the Indian Army there were such that they went straight into the heart of every single person of the thirty-six crores of people of India. We became their admirers, their lovers. That is what they did. And then came their achievements in Korea, we are so proud of them; their achievements in Indo-China; their martial bearing, their simple, dignified bearing; their steady, sober life—I am speaking generally—and the social welfare work they have done—I have not seen it myself but I have heard from people—in Kurukshetra where there were two lakhs of refugees, the military camp run by a Major-General or Brigadier; their devotion to duty, and helping wherever there is a difficulty. People talk of socio-economic work. What is the use of talking words? Please remember that the Army exists for military purposes. And take it from me that a soldier is always undertraining. There is no such thing as peace time for him. He goes for drill. I think he devotes six hours every day on the field. Then there are manoeuvres, exercises, this thing and that thing. And that is his main job. We do not want him to go and dig a road which will interfere with his military training.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** (Purnea cum Sant'al Parganas): It is an out-of-date conception....

**Dr. Katju:** Very well. Tell me the in-date conception....

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** You know it better.

**Dr. Katju:** The in-date conception is that there is no proper advertisement of the *shramdan* that they do. The *shramdan* may not confine itself to digging wells or making roads or connecting one village with another. It may also be in making a cantonment, a beautiful cantonment, in making the structure. They do a lot of voluntary work in that direction. I

have seen it with my own eyes. Take a place which was a heap of ruins. You go there and you find a long building. Who has done it? It is the soldiers who have done it.

My hon. friend said it is an out-of-date conception. Whenever there is any difficulty, be it Assam, Rayalseema or Bihar in floods, whenever there is some work to be done, work which is immediate, urgent, which requires organisation, the Army is sent there, Sappers and Miners, and they do a wonderful job. I am suggesting it is not correct to say that our Indian Army is neglecting these things.

**Shri Dabhi** (Kaira North): Where is the difficulty in introducing prohibition in the Army?

**Sardar A. S. Saigal** (Bilaspur): Thorough examination of this question is required.

**Dr. Katju:** I will not go further into this matter....

**Shri V. G. Deshpande** (Guna): You have not gone into it. Would there be any prohibition in the Army?

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, Order. This is not Question Hour. Everybody rises and puts questions.

**Dr. Katju:** I am afraid my hon. friend was not here when I was talking about prohibition. I am not going to repeat myself. It will be a crime.

**Shri Nambiar** (Mayuram): Don't commit crimes.

**Dr. Katju:** I have practically done. I should like only to say just one or two words about the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force, and generally. I heard some one say that we are purchasing obsolete arms, that we are purchasing rejected ships. It is all incorrect. Either we manufacture, or what we purchase elsewhere we purchase the best. If we purchase a ship we get it re-conditioned, we get it refitted, we get it completely modernised. This report would have told you that we have purchased a cruiser. That cruiser has been re-named. It will take about two years to come to India and to be put into commission here:



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and it will cost us a very large sum in re-fitting and modernising.

Similarly, we have placed orders and we have taken steps to make our Navy self-sufficient in the matter of re-fuelling. At present for want of a proper ship or tanker they have to come back and to come to port, but now the tanker will be there, it will accompany them and they will not have to come back. I do not want to go into these technical details, but let the House completely remain contented that every possible step is being taken for expansion. It is no use your purchasing five hundred aeroplanes. There must be trained personnel to fly those planes, similarly to run those ships.

**Shri Velayudhan** (Quill'on cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): What have you done for training more personnel?

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. This is not the way. The hon. Member sits down and makes a remark in the form of question.

**Shri Gadgil:** Since it is a Defence debate there ought to be a little skirmish!

**Dr. Katju:** I do not want to carry on this further.

So far as Ordnance Factories are concerned, my hon. colleague, **Shri Satish Chandra** has explained the whole matter. Our great military expert, **Mr. Patnaik**, emphasised....

**An Hon. Member:** Is it ironical?

**Dr. Katju:** I never say anything ironically.

**Shri Namblar:** Is it an invitation to the other side?

**Shri Velayudhan:** Even without invitation people come.

**Dr. Katju:** He insisted on two things. First he emphasised that there should be closer co-operation between the different Ministries. I think it will be good news to him that that exists.

I am speaking from inside knowledge. Sometimes I am tired, because whenever any question arises, before a final decision is taken it goes before a Secretarial Committee, before a Committee at the Ministerial level. Everything is done. We are not selfish people. We do not want to impose decisions. We want to get complete information....

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** The collaboration might be there, but he wants it to be closer.

**Dr. Katju:** It is as close as you can possibly make it.

**Shri U. C. Patnaik** (Ghumsur): And by way of explanation I indicated certain lines on which such co-operation should be ensured.

**Dr. Katju:** I shall finish in two minutes. The other two things are these. My friend complained that the stores in our Ordnance Depots are lying simply uncovered, un-checked, and nobody knows, etc. This is all imagination.

**Shri U. C. Patnaik:** I have seen them in detail.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. If every remark of the hon. Minister is to get a reply I do not know how the debate will end.

**Dr. Katju:** It is all imagination. I think he is giving some information of what happened when the war came to an end in 1946. But after 1946, I have seen with my own eyes, I have seen enormous registers....

**Shri U. C. Patnaik:** We have seen with our own eyes only last year on behalf of Parliament.

**Mr. Chairman:** Twelve months have passed, and the Minister has joined three months ago.

**Dr. Katju:** One thing I am anxious about, and it is an administrative problem in which two Ministries are concerned, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Supply; and that is early, speedy disposal. From war time

the stocks have been lying for the past ten years, and the machinery for their disposal is somewhat complicated. We shall try to take steps to see that it is made easier and it works smoothly, and what the Army does not need to-day, what the Army will not need tomorrow or within the next three years, which is spare and is fit to be sold should be sold at an early date.

I have nothing more to add. I wish to express my gratitude to the House once again for all the kind things they have said about the Armed Forces, and it is a matter of sincere pride and satisfaction to us that in our Armed Forces we have gallant men who are doing their duty in a wonderful fashion.

1 P.M.

**Mr. Chairman:** I shall now put all the cut motions together unless any hon. Member wants me to put his cut motion specifically to vote. I find none. I put all cut motions.

*The cut motions were negatived.*

**Mr. Chairman:** The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of the following heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 111."

*The motion was adopted.*

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below:—  
Ed. of P.P.]

#### DEMAND NO. 11—MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum

necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Ministry of Defence'."

#### DEMAND NO. 12—DEFENCE SERVICES, EFFECTIVE—ARMY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,42,89,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective—Army'."

#### DEMAND NO. 13—DEFENCE SERVICES, EFFECTIVE—NAVY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,66,40,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective—Navy'."

#### DEMAND NO. 14—DEFENCE SERVICES, EFFECTIVE—AIR FORCE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 32,52,72,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective—Air Force'."

#### DEMAND NO. 15—DEFENCE SERVICES, NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,97,79,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Defence Services, Non-Effective Charges'."

#### DEMAND NO. 111—DEFENCE CAPITAL OUTLAY

"That a sum not exceeding



[Mr. Chairman]

Rs. 22,58,67,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Defence Capital Outlay'."

#### DEMANDS *re* MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Mr. Chairman:** The House will now take up discussion of the Demands for Grants Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 108, 109, and 110 relating to the Ministry of Communications. As the House is aware, five hours have been allotted for the Demands of this Ministry.

There are a number of cut motions to these various Demands. Hon. Members may hand over the numbers of the selected cut motions which they propose to move at the Table within 15 minutes. I shall treat them as moved, if the Members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and the cut motions are otherwise in order.

The time limit for speeches will, as usual, be 15 minutes for the Members including movers of cut motions, and 20 minutes if necessary, for Leaders of Groups.

#### DEMAND No. 5—MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,68,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Ministry of Communications'."

#### DEMAND No. 6—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES)

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 44,78,29,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges

which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)'."

#### DEMAND No. 7—METEOROLOGY

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,15,23,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Meteorology'."

#### DEMAND No. 8—OVERSEAS COM- MUNICATIONS SERVICE

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 91,47,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Overseas Communications Service'."

#### DEMAND No. 9—AVIATION

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,50,09,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Aviation'."

#### DEMAND No. 10—MISCELLANEOUS DE- PARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,09,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the

31st day of March, 1956, in respect of Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the 'Ministry of Communications'."

**DEMAND NO. 108—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (NOT MET FROM REVENUE)**

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,85,88,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs (Not met from Revenue).'"

**DEMAND NO. 109—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL AVIATION**

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,90,51,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Civil Aviation'."

**DEMAND NO. 110—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,61,62,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Communications'."

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Bairhat):** I want to speak specially about civil aviation, because that is one of the most important parts of communication in modern times. As a matter of fact, in the part of the country from which I come, there are places which have no communication with the outside world unless they are able to have some commu-

nication by air travel. That is why it is most important to see how this air communication portion of our Communications Ministry is developing.

Actually, civil aviation has two sections. One is the Indian Air Lines Corporation and its international counterpart the Air India International and the other is the Civil Aviation Department. The Civil Aviation Department plays a very important part in ensuring the safety of the planes from the time they take off right up to the time they land, during the entire crucial period when the aeroplane is air borne. It is absolutely essential that we should look at the job of the Civil Aviation Department in this context and we have to ensure the maximum amount of efficiency not only in the handling of the machines, but also we have to see that the human material that handles these machines is in the best possible fitness and condition. When so many lives depend on the civil aviation personnel, especially at a time when many people in our country and even outside, on various occasions, have been seriously perturbed at the various accidents that have taken place, it is necessary to see what the living conditions of these people are.

They have to live in out of the way places, sometimes, places right in the middle of jungles, places like Kumbigram in Assam where you have depredations of wild animals, which during the monsoon, are out off from the rest of the world. Not only that. Even in places like Delhi, the I.N.A. colony is a place where the living conditions would shock anybody who visits that place. Actually, in the barracks in which a large number of the people working in the Delhi Aerodrome live, there is little privacy. After a hard night duty, when one wants to sleep, another person is playing gramophone records on the other side. It is impossible for a person to get rest at the time when the personnel needs the maximum amount of physical and mental rest in order to keep himself absolutely A.1

[Shrimati Renu Chakravartty]

for his job. One of the prime needs is the need of living quarters. Actually, during the last three years, we have raised this question again and again. Except in Santacruz and Dum Dum, actually very little has been done. I would say that many things should have been done in out of the way places like Agartala, Kumbigram, Mohanbari, etc. where even now I should say, in some places there has been very little building work and in some other places, houses have been built which will accommodate only about 25 per cent. of the staff. As a matter of fact, except in Gaudnati, I think all the other stations are very badly off as far as living quarters go. Yet, again, this year, we find a short fall in expenditure. I am not going into the details. Anybody who goes into Civil Aviation accounts that have been submitted, will see again that there is a short fall. At a time when we want to give the maximum employment potential under the Five Year Plan, I do not understand why this cry of living quarters, whether it is for industrial labour, whether it is for defence personnel, whether it is for the Civil Aviation Department, again and again we come up to the same point where we find that money is allotted, but the money is not being utilised. I want to know why we cannot make some sort of a progress in this matter and get over this.

I would also like to mention this question of rate of rent. It is a big problem. The position of personnel getting Rs. 150 or 200 is about the same as personnel getting Rs. 1000. It is a peculiar thing. What is the rule? The rule is that you will pay either the standard rent or 10 per cent of your salary whichever is less. Most of the people who are living in the old barracks earn about Rs. 200. Ten per cent of it comes to Rs. 20. Those who are in the category of Rs. 1000, they will be paying on the basis of standard rent. That works to Rs. 22 or 23. There is no justice in this particular position. We have been asking for changing this many times.

**Shri Velayudhan:** What is standard rent?

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** It is a technical term. You better find it out yourself.

Our demand is that in the barracks, they should not have more than 5 per cent rent. Most shocking is the condition of the class IV quarters. Right here in the city of Delhi, the condition of the houses in which class IV staff live is a thing that you cannot believe unless you see it with your own eyes. Even in the new colonies, you have still one-room houses where they must live, cook, eat, sleep, give birth, and die. This most abnormal situation of having one-room houses still continues even in the new types that are coming up. The less said about the way in which the old class IV quarters are being maintained, the better. Words belie me and I am not able to express the conditions of these hovels. Why is it that when we are talking of a socialistic pattern of society, of the uplift of Harijans and doing away with class distinctions, that we find even today, except in New Delhi, they are still refused electricity? Even in Calcutta, where there are new quarters though single room tenements, they are not allowed to take electricity. Are they such *achuts* that they cannot take electricity if they want?

Then, those who need the most protection, the Class IV servants, they do not get the General Provident Fund facilities. They say, this rule applies to all other departments, what can I do? This question should be taken up at the Cabinet level if so required. It is a matter which has to be looked into. As regards the hours of work, it is a peculiar thing. *Chowkidars* work for 12 hours a day. You say that you give a day off after 74 hours of work. A man who comes off Sunday morning, after night duty for a whole week, goes on the next day at forenoon. You say that is a holiday. Not only *Chowkidars*, but even *Aerodrome* and *Communication staff*—

they work round the clock. The Ministry says a peculiar thing. They say that after every 46 hours, they get a respite of 36 hours. A man who comes off at 7 o'clock in the morning today, goes on at 8 P.M. tomorrow; that is a holiday. If a man wants, he should be able to go away or go out of town and come back after having a full holiday. But that is not there.

There is also the question of over-time allowance. Actually, only recently overtime allowance has been allowed for such categories as radio operators, etc., who have now been given this advantage after, of course, a big tussle about which the hon. Minister knows. For those who are doing highly specialised work, on which depends so much concentration, because they are using the highest precision instruments such as the radio and radar equipments, this over-time allowance is long overdue. It is also essential to give it to the aerodromes organisation staff. I feel that it is necessary that this House must judge that we must maintain the staff in such conditions of service which will keep them in the topmost level of efficiency needed for a service which deals with men's lives. That our air services have kept such a high record is due to the sacrifice and the hard working capacity of our people, who are used to an empty belly, I suppose. The credit must go not to the policies of the Ministry, but to our personnel who have worked under such terribly difficult conditions.

I feel that it is necessary to have the largest measure of co-operation from labour. There is only one union in the whole of the Civil Aviation Department. That is a registered union. But even today Government have not recognised it or given it a trade union status; the whole attitude is one of suspicion.

I would like to urge upon the Minister what we have been asking again and again, and a very legitimate and very moderate demand I should say of the labour and employees, namely the question of an

expert committee. I shall spend one or two minutes on the question of this expert committee, because every time that we have put forward this demand, the hon. Minister has said that nothing new has happened since the time of the Pay Commission in 1946 to warrant the setting up of a new expert committee.

I would like to place before this House the new developments that have taken place. We glory in the development of the Civil Aviation Department. Do we not know that at the time when the Pay Commission came, there were hardly 600 or 700 people in the Civil Aviation Department, and that there were only about nine aerodromes, and those were situated in big cities generally? Today there are 6,000 to 7,000 persons in the Civil Aviation Department, and they are working in something like 85 air-fields, some of them very far distant without any amenities of modern life. Not only that. We have the night air mail scheme which has come in with its entire attendant paraphernalia which a safe night flying entails only after 1950. Then there are also the entirely new radio aids to navigation which have come in. Did they exist at all at that time? Today, they operate the most modern radio and radar equipments. Today, we have the instrument landing service, which came in only after 1948. We have to deal with instruments that require the highest precision. While on the one hand we have come to a situation when we are adding jobs which we never had at the time of the Pay Commission, on the other we find that again and again this demand for an expert committee is being shelved. I think it is a very moderate and a very reasonable demand; they are not putting forward something unreasonable; they have gone into the entire question and then put forward this demand. I would therefore urge upon the hon. Minister once again to accept this position and give the whole job to an expert committee who will consider this matter.

I shall now say a few words about the Indian Airlines Corporation. Again

[Shrimati Renu Chakravartty]

I feel that the attitude towards labour must change. I feel that it is necessary to have the greatest co-operation between labour and the Corporation. As a matter of fact, when the Air Corporations Bill was discussed here, we insisted on this, and we were glad to get in many of the clauses certain representations for labour. But we find that though Mr. Michael John was the representative of labour, things were done without any consultation with those who were actually representing labour in that industry. Again, under section 41 and certain other section of the Air Corporations Act, the Air Transport Council, the Advisory Council, the Labour Relations Committees, etc. had to be formed, but that has not yet been done. At least the labour should have been consulted on those matters for their representation. If that had been done, and if they had a representative of labour in whom they had confidence, I feel that the whole difficulty about the Services Committee's recommendations could have been got over. But today, what has happened? They have not been consulted on the Services Committee's Report. Although this promise was given, and in August they were asked to give their views, yet we find that in December without asking the Corporation employees to come and discuss the matter, the new pay slips were given. There was agitation, and they had to sit down again with the Union; and again it was decided that revised pay slips would be given on the basis of certain understandings. But again revised pay slips were given, and again it was found that they were not based on the understanding that the labour and the Corporation had come to. Now the Corporation says, well it was a meeting which was not official, therefore we are not bound by it. I feel that this is a very frivolous attitude to take towards labour. On the one hand, you are accepting the Services Committee's Report for the wage pattern which is about the lowest in all the companies that you have

taken—generally I would not say in everything, but generally it is so.

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** You have not seen that report.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** If have seen that report. You can have your say later.

On the other hand, the points of entry which have been recommended by the Services Committee, which would have given a certain amount of relief, have not been accepted. They have said that the dearness allowance should be inter-related with the cost of living index. But you have not accepted that. On the other hand you have made it a slab rate which is not the same as that given to other Government servants. There is no house rent, and there is no place allowance to them except for Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi. I feel therefore that it is necessary that in order to have really come to an understanding with them, we should have had a proper discussion and proper appreciation of the whole matter with labour.

I should like to say that it is very important to reduce the margin of losses of the Indian Airlines Corporation. I am not one of those who go on saying that it is because of nationalisation that all these losses have befallen the Indian Airlines Corporation. I submit that nationalisation is a thing which we have always wanted, and we feel that nationalisation is much better than having the rebate given to private companies to make up loss on working which we used to have before. It is also true—and this the hon. Minister has occasionally stated here—that formerly we used to give a big rebate. If you take that into consideration, today that big deficit is not there.

At the same time, I would like to say the biggest drain is the high price of aviation fuel. Have we really gone into this question of aviation fuel? We are having oil refineries in our country. But what is the benefit that

we are deriving out of these oil refineries, except that about 3,000 people are getting jobs there? We do not get any cheap petrol. Aviation fuel, of course, is outside the scope of these refineries, as far as I know. Even the sum of Rs. 6 crores that we used to get by way of import duties is not there. How do we get over this position? We find that petrol is cheaper in London than in Rangoon. Have we done anything in this matter? This is a big thing that has to be tackled.

My next point is this. Why do we not integrate the Indian Airlines Corporation with the Air India International? Again and again we have said this. The Air India International makes a profit because of certain facilities which it has got about aviation fuel etc. and in fact it has always made a profit; while the inland air transport has not made a profit. If we were to integrate the two, we would be able to get the maximum benefits for our people within the country. That is a thing that we have always asked the Ministry to consider. But I am afraid that has not even been considered.

Then there is the question of stopping of wastage. And that is a thing in which labour can help you most. I have seen for instance in the Panagarh air-base that Rs. 38 crores was the total amount of stores calculated by the Disposals. We have had these Curtis Commandos, and we had something like 7,000 other items.

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** That is between the Defence Ministry and Disposals. We have nothing to do with it.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** It is under Civil Aviation, you know. Panagarh is still under Civil Aviation, at least the stores which are surplus.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is not under Civil Aviation.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** If that is not so, I should certainly like that there should be integration between the needs of our Communica-

tions Ministry with those of the air-base, because I feel that much of the stores there could have been utilised.

Finally, I would just say that unless we are able to keep our labour morally and materially fit, unless we make them feel that this very vital industry is benefiting them as well as the nation, and unless they get that feeling, I am afraid we will not be able really to bring about up to our expectations what the people wanted by nationalisation. That is what I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister.

Lastly, a word about the RMS reorganisation. The reorganisation of the RMS was based on two principles. One was co-ordination with the railways, and the other was to cut down the jurisdiction of unwieldy divisions to manageable sizes. We feel that neither of these two has been achieved. We would therefore urge that the Minister should get into contact with the unions, and only after consultations and after a certain amount of discussion with them this reorganisation should be done.

This is the entire spirit in which I would like the hon. Minister to consider the questions of such highly skilled and important departments of public utility so that they come forward with greater efficiency and be able to be of greater service to the people of India.

**Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam):** The hon. lady Member who has initiated the discussion on the Ministry of Communications, has touched mainly on civil aviation. One cannot dispute her proposition that we must put the aviation personnel in the best possible fitness. I do not think the Government are unaware of the necessity of putting the personnel in the best possible fitness.

The hon. Deputy Minister of Communications, while inaugurating the first conference of the Delhi branch of the union as long ago as 8th September 1953, had pointed out that civil aviation, being the second line of defence, it was essential for Gov-



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ernment to ensure that civil aviation services were maintained well and that was the chief reason why Government had decided to accord the civil aviation department employees' union recognition as a service association and not as a trade union. The hon. lady Member complained that the demand of the union for setting up an expert committee has not been sanctioned. The Government have their own reasons for not according sanction to that demand. But the Government had set up a services committee and from the report of the Ministry it is seen that action has been taken to determine afresh the remuneration and the terms and conditions of employees who had hitherto continued to be governed by the former conditions of service. So it appears from the report that action has been taken on this score, and I do not share with the hon. lady Member the very black picture that she has painted with regard to the conditions of service of these employees.

Since I want to refer to some other points also, I do not want to detail the various amenities that have been provided to the service personnel by way of medical facilities and living conditions, transport facilities, educational facilities, house rent and compensatory allowance. I believe that the Minister will be in a position to satisfy the House with regard to the satisfactory nature of the conditions of service as far as these employees are concerned.

However, there are certain disturbing features with regard to the administration of the civil aviation department. The first and foremost thing is the heavy losses that have been incurred on account of the Indian Airlines Corporation. It is seen from the Explanatory Memorandum, that as far as the Indian Airlines Corporation is concerned:

"In spite of Government subsidy, the ex-air companies which vested in the Corporation were incurring considerable losses before the nationali-

sation of commercial air transport. The Indian Airlines Corporation also, as was anticipated earlier, suffered a loss of Rs. 92.15 lakhs during the first eight months of their working. The Corporation are likely to continue to incur losses for the first few years. A provision of Rs. 80 lakhs has been made in the Budget Estimates for 1955-56 for meeting the losses and working expenses of the Corporation."

This is not a good picture that can be given, having regard to the high expectations that were raised when we resorted to nationalisation of the air services. It is, however, gratifying to note that the Air India International is running at a profit and we can expect a considerable margin out of the running of the services under the Corporation. But it has been reported that even the Air India International has suffered inefficiency after it was nationalised. If that is the case, it is something very disturbing indeed. It is said that with regard to regularity of the service, the Air India International has suffered after nationalisation. It is for Government to explain whether there is any foundation for this report that has been carried.

One important feature, which is not quite happy, that I have been able to notice among the services of both Air India International as well as the Indian Airlines Corporation is that there is considerable discontent among the staff. That is a matter which has to be viewed with very serious concern, and I would say it is the duty of every section of this House, including the section to which the hon. lady Member belongs, to see that discontent is not sown amongst the ranks of the services.

**Shri Nambiar:** It is there. What are we to do?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** There may be certain conditions which have to be improved, but I cannot join the hon. lady Member in again increasing dis-

content among the staff by exaggerating the grievances.

