



Thursday
22nd November, 1956

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

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(Part I- Questions and Answers)

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**PARLIAMENT SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 22nd November, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock
[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

India United Mills, Bombay

***283. Shri A. K. Gopalan :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had conducted an investigation into the affairs of the India United Mills, Bombay in 1953 ;

(b) if so, the result of this investigation and whether a copy of the investigation report will be laid on the Table of the Sabha ; and

(c) The steps taken by Government to set right the affairs of the Mills ?

The Minister of Consumer Industries (Shri Kanungo) : (a) Yes Sir. Two enquiries were conducted into the affairs of the India United Mills, Bombay.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix II, annexure No. 31].

Shri A. K. Gopalan : May I know whether the managing agents were found guilty of defrauding the company's money at the expense of the company and if so, whether any steps were taken to have it reimbursed ?

Shri Kanungo : It was found after a very detailed enquiry that evidence was not sufficient to sustain a prosecution in the court.

Shri A. K. Gopalan : May I know whether the company was being managed by a board of directors of which as many as eight out of eleven were partners of the managing agency ?

Shri Kanungo : The board of directors was being changed frequently. The managing agency had thirteen partners which ultimately was changed over by one group of partners taking over.

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Shri B. S. Murthy : Is there no remedy to make the defaulters pay, if there is not sufficient evidence to prove the case in a court of law ?

Shri Kanungo : The new Companies Act makes certain provision for it.

Shri A. K. Gopalan : May I know whether it is a fact that not being satisfied with their remuneration as managing agents, they appointed a firm of consulting agents consisting of different relations of the partners of the managing agents ?

Shri Kanungo : Yes, it was found that certain transactions between a firm of selling agents and the managing agents were suspicious.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : May I know whether the company failed to pay adequate bonus to the workers and whether this failure was due to the loss caused by the action of the managing agents ; and, if so, whether any steps have been taken to make the erstwhile managing agents reimburse the company those losses, so that the workers might get their due share of bonus ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai) : May I intervene, because I have some knowledge of these mills and I dealt with this matter ? There were quarrels among the partners, as there were as many as thirteen partners. As a result of these quarrels the Mills began to lose, and that also brought in several irregularities. The reports of the Enquiry Committee showed some irregularities, but it was not possible to take any action under the law because legally several things could not be proved. Then the question arose as to what was to be done. If drastic action was to be taken, the immediate possibility was that a few thousand labourers would have been put out of action and they would have been unemployed too. Then all the partners handed over the dispute to me and Shri G.D. Birla as arbitrators and they undertook to accept whatever we did. We were fortunate enough in settling the dispute, and eight partners went out; five partners remained. One partner more was taken in, and the whole dispute was fortunately settled amicably, where both the sides were completely satisfied. One side was satisfied because they got their money ; the

other side was satisfied because they got the management by paying the money. And now the company is working all right. There are profits, as there should be, and there is no question of bonus now. But there can be no question of making the previous partners reimburse any loss, because it could not be proved that they had intentionally or deliberately defrauded or taken away the money.

Mr. Speaker : What was the amount of the losses ?

Shri Morarji Desai : The losses were severe, about Rs. 10 lakhs, 15 lakhs, 20 lakhs—whereas there should be a profit of Rs. 50 lakhs.

Shri A. K. Gopalan : May I know whether the total amount paid as commission to the selling agents during 1943 to 1955 was over Rs. 1.24 lakhs ?

Shri Kanungo : As to the exact amounts I have no information. But commissions were paid, some of which were considered irregular by the Enquiry Committee.

Shri Morarji Desai : The selling agency also was legally constituted. There was nothing illegal about it. But that has now been stopped as a result of the arbitration. That selling agency has been taken away.

Shri A. K. Gopalan : In the statement it is said, "These changes, it is expected would result in the better management of the Company". May I know whether this expectation that there would be better management is correct as far as the workers are concerned also ?

Shri Morarji Desai : Yes, now there are no complaints.

Central Silk Board

*286. **Shri Keshavaiengar :** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Silk Board has a publicity department of its own ; and

(b) if not, whether it has any private publicity consultants ; and

(c) if so, who are they and what are the terms under which they are being consulted ?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra) : (a) A publicity department has been sanctioned by Government and is likely to be started shortly.

(b) and (c). No private consultants have been engaged by the Central Silk Board. The question of terms therefore does not arise.

Shri Keshavaiengar : In view of the fact that sericulture is a most useful and important item of cottage industry and the useful work done in this field would reach the agriculturists in the distant villages, may I know what steps Government have been taking in this matter to publicise the good work among the villagers in the far distant places ?

Shri Satish Chandra : I have said that a publicity department has been sanctioned and the staff is being recruited.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether this Board will be entrusted with the work of publicity outside India also ?

Mr. Speaker : Is it confined only to carry on publicity for the benefit of agriculturists in the country or will it do publicity outside India also ?

Shri Satish Chandra : The purpose is to popularise sericulture in the rural areas and to promote the use of silk, in India. The outside publicity is done by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

Fertilizers from Night Soil

*288. **Shri Gidwani :** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up plants to briquette night soil for use as fertilizers ; and

(b) if so, what is the nature of the proposal ?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra) : (a) and (b). The possibility of setting up plants for briquetting night soil as being examined.

Shri Gidwani : Is it a fact that Chinese agriculture had benefited by the use of night soil fertilizers ?

Mr. Speaker : There is no dispute about it. The hon. Minister has only said that steps are being taken to utilise it. But there is no dispute about night soil being a good fertilizer. Any other question ?

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether any foreign expert is being consulted in this matter, especially from China where this was a success ?

Shri Satish Chandra : The matter is being discussed in consultation with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. As far as the city refuse is concerned, it is already converted into compost. Whether night soil can be briquetted and whether it will be acceptable to the Indian cultivator are all questions which have to be decided by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Mr. Speaker : Do hon. Members know if it is briquetted in China? Next question.

Compensation to Nekowal Victims

*290. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi :** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1630 on the 1st September, 1956 and state :

(a) whether *ex gratia* payment of Rs. one lakh to the dependents of persons who were killed in Nekowal incident by Pakistan has since been made to persons concerned; and

(b) whether regular claims were submitted by the dependents of the victims of Nekowal incident ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan) : (a) payment has been authorised. The Ministries of Defence and Agriculture, who are administratively concerned are taking necessary action to disburse the amounts involved to the families of the deceased.

(b) The dependents of the victims of the Nekowal incident are not required to submit claims before receiving payments from the contribution made by Pakistan Government.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know what was the basis for fixing the amount payable to the families of the dependents ?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan : The amounts to be paid to each family were calculated on the basis of the actual emoluments of the deceased at the time, his age, the number of dependents, his length of service and other relevant factors.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know whether, in addition to this, Government are giving any help to the families of the victims ?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan : Yes. That has already been done. Pensionary and other benefits as admissible under the respective conditions of service had been granted to the dependents of the victims.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know the total amount of these pensions ?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan : I have no information just now.

Displaced T.B. Patients

*292. **Shri S. C. Samanta :** Will the **Minister of Rehabilitation** be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned as assistance to displaced T.B. patients from East Pakistan during 1955-56;

(b) how many patients received regular hospital treatment ;

(c) how many could not be accommodated in hospitals for want of seats ;

(d) the number of displaced T.B. patients from East Pakistan who died during the period ; and

(e) whether any T.B. hospital is proposed to be started entirely for displaced persons in the near future ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna) : (a) About Rs. 18 lakhs.

(b) 500 beds were reserved but it is not possible to indicate the exact number of patients who received regular hospital treatment without a detailed enquiry.

(c) and (d). Information is not available and it is doubtful if precise figures could be made available, in respect of lakhs of displaced persons who have come from East Pakistan to India.

(e) Some further schemes for the reservation of T.B. beds in some hospitals are under consideration.

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know whether the scheme of domiciliary treatment for a thousand patients as submitted to the Central Government has been accepted and action taken ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : Is the hon. Member referring to the Health Ministry or the Rehabilitation Ministry ?

Shri S. C. Samanta : Rehabilitation.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : I am afraid I will require notice as regards this particular scheme.

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know whether the special diet allowance for the T. B. patients has been increased because there was so much grumbling about the allowance of one rupee per day ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : Yes. The special diet allowance of Rs. 2-8-0 per patient per day is now allowed to the T.B. patients living in camps. The annual cost of this facility is likely to be about Rs. 10 lakhs.

Dr. Rama Rao : In view of the heavy incidence of T.B. in these refugees, may I know whether any steps are taken for mass X-ray of the refugee camps to detect the disease early ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : X-ray is an integral part of the T.B. treatment. Facilities are provided. We have now arranged for 500 beds. Under the Second Five Year Plan, we are hoping to increase the number from 500 to 1500.

Shri S. C. Samanta : In October, 1955, the hon. Minister invited Members of Parliament from West Bengal and they suggested that a separate hospital should be set up for the T.B. patients. May I know whether any action has been taken in the matter ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : What we have done is this. I am taking advantage of the existing hospitals. About 100 beds are being provided in the Niramoy hospital and 50 in Kancharapara. We have a scheme under consideration for 200 beds in Panduabeshwar. In addition to that, we are taking steps for providing some beds in the new T.B. sanatoria that are being set up in Orissa and Assam. These are over and above the hospital arrangements.

Shri S. C. Samanta : Over and above the hospital arrangements, may I know whether any segregation treatment arrangement has been made since 1955 ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna : If the hon. Member has any particular case in view, or any particular camp, I shall certainly have it looked into.

Mr. Speaker : Next question.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : 293.

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : The hon. Prime Minister was to have answered this question. Unfortunately he has been held up. Would it be possible to postpone this question for a while ?

Mr. Speaker : I will call this question later.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : Later today ?

Mr. Speaker : Today. As soon as he comes. Next question.

Agricultural Income in Kerala State

*294. { **Shri Punnoose :**
 Shri V. P. Nayar :

Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimated total annual agricultural income from the areas now falling in the Kerala State including the income from the plantation industry ; and

(b) what is the total of such income from Estates owned by Foreign Companies ?

The Minister of Consumer Industries (Shri Kanungo) : Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shri Punnoose : The information asked for is the total income. May I know whether the Government can supply us that information with regard to the area of rubber and tea plantation in Kerala ?

Shri Kanungo : Yes; that is easy. But the question was for the total income from agriculture which requires rather a larger and careful enquiry.

Dr. Rama Rao : The information under part (b) could have been given. This relates to foreign companies. They publish their reports.

Shri Kanungo : This is what I said. If the question was regarding the area of plantation, it could have been answered easily.

Mr. Speaker : I must have put it down as an [unstarred] question. It has escaped into the starred list. Next question.

International Airport New Delhi

*295. { **Shri D. C. Sharma :**
 Shri Ram Krishan :

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2138 on the 13th September, 1956 and state :

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision for the construction of an international airport at Delhi; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) The matter is at present under the consideration of the Ministry of Defence since it involves the future of the Palam aerodrome which is under the control of that Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma : May I know whether the Ministry of Communications has sent any note on the subject to the Ministry of Defence and if so, what is the nature of the note ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Several notes have been exchanged on the problem. The crux of the problem is that we want a proper site for both the civil international aerodrome as well as for the Air Force aerodrome.

Shri D. C. Sharma : May I know if any decision has been taken so far as the location is concerned ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Several sites have been surveyed. But, the question still remains whether any suitable site could be found.

Shri D. C. Sharma : May I know whether the cost of construction of the aerodrome will be shared by the Ministries of Communications and Defence or will it be only the concern of the Ministry of Defence ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : That is also a question on which I cannot say anything at the moment. Finance is an important thing. We have got to look at the provision made for the construction of new aerodromes in the Second Five Year Plan.

Mr. Speaker : From one pocket to the other pocket.

Shri Joachim Alva : It will not merely be a matter of consulting the Ministry of Defence. Will the Civil Aviation Ministry take note of the requirements of the Ministry of Defence in constructing the aerodrome ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : An international aerodrome will be for international air transport. The requirements of the Air Force will have to be looked after in their own way.

Mr. Speaker : If it is possible, it will be useful for military purposes also. The lay Members of Parliament may be informed of any expert knowledge that the hon. Minister may have. The hon. Member wanted to know, if such an aerodrome, over which a large sum of money is going to be spent is constructed, with special housing accommodation etc. whether it will be useful for purposes of civil aviation as well as the military.

Shri Raj Bahadur : May I submit that, in case it were possible for the Air Force as well as the Civil Aviation to use the same airport for international air transport service and Air Force purposes, perhaps this question would not have arisen, and we could have both carried on with the Palam airport. The need is that we should have a separate aerodrome for international air traffic purposes and a separate one for the Air Force. So this question of the development of Palam airport and the selection of a new site has arisen.

Trade with East Germany

*297. **Shri D. C. Sharma :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) the main articles of import from and export to East Germany at present; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to increase the volume of trade with this country ?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 32].

(b) (i) A²Trade Agreement was entered into with East Germany in October, 1954 and was renewed on the 8th October, 1956, for a further period of three years.

(ii) India participated in the Leipzig fair held in the spring of 1956.

(iii) The State Trading Corporation is maintaining close liaison with the East German Trade Representation in New Delhi.

Shri D. C. Sharma : From the statement I find that the principal commodities exported to East Germany are mainly raw materials. May I know if anything is being done to increase the export of processed and manufactured things to East Germany ?

Shri Karmarkar : I am rather surprised at the question. Among the exports my hon. elderly friend will find coir manufactures, and handicrafts. These are certainly not raw materials. He will agree that hides and skins is also a processed thing. It is not raw skin. Our policy is to send processed goods. I agree with the suggestion of my hon. friend and our effort is always to send our processed goods as much as possible. But, our main earners are in a sense comparatively less processed goods.

Shri D. C. Sharma : Out of the seven commodities given here, there are four commodities which are raw; iron ore, mica, pepper and other things. I think the balance is in favour of raw things. Therefore I wanted to know what is being done to increase the export of manufactured things to this country. And I want to know the value of exports of handicrafts to this country in the last year.

Mr. Speaker : How many questions in the same question.

Shri Karmarkar : I will try to answer because he is a senior member and it may raise misapprehension.

The difficulty is, as the hon. Member knows, the composition of much of our export has necessarily got to be what we call unprocessed goods, because there is much more of it than we need for our present purposes. We do not make pepper into powder but export pepper to America and Canada. Besides our attempt to enlarge the scope of processed goods, it is in our own interest to send out partly processed goods, as otherwise we will have a surfeit of them here.

सरकारी स्टेशनरी (लेखन सामग्री) विभाग

*३०२. श्री जू० चं० सोबिया : क्या निगम, जाबास और सम्भरम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सन् १९५५-५६ में सरकारी स्टेशनरी विभाग ने विदेशों से कोई स्टेशनरी खरीदी थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने मूल्य की और किन-किन देशों से; और

(ग) विदेशों से खरीदने का आर्डर मुख्यतया किन-किन वस्तुओं के लिए दिया गया था और क्या उन वस्तुओं के स्थान पर देशी सामान उपलब्ध नहीं था ?

निर्माण, आवास और सम्भरण मंत्री के सहायक (श्री पू० शे० नास्कर)
(क) जी जनाब ।

(ख) और (ग). १९५५-५६ में विदेश स तरह तरह की खरीदी गई स्टेशनरी की कीमत लगभग ६,१०,००० रुपये हैं। एक विवरण सभा की मेज पर रख दिया गया है जिसमें देशों के नाम जिनसे सामान खरीदा गया था, प्रत्येक देश से खरीदे गये सामान की कीमत और खरीदी गई चीजों के नाम दिये गये हैं।
[बेल्जिये परिशिष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ३३]

विदेशों से खरीदने के लिए केवल उन चीजों के लिए आर्डर दिया गया था जो भारत में सामान इकट्ठा करने वालों या आयात करने वालों के पास नहीं थी, या उन चीजों के लिये इनके स्थान पर देशी सामान उपलब्ध नहीं था।

श्री कू० बू० सोबिया : ये खरीदें किसकी मारफत की गई थी ?

श्री कू० बू० सोबिया : तूरे देशों से जो खरीदें की गयीं ये किसकी मारफत की गयी थी ?

Shri P. S. Naaskar : The stores were purchased through the Director-General, India Stores Department, London.

Shri P. S. Naaskar : From all the countries, as is shown in the statement it was purchased through the same organisation in London.

Treaty between China and Nepal

*305. Shri B. D. Pande : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new treaty has been signed between China and Nepal recently at Peking ;

(b) whether China has given a grant of Rupees six crores to the Government of Nepal ; and

(c) whether the Indian Government were consulted on this treaty ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) to (c) An agreement similar to India's 1954 agreement with China was signed between the Government of Nepal and China in September, 1956.

During the visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to China an economic aid agreement was signed between the two Governments in Peking in October, 1956. According to this China has agreed to give a cash grant of Rs. 2 Crores (Indian) and machinery worth Rs. 4 Crores to Nepal for her 5 Year Development Plan.

Government of India was kept informed by both sides throughout.

Shri B. D. Pande : In this treaty for the first time the question of visas and passports has been introduced. Will that refer to the Indian territory also or not, I want to know.

Shri Anil K. Chanda : This is an agreement between China and Nepal and therefore India does not come into the picture.

Shri C. D. Pande : In view of the fact that in former days, owing to the peculiar position of Nepal, as it is a land bounded country, the Government of India never favoured any interference or any association with foreign countries, particularly with Western democracies, what is the view of the Government of India now with regard to China's contracts with Nepal directly ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : China is a neighbouring country to Nepal and they have vital commercial and other interests. And times have also changed since the time he is referring to.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether the Nepal Government had made a similar request to this country to our Government, for a loan of Rs. 6 or Rs. 10 crores before going to China for the loan ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : We have given considerable amount of help and loans to the Nepal Government.

Shri B. D. Pande : The Minister should know that we are also neighbours of the Chinese, and in this treaty it is written that levies will be withdrawn and trading centres will be fixed and the Nepalese will trade only in those centres which will be fixed by the treaty. Will this apply to us also? We have also trading agents and traders trading in Tibet. So, we want to know whether this will apply to us or not. We are on the border of Tibet which is ruled by China.

Shri Anil K. Chanda : According to the treaty signed between India and China in 1954, certain trade marts this side and that side have been demarcated.

Shri B. D. Pande : We are giving a lot of money to them as Nepal is friendly. Do their efforts show that they will be able to repay the money?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise out of this question.

Shrimati Kamlenda Mati Shah : What happened to the trouble that we were having between Garhwal and Tibet border?

Mr. Speaker : How does it arise out of this question?

Construction of Aerodrome at Kiccha

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307. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh :**
Sardar Akarpuri :

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an aerodrome at Kiccha in Nainital District of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, when this aerodrome will be constructed and at what cost?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The C.P.W.D. are taking necessary steps to call tenders for the work and it is expected to complete it within one year from the date of starting the construction work. The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 5,80,000/- excluding the cost of land which has been given free of cost, by the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

श्री भक्त बर्षन : यह जो हवाई जहाजों का मैदान बनाया जा रहा है इसमें कितनी साइज तक के हवाई जहाज उतर सकेंगे ?

श्री राज बहादुर : उम्मीद की जाती है कि नये किस्म के हवाई जहाज जैसे डकोटा और वाइकाउंट वगैरह इस पर उतर सकेंगे।

Sardar Iqbal Singh : May I know whether regular flying will be under taken or will it be only seasonal?

Shri Raj Bahadur : It depends on the volume of traffic to be managed in this particular sector.

श्री ब० इ० पांडे : हल्द्वानी में एक छोटा सा एयरोड्रोम था, उसको न सुधार कर फिर नया बनाने की क्या जरूरत हुई ?

श्री राज बहादुर : वह बहुत छोटा और नाकाफी था और उस पर बड़ हवाई जहाज नहीं उतर सकते थे, और हम चाहते थे कि नैनीताल के वास्ते एक माकूल हवाई पट्टा मिल जाये। इसलिये यह नया हवाई पट्टा बनाया गया है।

Export of Handloom Cloth to U.S.A.

*308. **Shri Raghunath Singh :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state whether there is any bright prospect for the export of handloom cloth to U.S.A. during 1956-57?

The Minister of Consumer Industries (Shri Kanungo) : Prospects are encouraging.

Shri Raghunath Singh : Is there any handloom showroom in the U.S.A.?

Shri Kanungo : No. We have had two exhibitions and we are maintaining a centre where handloom goods are exhibited.

Shrimati Jayashree : May I know whether Government have received any complaints about the failure to maintain the same standards?

Shri Kanungo : No. Complaint from importers as such has been received, but it is a fact that it is difficult to fill orders for large quantities.

Shri Kaaliwal : In this handloom cloth I understand one of the handicaps is the absence of good and proper designs. May I know whether Government are taking steps to improve the designs of handloom cloth?

Shri Kanungo : I would submit that the designs of the Indian handloom fabrics are very fetching. Even then Government have taken steps through the Handloom Board to organise design centres.

Shri Heda : There had been a complaint that the colours or dyes used in this printing and designs are not very fast. Therefore are Government taking steps to ensure the fastness of the colours?

Shri Kanungo : The complaints are not only from export sources but from internal consumers also. Government have been taking steps through the Handloom Board to establish model dye houses where the process of permanent dyes will be demonstrated and taught.

A.I.R. Sangeet Sammelan

***309. Shri Shivananjappa :** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Radio Sangeet Sammelan was organised by the All India Radio in New Delhi during the last week of October, 1956; and

(b) if so the total expenditure incurred thereon?

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It would not be feasible to calculate the precise figures of the expenditure on the All India Radio Sangeet Sammelan as it forms an integral part of the entire programme expenditure of all Stations which relayed the programme of the Sammelan.

Shri Shivananjappa : May I know how many artists participated in the Sammelan?

Shri Pataskar : At this year's Sammelan, 84 principal artistes and 70 accompanists participated.

Shri Shivananjappa : How many of them represented Karnataka?

Shri Pataskar : As a matter of fact this year, there were two items. The Sammelan was organised in the form of two series of concerts before invited audiences, for Hindustani music at Delhi and for Carnatic music at Madras.

Shri Heda : In view of the fact that there is no comparison between the items and the cultural activities in Delhi and other important cities of India, will Government arrange such Sammelans in other important cities, other than New Delhi?

Shri Pataskar : As a matter of fact, I think these music symposia are arranged on the basis of Hindustani music at Delhi and Carnatic music at Madras.

Shri Madiah Gowda : May I know the object of the Sammelan and how far that object is achieved by the Sammelan organised this year?

Mr. Speaker : We are going into the fundamentals and this relates to total expenditure.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know why the Carnatic Sammelan was not

held in Delhi and the Hindustani sammelan at Madras so as to popularise them both in the north and the south?

Shri Pataskar : As a matter of fact all these were relayed by all the 26 radio stations and so whether it was held at Madras or Delhi does not make much difference.

Aerodrome at Kozhikode.

***310. Shri Nettur P. Damodaran :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to construct an aerodrome at Kozhikode (Calicut) during the Second Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, whether any place has been selected for the same; and

(c) when the work of construction is proposed to be started?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Sitting Committee appointed by the Civil Aviation Department to select a suitable site for the purpose has recently carried out an inspection of the area and submitted its report which is being examined by the Director General of Civil Aviation. After a site has been finally selected, the C. P. W. D. will be asked to prepare detailed estimates for the work to enable the work being sanctioned. In the meantime, action has also been initiated to collect the meteorological data.

Shri Nettur P. Damodaran : May I know whether the claims of Cannanore which was a stopping place for the service planes plying from Bombay to Trivandrum and also a cantonment was considered by Government in this connection and whether the lands at Cannanore or nearby places were examined for this purpose and, if so, what are the recommendations?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Both Cannanore and Calicut sites were examined for this purpose and it is premature for me to say anything about them. It seems to be obvious, however, that a proper site near Cannanore is difficult.

Shri Nettur P. Damodaran : May I know—the approximate date when Ministers and Members of Parliament to whom certain concessions for air travel are allowed now can safely land at an aerodrome in Calicut or Malabar?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The Indian Airlines Corporation extends its hospitality to Members of Parliament to make the fullest use of the air services.

Shri Punnoose : May I know whether Government are aware that, with the formation of the Kerala State, this aerodrome, either in Calicut or in Cannanore or in some part of Malabar, has become an immediate necessity, and may I hope that steps will be taken to expedite the matter.

Shri Raj Bahadur : We have appreciated the priority that should be given to this particular project and we have briefed our officers accordingly.

Shri I. Eacharan : May I know which are the places other than Cannanore and Calicut that have been [examined] for this purpose ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : I am not aware of any.

Shri Joachim Alva : In the matter of the construction of aerodromes do the officials of the Ministry of Civil Aviation take active, any critical, interest in their construction or merely leave it to the contractors selected by the C.P.W.D. for the construction ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : Their interest in selecting a site is that of experts which is bound to be active, keen and systematic.

Silk Requirements

*314. **Shri Keshavalengar :** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) if any assessment of the demand in India for various categories of silk has been made by Government ; and

(b) if so, how it is made and with what results ?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra) : (a) An assessment of the domestic demand of silk was made by the Tariff Commission in 1953.

(b) The assessment was made after consulting the Central Silk Board, the Mysore Silk Association, and representatives of importers and producers. The Commission came to the conclusion that the estimate of requirement of silk was of the order of 3.5 million lbs. per annum.

Design for Charkha

*315. { **Shri Gidwani :**
Shri Krishnacharya Joshi :

Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government contemplate offering a prize of Rs. one lakh to anyone who can produce a design for an improved charkha ; and

(b) If so, whether any designs have so far been received in this regard ?

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

(b) Not yet.

Shri Gidwani : Has not Ambar Charkha proved its utility, if so why do Government propose to offer another prize ?

Shri R. G. Dubey : This factor was carefully examined by the Ambar Charkha Enquiry Committee and they agreed that Ambar Charkha is very satisfactory in certain respects. But they thought that there is still scope for improvement in respect of various things such as spinning unit and sizing etc. That is why Government have accepted the proposal to announce a prize of Rs. 1 lakh so that better and improved designs could be produced.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know whether any conditions and specifications have been laid down for the award ?

Shri R. G. Dubey : There are certain conditions and specifications laid down.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know what other efforts are being made for improving the Ambar Charkha ?

Shri R. G. Dubey : As I have explained already, the Research Institute at Ahmedabad has been entrusted with the task of improving the design further in this respect.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi : In view of the doubtful use of the Ambar Charkha as has now been told, is there any possibility of stopping further expenditure on the Ambar Charkha just now ?

Mr. Speaker : This relates to a matter of policy and not of construction.

Shri K. K. Basu : May we know whether Government has enough data from the experience of the working of the Ambar Charkha to warrant further expenditure on it ?

Shri R. G. Dubey : Yes :

Indian Nationals in Goa

*316. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi :** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether facilities are provided by Goan authorities to the relatives to meet the Indian nationals detained in different prisons in Goa ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : Facilities have been granted by the

Portuguese authorities to the relatives of Indian nationals in detention in Goa to visit Goa and to interview them. A number of them have gone to Goa within the past few months via the Majali route with visas authorised by the Portuguese authorities and returned after interviewing their relatives in jail. Certain restrictions are, however, imposed such as the presence of officials during the interviews, a time limit of 30 minutes, and limiting the interviews, specified days of the week.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know the total number of Indian nationals detained in Goa?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : According to our information, there are 42 of them, though the Indian nationality of one of them, Shrimati Joshi is not accepted by the Portuguese.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi : May I know how many of them are suffering rigorous imprisonment and how many ordinary imprisonment?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : Five of them are still awaiting trial and all the rest have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment varying from 2 to 10 years.

Shri K. K. Basu : Is it true that in the case of Shri Tribid Chaudhuri, since his relations returned from the interview and published a report, restrictions have been imposed on his communicating with his relatives in India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : I do not seem to have that information.

Shri U. M. Trivedi : May I know if the Government of India have devised some methods of approaching these persons detained in Goa jails to ascertain from them if there is any chance of repatriating them again to India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : Father Carino generally looks after the welfare of the Indian prisoners in Goan jails.

Mr. Speaker : He wants to know whether there is any possibility of repatriating them.

Shri Anil K. Chanda : It is involved with a bigger issue.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh : May I know whether the Government are aware that His Holiness the Pope is in communication with the Government of Portugal to have the Indian nationals imprisoned in Goa released?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : The answer is the same, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : Here also policy issue is involved.

Shri Joachim Alva : In view of economic sanctions being ineffective in preventing smuggling, has Government any intention of sealing off the border areas?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : We are trying out to stop smuggling along the border.

Shri Punnoose : May I know whether in the case of Tribid Chaudhuri Government will be pleased to enquire whether the Goan authorities will allow facilities to his representatives to file his nomination paper for the next election?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : I believe some representatives on behalf of Shri Chaudhuri are going to see the Prime Minister in this connection soon.

Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement

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 { **Shri D. C. Sharma :**
 *319- { **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :**
 Shri Bishwa Nath Roy :
 Shri Ram Krishan :
 Shri Gidwani :

Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that terms of the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement which were due to expire are being extended again, and

(b) if so, whether any changes are contemplated.

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) and (b). The Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement which was concluded in July 1955 and which was due to expire on the 31st October, 1956, has been extended without any change for a further period of three months i.e. until January 31, 1957.

Shri D. C. Sharma : May I know why it has been extended for such a short period and why it has not been extended for a longer period than that?

Shri Karmarkar : This is only provisional. The earlier idea was that the Pakistan Government proposed to send a delegation to negotiate a fresh agreement, but in the meantime, as the original agreement was due to expire soon, it was extended for a brief while. Meanwhile arrangements will be made for negotiating a fresh agreement.

Shri D. C. Sharma : What is the value of our exports to Pakistan during 1955-56 and the value of imports from Pakistan during the same year?

Shri Karmarkar : Our exports to Pakistan from September 1955 to August 1956, for which I have the figures, amount to Rs. 8,77,32,552, and the total imports

from Pakistan for the corresponding period come to Rs. 24,18,63,864. The adverse balance of trade was mainly due to the import of jute, fish, poultry and eggs.

Shri Gidwani : May I know whether the Pakistan Government had asked for the supply of coal and whether the Government of India supplied the coal and if so, the quantity supplied?

Shri Karmarkar : I want notice for a precise answer to that question. There is something about coal, but I should like to be sure about it.

Shri K. K. Basu : In the case of a further extension, may I know whether Government is contemplating the liberalisation of the trade facilities between East Pakistan and West Bengal?

Shri Karmarkar : We look upon India as a whole and Pakistan as a whole, and there are certain problems arising, for instance, about the border trade between the east of India and Pakistan. This provisional arrangement provides for that. But otherwise we do not think in terms of localities unless there are local problems.

Sardar Iqbal Singh : We have made many agreements with Pakistan. May I know whether the Government of India is satisfied with the working of those trade agreements and may I know the number of schedules which have been completed according to time?

Shri Karmarkar : The terms are general. We have mentioned lists or schedules which we are supposed to export and they have mentioned lists or schedules which we are supposed to import. Each country is free to import to the extent it wants to import according to those schedules.

Shri R. P. Garg : According to the agreement rock salt was to be imported from Pakistan to the tune of 10 lakhs maunds and we deposited the money eight or ten months ago, but not a single wagon has arrived in India. May I know the reasons?

Shri Karmarkar : Regarding the wagons, I do not know, but my hon. friend is correct in saying that we proposed to import 10 lakhs maunds of rock salt. Regarding the traders' deposits and other things, I should like to have notice.

Shri R. P. Garg : May I know if the hon. Minister is unaware that the traders deposit was given 10 months ago and not a single wagon has yet arrived?

Shri Karmarkar : I am not aware, but I shall find out.

Mr. Speaker : Hon. Members are giving more information than receiving information. I thought the hon. Member would ask why there has been delay, why for nine or ten months no rock salt has been received.

Shri R. P. Garg : But the hon. Minister denied the facts.

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy) : That question should be addressed to my Ministry.

Mr. Speaker : Then the hon. Minister may reply to it.

Shri K. C. Reddy : There have been certain difficulties about import of rock salt from Pakistan to our own country in terms of the trade agreement. There have been floods and there have been certain other natural calamities. We are trying our very best to get the rock salt that we want. Now we have brought the factors to the notice of the Pakistan Government and they have promised that they would expedite the export of rock salt.

Purchase of Jet Aircrafts

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*326. { **Shri D. C. Sharma :**
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Asadji :

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any contract has been signed by the Air India International Corporation with Boeing Aeroplane Companies for the purchase of Boeing 707 Jet Aircrafts;

(b) if so, how many ; and

(c) by what time?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) and (b). The Air-India International Corporation has signed a Letter of Intent on 30-8-56 for the purchase of three Boeing 707 jet aircrafts. The contract with the Boeing Airplane Company is still under negotiation and has not been finally executed.

(c) The aircraft, subject to the terms of the purchase contract being finally settled, are expected to be delivered between January and March, 1960.

Shri D. C. Sharma : May I know how long it will take for the contract to be finalised and whether the operative capacity of this aircraft has been tested so far as climate is concerned?

Shri Raj Bahadur : It will take some time for the contract to be finalised and signed. So far as the operative capacity is concerned, that has been tested by the manufacturers over a long period of experimentation and research and after

they had been certified by the C.A.A. of the U.S.A., they have been put out for sale.

Shri Velayudhan : May I know whether the order is placed before assigning the price or the cost involved ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The price is all given out, but it varies upon certain factors, such as, which types of engines we propose to take how much spares we intend to order for and how much quantity of spares we want to acquire and so on. Those factors have also to be taken into account.

