

Thursday, 9th 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

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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 "*hunred*" 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 ارو 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 الاء 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 تمام ۴۴ پڑھیں -

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

(۱) صفحہ ۳۶۵ - سطر ۲۰ - دد کہ 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 آزان 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 پیکلک ۴۴ کے بجائے دد پیکنگ 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 ساہتہ 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 ۴۴ کے بجائے دہ مدر ۴۴ پڑھیں -

5. No. 23, dated the 14th April, 1950.

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۵۰۰ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دہ ہاوس ۴۰ کے بجائے دہ ہاوس ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۲) صفحہ ۱۵۱۲ - سطر ۷ - دہ مولما ۴۴ 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 فوراً ۴۴ 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 ۴۴ 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 -

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Thursday, 9th February, 1950

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRODUCTION OF ATOMIC ENERGY

*168. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the **Director of Scientific Research**, Government of India, stated at a meeting on the 25th November, 1949 that India would be able to produce atomic energy within one year if her scientists were given full freedom and proper opportunity?

(b) What is the present position of producing atomic energy in India?

(c) To what extent has the work progressed and is there any impediment in its progress?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Karkar): (a) Yes. Not in one year, but in a reasonable time.

(b) Steps have been taken to process atomic energy raw materials and conserve them for Indian use. It is planned to set up a small pile within a few years.

(c) Steps have already been taken to set up a factory for processing raw materials and the factory will be in full operation within one year. A nucleus of workers covering the different techniques required for this work has already been trained. Other personnel required for this work and for other atomic work is under training.

Shri Sidhva: The **Director of Scientific and Industrial Research** stated that if he is allowed full freedom to work, he will be able to produce wonders. May I know if there is any obstacle in the working of this by the **Director**?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Is the hon. Member referring to some speech?

Shri Sidhva: Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: A number of rather general statements are made in the speech. There is no obstacle in the work. He works directly with me but it is not a question of freedom but numerous complications in such work. There have been the States and others concerned and we have to bring them all together to co-operate.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Prime Minister's attention has been drawn to the statement of the Director that the lack of freedom and the country's economic situation are responsible for their inability to do anything in this direction? May I know whether that is correct, and if so, whether he has taken any steps in this direction?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no question of any interference on the part of Government. I can assure you that nothing on the part of Government is impeding this work. The lack of freedom comes from circumstances not in the control of Government.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know if the funds placed at the disposal of the Scientific Research Department are adequate for the production of atomic energy?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is rather difficult to measure adequateness. It depends on your objective. Obviously we are not functioning in the way—let us say—that a great country like the United States, functions with enormous funds but the real difficulty is not funds, at any rate, at the present moment but adequate trained personnel. At the present moment, as the answer stated, one monozite factory is going to be set up. Next is research workers and competent personnel to do the research.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Has the Government of India approached the Government of Great Britain for assistance in the matter of technical personnel and in other directions?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have been in touch with numerous scientists and atomic energy commissioners in other countries. Some of our own men have been sent for training there. I do not think it is desirable normally speaking, for us to bring people for this kind of work from outside but we are in touch. In fact only last month we had some very eminent atomic energy scientists from abroad who came to India to attend the Science Congress. We conferred with them on this subject.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: How much money has been sanctioned for this work?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot give that figure straight off.

Shri Gautam: Has the Government of India got all the information that is available with the Government of U.K. according to the understanding that we have got while we remain in the Commonwealth?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No Government has got all the information available to another Government and there is no such understanding either within the Commonwealth or outside. Certain other members of the Commonwealth do not get all the information either.

Shri Kamath: How far have India's efforts in the Atomic Energy Commission to ban the use of atomic energy for destructive purposes succeeded?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Inside or outside?

Shri Kamath: Outside: in the Commission of which Mr. B. N. Rau was Chairman.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We cannot control outside events very much as the hon. Member imagines. Inside the Commission, those efforts have not succeeded at all. There is a deadlock.

REFERENDUM IN FRENCH INDIA

*164. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether any negotiation is going on between the French Government and the Government of India regarding the referendum to be held in French India and if so, what is the present position?

(b) Has any electoral roll been prepared and if so, is it on the basis of adult franchise or any other basis?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The Government of India have been negotiating with the French Government regarding the various arrangements in connection with the forthcoming referendum in the French Establishments. Certain differences have arisen between the two Governments regarding the modalities and the preparation of the electoral roll. The Government of India are anxious that all these processes should be so devised and worked as to ensure complete freedom of vote to the electors and impartiality in the conduct of the elections. These matters are under discussion now and the Government of India earnestly hope that they will be satisfactorily settled.

(b) An electoral roll, it is understood, has been under preparation since the 20th December 1949. French nationals aged over 21 and resident in the territory for more than 6 months are understood to be eligible to vote.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the Prime Minister's attention has been drawn to a statement that appeared day before yesterday that the French Chamber of Deputies or the French National Assembly stated that it would dislike the idea of a referendum to settle the question. Is that correct?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think I have seen that statement.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether there is any Observer on behalf of India set up when the electoral rolls are prepared?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is one of the matters on which there has been some difference of opinion. Observers have been chosen from a large number of neutral countries. It was the Government of India's desire that the electoral rolls should be prepared when Observers are present or they should revise them. That is not quite decided yet.

Shri A. B. Gurung: Is it a fact that certain developments within the French possession where harassing restrictions on the freedom of association and expression are alleged to have been imposed on the pro-merger group, have aggravated the situation and rendered a fair referendum well nigh impossible?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As I have stated, some of these matters have been brought to our notice and we have drawn attention to them and we are carrying on conversations about them.

Shri Gautam: Is the Government of India aware that anti-social elements make it impossible for a peaceful and impartial plebiscite in those areas?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Government of India are aware that there are certain elements of that type there.

Prof. Banga: Is there any truth in the press statement that appeared only a few days ago that the preparation of electoral rolls in French India has been suspended?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I believe for the present it has been suspended.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if the referendum was initially proposed by us or it was the proposal of the Government of France?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Well, I don't quite know initially what took place. I think some vague references were made initially by us, then it became a mutual proposal later.

Shri Tyagi: Has the Prime Minister received any representation from the Indians living in Pondicheri opposing the idea of a referendum?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We have received from time to time numerous representations of varying opinions. I don't know what the hon. Member means by Indians living in Pondicheri. Every person in Pondicheri is an Indian. On the other hand from the strict legal point of view, they are not Indian nationals till Pondicheri becomes a part of India.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know what are the reasons why in places where referendum has been taken and it has been in favour of India, the administration of those places has not yet been handed over to India.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member has in mind Chandernagore, I presume. Then I must confess that there has been great delay in this transfer. We are told that certain legislation by the French Parliament is necessary.

Shri Bharati: Has the attention of the Prime Minister been drawn to the statement issued by Cheban, who has recently returned from France, that there is complete agreement with the Government of India and the French Government on the question of referendum? I saw it in the papers two days back.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have seen that statement. I do not remember the wording of it, but if it says that there is complete agreement about the method and the procedure, then the statement is not correct.

Shri Kamath: Does Government propose to send a small Parliamentary delegation to study on the spot conditions to which my hon. friend, Mr. Gautam has referred?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. The House will realize that for the moment we are dealing with what might be called internationally foreign territory. In foreign territory delegations like this would hardly be suitable. We have been laying stress on observers and even there difficulties have arisen and we are considering these difficulties and pressing hard for preparation of electoral rolls and everything to be done by competent observers.

PURCHASES THROUGH STORES DEPARTMENT

*165. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether the purchase of all articles required by various Ministries is done through the Stores Department?

(b) Are any purchases made direct by any Ministry and if so, in what cases?

(c) What is the procedure for purchase of articles in foreign countries?

(d) Are the Government of India's representatives in those countries consulted?

(e) What was the total amount of purchase of articles through the Stores Department in India for the years 1947, 1948 and 1949?

(f) How much of this amount related to goods manufactured in India and how much to goods of foreign manufacture purchased in India and foreign countries?

(g) What is the total recurring expenditure of the Stores Department?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) Yes, Sir, save, in a few cases, where for special reasons, exemption from this requirement has been generally or specially granted.

(b) Yes, Sir. Direct purchases are made by the Ministries in the following cases:

(i) Where the demands for stores are of the value not exceeding Rs. 500/- at one time; (ii) direct purchases up to a limited extent only by a few indenting departments, against urgent demands, specially authorised in this behalf; and (iii) certain excepted stores of special nature which are purchased by some Ministries e.g., foodstuffs, locomotives, arms and ammunition.

(c) Demands for stores which cannot, with advantage, be purchased in this country either from indigenous sources or from established agents of foreign manufacturers, are cross-mandated to the Purchasing Organisations abroad. Before placing firm orders in the dollar, hard or medium currency countries, preference is given to availability in soft currency countries, provided the supplies can be secured at comparable prices and within acceptable delivery dates.

(d) The hon. Member's attention is invited to my reply to part (c) above.

(e) I place on the Table of the House a statement showing the total value of purchases made by the Purchase Organisations of my Ministry in India for the financial years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 (up to December 1949). [See Appendix I, annexure No. 19.]

(f) I place on the Table of the House a statement giving the necessary particulars. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 20.]

(g) The statement laid on the Table of the House gives the required information. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 21.]

Shri Sidhva: In reply to part (b) the hon. Minister stated that for urgent demands also certain Ministries are authorized to place direct orders. May I know what is the maximum limit in urgent demands that the Ministry is authorised to make purchases?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That depends, Sir, on the urgency of the item.

Shri Sidhva: May I know as an illustration any instance where during last year an Ambassador placed an order direct without the consultation of the Stores Department?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: In one case a special type of aircraft required by the D. G. Civil Aviation cost us 11.82 lakhs. Another case of boiler tubes cost us 59 lakh. Another case of Calcium Carbide cost 1.6 lakhs; Loco spares Rs. 27,000; Hardboard huts and roofs 11.84 lakhs.

Shri Sidhva: Rs. 11 lakhs were spent on aircraft. May I know whether any tenders were invited by that Ambassador or by negotiations?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That was done by negotiation with one of the leading firms in the U.K.

Shri Sondhi: Are there any arrangements for periodical inspection of the work by our Supply Officers in London and the U.S.A.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: No Sir. There are no special arrangements.

Shri Sondhi: Is it not a fact that the Standing Committee of the Legislature have persistently suggested to the hon. Minister to have such periodical inspection.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I think only one suggestion was made. But that is under consideration. We have not been able to decide how it is to be done.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know to what extent India Stores Department personnel in London has been Indianised?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: To as large an extent as possible.

Shri Gautam: What steps has the Government of India taken to stop the practice of officers of different Departments of the Government of India visiting foreign countries and placing direct orders with the firms without consulting the Industry and Supply Department.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I have indicated the circumstances under which special permission was given, but there have not been many.

Shri B. Das: In how many cases our Ambassadors abroad have superseded the instructions of the Ministry of Industry and Supply in placing orders with other firms.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The Ambassadors are in administrative charge of these organizations and I do not think there will be any case of conflict as such. There might have been some difference of opinion.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated that the purchase of locomotives does not come within the category of orders to the Stores Department. May I know whether the relative Ministry invited tenders for the purchase of these locomotives or whether they were done by negotiation for the 300 locomotives that have been indented.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Special officers have been sent out for purchase of locomotives and in some cases, tenders have been obtained but the whole thing was sanctioned by the Government of India and nothing was left to the individual discretion of officers.

Shri Sidhva: What I want to know is whether any tenders were invited.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I cannot answer that question off-hand. I shall have to refer to the Ministry concerned.

Shri Hossain Imam: Are orders placed by the individual Departments in urgent cases without reference to the Ministry of Industry and Supply, or is it that after the purchases are made the Ministry is informed of the action that has been taken?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I have indicated in my reply that there are two classes of cases. One class is where general permission is given to some Department to place direct orders and another class is where special permission is given after consultation with my Ministry.

PURCHASE OF STEEL FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

***166. Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state what was the *modus operandi* adopted by Government in making purchases of steel from foreign countries in the years 1948 and 1949?

(b) Did private firms offer lower rates for the same quality of steel and if so, why were the purchases not made through them?

(c) How much money would have been saved if the purchases were made through them?

(d) What is the present method of purchasing steel abroad?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) Purchases were made through the Government Purchasing Organisations abroad after negotiations with foreign suppliers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) For Government's requirements, purchases are made through Government Purchasing Organisations, while all other purchases are made by private parties themselves.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the prevailing price in Belgium in the last months of 1947 for steel was £29 per ton whereas the purchases were made at the rate of £34 per ton.

Mr. Speaker: Is he referring to 1947?

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: The purchases were made early in 1948 and the prices had not gone up and the private firms had offered that rate.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: No, Sir, that is not the case. I have seen alleged in the press that Government had paid more than what the private parties were prepared to pay for. Only one offer was received by the Government of India and when we asked them to place firm offers, they backed out and then the prices which were quoted were high. Government purchased directly from Belgium at lower prices.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: How long did Government take to reply to the firm that had offered a lower rate? Did it take more than two months?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It took about two weeks.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that the order placed was not a planned one and several ships had to be diverted from Madras to Calcutta and Government had to pay a good deal of wharfage on that account?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That is not so. All those points were examined when the complaint was received.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What was the rate paid by Government for the purchase?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The specified rate for the purchase in 1948 was Rs. 473 and the party to which the hon. Member is referring offered Rs. 478. As regards the date, the complaint reached me on 11th October, 1948 and my officers interviewed the persons after two days on the 13th October, 1948.

Shri Hossain Imam: Is it the price per ton in rupees?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Yes.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Was the Chief Steel Controller consulted before the purchases were made?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I suppose so.

GRANT OF LICENCES FOR IMPORTING ELECTRIC CABLES TO D.C.E.P.A.

*167. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Delhi Central Electric Power Authority had applied for an import licence for the import of electric cables which were urgently required in 1948, but it took them several months to obtain the requisite licence with the result that the whole scheme of providing new electric lines was delayed and the orders which had been placed in U.K. with the manufacturers of cables were not executed?

(b) If so, when was the application made, what was the date on which import licences were granted and what are the reasons for the delay in granting licences?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The office of the Chief Controller of Imports has been unable to trace any application from the Delhi Central Electric Power Authority for import of electric cables in 1948. That office has, however, ascertained that an application for importing some cables was filed on behalf of the Delhi Electric Supply & Traction, Limited, by the Bombay office of a firm of cable manufacturers, with the Deputy Chief Controller of Imports in Calcutta. This application for articles valued at Rs. 14,063/-. is perhaps the one which the hon. Member has in mind. This application was received in the Calcutta office by the Deputy Chief Controller of Imports, Calcutta, on the 25th August 1948. As electric cables of the type mentioned in that application were placed on the O.G.L. from the 4th September, 1948, no further action was taken on this application.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: When was the last application received from the Delhi Central Electric Power Authority?

