

Wednesday, 1st February, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 1950

(1st February to 13th March, 1950)

FIRST SESSION
OF
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
1950

CONTENTS

Volume I.—1st February to 13th March, 1950.

	Pages
<i>Wednesday, 1st February, 1950.—</i>	
Members Sworn	1
Oral Answers to Questions	1—20
Written Answers to Questions	21—22
<i>Thursday, 2nd February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	23—45
Written Answers to Questions	45—47
<i>Friday, 3rd February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	49—68
Written Answers to Questions	68
<i>Monday, 6th February, 1950.—</i>	
Member Sworn	69
Oral Answers to Questions	69—90
Written Answers to Questions	90—98
<i>Tuesday, 7th February, 1950.—</i>	
Member Sworn	97
Oral Answers to Questions	97—116
Written Answers to Questions	117—119
<i>Wednesday, 8th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	121—143
Written Answers to Questions	143—148
<i>Thursday, 9th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	149—171
Written Answers to Questions	171—176
<i>Friday, 10th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	177—197
Written Answers to Questions	197—205
<i>Monday, 13th February, 1950.—</i>	
Members Sworn	207
Oral Answers to Questions	207—225
Written Answers to Questions	225—229
<i>Tuesday, 14th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	231—258
Written Answers to Questions	253—258
<i>Thursday, 16th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	259—280
Written Answers to Questions	280—292
<i>Friday, 17th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	293—316
Written Answers to Questions	315
<i>Monday, 20th February, 1950.—</i>	
Members Sworn	317
Oral Answers to Questions	317—338
Written Answers to Questions	338—355
<i>Tuesday, 21st February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	357—382
Written Answers to Questions	382—389

	Pages
<i>Wednesday, 22nd February, 1950.—</i>	
Member Sworn	391
Oral Answers to Questions	391—414
Written Answers to Questions	414—421
<i>Thursday, 23rd February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	423—447
Written Answers to Questions	447—452
<i>Friday, 24th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	453—478
Written Answers to Questions	478—482
<i>Monday, 27th February, 1950.—</i>	
Member Sworn	483
Oral Answers to Questions	483—503
Written Answers to Questions	504—514
<i>Tuesday, 28th February, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	515—536
Written Answers to Questions	536—539
<i>Wednesday, 1st March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	541—563
Written Answers to Questions	563—565
<i>Thursday, 2nd March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	567—591
Written Answers to Questions	591—594
<i>Monday, 6th March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	595—616
Written Answers to Questions	616—623
<i>Tuesday, 7th March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	625—649
Written Answers to Questions	649—651
<i>Wednesday, 8th March, 1950.—</i>	
Member Sworn	653
Ballot of Questions	653—654
Oral Answers to Questions	655—676
Written Answers to Questions	676—685
<i>Thursday, 9th March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	687—711
Written Answers to Questions	711—713
<i>Friday, 10th March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	715—740
Statement by Minister of Commerce in connection with Starred Question No. 438 of 22nd February, 1950 <i>re</i> Import Permits	740
Written Answers to Questions	740—744
<i>Saturday, 11th March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	745—765
Written Answers to Questions	765—772
<i>Monday, 13th March, 1950.—</i>	
Oral Answers to Questions	773—794
Written Answers to Questions	794—803

CORRIGENDA

In the Parliamentary Debates (Part I—Questions and Answers), First Session, 1950—

In Volume I,—

1. No. 3, dated the 3rd February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 55, line 8, for "*Shiromoni*" read "*Shiromani*";
 - (ii) Page 68, line 18 from bottom, for "*Seht*" read "*Seth*";
2. No. 4, dated the 6th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 70, line 19 from bottom, after "*Will*" insert "*the*";
 - (ii) Page 82, omit line 10;
3. No. 5, dated the 7th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 98, line 4 from bottom, for "*or*" read "*of*";
 - (ii) Page 112, line 9, for "*fields*" read "*oil-fields*";
4. No. 6, dated the 8th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 136, last line, for "*does not go*" read "*goes*";
 - (ii) Page 139, line 21 from bottom, for "*Sadar*" read "*Sardar*";
 - (iii) Page 140, line 11 from bottom, for "*peased*" read "*pleased*";
 - (iv) Page 143, line 11 from bottom, for "*delaying*" read "*defying*";
5. No. 7, dated the 9th February, 1950,—

Page 174, last line, for "*(52)*" read "*(25)*";
6. No. 8, dated the 10th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 195, line 11, for "*completed*" read "*complete*";
 - (ii) Page 204, line 4, for "*lakhs*" read "*lakh*";
7. No. 9, dated the 13th February, 1950,—

Page 208, line 8, after "*in*" insert "*a*";
8. No. 11, dated the 16th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 280, line 3, after "*apart*" insert "*from*";
 - (ii) Page 281, insert "*IMPROVEMENT OF TOBACCO CULTIVATION*" as heading to Starred Question No. 270;
9. No. 13, dated the 20th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 327, line 2, for "*Wil*" read "*Will*";
 - (ii) Page 335, lines 2 and 3, for "*hydrometeorologica*" read "*hydro-meteorological*";
 - (iii) Page 348, line 18, for "*No. P-65/50*" read "*No. P-64/50*";
10. No. 14, dated the 21st February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 386, line 3 from bottom, before "*Will*" insert "*(a)*";
 - (ii) Page 388, in heading to Unstarred Question No. 49, for "*AUD*" read "*AND*";

11. No. 15, dated the 22nd February, 1950,—
Page 415, line 10 from bottom, for "Appendix I" read "Appendix III";
12. No. 16, dated the 23rd February, 1950,—
(i) Page 423, line 8, for "Railway" read "Railways";
(ii) Page 424, line 12, after "Railway" insert "survey" and line 27, for "have" read "has";
(iii) Page 444, line 9 from bottom, for "Sum" read "Sun";
13. No. 17, dated the 24th February, 1950,—
(i) Page 471, line 4 from bottom, for "catting" read "calling";
(ii) Page 472, line 19, for "Government" read "Governments";
14. No. 18, dated the 27th February, 1950,—
(i) Page 490, line 2, for "had" read "hard";
(ii) Page 500, for existing heading to Starred Question No. 580, read "EXPORT OF MICA";
15. No. 19, dated the 28th February, 1950,—
(i) Page 516, line 1, for "remissi of th" read "remission of the";
(ii) Page 522, line 1, for "lik" read "likely";
(iii) Page 526, line 8 from bottom, before "discontinue" insert "to" and for "telegram" read "telegrams";
16. No. 20, dated the 1st March, 1950,—
(i) Page 553, last line, omit "the" before "so-called";
(ii) Page 554, line 17, for "Gove nment" read "Government";
(iii) Page 560, line 16, for "re-introduction" read "re-introduced";
17. No. 21, dated the 2nd March, 1950,—
(i) Page 567, line 14 from bottom, after "put" insert "up";
(ii) Page 578, line 2 from bottom, after "that" insert "may";
(iii) Page 585, in heading to Starred Question No. 609, for "PPERSONS" read "PERSONS";
18. No. 22, dated the 6th March, 1950,—
Page 616, line 1, before "limits" insert "age";
19. No. 23, dated the 7th March, 1950,—
Page 640, lines 1 and 2, for "Infomation" read "Information";
20. No. 24, dated the 8th March, 1950,
Page 658, line 3, for "ot" read "to";
21. No. 26, dated the 10th March, 1950,—
Page 717, line 14, for "not" read "note";
22. No. 27, dated the 11th March, 1950,—
(i) Page 749, line 10, for "pudchase" read "purchase";
(ii) Page 755, line 2 from bottom, for "corruption" read "consumption";
23. No. 28, dated the 13th March, 1950,—
(i) Page 787, line 8, for "outpt" read "output";
(ii) Page 788, line 17, for "is" occurring after "There" read "are";

In Volume II,—

24. No. 1, dated the 14th March, 1950,—
 (i) Page 825, line 6 from bottom, for "February" read "February";
 (ii) Page 833, line 16 from bottom, for "Far" read "far";
25. No. 2, dated the 15th March, 1950,—
 Page 857, line 16, for "Boys" read "Boy";
26. No. 4, dated the 17th March, 1950,—
 (i) Page 899, for line 22, read "that if he was invited he would be prepared to come again, and, if so, is there";
 (ii) Page 901, omit line 9 from bottom;
 (iii) Page 918, in heading to Starred Question No. 944, for "COMMUNICATN" read "COMMUNICATION";
27. No. 5, dated the 20th March, 1950,—
 Page 927, line 11 from bottom, for "instalments" read "instalmental";
28. No. 6, dated the 21st March, 1950,—
 Page 969, for existing last two lines read "Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I think that question will arise after the Institute comes into existence";
29. No. 8, dated the 23rd March, 1950,—
 Page 1020, line 14 from bottom, for "moring" read "morning";
30. No. 9, dated the 24th March, 1950,—
 Page 1059, line 21, for "pltased" read "pleased";
31. No. 10, dated the 27th March, 1950,—
 (i) Page 1075, line 5 from bottom, for "go" read "got";
 (ii) Page 1082, line 3 from bottom, after "of" insert "the";
 (iii) Page 1101, last line, for "strinency" read "stringency";
32. No. 11, dated the 29th March, 1950,—
 (i) Page 1125, omit line 5 from bottom and after line 3 from bottom, insert "Appendix VI, Annexure No. 5";
 (ii) Page 1131, line 1, after "block" insert "grant";
 (iii) Page 1138, line 20, for "Cindhya" read "Vindhya";
33. No. 12, dated the 30th March, 1950,—
 (i) Page 1172, omit line 16 and in line 17, for "1848" read "1948";
 (ii) Page 1177, in heading to Starred Question No. 1252, for "IMMI-GRANTS" read "INSURGENTS";
34. No. 13, dated the 31st March, 1950,—
 Page 1213, line 23, for "1:74 and 1:17" read "1·74 and 1·17";
35. No. 14, dated the 1st April, 1950,—
 Page 1242, line 13 from bottom, for "1325" read "1025";

36. No. 15, dated the 3rd April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1254, line 1, for "**Dr. P. S. Mookerjee**" read "**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee**";
 - (ii) Page 1268, line 16 from bottom, for "*rehbiwalas*" read "*Rahriwalas*";
 - (iii) Page 1271, line 9 from bottom, for "Ministry" read "Minister";
37. No. 16, dated the 4th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1282, line 2 from bottom, for "happend" read "happened" and line 1 from bottom, omit "here";
 - (ii) Page 1291, line 5 from bottom, after "that" insert "may be";
38. No. 18, dated the 6th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1358, in heading to Starred Question No. 1467, for "**EXPERTS**" read "**EXPORTS**"; line 21, for "4" read "41" and line 6 from bottom, for "spending" read "sending";
 - (ii) Page 1354, line 4, for "hundred" read "hundred";
 - (iii) Page 1372, line 1, for "(i)" read "(ii)";
39. No. 19, dated the 8th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1379, line 16, after "fact" insert "that";
 - (ii) Page 1388, line 5, for "ond" read "and" and line 15, for "held" read "help";
40. No. 20, dated the 10th April, 1950,—
- Page 1488, last line, for "of broadcasting is completed" read "devolved upon the Government of India?";
41. No. 21, dated the 11th April, 1950,—
- Page 1460, line 11, for "No. II" read "No. 11";
42. No. 22, dated the 12th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1486, lines 2 and 1 from bottom, for "intstituted" read "instituted";
 - (ii) Page 1496, between lines 12 and 13 from bottom, insert "STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT re EXPENDITURE IN ASSAM";
 - (iii) Page 1499, in heading to Starred Question No. 1664, for "NDORE" read "INDORE";
 - (iv) Page 1501, line 9 from bottom, for "Telgu" read "Telugu";
43. No. 23, dated the 14th April, 1950,—
- Page 1505, line 8, for "**Homes**" read "**Home**";
44. No. 25, dated the 17th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1572, line 8, for "acrerage" read "acreage";
 - (ii) Page 1594, line 5, for "Project" read "Projects";
 - (iii) Page 1597, line 3 from bottom, after "to" insert "a";
 - (iv) Page 1598, line 20 from bottom, for "1773" read "1788";
 - (v) Page 1608, in heading to Starred Question No. 1794, for "**SERDS**" read "**SEEDS**";

In Volume III,—

45. No. 1, dated the 18th April, 1950,—

- (i) Page 1622, line 2 from bottom, for "28,73" read "28,739";
- (ii) Page 1634, in heading to Starred Question No. 1795, for "INCUME-TAX" read "INCOME-TAX";
- (iii) Page 1636, in heading to Starred Question No. 1827, for "KAMPUR" read "KAMALPUR";

46. No. 2, dated the 19th April, 1950,—

- (i) Page 1657, line 3 from bottom, for "loging" read "losing"; and
- (ii) Page 1670, line 9, for "kutch" read "Kutch".

In Volume I,—

1. No. 9, dated the 13th February, 1950,—

- (i) पृष्ठ २१२, पंक्ति २ पर "भेज" की जगह "भेजे" पढ़ें।
- (ii) पृष्ठ २१२, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर को ६ पर "हे" की जगह "है" पढ़ें।
- (iii) पृष्ठ २१३, पंक्ति ५ पर "जारी" की जगह "जारी" पढ़ें।

2. No. 11, dated the 16th February, 1950.—

पृष्ठ २६७, पंक्ति ३२ पर "मंजूर" की जगह "मंजूर" पढ़ें।

3. No. 12, dated the 17th February, 1950,—

- (i) पृष्ठ २९५, पंक्ति १० पर "ह" की जगह "हर" पढ़ें।
- (ii) पृष्ठ २९५, पंक्ति ११ पर "इसक" की जगह "इसके" पढ़ें।
- (iii) पृष्ठ २९७, पंक्ति २९ पर "जवान" की जगह "जवाब" पढ़ें।
- (iv) पृष्ठ २९७, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर को ४ पर "पूछना" की जगह "पूछना" पढ़ें।
- (v) पृष्ठ ३०२, पंक्ति ५ पर "गोविन्द" की जगह "गोविन्द" पढ़ें।
- (vi) पृष्ठ ३०२, पंक्ति ६ पर "मै" की जगह "मैं" तथा "बज्ञानक" की जगह "वैज्ञानिक" पढ़ें।
- (vii) पृष्ठ ३०२, पंक्ति १३ पर "बिठई" की जगह "बिठाई" पढ़ें।
- (viii) पृष्ठ ३०२, पंक्ति २३ पर "।" की जगह "?" पढ़ें।
- (ix) पृष्ठ ३०३, पंक्ति २९ पर "रिफमर्सेशन्स" की जगह "रिफर्मेसेशन्स" पढ़ें।

4. No. 14, dated the 21st February, 1950,—

- (i) पृष्ठ ३६०, पंक्ति ३१ पर "कोर्टस" की जगह "कोर्ट्स" पढ़ें।
- (ii) पृष्ठ ३७१, पंक्ति २४ पर "उसस" की जगह "उससे" पढ़ें।

5. No. 16, dated the 23rd February, 1950,—

- (i) पृष्ठ ४२८, पंक्ति २ पर "पढा" की जगह "पढ़ा" पढ़ें।
- (ii) पृष्ठ ४२८, पंक्ति १० पर "भाजी" की जगह "भाजी" पढ़ें।

- (iii) पृष्ठ ४२८, पंक्ति ११ पर " वक्त " की जगह " वक्त " पढ़ें ।
 (iv) पृष्ठ ४२८, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर को ९ पर " राखन का " की जगह " राखन काई " पढ़ें ।
 (v) पृष्ठ ४३१, पंक्ति १४ पर " बड़की " की जगह " कुड्डी " पढ़ें ।

6. No. 17, dated the 24th February, 1950,—

पृष्ठ ४७१, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर को ११ " यूनिवर्सिटी " की जगह " यूनिवर्सिटी " पढ़ें ।

7. No. 20, dated the 1st March, 1950,—

पृष्ठ ५६०, पंक्ति १९ पर " सविसेज " की जगह " सविसेज " पढ़ें ।

8. No. 23, dated the 7th March, 1950,—

पृष्ठ ६४८, पंक्ति २३ पर " गवर्नमेंट " की जगह " गवर्नमेंट " पढ़ें ।

9. No. 26, dated the 10th March, 1950,—

पृष्ठ ७२७, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर को ५ पर " उन ो " की जगह " उनको " पढ़ें ।

In Volume II,—

10. No. 2, dated the 15th March, 1950,—

(i) पृष्ठ ८४०, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर की ओर ८ पर " गोविन्ददास " की जगह " गोविन्द दास " पढ़ें ।

(ii) पृष्ठ ८४०, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर की ओर ७ पर " गाइंस " की जगह " गाइंस " पढ़ें ।

(iii) पृष्ठ ८४४, पंक्ति २० पर " नहीं " की जगह " न ही " पढ़ें ।

11. No. 6, dated the 21st March, 1950,—

(i) पृष्ठ ९५०, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर ४ पर " ट्रेड " की जगह " ट्रेड " पढ़ें ।

(ii) पृष्ठ ९६८, पंक्ति १८ पर " रीडिंग रोड " की जगह " रीडिंग रोड " पढ़ें ।

12. No. 15, dated the 3rd April 1950,—

पृष्ठ १२६५, पंक्ति ३ पर " है " की जगह " है " पढ़ें ।

13. No. 17, dated the 5th April, 1950,—

पृष्ठ १३३२, पंक्ति २६ पर " बहुत " की जगह " बहुत " पढ़ें ।

14. No. 18, dated the 6th April, 1950,—

पृष्ठ १३५३, पंक्ति २२ पर " जितनात " की जगह " जितना " पढ़ें ।

15. No. 24, dated the 15th April, 1950,—

(i) पृष्ठ १५४३, पंक्ति नीचे से ऊपर ५ पर " ओर " की जगह " ओर " पढ़ें ।

(ii) पृष्ठ १५४७, पंक्ति १९ पर " अनुसन्धान " की जगह " अनुसंधान " पढ़ें ।

16. No. 25, dated the 17th April, 1950,—

(i) पृष्ठ १५७२, पंक्ति ४ पर " जेक " की जगह " जॉक " पढ़ें ।

(ii) पृष्ठ १५७२, पंक्ति ५ पर " याजना " की जगह " योजना " पढ़ें ।

In Volume III,—

17. No. 1, dated the 18th April, 1950,—

पृष्ठ १६१६, पंक्ति १० पर " करें " की जगह " करेंगे " पढ़ें ।

In Volume I—

1. No. 7, dated the 9th February, 1950.

صفحہ ۱۵۷ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۱ - دد مانی ۴۴ کے بجائے دد مانئید ۴۴ پڑھیں -

2. No. 9, dated the 13th February, 1950.

(۱) صفحہ ۲۱۰ - نہچے سے سطر ۴ - دد آف ۴۴ کے بجائے دد آیف ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۲) صفحہ ۲۱۱ - سطر ۱۱ - دد آو ۴۴ کے بجائے دد اور ۴۴ پڑھیں -

3. No. 12, dated the 17th February, 1950.

صفحہ ۳۱۲ - سطر ۱۶ - دد ائہ ۴۴ کے بجائے دد اللہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

4. No. 14, dated the 21st February, 1950.

(۱) صفحہ ۳۷۷ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۶ - دد الٹھی ۴۴ کے بجائے دد اکتھی ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۲) صفحہ ۳۷۸ - سطر ۱۱ - دد تسم ۴۴ کے بجائے دد تام ۴۴ پڑھیں -

5. No. 17, dated the 24th February, 1950.

(۱) صفحہ ۳۶۵ - سطر ۲۰ - دد کھ ۴۴ کے بجائے دد کا ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۲) صفحہ ۳۶۷ - نہچے سے سطر ۴ - دد مولاما ۴۴ کے بجائے دد مولانا ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۳) صفحہ ۳۷۶ - نہچے سے سطر ۳ - دد الللا ۴۴ کے بجائے دد اللہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

6. No. 20, dated the 1st March, 1950.

(۱) صفحہ ۵۵۳ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۷ - دد آران ۴۴ کے بجائے دد آزاد ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۲) صفحہ ۵۶۳ - سطر ۱ - دد ضروری ۴۴ کے بجائے دد ضروری ۴۴ پڑھیں -

7. No. 21, dated the 2nd March, 1950.

صفحہ ۵۸۷ - سطر ۱۸ - دد ہوتے ۴۴ کے بجائے دد ہونے ۴۴ پڑھیں -

8. No. 23, dated the 7th March, 1950.

(۱) صفحہ ۶۳۱ - سطر ۱۷ - دد مریکہ ۴۴ کے بجائے دد امریکہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۲) صفحہ ۶۳۷ - نہچے سے سطر ۴ - دد سے ۴۴ کے بجائے دد سب ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۳) صفحہ ۶۳۷ - نہچے سے سطر ۷ - دد دیہجانی ۴۴ کے بجائے دد دیہجانی ۴۴ پڑھیں -

9. No. 26, dated the 10th March, 1950.

(۱) صفحہ ۷۲۵ - سطر ۷ - دد شمنجھی ۴۴ کے بجائے دد سمجھی ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۲) صفحہ ۷۲۵ - سطر ۸ - دد پھلنگ ۴۴ کے بجائے دد پھلنگ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۳) صفحہ ۷۲۷ - سطر ۵ - دد جی - ایس - مسافر ۴۴ کے بجائے دد گیانی جی -

ایس - مسافر ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۴) صفحہ ۷۲۷ - سطر ۱۰ - دد رقم ۴۴ کے بجائے دد رقم ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۵) صفحہ ۷۲۸ - سطر ۲ - دد بھی ۴۴ کے بجائے دد بھی ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۶) صفحہ ۷۲۸ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۵ - دد الللا ۴۴ کے بجائے دد اللہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۷) صفحہ ۷۲۸ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۵ - دد کرے ۴۴ کے بجائے دد کرنے ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۸) صفحہ ۷۳۰ - نہچے سے سطر ۶ - دد ساہتے ۴۴ کے بجائے دد ساہتے ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۹) صفحہ ۷۳۰ - نہچے سے سطر ۷ - دد نوکرہوی ۴۴ کے بجائے دد نوکرہوی ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۱۰) صفحہ ۷۳۰ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دد ہادے ۴۴ کے بجائے دد بارے ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۱۱) صفحہ ۷۳۵ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۰ - دد انوار ۴۴ کے بجائے دد افراد ۴۴ پڑھیں -

(۱۲) صفحہ ۷۳۵ - نہچے سے سطر ۱۳ - دد گوارا ۴۴ کے بجائے دد گوارا ۴۴ پڑھیں -

10. No. 27, dated the 11th March, 1950.

- صفحہ ۷۵۱ - نیچے سے سطر ۳ - دہ اور وہ ۴۴ کے بجائے دہ اور وہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -
In Volume II—

1. No. 2, dated the 15th March, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۸۵۳ - نیچے سے سطر ۹ - دہ + دہ کے بجائے دہ ۴۰ پڑھیں
(۲) صفحہ ۷۵۳ - سطر ۱۶ - دہ پڑھئے ۴۴ کے بجائے دہ پڑھئے ۴۴ پڑھیں

2. No. 5, dated the 20th March, 1950.

- صفحہ ۹۳۹ - نیچے سے سطر ۳ - دہ آزاد کے بجائے دہ آزاد ۴۴ پڑھیں -

3. No. 11, dated the 29th March, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۱۰۷ - نیچے سے سطر ۳ - دہ بودیر کے بجائے دہ بودیز ۴۴ پڑھیں
(۲) صفحہ ۱۱۱۵ - سطر ۱ - دہ رنگناہن کے بجائے دہ رنگناہن ۴۴ پڑھیں
(۳) صفحہ ۱۱۳۰ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۳ - دہ آرگھانائہز کے بجائے دہ آرگھانہز ۴۴ پڑھیں

4. No. 20, dated the 10th April, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۳۰۸ - سطر ۱۸ - دہ رکہ دیہ کے بجائے دہ رکہ دیہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۲) صفحہ ۱۳۲۲ - سطر ۱۱ - دہ مدر کے بجائے دہ مدر ۴۴ پڑھیں -

5. No. 28, dated the 14th April, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۵۰۰ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دہ ہاوس ۰۰ کے بجائے دہ ہاوس ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۲) صفحہ ۱۵۱۲ - سطر ۷ - دہ مولما کے بجائے دہ مولانا ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۳) صفحہ ۱۵۱۲ - نیچے سے سطر ۳ - دہ کرن کے بجائے دہ کرن کے ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۴) صفحہ ۱۵۱۶ - سطر ۴ - دہ فورا کے بجائے دہ فوراً ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۵) صفحہ ۱۵۱۶ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دہ ۷۷۱۰ کے بجائے دہ ۷۷۲۰ ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۶) صفحہ ۱۵۱۸ - سطر ۳ - دہ دالونکا کے بجائے دہ دالونکا ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۷) صفحہ ۱۵۲۵ - نیچے سے سطر ۲ - دہ ۱۹۳۱ کے بجائے دہ ۱۹۳۹ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

6. No. 24, dated the 15th April, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۵۳۷ - سطر ۶ - دہ اللہ کے بجائے دہ اللہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۲) صفحہ ۱۵۳۹ - سطر ۴ - دہ اللہ کے بجائے دہ اللہ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

In Volume III—

1. No. 1, dated the 18th April, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۶۰۸ - سطر ۱۲ - دہ آزاد کے بجائے دہ آزاد ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۲) صفحہ ۱۶۰۸ - نیچے سے سطر ۹ - دہ زپورت کے بجائے دہ زپورت ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۳) صفحہ ۱۶۰۹ - سطر ۹ - دہ آزاد کے بجائے دہ آزاد ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۴) صفحہ ۱۶۱۵ - سطر ۱ - دہ ایس کے بجائے دہ ایس ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۵) صفحہ ۱۶۱۶ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۹ - دہ آندستریل کے بجائے دہ آندستریل ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۶) صفحہ ۱۶۰۱ - سطر ۷ - دہ لے کے بجائے دہ لے کے ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۷) صفحہ ۱۶۲۱ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۷ - دہ تہو کے بجائے دہ تہار ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۸) صفحہ ۱۶۲۲ - سطر ۱۲ - دہ م کے بجائے دہ ہم ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۹) صفحہ ۱۶۲۲ - سطر ۱۳ - دہ نفریس کے بجائے دہ کانفریس ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۱۰) صفحہ ۱۶۲۵ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دہ دراید کے بجائے دہ درامد ۴۴ پڑھیں -

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS

A

Abdul Hamid, Shri (West Bengal).
 Abdullah, Sheikh Mohammad (Jammu and Kashmir).
 Achint Ram, Lala (Punjab).
 Ahammedunni, Shri V. C. (Travancore-Cochin).
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 Alexander, Shri N. (Travancore-Cochin).
 Alva, Shri Joachim (Bombay).
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 Amrit Kaur, The Honourable Rajkumari (Madhya Pradesh).
 Ansari, Shri Muhammad Ibrahim (Bihar).
 Anthony, Shri Frank (Madhya Pradesh).
 Arya, Shri Baldev Singh (Uttar Pradesh).
 Asawa, Shri Gokul Lal (Rajasthan).
 Awadesh Pratap Singh, Captain (Vindhya Pradesh).
 Ayyangar, Shri M. Ananthasayanam (Madras).
 Ayyangar, The Honourable Shri N. Gopalswami (Madras).
 Ayyar, Shri Alladi Krishnaswami (Madras).
 Azad, The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam (Uttar Pradesh).

B

Baigra, Shri Moti Ram (Jammu and Kashmir).
 Baldev Singh, The Honourable Sardar (Punjab).
 Balmiki, Shri Kanhaiya Lal (Uttar Pradesh).
 Barman, Shri Upendranath (West Bengal).
 Beg, Mirza M. A. (Jammu and Kashmir).
 Beni Singh, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Bhagat, Shri Bali Ram (Bihar).
 Bhagwant Roy, Kaka (Patiala and East Punjab States Union).
 Bhanu Pratap Singh, Thakur (Madhya Pradesh).
 Bharati, Shri L. Krishnaswami (Madras).
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 Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das (Punjab).
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 Bhatt, Shri Gokulbhai Daulatram (Bombay).
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 Birua, Shri Purna Chandra (Bihar).
 Biyani, Shri Brijlal Nandlal (Madhya Pradesh).
 Borooah, Shri Dev Kanta (Assam).
 Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri (Bihar).
 Brijraj Narain, Lt. Col. (Madhya Bharat).
 Buragohain, Shri Surendra Nath (Assam).

C

Chaliba, Shri Kuladhar (Assam).
 Chandrika Ram, Shri (Bihar).
 Channiah, Shri T. (Mysore).
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 Chaudhri, Shrimati Kamala (Uttar Pradesh).
 Chaudhuri, Shri Rohini Kumar (Assam).
 Chettiar, Shri T. A. Ramalingam (Madras).
 Chetty, Shri R. K. Shanmukham (Madras).

D

Dalel Singh, Lt. Col. Kanwar (Rajasthan).
 Das, Dr. Mono Mohon (West Bengal).
 Das, Shri B. (Orissa).
 Das, Shri Basanta Kumar (West Bengal).
 Das, Shri Biswanath (Orissa).
 Das, Shri Jagannath (Orissa).
 Das, Shri Nandkishore (Orissa).
 Das, Shri Sarangdhar (Orissa).
 Das, Shri Shree Narayan (Bihar).
 Deo, Shri Shankarrao (Bombay).
 Deogirikar, Shri T. R. (Bombay).
 Desai, Shri Durbhar Gopaldas A. (Bombay).
 Desai, Shri Kanayalal Nanabhai (Bombay).
 Desai, Shri Khandubhai K. (Bombay).
 Deshmukh, Dr. P. S. (Madhya Pradesh).
 Dharam Prakash, Dr. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Dholakia, Shri Gulabshanker Amritlal (Kutch).
 Diwakar, The Honourable Shri R. R. (Bombay).
 D'Souza, Rev. Jerome (Madras).
 Durgabai, Shrimati G. (Madras).
 Dwivedi, Shri Mannoolal (Vindhya Pradesh).

F

Faiznūr Ali, Maulvi (Assam).

G

Gadgil, The Honourable Shri N. V. (Bombay).
 Galib, Shri Shaik (Madras).
 Gandhi, Shri Feroz (Uttar Pradesh).
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 Ghuznavi, Shri Abdul Halim (West Bengal).
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 Govind Das, Seth (Madhya Pradesh).
 Guha, Shri Arun Chandra (West Bengal).
 Guha, Shri G. S. (Manipur and Tripura).
 Gupta, Shri Deshbandhu (Delhi).
 Gupta, Shri V. J. (Madras).
 Gurung, Shri, Ari Bahadur (West Bengal).

H

Haneef, Moulavi Mohammed (Orissa).
 Hanumanthaiya, Shri K. (Mysore).
 Hasan, Shri M. A. (Madhya Pradesh).
 Hathi, Shri Jai Sukh Lal (Saurashtra).
 Hazarika, Shri Jogendra Nath (Assam).
 Hazarika, Shri Mahendra (Assam).
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 Himatsingka, Shri Prabhu Dayal (West Bengal).
 Hiray, Shri Bhaurao Saknaram (Bombay).
 Hossain Imam, Shri (Bihar).
 Hukam Singh, Sardar (Punjab).
 Hyder Husein Shri (Uttar Pradesh).

I

Inait Ullah, Khwaja (Bihar).
 Ismail Khan, Shri Muhammad (Uttar Pradesh).
 Iyyunni, Shri C. R. (Travancore-Cochin).