Another thing that I would like to mention with regard to this department is about the number of accidents that we have met with. It is true that having regard to the figures supplied by a survey of accidents throughout the world, the figures that we have got are not alarming. All the same, we cannot take shelter under the plea that when we consider the incidence of accidents in other countries, the number of our accidents is comparatively smaller. There are certain advantages also as far as our country is concerned, weather conditions and otherwise, and as such, the incidence of accidents has to be necessarily very low. Not only that, we have not got also the quantum of mileage that has been covered by the other foreign services so as to make any comparison. It is also a fact that there has been a general downward trend in respect of the total number of accidents, if you calculate from the year 1950 onwards. It may be pointed out that the total number of accidents in 1950 was 61; in 1951, it was 37; in 1952, 28; in 1953, 24 and in 1954, 17. But all the same, I would submit that increased attention has to be paid to this aspect of the question. It is found that the number of accidents has been more with regard to the night airmail service. There should be some special reason for that. Government had set up inquiry committees to inquire into these accidents. Although reports indicate that these accidents have been due to pilot error and Government have taken precautions to see that these accidents are avoided as far as possible, no pain should be spared to see that our airlines are maintained in the best possible efficiency, and I would say that any amount that we will have to spend on this score should not at all be grudged, for modernisation of the aerodromes as well as to get the best possible, planes for our services.

I will next pass on to the P. and T. Department. It is a field in which

the Communications Ministry can legitimately feel proud, that we have maintained all round progress. The scope of the work is not only national but also international. Having regard to the international position that we hold, we have been able to organise the International Postal Services Exhibition; then we had the International Philatelic Symposium. These are all very gratifying features on which we can take legitimate pride. The number of post offices on 1-1-1955 would be 49,373 according to the figures supplied in the administration report. As on 1st April, 1951, it was 36,884 and, according to the original plan, the number of post offices that would be in existence at the end of the Plan period would have been 60,000 and according to the revised proposal, it is only 55,000. There is only one year more to run and I do not know whether we would be able to reach the target at the end of the Plan period, namely, 55,000 post offices.

Statistics collected two or three years back disclose that the world average, excluding China and the USSR, for one million of population the number of post offices is 209. Having regard to our figures, it is only just about half of that figure, 118 or somewhere about that. The progress achieved till 31-3-1953 is on the basis, one post office for every village of 2,000 of population. The policy was revised and another formula was drawn up. My plea is that we must take stock of the situation before expanding further. What we require more is consolidation rather than expansion. Even with regard to that, I would submit that we must not be tied down to any fixed principle in the matter of opening post offices or in the matter of telegraph offices or telephones. We must have regard to the density of population and such other things. For example, in a State like Travancore-Cochin, where the villages are divided for the purposes of revenue and where there are no natural boundaries and where population is distributed all over, it is not possible to apply any hard and fast



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rule that there shall be one post office for every village containing so much of population.

We will have also to devote our attention to another aspect when we increase post offices like this. The total staff as on 31-3-1954 is 2,42,915. The non-departmental staff comes to 57,501. With regard to this non-departmental staff I wish to say.....

**Shri Namblar:** Extra-departmental staff.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Sorry, extra-departmental staff, the remuneration that is granted to them is very low. It may, of course, be argued that they are part-time workers and it may not be possible to give them the same scales of pay. But, I think, the disparity is something which has to be taken serious notice of. I should think that some increase in emoluments will have to be given to this extra-departmental staff. It is not really part-time employees that work in these offices. It is a case of disguised unemployment. There are cases of graduates coming and sitting in these offices and running them, for Rs. 20 (*Interruption*). My submission is that Government has to take this matter seriously and we must also do justice to this branch of our services.

**Shri Namblar:** Well said.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Another matter which I would like to mention is that with regard to increasing postal facilities, Government have not experimented on the scheme which they had in view, to have rural mobile post offices. From every stationary post office it is possible to run certain motor trucks to certain distant places and in every village there are bound to be two or three townships if you can call it so, wherein such cars or motor cycles can be stopped and post office facilities given to each and every resident of every village who may require it.

I shall now touch the inadequacy of telegraph offices and the number

of telephones. The number of telegraph offices that we have got is only 25 for one million of population, whereas the world average is 174. With regard to telephones, the picture is still worse. We find that for every one million of our population there are only 561 telephones whereas the world average is 31,000. There are some towns in Australia, Melbourne and Sydney where they have got more telephones than the whole of India has got and these towns are smaller than the towns of Bombay and Calcutta. The index of the communication facilities is the index of progress of any country. I should think that the Ministry should devote its attention to this, especially having regard to the fact that the Second Five Year Plan is being prepared.

One word and I have finished. That is with regard to the building programme of the Post and Telegraph Department. I would submit that although Rs. 20 crores is the minimum that would have been necessary to cope with the modest requirements of this Department, only Rs. 2.5 crores was provided for in the Five Year Plan. The work is done by the Central P.W.D. I submit that the delay made by the Central P.W.D. is, to say the least, scandalous. I understand that there has been a Co-ordination Committee that has been constituted of the Post and Telegraph Department and the Central P.W.D. and even then things have not improved. The only possible way in which things can be improved—and having regard to the future building programme of this Department—is to have a separate unit for the Communications Ministry for building programmes. That is the only way in which satisfaction can be given to the public and the building programme achieved. I should think that the Government has to view this thing very seriously. Even the very low amount of Rs. 2.5 crores that has been budgeted has not been possible to be utilised because of the delay committed by the Central P.W.D. It is really a very unsatisfactory state of affairs

and it has to be remedied. I think the Government will devote very serious attention to this matter.

We have to proceed on a planned basis and the loss should not deter us from taking developmental works because in very many other countries also the postal services are not really run on a profit, and in some they are run at a loss.

श्री रघुवीर सहाब (जिला एटा-उत्तर पूर्व व जिला बदायूँ-पूर्व): मुझे बड़ी खुशी है कि पिछले सालों की तरह इस साल भी हमारे डाक और तार विभाग ने काफी तरक्की कर के दिखाया है। मैं इस मौके पर मिनिस्ट्री के तमाम साहबान का शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ और उन को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ।

इस सिलसिले में मैं कुछ आंकड़े पेश करना चाहता हूँ, जिस से मालूम पड़ेगा कि इस विभाग ने पिछले साल कितनी नुमायां तरक्की की हैं। सन् १९५२-५४ में, जो आंकड़े रिपोर्ट्स में दिखाये गये हैं उन के मुताबिक, २ अरब, ६० करोड़ चीजें डाक के जरिये से इधर से उधर भेजी गईं, मसलन् खत, लिफाफे या इस तरह की दूसरी चीजें, और सन् १९५४-५५ में २ अरब, ७२ करोड़ चीजें इधर से उधर भेजी गईं। इस के माने यह है कि इस साल में करीब ५ करोड़ चीजों का इजाफा हुआ। इसी तरीके पर सन् १९५२-५४ में २ करोड़, ६२ लाख तार इस महकमे ने भेजे जबकि १९५४-५५ में मैं देखता हूँ कि तकरीबन २ करोड़ तार इस महकमे ने भेजे, जिस के माने यह है कि करीब ७ लाख तारों का इजाफा इस साल के अन्दर हुआ। रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से यह भी मालूम पड़ता है कि सन् १९५२-५४ में इस विभाग के अन्दर मुलाजिमों की जो तादाद थी वह २ लाख, २४ हजार थी। लेकिन १९५४-५५ में चीक काम में इजाफा हुआ इसलिये तादाद २,४२,००० हो गई है। अप्रैल १९५४ से दिसम्बर १९५४ तक १,०५५ नए डाकखाने खोले गए और हम को यह बताया गया है कि इस महीने में जो कि आजकल

गुजर रहा है २,४१९ और नए डाकखाने खोले दिये जाएंगे। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि यह डाकखाने भी खुल गए होंगे। इन तमाम चीजों से यह मालूम पड़ता है कि पिछले साल की तरह इस साल में भी काफी तरक्की तार और डाक विभाग ने की है।

जहां तक हिन्दी के तार भेजने का सवाल है उस में भी यह मालूम होता है कि सन् १९५२-५४ में २१,६०५ हिन्दी के तार भेजे गए और १९५४-५५ में ४९,२२५ हिन्दी के तार भेजे गए जिस का मतलब यह है कि पिछले साल २०,००० हिन्दी के तार उस से पिछले साल के मुकाबले में अधिक भेजे गए। यह तमाम चीजें जाहिर करती हैं कि महकमे ने पिछले साल में काफी उन्नति की है और वह बधाई का मुस्ताहिक है।

लेकिन जहां पर यह सब चीजें इस महकमे ने दिखाई हैं तो इसका मतलब यह नहीं है कि जितनी तरक्की हो सकती थी वह खत्म हो गई है और अब आइंदा तरक्की की कोई गुंजाइश नहीं रह गई है। मेरा खयाल यह है कि अभी भी बहुत तरक्की की गुंजाइश है। जो कट मोशंस पेश हुई हैं उनसे मालूम पड़ता है कि मुल्क के कोने कोने में इस बात की मांग हो रही है कि वहां पर और डाकखाने खोले जाएं, वहां पर तार की और सद्दलियतें पेंदा की जाएं, वहां पर टेलीफोन की सद्दलियतें मुहैया की जाएं जिस के माने यह है कि अभी तक हमारे मुल्क में जितनी इन चीजों की सद्दलियतें होनी चाहिये उतनी सद्दलियतें अभी मुहैया नहीं की गई हैं। हम को महकमे की तरफ से एक छोटा सा पैमफ्लेट दिया गया है जिस के ऊपर लिखा है, हिन्दी तार निर्देशिका। उसको पढ़ने से और देखने से तबीयत बड़ी खुश हुई कि जो हिन्दी के पढ़ने वाले और हिन्दी के जानने वाले हैं उनके लिए तार के विभाग की ओर से बहुत जरूरी बातें सीधी और सरल भाषा में दी गई हैं लेकिन हमें अप्सोस है कि अभी तक

[श्री रघुवीर सहाय]

हमारे मुल्क में सिर्फ ६१५ ही ऐसे मुकाम हैं कि जहां हिन्दी के तार दिये जा सकते हैं। मैं चाहता हूं और मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से इस बात की प्रार्थना करूंगा कि इस ओर उन को विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए और हिन्दी के तार भेजने की सहूलियतें विशेषकर उन प्रान्तों में, उन स्टेटों में जहां पर कि आम तौर पर हिन्दी बोली जाती है जल्दी से जल्दी और ज्यादा मुहैया करनी चाहिए। अगर हर जगह यह सहूलियतें नहीं दी जा सकतीं तो कम से कम जिले के हैंडक्वार्टर में तो यह सहूलियत जरूर ही होनी चाहिए। मुझे इस बात की भी खुशी है कि डाक और तार विभाग न तार की सहूलियतें पहुंचाने के लिए एक नई पालिसी का एलान किया है जिस के मातहत तमाम तहसीलों के हैंडक्वार्टर्स में और तहसील थानों के हैंडक्वार्टर्स में तार की सहूलियतें पहुंचाई जाएंगी। लेकिन हमें अफसोस है कि इस ओर जरा कम तेजी से कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। जो पिछले तार और डाक विभाग के डायरेक्टर जेनरल थे उन से मेरी खतोक्ताबत हुई थी और मैं ने उनको लिखा था कि जहां तक बदायूं जिले का ताल्लुक है जो ५० पी० में है वहां पर तहसीलों में तार की सहूलियतें होनी चाहिए। मुझे खुशी है कि मैं ने उनको इस बात के लिए गजी कर लिया था कि तार की सहूलियतें वहां पर हों लेकिन मुझे अफसोस है कि उनके जाने के बाद तार की जो सहूलियतें दी जाने वाली थीं वे वहां की वहां ही खत्म हो गईं।

जहां तक इमारतों का और फरनिचर का ताल्लुक है रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से मालूम होता है कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय और इस विभाग में और जो अधिकारी हैं वे इस ओर भी ध्यान दे रहे हैं कि इमारतें और फरनिचर अच्छा हो। लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि इस तरफ भी जरा कम तेजी से काम किया जा रहा है। हमारे वहां बहुत से डाकखाने हैं

और तार घर की इमारतें हैं और वे बहुत ही बोसीदा और दिकियानूसी हालत में हैं। वे बहुत पुरानी भी हैं। १९५५ में इस किस्म की इमारतों और इतने रद्दी फरनिचर का होना एक शर्मनाक बात है। जो इमारतें ४० ४० में बनवाई गई थीं और जो बहुत पुरानी और दिकियानूसी हो गई हैं उन को गिरवा कर उनकी जगह नई इमारतें बनवाई जाएं और उन में आजकल के जमाने के मुताबिक फरनिचर फराहम किया जाए। इस ओर तेजी से काम किया जाना चाहिए।

एक अजीब सी बात इस रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से मालूम होती है। हमारे यहां जो डंड लेटर आफिस हैं वे बहुत ही मुफीद काम कर रहे हैं। वहां पर तकरीबन २९४ चीजें हर रोज बेनाम के पते की जाती थीं जिस में खत, लिफाफे, पैंकट, इत्यादि सब शामिल हैं। वे वे खत होते हैं जिन के ऊपर कोई नाम नहीं होता और लेटर बाक्स में डाल दिये जाते हैं। १९५२-५४ में इन की तादाद २७४ पर ड थी। जब कि खतों पर पता ही न हो तो पोस्ट आफिस उस में क्या कर सकता है और किस को वह खत भेज सकता है। इस के बारे में मैं अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूं, मखबरा देना चाहता हूं कि डाक के डिब्बों पर, लेटर बाक्सों पर यह मोर्ट मोर्ट शब्दों में लिखवा देना चाहिए कि पेशतर इस के कि कार्ड या लिफाफा या कोई और चीज उसके अन्दर डाली जाए जो शरूख उनको डालने आए वह यह देख ले कि उस के ऊपर पता तो लिखा हुआ है। यह ऐसी चीज है कि जिस तरीके से एक आदमी रेलवे स्टेशन पर टिकट लेने जाता है तो वहां पर लिखा होता है कि पैसेंजर स्विट्चकी से हटने से पहले अपनी चेंज गिन लें . . . . .

श्री राज बहादुर: मैं माननीय सदस्य की जानकारी के लिए बताना चाहता हूं कि ऐसी गलती अनपढ़ लोग करते हैं, पढ़ लिख लोग नहीं और अगर यह लिख भी दिख जाय तो वे कैसे इसे पढ़ सकेंगे।

श्री रघुबीर सहाय : पढ़ लिखें लोग भी ऐसी गलती करते हैं। आप ताबुज करेंगे कि एक मरतबा ऐसा हुआ कि मैं खुद खत डालने गया और जब मैं खत डालने लगा तो मैं ने देखा कि उस पर पता ही नहीं लिखा हुआ है और फिर मैं ने पता लिख कर उस खत को डाला। यह कोई हंसने की बात नहीं है गलती हो सकती है और ऐसी गलती होने से बचने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि यह शब्द जो मैं ने अभी बतलाए हैं लेंटर बाक्सों पर लिखवा दिए जाएं। अब जब कि २६४ ऐसी चीजें पाई गई हैं जिन पर कि पता नहीं लिखा हुआ था तो मेरी सजेशन को मान लेने के बाद इन की तादाद जरूर कम होगी।

एक बात की मुझे इस रिपोर्ट में पढ़कर बड़ी खुशी हुई है। जहां तक सेंविंग बैंक की विद्वद्भाव का ताल्लुक है, जो लोग सेंविंग बैंक में से रूपया निकलवाने जाते हैं पहले तो वे हफ्ते में एक ही बार रूपया निकलवा सकते थे लेकिन अब, आप ने कलकता, बम्बई, मद्रास और नई दिल्ली के बड़े बड़े डाकखानों में यह सहूलियत दी है कि वहां पर अब हफ्ते में एक विद्वद्भाव के बजाय दो विद्वद्भाव हो सकती हैं। यह बहुत खुशी की बात है लेकिन जब आप ने यह सहूलियत कलकता, बम्बई, मद्रास और दिल्ली में दी है और बदायूं में नहीं दी तो हमें इससे क्या फायदा है। मैं चाहता हूं कि कम से कम तमाम जिलों के हैंडक्वार्टर्स पर यह सहूलियत होनी चाहिए। अगर उन लोगों को हफ्ते में दो दफा विद्वद्भाव का मौका दिया जाता है तो छोटी छोटी जगह पर भी दो दफा विद्वद्भाव का मौका देना चाहिए।

रिपोर्ट में एक और चीज पढ़कर बड़ी खुशी हुई कि पिछले सालों के मुकाबले में, जब कि गबन की बड़ी बड़ी रकमें और मामले पकड़े जाते थे, इस साल गबन की रकमें कम रही हैं और गबन के मामले कम हुए हैं। मैं इसके लिए मिनिस्टर साहब

को और विभाग को बधाई देता हूं। लेकिन जहां यह रकम कम हुई है और यह मामले कम हुए हैं, वहां पर इसमें काफी इजाफा हुआ है कि बहुत से ऐसे मामला पकड़े जाते हैं कि जिनमें किसी के ऊपर ज़िम्मेदारी नहीं डाली जा सकती। गबन पकड़ा गया लेकिन अभी तक न मुहकमा और न पुलिस किसी पर उसे कैद करने की ज़िम्मेदारी डाल सके। मैं समझता हूं कि यह अफसांस की बात है। इसके मानी यह है कि निगरानी और सुपरवीजन की कमी है या इसमें लापरवाही की जा रही है। इसमें जरा होशियारी के साथ और देखभाल के साथ काम करना चाहिए कि जहां पर गबन हुआ है वहां पर यह देखना चाहिए कि गबन करने वाले बच न जाएं

इसी सिलसिले में जो सन् ५५ की ऑडिट रिपोर्ट हम लोगों को दी गयी है उसमें एक बड़ा अफसांसनाक वाक्या नज़र आया कि सन् ४७ में कई हजार रुपये का एक गबन का केस किसी बड़े पोस्ट ऑफिस में पकड़ा गया। सन् ४८ में वह मामला पुलिस के सुपुर्द किया गया कि इसकी छानबीन और जांच पड़ताल की जाय। सन् ५० में पुलिस ने रिपोर्ट दी कि इसमें मामला नहीं चलाया जा सकता, हम इसे वापस करते हैं, और आज सन् ५५ में अभी तक किसी किस्म का कोई एक्शन विभाग की तरफ से भी नहीं लिया गया। मैं अर्ज करता हूं कि जहां विभाग की इतनी नेकनामी है, जहां विभाग की इतनी शोहरत है, जहां विभाग इतना मुफीद काम कर रहा है, वहां इस किस्म की अफसांसनाक मिसालें अगर इसके अन्दर हों तो यह शर्म की चीज है, और विभाग इस बात की कोशिश करेगा . . . . .

सभापति महोदय : जब पुलिस नाकामयाब रही तो डिपार्टमेंट वाले कहां से मालूम कराते ?

श्री रघुबीर सहाय : पुलिस तो नाकामयाब रही मुहकमा चलाने में क्योंकि वहां जो

[श्री रघुवीर सहाय]

क्रिमिनल प्रोसीज्योर और एवीडेंस एक्ट की मुसीबतें हैं। लेकिन जहां तक विभाग का सवाल है उसे सजा देने में कोई दिक्कत नहीं हो सकती थी। खैर मैं इस बहस में नहीं जाना चाहता।

आखिरी बात में यह कहूंगा कि रिपोर्ट के पढ़ने से मालूम हुआ कि जहां पर टेलीफोन का आजकल एक बड़ा दौरा-दौरा है, हर शरूस यह चाहता है कि मेरे यहां टेलीफोन लगे, और रिपोर्ट से भी यह जाहिर हो रहा है कि आजकल टेलीफोन पर काफी ध्यान दिया जा रहा है, वहां पर टेलीफोन के एरियर्स के बकाया की तादाद बेइन्तहा बढ़ती जा रही है। रिपोर्ट से मालूम हुआ है कि तकरीबन २ करोड़ रुपये टेलीफोन चार्ज का बकाया है। सन् ४७ से सन् ४४ तक की फेहरिस्तों में दिखाया गया है। सन् ४२, ४४ में एक करोड़ २१ लाख रुपये का बकाया था, सन् ४२, ४२ में १५ लाख का बकाया था, सन् ४६, ४० में १२ लाख का बकाया था। और जनाब चैपमैन साहब, सबसे ज्यादा बकाया सरकारी मुलाजिमों पर है। और सबसे ज्यादा बकाया दिल्ली के सर्किल में है। इसको देखकर मुझे ख्याल हुआ कि "चिराग तले अंधेरा"। तो मैं चाहता हूं कि ....

सभापति महोदय : किसी एम० पी० के जिम्मे तो नहीं हैं ?

श्री रघुवीर सहाय : तो मैं चाहता हूं कि हमारे मंत्री महोदय इस तरफ ध्यान दें कि यह रकम जो बकाया में पड़ी हुई है उस को जल्द से जल्द बसूल करने की कोशिश करें।

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor): I am thankful to the last speaker for pointing out this idiom: "चिराग तले अंधेरा". The Deputy Minister is representing Rajasthan.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Here I represent the country.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: You and I both do it. When we look into the Annual Report we find that everywhere there are buildings being constructed for the Posts and Telegraphs people, everywhere new post offices are being built, but even the 'R' of Rajasthan is not mentioned. Because, he is our Minister, he might be feeling that if he shows any favour to Rajasthan, people will catch hold of him. I should say he must be honest to his own self first and then be charitable to others. So, I would draw his pointed attention to the state of affairs obtaining in the Rajasthan Circle.

As we go through this report the one serious complaint that has been received from the various merchant houses and small traders all over the country is about demonetization. I use the expression given here—of these Georgian stamps. This has created a good deal of difficulty for people who had their post cards printed with their addresses, because they were not exchanged. After all they had paid money. This is a sort of tax which they had paid and that tax was paid to the Government of India and to nobody else. This money had certainly not gone to England. This money had been credited to the Government of India's coffers. Under these circumstances we were not justified in making this rule about demonetization. I do not know if any Act was passed about this demonetization. It was a flat issued by the Postal Department and by virtue of this flat so many people were deprived of their legitimate moneys. Even now it is not late. Government can rectify this mistake and the stamps purchased by these people and still lying with them may be exchanged, or they may be allowed to overprint and use them.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the carrying of first class mail to Jaipur and Jodhpur side. It is unfortunate that

efficiency in Delhi is at the lowest ebb. At Bombay it is not so; at Madras it is not so; I cannot speak about Calcutta. But in Delhi I have noticed that a letter posted either in the Mobile Post Office at 7 P.M. or 7-30 P.M. or posted at the Eastern Court Post Office at 7 P.M. does not reach Jaipur on the following morning, although there is a train which leaves at 10-35 P.M. which carries mails and there is a mail plane which leaves early morning at 8 o'clock. How does this happen? This must be looked into. This is one of the towns where I have found lethargy rampant. You go to the Telegraph Office, stand there for 15 minutes; nobody looks at you. Even during the "Courtesy Week" it was our experience to wait for 15 minutes with nobody to attend to you. You go to Madras, you can book your telegram within half an minute; you go to Bombay, you can book your telegram in half a minute. The same is the case if you go to Ahmedabad. Even under the Phonogram system in Delhi you have to wait for thirty minutes, sometimes it might be even forty-five minutes, or even an hour, before your phonogram gets booked. Calculating on this basis, what should be the number of hours lost on the phonogram system in Delhi. How can a man stand at the telephone for hours together for getting a phonogram booked? Efficiency is at its lowest ebb in Delhi and this requires to be looked into.

**Shri Nambiar:** It is due to shortage of staff and heavy work.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** What is according to you, not according to me. According to me it is due to taking tea during office hours.

2 P.M.

Then there is a good deal of tomtomming by our Postal Department of the various mechanical devices which are being introduced. One of the mechanical devices which is most essential is this. Most of our mail trains carry all classes of mails.