Shri Kasliwal : Recently there was a huge jet aircraft that came from the Soviet Union and it is quite likely that the hon. Minister may have seen it. May I know whether, before placing the order for the Boeing aircraft, Government gave their consideration to the question of purchase of such kinds of aircraft ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : In capacity and performance and in range of flight the two types of aircraft are essentially different from each other. The TU-104 which is the Russian plane, flies at a comparable speed but then its seating capacity is much less and the range is about 2,000 miles whereas in the case of the American jet, the range is about 4,000 miles.

Sardar Iqbal Singh : We are buying these discount aircraft from U.K. and we are also buying from the U.S.A. May I know whether the Government have got any programme so that our aircraft may be standardised, and may I know the preference, and the reasons for the preference, which the Government of India have given to U.S.A. aircraft ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The two types of aircraft are essentially different from each other and are meant for different sectors. The Boeing 707 jet type, which is the latest in the field, is meant for international flights. The Viscount also can do international flights, but there is nothing to compare it with the other so far as speed capacity and range are concerned. We propose to put the Viscount on the internal flights.

Shri Karni Singhji : May I know what will be the price of one of these aircraft ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : In the neighbourhood of Rs. 3 crores each.

Shri Joachim Alva : Was the availability of spare parts in the matter of TU-104 planes one of the factors responsible for the rejection of or not buying that type especially as Moscow is only within 6½ hours flying distance from Delhi ?

Shri Raj Bahadur : The proposal for the purchase of TU-104 has never been taken up. As a matter of fact that plane came to our country and we saw it but there has been no negotiation for the purchase of TU-104 so far.

Cottage Industries Conference

*327. **Shri Keshavalengar :** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the steps taken by the Central Silk Board to implement the recommendations of the Inter-States Conference on Khadi and Village Industries and the Handicrafts and Sericulture Industries held at New Delhi on the 20th and 21st June, 1956 ?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra) : A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 34].

Shri Keshavalengar : I find from item 3 of the statement that schemes have been called for from the States before 21st October and some schemes have accordingly been received. What are the States from which schemes have been received ? If Mysore is one of them and has submitted its schemes, has any tentative allocation of funds been made in respect of these schemes ?

Shri Satish Chandra : We have received 25 schemes, after this conference. These are from Madras, Punjab and Coorg. Mysore is one of the defaulters.

Shri S. C. Deb : May I know whether the Silk Board will be under the administration of Khadi and Village Industries Board ?

Shri Satish Chandra : Silk Board is a statutory body set up by the Parliament and it has nothing to do with the Khadi and Village Industries Board.

Minorities

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 { **Shri Gidwani :**
Shri D. C. Sharma :
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :
 *328. { **Shri R. P. Garg :**
Shri Bansal :
Shri Bibhuti Mishra :
Shri Krishnacharya Joshi :

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Pakistan Prime Minister has sent any communication to Prime Minister of India regarding the treatment of minorities in India; and

(b) if so, whether any reply has been sent to the Government of Pakistan and the nature thereof ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes. The Prime Minister received on the 19th October, 1956, a personal letter from the Pakistan Prime Minister. The career, while acknowledging the prompt action taken by the Government in regard to the book "Religious Leaders", referred to the communications that followed the agitation over the publication of the book and stated public opinion in Pakistan was becoming extremely agitated at reports received from India.

(b) The Prime Minister's reply, which was sent on 23rd October, 1956 gave the background of the publication of the book mentioned the prompt action taken by the authorities to withdraw the book from circulation and to deal with the agitation and its aftermath. It was pointed out to the Pakistan Prime Minister that the demonstrations by the Muslims were violent, offensive slogans were used and offices were burnt and that some Pakistani nationals who were visiting India, took part in the disturbances in some places. These violent demonstrations led to counter demonstrations by other communal elements and the local authorities took firm action to deal with both to restore law and order and to bring the offenders, who committed arson and loot, to book. Pakistan Prime Minister's attention was also invited to the official reply sent to the Government of Pakistan on 12th October in connection with similar allegations made by the Pakistan Government through their High Commissioner in Delhi.

Shri Gidwani: Are the Government aware that in Sind which is a part of West Pakistan, there were attacks on minorities and their property in different places on 21-9-1956 i.e. 'Protest day' and whether, even their religious places were attacked, though Shri Suhrawardy the Pakistan Prime Minister had assured—it is reported—the Government of India that, whatever may happen, in India, his Government was determined to see that the safety, rights and properties of the minorities were safeguarded.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Yes, Sir. There were very ugly demonstrations and disturbances in both sectors of Pakistan at this period.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What was the right of the Prime Minister of Pakistan to write to us on internal matters and why has the Indian Government been explaining its conduct regarding the so called minorities in India to the Pakistan authorities?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: This was a personal letter addressed by the Prime Minister of Pakistan to our Prime Minister.

Shri Gidwani: Is Government aware that, as a result of the incidents in Sind, there have been fresh migrations from there into India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have no information.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any letter has been written by our Prime Minister with regard to the treatment of minorities in Sind as was done by the Pakistan Prime Minister with regard to the treatment of minorities in India.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Our High Commission in Karachi drew the attention of the Pakistan Government to the ugly demonstrations in Pakistan.

Shri Joachim Alva: Has the attention of the Prime Minister of Pakistan been drawn to the fact that Indian Press has maintained a very high standard in regard to the treatment of minorities while the Pakistan dailies and periodicals, day in and day out, have indulged in untruthful attacks on India?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have given the gist of our Prime Minister's reply to that letter.

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister is not likely to come. Therefore, question No. 293, which has been held over, will be called.

Radio-active Rainfall

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*293. { **Shri Sadhan Gupta:**
 Shri Gidwani:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether radio-active rain fell in East U.P. recently; and

(b) if so, the extent of the radio-activity of the rainfall?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). The College of Science, Banaras Hindu University, has reported that the background count of radio activity during heavy rains in eastern Uttar Pradesh in September, 1956 showed a sharp rise—6 to 10 times. The measurements were not made by personnel of the Department and it cannot, therefore, vouch for the correctness of the information.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Dr. Joshi, a reputed physical chemist and Principal of the College of Science, in a Press conference forecast that the rain-water throughout the State of U.P. might become abnormally radio active. Has that forecast been fulfilled or what is the position?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : I may inform the hon. Member that Dr. Bhabha is going to address the Members of the consultative committee of Parliament in this matter within a short time perhaps today. I think the hon. Member should wait till then to get all the information.

Shri U. M. Trivedi : May I know if there is any truth in the suggestion made in some quarters that some nuclear tests were carried out by Russia or China in Tibet or in or about the Himalayas and the cause of the radio-active rain-fall in that test ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : I have no information.

Mr. Speaker : The hon. Prime Minister who is informally in charge of this subject is absent today. Anyhow, this evening there will be a full discussion of this matter by Shri Bhabha. I would suggest to the hon. Member that whoever wants to put supplementary questions may put all these questions to him.

Shri Sadhan Gupta : May I know whether any investigation has been made as to the possibility of contamination of water in U.P., Eastern U.P. especially, due to the radio-active rainfall and if so, what is the result of these investigations ?

Shri Anil K. Chanda : Our monitoring division of the Atomic Energy Establishment is continually measuring in Bombay the radio-active fall-outs from nuclear and thermo-nuclear explosions and the levels of radio-active fall-outs are much below the danger level.

Shri D. C. Sharma : I have a question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker : He may reserve it for this evening.

Prawn Export

*329. **Shri D. C. Sharma :** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state the efforts made by Government to encourage the export of prawn fish from Kerala ?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : Burma has been the principal market for Indian prawns. Difficulties arose from restrictions which were imposed recently by the Government of Burma on imports of prawns into Burma. They have, however, now agreed to permit imports of prawns under open General Licence. Demand from U.S.A. for Shrimps is also growing. Government are assisting the trade by establishing a Central Research Unit at Cochin and by providing for the development of fisheries.

Shri A. M. Thomas : May I enquire whether the attention of the Government

has been drawn to the fact that the pattern of this prawn trade is changing and prawns are now likely to be exported fresh after freezing from Cochin and other ports on the West Coast ? May I enquire whether the Government has taken any steps to encourage that sort of export so that there may be some alleviation of the difficulties caused by the closure of the Burma market ?

Shri Karmarkar : We are aware of the acuteness of the problems of Kerala and it is for that reason that we have been struggling all along to see that all possible steps are taken with a view to greater production and greater export of prawns outside, Burma particularly, and now that, the United States is a promising market we would like that to be developed.

Shri Matthen : May I know whether the hon. Minister is taking any steps to encourage the consumption of prawns inside the country ?

Shri Karmarkar : I do not want to provoke the hon. Member, but what I suggested to him last time was that he should bring a few prawns to Delhi so that hon. Members who take fish may taste them and they will be very largely popularised because Delhi is the hub of the whole of India.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Civil Aviation Department

*284. **Shri Chattopadhyaya :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1117 on the 3rd April, 1956 and state :

(a) whether any decision has since been taken regarding enhancement of cash allowance to junior clerks of the Civil Aviation Department for handling cash ;

(b) if so, the nature of the decision ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) :

(a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Necessary data have been collected regarding allowances paid to the clerks in other Departments of the Government of India and the matter is being further investigated.

Indian Labour Conference

*285. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao** : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1716 on the 3rd September, 1956 and state :

(a) whether the subjects to be discussed at the 15th Session of the Indian Labour Conference have since been finalised;

(b) If so, the nature of the subjects; and

(c) whether any definite date has been fixed to hold the Conference?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) : (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No.

A. I. R.

*287. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** : Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extend the facility of provident fund to the Staff artists of the All India Radio; and

(b) if so, the nature of the proposal?

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar) : (a) and (b). Staff Artists of All India Radio are already entitled to gratuity calculated at a half month's pay last drawn by them for each completed year of service. The question whether, in addition to the gratuity, Staff Artists should also be allowed to contribute in a Contributory Provident Fund is being examined.

Special Employment Exchanges

*289. **Shri Bahadur Singh** : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to State :

(a) Whether Special Employment Exchanges have been set up at Damodar Valley Corporation and Bhakra Nangal Dam to give employment to the surplus river valley personnel ;

(b) the number of such Employment Exchanges opened at various places so far; and

(c) the total number of surplus persons who have been provided alternative employment so far at Damodar Valley Corporation and Bhakra Dam ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) : (a) and (b). Sections of Employment Exchanges have been set up at Muithon Dam. No such office has been opened at Bhakra Nangal Dam.

(c) D.V.

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Bhakra Nangal Dam—All the retrenched workers have been re-engaged.

सूचना केन्द्र

२६१. **श्री झूलन सिंह** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि प्रत्येक राज्य की राजधानी में एक सूचना केन्द्र खोलने की योजना की क्या प्रगति हुई है?

विधि कार्य मंत्री (श्री पाटस्कर) : ग्राम प्रवेश, बिहार, जम्मू और काश्मीर, केरल, मद्रास, उत्तर प्रदेश की राजधानियों तथा जलंधर और नई दिल्ली में सूचना केन्द्र खुल चुके हैं। बम्बई, उड़ीसा तथा राजस्थान की सरकारों ने अपनी अपनी राजधानियों में सूचना केन्द्र खोलने मंजूर कर लिया है और आवश्यक कार्यवाही की जा रही है।

मैसूर, मध्य प्रदेश, आसाम तथा पश्चिमी बंगाल की राजधानियों में सूचना केन्द्र खोलने का प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है।

Miners' Wages

*296. **Shri K. S. Rao** : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) at what stage is the proposal to enhance the annual leave with wages to miners; and

(b) when it will be given effect to?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai) : (a) The proposal is under consideration along with other proposals for amendment of the Mines Act 1952.

(b) It can be given effect to only after the Act has been suitably amended. Action regarding this is in hand.

Yugoslav Steel Mission

*298. **Shri Bheekha Bhai** : Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Yugoslav Steel Mission has since arrived in India ; and

(b) if so, the result of their negotiations with the Government of India?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmarkar) : (a) A delegation consisting of representatives of some Iron and Steel

Works of Yugoslavia is at present in India. The Mission has not been sponsored by the Yugoslav Government.

(b) The members of the delegation have had exploratory talks with the State Trading Corporation and the Ministry of Railways for supply of steel, rails etc. and are at present having discussions with the Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta. No business has, so far, materialised.

Pondicherry

***299. Shri Nambiar :** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are in receipt of a serious complaint dated 19th July, 1956 from the Mayor of Pondicherry (Le Maire De La Villa De Pondicherry) alleging grave charges of interference and obstruction by the Government of Pondicherry and the Chief Commissioner.

(b) what action has been taken on the representation ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Pondicherry have ordered the suspension of the Mayor of Pondicherry in September, 1956 ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a). A complaint dated the 9th July, 1956 was received by the Government of India from the Mayor of Pondicherry alleging charges of interference and obstruction in the functioning of the Pondicherry Municipal Committee.

(b) The allegations made by the Mayor were examined and enquired into and were found to be factually incorrect.

(c) and (d). Yes. The Pondicherry Administration have explained the reasons for the suspension in their Press Note dated the 17th September, 1956, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House. See Appendix II, annexure No. 35.

Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan

***300. Shri Dasaratha Deb :** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state :

(a) whether a statistical survey has recently been conducted in Tripura in order to find out the conditions of the Displaced Persons from East Pakistan, rehabilitated there ;

(b) if so, what are the findings of that survey party ; and

(c) what conclusions Government draw from the report of this survey party ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna) : (a) Yes.

(b) The survey report has not yet been finalised by the Tripura Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Pakistan Nationals employed in Delhi

***301. Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many Pakistani Nationals are working in factories and commercial establishments in Delhi ; and

(b) if so, their number and duration of service ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) Yes, Sir. A number of Pakistani nationals are known to be working in factories and commercial establishments in Delhi.

(b) The information is not available.

Air Agreement with Nepal

***303. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 298 on the 5th December 1955, and state :

(a) whether the agreement between India and Nepal regarding internal air-service has been finalised ; and

(b) if not, at what stage is the matter ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The matter is still under considerations.

Manufacture of Gliders

***304. Shri Kamath :** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 254 on the 25th July, 1956 and state what further progress has been made in the manufacture of gliders by the private firms to whom drawings of prototype gliders have been supplied by Government ?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) : So far, only one concern namely the Aeronautical Services Limited, Dum Dum, have made some progress towards the manufacture of gliders and it is understood from the firm that their first gliders is expected to be ready for flight in about 6 to 7 months.

Pit Head Bath Rules

*311. **Shri Chattopadhyaya** : Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to revise the Pit Head Bath Rules, 1946;

(b) if so, in what respect ; and

(c) when a decision in this regard will be taken ?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khadubhai Desai) : (a) Yes.

(b) To provide for construction of pit head baths instead of at the mines as at present, at other suitable sites selected by the owner, agent or manager with the previous approval of the competent authority.

(c) The draft amendment has been published for comments to be submitted by the end of January, 1957. Thereafter it will be taken up for finalization.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme

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

(a) the names of industries employing 10,000 and more workers, which have not yet been brought under the purview of Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952, up-to-date;

(b) the steps taken by Government to extend the same; and

(c) the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khadubhai Desai) : (a) (i) Rice, Flour and Dal Mills;

(ii) Cotton Ginning and baling factories;

(iii) Coir and rope works;

(iv) Cashewnut industry;

(v) Tobacco industry;

(vi) Wood and cork industry;

(vii) Oil-well operations.

(b) and (c). Consultation with the State Governments and other interests concerned is in progress and every possible effort is being made to finalise proposals expeditiously.

In respect of non-factory industries an amendment of the Act is necessary and the amending Bill will be introduced in the Sabha soon.

Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty

*313. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Nepal have submitted any formal proposal for the revision of the Indo-Nepal Trade Treaty of 1950; and

(b) if so, the points of revision ?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda) : (a) Proposals regarding the revision of the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade and Commerce of 1950 have been received from the Government of Nepal and informal negotiations are taking place in regard to them ; and

(b) It would not be proper to disclose the points of revision as they are still under discussion.

Linseed Oil

*317. **Shri Jhulan Sinha** : Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) the present position of demand and supply of linseed oil in the country; and

(b) the justification for the abolition of export duty thereon?

The Minister of Trade (Shri Karmakar) : (a) Approximately 110,000 tons of linseed oil were produced in 1955-56. Internal requirements are estimated at about 70,000 tons per annum.

(b) Because the duty was found to be hampering exports.

Transit Agreement with Afghanistan

*318. **Shri Ram Krishan** : Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Afghan Government has requested for a transit agreement, ensuring an even flow of Afghan exports and imports passing through India; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Indian Government in this respect ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment

*320. { **Shri Nambiar:**
Shrimati Renu
Chakravartty:

Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the employees working under the Directorate-General of Resettlement and Employment, Government of India are issued with notice of termination of service with effect from the 1st November, 1956;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of these men have put in long periods of service without being confirmed;

(d) whether it is a fact that these men were prevented from applying for any other post by a "personal Directive" issued by the Director General, dated the 20th August, 1948;

(e) what steps are taken to guarantee the present pay of these men in case they are compelled to opt out for State Services; and

(f) whether the recommendation of the Training and Employment Services Organization Committee to convert the organisation into a permanent one has been accepted?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b). Due to the transfer of the administration of Training Centres and Employment Exchanges to States with effect from the 1st November, 1956, only the posts in the Regions have been abolished from that date.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) State Governments have agreed to protect the existing pay of those who have agreed to work in the States.

(f) Yes.

Hindustan Housing Factory

*321. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 972 on the 14th April, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the question of future working of the Hindustan Housing Factory, Delhi has been further reviewed; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision, final or tentative, that has been taken?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naikar): (a) and (b). The Committee of Experts set up to enquire into the future working of the Factory has submitted its report. The recommendations of the Committee are being examined by Government and a decision is expected to be taken shortly.

Reorganisation of P. & T. Circles

*322. { **Shrimati Tarkeshwari**
Sinha:
Shri K. S. Rao:
Shri Bheekha Bhal:
Shri B. Shiva Rao:

Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to reorganise the Posts and Telegraphs Circles following the re-organisation of the States from the 1st November; and

(b) if so, how the re-organisation will take place?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

Newton-Chikli Colliery

*324. **Shri Chattopadhyaya:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since recovered the expenses incurred in connection with Courts of Inquiry appointed to enquire into the mining disasters at Newton-Chikli and Amlabad Collieries from the respective owners since the Courts of Inquiry have held the management responsible for the accidents; and

(b) if so, the amount recovered from each of them?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Yes, in the case of Newton-Chikli Colliery. Recovery of the expenses from the Amlabad Colliery is receiving the attention of the Chief Inspector of Mines.

(b) Rs. 11,410/15/3 from Newton-Chikli Colliery.

Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund

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

(a) the colliery owners, who have provided sites so far for the construction of quarters to miners direct from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund;

(b) if so, the number of quarters that will be constructed during 1956-57; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to accelerate the construction of quarters?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Most of the 230 collieries who have applied for construction of houses under the New Housing Scheme have offered sites for construction.

(b) and (c). The applications for construction of houses are being considered by the respective Coalfield Sub-Committees and after the number of houses to be constructed at each colliery has been settled, the sites offered have to be selected and surveyed. Arrangements for obtaining cement and iron and steel have also to be completed. The Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner is taking steps to expedite these, but much time is not left for actual construction of houses during 1956-57.

Sports Industry

214. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the revival of sports industry of Sialkot; and

(b) the amount so far spent for this purpose?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries. (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) A statement showing the steps taken is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 36].

(b) Grants amounting to Rs. 5,84,373/- and loans amounting to Rs. 62,255/- have been sanctioned by the Government of India in respect of schemes sponsored by various States Governments for the development of the sports goods industry.

Patiala Telephone System

216. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the complaints regarding the Patiala Telephone System; and

(b) if so, the number of complaints investigated and the result thereof?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) In the last six months 16 complaints have been investigated with the following results:—

(i) 9 complaints were due to ignorance on the part of subscribers regarding telephone rules and they have been convinced of the same.

(ii) One complaint of a similar nature as above was withdrawn.

(iii) Five cases were in respect of delay in answering to the subscribers and the officials concerned have been warned in this respect.

(iv) One case was in respect of rudeness to the subscriber. The operator concerned has been taken to task and disciplinary action against him has been initiated.

Labour Disputes from Textile Mills

217. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Labour disputes in Textile Mills which have occurred so far during the current year; and

(b) the action taken by Government and the total number of disputes settled so far?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b). From 1st January to 31st August 1956, there were 179 strikes or lockouts in the textile industry in the former Part 'A' States, Delhi and Ajmer. Industrial disputes in the textile industry fall within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Information is not available as to the total number of disputes (including those not resulting in strikes or lockouts) in the industry, the action taken by the appropriate State Government in respect of them, or the number of disputes settled by the intervention of the appropriate State Government.

Rehabilitation Issues between India and Pakistan

218. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha showing the number and nature of rehabilitation issues between India and Pakistan which have not been settled so far?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): There are two major rehabilitation issues between India and Pakistan *vis.*, one relating to evacuee movable property and the other relating to evacuee immovable property. And Agreement has already been reached between the two countries on movable property and

it is in the process of implementation. No settlement has yet been reached in respect of the immovable property issue.

Holy Shrines in India and Pakistan

219. Shri Kamath: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to refer to the statement laid on the Table by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs on the 12th September, 1956 in reply to a supplementary question on Starred Question No. 1316 on the 10th April 1956 and state:

(a) the expenditure incurred by Government every year since April 1952 in connection with the preservation and upkeep of Muslim Shrines in India;

(b) whether the matter of taking similar care of Hindu and Sikh shrines and holy places in Pakistan has been taken up at any time and at any level with the Pakistan Government; and

(c) if so, Pakistan's reaction and attitude thereto?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Reports have been called for from the State Governments.

(b) and (c). The question is likely to be taken up at the meeting of the Indo-Pakistan Joint Committee on Shrines early in 1957.

C.P.W.D.

220. Shri Achalu: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Divisions under the First and Second Circles, Central Public Works Department, New Delhi on the 1st April, 1956 and 1st October, 1956, separately;

(b) the sub-divisions under each Division;

(c) the number of work-charged staff under each section of every sub-division according to each category of post on those dates; and

(d) the average number of workers employed daily on Muster Roll in every month of the year 1956 in each section?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). Two statements furnishing the information are placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 37].

(c) and (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Work-charged Pool in C.P.W.D.

221. Shri Achalu: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allotment of quarters in work-charged pool in Central Public Works Department is made by the Divisional Offices; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to consolidate the pool and for allotment of these quarters being made by one office for all work-charged staff of different Divisions in Delhi?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

Coal Production

222. Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) what was the approximate fall in the production of coal due to the strike in the coal mines during September-October, 1956; and

(b) what percentage of collieries were affected by the strike?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The fall in production due to the prolonged strike in the Raniganj fields during September-October, 1956, was about 3½ lakh tons. There were certain other strikes of very short duration in seven collieries in September and October; information regarding the fall in production in their case is not available. It would have been negligible.

(b) The number of collieries affected in the Raniganj field was 2.8% of the total number of collieries in all fields in the country and these collieries account for about 10% of all India production of coal. Including the strikes in the 7 other collieries, the percentage will be 3.6.

Grants for School Buildings

223. Shri Gidwani: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any representation from the management of some of the disrupted schools in Bombay and Madhya Pradesh States that they have not received the grants sanctioned for construction of their school buildings; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes.

(b) *Bombay*—The institutions could not fulfil the conditions to receive payment. On State Government's recommendations the conditions have since been relaxed, enabling the State Government to release the grants.

Madhya Pradesh—The institutions could not fulfil the conditions and the State Government did not draw the amount in time. The grant will be sanctioned again this year, if the State Government recommends.

Thread-making Factory

224. Shri Velayudhan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sewing thread-making Factory in Travancore-Cochin has been given any loan or any other facility by the State or the Central Government;

(b) how many workers are employed in the factory;

(c) how many managerial staff members are employed there; and

(d) of these, how many are Indians and how many non-Indians?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The Government of India have not given any loan to any sewing thread-making factory in Travancore-Cochin. However, a factory has been granted in July-December, 1956, an *ad hoc* licence for import of cotton thread in hanks with actual user conditions, subject to the condition that an equivalent amount be deducted from the quota licence due to their sister concern. The Government of India have no information if any facility, financial or otherwise, has been given to any sewing thread-making factory in Travancore-Cochin by the State Government.

(b) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Coir Co-operative Societies

225. Shri Velayudhan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) how much money has been granted as a loan to the Coir Co-operative Societies during the current financial year; and

(b) how much money has been actually distributed till date?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). Rs. 54,89,500 till the end of March, 1956.

Atomic Energy Department, Bombay

226. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the main activities of the Department of Atomic Energy at Bombay during 1956?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 38].

Iron Ore Mines

227. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents which occurred in iron mines in India during the years 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1956;

(b) the number of lives lost therein; and

(c) the amount of compensation paid to the families of the deceased?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khadubhai Desai): (a) and (b).—

	No. of accidents		No. of
	Fatal	Serious	lives lost
1953	4	84	4
1954	9	76	9
1955	4	72	4
1956 (upto 31-10-56).	2	58	2

(c) Information is not readily available.

Labourers in Coal Mines, Bihar

228. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the number of labourers working in the coal mines in Bihar at present;

(b) the daily wages paid to them;

(c) the average number of days in a year they are at work; and

(d) the provision regarding their Provident Fund and holiday on Sunday?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khadubhai Desai): (a) About 1,79,825 during 1955 which is the latest information available.

(b) Average daily earnings during August 1956 for the Jharia Coalfields which has been taken as representative Coalfields for Bihar are as below:—

	Rs. As. Ps.
Underground	
Miners & Loaders	3 6 8
Others	3 1 0
Open Workings	
Miners & Loaders	2 12 0
Others	2 8 11
Women	2 1 7
Surface	
Men	2 13 5
Women	2 2 6

(c) Information is not available.

(d) As regards Provident Fund, Workers get the benefit in accordance with the provisions contained in the Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme, 1948. They get weekly day of rest in accordance with the provisions of the Mines Act.

नई दिल्ली की सड़कें

२२६. डा० राम सुभग सिंह : क्या निर्माण, आवास और सम्भरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चाणक्ष्यपुरी (डिप्लोमैटिक एनक्लेव), नई दिल्ली में सड़कों को हिन्दी नाम गलत ढंग से लिखे गये हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि “न्याय मार्ग” को “नया मार्ग” और “कौटिल्य मार्ग” को “कौटलिया मार्ग” लिखा गया है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार द्वारा इन गलतियों को दूर करने के लिए क्या कार्य-वाही की गई है?

निर्माण, आवास और सम्भरण मंत्री के सभा सचिव (श्री ए० शे० नास्कर) : (क) से (ग) : जी जनाब, हिन्दी में इन नामों को गलत ढंग से लिखा गया था परन्तु इन गलतियों को ठीक कर दिया गया है।

Handloom Weavers

230. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the quality of coarse, medium and fine yarn consumed in Punjab by the handloom weavers in the years 1951-52 to 1955-56;

(b) the total amount paid for these yarns; and

(c) the subsidy, if any, actually given by the State or the Central Government for buying yarn in these years?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). Presumably the hon. Member wants information about quantity. No definite information is available. Statement giving an approximate idea about availability of yarn to the weavers in Punjab State and its value is, however, laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 39].

(c) No subsidy has been paid.

Handloom Weavers

231. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handloom weavers in the Punjab State ;

(b) the number amongst them who got full employment in 1955-56;

(c) the number of handlooms and the percentage of looms working in the above year; and

(d) the estimated total earnings of the handloom workers of this State in each of the years of the First Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) About 46,400.

(b) and (d). Information is not available.

(c) The number of looms in the State of Punjab prior to reorganisation was 46,375. Information regarding the number of looms actually working is not available.

Cartoon Films

232. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the progress made so far in the shooting of cartoon films in India?

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar): Attention is invited to answer to Starred Question No. 1337 in the Lok Sabha on 23rd August 1956. Since then the Unit has made preliminary sketches on the first cartoon film on their Jataka story called "Banyan Deer".

Electric Fan Factories

233. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state the number of electric fan factories expected to be opened in India (State-wise) in the near future, in addition to the existing units?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): Government have received no proposal to set up new factories in the near future for the manufacture of electric fans.

Newsreels and Documentaries

234. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of newsreels distributed to the cinemas in foreign countries during 1955; and

(b) the conditions imposed, if any?

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar): (a) 49.

(b) The business organisation which undertakes the distribution in the country concerned pays royalty or hire in addition to the cost of print and bears all incidental charges such as freight, customs duty etc. An undertaking is given that subject to Censorship Regulations no alterations are to be made either in the picture or in the commentary.

Displaced Persons in Punjab

235. Shri D. O. Sharma: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by the Government of India for loans and aids for displaced persons in the Punjab during 1955-56;

(b) whether any sum has been earmarked for respective districts of the Punjab; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the tempo of rehabilitation?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Rs. 99.59 lakhs; Rs. 97.43 lakhs as 'GRANT' and Rs. 2.16 lakhs as 'LOANS'.

(b) Allocations are made State-wise. Internal distribution is the concern of the State Governments.

(c) No special steps to increase the tempo of rehabilitation were considered to be necessary.

मधु-मक्खी पालन

२३६. श्री भक्त वर्मान : क्या उत्पादन मंत्री ६ अगस्त, १९५६ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ७७८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि काश्मीर, उत्तर प्रदेश, पश्चिमी बंगाल और घासाम के हिमालीय क्षेत्रों में मधु-मक्खी पालन केन्द्र और शाखा-केन्द्र स्थापित करने तथा उस काम को और आगे बढ़ाने की दिशा में इस बीच और क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

उत्पादन मंत्री (श्री क० च० रेड्डी): काश्मीर में तराल, लूरगामा तथा जुनमोह के स्थानों पर ३ उत्पादन केन्द्र स्थापित किए गए हैं। अन्य ३ राज्यों में कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है।

Movable Property of Displaced Persons

**237. { Shri Gidwani:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have asked Pakistan Government to exchange all outstanding statements relating to securities, debentures, insurance policies, court deposits, postal parcels, movable property of Joint Stock Companies and household and personal goods left by non-Muslims in West Pakistan and Muslims in India before partition;

(b) whether it is a fact that so far no lists relating to lockers, safe deposits and articles detained by Customs authorities, have been exchanged by the two countries;

(c) whether any reply has been received from Pakistan Government; and

(d) if so, what is the nature of the reply?

The Minister of Rehabilitation
(Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

प्रधान मंत्री सहायता कोष

२३८. { श्री अमर सिंह डामर :
श्री नवल प्रभाकर :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) चालू वर्ष में प्रधान मंत्री सहायता कोष से कितनी-कितनी रकम किन-किन राज्यों को किन-किन कार्यों के लिए दी गई; और

(ख) कितनी रकम अभी कोष में जमा है ?

वैदेशिक-कार्य उपमंत्री (श्री अनिल कुं. चन्दा): (क) और (ख). सदन की मेज पर विवरण रख दिया गया है। [बेल्जिये परिशिष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ४०]।

Handloom Weavers

239. **Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of handloom weavers' Co-operative Societies which have been provided with loans for working capital during 1956 so far; and

(b) the total amount actually disbursed on this account ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Working capital loans are provided for looms and not for weavers. The numbers of looms for which working capital loans have been sanctioned are 502,438 as on 30th September, 1956.

(b) Total amount sanctioned till 30th September, 1956, was Rs. 6,07,17,100/- and the total amount disbursed by the States as on 30-9-1956 was Rs. 4,19,78,751/-.

Evacuee Property

240. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether any conference of Indian and Pakistani officers has been held regarding the valuation of the evacuee property in both the countries ?

The Minister of Rehabilitation
(Shri Mehr Chahd Khanna): No.

Sports Goods

241. { **Sardar Iqbal Singh:**
Sardar Akarpuri:

Will the Minister of **Commerce and Consumer Industries** be pleased to state the total number of small scale industry units working at different places in various States for the manufacture of sports goods ?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries (Shri Morarji Desai): There are altogether 283 units engaged in the manufacture of sports goods.

[Thursday, 22nd November, 1956]

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 22nd November, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12 HRS.

ABDUCTED PERSONS (RECOVERY AND RESTORATION) CONTINUANCE BILL

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Sardar Swaran Singh on the 21st November, 1956, namely:

"That the Bill to continue the Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act, 1949, for a further period be taken into consideration."

I think the hon. Minister was in possession of the House when a point of order was raised. I have received an intimation from the hon. Minister conveying the following recommendation from the President:

"Dear Sir,

The President having been informed of the subject matter of the proposed Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Continuance Bill, 1956, recommends to the Lok Sabha the consideration of the Bill."

I think whatever lacuna there might have been has now been removed.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): What is the date?

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Mr. Speaker: It is dated the 22nd November, 1956. Even a minute earlier is enough.

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor): The point is this. Yesterday when the Bill was being moved for consideration, at that time this certificate was not there. It is only dated 22nd November. Even if it is a minute earlier today, it was not even a minute or second earlier yesterday. Therefore, the proceedings that took place yesterday may be either ordered to be expunged or this must be restarted today. (Interruption).

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank the hon. Member from Rajasthan for pointing out this thing that has enabled us to rectify this mistake. So far as the provisions of the Constitution contained in article 117, sub-clause (3) are concerned, they are quite clear. The recommendation of the President has to be there before passing the Bill. Sub-clause (3) of article 117 reads:

"A Bill which, if enacted and brought into operation, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India shall not be passed by either House of Parliament unless the President has recommended to that House the consideration of the Bill."