J

Jagjivan Ram, The Honourable Shri (Bihar).
 Jain, Shri Ajit Prasad (Uttar Pradesh).
 Jain, Shri Nemi Sharan (Uttar Pradesh).
 Jaipal Singh, Shri (Bihar).
 Jairamdas Doulatram, The Honourable Shri (Punjab).
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 Jhunjhunwala, Shri B. P. (Bihar).
 Jnani Ram, Shri (Bihar).
 Jogendra Singh, Sardar (Uttar Pradesh).
 Joseph, Shri Appikatla (Madras).

K

Kaliyannan, Shri T. M. (Madras).
 Kamath, Shri H. V. (Madhya Pradesh).
 Kameshwar Singh, of Darbhanga, Shri (Bihar).
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 Khapsarde, Shri Purushottam Sakharam (Madhya Pradesh).
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Kidwai, The Honourable Shri Rafi Ahmad (Uttar Pradesh).
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 Kripalani, Shrimati Sucheta (Uttar Pradesh).
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 Krishnamachari, Shri V. T. (Rajasthan).
 Krishnanand Rai, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Kumbhar, Shri Ratnappa Bharamappa (Bombay).
 Kunhiraman, Shri P. (Madras).
 Kunzru, Pandit Hirday Nath (Uttar Pradesh).

L

Lakshmanan, Shri P. K. (Travancore-Cochin).
 Lalsingh, Thakur (Bhopal).

M

Maheeshwari, Shri Himmat Singh K. (Cooch-Behar).
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 Mishra, Shri Shyam Nandan Prasad (Bihar).
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 Mookerjee, The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad (West Bengal).
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 Munshi, Shri Pranalal Thakorlal (Bombay).
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N

Naicker, Shri P. M. Audikesavalu (Madras).
 Naidu, Shri G. R. Ethirajulu (Mysore).
 Naidu, Shri S. Ramaswamy (Madras).
 Naik, Shri Maheswar (Orissa).
 Nand Lal, Master (Punjab).
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 Parlakimedi (Orissa).
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 (Uttar Pradesh).
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 Bengal).
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 Nurie, Shri Mohamed Yaseen (Bombay).

O

Obaidullah, Shri V. M. (Madras).
 Oron, Shri Theble (Bihar).

P

Pandit, Shri Moti Lal (Orissa).
 Pani, Shri Bijoy Kumar (Orissa).
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 (Bombay).
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 Potai, Shri Ramprasad (Madhya Pradesh).
 Prater, Shri S. H. (Madras).

R

Raghib Ahsan, Shri (West Bengal).
 Raghu Vira, Dr. (Madhya Pradesh).
 Raj Bahadur, Shri (Rajasthan).
 Raj Kanwar, Lala (Orissa).
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 Ram Subhag Singh, Dr. (Bihar).
 Ram Ugra Singh, Dr. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Ramaiah, Shri V. (Madras).
 Ramiah, Shri P. Kodanda (Madras).
 Ramnarayan Singh, Babu (Bihar).
 Ranbir Singh, Chaudhri (Punjab).
 Ranga, Prof. N. G. (Madras).
 Ranga Rao, Shri Ravu Swetachalapathi
 Ramakrishna (Madras).
 Ranjit Singh, Sardar (Patiala and East
 Punjab States Union).
 Rao, Shri B. Shiva (Madras).
 Rao, Shri M. Tirumala (Madras).
 Rao, Shri M. V. Rama (Mysore).
 Rao, Shri V. C. Kesava (Madras).
 Rathnaswamy, Shri A. M. (Madras).
 Rau, Shri N. Madhava (Orissa).
 Raut, Shri Bhola (Bihar).
 Ray, Shrimati Renuka (West Bengal).
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 Reddi, Shri Pidathala Ranga (Madras).
 Reddi, Shri Vangallu Kodandarama (Madras).
 Rudrappa, Shri H. S. (Mysore).

S

Sadiq Ali, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
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 (Uttar Pradesh).
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 Shah, Shri Chimanlal Chakubhai (Saura-
 ashtra).
 Shah, Shri Manilal Chaturbhai (Bombay).
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 Sharma, Pandit Balkrishna (Uttar Pradesh).
 Sharma, Pandit Krishn Chandra (Uttar
 Pradesh).
 Sharma, Shri K. C. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Shastri, Shri Harihar Nath (Uttar Pradesh).
 Shiv Charan Lal, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Shukla, Shri Ambika Charan (Madhya
 Pradesh).
 Shukla, Shri Shambhu Nath (Vindhya
 Pradesh).
 Sidhva, Shri R. K. (Madhya Pradesh).
 Singhania, Shri Padempat (Uttar Pradesh).
 Singhji, Shri Sardar, of Khetri (Rajasthan).
 Sinha, Shri Awadheshwar Prasad (Bihar).
 Sinha, Shri Braja Kishore Prasad (Bihar).
 Sinha, Shri Kailash Pati (Bihar).
 Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan (Bihar).
 Sinha, The Honourable Shri Satya Narayan
 (Bihar).
 Sitaramayya, Dr. B. Pattabhi (Madras).
 Siva, Shri M. V. Gangadhara (Madras).
 Sivaprakasam, Shri V. S. (Madras).
 Snatak, Shri Nar Deo (Uttar Pradesh).
 Sochet Singh, Sardar (Patiala and East
 Punjab States Union).
 Sohan Lal, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Sonavane, Shri Tayapa Hari (Bombay).
 Sondhi, Shri B. J. (Punjab).
 Srivastava, Shri Jawala Prasad (Uttar
 Pradesh).
 Subramaniam, Dr. V. (Madras).
 Subramaniam, Shri C. (Madras).
 Subramaniam, Shri R. (Madras).
 Sunder Lal, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Swaminadhan, Shrimati Annu (Madras).

T

Tajamul Hussain, Shri (Bihar).
 Tek Chand, Dr. Bakshi (Punjab).
 Tewari, Shri Ram Sahai (Vindhya Pradesh).
 Thakkar, Shri A. V. (Saurashtra).
 Thimmappa Gowda, Shri G. A. (Mysore).
 Tiwari, Shri Baboo Lal (Madhya Pradesh).
 Tribhuvan Narayan Singh, Shri (Uttar
 Pradesh).

T—Contd.

Tripathi, Shri H. V. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Tripathi, Shri Kishorimohan (Madhya Pradesh).
 Tyagi, Shri Mahavir (Uttar Pradesh).

U

Upadhyaya, Pandit Munishwar Datt (Uttar Pradesh).
 Upadhyaya, Shri Ram Chandra (Rajasthan).

V

Vaidya, Shri Vinayak Rao Balashankar (Bombay).
 Varma, Shri Bepin Behari (Bihar).
 Varma, Shri Manikyalal (Rajasthan).
 Veerabahu, Shri M. C. (Madras).

Velayudhan, Shri R. (Travancore-Cochin).
 Velayudhan, Shrimati Dakshayani (Madras).
 Venkataraman, Shri R. (Madras).
 Vidyavachaspati, Shri Indra (Uttar Pradesh).
 Vyas, Shri Jainarain (Rajasthan).

W

Wajed Ali, Maulvi (Assam).

Y

Yadav, Shri Lakshmi Shenkar (Uttar Pradesh).
 Yashwant Rai, Prof. (Punjab).

Z

Zaidi, Col. B. H. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Zakir Husain, Dr. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Zangre, Shri Reshamlal (Madhya Pradesh).

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

The Speaker

The Honourable Shri G. V. Mavalankar.

The Deputy-Speaker

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.

Panel of Chairmen

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.

Shrimati G. Durgabai.

Shri Joachim Alva.

Shri Hossain Imam.

Secretary

Shri M. N. Kaul, Barrister-at-Law.

Assistants of the Secretary

Shri A. J. M. Atkinson.

Shri N. C. Nandi.

Shri D. N. Majumdar.

Shri C. V. Narayana Rao.

Committee on Petitions

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Chairman).

Shri Chimanlal Chakubhai.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

Members of the Cabinet

Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs—The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs and the States—The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Minister of Education—The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Minister of Finance—The Honourable Dr. John Matthai.

Minister of Defence—The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh.

Minister of Labour—The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram.

Minister of Communications—The Honourable Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai.

Minister of Health—The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.

Minister of Law—The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

Minister of Industry and Supply—The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee.

Minister of Works, Mines and Power—The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil.

Minister of Commerce—The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy.

Minister of Transport and Railways—The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar.

Minister of Food and Agriculture—The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram.

Ministers not in the Cabinet

Minister of State for Rehabilitation—The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena.

Minister of State for Transport and Railways—The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam.

Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting—The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs—The Honourable Shri Satya Narayan Sinha.

Deputy Minister of Communications—Shri Khurshed Lal.

Deputy Minister of External Affairs—Dr. B. V. Keskar.

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE FIRST SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

Volume I—1950

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Wednesday, 1st February, 1950

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock

[Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Shri G. V. Mavalankar) *in the Chair.*]

Shri Gautam: Sir, on a point of order.....

Mr. Speaker: There are first the oaths or affirmations.

Shri Gautam: Sir, before you proceed with any kind of business I want to enquire whether we are meeting constitutionally today, because yesterday this House was not adjourned by the Speaker for today.

Mr. Speaker: There was no meeting yesterday.

MEMBERS SWORN

The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena (Minister of State for Rehabilitation).

Shri Kameshwara Singh of Darbhanga (Bihar).

Shri Khandubhai K. Desai (Bombay).

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras).

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri (Uttar Pradesh).

Syed Nausherahi (West Bengal).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DELEGATION TO BURMA

*1. **Shri Sidhya:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether any Delegation has been sent to Burma in connection with the properties of Indian nationals residing there?

(b) Is it a fact that such a Delegation was decided to be sent early last year but could not be sent for various reasons?

(c) What steps do Government intend to take to settle the question of properties of Indian nationals in Burma?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) No.

(b) Yes. The visit of the delegation was postponed indefinitely at the request of the Government of Burma who were then preoccupied with the internal disturbances in the country.

(c) It is proposed to send the delegation to Burma in March, 1950, to discuss with the Government of Burma matters arising out of the Burma Land Nationalisation Act, 1948.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total amount of immovable property of Indian nationals in Burma?

Dr. Keskar: I cannot give the exact figures but I think it is about 90 crores of rupees.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether any negotiations have taken place between the Governments of India and Burma with regard to Indian landed property in Burma?

Dr. Keskar: Does the hon. Member mean recently?

Shri Sidhva: Any time.

Dr. Keskar: I think the Government have from time to time put before the House the course of negotiations with regard to Indian landed properties in Burma and, if I remember aright, on two or three occasions detailed discussions have taken place on the floor of the House with regard to this matter.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether Government have decided the personnel of the delegation which they propose to send to Burma in March?

Dr. Keskar: Not yet.

Prof. Ranga: May I know whether this delegation is expected to interest itself only with the interests of the moneyed or our own landed people or whether it is also expected to interest itself in the welfare of the Indian workers there?

Dr. Keskar: This is a non-official delegation going out to discuss only matters arising out of the Burma Land Nationalisation Act, 1948.

Prof. Ranga: In view of the fact that Government is sponsoring this delegation, have Government taken care to see that this delegation will interest itself in the welfare of non-propertied Indian nationals also?

Dr. Keskar: The question of the welfare of non-propertied Indians in Burma is always engaging the attention of the Government.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: May I know if it is a fact that Indian nationals are debarred even from bringing their movables from Burma to India?

Mr. Speaker: It does not seem to arise out of this question, which refers to a specific point, namely, the properties of Indian nationals in Burma.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: The usufructs of these properties have to be brought to India and therefore, I think, this question arises. At present the usufructs of these properties are not allowed to be brought from Burma into this country.

Mr. Speaker: The question would appear to be connected.

Dr. Keskar: Government have no information that Indians are not allowed to bring their movable properties. But if the hon. Member means gold, jewellery and such things, probably there is a ban on moving them out of Burma.

Shri Tirumala Rao: Do Government propose to send the same delegation which was announced sometime ago under the leadership of Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya in connection with the delegation envisaged to be sent in March?

Dr. Keskar: The personnel of the delegation has not yet been decided.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Do Government consider that the internal conditions in Burma will be such in March, 1950, that these questions could be discussed with that Government?

Dr. Keskar: The Government of Burma is proceeding with the implementation of the Land Nationalisation Act and we thought that it might be to the detriment of our nationals if we did not have certain discussions with them before they began its implementation.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know the number of Indian nationals in Burma?

Dr. Keskar: I think this information has been given many times on the floor of the House—the number is between 600,000 and 700,000.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know what steps the Government have taken for the interim protection of the properties of Indians, that is, before the Delegation goes there and settles the question.

Dr. Keskar: The properties of Indians can be protected only by the Government of Burma and we have always been putting the case of the Indians to the Burmese Government.

MANUFACTURE OF MOTOR VEHICLE BATTERIES

*2. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether batteries manufactured in India for motor vehicles are sufficient to meet the total consumption in India?

(b) Were any batteries imported during the last year and if so, what were the quantity and value thereof?

(c) Are any efforts being made by the existing industry in India to make the country self-sufficient in batteries?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) No.

(b) Yes. Imports were allowed subject to monetary ceilings and restricted to types not manufactured in the country. Separate figures in regard to motor vehicle batteries are not maintained; but estimated value of imports during 1948-49 was Rs. 31 lakhs.

(c) Yes.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total amount of the batteries manufactured in India as against the 31 lakhs imported?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: In 1948 the total number was 110,000; in 1949, 101,000; and during the last two months it was 15,500 in November and 18,000 in December. The figures are in numbers.

Shri Sidhva: May I know the value?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I cannot give the value at the present moment.

Shri Sidhva: I wanted to know the values because the hon. Minister mentioned the figure 31 lakhs in his answer.

Mr. Speaker: He has not got those figures.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is it a fact that the motor batteries produced in India first require the car to be pushed by hand before it starts moving?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Kamath: How do batteries manufactured in India compare in quality with those imported from abroad?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The quality is improving steadily.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government taking any steps to make this country self-sufficient in the matter of batteries; if so what are they?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: So far as batteries required for light duty vehicles are concerned, the installed capacity in India is quite sufficient to meet the requirements of the country. So far as batteries required for heavy duty motor vehicles are concerned, we are not producing sufficient number, and we are encouraging some of the existing manufacturing concerns to fall in line as soon as possible.

Shri Kamath: Have Government any plan for the standardisation and quality control of batteries, especially motor vehicle batteries?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We give every possible technical assistance whenever we find that difficulties have to be removed.

Shri Tyagi: Have Government sent any advice to the Minister of Commerce not to import such batteries as are available in India?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That is the policy, that is, not to import those batteries capable of being manufactured here and are manufactured here.

Shrimati Velsayudhan: Is any protection given to this industry?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: According to the report of the last Tariff Board in 1948 an import duty of 87½ per cent. *ad valorem* is leviable in respect of all countries other than U.K. and in the case of U.K. 80 per cent. This will expire by March, 1950, and the question of future protection will be considered later on.

Shri B. Das: Have Government issued instructions to the various manufacturing concerns like *Hindustan Ten* and others to use Indian-manufactured battery in their motor cars?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We are not importing batteries for light motor vehicles. They will therefore have to use them.

EVACUEE PROPERTY

*3. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether the question of evacuee property was considered at the meeting of the Advisory Committee in December, 1949?

(b) If so, what were their recommendations?

(c) Do Government intend to take this question to the United Nations Organization?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saxena): (a) Yes.

(b) The Minutes of the meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee have already been circulated to all members; and the hon. Member is requested to refer thereto.

(c) No.

Shri Sidhva: Was it the recommendation of the Advisory Committee that the subject be referred to the United Nations?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: There was no question of referring it to the United Nations Organisation.

Shri Sidhva: With reference to part (b) of the question may I know what was their recommendation?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I have already stated that the proceedings of the meeting have already been circulated to members. He has got a copy and he could refer to it.

Shri Sidhva: I have another question to put, but before I get an answer to the question I would like the House to be enlightened.

Mr. Speaker: He may put the question.

Shri Sidhva: May I know what is the definite recommendation of the Advisory Committee—as asked for in part (b) of the question?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I have already circulated copies of the proceedings. He must have got it.

Shri Sidhva: I have not received it.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: On a point of order, Sir, I understand that the proceedings of Standing Advisory Committees are confidential.....

An Honourable Member: Not from the House.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: From the House also though they are not circulated to every Member. Is it open to any Member to put a question concerning them in the open House?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is perfectly competent for a Member to do so.

Shri Tyagi: Is it a fact that the said recommendations differ from the provisions of the Evacuee Property Bill as passed in this House, and if so have Government accommodated those recommendations in the Bill?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I submit, this does not arise from this question. The question does not relate to the provisions of the Bill; it relates to the question of referring the question to arbitration.

Shri Tirumala Rao: With reference to part (c) of the question, is it a fact that the hon. Minister in charge of Rehabilitation while speaking at a public meeting in Lucknow stated that this matter may be taken to the United Nations; if so does it reflect the policy of the Government?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I never said that it should be referred to the United Nations. I said we may have to refer the question to arbitration.

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma: Has any assessment been made of evacuee properties in India?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Not yet.

CONFERENCE TO IMPLEMENT U.N.O. RESOLUTION *re* INDIANS IN
SOUTH AFRICA

*4. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether the Government of India have accepted the invitation to participate in the conference convened by the South African Government for implementing the resolution of the United Nations Organization regarding the treatment of Indians in that country?

(b) If so, what is the name of the Indian delegate sent to the Conference?

(c) What is the result of the conference?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). As stated by me on 28th November, 1949 in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) the Governments of India and Pakistan and the Union of South Africa have agreed to hold preliminary talks commencing at Cape Town on February 6th, to discuss the possible summoning of a Round Table Conference and the subjects to be considered by such a conference. The Government of India will be represented at the discussions by Shri Hirday Nath Kunzru. He will be assisted by two official advisers.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether this question of conference was initiated by the Government of India or by the South African Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The question of having a conference was in a sense initiated, or referred to, by the resolution of the United Nations. Thereupon the Government of India initiated it with the South African Government and the Government of Pakistan.

IMPORT OF CEMENT

*5. **Sardar B. S. Man:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state the reasons why cement is being imported in spite of the improved situation in the indigenous cement production?

(b) How long will the existing agreements, if any, between India and foreign countries for the import of foreign cement continue?

(c) Is it proposed to renew those agreements?

(d) What is the total tonnage and approximate cost of cement India has to import under those agreements?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) Importation of cement is necessary because, in spite of the improvement in the indigenous production of cement the quantity available is not enough to meet the country's total requirements.

(b) At present cement is covered by the Indo-Polish Trade Agreement only. This agreement will expire on the 30th June, 1950.

(c) It is too early to say whether the Indo-Polish Trade Agreement would be renewed after its expiry.

(d) Under the Indo-Polish Trade Agreement it has been agreed to import 1,00,000 tons of cement. The price was stated to be approximately £8-10-0 per ton f.o.b.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it a fact that while the sale of indigenous cement was controlled, foreign cement was not so controlled with the result that Indian cement was not sold at all and there was heavy accumulation of stocks?

Shri Neogy: So far as the control over the sale of cement is concerned, it is primarily the function of the Provincial Governments. The Ministry of Industry and Supply keep in touch with the Provincial Governments in this matter. So far as the Commerce Ministry is concerned, we have no connection with the question of distribution or price control of cement in the country.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is it not a fact that quotas to the different cement manufacturers are allotted by the Government of India for sale to different parties?

Shri Neogy: That may be so, but as I stated I am not in a position to give any authoritative reply to these questions.

Prof. Ranga: What is the latest appraisal made by the Government about the adequacy of the local production of cement? How soon do Government expect that India might become self-sufficient in cement?

Shri Neogy: Well, I might give a rough idea about the position. The current year's production is estimated at 3 million tons, and the requirement of the country for the current year is estimated at about 4 million tons.

Shri Tyagi: Is the payment made in dollars?

Shri Neogy: No. They are all soft-currency countries.

Shri Chalhha: What is the quantity of cement imported from the U.K.?

Shri Neogy: As I have said, the only trade agreement in this matter which has as yet to be operated is that with Poland. There is no trade agreement with the U.K. on the subject but some cement may have come from the U.K. during an earlier period when cement was on the Open General Licence. But I should like to check up the matter if my honourable friend wants to know the exact position.

Shri Hossain Imam: May I know from the hon. Minister what is the sale price fixed in India for the Polish cement, because its f.o.r. price seems to be lower than Indian prices?

Shri Neogy: The maximum ceiling price of imported cement fixed for port towns by the Central Government is landed cost *plus* 10 per cent., or Rs. 135 per ton, whichever is less.

Shri Hossain Imam: What is the price of the indigenous cement?

Shri Neogy: I understand it is Rs. 82/8/- per ton.

Pandit Maatra: What is the quantity of cement, if any, that was imported from Pakistan last year?

Shri Neogy: I have not got the figure before me and I am not in a position to give a reply now.

Shri Tyagi: Why are the Government charging 10 per cent. extra on the landed cost?

Shri Neogy: Government is not charging it. My honourable friend does not expect the cement to be sold at landed cost!

Shri Tyagi: But where does this margin of 10 per cent. go?

Shri Neogy: To those who deal in cement.

INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT *re* PLACES OF WORSHIP

*6. **Sardar B. S. Man:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether there has been an agreement between India and Pakistan regarding the preservation of the sanctity of the places of worship in either country?

(b) Have any instances come to the notice of the Government of India where Pakistan has not conformed to the terms of the said agreement?

(c) Is it a fact that the property attached to Gurdwaras and other shrines in Pakistan have been declared evacuee property?

(d) Has any income been received by the Government of India from those properties declared evacuee properties or requisitioned by the Pakistan Government?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): (a) to (c). Yes.

(d) The reply is in the negative.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know what are the terms of those agreements by which the sanctity of the different temples was sought to be preserved?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: There was a provision in the agreement that the places of worship belonging to the minority communities will be respected and that they will not be allowed to be desecrated.

Sardar B. S. Man: Have any instances come to the notice of the Indian Government where recognised places of worship in Karachi have been desecrated and converted into butcher-shops, another into a shoe factory and yet another famous temple converted into a hotel?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes, about 800 such instances have come to the notice of the Government of India and we have made representations to the Pakistan Government.

Sardar B. S. Man: If any protest has been made to the Pakistan Government, may I know what has been the result thereof from the Pakistan side?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Well, correspondence is still going on.

Shri T. Hussain: I understand from the answers that the Government of Pakistan do not preserve the sanctity of holy places of worship. Now, my question is this. Do Government propose to allot the Muslim *wakf* property of those trustees and *mutwallis* who have migrated from India to Pakistan to those Hindus and Sikh trustees who have migrated from Pakistan to India, and if not, why not?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The question makes an assumption. In India, there are very few such properties where the beneficiaries have all gone to Pakistan.

Sardar B. S. Man: Was it a part of the agreement that the properties attached to temples and gurdwaras were not to be declared evacuee property and neither were they to be requisitioned? Was this in the agreement or not?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes, it was a part of the agreement.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is it or is it not true that Pakistan has contravened all these agreements regarding the property attached to temples and gurdwaras?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes, to a large extent. To consider this a joint committee of both the Governments was proposed; but the committee has not yet met

EXPENDITURE ON RESETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS

*7. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent so far *i.e.*, upto 31st December, 1949 for the resettlement of displaced persons; and

(b) the amount spent (i) actually for the benefit of the displaced persons, (ii) for the staff employed for resettlement, and (iii) other ancillary purposes?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): (a) There is always a time lag between the actual expenditure and its booking in accounts. The actual booked figures of expenditure upto the end of November, 1949 which is the latest date for which figures are available are Rs. 45,83.30 lakhs.

(b) (i) Rs. 4003.32 lakhs, (ii) Rs. 376.88 lakhs, and (iii) Rs. 143.10 lakhs.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know what is the total amount spent on construction of townships for the benefit of the displaced persons?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I shall require notice of this question.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to increase the expenditure on these various items or to effect any reduction as a matter of the economy drive?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: A special committee has been appointed under the chairmanship of my hon. friend, Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar. It is going into the question and will make recommendations on expenditure during the next year.

Sardar B. S. Man: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to a news item published in the newspapers that a particular gas lamp's rent in the R. and R. Ministry was paid Rs. 1,200 whereas its price was about Rs. 60?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: No.

Shri Kamath: May I know how much money has been spent for the benefit of displaced persons from Eastern Pakistan? Is there any separate account kept or is it all under one head?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: If the hon. Member writes to me, I shall supply the necessary information.

Shri Rudrappa: Out of these displaced persons, how many are living in Mysore State?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: About 10,000.

Shri Rudrappa: What is the money that is spent on them?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I shall require notice of that question.

COLOMBO COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

*11. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons which led to the convening of the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Conference recently held in Colombo, and the main items scheduled for discussion at the Conference;

(b) whether any decisions were taken at that Conference on all or any of the items scheduled for discussion and to what extent such decisions will bind the members of the Commonwealth;

(c) whether the economic and political relations between the different members of the Commonwealth *inter se* fell within the purview of the Conference; and

(d) whether any discussion took place at the Conference as regards the Indo-Pakistan relations and also about the racial discrimination policy followed by South Africa, and if so, with what results and if not, why not?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I have received notices of several questions on the Conference on Commonwealth Affairs which recently met at Colombo. I should like to draw the attention of Honourable Members to the Communique that was issued in Colombo after the final meeting of the Conference. I am placing a copy of this Communique on the table of the House and this will give an answer to part (a) of this question. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 1.*]

(b) It is not the practice of these Conferences to take any decisions which bind the Members of the Commonwealth, each of which is an independent country deciding its own policy.

(c) No.

(d) No.

The discussions in the Conference were secret and it would not be appropriate for me to go into any greater detail. The practice at such conferences, which was followed at Colombo also, is to have a free and frank exchange of views, leaving it to each Government to take whatever decisions it considers appropriate.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the question of giving financial assistance to Burma was discussed at this Conference?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes. If the hon. Member refers to that communique, he will find mention of it.

Shri B. Das: May I suggest that the communique be circulated?

Mr. Speaker: It is laid on the Table.

Shri B. Das: That will take a long time.

Mr. Speaker: He will get it soon.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact, as reported in the Press, that the Member States of the Commonwealth assembled at the Conference in Colombo agreed to give a free hand to the United States so far as the settlement of the Japanese question is concerned?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know what newspapers the hon. Member reads. I did not read that.

Shri Kamath: The same as the Prime Minister does.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In any event, I am not aware of that fact, either at Colombo or elsewhere. It is out of the imagination of some writer in the Press.

Shri Kamath: That may be.

Shri Tirumala Rao: In regard to (d) about the racial discrimination policy followed by South Africa, was it agreed that any matters of dispute between the Dominions should not form the subject matter of the discussions in that Conference?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It was not agreed. In fact, it was not raised. The question did not arise there and it does not normally arise. It has not been our practice to raise such matters in those Conferences.

Prof. Ranga: What is the position in regard to the fixation of the agenda? Are the Member Governments first of all consulted and have they to agree before the agenda is fixed up?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If the hon. Member will recollect, I stated in answer to some such question that there was no agenda for the actual Conference, but there was some kind of agenda for the economic part of the Conference, which was dealt with by the permanent officials. For the main Conference, there was actually no proper agenda.

Prof. Ranga: How do questions such as Indo-Pakistan relations come up for discussion—is it after consulting the Governments concerned or by any member suggesting a subject at random and then the Conference proceeding to discuss it?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member has referred to Indo-Pakistan relations. I have just made it clear that the question did not arise. It was not mentioned; it was not discussed and it was not even on the agenda. As for the agenda, the normal practice is that the first meeting sits down and discusses its own agenda, that is to say, it puts down various subjects for discussion.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Would it not be desirable to raise these questions concerning Commonwealth countries in the Commonwealth Conference?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is arguing.

Shri Kamath: Was there any talk at this Conference about the unfree parts of the British Empire such as Malaya and other British colonies, and the policy to be adopted by the free member states of the Commonwealth towards the settlement of the problems of such unfree parts?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not in that context, but, of course, in relation to affairs in the world and Asia, reference was made to various parts including those particular ones which the hon. Member mentioned.

USE OF SHORT-STAPLE COTTON INSTEAD OF LONG-STAPLE COTTON

*12. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what technical difficulties exist in the Indian textile mills using short staple cotton instead of long staple cotton?

(b) From which countries is it proposed to import cotton to fill our deficiency?

(c) Have the Government of India explored the possibilities of using short staple cotton in place of long staple cotton, if so, with what results and if not, why not?

(d) What is the ceiling price of Indian cotton and at what price would the imported cotton be available to the Indian mills?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) Short-staple cotton can only be spun into coarse cloth. Our consumers need not only coarse cloth but also medium, fine and superfine.

(b) From East Africa, Egypt, Sudan, Brazil and the United States of America—also from Pakistan, if and when the present difficulties in the way of Indo-Pakistan trade have been resolved.

(c) It is not that we produce only short-staple cotton. We also produce medium staple cotton. Our difficulty at the moment is a total shortage, which cannot be met by using one variety in place of another.

(d) A statement is laid down on the table. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 2.*]

Shri Sidhva: May I know the percentage of short staple and medium staple cotton produced by India?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The figures for 1949-50 are:

Short staple	6.5 lakh bales
Medium staple	13.85 lakh bales
Long staple	8.25 lakh bales.

Shri Hossain Imam: What is the ceiling price?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Prices have been stated in the statement laid on the table.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: Arising out of answer to part (c), have Government received a suggestion from a section of the industry for collective purchase of cotton—both indigenous and foreign—so as to prevent closure of the mills?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: No, Sir. The industry is not prepared to undertake that responsibility.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: Has not a section of the industry made such a suggestion?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I believe that section wants the cotton for its own use. That will not serve the entire body of mills.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if any of the short staple cotton is not being used in India and if so, what is the quantity that cannot be used by Indian mills?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: As I said, we are producing about 6.5 lakh bales of short staple cotton and our requirements are 5.75 lakh bales. So short staple cotton is being used by a number of mills.

Shri Tyagi: Is it a fact that most of the mills are reluctant to take long staple cotton and they are anxious to take only short staple cotton?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: No, Sir. I think the hon. Member has misunderstood the position.

Shri Sidhva: May I know the total number of mills closed down for want of cotton supply?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The total number of mills which are closed today for want of cotton is five.

INDO-AFGHAN TREATY

***13. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state how the terms of the present treaty with the Government of Afghanistan differ from the terms of the previous arrangement existing between the two Governments?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): Copies of the Treaty of 1921 and of the recent Treaty of Friendship with Afghanistan are placed on the Table of the House. [*Copy placed in the Library....See No. P-48/50.**]

Shri T. Hussain: As the Government of Pakistan is on bad terms with the Government of Afghanistan and Government of India, do Government propose to enter into a treaty with the Government of Afghanistan to protect each other in case of aggression from Pakistan or any other country, and if not, why not?

Mr. Speaker: The question is more or less argumentative.

CLOTH PRODUCTION

***14. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the **Minister of Industry and Supply** be pleased to state the estimated total quantity of cloth expected to be produced in India in the year 1950-51. (i) in Textile Mills and (ii) by Handloom Industry?

(b) What is the yardage of cloth estimated to be imported?

(c) What were the total quantities of cloth produced in India, imported from foreign countries and consumed in India in 1949-50?

(d) How much cloth was exported to Pakistan in 1949-50 in exchange of cotton bales or otherwise, and how much is expected to be exported to Pakistan in 1950-51?

(e) What quantity of cloth was exported to other foreign countries in the year 1949-50, and is likely to be exported in 1950-51?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Modkerjee): (a) (i) 4,000 million yards and (ii) 1,200 million yards.

(b) Provision has been made for Rs. 75 lakhs worth of cloth to be imported during the first half of 1950.