But they drop them only at important stations; then the mails go up and down the line and thus it takes a long time before a postal article reaches its destination at the interior stations, or intermediate stations. What happens in England is this. Mails are delivered by the trains as they proceed and they are accepted at every station. It is just as the line clear tablet is delivered at every station as the train passes along the line, mails are delivered and accepted at every station by a mechanical device. This ensures proper and rapid delivery of the mails at the various stations. I do not know why this mechanism has not been adopted by us. Sometimes, it so happens that there are certain areas over which mail trains pass, yet they do not get their mails within three days of their posting, even from the places very near to them. This must be looked into by the department.

Then we come to the question of imparting proper training to our postal clerks. We sometimes admire the efficiency of old hands. They knew so many things; they immediately locate where a particular article has to go. Today with the provisions that only those who had studied geography will be allowed to compete or will be allowed to enter the postal department, we find that the articles posted for Jaipur do not go to Jaipur in Rajasthan but go to Jaipur in Andhra. Articles posted for Nasirabad in Rajasthan may not go there because nobody reads the word 'Rajasthan'; but it goes to Nasirabad in Assam. So many things are happening. It may be taken as one of the examples of the inefficiency which is obtaining particularly in Delhi. I do not know whether geography is taught here.....

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am unable to understand the point sought to be made by the hon. Member. Unless the writer of the letter specifically mentions Nasirabad and writes Rajasthan or Assam, as the case may be, within brackets, he cannot com-



[Shri Raj Bahadur]

plain against the postal staff for misdirection of the letter.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** I will send you a specimen; you can verify for yourself whether it is so or not. That is only by the way. I am suggesting that this inefficiency is due either to lack of proper training or carelessness on the part of the staff.....

**Shri Nambiar:** Not on the part of the writer.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Mr. Nambiar may write any address he likes yet his letter will reach.

The other point that I was making was this. About two years back we had made some provisions and given some facilities to our postal staff just as for the railway servants a free pass is given for travelling to their native place or to places where they wanted to go. Those facilities were taken back. I do not understand the reason behind it. The railway servants should not be treated as our very beloved children and the postal staff should not be treated as our step children. They deserve our sympathy to the same extent as the railway staff. I should say that this is one of the few departments in our country where still honesty and integrity exists. It is these people who must be given all the credit that can be due to the Government servants who have not fallen low. Yet, we had not provided them with quarters; we had not provided them with facilities which we had given to the railway servants or facilities for supplying them with their rations as we did in the case of the staff of the railways. So far as the staff quarters are concerned, they are most meagre. Even the post-masters of big head post-offices are allowed to remain in single roomed tenements. At one place, I have seen that the sub-postmaster was living in the same house which was his office. He was having one charpai and a table and on that table was the sub-post-office.

I was wondering how it was treated as a sub-post-office and the poor man was doing all sorts of work and was also living there.....

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Was it an extra-departmental post-office or.....

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** I do not care whether it was extra-departmental or anything; that distinction is with you; I call it a sub-post-office. You must be very considerate as to how you accommodate your staff.

The other thing to which I will draw the very pertinent attention of the hon. Minister is this. We have various schemes provided for the savings under the savings schemes. I do not understand why the rate of interest in the post office savings bank is not being increased. The data that we have been furnished with shows that more and more people are making use of the post-office savings bank. The per head savings in deposit comes to about Rs 457. It is a very good rise compared to the other years and especially compared to 1915 when the average was hardly Rs. 90. In 1915 we were paying interest at three per cent. on all balances. Now we are paying only two per cent. and if the amount deposited is more than Rs. 10,000, he gets only 1.5 per cent. Why is there this distinction? For the savings certificates we are allowing as much as 4.16 per cent. This difference is so great that people are not putting their money into the savings bank. There are some people who are very chary about the National Savings Certificates because they might get lost or burnt; so many things happen whereas in the case of post office savings bank, it is quite safe. Even if one lost the pass book, he can go to the Post Master and get a duplicate issued. Under these circumstances, I would urge upon the hon. Minister to look into this and see that the rate of interest is increased to the rate in pre-war days; it must be more than three per cent.

पॉइन्ट डी० एन० तिवारी (सारन दक्षिण): सर्वप्रथम मैं कम्युनिकेशंस मिनिस्टर को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने तार और डाक का विस्तार और प्रसार बहुत ज्यादा किया है, लेकिन उस विस्तार और प्रसार में एक चंतावनी भी मैं देना चाहता हूँ और वह चंतावनी यह है कि आजकल पोस्ट ऑफीसज थ्रूट्स से खुल रहे हैं लेकिन उनकी एफिशियेंसी बहुत नीचे जा रही है। मैं ने देखा है कि दहातों में और गांवों में जब पोस्ट ऑफिस नहीं थे और केवल एक जगह जगह सेंटर में पोस्ट ऑफिस होता था, तो चिट्ठियां जल्दी मिलती थीं और आज जब कि जगह जगह पर पोस्ट ऑफिस हो गये हैं, तो पत्र दूर में मिलते हैं। कहीं कहीं तो देखने में आया है कि एक चिट्ठी सेंटर में आयी और वहां से सम्बन्धित सब-पोस्ट ऑफिस से उसकी एड्रेस तक पहुंचने में दो, दो और तीन, तीन दिन तक लग गये। बात यह है कि वहां जो चिट्ठी जाती है वह दो, तीन और चार दिन रख दी जाती है और उसके बाद उनका वितरण होता है। प्रसार के साथ साथ, एफिशियेंसी का भी ध्यान रक्खा जाय। मैं तो कहूंगा कि बेहतर होगा कि एक सब-पोस्ट ऑफिस में कुछ अधिक पियन्स रक्खे जायं, साइकिल के ज़ीए चिट्ठियां बंटवाई जायं, बजाय इस के कि अधिक पोस्ट ऑफिस खोल कर चिट्ठी बांटने में दूरी की जाय। आप जानते हैं कि दहातों में गांवों के लोगों के पास साल में दो, चार चिट्ठी ही आती हैं, साल में एक ही चिट्ठी ही आती है और वह भी चिट्ठी मिलने में दूर होजाय तो आप समझ सकते हैं कि उनकी क्या हालत होती होगी। वहां लोग जब कभी कोई ऐसा ही (इम्पार्टेंट काम होता है) जरूरी काम होता है, तभी चिट्ठियां दहातों में भेजते हैं, हर घर में रोज तो चिट्ठी जाती नहीं, इसलिये मैं कहूंगा कि विस्तार के साथ एफिशियेंसी पर भी ध्यान देना बहुत जरूरी है।

टेलीफोन की बिकिंग कहीं कहीं पर, जैसे बिहार में, बहुत भद्दे तरीके की है। पटना

में अगर किसी को टेलीफोन करना हो तो उस को थंय उठा कर कम से कम ५ या ७ मिनट इन्तजार करना पड़ता है तब जा कर दूसरी तरफ से रिस्पान्स होता है और नम्बर प्लीज वा इस तरह की कोई दूसरी चीज पड़ी जाती है। मैं कहूंगा कि आप को इस इनएफिशियेंसी को दूर करने के लिये स्टेप लेना चाहिये। या तो आप पटना में आटोमैटिक टेलीफोन लगा दें, क्योंकि वह हमारे प्रवेश का मुख्य स्थान है, या कुछ और प्रबन्ध करें। जब वहां पर ऐसी हालत है तो छोटे शहरों की क्या हालत होगी? मैं इनएफिशियेंसी की बात और क्या कहूँ? रिपोर्ट में आप देखेंगे कि सन् १९४४-४५ में सब मिला कर कम्लेन्ट्स की संख्या घटी है, लेकिन बिहार ऐसी जगह है जहां पर कम्लेन्ट्स की संख्या और अधिक बढ़ गई है। अगर आप आज से सन् १९५२ का मिसान करेंगे तो आप को मालूम होगा कि सन् १९५२ में कम्लेन्ट्स की संख्या २२,२४६ थी, लेकिन १९५४ के साल में कम्लेन्ट्स की संख्या २५,५५२ है। बिहार के मामले में आप की ठिलाई और वहां के अफसरों की इनएफिशियेंसी के सम्बन्ध में मैं आप का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। मुझे खुद अनुभव है। मैं ने एक कम्लेन्ट पटना के पोस्ट मास्टर जेनरल के यहां की थी, पोस्ट ऑफिस सेविंग्स बैंक के हिसाब के सम्बन्ध में। लेकिन एन्क्वायरी कैसे हुई? बिल्कुल स्टैरियाटाइप एन्क्वायरी की गई। मुझ से सबूत नहीं मांगा गया, पता नहीं कैसे एन्क्वायरी की गई और मुझ को एक उलूल जलूल जवाब दे दिया गया। आप देखेंगे कि पटना के पेपर्स इंडिचन नेशन और सर्व लाइट में रोज ही इस तरह की कम्लेन्ट्स निकला करती हैं। इंडिचन नेशन ने तो अपने अखबार का एक कालम ही रक्खा था जिस में कि इस तरह की कम्लेन्ट्स निकला करती थीं। आप के यहां बहुत सी कम्लेन्ट्स इस-लिये भी नहीं जाती हैं कि आप की एन्क्वायरी बहुत सुपरफ्लुअस होती है और यह मुझ को अपने अनुभव से भी मालूम है।



[पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी]

पोस्ट आफिस की वकींग के बारे में एक बात और। अधिक पोस्ट ऑफिस खोलने के बदले आप टेलिग्राफ लाइन अधिक लगावें तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। बिहार में बहुत से ऐसे स्थान हैं जो बहुत इम्पार्टेंट हैं और जिन के सम्बन्ध में आप के यहां रिप्रेजेंटेशन भी आये हैं, लेकिन वहां आज तक टेलिग्राफ आफिस नहीं खोले गये। मैं समझता हूँ कि वहां पर लास भी बहुत ज्यादा नहीं होगा। पोस्ट आफिस खोलने के लिये आप ने एक हजार रुपये तक का लास मंजूर किया है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि जहां आप टेलिग्राफ लाइन खोलेंगे वहां इतना भी लास नहीं होगा और लोगों को फायदा ज्यादा होगा। इसलिये आज जो इन्डिस्ट्रिमीनेट ऑर्पानिज आफ पोस्ट आफिस हो रहा है उस को बन्द कर के इस तरफ ध्यान देना बहुत जरूरी है।

मैं आप को इस के लिये भी बधाई देता हूँ कि आप ने डाक और तार मूवमेंट में हिन्दी का काफी प्रचार किया है, लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि आज टिकटों के ऊपर अंग्रेजी में लिखने की क्या जरूरत है। या तो आप हिन्दी में लिखिये, या बहुत हो तो जिस रीजन में आप को टिकटों को बेचना हो, सप्लाई करना हो, वहां की रीजनल लैंग्वेज में लिखिये।

श्री जगजीवन राम : मुल्क के बाहर भी तो जाते हैं।

पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी : लोग टिकट खरीदते हैं अपने काम के लिए वह यह नहीं देखते हैं कि उस पर अंग्रेजी में लिखा हुआ है या हिन्दी में लिखा हुआ है। दहातों में बहुत लोग पढ़ लिखे नहीं हैं, बहुत न तो हिन्दी जानते हैं और न अंग्रेजी। जब केवल अंग्रेजी में ही टिकट पर लिखा जाता था तब भी वह डाकखाने जा कर एक आना, दो आना या चार आना का स्टैम्प केवल

दाम बता कर खरीदा करते थे और अपना काम चलाया करते थे। हां, अगर विदेशों में कोई ऐसी बात हो तो वहां के लिये आप जरूर हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छपवा लीजिये। लेकिन मैं ने रिपोर्ट में देखा है कि स्टैम्प हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में छपेंगे और जहां जरूरत हो वहां हिन्दी के बदले रीजनल लैंग्वेज में होंगे। जहां पर लोग हिन्दी नहीं समझते वहां पर हिन्दी का स्थान रीजनल लैंग्वेज को दिया जा रहा है, लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि उस को हिन्दी और रीजनल लैंग्वेज में होना चाहिये न कि अंग्रेजी और रीजनल लैंग्वेज में। और जहां लोग हिन्दी बोलते हैं, हिन्दी जानते हैं, वहां पर केवल हिन्दी में होने चाहिये। अंग्रेजी की क्या जरूरत है? आप इस डिपार्टमेंट में बहुत आसानी से अंग्रेजी को हिन्दी से रिप्लेस कर सकते हैं साथ ही बिना किसी नुकसान या हानि के। आप को उन स्टैम्प्स की आज फिक्र है जो कि विदेशों को जाते हैं। लेकिन हम लोग जो चीट्ठियां विदेशों को भेजते हैं उन के कागज अलग होते हैं, उन के स्टैम्प अलग होते हैं। उन को आर चाहे तो अलग से बनवा सकते हैं और लोगों को पता भी नहीं है कि ये साधारण टिकटों से अलग होते हैं। बहरहाल भविष्य में आप ऐसा कर सकते हैं कि जो चीजें आप को विदेश भेजनी हों उन के लिये अलग टिकट बना दें और आप ऐसा बिना किसी घाट या हानि के और आसानी से कर सकते हैं।

आप की रिपोर्ट में लिखा हुआ है :

"530 cases of favouritism, corruption and harassment of the subordinates were inquired into in which some Gazetted Officers were also involved."

यह नहीं दिया हुआ है कि उस में कितने कौंसल साबित हुए और कितनों में सजायें हुईं। आप ने एन्क्वायरी जरूर की, लेकिन

कैसी एन्क्वायरी की ? वैसी ही एन्क्वायरी तो नहीं की जैसी कि मेरी कम्प्लेंट पर हुई थी ? मैं जानना चाहता था, और यह रिपोर्ट में रहता तो अच्छा होता, कि कितने लोगों को सजायें हुई, उन में कितने गजेटेड आफिसर्स के खिलाफ और कितने मामूली पिथन्स और क्लर्क्स के खिलाफ स्टंप लिया गया।

मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप स्वर्च में किरायत तो कीजिये लेकिन इतनी कंजूसी न कीजिये कि काम खराब हो जाय। आप ने उसी पेज पर लिखा है :

"A start has been made to encourage the study of Hindi by the staff in areas where the local language is not Hindi."

अन्त में दिया है :

"A contribution of Rs. 5 per P. & T. employee learning Hindi under this Institution towards the prescribed examination fee of Rs. 10 per candidate subject to the condition that he passes the Examination, is given".

१० रुपये के बदले में आप ने ऐसा कर दिया कि ५ रु० तो उस गरीब को स्वर्च करना ही पड़ेगा। इस से भी हिन्दी के प्रसार में दिक्कत होगी। जब आप ५ रु० दते हैं तो एर १० रु० ही क्यों नहीं द् दते हैं ? उस को पूरी एग्जामिनेशन की १० रु० की द् दी जानी चाहिये।

आखीर मैं मैं आप से यह कहना चाहता था, जैसा कि मुझ से पहले अभी मेरे एक भाई ने कहा भी था, कि आप ने बम्बई, कसकता और दिल्ली बगैरह के बारे में यह कर दिया है कि द् बिबुल्लस इन ए बीक हों सकेंगे। द् बिबुल्लस इन ए बीक से आप का मंशा यह था कि जिन लोगों को बैंकों के एंकाउन्ट में दिक्कत हो, उन को इस प्रकार की

सुविधा दी जाय। कलकत्ते, बम्बई और दिल्ली में बहुत से बैंक हैं, लोग आप के यहां हिस्सा न रख कर दूसरी जगह पर कर्न्ट एंकाउन्ट में रख सकते हैं, लेकिन जहां पर आज बड़ी बड़ी मंडियां हैं और बैंक्स नहीं हैं, जैसा बिहार के प्रदश में दिघवारा और महाराजगंज ऐसे स्थान हैं जहां रोज रुपये को जमा करने की जरूरत पड़ती है और बड़ी मुसीबत में लोग पड़ जाते हैं, वहां पर बैंक न होने से अक्सर लोगों को दिक्कत उठानी पड़ती है। और उन को जहां पर बैंक होते हैं बड़े शहर में वहां अपना आदमी भेजना पड़ता है। अच्छा यह होता कि ऐसी जगहों पर जहां बैंकों की सुविधा नहीं है वहां पर आप द् बिबुल्लस ए बीक मंजूर कर दीजिये ताकि अधिक लोग फायदा उठा सकें और आप की मंशा के मुताबिक पोस्ट आफिस सेविंग्स बैंकों में भी अधिक रुपया आ सके। दहाता में मैं जानता हूँ कि छोट छोट गृहस्थ हैं और उन को भी हफ्ते में दो मर्तबा रुपया कभी कभी निकालना पड़ता है। ऐसी सुविधा हो जाने पर वह भी अपना रुपया डाकखानों में जमा कर सकेंगे। आज उन को बहुत पैसा खर्च कर के गांवों से दूर दूर के शहरों को अपना आदमी रुपया जमा करने के लिये भेजना पड़ता है। एक बात मैं कहना भूल गया कि जितने आपके गांवों के पोस्ट आफिसज हैं वहां पर जितने मनी आर्डर जाते हैं उन को बांटने में बहुत दिक्कत होती है। कई बार ऐसा होता है कि जितने मनी आर्डर उन के पास आते हैं उनको तकसीम करने के लिए उनके पास पैसे नहीं होते हैं। आप ने ऐसे कर्मचारी रखे हैं जिन पर आप अधिक रुपये का विश्वास नहीं करते हैं और जब कभी ५०० या ७०० या १००० रुपये के मनी आर्डर चले जाते हैं तो उनको तकसीम करने में कई हफ्ते लग जाते हैं। इस तरह से लोगों को तकलीफ होती है और जो नुकसान उनको उठाना पड़ता है उस पर आप को विचार करना चाहिए और उनकी इस दिक्कत को दूर करने के लिए कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए। या तो

[पंडित डी० एन० तिवारी]

आपके जो सब पोस्ट ऑफिसस हैं उनकी माफ़त रुपया भिजवाना चाहिए या फिर आप के जो गांवों में एक्स्ट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल पोस्ट ऑफिसस हैं उनके कर्मचारियों से सिक्योरिटीयां लेकर कोई ऐसा इन्तिजाम कीजिये कि गांव वालों को समय पर रुपया मिल सके। जब लोगों को रुपये की जरूरत होती है और उनको जो रुपया भेजा जाता है वह समय पर नहीं मिलता तो वे महाजनों इत्यादि के पास जाते हैं और उनसे बहुत ज्यादा दर पर, बहुत ज्यादा सूद पर रुपया लेते हैं जिस से उनको बड़ा नुकसान उठाना पड़ता है। इस ओर आप को शीघ्र ध्यान देना चाहिए।

अन्त में मैं एक बार फिर माननीय मंत्री जी को और उनके विभाग के दूसरे कर्मचारियों को मुबारकबाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने इतना ज्यादा काम किया और आशा करता हूँ कि वे और तेजी के साथ और एफिशेंटली, अभी जो काम करने को हैं, करेंगे।

श्री स्नातक (जिला अलीगढ़—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : सब से पहले मैं कम्युनिकेशंस मिनिस्टरी के लोगों को और मिनिस्टर महोदय को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने गत वर्ष की अपेक्षा इस वर्ष ढाक तार विभाग के द्वारा अधिक सुविधाएं लोगों को दी हैं। आप जानते हैं कि आज इस कम्युनिकेशंस के द्वारा एक देश का दूसरे देश से जो सम्बन्ध है, एक बड़े शहर का दूसरे बड़े शहर से जो सम्बन्ध है, एक कस्बे का दूसरे कस्बे के साथ जो सम्बन्ध है और इन कस्बों का शहरों के साथ जो सम्बन्ध है वह इस बात को बतलाता है कि वर्तमान समय में इस महकमे की बहुत भारी आवश्यकता है। मैं अपने कुछ सुझाव देने से पहले, इस मिनिस्टरी ने पिछले साल में जो निरंतर इस दिशा में प्रगति की है, उस के लिए उनको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

जो पहली बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि हिन्दी के तारों के बारे में जो लोगों को

अधिक से अधिक सुविधाएं मिनिस्टरी और डिपार्टमेंट की ओर से होनी चाहिए थीं वे नहीं हैं। हम देखते हैं कि जब बड़े शहरों से कोई टेलीग्राम देते हैं छोटी जगहों के लिए, तो वह रिसीव तो कर ली जाती है परन्तु जब हम उन जगहों से टेलीग्राम हिन्दी में देने जाते हैं तो हमें कहा जाता है कि इस प्रकार का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं है और हम हिन्दी के तार दे नहीं सकते हैं। इस तरह से कुछ स्थानों पर इस प्रकार की असुविधा हम को मालूम हुई है और हम चाहते हैं कि हिन्दी की तारें देने के लिए ५० पी० और बिहार में, जो कि हिन्दी बोलने वाले मुख्य स्थान हैं, और जहां पर इस किस्म की तारों का विस्तार और प्रचार हो सकता है, अधिक से अधिक सुविधाएं दी जानी चाहिए। अतः मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इस ओर और ज्यादा ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए।

हमें यह बताया गया है कि एक ऐसी योजना बनाई जा रही है जिस के अन्तर्गत हर दो तीन मील के एरिया के अन्दर पोस्ट ऑफिस का निर्माण हो जायगा और इस दिशा में मिनिस्टरी प्रयत्न भी कर रही है। मैं महसूस करता हूँ कि इस दिशा में कोई ठोस काम नहीं हुआ है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रबन्ध पंचवर्षीय योजना के समाप्त होने से पूर्व ही जो मिनिस्टरी की योजना है वह कार्यरूप में परिणत हो जाए जिस से कि साधारण जनता को इस ढाक व तार विभाग की ओर से अधिक से अधिक सुविधाएं उपलब्ध हो सकें।

हमें यह बताया गया है कि हम अधिक से अधिक टेलीफोन और तार घरों का शहरों और कस्बों के अन्दर विस्तार करेंगे। मेरा विचार है कि टेलीफोन की अपेक्षा तार घरों का विस्तार अधिक होना चाहिए क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान की साधारण ण्डी लिली जनता टेलीफोन को अधिक पसन्द नहीं करेगी। इसीलिए तार

इन्ने की सुविधाएं डाक तार विभाग की ओर से जनता को अधिक से अधिक होनी चाहियें।

एक बात जो मैं और कहना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि कस्बों और गांवों में जो लैटर बाक्स हैं वे बहुत ही भद्दे और गंदे हैं और उनके अन्दर पत्र डालते वक्त कई प्रकार की कठिनाइयां होती हैं.....

श्री भगवत भा आजाद : सुन्दर होने चाहियें ?

श्री स्नातक : अच्छे और बड़े होने चाहियें और .....