Thus, the recommendation of the President having been obtained at a very early stage, when the motion has just been moved for consideration of the Bill, the compliance with the provisions of sub-clause (3) of article 117 is obvious. But I must apologise to the House for not having obtained

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this recommendation at an earlier stage. If this is any defence, I may point out, Sir, that on an earlier occasion when the Bill came before this House practically in this very form this point had not been raised. I am not mentioning this as a defence for not obtaining the recommendation on this occasion, but only as an explanation of this occasion, but only as an explanation of the lapse on our part. But now the recommendation having been obtained, I submit that the point which had been raised by the hon. Member from Rajasthan has been accepted by Government and we have produced the necessary recommendation.

With regard to the merits of the Bill, I do not want to take much of the time of the hon. House. But there are one or two points about which I would draw the attention of the hon. House. As I mentioned yesterday, the Government have circularised for the information of hon. Members certain information in the form of a small printed brochure. Figures have been given there in various tables which indicate the functioning of this organisation.

There is one aspect about which the House has been showing considerable interest from time to time, to which I might briefly refer. There was, at one time, a considerable volume of criticism on this ground that women were being recovered and they were sent across to Pakistan without taking into consideration the wishes of the women concerned. On the last occasion I reported to the Parliament that the wishes of the women concerned, after they had remained in camps and had opportunities to meet their relations, were the deciding factor in the matter of their future. If the person concerned expressed a desire to go over to Pakistan, the arrangements are there to send her across to Pakistan. If, after meeting the relatives or after staying in the camp and after giving mature thought about her future, she wants to be released in India, she is accordingly released and

she is not sent across to Pakistan against her wishes.

At this stage I might briefly point out one or two figures which will indicate that this is not only an abstract provision but something which has been very much acted upon. During the year 1954, as many as 2089 persons were recovered. Out of them, 1277 were transferred to and restored in Pakistan and a fairly large number, that is, 812 were actually restored or released in India. But the number of persons who were actually released in India was considerably smaller than the number that was transferred to and restored in Pakistan.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Kapurthala-Bhatinda): Were they released to their Muslim relations living here or to the Hindu abductors or people with whom they were living?

Sardar Swaran Singh: So far as persons released in India are concerned, the figure covers both the categories. If the hon. Member has a look at certain other tables given in the brochure, these figures are also given later on.

Kumari Annie Mascarene (Trivandrum): Is it a fact....

Mr. Speaker: Let the questions be reserved for the end. hon. Members may kindly note down their questions and put them at the end.

Sardar Swaran Singh: During the year 1955, 1244 persons were recovered, out of which 695 went over to Pakistan whereas 549 were released in India. The number released in India was slightly smaller but the percentage was higher as compared to the earlier year. That is quite in consonance with the natural circumstances. As time passes on the percentage of those who want to remain in India is comparatively higher as compared to the smaller percentage for an earlier year. I am giving these figures, Sir, from page 8 of this small pamphlet. For the nine months from 1st January, 1956 to 30th September, 1956, as many as 781 persons were recovered,

out of which 485 were released in India as against 296 that were sent across to Pakistan. This indicates that the number of persons released in India, in accordance with the wishes expressed by those persons, was considerably larger than that sent across to Pakistan. I am citing these figures only to point out that these figures, when analysed, will show that the objections, namely, that there may be an agreement that the wishes of the persons concerned are ascertained but that probably no action was taken on that,—such an argument—does not hold good at all.

A point may perhaps be urged that if the number of persons that are actually released in India as a result of the expression of their desire is larger, compared to those who want to go across, then, a stage has come when we may entirely close this work and leave the people to their own fate. There is some strength in that point, but in the balance, no considerable hardship is caused if the ultimate course of action to be adopted is dependent upon the will of the individual concerned. There may be some element of hardship in the sense that people have to be recovered, have to be kept in camps for sometime and then they have to meet relations before they are actually released in India. But in the background of the tragic circumstances in which most of these abductions took place, it is very difficult to say really, with any great certainty and with any great confidence, that those persons have not got a very strong claim on society; could they not be provided by the society with some mechanism under which they may in a calm atmosphere, divorced from the emotional compulsion and stress to which they have been subject, be able to think calmly about their future? That is the rationale or the moral behind the provisions and the implementation of this Act. Those persons, against their wishes at that time, had to put up with all the difficulties. Some of them may have reconciled themselves to the new situation and some of them

may not be wanting to go. There may be some small percentage of them. In this particular case, that percentage is not by any means small. If 296 persons as against 485 want to go over to the other side after breathing that atmosphere which is divorced from fear or duress, we cannot say that this is by any means a small percentage.

Therefore, this is really an effort to provide some arrangement for enabling these unfortunate victims to think out clearly for themselves about their future after meeting their relations. If, after meeting those relations, they say that they want to go across, their wishes are respected. If they say that they would like to be released in India, then they would be released in India.

I referred briefly yesterday to the Indo-Pakistan conference that took place in July last. In that conference certain conclusions were arrived at and a determination was expressed by both Governments to go ahead with the work and to make efforts for affording these facilities to as large a number of persons as possible and as may be in need of this help. It is true that so far as our country is concerned, there is, as all the hon. Members know, a very large number of our Muslim brethren who are living in this country as citizen on terms of equality with any other citizen. There are cases, therefore, where releases of Muslim women took place, after recovery and restoration, to the Muslim relations in India itself. Even that aspect, I respectfully submit, is a healthy aspect, and there need not be any objection on that score. Whether the restoration takes place to relations in Pakistan or to the relations in India, so long as the guiding principle is the wish of the person concerned, expressed after calm consideration about the future, I would be satisfied that this is the right course that is being adopted.

In the printed pamphlet, separate figures have been given with regard to the restoration to the Muslim relations in India and restoration to the

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

so-called abductors in India. But the percentage of those who are restored to Muslim relations in India is comparatively smaller, compared to the other figure. For instance, this is mentioned at page 10 of the pamphlet. Clause (b) gives the figures relating to those restored to relations in India as relations of nearer degree were available in India. The total, when compared to the total restoration which I have already given, will indicate that this is a fairly small percentage. Therefore, I submit that the Act has been implemented in the spirit and according to the wishes expressed by various sections of the House.

Before concluding, I would like to pay a tribute to the workers, non-officials as well as officials, who have been doing this work in an atmosphere which is sometimes highly critical, and sometimes they have had to meet with a considerable volume of criticism. But the work being essentially humanitarian in character, they have persevered in this work and I feel that they have made a good job of it.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Is it a fact that the women who have been sent to Pakistan and the women who had been restored to India are none the wiser for their security, and is the Government aware that those who are left there stranded are none the wiser for their transportation and they are struggling for their life? That is my first question.

My second question is this. Is it not an attempt on the part of the Government to keep up a camouflage of protection and is it not the temper of the Government to keep up a high tension of communalism between Pakistan and India?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think that the two points that have been mentioned by the hon. lady Member are such that the presumptions behind those points are of a nature which I am unable to subscribe to. So far as the fate of those unfortunate women, after restoration in India or in

Pakistan is concerned, I can say with a certain amount of confidence that, so far as our own country is concerned, our society has shown a remarkable capacity to assimilate these women. There were very grave doubts expressed at earlier stages that these women who have been brought, for instance, from Pakistan, after recovery, will find it extremely difficult to find a good future amongst the non-Muslim families here in India. But all these fears were belied. Our society welcomed all these persons with open arms. The relations to whom they were restored were very happy; the girls also by and large, a very large percentage of them, are generally happy. Everyone recognises that for no fault of theirs, these unfortunate people had to go through this period of agony and suffering and if, after restoration, they can live afresh in a better atmosphere, the people have generally welcomed it. I may also say that requests from the relations of those unfortunate women who are even at the moment stranded in Pakistan continue to pour in. On many occasions, several Members of this House have been asking for the recovery of these persons, which obviously indicates that there is a very strong desire for recovering them. If the attitude were one of hostility, these requests would not have come.

The other point mentioned is whether the continuance of this work creates any atmosphere of tension between the two countries. I can say that this is a measure which has been implemented by the two Governments with verying success. Sometimes the plea has been taken by the Pakistan Government that they do not have enough co-operation from the people. The Pakistan public has been criticising that India is not doing enough and our people have been criticising that the Pakistan Government is not doing enough. The figures are there; it is for anybody to judge as to what has been done. Of course, there can be a difference of view-point and a

difference of stress as to whether they have done better or we have done better. But, to say that there has been any acrimony or any tension on this score is a proposition to which I cannot subscribe.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether these recoveries of abducted persons from Pakistan include abductions from Jammu and Kashmir as well or whether they are restricted to Pakistan alone.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Recoveries from Pakistan do include recoveries from Pakistan-occupied portion of Jammu and Kashmir.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan (Dindigul): Every year this Bill is being brought forward for one year's extension. If so many requests are still coming, is it not better that instead of extending the Act year by year, we extend it for two or three years, so that every year the time of the House may not be taken up?

Sardar Swaran Singh: A very pertinent question has been put forward by the hon. Lady Member. All that I can say is that we have been hoping all these years that this was an emergency measure and if a serious effect was made, the work could have been finished and the emergency would come to an end. All that I can say is that our expectations have been belied and we have been compelled from time to time to come to this House and take up a considerable time of this august House. But, I may also add that this discussion has been useful, because it throws up new angles and the Government has been greatly benefited by the observations that have fallen from the lips of hon. Members here. We have been guided by the various points that are urged in our negotiations with Pakistan or in the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know what is the length of the emergency period? How long will this emergency continue?

Mr. Speaker: They are not able to decide it and so they are carrying on from year to year.

Sardar Swaran Singh: At the moment we are asking for an extension of one year.

Shrimati Sushama Sen (Bhagalpur South): The hon. Minister said just now that the women are very anxious to come. If the women are anxious to come, why should this work be prolonged? Where is the difficulty?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may note down all the questions and many more that may come later on. He may reply to all these questions in the end once and for all.

श्रीमती कमलेश्वरिणी झाह (जिला गढ़वाल-पश्चिम व जिला टिहरी गढ़वाल व जिला बिजनौर-उत्तर) टिब्यूनल्स (न्याय-विभागों) के पर्सनल (सदस्यों) की बार बार मांग किये जानें पर भी, क्या यह सच है कि पुलिस के अधिकारी नहीं बदले गए हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ क्या यह भी सच है कि जो महिला सलाहकार है उसकी भी सलाह नहीं ली जाती है और उसको फैसला देने और बदलने का भी अधिकार नहीं है जिससे बड़ी गड़बड़ी पैदा हो गई है। क्या यह महसूस नहीं किया गया है कि यह अधिकार उसके हाथ में देना परम आवश्यक है।

Pandit Fotedar (Jammu and Kashmir): Just now the hon. Minister has been pleased to observe that the Pakistan-occupied area of Jammu and Kashmir is included in the programme for the recovery of abducted women and children. May I know how many abducted women and children have been recovered so far from that area and restored to India and whether there any difficulties coming in the way of the Government of India in implementing this recovery programme there? My information is that nothing substantial is being done, because the Pakistan authorities there do not allow the Government of India to operate and recover abducted women and children?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may reply at the end.

[Mr. Speaker]

I will presently place the motion before the House. After the President's recommendation has been received, it has brought about some complications also. It has been brought to my notice by the office that under rule 87,

"A Bill involving expenditure shall be accompanied by a financial memorandum which shall invite particular attention to the clauses involving expenditure and shall also give an estimate of the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved in case the Bill is passed into law."

Has the hon. Minister got that memorandum?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, Sir, I was aware of this thing and that is why I have got a memorandum ready. I had the intention to read it out, but then I thought I could place it on the Table.

Mr. Speaker: If it is immediately submitted, I will ask copies of it to be taken and sent around as early as possible. He may read it out if it is a short memorandum.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes; I will read it out.

A sum of Rs. 7,46,900 has been sanctioned as Budget provision for 1956-57 (nine months) up to 30th November, 1956, under Demand No. 22-External Affairs-K-8-Special Expenditure in connection with the recovery of abducted women and children. The details of this amount are as follows:—

Recurring:

	Rs.
1. Pay of Staff including police ..	5,71,800
2. Other charges including camps ..	1,75,100

On the above basis the expenditure for one more year would amount to

Rs. 9,49,800, as per details below:—

	Rs.
1. Pay of staff including Police ..	7,47,800
2. Other charges including camps ..	2,02,000
TOTAL ..	9,49,800

A reduction of Rs. 3,65,400 is proposed to be made in the 12 months' budget from 1st December, 1956, to 30th November, 1957.

The expenditure during the period of extension (December 1, 1956 to November 30, 1957) is likely to be Rs. 5,84,400.

Sir, I may add that during this period our effort will be to wind up the work even earlier, if we find that the work has now reached a stage when it need not be carried on further.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to continue the Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act, 1949, for a further period be taken into consideration."

Sardar Hukam Singh: Mr. Speaker, I have not got very much to say so far as this Bill is concerned. I am in agreement with the Objects and Reasons of the Bill. We are told that this is a humanitarian business and it is being carried on with that object. We have to renew it again and again and Pakistan has wanted it should be made a permanent measure. It is very good on its part, but if that wish had been accompanied by actual practice also, certainly that was worth consideration. If the work is humanitarian, certainly, we ought to carry it on with all our zeal and earnestness. I am one of those who would certainly support the continuance of the Bill so long as we believe that there is one abducted person in our land and that abducted person is willing to go away out of his or her own consent and free will. If this is assured nobody shall have any objection to the continuance of this Bill.

It has been argued that the figures have been given and the hon. Minister has said that everyone can draw his own conclusions. I expect the hon. Minister would give us the Government's point of view whether it is satisfied certainly with the work carried on on that side. Peoples' views will always differ, but what is the Government's reactions to the work on that side? Perhaps the work carried on on the other side is not satisfactory as compared with the zeal that we are showing here; I do not mean to say that the slow process of recovery in Pakistan should influence our pace but we should carry on with as much zeal and earnestness and sincerity as we can gather. We have to satisfy ourselves whether the pace in our land is certainly an indication of the fact that we have a larger number of abducted persons here and whether we are putting any pressure on those men and women or any force is being exerted, so that they may be pushed away to that side. This is a question that should be decided. If we are satisfied that no pressure is being exerted, then it does not matter whether Pakistan recovers any man or woman, but we must carry on this business because it is humanitarian.

It has been argued also by a comparison of figures, we have been told that the number of persons released or restored in India now bears a larger proportion to the number who are prepared to go to Pakistan and that shows that they are exercising their free will and a larger number is now ready to stay in India when they are recovered.

Out of 4,036 during the period—that is the assessment—there are 1,846 that have been released or restored in India. When I put that question, I was told that this includes those restored to their Muslim relations here and those that were restored to non-Muslims abductors, we might say—and I find in the second table it is put down that the released who were not willing to go to Pakistan is 293 children and 216

adults and that means 500 in all. But the number that has been given by the hon. Minister in the earlier table is 1,846. It is very difficult to appreciate what the other number would be because the number who refused is only 500. What is the number of persons who did not refuse to go to Pakistan and yet were released to their Indian relations here, is not clear. I do not know. I do not know what it means then and if those figures are correct, i.e., 293 and 216 (totalling about 500) and they refused to go to Pakistan out of 4,036 recovered, then one really wonders if the number is getting larger or becoming less.

I have only a few observations to make about the Muslim Base Camp in Jullundur. We are told here that the procedure adopted is that the person after recovery is sent to a Central Camp and if she is willing, there is no dispute and then she is taken away to that side, but if she is not willing to go to Pakistan then there is the Muslim Base Camp. I want to know constitution of that camp about the inmates that are living there; what environment is created for those abducted persons to exercise their free will. I cannot vouchsafe for all the facts that I have learnt but I must convey to the hon. Minister that what is happening in that camp is certainly appalling. How those abducted persons pass their time there and what pressures they are put under, what stresses are on them and how they form their opinions are those which matters most. I was told that even the guards are Muslims, that all inmates inside the camp are Muslims and a girl or boy there will not find any chance to meet any non-Muslim there. In that Muslim Base Camp all the environments that are created are that of Pakistan and the poor unfortunate victim has no option, but to agree to go to Pakistan when she has to remain in that camp even for a short period. If we had known rather more details about that camp, perhaps we would have been able to judge really whether those who are going there are exercising their free

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

will, in fact, or it is only a camouflage, I should say.

Certain very serious allegations have been made when I went to Jullundur. Some were of such a nature that I am not in a position to reveal them even. It would not be good for me. If the hon. Minister wanted, I could convey to him. The pressures that are exerted there are of such a nature that one would be ashamed of even to disclose them. I should ask the hon. Minister to make an enquiry whether really the atmosphere in that base camp is such that these ladies have, even then, any freedom to exercise their free will.

One thing that I would like to know is this. We have been told that there is an identical procedure in Pakistan. That is very good. If the constitution of that camp is known to our Government, the Members of Parliament must also be told whether such an atmosphere exists in that camp also, and whether all the inmates who have to be round about the abducted girl are really Indians or, as has been said in this brochure, occasionally some Indian welfare worker goes there and sees the unfortunate victim. Information on these points should be supplied to the Members so that they may be able to decide whether these victims are left with any freedom to exercise their choice as they want to do.

It would have been better if it was possible to tell the Members how many of the recovered persons or what proportion of those recovered in Pakistan in the last 3 years belonged to those areas of Jammu and Kashmir which are occupied and what are the other areas of Jammu and Kashmir from where a large number of persons have been abducted. If this break-up were given, we would be able to know whether really any attempt has been made on the part of Pakistan to restore any of those who had been abducted from India earlier. It is very difficult to assess the extent of the problem.

that the Committee that was appointed of high-powered officials, failed to arrive at a decision. But, after ten years, when they have reconciled themselves to the new circumstances, and these boys and girls are living with the relations that they have adopted, it should not be an easy matter to take them out from those families and send them away.

In 1954, I had brought to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister the case of a man Veer Singh who had reported to the authorities that he had ample proof that the girl that was with him was really a married woman who had married him two years earlier than the Partition. He was asked to bring his documents. He ran to his house to bring the documents. But, before he arrived at Jullundur, the girl was sent away to Pakistan. Then, he was told that it was only a temporary thing and that she could be called back if he produced all the documents. After two years of struggle, now, he is told that nothing can be done because the girl had been sent away.

Mr. Speaker: May I suggest to the Deputy-Speaker that he can resume his speech in the third reading?

Sardar Hukam Singh: All I have to say is that we must feel assured that no pressure is being exerted and that they act out of their free will. If we had been given some indication of the judicial cases that have been decided on this point—certain cases have been taken to the courts—that would have indicated the proportion of those who were going of their own free will and the proportion that was being sent even against their will.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]
12.45 HRS.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू (जिला सीतापुर
व जिला खेरी पश्चिम) : हम देख
रहे हैं कि कई सालों से यह रिकवरी
बिल बार बार हमारे सामने आता है।
श्री मिनिस्टर साहब ने हमको इसका
इतिहास बतलाया और मैं उस से भी
ज्यादा इसका इतिहास जानती हूँ।
दोनों हिन्दुओं और मुसलमानों को इस
सवाल पर अभी तक नाराजगी और गुस्सा

है और वह जा भी है। लेकिन हमारे सामने बड़ा भारी सवाल यह है कि क्या हम इस काम को बन्द कर दें। क्या समय आ गया है कि इस काम को बन्द कर दिया जाये या हम इस काम को उस वक्त तक जारी रखें जब तक कि हमारी एक भी लड़की उधर है या उनकी एक भी लड़की इधर है और जब तक कि हम उसको उसकी जगह पर नहीं पहुँचा देते। यह असल सवाल आज हमारे सामने है। जैसा कि मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा यह वास्तव में इयूमैनीटेरियन (मानव कल्याण) काम है और जो लोग इस तरह का काम करते हैं उनके सामने सालों का सवाल नहीं आता, समय का सवाल उनके सामने नहीं आता कि साहब इतने सालों से हम यह काम कर रहे हैं। इयूमैनीटेरियन काम तो जन्म भर का होता है।

अभी डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब ने जो बातें अपने व्याख्यान में कही हैं उनमें कई बातें सही हैं और कई बातें बढ़ाई हुई भी हैं और दोनों तरफ बढ़ाई हुई हैं, और हमने कई गलतियाँ भी की हैं। जो लोग इस काम को करते थे उनसे जोश में कुछ गलतियाँ भी हुई हैं। ये सब बातें हैं लेकिन इस समय हम को उन पिछली बातों को नहीं सोचना है। इस वक्त तो हमारे सामने सवाल यह है कि इस काम को आगे जारी रखना है या नहीं।

हमारी बहिन अम्मू स्वामीनाथन् ने कहा कि अच्छा होता कि हम इसको साल साल न रखते। साल साल भर बाद हम इसको इस लिये रखते हैं कि हमको जल्दी से छुट्टी मिल जाय और सब चीजें ठीक हो जायें। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब को तो अपना और भी बहुत सा काम रहता है। मैं तो समझती हूँ कि यह मुनासिब होता कि सोशल-वेलफेयर (समाज कल्याण) वाले इस काम को ले लेते क्योंकि उनमें स्त्रियाँ भी हैं, जो कि इन बातों को ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से समझती हैं।

इसके अलावा मैं यह भी चाहती हूँ कि मिनिस्टर साहब सोचें कि अगर यह

काम साल भर बाद खत्म नहीं होता तो क्या इसको मुस्तकिल तरीके से रखा जाये। अगर ऐसा हो तो हम इस इयूमैनीटेरियन काम को पूरा कर सकेंगे।

अब मुझे मिनिस्टर साहब से दो एक बातें और कहनी हैं। मुझे मालूम भी है और मुझ से कहा भी गया है कि आपने जो ट्राइब्युनल (न्यायाधिकरण) बनाया है उससे लोग बहुत खुश नहीं हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि उसमें जो अफसरान हैं उनमें पुलिस के लोग हैं। पुलिस से मुझे कुछ चिड़ नहीं है क्योंकि पुलिस भी अपनी है लेकिन अभी तक पुलिस वालों को इस तरह के इयूमैनीटेरियन काम की शिक्षा नहीं दी गई है। इस तरह का काम करने के लिये उनको दूसरे तरीके से सिखाना होगा। मुझे कहना यह है कि जो ट्राइब्युनल है वह संतोषजनक नहीं है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि आपने एडवाइजर (सलाहकार) भी एक औरत मुकर्रर की है। मैं आपको बताऊँ कि स्त्री का हृदय पुरुष के हृदय से बिल्कुल दूसरा होता है। स्त्री के हृदय में नम्रता होती है लेकिन सख्ती भी होती है। स्त्री अपने हृदय में दूसरी स्त्री की बात समझती है। लेकिन जिस वक्त कि आपके पुलिस के अफसर फैसला देते हैं जो एडवाइजर ठीक न समझे तब भी उसको मानना पड़ता है। उनके मुकाबले में एडवाइजर का जोर न हो, तो मैं समझती हूँ कि अन्याय होता है और इन्साफ नहीं होता। इसलिये मैं चाहती हूँ कि आप के ट्राइब्युनल में औरतें रखी जायें।

मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से यह भी कहना चाहती हूँ कि वे इस बात पर भी विचार करें कि इसमें काम करने वाले सोशल वर्कर्स (सामाजिक कार्यकर्ताओं) को एक कमेटी होनी चाहिये जिनको कि तनख्वाह न मिलती हो नर्कर (कर्मचारी) ऐसे हों जो कि इस काम को दिलो जान से करें।

[श्रीमती उमा-नेहरू]

यह दो एक चीजें मैं आपके सामने रख रही हूँ। मैं अपनी बहिनों, भाइयों और मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूँगी कि असल में बात यह है कि यह हियुमैनीटेरियन काम जिसको कि आप सरकारी मुलाजिमों से और खास तौर से पुलिस के जरिए कराते हैं तो आपको यह समझ लेना चाहिए कि मशीन की तरह यह काम नहीं हो सकता है और जब तक कि लोगों के दिलों में इस काम की ठीक से करने की लगन नहीं होगी और उनमें ग्रंटरस्टैंडिंग (समझदारी) और इमैजिनेशन (भावना) नहीं होगा तब तक यह हियुमैनीटेरियन काम उनसे ठीक तरह होने वाला नहीं है।

मैं इस बिल से पूरी तरह सहमत हूँ और मैं चाहती हूँ कि इसकी जिन्दगी साल भर के लिए बढ़ जाये लेकिन मुझे पूरी उम्मीद है कि जिन्दगी जब इसकी बढ़ेगी तो हमारी दृष्टि दूसरी होगी और निगाह दूसरी होगी।

एक बात मुझे अपने कैम्पों (शिविरों) के सम्बन्ध में आपसे निवेदन करनी है और वह यह है कि उन कैम्पों में जो सिपाही हैं व मुसलमान और अन्दर जो आदमी हैं वह भी मुसलमान, अन्दर बाहर सब मुसलमान आदमी रखे। हुए हैं, ऐसा हमको नहीं करना है अब अगर हमें अपनी उन लड़कियों को चाहे व हिन्दू हों अथवा मुसलमान, उनको अगर गलत चीजों से महफूज रखना है तो हमें चाहिए वहाँ पर हम हिन्दू रखें। मुझे तो यह देख कर शर्म आती है कि मुसलमान लड़की की रक्षा मुसलमान करता है, हिन्दू नहीं कर सकता है। मैं चाहती हूँ कि ऐसे लोग वहाँ रखे जायें जो कि हिन्दू हों और जो कि हिन्दू और मुसलमान लड़कियों की रक्षा करें और अगर इस तरह से हम कैम्पों को चलायेंगे तो मुझे पूरा यकीन है कि हमको कामयाबी होगी।

इतना कह कर मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से सहमत हूँ कि इसको साल भर के लिए और बढ़ाया जाये लेकिन इसको एक दूसरी निगाह और दृष्टि से देखना चाहिए। अगर हम एक हियुमैनीटेरियन आदर्श को सामने रख कर देखते हैं तो हमको बिल्कुल दूसरी तस्वीर दिखाई देती है।

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada): Before you call the next speaker, may I know the time you are likely to give to this Bill?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No time is fixed. As we proceed we will find out. I propose to give an opportunity to all hon. Members so that they may be satisfied. But I request hon. Members to be brief in their observations.

पंडित कोतदार : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं आपकी आज्ञा से इस बिल पर कुछ अपने विचार पेश करना चाहता हूँ। सब से पहले मैं मिनिस्टर साहब मुताल्लिका (सम्बंधित मंत्री महोदय) को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ उस काम के लिए जो उन्होंने इस सम्बन्ध में किया है और जिससे कि आज हमें यह आशा हो रही है कि यह इदारा (संग्रह) आगे भी चल कर एक कामयाबी का बायस (कारण) बन सकता है। मुझे इस सम्बन्ध में एक दो बातें जनाब की वसातत (जरिये) सदन के सामने रखनी हैं।

एक तो यह कि मिनिस्टर साहब ने अभी अभी सवालात के सिलसिले में फरमाया कि इस बिल का दायरा सम्बा है और हिन्दुस्तान के जितने भी प्रान्त हैं और जिनमें कि जम्मू और काश्मीर भी शामिल है, उन सब पर इसका प्रभाव होगा। हमने देखा कि वह इलाका जम्मू और काश्मीर का जो कि पाकिस्तान के हत्ये बढ़ा है और वे इलाके जिनमें कि पाकिस्तान के कबायली

आये थे, उसके बाद हिन्दुस्तान की फ्रीड जब आई और वे वहां से निकाले गये, मगर उसी दौरान में उन्होंने बहुत सारे बच्चे और औरतों को वहां से ले लिया था और बाक्री इलाका जो उनके हाथ चढ़ा, वहां की औरतों और बच्चों भी अभी तक उनके पास हैं और काफ़ी वर्ष गुजर जाने के बावजूद भी आज तक कोई ठोस काम इस सम्बन्ध में नहीं किया गया है। आज भी काफ़ी तादाद में हमारी जम्मू और काश्मीर की मां बहनें वहां पाकिस्तानी इलाक़ों में पड़ी हुई हैं और उनको वहां से निकालने के लिए कोई उपाय नहीं किया जाता और जिसके कारण एक भजीब ही अवस्था पैदा हो गई है। कहा जाता है कि पाकिस्तान की एयारिटीज़ (अधिकारी) जो कि आज़ाद काश्मीर प्रदेश में हुक्मरां (शासक) हैं वह इसकी इजाज़त नहीं देते और न हिन्दुस्तान की हुक्मत (सरकार) के साथ किसी किस्म की इस सम्बन्ध में गुप्तगू (विचार विमर्श) करने की तैयार हैं। अब ऐसी हालत में वहां पर जो बदकिस्मत बच्चे और औरतें पड़ी हुई हैं उनका कौन वाली वारिस (संरक्षक) होगा और कौन (संरक्षक) रखने वाला होगा। अभी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि जम्मू और काश्मीर भी इस बिल के अन्दर आता है लेकिन जहां तक अमली तौर पर इस बिल को नाफ़िज़ (लागू) करने का ताल्लुक है उस सम्बन्ध में आज तक कुछ भी नहीं किया गया है, अगर किया गया है तो वह नज़ी (नहीं) के बराबर है, ज़यादा कुछ नहीं किया गया है। तो मैं मिनिस्टर साहब मुताल्लिका से बभदब प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं कि इस सम्बन्ध में वह कोई सबील (तरीका) निकालें जिससे कि पाकिस्तान की एयारिटीज़ को इस बात पर लाया जाये कि वह हिन्दुस्तान की हुक्मत के साथ ताव्बुन (सहयोग) करते हुए वहां पर कार्यवाही शुरू करें जिसको कि आज़ाद काश्मीर का इलाका कहा जाता है। मुमकिन है कि कुछ बहनें ऐसी हों जोकि

अब वहां पर सैटिल डाउन (बस गयी) हो गयी हों और जो कि वहां पर घरों में आबाद और खुशहाल हों ऐसी औरतों और बच्चों को जो कि खुशहाल हों और जो कि वापिस न आना चाहते हों उनको यहां आने के लिए मजबूर किया जाय, ऐसी मेरी मंशा नहीं है। लेकिन हमारे पास बहुतेरी मिसालें (उदाहरण) हैं कि वहां पर बहुत सारी हिन्दू औरतें और बच्चे ऐसे पड़े हैं जो कि अपने मुल्क में वापिस आना चाहते हैं, जम्मू और काश्मीर में लौटना चाहते हैं उनके सामने कोई रास्ता ही नहीं है वहां से आने का, क्योंकि हालत यह है कि पाकिस्तान एयारिटीज़ आज़ाद काश्मीर के सम्बन्ध में तैयार नहीं हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान की हुक्मत के साथ कोई ताव्बुन (सहयोग) करें। इस लिए मैं अपने मिनिस्टर साहब से इत्तज़ा (प्रार्थना) करूंगा कि वह इस सम्बन्ध में कोई बात सोचें और कोई हल निकालें ताकि यह मामला ठीक तरह से हल हो जाय।

दूसरी बात यह है कि इस इदारे (संगठन) को हियुमैनीटेरियन (मानव-कल्याण संबंधी) कहा जाता है। यह प्रोग्राम इंसानी ज़खबे (मानवीय भावनाओं) को लेकर बना है और यह इदारा कायम हुआ है। इसके दो पहलू हैं। एक पहलू तो यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान से दूर पाकिस्तान में कुछ बहनें और माताएँ हैं और जो कि अपने मुल्क वापिस जाना चाहती हैं उनके बास्ते कोई रास्ता निकाला जाय क्योंकि ज़ाहिर बात है कि जहां पर उनके रिस्तेदार और भाई लोग हैं और अपना बामुमडल है वहां पर वे जाने की इत्हाशिमंद (इच्छुक) हों। लेकिन यह मुमकिन है कि कुछ ऐसी बहनें और माताएँ भी हो सकती हैं जो कि अपने भाईबंदों से बिछुड़ कर वहां पर खुशहाली की खिन्दी बसर कर रही हों और अपने नये माहोल (बातावरण) में आबाद हो गई हों और उसी में धुलमिल गयी हों और जो लगाव उन्होंने यहाँ अपने घरों में पैदा किया

[पंडित फोतेबार]

या वही दूसरे वातावरण में जाकर भी उन्होंने वहां पर पैदा कर लिया हो, तो ऐसी बहनें चाहे वे हिन्दुस्तान में हों या पाकिस्तान में हों, मुसलमान हों या हिन्दू हों, उन्हें वहां से आने के लिये मजबूर करना मैं समझता हूं हियुमैनीटेरियन प्रिंसीपल्स (मानव कल्याण के सिद्धान्तों) के खिलाफ है और इंसानी जजबे के खिलाफ है और ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए क्योंकि ऐसा होने से बहुत सारी उलझनें पैदा हो जाती हैं और भी क्रिस्म की बातें आ जाती हैं और बड़े एक्सप्लायट्स (शोषक) बीच में आ जाते हैं जो कि इस बात को एक्सप्लायट (शोषण) करते हुए दूसरी चीजों को निकालते हुए अपने फायदे की बात निकालते हैं और इसमें परेशानी हो जाती है हमारे बच्चों और औरतों की। हमें बतलाया गया कि पाकिस्तान चाहता है कि इसको एक मुस्तकिल इदारा (स्थायी संगठन) बनाया जाय तो मैं चाहता हूं कि पाकिस्तान के दिल में और उनके हुक्मरानों के दिल में भी जिस जजबे के तहत (भावना के अधीन) उन्होंने यह चाहा कि यह मुस्तकिल (स्थायी) बनाया जाय, वही जजबा उनमें रुनुमा (प्रकट हो) कि वह इस काम को आगे ले जाने के सिलसिले में भी उसी जजबे से काम लें। लेकिन वहां हालत यह है कि कहने की बात और होती है और करने की बात दूसरी होती है।

दूसरे यह बात भी दिखाना जरूरी है कि हिन्दुस्तान में पाकिस्तान से आई हुई बहनें और बच्चे ज्यादा हैं या हिन्दुस्तान की बहनें और बच्चे वहां पर ज्यादा तादाद में हैं। यह तो नहीं हो सकता है कि इस सम्बन्ध में विलकुल सही ऐदाद शुमार (संख्या-गिनती) आ जाय मगर तो भी कोशिश होनी चाहिये यह देखने की कि हमारी बहनें और बच्चे वहां पाकिस्तान में कितने हैं और पाकिस्तान की बहनें और बच्चे यहां हिन्दुस्तान में कितने हैं।

13-00 HRS.