(c) Total production of cloth during 1949-50 is estimated to be 3,900 million yards. The statistics regarding actual imports of cloth during the year 1949-50 are being collected and will be placed on the table in due course.

(d) The exports of cloth including Handloom cloth to Pakistan during the 9 months from April to December 1949, amounted to 80.28 million yards. During the same period India received 138,214 bales of cotton from Pakistan.

(e) During April to December 1949 it amounted to 372.11 million yards. The target for export of cloth during the year 1950-51 has been kept at 800 million yards.

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS STORES

***15. Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state on what date or dates Rehabilitation and Defence Ministries' ban on release of surplus stores was withdrawn?

(b) What was the book value of stock on those dates?

(c) What is the total recovery from sales since such dates and against what book value of stores?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) The ban in connection with relief and rehabilitation came in force on 30th September, 1947 and was withdrawn on 8th June, 1949.

The Defence Ministry's bans were imposed from time to time after the Partition and were lifted by July 1949.

(b) Book value of stores awaiting disposals on 1st July, 1949 was Rs. 150 crores.

(c) Sale value realised from 1st July, 1949 to 31st December, 1949 was Rs. 9.77 crores against a book value of Rs. 33.57 crores. In addition 11,554 tons of Salvage and scrap, of which book value is not known, were sold for Rs. 40 crores.—Total realisation Rs. 10.17 crores.

Shri Barman: Is it a fact, Sir, that a large quantity of the disposal stores is lying in the sun and consequently is deteriorating? If so, do Government propose to dispose of those stocks as quickly as possible?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: There are some stocks which are lying in the open and we are taking steps to dispose of them as quickly as possible. The difficulties are to find buyers:

Dr. Tek Chand: What is the approximate value of the stores lying with the Rehabilitation Department?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It will be about a crore of rupees.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask my hon. friend whether his reply to part (b) of the question also includes the reparations we got from Germany?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: This deals only with the disposal stocks.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the Rehabilitation Ministry at one time imposed a blanket ban on the surplus stores which resulted in wastage of stores as the Ministry did not acquire as much stores as was justified by the ban?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter for inference.

Shri Kamath: Was a blanket ban imposed?

Mr. Speaker: The Minister has already answered that.

Shri Barman: With the reduction of the disposal stores, are the Government taking steps to make adequate reduction also of the staff?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Yes, Sir. The staff is being proportionately reduced.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Have any steps been taken as yet to make over the surplus stores to Provincial Governments?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: They are being done regularly.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Is it being done in view of the fact that development grants to provinces have been reduced, or are they to pay for the stores?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We are supplying stores to the State Governments at considerably reduced rates.

Shri Hossain Imam: Are there any rules governing supply of stores to Government Departments and Provincial Governments, e.g., the Assam-Bengal Link Railway?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I have already said so. There are rules governing this.

**GRANT OF LICENCES TO IMPORT RAW MATERIALS FOR PRODUCTION OF
ARTICLES FOR EXPORT**

*16. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether any preference is shown in granting licences to import raw materials for manufacturing articles for export to Dollar areas?

(b) What are the raw materials which are thus imported and utilised?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) and (b). The more important raw materials that are relevant in this connection are (i) raw jute, (ii) raw cotton, (iii) cashewnuts, and (iv) stick lac. To a small extent bamboos of a special type, unfinished cultured pearls and raw hides and skins are also imported for finishing and re-export. Import of raw jute from Pakistan the only source outside India was covered by Open General Licence till the 25th September 1949. Cashewnuts and stick lac are even now covered by Open General Licence for imports from soft currency countries. Licences for raw cotton from soft currency countries are granted liberally. For imports of Cashewnuts from Portuguese East African countries licences are given liberally to those who re-export them. Raw hides and skins from soft currency countries other than Pakistan are covered by Open General Licence. Thus it will be seen that there are no unnecessary or avoidable difficulties placed in the way of import of the more important of such primary commodities.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact, Sir, that delays in the granting of licences take place, and in some cases for some technical reasons?

Shri Neogy: Will the hon. Member specify the commodities in regard to which he makes the complaint? As I have already indicated, the commodities which are relevant in connection with his own question have not been subjected to any restrictive provisions of licensing.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I was referring to the grant of licences for the import of bamboos. I referred the matter to the hon. Minister and he has not been able to give me an answer.

Shri Neogy: I should like to look into the matter. As the hon. Member would realise, it was rather an unusual application to be permitted to import bamboos from abroad, and it took naturally some time to satisfy ourselves about the justification for such importation.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I think I impressed on the hon. Minister that the bamboos were to be imported, with a view to exporting the articles manufactured out of them.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot permit an argument.

Shri Barman: Will the hon. Minister tell the House the necessity of imposing any control on the import of bamboos from Burma, particularly when it is intended to export the finished goods?

Shri Neogy: The hon. Member is aware of our foreign exchange difficulties. We have to be very careful in allowing importation of commodities that are not essential for the purpose of local consumption or for being re-exported after being processed. In this particular instance I went into the matter myself and I think whatever is justified by the circumstances will be done.

Shri Mudgal: Many of the plastic manufacturers have complained that while they are permitted to import raw materials for the industry, they are not allowed to export the finished articles.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member can only ask for information. What is his question?

Shri Mudgal: Are plastic manufacturers permitted to export finished products?

Shri Neogy: I should like to look into the matter. It is difficult to answer specific questions of this kind without any previous notice.

Shri Kesava Rao: Usually, how many days' notice is necessary for issuing a license?

Shri Neogy: That depends on circumstances.

INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENTS

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

(a) the total number of agreements entered into between India and Pakistan since 1st January, 1948; and

(b) the number of agreements which have been violated by Pakistan out of those referred to in part (a) above?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) About 28.

(b) About 12.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is there any agreement out of these twelve that have been violated by Pakistan, in which Pakistan has not accused India of its breach?

Shri Gopaldaswami: It is difficult for me to answer that question, unless I look into each one of those agreements and see what allegations have been made by the other side.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is there any agreement out of these twelve in which there has been even part compliance by Pakistan?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Yes, there are a few.

Sardar Hukam Singh: How many?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I think about four.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know the nature of the agreements violated by Pakistan?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I have got a list here. If the hon. Member wishes to have that information, I can give it to him separately.

Shri Kamath: Have any of such violations been brought up or discussed at any recent Inter-Dominion Conference?

Shri Gopalaswami: Yes, several times.

Shri Kamath: What was the outcome of those discussions?

Shri Gopalaswami: In some of those cases an understanding was arrived at and in other cases there was no possibility of an agreement being reached.

COMMONWEALTH FOREIGN MINISTERS' CONFERENCE AT COLOMBO

***18. Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to place before the House a summary of the results of the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Conference in Colombo?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I invite the hon. Member's attention to the reply just given by me to part (a) of Question 11 asked by Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava.

Prof. K. T. Shah: May I enquire as to what is the constitutional or legal position of these conferences *vis-a-vis* the Governments represented thereat?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is for some jurist to answer that question and not for me.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE U.N. C.I.P.

***19. Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to give a summary of the recommendations made by the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan regarding Kashmir, and the comments made by the Governments of India and Pakistan on the same?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): A copy each of the majority and minority reports of the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan is placed on the Table of the House. [*Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-49/50.*]

The Government of India have not considered it necessary to make any comments so far; the appropriate time for this will be when the Security Council discusses the reports. I have no information as to whether the Government of Pakistan have made any comments.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Will the House have an opportunity to discuss these recommendations and will the Government take the House into confidence when they want to forward any comments thereon?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I should imagine that it is rather difficult to discuss a subject of this kind in this House when it is being considered by the Security Council. It is not likely to help either the Security Council or the Government if a discussion of this type were to take place. These matters have been held up in the Security Council because of other subjects coming up. In fact the Security Council was not able to meet in the month of January. It may perhaps meet this month and consider those reports or some proposals, and I hardly think it would be feasible or desirable for this House to discuss a subject which is to come up before the Security Council in a few days time.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the proposals made by General MacNaughton in the Security Council for the settlement of the Kashmir question go far beyond the recommendations of the U.N.C.I.P. which were based on the resolution of August 13, 1948?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They do go beyond those recommendations in certain respects.

Shri Kamath: Have we agreed to consider them even then?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have to consider everything that is placed before us.

Shri Kamath: Even though they are contrary to the U.N.C.I.P. recommendations?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

PR ODUCTION AND EXPORT OF COAL

*20. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of coal produced in the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(b) the quantity exported during each of these years;

(c) the average maximum and minimum prices per year at which this quantity of coal was exported; and

(d) the wholesale average rate prevailing in each year at mines for the wholesale dealers and the price at which retail sales were effected?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 3.*]

RESIDENTIAL HOUSES FOR REFUGEEES

*21. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of residential houses built only for displaced persons which are lying vacant in Centrally administered areas;

(b) the approximate period of their being vacant;

(c) whether Government have considered the causes and reasons for it; and

(d) what conclusions have Government reached in this respect?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saxena): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK, LAHORE

*22. **Sardar B. S. Mad:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the Lahore branch of the Punjab National Bank, Delhi, has been declared an evacuee property, and requisitioned by the Pakistan Authorities?

(b) Is it a violation of the Inter-Dominion Agreement?

(c) If so, what steps have the Government of India taken regarding the breach of the agreement and with what results?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saxena): (a) to (c). The question should have been addressed to the hon. Minister of Finance. It has accordingly been transferred to the list of questions for 8th February, 1950, when the hon. Minister of Finance will answer it.

Shri Sidhva: May I know why this question was not transferred by the hon. Minister himself?

Mr. Speaker: This point has been raised several times and I have answered it.

Shri B. Das: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Rehabilitation to the fact that he controls evacuee properties and other matters and, as such, how can he evade these questions?

Mr. Speaker: We do not want to enter into an argument now.

PAKISTAN PROPAGANDA *re* KASHMIR

***23. Sardar B. S. Man:** Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the propaganda going on in Pakistan for forceful occupation of Kashmir; and

(b) whether Sardar Ibrahim of Azad Kashmir Government has said openly in Rawalpindi conference that Pakistan will take Kashmir by force?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). There has been a great deal of propaganda in Pakistan about Kashmir in which references to war have been frequent. Sardar Ibrahim is also reported to have spoken in this vein.

Chaudhry Ghulam Abbas is reported to have said recently at Sialkot that if the Security Council fails, "We shall once again strike with all the resources in men and bullets at our command, never to rest till the object is completely achieved." While the Government of India do not attach any importance to these utterly irresponsible statements, they regret greatly that any person in Pakistan should make them and that the Pakistan Government should permit them. They are a clear breach of the conditions of the cease-fire.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know from the Prime Minister whether this propaganda going on in Pakistan regarding Kashmir is with the active assistance of the Pakistan Government or with its connivance or compliance?

May I know whether this is mere propaganda or whether actual preparations for war are also going on in Pakistan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could hardly be expected to answer questions about what is happening inside Pakistan. The hon. Member no doubt reads newspapers too and gets information from them. He may have some additional information also occasionally. There is no doubt that, from such published information as is available a great deal of such preparation has been going on continuously all the time.

Shri Kamath: To what extent have Government effectively countered such war-mongering over Kashmir, especially propaganda abroad against us by Pakistan or with the connivance of Pakistan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: By not indulging in war-mongering by us.

Shri Kamath: Is that effective enough?

OCCUPATION OF LAND BY MUSLIMS FROM EASTERN PAKISTAN

***24. Sardar B. S. Man:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that large number of Muslims from East Bengal have crossed over to the Indian side of the border and have occupied the vacant lands belonging to India?

(b) If so, what is their number?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take in this matter?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) Yes. It is correct that a large number of Muslims from East Bengal have crossed over to the Indian territory, particularly into the State of Assam.

(b) It has not been possible to ascertain the exact number of Muslims who have entered Indian territory in this way. According to the information available, however, it is estimated that nearly four and a half lakhs of Muslims have entered the State of Assam alone between the 15th August 1947 and the beginning of November 1949.

(c) So far as the entry of such Muslims into West Bengal is concerned, the Government of that State have informed the Government of India that they have taken necessary steps to prevent the settlement of such immigrants on lands in West Bengal. As regards such immigration into Assam, the Government of India have promulgated an Ordinance on the 6th January 1950 taking necessary powers to deal with the situation. It will be possible under the Ordinance to order the removal from the State of Assam of any person who having been ordinarily resident in any place outside India, has whether before or after the commencement of the Ordinance come into Assam and whose stay in the State is detrimental to the interests of India. Necessary powers to take action under the Ordinance have also been delegated to the Government of Assam and to certain specified officers subordinate to that Government.

Sardar B. S. Man: Does the proposed action for ejection of undesirable emigrants affect Hindu emigrants who have come from East Bengal?

Shri Gopaldaswami: It is not expected that the Assam Government would use their powers in that direction.

Sardar B. S. Man: What is the approximate extent of the acreage which these emigrants have occupied and whether those lands were under cultivation or fallow lands?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I do not think I said in the answer anything about occupation of lands. There is no particular part of territory which these people have occupied.

Pandit Maltra: Is it a fact that the entire boundary line between Assam and East Pakistan has been destroyed by Pakistan and Pakistonees have come into the Indian territory about the depth of a mile and a half all along the boundary?

Shri Gopaldaswami: We have not received information to that effect. They certainly have come into our territory from different places. In particular places they have entered into our territory over a certain length, but these have come in in driblets and nothing like an invasion across the border all along the line has taken place.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MANUFACTURE OF TYPEWRITERS

***8. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state the number of typewriters manufactured in factories in India during the last one year and the programme of further expansion of this industry?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): No typewriters are at present manufactured in India. Two Bombay firms propose to establish typewriter factories. One of them is likely to go into production in 1951. The other has not yet put up a concrete scheme.

NATIONALISATION OF TEXTILE MILLS IN BOMBAY

***9. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state which of the textile mills recently closed in the State of Bombay have been taken up by the Government of Bombay as nationalised concerns?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): None of the mills which have recently closed in the State of Bombay has been taken over by the Government of Bombay as a nationalised concern. In the case of Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills, Sholapur, which had closed down since August 1949, due to alleged mismanagement by the Board of Directors and the Managing Agents, however, an Ordinance has been issued dissolving the Board of Directors and terminating the contract with the Managing Agents. The Bombay Government has been delegated powers by Government of India to reconstitute the Board and reopen the mill. The new Board of Directors has since been constituted by the Bombay Government and the mill is expected to be reopened shortly.

NATIONALISATION OF INDUSTRIES

***10. Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state which of the industries or factories have been partially or wholly nationalised?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): I place on the Table of the House a list of industries or factories which are partially or wholly owned and managed or are proposed to be so owned and managed by the Government of India.

Statement
I. *Wholly nationalised :*

(1) Minting of money :

- (i) India Government Mint, Bombay, (ii) India Government Mint, Calcutta, (iii) India Government New Mint, Alipore, Calcutta, and (iv) India Security Press, Nasik Road.

(2) *Manufacture of arms and ammunition—Ordinance factories under the Defence Ministry.*(3) *Aircraft production—Hindustan Aircraft Factory, Bangalore (jointly owned by the State of Mysore and the Government of India).*(4) *Railway Transport.*

- (5) Opium factories at Ghasipur and Neemuch.
- (6) Manufacture of telephones.

II. *Partially nationalised* :

The following units are wholly under State management :

- (1) Mathematical Instruments Office, Calcutta.
- (2) Collieries :
 - (i) Argada, (ii) Bokharo, (iii) Jarangdih, (iv) Kargali, (v) Serampore, (vi) Bhurkunda, (vii) Kurharbaree, (viii) Sawang, (ix) Kurasia, (x) Talcher, and (xi) Deulbara.
- (3) Salt Works :
 - (i) Rajputana Salt Sources—Sambhar, Pachbadra, Didwana.
 - (ii) Pritchard Salt Works—Kharaghoda, Bombay.
 - (iii) Rock Salt Mines—Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
- (4) Fertilizer Project at Sindri.
- (5) Road transport services in Delhi, New Delhi and suburban routes.
- (6) Textiles : The Government of India have also taken over temporarily the management of the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Co.
- (7) Government printing presses

The following factories proposed to be set up will also be owned and managed by Government :

- (i) Factory to manufacture dry core paper insulated cables.
- (ii) Factory for manufacturing machine tools at Bangalore.
- (iii) Factory for manufacturing penicillin, sulpha and anti-malarial drugs at Bombay (to be jointly owned by the Government of India and the Government of Bombay).

RESTRICTION ON WHOLESALE TEXTILE DEALERS OF DELHI

*25. **Shri Doshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that all the wholesale textile dealers of Delhi, numbering over one thousand have been observing complete *hartal* since the 17th January 1950 as a mark of protest against restrictions imposed by Government on the sale of "free sale" cloth to outside retailers?

(b) Was any representation received by Government from their association on the subject prior to their taking this step, if so, what were their demands?

(c) Do Government propose to consider their demands?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) Yes; the *hartal* has since been withdrawn.

(b) Yes. When they went on *hartal* they were aware of the fact that their representation was under consideration of the Government.

Their demand was that they should be allowed to sell cloth and yarn direct to retailers anywhere in U.P., East Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Patiala and East Punjab States and the Rajasthan Union.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Wednesday, 1st February, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 1950

(28th January, 1950 to 23rd February, 1950)

First Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950



CORRIGENDA

to

the Parliamentary Debates (Part II—Other than Questions and Answers), 1st Session, 1950;—

In Volume I,—

1. No. 1, dated the 28th January, 1950,—

(i) Page (i) Col. 1, after line 4 insert "Ahmedunni, Shri V.C. (Travancore-Cochin)".

(ii) Page (ii), Col. 2, line 27 for "Rafi Ahmed, Shri" read "Shri Rafi Ahmed".

(iii) Page (iv), Col. 2, delete line 20.

2. No. 2, dated the 31st January, 1950,—

पृष्ठ १८, आठवीं पंक्ति के आदि में "न्त" के स्थान पर "अन्त" पढ़ें ।

3. No. 3, dated the 1st February, 1950,—

(i) Page 32, line 13 for "ule" read "rule".

(ii) पृष्ठ ७६, पंक्ति १८ में "पच्चास" के स्थान पर "पच्चीस" पढ़ें ।

4. No. 4, dated the 2nd February, 1950,—

(i) Page 103, line 3 add "it" before "is".

(ii) पृष्ठ १०३, नीचे से दूसरी पंक्ति के अन्त में "जी" के स्थान पर "जीता" पढ़ें ।

(iii) पृष्ठ १०७, के अन्त में "आज हमको" के आगे "यह देखना होगा कि जो चीजें हमने अपने विधान में रखी हैं उनको मुल्क के काम में लाया जाय । मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि अब जमाना बदल गया है" जोड़े ।

(iv) Page 110, line 5 from bottom for "humiled" read "bundled".

5. No. 5, dated the 3rd February, 1950,—

(i) पृष्ठ १८२, दूसरी पंक्ति में "इलाको" के स्थान पर "इलाकों" पढ़ें ।

(ii) Page 186, line 17 from bottom for "debator" read "debtor".

(iii) Page 188, line 18 for "unformity" read "uniformity".

6. No. 6 dated the 6th February, 1950,—

(i) Page 204, line 20 from bottom for "were" read "are".

(ii) Page 212, line 12 from bottom for "of" read "the".

(iii) Page 224, line 13 for "from" read "form". ●

(iv) Page 232, line 20 from bottom for "happens to be the Chairman and whether he could be expected" read "will act as its President; he is an I. C. S. man and is, admittedly,".

7. No. 8, dated the 8th February, 1950,—

Page 315, line 19 for "refugee" read "refuge".

8. No. 9, dated the 9th February, 1950,—

(i) Page 369, line 24 for "are" read "am".

(ii) Page 371, for line 18 read "giving me credit for having done something which should really go to the".

(iii) Page 389, line 2 from bottom for "khakad" read "khahad".

9. No. 10, dated the 10th February, 1950,—

(i) Page 415, line 2 from bottom for "detrimetal" read "detrimental".

(ii) Page 420, line 10 from bottom for "is" read "in".

(iii) Page 431, line 3 from bottom for "L" read "5".

(iv) Page 433, line 16 for "Trat" read "that".

10. No. 11, dated the 13th February, 1950,—

(i) Page 454, line 25 from bottom after "was" insert "as".

(ii) Page 463, line 21 from bottom for "re-assembled" read "then adjourned for".

(ii)

11. No. 12, dated the 14th February, 1950,—

Page 498, line 8 from bottom for "strach" read "starch".

12. No. 14, dated the 17th February, 1950.—

(i) Page 591, line 6 for "atmosphede" read "atmosphere".

(ii) Page 604, line 4 for "inperils" read "imperils" and in line 6 for "calus" read "Salus".

(iii) पृष्ठ ६०८, पंक्ति ५ में "अम्मा" के स्थान पर "आमा" पढ़ें।

(iv) पृष्ठ ६०८, पंक्ति १२ में "तकरीर" के स्थान पर "जो तकरीर" पढ़ें।

(v) पृष्ठ ६१०, नीचे से पंक्ति ५ में "दस" के पश्चात् "दस" समाविष्ट करें।

(vi) पृष्ठ ६१४, नीचे से दूसरी पंक्ति में "तरह" के पश्चात् "से" समाविष्ट करें और "बंगाल" के पश्चात् "से" हटा दें।

(vii) Page 616, line 12 from bottom for "then" read "their".

(viii) पृष्ठ ६२५, पंक्ति १५ के अन्त में 'यह' को हटा दें और १६ के आदि में "काम" के स्थान पर "महकमा" पढ़ें।

(ix) Page 637, omit "last line".

13. No. 15, dated the 20th February, 1950,—

(i) Page 659, line 12 for "acpital" read "Capital".

(ii) Page 662, line 21 from bottom for "of the" read "in the".

14. No. 17, dated the 22nd February, 1950,—

(i) Page 708, line 15 from bottom for "States" read "State".

(ii) Page 723, line 21 omit "It is" before "Jowan".

15. No. 18, dated the 23rd February, 1950,—

(i) Page 751, line 13 from bottom for "Begal" read "Bengal".

(ii) Page 758, line 24 from bottom for "turbulation on accuont" read "tribulation on account".

(iii) पृष्ठ ७६०, नीचे से पंक्ति १८ के अन्त में "तो है मैं" के स्थान पर "हैं मैं तो" पढ़ें।

(iv) पृष्ठ ७७६, नीचे से पंक्ति ७ में "हा" को "कहा" पढ़ें।

(v) Page 783, line 2 for "a" read "as".

(vi) Page 798, line 2 for "coutry" read "country".

(vii) Page 800, line 9 from bottom for "33 percent" read "33 1/2 percent".

(viii) Page 801, line 6 for "ward" read "award".

CONTENTS

Volume I—28th January, 1950 to 23rd February, 1950.

	Pages
SATURDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 1950—	
Members Sworn	1—6
Deaths of Dr. Hari Singh Gaur and Shri B. L. Mitter	6—7
H. E. the Governor General's Assent to Bills	7
Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	7—8
Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	8
Mines Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	8
Industries (Development and Control) Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	8—9
President's Address to Parliament	9
TUESDAY, 31ST JANUARY, 1950—	
The President's Address to Parliament	11—26
WEDNESDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Motion for Adjournment <i>re</i> Ruthless Persecution of Hindus in East Pakistan	27—28
Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business	28—32
Panel of Chairmen	32
Motion on Address by the President	32—43, 44—84
Member Sworn	44
THURSDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Papers laid on the Table—Ordinances promulgated after November-December Session, 1949	85—86
Motion on Address by the President— <i>concl.</i>	86—145
FRIDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Papers laid on the Table—Amendments to Reserve Bank of India (Note Refund) Rules, 1935	145
Committee on Petitions	145
Motion on Address by the President— <i>concl.</i>	146—159
Insurance (Amendment) Bill—Extension of time for presentation of report of Select Committee	160
Point of Order <i>re</i> Courtesy to the Chair	160
Panel of Chairmen	161
Rehabilitation Finance Administration (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended	161—185
Insolvency Law (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended	185—193
Delhi Road Transport Authority Bill—Discussion on motion to refer to Select Committee— <i>not concluded</i>	193—195
MONDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Papers laid on the Table—	
Supplementary Statement showing action taken on remaining promises and undertakings given during Budget Session, 1949	197
Committee on Civil Aviation	197—199
Delhi Road Transport Authority Bill—Consideration of clauses— <i>not concluded</i>	199—250

	PAGES
TUESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Papers laid on the Table—	
Petroleum Concession Rules, 1949	251
Annual Report of the Damodar Valley Corporation, 1948-49	251—252
Damodar Valley Corporation Budget Estimates for 1950-51	252
Delhi Road Transport Authority Bill—Passed as amended	252—283
Army Bill—Referred to Select Committee	284—308
Air Force Bill—Referred to Select Committee	308—309
Patents and Designs (Extension of Time) Bill—Passed as amended	309—312
WEDNESDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Congratulations to Parliament from Argentine	313
Postponement of Questions	313
Undesirable Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Bill—Consideration of clauses— <i>not concluded</i>	313—350
THURSDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Motion for Adjournment—	
Imposition of Curfew and Control of Bareilly by Military	351—352
Resolution re—	
Abolition of Night Air Mail and Passenger Service—Lapsed	352—353
Compensation to Refugees for losses—adopted as amended	353—401
Qualifications for Election to Parliament and Legislatures of States— <i>not concluded</i>	401—404
FRIDAY, 10TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Message from the President	405
Industrial Disputes (Appellate Tribunal) Bill—Presentation of Report of Select Committee	405
Mines Bill—Presentation of Report of Select Committee	405
Industries (Development and Control) Bill—Presentation of Report of Select Committee	405
Undesirable Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Bill—Consideration of clauses— <i>not concluded</i>	405—448
MONDAY, 13TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Undesirable Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Bill—Passed as amended	449—463
Emblems and Names (Prevention of Improper Use) Bill—Passed as amended	464—493
Indian Tariff (Third Amendment) Bill—Discussion on motion to consider— <i>not concluded</i>	493—496
TUESDAY, 14TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Papers laid on the Table—	
Constitution (Removal of Difficulties) Orders	497
Absence of the Speaker	497—493
Indian Tariff (Third Amendment) Bill—Discussion on motion to consider— <i>not concluded</i>	498—536
THURSDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Papers laid on the Table—	
Notifications under Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944	537
Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill—Presentation of Report of Select Committee	537
Army and Air Force (Disposal of Private Property) Bill—Introduced	537
Criminal Law Amendment Bill—Introduced	538
Indian Tariff (Third Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended	538—548
Business of the House	548
Administration of Evacuee Property Bill—Discussion on motion to consider— <i>not concluded</i>	549—572

	PAGES
FRIDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Control of Shipping (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	573
Indian Tea Control (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	573
Imports and Exports (Control) Amendment Bill—Introduced	573
Labour Relations Bill—Introduced	574
Administration of Evacuee Property Bill—Discussion on motion to consider— <i>not concluded</i>	574—585, 587—634
Business of the House	585—586
Leave of Absence from the House	586
Accident to K. L. M. Plane at Santa Cruz Air Port	634—640
MONDAY, 20TH FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Introduced	641
High Courts (Seals) Bill—Introduced	641
Army Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	641
Air Force Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	642
Control of Shipping (Amendment) Bill—Passed	642—647
Indian Tea Control (Amendment) Bill—Passed	647—673
Administration of Evacuee Property Bill—Discussion on motion to consider— <i>not concluded</i>	673—684
TUESDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Death of Shri Sarat Chandra Bose	685—686
Special Criminal Courts (Jurisdiction) Bill—Introduced	686
Indian Tariff (Second Amendment) Bill—Introduced	686
Capital Issues (Continuance of Control) Amendment Bill—Introduced	686
The Railway Budget for 1950-51	686—705
WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Government Premises (Eviction) Bill—Introduced	707
High Courts (Seals) Bill—Passed	707—708
Indian Railways (Amendment) Bill—Passed	708—714
Imports and Exports (Control) Amendment Bill—Passed	714—748
THURSDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY, 1950—	
Statement re Recent events in East and West Bengal	749—755
Trade Unions Bill—Introduced	755
The Railway Budget—General Discussion— <i>not concluded</i>	755—801

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
Alphabetical List of Members

A

Abdul Hamid, Shri (West Bengal).
Abdullah, Sheikh Mohammad (Jammu and Kashmir).
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C

Chaliha, Shri Kuladhar (Assam).
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D

Dalel Singh, Lt.-Col. Kanwar (Rajasthan).
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S

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 Shukla, Shri Ambik Charan (Madhya Pradesh).
 Shukla, Shri Shambhu Nath (Vindhya Pradesh).
 Sidhva, Shri R. K. (Madhya Pradesh).
 Singhania, Shri Padampat (Uttar Pradesh).
 Singhji, Shri Sardar, of Khetri (Rajasthan).
 Sinha Shri Awadheshwar Prasad (Bihar).
 Sinha Shri Braja Kishore Prasad (Bihar).
 Sinha, Shri Kailash Pati (Bihar).
 Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan (Bihar).
 Sinha, The Honourable Shri Satya Narayan (Bihar).
 Sitaramayya, Dr. B. Pattabhi (Madras).
 Siva, Shri M. V. Gangadhara (Madras).
 Sivaprakasam, Shri, V. S. (Madras).
 Snatak, Shri Nar Deo (Uttar Pradesh).
 Sohan Lal, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Sohet Singh, Sardar (Patiala and East Punjab States Union).
 Sonavanc, Shri Tayapa Hari (Bombay).
 Soodhi, Shri B. L. (Punjab).
 Sriastava, Shri Jawala Prasad (Uttar Pradesh).

Subramaniam, Dr. V. (Madras).
 Subramaniam, Shri C. (Madras).
 Subramaniam, Shri R. (Madras).
 Sunder Lall, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Swaminadhan, Shrimati Ammu (Madras).

T

Tajamal Husain, Shri (Bihar).
 Tek Chand, Dr. Baksh i (Punjab).
 Tewari, Shri Ram Sahai (Vindhya Pradesh).
 Thakkar, Shri A. V. (Saurashtra).
 Thimmappa Gowda, Shri, G. A. (Mysore).
 Tiwari, Shri Baboolal (Madhya Pradesh).
 Tribhuwan Narayan Singh, Shri (Uttar Pradesh).
 Tripathi, Shri H. V. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Tripathi, Shri Kishorimohan (Madhya Pradesh).
 Tyagi, Shri Mahavir (Uttar Pradesh).

U

Unni, Shri, V. C. Ahmed (Travancore-Cochin).
 Upadhyay, Pandit Munishwardatt (Uttar Pradesh).
 Upadhyaya, Shri Ram Chandra (Rajasthan).

V

Vaidya, Shri Vinayak Rao Balashankar (Bombay).
 Varma, Shri Bepin Behari (Bihar).
 Varma, Shri Manikya Lal (Rajasthan).
 Veerabahu, Shri M. C. (Madras).
 Velayudhan, Shri, R. (Travancore-Cochin).
 Velayudhan, Shrimati Dakshayani (Madras).
 Venkataraman, Shri (Madras).
 Vidyavachaspati, Shri Indra (Uttar Pradesh).
 Vyas, Shri Jainarain (Rajasthan).

W

Wajed Ali, Maulvi (Assam).

Y

Yadav, Shri Lakshmi Shankar (Uttar Pradesh).
 Yashwant Rai, Prof. (Punjab).

Z

Zaidi, Col. B. H. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Zakir Husain, Dr. (Uttar Pradesh).
 Zangre, Shri Roshamlal (Madhya Pradesh).

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

The Speaker

The Honourable Shri G. V. MAVALANKAR.