श्री जगजीवन राम : सुरास् बढ़ होने चाहियें।

श्री स्नातक : इसके साथ ही यह देखने में भी आता है कि जो इश्तिहार आदि छपते हैं वे अंग्रेजी में होते हैं जिन को आम जनता नहीं समझ सकती है। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि लोग इन को पढ़कर लाभ उठाएं तो आप को यह पम्फलेट हिन्दी में भी छपवाने चाहिए। इन छोटी २ बातों पर सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

अब मैं सैंविंग बैंक के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। हम यह देखते हैं कि सैंविंग बैंक की सुविधाएं आमतौर पर गांवों में नहीं होती हैं। जहाँ पर ब्रांच पोस्ट ऑफिसस हैं, और छोटे छोटे कस्बों में जो पोस्ट ऑफिसस हैं वहाँ पर सैंविंग बैंक की अधिक सुविधा दी जानी चाहिए।

मैं एक बात और कह देना चाहता हूं और वह यह है कि हाल ही में नागपुर में कई हवाई दुर्घटनाएं देखने में आई हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या डिपार्टमेंट ने इस दिशा में कोई जानकारी प्राप्त की है और यह पता लगाने की कोशिश की है कि यह दुर्घटनाएं क्यों होती हैं और इनको कैसे रोका जा सकता है? हम लोग संसद के सदस्य जब हवाई जहाज के द्वारा जाना चाहते हैं तो नागपुर जाने से अधिक घबराते हैं। इस वास्ते मैं आशा करता हूं कि मंत्री महोदय नागपुर

के पास जो अधिक दुर्घटनाएं होती हैं इन के कारणों पर और इन को रोकने के जो प्रबन्ध किए गए हैं उन पर रोशनी डालेंगे।

एक बात मैं और कहना चाहता हूं कि अभी कुछ दिन हुए इस डिपार्टमेंट ने डाकखानों के अन्दर लोगों में खादी की दुंधियां बचने के लिए एक प्रोग्राम बनाया था। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस काम में कोई काम-याबी हुई है? डाक तार विभाग के कर्मचारी लोगों ने तो यहां तक कहा है कि साहब हम लोगों को परेशान किया जाता है क्योंकि डिपार्टमेंट का यह काम नहीं है और हम लोगों के ऊपर एक प्रकार का बंजा दबाव सा डाला गया है। मैं समझता हूं कि यदि इस दिशा में कोई कामयाबी हुई है तब तो ठीक है और यदि विभाग यह समझता है कि यह बेकार की योजना उनके ऊपर मढ़ी गई है तो दूसरी बात है। इस ओर भी मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

मैं इस डिपार्टमेंट के कर्मचारियों के लिए मकानों की व्यवस्था किए जाने के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। इस महकमे के न छोटे कर्मचारियों के लिए, और न ही बड़े कर्मचारियों के लिए मकानों की कोई व्यवस्था की गई है। लोग कहते हैं कि रेलवे के अन्दर और दूसरे डिपार्टमेंट्स के अन्दर रहने के लिए छोटे और बड़े, दोनों किस्म के कर्मचारियों को, रहने के लिए मकान दिये जाते हैं परन्तु पोस्ट ऑफिस के अन्दर न छोटे कर्मचारियों को और न ही बड़े कर्मचारियों को मकान देने की कोई व्यवस्था है। मैं जानना चाहंगा कि इस दिशा में सरकार ने क्या प्रयत्न किए हैं? मैं चाहता हूं कि छोटे और बड़े सब कर्मचारियों के लिए डिपार्टमेंट की तरफ से, मकान दिये जाने की कुछ न कुछ व्यवस्था होनी ही चाहिए।

मैं आशा करता हूं कि जो थोड़े बहुत सुभाव मैं ने आप के सामने रखे हैं आप उन पर ध्यान देंगे। आप जानते हैं कि डाक व तार का जो विभाग है इससे हमारे देश

[श्री स्नातक]

की उन्नति और बरबादी का सम्बन्ध है और यदि हम को डिपार्टमेंट के लोगों को प्रसन्न रखना है तो हमें उनकी भलाई एवं सुविधाओं की ओर अधिक से अधिक ध्यान देना होगा। यदि हम उन को सन्तुष्ट नहीं रखेंगे तो हम अपने कार्यों में अधिक सफलता भी प्राप्त नहीं कर सकेंगे। इसलिये माननीय मंत्री महोदय और उनके सहायक उपमंत्री जी को कर्मचारियों की भलाई की तरफ भी ध्यान देना होगा। मैं मानता हूँ कि वे और उनका डिपार्टमेंट प्रयत्न कर रहा है लेकिन मेरी प्रार्थना है कि जो थोड़ी बहुत असुविधाएं कर्मचारियों को हैं उनको जल्दी से जल्दी दूर किया जाना चाहिए।

जो कुछ सुभाव मैं ने आपके सामने संक्षेप में रखे हैं मुझे आशा है कि उन पर ध्यान दिया जायगा, और विभाग में जो जो कीमियां हैं और उनके कारण जनता की जो कठिनाइयां हैं, उनको दूर किया जायगा। माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस वर्ष अधिक पोस्ट ऑफिस खोलने में बहुत प्रगति की है, इससे जनता को बहुत सुविधा हुई है।

अन्त में इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय को और उनके डाक तार विभाग के बड़े और छोटे कर्मचारियों को धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

श्रीमती कमलेंद्रु मति शाह (जिला गढ़वाल—पश्चिम व जिला टिहरी गढ़वाल व जिला बिजनौर—उत्तर) : मुझे संसार मंत्री जी को यह बताना है कि मैं समय समय पर अपने क्षेत्र से लौटने पर उनके पास निवेदन पत्र भेजती रही हूँ और उन निवेदन पत्रों में मैं ने उन स्थानों के नाम दिये हैं जहाँ पर कि पोस्ट ऑफिस होने चाहिये। यहाँ पर मैं उन स्थानों के नाम देती हूँ कि जिनको प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए। हमारे यहाँ डाकखानों की बड़ी आवश्यकता है। हमारे यहाँ जमनोशी

में एक डाकखाना होना चाहिए, इसके अतिरिक्त उत्तर काशी, गंगोत्री और नैलंग पास में डाकखाने होने चाहिये। यह नैलंग पास तो एक स्ट्रैटिजिक स्थान भी है। इसके अतिरिक्त आराकोट, मंजगांव, धाती डांगर, जुगौली, नैतवाड, (पंचगई फतेपर्वत में) बड़कोट, ठीड्यार, धारकोट—ये ऐसे स्थान हैं जहाँ पर आपको डाकखाने खोलने में प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए। मैं ने पूरा विवरण तो मंत्री जी के पास भेज दिया है जिससे पता चल सकता है कि कहां कहां डाकखानों की आवश्यकता है। अगर आप हमारे यहाँ डाकखाने खोलेंगे तो मैं समझती हूँ कि इससे बंकारों को भी कुछ काम मिलकर सहायता पहुंचने की सम्भावना है।

मेरा एक और सुभाव है कि जहाँ जहाँ बसें जाती हैं वहाँ उन बसों पर अगर पोस्ट बाक्स रखे जायें तो मेरे ख्याल से वितरण में सुविधा होगी। इस पर भी आप विचार करें।

जिन स्थानों के मैं ने नाम दिये हैं ये ऐसे स्थान हैं जहाँ पैदल जाना होता है। वहाँ पैदल जाने वालों को बड़ी कठिनाई होती है। हमारे यहाँ आजकल डाक १५ दिन में एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान पर पहुंचती है। अगर इन स्थानों पर डाकखाने खोल दिये जायें तो इससे जनता को बहुत सद्दुल्लेखत हो जायगी और पत्र आज की अपेक्षा जल्दी पहुंचने लगेंगे।

मेरा एक सुभाव और है और वह यह कि जो लोग पर्वतीय स्थानों पर डाक ले जाने का काम या अन्य काम करते हैं उनको प्रोवीडेंट फंड की सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए। अगर उनको यह सुविधा मिलेगी तो इससे उनको बहुत लाभ पहुंचेगा।

डाकखानों से अब मैं टेलीफोन पर जाती हूँ। जैसा कि परसों मैं एक तारांकित प्रश्न में मंत्री महोदय को बतला चुकी हूँ मेरे जिले में टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था खराब है। आपको

इन स्थानों पर टेलीफोन लगाने चाहिए, जैसे श्रीकेश, नरेंद्र नगर, आगस्तवाल, फकोट, नागनी, चम्मा, टिहरी, धरासु और उत्तर काशी। इन स्थानों से होती हुई मोटर की सड़क जाती हैं। अगर इस सड़क के किनारे किनारे टेलीफोन की लाइन को लगाया जाय तो यह बहुत आसानी से लगायी जा सकती हैं।

पहाड़ में हाक्खाने और टेलीफोन के अतिरिक्त मैं एक और सुविधा की आशा करती हूँ। आशा पर दुनिया जीती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पर्वतीय इलाकों के लिए वायरलेस की भी मांग करती हूँ। मंत्री महोदय ने कंदारनाथ में तो वायरलेस दिया है। उस के लिए मैं उनको बहुत धन्यवाद देती हूँ। यहां पर वायरलेस का होना बहुत जरूरी था। लेकिन अन्य दो चार स्थान और ऐसे हैं जहां पर भी वायरलेस देना चाहिए, जैसे ठंडियार, गंगोत्री, जमनात्री। यात्रा लाइन होने के कारण यह आवश्यक है कि यहां पर वायरलेस होने चाहिए।

बस मुझे यही थोड़ी सी बातें कहनी थीं। मुझे आशा है कि मंत्री महोदय इन कामों को पूरा करेंगे।

**Shri Dabhi:** At the outset, I should like to make a few observations in connection with the air accidents which are taking place now and then and taking toll of very valuable lives. It is a matter of great regret that every year one hon. Member of this very House becomes a victim of these air accidents. In the very first year after this Parliament came into existence, I think Shri Kaushik lost his life in an air accident. In December 1953 I think Shri Hariharnath Shastri lost his life, and recently my hon. friend Shri Borkar has lost his life in an air accident.

Every time that such accidents take place, Government appoint courts of enquiry, and their reports are issued. In the report of the Ministry of Communications for the

year 1953-54, it is stated on page 18:

"The recommendations of the courts of enquiry were examined carefully with a view to minimising the recurrence of such accidents."

I would like to know from the hon. Minister what special steps Government have taken to minimise the recurrence of such accidents. I do not think that these courts of enquiry have been able to find out the exact cause of these accidents. As my hon. friend Shri A. M. Thomas has stated, every time one cause that is pointed out is that the pilot is in error.

I have been feeling for a long time that one of the causes at least of these accidents is drinking on the part of the pilot. I would ask one question, namely, whether all these pilots are teetotallers or not. If they are teetotallers, I have nothing to say. If they are not, then my suspicion is strengthened that at least in some cases these accidents are due to the unbalance of mind as a result of drinking by the pilot. My suspicion was strengthened at the time of the Nagpur accident last year. That I am not drawing upon my own imagination with regard to this matter is shown by the following extract which I am going to read from Vol. I, No. 1 of the magazine called *Alert*, from an article by W. A. Scharffenberg entitled 'Nagpur Incident—Air Menace'—Mr. Scharffenberg is the executive secretary of the International Temperance Association. These are the words which he has used in that article:

"A hefty Australian pilot thought he knew how to handle his liquor, and so after taking a drink or two he took to the air. As his plane ascended, the alcohol gradually took control of the pilot, and when that happened the pilot lost control of his plane. The plane fell from an altitude of ten thousand feet to four thousand feet. It was then that the pas-

[Shri Dabhi]

sengers decided to take over, and take over quickly.....

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Is it relating to Nagpur? I would like to know whether that is relating to the Nagpur air accident.

**Shri Dabhi:** I would make that clear after finishing this quotation.

"The pilot was enticed to leave his control cabin on the promise of another drink, and the co-pilot took over.

A Civil Aeronautics spokesman announced that the pilot's licence was cancelled.

What we are concerned about is not the suspension of the pilot's licence, but the method by which the pilot received his licence in the first place. What right has any airline to issue a licence to a pilot who drinks? We believe that those who travel by air have a right to demand of the airlines that only pilots who are known to be total abstainers be employed. Any other policy is fatal."

Now, I do not say—and it is not clear—that this refers to any of our airlines. This accident might have been with regard to some international plane. But the fact remains that there is always the danger, if the pilot is not a teetotaler, and if he drinks, that he may lose his balance of mind and there may be accident. I submit that even if there be one chance in a 100 where accident is likely to happen as a result of drinking on the part of the pilot, it is dangerous to take such a risk. Apart from that, we have got article 47 of the Constitution which enjoins that Prohibition must be introduced. I do not understand why Government should not at least take this step and introduce Prohibition among the pilots. Why should not they get an undertaking from the pilots that they do not drink? Unless they give such an undertaking, they should not be allowed to play with the lives of peo-

ple. So from every point of view, it is absolutely necessary that Government must begin with this. I do not see any difficulty in at least introducing a rule that no pilot who is not a teetotaler would be allowed to take charge of any aeroplane.

Now, I would turn to the P. & T. Department. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the P. & T. Department is making very great progress.

**Dr. Suresh Chandra (Aurangabad):** What about the Nagpur accident? He said he would say whether the incident he referred to was connected with the Nagpur accident or not.

**Shri Dabhi:** I said it was not clear from this that it was in reference to any of our airlines. It definitely does not refer to any of our airlines. But the principle is the same. Therefore, I referred to that incident.

Now, it is a matter of great satisfaction that very great progress is being made by the P. & T. department, especially in regard to facilities provided for the rural areas. I hope that more and more facilities would be provided during the next Five Year Plan in the rural areas.

I am one with my hon. friend, Shri A. M. Thomas, in the view that the building position is not quite satisfactory. In the report also, there is no mention made as to what is the present position with regard to buildings, whether any real progress is being made or not. That very fact shows that so far as the building programme is concerned, it is quite unsatisfactory. I would only quote one instance from the report. It is said that for construction of a Post and Telegraph office building at Railwaypura, Ahmedabad, provision was made in 1952-54. Again, the same provision, with a little difference, was made in 1954-55. Again, during the budget year also, provision has been made for spending a certain amount of money. Still nothing seems to have been done. I know that there is great difficulty.



The department has not got its own engineering section and it does not get the required assistance from the P. W. D. But something has to be done.

Now, I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister one or two complaints. With regard to postcards, you know that formerly unstamped postcards were sent to the dead letter office. Now that rule has been changed. When a postcard has not affixed to it a 9 pies stamp, it is quite natural if they charge only 18 pies. But that is not the case. If a postcard is not stamped, then 4 annas are recovered, as if it was a cover. I think this is quite improper and I hope the hon. Minister will see that this is an exorbitant charge. I say if a postcard is not stamped, let them do as they did before, namely, let them send it to the Dead Letter Office. But you should not charge above the ordinary fees for this. The procedure is that if the addressee does not accept it, it has to be sent to the sender. If the sender does not pay the money, then the post office would say that letters would not be delivered to him. That is the penalty.

My friend, Shri U. M. Trivedi, referred to post office savings bank. I also concur with him that several ordinary lower middle class people deposit money in the post office savings bank. Therefore, the rate of interest should at least be raised from 2 to 2½ per cent. Apart from that there is another discrimination being shown in respect of the post office savings bank facility. You know that when an individual deposits money in the post office, he gets 2 per cent interest. But if a gram panchayat deposits money, it is given only 1½ per cent. This is quite unjust. It may be said that it is to give encouragement to banks. But we know that in the rural areas there are no banking facilities. These are all small panchayats; at least in my State, there is one panchayat in every village with a population of 1,000. These pancha-

yats get only 1½ per cent. interest when they deposit money. This is quite unjust. I know that it is not in the hands of the postal department, for they are merely acting as agents of the finance department. I appeal to the Finance Ministry to see that this discrimination is done away with and 2 per cent. interest is given to both individuals and also at least to gram panchayats and other small institutions.

Lastly, I congratulate the hon. Minister on introducing khadi uniforms among all the P. & T. staff who are entitled to uniforms. But I suggest to the higher staff that in view of the changed circumstances, they should also take to khadi. It would be quite improper if the higher staff do not identify themselves with the lower staff who are using khadi and also the Ministers who are using khadi.....

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Provided you give it freely.

Shri Dabhi: It would not be proper on their part to put on any other dress and I hope that they would also use khadi.

Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack): I am very happy to learn—and I also have experience—that the postal facilities have been expanded much more than before. Every one feels glad about this. But, we have to find out how this system is working, the machinery that is functioning in transmitting mail from one end of the country to the other.

First of all, this machinery consists of the men. And, we have to consider their working conditions, their housing conditions, their needs etc. When we go into these things, we find that, in the first place, the buildings housing the post offices, whether in large cities or in small towns, barring a few that have been built lately, were built 40, 50 or 60 years ago. Many of them are very much dilapidated. I have heard—I do not know whether it is true or not and the Minister will tell me so—

[Shri Sarangadhar Das]

that in one of the offices in Madras, the roof collapsed some time ago and yet, in Madras itself, as in other places, plots of land have been purchased for building post offices, money allotted and it is lapsing year after year and three or four such years have gone by. One case, my hon. friend from Ahmedabad mentioned and I know the R. M. S. building in Calcutta. It is in a very much dilapidated condition and yet there is no new building coming up.

In that connection, I have also information that the landlords who own these buildings and have given them on rent to the Postal Department somehow manage that their buildings will be perpetually rented by the department. Outside the cities, in the provincial towns and sub-divisional headquarters, the condition is much worse. In these old buildings that house the post offices, we have, because of the expansion of the post and telegraph services, more men working than there used to be. Although the additional staff is not sufficient yet, still the additional men use the same space as, let us say, half a dozen men were doing previously. Consequently, there are places that I have seen where the incoming mail is piled up like a mountain and two or three clerks and postmen standing round and sorting the mail. There is no table, no chair nor even a stool. The condition of working in these post offices is really so bad that some two years ago I had heard that the General Secretary of the International Postal Employees Association, who had come here mentioned, when the Ministers were also present, how backward our working conditions are in this respect. Talking about furniture, he said that they were mid-Victorian; that is, from the Victorian age, they have been going on and there is nothing new.

With regard to buildings, there are proposals always in the Budget esti-

mates. It is said that so much money has been set apart for building purposes here and there and everywhere but the buildings are not started. The money lapses. The second year the same amount is allotted and again it lapses and so on in the third year also. Three years have gone by and yet there is no building.

In this connection, inasmuch as the Central P. W. D. is not able to do this work and in view of the fact that in the Second Five Year Plan there are all kinds of building works to be carried on by various Departments of the Government, I would suggest that, like the railways and the State Police services where they have a separate Public Works Department through which they do their work, it would be desirable to have a separate P. W. D. wing for the post offices. Otherwise, the Central P. W. D. will never be able to cope with the building programme for post offices in the Second Five Year Plan.

Then there is the difference in treatment of the postal employees as against the other employees of the Union Government. This is with regard to allowances and so forth. For instance, the Central Government staff, the railway staff or the Air Force staff posted within the jurisdiction of Barrackpore municipality in West Bengal get HRA and camp allowance but the P. & T. staff are not given the same. Similarly, the Union Government staff posted at Hijli in West Bengal receive these allowances while the P. & T. staff do not get them. Thirdly, the West Bengal Government have declared some places in the Jalpaiguri district in North Bengal as costly areas and have granted special pay to the Central Government staff. The postal staff posted in this area should also receive these allowances. Weekly off-days are granted for all the staff of the P. & T. But the line staff, a section of the R. M. S. staff, the chowkidars and the sweepers do not get the same. This is most unfair

When the Minister goes about the country, he is very fond of lecturing to people to abolish all inequality, to abolish casteism and all that. But, the lowest paid staff, who need the greatest help are neglected in this manner.

Uniforms are supplied to postmen, linemen and class IV staff of the P. & T. But washing allowances are not paid to them while the others get these. Class IV staff in the P. & T. do not enjoy the same benefits as are enjoyed by the class III staff in regard to pension, gratuity, medical expenses etc. Class IV being in the lowest grade, should get the maximum benefit. The worst thing that I have heard of is that the C. P. W. D. has prohibited, wherever there is a lift in their buildings in the cities, class IV staff from using it for going up and down. Here is the

3 P.M.

worst caste system that the Minister has to take care of.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I find in the Secretariat they go along with me in the lift.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** I can reply to that. In the Secretariat, if he wanted, the Minister himself could change it by persuading his colleagues in the Cabinet.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** But I find that they do use the lift in the Secretariat. I have seen quite a number of class IV officials using the lift in the Secretariat.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** This is my information, but if it does not exist, it is well and good. However, my information is that they are prohibited from using the lift.

Because of the expansion of the postal services, there is shortage of staff. The method of recruitment that is followed nowadays is like this. First of all, the competent authority takes about a year or so in coming to a conclusion as to what additional staff

is required; then the appointing authority takes about six months to a year to select and approve the candidates, then the candidates are required to take training for three or four months, and after taking the training, they are sent home until the police reports about them are received. The police takes months or even a year. So, all told, these posts are left vacant for three or four years. In the meantime, the existing staff, which is small in number, has to do all the work, and they work beyond their normal hours and they are overworked. In this way, there is no relief to the people who are working now.

There are certain decisions taken by the top-ranking officers about centralisation and decentralisation. Recently it is learnt that the postal life insurance is to be decentralised, but I do not see any benefit from decentralising a life insurance office. As the private life insurance offices are centralised and the branches only get the business and the policies are issued by the Central Office, it should be done that way here also. Again, the R.M.S. is to be expanded, I suppose. In place of the existing 17 divisions, there are going to be 22 divisions.....

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That has been finalised.

**Shri Sarangadhar Das:** Some sections out of one existing division are being taken to another division, which will inconvenience the present employees and also the interests of the people working in the trains and the vans because the period of work is lengthened, particularly for those working at night, it is impossible to do the work. Consequently, what is happening sometimes is that letters are being misdirected and they take a longer time for delivery. In these two matters, once you decide on one thing—centralisation or decentralisation—and then you decide on another thing, and this is injurious to the proper running of the postal department. I would particularly bring these two

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matters to the notice of the hon. Minister. Then, there is also the mail motor service in Calcutta, which was once decentralised, then centralised, then again decentralised, thus incurring losses and also thefts of materials, parts and so forth. I hope the Minister will explain why it was necessary to change over from one system to another twice.