Shri Neogy: I do not know about other applications. The hon. Member mentioned one particular application for a particular type of article and I have had searches made on that basis. If the hon. Member wants to know anything more about some other application I am certainly prepared to make enquiries.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: I am not referring to other applications at all. Is it not a fact that the Delhi Central Electric Power Authority did apply for a licence?

Shri Neogy: I have said that no such application has been traced. I have referred to one other case which arose not out of an application from that Authority but from some other organisation, namely the Delhi Electric Supply and Traction Ltd. That is the only application traceable.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Will the hon. Minister make further enquiries?

Shri Neogy: If further particulars are given to me I will surely make enquiries.

Shri Hossain Imam: Is it a fact that cables remained in the O.G.L. up to the time of devaluation?

Shri Neogy: No. The O.G.L. was cancelled sometime earlier.

HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

168. Sardar Hukam Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what is the number of displaced persons who have been provided roofed shelter during the period between the 1st April and 31st December, 1949?

(b) What is the number of houses or mud huts constructed by the Government of India and by the Provincial Governments during this period for the rehabilitation of displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): (a) The information for the specified period is not available.

(b) Reports received by the Ministry up to 31st December, 1949 show that the total number of units completed were 43,437.

Exact information in regard to mud huts is not available; but the number is likely to be in the neighbourhood of 10,000.

Sardar Hukam Singh: How many huts collapsed during this period?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I require notice of this. But I think very few of them collapsed here in Delhi. As a matter of fact a detailed answer was given earlier and I think the number did not exceed 25, out of which 10 or 15 had to be demolished.

Sardar Hukam Singh: How many refugees are still in need of roofed shelter in Delhi?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: So far as that is concerned there are a number of tents in Kingsway Camp, about 150 or 200 in number; and construction is going on and the refugees will be shifted to these units.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is that the only number which require shelter or there are others also in Humayun's Tomb, in the streets and bazaars and living in crevices?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: As soon as the construction of tenements is completed all of them will be removed to roofed shelter before the summer or the monsoon.

کہانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کہا مامی ملداری صاحب کو اس بات کا علم ہے کہ مختلف جگہوں پر بہت سے ہکے مکان خالی پڑے ہیں -

Giani G. S. Musafir: Is it known to the hon. Minister that a large number of pucca houses are lying vacant in various localities?

श्री मोहन लाल सक्सेना : मुझे मालूम नहीं कि कौन से पक्के मकान खाली पड़े हैं। अगर वह मुझे बतलायें तो मैं उनको किराये पर लेने की कोशिश करूंगा।

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I do not know which pucca houses are lying vacant. If he tells me about them I would try to secure them on rent.

کہانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا آپ کے سامنے کوئی ایسی توجیز ہے کہ شونا، نہوں کے لئے بلوائے گئے ہکے مکان جو مکان خالی پڑے ہوئے ہیں وہ لوکل آدمیوں کو بیچ دئے جائوں -

Giani G. S. Musafir: Is there any plan under consideration with you that the *pucca* houses built for the displaced persons, which are lying vacant, should be sold to local people?

श्री मोहन लाल सक्सेना : मैंने तो बतलाया है कि अगर कोई खाली मकान है और अगर उनकी इतिला मिलेगी तो उनको किराये पर लेने और रिफ्यूजीज़ को देने की कोशिश की जावेगी।

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I have already stated that if information is given to me about any vacant houses efforts will be made to secure them on rent and to allot them to refugees.

Shri Sidhva: In reply to part (a) the hon. Minister stated that no information was available. Do I understand from that that Government which is building these houses for the displaced persons has no information?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: My answer was that the information for the specified period was not available. The period specified was from the 1st April, 1949 to the 31st December, 1949. As a matter of fact, hon. Members know that they get periodical statements in which the exact number is given. But when the question was put in regard to a particular period, it is not possible to give the exact number.

Shri Sidhva: How many houses have Government provided during this period? That is what I want to know. On the other hand, the hon. Minister is referring me to some book. He first stated that the information was not available.....

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

HOURS OF WORK IN JUTE MILLS

*169. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the variations in the hours of production in jute mills during the year 1949;

(b) the causes for such variations; and

(c) the steps taken to maintain normal weekly hours of production?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) (i) January to June, 1949—48 hours a week.

(ii) July to November, 1949—48 hours a week with closure of the mills for a week every month.

(iii) December, 1949—42½ hours a week with no closure.

(b) The main causes were:

(i) Low stocks of raw jute with mills and trade; (ii) Difficulties in procurement of the required variety of jute by mills; and (iii) Necessity of bringing down the prices of raw jute to economic levels to meet the increasing consumer resistance to manufacture jute goods in overseas markets because of their high prices.

(c) All possible assistance is being afforded to the mills in procuring and effecting movement of raw jute to mills.

Shri B. K. Das: What is the present position?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I said 42½ hours with no closure.

Shri Goenka: In December there was no more raw jute than in September.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I have not got the comparative figures here but I can say about production. In September the total production was 73,000 tons, in October, 60·6 thousand tons and in November 69·1 thousand tons.

Shri Goenka: Before devaluation we had plenty of jute. After devaluation we stopped importing jute from Pakistan. How is it that the hours were increased after devaluation, if there was a shortage of jute?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The hours have not been increased. The jute mills are working 42½ hours a week with no closure.

Shri Goenka: The jute mills were working till September for three weeks out of four weeks. Then it has been increased to 42½ hours.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Our arithmetic is getting a little puzzling. At 42½ hours with no closure the average will be more or less the same.

Mr. Speaker: That is entering into arithmetical calculations. Next question.

ALLOWANCE OR ACCEPTANCE OF REBATE OF INSURANCE PREMIUM

*170. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons found guilty of offence under section 41 of the Insurance Act, 1938 (allowing or accepting rebate of commission or of insurance premium) since it came into force; and

(b) the sources through which such offences were detected?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri B. K. Das: Was there any offence of that sort?

Shri Neogy: Offences may have been committed. These complaints come to our officers mostly in the form of anonymous letters and no proof is available in most cases, if not all.

EXPORT OF BONES AND BONEMEAL

*171. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the total quantity of bones available in India and exported during the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 up to the end of December, 1949;

(b) the total quantity of bonemeal prepared in India during the aforesaid periods;

(c) the quantity of bonemeal consumed in India and the quantity exported to foreign countries during the aforesaid periods;

(d) the countries to which bonemeal was exported together with the quantity and value thereof;

(e) whether the Government of India propose to consider the advisability of banning its export in view of India's own requirement for fertilisers;

(f) how many factories are there in India at present and at what places are they located; and

(g) whether Government have explored the possibilities of further expansion of this industry and if so, what are the prospects of expansion?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): The question has been transferred to the hon. Minister of Agriculture and will be replied to by him.

PRODUCTION OF PARA-AMINO-SALICYLIC ACID

*172. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a foreign firm has been entrusted by the Government of India with the work of production of para-amino-salicylic acid, which is a new curative agent for the treatment of tuberculosis and if so, which firm and on what terms?

(b) What are the prospects of the production of the said chemical in India?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) No, Sir. A private firm however is contemplating to start a factory in collaboration with a Swiss firm.

(b) It is not considered difficult to produce the chemical in India.

Prof. Ranga: How much progress has been made so far in the development of this factory?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We have just received the offer and it is under examination.

Shri Kamath: Does Government propose to make earnest attempts to manufacture on an industrial scale indigenous drugs and medicines for the treatment of tuberculosis?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I shall refer it to the Minister of Health for advice.

INDIA'S COMMERCIAL SHIPPING TONNAGE

*173. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state what is the present commercial shipping tonnage of India and what proportions of it are private and State-owned?

(b) What commercial tonnage is required to meet the shipping requirements of the country?

(c) In how many years and by what stages do Government intend to make India self-sufficient therein?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) The total gross tonnage on the Indian Register is approximately 4 lakhs tons of which about 14,000 tons are owned by Government.

(b) No official estimate of the tonnage required has been made, but the Shipping Policy Committee recommended a target of two million tons.

(c) Self-sufficiency will be an inappropriate term in this connection. The question of further expansion of the Indian Mercantile Marine depends on several uncertain factors, such as the state of the money market and the

preference investors show towards shipping and the level of prices of new and second-hand ships. Government has given and will continue to give all possible assistance in securing as rapid an expansion of the Indian mercantile fleet as circumstances permit.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether the Government has placed any orders for the manufacture of big ships recently?

Shri Neogy: The Government? No, I do not think so, unless the hon. Member has in mind the constructions in the Scindia yard.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Of the 4 lakh tons of shipping, besides the 14,000 tons owned by Government, may I know how much is owned by Indian interests and how much by foreign interests?

Shri Neogy: The Indian interests own about 3,78,000 tons. I have given the total including Government's.

Dr. Deshmukh: Has the hon. Minister come to know of the complaint of the Indian shipping interests that they are not getting sufficient encouragement from the Government of India in the matter of carrying Indian goods?

Shri Neogy: I do not know exactly what my hon. friend means. So far as the Government are concerned I have not had any complaint that the Government have not been giving sufficient encouragement or help to the Indian shipping companies in so far as it lies directly in the power of the Government of India to give such help.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is the hon. Minister aware that many countries make it compulsory for any goods to be carried from their countries to India in their own ships, and if so has he taken any steps to ensure that these goods are carried by Indian ships?

Shri Neogy: Yes, several of our Trade Agreements contain clauses in regard to this matter.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: What is the percentage of Government business—import and export—given to Indian shipping companies and to foreign shipping companies?

Shri Neogy: I am afraid I will have to ask for notice of that question.

Shri Goenka: Is it a fact that the Government are negotiating for the purchase of Victory ships from the Kuomintang Government? There are such reports in the papers.

Shri Neogy: I do not think any definite negotiations are being carried on. But we have been informed that a fleet of ships is available from that particular quarter.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: May I know whether the Government themselves are taking any steps for the setting up of a mercantile marine, and if so what are they?

Shri Neogy: As the hon. Member is aware, we have a proposal for the setting up of certain shipping corporations to carry on overseas shipping trade. We originally had the idea of starting three such shipping corporations. But primarily due to financial stringency it has been decided for the time being to start one shipping corporation, and immediate steps are likely to be taken in that behalf.

Shri Hossain Imam: Has the Government given any help by way of loan to the existing companies for purchase of ships?

Shri Neogy: As far as I am aware, no such loan has been given.

Shri Hossain Imam: Has the Government received any applications in this connection?

Shri Neogy: Yes, we have received from some companies.

Prof. Ranga: What is the nature of the assistance that Government gives to these Indian shipping companies?

Shri Neogy: There are various ways in which assistance has to be given. Even for the purpose of acquiring shipping from abroad, Government's support and help is necessary. Again, as regards the entry of Indian shipping into foreign shipping trade, the admission of Indian shipping depends upon the moral support of the Government to a large extent. Then again, as regards the question of the training of officers, we have got elaborate schemes for the purpose of giving training to Indians to fit them out as officers of the shipping concerns. These are some of the steps which Government take in the matter of helping the shipping companies.

Shri Goenka: Are Government contemplating to purchase the Victory ships from the Kuomintang Government?

Shri Neogy: The matter is being considered.

SEARCH AND SERVICE ORGANISATION FOR ABDUCTED WOMEN

*174. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state what has been the total expenditure on Search and Service Organisation for abducted women during the six months between 1st July 1949 and 31st December, 1949?

(b) What are the duties entrusted to this organisation besides that of the recovery of abducted persons?

(c) What is the total number of social workers attached to this organisation?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Rs. 40,153-2-6.

(b) Tracing the whereabouts of and collecting other information about missing displaced persons.

(c) Nil.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that our Deputy High Commissioner at Lahore made a report about June or July, 1949 that on account of the unhelpful attitude of Pakistan, this organisation was not able to do much useful work and that it might be disbanded?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do remember that our Deputy High Commissioner did bring to our notice the unhelpful attitude of Pakistan and that the work of this organisation was suffering on that account, but I do not quite remember that he wanted the organisation to be taken off altogether.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Was any reduction made on account of his recommendation in the personnel or expenditure?

Shri Gopalaswami: There has been some reduction in the staff, but I am not in a position to say how much it is.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know if the activities of this Search and Service Organisation which is functioning in India are entirely restricted to the recovery of Muslim abducted women or if they extend also to Hindu abducted women in India itself, as for example in Kashmir?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Yes, they include such women in Kashmir also.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know the number of Hindu abducted women who have been searched and recovered through this Search and Service Organisation so far?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I should like to have notice of that question.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order, Sir, can any hon. Member, particularly a Minister, read newspapers inside the House?

Mr. Speaker: No. No hon. Member can read newspapers inside the House, whether he is an ordinary Member or a Minister—a Minister has no higher rights than an ordinary Member.

REHABILITATION IN MADHYA PRADESH

*175. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a). Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the number of displaced persons rehabilitated in Madhya Pradesh up to 1st January, 1950?

(b) Are any of these proposed to be permanently rehabilitated in that State?

(c) If so, how many have been so far rehabilitated?

(d) What is the estimate of contribution for rehabilitation expenditure proposed to be made to the State of Madhya Pradesh during 1950-51 by the Government of India?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): (a) and (c). No economic census of displaced persons in Madhya Pradesh has been taken so far and the required information is, therefore, not available.

(b) All the displaced persons now in Madhya Pradesh numbering over one lac are proposed to be permanently rehabilitated in the State.

(d) The allotment to be made during 1950-51 to the State of Madhya Pradesh is still under consideration.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Is it a fact that as a result of lack of adequate grants from the Centre, the work of building houses in Madhya Pradesh is not progressing satisfactorily?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: It is to some extent true that because of the financial stringency we could not give as much money as we had hoped to, but still we have given them Rs. 2,70,00,000 by way of loan and Rs. 1,00,000 by way of grant.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: Do Government propose to increase the grant in the coming year?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes.

Shri Sidhva: Sir, the hon. Minister stated that there are no statistics available. Am I to understand that even after 2½ years of the coming of these displaced persons no statistics have been taken so far?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Again, Mr. Sidhva has not heard me correctly. The question was how many of them have been rehabilitated and in what professions, and my reply was that no economic census has been taken.

SCARCITY OF COAL

***176. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that there is great scarcity of fuel all over the country?

(b) Have any steps been taken or are contemplated to be taken to make coal available more easily and at lesser cost?