The Deputy-Speaker

Shri M. ANANTHASAYANAM AYYANGAR.

Panel of Chairmen

Pandit THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA.

Shrimati G. DURGABAI.

Shri JOACHIM ALVA.

Shri HOSSAIN IMAM.

Secretary

Shri M. N. KAUL, Barrister-at-Law.

Assistants of the Secretary

Shri A. J. M. ATKINSON.

Shri N. C. NANDI.

Shri D. N. MAJUMDAR.

Shri C. V. NARAYANA RAO.

Committee on Petitions

Pandit THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA (Chairman).

Shri CHIMANLAL CHAKUBHAI.

Shri DESHBANDHU GUPTA.

Shrimati SUCIETA KRIPALANI.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

- Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs**—The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.
- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs and the States**—The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- Minister of Education**—The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.
- Minister of Finance**—The Honourable Dr. John Matthai.
- Minister of Defence**—The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh.
- Minister of Labour**—The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram.
- Minister of Communications**—The Honourable Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai.
- Minister of Health**—The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.
- Minister of Law**—The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.
- Minister of Industry and Supply**—The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee.
- Minister of Works, Mines and Power**—The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil.
- Minister of Commerce**—The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy.
- Minister of Transport and Railways**—The Honourable Shri N. Gopalswami Ayyangar.
- Minister of Food and Agriculture**—The Honourable Shri Jairamdas Doulatram.

MINISTERS NOT IN THE CABINET

- Minister of State for Rehabilitation**—The Honourable Shri Mohan Lal Saksena.
- Minister of State for Transport and Railways**—The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam.
- Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting**—The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar.
- Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs**—The Honourable Shri Satya Narayan Sinha.
- Deputy Minister of Communications**—Shri Khurshed Lal.
- Deputy Minister of External Affairs**—Dr. B. V. Keskar.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Wednesday, 1st February, 1950.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the chair.]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

RUTHLESS PERSECUTION OF HINDUS IN EAST PAKISTAN

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra, "to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, to wit, the situation fast developing in West Bengal which threatens the peace and tranquillity of that State as a reaction to the ruthless persecution of the minority Hindu community such as murder, loot, arson, abduction and outrage on women which is being carried on at present in different parts of Eastern Pakistan particularly in the districts of Khulna and Barisal, and as a result of which there has been a fresh exodus of Hindus from Eastern Pakistan to West Bengal."

I do not know how this motion can be in order. It relates to a situation within the jurisdiction of the provincial government. It relates mainly to what is going on in Pakistan and it also anticipates the discussion on the amendments to the Address. Parts of it also relate to questions of foreign policy. I should like to know from the hon. Member how the motion is in order.

Pandit Maitra (West Bengal): I perfectly appreciate the observations that have been made by the Chair, but may I point out that I am not going to discuss a foreign State's policy. What I am going to do is to bring to the notice of the Government the situation which is developing in West Bengal where thousands of people have been driven to from Pakistan as a result of the persecution referred to in my adjournment motion. Those people are in such an excited frame of mind that we apprehend that they may be starting trouble in West Bengal itself. That will imperil the safety and tranquillity of the entire Indian Union. I wanted by this adjournment motion to bring to the notice of the Government that as a result of the policy of persecution carried on recently by the Pakistan Government in Eastern Pakistan, particularly in the districts of Khulna and Barisal, thousands have flocked into West Bengal and several thousands have been entrapped on the way, and this has created a tense atmosphere in the City of Calcutta and in other parts of West Bengal also considerable excitement prevails at the moment. My motion is relevant and is perfectly in order in this way that the peace and

[Pandit Maitra]

tranquillity of India is affected and unless Government takes adequate steps and gives an assurance that something will be done by discussions at Government level or inter-Dominion level, I am afraid the situation will deteriorate to such an extent that the peace and tranquillity of the entire Indian Union will be affected. So my motion becomes relevant in my humble opinion.

Dr. Pattabhi (Madras): Has the motion been actually moved?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It is for you to decide, Sir, about the relevancy of this particular motion, but I can inform the hon. Member and the House, however, that this matter has caused the Government great concern and they have taken all such measures that they could in regard to it in consultation with the West Bengal Government. They have approached the Pakistan Government and the Government of the Eastern Pakistan too and they have suggested meetings of principal officials to investigate and find out what the position is, and they are taking such steps in West Bengal with regard to these refugees as are possible for them; so that I can assure the House that Government takes a very serious view of the situation. In fact, some trouble has arisen in Murshidabad on our own side of the border, and unless all these are checked completely, they are likely to have far-reaching consequences. It cannot help very much, apart from the relevancy of the motion, to have any such discussion at this stage, involving all manner of factors including our relations with Pakistan, what is happening inside Pakistan about which we cannot immediately say in detail what it is, relations between the provincial governments and the Centre, etc., so that I would submit that it is not a fit subject for a motion for adjournment, but I do assure the House that Government are fully seized of it and intend to do everything to meet the situation.

Pandit Maitra: In view of the observations made by the Prime Minister I do not propose to move this motion.

RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will remember that, during the last session of the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative), I made a statement on the 20th December 1949 concerning the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the House. I had then broadly indicated the lines on which the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Parliament will be framed by me.

Article 118, sub-clause (2) of the Constitution provides that, until Parliament makes rules for regulating its procedure and the conduct of its business, the Rules of Procedure in force immediately before the commencement of the Constitution shall have effect, subject to such modifications and adaptations as may be made therein by the Speaker. In view of the new set-up and the new provisions in the Constitution, modifications and adaptations have obviously become a necessity, and I have, therefore, made them, keeping the main body of the rules intact. The new rules incorporating the adaptations and modifications are in the press and will shortly be available to the members.

I considered it necessary and proper that hon. Members should however have an indication, as early as possible, of the important modifications. I am, therefore, mentioning in this statement, very broadly and generally the lines of such important modifications.

As the House is aware, the Constitution provides, by article 87, that, at the commencement of every session the President shall address Parliament and inform it of the causes of its summons. It also further provides that, rules regulating the procedure for the allotment of time for discussion of the matters referred to in such address and for the precedence of such discussion over other business of the House shall be made. These Rules have, therefore, been made accordingly. Each of the hon. Members has already been supplied with a copy of the rules pertaining to this matter.

As regards Questions, the old Rules regarding the form and contents of the questions, as well as the Speaker's powers in relation to them, have been retained with necessary modifications and amplifications. One is that, instead of a Member being permitted to put down five questions for oral answer on any one day, the number is limited to three.

Shri Sondhi (Punjab): Poor Sidhva.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma (Uttar Pradesh): This is an anti-Sidhva move.

Mr. Speaker: This was considered necessary in view of the large number of Members, and, therefore, of the necessity to provide greater opportunities to the largest number of Members to get oral answers for their questions. This does not mean that there is a limit on the number of questions that an hon. Member may put. The limitation is that he shall star only three questions for each day, which he requires to be answered orally.

The other innovation is that, if the Speaker so thinks fit, he may call upon any Member to state in brief his reasons for desiring an oral answer and the Speaker may then decide after considering the reasons given by the Member. It has been experienced that, many times questions are put which require in reply, long statements or statistical information, which can be best given in a tabular form, and a long time is taken in replying to such questions. In the alternative, the reply is shortened by saying that "a statement is laid on the table,"; and in the short time available for oral answers to questions, it does not become possible to give the House a proper idea as to the reply and supplementaries become impossible without first having an opportunity of studying the statements. The result is that the time taken is not put to any practical use. It is, therefore, considered that, in all such cases, the questions should be unstarred so that the members may have an opportunity of putting proper supplementaries, by way of further questions, if necessary, after the replies are studied.

✓ An important provision is made for enabling Members to raise discussion on matters of sufficient public importance, which have been the subject of a question in the House. It is hoped that this will enable Members to get more information and deal with the subject more effectively than can be done by oral questions and answers during the question hour. It is expected that this provision will shorten the time for supplementaries and thus enable Members to put through more questions for oral answers, and also to avoid perhaps the necessity of oral answers to all questions, as a discussion can be raised in respect of questions not answered orally.

An important provision is made that every Bill 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 (*Hear, hear*).

[Mr. Speaker]

It is hoped that this provision will enable members to consider the Bill on its merits so far as the financial aspect thereof goes.

A few changes have been made in the rules about Select Committees. It is left to the Speaker to appoint the Chairman of the Committee, subject to the proviso that where the Deputy-Speaker is a Member of the Committee, he shall be appointed as Chairman. As regards the quorum of the committee, it is provided that it shall be one-third of the total number of Members on the Committee. Hitherto, the number, which was almost invariably fixed for quorum, was five. It is considered that in cases, where the number of Members on the Select Committee exceeds 15, there should be a corresponding increase in the number for quorum so as to secure representative deliberations by the Select Committee.

The rules in regard to the financial provisions follow the provisions of the Constitution. Article 114 makes provision for the Appropriation Bills and Article 116 of the Constitution provides for votes on accounts. Rules have, therefore, been provided on these subjects.

Consequent upon the provisions of Article 116, as also independently thereof, it was felt necessary to constitute a Committee on Estimates for better financial control of the House over expenditure by the executive. Provision has, therefore, been made for a separate Committee on the lines of a similar Committee in the House of Commons called the "Committee on Estimates". The chief function of this Committee will be to examine such of the estimates as may seem fit to it and to suggest economies consistent with the policy underlying the estimates. There will be, in addition, the usual Committee on Public Accounts. The functions of these Committees will be mutually complementary, and it is expected, will not only give a picture of the entire financial position but the committees will be mutually helpful in examining the finances for the future in the light of the expenditure in the past.

The above gives only broad outlines of the important modifications. It will be necessary to watch for some time as to how far the rules, as adapted and modified, are equal to meet the requirements and responsibilities of the House. In case it is considered proper, as a result of experience, that any of the rules require any reconsideration or modifications, I shall, it is needless to add, surely consider the same very carefully and fully.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): May I, Sir, request you firstly to direct that copies of the statement just made by you are supplied to Members; secondly, to clarify the point that you have mentioned about the right of Members to raise discussion on a matter of public importance which has been the subject of a question in the House,—is that right absolute, or will it be, subject to your discretion?

Dr. Doshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): Before you reply, Sir, may I also ask a question? Are these your individual orders or was there any Committee appointed in order to decide these privileges and whether it is as a result of mature deliberation, and if so, whether it will be open for this House to discuss these questions and other privileges of Members so far as each particular rule is concerned. May I also know whether it is proposed at any time during the present session or the next session to see to the advisability of having these rules debated in the House and whether it will be open to the hon. Members of this House to suggest amendments or modifications?

12 Noon

Mr. Speaker: In this connection I may first take up Mr. Kamath's questions. I shall certainly see that the rules regarding the half an hour discussion are circulated today or tomorrow to the Members of the House. Of course, the right is not an absolute one, because the admissibility and the relevancy will have to be looked into and the Speaker will have naturally the usual control of looking into the language also of questions raised; but the rules will be circulated and hon. Members will come to know what their rights are.

The other point is that in a statement I made on the 20th of December, I had clearly stated the position about the rules. I had then stated—I am speaking from memory—that a Committee was appointed, suggestions were asked for and some amendments had come in and the time was extended for further suggestions. The Committee could not meet in the absence of any specific suggestions regarding the amendments to the rules, and as the period of the House, that was then sitting was about to expire, it was no use having a meeting; and I had then indicated, I believe, that the modifications and adaptations would be made by me in pursuance of the provisions in the Constitution by a specific article. The Constitution was already passed by the 26th November, long before I had made that statement. Therefore, constitutionally speaking, till the House makes its own rules, it will be for the Speaker to make modifications and adaptations and I have made them accordingly; and if hon. Members have not heard my statement carefully, at the end, I repeat what I have stated: "In case it is considered proper, as a result of experience, that any of the rules require any reconsideration or modifications, I shall surely consider the same very carefully and fully". This is only an interim position till the House makes its own rules. That is the position.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Sir, in view of the change in regard to the official language in the Constitution, I think a corresponding change in the Rules of Business should have been provided but it has not been provided for by you and in my humble opinion, this seems to be an omission and that it has escaped.....

Mr. Speaker: I may inform the hon. Member the general lines on which the rules have been adapted and modified. Whatever is provided for fully in the Constitution is not again repeated in the rules; and provisions as regards the language being self-contained in the Constitution itself, it is unnecessary again to copy the articles of the Constitution in the Rules.

Shrimati Durgabai (Madras): On a point of information. Sir, you appointed a Committee during the Budget Session last year to frame rules and the Committee consisted of hon. Members who put in a lot of amendments to the rules then. I do not know whether that Committee ever met or before it was dissolved, if it was dissolved, it was given an opportunity to scrutinise the rules which you have been pleased to place before the House.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): I may also state that I had sent various amendments to that Committee for consideration, because you had stated that all those amendments which would be sent by the Members would be thoroughly considered by the Committee and we had thought that the report will come before the House. We really do not know as to what happened to that Committee. Having seen the procedure in all the Houses, I think it is only fair that the Rules of the procedure of this House should always carry the sanction of the House and with due respect to you, Sir, it is only fair that the House should be given an opportunity to consider these rules and express their opinions. I do not dispute the exigency, the importance and the necessity of

[Shri Sidhva]

the change, as you have rightly stated, but I do submit that you have proposed drastic changes and it is, therefore, only fair that the House should be allowed to express its opinion and be given an opportunity. There is an article that stated that all the Members have certain privileges which are prevalent in the House of Commons. Now I do feel.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not propose to have any discussion over this question. I have already more than once explained the position about the Committee and the position about the rules, and I may again repeat what I have also stated here, that I am always open to consider any modifications and that these are the interim arrangements. We do not challenge the authority of the House and till the House makes its own rules, these rules will stand.

Shri Kamath: May I ask when the new rule regarding the limitation on starred questions will come into force?

Mr. Speaker: Now that I have announced it today, it comes into force from tomorrow. I do not put it into force today because I did not announce it earlier.

Shrimati Durgabai: Was the Committee dissolved?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): When is the House going to consider the rules? I am anxious to know about it.

Mr. Speaker: That is for the House to decide. At present we shall proceed with the further business.

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that under sub-rule (1) of rule 7 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, I nominate Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, Shrimati G. Durgabai and Shri Joachim Alva on the Panel of Chairmen.

MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Speaker: Before the hon. Member moves his motion, I should like to make the position about the time limit clear. In addition to the mover of the motion and the seconder, in all there are 30 hon. Members who have tabled 48 amendments. Two days have been allotted for the discussion, inclusive of the time taken by the mover and the seconder and the reply. Unless I fix up a time limit, it will not be possible to give a fair or at least some opportunity to all the Members who may want to speak on their amendments.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras): And other Members also.

Mr. Speaker: And other Members also. The speaking part will not be limited only to those Members who have tabled amendments. Therefore, I was thinking as to what would be a fair time limit. Under the rules which we have adopted I have to fix up the time limit after taking the sense of the House.

Several Honourable Members: Ten minutes

Mr. Speaker: It appears that we should have ten minutes as the time limit. Very well, we shall have it. Of course Government will take more time for their reply and this time limit will not apply to them.

Dr. Pattabhi (Madras): All the amendments might not be moved and it is only after the amendments are moved you will have an approximate idea as to the time available to be distributed.

Mr. Speaker: We will reconsider the question of the time limit after seeing whether all the amendments are moved or not. It will depend upon the number of speakers after the mover and seconder of the motion.

Shri Frank Anthony (Madhya Pradesh): Will the movers of the amendments be allowed extra time?

Mr. Speaker: Yes, that is my idea.

Shri Karmarkar (Bombay): Sir, I seek your permission to withdraw the amendment in my name.

Mr. Speaker: We will come to that after the principal motion is moved.

Shri K. M. Munshi (Bombay): Sir, may I, with your permission move the motion that stands in my name? But before I do so I should like to say one word with regard to its form. This being the first motion of its kind in our experience you will permit me to alter the wording of the motion that stands in my name, not with regard to its substance but consistently with the deep regard and courtesy which this House owes to the President and with your permission I would like to move the motion in an amended form. I move:

"That the Members of Parliament assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House."

It makes no difference in substance and I hope you will permit me to move it in this form.

Mr. Speaker: I will first put it to the House in the altered form. Motion moved:

"That the Members of Parliament assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House."

Shri K. M. Munshi: Sir, I am deeply sensible of the honour that has been conferred on me by being entrusted with a resolution of this kind and I propose very shortly to place before the House my reactions on the main points of and the policy contained in the speech of the President.

The President was pleased at the outset to refer to the message which Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation has given us. This message has been a great and noble legacy for us and in judging the policies of our Government one may be pardoned, if one applies this test. In my opinion, if I may venture to say so, the policy of our Government has been an endeavour to translate that message in terms of practical politics as far as it could be done under the stress of the difficult internal conditions in the country and also in face of the very complicated and explosive world situation. For instance, in pursuance of this policy I find that our foreign policy has been inspired by what I may call the ethical approach. It is a bold and independent approach. In pursuance of this policy our Government has sought friendship with all nations. We have stood away from alignment with any power blocs. We have raised our voice against oppression in every part of the world and we have sought to eliminate racial discrimination wherever we have found it. Further, our Government has strengthened the United Nations and maintained its

[Shri K. M. Munshi]

authority and prestige even, as in the case of the Kashmir issue, at some cost to ourselves. This policy assisted by the fact that India occupies a peculiar position as a stabilising factor in Asia has borne fruit.

We find that our relations with Britain which at one time were strained to the utmost, are now very cordial. We are bound to her by ties of political friendship, by economic alliances and by that bond which 150 years of cultural contact has forged. We have also helped in the reconstitution of the Commonwealth of Nations, which is now a partnership of free and equal nations bound by common interests and common ideals. We have also created a sense of solidarity among the nations of Asia. Our relations, as a result of this policy, with Egypt and the Middle East have been very cordial. The South East Asia has now emerged as a group of nations with common aims and common problems. We have revived age-old ties with countries like Indonesia and we have been accepted, as a result of this policy, as the spokesman of the aspirations of Asia in the Councils of the Nations.

Sir, it is clear to every one that our prestige stands very high in the world today and for a country circumstanced as ours, this prestige could not have stood higher. All this has been the result of this policy.

The Mahatma was the supreme architect of the Indian Nation and it was due to his teachings and his activities that we developed a collective consciousness and an impregnable will to nationhood. Naturally, therefore, as a legitimate corollary to the position which he occupied, our Government have tried to bring about the integration of the country and maintained internal order. The country has been integrated as never before. The feudal political structures have disappeared. Provinces and States, as one can see from the membership of this House, now form part of a homogeneous whole related to the Centre in a uniform manner. India now as a Republic is one and indivisible as never before. Law and order which in the beginning, say in August 1947, was a matter of great difficulty has now been maintained throughout this period. Certain militant groups which endangered orderly progress have been controlled, and the growth of certain groups and parties which are wedded to violence has been arrested. In addition to this we have seen Government embarking on the great experiment of bringing up the administrative machinery throughout the country to a uniform and high level of administrative efficiency. This is a great task and I am sure Government in the future will be able to carry it through, for on that depends really the integrity, the solidarity as well as the prosperity of this country.

The President was pleased to give compliments to our Defence Services. Those compliments found an echo, I am sure, in the heart of every Member of this House. An army which the Britisher built up for his own purpose has overnight become a national army. It has acquitted itself with wonderful efficiency, and we are all very proud of our army. I am very glad that the President has been pleased to emphasise one aspect of this matter. He has been pleased to say that the first essential of freedom is the strength to preserve it. It is a great maxim and I am glad that the Government has put it in the forefront of their policies. India suffered in the past on more than one occasion for having disregarded this maxim, and I hope no Government in future will disregard it. I know that the burden of military expenditure is heavy. There is also expressed in the speech an anxiety for peace and a desire for economy and in the interest of both an attempt is going to be made for reducing military expenditure. That is as it should be. But neither the anxiety for peace nor the desire for economy should be carried to an extent

when the security of the country will be jeopardised and its will to resist aggression is undermined. That must be the aim and object of the Government, and I am sure that object will be duly carried out by the Government.

With regard to our relations with Pakistan, the Prime Minister has been pleased to characterize them as unfortunate. Our Government has in the past maintained a policy towards Pakistan of friendliness, of fair-play and of patience—I might say very patient—toleration despite provocative acts and words to which reference has been made this morning. We have made every gesture that a friendly nation can make. It has not been responded—at least not to the extent I would have wished. Even our invitation to enter into a pact of 'No War' has been cold-shouldered. I hope that in spite of all the provocation our Government will pursue the policy which it has done so far—the policy of friendliness and at the same time firmness which neither wavers nor tires—so that in the fullness of time Pakistan may think it wise to come back to the path of cordiality with us. Or, if I may use the words of the poet:

"Kiss (India) again with tears,
Blessing on the falling out
Which all the more endears."

But I am afraid that will perhaps take a long time to come.

Reference has been made to the Jammu and Kashmir situation. The position which our Government has taken up, and which this House and the country have taken up, is quite clear. We do not want to force the Kashmir people to be in the Union. At the same time we will not allow any power to coerce them into parting with us. That has been our policy. We went into Kashmir to resist aggression at the invitation of the people of Kashmir and with the blessings of Mahatma. I am sure the House will be very much gratified at the assurance contained in the speech of the President: "Until that happens—that is, until the plebiscite decides the position of Kashmir—and a satisfactory solution to this difficult problem has been found, India will continue to discharge her obligations to protect the State and its people against aggression". This is a pledge which I am sure the country will fully support the Government in carrying out.

Reference has been made by the President to the economic situation. The economic situation has been grave. And that situation has been aggravated by post-war conditions, the after-effects of the partition and the growth of our population. At the same time we have had to face a situation which arose from the devaluation of the rupee. The devaluation of the rupee was more a defensive measure as stated in the debate. But, as already anticipated in the debate, it has become a blessing in disguise, for it has stimulated those activities of the Government which will put the country on a proper economic footing. Of this economic situation the food shortage is the most important factor. So far as this food problem is concerned I am sure the Government has followed and will follow the two aspects of economic regeneration which we associate with the name of Gandhiji. The first aspect is self-sufficiency in essential supplies, and the second physical labour as a universal occupation. In pursuit of the first aspect the Government has already decided that the target period for importation of food should be the end of 1951. But I hope that the Government will proceed much more vigorously than in the past with the three-fold programme which they have put forward.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): What is the use of the target alone when no programme has been fixed? What steps are Government taking in that direction?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Government has already announced it on numerous occasions. The programme has been, first to grow more food and improve the food crops; the second is to insist on more stringent procurement from surplus areas; the last is more austerity measures. All that I am submitting is that Government, in pursuance of this policy, should follow a much more vigorous activity which I am sure the House will support.

Sir, in the Speech the President has been pleased to refer to the improvement in the transport system. We also hope that in the coming Budget Session there will be a more encouraging policy which would stimulate activity in the investment market. The basic objectives which the Government has clarified for industry, and the assurances which Government has given to foreign capital will, I am sure, create a situation which will lead to a rise in the rate of capital formation in our economy and this way alone yield result in the shape of greater productivity.

The only other point which I would like to mention in this connection is the fact which has been generally forgotten in the criticism of our Government. In spite of our delicate food situation, one thing stands to the credit of this Government, that in spite of the population, and in spite of the influx of refugees, the Government has strained every nerve to see that no one dies for lack of food in this country. It is a very difficult situation. It is very easy to criticise. We have criticised the Government again and again. But the fact remains that they have done their utmost, and what they have done has resulted certainly in a credit item of great importance to the Government.

But the other aspect of what I may call the Gandhian programme of economic regeneration has still to be followed. That is to make physical labour a universal occupation. I know that there is no sufficiently enthusiastic 'will' to 'work'. I know there is not even scope for work for those who are willing to do it, and this is an aspect to which I am sure Government will apply its mind.

Then there was a reference to the labour policy of Government to which I will refer briefly. It is one of the most important aspects of Government's policy during the last two years. That also, if I may be permitted to say so, draws its inspiration from Gandhiji. We must remember that Gandhiji was the first world pioneer of the new method of negotiation and arbitration long before any other country adopted it as an active programme in solving the conflict between industry and labour. Sir, you will remember that in 1918 it was Gandhiji who, at the risk of his life, established for the first time the method which now we can trace to him. According to him there was no inherent conflict between one section and another in the field of productivity, and—that is what he taught us—all differences between different sections interested in production have to be adjusted and subordinated to the greater needs of higher productivity, a higher standard of living and to the common national good. It was under this inspiration that the first Industrial Disputes Act of Bombay was passed in 1938. Sir, you were the Speaker in Bombay at the time when this Industrial Disputes Act was placed on the Statute Book. Many of the Provinces now have placed similar measures on the Statute Book. I find that the Gandhian ideals have now found expression in the I.N.T.U.C. Today the I.N.T.U.C. has gained superiority over other trade unions who believe in Marxian philosophy, and has been able to give greater economic gains to labour, invested it with greater dignity and given them a greater sense of duties and responsibilities as citizens. Government should pursue this path to find a solution for this very delicate situation on Gandhian lines.

Sir, these are my submissions. Only one word more and I have done. It cannot be denied that there is a general sense of frustration in the country; or rather, the sense of frustration, which was in the country, persists still. It is a psychological problem; also a problem for Provincial Legislatures to help tackle. It has also to be tackled by our Central Government. I hope and trust that now that conditions are settling down, people will be given some sense of stability by the Provincial Governments as also by the Centre. What has happened in the past is that people have attributed to Government measures the ills which are really the result of post-war conditions over which Government have no control. We have, therefore, now to assure the people that they will not be piled up with hurried legislations on every conceivable subject in order to revolutionize them in spite of themselves. Sir, this is a major psychological problem and I am sure now that the greater issues have been settled, the Government will be able to tackle it satisfactorily.

There is one thing more and that is with regard to the Planning Commission. It is a great idea and I am sure it is overdue. In my humble opinion, its first preoccupation should be to utilise the unproductive agricultural labour which exists in this country on a large scale. But the greater task before it is this. We are faced with two difficulties. One, is lack of co-ordination; lack of co-ordination between one section of the people and another, lack of co-ordination between Government and Government, lack of co-ordination between Department and Department. There is also a general lack of sense of priorities. A Planning Commission, I submit, is the one method by which I am sure we will be able to take the country out of these difficulties.

Sir, with these words, I move the Resolution. I would like to add that the President has been pleased to place before the House, various tasks which Government propose to undertake have been referred to. In these tasks which Government has before it, I can assure the Government that it will carry with it the unstinted support of the bulk of this House. Not only that. I am confident that the people look to this Government to preserve and maintain and consolidate the freedom which we have won. The almost overwhelming welcome which the Constitution has received and the large-scale national rejoicings at the inauguration of the Republic point to the fact that this Government carries behind it the confidence of the people of India, and I have no doubt that in the coming years the Government will fully justify the confidence which is reposed in them by the people of India.

Sir, with these words, I move the Resolution. I would like to add that the Resolution may be duly and respectfully conveyed to the President after it has been accepted by the House.

Sir, I have done.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (Uttar Pradesh): I beg to second the motion that Shri Munshi has moved. I deem it a privilege to be able to express our thanks to the President for the speech he delivered before the Parliament yesterday. The speech is of great significance and importance because this is the first Presidential Address before the House after the inauguration of the Republic. India is now not only free but is a Sovereign Democratic Republic. The time, therefore, has come for India to assume her obligations both at home and abroad with courage, confidence and imagination.

The Presidential address gives in broad outline the policy and the immediate programme of the Government. In our policy, as indicated in the speech, we are trying to follow a path both unusual and difficult. We wish to maintain our friendship with all the nations of the world. In the present set-up of international politics it is an almost impossible task to maintain such a neutral

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

position. The world is divided into power blocs and persistent pressure is exercised on nations that are trying to maintain an independent stand. However difficult it is, India that has been inspired and guided by Gandhiji for half a century cannot but work for peace. All ideas of aggrandizement or of power-politics in the international sphere are abhorrent to us. Recently, during my work in the United Nations I had some opportunity to observe that by our policy we have succeeded in creating an impression in the international world that India stands for fair play and peace. Circumstances have sometimes prevented us from taking a bold stand in support of this policy, but I hope, in the future, with the easing of our own peculiar problems we shall be able to throw greater weight on the side of peace.

It is also gratifying to note that India stands for the freedom of the non-self-governing territories, for the termination of colonial rule and for the removal of all such barriers that hamper the full growth of nations and peoples. Our moral support has always been on the side of people struggling for greater freedom and our contribution in this sphere in the United Nations has not been inconsiderable. India played an important role during the last sessions in advocating the independence of Libya. In the Presidential speech we are assured that India will continue her efforts in these directions.

A reference is made in the speech to our relations with our neighbouring country of Pakistan. India has endeavoured to follow a policy by which her relations with Pakistan may be smoothened. Recently a proposal was made to Pakistan that both the Governments should pledge themselves to avoid war and endeavour to settle all their disputes by peaceful methods. The President has expressed his hope that Pakistan will accept the offer in the spirit in which it has been made. We also hope fervently that this offer will be accepted by Pakistan and that the tension and fear that unfortunately exist at present will soon be removed. We appreciate greatly the Government's efforts to bring about an atmosphere of greater friendship between the two countries. But at the same time we hope the Government will not slacken in its efforts to protect the interests of the refugees who have left properties worth hundreds of millions in Pakistan. We have also lately received very disturbing and alarming reports about the condition of over a crore of Hindus who are still in East Pakistan. We are naturally anxious to know whether the Government of India is thinking in terms of taking any steps to help these unfortunate people. It would satisfy us greatly to see the Government evolve a firm and consistent policy regarding these very difficult and delicate problems.

Now, to turn to the domestic side, the President has justly praised the achievements of the Government in the matter of the integration of the States. I hope that adequate steps will be taken to organise their administration on an economical and effective basis which alone will ensure the happiness of the people of these States.

Some of the other proposals outlined in the speech are interesting. We are informed of the Government's intention to establish a Planning Commission which would assess the resources of the country and the possibility of their development. With a view to launch this work it is proposed to establish a Central Statistical Organisation. The Congress holds the view that the economic development of our country should proceed in accordance with a planned scheme. Even while we were in the thick of our struggle for freedom we had appointed a Planning Committee to work out a pattern for India's future economic development. Only a fortnight back the Congress Working Committee passed a resolution demanding the establishment of a Planning Commission. Planning is a pre-requisite for the efficient and intelligent development of the country. Therefore, I am happy to learn that the Government is intending to establish

a Planning Commission; but I do hope the intention will take a concrete form in the very near future and the recommendations of the Planning Commission will be implemented with vigour and expeditiousness. I also hope that whatever schemes are evolved cottage, village and in general decentralized industry will be given its due recognition and the necessary protection. It is only by developing decentralized industries that we can hope to cope with the problem of our colossal unemployment.

While speaking of Planning, the President has said: "It must be remembered that Planning must have a clear objective and that any widespread effort can only succeed with the full co-operation of the people. It is only when governmental agencies and popular enthusiasm and co-operation are yoked together that large-scale economic and social development can take place". Unfortunately for us as we have inherited the administrative machine from a foreign power against which we were fighting, there is no tradition in this country of co-operation between the government and the people. Therefore, it has most often been very difficult, in cases almost impossible, to bring out the necessary working adjustment between the two parties. I speak about this matter from personal experience. The rigid bureaucratic approach to work will have to be considerably altered if popular enthusiasm is to be harnessed to schemes of national development. Though our people have no tradition of working with the Government, they have a long tradition of serving the nation under the banner of the Congress, and they would be happy to co-operate with the Congress Government, but the Government must make the right approach to secure that co-operation, of which so far there has not been much evidence. I am, however, very glad to note that the President realizes the importance of the need of popular enthusiasm and co-operation for widespread development schemes. I hope in future better efforts will be made to secure the active support of the people for such schemes and I am sure the people would give enthusiastic response.