श्री एस० एन० दास (दरभंगा—मध्य) : सब से पहले मैं इस बात का इजहार करने से नहीं रह सकता कि अगर कोई मंत्रालय है, जिस ने स्वराज्य के बाद हिन्दुस्तान की जनता का ख्याल रखा है और विकास और तरक्की का काम किया है, तो वह यह मंत्रालय है। इस के लिए मैं मंत्री महोदय को और उनके साथ, जो दूसरे काम करने वाले हैं, उनको बधाई देता हूँ।

इस बात में कोई शक नहीं है कि हिन्दुस्तान जैसे बड़े देश में जनता की सुविधा के जो काम हैं उनके विस्तार की अभी भी बहुत आवश्यकता है और अभी तक जो काम किया गया है वह प्रशंसनीय है लेकिन साथ ही साथ मैं माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर लगाना चाहता हूँ कि जनता में यह बात फैल रही है और इस में वास्तविकता भी बहुत है कि इस विभाग का जो पहले यश था, जिस कार्य कुशलता से इस का पहले काम चलता था, और इस विभाग में भ्रष्टाचार ना के बराबर था, अब इन के बारे में लोगों को शक होने लगा है। मुझे मालूम नहीं कि इसकी छानबीन इस विभाग की तरफ से की जाती है कि नहीं। एक आध बार इस सभा में मैं ने इन बातों की ओर ध्यान दिलाया था लेकिन मुझे बताया गया था कि सरकार के पास इस तरह की कोई शिकायत नहीं आई है कि जिस की छानबीन करने की आवश्यकता हो और यदि कोई शिकायत आएगी तो छानबीन की जाएगी। मैं माननीय मंत्री का एक बात की तरफ ध्यान दिलाना

चाहता हूँ। दहाली जनता जो अखबार मंगवाती है वह आमतौर पर डाक तार विभाग के जरिये से ही मंगवाती है, और बहुत कम जगहें ऐसी हैं जहां पर ट्रेन से दैनिक अखबार पहुंचता है और लोगों को प्राप्त होता है। लेकिन यह आम शिकायत है, इस में सरकार का दोष कितना है और कितना काम करने वालों का दोष है, यह मैं नहीं कह सकता, लेकिन यह बात सही है, कि दहातों में जितने पोस्ट ऑफिस खुले हैं और मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि दहातों में पोस्ट ऑफिस खुलने चाहिये, कि दहातों में जो पोस्ट मास्टर होते हैं, चाहे वे एक्स्ट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल हों चाहे सरकार के कर्मचारी हों, जब वे अपने मित्रों के साथ बैठते हैं तो जो अखबार उनके पास पहुंचते हैं उन पर से लेबल उतार लेते हैं और पढ़ने लग जाते हैं। मैं नहीं कहता कि ऐसा करने में उनकी नियत खराब होती है लेकिन वे ऐसा करते जरूर हैं। इस तरह से अखबार पढ़ने के बाद वे किसी के लेबल किसी पर लगा देते हैं और फिर भेजते हैं। इस तरह की कई शिकायतें आती हैं लेकिन मुझे मालूम नहीं कि सरकार के विभाग की तरफ से इन की छानबीन होती है या नहीं, लेकिन यह बात मानी हुई है कि अखबार जो जनता मंगवाती है, वे बहुत से लोगों को नहीं पहुंच पाते हैं और अगर पहुंचते भी हैं तो देर से पहुंचते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बहुत भारी कलंक की बात है, कि जो जनता गांवों में रहती है, शहरों से कोसों दूर रहती है और उन तक अखबारों के पहुंचने का एक ही साधन है और वह है यह विभाग, यदि इस डिपार्टमेंट के कर्मचारियों की लापरवाही के कारण उनको अखबार ठीक समय पर न पहुंचें तो कितने दुःख की बात है।

दूसरी बात जो मुझे इस विभाग के सम्बन्ध में कहनी है वह यह है कि यह सही है कि दहातों में बहुत डाक घर खोल दिए गये हैं और मैं चाहता भी हूँ कि यह खोले जायें

लैंकिन इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मनी आर्डर्स के सम्बन्ध में कुछ असुविधा सी होती है और वह यह कि जितने मनी आर्डर के फार्म वहाँ पर पहुँचते हैं, गांव के पोस्ट ऑफिस में, उतने रुपये नहीं रहते हैं। सुनते हैं कि ऐसा नियम है कि खास कर्मचारी के लिए एक सीमा तै की हुई है कि उससे ज्यादा रुपया वह नहीं ले जा सकता। इस वजह से भी कुछ कठिनाई होती है।

लैंकिन एक दूसरी बात और है जिसकी तरफ मैं सरकार का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ। सरकार की तरफ से कहा जायगा कि इस विषय में सरकार के पास कोई शिकायत नहीं आयी है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से कहूँगा कि हम लोग जो गांवों में रहते हैं इस बात को जानते हैं, और हमारे मित्रों ने हमको यह बात अपने पत्रों में लिखी है कि गांवों में जो एक्स्ट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल पोस्टमास्टर हैं या दूसरे पोस्टमास्टर हैं वे मनी आर्डर के रुपये को अपने काम में खर्च कर देते हैं और जब आदमी मनी आर्डर लेने आता है तो उससे कह दिया जाता है कि अभी रुपया नहीं आया है, अभी ठहरिये। वह आदमी रोज आता है और उससे कहा जाता है कि अभी मनी आर्डर नहीं आया है। जब दूसरा मनी आर्डर आ जाता है तो पहले वाले का रुपया दे दिया जाता है और उस को रखे रहते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसमें जो उत्तरदायित्व है वह निरीक्षण करने वाले कर्मचारियों का है। हो सकता है कि गांवों में जो एक्स्ट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल एजेंट हैं वे इस उत्तरदायित्व को न समझते हों, लेकिन अगर निरीक्षण करने वाले इस तरफ ध्यान दें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह त्रुटि बहुत कम हो जायगी। हो सकता है कि यह चीज बड़े जफ़्सरों तक न आती हो, लेकिन मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी यह सूचना है कि इन एक्स्ट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल

एजेंटों की बहाली सैंकड़ों में ७५ घूस लेकर की जाती है। इंस्पेक्टर उस समय तक बहाली नहीं करेगा जब तक कि उसकी संतुष्टि न हो जाय। अगर कानफीडेंशियल इन्क्वायरी की जाय तो इसका पता चल सकता है। यह तो आशा नहीं की जा सकती कि कोई पोस्टमास्टर इस बात की गवाही देने आवेगा। जो पोस्टमास्टर होते हैं वे कहते हैं कि हम को बहाल करते वक़्त, तीन महीने का एडवांस ले लिया गया है तो हम भी क्यों न कुछ इधर उधर करें। इसलिए मैं यह कहूँगा कि यह जो पोस्ट ऑफिस की कीर्ति है, यह जो ईमानदारी और सचाई है, इसको कायम रखने के लिए जरूरी है कि जो हमारा निरीक्षण करने वाला स्टाफ है उस पर नज़र रखी जाय। अगर वे अपना कर्तव्य ठीक से पालन करेंगे तो पोस्ट ऑफिसों में यह त्रुटि बहुत कम हो जायगी। क्योंकि अगर बागबान ही चोर हो तो कौन रखवाली करे। जहाँ बागबान ही चोरी करने लगता है वहाँ कौन रक्षा कर सकता है। सुपरवाइजरों पर निगाह रखने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि कुछ गुप्तचर बहाल किये जायें, ताकि इस काम में जो त्रुटियाँ होती हैं उनको रोका जाय।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि खुशी की बात है कि इस साल दूरों में कोई त्रुटि नहीं हुई है। सन् ५२ में इस प्रकार की गलती हुई थी जिसके बारे में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान शिक्षण संस्थाओं, प्रकाशन संस्थाओं और दूसरे लोगों द्वारा खींचा गया कि किताबों के पृष्ठों को भंजने में बहुत खर्चा बढ़ गया है। लेकिन अभी तक उसके सम्बन्ध में कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई है। मैं माननीय मंत्री का ध्यान इस तरफ खींचना चाहूँगा कि २०.४.५४ को जो दर थी उसके अनुसार पांच तोला के लिए ६ पाई लगता था, अब उस पर एक आना लगता है। १५०० तोला यानी दस सेर पर जहाँ पहले पांच रुपया तीन पाई लगता था वहाँ पर अब दस रुपया लगता है, पांच सेर पर जहाँ पहले २ रुपया

[श्री एस० एन० दास]

८ आना २ पाई लगता था वहाँ अब ५ रुपया लगता है। इसका मतलब यह है कि जो दर पहले भी उस दर का, पैकट बनाकर भेजने में, अब दुगना लगता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे शिक्षा के प्रचार में बड़ी रुकावट होती है। सभापति महोदय, मैं उदाहरण के लिए बतला दूँ कि गोरखपुर प्रेस से छपने वाली एक छोटी सी भगवद्गीता की हिन्दी की पुस्तक का दाम ढाई आना है, और अंग्रेजी की गीता का दाम चार आने है। दोनों मिलाकर ६ आना ६ पाई की होती है। उन पर पोस्टेज लगता है ५ आने ६ पाई। अगर रजिस्ट्रेशन से भेजा जाय तो उन पर ६ आने लगते हैं। इस तरह से कुल १२ आने ६ पाई हो जाता है जो कि किताब की कीमत से दुगना हो जाता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर मंत्री महोदय जांच पड़ताल करेंगे, तो उनको मालूम होगा कि इस दर में वृद्धि हो जाने से पुस्तकों के भेजने में कमी हो गयी है और इससे शायद उनके विभाग की आमदनी में भी कुछ कमी हुई हो। इस दृश में जहाँ शिक्षा की कमी है, पुस्तकों के भेजने की दर कम होनी चाहिए ताकि शिक्षा का ज्यादा प्रचार हो सके। इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करूँगा कि वह इस बात को ख्याल में रखकर इस दर को कम करने की कोशिश करें।

सभापति महोदय, मैं दहाती डाकघरों के सम्बन्ध में एक बात और कहना चाहूँगा। गांवों में जो एक्सट्रा पोस्ट आफिस हैं मालूम नहीं उनको कुछ रुपया कंटीजेंसी में दिया जाता है या नहीं। पिछले साल भी इस विषय की चर्चा हुई थी। मुझे कई दहाती पोस्ट आफिस देखने का मौका मिला है। जहाँ हम पोस्ट मास्टरों से बहुत उम्मीद रखते हैं वहाँ यह भी जरूरी है कि उनको वेतन भी ठीक दिया जाय। जैसा कि धामस साहब ने कहा अगर उनके वेतन में कुछ वृद्धि की जाय तो उनसे ज्यादा एफीशेंसी की भी आशा की जा सकती है। इस ओर भी

मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान जाना चाहिए। अगर आप गांवों के पोस्ट आफिसों की एफीशेंसी को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो आपको उनको कंटीजेंसी के लिए भी कुछ रुपया देना जरूरी है। मुझे नहीं मालूम कि पोस्ट मास्टरों को इस बारे में कुछ रुपया मिलता है या नहीं। मैं समझता हूँ कि उनको टबल कुर्सी के लिए और बैठने की जगह के लिए कुछ रुपया मिलना चाहिए। आप पोस्ट मास्टर को २५ रुपये देते हैं। इसमें वह यह नहीं कर सकता। इसलिए मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इन एक्सट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल पोस्ट मास्टरों को कंटीजेंट खर्च के लिए कुछ रुपया मिलना चाहिए।

इस विभाग के लिए जो कारखाने काम करते हैं उनके बारे में मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं सरकार का ध्यान इन कारखानों की तरफ खींचना चाहता हूँ। इन कारखानों में कुछ सुधार हुआ है। लेकिन इन कारखानों में जो माल तैयार होता है उसका अभी तक कोई कास्ट एकाउंटिंग नहीं हो पाया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ खींचना चाहता हूँ कि जो माल आपके यहाँ तैयार होता है और जिसको आप तैयार कराते हैं उसकी बाजार में कोई प्रतियोगिता नहीं है। इसलिए आपको देखना होगा कि आपका कारखाना व्यापारिक ढंग से चलता है या नहीं, वहाँ पर जो माल तैयार होता है उसका जो दाम निरूपण होता है वह ठीक होता है या नहीं। इसके लिए एक कमेटी भी बिठायी गयी थी और भारत सरकार के जो चीफ कास्ट एकाउंटिंग ऑफिसर हैं उन्होंने भी इसकी जांच की थी। लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में अभी तक कोई सुधार नहीं हुआ है।

दूसरे जो स्टोर्स विभाग हैं उसकी ओर भी मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान खींचना चाहूँगा। स्टोर्स की मात्रा आवश्यकता से बहुत अधिक है। आपके स्टोर में जितनी आपकी आवश्यकता है उससे अधिक सरप्लस सामान रहता है। एक कमेटी नियुक्त की गयी थी जिसका यह



काम था कि सरप्लस को हटा दिया जाय ताकि स्टोर्स में जो हमारा पैसा फंसा हुआ है वह कम हो जाय। मालूम नहीं कि किस हद तक हम उस स्टोर को हटा सके हैं। जिस स्टोर की हमको दो चार वर्ष में जरूरत होगी उसको हमने किस हद तक हटाया है यह हमको मालूम नहीं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहूंगा कि वे अपने कारखानों और स्टोर्स की ओर ध्यान दें और उनमें सुधार करने की कोशिश करें।

मैं अन्त में एक बात कह के खरम करूंगा। सन् ५२, ५४ के एक्सप्लेनेटरी मेंमोरैंडम के स्टेटमेंट में तो यह दिया हुआ है कि इस विभाग में ४ लाख ६४ हजार का घाटा है और सन् ५२, ५४ की जो वार्षिक रिपोर्ट है उसमें दिया गया है कि ७,६२,५२९ रुपया का लाभ है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या यह छापे की गलती है या किसी और वजह से है। यह खुरशी की बात है कि इस विभाग में बहुत वर्षों के बाद सन् ५२, ५४ में ७,६२,५२९ रुपये का लाभ हुआ है। मुझे लगता है कि यह लाभ आगे भी कायम रहेगा और दिन दिन इसमें वृद्धि होती जायगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं जो इस विभाग के माननीय मंत्री महोदय हैं और दूसरे कर्मचारी हैं, जिन्होंने इस विभाग में जनता का ध्यान रखकर काम किया है, उनको उसके लिए बधाई देता हूँ।

Mr. Chairman. Shri R. N. S. Deo.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Gauhati): Sir,.....

Mr. Chairman: Is it the way to call the attention of the Chair to be allowed to speak? He begins to address the Chair and makes gestures to the Chair. I have already called another hon. Member. Order, order. Shri R. N. S. Deo.

Shri R. N. S. Deo (Kalahandi-Bolangir): We note that the development of communication facilities has not been equal in all the States of India. Just as in the case of railways, roads, industries, etc., in this

case also, some States get better facilities and others get less. Some States are lagging behind. The reason for this lop-sided development is that in the past, communication facilities were not developed on any planned basis. However, we are glad that that state of affairs is going to be changed and now a new policy has been adopted by the Ministry which will be applied equally to all the States. But you are also aware that those who had better facilities at the start are likely to remain ahead always and those who start with disadvantages are likely to lag behind unless special attention is paid to the backward areas and unless special efforts are made to make up the leeway of those areas. We have not got any statistics or figures to make a comparative study of the position with regard to post offices or telegraph offices in the different States. I had tried to ascertain the position through a question which, for some reason, was not allowed. I also tried to get the statistics through the reference and research division of our Library. They too could not get the figures because it is said that figures are not maintained State-wise but are maintained circle-wise. There is another difficulty and that is the fact that the telegraph offices are not always controlled by the post and telegraph circles within which they are situated. In some cases, post offices are controlled by one circle and telegraph offices by another circle. So, it is difficult to get a comparative statement State-wise but I suggest that in order to be able to know exactly how the progress of communications is taking place in the different States, the Ministry should prepare a State-wise statement showing the post offices and telegraph and telephone facilities in each State. If we look at the Census of India 1951 figures, economic tables, we will find that the ratio of employees in the postal, telegraph and telephone and wireless services—that is in the communications—works out as follows: In the Punjab there are 106.9



[Snr. R. N. S. Deo]

employees per lakh of population; in West Bengal it works to 1'3·5 per lakh of population; in Bombay it is 65·9; in Madras, 46; in U.P., 29·8; in Bihar, 29·5; in Madhya Pradesh, 28·7; in Assam, 28·19; and in Orissa, 18·5. That is the position with regard to 'A' class States. From this if we get any indication of the communication facilities available in these States, you will see that there is a great disparity. If you will also examine the budgeted figures for the building programme for post offices, staff quarters, etc.—these include both the works in progress and new works and these are in lakhs of rupees—we find that for Andhra Rs. 32·28 lakhs are estimated and the provision in this year's budget is Rs. 7·18 lakhs. For Assam the estimate is Rs. 22·85 lakhs and the provision this year is Rs. 7·27 lakhs. In the case of Bihar it is Rs. 57·11 lakhs and Rs. 7·7 lakhs respectively. For Bombay, it is Rs. 212·14 lakhs and Rs. 27·96 lakhs; for Central circle Rs. 62·39 lakhs and Rs. 10·65 lakhs; for Madras Rs. 51·32 lakhs and Rs. 9·29 lakhs respectively. For Orissa, it is Rs. 30 and Rs. 4·91 lakhs; for Punjab Rs. 63·86 and Rs. 12·43 lakhs; for U.P. Rs. 45·55 and Rs. 8·02 lakhs and for West Bengal Rs. 52·92 and Rs. 6·74 lakhs.

You will see the same thing in the telegraph buildings and staff quarters and also in the telephones buildings and staff quarters. You will see the same pattern in the provisions for telegraph and telephone lines and apparatus. Of course, we could not get the real or factual position in the country from these. If we had comparative figures of the existing situation in the different States, it would be easier for us to know exactly where there is need for more attention to be paid and where more development programmes are necessary.

We have tabled one cut motion on Demand No. 5. That is for altering the departure time of Calcutta-

Bangalore Dakota air-service. On page 14 of the report on the activities of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department for 1954-55, at para 15 it is said "Extension of 'All-up' scheme. With effect from the 1st October, 1954. Bhubaneshwar is touched by the daily air-service operating on Calcutta-Bhubaneshwar — Visakhapatnam-Madras-Bangalore route. Mails for and from Bhubaneshwar are being conveyed by air wherever such conveyance provides quickness of delivery." With a slight alteration in the timings of the arrival of the night airmail at Calcutta and of the departure time of this Calcutta-Bangalore service, it would be possible to transmit the night airmail that arrives at Calcutta to Bhubaneshwar the same morning. And as Bhubaneshwar is the capital of Orissa State it is desirable that this night airmail should be connected with the daily service there. This, I think, can easily be done by a slight alteration in the departure time.

Then on Demand No. 6 we have tabled a number of Cut Motions beginning from No. 644 up to No. 660. The number may seem rather large, but they represent the minimum requirements of Orissa which, from the figures that I have already read out you must have noticed, is lagging far behind the other States in many matters.

In one of the Cut Motions we have suggested the upgrading of the Cuttack Telegraph Office. Cuttack is a capital town, and though in the headquarters of the other circles, I understand, they all have departmental Telegraph Offices under a Superintendent, in Cuttack this Telegraph Office is still under a non-gazetted officer. It is desirable that this office should be upgraded.

Then we have suggested that a departmental Telegraph Office should be opened at Sambalpur. Sambalpur, as you know is increasing in importance due to the Hirakud Dam and the

possibilities of development of industries. Sambalpur has already got direct connection with Calcutta and Cuttack, and with the building of the steel plant in Rourekela the volume of work will increase still further. Even now I understand the volume of work justifies the opening of a departmental Telegraph Office there.

Then we have also suggested the printing of money order forms, Post Office Savings Bank pass books and telegraph message forms in the regional languages. I understand that at one time money order forms used to be printed in Oriya also.

Especially as a large percentage of our people are unable to read English or Hindi it is necessary for the convenience of the people that these forms should also be printed in the regional language.

Since you have rung the bell, Sir, I will not go into the details of the other cut motions. But they are self-explanatory, and these have been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister and the Deputy Minister again and again during their visits to Orissa, through correspondence, through memoranda and also by representations and discussions. And I very strongly urge upon the Minister to go into these demands very carefully and sympathetically and not merely to depend on the departmental reports or the opinions of the departmental officers but to go into them personally, so that they will not only find that most of these things are necessary and desirable and can be done without difficulty but in some cases the suggestions, if carried out will definitely lead to economy and also to convenience.

**Shri Veeraswamy** (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): It is a matter for gratification that of late there has been rapid development in the provision of postal facilities to the people of our country. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and the Deputy Minister for this development of postal facilities.

It does not mean that every village has got a post office. Our Minister of Communications has set before himself a commendable aim to provide every thousand citizens of our country with a post office.

The Posts and Telegraphs Department is the biggest department covering the entire country. Even to the nook and corner of villages postmen go to deliver money orders and letters.

By recognising the development of postal facilities to the people of our country I do not mean that there is any improvement in the conditions of service and in the living conditions of the poor and low paid staff in that Department. In these days of talk about the establishment of a socialistic pattern of society in our country I would like to make an earnest appeal to the hon. Minister as well as to the higher authorities of the Department that they must devote a good portion of their time and also a great amount of their sympathy towards bettering the conditions of people who are low paid in that Department.

If we look into the pay structure of postmen and Class IV staff we will have to hang down our heads in shame for the meagre sum paid by a country which has adopted for itself a Republican Government and which has set before itself a socialistic pattern of society. Sir, a postman is paid Rs. 30 and his pay goes up to Rs. 50. The annual increment is only one rupee. In the case of the Class IV staff the starting pay is only Rs. 30 and the annual increment is only eight annas. And that pay goes up to Rs. 35.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Will the hon. Member also take into account the total emoluments drawn by a postman?

**Shri Nambiar:** He is talking of basic wages.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am talking of the total emoluments that he gets.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** This is the regular pay scale of these people. And when they retire their pension is only Rs. 11-8-0 for the Class IV staff and Rs. 16-8-0 for postmen. I do not understand how a man with his family can live on Rs. 11-8-0 or Rs. 16-8-0. It is a very poor sum. I would like to suggest a scale of Rs. 40-1-85 to class IV staff and Rs. 50-2-100 to postmen so that when they retire they will get a pension of Rs. 42-8-0 in the case of class IV staff and Rs. 50/- in the case of postmen. Unless we do this, at least, I am afraid we will not be successful in establishing a socialistic pattern of society.

**Shri Nambiar:** That is only for propaganda.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** Before 1947, promotion was made on the basis of a simple test—I mean promotion of class IV staff and postmen to clerical cadre. Afterwards, the examination was made very hard. Now, they are asked to answer questions in the English language and they are also asked to write essays on the matters dealt with by the P. & T. Guide. You know that the people who are working as postmen and class IV staff cannot be expected to have a working knowledge of English. In order to enable them to write essays, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister to translate the P. & T. Guide into the regional languages, for instance, in Tamil in my area.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Does the hon. Member refer to the promotion of postmen to the clerical cadre?

**Shri Veeraswamy:** This is with regard to the promotion of class IV staff and postmen to the clerical cadre.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** In that even, if we expect.....

**Shri Nambiar:** Let us hear the other side.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** If the P. & T. Guide is translated into regional languages, postmen and class IV staff would be able to write the examina-

tions well and even beat the clerical staff.

In the case of stamp vendors in the post offices, they are non-pensionable government servants. They also work for 8 hours a day like other postal clerks. It is not fair on the part of the Government to keep them as non-pensionable staff. With regard to the confirmation of postmen promoted as clerks in the Department, I would like to draw the attention of the Communications Ministry to the fact that many people have not been able to get promotion because of the examination prescribed by the department. A postman is called upon to pass an examination studying 5 or 6 volumes and that too at the ages of 45 or 60. How can we expect a man to study so many volumes and write an examination and come out successful?

A village postman is paid out-station allowance for the number of days that he is in the villages. Now, he is getting Rs. 3 per month. Till recently he was getting Rs. 1-8-0 per month. It has now been increased to Rs. 3/-. It is very inadequate, to a postman who has to go to out of the way places in hilly regions, in wild forests, etc. I would request the hon. Minister to pay outstation allowance at least at the rate of eight annas a day.

Then, I come to the question of holiday allowance. During the postal holidays, the staff are working in the post offices and telegraph offices for which they are not paid anything. They must be paid for the holidays on which they work.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** What about overtime allowance?

**Shri Veeraswamy:** The post and telegraph staff work on holidays. When they work, they must be paid either overtime allowance or allowance for those days.

**Shri Nambiar:** Compensatory allowance.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Compensatory allowance is not meant for that.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** In the British days, they were paid compensatory

allowance for work during holidays. So also, they must be paid now.

With regard to the uniform supplied to the postmen, I would request the hon. Minister to give at least 2 or 3 yards of khaki mull cloth to postmen so that they may use it as a turban which will protect them from the sun. In the north, you know, the people are provided with woollen dress. We do not want any costly stuff in the south because it is a tropical region. They must be provided with at least 2 or 3 yards of khadi cloth.

There is another important point. Postmen are not provided with umbrellas. Every postman should be provided with an umbrella so that he can use it during the rainy and summer seasons. In Madura, I know, ten postmen have been given one umbrella. I do not know how they will divide one umbrella among ten people. After all, the Government is not going to incur a huge amount of expenditure in providing umbrellas to these people who work very hard. We attach importance to work. Our Prime Minister says that work and work alone ought to be respected. From our Prime Minister down to the ordinary Congress workers, every one says that we must respect work. Is this the way in which we respect work?

With regard to medical facilities, Government of India have passed orders asking every Department to provide medical facilities to all their staff including members of the families of the staff.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Class IV staff?

**Shri Veeraswamy:** Now, the medical facilities have been withdrawn in the case of class IV staff.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** They have been extended, my hon. friend; not withdrawn.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** Thank you very much.

**Shri Nambiar:** Not yet.

**Shri Veeraswamy:** Another point to which I wish to draw the attention of

the hon. Minister for Communications is the construction of quarters. Many of the class IV staff have not been provided with any living quarters. If they are provided with living quarters in the neighbourhood of the post and telegraph offices, they would come to office punctually and do their work properly.

I come to the question of family pensions. If any worker dies before the completion of 25 years of service, his family cannot get any pension. For instance, if a person dies after completing 24 years 11 months and 29 days of service, just one day short of 25 years, his wife and his family cannot get any pension.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is provided

**Shri Veeraswamy:** May be, Sir, but not proportionately. That is very unfair and unsympathetic towards his family which is left without anything, because the poor man would not have saved even a few hundreds of rupees. So we can easily understand how the family of the poor and ill-paid staff would be suffering, if no monetary help is given to them.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Pension is given to them.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (New Delhi):** After how many years of service?