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि जब से हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने इस काम को अपने हाथ में लिया है, तब से इसको बहुत अच्छी तरह से निभाया है। इस चीज को मेरी बुजुर्ग बहन उमा नहर ने भी कहा है कि उन्होंने बहुत ही आलीशान काम किया है और उनकी इस बात में बड़ी कुववत है, बड़ा बज्जन है। शुरू शुरू के दो तीन सालों में यह डिपार्टमेंट केवल एक रसम को ही पूरा करने के लिए खोला गया था और अपने कुछ आदमियों को नौकरी पर लगाने के लिए खोला गया था। लेकिन सरदार साहब के मातहत इस इदारे ने बहुत अच्छा काम किया है। लेकिन मैं एक सजेशन (सुझाव) देना चाहता हूं और वह यह है कि यह जो डिपार्टमेंट है इसे इन्सानियत के जजबे को अपने अन्दर पैदा करके काम करना है। मैं चाहता हूं कि इसको एक मुस्तकिल इदारे का रूप दे दिया जाए और मुस्तकिल बनाने के बाद इसको हमारे यहां जो सोशल सर्विस (समाज सेवा) बोर्ड है, उसके मातहत कर दिया जाना चाहिए। वह जो बोर्ड है उसको अगर सरदार साहब चाहें तो अपने तहत (अधीन) रख सकते हैं। जिस काबलियत (योग्यता) से सरदार साहब ने आज तक इस महकमे को सम्भाला है, मैं समझता हूं अगर इसको सोशल सर्विस बोर्ड के तहत कर दिया गया तो उसी काबलियत से वह उसको भी सम्भालेंगे। इस तरह से जहां तक खुशअस्लूबी से (भली भांति) काम करने का ताल्लुक है वह भी कायम रहेगी और जहां तक बुनियादी (आधार भूत) बातों का ताल्लुक है, समाजी बातों का ताल्लुक है, ये सब चीजे एक ही डिपार्टमेंट के तहत हो जायेंगी।

जहां तक जम्मू और काश्मीर का सम्बन्ध है वहां पर मैं चाहता हूं कि इस ढंग से काम किया जाए, इस तरीके से काम किया जाए, जिससे जो उलझन है वह और

ज्यादा न बढ़ जाये और परेशान माताओं और बहनों को यहां और वहां न भटकना पड़े।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का पूरी तरह से समर्थन करता हूं और चाहता हूं कि यह एवान (सभा) इसे मंजूर फरमाये और अगर हो सके तो इस डिपार्टमेंट को आइंदा सोशल सर्विस बोर्ड के साथ जोड़ दे और इसको मुस्तकिल बना दे।

श्री गिडबानी (थाना): मिनिस्टर साहब ने अपनी तकरीर (भाषण) में इस अर्गोनाइजेशन (संगठन) के बारे में कुछ चर्चा की है। मैं उस चीज को दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूं।

अभी यहां पर मुस्लिम बेस कैम्प (मूल शिविर) का जिक्र किया गया है और उसकी अर्गोनाइजेशन के बारे में जो कुछ भी कहा गया है, मैं चाहता हूं उसकी तरफ मिनिस्टर साहब ध्यान दें। मैं चाहता हूं कि कोई ऐसी कम्प्लेंट्स (शिकायत) नहीं आनी चाहिये कि वहां से जो लोग निकाले जाते हैं वे अपनी मर्जी के खिलाफ निकाले जाते हैं या कि ऐसा वातावरण पैदा कर दिया जाता है जिस से यह पता लगता हो कि उनके साथ जबरदस्ती की गई है।

ट्रिब्यूनलस (न्यायाधिकरण) के बारे में भी हमारी बहन उमा नेहरू ने कहा कि दो पुलिस आफिसर्स हैं उनको बदला जाए। यह भी कहा गया है कि एक विमन एडवाइजर है (महिला सलाहकार) जो इस काम के काबिल है। यह ठीक हो सकता है। मैं यह चाहता हूं कि इस तरह के काम करने के लिए ऐसे आदमियों को रखा जाना चाहिये जो न केवल अपने दिलों में हमदर्दी रखते हों, बल्कि जिन्होंने कुछ सोशल वर्क (सामाजिक कार्य) भी किया हो। जो ट्रिब्यूनल है उसके अन्दर अगर इस तरह के आदमी होंगे तो वे ज्यादा अच्छी तरह से अपना काम सरअंजाम दे सकेंगे।

विमन एडवाइजर के बारे में मुझे किसी ने बताया है कि उसकी कोई सुनता नहीं है....

श्री ड० मू० त्रिवेदी: उसका क्या नाम है?

श्री गिडबानी: नाम तो मुझे मालूम नहीं है।

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह: उसका नाम श्रीमती भाग मेहता है।

श्री गिडबानी: तो मुझ से यह कहा गया है कि उसकी कोई सुनता नहीं है।

तीसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि रिकवरी के बारे में जो प्राप्ति हुई है उसकी एक रिपोर्ट हम को दी गई है। इसके पेज ११ पर यह कहा गया है

Restoration of children left behind by mothers who opted for Pakistan.

[जिन माताओं ने पाकिस्तान जाना स्वीकार किया है उन के द्वारा छोड़े गये बच्चों को वापस देना]

सन् १९५४ में से ५२३ बच्चे थे जिन को एडक्टर फादर्स को (भगाने वाले पिताओं) को रेस्टोर किया (वापस दिया) गया और दो को चिल्डरन इंस्टीट्यूट (बाल संस्था) स्वराज्य भवन, इलाहाबाद भेजा गया। इस तरह से १९५५ में २२२ को एडक्टर फादर्स को रेस्टोर किया गया और ६ को इलाहाबाद भेजा गया। १९५६ में ३०-६-५६ तक ऐसे केस ८६ थे। इससे यह पता चलता है कि मातायें तो पाकिस्तान को चली गयीं लेकिन बच्चों को वे यहीं पर छोड़ गयीं। ऐसे बच्चों को अपनी माताओं से क्यों अलग होना पड़े, यह सोचने की बात है। तो ये जो तकरीबन ८०० बच्चे हैं इन को इन की माताओं से क्यों अलग किया गया।

Sardar Swaran Singh: They left them.

श्री गिडबानी: वह कहते हैं वे अपने बच्चों को छोड़ कर चली गईं। अगर आप इस चीज को इत्सानी नुस्तेनजर से देखें तो यह भी अच्छा नहीं लगता कि छोटेछोटे

[श्री गिडबानी]

बच्चों को उन की माताओं से अलग किया जाय। मैंने देखा है कि बहुत ही छोटे छोटे बच्चों को उनकी मातायें यहां छोड़ कर गई हैं। जालन्धर में मैं गया था और वहां पर जो कैम्प हैं उसमें मैंने देखा कि एक बच्चे को जो कि ४ महीने का था, अपनी मां से जुड़ होना पड़ा था क्योंकि उस की मां पाकिस्तान चली गयी थी। जाती बार वह अपने बच्चे को अपने साथ नहीं ले गई। इस नुकतेनजर से इस तरह से अगर इस काम को किया जाये तो मैं इसे ठीक नहीं समझता हूं। आप में से कई मां भी हैं और कई बाप भी हैं लेकिन मैं न तो मां हूं और न ही बाप हूं लेकिन फिर भी इस काम में कितनी कठिनाई होती है इसको मैं समझ सकता हूं। आप जानते ही हैं कि एक माता के दिल में अपने बच्चे के लिये कितना दर्द होता है और किस तरह से वह अपने छोटे से बच्चे को कभी भी चन्द्र मिनटों के लिये अपनी आंखों से मोझल नहीं करती है। यज्ञ के दिवस में अपने बच्चे के लिये दर्द भरा होता है। फिर दो दो, चार चार, आठ आठ महीने और एक एक साल के बच्चों को उनसे जुड़ा होता पड़ा। किस तरह से वे जाती होंगी और बाद में उन के मन की अवस्था कैसी होती होगी, इसका अन्दाजा लगाया जा सकता है।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : इसके बारे में मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि समाज को बदल दो।

श्री गिडबानी : इसका जवाब यह है कि यह एक ज्यादा इन्ट्यूशन (अमानवीय) काम है, एक औरत को इधर से ऐसी हालत में उधर भेजना या उधर से इधर लाना। ऐसी हालत में बेहतर तो यही है कि माता को ही न भेजा जाय। तो मैं आइंदा के लिये कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर किसी माता को कोई बच्चा है और वह उसको साथ नहीं ले जाना चाहती है तो न तो उसको इधर

से उधर भेजा जाये और न ही उधर से इधर लाया जाय। ऐसी हालत में किसी औरत को रेस्टोर करके (प्राप्त करके) हम कोई अच्छा काम नहीं करते हैं। आप सात लाख रुपया भी खर्च करें और इतने बच्चों को दुख पहुंचायें, उनकी जिन्दगी मुसीबत में डालें, मां को दुखी करें, बाप की जिन्दगी डूबर करें, इसे मैं मुनासिब नहीं समझता। इस तरह की बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती है। अगर आपने इस आर्गेनाइजेशन को कायम रखना ही है तो आप ऐसी औरतों को न इधर से उधर भेजें और उधर से इधर ही लावें। यह मेरी ही राय नहीं है बल्कि कई लेडी सोशल वर्कर्स (महिला सनाज कार्यकर्ता) की भी यही राय है। मिसेज रामेश्वरी नेहरू जो कि आनरेरी एडवाइजर, मिनिस्टरी आफ रिट्रिबलिटेशन (अवैतनिक सलाहकार, पुनर्वास मंत्रालय) है और जिसने अपनी सारी जिन्दगी सोशल वर्क किया है, उसकी भी यही राय है। मिस थापर जो इस बारे में कुछ जानती हैं उनका कहना है कि

It is a crime against humanity.

(यह मानवता के विरुद्ध एक अपराध है) इस काम को करते हुये १० बरस बीत चुके हैं। अब हम इतना रुपया भी खर्च करें और उसके साथ ही साथ इतना ज्यादा अन्याय ऐसे बच्चों के साथ करें, यह मुझे ठीक नहीं लगता है। हम इतना टैक्स पेयर (करदाता) का रुपया भी खर्च करते हैं लेकिन फिर भी माता को दुख बच्चे को दुख, पिता को दुख पहुंचाते हैं, यह ठीक नहीं लगता है। इसमें न तो हिन्दु का कोई संवाल है, न सिख का संवाल है और न ही मुसलमान का संवाल है, बल्कि इन्सानियत का तकाजा है कि हम इन बच्चों के साथ इस तरह से अन्याय न करें।

अन्त में मैं इतना ही अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि जिस किसी औरत का बच्चा ही उसको न इधर भेजा जाय और न ही उधर

से इधर लाया जाय और अगर वह अपने बच्चे के साथ उधर से इधर आना चाहे या इधर से उधर जाना चाहे तो वह बेशक आ या जा सकती है ।

पंडित डाक्टर बास भार्गव (गुडगांव) :

जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, जो बिल हमारे सामने है, वह अपनी तरह का नया नहीं है । चूंकि चन्द एक दफा इसी तरह के बिल यहां आ चुके हैं, इस लिये बहुत सी बातें उन मौकों पर कही जा चुकी हैं, जिन को दोहराना मेरे क्यूल में जरूरी नहीं है । लेकिन यह हकीकत है कि जब कभी यह बिल यहां पर आता है, वही पुरानी बातें और वही पुराने किस्से लोगों के सामने आते हैं ।

अभी मैं ने अपने भाई, जो कि काश्मीर के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव (प्रतिनिधि) हैं, की तक्रार (भाषण) सुनी है । मैं समझता हूं कि उस तक्रार को सुन कर हर एक इन्सान का दिल हिल जायगा । बहुत दफा इस हाउस में इस बात का जिक्र किया जा चुका है और मुझे कोई ताज्जुब, कोई शुबा, कोई अनसर्टेन्टी (अनिश्चिता) नहीं है कि वे हजारों औरत, जो कि काश्मीर से १९४७ में नहीं, बल्कि बाद-अजां (बाद में) ले जाई गई, आज तक पाकिस्तान में मौजूद हैं । उन में से एक भी औरत वापिस नहीं आ सकी है और न कोई बच्चा वापिस आ सका है । हमारे सोशल वर्कर्स (सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता) कई बरसों तक इस सिलसिले में काम करते रहे, लेकिन दूसरे पंजाब में कई ऐसे इलाके रहे हैं, जहां उन को जाने की कतई इजाजत नहीं थी । एक मौका था, जब कि हमारे श्री गोपालस्वामी ने हम को बताया था कि दो हजार औरतें पाकिस्तान में मुस्लिम आफिशियल्स (पदाधिकारियों) के पास मौजूद हैं, लेकिन आज तक हम को पता नहीं चला कि वे औरतें कहां गई और उन मुस्लिम आफिशियल्स ने क्या किया । इस ब्रोशर के पढ़ने से मालूम होता है कि हमारे यहां से पच्चीस हजार औरतें

रिकवर करके पाकिस्तान भेजी गई और नौ, साढ़े नौ हजार औरत वहां से रिकवर कर के यहां लाई गई । मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि ये फिगर्स (आंकड़े) इस बात की शाहिद (साक्षी) नहीं हैं कि हमारे मुल्क में ज्यादा औरतें एबडक्ट (अपहृत) की गई थीं और रखी गई थीं और पाकिस्तान में मुकाबलतन (तुलना में) कम औरतें रखी गई थीं, बल्कि यह तो इस बात की शाहिद हैं कि यहां के लोगों ने बड़ी ईमानदारी से, ज़ील से (उत्साह से) बल्कि यह कहना चाहिये कि ओवर-ज़ील (अधिक उत्साह) से काम किया और इन औरतों को रिकवर कर के पाकिस्तान भेजा । इस के बरअक्स (विपरीत) पाकिस्तान में यहां के सोशल वर्कर्स को घरों में नहीं जाने दिया गया और इस सिलसिले में कई पोलिटिकल रीजन्स (राजनीतिक कारण) पेश कर दी गई और कई दूसरे मामले उठाये गये और कहा गया कि अगर इन लोगों को ऐसा करने की इजाजत दी गई, तो यहां के अमन (शांति) में खलल पड़ेगा । यह सब खसूसन (विशेषकर) उस हिस्से में अस्तिथार किया गया, जहां काश्मीर की औरतें ले जाई गई थीं । उन इलाकों में तो यहां के लोगों की हवा तक नहीं पहुंच सकी । मुझे इससे बड़ा दुख है । मुझे इस बात का सख्त अफसोस है कि दूसरे पंजाब के लोगों और गवर्नमेंट ने उस दिल से, उस तरीके से और उस जाफिशानी (सच्चाई) से काम नहीं किया, जिस तरह कि उन को करना चाहिये था । मुझे यह कहते हुये बड़ी तक्रारीक होती है, क्योंकि जिन लोगों का मैं जिक्र कर रहा हूं, वे यहां पर अपने आप को डिफेण्ड (बचाव) करने के लिये मौजूद नहीं हैं और मैं एक-तरफा कन्डेमनेशन (निन्दा) नहीं करना चाहता हूं, लेकिन इस के बावजूद मेरे दिल में यह क्यूल है कि पाकिस्तान में जिस ईमानदारी, जाफिशानी और तेजी से काम किया जाना चाहिये था, उस तरह से नहीं किया गया और अब भी हमारी हजारी

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भागवत]

मायें, बहिनें और बच्चे वहां पर मौजूद हैं, जो कि कभी भी यहां वापिस नहीं आ सकेंगे—मुझे इस में कोई शुबा (सन्देश) नहीं है। यहां पर चाहे जितनी तकरीरें की जायें, सरदार साहब की तारीफ़ की जाय और उन को उकसाया जाय कि वह इस सिलसिले में कोई तरकीब निकालें, लेकिन मुझे डर है कि सरदार साहब—बावजूद इस हकीकत के कि वह बड़े रिसोर्सफुल (साधन युक्त) हैं—कोई ऐसी तरकीब नहीं निकाल सकेंगे, जिससे वे हजारों बहिनें और बच्चे, दस बरस गुजर जाने के बाद भी, यहां वापिस लाये जा सकें। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि यह एक बेयर ट्रुथ (नम्र सत्य) है। जहां तक सेन्टीमेंट (भावना) का ताल्लुक है, यह कहना ठीक है कि उन को वापिस लाने की पूरी कोशिश की जानी चाहिये, लेकिन मुझे नज़र नहीं आता कि यह प्रैक्टिकल (व्यावहारिक) हो सकता है और वे औरतें और बच्चे, जो कि काश्मीर से ले जाये गये थे, कभी वापिस आ सकेंगे। इस लिये मैं कभी भी यह बात अपने दिमाग में नहीं लाता कि कभी ऐसा माहौल (वातावरण) यहां बन सकगा जिस में हमारी बहिनें और बच्चे यहां वापिस आ सकें। एक ही तरीके से वह माहौल बन सकता है, जिस के लिये हम तैयार नहीं हैं। हम ने सुना था कि विलायत से एक लेडी यहां आई थी और उस को अफगानिस्तान उठा कर ले जाया गया। उस एक लेडी के लिये ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट ने दुनिया भर को हिला दिया और इस बात की परवाह नहीं की कि उस को वापिस लाने के लिये कितनी भी खूरेजी (खूनखराबा) क्यों न करनी पड़े। लेकिन मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि उस के लिये न हिन्दुस्तान की गवर्नमेंट तैयार है और न ही यहां का कोई शस्स तैयार है। इस लिये मैं इस को खारिज-अज-बहस (निर्विवाद) समझता हूं। मेरी नाकिस (क्षुद्र) राय में वे औरतें और बच्चे पाकिस्तान से कभी भी यहां न आ सकेंगे

और न पाकिस्तान उन को यहां आने देगा। इस बात की उम्मीद करना तो एक किस्म का मिराज (मृगतृष्णा) है।

जहां तक उन औरतों और बच्चों का सवाल है, जोकि यहां से रिकवर कर के पाकिस्तान भेजे जा रहे हैं, उन में कुछ तो पाकिस्तान जाना चाहती हैं और कुछ नहीं जाना चाहती हैं। जो जाना चाहती हैं—जिन के मुताल्लिक बयान किया जाता है कि वे जाना चाहती हैं, यह नहीं कि वे वाकई जाना चाहती हैं—उन का किस्सा, जनाब हम ने आप की ज़बानी सुना है। अगर उस की आधी बातें भी सही हों—मैं इसलिये यह बात कह रहा हूं कि आप ने उन बातों की तहकीकात (छानबीन) नहीं की है, जोकि आप को बताई गई—तो कौन शस्स ऐसा होगा, जिस का दिल हिल नहीं जायगा। वह दिल को हिला देने वाला किस्सा है। हम यहां पर ऐसे हालात नहीं चाहते हैं, जिन में औरतों को इस तरह जबर्दस्ती, मजबूर कर के पाकिस्तान भेजा जाय, जैसाकि आप ने बताया है—और वह सिर्फ आप ने ही नहीं बताया है, दूसरे भाइयों ने भी बताया है और उस को हम सब लोग बखूबी जानते हैं। इस बिल के मुताल्लिक मैं कई मौकों पर अपने ख्यालात का इज़हार (व्यक्त) कर चुका हूं। १९५१ में, जबकि इस की पहली अमेंडमेंट (संशोधन) की गई थी, मैं ने एक वाक्य (घटना) का जिक्र किया था जिस में एक औरत को हाई कोर्ट में हेबिस-कार्पस एपली-केशन (बन्दी प्रत्यक्षीकरण आवेदनपत्र) मंज़ूर होने के मौके पर रिहा कर दिया गया। उस औरत के कई बच्चे थे। लेकिन हाई कोर्ट के छोड़ देने के बावजूद उस को मजबूर कर के वापिस भेज दिया गया।

श्री उ० म० त्रिवेदी : वह भाग कर आ गई। अब गवर्नमेंट फिर उर को भेज रही है।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भागंब : मुझे यह मालूम नहीं है ।

मुझे एक और केस मालूम है । उस की फ़ाइल महकमे ने मेरे पास भेज दी । मैं ने उस फ़ाइल को अब्बल (प्रारंभ) से ले कर आखिर तक पढ़ा । उस में कई ऐसी चीजें मौजूद थीं, जोकि एप्लिकेट (आवेदक) को मालूम नहीं थीं । उस को पढ़ने से मालूम होता था कि दर-अस्ल उस औरत के साथ बेजा सल्टी की गई । मैं उन तमाम बातों को इस वक्त दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूँ । मैं सिर्फ यह चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम आईन्दा उस किस्म की शिकायतें और उस किस्म के वाकयात नहीं होने चाहियें और खसूसन उस अरसे (अवधि) में, जबकि सरदार साहब के चार्ज में यह महकमा है । मैं यह महसूस करता हूँ कि ऐसी बात, ऐसी शिकायत, ऐसा वाकया हवा में भी नहीं आना चाहिये, कुजा प्रैक्टिस में (व्यवहार में क्या कहना) ।

जनाबे वाला ने इन बातों को बड़ी एहतियात के साथ फ़रमाया । मैं उनको रिपीट करता (दोहराता) हूँ और यह उम्मीद करता हूँ कि सरदार साहब इस बात की पूरी तहकीकात करेंगे और फ़िल-हाल हम अपना जजमेंट (निर्णय) रिजर्व (रक्षित) रखते हैं । हमें इस बात का यकीन (विश्वास) है कि जब तक सरदार साहब यहां हैं, तब तक कोई जो ऐसी बात या शिकायत उन के नोटिस में आयेगी, वह उस को ठीक कर देंगे । मुझे उम्मीद है कि जो बातें यहां पर कही गई हैं, उन की वह खास तौर पर तहकीकात करायेंगे और कोई ऐसा इन्तज़ाम करेंगे कि आईन्दा ऐसे वाकयात न होने पायें । मुझे उम्मीद है कि यह जरूर हो जायगा ।

मेरी बहन उमा नेहरू ने इस सिलसिले में जो कुछ कहा है, उस के सेन्टीमेंट (विचार-धारा) की तो मैं ताईद (पुष्टि) करता हूँ कि इस देश में जब तक एक भी औरत ऐसी रहे, जिस को कि जबर्दस्ती यहां पर रखा

गया हो और जोकि पाकिस्तान जाना चाहती हो, तब तक यह काम जारी रहना चाहिये और ऐसी औरतों की तलाश करने और उन को पाकिस्तान अपने रिस्तेदारों के पास भेजने की पूरी कोशिश की जानी चाहिये । लेकिन इस के साथ ही मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर हम इस मसले के प्रैक्टिकल एस्पेक्ट (व्यवहारिक पहलू) को देखें और ज़रा गहराई में जायें, तो हम महसूस करेंगे कि यह बिल न सिर्फ पर्मनेंट (स्थायी) तौर पर रहेगा, बल्कि युग भुज्जर जायेंगे और यह काम जारी रहेगा और यह बिल कायम रहेगा । इस की वजह यह है कि वहां से सारी औरतें आयेंगी नहीं, और यहां पर यह काम खत्म नहीं होगा । कोई इस बात की गारन्टी नहीं कर सकता है कि किसी वक्त एक भी औरत यहां पर नहीं रह गई है, जोकि पाकिस्तान जाना चाहती है, लेकिन उस को जबर्दस्ती यहां पर रखा जा रहा है । यह बात मुमकिन ही नहीं है । इस वक्त भी कोई नहीं कह सकता कि कौन खुशी से जाता है और किसी को जबर्दस्ती, नाजायज़ तरीके से भेजा जा रहा है, किस पर कितना दबाव डाला जाता है । इस सिलसिले में यहां पर जो कहा जाता है, वह तो एक किस्म का प्लैटिच्यूड (साधारण बात) है । जहां तक इस दावे के प्रैक्टिकल (व्यावहारिक) पहलू का ताल्लुक है कि जब तक यहां या वहां एक भी ऐसी औरत रहेगी, यह काम जारी रखा जायेगा, मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि उस में लातादाद मुश्किलात (असंख्य कठिनाइयां) पेश आयेंगी । आज उन वाकयात को दस बरस हो चुके हैं । सात बरस में तो इन्सान के ज़रे भीतब्दील (बदल) हो जाते हैं । इन दस बरसों में न जाने कितनी तब्दीलियां हो गई हैं । जो नौजवान औरतें उस वक्त यहां या वहां एबडकट (अपहृत) की गई, उन के न जाने कितने कितने बच्चे हो चुके हैं, उन का दिमागी माहौल कितना तब्दील हो चुका है । यहां पर कहा गया है कि चार

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भागव]

छ: छ: महीने के बच्चे कई औरतें छोड़ गई, लेकिन कितनी औरतें सात सात साल के बच्चे छोड़ गई हैं, इस की तादाद कहाँ है ? कितनी अपने खाविन्द के पास बच्चे छोड़ गई हैं ? हमारी बहिनों, श्रीमती रामेश्वरी नेहरू और मिस थापर ने, इस सिलसिले में जो काम किया है, हम सब के दिनों में उस का ख्याल है। कौन शक्स है जो उन औरतों की तकलीफ और दुख को महसूस नहीं करता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि दस साल के बाद भी सिवाय चन्द एक के अब भी ऐसी औरतें होंगी, जोकि अपने रिस्तेदारों के पास जाने के लिये तैयार होंगी, लेकिन सवाल तो यह है कि उन को ढूँढना और उन के रक्षान (शुकाव) को मालूम करना, उनके एनवायरनमेंट्स (वातावरण) को देखना वगैरह मेरे ख्याल में कोई प्रैक्टिकल पालिटिक्स (व्यावहारिक राजनीति) नहीं है। अगले साल इस तरह का एक और बिल ले आना भी मुझे ठीक मालूम नहीं होता है।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो यह बिल आप का है इस को आप पास कर लीजिये और एक साल में जितना काम कर सकें कर लीजिये। वहाँ तो कुछ होने की आप उम्मीद न रखें। जितनी औरतें वहाँ मौजूद हैं उन को देखते हुए तो वहाँ से कई गुनी रिकवरी होनी चाहिये थी अगर उन में भी यह काम करने का प्रोपोरशनेट जील (अनुपातिक उत्साह) होता मैं यह नहीं कहता कि जो वहाँ की औरतें हैं वह वापस न जायें। मैं इस के हक में नहीं हूँ कि किसी को यहाँ जबरदस्ती रखा जाये। लेकिन फर्ज कीजिये कि जो औरतें दस दस साल से यहाँ रह रही हैं और जिन के चार चार छ: छ: साल के बच्चे हैं वे दूसरे माहिल (वातावरण) में जा कर कैसे पलेंगे। हमारे गिडवानी साहब ने बतलाया कि बहुत से ऐसे बच्चे हैं जिन को उनकी मायें छोड़ गई हैं और अब यहाँ

पर न उन का कोई बाप है न माँ है। इन बच्चों को क्या पता है कि क्या मामला है। इस तरह के बच्चों को हराम का बच्चा समझा जाता है इसलिये वे औरतें उन की अपने साथ नहीं ले जातीं। ऐसे बच्चों की माँ को परवाह नहीं है कि उन का क्या होगा। शुरू में मेरा यह खयाल था कि जो औरत यहाँ आई है और जिस के जबरदस्ती बच्चा पैदा हो गया है उस से माँ को मुहब्बत नहीं हो सकती और न ऐसे बच्चे को माँ से मुहब्बत हो सकती है। लेकिन मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि ये सारे बच्चे हराम के नहीं हैं। एवीडेंस ऐक्ट (साक्ष्य अधिनियम) में लिखा है कि जो औरत किसी मर्द के साथ आठ आठ बरस तक रह लेती है उस का मैरिज (विवाह का प्रिजम्प्शन) 'अनुमान' हो जाता है। लेकिन अगर ऐसा माहिल बनता है कि उस बच्चे को हराम का समझा जाय तो मुझे कोई शुब्हा नहीं कि औरत ऐसे बच्चे को छोड़ जायेगी। इसलिये मेरी गुजारिश है कि आप इस काम को दस बरस से कर रहे हैं और अगर आप चाहते हैं तो एक साल और कोशिश कर लीजिये, लेकिन उस के बाद जो यह हमारी सोसाइटी (समाज) में एक रनिंग कैंसर (अनवरत रोग) है इस को खत्म कर दीजिये। इस को एक साल के बाद चलाना जरूरी नहीं है। वहाँ से तो हम को कोई उम्मीद नहीं रखनी चाहिये और यहाँ का काम करीब करीब खत्म ही है। जो लिस्ट (सूची) मिनिस्टर साहब ने हम को दी है उस से यही नतीजा निकाला जा सकता है कि अगर इन औरतों पर प्रेशर (दबाव) न डाला जाये तो कोई वहाँ जाना पसन्द न करेगी। हम एवीडेंस ऐक्ट (साक्ष्य अधिनियम) की दफा १४ के मातहत नतीजा निकालने के हक्कदार हैं। यह समझना कि इतने बरसों तक किसी में हिन्दूपना या मुसलमानपना बना रह सकता है गलत है। इतने बरसों में हर एक अपने को एनवायरनमेंट से एडजस्ट (ठीक) कर

लेता है। इसलिये मैं भदब से भर्ज करूंगा कि आप इस बिल को पास कर लीजिये लेकिन भायन्दा यह इस हाउस में न आये। आप इस काम को खड्गमनीटेरियन (मानव कल्याणकारी) कहते हैं और इस के लिये अपने सात लाख रुपया रखा है। लेकिन मैं बापको अपने मुल्क में इससे ज्यादा डिजविंग केसेज (उपयुक्त मामले) बतला सकता हूँ जिन के लिये यह रुपया खर्च किया जा सकता है। यहां पर न जाने कितने बिलखते बच्चे हैं जिन का कोई नहीं है, कितनी बेबायें और मायें हैं जिन पर ज्यादाती होती है। हम को अपनी ताकत के मुताबिक ही काम करना होगा। हमारी इनरजी (शक्ति) और फंड्स (निधियां) इतने नहीं हैं कि हम इस काम पर इस प्रोपोशन (अनुमान) में खर्च कर सकें।

इसलिये मैं भदब से गुजारिश करूंगा कि आप इस बिल को तो पास कर लीजिये लेकिन भायन्दा इस तरह का बिल हमारे सामने नहीं आना चाहिये।

श्रीमती शिवराजवती नेहरू (जिला लखनऊ-मध्य) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं श्री गिडवानी जी की राय से बिलकुल सहमत हूँ। पिछले जुलाई महीने में मिनिस्टर साहब के कमरे में एक मीटिंग हुई थी जिस में हम सब औरतें गई थीं। उस मीटिंग में हमारे वह अफसर भी मौजूद थे जोकि पाकिस्तान में हमारी औरतों की रिकवरी का काम करते हैं। उन्होंने न साफ साफ कहा था कि इस डिपार्टमेंट को अब जारी रखना बेकार है क्योंकि हम को पाकिस्तान से इस काम में बिलकुल मदद नहीं मिलती है। उन्होंने ने कहा कि हम वहां से अपनी स्त्रियों को नहीं निकाल सकते। जो रिकवरी होती है इधर से ही होती है। उन्होंने ने कहा था कि आप चाहें तो इस डिपार्टमेंट को जारी रखें लेकिन इस को जारी रखना बेकार है।

श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी (करनाल) : यह गलत है। मैं भी वहां थी।

श्रीमती शिवराजवती नेहरू : उस वक्त मिनिस्टर साहब ने हम को आश्वासन दिया था कि इस डिपार्टमेंट को एक बरस के लिये और रखा जायेगा। हम ने उस वक्त कहा था कि अच्छा आप इस को एक बरस और रख लीजिये और इस भरसे में आप जितनी भी कोशिश करना चाहते हैं कर लीजिये और जिन औरतों को भोजना है उन को भोज दीजिये। लेकिन उस के बाद यह मामला खत्म हो जाये। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि साल भर बाद हम उसी जगह हैं जहां उस वक्त थे और कोई भी तरक्की नहीं हुई है।

सरदार सबर्ण सिंह : यह बिल उसी बातचीत का नतीजा है जोकि आप के साथ हुई थी।

श्रीमती शिवराजवती नेहरू : उस वक्त आप ने कहा था कि इस को नवम्बर, सन् १९५६ तक रखा जायेगा अब आप सन् १९५७ की नवम्बर तक का वक्त चाहते हैं। तो एक साल बढ़ा कि नहीं।

सरदार सबर्ण सिंह : ३० नवम्बर, सन् १९५६ तक तो पहले ही था। अभी एक महीने की तो बात है कि जब आप ने कहा था कि एक साल के लिये और बढ़ा दिया जाये।

श्रीमती शिवराजवती नेहरू : खैर तो इस से आगे न चलाया जाये। आप जितनी कोशिश चाहें इस एक साल में कर लीजिये और उस के आगे यह न बढ़े। मेरा भी यही खयाल है कि अब इस बात को दस बरस हो गये हैं। जो औरतें यहां आई या जो वहां चली गईं वे बालबच्चों वाली और घरवाली हो गई हैं। मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि जब समाज का रुख कुछ बदल गया है और जो औरतें वहां से वापस आती हैं उन को लोग रखने लगे हैं। लेकिन मैं

[श्रीमती शिवराजवती नेहरू]

इस से सहमत नहीं हूँ। मुझे मालूम है कि एक पंजाबी सज्जन ने दोस्तों के कहने सुनने से एक स्त्री को वापस रख लिया लेकिन उस को इस तरह रखा जाता है कि उस की बिल्कुल इज्जत नहीं है और न उस का कोई मान है। बेचारी पड़ी रहती है।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : पंजाब में जो औरतें आती हैं उन को हम लोग अपने घरों में इज्जत के साथ रखते हैं। मैं इस बात को मानने को तैयार नहीं हूँ कि उन को इज्जत से नहीं रखा जाता।

श्रीमती, शिवराजवती नेहरू : लेकिन जहां मैं कांस्टीट्यूशन हाउस में रहती हूँ वहां के कैंटर (भोजन व्यवस्थापक) के एक रिश्तेदार का यह मामला है। उन्होंने ने औरत को लोगों के कहने सुनने से रख तो लिया है लेकिन उसकी कोई इज्जत नहीं है और वह बड़ी मुसीबत में है। जो इस तरह की स्त्रियां यहां आती हैं उन को कोई सुख नहीं मिलती और न उन की सुख मिल सकता है जोकि यहां से भेज दी जाती हैं। कहा जाता है कि वे बच्चों को छोड़ जाती हैं। अगर वे बच्चों को न छोड़ जायें तो उन की और भी ज्यादा बेइज्जती है। पर उन का दिल कलपता रहता है और वे सुखी नहीं रह सकतीं। मेरा खयाल है कि जितना खर्चा इस विभाग पर खर्च किया जाता है इतना यदि उन बच्चों के पालन पोषण पर खर्च किया जाये तो वह इस से ज्यादा ह्यूमैनिटेरियन काम होगा कि दस बरस के बाद दस पांच स्त्रियां इधर से वहां भेजी जायें या उधर से यहां लाई जायें। इस के अलावा इस विभाग के काम से फायदा पाकिस्तान को ही होता है। पाकिस्तान में जितनी भी स्त्रियां हैं उन को वह नहीं भेजते। अगर वहां से स्त्रियां आती भी हैं तो बहुत थोड़ी।

इस के अलावा जब तक यह डिपार्टमेंट खुला रहेगा, तब तक वे दुःखद घटनाएँ जो कि आज से दस बरस पहले हमारे यहां हुई थीं हमारे सामने आती रहेंगी और हम को यह याद दिलाती रहेंगी कि हमारे ऊपर इस तरह का जुल्म हुआ था और हमारे लोग इतने खराब थे कि उधर से इतनी औरतें भगा लाये। मैं चाहती हूँ कि इन दुःखद घटनाओं की स्मृति अब खतम की जाय।

कहा जाता है कि जब तक एक भी उधर की स्त्री यहां है या यहां की एक भी स्त्री वहां है तब तक इस विभाग को कायम रखा जाये। अगर ऐसा किया गया तो युगों तक आप को यह डिपार्टमेंट कायम रखना होगा। सात बरस में तो एक युग बदल जाता है। इतने अरसे में इन्सान के शरीर तक में बड़ा परिवर्तन हो जाता है। इसलिये इतने बरस के बाद तक इस को कायम रखना मुझे ठीक नहीं लगता।

जैसा कि हमारी माताजी, उमा जी ने कहा, अगर इस को कायम रखना ही है तो इस काम को सोशल वर्क्स (सामाजिक कार्य कर्ताओं) को दे दीजिये। यहां बड़ी बड़ी सोशल वर्क्स हैं। लेकिन अब सरकार को यह डिपार्टमेंट कायम रखने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है।

Shrimati Sushama Sen: I do not want to take much time of the House. I would ask a question in the beginning. Why should not the procedure be simplified further? I am told that, in these camps, the cases of these women who do not wish to go back to their original homes are pending for six or eight months. They go from one department to another. Why should not they be sent back forthwith?