In his speech the President has also made a reference to the intention of the Government to reduce the disproportionate expenditure on the Army. The Indian budget has all along been overburdened by the army expenditure. It was a natural feature under the imperialistic British regime. We had expected that on the attainment of freedom we would devise a more balanced budget and release the necessary funds for the much-needed nation-building activities. However, the partition and the circumstances arising out of the partition, stood in the way of reducing our expenditure. A peace-loving and progressive State cannot possibly maintain an army that absorbs over half the budget of the nation. Therefore, we are happy to note that the Government is proposing to effect as much economy as possible. Some of us may doubt whether at this stage we can afford to reduce the army without jeopardising the security of the country. But we must not forget that the strength of the modern army depends not on its size alone but more on the ability of the country to keep it supplied with materials and equipment and on the contentment, patriotism, enthusiasm and the morale of the people. This can be done if the country as a whole is economically prosperous. If, therefore, a portion of the money that is spent today on the army is spent on nation-building activities, it will yield a good dividend even in military terms.

There is a passing reference in the speech about the intention of the Government "to reorganize the machinery of the Government in order to make it more efficient and to avoid waste". On such an occasion like this it is necessary to avoid controversy on details. I shall therefore not go into the details of this issue. But it is well-known that there is a general feeling all over the country that our Governmental machinery is cumbersome, expensive and even wasteful. Last year a Committee was appointed to suggest measures of economy. We do not know if the Committee's recommendations have been implemented. I am therefore happy to note that, even if briefly, the President has made a

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

reference to this very important matter and I hope during this year the Government will take effective steps to cut down unnecessary administrative expenditure.

The food problem looms large before us. We have been compelled to import huge quantities of food from abroad. We have been assured that the Government is determined to make good the deficiency in food by the end of 1951. We know that this problem is so complicated and difficult that unless tremendous efforts are put forth by the Government and the people, it will not be possible for India to become self-sufficient. We hope that an over-all planning will be done by the Government to tackle the problem, and that stringent efforts will be made to implement the plan and that complete co-operation will be secured from the various States. The Government must make sure that whatever facilities are offered by them to the tiller of the soil for growing more food do reach him in full and without delay and are properly utilized.

In the matter of control and rationing, too, the Government, I hope, will follow not only a consistent but a really effective policy. I am sure, if the Government is vigilant and strict in implementing its own decisions the necessary public co-operation will be available which alone will ensure the success of its policies.

We are glad to learn that this Government is determined to tackle the question of the resettlement of our brethren who have come from Pakistan. I can speak from my personal experience that though the Government has spent huge sums of money for the purpose of rehabilitating the refugees, yet the achievements have not been quite satisfactory. Much more remains to be done and I hope no consideration of economy will stand in the way of refugee rehabilitation.

Our people have suffered much during the last few years through the non-availability of essential commodities, inadequate housing, high prices, unemployment, etc. They urgently need relief in all these matters. Whatever may be its strength in other ways, the success of a Government ultimately depends on the contentment of the people. The people cannot live on hope alone. I therefore hope and pray that the first year of Republican Government may be marked with success in these spheres.

With these observations, Sir, I have great pleasure in seconding the motion.

Mr. Speaker: I would like first to clear the ground as regards the large number of amendments. The hon. Member, Mr. Karmarkar does not wish to move his amendment.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): Sir, even though I may not move my amendment, I should have an opportunity to speak.

Mr. Speaker: But the moving of an amendment, does not necessarily give a chance to speak.

The following Members wish to move their amendments, of course the question of admissibility and wording apart: Shri Hossain Imam, Prof. K. T. Shah, Shri Damoder Swarup Seth, Shri Frank Anthony and Shri Sarangdhara Das.

I have also received notice of amendments after the House began its sitting from Khwaja Inaitullah, Sardar Hukam Singh, Shri J. N. Hazarika, Shri V. S. Sarwate, Shri V. Ramaiah, Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir, Shri M. P. Mishra and Dr. Mono Mohon Das.

Some Honourable Members: But they are not admissible.

Mr. Speaker: Any way they will be in time for tomorrow. Therefore I would like to dispose of them now.

The position is that of these only Sardar Hukam Singh wishes to move his amendment.

I shall now see that this amendment also is circulated. I may, however, make it clear to hon. Members that any further amendments now coming will neither be admitted nor circulated. The procedure I wish to follow is that hon. Members may just move their amendments and then I will call upon different Members to speak.

Sardar B. S. Man (Punjab): Can we move amendments to amendments?

Mr. Speaker: As the amendments are not moved, any further amendments to amendments necessarily fall through.

Shri Hossain Imam (Bihar): Is it necessary to actually move the amendment? They may be taken as moved. I beg to move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regrets that the President's address contains no assurance that effective measures will be taken by the Ministers to increase production to meet the present economic crisis caused by high prices of foodgrains and non-availability of sugar.'

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regrets that the President's address contains no assurance that effective measures will be taken by the Ministers to increase production to meet the present economic crisis caused by high prices of foodgrains and non-availability of sugar.'

Prof. K. T. Shah (Bihar): I beg to move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'but regrets—

- (a) that Government still adheres to the decision to continue India's association with the Commonwealth of Nations notwithstanding the policy of some members of that Commonwealth showing racial inequality; and
- (b) that no clear indication is given of the specific measures by which our relations with the neighbouring British Dominion of Pakistan are proposed to be rectified and rationalised; and
- (c) that no definite decision has been taken to resolve the issue regarding the future of the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the event of the measures hitherto taken failing to bring about a satisfactory solution; and
- (d) that no reference has been made to the grave situation created by the sudden and substantial Devaluation of our currency forced upon us by the economic weakness of the United Kingdom, and the consequent dislocation in respect of our foreign trade and relations; and
- (e) that while referring to policies or measures of economy to relieve the heavy strain on our finances no mention has been made of any intention on the part of Government to make a comprehensive investigation of the system of taxation and other revenue resources of Government in careful co-ordination with the actual and proposed burdens of public expenditure on those resources; and
- (f) that the proposal of Government to establish a Planning Commission is unaccompanied by any intimation of a carefully prepared Plan of national Development scientifically co-ordinating and integrating all the several sectors of our National

{Prof. A. P. Shah}

Economy remotivating them and reorienting their development by definite stages measured by pre-determined norms to pre-concerted goals.'"

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regrets—

- (a) that Government still adheres to the decision to continue India's association with the Commonwealth of Nations notwithstanding the policy of some members of that Commonwealth showing racial inequality; and
- (b) that no clear indications given of the specific measures by which our relations with the neighbouring British Dominion of Pakistan are proposed to be re-examined and rationalised; and
- (c) that no definite decision has been taken to resolve the issue regarding the future of the State of Jammu and Kashmir in the event of the measures hitherto taken failing to bring about a satisfactory solution; and
- (d) that no reference has been made to the grave situation created by the sudden and substantial Devaluation of our currency forced upon us by the economic weakness of the United Kingdom, and the consequent dislocation in respect of our foreign trade and relations; and
- (e) that while referring to policies or measures of economy to relieve the heavy strain on our finances no mention has been made of any intention on the part of Government to make a comprehensive investigation of the system of taxation and other revenue resources of Government in careful co-ordination with the actual and proposed burdens of public expenditure on those resources; and
- (f) that the proposal of Government to establish a Planning Commission is unaccompanied by any intimation of a carefully prepared Plan of national Development scientifically co-ordinating and inter-relating all the several sectors of our National Economy remotivating them and reorienting their development by definite stages measured by pre-determined norms to pre-concerted goals.'"

Shri D. S. Seth (Uttar Pradesh): I beg to move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regret that in spite of extremely grave and explosive economic situation in the country, the question of achieving economic equality, which alone is capable of bringing about social equality and safeguarding political equality has been left absolutely untouched.'"

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved.

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regret that in spite of extremely grave and explosive economic situation in the country, the question of achieving economic equality, which alone is capable of bringing about social equality and safeguarding political equality has been left absolutely untouched.'"

Shri Frank Anthony: I move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regret that the end of 1951, set as the date-line by which Government intend to make good the food deficiency, is premature and that instead Government declare that the food deficiency must be made good by all possible methods and in the shortest possible period.'"

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

but regret that the end of 1951, set as the date-line by which Government intend to make good the food deficiency, is premature and that instead Government declare that the food deficiency must be made good by all possible methods and in the shortest possible period.' "

Shri Sarangdhar Das (Orissa): Sir, I move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

but regret that the policy pursued by his Ministers makes no mention of civil liberties which constitutes the foundation of a Sovereign Democratic Republic, and that on the contrary, it continues to encroach on the personal, political and economic liberties of the citizen, and thereby curtails and restricts the opportunities for individual initiative, energy and enterprise to utilise the immense manpower and natural resources of the country with a view to abolish poverty in the midst of plenty, with the consequence that the standard of living may be increased, which is the avowed objective of his Government.' "

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regret that the policy pursued by his Ministers makes no mention of civil liberties which constitutes the foundation of a Sovereign Democratic Republic, and that on the contrary, it continues to encroach on the personal, political and economic liberties of the citizen, and thereby curtails and restricts the opportunities for individual initiative, energy and enterprise to utilise the immense manpower and natural resources of the country with a view to abolish poverty in the midst of plenty, with the consequence that the standard of living may be increased, which is the avowed objective of his Government.' "

Sardar Hukam Singh (Punjab): Sir, I move:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regret the absence of any mention of the Government's programme to eliminate the still lingering remnants of alien rule on Indian soil, namely, the Portuguese territories of Goa, Daman, Diu and the French Settlements in South India.' "

Mr. Speaker: Amendment moved:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added :

'but regret the absence of any mention of the Government's programme to eliminate the still lingering remnants of alien rule on Indian soil, namely, the Portuguese territories of Goa, Doman, Diu and the French Settlements in South India.' "

All the amendments to the Address have now been moved. The House will now adjourn and reassemble at 2-30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till Half-Past Two of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock.

(MR. SPEAKER in the Chair)

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Mathura Prasad Mishra (Bihar).

MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT—*Contd.*

Prof. K. T. Shah: Sir, I regard it as a privilege as much to move a vote of thanks in respect of the Address as to make such an amendment as I have had the honour to table. For I cannot disregard the historical character of the occasion, nor the importance of the privilege of moving an amendment on that occasion in the form I have ventured to do.

Sir, the fact of such an address having to be presented to this House by Mr. President is necessitated by the Constitution. But the form and content of that address are, I believe, the creation of his Ministerial advisers; and as such, I hope I may not be found guilty of any disrespect if I point out certain sins of commission and omission, which appear to me not in consonance with the republican simplicity of our new Constitution. I have listened, Sir, with deep respect to the words of wisdom that fell from Mr. President, but I was a little surprised—may I say disagreeably (?)—when I heard him speak of “his Prime Minister” and “his Government”. We are, I am afraid, following too closely,—almost slavishly,—the British pattern in all these things. But what may be suitable and appropriate in England with a hereditary monarchy, Sovereign of the Realm, is not quite harmonious with the republican simplicity and traditions of democracy which we are creating here. In view of that, Sir, I should have thought that wherever the Government was referred to, or a Minister in particular was referred to, it would be the Minister of the Republic or the Government of India, rather than a form of the kind that Mr. President has been advised to adopt. However, that, Sir, is a matter only of form, and I shall not dwell upon it any longer beyond observing, that though this address may be a precedent for the future, I trust the point I have made will be borne in mind by the President's advisers hereafter.

Coming next to the content of the address, I am afraid it is impossible to do justice to a subject of the width covered by the address of Mr. President within the time-limit you have been pleased to prescribe. It is, Sir, the one occasion we have, apart, perhaps, from the discussion of the Budget or the Finance Bill, when the state of the country as a whole, or the conduct of the administration as a whole, comes for review before this House. Judging from the number of amendments we have before us, and the language of several of them, it is obvious there is a wealth of criticism or suggestion that is apt to be left out because of the time-limit. I make these observations in all respect and in all humility for your consideration that, on occasions of this kind, even if it be necessary to extend the time allotted for the debate, that should be done rather than that the opportunity available to Members on an occasion of this kind be restricted.

I can assure you, Sir, that I do not intend to tire your patience and the patience of the House. For that reason while tempted very much to select a

number of topics for comment from the address of Mr. President, I would confine myself only to three or four, which I regard as very important, and on which, I am afraid, notwithstanding the optimism of the hon. the Mover of the motion, the country will not be quite so unanimous as he seems to imagine.

Sir, I have taken first the question of our continued association with the Commonwealth of Nations, wherein the word "British" is omitted I notice, but which nevertheless remains the British Commonwealth of Nations. The treatment we have received from members of this Commonwealth is by no means encouraging to be a member. Nor is it such as to invite us to continue to remain a member of that body wherein the different members treat us with disrespect, discourtesy and indifference, so much so that our interests are in more than one respect prejudiced, our rights are in more than one respect either ignored or overlooked.

Sir, for instance, even on such an important and vital matter as the Devaluation of the currency, on the admission and on the confession of the hon. the Finance Minister of India himself, this country was not even consulted before Britain took this step. It was presented to us as a *fait accompli*, in which, short of incurring disaster of an uncontrollable magnitude, we could not but follow suit. That does not obviate the fact that our interests in this matter do not seem to have been primarily considered; and as such it was one clear pointer of the advantage (?) that we could possibly hope to gain from the continued membership of the Commonwealth.

That, Sir, is not the only illustration of the general policy to our prejudice of this Commonwealth. We have, in South Africa, the notorious campaign of racial inequality and discrimination which is even now not ended, though it is supposed to be under discussion on a friendly basis. We have in Australia the Government blatantly following a policy of "White Australia" to which we are supposed to have consented; or at any rate in which we seem to have acquiesced.

Here are two or three illustrations in support of my main theme. I could give you many more illustrations, in which continued membership of this Commonwealth does not bring us any advantage that we can call worthwhile. And the reaction of this policy on our relations with other countries may not perhaps be as happy as one may desire. By our continued association with the Commonwealth, we might be considered to be so indissolubly connected and identified with the policies and measures followed by the predominant partner in the Commonwealth that we might be tarred with the same brush in other nations' eyes. We have been told, Sir, by Mr. President, that India inherits no jealousies and has no rivalries. I quite agree. But our continued membership of this Commonwealth seems to me, at any rate, to be fraught with danger, that I trust the Government of this country will take every care to avoid.

Apart, however, from the consequences of continued membership of this Commonwealth, and notwithstanding all that has been said in its favour, I point to another issue of a domestic character which is at the same time indissolubly connected with our membership of the Commonwealth. I refer to the economic situation in this country, directly resulting from the policies and measures,—sometimes utterly unilateral, often without the consultation or previous approval of the members of the Commonwealth, such as, for instance, the Devaluation of the pound sterling. A long list of consequences that have followed and may yet follow are difficult to enumerate and explain in the course of such a short speech as I am obliged to make on this occasion. But the fact, I think, is undeniable that it has involved us, and involved those who have been made to follow suit, in a host of difficulties by no means inevitable or unavoidable because of their own position, the economic factors governing their own immediate interests, and commercial or political relations with other nations.

[Prof. K. T. Shah]

I may be told, Sir, that we cannot shut ourselves into a shell of our own, into a water-tight or an isolated compartment of our own. I agree that the world is nowadays much too inter-connected and inter dependent. The several countries of the world are now much too closely related among themselves by growing trade and improving communications to allow any one of them to remain in an isolated compartment of its own. But while admitting and recognizing that fact I cannot ignore, also, the further fact, that each such country is no less entitled to look to its own immediate interests, safeguard and promote them, than any other. And in the event of those interests at any time conflicting or becoming incompatible, there must be competence and there must be independence enough for each country affected, and there must be recognised the right also of each country to look to its own interests when incompatibility of interests becomes undeniable. In that event, every country would be entitled to take such measures as it may deem necessary to safeguard its own interests. I am told, Sir, that there is no question of our independence being prejudiced. Theoretically it may be so. But if you are connected with another nation like Britain in the manner I have indicated, and we remain still associated with such a group, it is very difficult, very often impossible as in this very illustration that I have mentioned, to escape the results and consequences of such contacts and association for the relatively weaker or less developed country.

Sir, the economic situation in this country is admitted on all hands to be without exception very serious. Several facets of that situation, several sectors of our national economy, have been brought into a difficult juncture, because of our own unexpected and enormous difficulties, no doubt and by the factors operating in this country, as also because of the policies and measures that have been hitherto followed, and that appear to be still going to be followed. From the remarks of Mr. President, that situation will continue, I am afraid not to improve but worsen that situation. The various regulations, controls, and ordinances, that have been issued as in an endless stream from time to time, with regard to our foreign trade or local production and distribution of wealth have all converged on proving one thing to my mind and that is: that an already complex situation is being made still more complicated, because our political alliances with other parts of the world. These associations and alliances do not bring us unmixed, unadulterated benefit. Sir, the programmes of improvement and development which we have been promised, the various paper plans as they have been called, which have been from time to time put forward for remedying the economic situation of this country, both official and non-official, have all this thing in common: and that is that they have been and remain more theoretical or academic than put into actual practice. (*Interruption*). My report remains as yet only a report. It is not a matter of executive decision yet. I do hope that perhaps some day it may be put into operation. But as far as the present is concerned, it remains merely an academic pronouncement by an un-official body. But even those Plans which are more official, or which are more respectable, or have more authority behind them, are not yet implemented. They are none attempted to be carried out in a co-ordinated, constructive, comprehensive manner with simultaneous advance on all fronts, without which, I am afraid, it would not be possible to solve the many evils of our economic situation.

Sir, it is impossible for me to go within the limited scope of these remarks into the various items of our national economy, where remedial measures are urgently required. We are at the present moment, at any rate achieving nothing satisfactory in this field. In the last two and half years, we have been attempting, in my opinion, nothing but a tinkering solution in each case. Tinkering and tampering will not do. We will have to adopt much more drastic, much more comprehensive, much more daring remedies than have been adopted so far.

The situation, however, is being dealt with more on the basis of a surrender to the most vocal, the most influential interests, such as the capitalist section of this country, rather than with attempt daring them to do their worst, and taking the consequences. Every time we are told "capital is shy", capital is not forthcoming because one speaks of socialisation, of control or regimentation of industry. We must make concessions; we must give assurances to foreign investors, to have a chance that we shall have their capital, their technical advice and help. This morning's paper itself contains the declaration of an official of the American Government, made in an almost minatory spirit, that India and the neighbouring Dominion must declare their policy giving proper and dependable assurances with regard to the safety of foreign investments in India. In this sense, I see no occasion why any such assurances can or should be given for the benefit of foreign investors, or, for the matter of that, the domestic investors. Our policy in this regard must be determined, and shall be determined, by the requirements or interests of this country and this country alone, both in the immediate and in the long term application of such measures. Any demand, therefore, demand from them or from any quarter for more definite and binding assurances for the Government of India to adopt a sort of benevolent neutrality or paternal sympathy are out of place, and utterly unnecessary.

We have made, in my opinion, time and again, concessions to the capitalists interests in the shape of tax-reliefs, in the shape of Excise reduction, in the shape of what is called economy and retrenchment. They have, however, not resulted in anything like the measure of success which one might have expected, nor met with anything like the enthusiasm we would have a right to look for from the concessions that we have made. That is the inveterate habit of the capitalist section. And the more it asks and the more it gains, the more hungry it will become. They say in French, Sir, that appetite comes by eating. I am convinced that for the capitalists at any rate, the more he gets, the more he would want; and the more you give and the more he receives, the more insatiate he would be. There is almost no end to their desire to threaten, to frighten, to cajole, if you will, the powers that be into a surrender, open or secret.

That being the situation, Sir, as it has developed in this country, all the measures of control and of regulation have almost proved in vain. And they have got in their train, strange as it may seem, a wide field of corruption that every one regrets, but which nobody seems to be able effectively to put an end to.

We are told, Sir, that the Planning Commission may help us to avoid or remedy all these difficulties. It is difficult for me to speak on the subject of National Planning, in view of the associations I have had with the National Planning Committee and the work of that body. It was a non-official body. Its work was after all not the work of a Government body such as the proposed Commission would be. I feel, however, that, in so far as you realise that planning is not a fad, nor a fashion, nor a foible of any individual, but a grim necessity forced upon us by circumstances, it will have to be on a much more comprehensive scale, much more radical basis than this Commission is likely to achieve. It must, properly operated, relate to the entire national economy, and cover all its aspects, all its facts, all its stages and phases. The limited scope which, it appears to me, has been given to the proposed Planning Commission will not achieve this end.

As I read the resolution regarding the Planning Commission, I feel the Planning Commission would be more of an executive body than one preparing a comprehensive, long range, national plan. This, however, remains to be seen; and I am not prepared to offer a categorical or negative opinion on that subject just now. But I do venture to submit: that however that body is formed, however it is motivated, whatever the goal or objective prescribed, whatever the relations of this body with the executive government of the country

[Prof. K. T. Shah]

or the sovereign legislature, it would fail to achieve its aim, unless it is laid down that the Commission, if it is to be of any use, if it is to be of any benefit (which we are told it is going to be for this country) must have a very comprehensive objective placed before it. And it must be armed with powers that are commensurate with the entire field of our national economy. It must have authority and ability to see that all sided advance takes place in every sector of our national economy, and that the resultant benefit is not monopolised merely by those who shout loudest, but that it goes to the whole country.

In that view of planning, and the work of the Planning Commission that is proposed, I believe we will have to include not merely the Production side of the national economy, but also the distribution of the wealth produced. For it is no use producing, if more and more of the new produce goes to the lot of those who have already more than enough, and leave the rest to starve. So long as the official slogan is "Produce or Perish", I can only reply that to the workers such a slogan would only mean "Produce and Perish".

That being my view, the Planning Commission and those who set up the Commission would do well, in the first place, to have very clear and definite objectives laid down in advance. They should lay down equally definite norms or standards by which its achievement can be judged, and measured. At the same time they must so frame the plan and so work it, that, with the reaction that the plan in action itself creates, or brings about by its very success, the Plan will be possible to change or adapt to the changing conditions. It should be elastic enough to see that the new currents and new forces set up by its own execution are brought under harmony, and all point to the same goal.

Planning at the time that the National Planning Committee undertook the task, was limited in the sense that many things, like the Defence of the country could not be taken up . . .

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member might conclude his speech in another two minutes.

Prof. K. T. Shah: My view of planning is that we must have it on a comprehensive basis, in which different priorities need not be overlooked; no item of national importance is overlooked. With that objective I venture to say that much can be hoped for from such a body properly organised and soundly motivated. I trust that the remarks of Mr. President in that regard will be given effect to at an early date by the Government or the powers that be. With these words I also join in the vote of thanks to the President for his Address which he was pleased to deliver to the House.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, the address that has been presented to the House by the President is remarkable in many ways. If the several points that have been touched in the address are faithfully carried out by Government I am quite sure that our country will be very happy one in the very near future.

In welcoming the address I have certain suggestions to make, particularly in regard to the reference the President made to creating conditions favourable to the working classes. I quite appreciate that this class of people really deserve consideration at our hands. They deserve sympathetic and favourable consideration for what they have suffered in the past. I know that our Government have been in the past and even today are quite alert to see that the working class conditions are improved. At the same time, there is a class of people who have been neglected and forgotten by the Government as well as others. I mean the lower middle class who form 15 per cent. of the total population living in the cities, who are the backbone of the administration—the small traders and businessmen. They have been immensely

hit by the inflation and the high prices. While the Government is taking care to see that the condition of the labour classes is improved I am sorry that no consideration has been given or even any thought bestowed so far as this class is concerned. By lower middle classes I mean persons who draw salaries from Rs. 100 to 500. I have put it down at that figure because today a rupee is worth four annas only. In the U. K., Canada and Australia the prices have risen compared with 1939 only by 60 to 80 per cent. whereas our prices have risen by 360 per cent. You can very well appreciate the value of the rupee and therefore Rs. 500 means only Rs. 125. I will be justified in stating that the standard of living of this class of people is quite different from that of the labouring classes. A lower middle class man has to use a bus or a cycle to get to his office or business. His children have to be educated not only in the primary school but have to be given higher education also. There has been a survey in 1941 and after that the figures are not available and that survey revealed that the lower middle class man pays 25 per cent. of his income as rent. If his income is Rs. 100 he pays Rs. 25 as rent. That is a great burden. Considering all these facts I do hope that our Government will not forget their welfare when they are considering the welfare of the various classes of people. I have also the interest of the working classes in my heart. They are vocal class of people. If the lower middle class people are not in the administration the administrative work could not go on as smoothly as it has been going on. My point is that this is a class which lives in the cities. If villages are to be protected and if the cities do not exist the Government to the extent that they are enjoying the advantages of the middle classes will cease to exist. The opinion seems to be prevalent that the middle classes should be eliminated and that they have no place. I was very glad to learn from the speech of the Deputy Prime Minister in Bombay the other day that he stressed this point that it would be regrettable if the middle classes should be eliminated. But the time has come when Government's policy has to be changed. I hope I have made this point clear.

I come now to another point to which the President made reference, namely reorganisation. He said:

"My Government have also been considering for sometime past the reorganisation of the machinery of Government in order to make it more efficient and to avoid waste."

I hope the Government will bear this in mind and see that this reorganisation to which the President has referred brings about a rapid improvement of the conditions. The conditions as far as the administration is concerned are very deplorable in the sense that there is no consideration in the services for the quick disposal of work. I do not understand why our Ministers should not keep in touch with the subordinate staff. I do not mean to say that they should go over the head of the Secretary and thereby bring in indiscipline in the staff. I am the last person to suggest any kind of indiscipline. But I do feel that under the changed conditions, just as they have contact with their Secretaries and Private Secretaries, they must contact their officers and have a conference with them every week, and have a conference with their clerks at least once in a month and tell them of their duties.

I do not want to go into the question of the superfluous staff that is existing. It is for Government to find where the superfluous staff can be provided. But what I wish to say is that despite the superfluous staff the disposal is very slow. I want to know from the hon. Ministers as to what action they have taken to see that the disposal is very quick. I can tell you, Sir, that nobody in a commercial firm would tolerate such a slack disposal of work. Our Government has been brought into disrepute by this, quite innocently. If the Ministers are alert, if they look into the questions and see that the disposal is made very quick I can tell you that much improvement will be caused and the people will be happy. The people will know that a change has really come in the

[Shri Sidhva]

Government. Now, there are files and on the files there are labels "Immediate", "Express", "Urgent" and "Today". "Immediate" has no meaning; "Express" has no meaning; "Urgent" has no meaning. And they have introduced "Today"—I do not mean the present Government have introduced this but it existed during the bureaucratic regime. And "Today" means letters are put into the tray and from the tray the peon takes it that day. It goes to his P.A. the following day. The P. A. sends it to the other department on the third day. It is sent to the typist on the fourth day for typing. Then it goes to the despatcher on the fifth day. And the peon takes it on the sixth day to post it.

An Honourable Member: Is all this relevant?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sidhva: I hope the Government will bear in mind that reorganisation does not necessarily mean a reorganisation of the staff. Reorganisation means that under the changed conditions you have to see how this red-tapism which has brought about the administration into disrepute could be avoided and stopped. The President has just given a short hint in those three lines. We have been watching for the last two and a half years as to what improvement has been made and what steps have been taken to remove red-tapism. Red-tapism has brought a blot on the administration. I lay great stress on this point and I can assure you, Sir, that if the administration is to be improved, red-tapism must go. If the Government feels that red-tapism cannot go until the whole structure is changed, I can tell them that they are mistaken. Red-tapism can go if they apply their mind to it. That is the only question. As to how they should apply their mind, I have a solution—I am not only making a criticism but I have the suggestions also—but the time is short. With your permission I can also indicate that. The suggestion is that they must pass orders to their staff that any letter that is received must be acknowledged on that very day and the disposal should be quick. If a reference has to be made to the various Ministries it should be done within three days. From my experience I can say that. You, Sir, have been President of a Municipality. So also our hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Deputy Prime Minister. And I, humble man, have been Mayor of a Corporation. I can say from my experience that I have brought about this change. I had to bring the Chief Officer to my room and explain to him. For red-tapism happens to exist in local bodies also. I had to tell him that such a change was in the interests of the community and the country. He was not prepared to accept my suggestion and for eight days I had to discuss with him. Eventually he agreed. The disposal became very quick and as a result the peoples work was carried out with great rapidity. I hope the Government will give the matter serious consideration because this counts very much upon the administration. A certain amount of imagination is necessary and such a change will be welcomed. Just now they feel that red-tapism about which they have been complaining so much has been continuing and there has not been any improvement in the conditions.

With these words, Sir, I welcome the Address.

Shri B. Das: Sir, I am thankful to my Maker that I am alive today to participate in the discussion on the Speech that the first President of the Republic of India delivered to us.

Some Honourable Members: We are also glad.

Shri B. Das: As the Presidential Speech was the first speech of the kind to the Members of Parliament I do not wish to lay emphasis on one point or the other. The President spoke of the Planning Commission which my hon. and esteemed friend Prof. K. T. Shah criticised a bit. I wish the President had

spoken a little about the problem of self-sufficiency of India and about the planning which he as a former member of the Gandhite group and the Sarvodaya Samaj formulated. India's happiness and prosperity would not come unless we plan on the basis of self-sufficiency for India. Then we will not go on spending a hundred crores on foodstuffs imported from outside.

An Honourable Member: 150 crores.

Shri B. Das: Fifty crores go in Customs duty and transport to my friend the Finance Minister. Then we will not be buying luxury goods and I would be ashamed if the people persist in their habits of using foreign luxury articles. I hear arguments outside that we cannot give up the use of these articles. Those who say that are unpatriotic and anti-national. My esteemed friend Prof. Shah wanted us to take a leaf out of the Reports of the National Planning Committee. Sir, there has been a slow and steady march from the National Planning Committee to the Treasury Benches of the Government of India—our Prime Minister himself was the Chairman of the National Planning Committee—and I am not sure if my hon. friend Prof. Shah may not one day be sitting with my hon. friend Dr. John Matthai and advising him on this planning and how to avoid inflation and devaluation. I think that day is drawing nigh. I wish my friend Prof. Shah had taken us a little more into the recommendations of the National Planning Committee and as to how they could be immediately given effect to and as to how the Government of India could take note of those recommendations.

Sir, we are all alive to the grave economic situation in the country which requires a tightening of our belts. When a couple of years ago I asked in this House that we must fast for two days in the month as the Father of the Nation demanded of us in the year 1947 I forced smiles and laughter on the floor of the House but today better realisation has dawned on us. Today we hear all around of the "Miss a meal a week". "Miss a meal a week" means two days' fasting in the month, which means 24 days' fasting in the year. That would prevent the shelling out of Rs. 100 crores over which my hon. friend the Commerce Minister and my hon. friend the Finance Minister find so much trouble and give discourses and dialectics to us, Members of Parliament about our adverse balance of trade and how there is a dollar shortage. That could all be avoided if we have that two days' fasting in the month and 24 days' fasting in the year. Members of this House should not only fast themselves, but they should go and address their constituencies all over India. Let us live on our own produce, let us not digest foreign produce.