**Shri Veeraswamy:** So it is very necessary that family pension is given at least from now on in proportion to the service rendered.

There is one other matter to which I would request the hon. Minister to give his sympathetic consideration, because I know that he has been espousing the cause of the down-trodden in this country, and I know that he is for equitable distribution of justice to all sections of the population. I may also add that in this Department the Scheduled Castes people are getting a fair deal so far as the clerical cadre is concerned. With regard to the posts of postmasters in the villages, I would request the hon. Minister to see that Scheduled Castes men are

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appointed as postmasters, so that the caste Hindus and the so-called high caste people would go to the Scheduled Castes' streets; and that will give at least a small death-blow to untouchability from which the Scheduled Castes people have been suffering for the past so many generations and so many centuries.

Mr. Chairman: Now, Shri Lakshmayya.

Shri Lakshmayya (Anantapur) rose—

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri rose—

Mr. Chairman: I do not know what to do with the hon. Member Shri R. K. Chaudhuri. He comes after 15 or 20 days to the House, and as soon as he comes, he expects to be called upon to speak. He stood up when I had called another hon. Member earlier. Now also when I have called another hon. Member, he is persistent and continues to stand. I would request him kindly to be patient.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: He is trying to catch your eye.

Mr. Chairman: He has more than caught my eye. This is not the way that he should get up every time. He is a senior Member, and he should show a better attitude and restraint.

Shri Lakshmayya: I am glad I have got an opportunity this year to speak on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Communications. I am gladder still because the hon. Minister of Communications as well as his Deputy are both present in the House now. I hope that the hon. Minister of Communications will consider the facts that I place before the House with more sympathy and kindness.

My speech is not intended to criticise the administration or to place any constructive suggestions. It is intended only to ventilate some of the local grievances existing in my place.

Before we understand and appreciate the activities of this Ministry, I want the House to take into consideration the picture of India as it existed

before 1947, and compare it with the picture that we see now. Only then we shall be able to appreciate the activities of this Ministry and commend them in the proper perspective. Before Independence, there were only 22,000 post offices in our country. But today what is the position? About 47,000 post offices are working. So, the number of new offices opened after 1947 was about 25,000. With the dawn of Independence, I am happy to say that the postal activities have been extended to the farthest nook and corner of the country, and about seven lakhs of villages have been brought within the ambit of the postal service. That is really a great thing.

Coming to the activities of the Ministry during the year under review, we find that during the period April-December 1954, about 1,016 new post offices have been opened, out of which 947 have been given to the rural areas. Again from January to March, about 2400 post offices are being opened. Out of this, number, 2325 are for villages. That is really commendable. I come from rural parts myself, and I want that most of our villages should be provided with postal facilities.

The next thing to be taken into consideration is the introduction of the improved mail arrangements not only between towns, but also in the rural areas; and the reorganisation of the Railway Mail Service which was thrown in the background since 1926. I quite appreciate that.

Formerly, the postal branch used to sustain a loss; sometimes heavy loss amounting to Rs. 2 crores even; and that has been the position for the last six years. But this time it is a happy feature that it has shown a profit of Rs. 8 lakhs according to the papers supplied to us.

The Indian Stamp Centenary is also an outstanding event that took place last year under the auspices of this Ministry. If all these things are taken into consideration, certainly

they deserve hearty congratulations by the House.

Coming to telecommunication facilities, I am glad that the policy of Government is to open telegraph offices in all *thanas* and *tehsils*. That is being done, and a start has already been made in that direction. With regard to the opening of public call offices, the policy of Government was that all the district headquarters should be provided with public call offices. Then this facility was extended also to the sub-divisional headquarters. The original policy was that public call offices would be provided to the district headquarters irrespective of the loss involved therefrom. Then this is extended to the sub-divisional head headquarters and *tehsils*, provided they do not entail more than a certain amount of loss. Since that policy was later liberalised, several sub-divisional headquarters were provided with these public call offices. Apart from these, telegraph offices are opened in some rural parts, particularly the *thanas* have been supplied with these facilities. For instance, in my district, in one place called *Yadiki*, telegraph facilities have been recently provided under this scheme; but we want these in all *firka* headquarters.

With all this, I am sorry to state that my districts, particularly in 'Rayalaseema' being poor and undeveloped, cannot come within the scope of these principles and policies. First of all the policy of Government was that every town or village with a population of 2000 or more should be provided with a post office. That was not of much use to us. Later on that policy was liberalised to the effect that a group of villages having a population of 2000 was entitled to get post offices. Under that scheme, some villages got post offices. I am glad for that, 'Half loaf is better than nothing'. Unfortunately the villages in our parts are situated at long distances, and the distance between one village and another is about seven or eight miles; in some places even ten miles.

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They are thinly populated. Therefore, even if a number of villages are grouped together, they cannot satisfy the conditions laid down in the principle and hence they hardly come within the purview of this principle to get postal benefits. So my submission to the hon. Minister, under these circumstances, is that in respect of Rayalaseema—and also in all poor and backward areas—this principle should be liberalised. Some concession should be shown to them; because in these days communication and transport facilities are necessary for the progress of the country. If these facilities are not provided to these backward areas, they will remain backward, as they were backward.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** You were never backward.

**Shri Lakshmayya:** But we are poor and our area is undeveloped. So some concession has to be shown to those poor parts. The following suggestion I want to make to the hon. Minister.

Now, polling stations are fixed during the time of general elections in areas with a population of 1500 or so where people come and vote. Sometimes four or five villages are grouped under one polling station to meet the requisite number. If a post office is provided in each polling station, I am sure most of the villages will come under that and they will be very much benefited.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Is that not a criterion adopted now?

**Shri Lakshmayya:** No. That is why I am requesting the hon. Minister to relax that principle and see that post offices are located in all the polling stations. I am making this suggestion because that is an easy way of solving that problem. More villages will come under that, villages situated even at a distance of six or seven miles will have postal facilities.

The second request I want to make is this. There are telephone facilities by way of public call offices in some



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of the taluk headquarters, like Kadiri, Tadpatri in my district. But unfortunately, the two Taluk headquarters Kalyandrug and Madakasira are not provided with these public call offices. I approached the hon. Minister and made a representation in this regard. I am again making this request to him to instal public call offices in these taluk headquarters. They are business centres. If this facility is provided, their commerce and business will considerably improve by it. We are told that by installing some Trunk telephones, traffic is increased in several places. So also I am sure the traffic will increase if at all public call offices are installed in these two taluk headquarters. There are *firka* headquarters in my district which have not got telegraph offices. Therefore, the principle may be relaxed and these facilities may be given to them irrespective of the amount of loss involved. I want this should not be purely a commercial concern. You should regard it as a public utility concern in so far as these parts are concerned.

Another request I want to make to the hon. Minister is as regards the construction of an aerodrome at Kurnool. You know Kurnool is the capital of Andhra.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** It is going to be constructed.

**Shri Lakshmayya:** I am glad to hear that. I am really grateful to you. A capital without an aerodrome will be like a gentleman without a wrist watch. He cannot keep the time; he cannot keep his engagements. That is the difficulty. Some may think that it is a luxury and all that. But it is necessary as the country is advancing.

Then I want to suggest that money order forms should be printed bilingually. They should be in Devanagari and also in the regional language, instead of in English. English may be eliminated slowly from these money order forms.

**An Hon. Member:** What about the high-level canal?

**Shri Lakshmayya:** As a lawyer, I cannot talk irrelevantly, about high level canal on this occasion. A layman can do it.

With these requests, I hope that the hon. Minister will look to the needs of the people of 'Rayalaseema' in respect of communications.

**Shri Nambiar:** Unfortunately, the hon. lady Member who spoke from this side could not touch upon the post and telegraph department. Therefore, I would concentrate mainly on that point.

I have not much time at my disposal to discuss the financial aspects of the P. & T. But for the present, I would submit that the P. & T. finances require careful scrutiny. From the reports submitted by the Ministry, we find that during the last several years, ever since 1939, a sum of Rs. 16 crores has been allocated to the General Revenues, leaving a balance of only Rs. 16 crores as surplus. The capital at charge has swelled up to Rs. 72 crores giving an interest charge of Rs. 2.37 crores every year. This is the latest figure. At the same time, we have to see that the P. & T. requires a lot of expansion. At this rate, if we have to start and develop schemes with unremunerative expenditure, I do not know where we can find funds. The hon. Minister may say that we can utilise all these Rs. 16 crores and then some money will come from General Revenues. But I cannot feel hopeful about it in view of the ways and means position of General Revenues. Therefore, there is going to be some difficulty with regard to expansion. All this trouble is there due to the conception of the Ministry of Communications that the Communications Ministry must be considered as a commercial enterprise. On this, I do not want to enter into a controversy at present due to want of time; otherwise, I would say that it is an absurd theory. The Communications Ministry cannot be considered as a commercial enterprise at all. It has



to be considered as a public utility service and then only the question of expansion, without looking into the remunerative nature of it, arises. Otherwise, you will have to stop it at a particular stage.

I have my own fear with regard to the wage scale of the staff. At present, the wages paid are very low. In the P. & T. we have at present about 2½ lakh workers—a quarter million—and out of this number, we have 60,000 temporary men and about 60,000 as extra-departmental staff. The extra-departmental staff get a pay of Rs. 20 a month. Of course, the hon. Minister says 'equal pay for equal work'. He finds that the extra-departmental staff do little work and therefore they are to be paid below subsistence allowance. This theory cannot be accepted. The hon. Member, Shri A. M. Thomas, from the Congress Benches also severely criticised it and I hope some consideration will be given to this matter.

With regard to the attitude of the Ministry towards labour, I have to submit that there was a sort of promise given to the staff that the Government would consult the staff on all developmental as well as administrative matters. I find that in 1947 the D.G., P. & T. in a circular letter issued to the employees, stated as follows:

"I do hope that this re-alignment scheme"—that is, the reorganisation scheme—"will afford the workers a long-cherished opportunity to associate themselves with the Administration, and the unions will enthusiastically implement the instructions in the larger interests of the staff and efficient service to the public".

As long ago as 1947, before the socialistic pattern of society was thought of at all, that was done and this promise was given by the D. G., P. and T., of course under instructions from the Ministry of Communications. But for what purpose? Now, they have forgotten it. The latest example is that of the reorganisation of the

RMS section. There is an All-India organisation which ought to have been consulted before this reorganisation was undertaken. Deliberately, they have avoided consulting them, and have launched on this reorganisation, and the staff will have to implement it. This is a glaring example of what they talk and what they do. Both are contradictory in fact. Again, I have to say with regard to re-alignment, that it has come up. The Ministry wanted it. Now, after the Federation's coming into existence, when they submitted their constitution for ratification or approval of the Ministry, the Ministry, without even caring to consult the Federation, struck off many of the vital items of the constitution. I can understand that, when a constitution framed by the workers themselves on a democratic basis is sent to the Ministry for approval, the Ministry saying that they cannot approve that. But, they have no business to strike off some of the vital clauses of the constitution I can quote an instance. Whenever the General Secretary wants to call a meeting of the Executive, Council or Committee must so do it with the consent of the President. It is up to them to decide and it is not for the Ministry to say that they should consult each other before they call a meeting. We have not heard of such things in trade union organisations or others, things being dictated to by the Ministry. Then with regard to the Federation's name. The Federation submitted a name, the Federation of the P. & T. Workers. The Ministry said, 'you cannot have that name, you should name it as the National Federation of the P. & T. Employees.' I have no quarrel.....

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Do you want to be non-national?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** He wants to be international, without caring for his own nation.

**Shri Nambiar:** The Federation must have changed it. It is not for the Ministry to say so. If I am wrong I am prepared to correct my-

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self, but, if I am right, the Minister must explain the position to the country. There was a clause in the constitution of the Federation for the improvement of the social condition of the workers. That has been deleted. I do not know what for an organisation is there if it is not for the betterment of the social condition of the workers. That has been deleted. There was also a clause about strike as there is in the Trade Unions Act of 1926. That is a right given to the worker. That has also been deleted and they have added a phrase like this, 'including the machinery of conciliation, if necessary'. If there is any necessity, there can be conciliation. This is the sort of attitude of the administration towards organised labour in the vital communication system of the country. I do not see that there is any change in the attitude of the administration in dealing with the staff.

I want to say a few words about their condition. I have mentioned that 60,000 are still temporary. Why is it that they are not being confirmed? We know that today the P. & T. is vastly expanding. When this is so, there cannot be any surplus labour and they should all be confirmed. Recently, I know that there is a change in the telephone system of Calcutta. It is being switched on to be automatic and two to three thousand workers are likely to be retrenched. There is no promise forthcoming from the hon. Minister that these men will be employed elsewhere.

That is the attitude with regard to labour. The newly constituted Federation has, at last, after exhausting all avenues after discussing the matters with the Ministry of Communications, come forward with a protest day demonstrations on 20th April, 1955. Within a month or so, we will hear about an all India protest day by the various sections of the P. & T. employees of this country. They have put forward 20 demands. I think the hon. Minister is aware of them. In

these 20 demands, there are very serious and important ones, and reasonable demands of the staff. First, they have demanded that there should be the appointment of a second Pay Commission. Today the working of the recommendations of the Pay Commission is so unsatisfactory that it has become obsolete, so to say. Therefore, they have justly demanded that there must be a second Central Pay Commission. The other day, we heard the same plea from the railwaymen. They also asked that there must be a wage commission to consider the question. Not only in the P. & T. and in the Railways but in the RMS and the Central Government machinery, we hear this demand. The other day, we saw in the Central Secretariat a big demonstration by four to five thousand clerks going out into the street and demanding a revision of their conditions of wage. There is a very strong case for the reconsideration of the present wage structure, and a second Central Pay Commission, if it is necessary, should be appointed. That is my humble submission. They have also put the reorganisation of the RMS divisions as one of the 20 demands. They may say that these things are required because of the zonal reorganisation of the railways. Even this question should have been placed before the staff and their cooperation should have been obtained in the matter. If they were satisfied, they would not have included that also in the list of 20 demands.

In the 20 demands, they have also added the constitution of appellate tribunals at circle and central level to dispose of individual appeal cases.

The disciplinary action that is being taken in the P. & T. Department is, I should say, peculiar. When an employee is reduced or discharged, whatever it is, he has got a right to appeal to the next higher authority. There it ends and he has no right to go to the DG or the Government. He can make an appeal to the next higher authority. But, in many cases—I

have got facts with me but unfortunately there is no time—there are instances where the higher authority instructs the lower authority to punish. You can imagine, in these cases, what chances there are of getting redressal of the grievances by appealing to the next higher authority because the higher authority is the inspirer of the punishment. There are instances like that.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Will he cite any such instance?

**Shri Namblar:** Oh, yes.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Let him come out with them here.

**Shri Namblar:** I will give you instances.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** If he has got any, let him come out with them right here. I challenge him.

**Shri Namblar:** I will do it; before you reply, you will get it.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam):** Why is he losing his temper?

**Shri Namblar:** Just now the hon. Minister said that the families of class IV employees are getting medical facilities. I challenge him. It is not so. Perhaps, he might not have forgotten it. I remember it afresh. Class IV employees are not getting the medical facilities for their families. This is the sort of Ministry we have. They forget things; of course, if they forget like this we may not get money orders. Fortunately we do.

There is an entry in the Budget papers: there is an entry of Rs. 28 lakhs as being spent. There is a minus entry for foreign traffic exchange adjustments. What is this foreign traffic exchange adjustment to the tune of Rs. 28 lakhs?

When we try to know what it is, they say it is not in public interest to tell us. May I know what it is exactly for? If it is not in the public interests to divulge this secret, it must be a terrible secret. It is not as if Rs. 28 lakhs is being spent on arms and ammunition in the Defence De-

partment or the Home Department. It is in the P. & T. Department. The P. & T. Department is becoming a very harmful subject if it cannot be told.

I have come across another piece of information from the Ministry that with regard to the losses incurred there was a discussion in the Ministry about how the losses could be eliminated. A very funny thing happened. One of the officials wrote in a note like this. He is a very high official. I am prepared to give a copy of the letter if he wants.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** How did you get it?

**Shri Namblar:** You don't worry about it. We will get many more things. I am reading a portion for the information of the Minister. It is self-explanatory.

"It is, however, felt that if the checking of the registered numbers with their entries in the registered lists, which is essential to prevent losses is enforced and if some system by which each official can be made responsible for a certain number of articles is devised the number of loss cases can be minimised. The expenditure on additional staff required to enforce your proposal would be disproportionately higher than the amount of compensation paid, and it would also cause delay in the disposal of articles."

Therefore, there ends the matter.

This is the efficiency of the higher-ups in the Ministry of Communications. With regard to the workers and staff numbering 2,50,000 of the Posts and Telegraphs Department, we have all respect for them; they have done well in these adverse conditions, but they are not being allowed to discharge their duties better and in a more efficient manner by the officialdom that is still sitting on top in the old bureaucratic pattern. Of course, the Ministers may have good intentions. We understand their intentions but their intentions are misplaced in hands of these officers. Of course, they may not accept it now, but they will know in the long run

[Shri Nambiar]

that they will have to tell the higher-ups that they must change their attitude. This is not the correct attitude. The socialistic pattern is there and it has become the jargon—and is being repeated—and they themselves do not mean what is conveyed by socialistic pattern.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That is the greatest head-ache to the hon. Member now?

**Shri Nambiar:** There is another point which I wish to bring to the notice of the Minister. A telegram was received here addressed to an hon. Member of this House from his constituency, and that telegram was withheld by the telegraph authorities, of course, with the consultation of the police. There was correspondence between the hon. Member, Shri Das, and the hon. Minister, and in that correspondence it is stated that it was withheld under section 5B of the Indian Telegraph Act. Therefore, an elected Member of Parliament cannot receive a telegram from his constituency. In that telegram, information on the subject of communal tensions in Berhampore area was passed on to him. We, elected Members of this House, do not generally receive our letters, but they go to the police and they are censored there. Recently, I have lost one of my railway receipts in this manner and I could not take delivery of the parcel. It has gone to the Censoring Board, and so I am issuing an indemnity bond to take delivery of my parcel. This is the sort of thing that is going on. We entrust our materials with the Posts and Telegraphs Department, and it is up to them to safeguard them and give them to us. But they are giving them over to the police—it is the Home Ministry's business. Whatever it is, they do not take the responsibility which is thrust on them by the community. They must say to the police "If at all you have to do something, go to the Member's place and search that letter and then censor it, but not at our Post Office." They never do this, because they are part and parcel of the police

and so we cannot expect a better performance at their hands.

**Mr. Chairman:** The following are the selected cut motions relating to various Demands under the Ministry of Communications which the hon. Members have intimated to be moved:

Demand No.	No. of Cut Motions
5	93, 94, 95, 368, 643, 695, 729, 730, 731.
6	97, 219, 220, 310, 311, 369, 370, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 696, 698, 700, 702, 703, 706, 709, 726, 732, 733, 734, 740, 741, 744, 748, 750, 497, 736, 739.
9	221, 222, 312, 371, 711, 752, 755, 756, 758, 760, 763, 765, 766, 767.

#### *Reduction of postage rates*

**Shri Veeraswamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

#### *Introduction of Money Order and other forms in Hindi*

**Shri Veeraswamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

#### *Representation of Scheduled Castes in Posts and Telegraphs Offices*

**Shri Veeraswamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

#### *Disparity between emoluments of Departmental and Extra-Departmental staff in rural areas*

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal):** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Desirability of altering departure time of Calcutta-Bangalore Dakota Air Service*

**Shri P. Subba Rao** (Nowrangpur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Condition of quarters in I.N.A. Colony, New Delhi*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao**: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Effect on wages of employees of Indian Airlines Corporation due to implementation of Service Committee's recommendations*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty**: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Disparity in scales of pay of employees of Air India International and Air-lines Corporation*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty**: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to appoint Backward Class people in proportion to their population*

**Shri Boorvaraghasamy** (Perambalur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Communications' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Lack of posts and telegraphs facilities in rural areas*

**Shri Veeraswamy**: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Increase of pay scales of Posts and Telegraphs workers, especially village post office workers*

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami** (Kushtagi): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to open extra Posts and Telegraphs Offices*

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd** (Kurnool): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Inadequate accommodation in Sub-Post Office at Jharsuguda in Sambalpur District, Orissa*

**Dr. Natabar Pandey** (Sambalpur): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure of Government to construct a new building for Sub-Post Office at Jharsuguda, Orissa*

**Dr. Natabar Pandey**: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Inadequate provision of City allowances to Postal staff*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi** (Nellore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Provision of Post Boxes on Buses*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Upgrading of Cuttak Telegraph Office*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Necessity of opening a Departmental Telegraph Office at Sambalpur (Orissa)*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Desirability of printing M.O. forms, P.O. Savings Bank Pass Books and Telegraph message forms in regional languages*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Desirability of printing Telephone Directories, and Trunk Call Rate Books in local presses in preference to presses outside the Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Desirability of purchasing file boards, tags and other stationery articles locally inside the concerned P. & T. Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to revert General Service Telegraph Masters of other Circles back to their own Circles*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Desirability of creating a separate R.M.S. Division for Orissa circle and placing Khurda Road-Waltair, Vizianagram-Raipur and Raipur-Jharsuguda sections under control of Orissa Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Desirability of restoring budgetary control of ex-B.N.R. section of E. Railway to Orissa Circle from Bihar Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to create a separate post of Inspector of Telephone Accounts for Orissa Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to create a separate Dead Letter Office for Orissa Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to appoint separate Labour Officer and Complaints Officer for Orissa P. & T. Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to open a Divisional Telegraphs store for Orissa P. & T. Circle*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to raise status of Orissa P. & T. Circle and placing it in charge of a Post Master General*

**Shri R. N. S. Deo:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Transfer of all Telegraph Offices, Lines and wires and carrier and telephone exchange at Jharsuguda, which are within the political boundaries of Orissa, to Orissa P. & T. Circle*

**Shri P. Subba Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Necessity of adequate buildings for offices of D.P.T. and Post Offices and staff quarters in Orissa P. & T. Circle*

**Shri P. Subba Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to create an Engineering Division for Orissa P. & T. Circle*

**Shri P. Subba Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Reversion of deputationists in Engineering Branch of Orissa P. & T. back to Bihar Circle*

**Shri P. Subba Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Finalisation of the gradation list of employees in Hyderabad Circle*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Creation of a new cadre of Assistant Inspectors of Post Offices*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Allocation of 50 per cent of surplus to general revenues*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs



[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]  
Department (Including Working  
Expenses)' be reduced by  
Rs. 100."