(c) Are Government aware that the present high prices of fuel contribute materially in keeping high the prices of other commodities?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) There is no scarcity of coal. There have been occasional complaints about other fuels, e.g., firewood, charcoal, etc., which are not controlled by the Government of India.

(b) and (c). The price of coal is not high relative to prices of other commodities. The prices of coal had been reduced in April and November 1949.

Prof. Ranga: Is it a fact that the supply position of coal has considerably eased?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Yes, that is so.

POLICY OF PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT IN GOA

***177. Shri Tyagi:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether Government have received any fresh information regarding the policy of the Portuguese Government in regard to the Indian population of Goa?

(b) How many Indians are under imprisonment and how are they treated in jails?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The hon. Member presumably has in mind not only those who are Indian nationals in law but the local population among whom Goans with pro-Indian sympathies are included. According to the Government of India's information, persons of this category are not looked upon with favour. Complaints of arrest and search of political suspects, of ill-treatment of political prisoners are common and there is a severe censorship of the press.

(b) According to the information available there are 18 political prisoners in Goa; one of these is an Indian national and the rest are Goans. Political prisoners, as I have stated in reply to part (a) are harshly treated. I might add that a message of greeting sent by our Consul-General to the President on the 26th January was censored in Goa and was not allowed to be published there. Also, an answer that I gave in this House in regard to Goa two days ago was censored and was not allowed to be published in Lisbon.

Shri Tyagi: Is it a fact that several Indians sentenced to long terms of imprisonment have been sent to an island near Lisbon?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, but always remembering that the word "Indians" is used in a vague sense. They are Indians, but Portuguese nationals.

Shri Tyagi: All those who are the real inhabitants of Goa, they are all Indians I believe?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They are Indians of course, but in law their nationality may be different.

Prof. Ranga: Is it a fact that several of those Goans who were supposed to be responsible for the last Satyagraha movement in Goa, are still in jail?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As the hon. Member who asked me the other question stated, a number of them were sent away to other territories outside India altogether and they are still there.

Shri B. Khan: The Prime Minister stated that the information was censored. Who censored it?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The authorities in Goa!

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that censorship even within Goa is so rigorous, may I say, vicious that the statement of the hon. the Prime Minister, made the other day, was blacked-out in the Goan papers as well as in Lisbon?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am referring to censorship in Goa, not to censorship outside Goa.

Shri Kamath: Was the statement blacked-out in Lisbon or in Goa also?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think it was probably blacked-out in Goa because nothing of this kind ever appears there, but it was rather surprising that it should have been blacked-out even in Lisbon.

Dr. Parmar: What is the number of prisoners that have been sent out?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I could not tell you immediately without reference.

Shri B. K. P. Sinha: What is the basis on which prisoners are classified as political in Goa?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The discretion and decision of the authorities there.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Are the Government of India contemplating any steps against the tendencies of the Portuguese Government in this matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I don't know what the hon. Member means by "tendencies". We deplore those tendencies. The only effective step is that Goa should join India.

Shri Hanumanthaiya: Will the Government adopt the policy of "Quit India" against the Portuguese possessions in India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Tyagi: Is it the practice that our Consul-General in Goa also submits his messages to be censored by the authorities there?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am sorry if I have not been understood. His messages reach us all right; they come in code or *en clair*. But they are not allowed to be published in the local Press there. A message of greeting to our President was news and was sent to the local Press there, but the censor in Goa would not allow it to be published in any of the local papers.

Shri Tyagi: May I take it that the messages sent here come absolutely uncensored?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They come in code.

CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES FORMED BY DISPLACED PERSONS

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

(a) the number of Co-operative Housing Societies formed by displaced persons after partition up-to-date in the State of Delhi;

(b) the number of such Societies which received Government aid in the form of land, loan or grant; and

(c) the total quantity of land and/or the total amount of loan or grant given to such Co-operative Societies?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): (a) Fifty-two House Building Societies have been registered up-to-date in the State of Delhi.

(b) Nil. These Societies have been informed that developed plots of land will be allotted to their members if they fulfil the prescribed conditions.

(c) In view of the financial stringency it is not possible to advance any loan to House Building Societies of displaced persons in Delhi.

Shri Gautam: Can the Government not advance any other form of credit to these societies?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: So far as co-operative house-building societies are concerned, first of all they want developed plots of land and then they want services and everything else. We are not able to meet even the demands of the individuals and as such it is not possible for us to give plots to these co-operative housing societies. So, we have offered to give plots to their members provided they comply with the prescribed rules.

Shri Gautam: What are the prescribed rules?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: The rules are that they have to build within a certain period, say within six months, and then they have to deposit a certain amount of money for getting building material.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: In view of the fact that about 10,000 acres of land round about Delhi is practically frozen by the Delhi Improvement Trust, did some of these societies approach the Rehabilitation Ministry to intervene and persuade the Trust to release some of this land for their housing activities? If so, with what result?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: No such request has so far been made. But in the first instance, every one of them wants financial help. They have very small resources; they have subscribed only about Rs. 10 each.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Considering that the hon. Minister has more than once made public statements to the effect that he hopes that rehabilitation will come through the method of co-operatives, I should like to ask him if he is satisfied that adequate steps are being taken either by his Ministry or by Provincial Governments in this direction or is this merely an expression of a pious hope?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am afraid it is a matter of opinion.

Shri Sidhva: Arising out of (b), in reply to which the hon. Minister stated that all societies wanted land, may I know whether any society requested Government to grant land without any loan to be given by the Government and Government refused?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I have not been able to follow the question.

Shri Sidhva: The question is this. No loan was demanded by any society. Loan means cash money. But they demanded only land. Was that request refused or granted?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: They want developed land with services, not merely land. We made an offer of certain land; but they wanted only developed land.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a fact that a certain society wanted even undeveloped land but only certain facilities were asked for, and yet their request was refused?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: What are those facilities, may I know? They wanted water and electricity.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We are now entering into a discussion.

MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICAL GOODS

*179. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the value of electrical goods produced in India annually?

(b) What is the value of electrical goods annually consumed in India?

(c) What steps have been taken during the last three years towards increased manufacture of electrical goods in India?

(d) Are attempts being made to make the country self-sufficient in electrical goods and if so, what is the scheme?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) About Rs. 14 crores.

(b) Rs. 35 to Rs. 40 crores approximately.

(c) Government have given all possible facilities to existing as well as new undertakings. This has resulted in increasing the output of electrical goods of the value of Rs. 9 crores in 1946 to Rs. 14 crores in 1949.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The Government hope to attain self-sufficiency as far as practicable, in electrical goods through the implementation of the following schemes:

- (i) Dry core paper insulated telephone cables.
- (ii) Heavy electrical power plant and equipment factory, and
- (iii) Wireless, Radar and Radio Equipment Factory (other than domestic broadcast receivers).

The position in respect of each of these schemes is as follows:

- (i) *Dry core paper insulated telephone cables.*—An agreement has been signed by the Government with M/s. Standard Telephones and Cables of U.K. for establishing in India under Government ownership a factory for the manufacture of our requirements of dry core paper insulated telephone cables.
- (ii) and (iii) Heavy electrical power plant and equipment factory, and Wireless, Radar and Radio equipment factory (other than domestic broadcast receivers).

Foreign consultants were appointed by the Government of India some time ago to go into the question and submit project reports after conducting the necessary technical survey. The project reports have now been received in respect of scheme (ii) and are under scrutiny. Similar reports in regard to scheme (iii) are expected to reach us by the end of March, 1950.

The above two schemes when finalised will secure an annual production valued at about Rs. 20 crores.

Prof. Ranga: In regard to (d), may I know what is the scheme? Even in regard to that, are we being supplied with a statement? After all, we are only asking what is the scheme.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The scheme is a fairly lengthy one. It consists of three parts. One is dry core paper insulated telephone cables. One is heavy electrical power and equipment factory. One is wireless, radar and radio equipment factory. All the details are given in the statement.

Prof. Ranga: Do Government propose to proceed with these schemes at an early date?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We have decided to proceed with the first one, namely, dry core paper insulated telephone cables.

Prof. Ranga: Will it be under Government auspices or will it be a combined concern?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It will be under Government auspices.

MEETINGS OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES BOARD

*181. **Shri Shiva Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of **Industry and Supply** be pleased to state how many meetings of the Cottage Industries Board have been held since its establishment?

(b) What are the recommendations, if any, of the Board?

(c) What action has been taken in respect of such recommendations?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): (a) The Board met in Cuttack in December 1948. The next meeting will be held on 25th and 26th February at Jaipur.

(b) A copy of the Resolutions passed at the first meeting of the Board held at Cuttack on the 13th and 14th December 1948 is laid on the Table of the House. (*Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-50/50.*)

(c) A statement indicating the action taken thereon is also laid on the Table of the House. (*Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-50/50.*)

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that our Embassies abroad have been asked to popularise cottage industry products; if so, what are the steps taken by them and with what results?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Showroom offices have been opened in New York, Zurich and San Francisco and the proposal for opening such offices at other centres is also now under examination. Orders under execution and executed for export of cottage industry products amount to Rs. 80,000 up till now and enquiries which are pending are to the extent of Rs. 50,000.

Prof. Ranga: Is it not a fact that, apart from the establishment of the Central Emporium here in Delhi and the appointment of the Handloom Committee, no other definite action has so far been taken in implementation of the recommendations made by the Cottage Industries Board?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: That is not a fact.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether it is the function of the Trade Commissioners in foreign countries to popularize our cottage industry products, and if so, what steps are taken by them to secure orders for such products?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We are trying to establish an organisation for that purpose. Of course, we have not achieved as much success as we would like to. But I have indicated in the long statement the various steps which Government have taken up till now, and if, after going through that statement, hon. Members who are interested would like to ask any further questions, I shall be very glad to answer them.

Shri B. K. Das: How much money has been placed at the disposal of the Board?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I think Rs. 18 lakhs.

Shri Chatteropadhyay: May I know what cottage industries have received stimulation since the establishment of the Board?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: It is very difficult to answer that question. But in regard to the handloom industry, which is one of the biggest cottage industries, the major decision we have taken is to reserve certain types of production for the handloom industry alone, and prohibit the mills from producing those varieties. This is one experiment which Government have just decided to adopt.

Shri Raj Bahadur: In answer to (a), the hon. Minister has stated:

"The Board met in Cuttack in December 1948. The next meeting will be held on 25th and 26th February at Jaipur."

He has placed a copy of the resolutions passed at the December 1948 meeting. May I know the work turned out by this committee during the period 1948 to 1950?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: Implementation of the recommendations made at the last meeting.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: May I know the counts of yarn that have been exclusively reserved for the handloom industry?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We have not exclusively reserved, but in respect of counts 1 to 20, we have restricted exports so as to help the handloom industry. We have also decided to subsidize portion of the cotton which we will import from America and which will be required by the handloom industry.

Shri B. Das: Will development of cottage industries come under the purview of the Planning Commission when it is established?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: I suppose the Planning Commission will deal with all matters connected with industry.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that the Board asked for a grant of Rs. 1 crore, and if so, what are the various purposes for which the grant was sought to be utilised?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: The purposes were not definitely stated, but only the amount was definitely mentioned.

INDO-PAKISTAN TRADE AGREEMENT

*182. **Master Nand Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether any trade agreement was entered into between Bharat and Pakistan to the effect that some articles including mustard oil and black pepper from Bharat and some articles including fish from Pakistan can be exported to the other country without Excise Duty?

(b) Is it a fact that in contravention of the agreement the Government of India imposed a duty of annas eight per maund on mustard oil and afterwards on black pepper also?

(c) Is it a fact that Pakistan has now imposed a duty on fish and have issued a Press Note to the effect that this has been done because the Government of India have not complied with the terms of the agreement?

(d) If so, will Government explain the real position?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) to (d): A copy of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement primarily relating to Rebates of Central Excise concluded in May 1949 is laid on the Table of the House. This agreement also provides *inter alia* that with effect from 1st June 1949 and subject to India continuing to supply to Pakistan mustard oil free of export duty, Pakistan would withdraw their export duties on bamboo and fish exported to India. It is presumably this provision that the hon. Member has in mind, as none of the commodities he has mentioned, *i.e.*, mustard oil, pepper or fish, is subject to excise duty, as distinct from the export duty. In September 1949, however, after devaluation, the Government of India had to impose an export duty of annas eight per lb. on mustard oil. They had similarly to impose in November 1949 an export duty of 80 per cent. *ad valorem* on black pepper also. But pepper does not form part of the agreement. These taxes do not constitute a violation of the agreement with Pakistan as they were imposed with a view to meeting the situation resulting from devaluation by India. At the worst these duties would only absorb for the Public revenues the windfall that would otherwise accrue to the sellers in India, consequent on Pakistan's attempt to maintain her original exchange rate. Though this is the correct position the Government of Pakistan have levied an export duty on fish and according to Press Reports, referring to a Press Note issued by Pakistan Government, regarding the imposition of export duty on fish, that Government have attempted to justify their action on the basis that it has been taken because of the Government of India having levied export duties on mustard oil and pepper.

INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT

on

Rebates of Central Excises

The following decisions have been reached as a result of recent discussions between India and Pakistan :

(1) With effect from 1st June 1949 each Dominion will grant full rebate of excise on excisable commodities exported to the other Dominion if such rebates are given on exports of the same commodities to any other country. Further for a period of one year from the same date, the two Governments will give such rebates on all commodities that are at present excisable or may during that period be made subject to excise duty irrespective of whether such rebates are given on exports to other countries or not.

(2) In view of Clause (1) above the Pakistan Government will withdraw their complaint before the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade regarding rebates of excise duties.

(3) With effect from 1st June, 1949 and subject to India continuing to supply to Pakistan mustard oil free of export duty, Pakistan will withdraw their export duties on bamboo and fish exported to India and provided the necessary administrative arrangements can be made India will reduce the import duty on unmanufactured tobacco from Pakistan to rates corresponding to the rates of excise duty which would be payable on similar Indian tobacco used for similar purposes this being the position that obtains and will continue to obtain in Pakistan.

(4) An Inter-Dominion Conference will be held on a suitable date before the expiry of the current arrangements to negotiate a fresh agreement for the supply of commodities. The two Dominions will exchange lists of requirements at least a week before the conference begins.

(5) The two Dominions will also enter into negotiations at a separate conference on a date convenient for both to consider (i) the abolition or reduction of import or export duties on certain items and (ii) the simplification of import and export control regulations. For the purpose of these negotiations each Dominion will communicate to the other Dominion a list of items on which such fiscal relief is desired and also a minimum list of articles on which they consider it necessary to maintain import or export control.