I believe that the tribunal consists of one woman and two police officers. It should consist of all women. The police should go away; it is no use keeping the police officers there. This complicates matters. I earnestly request the hon. Minister to consider this point. The tribunal should consist of women workers only. There is one woman there and she has created a wholesome atmosphere but she has not got any voice because the police officers just do what they like. It is in the fitness of things that these police officers should go and I very strongly feel that this tribunal should consist only of women workers and not police officers. The police officers can be kept in other capacities but not on this tribunal. The woman who is doing good work there has no voice and she cannot carry out what she feels. There are so many women social workers. If Pakistan does not want women workers, they need not have but India should have only women workers.

The other point, as I said, is that the procedure should be simplified. Those women who do not wish to go back to their original homes should forthwith be sent to their homes and it should not take six or eight months during which period they are kept in the camps and they have to undergo these difficulties. We have heard very tragic stories from these women. So, I would earnestly request that the women should be sent back immediately, if they do not wish to go to Pakistan. It is a humanitarian work. As long as there is one woman, we should try to recover that abducted woman. But, this procedure of prolonging is really not wholesome. I would request the hon. Minister to see, as he has promised, that there is an end of the matter before the year ends.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, here is a measure unnecessarily extended and prolonged beyond its normal time without any justification. There are

some interested individuals—interested in the community or religion and others interested financially—who impose on the Government this job which has outlived its time. I have heard speeches justifying this on humanitarian grounds.

I wish to ask this question. Is this problem an emergency problem during the last ten years? I heard children being mentioned. During these ten years, have not these children grown up? Were not children born within these ten years? It is a delicate and complex question for the father of the child has to support it.

Rs. 9 lakhs were spent this year; and the number of abducted women is 4,000. We are spending lakhs and lakhs of rupees every year. I wish to ask the hon. lady Member the definition of 'humanitarian'. We have got a Social Welfare Board. Why not this problem be taken up by this Board? Why should this expenditure continue every year? I find from the items of expenditure that the authority which runs this show spends much more on itself than on the women. Ten years are enough for anyone to get acclimatised, if they are brought from one country to another and if they are happy there.

I wish to bring before you a single example. Hindu women are happy in Pakistan. It is proved by one of the Hindu women who went away from New Delhi itself. This lady is highly connected with the Prime Minister. She had been married to a Muslim and their life was not happy in India. After the bifurcation, she lived here as a highly paid official and after sometime, she was not allowed to meet her husband and then she resigned her job and went to her husband much against the will of powerful relations and it is more than three years today after she had gone

to the other side. She is very happily living with her husband there.

13.37 hrs.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in
the Chair.]

If she is happy there, why not others? Are they thinking of their nationality and mourning after ten years? We can assure that Muslim women on this side are quite happy and they do not want to go. This is a rather artificial transportation, from this side and that, in order to keep a few people employed and loot money. The tax-prayer's back is breaking and this Recovery of Abducted Women's Act is continuing for ten years on grounds of humanity. Do you really provide for the women and children who go to the other side? What is their destiny? Are you going to provide for all these 4,000 women here? What is their destiny? The problem of unemployment stares us in the face and the country's finances are being utilised for such wasteful purposes. Then, how will you be able to meet the other more urgent problems? I am sure that ten years are quite enough to make anyone interested in the place where she lives. It is natural, it is practicable and it is expedient. People will adjust themselves to their circumstances. The Government is keeping an artificial show and spends a large sum of money under the camouflage of protection forced on Government by some interested individuals. That should be put a stop to. There is the Prime Minister's formula of a socialist pattern of society. Why cannot this question come within the purview of that formula. It has been proved that happy marriages exist in Pakistan. If this Bill is passed and the so-called recovery of abducted women is kept up, the two countries cannot be very happy in their political relations, because both the Governments have to be in action.

Some hon. Members have said that the police officers should not be

present there. That means the executive officers paid by Government have no character. Why should they be kept in that place along with the women workers? Have they proved their testimonials that they can be trusted with? Sir, we have got women police. If you have to keep up this work, the police officers ought to be there; that is my suggestion. But why not women police be posted there?

Then again, why should they be left with the women workers? Who are they? What have they done during these ten years? They are simply wasting the finances of the Government and making them impose more and more heavy taxes on the poor tax-payer.

Therefore, Sir, I oppose this Bill and request the Government to take a cautious view of this and stop it then and there, and thus save the country from these so-called women workers under whose hands I am sure the abducted women have no security.

सरदार इकबाल सिंह (फाजिल्का-सिरसा) : मैं जो कुछ कहने जा रहा हूँ उस के साथ हो सकता है कि मेरे कुछ भाई मुत्तफिक न हों। यह मामला ऐसा है जिस पर कई ढंगों से सोचा जा सकता है, आप किसी तरीके से सोच सकते हैं लेकिन मेरा सोचने का जो तरीका है वह दूसरा ही हो सकता है। लेकिन चूंकि मैं पंजाब से आया हूँ और मैं ने इन लोगों के हाल को देखा है मैं यह कहे बिना नहीं रह सकता कि जो भाई यह चाहते हैं कि इस काम को खत्म करना चाहिये, इस को बन्द करना चाहिये, मैं उन के साथ मुत्तफिक नहीं हो सकता। आखिर इन्सानियत को न हम पैसों से तोल सकते हैं, न टैक्सपेयर के मनी से तोल सकते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब तक हमारी कुछ बहनें उधर हैं या उधर की कुछ बहनें इधर हैं, उन को इधर नहीं लाया जाता और

उधर की को उधर नहीं भेज दिया जाता, तब तक इस को जारी रखा जाना चाहिये। यह कहा जा सकता है कि १० साल हो गये हैं और अभी तक यह काम खत्म नहीं हो सका है। इस के बारे में मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। यह जो फिगर्स हैं, अगर इन को आप देखें तो आप को पता चलेगा कि जिस साल में गवर्नमेंट ने ज्यादा प्रेशर डाला है उस साल तो रिकवरी ज्यादा हुई है और जिस साल में स्लैकनेस दिखाई है उस साल में रिकवरी कम हुई है। अगर आप १९४७ से ले कर आज तक की फिगर्स को देखें तो आप को यही मिलेगा कि किसी साल तो रिकवरी ज्यादा हुई है और किसी साल कम और इस का जो कारण है वह यही है जो मैं ने अभी आप को बतलाया है।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश के अन्दर हम ने इम्मारेलिटी के खिलाफ एक कानून बनाया है और जिस कमिटी को यह सौंपा गया था उस के समापति महोदय, आप चेयरमैन थे। यहां पर अगर किसी बहन के खिलाफ कोई बात होती है जोकि उस की मर्जी के खिलाफ हो तब तो हम कानूनी कार्रवाई करने का अख्तियार रखते हैं और बड़े जोर से कहते हैं कि यह बुरा काम है और इस तरह के मामलों को सक्ती से दबाया जाय और कानून पर सक्ती से अमल किया जाय लेकिन इन बहनों के बारे में अगर हम कोई दूसरा ही रवैया अख्तियार करें तो यह कहां तक ठीक हो सकता है। ऐसा कर के हम उन बहनों के प्रति जो उधर रह गई हैं या जो इधर रह गई हैं और जिन पर कई प्रकार के अत्याचार हुए हैं और हो रहे हैं, अपना रवैया बदल लेते हैं। जब हम ऐसा कहते हैं तो हमारे कुछ प्रेजुडिसिस होते हैं और कुछ हम जजबात में बह कर ऐसा सोचने के लिये मजबूर हो जाते हैं। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि ह्यूमैनिटेरियन काम चाहे इस देश में किया जाय और चाहे पाकिस्तान में किया जाय, हमेशा ह्यूमैरिमेन्टेरियन काम ही रहेगा।

जो बातें इस सदन में कही गई हैं उन को हमें महत्व देना चाहिये और उन के बारे में अच्युती तरह से सोच विचार कर लेना चाहिये। लेकिन इतना महत्व भी नहीं देना चाहिये कि जो बहनें उधर से इधर आना चाहें या इधर से उधर जाना चाहें, तो उन के आने या जाने में हम रुकावट खड़ी करें और उन्हें ऐसा न करने दें। इस बात से इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता कि जो दो कमिटियां बनाई गई थीं, एक तो फैंट फाईंडिंग कमिशन और दूसरी हार्ड पावर कमिटी, वे दोनों ही किसी फैसले पर नहीं पहुंची हैं। वे दोनों कमिटियां इस बात का फैसला नहीं कर सकी हैं कि कितनी बहनें उधर हैं या कितनी बहनें इधर हैं। इस बात को ले कर इन दोनों कमिटियों में डिफ्रेंस आफ ओपिनियन रहा है। जब ये दोनों ही किसी एग्जीड डिसिजन पर नहीं पहुंची हैं और यह नहीं बता सकी हैं कि कितनी बहनें इधर हैं या कितनी उधर हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इस काम को जारी रखा जाय और कोशिश की जाये कि किसी एग्जीड डिसिजन पर पहुंचा जाये। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस चीज का कम्पेरिजन करना कि कितनी बहन उधर हैं और कितनी इधर हैं और कितनी को उधर भेजा गया है और कितनी को इधर लाया गया है और कितना रुपया खर्च किया गया है, ठीक नहीं है। आप को चाहिये कि आप देखें कि किन हालात में यह काम हो रहा है और जो बहनें आना चाहती हैं उन के रास्ते में रुकावट न पैदा की जाय और जो जाना चाहती हैं उन को जाने की छूट रहे। इस को आप रुपये की यार्डस्टिक से न नापें और इस काम को कंटिन्यू (जारी) रखें। हां यह हो सकता है कि जिस ढंग से आप काम करते हैं या जिस तरीके से काम करते हैं उस को अगर आप चाहें तो बदलें। लेकिन उन भाइयों के साथ मैं एग्जी नहीं करता जो यह कहते हैं कि इस काम को जारी न रखा जाय, इस को डिस-कंटिन्यू कर दिया जाय।

[सरदार इकबाल सिंह]

अब मैं नान-एग्जीड एरियाज के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। ये वे इलाके हैं जहाँ पर कि रिकवरी बहुत जोरों से शुरू नहीं हुई है और ज्यादा नहीं हो सकी है। हमें यत्न करना चाहिये कि अब जब हम इस एक्ट को एक साल के लिये बढ़ा रहे हैं तो वहाँ पर भी जितनी ज्यादा रिकवरी हो सके करें।

जब आप अपने देश में इम्मारेलिटी को दबाने के लिये सख्त कार्रवाई करते हैं और सख्त कानून बनाते हैं तो आप किसी भी ढंग से सोचें, सोशल ढंग से सोचें, रिलिजस ढंग से सोचें, आप यह नहीं कह सकते कि जो औरतें इधर रह गई हैं या उधर रह गई हैं उन को रेसटोर करना इम्मारल है और कोई इस चीज को पैट्रनाइज नहीं कर सकता। हमें किसी के लिये भी साप्ट कार्नर नहीं रखना चाहिये।

इस बिल के बारे में एक डिफिकल्टी (कठिनाई) यह रही है कि इस को एक एक साल के लिये एक्सटेंड किया गया है। पिछली बार भी इस को एक साल के लिये एक्सटेंड करने के लिये मोशन लाई गई थी। उस वक्त भी मैं ने एक एमेंडमेंट दी थी और चाहा था कि इस को कम से कम दो साल के लिये और बढ़ा दिया जाय। किसी एक साल में १२०० के करीब औरतें इधर से उधर गईं और किसी दूसरे में ६००। इसी तरह से कभी उधर से ६०० इधर आईं और कभी ७००। इस से यह जाहिर होता है कि बहुत से कम्पलिकेटेड केसिस होते हैं जिन को डिसाइड करना मुश्किल होता है। कई बार ऐसा होता है कि कहीं पर देखा कि किसी के पास कोई औरत है और वहाँ पर जब छापा मारा जाता है तो जो एबडक्टर हाता है वह उस को किसी दूसरी जगह भेज देता है और जब दूसरी जगह छापा मारा जाता है तो उस को तीसरी जगह भेज दिया जाता है और फिर चौथी जगह।

हर बार केस पर गौर करना पड़ता है। यह भी एक रीजन (कारण) है कि ज. प्रोग्रेस है वह स्लो है। इसी तरह से और भी कोई अइचनें पैदा हो जाती है। तो आप अगर एक महकमे को एक साल के लिये या छः महीने के लिये बने रहने की मुद्दत देते हैं तो उस में ज्यादा विगर नहीं आ सकता है, जोश काम करने का नहीं आ सकता है। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि आप इस महकमे की लाइफ को १० या २० साल के लिये एक्सटेंड कर दें लेकिन दो तीन साल के लिये तो इस की लाइफ अवश्य ही बढ़ा दें और जब तक दोनों कमिटियाँ किसी मुत्तफिका फैसले पर नहीं पहुँचतीं तब तक आप इस महकमे को कटिन्यू करें।

अब बिल की बात आ जाती है। इस के बारे में भी हम कुछ नहीं सोचते। इस देश में आप ने देखा है कि दिल्ली में ही हम ने इम्मारेलिटी के खिलाफ एक जगह छापा मारा था और उस में कितनी ज्यादा कम्पलिकेशन्स पैदा हुई थीं। फिर एबडक्टर्स चाहें हिन्दूस्तान में हों चाहे पाकिस्तान में वे किस किस्म के आदमी होते हैं, हमारी समाज का सोशल स्ट्रक्चर क्या है, किस किस्म की बातें यहाँ होती हैं और किस किस्म की बातें वे करते हैं और किस तरह की कम्पलिकेशन्स पैदा होती हैं, इस का भी आप को ध्यान रखना चाहिये।

मैं यह समझने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि सोशल वेलफेयर बोर्ड को इस में ज्यादा से ज्यादा दखल देना चाहिये, लेकिन मैं यह बात मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ कि अकेला सोशल वेलफेयर बोर्ड इन कॉम्प्लिकेटेड हालात में कुछ कामयाब हो सकेगा। मैं यह कहने के लिये तैयार हूँ कि सोशल वेलफेयर बोर्ड और ऐसे बोर्ड दिन-ब-दिन ज्यादा इस काम को आगे बढ़ाते जाय और पुलिस का स्ट्रक्चर कम होता जाय, ताकि जो बिलिंग हों, अपने रिश्तेदारों के पास

जाना चाहती हों, उन के लिये ज्यादा कोशिश हो सके। एक हार्ड-पावर कमेटी को इस बात का एसेसमेंट करना चाहिये कि हमारी कितनी बहिनें इस वक्त पाकिस्तान में हैं और कितनी मुसलमान औरतें हमारे मुल्क में हैं, जिन को कि जबर्दस्ती यहां पर रखा गया है। यह ठीक है कि शायद पाकिस्तान इस बात को न माने। यह भी हो सकता है कि हमारे और उन के आफिशियल्ज इस बारे में कोई मुतफिका फैसला न दे सकें, लेकिन फिर भी गवर्नमेंट को अपने तौर पर इस बात की जांच करने का इन्तजाम करना चाहिये कि यह मरज कितना बड़ा है और इस के लिये कितनी कोशिश की जरूरत है—उस को यह मालूम करना चाहिये कि अभी तक हमारी कितनी बहिनें पाकिस्तान में हैं और कब तक उन की रिकवरी के काम को जारी रखना होगा और इस बिल को एक्सटेंड करना होगा।

जहां तक इस बिल का ताल्लुक है, इस वक्त इस को एक साल का एक्सटेंशन दिया जा रहा है। इस के बाद, तहकीकात कर के जो फिगर्ज गवर्नमेंट के पास हों, वह उन पर और करके या तो इस एक्ट को मुनासिब भरसे के लिये एक्सटेंड करे या इस तरह का कोई और बिल लाये। कुछ आनरेबल मेम्बरज ने इस सिलसिले में सेन्टीमेंट्स और जज्बात का जिक्र किया है। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस दुनिया में जज्बात की अपनी जगह और अपनी कीमत होती है, जिन की कि पूरी कद्र की जानी चाहिये। जिन घरों की बहिनें इस वक्त उधर हैं, वही इस जज्बे की कद्रो-कीमत जानते हैं और उन को यह जज्बा ज्यादा अपील करता है बनिस्बत उन भाइयों को, जोकि दूर से आते हैं और जिन का इस से ज्यादा ताल्लुक नहीं है।

इन अलफ्राज के साथ मैं फिर अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि जब तक हमारी बहिनें उधर हैं, तब तक हम इस काम को जारी

रखना चाहिये—चाहे इस को दो तीन साल और जारी रखना पड़े या ज्यादा—और इस काम को ज्यादा विगर और तेजी के साथ चलाना चाहिये।

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Mr. Chairman, Sir, during the last four years — every year practically — we have been discussing this Bill. No new arguments can be advanced against this Bill. But this year, there is one thing very significant which must not escape the notice of the House and which is printed at page 2 of the *Progress of the Recovery and Restoration of Abducted Persons*, a brochure which has been very kindly supplied to us by the Government. In that brochure, in the paragraph dealing with the plans of work, a sentence occurs, which draws the very particular attention of every reader. It says that:

“It is for this reason that both Governments have agreed not to quote publicly or privately any vague figures of pending recovery, but to work on the list of clues supplied, however vague or unreliable they may be”.

If you read the debates of the last few years, you will be surprised to know that every Member who has taken any interest whatsoever in this matter, has brought it to the pertinent notice of the Government that about 30,000 women of Indian origin remain still to be recovered and about 2,000 of them happen to be in the hands of Muslim officers of Pakistan. The figures indicate that during the period from 1st January, 1955 to 30th September, 1956, — a period of one year and nine months—the ratio of recovery to the number of abducted women in Pakistan is half per cent., that is 0.5 per cent., whereas the ratio of abducted women restored — the so-called abducted women and not exactly abducted according to the Indian Penal Code — to Pakistan is 32 per cent.

[Shri U. M. Trivedi]

13-55 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

This aspect is an eye-opener. This ought to be an eye-opener. We have secured a release of 150 women. It is 154, to be exact. But I put it at 150 for the purpose of mathematical calculation. This means that we have spent at the rate of Rs. 5,000 for the recovery of an Indian woman—for a woman to be brought to India. We intend perhaps—perhaps we will not go very far—to spend at the rate of another Rs. 6,000 per woman to be now recovered, and probably they may or may not be recovered, during the next year.

Sentiments are sentiments, and I am a Hindu. I cannot check my anger and I cannot but feel anguished when I find that thousands of my countrymen, thousands of my co-religionist women, are in the clutches of Muslims. Our ways of life are entirely different from those of the Muslims. Say what we may, we cannot forget the fact that the life of a Hindu woman is entirely different from the life of a Muslim. Therefore, we should not take it in terms of commercial life. A woman is not a chattel. It is a blood-curdling story that so many women—30,000 and 2,000 of them in the hands of the Muslim officers—are still there, and we have sat with our hands tight.

I wish that the Government take its cue from what Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava uttered. But our Government will not do it, and in the present circumstances of this world, this changing world, the progressive world, our Government will not do it,—for, all the world over with progressives prevailing,—no one cares for that peculiar anatomy of human being, the nose. It never cares for it. It has now no nose. Therefore, there would be no war! There are no chances of war!

How are we going to meet the problem? Are we going to do some

wrong to all those ladies who are now remaining over here, whatever be their number, for the very problematic point that some woman from Pakistan may come back? We are restoring large numbers of women; we have restored a large number. On the last occasion, I narrated a case to the hon. Minister. It must be said to the credit of the hon. Minister that his words have always been very kind, very courteous and very helpful. But they have also come to naught, naught in the sense that one of the hon. Ministers concerned with the deportation of a woman who was brave enough to take the risk of running back from Lahore was to be deported by the orders of the Chief Commissioner of Delhi. For what reason? She was married to a Hindu under the Arya Samaj rites in the year of grace 1945, when there was no question of any separation of India into India and Pakistan. Nobody dreamt of a partition then. This woman, who has borne three children through the man with whom she was married,—a Hindu and a Brahmin at that, who loves her very much, and in whose house even today she is—was taken away forcibly from here, notwithstanding the orders of the Rajasthan High Court not to remove her. She was spirited away to Lahore from where, thanks to the corrupted police of Pakistan, she could come back here. They now want to send her back; that matter is still pending. In that connection, I had to see one of the hon. Ministers; I cannot disclose what he told me in confidence to this House, but I hang down my head in shame. On account of the Government of India's desire not to annoy a particular person, the Government of India was not willing to stand in the way of the Chief Commissioner of Delhi sending away this woman back to the place where she was not willing to go.

14 hrs.

It is a good thing that the hon. Minister today has told us that it will be his consistent policy at least to see that no unwilling woman is sent across

our borders to Pakistan and I hope he will abide by it. It is a very painful story and we do not wish to be reminded of it every now and then. As I said before,—I reiterate it now before you—the word “abducted” is a great misnomer. Some friends used that word not knowing what this word means in this law. Certainly I would stand by everybody who wants to send back really abducted women across the border; I do not want to have any single abductor here; I hate the sight of an abductor. But, these women have remained here by chance and have sought refuge in Hindu homes, not being abducted or kidnapped or dealt with criminally in any manner by anybody; yet, because some of these happen to have a relative who has migrated, who has left the shores of the motherland and has claimed another motherland and nationality, even though she is happy here, she is being taken. With what view is she being taken away? It is with an ulterior motive. You know the Muslim law differs from the Hindu law. A Hindu is not going to marry his cousin sister born of his uncle or aunt, but the same thing does not stand in the way of a Mohammedan. He has got ulterior motives in getting back the woman; she is being sent from here to satisfy his craving. It is high time that we open our eyes to this, which has been repeated *ad nauseam* for the last four years, namely, that a certain very influential person working, I am told, honorarily, is playing great havoc in sending away our womenfolk from here. It has been done for four years and that chapter should be closed.

Let me tell the hon. Minister through you, Sir, that to extend this law for another year is not a humanitarian work at all. The humanitarian work lies now in preserving those who want to remain here and preventing the Muslims across the country from taking away these unwilling women. We have had enough of that old history; let it be forgotten. It has been a bad thing; it has been a very worse chapter in the history of the world, this partition of India,

and all the concomitants of the partition. It was a revolution which took a heavy toll of human beings. Let us now close that chapter once and for all. It is mathematically wrong; it is economically wrong and it is not in the interests of the country. It is not in the interests of sentiments. Wise words have been uttered by Shrimati Shivravati Nehru. She has said that we do not want this law. If the hon. Minister think that this one year is the last one and the utmost to which he wants to go, he may please himself. But I will pray to him and submit that it is time now to close down this chapter once and for all.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am afraid I do not agree with the gentleman who preceded me and who said that this chapter should be closed. I believe that this work, by whatever name you may call it, is the kind of work which deserves continuance or extension. It has to be kept up and if a person says that it should be put an end to, he is not in touch with the realities of the situation as they exist at least in the Punjab.

Only about three months ago a very poor gentleman came to me—I am not saying this thing to excite the sympathy of the House; I am only stating a fact—and said that his daughter who had been taken away from him at the time of partition had been restored to him after about 8 years. When the daughter was taken away, she was seven years old and now she had come back as a girl of 16 years of age. Whatever economics or mathematics may say, whatever any religion may say, I would say that the joy which had been given to those poor parents—father and mother—by the restoration of that single girl is worth much more than the money that we have been spending on it. I saw a ray of hope in the heart of that man and I can tell you that that hope and joy cannot be measured in terms of money. I would, therefore, say that this work should be kept up and that this chapter—very unhappy and tragic chapter—should not be put an end to

[Shri D. C. Sharma.]

in the abrupt way which some hon. Members have suggested. But I would make one suggestion. I must say that our beloved Minister has been very painstaking and has done his work very consciously. He has placed this brochure in our hands—*Progress of Recovery and Restoration of Abducted Persons*. Most of the Members have read it; it is a very valuable study so far as we are concerned. It gives us facts and figures which are very valuable for the purpose of this debate and for other things also. But there is also a dangerous aspect of this brochure. What is suspected is that it will be a very sweet morsel of food for propaganda against India. India will stand condemned out of its own mouth. This is what will be broadcast:—India there are so many abducted women and because there are so many, so many have been sent across to Pakistan. Here is Pakistan. The number of abducted women in Pakistan is not so much and so the number sent across to India is not large. Of course, it would be said that we stand for humanity. I stand for humanity. I do not want to raise any question of Hindu, Muslim or Sikh. I am speaking purely as a citizen of India. I would say that this document is fraught with danger so far as anti-Indian propaganda is concerned. As you know, there is no limit to anti-Indian propaganda. So, I would suggest that something should have been included in it which would show at least some general assessment of the problem. It is no use saying that it is a problem which it is very difficult to assess. Some general assessment should have been given to show how many Hindu women are estimated to be there, how many of the Muslim women are estimated to be here; some kind of estimates should have been given. That would have been very good not only for us, but also for our brethren in Pakistan. That would have given us an accurate picture of the problem that we have before us. Nothing like that has been given here. I would ask the hon. Minister to start with some kind of assessment, a rough and

ready one, so that we may know the nature of the problem and also how far we have to go and how long we have to go.

I believe that this is an emergency measure and that it is being administered in an emergency manner and in an emergency spirit. I think that it should have been put on a more solid basis and administered in a more solid fashion. That would be my first suggestion to the hon. Minister. I think a great deal has been said about the humanitarian aspect of this problem. After all, we are doing all this more out of humanitarian impulses than out of political impulses. There may be other kinds of impulses anywhere else. But, there is nothing but humanitarian impulse at work in this country. But a humanitarian measure should be administered in a humanitarian fashion. What do we find? All these camps are there. They have been given various kinds of names. I believe that we have too many of these camps. These are not camps which are meant for the psychological restoration of any person, or the psychological rehabilitation of any being, but they are meant for psychological dislocation. Even if a person psychologically very sound were to go through this process, he would be upset. What is the process? First of all, you go to the transit camp, then you go to the Muslim base camp, then you go to the Tribunal, then you go to the special home, then you come back and you are again produced before the Tribunal. God knows what all this means. I tell you this is police method with a vengeance. I believe no person can go through all these processes and still survive. You referred in your speech to the Muslim base camp. I also know something about that. I am not judging this question from the Hindu or Muslim point of view. I judge it sheerly in terms of psychology. Any one who escapes alive from these camps must be very strong psychologically. I would request the hon. Minister to evolve some procedure by means of which these psychological

discomforts—I do not want to use any hard words—all these discomforts are minimised. These camps are there. You have described them more by silence than by explicit statements but these things should not be there in the way.

So much is said about the Tribunals. It is all police from beginning to end. Who are the members of the Tribunal? Police officers. Don't we have any judicial officers in our country, well-meaning and good-intentioned officers? Don't they have such officers in their own country? We have given the whole thing to the police. I think it is not good for those persons who are recovered and who are asked to declare whether they want to go or whether they do not want to go. I would, therefore, say that the Tribunal should be judicial in every sense of the word. It should not be of the type that we have now.

This organisation is top-heavy in point of administrative expenditure. I cannot understand why so much of money is being spent on this establishment. I think the results achieved by this establishment are not commensurate with the money that we are spending. I request the hon. Minister to introduce some economy so that the results achieved may bear some relation to the money spent. This high expenditure is not justified.

I am told that there is an Indian lady social observer who visits the camps. I do not know who that lady is, what are her qualifications, what are her functions and what is her experience in this matter. For aught I know she may be the best qualified person for this work. But I would say that if you are going to tackle this humanitarian work, you have to tackle it mainly by humanitarian methods and partly by police methods. What we are doing is this that we are dealing with it mainly by

police methods and very slightly by humanitarian methods. There are men and women of goodwill in India; there are men and women of goodwill in Pakistan. All these should come together and the whole problem should be tackled by humanitarian methods. Therefore, as the hon. Member Shrimati Uma Nehru said, this work should be more in the hands of social workers.—Not paid social workers. I cannot understand this description of social workers and paid social workers because I have been brought up in a different atmosphere. I say that this work should be entrusted mainly to social workers who want to do it on a voluntary basis. If you require a few paid officials, I do not mind. This is a very important aspect.

Next, I would tell the hon. Minister—I know, he is taking a lot of interest in it—that the problem of the women who have been abducted from Jammu and Kashmir State has not received as much attention as it deserves. I say that most respectfully. So many cases come to my notice because I have something to do with Jammu and Kashmir, and I believe that while we in the Punjab are able to bring some pressure to bear upon persons here and there, the people who have come from Jammu and Kashmir are not able to do that to that extent. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to have a small wing, or a person especially in charge of operations so far as Jammu and Kashmir State is concerned. I do not want to say that the case of Jammu and Kashmir is going by default, but I dare say that the case of Jammu and Kashmir is not receiving as much attention as it deserves.

I would therefore in the end say that this work should continue. Anyone who wants to set a time-limit for it must be either a prophet, or an astrologer or a social scientist of great potentiality. I am none of these. I would, therefore, say that this work

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

should continue. But I would also say that this work should not have so much of the taint of the police upon it. I have nothing to say against the police, but in this work the police overshadows everything. I would therefore say that this humanitarian work should call into play the humanitarian touch, humanitarian sympathy and humanitarian impulses, and that it should be done in such a way that no Member on the floor of the House can say that while we are doing so much for the women of one particular type we are not doing as much for the women of another type. Therefore, I would say that while the hon. Minister gives us the progress reports of our country, he should also get similar facts and figures from the other country so that we can make a comparative study of the two and come to our conclusions. Since we do not get that, I think we indulge in all kinds of fanciful things. So, I would in the end urge upon the hon. Minister to put into effect at least those of the suggestions which have been given by my respected sisters and see to it that this work is not put an end to in an abrupt manner simply because there are some persons who are looking at it from an angle which is not humanitarian.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shrimati Subhadra Joshi. I presume enough has been said now. Nothing should be repeated and hon. Members should be brief.