*Lack of quarters for employees*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need for restoration of P. T. O. concession*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Fiscal policy of P. and T. Department.*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Working conditions of Mail sorters and Mail guards*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need for appointment of a Parliamentary Committee to go into finances of P. and T. Department*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Reorganisation of R.M.S.*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Provision of railway quarters for R.M.S. staff near Railway Stations*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Delay in finalisation of survey of places where bad climate allowances have to be paid*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Grant of medical concession to families of Class IV staff*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Grant of postal holidays to employees or payment of compensation in lieu thereof*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Increase in rate of pension to minimum of one's starting pay*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Modification of scheme of reorganisation of R.M.S. Division in consultation with All-India R.M.S. Employees Union*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Constitution of Appellate Tribunals at Circle and Central levels to dispose of individual appeal cases of staff*

**Shri Namblar:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Condition of workers of rural Post Offices*

**Shri Boovaraghasamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Provision of a Public Call Office at Jayankondacholapuram in Madras State*

**Shri Boovaraghasamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to continue existing public call office at Perambalur in Madras State*

**Shri Boovaraghasamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (Including Working Expenses)' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Construction of aerodromes at Sholapur and Hubli in Bombay State*

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Construction of an Aerodrome at Kurnool (Andhra)*

**Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure of Government to redress grievances of staff of Civil Aviation Department especially work-charged staff*

**Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Losses on Airlines Corporation.*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Twelve hours duty for chowkidars*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Appointment of an Expert Committee to review pay scales and conditions of service of Civil Aviation Department Employees*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Grant of gazetted holidays to operational staff*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Need to reserve 50% of Class II gazetted posts for promotion from subordinate cadre*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Recognition of Civil Aviation Department Employees Union as a trade union*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Confirmation of Staff*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Wastage of huge assets at Panagarh Air Base and its profitable utilisation*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Reduction in barrack rents*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Extension of General Provident Fund facilities to Class IV staff of Civil Aviation Department*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Unemployed pilots*

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Aviation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

श्री भक्त वरुन (जिला गढ़वाल—पूर्व व जिला मुरादाबाद—उत्तर पूर्व): मुझे से पहले अभी मेरे मित्र श्री नीम्बयार ने अपनी पुरानी आदत के अनुसार डाक-तार विभाग के बारे में गरमागरम उत्तेजनापूर्ण और आलाचनात्मक भाषण दिया है। उसके बाद मैं अपना यह कर्तव्य समझता हूँ कि इस मंत्रालय ने जो इन वर्षों में इतनी सफलता, परिश्रम और निष्पक्षता से कार्य किया है उसके लिए उसे बधाई दें।

कुछ वर्ष पहले स्वर्गीय रफी अहमद क़िद्वई ने जिस विकास-कार्यक्रम को प्रारम्भ किया था, मुझे बड़ी प्रसन्नता है कि हमारे वर्तमान माननीय मंत्रियों के नेतृत्व में यह विभाग उसे बड़ी सफलता के साथ बढ़ा रहा है।

चूँकि मैं ने स्वयं अपने ऊपर यह प्रतिबन्ध लगा लिया है कि मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर ही पाँच मिनट में मंत्रालय का ध्यान

आकर्षित करें, इसीलिए मैं उसके बारे में कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ।

अभी तक जिन वक्ताओं ने भाषण दिये उन्होंने यह बतलाने की कोशिश की कि फ्लां-फ्लां विभागों के बारे में इस विवरण पत्रिका में क्या दिया गया है। लेकिन मैं एक ऐसे विषय की ओर माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ जिसके बारे में कुछ भी नहीं कहा गया है।

विभाग के लिए और कर्मचारियों के लिए भवन-निर्माण की क्या-क्या योजनाएँ हैं इसके बारे में इस पुस्तिका में कुछ भी नहीं बतलाया गया है। इसके दो ही अर्थ हो सकते हैं। या तो यह कि यह सारा काम समाप्त हो चुका है और अब कुछ करने को रहा ही नहीं है इसीलिए इसका उल्लेख नहीं किया गया; या इस दिशा में कुछ प्रगति ही नहीं हुई है इसीलिए इसका उल्लेख नहीं किया गया। बारीकी से देखने पर दूसरी बात ही ठीक मालूम होती है।

पिछले कई वर्षों से हम देख रहे हैं कि भवन-निर्माण के लिए हर वर्ष बजट में करोड़ों रुपये रखे जाते हैं और अन्त में उनको लैप्स करा दिया जाता है। मैं इसके लिए मंत्रालय को दोष नहीं देता। अगर हम इसकी गहराई में जायें तो हमको मालूम होगा कि इसके लिए वह विभाग जिम्मेदार है जिसका नाम सेंट्रल पी० डबल्यू० डी० है। वह इस काम को पूरा नहीं कर पाते हैं इसीलिए रुपये लैप्स हो जाता है। हमारे यहां तो इस 'पब्लिक वर्क्स डिपार्टमेंट' को कुछ लोग 'पब्लिक वेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट' कहने लगे हैं। और मैं समझता हूँ कि उसके लिए यह नाम बहुत फिट है। इस विषय पर और अधिक आलोचना न करते हुए मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस विभाग से जितना काम चाहा जाता है वह उसे पूरा नहीं कर पाता। मैं आपको अपना ही एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। मेरे जिले गढ़वाल के हैडक्वार्टर का भवन बनना

था। सन् ५१ में जो पुरानी इमारत थी उससे उसको हटा दिया गया और दो सौ रुपये माहवार किराये पर एक मकान लिया गया। बड़ी मुश्किल में कई महीनों के बाद उसके एस्टीमेट और प्लान मंजूर हुए। मुझे न जाने कितनी बार लखनऊ जाना पड़ा और न जाने कितनी बार दिल्ली के दरवाजे खटखटाने पड़े, तब जाकर सन् ५४ में जून के महीने में वह भवन बन कर तैयार हुआ। उसके बाद भी उसमें काउंटर नहीं लग पाये थे। इस छोट्टे से काम में और ६ महीने लग गये। ईश्वर का धन्यवाद है कि तब कहीं जाकर ११.५५ को उसके गृह-प्रवेश का संस्कार सम्पन्न हो सका।

तो मेरे कहने का मतलब यह था कि हमारा मंत्रालय तो हर साल भवन-निर्माण की योजनाएँ बनाता है और उसके लिए रुपया रखता है लेकिन जो उसका कार्यकारी विभाग है उसी के कारण वे योजनाएँ पूरी नहीं हो पातीं। मैं तो सभा के सामने यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से रेलवे विभाग का अपना इंजीनियरिंग विभाग है, या रक्षा विभाग का अपना इंजीनियरिंग विभाग है, उसी प्रकार से कम्युनिकेशन्स मंत्रालय का भी अपना अलग इंजीनियरिंग विभाग हो। इसके विरुद्ध यह तर्क दिया जा सकता है कि इस विभाग में इतना काम नहीं है। तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि डाक-तार विभाग के साथ ही नागरिक उड्डयन का भी तो विभाग है। उसके अन्दर भी बहुत से हवाई अड्डों के भवनों के निर्माण का काम रहता है। हमारे देश में नागरिक उड्डयन का विकास हो रहा है, इसीलिए उस विभाग के लिए भी भवन-निर्माण की आवश्यकता होगी। इसीलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस प्रश्न पर गम्भीरता से विचार करके अपने विभाग के लिए भी एक अलग इंजीनियरिंग विभाग कायम करने की चेष्टा करें।

एक माननीय सदस्य : तो फिर पी० डबल्यू० डी० का क्या होगा ?

श्री भक्त बर्षाव : उनके पास बहुत काम हैं। पांच करोड़ रुपये का प्रोजेक्ट दिल्ली के लिए ही हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में इस विभाग का एक इंजीनियर दरहादून में रहता है, और वहां से सारं प्रान्त का काम देखता है। इस में बहुत देरी हो जाती है।

हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने एक बार लिखा-पढ़ी करके एक सम्पर्क-अधिकारी नियुक्त करा लिया था। लेकिन मुझे मालूम है कि उस के बावजूद भी पिछले साल से अभी तक कोई विशेष प्रगति नहीं हो पायी है। इसलिए मैं सभा का अधिक समय न लेते हुए माननीय मंत्री महोदय से इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इस समय हमारे देश में इस विभाग के लिए जो कर्मचारियों और दफ्तरों के लिए भवनों की आवश्यकता है, उसको पूरा करने के लिए उनको अपना एक इंजीनियरिंग विभाग कायम करना चाहिए और इसी आर्थिक वर्ष में इस काम को प्रारम्भ कर देना चाहिए।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस मंत्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करता हूं।

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am glad to observe that barring one or two hon. Members of this House the P. and T. Department, as also generally the Communications Ministry, has received appreciation for the service that it has rendered to the country during the last year. We take this compliment not to ourselves but for the workers, two and a half lakhs of workers in the P. and T. and the thousands of workers in the Civil Aviation Department, in both the Corporations, in the Meteorological Department, in the Overseas Communications Service and in the Railway Inspectorate. It is a tribute to their patriotic zeal, to their spirit of sacrifice for the nation. These workers having inherited all the hardships and difficulties of the situation from a foreign Government and having worked in these difficult conditions have given their best to the nation.

We realise that we owe a duty to the Members of the Opposition also who on certain points do not see eye to eye with us. Though their criticism is couched in language which is only symptomatic of their ideology, we take their points with all the sympathy and all the respect that they deserve on merits. It is in that spirit I wish to approach the criticism that has been levelled at our Ministry by the hon. member, Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

She started by referring to the living conditions of our workers in the Civil Aviation Department and perhaps in the Corporations. She referred to the I.N.A. Colony, the barracks which are popularly known as the I.N.A. Colony. These were constructed in 1942. They were war-time hutments. After Independence, during those stormy days of Kashmir operations, they had to be utilised and they were given to the I.N.A. for that particular purpose. Some investments were made for improvements and betterment of the condition of these barracks. Government also at a later stage came to the assistance of that company in this behalf. It has been pointed out that we are charging either the standard rent or 10 per cent. of the salary. I think it should be known to hon. Members that this point has already been taken up by the concerned service associations and is receiving our most sympathetic consideration. We hope that in course of time we may be able to do something in this behalf and may be in a position to see that a fair and proper amount is realised, and not the standard rent or ten per cent.

A complaint was made about one-room quarters. That is also essentially a condition which we have inherited from the past. We cannot go beyond and overcome these conditions in the twinkling of an eye. We have not got any magic wand. We know of the enormous expansion that is taking place in all the fields of developmental activities of the Government. We know of the great increase

in the number of employees and we also know the demand—the enormous demand, for accommodation, for staff quarters, for buildings, etc. We, therefore would only plead with all earnestness at our command that the country's work has to go on in spite of these difficult conditions. True, we have to share the difficulties together and that is what we are trying to do.

Mrs. Chakravartty then said that 12 hours' duty is being taken from the *chowkidars*. The *chowkidar's* duty is well known. It varies from department to department. In the case of certain departments, like the ordnance factories, or departments dealing with security or police arrangements, the *chowkidar* may be asked to work only for seven or eight hours. In our case the *chowkidars* have been given residences at aerodromes. They live there and they work as they live. Even so, lately we have decided, after consulting the Ministry of Railways and other allied Ministries who too have got *chowkidars*, to divide the *chowkidars* into three categories: those continuously on duty, those intermittently on duty and those casually on duty and the hours of work will be 54, 62 and 72 per week respectively. This is known to the unions and I think this brings the matter to a close.

I will now come to the Postal side. Something was said about the E.D. staff. I would say once again that although we have got as many as 57,000 and more of E.D. staff it is well known that about one-third of these employees come out from the ranks of government servants themselves, like teachers, pensioners and other people. It is obvious that this is not a whole-time employment. They cannot be classed even as government employees. In certain cases they applied for permission even to contest elections to local bodies which I know was given in one or two cases. So, it is difficult to say that they are full-fledged government employees. Then again Mr. Nambiar should not take umbrage at our remark 'equal pay for equal work'. It is obvious that none of these people are allowed to

work or asked to work for more than five hours. Most of them work for one or two hours a day. And, therefore, if they are given an allowance only and not the salary of a whole-time employee that should not be considered to be unjust. Even so, the question as to how we can better their living conditions and what more can be done for them will definitely engage our attention.

About rural mobile post offices, it is well known that we tried this experiment between Nagpur and Wardha. Unfortunately it could not succeed. I wonder whether we can have any hope about its success elsewhere. Even so, if my hon. friend Shri Thomas, who referred to it, would say that he is confident of any particular sector where rural mobile post office will be useful for the local population we shall take it up definitely.

A very forceful plea was made by Shri Bhakt Darshan about a separate unit for building works in our Ministry. I would only say that we have taken important steps which might ease the situation. We have appointed a liaison officer for this purpose to chase our building programme with the Ministry of W.H.S.; secondly we have now so devised an arrangement that expenditure on those works with less than one lakh of rupees should be made from the lump sum allotment of the Ministry and for these we may not have to go for separate sanctions. That will also smoothen the process of sanctions of such works. Thirdly we have appointed in each circle an Assistant Engineer for Public Works for looking after our work. That in itself provides a sort of nucleus for a separate unit in our P. and T. Organisation. I think with these steps taken the progress will be more satisfactory than it has been so far. I however, admit that we should have progressed much more speedily than we have done so far in the matter of execution of our building programme.

Shri Raghubir Sahai said that we should take stock of the situation and the programme of expansion should be correlated with efficiency. We do

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recognise the wisdom of this principle. It is obvious that we have opened a large number of post offices during the last six or seven years and I can say that as many as about 4,700 of these post offices have completed about five years of their existence. About 1,990, that is 43 per cent. of these post offices have worked at a clear profit; about 1,766, have worked at a loss of upto Rs. 240 which entitle them to be made permanent. That means another 38 per cent. The remainder 19 per cent, numbering 874 have worked at a loss above Rs. 240 and less than Rs. 750. So, we can say, by and large, that the experiment has succeeded. Even so the question of efficiency is there and the question of overall effect on the finances of the P. and T. as a result of this expansion has also got to be taken notice of.

The next point which was made was in regard to facilities for withdrawal twice a week from post office savings banks to be extended to all district headquarters. As I have already informed hon. Members on one or two occasions in reply to certain questions put to our Ministry, that the extension of this facility in Calcutta and Bombay is on an experimental basis and we hope that if it succeeds this facility might be extended to other places also.

Another plea was made about the desirability of enhancing the rate of interest on the savings bank deposits. I am informed that most of the banks do not grant any interest on current accounts. On the other hand they levy certain charges for keeping these accounts. It is only in the P.O. savings bank that we allow 1.5 per cent interest on joint accounts and two per cent on individual accounts upto a limit of Rs. 10,000. It will, therefore, be appreciated that the post office savings bank scheme which is essentially based on the principle of promoting the habit of thrift among our people is quite reasonable and the rate of interest appears very favourable when compared to the other banks which maintain such current accounts...

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** There are daily withdrawals there but here the withdrawal is only once a week.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That is why we pay some interest. As I said, the basic principle on which this institution of savings bank is based is to promote thrift among the low income groups. In so far as we have extended this facility of permitting withdrawal twice a week, I think we have done a little better. I hope the hon. Member will appreciate the anxiety of the department itself to give as much service of this type to our people as possible. I do take note of the point he made that this facility should be extended to rural areas. We are trying our level best to do that. Wherever we find that the extra-departmental post-masters whom we employ are coming forward with the required amount of security, we do try to extend this service to such post offices.

The question of security also arises because in many cases, the post offices are situated deep in the interior.

Shri Trivedi said something about my so-called "timidness" in so far as I am unable to look after the interests of my home State. I told him right there what I felt. I am sorry he is not here. I am proud of being an Indian first and an Indian last. He also referred to the socialistic pattern of State. If he really has any faith in socialism he also should really think that we are all Indians first and Indians last. We should all first care for the larger interest of the country rather than for our own States.

Then comes the question of demonetisation of Georgian stamps. I do not know whether he cared to go through the report of the activities that we had circulated among the Members. It is given there that we took the opportunity and utilised the occasion of the Postage Stamp Centenary on 1-10-1954 for the demonetisation of Georgian stamps which bore the effigies of George VI and the other British kings. The members of the public were afforded an opportu-



nity that if anyone had got any stock of such stamps with him, he could get the value of those stamps in cash. This concession is effective for six months from 1-10-1954. Today is 29th March. It will be in force till the 31st March and if Mr. Trivedi has got any stamps in his possession which he has not so far changed for cash, he can easily do so even now. Apart from that, if he has got any stamps left with him but he wants them for the pictures of the blessed faces of the British kings, it is up to him to preserve those stamps and keep them as long as he likes.

So far as delay in the booking of phonograms is concerned and delay in the delivery of some letters which he said he could not get in time at Jaipur and Delhi, I would only request him kindly to let me have specific instances where he met with these difficulties. Even apart from that, we shall try to check up our arrangements and see whether there are any lacunae in our arrangements anywhere and try to eliminate them.

He said something about mechanisation and suggested that we should utilise all our mail trains to take the mail bags from all the wayside stations so that as they are running they take mail bags up and also deliver them. That point also was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Railways. The Railways said that they could not advise the introduction of this step in view of the risk and danger involved in it to the railway personnel on duty in these trains. It is not possible for them to undertake this type of work at this stage. We shall, however, have this suggestion in mind.

He said that the Post and Telegraph employees should be allowed free travelling facilities by rail or perhaps other public transport. I do not know whether it would not amount to discrimination in favour of one section of employees as against others.....

**Shri Nambiar:** What he said was about the P.T.O. facilities.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Hon. Members know that the P.T.O. was available to the Central Government employees. That was withdrawn for reasons which are very well known to the hon. Member opposite and it cannot be revived because of those reasons.

Then comes the question of manual system...

**Shri A. V. Thomas (Srivaikuntam):** Cannot that system be revived leaving out the loopholes which led to abuses?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It was discontinued on other considerations also. I may simply say that whatever checks we may devise, human ingenuity is resourceful enough to find out a loophole and detect any such device.

Then comes the question of certain complaints which my hon. friend, Shri Tiwary spoke about. It is about the manual system in Patna. He will be glad to know, if he is not already aware, that we propose to provide Patna city with an automatic system as early as possible.

About the rise in postal complaints in Bihar, my friend may have some justification to complain. I would only say, however, that we are utilising the special organisation that was established for this very purpose. We know there have been complaints of postal delays and some letters to the editor were published in the *Nation* about these complaints. I can only say that we are trying our level best to go into these complaints and minimise them.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** It is going up in Bihar; while in other States it is going down.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It may be a freak of chance that they have gone up in Bihar this year. I cannot say that it is due to any particular deterioration in the service in one particular Circle. The number of complaints may go up in one place and in other places, it may come down. It cannot be attributed to any lack of

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supervision and if he has come across any lack of supervision anywhere I would only request him and other hon. Members of the House also to let us know our faults so that we may be able to eliminate such faults and so serve them better. Unless we have the complaints from you, we cannot investigate into the root cause of these complaints. We have got an efficient complaints organisation which will go into the complaints and find out the real cause and try to eliminate them as best as we can.

A suggestion has been made that the script on the stamps should be in Hindi and not English at all. In certain stamps it must have been noticed—for instance in the latest Five Year Plan stamps—that Hindi is there and along with that English is also there. That is for the reasons pointed out by the Minister that our stamps are utilised by foreigners also; they go to foreign countries also. During this period of transition, we would like to retain both these scripts.

There was the other question about the examination fee and it was suggested that it should be paid in full. It is only Rs. 5 which is given to the departmental employees for appearing at the Hindi examination. It has been pointed out that the whole amount of Rs. 10 is not given. We shall definitely take up that suggestion for consideration and we shall try to see how best we can meet this demand.

An hon. Member was anxious that we should extend Hindi telegraphic facilities to as large number of towns as possible. Our policy has been declared by the Minister previously in this House that we should provide for Hindi telegraph service at all district headquarters, at least in the Hindi-speaking areas.

Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah said that her part of the country is not getting enough expansion of post and telegraph facilities. We can only say that recently we had provided a wireless and telegraph office at Ke-

darnath. As time goes on we shall try to see that the other towns in her constituency are also served better.

Shri Dabhi asked about the steps that have been taken to minimise the occurrence of air accidents. That point will be dealt with by my senior colleague, the hon. Minister.

Then comes the question which has been raised by Mr. Lakshmayya that there should be facilities at each polling station. As a matter of fact, something was said by the Minister previously about this also and our efforts will be to dovetail this suggestion into our present programme so that this particular suggestion may fit in with the proposed expansion of postal facilities.

Then he said that P.C.O.'s should be opened at taluk headquarters. We are beginning with telegraph offices for taluk headquarters, and it will take some time for us to come to the stage of extending P.C.O. facilities for the taluk headquarters.

I would now come to Shri Nambiar's observations. He said that we should not treat this P. & T. Department as a commercial undertaking. I wonder whether he means that all the expenditure to be incurred on the expansion of the P. & T. facilities or on the pay and emoluments given to the staff should be borne by the nation by direct taxation. I do not know what he means by that, because we have time and again declared on the floor of the House that it is a commercial-cum-public utility department, and it has been accepted on all hands that there is no reason why the Department should not be able to pay its way.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: That was when we had mixed economy. Now it should be a socialistic pattern.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Now it should be a mutual benefit society.

Shri Nambiar: On page 2 it is clearly stated "Commercial character of the Department and utilisation of

surplus". There is not even "cum utility". It is here, written by you.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I think the hon. Member has heard from us many a time that the Finance Ministry, in spite of the fact that a particular post office will not be remunerative, has allowed us to open it if it runs at a loss up to Rs. 750. Similarly for backward areas it allowed us to open post offices if the loss does not go above Rs. 1,000. If we were purely running on commercial principles that would not have been allowed. That is how we say it is a commercial-cum-public utility Department. We must try our level best to see that it pays its way, and the need for expansion of post and telegraph facilities should also not be ignored.

He said something about the Civil Aviation Department, the Air Corporations Employees' Union and how, according to him, we have meddled with the constitution of that Union. And he had to pass certain very caustic remarks, which was just like him.

**An Hon. Member:** He is not serious.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** But I will only say that our anxiety is to establish democracy in our country in the purest form. We would not like any political party, be it the Communist Party or Socialist Party or Congress Party, to meddle with the loyalties of our people who are serving in various government departments. And we want to be sure that any constitution for any of our trade unions of our employees should be entirely democratic. The power of that particular union, the organised power of the workers in that particular department, should not come to be vested in the hands of one single individual or a caucus in a particular party. We would not allow and we would not at all encourage the formation of cells of political parties amongst the rank and file of our workers in the various Government departments. It is with that end in view that we had to take good care that the constitution that we provided for the Air Corporations

Employees' Union should be entirely democratic in conception in letter and in spirit. I am sorry, I mean the National Federation of P. & T. Employees.

**Shri Nambiar:** Where is the non-democratic aspect of it? Please explain.

**Some Hon. Members:** Where is it?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I am sorry, I was speaking in regard to the National Federation of P. & T. Employees. I will give only one instance which Mr. Nambiar cited. He wanted the entire executive power to be vested in the General Secretary. That term 'General Secretary' is very affectionate with them. They would not like that the chosen representatives of the workers, the President or the executive of the particular Union, should wield any power, but only the General Secretary should have the power. And that General Secretary may be in the pay of anybody. He wants the General Secretary alone should have that power and none else. We wanted to make it entirely democratic. Suppose, for instance, a meeting of the executive or the general body of the Federation has to be called, we wanted to be sure that it should not have to be called only at the whims and fancies or the sweet will of a particular individual, namely the General Secretary. The President should play his part and the executive should play its part. It should be decided on certain set democratic principles as to when a meeting of the executive can be called and should be called and when it should not be so called. The same should be ensured for all other decisions and actions of the Federation.

**Shri Nambiar:** It is a Federation...

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** You may or you may not believe.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** He took objection as to why the strike clause should have been deleted and he resorted to the argument that even the

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Trade Union Act provided for a strike clause. When the trade union is to be recognised under the Trade Union Act, was it not redundant to have a clause that the particular Union could go on strike? If the right is conceded by the Trade Union Act, it will have it in the prescribed circumstances. Otherwise what is the use of having that particular clause there? It may be because of the stock phrases that are to be used according to the concepts of my hon. friend that he wanted the clause to be retained there.

**Shri Namblar:** Sir, I may be given a chance of personal explanation.

**Mr. Chairman:** There is no personal explanation here at all. If the hon. Minister makes a remark and that is to be replied to in this way, there will be no end. There is no personal explanation here. He is only replying to the argument.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I would appeal to his patriotic sense, if he has any.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** What is this? He must withdraw that.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order order.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I do not mind.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** He must withdraw it.

**Mr. Chairman:** Why should the hon. Member get so violent? I am here to protect the rights of the Member.

I would request the hon. Minister to withdraw it.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I withdraw it, Sir. I would appeal to his patriotic sense, and I do hope that he has got plenty of it.