(6) Either Government will give due consideration to any representation that may be made by the other Government should the latter feel that the achievement of the full benefits of this agreement is in any way hampered.

HOUSES IN ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF MUSLIMS

***183. Master Nand Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Ministry issued orders in the month of October, 1949, to the effect that no Muslim having illegal possession of a house be evicted, provided, he pays rent and no Hindu or Sikh be allotted any part of a building where a Muslim is residing in any of its parts?

(b) How many houses in Delhi are in the illegal possession of Muslims and how many houses are there where a part of the house is in the illegal possession of Muslims?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saxena): (a) No. In view of the fact that during the disturbances of 1947 vacant houses were occupied without prior allotment or permission, by non-Muslims as well as certain Muslims who could not continue to stay with safety in certain localities. So the policy of the Government has been not to disturb possession in such cases provided the occupiers agreed to pay rent and did not take more than reasonable space. In all other cases of illegal occupation, occupants, whether Muslim or non-Muslim, are evicted and where necessary also prosecuted.

It has also been the policy of the Government not to allot portions of houses to Hindus and Sikhs which are occupied by Muslims.

(b) There may be a few cases of illegal possession; but in most cases the possession has been either confirmed or the unauthorised occupants evicted.

Prof. Ranga: Has it been brought to the notice of Government.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am afraid the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ASSISTANCE TO INDIA UNDER POINT FOUR PROGRAMME

***180. Shri Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether India has applied for assistance under the Point Four Programme of President Truman?

(b) If so, what is the nature of the assistance asked for?

(c) Are there any conditions on which assistance is offered?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The question of securing technical assistance under the Point Four Programme is under the consideration of the Government of India.

CAMP COLLEGE, NEW DELHI

***184. Master Nand Lal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the East Punjab University Camp College, New Delhi, is financed by the Rehabilitation Ministry?

(b) Is it a fact that East Punjab University is removing this College after 1950?

(c) Is it a fact that most of the displaced students studying in the College are residents of Delhi and a majority of them are Government servants or otherwise employed?

(d) If so, do Government propose to adopt any measures to provide the displaced students with educational facilities?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): (a) to (d). The question should have been addressed to the hon. Minister of Education. It has accordingly been transferred to the list of questions for 17th February, 1950, when the hon. Minister of Education will answer it.

QUARTERS FOR COLLIERY LABOUR IN BHUTI BIHAR

***185. Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quarters constructed in the township of Bhuti in Bihar have been occupied by the colliery workers;

(b) if so, how many such quarters have been occupied and by which collieries?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). Twenty-eight quarters at Bhuti have been occupied by workers employed in the Central Godhur, North Godhur and East Kendwadih collieries. It is expected that 170 more quarters will be occupied shortly. The maximum number of quarters for allotment at present is only 200 as sanitary and water supply arrangements have so far been completed for this number only.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING

***186. Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Honourable the Prime Minister in his very first broadcast to the nation, after taking office, had assured the people that industrial housing would receive the top priority in Government's programme;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, how many tenements in all for industrial workers have been built till the end of 1949, with separate figures for each State;

(c) the target set by the Bombay Housing Board in January, 1947, for constructing industrial workers' houses in their five-year programme;

(d) the total amount spent by the Government of Bombay in building houses till the end of 1949 with the number of houses built; and

(e) whether the programme set out by the Bombay Housing Board is expected to be completed, and if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) The hon. the Prime Minister did not make any specific reference to Industrial Housing, but mentioned the serious housing shortage and expressed the hope that every possible effort would be made to tackle the situation.

(b) Information is not available about the number of houses built by State Governments or private persons. 1,500 houses have been built by the Coal Mines Welfare Fund as part of a Scheme of 50,000 houses for coalfields. Employing Departments of the Union Government have also been executing housing schemes for their employees. A general industrial housing scheme which the Union Government wanted to sponsor could not hitherto make any progress for want of funds. The Scheme has, however, not been abandoned.

(c) to (e). The Government of India have no detailed information. This matter falls more appropriately within the State sphere.

DEMOLITION OF GURDWARA BAWLI SAHIB, LAHORE

*187. **Giani G. S. Musafir**: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to refer to his reply to my starred question No. 47 asked on the 28th November, 1949, regarding demolition of Gurdwara of Bawli Sahib at Lahore and state whether the report called for from the Deputy High Commissioner for India in Pakistan at Lahore has been received, and if so, what is the information given therein?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): A statement containing the required information has already been laid on the Table.

EXCHANGE OF EVACUEE PROPERTY

*188. **Giani G. S. Musafir**: Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state the stage where the problem of exchange of evacuees' property stands at present and when Government expect to get the exchange started?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saksena): Exchange/sale of evacuee property at private level had been agreed upon between the two Dominions in January 1949. It was agreed that both Dominions would afford full facilities to the evacuees to exchange/sale of urban immovable property left in either Dominion. Soon after the Agreement was reached, many impediments were placed by Pakistan in the way of its working. As a result of the working of the agreement for 6 months, the Government of India feel convinced that solution does not lie by way of permitting individual sales and exchanges. In their opinion a Government to Government settlement is the only satisfactory solution to this vexed question, and Government will continue to make every endeavour to secure such a settlement.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILD LABOUR IN BOMBAY DOCKS

8. **Shri Sidhva**: (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in Bombay Docks child labour is employed?

(b) What is the total number of children employed in these docks?

(c) How many hours of work have they to put in and what kind of work are they required to do?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) As far as information is available no child labour is employed in the Bombay Docks either by the Bombay Port Trust or by other employers in the Docks. Children have, however, occasionally been noticed in the vicinity of the Bombay Docks doing minor work unconnected with the handling of goods.

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

TRADE WITH PAKISTAN

9. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava**: (a) Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state what is the extent of imports and exports of various commodities, from India to Pakistan and *vice versa*, from the date of devaluation of the currency to the present day?

(b) What was the estimated quantity and value of different commodities, which under the Indo-Pakistan Trade Agreement should have been exchanged between the two countries in the normal course of business?

(c) What are the steps so far taken to resolve this stalemate and with what results?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): (a) Two statements showing imports and exports during the months of October and November, 1949 are placed on the Table of the House. (*Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-51/50.*)

As the statistics are compiled on monthly basis, separate figures for the period 19th to 30th September, 1949, are not available. Figures relating to months after November, 1949, are also not yet available.

(b) Even apart from devaluation, the conditions of trade are so fluid that it would be difficult to estimate what the quantum of trade ought to be in the various commodities concerned in the normal course of business during any particular period. But in terms of the Trade Agreement, dated 24th June 1949, it was expected that the trade during the year 1949-50 would cover at least the following:

Commodity	Quantity	Approximate Value in Lakhs (rupees)
1	2	3
A—EXPORTS FROM INDIA		
(1) Asbestos Cement sheet	2,500 tons	8
(2) Canvas	150,000 yds	2
(3) Chemicals	5,870 tons	20
(4) Coal	2,640,000 tons	400
(5) Cotton Cloth	150,000 bales	1,500
(6) Handloom cloth	20,000 bales	200
(7) Cotton Yarn	100,000 bales	600
(8) Hard wood	10,000 tons	20
(9) Jute Manufactures	50,000 tons	750
(10) Myrabolams	2,000 tons	3
(11) Mustard oil	35,000 tons	700
(12) Groundnut oil	15,000 tons	240
(13) Copra oil	6,000 tons	120
(14) Vanaspati	15,000 tons	300
(15) Railway Stores	-	3
(16) Paints and varnishes	2,500 tons	48
(17) Linseed oil	6,000 tons	85
(18) Bauxite	2,500 tons	1
(19) Electrical steel sheets	500 tons	3
(20) Sea Salt	2,000,000 mds	35
(21) Steel	64,000 tons	375
	plus 40,000 tons	
(22) Pig iron	16,000 tons	20
(23) Tobacco	2,000,000 lbs	40
(24) Ferro silicon	100 tons	1
(52) Ferro Manganese	100 tons	1

1	2	3
(26) Pitching stone and Ballast	7,500,000 c. ft	-
(27) Washing soap	5,000 tons	70
(28) Miscellaneous		3,460

B.—IMPORTS INTO INDIA

(1) Raw jute	40 lakhs bales	7,200
(2) Raw cotton	4.5 lakhs bales	2,250
(3) Rock salt	2 million mds	20
(4) Rape and Mustard seed	15,000 tons	125
(5) Miscellaneous commodities		1,805
(a) Raw wool (b) raw hides and skins (c) cotton seeds and, (d) others		

(c) Both formal and informal correspondence is going on between the two Governments. So far as the Government of India are concerned they have expressed their readiness to enter into discussion with a view to securing the resumption of trade between the two countries, if Pakistan was likewise prepared and satisfied the conditions indicated in my statement in the Constituent Assembly (Legislative) on the 24th December, 1949, as a preliminary step to make any such discussions useful. No indication has yet been received as to that Government's present attitude.

DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES

10. Pandit M. B. Bhargava: (a) Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing the steps Government have taken so far or intend to take to develop the production of the following articles:

- (i) Industrial explosives, (ii) Synthetic oil from coal, (iii) Dye stuffs, (iv) Phenol, (v) Plywood, (vi) Raw film, (vii) Ammonium sulphate, (viii) Cement, (ix) Paper, (x) Leather, and (xi) Rubber?

(b) What is the number of foreign technicians imported into India, and in which of the above industries are they absorbed and on what terms?

(c) How many more foreign technicians are proposed to be imported in 1949-50 and from which countries and in respect of which industries?

(d) What steps, if any, have been taken by Government so far or do they contemplate to take to make arrangements for the training of Indians as technicians in various industries?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee): A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House. (Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-52/50.)

INDIAN MILITARY MISSION IN GERMANY

11. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a Military Mission of about 10 men headed by Mr. Khubchand, I.C.S. is working on behalf of India in Germany?

(b) If so, what is the object of this Mission?

(c) When was this Mission sent and what is the expenditure involved and how long is it to remain in Germany?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) The Indian Military Mission fulfils the normal functions of any of our diplomatic missions abroad. It is styled a Military Mission as no peace treaty has yet been signed with Germany, which is still under military occupation.

(c) The Mission was first sent out in 1946 and it will continue as a Military Mission until such time as the military occupation of Germany ends. The expenditure on the Mission for the current year is estimated at Rs. 3,20,000.

Thursday, 9th February, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 1950

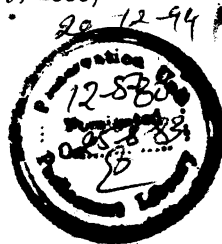
(28th January, 1950 to 23rd February, 1950)

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 १०६, 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 "इलको" 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 "detrimental" 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 accoutt" 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".

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Thursday, 9th 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

IMPOSITION OF CURFEW AND CONTROL OF BAREILLY BY MILITARY

Mr. Speaker: I have received notice of an Adjournment Motion reading as follows:

"That this House do adjourn today to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the imposition of curfew in, and control by military of, the city of Bareilly in U.P. since 7-2-1950 consequent on the firing by police on students."

The matter would appear *prima facie* to be a provincial subject, but the reference to control by military raises some doubt in my mind as to whether the military authorities are acting under the superintendence and direction of the Government of India or under the direction of the Provincial Government. A clarification of this will enable me to give a decision on the motion.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There is no doubt that the developments during the last three days or so at Bareilly have been such as to cause great concern to Government. All the steps taken there have not been taken by the Provincial Government—the Government of India have not been concerned at all. I understand that it was at the request of the Provincial Government that the military stationed there came to help in the preservation of law and order. I may, for the information of the House, say that the Provincial Government is fully cognizant of what is happening and they have in fact promised an enquiry into the whole event and some officers of the police were suspended pending that enquiry.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I seek a clarification from you. I take it that perhaps you are of the opinion that the military has been lent to the Provincial Government. Then of course the matter goes out of the hands of the Central Government and consequently we cannot discuss an adjournment motion in this House. But I beg to differ from you. The actions of the military, wherever they may be and under whosever's directions they may be acting, is a matter which this Parliament may take cognizance of and discuss.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is perhaps confounding two issues. Whether the services of the military were properly or improperly lent to the Provincial Government is an entirely different question. That is not a matter which

[Mr. Speaker.]

is sought to be raised by this particular adjournment motion. This adjournment motion raises the question of law and order in U.P., and, as the hon. the Prime Minister has stated this is the concern of the U.P. Government. The Government of India, though they feel concerned about it, have nothing to do, so far as the actual direction of affairs is concerned. It is clear that this motion will not be admissible merely because the military is employed there.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): Can the military be used by the Provincial Government?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member can put a question, or raise a debate by bringing in a resolution. That is not the subject matter of this motion.

Shri Tyagi: Does not your ruling amount to this: that if there is a disturbance of law and order anywhere in the country it can never be discussed in this House because it is always a provincial affair?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is presuming too much. I am not prepared to answer a hypothetical question.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): May I point out, Sir, that it is generally the policy of the Government of India not to allow the Military to be used for quelling internal disturbances?

Mr. Speaker: That is why I say that he was confounding the two issues. Whether on this particular occasion the services of the military should have been lent or not is entirely a different question which is not being sought to be raised by this motion. This motion refers to the actual maintenance of law and order. That is the distinction.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): May I submit that under the new Constitution, the Central Government is responsible for the peace and the internal management of the States also? It is specifically mentioned in the Constitution in article 355 that it is a responsibility of the Government of India.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): But not directly.

Mr. Speaker: I would not like to express any opinion on that. At any rate, I do not feel inclined to agree with the view that the responsibility of the Government of India is so large that if there is any disturbance in any part of India, the Government of India is responsible for it.

Shri Tyagi: You will, however, permit me to have an assurance from the hon. the Prime Minister.....

Mr. Speaker: So far as the admissibility of the motion is concerned, I have given my ruling. The House will now proceed with other business.

RESOLUTION RE ABOLITION OF NIGHT AIR MAIL AND PASSENGER SERVICE

Mr. Speaker: We shall now take up the Resolutions. As hon. Members may know, there is a time-limit of thirty minutes for the Mover and fifteen minutes for other hon. Members. Government will get thirty minutes.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): I had not finished my speech on the resolution which I had moved in the last session of the Constituent Assembly regarding the abolition of the night air mail. Of course, I know that under article 389 of the Constitution, Bills have been kept pending, by virtue of which they have been discussed in this House. But there is no mention of resolutions in that article. The fact that article 389 is an enabling article does not mean that

pending resolutions automatically lapse. Besides, Sir, this House is a continuation of the former House. There has been no dissolution of the former House; there has been no general election; only bye-elections have been held in the meantime and new Members have come to this House. Therefore, in the absence of any specific provision in the Constitution whereby pending resolutions are to be taken as lapsed, I respectfully submit that I may be permitted to continue my speech on the resolution which I had moved in the last session of the Constituent Assembly and to which I had not the opportunity of replying.