श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी : हर साल इस विषय पर यहां वाद-विवाद होता है और दोनों किस्म की बातें कही जाती हैं। यहां पर यह भी कहा जाता है कि इस काम को जारी रखा जाना चाहिये और यह भी कहा जाता है कि इस को बन्द कर दिया जाना चाहिये। आज इन सब बातों को मैं न सुना है और कुछ भी ऐसी कही गई है जिन को सुन कर मेरे दिल पर एक जबरदस्त चोट लगी है। हमारे एक मानरेबल मੈम्बर

(माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि वे बहनें जो फिसादात (झगड़ों) के वक्त उठाई गईं वे एबडक्टेड परसन्स (अपहृत व्यक्ति) नहीं हैं और हमारे घरों में आश्रय लेने के लिये आना चाहती थीं। आज इतने सालों के बाद इस चीज को उठाना और ऐसी बातें करना मेरी समझ में नहीं आया है। मैं समझती हूं कि वे भाई उन नज्दों को भूल गये हैं जोकि पाकिस्तान में तथा भारत में इन फिसादात में देखने को मिले थे। किस तरह से इन को उठाया गया, किस तरह से इन को बेचा गया, किस तरह से इन का अपमान किया गया। ये सब चीजें आज उन की नज्द से ओझल हो गई मालूम देती हैं। आज इतने वर्षों के बाद यह कहना कि वे पाकिस्तान में या हिन्दुस्तान में एबडक्टेड (अपहरण कर्त्ताओं) के घरों में आश्रय लेने गई थीं, मैं समझती हूं बड़ी ही शर्मनाक है। इस बात को सुन कर सचमुच मेरे दिल पर बहुत जबरदस्त चोट लगी है और मैं समझती हूं कि केवल मेरे दिल पर ही चोट नहीं लगी बल्कि हजारों भाइयों के और हजारों माता पिताओं के दिल पर भी चोट लगेगी जो आज भी अपने बच्चों की तसवीरों को, अपने बच्चों की फोटों को ले कर जगह जगह घूमते हैं और सोती बार अपनी छाती से लगा कर सोते हैं। मुझे याद है कि जब यह महकमा कायम नहीं हुआ था तब लोग लड़कियों को उठा उठा कर ले गये और लोगों ने लूट में, कत्ल में खून बहाने में हिस्सा लिया। बाद में जब उन को पता चला कि उन के खिलाफ जिन्होंने लड़कियों को या औरतों को उठाया है मुकदमा चलेगा और ज्यू ही यह खबर उन तक पहुंची उन्होंने ने कई लड़कियों को मौत के घाट उतार दिया। ज्यू ही किसी उठाने वाले को यह पता चलता था कि इस बात की खबर लोगों को लग गई है, या पुलिस को लग गई है तो वह उस को कत्ल करने की बात सोचता था और कत्ल कर भी

देता था, क्योंकि वे समझते थे कि वह जा कर बता देगी कि हम ने कितने लोगों को मारा कितने लोगों को लूटा। मुझे याद है वह बाका (घटना) जब एक साइकल सवार एक लड़की को अपने साइकल के पीछे बिठा कर ले जा रहा था और कुछ फिक्र में था और जब उस से पूछा गया कि इस को कहां ले जा रहे हो तो वह चिन्ता में डूबा हुआ बोला कि यह लड़की भगाई हुई है पर मेरे मां बाप अब कहते हैं कि पुलिस तुम्हें पकड़ लेगी, जेल में बन्द कर देगी, तुम्हें सजा होगी तुम इस को ले जाओ और मार डालो। इस वास्ते मैं इस को जंगल में मारने के लिये, भीत के घाट उतारने के लिये ले जा रहा हूँ। आज भी हजारों लड़कियां भगाई हुई हिन्दुस्तान में हैं और पाकिस्तान में हैं। कौन जानता है कि वे किस हालत में हैं। हम लोग यहां बैठ कर कहते हैं कि इस काम को बन्द कर दो, इस पर खर्चा बहुत होता है इत्यादि। तो उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, ऐसी बातें सुन कर मुझे बहुत अफसोस होता है। हमारे एक आनरेबल मੈम्बर ने कहा कि यह प्रैक्टिकल पालिटिक्स (व्यावहारिक राजनीति) नहीं है। तो हर वक्त यह प्रैक्टिकल पालिटिक्स हमारे दिमाग में चक्कर लगाये और हम यही सोचते रहें कि प्रैक्टिकल पालिटिक्स क्या है, पैसा कहां खर्च होता है, कहां नहीं होता है, यह कहां तक ठीक है, इस पर आप खुद ही विचार कर सकते हैं। आखिर सरकार जो इतना खर्च करती है वह क्यों करती है। आज हमारे-यहां खाने का प्राब्लेम (समस्या) है, कपड़े का प्राब्लेम है और हर चीज की कमी है। जो भाई इस तरह की बातें कहते हैं वे सेंटि-मेंट (भावना) में आ कर ही कहते हैं। आज जब इन बेचारी औरतों का सवाल है तो हम सब कुछ भूल जाते हैं। उन्हीं आन-रेबल मੈम्बर साहब ने यह भी कहा, मालूम नहीं किस किताब का जिक्र उन्होंने किया, कि हमारे यहां जब एक औरत इतने साल किसी घर में रह जाती है तो उसे विवाह सा ही समझा

जाता है। मैं समझती हूँ कि पिशाचिक विवाहों का वह जिक्र कर रहे थे। पुराने जमाने में पैशाचिक विवाह भी होते थे। आज इस तरह की बात नहीं होती है और न कोई कर सकता है। आज ऐसी चीजों का जिक्र कर के इस काम को जब बन्द कर देने की बात वे कहते हैं, तो यह मुझे बहुत ही ना-मुनासिब मालूम होता है।

आज यहां पर यह कहा जाता है कि जिन लोगों ने काम किया उन्होंने ने हजारों लोगों को यहां से पाकिस्तान भेज दिया और ऐसे-ऐसे लोगों को पाकिस्तान भेज दिया जोकि जाना नहीं चाहते थे और जो इंडियन नेशनलज (भारतीय राष्ट्रजन) थे, मैं समझती हूँ यह अग्रग्रेटफुलनेस की एक सीमा है। ऐसे वक्त में जब दोनों मुल्कों में आग लगी हुई थी, कोई जा नहीं सकता था, झांक नहीं सकता था और लोग अपने बच्चों को छोड़ कर चले आये, उन को अपने साथ नहीं ला सके, अपना सामान बचा कर, अपना माल बचा कर नहीं ला सके, इन लोगों ने जो शानदार काम किया उस के बारे में ऐसी बातें कहना कहां तक ठीक है इस का अन्दाजा (अनुमान) आप खुद लगा सकते हैं। इधर से जो उधर गये उन के साथ भी ऐसा ही हुआ और उन की भी जायदाद उन से छीन ली गई, उन का माल उन से छीन लिया गया और उन को यहां से जान बचा कर जाना मुश्किल हो गया। तो इस तरह की बात करना हमें शोभा नहीं देता है। इन लोगों ने दोनों मुल्कों में कोशिश कर के बहादुरी दिखा कर लड़कियों को उन के मां बाप के पास पहुंचाया।

मैं आज खास तौर पर इस का जिक्र करना चाहती हूँ, क्योंकि मैं ने सुना है कि हम लोग खर्चा कम करने के लिये—अर्थात् भाव के कारण—उन बहिनों और भाइयों को सर्विस से रिट्रैव (छटनी) करने के प्रश्न पर विचार कर रहे हैं, जिन्होंने ने इस काम में इतनी खिदमत की है। मैं आनरेबल

[श्रीमती सुमद्रा जोशी]

मिनिस्टर साहब से यह अर्ज करना चाहती हूँ कि उन को यह बात याद रखनी चाहिये कि जब भी रिट्रैचमेंट का सवाल आता है, तो हम लोग उस सवाल को इस हाउस में उठाते हैं और इस बात की कोशिश करते हैं कि जिन लोगों को रिट्रैच किया जाय, उन को जरूर इधर उधर रख लेना चाहिये। मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि जिन लोगों ने इन दफ्तरों में काम किया, उन के हम निहायत अहसानमन्द हैं—अत्यन्त कृतज्ञ हैं। जिस वक्त सल्ल जरूरत थी, उस वक्त उन लोगों ने निहायत मेहनत और दिल लगा कर काम किया। मैं खुद बहुत से नौजवानों को जानती हूँ, जिन को मैं ने कहा कि उन को इस महकमे में नौकरी करनी चाहिये क्योंकि वहाँ पर ज्यादा ईमानदार, गैर-फिरकापरस्त और ज्यादा भरोसे वाले लोगों की जरूरत है। अगर उन लोगों ने किन्हीं ज्यादा पक्के महकमों में नौकरी की होती, तो हो सकता है कि अब तक उन को प्रमोशन (पदोन्नति) मिल जाती या कम से कम उन की नौकरी तो बरकरार रहती। इसलिये मैं निहायत अदब से यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि जिन भाई-बहिनों ने जरूरत के वक्त बड़ी मेहनत और बहादुरी के साथ काम किया, आज हम अगर उन की खोज-खबर नहीं रखेंगे, तो यह उन के साथ इन्साफ नहीं होगा।

मैं यह भी अर्ज करना चाहती हूँ कि जो बात इस काम को बन्द न करने की माँग की जड़ में है, वह यह है कि हम नहीं चाहते कि कोई भी बहिन जबर्दस्ती यहाँ से पाकिस्तान भेजी जाय या पाकिस्तान से जबर्दस्ती यहाँ लाई जाय। मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहती हूँ कि इस में जबर्दस्ती का कोई सवाल नहीं है। हम लोगों ने—इस पालियामेंट ने—उन बहिनों को भी तलाक का अधिकार दे दिया है, जिन की शादी बीसियों बरसों के हो चुकी है। हम नहीं चाहते कि वे भी जबर्दस्ती किसी के पास रहें। जिन के साथ बाकायदा अग्नि को साक्षी कर के शादी

हुई है, उन को भी डाइवोर्स (तलाक) करने का अधिकार है। ऐसी हालत में क्या आज कोई भी यह इच्छा रख सकता है कि किसी को जबर्दस्ती इधर से उधर या उधर से इधर भेज दिया जाय। परन्तु हम को यह भी सोचना है कि क्या पाकिस्तान और हिन्दुस्तान में, दोनों जगह, ऐसे हालात हैं कि नार्मल कानून के मातहत कोई बहिन यह शिकायत करे कि उस को जबर्दस्ती बन्द किया हुआ है, उस को वहाँ से बचा कर और उस के रिश्तेदारों के पास भेज दिया जा सकता है या नहीं। हर साल हम इस समस्या पर विचार करते हैं और शिकायत करते हैं और वह ठीक भी है। हम जानते हैं कि पाकिस्तान में रिकवरी (ढूँढना) मुनासिब तौर पर नहीं हो रही है और बावजूद हमारी कोशिशों के हमारी हज़ारों बहिन अभी तक वहाँ हैं। हम को यह विचार करना है कि जब एक इमरजेंसी (आपतकालीन) कानून से पाकिस्तान में रिकवरी नहीं हो सकती, तो क्या हम उम्मीद कर सकते हैं कि इस कानून को हटा देने से वहाँ रिकवरी हो सकती है। जिस वक्त इमरजेंसी कानून से हम रिकवरी नहीं कर सकते हैं, तो क्या उन हज़ारों बहिनों को हम वहाँ के नार्मल कानून के भरोसे छोड़ सकते हैं कि वह खुद शिकायत करें और अपने आप वहाँ से बच निकलें?

यहाँ पर कुछ आनरेबल मेम्बर बहिनों की बात करते हैं। मैं सच कहती हूँ कि आज भी हमारे पास कितने ही लोग आते हैं, जो सिर्फ बहिनों की बात ही नहीं करते बल्कि कहते हैं कि हमारी लड़कियों को वहाँ से निकालो, हमारे खाविद (पति) को निकालो। हम उन को कहते हैं कि हाई कमिश्नर (उच्चायुक्त) के दफ्तर में दरखास्त दे दो। वे जवाब देते हैं कि वे वहाँ पर जा ही नहीं सकते। मैं करनाल में गई थी। वहाँ एक बहिन ने कहा कि मेरे लड़के को जबर्दस्ती किसी गाँव में रखा हुआ है और वह नहीं

आ सकता है। उस को खेती करवाने के लिए एक गुलाम की तरह रखा हुआ है और वह हार्ड कमिश्नर के दफ्तर तक नहीं पहुंच सकता है। उस ने मुझे कहा कि किसी तरह से उन को निकालने का इन्तजाम करो। जरा इस बात का ख्याल कीजिये कि क्या ऐसी हालत में हम वहां बहिनों से इस बात की उम्मीद कर सकते हैं कि वे किसी को जा कर कहें कि हम को यहां पर जबर्दस्ती रखा हुआ है, हम को निकाला जाय? हम चाहते हैं कि उन बहिनों को वहां से निकाला जाय और उन को एक ऐसी जगह रखा जाय, जहां वे ठंडे दिमाग से और सही तौर पर अपने भविष्य के बारे में विचार कर सकें और फिर चाहे अपनी मरजी के मुताबिक अपने नए घर लौट जायें या अपने रिश्तेदारों के पास चली जायें और उन को ऐसा करने की पूरी इजाजत हो। इसीलिये, अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं चाहती हूँ कि इस बिल को पास किया जाय और इस को एक्सटेंशन दी जाय। जैसाकि आनरेबल मेम्बर, श्री इकबाल सिंह ने कहा है, इस तरह हर साल एक्सटेंशन करना बहुत नामुनासिब तरीका है। यहां हर साल इस बारे में बात-चीत होती है—डीबेट होती है और आप देख रहे हैं कि वहां भी करण्ट आफिसरज एबडक्टेज (अष्ट पदाधिकारी) अपहृत-कर्ताओं के हिमायती हैं। जब एबडक्टेज यह सब देखते हैं तो सोचते हैं कि एक ही साल की बात है, उस के बाद किसी किस्म का खतरा नहीं रहेगा। जिस तरह एबडक्टेज को करण्ट आफिसरज पर भरोसा है, उसी तरह करण्ट आफिसरज को एक तरह से यहां के कुछ मेम्बरज पर भरोसा है कि अगले साल ये लोग ज्यादा जोर से बोलेंगे, दो बार आदमी और मिला लेंगे, एक साल तक लड़की को इधर उधर छिपा लो, फिर अगले साल किस्सा खत्म हो जायगा। एक तरह से हम ऐसी बातें कर के उन लोगों की मदद कर रहे हैं। मैं तो समझती हूँ कि इस वक्त मौक़ा है कि इस कानून को ऐसी शकल दें

और इस बात को बिल्कुल बाधेह और साफ़ कर दें कि जब तक हमारी एक भी लड़की पाकिस्तान में रहेगी, या वहां की एक भी लड़की हिन्दुस्तान में रहेगी, जिस को कि उस की मरजी के खिलाफ रखा जा रहा है, तब तक हम रिकवरी का काम जारी रखेंगे और इस कानून को कायम रखेंगे।

यहां पर कुछ ऐसी आदत बन गई है कि हम औरतों को इस तरह समझने लगे हैं, जिस तरह कि घर का फ़रनीचर हो, घर का सामान हो। पर आज वह ख्यालात बदल रहे हैं। मुझे अफ़सोस तो उन सदस्यों पर होता है, जोकि यहां पर इवैकुई प्रापर्टी (निष्क्रान्त सम्पत्ति) के बारे में झगड़ा करते हैं कि पाकिस्तान से फ़ैसला क्यों नहीं किया जाता है, लेकिन अपनी बहिनों और लड़कियों को वहां से लाने के बारे में कहते हैं कि अब यह काम ख़त्म कर दिया जाना चाहिये। मैं रोज़ अख़बार में पढ़ती हूँ कि हमारे यहां के घनी लोग पाकिस्तान जाते हैं, पुलिस ले कर गांव में जाते हैं और वहां अपने घरों से गड़ा हुआ सामान निकालते हैं। लेकिन जब लड़की का सवाल है, तो कहा जाता है कि उस को वहीं छोड़ दो। रुपया, ज़ेवर नहीं छोड़ सकते, अपनी जायदाद को नहीं भूल सकते, लेकिन बहिनों और लड़कियों की कोई फ़िक्र नहीं। ऐसे भी लोग हैं, जो वहां कुछ भी नहीं थे, लेकिन यहां आ कर उन्होंने ने महल बना लिये। हम उन लोगों की नुमायन्दगी (प्रतिनिधित्व) करते हैं और उन की नुमायन्दगी के नाम पर कहते हैं कि उन लड़कियों को वहां ही रहने दिया जाय।

जैसा कि प्रोफ़ेसर साहब ने भी कहा है, मैं खुद भी जानती हूँ, क्योंकि जम्मू और काश्मीर से मेरा बहुत घनिष्ठ सम्बन्ध रहा है। मैं ने खुद कितने ही ऐसे केसेज (मामले) आनरेबल मिनिस्टर के पास भेजे हैं। मेरी अनगिनत रिश्तेदार लड़कियां आज भी पाकिस्तान के पंजे में हैं। मेरे पास उन के

[श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी]

मां-बाप भाते हैं, रिश्तेदार भाते हैं और यही बात कहते हैं कि हमारी लड़कियों को किसी तरह निकालो। मैंने कई नाम आनरेबल मिनिस्टर के पास भेजे भी हैं। जिस वक्त झगड़ा हुआ, उस वक्त वे छोटी छोटी बच्चियां थीं। उन के मां-बाप आज तड़पते हैं, कहते हैं कि इतने बरस हो गये हैं, हमारी बच्चियां को निकालो। वे लोग वहां जाने के लिये तैयार हैं, पैसा लगाने के लिये तैयार हैं, लेकिन हम जिन के नुमायंदे (प्रतिनिधि) बनते हैं, उन के नाम पर लोक सभा में कहते हैं कि खर्चा बहुत बढ़ रहा है, इसलिये इस काम को बन्द कर दो। मैं आनरेबल मिनिस्टर से खास तौर पर दर-स्वास्त करूंगी कि वह इस बात का फ़िक्र न करें, क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान और पाकिस्तान दोनों मुल्कों में हजारों, लाखों लोग होंगे जो उन के साथ रहेंगे, जो आज भी अपनी बच्चियों को याद करते हैं और दिन-रात इस बात की कोशिश करते हैं कि उन को जल्दी से जल्दी निकाला जाय। आज इस बात की सख्त ज़रूरत है कि पाकिस्तान में रिकवरी का काम ज्यादा तेज़ हो और जम्मू काश्मीर की बहिनों के लिये भी जल्दी से जल्दी कोई इन्तज़ाम किया जाय।

श्रीमती कमलेश्वरमति शाह : मेरी बहिनों ने वे सब बातें कह दी हैं, जोकि मैं कहना चाहती थी। पाकिस्तान से स्त्रियों को निकालने के काम में बहुत ढील हो रही है और वह सुचारु रूप से नहीं किया जा रहा है। जहां तक इस काम को बन्द करने का प्रश्न है, मेरे विचार में वह बन्द कैसे होगा, जबकि वह ठीक ढंग से किया ही नहीं जा रहा है। उस का काम तो रूटीन काम की तरह हो रहा है और पूरी दिलचस्पी ले कर और दिल लगा कर यह काम नहीं किया जा रहा है। यह शक बहुत लोगों के मन में होता है और वह इसलिये होता है कि इस वक्त भी कई हजार लड़कियां पाकिस्तान में हैं, लेकिन उन की कोई खोज

नहीं हो रही है। उन के बारे में यह भी मालूम नहीं किया जा रहा है कि वे यहां आना चाहेंगी या नहीं। मेरे विचार में यह बहुत ज़रूरी प्रश्न है। यदि वे एक स्थान में बस गई हैं, उन के नये घर बन गये हैं, बाल-बच्चे हो गये हैं, तो बिना उन की मरज़ी के, उन को अपने बाल-बच्चों से छुड़ा कर, उन को एक देश से दूसरे देश भेजना बहुत अनुचित होगा, चाहे वे हिन्दुस्तान में रहती हों या पाकिस्तान में। इस में एक बहुत ही शंका का विषय यह है कि एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान में जाने पर उन का अनादर न हो और उन को स्थान न मिले। इस बात की बहुत आशंका है कि अधिकतर हिन्दुओं के मन में यह बात हो कि चूंकि उन की बहिनें और लड़कियां पाकिस्तान में रह आई हैं, इसलिये उन को ग्रहण नहीं करना चाहिये। मुझे उन का अनादर होने की बहुत सम्भावना नज़र आती है। इसलिये उन को एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान ले जाने का काम बहुत सोच समझ कर और विचार कर के करना चाहिये। ऐसी स्त्रियों की खोज अवश्य होनी चाहिये, लेकिन मुझे डर है कि पाकिस्तान में हमारी बहिनों का प्राप्त होना प्रायः असम्भव है, क्योंकि पाकिस्तान सरकार हमारे साथ किसी भी बात में सहयोग नहीं कर रही है। हम हर प्रकार से उन को मदद कर रहे हैं। हमारा ऋण उन पर जमा हो रहा है। प्रश्न के समय में यह बतलाया गया था कि हम जो नमक उन से मंगा रहे हैं उस के लिये हम ने पहले ही रुपया जमा करवा दिया है। मैं कहती हूं कि रुपया जमा कराने का क्या सवाल जब कि हमारा उन पर इतना ऋण है। क्या उनको हमारा इतने रुपये का भी विश्वास नहीं है कि हम उन को यह रुपया नहीं दे देंगे। हम पाकिस्तान से हर प्रकार से दब रहे हैं और इस का फायदा उठा कर पाकिस्तान वाले हम को दबा रहे हैं। ऐसी हालत में हम अपनी बहिनों को पाकिस्तान से कहां तक छुड़ा सकेंगे और कैसे यह खबर

पा सकेंगे कि कौन यहां आना चाहती हैं। मैं समझती हूं कि जो स्त्रियां इतने समय से एक जगह पर रह रही हैं उन को वहां अपने बाल-बच्चों से मोह हो गया होगा। मेरी समझ में जिन्होंने वहां या यहां अपना घर जमा लिया है उन को हटाना उचित नहीं होगा।

मैं पहले भी माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन कर चुकी हूं और अभी फिर करना चाहती हूं कि आप के ट्राइब्यूनल (न्यायाधिकरण) का जो परसनेल (कर्मचारी) है उस को बदलना चाहिये। मेरे विचार से इस कार्य के लिये महिलाओं को तैनात करना ज्यादा ठीक होगा। और ऐसी महिलाओं को अधिकाधिक अधिकार दिये जाने चाहियें। मेरे विचार से देश में ऐसी योग्य महिलायें काफी संख्या में मिल सकेंगी जोकि इस कार्य को संभाल सकें और अपना सारा समय उस में लगा सकें। इन औरतों को अधिक अधिकार दिये जायें। साथ ही कुछ पुरुष अधिकारी भी इन की सहायता के लिये रखे जायें लेकिन यह काम अधिकतर महिलाओं के हाथ में ही रखा जाना चाहिये क्योंकि यह ह्यूमैनीटेरियन (मानव कल्याण का) काम है। मेरा विश्वास है कि इस काम के लिये महिलायें मिल जायेंगी और वे इस काम को उत्तम रीति से करेंगी। इसलिये मेरा मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन है कि इस में पढ़ी लिखी औरतों को रखा जाये ताकि यह काम उत्तम रीति से चल सके।

Shri L. Jageswar Singh (Inner Manipur): I would be very brief with my remarks on this Bill.

I wish to thank the hon. Minister for his categorical statement in the House today that no unwilling abducted persons will be sent to the other side, the Pakistan side. We have seen reports in the newspapers that a number of persons who have become husband and wife have many children born to them, and after the lapse of

seven or ten years, if they are separated, that is, if the Muslim woman is sent away to Pakistan in spite of her unwillingness to go there, it would be a very tragic separation. Whether it is the Pakistan side or the Indian side, if those two people have become husband and wife and have a family life, then they should be allowed to stay on and continue and no separation should take place between the husband and the wife. At the same time, it should be taken into account that separation from sons and daughters also may not take place. If there is any legal bar in this connection, then it should be removed by legislation in this House. If there is any difficulty in deciding the question whether to allow them to stay on in Pakistan or in India, it should be done by legislation. If the matter is taken to the courts, the courts sometime decide in favour of separation and sending the persons concerned against their will to the other side, which is very bad. This is one aspect of the Bill, which I wish to point out to the hon. Minister.

Regarding the rehabilitation of girls who have been restored, the position is this. Many girls who had been abducted in Pakistan have been sent home and at the same time they have been given to their unwilling parents. There has been disagreement between them and their parents and there has, therefore, been no happy family life for them. Sometimes they have been deserted by their parents and also near relatives. They have to take up some employment for maintaining themselves. They have to be rehabilitated and Government must do something to help them. Government must see that those girls, who have been deserted by their parents, are given employment so that they may lead a respectable and comfortable life here.

Another point I should like to make is this. I support Shri D. C. Sharma who wanted to minimise the number of transit camps. Then for those abducted persons there will be no possibility of getting into the hands of

[Shri L. Jogeshwar Singh]
unscrupulous persons. If you allow the abducted persons to go through a number of camps, then they are likely to get into the hands of unscrupulous persons, and once they fall into such hands, they cannot express their own view thereafter as to whether they want to stay on in Pakistan or go back to India. The situation should be so created that there will be a peaceful atmosphere, so that the people who are placed in the camps may without any fear express their view as to whether they want to be in Pakistan or go back to India. If they want to go and separate themselves willingly, then they should be allowed, but that should be without any coercion or pressure being exerted and should not be against their will.

I am not much in favour of those who advocate that Hindus or Hindu girls should be brought over here and Muslims should be sent over to Pakistan. Once they become husband and wife, let them remain together, if they wanted to do so, without any external pressure. Why should we be anxious to separate them? Similarly on the Pakistan side, arrangements should be made that no separation between the husband and wife takes place.

Another thing I should like to point out to the hon. Minister is this. You propose to extend this Act for one year more. I say it is not possible for you to get over all these difficulties in one year. You cannot close your restoration and rehabilitation business abruptly, within one year. It is impossible, it is unthinkable to clear all these in one year. In my opinion, it should be extended for a period of five years. Otherwise, I am sure you will bring forward this Bill again next year for a further extension. We have a number of abducted women in Pakistan and a lesser number in India, yet to be recovered and therefore it is not possible to meet the situation by merely extending the Act for one year. After mature consideration, I think it should be extended for five years. That is my suggestion.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am extremely grateful to the hon. Members who have given very careful thought to this very complex problem. I am not at all surprised at the difference of opinion on certain matters because they are really very difficult for decision one way or the other. The circumstances under which the unfortunate incidents took place were really abnormal. The results flowing from abnormal situations cannot generally be dealt with in a normal manner by a normal approach and the yardsticks are generally found to be wanting when we are trying to measure the effects of an extremely difficult situation of the type that obtained in 1947.

The problem is very complicated indeed. I have no hesitation in admitting that the lapse of time has added to the complexity of the situation. It is really difficult to form a correct assessment of the type of approach. There is first of all the normal tendency of the human mind to adjust itself to the surroundings. On the other hand, if the origin of the relationship is in a very tragic and objectionable manner, it is not always possible for an individual, with howsoever elastic an approach and with howsoever adjustable a temperament to adjust himself to that change.

The laws of nature have been working all these years. Children have been born as a result of these associations or mis-associations. The problem of dealing with children has been a source of considerable worry and any person who could produce a solution, which is not open to objection, with regard to the manner in which we can deal with these children, would certainly be a very great person. I do not claim to be one. The children, if I may be frank in this situation are faced with the terrible prospect of being separated either from the mother or from the father. You may call that father an abducted father or an illegitimate father—for no fault of theirs. If the children are taken

away by the mother on account of the motherly affection, they get separated from the abducted father; if they are left behind, they lose their mother.

Shrimati Sushama Sen: Mothers are more important.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Whether the mother is more important or the father is more important—I leave this to be decided by the hon. lady Member. The fact, however, remains, that this is not a political matter. It is more a social matter arising out of a very difficult and tragic circumstance. In this matter, the hon. lady Members belonging to various parties in this House are themselves unable to agree about some of the basic approaches to this problem. I would, therefore, be extremely hesitant to tread upon a ground which is certainly less familiar to me, as compared to my sisters.

I am only trying to say that the problem is really difficult and it is for this reason that we have been trying to change our methods to bring in new ideas in our sincere effort to carry on this work in the least objectionable manner and to the satisfaction of the people concerned. It is to be remembered that the people concerned are not always those individuals. There are others also—their relations and the like. Then again, we have to deal with people of different age groups. Certain children were independently abducted at that time within the meaning of the definition which the Parliament had laid down, if not actually abducted within the meaning of the provisions of the Penal Code, and separated from their relations. Then, they were got hold of by other people. They would very much like to be restored to their parents or relations. Their parents and relations would also like to receive them back. Therefore, all these points have been engaging the attention of the Government and with varying success we have been trying to grapple with these problems.

Broadly speaking, with regard to the women—if I may define them as

those who can express their will and who are of sufficient maturity to think about their future—we have been guided, in respect of such persons, by this consideration that the best interests of the society, of the country and of their relations would be served by taking action in accordance with the wishes expressed by the individuals concerned. The rest of the mechanism or process has been devised to create an atmosphere in which those persons may be able to express their wishes, after calm consideration and after the psychological effects upon their minds are removed by being kept in a neutral atmosphere where the fears and doubts may be removed.

Fears may be of two types. Firstly, a person may find himself in an atmosphere where there is no opportunity for him to express himself freely. One knows that if one opens one's mouth, then the other party is there strong enough to curb that wish and there is no opportunity, therefore, to express one's wish.

15 hrs.

Secondly, there may be fears of this type that the yearning to be separated from this new atmosphere may be there, but there may be doubts and suspicions about the reception that the individual is likely to receive, if that individual leaves the present atmosphere and the surroundings and goes on to the other side. It is our experience based upon actual narration of facts. Generally the stories are dinned into the ears of these persons to the effect that all their relations have either been killed or disappeared and that as soon as that individual crosses the border, whether he crosses to Pakistan or over to India, that person will be killed or murdered, or will not be received by the other side. This is a very strong type of fear under which these persons are suffering. But when that person is removed from an atmosphere where relations can meet him and explain things and where that immediate duress is not there of the people who may have detained that individual for years to—

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gether, then that person can clearly think out for himself or herself as to what should be done. Therefore, this expression of will after they have been kept in a neutral atmosphere was considered to be the one guiding principle, and I am glad to report and repeat what I said earlier, that during the last several years no person has been sent across to the other country against the wishes, ascertained by a tribunal upon which both countries are represented.

With regard to children, the problem was a little more difficult, because they are generally of such tender years that any expression of wish, one way or the other cannot be a true guiding principle, on the basis of which a decision could be taken. Therefore, it was generally considered that a decision should be taken, which is in the best interests of the child concerned and that is the guiding principle. But what actually is done to implement this desire is again not a very easy thing, but after considerable thought, it was considered that the action taken in accordance with the wishes expressed by the mother would perhaps be some guide about the interest of the child concerned also and that has been the general basis with which these cases have been decided. The results that have ensued as a result of the application of these two basic principles have not created any anomalies; there may be odd cases, here and there, but by and large, this has not produced any results which may be described as outrageously incommensurate with the other surrounding circumstances. These have been the principles which have been followed.

Hon. Members have expressed their views on a number of matters which are all of them very important. Firstly, the functioning of these Muslim camps in India where the recovered persons are taken immediately after recovery had been mentioned. Sir, when you spoke on this Bill, you made special reference to this and

you wanted to know about the atmosphere that obtains in the camp in which Hindu and Sikh recovered persons are brought in Lahore. These two camps are run on an analogous basis and an analogous set-up obtains with regard to both these camps; a set up which has been agreed to by the two Governments and this has been in force for several years now. So far as the Hindu and Sikh camp is concerned to which the Hindu and Sikh recovered persons are brought in Lahore, it should have a predominantly Hindu and Sikh atmosphere about it, so that the recovered person who has been in a different atmosphere for several years or for several months, depending upon the time of recovery, should have some opportunity of breathing an atmosphere which is different from the one in which she has been kept all that time. Therefore, the Camp commander there will be an Indian and the police that keeps static guard there will also be Indian. That is the agreement and so far as the Muslim camp in which Muslim recovered women in India are kept, is concerned, there the static guards and camp commander are provided by Pakistan. It is running on an analogous pattern in both countries

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are there any Hindus in the Muslim Base Camp?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There are social workers, who can visit at any time and those are Indian social workers; they are always in touch with the cases; they make enquiries from them. There were certain allegations which came to the notice of the Government also. We looked into them and we took a very clear stand in those cases, and we insisted on the creation of an atmosphere where there is no duress of any kind exercised against the persons who are kept in those camps.