Sir, I listened most attentively to the President's speech to us. I would have very much liked a little more emphasis laid on the ideas of the Government of India as how to bring about World Peace and Human Happiness by the doctrine which we have inherited from the Father of the Nation, by means of Non-violence and Truth. In this much harassed world there is too much conflict and too much struggle all over, too much hatred going round, and the cultured citizens of the world look to us to bring them the message of peace and happiness. India on the dawn of its freedom, in the first Republican year, should take the vow that it should bring the message of peace, it should develop world peace, it should develop the idea of one world, and it should generate human happiness. For that we should not fight shy. For that we should immediately negotiate treaties with the Governments of the U. S. S. R. and U. S. A. Today the world is divided in two factions. There is the aggressiveness of the U. S. A. ready to fight with either atomic bombs or with hydrogen bombs. There is the ideology of the U. S. S. R. which wants the worker and the small man of the earth should have status, should have contentment, should have happiness. To me U. K. does not come in. It is a fifth-rate Power. It has gone down. In matters of intrigues it is, of course, one of the first-rate intriguers among world Powers. But it is no more a world-

[Shri B. Das]

Power. If India, by her high standard of culture, by her high standard of integrity and keeping in view Mahatma Gandhi's ideology, negotiates peace and brings down the U. S. A. and the U. S. S. R. to one frame of mind, then world peace will come and human happiness will result. That is our work, that is our great task. I do appeal to the Government of India—those of my comrades who are there as the Government of India—that they should concentrate their attention not to have more soldiers or not to spend 150 crores on the Army but to spend less and less and bring down the limit of Defence expenditure to 100 crores, to maintain world culture, to bring world peace and human happiness.

Shri Tirumala Rao (Madras): Sir, we have started functioning just now as a Sovereign Parliament of the Indian Republic. On the eve of renewing our march towards progress, we have evolved a new set of principles for the conduct of business, namely the speech by the President and an address and amendments by this House to his speech. Sir, the Indian National Congress has taken the challenge of the last century and of the recent past about our freedom. It had taken up the challenge of the foreigner who was unjustly occupying this country; by its service and sacrifices it has managed to eliminate him and emancipate the 350 million of our people. Now, after having achieved that end, a new challenge, in the words of our worthy President, is facing this country, and the leadership of this country. How far can we justify the freedom that we have achieved? How far can we bring into practical effect the ideals that have been preached all along by the Indian National Congress, with a view to ameliorating the conditions of the masses?

That is a challenge that has to be faced by the present leadership of this country. The speech that has fallen so graciously from the President is but a skeleton sketch of the intentions of the Government and of what they are doing. Sir, fortunately for us, the leadership that has been vouchsafed during the freedom struggle is still with us. The three topmost men of this country happen to occupy the key positions in the governance of the country today. Babu Rajendra Prasad, by his services and ability, can very well justify the place to which the nation has unanimously and with acclamation chosen him as the first President of this Republic. Our Prime Minister is a world figure today next only to Mahatma Gandhi, and is easily the ablest and most forward politician in the world. He today occupies the unique position of being the first Minister of the State. His Deputy Prime Minister who is an inevitable and an absolutely essential counterpart of him is also vouchsafed to us by Providence. With these three able and experienced captains of our ship, I have no doubt that this country will march from success to success and establish its place in the comity of nations.

But I want to see how far we have fared in our actual progress during the last few years of the stewardship of this Government. Barring the outstanding leadership of our Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister, it all depends on the rest of the composition of the Government as to how effectively it is going to function in delivering the goods to the man in the street. This is essentially an age of the man in the street, the so-called democratic age where the clamour of the ordinary man must be heard in the counsels of the nation. Whatever we may profess by democracy, all our professions are judged by the practical standard of life which we can vouch through the instruments of the Government. I am sorry to say that we have been oppressed by one malady or other during the last three years so that we have not been able to devote proper attention to an effective planning of our country. In the amendments that I have given notice of, I wanted to have an explanation as to why we have not been able to make a proper use of the Rs. 1,600 crores that had been accumulated in the sterling balances and why those balances were frittered

away for one thing or another without a commensurate gain to the people. That is a point on which the Government as a whole owes an explanation not only to this House but to the public outside.

With regard to the organization of the Government, I have more than once voiced my feelings and criticism on the floor of this House that this Government is running in the old bureaucratic rut; it could not be lifted out of it. Whatever the power of the leadership at the top, their preoccupation with other more important political issues has allowed the bureaucracy to run on its own wonted line of routine and red tape. There was a talk of some Committee presided over by my hon. friend Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar. We don't know what has happened in the secret archives of the Government, but from the little news that has leaked out in the Press, we are told that his report which was brought out as a result of ardent labours has been shelved.

We want to know whether the personality of the Cabinet and the Ministers is strongly impressed upon the policies and programmes that are being taken up by Government or whether they are still content to be led by the Secretariat and the Secretaries of the Government. There must be a new re-orientation: there must be a new life; there must be a new programme and enthusiasm created, and there must be better co-ordination between Department and Department. We have more than once heard that a file that is started by one Department gets stuck up in the Departmental routine and the decision never sees the light of day. All these things have to be avoided, because we are functioning in a state of emergency—an emergency where there is food scarcity, where there is dearth of raw materials, where there is scarcity of sugar and where there is even scarcity of manpower. Therefore, unless this Government is organised on a war footing to deal with all these things of the war time which we have inherited even in peace time, there is no future for this country. I want humbly to draw the attention of the President and through him his advisers to the fact that there should be a special re-orientation of the executive system of this country, on which mainly the efficiency of Government depends.

With regard to the question of food, it is the biggest problem that confronts the world today, and along with the rest of the world, our country also has to face very serious difficulties. Having voted for this unitary Constitution, having agreed solemnly to abide by this Union of States, we must realize that every component part of this Union has a sacred duty devolving upon its shoulders to see that the whole of the country hangs together and holds together as one nation. The fissiparous tendencies that have been visible in the States that had the monopoly of sugar production are too well known in recent history. The policies of States Governments cannot be isolated from that of the Union Government in regard to procurement of food and its distribution. If there is a famine in the extreme south, our patriotism must be strong enough to make the men in the Punjab and the U. P. who have got a little foodgrain to spare to feel that the misery of the south is also that of the north. Unless we realize that, unless there is that co-ordination, unless there is that enthusiasm and inspiration, there is a dark future for us. There should be better co-ordination between the Union and the States not only in regard to agricultural production, procurement of food and its distribution, but also in regard to industrial development on which the real prosperity of the country depends. There should be more energy in our Departments of Government and more activity on the part of our Minister, in order to see that all these things are co-ordinated and brought to fruition.

I do not want to take much time of the House. I hope that the House will be taken more and more into the confidence of the Government and that there will be established a more vital, a more personal and a more active contact

[Shri Tirumala Rao]

of the mutual trust and mutual co-operation in the day to day conduct of this Government, I am sure we will be able to tide over these difficulties that beset this young nation at this early stage and take it to its destined goal.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): Although a large proportion of the members of this House continues to be the same as before the adoption of the new Constitution, I would like to point out that it makes a tremendous difference between the 25th of January 1950 and the 26th. From the 26th of January, a new era has commenced and from that day we will be forced to revise many of our thoughts and convictions. We are no longer governed by the 1935 Act with a few suitable adaptations we had approved of. We are governed now by an independent Constitution, framed by the representatives of India. By this Constitution we chose a Parliamentary type of democracy. As a necessary concomitant or corollary of parliamentary democracy, we substituted the President's speech in place of the King's speech in England. It is not incorrect to say that it is in imitation of that that we are having this debate also. This House hereafter is going to be the sole instrument of governance and administration in the country. As such the purity and efficiency of our Government will depend upon how the Parliament functions. The administration of the country will be good or bad according as the Parliament functions well or badly. Therefore, it should be the care of every member of the House, and specially those who are in charge of the administration, to see that the privileges and rights of the Members of this Parliament are preserved. I do not like any interim arrangement coming from one head or one brain, however bright and eminent it may be. When the privileges of the Members of Parliament were debated in the Constituent Assembly, we were told to refer to the privileges of the Members of the House of Commons and here we are, being carried further, so to say, in a sort of blind continuance of the past without realizing and recognizing what exactly our privileges and rights are. I specially complain that only two days have been allotted for this debate. If we are to follow the House of Commons practice, more time should have been allotted. On glancing through a stray volume of 1944 Debates in the House of Commons, I found that as many as eight days had been allotted for the discussion of the King's Speech. The British people were then in the midst of a war when there were many secrets to be kept and debates were curtailed as much as possible. I would have very much preferred that, when we are celebrating the birth of our Republic, when we are embarking upon a new era, we should be able to tell our President and the members of our Government what mistakes they have committed and what changes and corrections it is possible to bring about. Instead of giving us an adequate opportunity, we have the spectacle of ten minutes for each member—a time limit within which it is impossible to complete even preparatory remarks much less to make any constructive proposal or level any criticism. I would very much wish that we had been given more time. Although what has been decided cannot probably be changed, I think at least hereafter, we shall be wiser and allot more time for speeches on the President's Speech in this House. I am surprised that, after having chosen the parliamentary type of democracy, many of our people seem to think that it is empty talk that people indulge in here. I protest against this mentality. When we have chosen a parliamentary democracy, it is the right of every Member to have a say and adequate opportunity must be given to him to say what he wants.

I am very happy that we have elected as President a gentleman of the highest integrity and one who has the unstinted affection and support of almost every individual in the country, and when he referred to Mahatma Gandhi's teachings, we were certain that the represented the view of Mahatma in a more real sense than many others. Although there may be certain differences

of opinion among us, the essence of Mahatmaji's philosophy is the only one that can take India to its proper destiny. Any departure from it will not be in the best interests of India. From that point of view, when the President referred to Mahatmaji and the principles of his policy and declared that he will stick to his teachings, every one in the country was reassured.

Sir, so far as the Government is concerned, I do not wish to indulge in any criticism, but I would like to make a few suggestions. First of all, I do find and I have always felt, that our policy towards Pakistan was a little lukewarm, was a little on the side of too much caution and too much gentlemanliness. A nation that we are and a great nation that we are, we have got to deal with human beings of various kinds. We are not dealing with saints. There are all sorts of people in this world and unless you draw out from your weapons the adequate weapon to deal with a particular country or a particular individual, you will never succeed. I have the highest respect for the hon. the Prime Minister; I know the loftiness of his ideas and I very often feel that I am thinking in a different direction which is not correct and that he is probably the right man to judge. Even so, so far as Pakistan is concerned, I feel that we have treated this peculiar kind of nation which harbours unnecessary enmity towards us a little too generously and with a liberality of heart which is not altogether justified.

So far as the other matters of domestic nature are concerned, in view of the fact that I have only ten minutes, I will confine myself to the points that have been raised in my amendment, although I did not want to move it. The first point I want to urge is that the Government of India should put an end immediately to the sugar scarcity in the country. As I have pointed out, it is not a real deficiency that we are having. The scarcity is due to the mischief of certain people and to the incompetence of some others who were expected to control the commodity. It has lasted too long and it is time that it was resolved.

Secondly, Sir, there is a feeling in the country that we have not succeeded yet in dealing with the black-marketeers in a way they should be dealt with. There are, I know, many economic ills persisting in the country. There are many difficulties with which the administration is faced. Even so, I feel that there are ways and means which can be devised for dealing with the black-marketeers who are spreading these evils and augmenting them from day to day.

The next thing which we have not yet taken up and which should be taken up at the earliest possible moment is to stop the adulteration of food-stuffs and various articles of consumption. There have been many Bills which have been tabled. I hope, Sir, now that the new Constitution has come into force, the Government will not be slow in not only accepting the Bills, but also giving effect to the provisions of the Bills.

There is also a general complaint that we are not taking adequate steps against corruption, inefficiency and nepotism. The question of inefficiency in the Government Departments and the work that is put in by the Secretariat was dealt with at some length by my hon. friend Shri Sidhva. I will not, therefore, take up the time of the House on that. But I should like to point out that many responsible government servants and officers are not slow to impress upon us that our administration has deteriorated even from the time of the British people and that something should be done immediately so that the administration of the country may improve. Even so far as Delhi is concerned, people feel that it is no use going to the Police, or making any complaints because there is very little response in the direction of removing

[Dr. Deshmukh]

the grievances. It is in these various small things that the common man comes in and it is from that angle that we feel great satisfaction that a person like Dr. Rajendra Prasad is the President. Like Mahatma Gandhi, he has always the welfare of the common man, the peasant of India, at heart. It had always been Mahatmaji's ambition to improve the lot of the average man.

Then, Sir, I have referred in my amendment to various people being appointed to various places. There is, as we know, tremendous dissatisfaction in the country and that has arisen because there are quite a large number of people who have ceased to enjoy any public confidence and yet they continue to be in high offices. There are many of them who try to make the best of the situation. Most of them know that hereafter under the new Constitution they will have no chance. This is their last chance and they want to make the best of it. This sort of mentality has created a lot of dissatisfaction in the country and much of the dissatisfaction that we find in the country is due to the fact that undeserving people, people who cannot any longer be called representatives of the people, who can have no status, no position under the new Constitution happen to be in certain places and they continue to behave irresponsibly, because they know they are not going to have a further chance of being in that post or office. Therefore, it is necessary that our new President and the Government should make their influence felt and see that the administration is cleared of these personages who are bringing the reputation of the country down and whose conduct alone is responsible for much of the dissatisfaction that prevails.

I congratulate Shri Munshi on his address and whole-heartedly support his motion. I hope that this practice will become well-established and there will be every opportunity for this Parliament to function, not in the slavish imitation of outward formalities, but in essence, on the same lines and with equal effectiveness, as the British Parliament.

श्री जे० आर० कपूर: राष्ट्रपति के प्रति कृतज्ञता के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करते हुए मैं इस बात पर हर्ष और सन्तोष प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ कि राष्ट्रपति ने अपना प्रथम भाषण हिन्दी भाषा में देकर राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी को वह उचित और गौरव का स्थान प्रदान किया जो इसका हक था, राष्ट्रभाषा होने के नाते। हमारी सरकार और हमारे प्रधानमंत्री ने जो इस प्रकार की सलाह हमारे राष्ट्रपति को दी उसके लिए मैं उनको बधाई और धन्यवाद भी देना चाहता हूँ। मुझे आशा और विश्वास है कि आज से आगे हमारे राष्ट्र के कार्यों में हिन्दी का ज्यादा से ज्यादा प्रयोग किया जायगा और वादजूद इसके कि हमारे विधान में यह लिखा हुआ है कि अब से १५ वर्ष तक अंग्रेजी भाषा को वही स्थान मिलता रहेगा जो अबतक मिलता रहा है, फिर भी मैं आशा और विश्वास करता हूँ कि यथासम्भव स्वविधानुसार हिन्दी का प्रयोग ज्यादा से ज्यादा किया जायगा।

भाषण में वैदेशिक नीति की चर्चा की गई है। इसमें सन्देह नहीं कि हमारी वैदेशिक नीति इतनी सुन्दर रही है कि जिससे हमारे देश का मान दुनिया के अन्य देशों में बहुत ऊँचा उठ गया है। हमें इससे बहुत सन्तोष और हर्ष होता है।

विशेषकर हमें सन्तोष और हर्ष इस बात का है कि हमारी मंत्री इंडोनीशिया और अफगानिस्तान से बहुत गहरी हो गई है। इन दो देशों से हमारा सांस्कृतिक सम्बन्ध हजारों वर्षों से चला आ रहा है।

और पिछली कुछ शताब्दियों से भले ही हमारे देश में गुलामी रहने के कारण हमारा उनसे सम्बन्ध इतना अच्छा न रहा हो, जितना पहले था। लेकिन अब जब कि हम स्वतन्त्र हुए हैं, तो हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी तथा सरकार ने जो प्रयत्न किया है, मंत्री स्थापित करने का, यह बड़ा ही अच्छा काम किया और हमें विश्वास है कि अफगानिस्तान तथा इंडोनीशिया से हमारी मंत्री दिन पर दिन बढ़ती चली जायेगी और इससे उन देशों का तथा हमारे इस राष्ट्र का बहुत कुछ हित होगा।

राष्ट्रपति के भाषण में आगे चलकर हमारी देशी रियासतों की चर्चा की गई है। इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि यह एक ऐसी बात हुई है जिसको हम स्वप्न में भी आसानी से नहीं देख सकते थे। हमारी पांच सौ से अधिक देशी राज्य मिलकर अब केवल सोलह रह गये हैं। इसमें जम्मू तथा काश्मीर भी शामिल हैं। लेकिन जब जम्मू तथा काश्मीर की बात हम सोचते हैं, तो हमें जरूर इस बात पर हर्ष होता है और सन्तोष होता है कि वह भी हमारे देश के अन्तर्गत आगया है, लेकिन उसके साथ साथ हमें थोड़ा सा दुख भी होता है जब हम यह सोचते हैं कि जम्मू तथा काश्मीर हमारे देश के अन्तर्गत उन सभी विषयों में नहीं आया है, जिन सब विषयों में भारत के और देशी राज्य आये हैं। क्योंकि हम यह नहीं भूल सकते कि जम्मू तथा काश्मीर हमारे देश के अन्तर्गत केवल तीन विषयों में आया है, यानी रक्षा, वैदेशिक सम्बन्ध, तथा यातायात, इन तीनों विषयों में ही जम्मू तथा काश्मीर हमारे अन्तर्गत आया है।

मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार और हमारे प्रधान मंत्री भी यह महसूस करते होंगे कि यदि जम्मू तथा काश्मीर सभी विषयों में हमारे अन्तर्गत आजाते, तो वह जम्मू तथा काश्मीर के लिये और सारे भारतवर्ष के लिये अच्छी बात होती। मैं आशा तथा विश्वास करता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार इस बात का प्रयत्न करती रहेगी कि जम्मू तथा काश्मीर हमारे देश भारत के अन्तर्गत इस प्रकार आजाये, जिस प्रकार भारत के अन्तर्गत दूसरे देशी राज्य आये हैं।

भाषण में आगे चलकर चर्चा की गई है कि हमारे देश की रक्षा, तथा सेना की यह बात सही है कि उन पर खर्चा बहुत अधिक होता है, लेकिन वह जरूरी है और इसे खर्च करने में हमें हिचक नहीं करनी

[श्री जे० आर० कपूर]

चाहिये। हमारी वर्तमान स्थिति ऐसी है, जिसमें हमें गफलत में नहीं रहना चाहिये और मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार को पूर्णरूप से सारे इस संसद् के सदस्यों का सहयोग प्राप्त है कि जितना रुपया भी वह उचित समझें, हमारी सेना के ऊपर खर्च करें। भारतीय सेना के ऊपर हमें गर्व है। हमारी सेना के नौजवान सिपाहियों ने हैदराबाद तथा काश्मीर में बड़ा ही सुन्दर काम किया है। हमें इस बात का प्रयत्न करना चाहिये कि उनकी तन्स्वाहें इतनी हों जिससे उन्हें हर सम्भव सन्तोष हो। उनकी नौकरी की शर्तों और सुविधाओं में कोई कमी नहीं होनी चाहिये और हमें ऐसा करना चाहिये कि वह सदा हर्षित तथा सन्तुष्ट रहें। ताकि हमारे देश की बड़ी अच्छी तरह से वह रक्षा कर सकें। उन्होंने जो सुन्दर कार्य किये हैं, जो बहादुरी उन्होंने दिखाई है, उसके लिये उनके सामने हम लोगों का माथा नत हो जाता है।

भाषण में आगे चलकर चर्चा इस बात की राष्ट्रपति जी ने की है कि हमारे देश में अन्न का संकट है। निस्सन्देह ऐसी बात मालूम होती है और उसके लिये उसमें कहा गया है कि विदेश से हम लोगों को अन्न मंगाने की जरूरत पड़ती है। इस के अलावा इसमें जो बात कही गयी है, वह यह है कि अन्न का समाहरण हमारी लवुकालीन योजना का एक आवश्यक अंग है। अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं नहीं जानता कि यथार्थ में हमारे देश में अन्न की कमी है या नहीं। सरकारी आंकड़े यह बतलाते हैं कि हमारे देश में १० फ्रीसदी की कमी है, लेकिन कुछ लोगों का यह ख्याल है कि यह सरकारी आंकड़े ठीक नहीं हैं, बल्कि गलत हैं। यथार्थ में हमारे देश में अन्न की कोई कमी नहीं है। हमारे लायक दोस्त सिधवा साहब जो हर बात में बड़ी मेहनत करते हैं, उन्होंने तो कई बार कहा है और अपने अखबारी बयान में यह बतलाया है कि हमारे देश में अन्न की कमी नहीं है, और मैं भी उसी राय का हूँ और समझता हूँ कि यथार्थ में अन्न की हमारे देश में कोई कमी नहीं है, बल्कि हमारा अन्न सम्बन्धी जो प्रबन्ध है, वह उचित नहीं है और उसके कारण हमें कठिनाइयाँ उठानी पड़ती हैं। और सरकार की 'प्रोक्योरमेन्ट' की जो नीति है, उससे हमें कुछ भी लाभ नहीं हो रहा है, बल्कि इससे हमें नुकसान ही होता है।

यदि मैं आपको बतलाऊँ तो सुनकर आपको आश्चर्य होगा कि कितना ज्यादा रुपया इस अन्न प्रोक्योरमेन्ट के लिये खर्च किया जा रहा है। उत्तर प्रदेश में करीब तीन लाख चौरासी हजार टन एकत्रित किया गया था और उसके ऊपर ग्यारह करोड़, अड़सठ लाख, उनहत्तर हजार रुपया खर्च किया गया।

भला बतलाइये इतना ज्यादा खर्च करके हम जो अन्न का प्रोक्योरमेन्ट करते हैं उससे हमें क्या लाभ, उससे कितना नुकसान होता है, वह चन्द शब्दों में मैं आपके सामने पेश करूंगा। सबसे बड़ी बात तो यह है कि काश्तकार से कम कीमत पर बाजार में जो बड़ी हुई दर है, उससे कम पर अन्न लाने के कारण, उसे बड़ी भारी हानि पहुंचती है। हमारे काश्तकार को हमेशा से नुकसान उठाना पड़ता है। काश्तकार की दशा पहले अच्छी नहीं थी। अन्न का भाव हमेशा कम रहता था। अब कुछ वर्षों से अन्न का भाव ऊंचे गया है। जब अन्न का भाव भी ऊंचे गया, तब शहर के लोगों में बहुत घबराहट पैदा होगई और सरकार ने उनको सहायता देने का प्रयत्न किया कि काश्तकार से सस्ते दामों पर अन्न लाया जाये। फल इसका यह हुआ कि जो फायदा उनको होता, वह उन्हें नहीं मिल रहा है और बजाय इसके उनको नुकसान हो रहा है और उसका परिणाम यह है कि वह ऐसी चीज पैदा करना चाहते हैं अन्न की पैदावार को छोड़कर, जिसमें कि उन्हें ज्यादा पैसा मिले। नतीजा यह हुआ है, मैं अपने आगरे जिले को मिसाल देता हूं, वहां ईख की खेती बहुत कम होती थी, लेकिन पिछले दो तीन वर्षों में, तीन चार वर्षों में जब से अन्न पर कन्ट्रोल हुआ है, तो उन्होंने अन्न के बजाय ईख ज्यादा बोना शुरू कर दिया है। इसलिये मेरा निवेदन यह है कि प्रोक्योरमेन्ट पालिसी से अन्न की ज्यादा पैदावार में बहुत कुछ नुकसान हो रहा है। और हमारे अधिक अन्न पैदा करने की योजना में इससे बाधा पड़ रही है। व्यापारियों को और कंनज्यूमर्स (consumers) को भी नुकसान होता है, और होता यह है कि यथार्थ में पब्लिक की सस्ता अन्न नहीं मिलता है, बल्कि राशन की दुकानों पर घंटों खड़े रहने के कारण उनका समय नष्ट होता है जिस समय के मूल्य का बहुत बड़ा नुकसान होता है। सारे देश में कन्ट्रोल और राशनिंग से असन्तोष फैला हुआ है और असन्तोष के अलावा जो बहुत भारी नुकसान हुआ है, वह यह है कि हमारे सारे देश में करप्शन (corruption) की बीमारी और घूसखोरी और बेईमानी फैली हुई है। हमारे सारे देश की आत्मा का हनन हो रहा है और हर आदमी की जबान पर यह है कि हमारे तो सभी लोग बेईमान होगये हैं, और यथार्थ में एक प्रकार से यह बात ठीक है भी। जितना जल्द मुमकिन हो, कन्ट्रोल और राशनिंग के अभिशाप को अपने बीच में से जल्द से जल्द हटा दें। अगर राशनिंग व कन्ट्रोल यहां बनी रहती है और हम उसको जल्दी से नहीं हटा देते, तो हमारे देश की आत्मा की हत्या तो हो ही रही है, उसके साथ साथ मैं समझता हूं कि हमारी सरकार इतनी बदनाम होगी, कि जनता की दृष्टि में वह बुरी तरह गिर जायगी। जनता का मान और भरोसा वह खो बैठेगी जिससे ऐसी परिस्थिति हो जायगी कि कांग्रेस सरकार का कायम रहना कठिन व असम्भव हो जायगा। इस चेतावनी से सरकार को सजग हो जाना चाहिये।

श्री जे० आर० कपूर]

एक बात इस सम्बन्ध में मैं और कहना चाहता हूँ कि महात्मा गांधी की, राष्ट्र पिता की, हम दिन रात दुहाई देते हैं और कहते हैं कि हमें उनके रखे हुए आदर्शों के अनुसार चलना है, हमें उनके आदेशों के अनुसार चलना है। लेकिन जब काम करने की बात आती है तो उनके रखे हुए आदेशों को हम बिल्कुल भूल जाते हैं। अन्त समय में अगर उन्होंने किसी बात पर खास तौर से जोर दिया था तो इस बात पर दिया था कि कंट्रोल (control) और राशनिंग (rationing) उड़ा दिये जायं। उनकी बात उनकी जिन्दगी में थोड़े दिन तो हमने मानी, लेकिन उनके देहान्त के कुछ ही समय बाद हमने उनके आदेशों को भुला दिया और कंट्रोल और राशनिंग फिर शुरू कर दिये। यदि हम यह कहने में कुछ सचाई रखते हैं कि हम उनके आदर्शों और बताये हुए आदेशों पर चलना चाहते हैं तो उनके अन्तिम समय में कही हुई बात पर तो अवश्य ही हमें चलना चाहिये और राशनिंग और कंट्रोल को साफ़ कर देना चाहिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यदि आप आज्ञा दे दें तो मैं केवल एक आधा मिनट और लेना चाहता हूँ। मुझे एक बात और कहनी है और वह यह कि हमारे राष्ट्र-पतिजी ने जिक्र किया है इस भाषण में हमारे निर्वासित भाइयों का। उन्होंने यह कहा है कि “पाकिस्तान से आये हुए निर्वासितों के पुनर्वास की समस्या केवल उनके लिये ही नहीं प्रत्युत देश के लिये भी बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है”। यह बड़े हर्ष और सन्तोष की बात है कि हमारी सरकार इस विषय को इतना महत्वपूर्ण समझती है, महत्वपूर्ण केवल निर्वासितों के लिये ही नहीं बल्कि सारे देश के लिये। और आगे चल कर उन्होंने बड़े सुन्दर शब्दों में कहा है कि “हमारा शासन इस बात पर उद्यत है”—“उद्यत” शब्द से मुझे बड़ा हर्ष होता है—“कि ये निर्वासित लोग यथासम्भव शीघ्र ही पुनर्वासित करा दिये जाय”। इन शब्दों से हमारे निर्वासित भाइयों के दिल में नई उमंग पैदा हो जानी चाहिये। इस सिलसिले में मैं ज्यादा नहीं कहूंगा क्योंकि आगे चल कर हमारी सरकार के जो बिल और प्रस्ताव आने वाले हैं उस समय इन विषयों पर कहने का काफ़ी मौका मिलेगा। इस समय केवल एक ही शब्द मैं कहूंगा कि जो शब्द इस भाषण में कहे गये हैं उनका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन (implementation) बड़े अच्छे रूप से सरकार को जल्दी से जल्दी करना चाहिये। उसके लिये यह आवश्यक है उनकी जायदाद का जो नुकसान हुआ है उसकी पूर्ति की जाय। इसके लिये “इवैक्यूई प्रॉपर्टी” (evacuee property) का सहारा तो अन्त में लेना ही पड़ेगा उसके लिये इस सम्बन्धी कानून को ठीक तरह से बनाना चाहिये, लेकिन एक बड़ा अच्छा उपाय यह हो सकता है कि एक रीहैबीलिटेशन टैक्स (rehabilitation tax) उनकी मदद के लिये अवश्य लगाया जाय जिससे कि

उनके दिलों में यह बात पहुंच जाय कि सारा देश उनके दुःख में उनके साथ है और इस देश का हर एक निवासी इस बात के लिये तैयार है कि उनका दुःख दूर करने के लिये अपनी जेब के मुताबिक उनकी मदद करने को आर्थिक सहायता दे।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh): While supporting the motion of thanks to the President, I would like to express feelings of satisfaction and joy that the President has by delivering his first address in Hindi given the national language that right and eminent place which it deserved as the official language of the Union. I would also like to congratulate the Government and the Prime Minister and express my gratitude to them for the advice given by them to the President in this respect. I hope and feel confident that from today onwards maximum possible use of Hindi shall be made for purposes of conducting the official business of the Union, and notwithstanding the fact that our Constitution contains provision to the effect that for a period of fifteen years, the English language shall continue to occupy the same place as held by it heretofore, I hope and trust that more and more use of Hindi shall be made as far as possible and convenient.

The address contains a reference to the foreign policy. There is no doubt that our foreign policy had been so splendid that it has raised the prestige of our country very high amongst the other countries of the world. This affords us a great solace and pleasure. More particularly our joy is heightened by the fact that we have established very close ties of friendship with Indonesia and Afghanistan. We have had cultural contact with these two countries since thousands of years ago. It may be, that during the last few centuries on account of our country's subjection to foreign yoke, our relations with them might not have been so friendly as these had been in the past. But now when we have become free, the efforts made by our Prime Minister and our Government to establish friendship are really very praiseworthy, and we feel confident that our friendship with Afghanistan and Indonesia will be strengthened day by day and this will considerably benefit these countries as well as ours.

The President's address further refers to our native states. There is no doubt in it that we could not even possibly dream of such an eventuality. The process of integration of over 500 states has reduced the number thereof to 16 units only. This also includes Jammu and Kashmir. But when we think of Jammu and Kashmir, we surely feel gratification and pleasure that this State has also acceded to our country. But along with this, we are also somewhat constrained to feel that Jammu and Kashmir has not acceded to our country for the purposes of all the subjects for which other native States have acceded to the Indian Union. This is because we cannot forget that Jammu and Kashmir has acceded to our Union for the purposes of three subjects only, viz., Defence, Foreign Relations and Communications. For the purposes of these three subjects alone, Jammu and Kashmir has acceded to the Indian Union.

I think that our Government and our Prime Minister must also be feeling that Jammu and Kashmir should have acceded to the Indian Union for the purposes of all the subjects, and this would have been better for Jammu and Kashmir as well as the whole of India. I hope and trust that our Government shall continue to endeavour that Jammu and Kashmir should accede to our country in the same manner in which other Indian States have acceded to the Indian Union.

[Shri J. R. Kapoor]

The address further refers to the defence of our country and our forces. This is true that it entails a very huge expenditure. But this is essential and we should not hesitate to incur this. We are at this juncture placed in such a position that we should not remain unwary and I realize that our Government fully enjoys the co-operation of all the Members of this Parliament that they should spend as much amount over our defence forces as they may deem necessary. We are proud of the Indian Army. The young soldiers of our army have rendered meritorious services in Hyderabad and Kashmir operations. We should try to pay them such salaries as would afford them all possible satisfaction. No reduction should be made in the concessions granted to them under the terms and conditions of their services and we should always keep them happy and contented so that they may be able to defend our country with heart and soul. We have but to bow before them in recognition of the admirable deeds performed by them and the gallantry displayed.