Mr. Speaker: To my mind, the position is very clear. I need not go into the question as to whether this House is a successor, or merely a continuation of the previous House or not. I do not think that question really arises for decision now. The point is covered amply by article 389. In fact, I had considered this position myself before. I do not know what the hon. Member means by saying that this is an "enabling article". This provision is in the Chapter headed "Temporary and Transitional Provisions" and by a specific provision this House has been created as a Provisional Parliament till a new Parliament is constituted and it begins to function. Therefore, it became necessary to have a provision as to what part of the business in the House which is now defunct should survive for the purpose of continuation in this House. It was for this reason that article 389 was enacted and as it specifically refers only to Bills, it follows by implication that all other pending business automatically drops out. That is how the hon. Member's resolution should be considered to have lapsed.

RESOLUTION RE COMPENSATION TO REFUGEES FOR LOSSES.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Punjab): I beg to move:

"This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken by Government to get the losses of the refugees accurately verified, and that measures be adopted to raise funds, by imposition of a special tax or by sale of Government waste lands and vacant sites, sufficient to compensate every refugee to the extent of at least eight annas in the rupee."

I wish to refer in brief to certain preliminary matters before I take up the actual question of compensation. There is no doubt that the Indian National Congress.....

Shri Gautam (Uttar Pradesh): Will the hon. Member please come to the mike? It is difficult for us to follow him otherwise.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Sir, I was submitting that there is no doubt that the Indian National Congress had always stood for the unity of India and for the liberation of that India which we had during British rule. The first official indication that was given to the people that there was a possibility that the country might be divided was on 8th March 1947, when the Working Committee of the Congress passed a resolution in these words:

"These tragic events have demonstrated that there can be no settlement of the problem in the Punjab by violence and coercion....."

"Therefore it is necessary to find a way out which involves the least amount of compulsion. This would necessitate a division of the Punjab into two provinces, so that the predominantly Muslim part may be separated from the predominantly non-Muslim part."

After this indication, certainly when the Congress found no other course but to accept this partition, we were given the British Government Plan of 3rd June 1947. I might say here that the tragic events referred to in that resolution were happening during those days in the Punjab and in the Frontier. As to who was responsible for these happenings will be clear from the following extract from a Brochure that has been given to us:

"When the Muslims, (backed by a Muslim League Government) fell upon the unsuspecting non-Muslims of Calcutta one morning in August 1946, they started a chain of bitter

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

communal riots which had repercussions all over northern India. The disturbances started in the Punjab in March 1947 with the overwhelming Muslim majority in the Rawalpindi and Multan Divisions indulging in an orgy of violence, loot, murder and rape. The Punjab remained disturbed thenceforward till the country was partitioned."

At that time, when such was the condition and the Congress Committee agreed to the possibility of partition of India, this British Government Plan of 3rd June 1947 was announced. After that, our leaders the hon. and worthy Prime Minister and the hon. Sardar Baldev Singh recommended to the country that this was the only solution we could get and therefore we should accept it. They regretted this decision very much. They thought that it was not in the interests of the country, but even then they recommended that because there was no other course this should be accepted. The All-India Congress Committee officially gave its consent on 15th June 1947. When I say that this was accepted by our leaders at a meeting of the All-India Congress Committee, I do not mean to imply that this was a wrong step, nor do I suggest that they should have done something else. I am only stating a fact that whether willingly or forced by circumstances we had to accept this proposal to partition the country. Therefore we have to accept all the consequences thereof.

After the partition of the country, migration on a large scale began from Pakistan to India. I might here again refer to this annual report of the Rehabilitation Ministry which says:

"The Great Killing of Calcutta of August 16, 1946, followed by communal flare up in Noakhali District (Bengal) and Bihar, with their repercussions in the N.W.F.P. and certain districts of West Punjab, long before the partition of the country paved the way for the mass migration of population that was to follow. The minorities in these areas were threatened with total annihilation and nearly 5 lakhs of non-Muslims crossed over to the Indian Union even before the 15th of August, 1947."

My submission is that migration was the result of that partition which we had accepted. And there was a difference of ideology because, as we have known, Pakistan was for Muslims only, and India for all. The Prime Ministers of the two Dominions met at Ambala on 17th August 1947, only two days after this partition, and agreed there to exchange the population. As soon as that was done and both the Dominion Governments promised to help and assist the refugees to come over to the other side, there was mass migration. Of course I may submit here that the refugees could not carry lands and houses with them when they thus crossed over. Removal of their machinery, buses, motor cars and plants was prohibited and could not be brought because it was considered that they were useful for the economic well-being of the Dominion concerned. Not only that, even the jewellery and cash that they possessed and which they could easily bring with them to the other side were snatched away from them. Therefore the refugees were not able to bring anything with them when they came over to this side.

Here I must remark that we are grateful for the evacuation that was arranged. Of course it was a miracle that about six millions of people were brought over to this side within a short period and they were saved out of that devastating fire that was raging there in Pakistan. But in that evacuation, I have to submit, that there were many forces working which compelled them to leave everything there. The evacuation was done either by motor transport or by rail or by air and if I were to read to you the instructions that were given to the M.E.O. then you will find that they were not allowed to bring in anything very material. It says:

"To ensure that the evacuation of refugees received proper priority over the evacuation of movable property, strict instructions were given to Convoy Commanders not to permit more than a trunk of reasonable size and a bedding for each refugee."

This was the fate of the refugees. About foot convoys I might read:

"The biggest foot convoy, 4,00,000 strong, of the uprooted non-Muslim population started from the Canal Colonies of Lyallpur on September 11, 1947. As the convoy took the 150 mile road to East Punjab it was swelled by tributary refugee streams from Gojra, Sumandri and Jaranwala. Leaving their ancestral holdings, the rich canal irrigated fields, the colonists came with what they could carry. With them came petty shopkeepers, artisans, village menials, landlords, businessmen, doctors and lawyers, Many died on the way out of fear, worry, anguish and exhaustion. Those who died were left as they fell on the wayside as no one had the inclination to look back or weep. Several times the columns were attacked on the way by hostile Muslim mobs, women and children were abducted and unauthorised searches deprived them of the few valuables they had managed to carry."

I will then read two or three lines about evacuation by train.

"The refugee trains were generally overcrowded, men and women were huddled together not only inside the compartments but sat over the roofs of the carriages as well. Like the foot convoys, the refugee trains were also attacked by armed mobs. Railway lines were sabotaged and the trains were unnecessarily delayed on the wayside stations till the Muslim mobs gathered in sufficient numbers to commit brutalities on the defenceless passengers. Women and children were abducted."

My submission therefore here was that they could not bring anything material to this side.

I come to my next point that we have so often taken pride in this respect that we have won this freedom without any bloodshed. If we mean by that that the rulers—the Englishmen—have not exacted any toll of murders or deaths, then we are right but if we gave consent to the setting up of Pakistan and we gave that because we wanted to secure freedom for the rest of the country, then certainly this setting up of Pakistan is also the price that we had to pay for winning this freedom and I dare say that Pakistan has been built on the loss of life of several lakhs of people from amongst the minorities, sacrifice of the honour of about 50,000 women and surrender of property of about 2,000 crores. If we agreed to the creation of Pakistan, then certainly we agreed to this huge sacrifice as well and we cannot escape the responsibility. It has been said that if we had not agreed to this then there would have been civil war, anarchy, chaos all over the country. This is quite right. Further the agony of our slavery must have been prolonged rather. There too I agree but that is all the greater reason therefore that if we have saved the whole country from prolonged agony, from civil war and anarchy, then the sufferings, the price of the freedom, should be shared by all and not by one section of the community. Of course this country cannot bring back the lives that have been lost nor can we bring back the honour lost to our dear kith and kin. But surely this country and this nation can share the financial losses that they have suffered. Whoever else may be, at least these refugees are not to blame so far as this Partition is concerned. Some people get over-just and say the disturbances in Western Pakistan were due to certain happenings in East Punjab. I deny that allegation. They forget that it was only a link among the chain of events that were happening there and if that were the case that it was some provocation in East Punjab, then that would have stopped soon after that but even now we find similar happenings in East Bengal. That policy, consistent and calculated, is being followed there even now. So it cannot be said that because something happened in East Punjab and therefore, that was the result of happenings in East Punjab—it is absolutely wrong. If even for the sake of argument it may be so, then the residents of West Punjab now in the Indian Dominion, are not responsible for that. They were never consulted as to this Partition and they never agreed to the creation of Pakistan which would mean the digging of their own grave.

Further they had no desire to migrate. Of course, option was given to civil, military and police officers to opt whether they would remain in their dominion

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

or whether they would like to migrate. The servants had that opportunity but the masters had none. They never had the choice and if they had got it, they would have liked to remain there and remain faithful. They would not have liked to become a burden on their brethren here, but it is known to everybody that the conditions created were such that it was quite impossible for them to stay on and they were advised to come over. Though earlier when these unfortunate incidents started in Rawalpindi and in N.W.F.P., certainly there was a desire on the part of the minorities to cross over to this side, but then the responsible leaders, hon. Ministers who are in charge of the Government and are running this administration, all of them, and even eminent leaders outside advised them to stick to their places, to stay on and not to come over and they offered them full protection if they did that. If these poor refugees placed full confidence in their leaders, in their trusted champions and stayed on and then they have suffered, then certainly they are not to blame and it is the country which should suffer along with them. When migration took place and people came to this side, certainly relief was offered. I appreciate that. Refugees are not ungrateful for having got sufficient relief. About 20 crores of rupees have been spent and this in itself is a huge amount but spread over six millions of people that might come to Rs. 30 per head and I beg to submit that it might not be sufficient to give even a suitable cremation to the refugees. The hon. Minister for Rehabilitation had certainly a soft corner for these refugees but he related certain difficulties that he had and in his speech during the last Budget Session he said he was sorry that he could not implement these schemes. He said:

"It may not be out of place to mention here that while this Ministry was established to plan for the relief and rehabilitation of the displaced persons, most of its work had had to be done by and through different Ministries at the Centre or the Provincial and State Governments and in certain cases even the Municipal and local Boards. Consequently in spite of the best efforts of the Ministry, the implementation of the schemes was often held up by one or more of these agencies."

Further on he says:

"My principal concern has been to speed up the pace of rehabilitation and to effect as much economy as possible; but I must admit that things have not moved according to my expectations. I have been told repeatedly that rehabilitation is a slow process; and instances of the slow pace of rehabilitation of European refugees, in spite of heavy expenditure, have been cited in support. Citations of the sad plight of Jewish and Arab refugees in Palestine, where lavish expenditure was incurred, have also failed to convince me."

"Maybe I have been impatient; but one cannot help being impatient when one sees misery and distress writ large on the sunken cheeks and lustreless eyes of the young and the old, both in and outside the camps."

Certainly he was not right, but I must assure him that that misery is writ deeper now. The only change is that those camps have been liquidated and he has not the opportunity of seeing those faces even occasionally now. Then he said:

"I have decided that each and every head of the family must know almost immediately as to where he or she is going to be settled; and each and every head of family must have either a house or a plot of his own on which he may build."

The uncertainty which he realized then has not been removed. Further on, he dealt with other problems

"It is our intention to find a house for every displaced family and also the means and opportunities for keeping them gainfully employed."

"Government intend to provide every family with necessary assistance to have or to build a house. Thus a family may have a house in evacuee property or a house constructed or rented out by Government, or a plot supported by a loan, if necessary, and the requisite building materials."

That thing has not been done. There are other promises that have been held out occasionally, but I must submit that promises and hopes were held out only to cause frustration when they were not fulfilled: Schemes were made but never carried out. The policy of rehabilitation has been tardy and slow and always changing.

My submission is that the refugees feel very much frustrated. They do not believe now that they would be rehabilitated in the near future at the pace at which we are going on. When these hopes were dying and the Dominion Conference failed in July 1949 then a conference of refugee leaders was convened in Delhi and in that we were promised by Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar that compensation would be paid. It may be in bonds or cash or in land or in any other form. That was very good. Another hope was given but nothing has been done so that the refugees have certainly lost all hopes in that as well. That was only a diplomatic declaration, because it was not said clearly whether the refugees will get that compensation, whether the Government of India would pay it or how much would it be. Nothing was said on those points. Such a statement could not sustain the refugees for more than four or five months and those months have passed.

Such being the case during this period, with all the handicaps whatever the refugees could bring secretly or stealthily from Pakistan they have exhausted them. Now their condition is very miserable. Would this Government like them to go about as beggars in the streets? Would they be allowed to sell their honour—I shall not press this point further. What would our countrymen like us to be? Should we be wiped out absolutely or do they want to help us? When we were crossing the border we were looking forward to a new heaven of freedom and prosperity. Certainly the hon. Minister was honest and he was speaking on behalf of the Government. But they have to see how our refugees are to be indemnified. If really they are entitled to compensation should not Pakistan be compelled to pay it? We have tried our best and our negotiations have failed. I might read here from the Government publication concerning Evacuee Property.

"It is clear that a fundamental divergence of opinion exists between the two Governments. While the Government of India feel that the property left behind by evacuees from either Dominion cannot be used by the Governments concerned without paying fair compensation to the owners, the Pakistan Government wish to use such property for the benefit of their Muslim nationals without any compensation, and without the payment of even current normal rent. It is no use maintaining theoretical ownership rights, if the owner can neither receive current income nor be allowed to dispose of his property. The action of the Pakistan Government amounts to a virtual confiscation of all non-Muslim evacuee property."

That is the position that the Government now takes after so many conferences and so much negotiation. I am certainly glad that they have come to the conclusion that the Pakistan Government have confiscated the property of the refugees. The refugees were of that opinion from the very beginning and if this revelation has come upon the Government of India now, even then it is welcome.

Even in the White Paper on Indo-Pakistan Trade Relations they have said:

"Meanwhile yet another development came to the notice of the Government of India which made it difficult to resist the conclusion that the hold-up was part of a deliberate policy to make the position of the Indian Jute Mills difficult and to compel them to buy jute at the rates of fixed by the Jute Board. The policy of detention was applied not merely to Pakistan jute purchased by the Indian mills but also to Assam jute which was in transit through Pakistan to India."