Then again, I would urge this hon. House to bear in mind that the Muslim Base camp is established on our own soil and it is our duty to ensure

that the atmosphere there is something which is not against our principles. All the mechanism is there for the officers to visit and for our social workers to visit that camp and care is constantly exercised that no undue influence is exercised upon any inmates of that camp. If you, Sir, have any specific instance or any information to the effect that any undue influence has been exercised or is being exercised, Government will be glad to look into that and we will ensure that no such atmosphere is created or is maintained there, which is against the basic principles according to which we are working the provisions of this Act and the manner in which it is our intention to carry on this work.

More than one hon. Member has made a reference about the recoveries from that part of Jammu and Kashmir, which is in the occupation of Pakistan forces. I have got some figures relating to the recoveries from that part.

Up till the 30th September 1956, 2,121 persons have been restored from the Pakistan occupied part of Jammu and Kashmir. Even during the last months, from the first of January to 30th of September, some women have been recovered and restored to India. The number is not very large. During these 9 months 30 women were recovered and restored. In 1955, 169 women were recovered. There is a separate agreement about recoveries from Jammu and Kashmir, which, as the House is no doubt aware, is a special case. We do not permit the Pakistan people to function in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. So far as recoveries from the Pak-occupied part of Jammu and Kashmir are concerned, that also is generally the responsibility of the Pakistan side and we do not function in that area just as they do not function in the Jammu and Kashmir State this side.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Am I to understand that the Pakistan, complaint is that some women are also in the Jammu and Kashmir State in the

part which belongs to us? The raiders came from there, it is not that raiders from this place went there. How could women from that area be brought here?

Sardar Swaran Singh: From that point, Sir, these abductions cut across all those territorial considerations. I am sorry to say, it is a fact that cases of abduction are known even on this side of Jammu and Kashmir, because in a commotion of this type it is not always the desire to take the women across. It is not as if the raiders only were responsible. When that commotion took place and when the communal frenzy was there, even on this side there were cases of abduction both of Hindus as well as of Muslims. Those cases were recovered. Some had to be restored to relations who happened to be on this side, and some of them had to be sent across because certain relations had gone over to the other side. Certain migrations of Muslims who were originally on this side did take place at the time of that commotion. That is a fact and it is known to all of us. So, there were cases which arose out of that. It is not a very clear picture, but, unfortunately, that is the state of affairs and it is in this background that we have been trying to function in this troubled part of Jammu and Kashmir on both the sides.

I am not fully satisfied with the volume of recovery, but to say that nothing has been done will not be a very correct statement.

The third point, about which more than one hon. Member had comments to make, was about the constitution of the Tribunal. The Tribunal consists of a representative of the Pakistan Government and one representative of the Government of India. Therefore, it is not a situation in which we can function absolutely independently. We are more or less in a position where we have to weigh as to what is the type of representative that is put forward by the other side and, then we also try to put forward a representative who can function knowing the background of the cases

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as well as the various circumstances that are inherent in the situation. The Pakistan representative on the Tribunal happens to be a police officer. So far as India is concerned, it is our choice as to whether we nominate a police officer or whether we nominate a judicial officer. But most of these cases were of such a nature that the recording of statements by police officers had to be scanned through. Therefore, it was considered that a person with a police background, having experience of the recording of statements, though not exactly in the police *zimmis* but very much analogous to that method of investigation, would be preferable. That was considered as a necessary attribute for proper functioning. We have been giving considerable thought to this problem. It was our desire, really, to strengthen this Tribunal by having people with a judicial background. We have not succeeded on this issue. All that I can say is that we can make another effort and see if we cannot persuade the Pakistan Government also to nominate a person with a judicial background. In that case we would only be too happy to replace our representative by an officer with a judicial background so that this Tribunal can function more in a judicial way. But even as it is, even though these people who are there on the Tribunal have a police background, they function as members of the Tribunal not as police officers. That work is entirely different. There are other representatives of police on either side to put forward the case and these two people only decide the cases.

It is easy to say that women should be associated with this type of work, particularly in the Tribunal. I for one, personally, am very much in favour of such a course of action being taken. We had hoped that Pakistan would be able to find a woman adviser. But they have not been able to find even a woman adviser to function on this Tribunal. Instead, they, I think very rightly, agreed to accept the lady who is now functioning as

adviser to be as their adviser also, which I think is a tribute. Shrimati Bag Mehta is the adviser. She takes the general human approach of the problem and advises the Tribunal upon this human aspect. Whether the person recovered is a Muslim, Hindu or a Sikh, she can talk to that lady in confidence, interview her and ascertain from her what her real desire is and then tender her advice. It is wrong to say that her advice is ignored or that she does not pull any weight. I think it is a great compliment to an Indian lady that she is acceptable as an adviser both to our Government as well as to the Government of Pakistan. She has functioned very well, and in recognition of her very good work under very trying circumstances, about two years ago she was decorated by an Award by the President.

Shrimati Sushama Sen: Then where is the difficulty in having more women?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am in a lucky position representing India but Pakistan has her difficulties and I cannot answer for Pakistan. It would be unfair for me either to build an argument for Pakistan or to demolish their argument here.

The fourth point which has been urged is about the increasing association of social workers. The problem is really a social one and, if some method could be found by which this social aspect could be emphasised more, it will be a change for the better. But, so long as this present context continues in which a certain amount of force has to be used at the time of actual recovery, I think it will be a little unfair for us to expect that our sisters should go to far-flung villages and recover people from the unwilling clutches of those people who might be keeping a hold on those women. Therefore, at this stage some sort of police force is necessary and I cannot really think as to how we can get out of this situation by entrusting the entire work to social workers.

A situation may arise when this question of recovery may not be undertaken at all and the work could then be handled by social workers who can contact people, who can contact those women and do the work. If they find that any woman requires any assistance that assistance could be rendered within the ambit of law as may be possible. I do not exclude that possibility, but my respectful contention is that the stage has not yet been reached to pass on that burden to our sisters at the time of recovery. Later on, after the recovery, they should increasingly take a greater load of responsibility. They are already taking a great deal of load in the matter of management of camps, doing social work in the camps in both the countries etc. They can also help in the question of children women, in the matter of treating their ailments, ascertaining their difficulties—emotional, psychological and the like—and then suggesting suitable remedies for them.

These were the principal points that have been urged. I know that there were a number of other points also which were urged, but I would not take the time of this House in going through all those details. I only want to assure this House that it is not the intention of anybody to prolong this Act even for a day longer than what is absolutely necessary, and our effort would be to wind up this work during this one year. Even if any work remains outstanding, then, that work could be handled by some other method, perhaps on a social level, somewhat of the type that has been suggested by more than one hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Bill to continue the Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Act, 1949, for a further period be taken into consideration”.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I beg to move:

“That the Bill be passed”.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That the Bill be passed”.

The motion was adopted.

YOUNG PERSONS (HARMFUL PUBLICATIONS) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): I beg to move:

“That the Bill to prevent the dissemination of certain publications harmful to young persons be taken into consideration.”

This is a simple and short Bill. The Bill was introduced more than a year ago and it was, I think, received with approval not only in this House but also outside. It had a good Press. The objects and reasons are succinctly mentioned in the statement appended to the Bill. The Lok Sabha Secretariat have also issued a very lucid brochure on the subject which gives the background and also the facts bearing on the provisions of this Bill. The Bill has a laudable purpose and I believe that it will be unanimously accepted by the House. It seeks to protect the juveniles and the adolescents from vulgarity, crime, sadism, violence, morbidity and the like. As the Press Commission stated, publications of this character are against our culture. Such publications exploit crime, violence and sex and are deleterious to children and the young persons. Horror comics, as they are called, have caused enough of horror and damage in other countries. We issued a notification banning the import of horror comics into our country sometime before this Bill was introduced. Publications of this character are particularly reprehensible as they are meant for the use of children and young persons whose susceptibilities and impressionabilities at that age make them easy victims of the influences which are borne upon them

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

by horror comics and other books of that type. They undermine the sense of morality. They do great outrage to the fine qualities of mercy, compassion, and sympathy, and they lower in one's estimate the standards of decency. They have been condemned by all thinking people in the modern countries also. In fact, there, many crimes even of a heinous nature have been committed by children. One could not have imagined that these little boys and girls could be capable of doing such heinous misdeeds. So, it is necessary to take effective measures in order to protect our own children. That is the purpose of this Bill, and I do not think it is necessary for me to say more in its support.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to prevent the dissemination of certain publications harmful to young persons be taken into consideration."

Before I call upon the hon. Members to speak, we must be clear what time we shall allot to the general discussion, clause-by-clause consideration, etc. The time allowed for the Bill is two hours.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I do not think it is necessary to allot any time. I hope it will be finished in 15 minutes.

Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada): 1½ hours for general discussion and half an hour for the rest.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will see to it, as the debate proceeds.

Dr. Rama Rao: I support this Bill though the Bill itself is limited in its purpose and is rather of a negative character. Our Lok Sabha Secretariat has supplied us a very helpful brochure from which I shall read a few lines.

"Dr. Fredric Wertham, M.D., in his illuminating book *"Seduction of the Innocent"* analyses the influence of comic books."

Among other things, "he summarises the most subtle and pervading effect of crime comics on children in a single phrase: *Moral Disarmament*. This

consists chiefly in the blunting of the finer feelings of conscience, of mercy, of sympathy for other peoples' sufferings and of respect for women as women and not merely as sex objects to be bandied about...." and so on.

Further, "A U.S. Senate Subcommittee appointed recently to study Juvenile Delinquency, concludes its report with these words:

"This country—

'this country' refers to America—

"cannot afford the calculated risk involved in feeding its children through comic books,—

of course, the hon. Minister has referred already to the comic books—

"a concentrated diet of crime, horror and violence.... It is during childhood that the individual's concepts of right and wrong and his reactions to society's standards are largely developed."

"All concerned should unite in supporting sincere efforts of the comics industry to raise the standard of its products and in demanding adequate standards of decency and good taste."

I will read one more sentence with reference to France. They received a large amount of gift books from America and the teachers in France found to their amazement that the books were full of horror comics:

"It contained so many comics that the French teachers, in dismay, begged us to desist from sending such books, for French children began to picture America as a country of gangsters and robbers, where shooting, killing and torturing were everyday occurrences."

The following sentence is also about France:

"A series of instances of juvenile delinquency 'where children had aped episodes and techniques of violence shown in comic books' helped to crystallize public opinion."

I am quoting all this to show the effect of the books we are now having.

It is a very welcome factor, which many other hon. Members must also have noticed, that of late there is a great demand of books. It is welcome, but the main problem is, what is the kind of books that the children lay their hands upon now? All that they are able to get easily and cheaply is this sort of horror comics. During the last three or four months, at least in Tamil Nad and Andhra, the so-called detective books with charming covers of pictures of beautiful women in various poses and the so-called detective journals have been on the increase and youngsters read them till 2 o'clock in the night. They do not lay down the books without finishing them. If they are good and healthy books, we have no objection. But, in the name of detective books, all sorts of books containing horror comics, but with attractive covers, are being sold to our young people in large numbers. Formerly there used to be great difficulty in selling thousand copies of any edition, but now the demand for books has increased. It is a welcome thing; but, where is the supply? My point is that the Government should supply good books and meet the demand in a positive manner. The Government must take up this responsibility. The Government cannot say that they will leave it to the private enterprise. This sort of alibi is not acceptable to me. It is the primary duty of the Government to give the best books to the children. When the children are at a very impressionable age, we are creating a vacuum. Young minds do not live in vacuums. The Government should supply good story books, novels, scientific books etc. in a presentable form. I ask, is there any books by Premchand, Tagore or our Prime Minister which are available in cheap editions? Many of these books are costly. Of course, I am not referring to costly foreign editions of Prime Minister's books; but, the other books can be brought up in a presentable form and sold to the children.

I have already referred to the books with attractive covers sold in Tamil

Nad and Andhra in Tamil and Telugu. I hope it is so in other languages also. In New Zealand, a special committee was appointed by the Government and they said:

"The suggestiveness in the cover pictures of glamour girls dressed in a thin veiling often attract more attention than the pages inside."

From this we must learn a lesson. We have got valuable material which is presented in an unattractive fashion. The children are attracted by beautiful covers and they go on reading these books. My suggestion to the hon. Minister is that it is the primary duty of the Central Government that they publish good books on their account. The Central Government can use its influence and as a State Publishing Department it can specialise in publishing books for children. On a previous occasion, I have mentioned that all text-books must be published by the State only, because worthless books are now prescribed as text-books just because the authors have some influence with the people in power. Nice books can be printed on costly paper with attractive pictures and yet the Government can sell them at cheap rates. It is the duty of the Government to publish such books and make them available at cheap rates. This must be done in all the 14 national languages.

Nowadays, many children are anxiously reading some of the children's papers and magazines. I know there is one such magazine—*Ambulimama* which is published in Madras in many languages—Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi etc. The children wait for the arrival of such magazines and read them. If the Government publishes some such magazines, then we can ask the children to read them. I hope you will not mind my striking a personal note. I told my son, a young boy, something about stars, constellations etc. and now he is very much interested in the subject. He wants to know more; he brings some popular text-books in English beautifully illustrated and he wants me to explain the contents. So, children understand

[Dr. Rama Rao]

even scientific things, provided they have properly illustrated text-books. He asked me for a text-book in my language, Telugu, but unfortunately, there is not a single text-book in that language which I can place in the hands of the young boy which he can read and understand. So, even such abstract subjects like astronomy are very fascinating to young minds. There are so many subjects like geology, biology etc. and simple text-books with good illustrations can be published in the various languages.

Though it is not connected with this Bill, I may go a step further and say that the Government should create a department of children's literature. The Government can produce children's films—something is being done here, but that is by some private agency. These are days for setting up children's clubs, children's libraries, children's theatres and also children's palaces, as they have done in China. In these children's palaces, there are various avocations and extra curricular activities for developing the creative faculties of the children. These are the things which we must give for our children to occupy their minds, bodies and talents. If we do that, we can be sure that the object of the Bill would be served. If we just pass some law and leave it to the private enterprise, they will cheat the law through so many loopholes. Therefore, while welcoming the Bill, I request the Government to create a positive element in this matter.

In this connection, I want to refer to our Prime Minister's birthday. It is very pleasing to note that his birthday is associated with children's day. My suggestion is, why not present to the Prime Minister hundred new text-books for children in various languages on every birthday? The hon. Home Minister can draw the attention of the various State Governments that by the next November 14th, they should produce so many children's books in their languages. That would be a very good way of celebrating the

Prime Minister's birthday. I think the Prime Minister—I do not know what to do—must give some of his time to write books for children. He has got millions of nephews and nieces.

An Hon. Member: He is a good writer.

Dr. Rama Rao: Unfortunately, his time is wasted otherwise.

An Hon. Member: Wasted?

Dr. Rama Rao: I will explain. It is wonderful how he finds time for so many things. While most of the things are essential, a few things can be avoided and that time can be devoted for this purpose. I am sure the Home Minister will use his influence or whatever powers he has and see that the Prime Minister starts writing some books for the children and thus gives a positive aspect to this problem. I support the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: One thing I should like to make clear. I have already 7 or 8 names and probably there may be others who have not sent their names, but want to speak. We ought to be careful that at least we conclude by 5 o'clock. Though I am not placing any restrictions on the speeches, I would appeal to the Members to be as brief as possible in their comments.

Shrimati Jayashri (Bombay—Suburban): Deputy-Speaker Sir, I welcome this measure. It has not come a day too soon. In June 1955, the Government of India banned, under section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, the import in India of harmful horror comics. This Bill seeks to ban the production of such literature and also circulation of such literature in India.

I am surprised that we should not have so far thought of bringing forward such a measure when we know that so many other countries had already passed legislations on this subject. We are trying to look to the

health of the body, but, I am sorry to say that we have neglected the soul of our people. I would say that the parents are responsible for the literature that is placed in the hands of their children. They are to be blamed if they allow their children to read literature which they know is doing harm to their mind. We know that the mind of the children is like a pure mirror and whatever is brought them is reflected in this mirror. We have to be very careful when such literature is brought before them. As I said, the parents are very much responsible.

A few years ago, I know, in Bombay, in one of our Womens' conferences, the women had protested against showing films which will do harm to the children. I should think that publication of this kind of books will do more harm because, these will go into the hands of a larger number of children. The film is seen only by those who can afford to pay. If such literature is allowed to be read by the children, it will do more harm to the mind of the young generation.

We know that in rich countries like America and England, cases of juvenile delinquency are increasing. If we look to the reasons for this, we can understand that there is a plethora of such literature coming into their hands and even in films, television, etc., they show such horror comics. We had so far allowed such literature to be imported into India. It is a good thing that we have our own culture still in our homes and due to that, our children have not been so much affected as those in other countries. I would like to read out a small passage. This matter was discussed in the U.N.E.S.C.O. conference.

Dr. Frederic Wertham M.D. in his illuminating book *Seduction of the innocent*, analyses the influence of comic books on the American youth and states that "comic books are an invitation to illiteracy and create an atmosphere of cruelty and deceit, stimulate unwholesome fantasies, suggest criminal or sexually abnormal

ideas, create a readiness for temptation, suggest forms which a delinquent impulse may take and supply details of technique". This literature has also come to our country. It is, I think, the duty of the Government to see that there is a ban on such literature.

I agree with some of the amendments that have been tabled for this Bill. We have suggested that the age of the youth should be 20. I think we can raise it to 21. I think till 21, the age is more impressionable. We have also in our Guardianship Act considered that till 21, the boy should be considered a minor. Similarly, I agree with one amendment suggested by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, that a Committee—I would call it a Commission—consisting of Judges, authors, publishers and youth organisations, should see what kind of books should be allowed to be published and circulated. Instead of the courts sitting in judgment whether they should be published or not, I should think that a Commission would be better to deal with this matter. This will be an All-India question and this Commission can go into the matter whenever such literature is published. That would be the right body to deal with this matter. If they consider that a literature is harmful, that case may go to the Court. But first it should be dealt with by a committee or a commission, whatever we may call it, in which there may be social workers, members of youth organisations, Judges and also those who are dealing with juvenile delinquency.

I have also an amendment to....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would it not be better if the hon. lady Member dealt with the amendment when the clause is taken up?

Shrimati Jayashri: I want that immoral behaviour should also be considered harmful. In clause 2, nothing is said about this. I would like to suggest that this should also be added.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will consider that when we take up the clause.

Shrimati Jayashri: With these words, I heartily support this Bill.

श्रीमती जिवराजबती नेहरू (जिला लखनऊ—मध्य) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल का हृदय से समर्थन करती हूँ और जिस ध्येय से यह बिल लाया गया है, मैं उस को सराहनीय समझती हूँ। इस बिल के द्वारा ऐसे सब लिटरेचर (साहित्य) के विक्रय और वितरण पर—उस लिटरेचर में पुस्तकें हों या तस्वीरें—कानून के द्वारा प्रतिबन्ध लगाया जा रहा है, जिन में गन्दी प्रेम कहानियाँ हों, अपराधों को मनोरंजक और आकर्षक रूप में दिखाया गया हो, जिन को हारर कामिक्स (वीमन्स साहित्य) कहा जाता है, और जिन के द्वारा अपराधी और दुष्ट को और हिंसक को एक हीरो (नायक) के रूप में दिखाया जाय।

वास्तव में देश के वयस्क बालकों को अपराध की प्रवृत्तियों से बचाने के लिये और उन को अच्छे नागरिक बनाने के लिये इस बिल की अत्यन्त आवश्यकता थी। इस बिल के लागू होने से हमारे देश का वातावरण स्वच्छ और शुद्ध होगा और बालकों का मस्तिष्क अच्छे, स्वस्थ और शुद्ध वातावरण में पनपेगा और वे अच्छे और उपयोगी नागरिक बन सकेंगे। हारर कामिक्स (वीमन्स साहित्य) का कितना बुरा असर बालकों के हृदयों पर पड़ता है, इस का एक उदाहरण एक पत्र में प्रकाशित हुआ था। उस में लिखा था कि बारह और तेरह वर्ष की आयु के दो बालकों ने टक् गार्ड की पिक्चर (चल-चित्र) देख कर वैसा ही आचरण करने का नाटक सा किया। वे एक दूसरे के सामने खड़े हो गये और उन में से एक ने अपने बाप का तमचा

उठा कर दूसरे पर चला दिया। भाम्य से उस को निशाना लगाना नहीं आता था, इसलिये गोली दूसरे बालक को लगी नहीं, लेकिन फिर भी उस को बहुत खोट लगी और उस को अस्पताल ले जाना पड़ा। इस प्रकार के साहित्य से बालकों के हृदय से माता-पिता का मान, बड़ों का आदर और कानून के दंड का भय निकल जाता है। जब उन को इस प्रकार का निकृष्ट साहित्य पढ़ने की आदत हो जाती है, तो उन का मन अच्छा साहित्य पढ़ने में नहीं लगता है और वे अपने स्कूल की टेक्स्ट-बुक्स (पाठ्य-पुस्तकें) और कोर्स (पाठ्य क्रम) की किताबों को पढ़ना पसन्द नहीं करते हैं और जब देखो, तब वे इस प्रकार के गंदे नाविल (उपन्यास) और हारर कामिक्स ले कर पढ़ते रहते हैं। यही कारण है कि आज-कल लड़कियाँ हर परीक्षा में लड़कों को मात करती हैं और फ़र्स्ट आती हैं, जबकि लड़के सैकंड और थर्ड आते हैं। इस की वजह यह है कि लड़कियाँ अधिकतर अपने कोर्स की किताबें और अच्छा साहित्य पढ़ती हैं।

इस सम्बन्ध में मुझे एक बात यह भी कहनी है कि अनैतिक और अनिष्टकारी फ़िल्मों का दिखाना भी बालकों के लिये बन्द कर दिया जाना चाहिये, क्योंकि उन को देखने से उन के कोमल मनों पर बड़ा खराब और भयानक असर पड़ता है और उन के मारल्व (नैतिकता) पर भी विपरीत प्रभाव पड़ता है। वास्तव में ऐसे साहित्य को छापने वाले हमारे समाज के शत्रु हैं। वे केवल अपने स्वार्थ और धनोपाजन के लिये ऐसे साहित्य को छापते हैं और इस बात का ख्याल नहीं करते कि उन के इस पाप और कुकर्म से बच्चों के कोमल मन और मस्तिष्क पर कितना बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है और इस प्रकार वे समाज को भ्रष्टाचार की तरफ ले जाते हैं और एक महान् पाप के भागी बनते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय मैं कानून नहीं जानती पर एक समाज सेविका के नाते यह कहने का साहस करती हूँ कि क्लाज २ के खंड (२) के उपखंड (ग) सब-क्लाज (सी) यंग पर्सन (तरुण) की जो परिभाषा दी गई है, उस में लिखा है कि यंग पर्सन से अभिप्राय है बीस वर्ष के नीचे का व्यक्ति । मुझे यह ध्याय बहुत अधिक लगती है, क्योंकि हमारे सामने स्कूल जाने वाले बालक दस, ग्यारह बारह वर्ष की आयु में ही हारर-कामिक्स पढ़ने लग जाते हैं और यही उम्र ऐसी होती है, जबकि बालकों की समझ कच्ची होती है और उन का हृदय अत्यन्त कोमल होता है । इसलिये उन पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है । इस कारण अगर दस वर्ष से ले कर अठारह वर्ष तक के बालकों को यंग पर्सन की श्रेणी में रखा जाय, तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा ।

इस बिल के क्लाज ३ में यह प्रत्यक्ष नहीं है कि इस साहित्य को केवल बालकों के ही हाथ में बेचना जुर्म है या बड़ों को भी बेचना जुर्म है । इस से ऐसा लगता है कि बड़े व्यक्ति के हाथ भी दुकानदार ऐसा साहित्य नहीं बेच सकता है और यदि वह बेचेगा, तो उस को सजा होगी । लेकिन जैसा कि इस बिल के नाम से विदित होता है कि केवल बालकों के हाथ ही यह साहित्य बेचना जुर्म है और बड़ों को वह बेचा जा सकता है । अगर सरकार का आशय यह है कि यह साहित्य किसी के भी हाथ में न पहुँचे और उस की बिल्कुल बिक्री न हो, तो यह ठीक है और मैं उस से सहमत हूँ, लेकिन फिर इस का नाम बदल देना चाहिये और उस से यंग पर्सन्ज निकाल देना चाहिये और उस का नाम दि हार्मफुल पब्लिकेशन्स बिल, १९५५ (हानिकारक प्रकाशन विधेयक, १९५५) रख देना चाहिये ।

मेरा यह भी सुझाव है कि जो व्यक्ति ऐसे साहित्य को खरीदे और पढ़े, उस के लिये भी कुछ न कुछ जुर्माने का दंड रखा

चाहिये । यहां ऐसे व्यक्तियों के लिये कोई दंड नहीं रखा गया है ।

ये चन्द सुझाव प्रस्तुत करने के बाद मैं इस बिल का हृदय में समर्पण करती हूँ ।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (गुड़गांव) :
जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं पहले बोलने वाले भानरेबल मेम्बरज (माननीय सदस्यों) के साथ अपने होम मिनिस्टर (गृह मंत्री) को बधाई देने में शामिल होता हूँ कि उन्होंने ने कमाल मेहरबानी से इस बिल को इंट्रो-ड्यूस (पुरःस्थापित) करवाया है और इस को पास करवाना चाहते हैं ।

जहां तक इस बिल के अग्राज (उद्देश्यों) का सवाल है, इस बात में कोई दो राय नहीं हो सकती है कि बच्चों के लिये ऐसी पब्लिकेशन्ज (प्रकाशन) नुकसानदेह होंगी और वे उन के इम्प्रेशनबल माइन्डज (ग्रहणशील मस्तिष्कों) पर ऐसे असरात डालेंगी, जिन से उन को नुकसान होगा । मैं इस पर ज्यादा एक्सपैशिएट (विस्तार) नहीं करना चाहता हूँ और न ही इसकी कोई जरूरत है । जो किताब कि हमें मिनिस्ट्री (मंत्रालय) ने दी है "हारर कामिक्स" के नाम से, उसके पढ़ने से बाज (प्रकट) होता है कि और मुल्कों में भी लेजिस्लेशन (विधान) धाये हैं और इस खतरे को बहुत से मुल्कों ने महसूस किया है गोकि इसमें चार पांच मुल्कों का ही खिक् है और उनमें ग्रेट ब्रिटेन और अमरीका वरीरह का खिक् है । जहां तक अमरीका का ताल्लुक है इसमें लिखा है कि वहां पर नौ करोड़ इस किस्म की किताब शायी (प्रकाशित) होती है और उनकी इशाधत (प्रचार) बढ़ती जाती है । और अब यह बढ़ते बढ़ते कुल किताबों की एक तिहाई हो गयी है । इस लिये वहां पर एक अन्देशा पैदा हो गया है । वहां जरूर इसको खतरा समझा जाना चाहिये । लेकिन हमारे मुल्क में गो कि इसका कुछ अन्देशा है लेकिन वैसा नहीं है कि हम को डर हो कि यह धाये

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

बहुत बढ़ जायेगा। लेकिन यह अच्छा है कि ऐसा खतरा पैदा हो उसके पहले ही हम इस तरह का बिल पास कर दें क्योंकि प्रिबंशन इज बैटर दैन क्योर (रोग को रोकना उसे अच्छा करने से अच्छा है)। इस लिये मैं इस बिल को वैलकम (स्वागत) करता हूँ।

16 HRS.

इसको बन्द करने की जो तरकीबें इसमें रखी गयी हैं वह भी पुरानी तरकीबें हैं। इस सिलसिले में मैं सब से पहले तो गवर्नमेंट को इसलिये मुबारकबाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उसने सी कस्टम्स एक्ट (सीमा शुल्क अधिनियम) के नीचे ऐसे लिटरेचर का यहां आना ही रोक दिया है। तो ऐसे लिटरेचर के यहां आने का खतरा तो गवर्नमेंट ने पहले ही खत्म कर दिया। चोरी जरिये से ऐसा लिटरेचर न आने पावे इसकी रोकथाम की जा सकती है। अब सवाल यह है कि ऐसा न हो कि देश में लोग इस तरह का लिटरेचर पैदा करने लगें।

मैं जो अर्ज कर रहा हूँ वह सिर्फ अपने तर्जों पर ही अर्ज कर रहा हूँ। मुमकिन है कि दूसरे मेम्बर साहिबान का या गवर्नमेंट का मुस्तलिफ़ तर्जबा हो और उनकी ज्यादा मालुमात हों। मुमकिन है जितना खतरा मैं समझता हूँ उससे ज्यादा खतरा हो। इसलिये यह तो जरूरी है कि यह बिल पास किया जाये। लेकिन मैं अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि कहीं ऐसा न हो कि इस चीज़ का इलाज करने में हम अपना नुकसान कर लें। मेरा खयाल है कि आज देश में इतने लिखने वाले नहीं हैं जितने कि अमरीका वगैरह में हैं। इस लिये हमको अपने हालात के मुताबिक ही इलाज सोचना चाहिये। ऐसा न हो कि जल्दी में हम ऐसा कानून पास कर दें कि जो किताब लिखने वाले हैं उनके लिये मुश्किल पैदा हो जाये। अभी हमारे यहां लिखने वालों की बहुत

छोटी तादाद है। अभी हमारे यहां लिटरेसी (साक्षरता) ही बहुत कम है। हमारे यहां अभी १५ पर सेंट (प्रतिशत) कुछ लिटरेसी है और उन बच्चों की तादाद तो बहुत ही थोड़ी होगी जो कि इन किताबों को पढ़ें।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. This House should never give the appearance as if separate sub-committees are being held inside this Hall.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : तो मैं यह अर्ज कर रहा था कि जो बच्चे इस किस्म का लिटरेचर पढ़ सकेंगे उनकी तादाद बहुत कम है और लिखने वालों की तादाद तो और भी कम है। हमारे यहां लिटरेटों (साक्षरों) की तादाद भी बहुत कम है। ऐसा न हो कि इस कानून को पास करने से लिखना ही बन्द हो जाये क्योंकि जो लिखने वाले होंगे उनको यह तमीज़ नहीं हो सकेगी कि जो स्टोरी (कहानी) वह लिख रहे हैं वह इस कानून में आती है या नहीं। लिखने वाले यह नहीं समझ सकेंगे कि जो मजिस्ट्रेट (दंडाधीश) बैठा है वह उनकी किताब को गलत करार देगा या नहीं। यह ऐसा खदक्सा है कि मुझे ऐसा मालूम होता है कि इस बिल को पास करके हम ज़रूरत से आगे बढ़ जायेंगे। मेरी नाकिस राय में जो हमको करना चाहिये वह यह कि गवर्नमेंट एक कमेटी (समिति) मुक़र्रर करे जिसके अन्दर एजुकेशनिस्ट (शिक्षाविद्) हों, साइकालाजिस्ट (मनोवैज्ञानिक) हों और जुविनाइल कोर्ट के जज (बाल न्यायालयों के न्यायाधीश) शामिल हों और कुछ लायर (वकील) भी शामिल हों। इस तरह की कमेटी हर प्रांविस् (प्रान्त) में बनायी जाये और वह इन पब्लिकेशन्स को देखे और जिनको हार्मफुल समझे उनको दफा ४ के नीचे डिक्लेअर (घोषित) कर दे और उन पब्लिकेशन्स को डेस्ट्रॉय (नष्ट) कर दिया जाये। मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह काम एडवोकेट जनरल (महाधिवक्ता) को नहीं

सौपना चाहिये जैसा कि हम ने और कानूनों में किया है। हम ने क्रिमिनल प्रोसीज्योर (दंड प्रक्रिया) के दफा १६ में यह रखा कि यह अस्तित्व गवर्नमेंट के लीगल आफिसर (विधि अधिकारी) को दे दिया है। कि वह करार दे सकता है कि सिडीस लिटरेचर (राजद्रोहात्मक साहित्य) क्यों है। आब-जेशनबिल मैटर्स बिल जो हमने पास किया है उस में ऐसा प्रावीजन (उपबन्ध) है। इंडियन पीनल कोड (भारतीय दंड संहिता) की दफा २६२ और २६३ में भी हम ने एडवोकेट जनरल को यह अस्तित्व दिया है। लेकिन मैं अदब से अर्ज करूँगा कि इस मामले में ला (विधि) का इतना सवाल नहीं है जितना कि इस बात का सवाल है कि आधा किसी स्टोरी में ऐसी चीज है जो बच्चों के लिये खराब है। इस की जाँच करने के लिये तो बेहतर लोग वही हो सकते हैं जो कि मैं ने ऊपर बतलाये हैं यानी एजुकेशनिस्ट, साइकलोजिस्ट, साइकेडिस्ट। मैं समझता हूँ कि वह काम बड़ा मुश्किल है। जो आपने हार्मफुल पबलिकेशन की तारीफ (परिभाषा) लिखी है वह इतनी मुश्किल है कि एडवोकेट जनरल या किसी बड़े भारी लायर के लिये भी यह करार देना बहुत मुश्किल होगा कि फलां पबलिकेशन हार्मफुल है और बच्चों को नुकसान पहुँचायेगा। भवल तो वह स्टोरी होनी चाहिये, वह पिक्चर (चित्र) की हो या बिना पिक्चर की। लेकिन "portraying the commission of offences" (अपराध किये जाने का चित्रण) हो। लेकिन यह नहीं लिखा है कि वे क्या आफेंस (अपराध) होंगे। हर एक आफेंस ऐसा नहीं हो सकता जोकि बच्चे पर ऐसा असर करे कि वह उस जुर्म करने को अमादा हो जाये। फिर इस में लिखा है "एक्ट्स आफ वायलेंस एंड क्रुएलिटी" (हिंसा और क्रूरता के कार्य)। लेकिन जब यह मामला अदालत में जायेगा तो यह साबित करना मुश्किल हो जायेगा।

Pandit K. C. Sharma: (Meerut Distt.—South): Commonsense.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: If it is commonsense, I think this commonsense is lacking in very many persons; they do not understand the definition of violence and cruelty. Commonsense is extra-sense, it is unusual sense which is not possessed by many including the hon. Member who interrupted me.