**Shri Namblar:** Certainly.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** But let me remind him that the way in which he has tried to publicise the so-called Protest Day on the 28th is not doing justice to accepted principles of democracy. We as Members of Parliament, as the chosen representatives of the people here, should not try to foment agitations, protest days, strikes

and demonstrations and that too on the floor of this august House. So I would appeal to him that if there is anything which he has to say on behalf of employees or the workers he should say it here rather than try to publicise to the world that there is going to be a protest day, there are going to be strikes and so on. Well, so far as the workers are concerned, we have got the fullest faith and confidence in them and their sense of patriotism and we will settle all problems by mutual consultations with them. I do not think there can be any problem which will be so difficult as not to be solved and not to be capable of being solved by mutual discussion with the representatives of the workers across the table. We have all along done so. The Ministry takes pride in the fact that we have not given a single occasion to the workers to feel so flabbergasted or so much disappointed or frustrated about the attitude of the Department. And it is our appeal to the Member opposite that he should not try to foment trouble by making such assertions here on the floor of the House. That is my appeal.

Then I would like to refer to the demands that he has made—I think he mentioned about certain alleged twenty demands. One was that there should be a second Pay Commission set up to go into the question of wages of the staff which, according to him, have become out of date. It is well known that the Pay Commission was set up as late as 1946. The report came out in 1948—I am speaking from memory subject to correction. So far as the P. & T. Department is concerned an Expert Committee was set up as a result of the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission. The recommendations of the Pay Commission as also of the Expert Committee began to be implemented subsequent to 1948. It was in 1950 or 1949 that we granted weekly offs to the workers as a result of the acceptance of the recommendations of the Expert Committee. The bulk of the Central Government employees or to be more accurate the totality of

the Central Government employees are governed in the matter of their scales of pay, emoluments and service conditions by the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission as accepted by the Government. I do not know how it is logical to set up a second Pay Commission so soon, when we have not even been able to fully study the effects thereof. Secondly, the 5 P.M.

hon. Member should realise that the cost of living has not gone up. So, what is the justification for this demand now? Even supposing it for the sake of argument that we have it for the P. & T. only, what are the sources of revenue that you are going to tap for this? Often we hear a demand for a Parliamentary Commission to go into the question of P. & T. finances. We know that all possible sources of revenue which we can tap have already been largely tapped. We have left the post card and the money order. Does my hon. friend want that, in order to pay high salaries to the P. & T. employees only, leaving aside the question of discrimination involved against other employees of the Central Government, we should tax the poor *kisan*, the poor cultivator or labourer on the field or on the road or in the mines further, even on his post card and even on his money order and for the purpose of getting something out of him, we should set up a Parliamentary Commission and a second Pay Commission and try to inflate the bill against the poor taxpayer?

**Shri Namblar:** Pay from the profits.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I would only say that there is no case whatsoever for setting up a Parliamentary Commission, or a second Pay Commission particularly at this early stage when even the effects of the first Pay Commission have not been fully studied and realised.

Then comes the question of the re-organisation of the R.M.S. My hon. friend knows that the re-organisation of the R.M.S. was done after a thorough enquiry and study of the problem and the scheme has been

implemented. Then he went on to say that to the aggrieved employees no appeals are allowed. He said that in some cases the senior officers influenced the judgments of the junior officers in the award of punishments. I wanted him to give an instance. He has not given any. He knows very well that according to the rules, any employee of the department can appeal as he is authorised to do and he can make representations to the P.M.G., the D.G., and the Minister, and that if any representation is withheld at any level, a record is kept of that, and a list of such applications as have been withheld is forwarded to the Ministry where they are scrutinised. I can say that none of these petitions or appeals can be withheld and then go unnoticed or unconsidered. If there is any single case in which it has been so done, I would be grateful if he could give me the instance.

In the end, I would say that the P. & T. employees have received rich compliments from all the sections of the House. They have done well during the last seven years. I can only assure the House that we are confident that they will do better in the coming year.

I would now add only one word about the vitriolic remarks which my hon. friend had to pass against the senior officers of the Department. Using his own stock phrases, he called them bureaucratic and all other names. Let me tell him that these officers are also as much patriotic as any one of us can claim to be. As a matter of fact, between the workers on the one hand and the Parliament on the other, they have got to make both ends meet. They have been performing a very difficult job.

[SHRIMATI SUSHAMA SEN in the Chair]

It would be cruel, unkind, ungenerous and uncharitable to say anything against their sense of patriotism and spirit of inspired service with which they are so creditably discharging their duties.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** The woman-power of this country is absorbed by

[Shri R. K. Chaudhury]

five different Departments. One is the cinema, the other the All India-Radio, third the Telephone and Telegraph Department, fourth as air hostesses and fifth as poor school mistresses. It will be admitted that my hon. friend the Minister of Communications has the lion's share.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Of what?

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** He has got under him the most powerful and the most oppressive section of the government employees, namely, the telephone girls.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Why "oppressive"?

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** There is not a single soul, I should say, roughly speaking, who does not have a very serious complaint against the telephone girls. Yet, see how the country has been cowed down, how the Ministry has been cowed down that not a single complaint is heard about them in this House. I would request the hon. Minister to be firm in this matter and issue instructions to various Departments.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** May I know any of his personal experiences?

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** Yes. I may tell him about my personal experiences. The other day, I was telephoning from Calcutta. I could not hear anything. Then, I complained to the telephone girl in charge.

**An Hon. Member:** You should have used the microphone.

**Shri Namblar:** It may have been a boy.

**Shri R. K. Choudhury:** I may not be at this age as competent as my hon. friend to hear whispers, sweet whispers. But I cannot say that I am actually stone deaf. This telephone girl asked me, are you deaf? What can I say to her? I could only mutter to myself. Certainly, I have not got that power which would enable me to hear whispers; but I am not as deaf as not to hear a voice on

the telephone. There are various instances with which I do not wish to trouble the House. I would request the hon. Minister to be a little firm towards these people and try to remove a blot on the administration of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

I do not know if you were here, when this question of nationalisation of air services was first broached in this House. I said then that my heart went out to the air hostesses. The only thing that was uppermost in my mind was the air hostess.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** No wonder.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** I am constrained to say that my request on behalf of the air hostesses has been complied with with a vengeance.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** May I know if the hon. Member is associated with their Association in any capacity?

**Mr. Chairman:** I would request the hon. Member to be serious and to the point, please.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** If I may state all my personal experiences, some would be certainly enjoyable. But, to others serious exceptions may be taken. I do not speak so much of my personal experiences. But, I say this. What the administration did was to give them high salaries up to Rs. 250 and give them European or semi-European dress. No longer will you find any air hostess dressed in a sari as before. They have been given skirts, and a cap; lip-stick and other things are all there, of course. What I complain against is not so much the favour which has been shown to the air hostesses. But, what about the stewards? Why is their salary fixed at Rs. 125? In the male section of the same department, doing as good work if not better, their salary is Rs. 125 or so whereas the salary of the air hostesses has gone up to Rs. 250. That is my complaint.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** For the information of the hon. Member, I may say that the salary of the stewards has been fixed at Rs. 190.



**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** Is there no disparity between the male steward and the air hostess?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The disparity of the fair sex.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** The new entrants have been given a higher salary. I can understand that. I have seen today a justification for this different treatment. As I was travelling today in a Viking, I found in the toilet that there is a button. Below the button, there is the word, air hostess. That is to say, in the toilet if you want the air hostess to come to the toilet, you can push the button and the air hostess will go there. But I tried once; when I wanted a glass of water, I tried to find out whether there was any button. In the Bombay Vikings there are these buttons. I tried to find out whether there was any button in this Viking, in my cell or my seat itself; but there was no such button. But in the lavatory there was a button to call the air hostesses. I want to know from the hon. Minister why that button is placed in the lavatory and not elsewhere.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Did you press the button?

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** I did not.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** You have got no experience then.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** The hon. Minister knows that I am always in great awe and fear for the women section of the House, of course, saving the present company.

Again, does the word 'hostess' include a male steward also or can a male steward not be called inside the toilet, if you like?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Time is changing. 'She' embraces 'he'.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** I am drawing the attention of the hon. Minister to these things, because he is thinking of the convenience of the passengers. I suppose there should be but-

tons in the chair itself so that he could be called.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** There are.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** My hon. friend Shri R. N. S. Deo was drawing the attention of the hon. Minister to the disparity of treatment given to certain States. I justify that because in Assam which is practically cut off from the rest of India and where there is frequent dislocation of the railway system air transport occupies a very important position I am proud to say that Government have been very liberal to Assam in this matter. Out of the seven districts in the plains in Assam, six districts have been connected by air, and in one sub-divisional town also air communication has been introduced recently by the present Ministry, that is in Lilabari.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the condition of things in Jorhat. In Jorhat there is no restaurant near the aerodrome, with the result that whenever any plane is held up in Jorhat you cannot get even a drop of water, and you will have to send a bus six miles away to get some water. The other day I was bound for Dibrugarh, and the plane had to come back to Jorhat, and at Jorhat passengers were waiting for nearly four hours, but not a single drop of water was available for them, not to speak of other provisions.

My next grievance is that it is too early to stop the third plane which was flying from Dum Dum at 2 P.M. and coming back from Gauhati at 4.45 P.M. There has been some bad weather recently no doubt, but it is not the time to stop the service altogether.

The next point to which I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister is that the Dhubri service has been stopped now. I do not know why it should have been stopped. The plane runs in the morning from Calcutta and comes back from Dhubri in the noon. So there is no question of any disturbance due to monsoon or any such reason. My submission is that it should not have been stopped now, because Dhubri has no commu-



[Shri R. K. Chaudhury]

nication with the outside world now, and it takes nearly three days to establish communication by rail journey from Dhubri to Calcutta. Unless air services are there, great inconvenience is caused both to Cooch-Bihar as well as to Dhubri and other very important places.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member's time is up. There are a number of other Members who want to take part in this debate. The hon. Member may conclude in two minutes.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** I bow to your ruling and desire particularly, Madam Chairman, that I should sit down. I am in a very unfortunate position, because no other Members were stopped like this during the last three or four hours. Of course, I am different.

Only one word more, and I have done. I must not be considered as having thrown unnecessary aspersions on the Department. I am full of admiration for the achievements of the P. & T. Department, and I say it seriously.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Underline the word 'seriously'.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** The various improvements which have been effected recently have been of great advantage to the public. For instance, there are these mobile vans where you can send a registered letter at as late an hour as 8-45 P.M. or you can send a telegraphic money order or such other things, which are quite a bit of marvel.

But my regret is that these amenities are generally not known to the public, not even to the Postal Department. Recently I wanted to post a letter on a Sunday, and I sent it to the post office, but the postmaster simply laughed at me and said, he does not know the rules, Sunday it is closed, and no letters can be sent. But then on enquiry, I found that the letters could go by RMS. So I sent it to the RMS and the letter had gone.

So the Postal Department itself is not fully aware of the amenities which have been provided recently.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** The hon. Member may purchase a copy of the *Postal Guide*.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhury:** The Postmaster should have referred me to the RMS but he said it cannot be sent. I am not casting any reflection on the postal authorities. I am only saying this that there has not been sufficient propaganda about the achievements of the department. Probably my hon. friend is very bashful about his own achievements, and he does not wish to publicise them. He cannot sing his own praise, but I put the blame on the publicity department. The publicity department is quite content to have a photograph of the Minister published, whenever the Minister goes to a certain place to lay the foundation-stone of an institution or open an institution; they are quite content with having a photograph in the different papers showing the Minister being garlanded by a young lady. That is the photograph and propaganda which we see, but they do not make any propaganda, or they do not make any attempt to enlighten the public, about the amenities which have been provided.

श्री कजरोल्कर (बम्बई नगर-उत्तर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियाँ): मुझे जो थोड़ा समय बोलने के लिए दिया गया है, उसके भीतर मैं दो, चार सुझाव अपने मंत्री महोदय को देना चाहता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि वह उन पर सहानुभूति के साथ विचार करेंगे।

पहली बात तो यह है कि "एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी" वाले लेटर्स आम तौर पर आर्डिनरी लेटर्स के मुकाबले अधिक दूर से मिलते हैं आर्डिनरी लेटर्स पहले मिल जाते हैं और एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी वाले लेटर्स उनके बाद मिलते हैं और इस सम्बन्ध में हमने काफी शिकायत भी की और हमें जवाब दिया गया कि आ की शिकायतों पर विचार किया जा रहा है और

डिपार्टमेंटल एक्शन लिया जा रहा है। मैंने एक पोस्टमैन से आखिर पूछा कि दूरी की वजह असल में क्या है, एक ही जगह से बम्बई से दो खत एक एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी और दूसरा आर्डिनरी लेंटर भेरे नाम आते हैं, आर्डिनरी लेंटर तो ६ बजे मिलता है और एक्सप्रेस लेंटर उसके बाद कहीं जाकर एक घंटे बजे मिलता है, वैसे कभी कभी टाइम पर भी मिल जाता है, तो उस ने कहा कि साहब बाबू असल यह है कि पोस्ट ऑफिस में हजारों लेंटर्स आते हैं और जैसे जैसे वह सार्ट होते जाते हैं उनमें से एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी वाले लेंटर्स अलग कर दिये जाते हैं और बाद में उन सारे एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी वाले लेंटर्स को ताघर भेजा जाता है जहां से जो आदमी तार देते हैं उनको ही एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी लेंटर्स लगाने पड़ते हैं और इस कारण उनके एड्रेस तक पहुंचने में अक्सर देर हो जाती है। मेरा सुझाव इस बारे में यह है कि जैसे एयरमेल के एनवलप्स तैयार होते थे वैसे ही अगर एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी लेंटर्स का भी एक कवर तैयार किया जाय तो मैं समझता हूं कि एक्सप्रेस डिलीवरी लेंटर्स जल्दी लोगों तक पहुंच सकेंगे।

दूसरा मेरा सुझाव यह है कि कवर पर पोस्टल जॉन का स्टाम्प होना चाहिए, जैसे कि हमारे बम्बई जैसे बड़े शहर में बीस, पच्चीस जॉन हैं, तो एक लेंटर जो नम्बर १२ जॉन का है, उसके ऊपर जॉन नम्बर १२ की स्टाम्पिंग होनी चाहिए और इस प्रकार स्टाम्प लगाने से जॉ साटिंग की जायगी उसमें काफी आसानी पड़ेगी।

तीसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि ६ महीने पहले छुआछूत दूर करने के उद्देश्य से जो प्रचार स्लोगंस पोस्टल कवर्स पर छापे जाने का मेरा सुझाव था वह एक ऐसा है जिस का स्वागत सभी को करना चाहिये। पंचवर्षीय योजना के काल में सरकार को चाहिए कि छुआछूत दूर करने के लिए ऐसे प्रचार स्लोगंस पोस्टल कवर्स पर छापे जाने चाहिए और पोस्ट ऑफिसों में "अनटर्चीबिलिटी रिमूवल प्रोपेण्डा" पोस्टर्स

के जरिए किया जाना चाहिए। सरकार इस तरह के स्लोगंस को स्टाम्प कर तो मैं समझता हूं कि यह प्रचार का काम और ज्यादा अच्छे तरीके से हो सकता है।

**Mr. Chairman:** There are two or three other Members who want to speak. He can take one minute more.

**श्री कजरोत्कर :** एड्यु सचिवस कारपोरेशन के बारे में मुझे यह सुझाव देना है कि सरकार को पेंसजर्स के लिए कम्पलसरी इन्श्योरेंस का प्राविजन करना चाहिए और उस इन्श्योरेंस में ५० परसेंट सरकार शेयर दे और पचास परसेंट शेयर पेंसजर्स का होना चाहिए। सरकार को यह देखना चाहिए कि हर एयर पेंसजर का सफर से पहले इन्श्योरेंस हो जाय और सरकार को इस सम्बन्ध में आवश्यक दिशावत जारी करनी चाहिए। दूसरे, जो मैट्रिकुलेट डिपार्टमेंट हैं . . . .

**सभापति महोदय :** आपका समय खत्म हो गया।

**श्री कजरोत्कर :** सैर, मैं अब बैठ जाता हूं।

**Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk):** I would only put two questions to the hon. Minister. Just now, the hon. Deputy Minister said that one-third of the ED employees had been drawn from those who were under-employed.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Those who are in employment with other departments.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** Government servants, teachers etc.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** He also said that two-thirds of the ED employees were from those who were unemployed. I would request the hon. Minister to scrutinise how many of this two-third portion of the employees are young persons, how many are matriculates, whether Government are going to give the facilities that are due to a matriculate in other departments in the P. and T. also. I would like to know whether this will be duly considered by the Hon. Minister.

[Shri S. C. Samanta].

I would also like to know whether those who are not matriculates will be given a chance after having served, say, for five years, to be appointed as peons and in other posts, so as to give them an impetus to work hard.

Then the hon. Deputy Minister said that the question of RMS reorganisation had been duly considered by an expert committee. In the last Budget session, I requested the hon. Minister to consult the union before any such decision was taken by the department. I would like to know whether the union was consulted, or whether Government are going to reconsider the scheme after consulting the union.

सरकार ए० एस० सहगल : जो डिमांड कम्युनिकेशन विभाग की है मैं उसका समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ आपसे यह अर्ज करूंगा कि मंत्री महोदय को इस बात की तरफ ध्यान देना चाहिए कि मध्य प्रदेश में जो कि हमारे पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट के कर्मचारी रस्ट हाउसेज और सरिक्ट हाउसेज में जाते हैं तो उनको वह मान्यता नहीं दी जाती जो कि दूसरे लोगों को मिलती है और इस कारण उनको तकलीफ उठानी पड़ती है। इसके ऊपर मैं ने एव व्यवहार किया है। मैं जर्ज करूंगा कि इस तरफ आप ध्यान दें। जिस वक्त कि वह रस्ट हाउसेज में जाते हैं तो उनको वह फौसिलटीज नहीं मिलती जो गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के दूसरे एम्प्लाइज को मिलती है, बल्कि प्रान्तीय सरकार के अफसरों को जो फौसिलटीज मिलती है, वह भी उनको नहीं मिलती। गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के रस्ट हाउसेज में जब प्रान्तीय सरकारों के कर्मचारियों को पूरी सहूलियतें मिलती हैं तो गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के कर्मचारियों को भी प्रान्तीय रस्ट हाउसेज में उतनी ही फौसिलटीज मिलनी चाहिए। इस ओर मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

इसके बाद मैं एक्सीडेंटों के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। रिपोर्ट के सफा ६ पर दिया गया है कि ५ एक्सीडेंट हुए। जितने और बड़े बड़े दंश हैं जिनमें हवाई जहाज चलते हैं अगर उनसे मुकाबला किया जाय तो मालूम होगा कि यह एक्सीडेंट बहुत कम हैं। हमारे दोस्त जो कि हमसे आंस नहीं मिला सकते, उनको तो हमारे हर काम में छिद्र ही दिखायी देते हैं। मैं उनसे अर्ज करूंगा कि दूसरी जगह की जो रिपोर्टें हैं उनको वह मंगाकर देखें तो उनको मालूम होगा कि वहां कितने एक्सीडेंट होते हैं। अगर वह दोनों की तुलना करें तो अच्छा होगा।

इसी के साथ साथ मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ विभाग के कर्मचारी हैं अगर आप उनको बिठाकर उनकी तकलीफों के बारे में उनसे मशविरा करेंगे तो बहुत जल्दी तस्फिया हो जायगा। लेकिन अगर आप उनको किसी दूसरी एजेंसी के हाथ में छोड़ देंगे तो यह बहुत ही खतरनाक होगा। जितनी भी एजेंसियां हैं उनको बताइये कि वे एक ट्रेंड यूनियन में शामिल हों। उन को काँग्रेस की ट्रेंड यूनियन में शामिल कराया जाय। इस बारे में जो आजकल कानून है वह दंश के लिए अच्छी चीज नहीं है।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस डिमांड का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्रीमती ग्रीनबेन पटेल (काँग्रेस-दक्षिण): इस डिबेट में मेरा हिस्सा लेने का विचार नहीं था। हमारे आसाम के भाई ने जो कुछ कहा उसको सब ने हंसी में निकाल दिया। लेकिन उन्होंने काफी ऐसी बातें कही हैं जो कि सोचने योग्य हैं। मैं आपको कुछ बातों के बारे में बताना चाहती हूँ।

मुझे टेलीफोन का काफी अनुभव है। पहले तो यह हाल था कि जब हम बम्बई से टेलीफोन करते थे तो वे लोग यहां तक

बतला देंगे कि वह आदमी नहीं है या उसके यहां टेलीफोन नहीं है। लेकिन आज तो यह हालत है कि वे टेलीफोन जोड़ते हैं और कह देते हैं कि नहीं मिलता। जब हम इनिस्टर करते हैं कि ऐसा नहीं हो सकता, कोई तो घर में अवश्य होगा तो फिर जोड़ते हैं। कल ही मैंने अहमदाबाद टेलीफोन किया। मुझे जरूरी काम था। मुझे से कहा कि जोर से बोलो मैंने कहा कि सुनाई तो कुछ पड़ता नहीं तब कहा कि और जोर से बोलिए। यह कोई ठीक बात नहीं है।

दो दिन पहले मैंने चीफ मिनिस्टर को बम्बई टेलीफोन किया था। वे यह देखते हैं कि जब मिनिस्टर से टेलीफोन करना चाहते हैं तब ठीक सुनाई पड़े। उनमें से एक कहता था कि एक पर लगाओ, दूसरा कहता था कि दो पर लगाओ। हम किसी को टेलीफोन करें उनको हमें बराबर सुविधा देनी चाहिए। कभी कभी तो वे आपस में बात करते रहते हैं और हमें तो आध मिनट ही बात करने देते हैं और फिर काट देते हैं।

दूसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि पहले और आज के काम करने में बहुत फर्क है। पहले वे टेलीफोन मिलाकर तीन मिनट होने पर पछाने की कोशिश करते थे। पर आजकल तो तुरन्त काट देते हैं। कभी कभी जब पार्टिकुलर काल मांगा जाता है तो वह भी नहीं मिलता।

एक बात मैं आपको हवाई जहाज के बारे में कहना चाहती हूँ। इसके बारे में मैंने जनरल डिबेट में भी कहा था। उसके बाद मुझे एक बहिन मिलीं। वह मद्रास से बम्बई जा रही थीं। उनको नागपुर में रोक कर देना पड़ा। बम्बई जाकर उन्होंने देखा कि उनकी पेंटी नहीं थी। वह घबराई कि मेरी पेंटी कहाँ है।

उस ने तलाश किया तो कहा कि चूँकि बोम्ब ज्यादा हो गया था इस लिये पीछें छोड़ रखता हूँ, फिर भेज देंगे। मैं कहती हूँ कि इस तरह की चीज नहीं होनी चाहिये।

इस के बाद जो आप की एअर होस्टसेज हैं उन की बात मैं कहती हूँ। आदमी लोग तो कोट पतलून पहनने लगे और साहब हो गये, वह ठीक है। लेकिन जो हमारी बहनें हैं, साड़ी पहनती हैं, उन को आप फ्राक क्यों पहनाते हैं? आप चाहें तो साड़ी को यूनिफार्म में रख कर वह कह दें कि इस रंग की साड़ी होनी चाहिये और इस रंग का क्लाउज होना चाहिये, वह इतना नीचा या ऊँचा होना चाहिये। आप हास्पिटल्स की नर्सों को और एअर होस्टसेज को क्यों फ्राक कम्प्लेक्सरिली पहनाते हैं, उन की यूनिफार्म आप साड़ी की क्यों नहीं तय करते हैं?

तारों के बारे में भी यह अनुभव होता है कि वह मिलते नहीं हैं हालाँकि दिये जरूर जाते हैं। शिकायत होने पर पूछा जाता है कि आप सबूत दे सकते हैं? सबूत तो वही दे सकते हैं जिन को इस का अनुभव है। यदि तार देते वक्त यह मालूम होता कि तार खो जायेगा और इस की जांच होगी, जांच जांच के वक्त तार की रसीद मांगी जायेगी, तो रसीद रखी जाय। इस की ओर भी देखने की जरूरत है।

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Minister of Communications will reply tomorrow.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 30th March, 1955.*