"Thus a state was reached when it became clear that apart from obtaining supplies of coal from India, Pakistan had no intention of allowing any other trade to take place between the two countries and even goods from one part of India to another were subjected to all kinds of restrictions."

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

These two conclusions the Government of India have reached now and they are sufficient to give them an indication that Pakistan does not mean business. It would not pay any rent out of the refugees' property.

Then the second question is, if by negotiation we cannot get anything out of Pakistan can we get it by means of war? That is also ruled out by our unilateral declaration that India would not go to war with Pakistan on this question. It has been clearly announced that we would not fight unless we are attacked. If we fight, we fight in defence and not for the sake of the refugees. Therefore that is also out of the question. You would not go to war on this issue and you cannot get anything by negotiation.

Then there is the other question, can we get anything out of the evacuee property? That too has been made clear by our hon. Prime Minister, that he has certain international obligations, and that we are wedded to certain principles. The refugees have never said that we should give up either these international obligations or those great ideals of ours. What we want is strict enforcement of the law in the same way as had been done to our nationals by Pakistan Government. We paid Rs. 85,000 to the first citizen of Pakistan, Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan, as rent of his property, while he was forging restrictions and confiscating all the property that we had there. By making the evacuee property law more liberal we know that in Lucknow alone about 500 houses and some six firms have been released by reason of the change in our evacuee ordinance. This policy is in pursuance of a definite plan, because we are wedded to certain principles and certain international obligations whereas the Pakistan Government have none. So the refugees cannot hope to get anything more from these properties of evacuees and they are also likely to diminish because of certain definite principles of our Government. So that hope is also wiped out.

We cannot go to war, we cannot get anything by negotiations, the evacuee property cannot be exchanged and the only thing left is that the Government should pay out of its own finances. But it is said that our finances are very limited. I know that. Some people have sent amendments to my resolution, that this should be taken out of Pakistan. If they still believe that they can get anything out of them they are welcome. My position is that the Government should take over all the property of the refugees. They may go on negotiating with Pakistan *ad infinitum* until such time they can recover anything from Pakistan. But so far as the refugees are concerned their patience is exhausted. They must have something definite and certain. They cannot go on for ever like this. Therefore there need be no fear that by giving any compensation to the refugees now the refugees will be losing their right to their properties which they have left in Pakistan. My resolution says definitely that either it should be by means of a tax or sale of waste lands or other vacant lands. That can easily be done.

Some refugees have raised objection and ask "why should I ask for eight annas in the rupee?" If compensation could be got from Pakistan certainly we would accept nothing less than a rupee. But now in spite of the fact that we have suffered so many losses, despite all our sacrifices, we poor destitute refugees are prepared to go so far as to forego eight annas in the rupee and we are prepared to take the remaining eight annas, if it is promised, even in instalments, by bonds or by raising loans or by any other method. My appeal to this House is that they should seriously consider that it is time, after three years, to give a definite undertaking so that this uncertainty might be removed, so that the refugees might hope to become peaceful citizens of Free India.

Mr. Speaker: Resolution moved:

"This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken by Government to get the losses of the refugees accurately verified, and that measures be adopted to raise funds, by imposition of a special tax or by sale of Government waste lands and vacant sites, sufficient to compensate every refugee to the extent of at least eight annas in the rupee."

Master Nand Lal (Punjab): I beg to move:

"That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken by Government to get the losses of the refugees accurately verified and that measures be adopted to get them compensated by Pakistan Government as soon as possible or that the Government of India herself do the needful to compensate them as promised by Government."

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): I beg to move:

"That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that the Government of India should take all possible steps to expedite the settlement with Pakistan of the issue of compensation for properties left behind by refugees on a Government to Government basis and in the meanwhile it urges,—

- (a) the intensification and expansion of measures of rehabilitation so that the refugees may get absorbed in the economic life of India; and
- (b) consideration of the question of giving some interim compensation to those refugees who have been deprived of their resources and have not been able to obtain gainful employment."

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): I beg to move:

"That in the Resolution, for all the words occurring after the words 'losses of the refugees' the following be substituted:

'verified as accurately as possible and to secure from the Government of Pakistan by all possible means and measures the full value of these losses of property so as to be able fully to compensate the refugees who had to leave Pakistan for no fault of their own.'

Shri Meeran (Madras): I beg to move:

"That in the Resolution, the words 'by imposition of a special tax or by sale of Government waste lands and vacant sites', be omitted."

Mr. Speaker: Amendments moved:

(i) "That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that immediate steps be taken by Government to get the losses of the refugees accurately verified and that measures be adopted to get them compensated by Pakistan Government as soon as possible or that the Government of India herself do the needful to compensate them as promised by Government."

(ii) "That for the original Resolution the following be substituted:

"This House is of opinion that the Government of India should take all possible steps to expedite the settlement with Pakistan of the issue of compensation for properties left behind by refugees on a Government to Government basis and in the meanwhile it urges,—

- (a) the intensification and expansion of measures of rehabilitation so that the refugees may get absorbed in the economic life of India; and
- (b) consideration of the question of giving some interim compensation to those refugees who have been deprived of their resources and have not been able to obtain gainful employment."

(iii) "That in the Resolution, for all the words occurring after the words 'losses of the refugees' the following be substituted:

'verified as accurately as possible and to secure from the Government of Pakistan by all possible means and measures the full value of these losses of property so as to be able fully to compensate the refugees who had to leave Pakistan for no fault of their own.'

(iv) "That in the Resolution, the words 'by imposition of a special tax or by sale of Government waste lands and vacant sites', be omitted."

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): On a point of information, Sir, may I know from the hon. mover of the Resolution whether the scope of his Resolution is confined only to the refugees from Western Pakistan?

Sardar Hukam Singh: No, Sir.

Dr. M. M. Das (West Bengal): May I know whether the refugees who come in the future will also fall within its scope?

Mr. Speaker: It applies to all refugees now.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : माननीय स्पीकर साहब, जहाँ तक इस रेजोल्यूशन (Resolution) का ताल्लुक है जो सर्दार हुकुमसिंह साहब ने हाउस (House) में मूव (move) किया है, उस में सिर्फ दो बातों का खास तौर पर जिक्र है। नम्बर एक यह कि जितने रिफ्यूजीज (refugees) हैं उन के जितने नुकसानात हुए हैं उन सब की पहले ठीक तौर से तहकीकात की जाय। दूसरा जो मामला है वह यह कि फंड्स (funds) रेज (raise) किये जाय, रुपया इकट्ठा किया जाय ताकि जो नुकसानात रिफ्यूजीज की तहकीकात से साबित हों उनको कम से कम रुपयों में आठ आने की हद तक पूरा किया जाय। इन दोनों बातों के बारे में बहुत अरबों से अरबों करना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे उनसे सेहत-इश्तलाक है।

मेरी राय में और उनके ख्यालात में जहाँ तक कि रिफ्यूजीज की तकालीफ का सवाल है किसी किस्म का कोई फर्क नहीं है। मैं यह साफ कर देना चाहता हूँ कि इस रेजोल्यूशन के दोनों हिस्सों को न मानते हुए भी मेरे दिल में उनसे कम दर्द रिफ्यूजीज के बारे में नहीं है।

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair]

जहाँ तक रिफ्यूजीज का सवाल है मैं तो यह समझता हूँ कि हाउस का कोई मेम्बर भी ऐसा नहीं है कि जो उनकी तकालीफ में हमदर्दी जाहिर न करेगा, जो यह नहीं चाहता कि हर एक रिफ्यूजी को जो हिन्दुस्तान के बाहर से यहां आया है, उसको पूरी तरह से रिहेबिलिटेड (rehabilitate) किया जाय, और जहाँ तक मुमकिन हो, जो उनके नुकसानात हुए हैं उन का भी उन को मुआवजा मिले। या उसको अगर पूरा मुआवजा नहीं तो कम से कम मुनासिब मुआवजा देना भी इस देश के रिसोर्सेज (resources) के क्राव में नहीं है, इस कदर वह नहीं दे सकती, तो कम से कम जितना मुमकिन हो उस कदर मुआवजा उसको दिया जाय।

इन उसूलों को बयान करने के बाद मैं यह देखना चाहता हूँ कि आया यह प्रोपोजीशन (proposition) जो सरदार हुकुमसिंह साहब ने हाउस के सामने रखी है वह ऐसी है जिस पर अमल मुमकिन है या नहीं। इस हाउस का रेजोल्यूशन एक मामूली मीटिंग (meeting) के एजीटेशन (agitation) वाले जो रेजोल्यूशन

होते हैं उसके मानिन्द नहीं हो सकता। इस हाउस में जो तजवीज पास होगी वह गवर्नमेन्ट (Government) पर क्लाइम पाबन्दी होगी। अगर गवर्नमेन्ट इस रेजोल्यूशन को मंजूर करती है तो गवर्नमेन्ट को उस पर अमल करना पड़ेगा। इसलिये मैं देखना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह इमकान में है कि इस रेजोल्यूशन को अमल की शकल दी जा सके।

पहली बात जो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि यह मुमकिन ही नहीं है कि रिफ्यूजीज के नुकसानात को ऐक्यूरेटली (accurately) वेरीफाई (verify) किया जा सके। यह गैर मुमकिन है। जो अदालती कामों से वाकिफ हैं वह जानते हैं कि ऐसे मामलों में जब सवाल होता है कि एक रिफ्यूजी का क्या नुकसान हुआ है तो किस क्रदर शहादत उस को देनी पड़ती है जब दस्तावेजात शहादत नहीं हैं। क्या उस शहादत को बनाया जा सकता है। दस बीस आदमियों के कहने से एक चीज साबित नहीं हो सकती, खसूसन जब यह जानते हैं और यह दुस्त है कि हर एक रिफ्यूजी जब अपना नुकसान बताना चाहता है तो कोई अपना नुकसान लखूखा रुपयों से कम नहीं बतलाता। गवर्नमेन्ट ने शुरू शुरू में एक डिपार्टमेंट (Department) खोला था, जिस वक्त रिहैबिलिटेशन आर्गनाइजेशन कमेटी (Rehabilitation Organisation Committee) बनी उस वक्त जो काम उन्होंने किया वह उस कमेटी के सामने आया, उस कमेटी का एक मेम्बर में भी था, तो पता लगा कि लोगों ने जो अपने नुकसानात लिखाये हैं उनकी तादाद इस क्रदर ज्यादा है जो नॉक्लाबिल यकीन है। खुद जिन्होंने रजिस्टर किया उन का बयान था कि जो तादाद बतलाई गई है वह इस क्रदर ज्यादा है कि जिसे कतई कबूल नहीं किया जा सकता। कोई शकस जो चाहता है कि रिफ्यूजीज को लासेज (losses) दिये जाय, कम्पेन्सेशन (compensation) दिया जाय, वह इस को कबूल करने से बाज नहीं रह सकता कि दरअसल जो तादाद नुकसानात की रिफ्यूजीज बतलाते हैं वह बहुत ज्यादा है। आज के दिन इन क्लेमस (claims) का किसी तरह से भी ठीक ठीक अन्दाजा लगाना तक्करीबन नामुमकिन है। जहां तक जमीन का सवाल है, जमीन के वास्ते जो क्लेम किया गया था, वह उस जमीन की तादाद से ज्यादा थी जो दोनों पंजाबों में मौजूद थी। लेकिन जहां तक जमीन का सवाल है हमारे पास रिकार्डस (records) वेस्ट पंजाब (West Punjab) से आ गये हैं, और यह देखा जा सकता है कि कितनी जमीन वहां रिफ्यूजीज की रह गई। जहां तक मकानात का सवाल है हमारे पास कोई दस्तावेजी शहादत मौजूद नहीं है और वेस्ट पंजाब से दस्तावेजात शहादत को नहीं लाया जा सकता है, ऐसी शहादत हो सकती थी जिन से आम तौर पर पता लग जाता कि कितने असहाब के मकान वहां लुट गए हैं किन के मकान थे और और कितने थे। लेकिन आज के दिन अगर वहां से कुल दस्तावेजात आ भी

[पं० ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

यें तो भी गरीब आदमियों की मित्कियत का जहां तक सवाल है हमारे पास वेस्ट पंजाब में कोई दस्तावेज नहीं हैं जिन से उनके नुकसानात का पता लग सके या मालूम हो सके कि कितनी मालियत के मकान थे। जहां तक मूवैबिल प्रोपर्टी (movable property) का सवाल है वह आज के दिन जबानी शहादत से तो साबित होना नामुमकिन है। इसलिये मैं नहीं जानता कि किस तरह से यह मुमकिन है कि ऐक्यूरेटली उनके नुकसानात को दरयाफ्त किया जाय इसलिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरीके से भी गवर्नमेंट चाहे कि उन लोगों के नुकसानात को, पाकिस्तान से वसूल करके या और किसी तरह से किसी किस्म का कम्पेन्सेशन दे, इस का तरीका रफ़ ऐंड रेडी मेथड (Rough and ready method) से ही हो सकेगा। इस तरीके पर साठ लाख आदमियों की जायदाद के मुतल्लिक ऐक्यूरेट तौर पर समझ सकना मुमकिन नहीं है।

दूसरी बात जो मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ और जिसे मैं और भी नापसन्द करता हूँ वह यह हिस्सा है जिस के अन्दर सर्दार साहब ने कहा है कि एक फंड रेज किया जाय और फंड रेज कर के सरकार की कुछ जमीन बेच कर के और कुछ व्केन्ट साइट्स (vacant sites) बेच कर के, इस तरीके से रुपये में कम से कम आठ आने दे दिया जाय। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि वह तो एक इन्तहाई तौर पर प्रोपोस्टरस (preposterous) चीज है कि रुपये में आठ आने के हिसाब से दे दिया जाय। क्या उन्होंने ने सब रिफ्यूजीज से सलाह कर ली है कि वह इतना लेने को तैयार हैं, और शायद मुमकिन हो कि वह तैयार हों लेकिन यह कौन सा तरीका है कि हर एक आदमी को आठ आने बांट दिये जाय और फिर रुपया न हो तो वह रुपया किसी तरह सरकार की जमीन बेच कर दे दिया जाय। मैं इस तरीके का दिलदादा नहीं हूँ और न मैं इसको मुनासिब समझता हूँ। दरअसल बात यह है कि उन्होंने एक एग्जास्पेरेशन (exasperation) में और डिस्पेयर (despair) में क्योंकि आज बेचारे रिफ्यूजीज एक खरता हालत में हैं कि जो बयान नहीं की जा सकती, यह सोचा कि अगर कुछ भी नहीं मिलता तो आठ आने ही सही। जो स्पीच उन्होंने दी है वह दिल हिला देने वाली है, वह हमको बतलाती है कि रिफ्यूजीज की हालत क्या है और यही वजह है कि उन्होंने एक ऐसा प्रपोज़ल भी रख दिया है जिसको मैं समझता हूँ कि हाउस के बहुत से मेम्बरान नापसन्द करेंगे। लेकिन यह कहते हुए मेरे कहने की यह मुराद नहीं है और मैं एक लपज भी ऐसा नहीं कहना चाहता जिसे गवर्नमेंट या रिफ्यूजीज के दरम्यान कोई ऐसी चीज आ जाय कि जिससे वह यह समझने लगे कि गवर्नमेंट अब हम को कुछ नहीं