इस में आगे लिखा है :

"The portrayal must be in such a way that the publication as a whole—not in parts—should tend to corrupt."

What is tending to corrupt? This again is difficult, most difficult.

जहाँ टेंडेंसीज का सवाल हो वहाँ

Even the Angels fear to tread.

फिर इस में लिखा है :

"a young person into whose hands it might fall" I have to find out a book which might not fall into the hands of a young person.

इस के बाद इस में दिया हुआ है :

"whether by inciting or encouraging him to commit offences or acts of violence or cruelty or in any other manner whatsoever;"

What is corruption of a young man; and what is the "manner whatsoever".

मैं अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मामूली आदमी को यह नहीं मालूम हो सकेगा कि इस डेफीनीशन (परिभाषा) के मुताबिक उस की किताब पकड़ी जायेगी या नहीं। मैं खुद नहीं चाहता कि इस तरह की चीजें बच्चों के हाथों में पड़ें। मैं इस को अपरेज (बिरोध) नहीं करता। जिव राइटर्स (लेखकों) का ऐसा इंटेंशन (संसार) हो उन को जरूर आप सजा दें और जो ऐसी किताबों के बेचने वाले हैं उन को सजा दें अगर उन को यह इल्म हो कि यह किताब खराब है। लेकिन ऐसी कौन किताब हो सकती है वह मालूम करना एडवोकेट जनरल

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

के लिये भी मुश्किल होगा। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप एक कमेटी बना दें और जिस को वह कमेटी हार्मफुल पबलिकेशन करार दे दे उस को आप डेस्ट्रॉय कर दीजिये। और इन नोटिफिकेशन (अधिसूचना) के बाद भी जो ऐसी किताब को बेचे उस को आप ज़ोर से सजा दें। लेकिन जब तक आप उस को नोटिफाई (अधिसूचित) नहीं करते हैं, जब तक गवर्नमेंट अपना फर्ज अदा नहीं करती, तब तक कोई बजह नहीं है कि किसी राइटर को या बुकसेलर (पुस्तक विक्रेता) को सजा दी जाये। एक बुकसेलर जिस के यहां हजारों किताब हैं वह क्या जान सकता है कि किसी किताब में क्या लिखा है और अगर वह उसे पढ़ भी ले तो वह कैसे जान सकता है कि यह हार्मफुल पबलिकेशन है और यह किसी यंगमैन के हाथ में पड़ेगा या नहीं। मेरी तजवीज यह है कि हम को प्रिवेंटिव ऐक्शन (निरोधात्मक कार्य) लेना चाहिये। गवर्नमेंट इस के लिये एक कमेटी बनाये और जो पबलिकेशंस बच्चों के लिये हों वे उस के सामने जाये। मैं डाक्टर साहब को सपोर्ट करता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट ही बच्चों के लिये अच्छी किताब तैयार करे। लेकिन यह बात कहना आसान है करना उतना आसान नहीं है। मेरी तजवीज यह है कि गवर्नमेंट नोटिफाई कर दे कि फलां पबलिकेशन हार्मफुल हैं। अगर फिर भी कोई शक्स उस को बेचता है तो वह मुजरिम है।

मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि उसे छः महीन की कैद हो, उसे तो साल भर की कैद हो और युल्कों में ग्रेट ब्रिटेन में साल भर की कैद का विधान है और हार्मफुल पबलिकेशन (हानिकारक प्रकाशन) की जो डिफिनेशन (परिभाषा) रखी है उस पर भी मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है। आपने विलायत की डिफिनेशन रख दी है। मैं जानता हूँ कि हार्मफुल पबलिकेशन की डिफिनेशन करना कितना मुश्किल है। यह आपने अच्छा किया

कि इस सम्बन्ध में जो एक मुल्क का तजुर्बा था उसको एडाप्ट (अपनाया) कर लिया। इट इज मोस्ट डिफिकल्ट टु डिफाइन इट (इस की परिभाषा देना बहुत कठिन है)।

आपके इस बिल से बहुत से बेगुनाह आदमी किताबों के लिखने वाले और ऐसे बहुत सारे लोग जो किताबों के बेचने वाले हैं वे बिला और बिला किसी इरादे के आपके इस कानून की जद में आ जायेंगा अगर आपने पुलिस को यह अधिकार दिया। आपने जो हार्मफुल की डेफीनीशन की है और इस तरह से उस में लिखा है जिससे कि इस तरह का डर इस से पैदा हो रहा है।

हार्मफुल (हानिकारक) की डेफीनीशन (परिभाषा) में आपने यह अल्फाज लिखे हैं :

"A prosecution for an offence under this section shall not, in England or Wales, be instituted except by, or with the consent of, the Attorney General."

इसकी बाबत मैं ने आपकी खिदमत में एक अमेंडमेंट (संशोधन) पेश किया था कि आप पुलिस की तो अधिकार दीजिये लेकिन सैंक्शन (मंजूरी) गवर्नमेंट का हो या किसी आपके अफसर का हो।

होरर कोमिक्स (वीमत्स साहित्य) के बारे में जहां इस तरह पर लिखा हुआ है कि गवर्नमेंट की सिर्फ इवाहिश यह है कि बच्चे होरर कोमिक्स न पढ़ें।

As the Government wanted only to ensure that children do not read horror comics and it did not desire to compel retailers to read them, the following proviso to section 2(1) was also adopted:

यह विलायत का ला है और जहां की यह डेफीनिशन है वहीं का यह ला है।

"Provided that, in any proceedings taken under this sub-section against a person in respect of selling or letting on hire a work or of having it in his possession for the purpose of selling it or letting it on hire, it shall be a defence for him to prove that he had not examined the contents of the work and had no reasonable cause to suspect that it was one to which this Act applied."

हमने ज्यों का त्यों इस में रख दिया है इस वास्ते कि कल को हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब ऐतराज न करें कि हम इसको और कहीं से ले आये हैं। इसलिये हमने उसी में से इसको लिया है।

इसके अलावा आप मुलाहिजा फरमायें कि इस बिल के क्लॉज ३ में जो कि पैनाल्टी फौर सेल, एटसेटरा आफ हार्मफुल पब्लिकेशंस (हानिकारक प्रकाशन को बिन्नी आदि के लिये जूमाना) से ताल्लुक रखता है और उसमें जो अक्लाज हैं वे जरूरत से ज्यादा हैं।

"(a) sells, lets to hire, distributes, publicly exhibits or in any manner puts into circulation, any harmful publication, or

(b) for purposes of sale, hire, distribution, public exhibition or circulation, prints, makes or produces or has in his possession any harmful publication.....

जनाबवाला मुलाहिजा फरमायेंगे कि इस की ज़द में प्रिंटर (मुद्रक) पबलिशर (प्रकाशक), मेकर (निर्माता) और प्रोड्यूसर (उत्पादक) सब आ जाते हैं। मैं अबद से भर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे इसमें कोई ऐतराज नहीं है कि अगर ऐसा पबलि-

केशन जिसको गवर्नमेंट हार्मफुल करार दे दे अगर कोई दुबारा छापे तो आप उसको कैद कर लीजिये लेकिन पहली दफा उसको यह नहीं मालूम होगा कि क्या जुर्म है जब कि हमारे वहां लिटरेचर (साहित्य) इतना थोड़ा है और लिटरेसी (साक्षरता) इतनी थोड़ी है और जब कि हमारे वहां पढ़ने लिखने का मियार उतना ऊंचा नहीं गया है जितना कि और मुल्कों में है।

हीरर कौमिक्स में इस तरह लिखा हुआ है :

"Before the Bill became law on the 6th May, 1955, the British Government accepted some amendments to pacify the fears of the critics that the Act might become a weapon for curtailing freedom of expression. To guard against the danger that long after the original purpose of the Bill is forgotten, it may be used to censor publications of a different kind, sub-section 5 of section 5 provides...."

मैं अबद से भर्ज करूंगा कि मैं इस बिल के हक में होते हुये भी मैं चाहता हूँ कि जिन सेफगार्ड्स (सुरक्षायें) के साथ यह ग्रेट ब्रिटेन में रखा गया उन्हीं सेफगार्ड्स के साथ और हमारे हालात को देख कर यहां रखा जाना चाहिये और उन सेफगार्ड्स के साथ इस बिल को पास किया जाय।

मैं ने एक आठ नम्बर का अमैडमेंट (संशोधन) दिया है जिसमें मैं ने २० वर्ष की जगह १८ वर्ष रखने का सुझाव दिया है। मैं उस पर अधिक नहीं कहना चाहता क्योंकि अमैडमेंट्स पर बहुत जोर शोर से कहने से कोई खास असर नहीं पड़ने वाला है। इसलिये मैं सिर्फ मिनिस्टर साहब की मंजूरी के वास्ते उसको पेश करता हूँ। अब वे चाहें तो इन्हें मंजूर कर लें वरन्ना नामंजूर कर दें।

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भागवा]

मैंने १८ वर्ष की २० वर्ष की जगह इसलिये रखने की मांग की है क्योंकि कानून के मुताबिक १८ वर्ष की उम्र में एक लड़का बालिग हो जाता है। १८ वर्ष की उम्र में वह अपनी मर्जी से बगैर मां बाप से पूछे शादी कर सकता है, जायदाद बेच सकता है और दुनिया में कहीं भी जा सकता है, इसलिये मैंने चाहा है कि उसको १८ वर्ष कर दीजिये वरना मैं आपको बतलाऊं कि इस किसम का लिटरेचर (साहित्य) १८ से २० वर्ष की उमर के लड़के ही ज्यादा पढ़ा करते हैं १० से १५ वर्ष तक के बच्चे बहुत कम पढ़ते हैं। वफा २६२ और २६३ इंडियन पैनेल कोड (भारतीय दण्ड संहिता) की बहुत सफ हैं और उनके अन्दर यह सारी चीजें आ जायेंगी और चूंकि वे दफायें सारी चीज को कवर कर लेती हैं इस वास्ते मैं नहीं समझता कि इसमें इमोरैलिटी (Immorality) की दफा लगाने की कोई जरूरत है। यह देख कर कि आबजेक्शने-बुल मेटर्स बिल (आपात्तिजनक विषय विधेयक) के अन्दर यह सारी प्रोब्लेम (अश्लील) और स्कैरलस (दुर्वाच्यपूर्ण) चीजें कवर हो जाती हैं, मैं इस बिल को बड़े खोर से सपोर्ट (समर्थन) करना चाहता हूं लेकिन मैं अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इसमें जो ऐसे खराब फीचर्स (बातें) हैं जिनकी कि दजह से इम्प्रोसेंट (निरपराध) आदमी सजा पा सकते हैं, उनका इस बिल में रहना जस्टिफाइड (न्यायसंगत) नहीं है और मैं चाहता हूं कि उन के लिये सेफगार्ड्स (सुरक्षण) रख कर इसको पास किया जाय।

श्री भक्त वंशान (जिला गढ़वाल पूर्व व जिला मुरादाबाद-उत्तर पूर्व) : इस विधेयक का मैं हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूं। हमारे माननीय गृह मंत्री ने देश के राज्यों का पुनर्गठन करने के बाद अब देश के चरित्र के पुनर्गठन और पुनर्निर्माण करने का जो आयोजन किया है उसका सब विभागों से स्वागत किया जाना चाहिये। हमारे देश में

इस बीच नये साहित्य और खास करके फिल्मों के कारण जो चरित्रहीनता का बाजार गर्म हो गया है, ऐसे मौकों पर इस विधेयक का लाना बहुत ही उपयुक्त है।

हम लोग विद्वद्विद्यालय के विद्यार्थियों में अक्सर इस आदत को पाते हैं कि ऊपर तो वे अपनी पाठ्य पुस्तक धरे बैठे रहते हैं लेकिन उनके नीचे तिलस्माती और आर्थर कौनस डायल इत्यादि की नाविलें (उपन्यास) छिपी रहती हैं और जब मौका मिलता है तब वे मधुवक नखर बचा कर उन नावलों को पढ़ा करते हैं और अनिश्चित पाठ्य पुस्तकों के ऊपर नावलों पर ज्यादा ध्यान देते हैं। यह बड़े सौभाग्य की बात है कि अब तक जितने व्यक्तियों ने इस बिल पर अपने विचार प्रकट किये हैं उन्होंने इसका विरोध नहीं किया है लेकिन शायद इस दृष्टिकोण को ले कर कुछ लोग इसका विरोध कर सकते हैं कि इससे साहित्य और विचारों की स्वाधीनता पर आघात पहुंचता है लेकिन मैं अपने कलाकारों, लेखकों और साहित्यकारों से यह अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि वे अपनी कलम का व कूची का उपयोग देश के चरित्र निर्माण में यदि करें, तो उनके ही लिये नहीं बल्कि सारे देश के लिये यह सौभाग्य की बात होगी।

उपाध्यक्ष महादय, मैं अधिक समय न लेते हुये सब से पहले खास तौर से लोक सभा सचिवालय को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं जो कि समय समय पर हमारे लिये बहुत ही अच्छे और लाभदायक साहित्य का प्रकाशन किया करता है। इस विधेयक के सम्बन्ध में जो पुस्तिका उन्होंने प्रकाशित की है उसमें बहुत ही मूल्यवान सामग्री दी गई है। मुझे यह देख कर बहुत हर्ष और सन्तोष हुआ कि स्वयं संयुक्त राष्ट्र अमरीका में जहां के बारे में हमारे देश के अन्दर इस तरह के किस्से मौजूद हैं कि वहां चरित्रहीनता का बाजार गर्म है, वहां के प्रकाशनों ने अपनी एक "वैलेंटरी कोड ऑफ इथिक्स" (voluntary

Code of Ethics) अर्थात् नैतिकता की स्वेच्छापूर्ण नियमावली प्रकाशित की है और वह बहुत ही सुन्दर दिशा की ओर प्रयत्न है। मैं माननीय गृह मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करूँगा कि जहाँ वे कानूनी तौर से ऐसी पुस्तकों और ऐसे अश्लील चित्रों पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने का विचार कर रहे हैं वहाँ साथ ही अमर प्रकाशकों को इस प्रकार की सलाह दी जाये कि वे अपना एक संगठन बना कर उसके द्वारा अपने लिये कोई नियमावली बना सकें, तो यह अच्छा काम होगा। जहाँ तक मैं समझता हूँ कि जो प्रेस कौंसिल का निर्माण होने वाला है, और प्रेस कमीशन ने भी जिसकी सिफारिश की थी, उस प्रेस कौंसिल के बनने के बाद भी इस पर काफी प्रभाव पड़ेगा।

अब दो एक बातें मैं यहाँ पर संक्षेप में जिक्र करूँगा जिनका कि माननीय पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव ने भी जिक्र किया है। उनकी तरह मैं कानूनी बारीकियों में तो नहीं जा सकता लेकिन दो एक मोटी बातें बतलाना चाहता हूँ। उन्होंने एक संशोधन रखा है कि २० वर्ष की उम्र को बजाय १८ वर्ष की उम्र रखी जायें लेकिन सौमार्ग्य से मेरा संशोधन भी इस सम्बन्ध में सदन के सामने पेश है। जिसमें मैं ने यह मांग की है कि २० वर्ष की उम्र को बढ़ा कर २१ वर्ष कर दिया जायें। २१ वर्ष की आयु हमारे भारतीय संविधान ने मताधिकार के वास्ते भी रखी है और २१ वर्ष से कम आयु वाले व्यक्ति को इसका अधिकार प्राप्त नहीं है और इसलिये अगर २१ वर्ष रख दिया जाये तो अधिक उपयुक्त होगा।

इसके अतिरिक्त एक और संशोधन की मैं ने सूचना दी है जो कि धारा ३ के सम्बन्ध में है और जिसमें मजिस्ट्रेटों को यह अधिकार बिना गया है कि जिसके अनुसार किसी आपत्तिजनक पुस्तक के प्रकाशक अथवा विक्रेता को दण्ड दिया जायगा और उस

पुस्तक या चित्र को भी नष्ट कर दिया जायेगा लेकिन सरकार जो अधिकार ले रही है वह उन को फोरफीट (जन्त) करने को ही ले रही है। इस बिल में इन चित्रों को या पुस्तकों को नष्ट करने का कहीं भी जिक्र नहीं है। हो सकता है कि गवर्नमेंट का मन्तव्य इससे पूरा हो जाता हो। लेकिन मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि इसको स्पष्ट कर दिया जाय क्योंकि मुझे भय है कि सरकार जिन पुस्तकों को या चित्रों को जन्त करेगी तो उनके सरकारी कार्यालयों में रखा जायगा और हो सकता है कि सरकारी कर्मचारी तथा उनके बच्चे उन्हें पढ़ने लग जायें जिससे उनके चरित्र पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ेगा। अतः मैं चाहता हूँ कि उनको ऐसा मौका न मिले और उनको नष्ट करने की व्यवस्था इस में कर दी जायें।

अन्त में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस विधेयक की जो मंशा है वह तब तक पूरी नहीं होगी जब तक कि इन चित्रों और पुस्तकों के अतिरिक्त हमारे यहाँ जो गन्दी फिल्मों का निर्माण किया जा रहा है और प्रदर्शित किया जा रहा है उन पर भी किसी प्रकार का अंकुश नहीं लगाया जाता। इन फिल्मों से हमारे देश के युवकों और युवतियों के दिलों पर बहुत ही बुरा प्रभाव पड़ रहा है। इसलिये जब तक उन पर अंकुश नहीं लगाया जाता, कठोर प्रतिबन्ध नहीं लगाया जाता, चरित्रहीनता के जितने अंश हैं, उनको काटा नहीं जाता, उसको रोकने के लिये कड़े कदम नहीं उठाये जाते, तब तक इस विधेयक के स्वीकार हो जाने के बाद भी गवर्नमेंट का जो मन्तव्य है, वह सिद्ध नहीं होगा। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि गृह मंत्री महोदय अपने प्रभाव के द्वारा इसके बारे में भी कोई प्रयत्न करेंगे और जो सिनेमा का क्षेत्र है उसके अन्दर भी कुछ न कुछ अंकुश अवश्य लगा दिये जायेंगे।

Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda):
Sir, I rise not to oppose the Bill but to point out that the purpose of this Bill cannot be achieved as it is. This

[Shri Raghavachari]

is simply a negative aspect of a particular problem. Seeing the expansion of literature and the import of objectionable literature and the impression that is created on the minds of young boys, this attempt is made. But, does it really satisfy the curiosity of the young mind? It must be supplied with proper stories and other such things at that impressionable age and in the absence of these things, they will naturally go to this literature which is cheap and harmful. Some of these publications come from the western countries and the boys purchase them at the railway station or bazar and then this is the consequence.

The negative aspect will not really bring about the necessary reform. I feel that there is really more need for real publications of the right sort. The foundations on which we are to base our culture and civilisation, under the compulsion of being a secular State, have been neglected. The best things have been abolished from the education world and the result is this kind of secular literature that comes in. Now, we have to provide against them by all manner of Acts. I am not pleading that there is need to compulsorily introduce religion into education. We have got so much of moral and ethical legends and stories, historical stories of heroes and heroines in every part of India in our tradition. They are recorded in the books, epics puranas and legends. There are many wonderful stories which have got high morals as their subject-matter. There is always a moral basis; that was the purpose of our literature. The resultant portrayal or teaching was that the best thing in this world was preservation of Dharma. Thus, a proper impression was created on a young mind at that impressionable age. All that is not to be found or is not encouraged. I had occasion to see a few books produced by the Gorakhpur publishers from our Puranas with pictures which were very good. But, with their limited resources they could produce only a few such books. More of such books are required and

that will produce a good impression on the minds of the boys and girls and it will be equally exciting and satisfying the curiosity for adventures. Our leaders would not even like to encourage these things. I am not finding fault with everybody in this country. That is the result of some of them being very secular and materialistic. This is the positive aspect that I wish to emphasise.

Mere legislation will not bring about the necessary effects. It will not satisfy a curious mind. We have to satisfy that desire or curiosity by producing proper things. The import of this harmful stuff is now being prevented. To fill the gap, something must be produced. Dr. Rama Rao has already emphasised that part of it and I want to add my little voice to that.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava was pointing out that the definition of 'harmful publications' was very wide and that any book can be brought within its orbit. Even some of Shakespeare's tragedies can be brought under it.

Pandit G. B. Pant: Impossible.

Shri Raghavachari: If you strictly interpret it, it will lead to that. What impression would be produced on the mind of a young man into whose hands a book may fall depends upon the inclination of his mind. A story contains something good and something bad. If one part of it is not very interesting to him, he may get a vivid impression of the other part, other bad part, which may be more interesting. It will certainly go to produce a bad impression in his mind. It is not the mind of a mature man who has a balanced view. So, what parts of a story go to impress upon a young mind depends upon his bent of mind. Therefore, my submission is that this clause is so worded that many books can come under that. But, there is one safeguard in clause 4 where they have stated that before something is prohibited, the opinion of some responsible official should be taken;

otherwise it would have been hopeless.

The age of twenty years is too much; for most of our college boys are graduates by 20 or 21. It is not that he is a major and he can do as he likes, as was said. I do not very much subscribe to that view. But, nevertheless, all our young men are out of the college by 20 or 21 years and so this age limit seems to go too high.

There are one or two amendments of Pandit Bhargava which intend to safeguard certain things. As I said earlier, I find this definition is very wide and there is a risk that anything can be brought under it. Lastly, I wish to say that better literature based on our own historical incidents and legends, epics our culture and other things, should be supplied in place of the existing which ought not to be there.

Pandit G. B. Pant: Sir, I wonder if I am really required to refer to everything that has been said in the course of the discussion on my motion. So far as the Bill is concerned, it has the support of every speaker. Everyone is in its favour. So, for the purposes of the motion for its consideration nothing more need necessarily be said.

But I would like just to mention one or two matters, which may be of some help to the hon. House, and may relieve the anxieties and the worry of some of the speakers who seem to be upset over the definition, which seems to them to be rather too wide. I entirely agree that we should have more of wholesome, healthy, rich, interesting literature for our children. After all, this Bill is not of an omnibus or of a comprehensive character. It has a very limited sphere to cover and, considering the scope of the Bill, I wonder if other matters, whose reference has been made, can be brought within its purview. The need of having good literature for boys cannot be exaggerated or over-emphasised. It has also to be admitted that at present we have not got all that is necessary

to inspire the boys and to enable them to develop their mind, their intellect, their spirit of adventure and other things which are necessary for the growth of children. All these things have to be provided. The Government has been taking an active interest in these matters and special steps have been taken to promote children's literature, children's libraries, children's theatres, children's cinemas and other matters connected with the life of our young people. We want to do all we can in that regard.

I also wish that the people, the authors, the publishers and the Government should all co-operate in order to fulfil this deficiency. For that, I think it is necessary for us all to give thought to the matter, not as Government or as Opposition but as citizens who are all interested in the healthy growth of young minds. So that question is not in any way a controversial one and I should like, as I just said, further thought to be given to this matter so that some concrete scheme could be worked out.

I am not quite sure if Dr. Rama Rao's suggestion that the Government should undertake this task exclusively would be acceptable to his Party or to the people in general.

Dr. Rama Rao: I did not say: "exclusively".

Pandit G. B. Pant: If you did not say "exclusively" then there is no difference between you and me, because, if you think that all should make attempts to produce such literature, I agree with you. I was afraid that, if the Government alone were to produce such literature, there might be some criticism later that there was an attempt to instil certain views and certain principles, for which we stood, into the young minds when they were of an impressionable character. So, if there is no such fear, perhaps we could move in this direction with greater confidence. However, so far as the positive aspect goes there is no difference. So far as the negative aspect goes

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

there is none either. So I do not see where we really differ.

Some reference has been made to the definition. Well, the essential part of the definition is the last one; whether it will corrupt the mind of a juvenile or an adolescent, whether it will lead to depravity and degradation because of certain processes which will be set in motion in consequence of his coming in contact with the views or with the portraits contained in these horror comes. So I do not see any great difficulty in applying this definition to concrete cases. But very subtle, fine points have, after all, to be settled by the judiciary, and I do not think they will find an insuperable impediment in their way. If they apply their minds to these matters, they can easily reach correct conclusions. So there should not be any worry on that account from now.

We have luckily not much of such literature produced in our own country yet. We are taking this measure betimes so that the tendency which seems to be growing may be nipped in the bud just now. I hope there will not be many cases of such character and we will not have to take action against many individuals. But it is necessary that people should be warned, that this word of caution should go from this House that if anyone indulges in such activity then he is liable to be punished. That by itself will I hope, go a long way. None of us wishes to be vindictive, but young children, juveniles and others have to be protected. That is a national duty which is imposed on every one of us. So far as that goes, I think there will be no possibility of any difference of opinion between anyone whether sitting on this side or on that side.

As to the suggestion that ethics and morality should receive greater attention than they seem to be getting at present in some of our institutions, I appreciate that. I think I am as old-fashioned as Shri Raghavachari and I still have enough of faith in

moral principles. I think it is essential for the healthy growth of our children that they should get sound education and training not only in moral canons and tenets but also by association with men who demonstrated in their lives ways and the principles that were laid down for us by our ancestors. If we do that, I think we can impress the children and we can possibly contribute towards the growth of healthy minds.

We have our own books. We have our own stories. There are ethics which are a treasure-house of all sorts of ethical, interesting and adventurous stories—I do not use the word "tales" because many people believe that they are literally corrupt. We have also books which are really meant for children, such as *Hithopadesh*, *Panch Tanthra* etc., which were, in fact, seized upon by other countries when they first got a glimpse of them, and which were used by them for producing literature for children in their own countries. These books were written hundreds and hundreds of years ago. So there is enough of literature in our own books. But that does not mean that we should not produce more. After all, the world is growing, and many things are being brought into existence with which we do not pretend to have been acquainted in the times that are bygone. We should be in a receptive state of mind. We should welcome everything from every quarter that is good, helpful, wholesome clean and neat. But we should take good care to see that the environment in which our children live is really healthy, invigorating and clean. Unless we take good care, the atmosphere may get contaminated and spoiled, and then it may be difficult for us to save them when their minds have been corrupted.

In a country like America, we hear all heinous crimes being committed by children below ten years of age. It is something which cannot possibly be conceived of. Nobody can imagine

the possibility of such occurrences but they do happen. So, we have to take due care and that is why this Bill has been introduced.

The expert committee proposed by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava would make the operation of this Bill altogether ineffective if not impossible. I do not think that we can promote the purpose that we have envisaged by introducing a clause to that effect.

The other matters are of a minor character, and in order that those amendments may not be moved, I may just say that we have introduced the age of 20, which is prescribed in section 293 of the Indian Penal Code, in this Bill. According to this section, the sale of obscene literature is prohibited to men who are below the age of 20. So, we have taken that figure from the Penal Code. Some uniformity has to be observed in such cases. I do not think there is any other matter which I should refer to or comment upon.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to prevent the dissemination of certain publications harmful to young persons be taken into consideration"

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2.—(Definitions)

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to move:

Page 2, for lines 4 to 6, substitute:

'(b) "State Government" in relation to a Union territory, means the administrator thereof;'

There is one more amendment—amendment No. 4—to clause 2 which we are accepting.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes; there is amendment No. 4.

An Hon. Member: But there is nobody to move it.

Shri Datar: We accept it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Government can move it.

Shri Datar: I beg to move:

Page 1, line 13, after "portraying" insert "wholly or mainly".

Shrimati Jayashri: I beg to move:

Page 1, after line 16, inserts

"(iv) any immoral behaviour;"

I do not wish to move amendment Nos. 14 and 16.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 2, for lines 4 to 6, substitute:

'(b) "State Government" in relation to a Union territory, means the administrator thereof;

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 1, line 13, after "portraying" insert "wholly or mainly".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Page 1, after line 16, insert:

"(iv) any immoral behaviour;"

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 3.—(Penalty etc.)

Shri Kasliwal (Kota-Jhalawar): In clause 3, the punishment provided is six months imprisonment, or fine or both.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has he given any amendment?

Shri Kasliwal: I have not given any amendment, but I think there is another amendment to that effect.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is your point?

Shri Kasliwal: If the hon. Minister accepts my suggestion, an amendment can be moved to that effect by the Government itself. I am only making my suggestion. As it is, they have provided six months punishment or fine or both. They are making this a cognizable offence under this Act. So, six months punishment is not a proper punishment. It should be at least one year. I am not saying that the punishment should be very heavy, but I think one year would be a sufficient period.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are some amendments given notice of by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava. He is not present. Do the Government adopt any one of those amendments?

Shri Datar: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 3 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 4 to 7 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1.— (Short title etc.)

Amendment made: Page 1, line 4, for "1955" substitute "1956"

—[Shri Datar]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

Amendment made: Page 1, line 1, for "Sixth Year" substitute "Seventh Year".

—[Shri Datar]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Enacting Formula, as amended, stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula, as amended was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was adopted.

TERRITORIAL ARMY (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Territorial Army Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

As the House is aware, in 1948 the Indian Territorial Army was re-organised and rules were framed. I am happy to say that the army has had a good reception and the response too has been very good. Only last week, we celebrated the eighth annual year of the Territorial Army.

The purpose of the army is to give opportunities to those who are inclined to serve the country and receive training in arms on a firm and solid basis for a number of years. When you get yourself enrolled in the

army, then it is not merely a sort of one year show. But there is a good period of training for seven years and you are liable to be called on and given military ranks. The whole thing is just like the army organisation itself. It is divided into two parts. One is called the urban part and the other provincial part. The urban part is intended to give training mostly to people living in urban areas where the unit may be situated. It gives opportunities to Government servants, employees in different organisations, industrial concerns etc. to come and receive military training during spare hours for 2 or 4 hours a week. Altogether it comes to about 120 hours in the year. If there is a more intensive programme, it may be doubled, but the intention is that the spare time may be employed in it.

The provincial part is intended to apply to non-urban people. There are camps for about 4 to 14 days in the year. When the officers are actually serving, they receive the emoluments and allowances which are paid to army ranks. For this, 4 hours of work is considered to be equal to a day and officers serve on the same basis as in the usual army. In urban areas, effort is made to utilise the services, as I said, of Government officers and also to take advantage of the technical ability which you find in public utility concerns, in electricity concerns, in the railways, in the dock-yards and so on and so forth.

Up till now the Indian Territorial Army runs on a purely voluntary basis. People who are actuated by a desire to serve the country and to prepare themselves for any emergency come and volunteer. It is intended to be a sort of a second line of defence. But two years back it was found that while the response was very good, there was some deficiency on the technical side. Therefore, this Bill was introduced in 1954 and I am glad to say that since then the response is improving. People are taking to it very enthusiastically,

actuated by the desire to improve their own efficiency and to serve the country if any emergency arises. Now, this Bill is intended to confer the power on the Government to call upon the people to come and serve in the army, but not indefinitely. There is no intention to convert the Indian Territorial Army into a conscript army. The character will be a voluntary one. But, if there is a deficiency in any particular rank, in particular in the technical portion of the army, then we desire that Government should have the power to call upon the people to join the Territorial Army and serve. That is the main intention of the Bill; but, I want to make it clear that it is only an enabling thing and there is no intention to have a conscript Territorial Army at all. That is the main purpose of the Bill.

Section 6A confers this power on the Government to call upon people, particularly the technicians, to come and serve. I have given notice of certain amendments, the object of which is to make good what has been lost sight of. For instance, in the Bill itself it is provided that Government may call upon public servants and people who are employed in public utility concerns to send their names to the prescribed authority. We now think that it is better to impose this duty not only upon the individuals themselves, but also upon their employers. That is one of the objects of the amendments I have given notice of.

Secondly, there is the rule-making power. Section 6A—clause 3 of the Bill—says that people who are called upon to serve in the Territorial Army may be continued in service in accordance with the rules that may be framed. One of the amendments that I have given says that the rule-making power should be exercised in a particular fashion. Section 14 of the original Act confers that power; we have now tried to include both classes of persons—persons who are enrolled as volunteers on their own

[Dr. Katju]

application and persons who come and who want to serve.

I have explained the main object of the Bill. It is a non-contentious measure and I hope it will commend itself to the approval of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Territorial Army Act, 1948, be taken into consideration."

Shri Vallatharas (Pudukkottai): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, we all know that as early as 1920, during the period of the first World War, the then British Government thought it fit to create a Territorial Army or Force in this country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Since he is likely to take some more time, he may continue tomorrow. The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 23rd November, 1956.

DAILY DIGEST

[Thursday, 22nd November, 1956]

849

850

BILLS PASSED COLUMNS
729—48

(1) Further consideration of the motion to consider the Abducted Persons (Recovery and Restoration) Continuance Bill was continued. The motion was adopted. After the clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed. 729—809

(2) The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant) moved for consideration of the Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Bill. The motion was adopted. After the clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed as amended. 810—44

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION 844—41 COLUMNS

The Minister of Defence (Dr. Katju) moved that the Territorial Army (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded.

AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER, 1956—

Further consideration and passing of the Territorial Army (Amendment) Bill and consideration of the Faridabad Development Corporation Bill and Private Members' Bills.