The President has in his address further referred to the scarcity of food in our country. Undoubtedly this appears to be so, and to countenance this we feel the necessity of importing foodgrains from abroad. Apart from this it has also been mentioned therein that food procurement is an essential part of our short-term scheme. Sir, I am not aware whether there is any real deficiency of food in our country or not. The official statistics show that there is a deficiency of 10 per cent. in our country, but some persons think that these official figures are not correct, and are wrong. In reality, there is no deficiency of food in our country. My hon. friend Shri Sidhva who takes a lot of pains in every matter has very often pointed out and mentioned this in his statement published in the Press that there is no deficiency of food in the country. I also see eye to eye with him and think that in fact there is no deficiency of food in our country, but on the contrary our food organisation is not properly managed and on account of this we have to face many hardships. And, moreover, we are not deriving any benefit out of the 'procurement' policy of the Government. Conversely, this has proved prejudicial to our interests.

If you permit me, I may tell you, and you will be surprised to hear how much amount is being spent over this food procurement policy. In Uttar Pradesh, approximately 3,84,000 tons were procured and Rs. 11,68.69,000 were spent on that account. You may just imagine what do we gain by procuring foodgrains after incurring such a heavy expenditure? I will let you know in a few words what loss we are suffering on this account. The most important thing is that the producer sustains a considerable loss by selling his foodgrains at a comparatively lower price than the higher price prevalent in the market. Our agriculturist has always to sustain a loss. The agriculturist was not in a prosperous state previously as the price of foodgrains had all along been very low. Now the price of foodgrains has risen since the last few years. As soon as the price of foodgrains rose high, the citizens were alarmed and the Government tried to help them by procuring foodgrains from the agriculturist on low prices. This resulted in his being deprived of the benefit which would have otherwise accrued to him and on the contrary he is undergoing a loss. As a consequence of this, a situation has arisen in which the agriculturists want to grow such commodities, other than foodgrains, as might yield them more money. The result has been, I quote an example from my own district of Agra, where sugar-cane was meagely cultivated, that ever since control was imposed on the foodgrains during the last three or four years, they have begun to grow more sugar-cane than the foodgrains. Therefore, I beg to submit that the procurement policy is considerably affecting the growth of more food, and this is hampering the development of our 'Grow More Food' plan. It is also prejudicial to the interests of our businessmen as well as consumers. And it so happens

that in actual practice the public do not get cheap foodgrains, but they have to waste a lot of time by standing for hours together at the ration depots, and hence this loss of time involves loss of money. There is a widespread discontentment prevailing throughout the entire country due to the operation of control and rationing. And apart from the element of dissatisfaction, the huge loss that we have suffered is that the evil of corruption, bribery and dishonesty has become rampant throughout the length and breadth of our country. It is eating into the very vitals of our country and it is on the lips of everybody that all of our people have become dishonest, and in fact it is true in a way. The evil system of control and rationing should be lifted forthwith. If control and rationing are allowed to continue here and we do not abolish these immediately, then apart from killing the body-politic of our country, it will also bring our Government into disrepute and it will badly fall down in the estimation of the masses. The Government will lose their respect and confidence and it will lead to such a situation as would render it difficult and impossible for the Congress Government to remain in office. The Government should take heed of this warning.

There is one thing more which I wish to say in this connection. Incessantly we make appeals in the name of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, and declare that we have to act in conformity with the ideals and precepts preached and propounded by him, but when it comes to action we are entirely oblivious of those injunctions. The one thing on which he laid particular emphasis during his last days was a plea for the abolition of controls and rationing. We did act on his instructions for some time while he lived but shortly after his passing away we forgot his advice and revived the controls and rationing. If we are at all sincere in our professions that we want to act according to his ideals and injunctions we should in any case act upon the advice given by him during his last days and say good-bye to rationing and controls.

Sir, if you permit, I shall take only a minute or so more. Our President has, in the course of his address, mentioned our displaced brethren. He has said that the problem of rehabilitation of the evacuees from Pakistan is of great importance not only for them but also for the country. It is highly gratifying to note that our Government attaches such great importance to this question and that too not simply in the interests of the refugees alone but also in the interests of the entire country. Further on, he has stated, in very graceful phraseology, that our Government is determined—to me the word 'determined' is particularly fascinating—to see that these displaced persons are rehabilitated as quickly as possible. These words should inspire our displaced brethren with new hope. I shall not say anything more in this connection as there will be ample opportunity to speak on these matters later on when our Government's Bills and resolutions come up for discussion. All that I should say at this juncture is that the Government should implement the promises held out in this address in a wholesome manner and at the earliest possible. For this it is essential that they should be compensated for the losses in property suffered by them. For doing that recourse would of course be necessary to evacuee property, ultimately. To that end the law pertaining to it must be suitably modified. One very good measure that must be employed for their help is the levying of a 'rehabilitation tax' so that they could be made to feel that the entire country is with them in their misfortune and that every inhabitant of this country is prepared, according to his means, to render them financial aid with a view to mitigate their suffering.

Shri Khandubhai Desai (Bombay): We welcome this opportunity to say a few words on the policy of the Government as enunciated through the speech of our President. The policy as enunciated by our President regarding the past achievements which have been on the record for the last two years and a little

[Shri Khandubhai Desai]

projection into the future gives us some idea of the fate before us. There is no doubt that the foreign policy of the Government as pursued by our Prime Minister has raised us very high in the eyes of the whole world. The policy of the integration of the country into one solid whole has also been successful and I would certainly give the highest tribute to these two architects of our nation for the respective policies and the implementation thereof which they carried out. With these two achievements before us, we can trust and should trust these two architects to carry out the promises and ideals which they have placed before us throughout the speech. The speech in the beginning refers to the Father of the Nation and lays down that we hope to achieve social and economic salvation through the ideals which Gandhiji has laid down before us. It also ends with a reference to the Father of the Nation saying that we pray that we may be able to put his ideals into practice. However, Sir, I feel—I who represent the working classes of this country—that no reference has been made to one particular matter in the whole speech. You all know that some two years back an industrial truce was agreed to between three parties,—labour, capital and the Government. Labour has carried out the implications of this truce....

Shri B. Das: Question.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: ...as can be seen from the industrial peace which has been maintained during the last two years. Mr. Das, the old man of this House, questions.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma (Uttar Pradesh): It is his habit.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: I may tell him that it was during the last two and a half years that the nation was beset with so many difficulties both in the economic and political fields. It is the organised workers of this country who have given phenomenal peace to this country and have generally been instrumental in raising production in the various centres of industrial production, and this has been admitted by the Government in all their notifications. But, Sir, it is the capitalists who are being appeased. They have been given gifts in various aspects but their contribution has not been sufficient and adequate to the response that the Government has given to them. But labour has acquitted itself very creditably. There were three promises given to labour. One was that immediately fair wages will be assured to it. Government appointed a Committee; the Committee has reported unanimously on fair wages but the report has not been implemented and the President's Speech makes no reference whether in the coming session a Bill on fair wages is coming. It has been promised that statutory profit-sharing will see the light of day, but nothing is mentioned in the Speech.

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

Then, Sir, there is one very important question which has been hanging fire in the last two and a half years. We all know that the housing condition in all the urban areas is appalling. The population of most of our industrial cities has gone up by about one hundred per cent.

An Honourable Member: More.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: But in the Presidential Speech we have no mention of this. What I would demand of the Government is this that the undertakings solemnly given should be carried out.

Shri B. Das: Not by this Government.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: Why not? I have got confidence in them and therefore I am saying this on the floor of the House. Two major policies this Government has carried out, a new foreign policy for the peace of the world and the integration of the country into one whole. If these two can be carried out 4. P.M. by this Government, it has got the capacity, it has got the courage to carry out the promises that had been given to labour at the time of the industrial truce.

Shri B. Das: Only if you increase production.

Shri Khandubhai Desai: Production ought to be increased. It is not a one-way traffic. Production can be increased by co-operation but our President should have stated very categorically which part of the nation, during the last three years has co-operated with the Government and which section of the society has non-co-operated and the appeal should have been directly made to those who refused to co-operate in the matter of production. I charge the other part of the industrial production, namely, the vested interests of not having played their game fair to the nation. Therefore, what I was saying was that as far as the housing is concerned, there may be less materials in the country, but let us make the best use of the materials which we have got in the country; let us not go in for grandiloquent houses which might cost Rs. 5,000 or 10,000; let us use our own materials and build simple houses; it might cost less.

Sir, I must say that during the last two and a half years, though there has been an achievement all round, as far as the management of our industries, commerce and finance are concerned, they were in a state of chaos. However, there is hope given in the speech that the Planning Commission is going to be appointed, and the Planning Commission, I believe and hope, will co-ordinate all the economic activities of the State so that a co-ordinated policy with regard to the development of our production with a view to raise the standard of living will be a task which it will not be difficult for the Government to carry out. With these words, Sir, I do welcome this opportunity of saying a few words on the Government's comprehensive policy that has been placed before us.

पंडित बालकृष्ण शर्मा: मेरे मन में वास्तव में प्रसन्नता और भगवान के प्रति धन्यवाद का भाव उठता है। इस अवसर पर आज मैं स्वतंत्र भारत के एक नागरिक और इस संसद् के एक सदस्य के रूप में अपने राष्ट्रपति के भाषण के सम्बन्ध में कुछ शब्द कहने का साहस कर रहा हूँ। इस भवन में बैठकर मैंने उनके भाषण को सुना तो मुझे उनके इस भाषण के पीछे इस देश की आत्मा का, इस देश के प्रयत्नों का और इस देश की प्रतिभा का दर्शन हुआ है कि जिस के बल पर हम अपने इस देश को एक नवीन स्वरूप देना चाहते हैं। भाषण में हमारे, राष्ट्रपति ने शासन से सम्बन्ध रखने वाले, इस देश से सम्बन्ध रखने वाले, अनेक प्रश्नों पर पूर्णता के साथ तथा सूक्ष्मता के साथ विचार किया है।

उन्होंने भाषण के दूसरे अंश में महात्मा गांधी का स्मरण करते हुए इस बात का विश्वास और इस बात की आशा प्रगट की है कि हम उनके सिद्धान्तों को अनुप्राणित करते रहेंगे।

[पंडित बालकृष्ण शर्मा]

इस देश के पिता और हम सब के बापू ने हमारे देश को जो वस्तु दी है उसके प्रति केवल मात्र कृतज्ञता का प्रगट करना पर्याप्त नहीं है। उन्होंने हमारे सम्मुख जिन आदर्शों को रखा है उन आदर्शों को लेकर एक शासन-मंडल किस सीमा तक चल सकेगा इसमें मुझे संदेह है। किन्तु वह स्वयं अपने जीवन में कहा करते थे "मैं आदर्शवादी हूँ किन्तु मैं व्यवहारिक आदर्शवादी हूँ। I am an idealist but I am a practical idealist." यह हमारे देश के पिता कहा करते थे। जिस समय कांग्रेस का शासन-मंडल इस देश में सन् १९३६ और १९३७ ई० में स्थापित हुआ उस समय उन्होंने कहा था कि यदि हमारा शासन-मंडल केवल गतानुगति में पड़ जायगा तो वह अपना सर्वनाश कर लेगा। आज मुझ से पहले भी एक वक्ता ने इस बात की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित किया है, इस भवन का और अध्यक्ष महोदय का और सरकार का भी, कि हम लोग अपने राष्ट्र-पिता के बताये हुए मार्ग से विचलित हो रहे हैं। क्या हम उनकी बातों का ठीक प्रकार से अपने शासन में प्रयोग कर रहे हैं या नहीं? मैं चाहता हूँ कि हमारे मन्त्रीगण इस बात को प्रयोग करेंगे और इस काम में जुट जायेंगे। हमारे शासन में अनेक प्रकार की उलझने रहती हैं। किन्तु हमको इस बात की कोशिश करनी चाहिये कि किस प्रकार से हम इन उलझनों को कम करें। यह जो "लालफीता" हमारे शासन में चलता है वह हर एक शासन में चलता है। बिना उसके काम नहीं चल सकता है परन्तु हम इस चीज में बन्ध जायेंगे तो इससे हमारा सर्वनाश हो जायेगा। मेरा विश्वास है कि जिस रूप में हमारे राष्ट्रपति ने हमारा ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित किया है उसको पूरा करने के लिये हम सब लोगों को एकसाथ प्रयत्न करना होगा।

अपने भाषण के ६वें अंश (पैराग्राफ) में उन्होंने चीन को हमारी राष्ट्रीय सरकार द्वारा स्वीकार करने की बात कही है। इस बात से हम सब लोगों को प्रसन्नता हुई है। किन्तु मैं यह निवेदन कर रहा हूँ कि इसके साथ साथ यदि उनके भाषण में इस बात की भी घोषणा होती कि हमें सोवियट यूनियन से कोई विरोध नहीं है, हमें कम्युनिस्ट राज्य से कोई विरोध नहीं है, तो बहुत अच्छा होता। आज दुनियां में एक प्रकार का भय, एक प्रकार का त्रास फैलाया जा रहा है। जानबूझ कर सोवियट विरोधी प्रचार किया जा रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हमारा राष्ट्र इस प्रकार के प्रचार में न आयेगा। स्वयं हमारे प्रधान मंत्री ने कल ही एक स्थान पर यह बात कही कि हम सोवियट विरोधी नहीं हैं

में सोचता हूँ कि हमारे राष्ट्रपति के भाषण में इस प्रकार की भावना का समावेश हो जाता तो बहुत ही अच्छा हो जाता ।

हमारे देश में पोचंगीज और फ्रेन्च का जो एक प्रकार का कलोनियलिज्म विद्यमान है, उसकी ओर भी संकेत होना चाहिए था । राष्ट्रपति के भाषण में यह उचित था कि जहां उन्होंने एशिया के उपनिवेशवाद के विरुद्ध अपने स्वर को उठाया, वहां पर वह भारतवर्ष में जो उपनिवेशवाद की यह छोटी छोटी पाकेट्स हैं उनके विरुद्ध भी कुछ कहते ।

जहां हमने कभी भी साउथ अफ्रीका के इस सिद्धान्त को स्वीकार नहीं किया है, और जहां राष्ट्रपति ने निश्चित रूप से उस सिद्धान्त का विरोध किया है, नाम न लेकर सही किन्तु उन्होंने जातीयता के आधार पर ऊंच नीच को बुरा बतलाया है, वहां पर मैं चाहता था कि साउथ अफ्रीका को विशेष रूप से ध्यान में रखकर वह हमारे सामने उस बात को स्पष्ट कर देते कि इस प्रकार का साउथ अफ्रीका का व्यवहार, जातीयता के रंग के वर्ण के आधार पर वहां पर मानवता के साथ अनाचार करने की नीति का अभ्यास, एक दिन संसार में महायुद्ध की आग को प्रज्वलित कर सकता है । राष्ट्रपति ने इस रूप में उस चीज को वहां पर नहीं रखा है । मुझे दक्षिण अफ्रीका के इस भयानक विषाक्त वर्णवाद में वही गन्ध आ रही है जो नात्सीवाद में आ रही थी, और जिस प्रकार से नात्सीवाद ने एक बार उस पर आधारित होकर संसार का सर्वनाश कर दिया मुझे लगता है कि कदाचित् आगामी काल को दक्षिण अफ्रीका के सर पर वही अपराध मढ़ा जायगा कि उसने सारे के सारे संसार को एक बार फिर से युद्ध की आग में झोंक दिया ।

मैं जानता हूँ कि पूरे भाषण पर अपने विचार व्यक्त करने का समय आप मुझे नहीं देंगे, फिर भी एक बात की ओर मैं विशेष रूप से ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ । अपने कल के भाषण के बारहवें पैराग्राफ में राष्ट्रपति ने हमारे सम्मुख इस बात पर प्रसन्नता प्रकट की है कि हमारे देश में एक समूहीकरण हो गया है, एक इंटेग्रेशन हो गया है । उसके प्रतीक स्वरूप जो छोटी छोटी पांच सौ से अधिक रियासतें थीं, वे सम्मिलित होकर १६ राज्य बन गए हैं । एक बात की ओर मैं इस भवन का ध्यान, आपका ध्यान, और सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ । इस भाषण में इस बात का कहीं भी उल्लेख नहीं है, कहीं भी इसकी ओर संकेत नहीं है, कि जो आज चीफ कमिश्नर्स प्राविन्सेज के नाम पर, चीफ कमिश्नर के द्वारा शासित राज्यों के नाम पर छोटे छोटे राज्य बन गए हैं, उनका भविष्य में क्या होगा । विशेषकर मैं विन्ध्य प्रदेश की ओर आपका

[पंडित बालकृष्ण शर्मा]

ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहूंगा। वहां की शासन प्रणाली को विनिष्ट करके जो केन्द्र के नीचे वहां शासन प्रणाली चल रही है, जिस प्रकार की नीति का अवलम्बन विन्ध्य प्रदेश में किया जा रहा है वह हमारे राज्य की सत्ता के गौरव के अनुकूल नहीं है। आपको आश्चर्य होगा, सभापति महोदय, यह जानकर के कि वहां पर सार्वजनिक कार्य करने वाले कांग्रेस के सेवकों के ऊपर गुंडा ऐक्ट में कार्यवाहियां की गई हैं। आपको यह जानकर आश्चर्य होगा कि लोगों को वहां कारागार में बन्द कर दिया गया है इस अपराध पर कि उन्होंने डाक्टर राम मनोहर लोहिया को मोटर दी थी, या वे वहां से प्रतिनिधिमंडल बनाकर दिल्ली आए थे और यहां हमारे प्रधानमंत्री से मिले थे। इस कारण पर उन आदमियों को वहां के शासन ने जेल में बन्द कर दिया है। मैं कहता हूं कि इस प्रकार की भयानकता हम नहीं चलने दे सकते। यह इम्पासिबल नहीं है, पासिबल है। मेरे पास उन आज्ञाओं की प्रतिलिपियां हैं जिसमें यह कह कर कि लोगों ने डाक्टर लोहिया को गाड़ी दी थी, तुम प्रतिनिधि मंडल दिल्ली ले गए, तुमने उसको रुपया दिया इसलिये तुम्हें जेल में बन्द किया जाता है। यह लिखी हुई आज्ञा है। इस प्रकार की बातें मैं समझता हूं कि हमारे लिये अशोभनीय हैं, हमारी सरकार के लिये अशोभनीय हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि कदाचित् हमारे श्रद्धास्पद डिप्टी प्राइम मिनिस्टर को यह बात मालूम नहीं है, इस लिये मैं उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं कि जो इस प्रकार के छोटे मोटे राज्य चीफ कमिश्नर के आधीन हैं वहां हमें प्रयत्न करना चाहिये कि वहां की हालत ठीक हो, वहां स्वायत्त शासन स्थापित करने का हम प्रयास करें और शीघ्र से शीघ्र हम उनको इस स्तर पर ले आयें जिन पर हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश हैं।

मैं आपका अनुग्रहीत हूं कि आपने मुझे इतना समय दिया। मुझे और भी थोड़ी बहुत बातें इसके सम्बन्ध में कहनी थीं किन्तु मैं समझता हूं कि मुझे अन्य मित्रों के मार्ग में नहीं आना चाहिये।

(English translation of the above speech.)

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: My feeling is one of real happiness and thankfulness to God. On this occasion, today, I venture to say a few words in connection with our President's address in the capacity of a Citizen of free Bharat and a member of this Parliament. Sitting in this House as I listened to his address I could perceive revealed behind it this country's soul, this country's travail and this country's genius, on the strength of which we are out to give this country of ours a new form. In his speech the President has dwelt upon numerous questions pertaining to the Government, pertaining to this country, in a subtle and exhaustive manner.

Paying tribute to the memory of Mahatma Gandhi in the latter part of the speech he has expressed his hope and confidence that we will continue to be guided by his philosophy.

It will not do simply to profess our gratitude for what has been bequeathed to our country by him who was the Father of the Nation and the father of all of us. I have my doubts as to the extent to which the Government might have the capacity to own and act up to the ideals which he placed before us. But, then, he himself used to say during his life-time, "I am an idealist, but I am a practical idealist". This is what the Father of our Nation used to say. When Congress Governments were formed in this country in 1936 and 1937 he remarked that if our Ministries get stuck up in the old bureaucratic traditions they would end by self-destruction. Even before me, today, another speaker has drawn the attention of this House, of the Speaker and of the Government to the fact that we are straying from the path shown us by the Father of the Nation. Are we or are we not properly putting his teachings into practice in our Government? I want our hon. Ministers to act upon them with single-minded devotion. The work of our Government has its various complexities but it should be our endeavour to reduce these complexities. The 'red tape' prevailing in our Government forms an attribute of each and every Government. You cannot do without it. But, if we allow ourselves to be tied down to it this would be disastrous for us. I believe that it would call for a united effort on the part of all of us if we are to follow the line suggested to us by our President.

The mention, in paragraph six of his speech of the recognition by our National Government of the Chinese regime has pleased us all, but, I would submit that it would have been still better if alongside with that there had been a declaration in it that we have no hostility against the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government. Today, a kind of fear, a sort of terror is being spread. A deliberate anti-Soviet-propaganda is being carried on. I hope our nation will not be taken in by that kind of propaganda. Even yesterday our Prime Minister stated at a certain place that we are not inimical to Soviet Russia. I think it would have been very good if an expression of a similar sentiment had been incorporated in our President's address.

There should also have been a reference to what is a kind of colonialism of the Portuguese and the French entrenched on the soil of our country. It would have been proper if where the President's address contained a protest against colonialism in Asia it could also have contained something against these tiny pockets of colonialism that exist on the very bosom of India.

We have never accepted the racial doctrine of South Africa and the President has positively opposed that doctrine. He has not named anyone in particular but he has condemned differentiation on the basis of race. I would have liked if in addition to saying all that he had kept South Africa specifically in view and made it explicit that such a course of conduct on their part and the policy of outrageous treatment of humanity on the basis of colour and race pursued by them is likely one day to start the conflagration of another great war in the world. The President has not put it that way. To me this frightful, poisonous racialism of South Africa gives the same evil odour as was given out by Nazism. I apprehend that just as Nazism once made that philosophy their main plank and led the world into ruin, the same charge might at some future date be laid at the door of South Africa and it might be said that once again they hurled the whole world into the inferns of war.

I know that you will not allow me the time to express my views on the entire address. Yet, I would especially draw your attention to one thing. In the course of the twelfth paragraph of his speech the President has expressed his gratification at the unification and integration that has been achieved in our country. The small states numbering over five hundred which formed its component parts have merged together and taken the shape of sixteen governmental units. There is one thing to which I wish to draw your attention and the attention of this House and of the Government. There is no mention anywhere

[Pandit Balkrishna Sharma]

in this speech, not even a reference, as to what will become, in the future, of those small governmental units that have come to be formed under the title of Chief Commissioners' Provinces, administered through Chief Commissioners. I would in particular draw your attention to Vindhya Pradesh. The policy that is being pursued there by the Central Administration that has been substituted there in place of its previous administration which was uprooted, is not in keeping with the greatness and prestige of our Government. You will be surprised to know, Sir, that proceedings under the Goondas' Act have been taken there against public workers of the Congress. You will be surprised to learn that people have been imprisoned on the charge of having lent a motor car to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia, or because they came to Delhi in a deputation and here met our Prime Minister. For that reason they have been put in jail by the local administration. I say we cannot permit such a reign of terror to continue. This is not impossible, but possible. I have with me copies of those orders which recount, 'You lent a motor car to Dr. Lohia, you took a deputation to Delhi, you gave him money, hence you are put in jail'. There is a written order. I think that things like that are unbecoming of us; they are unbecoming of our Government. I know this is not known to our revered Deputy Prime Minister. Hence, I draw his attention to the fact and ask that in the case of these small administrations under Chief Commissioners we should endeavour to improve the state of affairs. We should make efforts to establish autonomous regimes there and, as early as possible, bring them up to the same level as that of our Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

I am thankful to you for having allowed me so much time. There were other things that I would have said in this connection but I think I should not stand in the way of my other friends.

Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya (Uttar Pradesh): I support the motion moved by Shri K. M. Munshi. I am strongly of opinion that the President's address to the House was marked by clarity and it outlined the policy of the Government which I am sure the Government in the course of the next twelve months will try to fulfil. There is no doubt about the fact that within the space of two years and a half the Government of the country acquitted themselves splendidly. The Augean stable of corruption left by the British Government was sufficiently cleaned so as to enable the people of this country to breathe the free atmosphere, and we are going apace with nation-building efforts in all departments. There cannot be any gain saying the fact that the two idols of the nation, the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister, have accelerated the pace of integrating the country and the whole country must offer its grateful thanks to those two valiant patriots of the country. I also appreciate and the country too will appreciate the efforts made to liquidate illiteracy and to improve the standard of education. We also appreciate the efforts made in all directions to expand trade, commerce and business. Therefore, there is no doubt about the fact that the nation is on the march. While appreciating these efforts of the Government I am sure that greater efforts should be made to raise the tempo of the people to ensure greater co-operation from the people, so that the Government can always count upon the millions of the people who will be ready to support them through their adversity and also in their prosperity.

There is no doubt about the fact that the people today are not getting sufficient food! It is also true that the country's health is deteriorating. Efforts should be made in these directions to see that the student community as also the people of the middle classes are properly fed and housed.

It is well known that housing accommodation is so acute in all parts of the country that this problem has to be solved as soon as possible. The relations between labour and capital have got to be solved. An hon. Member of this

House a few minutes ago mentioned the slogan "Produce or Perish" and said that it may become "Produce and perish". So a happy relationship between labour and capital must be produced, so that labour may willingly lend its wholehearted support and co-operation to the common progress of the country. A discontented labour community is the greatest menace to the peace and prosperity of the land and therefore I hope and pray that the Government will try to see that labour gets a square deal at the hands of capital and Government.

I would also make a few submissions regarding the fact that today—bureaucracy is triumphant in every part of the country. In every province it is the bureaucracy which is still ruling and I am afraid that this ascendancy of the bureaucracy must be curbed. The people's will is not felt. I am not a hater of bureaucracy but I do feel that the representatives of the people should have the power of superintendence over the work of the bureaucracy.

I also want Government to realise the fact that on account of insufficient instruction to the provincial governments from the Centre or the attention of provincial governments not being drawn sufficiently to the fact, Gandhian principles are not being taught or inculcated in schools and colleges. I am strongly in favour of the establishment of Gandhian institutes all over the country. I say that every Province should have a Gandhian institute and there should be a Gandhian University for the teaching of the principles of Mahatma Gandhi. The country should never forget the greatest services rendered by the Father of the Nation.

With regard to our foreign policy I may say that it has been excellent. I would, however, point out one thing and it is this that the strained relationship with the Pakistan Government notwithstanding the friendly attitude of the Government of India should not be allowed to grow further and should be curbed. Today a motion for adjournment was tabled by Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Majtra and our attention was drawn to the picture of the atrocities that are being committed by some Muslims upon the minority community in East Bengal. This aspect of the matter should never be forgotten by the House. While the Government of India have given sufficient evidence that their policy is always directed by liberalism, standing by the United Nations, it should not be understood that any weakness characterizes the organisation of the Congress, or for the matter of that the Government of India. The Government of India must be firm in giving punishment to those who violate the territorial integrity of India. While the Government of India have pledged their support to the Organisation of the United Nations it does not mean that the Pakistan Government can ride rough-shod over the rights of the Indian Union. Therefore, I would say that our Government should follow such a policy by virtue of which the whole tempo of the people will increase. Being a teacher in a University—and the premier University in U.P.—I can say with authority that the younger section of the people of the country reading in schools and colleges are being under-fed and are getting de-vitalised day by day. If the country cannot at once provide for cheaper food, provision must be made at least for subsidising food for the students in schools and colleges so that the growing nation may not be dwarfed in its infancy. They are the leaders of tomorrow. I do not want that the leaders of tomorrow should be stagnated or that they should be dwarfed intellectually, morally or physically.

I would like to invite your attention to one more fact and then I shall have done. Today there is a lack, it seems, of enthusiasm in the people so far as the Government is concerned. Cheap criticism is being made against the Government. I do not attach any value to cheap and destructive criticism. I value constructive criticism. But there is criticism and therefore the best way to tell the opponents of the Government that Government means to do business is to show them by actions because the test of the pudding is in the eating. We

[Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya]

must therefore go on apace and we should not be intimidated by any time-factor or by bureaucratic red-tapism. We should adhere strictly to Gandhian principles. And I here and now accord my appreciation of the speech delivered by our President than whom there is no better exponent of Gandhian principles throughout the length and breadth of India.

Shri Raj Bahadur (Rajasthan): In this great country he would be un-Indian who does not feel the thrill, the pride and the pleasure of this great occasion, the coming into being of the full Sovereign Democratic Republic of India. And I consider it a high privilege to accord my support to the motion of thanks that has been moved this morning by one of the elders of the House. While lending my support to the motion I feel that I should give expression to some of the feelings and sentiments that I feel surging in my mind about the various policies that have been enunciated in the clear and lucid speech of the President yesterday.

Coming to the question of foreign policy first of all, may I humbly state that the success of our foreign policy is proved and reflected in the high prestige that our country has achieved during this brief span of two years of our independence? But I feel that in this world no nation has yet achieved that degree of international-outlook and selflessness which might make it pay homage or honour to any other nation without any selfish motives of its own. If we are getting honour or respect from other nations, either from one power bloc or the other, we have got always to be wary that we are not misled. That is why I welcome the remark made by the President in paragraph 3 that we are "avoiding any alignment which leads to hostilities with any nation". In so far as we have recognized the new regime in China I have got nothing but praise and admiration for the statesmanship which has been shown by our Prime Minister. I would welcome further steps in this direction, namely of exchanging goodwill Missions between the new China and our country. That would pave the way for clearing up our attitude towards each other. That is very necessary. As neighbouring nations and as nations both belonging to Asia it is necessary that our contacts should be renewed from time to time so that all the mist of suspicions and superstitions about one another may be removed.

I would again welcome the way in which we have cemented our age-long and traditional relations of friendliness with Afghanistan. This proves to the world that ours is a nation which transcends all narrowness of vision brought about by religions or communal considerations. Afghanistan is more Muslim than any other Muslim country, I believe. They are the truest Pathans. When we come to a relationship by means of a Treaty with Afghanistan, we prove that the charge of communalism or religious fanaticism made by some of our ill-wishers falls flat on the ground.

May I further say that so far as our policy towards Pakistan is concerned, obviously it is just in conformity with Gandhian attitude of approach that our Government should pursue a policy of endeavouring "to help in every way the process of healing" of the wound that has been referred to in paragraph 10 of the President's Address. But I feel that this endeavour up till now has always and invariably been merely a one-sided traffic and has always proceeded from us. From the other side, that is, Pakistan, we have got knock after knock, and insult after insult. Beginning from the unprovoked attack on the defenceless people of the northern part of our country—Jammu and Kashmir—in October 1947 up to the time of the incident that occasioned the tabling of the adjournment motion this morning, it is clear that there is no endeavour on the other side to heal up the strained relations or to come to a reasonable settlement. I feel that far from endeavouring to cement the relations or making any efforts for a softening

of the relations between the two countries, even the Prime Minister of that country has indulged from time to time in an unprovoked attack against India in his utterances. On Id day, in the message he delivered to his nation, he spoke of the way in which our compatriots here in this country were celebrating Id. His statement that they were not celebrating under free conditions was an absolutely unfounded malicious attack. I wish that we would give them reply in the same term. I as a young man don't see why we should take all these thrusts from Pakistan without giving any reply at all to them.