देगी जैसा कि सरदार साहब ने भी अपने आखरी अल्फाज में जाहिर फरमाया है, या यह कि गवर्नमेंट कागज़ पर तो कोई जिम्मेवारी रिफ्यूजीज़ को यकीन दिलाने के लिये ले लेगी और उसको पूरा न कर सकेगी। इस वास्ते में चाहता हूँ कि जो रिजोल्यूशन मैंने पेश किया है हाउस उस पर गौर करे और उसको पास करे। इस रिजोल्यूशन के, जिसको मैंने पेश किया है, फ़िलवाक़े तीन हिस्से हैं। इन तीनों हिस्सों पर मैं कुछ थोड़ा सा अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ।

जो पहला हिस्सा है वह बिल्कुल साफ है और वह यह है कि जो कुछ हमारे नुकसानात हुए हैं वह पूरे मय व्याज के अगर हो सके, पाकिस्तान से वसूल करने चाहिए। शायद यह कहा जा सकता है कि क्योंकि पाकिस्तान से कोई फ़ैसला होने वाला नहीं है और चूँकि यह एक पायस विश (pious wish) है, इस लिए इसके कहने में क्या हर्ज़ है। जो कुछ हमारा नुकसान हुआ है वह पाकिस्तान की पालिसी की वजह से हुआ है, पाकिस्तान बनने की वजह से हुआ है और उसके बाद भी जो कुछ हमारे आपस में फ़ैसले हुए थे उनको तोड़ने की वजह से हुआ है। उन फ़ैसलों को तोड़ने की इखलाकी, कानूनी और इन्टरनेशनल ला (International Law) की रू से भी सारी जिम्मेवारी पाकिस्तान की है, और कोई वजह नहीं है कि यह गवर्नमेंट उस नुकसान को पाकिस्तान से वसूल करके रिफ्यूजीज़ को न दिलाये। इसमें शक नहीं कि एक अर्सा दराज़ हो गया है, ढाई बरस हो गये हैं, रिफ्यूजीज़ को चिल्लाते चिल्लाते और गवर्नमेंट की काम करते हुए, और अब तक हम किसी नतीजे पर नहीं पहुँच पाये हैं और इस लिए रिफ्यूजीज़ का यह यकीन करना कुदरती बात है कि उनके साथ कोई इन्साफ नहीं हो रहा है। क्या हमको मालूम नहीं है कि पाकिस्तान और हमारे यहां के सेक्रेटरियों की एक कान्फ़ेन्स हुई थी जिस में यह फ़ैसला हुआ था कि दोनों पंजाबों की ज़मीन का इवेल्यूएशन (evaluation) करके जिसके जिम्मे जो निकले वह दूसरी स्टेट (State) को अदा करदे। इसके कागज़ात भी मौजूद हैं। और जब सेक्रेटरीज़ (Secretaries) ने यह फ़ैसला किया था तो हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब श्री गोपाल स्वामी आयांगर ने उनको मुबारकबाद दिया। लेकिन जब वह पाकिस्तान पहुँचे तो जो इत्तला मुझको मिली है वह यह है कि जब यह मामला जिन्ना साहब के पास गया तो वह कहने लगे कि क्या आप लोग पाकिस्तान को दस बीस बरस के लिए रहन रखना चाहते हैं। यह बात सही हो या गलत हो, लेकिन जब यह मामला सेक्रेटरीयट लेवल (Secretariat level) पर पहुँच चुका था तो गवर्नमेंट को तो सिर्फ़ एक्सेप्ट (accept) ही करना था और फिर पाकिस्तान ने कभी इस बारे में

[पं० ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

जवाब नहीं दिया कि यह मामला तै होगा या नहीं। बहाने बाजी यह की गई कि क्योंकि पानी का झगड़ा है इस वजह से यह मामला तै नहीं हो सकता क्योंकि अगर कल को हमको पानी न मिला तो हमारी ज़मीन की कीमत कम हो जायगी और तब हम नहीं कह सकेंगे कि इस ज़मीन की क्या कीमत होगी और क्या उसका मुआवजा होगा। लेकिन यह बहाने बाजी है। इसका जवाब तो यह है कि वह इस ज़मीन को बराहनी समझकर जो मुआवजा निकलता दे देते और उसके बाद बाकी रकम अदा करते रहते। लेकिन सच बात मुझे यही मालूम होती है कि पाकिस्तान की नीयत ऐसी नहीं है कि जितना मुआवजा हमको देना है दे दे। जिस शख्स के जिम्मे कोई रकम होती है क्या वह कभी देने की खुशी से आमादगी जाहिर करता है? हमारी गवर्नमेंट को चाहिए कि जितना प्रेशर (pressure) उन पर डाल सके डाले और और जल्दी से जल्दी इस अन्न का फैसला कराकर पाकिस्तान के जिम्मे जो कुछ हमारी रकम निकलती है वह दिलावे। इसका फैसला जल्द होना चाहिए। जो हमारी प्रापर्टी (property) पाकिस्तान में रह गई है वह पाकिस्तान वालों के पास है और जो मुसलमानों की प्रापर्टी यहां है, और जिस इवैक्युई प्रापर्टी (evacuee property) का मैं आगे जिक्र करूंगा, उसके मालिक भी दरअस्ल पाकिस्तान वाले ही हैं। हमारे ज़मीन और मकानात आज के दिन भी कानून की निगाह में, इंटरनेशनल ला (International Law) की निगाह सबके सब हमारे हैं और उन पर उनका कोई दखल नहीं है। पाकिस्तान वालों ने एक बड़ी होशियारी की कि एक एवैक्युएशन ला (Evacuation Law) और एक रिहैबिलिटेशन (Rehabilitation) का कानून पास किया जिसकी रू से ऐसी प्रापर्टी को जो कि इवैक्युई प्रापर्टी नहीं थी उसको रिहैबिलिटेशन के बहाने से हुक्म के जरिये से हिन्दुओं और सिखों को बेदखल करके अपने कब्जे में किया और उसको रिहैबिलिटेशन (Rehabilitation) के वास्ते इस्तेमाल किया और हमारी गवर्नमेंट का यह हाल था कि दो हजार मकान जो दिल्ली में मुसलमानों के पड़े थे उन लोगों के लिए कायम रखे गये ताकि वह वापस आकर उनमें रह सकें। दरअस्ल बात यह है कि इस का फैसला होगा या नहीं या कि कितने असें में होगा यह नहीं कहा जा सकता, लेकिन जब तक यह फैसला नहीं होता उस वक्त तक यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि पाकिस्तान हमारे नुकसानात का कम्पेन्सेशन नहीं देगा। इस वास्ते इस रिजोल्यूशन का पहला हिस्सा इस तरह जाता है कि गवर्नमेंट जल्दी से जल्दी कोशिश करे और वह तमाम मुमकिन जरारये जो उसके पास हैं इस्तेमाल करे कि पकिस्तान इस का फैसला कर दे।

इस रिजोल्यूशन का दूसरा हिस्सा इस तरफ जाता है कि जब तक पाकिस्तान से यह कम्पेन्सेशन हमको न मिले उस वक्त तक इंटरिम कम्पेन्सेशन (interim compensation) गवर्नमेंट उन लोगों को दे कि जिन लोगों की हालत यह है कि जो कुछ वह वहां से लाये थे वह अब खर्च हो चुका है और अब उनका सब्र का प्याला लबरेज हो चुका है। यह लोग जो जेवर अपने साथ लाये थे वह भी खत्म हो चुके हैं और अब वह ऐसी हालत में हैं कि वह अपना काम नहीं चला सकते। गवर्नमेंट उनको काम दे और उनको इंटरिम कम्पेन्सेशन दे। मैं अदब के साथ अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट न जो गलती की वह यह है कि इवेक्यूई प्रापर्टी का जो उसने ला (Law) बनाया; उसमें आहिस्ता आहिस्ता तबदीली की। अगर हमारी गवर्नमेंट पहले ही दिन ठीक इवेक्यूई ला (Evacuee Law) बना देती और अगर वह पहले ही दिन वह कदम उठा लेती जो उसने बाद में उठाया तो मुझे उम्मीद है कि हर एक रिफ्यूजी का यहां से १६ आना कम्पेन्सेशन मिल जाता क्योंकि वह जमीनों और मकान जो कि पाकिस्तान में हैं हमको वापस नहीं मिल सकते और न वह मकान और जमीनों जो यहां हैं वह पाकिस्तान जा सकती हैं। उनका मुआवजा हम जरूर लेंगे, लेकिन उस मुआवजे में वह मकानात और जमीनों पहली चीजें होंगी जिनको कि मुसलमान यहां पर छोड़ गये हैं। तो मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि अगर हमारा कानून ठीक बना होता तो करोड़ों और अरबों रुपया बम्बई और दूसरी जगहों से न चला गया होता। मेरे दोस्त ने जिक्र किया कि लियाकत अली साहब को ८६ हजार रुपया रेंट (rent) का यहां से भेजा गया। मैं अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि यह रुपया उनको हरगिज न भेजा जाना चाहिये था। आज भी हिन्दुस्तान में ऐसे हिस्से हैं कि जहां से मनीआर्डर जाते हैं, जहां पर काश्त होती है, यहां पर लोग खेती करते हैं और उसको बेच कर रुपया मनीआर्डर से पाकिस्तान को भेजते हैं। मैं पिछली नवम्बर को बम्बई गया था तो एक साहब ने मुझे बतलाया कि एक फरनीचर मर्चेंट (Furniture Merchant) ने एक मुसलमान से ३ हजार रुपया उसके फरनीचर को पैक (pack) करने का लिया, जिसे कि पाकिस्तान भेजा गया। मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि कम से कम यह चीज कि जो (Evacuee property) (इवेक्यूई (evacuee) जायदाद) है वह रिफ्यूजीज का असासा होगा जिसके अन्दर से कम्पेन्सेशन दिया जा सकेगा, तो मेहरबानी करके उसको कायम रखने के लिए तो अपनी इवेक्यूई ला (Evacuee Law) को ठीक बनाइये जिससे कि उस असासे की हिफाजत हो सके।

(English translation of the above speech)

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: So far as the resolution moved by Sardar Hukam Singh is concerned it mentions only two points in particular. The

{Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava}

first is that proper and thorough enquiry be made about the losses suffered by all of the refugees. The second is that funds be raised and money obtained so that at least 50 per cent. compensation may be given of those losses suffered by the refugees that might prove correct after thorough enquiry. With regards to both these points I beg to submit that I strongly oppose them.

As far as the difficulties and plight of the refugees are concerned I do not in any way hold any opinions contrary to his. I wish to make it quite clear that in spite of differing on both these points in this resolution I have not less sympathy for them for their plight and misery.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair]

As far as the question of the refugees is concerned I think that there is not a single hon. Member in this House who would not sympathize with them in their distress and plight. I think there is none who may not be wishing that every refugee who has migrated to India may not be properly rehabilitated and as far as possible the losses suffered by them may not be compensated and if full or at least proper compensation be beyond the resources of the country, or if the Government may not be able to pay so much even then at least they may be given as much compensation as possible.

After mentioning these principles I wish to discuss whether the proposition that has been put by Sardar Hukam Singh before this House is at all practicable or not. Any resolution passed in this House can never be similar to those common agitation-making resolutions that are passed in ordinary meetings. Any resolution passed on the floor of this House will become obligatory on the Government. If the Government accept this resolution then the Government will have to act upon it. Therefore I wish to find out if it is possible for the Government to give it a practical shape?

The first thing that I wish to submit is that it is not physically possible for the Government to verify the extent of losses sustained by the refugees accurately. Such a verification is quite impossible. Those who are acquainted with the procedure in law courts know it perfectly well that in cases when it has got to be proved as to how much loss the refugee has suffered then in the absence of documentary proofs one has to pile up a lot of evidence to prove his claim. Can such an evidence be now procured? Simple oral evidence of some 10 or 20 people cannot prove a claim and especially when everybody knows it full well, and it is correct to some extent, that whenever any refugee makes a mention of the loss suffered by him he never puts it for anything short of lakhs of rupees. In the beginning the Government had opened a department and the work done by this department was placed before the Rehabilitation Re-organisation Committee when it came into being. I also was a member of the said Committee. Then it came to light that the amounts of losses mentioned by the people were so high that the figures were perfectly unbelievable. The people who registered these claims alleged that the amounts of losses were so enormous that they could not be entertained. No person who wishes to make up the losses suffered by the refugees or pay compensation in lieu thereof cannot but admit that the extent of losses that the refugees allege is too much. To-day it is nearly impossible to have any proper verification of these claims. As far as the land is concerned the claims that were filed in respect thereof far exceeded the total area of land in the whole of undivided Punjab. As far as the question of landed property is concerned we have received records from West Punjab and it can be checked how much land belonging to the refugees has been left there. As regards the residential houses we have no documentary proofs and no documentary proofs can be had from West Punjab, but only such evidence can be available that might approximately show how many persons

have lost their belongings or who owned houses there and so forth. But even if today we were to get the necessary documentary proofs also, still, so far as the question of the property owned by poor people is concerned, we have no documentary proofs even in West Punjab also, whereby we may be able to ascertain the extent of their losses or to have a correct valuation of their property. So far as the question of movable property is concerned it is impossible to accept any claims simply on the basis of the oral evidence only. Therefore I cannot think of any method whereby the losses suffered by the refugees could be accurately ascertained. Therefore I beg to submit that if the Government may decide to make up their losses by any means either by paying compensation or by claiming damages from Pakistan, in every case a rough and ready method will have to be followed for estimating these claims. By this method it is not possible to have an accurate estimate of properties of six million people.