Coming to the question of the integration of the States, I am very glad that the process of integration has been completed, but may I respectfully submit that much has got to be done before the people in the centrally administered states and States Unions would feel the flush of freedom. As a matter of fact, as yet we hardly feel any change there. The common men in the towns in the villages feel that the amenities, privileges and conveniences which they had enjoyed all through in the past are being denied to them now. Whereas formerly he could get every small thing or advantage near his own home now he has to run to a distance for it. Apart from that, the bureaucratic hold on the administration is such that seldom is it responsive to the feelings and sentiments of people. We were up, during the course of our struggle, against the iron wall that existed between the Ruler and the ruled. We always believed that the Political Department was always there between the various Maharajahs and the people. But to our regret we still find that it is very difficult for us to convey our feelings to our leaders and to make them convinced of our real grievances. I wish there were more responsiveness in the administration in the States. Today for every ill of the Government, it is the Congress Party that is being blamed. Shri Munshi in his address this morning said that "there is no sufficient will and enthusiasm to work and also no scope for work." I feel that is so because the former living contact between the Congress and the people is lacking now. That contact is now not as intimate as it used to be. Even the contact between the Congressman of the lower rank and the leaders is missing today. That is why the real feelings and sentiments of the people are not reflected in the day to day administration and day to day activities of Government. Again, I think the remarks that dropped from the lips of my hon. sister, Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani, point to the same direction. The people have a habit of not co-operating with the Government, but surely they have a long tradition of work under the banner of the Congress. That tradition must be preserved and strengthened if Babu's message is to be translated into a reality. May I conclude my remarks by stating a word about our Defence expenditure and about our Army? I had the occasion to visit the farthest pickets of our Army in Kashmir and I was struck by the gallant way in which our men and officers in the army have acquitted and are acquitting themselves there. The praise and admiration of the people of Kashmir for our soldiers and officers was really highly encouraging, which filled our hearts with pride for them. They said that our soldiers had come to them like saviours who saved them from the clutches of the barbarous tribesmen who invaded that fair land in October, 1947. They said that but for the Indian soldiers they would have been lost altogether. I would wish that not a pie is reduced from the expenditure on our Defence Services until and unless all threat of aggression from that side is removed.

चौधरी रणबीर सिंह : राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने जो भाषण दिया है, उसका समर्थन करते हुए मैं अपनी खुशी जाहिर किये बगैर नहीं रह सकता कि राष्ट्रपति जी ने हिन्दी को अपने भाषण में जो प्रथम स्थान दिया है उससे हिन्दी को देश में बड़ा प्रोत्साहन मिलेगा ।

[चौधरी रणवीर सिंह]

राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने अपने भाषण में अनाज की कमी और अनाज की पैदावार को बढ़ाने का जिक्र किया है, उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं हिन्द सरकार के कृषि मंत्री महोदय का और इस हाउस (House) का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। अनाज की कमी के बारे में श्री आर० के० सिधवा या कपूर साहिब ने जिस तरह से कहा मैं उनसे सहमत नहीं हूँ उनका कहना है कि देश के अन्दर अनाज की कमी नहीं है। अगर देश के अन्दर अनाज की कमी न होती तो हर साल जो १३० करोड़ रुपये का अनाज बाहर से आता है, वह कहां चला जाता है। अनाज ऐसी चीज नहीं है जिस को हमेशा के लिये दबा कर रखा जाये। मैं समझता हूँ कि अनाज एक साल दबाया जा सकता है और बहुत से अनाज तो ऐसे हैं जो छै महीने के बाद ही खराब होने शुरू हो जाते हैं मैं सिधवा साहब का ध्यान इस तरफ़ दिलाता हूँ। मैं उनसे सहमत नहीं हूँ क्योंकि उन्होंने अस्ल चीज पर ध्यान नहीं दिया है।

श्री सिधवा : आपने स्टैटिस्टिक्स (Statistics) स्टडी (Study) किया है ?

चौधरी रणवीर सिंह : मैं उनकी तरह स्टैटिस्टिक्स तो स्टडी नहीं कर सकता, क्योंकि मैं देहात का रहने वाला हूँ यह जानता हूँ कि अनाज को एक साल के बाद कोई आदमी अच्छी तरह से नहीं रख सकता, खाह वह व्यौपारी हो या किसान।

अगर यह मान लिया जाये कि अनाज दो तीन साल तक दबा कर रखा जा सकता है, तो अब तो अनाज बाहर से मंगाने मंगाने छै सात साल गुजर गये और बतायें तो सही आखिर वह अनाज कब तक छुपाया जा सकता था। उसको अब मार्केट (market) में आ जाना चाहिये था। लेकिन अगर नहीं आया तो यह साफ़ जाहिर करता है कि देश के अन्दर अनाज की कमी है।

एक बात और है कि कुछ भाई ऐसा समझते हैं कि खेती के ऊपर आम इकोनामिक साइंस (economic science) के जो कायदे हैं वह लागू नहीं होते। मैं इससे सहमत नहीं हूँ। लोग जब किसी चीज की पैदावार बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो उसकी कीमत को ज्यादा बढ़ाते हैं लेकिन अनाज के लिए इस से उलटा किया जा रहा है।

एक और चीज की तरफ़ मैं आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। मैंने अपने अमेन्डमेंट (amendment) में भी इस चीज का जिक्र किया है कि एग्रीकल्चरल फ़ायनेन्स कारपोरेशन (Agricultural Finance Corporation) कायम की जाये जो एग्रीकल्चरिस्ट्स (agriculturists) को रीज़नेबिल इंटरेस्ट (reasonable interest) पर लोन (loan) दे।

जो राजनीति में कुछ महत्व रखते हैं उन में से हर एक ने अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ाने की तरफ ध्यान दिया और कुछ बातें कहीं। लेकिन मैं उन से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सक्रियात्मक रूप से उसे आगे बढ़ाने की कोशिश की गई? सबसे पहले सक्रियात्मक रूप से बढ़ाने के लिये यह जरूरी था कि एग्रीकल्चरल कार्पोरेशन यहां पर बनाई जाती। और अगर कोई काश्तकार नई जमीन को तोड़ना चाहे या खेती के अन्दर कोई इम्प्रूवमेंट करना चाहे या नये औजार खरीदना चाहे और उसको फ़ायनैन्स (finance) की भी जरूरत हो तो वह १२, १३ और १४ रुपये सैंकड़े से कम पर फ़ायनैन्स नहीं हासिल कर सकता है। तो क्या गवर्नमेंट (government) यह समझती है कि वह एक तरफ पैदावार की कीमत घटाये और दूसरी तरफ उसको रूपया हासिल करने की सहूलियत भी न दे तो पैदावार कैसे बढ़ सकती है। पैदावार उसी वक्त बढ़ सकती है जब कि उस को फ़ायनैन्स हासिल करने की सहूलियत दी जाय और उसको पैदावार का अधिक मूल्य मिले।

दूसरी बात जिसकी तरफ मैं ने अपनी अमेंडमेंट में भी ध्यान दिलाया है और जिस को कहना मैं जरूरी समझता हूँ वह यह है कि पिछले दिनों भाकरा डैम के बारे में पंजाब गवर्नमेंट के अधिकारी और मंत्री यहां पर आये थे और उन्होंने अपना यह विचार प्रकट किया था कि अगर उनको १४ करोड़ रुपया नहीं दिया गया तो उनका बांध जो है वह ठीक तरह से तरक्की नहीं कर सकेगा और उसको वह उतनी तेज़ी से नहीं बना सकेंगे जितनी तेज़ी से वह उसको बनाना चाहते हैं। उस रुपये को न देने की वजह यह बताई गई है कि इससे इनफ्लेशन (inflation) बढ़ जायेगा। मैं तो यह कहता हूँ कि अगर इस से इनफ्लेशन बढ़ेगा तो भी वह आपकी समस्या का हल होगा क्योंकि भाकरा डैम जल्दी बनेगा तो पानी जल्दी आवेगा और उस की वजह से आपकी अनाज की कमी दूर होगी और अनाज की समस्या हल हो जायगी। अनाज की समस्या हल हो जाने पर आपके पास १३३ या १४० करोड़ रुपया सालाना बच जायगा जिसको आप दूसरे उद्योगों को बढ़ाने में लगा सकेंगे।

एक चीज़ और जिसके प्रति मैं महसूस करता हूँ वह यह है कि जहां तक बढ़ावा देने का सवाल है, नयी जमीनों को तोड़ने का सवाल है, कई गवर्नमेंटों ने तो अब ऐसे क़ायदे और ऑर्डिनेन्सेज़ (ordinances) भी बना दिये हैं कि जो बंजर जमीनें हैं और जिन को सरकार ने किसी आदमी को पट्टे पर दे दी हैं और अगर वह काश्त नहीं की जाती हैं तो वह उनसे वापस ले कर सरकार उन आदमियों को दे देगी जो काश्त करने की जिम्मेदारी

[चोधरी रणवीर सिंह]

लेंगे यह काम केवल यहीं तक रह गया है और सक्रियात्मक रूप से उनका कोई असर नहीं पड़ा है। यू० पी० के बारे में और पंजाब के बारे में मैं अच्छी तरह से कह सकता हूँ कि काफ़ी ऐसी ज़मीनें परती पड़ी हुई हैं जिन के काफ़ी बड़े भाग को डेवलेप (develop) किया जा सकता है बशर्ते कि जो डेवलेप करना चाहते हैं उन को मदद दी जाय और उन को उन ज़मीनों का पट्टा या लीज़ (lease) दे दी जाय।

तो इस तरह बहुत सी बातें हैं लेकिन उन सब को आपके सामने नहीं ला सकता। इसके अतिरिक्त एक बात में जरूर महसूस करता हूँ कि राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने भाषण में एग्रीकल्चरल लेबर (agricultural labour) और अन्य लेबर का जिक्र किया लेकिन देश का जो एक बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा है, किसान जिसके पास अपनी ज़मीन है, जो ज़मीन का मालिक है, जो न किसी को लूटता है और न किसी से लुटना चाहता है कोई जिक्र नहीं किया है। क्या हमारी सरकार समझती है कि उसकी हालत तसल्लीबख्शा है? मैं तो आप का इस के प्रति ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि देहात के अन्दर किसानों के लिये न कोई स्कूल हैं, न कोई अस्पताल हैं और न उसके लिये सड़कें ही हैं। यहां पर मोटर के लिये अलग सड़क है, बाईसिकल चलाने के लिये अलहदा सड़कें हैं और पैदल चलने के लिये अलग पगडंडियां हैं। लेकिन देहात में आप जावेंगे तो पच्चीस पच्चीस मील तक आपको कोई सड़क नहीं दिखलाई देगी। तो राष्ट्रपति जी ने जो भाषण दिया उस से मुझे बहुत खुशी हुई लेकिन मैं झूले तौर पर कहे बिना नहीं रह सकता कि काश्तकारों को बढ़ोतरी देने के लिये उस में जो कमी रह गई है उस को मैं जरूर महसूस करता हूँ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Punjab): While wholeheartedly supporting the address delivered by the President I cannot stop without expressing my heart felt delight for the preference that Mr. President has shown towards Hindi and I feel that this would afford a lot of encouragement to the cause of Hindi in this country.

The President in his address has made a reference about the shortage of food-grains and the necessity of increasing the production of food-grains in the country. I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Food Minister of our Government and of this House towards this problem. I do not agree with the views expressed by Shri Sidhva and Shri Kapoor about the shortage of food-grains. They say that there is no food shortage in our country. Had there been no shortage of food-grains in our country then where go those food-grains worth 130 crores of rupees that are being imported every year. Food-grain is not such a commodity that could be hoarded for very very long periods. I think that food-grains can be hoarded only for one year and certain food-

grains are such that they begin to decompose even after six months. I wish to draw the attention of Shri Sidhva to this fact. I do not fall in line with the views expressed by him because he has not taken into consideration the real facts.

Shri Sidhva: Have you studied the statistics?

Ch. Ranbir Singh: I cannot make a study of the statistics like him because I belong to the rural areas and know perfectly well that no one can hoard food-grains for more than a year may that hoarder be a businessman or a cultivator.

If it be taken for granted that food-grains can be hoarded for two or three years, but it is now seven years that the food-grains have continuously been imported in this country, then let us know for how long these food-grains could further be hoarded? It ought to have come out in the open market by now. If this hoarded food-grain has not yet appeared in the open market then this fact clearly indicates that there is a shortage of food-grains in our country.

One thing more, some hon. friends think that as far as agriculture is concerned the general principles of Economics do not hold good. I do not contribute to this view. Whenever people want to increase the production of a particular commodity they raise the price of the same, but as far as the production of food-grains is concerned exactly opposite things are being done.

I wish to draw your attention towards one more point. I have put it down in my amendments also that an Agricultural Finance Corporation be set up which may grant loans to the agriculturists on a reasonable rate of interest.

The persons who command some influence in the political circles every one of them paid attention towards the problem of increasing the production of the food-grains and have made certain suggestions also. But I wish to ask them whether any efforts were made to give their suggestions a practical shape? In order to give a practical shape to these suggestions in the first instance it was essential to set up an Agricultural Finance Corporation here. If any cultivator desired to bring under plough virgin soil, or wished to make improvements in his farming, or wished to purchase new implements and may also stand in need of money or finance then he cannot obtain finance at rates lower than 12, 13 or 14 per cent. If on the one hand the Government wish to lower the prices of food-grains and on the other do not even give facilities for obtaining the necessary finances then do the Government think that the production can go up? The production can go up only when the cultivators be given facilities for obtaining the necessary finances and they get higher prices for their produce.

The second point, towards which I have drawn attention in my amendment also and which I think worth mentioning, is that some time back some officials and hon. Ministers of the Punjab Government had come here in connection with the construction of the Bhakra Dam and they had given out that in case they were not given the grant of 14 crores of rupees then the scheme will not be realized and the construction work on the dam will not be carried on with such speed as they had desired. The reason that has been given out for not giving this grant is that it would cause further inflation. But I wish to say that even if further inflation be caused by giving such a grant then still it would afford a solution of your problem, because the faster the Bhakra Dam would be constructed the sooner water would be available for irrigation and thus the shortage of food-grains would be removed and the problem of food solved. After the food problem has been accounted for some 133 or 140 crores of rupees per year would be available to you and you would be able to utilise this sum of money for the development of other industries.

[Ch. Ranbir Singh]

Another point towards which I wish to draw your attention is the question of giving proper encouragement to the cultivators. As far as the question of bringing virgin soil under plough is concerned some state governments have passed such laws and ordinances whereby if those fallow and barren lands, that have been leased out by the Government to various persons, are not being put under cultivation then these lands would be taken back by the Government and again leased out to those who would promise to take the responsibility of putting them under plough. The efforts have come to a stop at this stage and have not caused a material change. I can say with confidence about U.P. and Punjab that many such lands are still lying fallow, greater portions of which can be developed provided the persons who wish to develop them may be given help and assistance and be granted lease of those lands.

Thus there are many such points but I cannot bring to your notice each and every one of them. Besides this I do certainly feel one thing that in his address Mr. President made a reference of agricultural labour and other types of labour, but he did not make a mention of those who form the major portion of our population, i.e., the cultivators, who have their own lands, who are the owners of the lands, and who neither rob others nor like others to rob them. Do the Government think their condition to be satisfactory? So I wish to draw your attention to the fact that in rural areas there are neither schools for the benefit of the farmers, nor there are hospitals nor there are roads even. Here we have separate roads for motor cars, separate tracks for bicycles and separate foot-paths for the pedestrians. But if you were to go to the rural areas then you would not come across any roads for say up to a distance of 25 miles even. So the address delivered by Mr. President has afforded a lot of satisfaction to me but I cannot stop without saying with all emphasis at my command that I do feel therein the absence of any assurances for improving the lot of the agriculturists and giving them proper encouragement.

श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई : मैं जानती हूँ कि मैं आज सावरेन इंडिपेंडेंट रिपब्लिक में बोल रही हूँ ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : बहुत ठीक ।

श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई : मैं यह भी जानती हूँ कि हिन्दी भाषा में जो मेरा ज्ञान है वह काफ़ी नहीं है ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : काफ़ी है ।

श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई : और मैं अपने भाव को अच्छी तरह से प्रकट नहीं कर सकती हूँ । पर हिन्दी भाषा के प्रति जो मेरी श्रद्धा और भक्ति है और यह जानते हुए कि हिन्दी हमारी स्टेट लैंग्वेज (State language) बन गई है और उसमें बोलना मेरा कर्तव्य है इसलिये मैंने बहुत कोशिश कर के आज यहाँ हिन्दी में बोलने के लिये साहस किया है ।

मैं अभी जिस प्रकार खड़ी हो गई हूँ तो मैं ऐसा अनुभव कर रही हूँ कि मानों मैं एक स्वप्न सा देख रही हूँ। मैं उन दिनों की याद करती हूँ जब मैं पढ़ती थी और जब मैं हैमिन्टन जाकरसन वगैरह ने युनाइटेड स्टेट्स आफ अमेरिका (United States of America) का कांस्टीट्यूशन (Constitution) बनाने में जो पार्ट (part) प्ले (play) किया था उसको पढ़ती थी। तो मैं सोचती थी कि क्या कभी ऐसा समय भी आयगा कि जब इंडिया (India) गुलामी से बाहर हो जायगा और स्वतन्त्र बन जायगा और कभी ऐसा भी मौका हम लोगों को मिलेगा कि इंडिया का कांस्टीट्यूशन हम खुद बनावें। तो भगवान की कृपा से ऐसा भी समय आ गया और मेरी खुशनसीबी है कि मैं अपना अभिनन्दन कर रही हूँ कि मुझे भी उसमें पार्ट लेने का सौभाग्य मिला। और, सभापति जी, यह कहने हुए मुझे बहुत गर्व होता है कि अब इंडिया का कांस्टीट्यूशन बन चुका है। परन्तु मैं अभी भी ऐसा अनुभव करती हूँ कि जब हम अपना कांस्टीट्यूशन बना रहे थे तो बाहर के लोग बहुत कहते थे कि महीने पर महीने और बरस पर बरस गुज़रे जा रहे हैं परन्तु कांस्टीट्यूशन बन नहीं सका। भगवान की कृपा से वह टाइम भी हो गया और हमारे सामने दृश्य पर दृश्य आते चले जा रहे हैं कि इंडिया का कांस्टीट्यूशन बन गया और २६ जनवरी को वह लागू भी हो गया और हमारे राष्ट्रपति का चुनाव भी हो गया और बाबू राजेन्द्रप्रसाद हमारी स्टेट (State) के फर्स्ट प्रेसीडेंट (First President) राष्ट्रपति हो कर यहां आये और मैं उनको अपनी तरफ से और हाउस की तरफ से बधाई दे रही हूँ। सभापति जी इंडिया के कांस्टीट्यूशन का हर एक आर्टिकल (Article) हर एक प्रावीजन (Provision) एक के बाद दूसरा अमल में आ रहा है। प्रेसीडेंट ने कांस्टीट्यूशन के प्रावीजन के मुताबिक ओथ (oath) ली थी और काउंसिल आफ मिनिस्टर्स (Council of Ministers) को अपाइंट (Appoint) किया था। इसमें हम बहुत कंटिन्युयटी (Continuity) नहीं देख सके तब भी जो होना है वह होता जा रहा है। और सुप्रीम कोर्ट को गार्डियन (Guardian) आफ दी कांस्टीट्यूशन की तरह से जो पार्ट प्ले करना है वह भी न्यू रिपबलिक (New Republic) में बन गई है। और प्रेसीडेंट का जो भाषण यहां पर हुआ और जिसको हम ने यहां बैठ कर सुना वह भी हो गया और अब हम को जो उसक ऊपर क्रिटिसिज्म (Criticis n) देना है वह भी हम दे रहे हैं।

जब प्रेसीडेंट ने हमारे यहां पर भाषण दिया था और मैंने सुना था तो यहां पर २७ पैराग्राफ में उन्होंने गवर्नमेंट की पालिसी पर जो क हू

[श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई]

उसमें हमारे देश की जो फ़ारेन पालिसी (Foreign policy) है उस पर कहा और मैं उसके लिये हमारी गवर्नमेंट को बधाई देती हूँ और मैं उनकी हर एक बात से सहमत हूँ। यह कहते हुए मैं यह भी जानती हूँ कि फ़ारेन पालिसी पर क्रिटिसिज्म भी बहुत है और खास करके पाकिस्तान की तरफ़ और चीन के रिकगनीशन (Recognition) की तरफ़ काफी क्रिटिसिज्म है। परन्तु यहां पर उस सब का जवाब देने के लिये मेरे पास काफी वक़्त नहीं है क्योंकि मुझे सिर्फ़ १० मिनट का समय दिया गया है। इसलिये मैं उस पर ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहती। जब मैं पैराग्राफ़ १२ की तरफ़ देख रही हूँ तो मुझे ऐसा लग रहा है कि इस देश की तारीख़ के, हिस्ट्री के, हिस्टारिकल ईवेंट्स (Historical events) मेरे सामने आ रहे हैं। महाराणा प्रताप ने जिस चीज़ को अपना जीवन दे कर भी अचीव (achieve) नहीं कर पाया था उसको हमारे डिप्टी प्राइम मिनिस्टर (Deputy Prime Minister) सरदार वल्लभ भाई पटेल ने इंटीग्रेशन पालिसी (Integration Policy) से सारे देश को दृढ़ कर दिया है और जब मैं हमारे यहां ऐसे प्राइम मिनिस्टर और ऐसे डिप्टी प्राइम मिनिस्टर को यहां बैठते हुए देखती हूँ तो मैं इसे हमारा अहोभाग्य समझती हूँ और हमें इसके लिये अपना अभिनन्दन करना पड़ेगा।

जब मैं पैराग्राफ़ १३ की ओर देखती हूँ तो थोड़ा दुःख तो होता है कि हमने अपने कांस्टीट्यूशन में एक बहुत बड़ा राइट (Right) हर एक अडल्ट (adult) को, हर एक मर्द को, और हर एक औरत को, फ्रैंचाइज (Franchise) का दिया है, तो इसके साथ ही हमारी यह भी रिसपांसिबिलिटी (Responsibility), जिम्मेदारी, है कि हम उन सब को पढ़ावें। हमारे देश में लिटरेसी (literacy) का जो परसेंटेज है वह हम सब खूब जानते हैं। मुझे इस बात का दुःख है कि प्लानिंग (Planning) और प्रोडक्शन (Production) के टारजेट्स (Targets) के लिये कोई टाइम नहीं रखा गया है। वह टाइ (Time) हमको फिक्स (Fix) करना पड़ेगा। जहां हम फूड (Food) के प्रोडक्शन के बारे में सोचते हैं वहां हमको यह भी नहीं भूलना चाहिये कि हमारे देश की पौपुलेशन (Population) बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ रही है उसकी तरफ़ भी हमारा ध्यान जाना चाहिये। जितना पैसा हम प्लानिंग में खर्च करेंगे-उससे हमको कठिनाइयों का सामना करने में कामयाबी नहीं होगी। मुझे आशा है कि हमारी सरकार इस बात की तरफ़ अवश्य ध्यान देगी।

अभी तो सिर्फ ५ मिनट रह गये हैं और इतने समय में कोई दूसरा अपना भाषण समाप्त नहीं कर सकता है इसलिए आप मुझे ही बोलने की आज्ञा देंगे ।

हमारे प्रेजीडेंट साहब ने अपने भाषण में कान्स्टीट्यूशन में जो फन्डामेन्टल राइट्स (Fundamental rights) और दूसरे सोशियल जस्टिस (Social justice) वगैरा चीजें हैं उनके बारे में हमारे प्रेजीडेंट साहब ने यह नहीं बतलाया कि हमारी सरकार उसके बारे में क्या स्टेप्स (Steps) ले रही है। और लेगी हमारे प्रिऍम्बल (Preamble) में जो बातें बतलाई गईं उसके बारे में भी। हमारे प्रेजीडेंट साहब ने कुछ नहीं बतलाया कि किस तरह से हमारी गवर्नमेंट उनको अमल में लायेगी। आज सारा संसार हमारे कान्स्टीट्यूशन की तरफ देख रहा है कि किस तरह से हमारी सरकार इसको अमल में लाती है। सरकार इसको अमल में लाने में कामयाब होगी या नहीं होगी इस बात की ओर सारी दुनिया हमारी ओर देख रही है। हमको सारे संसार को बताना होगा कि हमारे कान्स्टीट्यूशन में जो बातें लिखी गई हैं, हमारे प्रिऍम्बल में जो बातें लिखी गई हैं उसको करने में हमारे में शक्ति है, हमारे अन्दर ऐसी सामर्थ्य है। हमारे ऊपर जो यह जिम्मेदारी है उसको हमको पूरा करना पड़ेगा। अगर हम अपनी सारी शक्ति से इस कान्स्टीट्यूशन को अमल में ले आयेंगे तो हम सारी दुनिया को बता सकेंगे कि हमने ट्रू स्पिरिट (true spirit) से इस कार्य को किया। मैं तो इस बारे में बहुत कुछ कहना चाहती थी मगर मेरे पास इस समय वक्त नहीं है।

एक बात मैं और कहना चाहती हूँ वह यह है कि जब मैं पार्लियामेंट में आई तो मैंने देखा कि मेरे बहुत से पुराने दोस्त चले गये हैं और नये दोस्त आगये हैं। परन्तु मुझे आशा थी कि मेरी बहुत सी बहिनें भी आ जायेंगी मगर मने आश्चर्य से देखा कि खाली दो ही नई बहिनें आई हैं। मेरी एक पुरानी बहिन चली गई है और उसकी जगह में एक मर्द आ गया है। तो मैं गवर्नमेंट से और लोगों से प्रार्थना करती हूँ कि आप को सेक्स (Sex) के मुताल्लिक डिस्क्रिमिनेशन (discrimination) नहीं करना चाहिये। इस समय मैंन पावर (man power) बहुत है उसको इस्तेमाल में लाना चाहिये। जहां पर मैंन पावर है, जहां पर शक्ति है, जहां पर काबलियत है उनको खूब काम में लाना होगा। इन्डियन पौपुलेशन में ५० प्रतिशत विमैन पौपुलेशन है अगर उसको काम में नहीं लाया जायेगा तो वह अच्छी बात नहीं

[श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई]

होगी। इसलिये मैं गवर्नमेंट और आप सब लोगों से इस बात को जोर देकर कहती हूँ कि आप इस बात पर गौर करें और आगे ऐसी बात न होने दें। मैं इतना कहकर बैठ जाती हूँ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shrimati Durgabai (Madras): I am conscious that I am speaking today in a Sovereign Independent Republic.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar): Quite so.

Shrimati Durgabai: I am also conscious of the inadequacy of my knowledge of the Hindi language.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: It is adequate.

Shrimati Durgabai: And that I am somewhat handicapped to give expression to my sentiments in a suitable manner. It is, however, due to my reverence and devotion towards Hindi and the awareness of the fact of its having been declared as our national language, that I feel it to be my duty to speak in this language. I have, therefore, dared to speak here in Hindi today though after considerable effort.

As I stand here at the moment, I imagine myself to be somewhat dreaming. Today the memory of those days comes to my mind when in the period of my study and when I used to peruse the part played by Hamilton, Jefferson and others in framing the Constitution of the United States of America I wondered if there will ever come a stage when India would emerge from slavery to assume an independent status. I also wondered if we shall ever be competent to frame our own constitution. By the grace of Providence that occasion has come and it is my good fortune that I am indulging in self-praise for being fortunate to play a part. Sir, I feel proud to submit that our Constitution has at last been framed. I am, however, conscious as yet that, while we were busy framing the Constitution, the outsiders generally complained that though month after month and year after year were passing by, we were unable to complete that task. By God's grace that stage is happily over. We are witnessing scene after scene now. The Constitution of India has been framed and has since been brought into force with effect from January 26, last. The Presidential election is over and Babu Rajendra Prasad has already been here as the first President of our State. And just now I am congratulating him both on my own behalf as well as of the House. Sir, every article and provision of India's Constitution has become operative by now. The President has taken the oath in accordance with the provisions of that constitution and likewise he has since appointed the Council of Ministers. We fail to find sufficient continuity within it, yet whatever was to be done, is being done. The Supreme Court, which is to play its part as the guardian of the Constitution, has already been set up in the new Republic. The Presidential Address, for which we had assembled here, has already been delivered. Now we are proceeding with the criticism whatever we have to offer in connection with that address.

In the course of his address of 27 paragraph to this House, the President had dwelt on the policy of the Government. In that address he has touched upon our foreign policy. I agree with every word in that paragraph and congratulate the Government for that. While submitting this I am aware of the

severe criticism regarding our foreign policy particularly with reference to our relations with Pakistan and our recognition of Red China. As ten minutes in all have been given to me to speak, there is hardly any time left with me to answer all that criticism. I, therefore, don't propose to speak on this subject any more. When I come to paragraph 12, I feel as if the past historical events of this country are being pictured to my mind. Our Deputy Prime Minister following his policy of integration has brought the country on firm footing—an achievement which Maharana Pratap could not establish even at the cost of his life. And when I see persons of the eminence of our Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister occupying the seats, I simply take it a matter of our utmost good fortune. We shall really have to congratulate ourselves for that.

As I look to paragraph 13, I feel a bit saddened. In the Constitution we have provided the right of franchise for every adult person—may be a man or a woman. It becomes, therefore, our responsibility to educate them all; we all are well aware of the percentage of literacy in this country.

I feel sorry to note the absence of any time limit fixed for reaching the targets in respect of planning and production. We shall have to fix time for that. Along with a proper consideration of the problem of food production we should not become oblivious of the increase on an enormous scale in the population of our country. We should give attention to this aspect also. We shall not be able to meet the difficulties with success within the funds we propose to utilize on planning. I hope the Government will give due thought to this submission.

Only five minutes more are left and within this time another member will be unable to finish his speech. You may, therefore, please permit me to continue my speech.

The President has not referred to the steps which the Government are taking or propose to take with regard to the fundamental rights and social justice, a mention of which has been made in our Constitution. The President has neither revealed any method as to how the Government propose to give a practical shape to all those principles laid down in the Preamble to the Constitution. Today the whole world is watching the way our Government translate the Constitution into action and whether they become successful in doing so or not. The Government will have to prove to the whole world that they possess sufficient capacity and strength to put in practice the principles laid down in our constitution and the Preamble thereof. We shall have to discharge this responsibility of ours. Once, throwing in all our might, we are successful to practice upon the constitution, we will surely be able to show it to the world that we have accomplished the task in the true spirit. I had much to say but I have no time.

Sir, I want to submit one thing more. It is that on coming in the Parliament I found many old friends missing and new friends in their places. I had, however, hopes that more of my hon. sisters will be present in the House. But surprisingly I find here only two new hon. sisters. One of my old hon. sisters has been replaced by a male hon. member. I request to the Government and the people at large not to exercise discrimination on grounds of sex. There is an abundance of man-power available which should be properly harnessed. There is enough strength where there is man-power. We shall also have to utilize ability wherever it may exist. The 50 per cent

[Shrimati Durgabai]

population of India consists of women. It will not augur well if no proper use of them is made. I, therefore, convey it to the Government and the people most emphatically to ponder over this issue and not to allow such things to happen in future.

I resume my seat with this submission.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 2nd February, 1950.