The second thing that I wish to submit and which I still more dislike is that part of the resolution wherein the Sardar Sahib has proposed to raise a fund and has suggested that out of the funds raised through collections or by selling vacant plots and Government lands the refugees may be paid at least 50 per cent. of the losses suffered by them. I beg to submit that such a step, i.e., of paying out 50 per cent. of the losses, would be an extremely preposterous action. Has he consulted all the refugees that they are prepared to accept this much? It is just possible that they might even agree to this proposal but I do not see any sense in paying each and every one of them 50 per cent. compensation and to crown it all that if the Government may not have money at her disposal then funds be raised after disposing of Government lands and property.

I do not appreciate this method and nor do I consider it proper. In fact the refugees who are to-day placed in a very wretched condition which cannot be expressed in words thought on the spur of the moment of exasperation and despair that in case nothing is forthcoming, let it be eight annas. The speech delivered by my hon. friend is very touching and it tells us what is the condition of the refugees and this is the reason that he has made such a proposal which I think will not be liked by most of the members of this House. But while saying so, I do not mean this and I do not want to utter any such word which may create any misunderstanding between the Government and the refugees and lead them to believe that the Government shall not now pay them anything just as my hon. friend has stated in the concluding portion of his speech or that the Government shall take any responsibility for giving an assurance to the refugees on paper only and may not be able to implement this. Therefore, I would urge that the House should consider and pass the Resolution moved by me. This Resolution which I have moved can be broadly divided into three parts. I would like to throw some light on these three parts.

The first portion is quite clear, and that is, that all our losses should be made good from Pakistan with interest, if possible. Perhaps it can be said that as no decision is likely to be arrived at with Pakistan and since it is merely a pious wish, what is the harm in saying this? All the losses which we have suffered are due to the policy followed by Pakistan, the creation of Pakistan and even afterwards due to the violation of whatever agreements were reached between us and Pakistan. Pakistan is legally, morally and even in accordance with the International Law fully responsible for this and there is no reason that this Government should not recover all those losses from Pakistan and compensate the refugees. There is no doubt in it that a considerable period has elapsed—two and half years have passed—since the refugees have been clamouring and the Government assumed charge, and up till now we have not arrived at any definite conclusion. Therefore it is but natural that the refugees should believe that no justice is being done to them. Are we not

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aware that as a result of the Conference held with Pakistan at Secretariat level, a settlement was made that the evaluation of land in both the Punjabs should be made and the difference in value paid by one state to the other? This is supported by documentary evidence. After the Secretaries had reached this settlement, our hon. Minister Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar congratulated them. But what happened when they reached Pakistan? The information which I have got in this connection is that when this matter was placed before Mr. Jinnah, he told them whether they wanted to mortgage Pakistan for ten or twenty years? This may be right or wrong, but when this matter had been decided at secretariat level, the Government had only to accept this, and thereafter Pakistan never sent any reply whether this will all be settled or not. This issue was dodged off on the plea of water dispute and it was stated that on account of this reason no settlement could be reached, because in case the water supply was cut off at any time, this would reduce the value of their land and they will not be able to fix the price thereof and determine the amount of compensation to be paid. But these are mere flimsy excuses. The solution of this problem is that they should treat this land as *barani* (irrigated by rain water) and pay whatever compensation which may thus become due and could go on paying the balance of the amount later on. But in fact, it so looks to me that the Pakistan Government are not inclined to pay us all the compensation that becomes due. Does anyone who is a debtor ever show any willingness on his part to pay? Our Government should try to put upon them all possible pressure and arrange to expedite the settlement with Pakistan of the issue of compensation for properties which becomes due to us as soon as possible. This should be settled without any delay. The property left behind by us in Pakistan is in their custody and the Muslim property here called the evacuee property about which I shall refer presently, is also really owned by them. Legally speaking, all our land and houses are our property even to-day, and in terms of the International Law also, all these are owned by us and they have got no right of transgression. The Pakistan Government acted very subtly in enacting an Evaluation Law and a Rehabilitation Law according to which possession was taken of all such property which was not evacuee property on the pretext of rehabilitation by the eviction of Hindus and Sikhs and it was used for rehabilitation purposes. On the contrary, our Government preserved the two thousand Muslim houses which were lying vacant in Delhi so that they may be able to live there on return. In reality, it cannot be guessed whether this issue will be settled or not or how long will it take to settle, but so long as the settlement is not made, it cannot be said that Pakistan shall not pay compensation for our losses. Therefore, the first part of this Resolution urges that the Government should take all possible steps at its disposal to expedite the settlement with Pakistan.

The second part of this Resolution urges that so long as we do not get this compensation from Pakistan, the Government should give some interim compensation to these persons who have spent all what they brought from there and the cup of their patience was now full to the brim. These people have also disposed of all the jewellery which they had brought along with them and now they are placed in such a stringent position that they cannot earn their livelihood. The Government should provide them with gainful employment and pay them interim compensation. With all due respects, I would submit that the mistake which our Government committed is that they made gradual changes in the Evacuee Property Law enacted by them. If our Government had properly framed the Evacuee Law from the very outset and if it had taken the steps which it took afterwards from the very beginning, then I am sure every refugee would have been able to get full compensation from here, because

neither can we get back the land and houses left in Pakistan nor can the houses and land left here be taken to Pakistan. We must get compensation for that. But that compensation will first of all comprise of that property which the Muslims have left over here. Therefore, I submit that if our law had been framed properly, then several crores of rupees would not have been taken out from Bombay and other places. My hon. friend stated that Rs. 86,000 were remitted from here to Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan as rent of his property. Respectfully, I would submit that this money should not have been sent to him. Even to-day there are many places in India from where money-orders are sent—the people cultivate the lands here and after selling the proceeds thereof, remit the money to Pakistan. I went to Bombay in November last, and there some gentlemen informed me that a certain furniture merchant charged Rs. 3,000/- from a Muslim for packing his furniture which was despatched to Pakistan. I would submit that at least this thing, i.e., the evacuee property shall become the inheritance of the refugees and it can be utilized for the payment of compensation, and to preserve this, you may kindly enact a suitable Evacuee Law which may protect that inheritance.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): May I request the hon. Member to speak in English now because the Minister concerned about whom he is talking is an English-knowing Minister?

Mr. Chairman: May I know whether the hon. Minister is following the speech?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): I am afraid I am not.

Mr. Chairman: Then may I request the hon. Member to speak in English?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: A request from Mr. Tyagi is like an order to me. The reasons that he has given I do not accept because I understand that the hon. Minister, Shri Mohan Lal Saksena fully understands the language in which I spoke. And I realise that it is fully understandable to Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar also. But, Madam, I am not a person who would not like to comply with the wishes of Shri Mahavir Tyagi or who would not comply with orders from you or any request from any other Member.

Therefore, with your permission, I will speak in English. At the same time, I would request you to be indulgent to me so far as time is concerned, because I have to speak in a language which takes time and which I cannot speak so well as I can speak my own.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras): Question.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: You speak better in English.

Mr. Chairman: I would like to inform hon. Members that under the rules the hon. Member has ten minutes more.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I was submitting that so far as the question of compensation is concerned, there is absolutely no doubt that the refugees are entitled to some sort of compensation. This matter is beyond doubt. No one doubts it, who knows the history of this dispute. At the same time, it is true that it may have been doubted by some whether these refugees are entitled to any compensation or not. But in the Evacuee Conference which was held at the instance of the Government, their chief exponent, the venerable Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar made a speech which gave heart to all the refugees in the land. What he said was this:

"All that I wish to say on the question of compensation is this. I think nobody in the Government of India wants to deny this. Compensation will be paid. It may be in the shape of cash. It may not be in the form that refugees might desire to have. It may be

he,

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

partly in land, partly in house property and partly, perhaps, in cash also, and very probably partly in the shape of some kind of bonds. We have got to think of all these various forms and see how best we can alleviate distress and how best also we could equip these displaced persons, who have been so hard hit, to settle down in life and feel that they have made a permanent home in this country, with prospects of making the best use of their lives. I wish to say no more on this question of compensation."

Sir, I also do not want to say anything more on this question of compensation. It is a dead issue. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the Government is committed to pay some sort of compensation to the refugees. What form it will take is certainly a question which the Government has to consider. Part (b) of my resolution which seeks to substitute the original resolution says that "this House urges consideration of the question of giving some interim compensation to those refugees who have been deprived of their resources and have not been able to obtain gainful employment." Whatever may have been the view or feelings of those who think of compensation in these terms, so far as I am concerned, I am absolutely clear in my mind that no Government can pay the sort of compensation which this word denotes. 'Full compensation' is impossible for any Government to pay and there is no case for full compensation, so much so that the Mover of the Resolution also does not demand full compensation. What we want is that every refugee who has come to this land should be rehabilitated, not fully rehabilitated in the sense that if he had crores there, he will be given crores here. That would be impossible. That is number one.

Number two is fair and equitable compensation may be given, so that they may not feel that they have lost everything. It is impossible to give them full compensation and I, for one, do not feel that the Government is justified or the people are justified in giving or demanding full compensation in the sense that for every rupee that they have lost they should get one rupee here. I do not think that was contemplated by Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar when he made this statement, and this is a statement which so far as I understand is the meaning of the speech that he made. Therefore, taking this as the Government's view, in the case of a considerable portion of the population who have come as refugees, the question is one of rehabilitation. There, I am extremely sorry to say that whatever the Central Government has done may not be satisfactory enough, but whatever the Provincial Governments have done is certainly something which we must condemn. I have been to Assam, to Bengal and to East Punjab also, and I have looked at this question from the point of view of the Provincial Governments. They have not played the game. We have seen what the Government of India has done. Rs. 40 crores have been spent already. That is not enough and we want that there should be intensification and expansion of the measures which have been taken so far. It is not that I am eulogising the Government of India that they have done all that they could have done or should have done.

Shri B. K. Chaudhuri: I am sorry to interrupt, but on a point of information, may I know from the hon. Member how long he would wait for a settlement and what measures he would suggest for acceptance if no settlement comes about?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: So far as I am concerned, my Resolution says that all possible steps should be taken including economic sanctions if need be. I am not one of those who have got a very weak heart. I will go further and say that if nothing is settled, then the last act which every Government has to adopt should be done in this case also.

Shri B. K. Chaudhuri: What is that? War? Does he hope for it?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: There is no question of hope. After all, if a thing has to be done, it has to be done.

Mr. Chairman: May I know whether the hon. Member will be able to conclude within five minutes, so that I can ask the House to agree to sit for five minutes more?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I would like to speak after Lunch if hon. Members are anxious to leave.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member has only five minutes more and I would request him to conclude within five minutes. He has already exceeded the time.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I was submitting that so far as Provincial Governments are concerned, they do not really realize what their responsibilities are. As a matter of fact, I have found that the word 'rehabilitation' has got a connotation which is not properly understood. In some places, it is that if a house or plot or site is given, it is enough. This is absolutely wrong. One lakh rupees were sent by this Ministry to Assam and that money was not spent at all. My friend who praised me saying that I have done something, I am sorry, is given to the refugees. I asked, why not? Because they do not want to treat Ministry. All that I did was to tell the Assam Government in their face that they have not done their duty. They said that there is no land which can be given to the refugees. I asked, Why not? Because they do not want to treat refugees as their own nationals? Every province has to come to the conclusion that those who have come into their territory are nationals of that place and they should be treated on that basis. Everywhere, these people are treated as foreigners. In Assam, land could be given to 4½ lakhs of Muslims, but not to these Hindus. I went to Bengal. I found that 400 houses were built. Nothing else was done. In West Bengal also the Government are not taking the interest which they should have taken. They are treating the East Bengalis as strangers—what to say of others. The East Punjab Government which is a refugee Government practically, also think in some other terms. I can understand that they should at least think that there is no difference between refugee and refugee. But they think that if the land could be given to Bahawalpuris, who are of Punjabi extraction, it would be better. I cannot understand all this. The real point is that provincialism is so rife in this country that nobody treats those who have become refugees as anything but strangers. Hon. Members are fully aware of the position in Delhi. I need not, therefore, dilate upon it.

Sir, I understand that a sum of about Rs. 60 crores is to be set apart for the rehabilitation of the refugees during the next three years. My humble submission to the Government and to the hon. the Finance Minister—who fortunately is sitting in front of me—is that what the refugees are in need of is *immediate* help. They have been hard hit; their financial position is so bad that unless and until you increase this amount they will not be satisfied. Even then I would suggest that out of these Rs. 60 crores, at least Rs. 35 crores should be spent in the first year. Any further delay in rehabilitating them would be fatal and end only in frustration on the part of the displaced persons.

Therefore, my humble submission is that the Government of India should spend as much as they can and as soon as they can for the rehabilitation of these refugees.

Mr. Chairman: The House now stands adjourned till half past two.

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.

[SHRIMATI DURGADEVI in the Chair]

Dr. Deshmukh: The amendment that stands in my name is really speaking included in the amendment that has just been moved by my friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava. Since the point I wanted to make with regard to the Resolution has already been included in this amendment which, I believe, was sent in later, it may not be necessary for me, unless you, Madam, insist, to move my amendment.

I must congratulate my friend Sardar Hukam Singh as well as Pandit Bhargava on the excellent speeches they have delivered in support of this Resolution. Before I deal with the merits of the Resolution, I would like to pay a very respectful tribute to the patriotism and the capacity to suffer and face unimaginable persecutions and hardships that have been displayed by many of our countrymen during the Partition and after. They have shown courage, patience and tolerance which should remain a landmark in the history of India. In spite of all these sufferings, they have not resorted to begging on the scale that many people expected. Most of these refugees are trying to stand on their own legs and bearing with absolutely commendable fortitude the misfortunes that have visited them. Every citizen of India feels for them. When we see on the one hand the way in which these people have been dealt with by Pakistan and on the other the insignificant help we have been able to render to them, we do feel, all of us, a certain amount of distress and dissatisfaction.

By this Resolution, Sardar Hukam Singh has suggested that at least a part of the loss that has been suffered by them should be made good. I think he has tried to be considerate and consiliatory towards the policy of the Government and shown full consciousness of the difficulties of the Government; that is the only reason why he has put down eight annas in the rupee as compensation to be given to the refugees. My friend Pandit Bhargava stressed the point that they are entitled not only to eight annas in the rupee, but rupee for rupee. Every one would echo these sentiments and every one would like to sympathise with them. But what has been the main cause. The India Government have not been slow. Although there may have been certain provincial Governments which may be accused of not having done all that they could, there is no doubt that there has never been any goodwill wanting in any quarter whatsoever. The real mistake, in my opinion, lay in the generosity of our policy and the spirit of taking lying down many things against which we could have probably protested a little more and probably acted with a little more firmness. I think anybody who expresses this feeling in a strong way is really echoing the feelings of the average man in India. It is a general view shared by most people that so far as dealing with Pakistan is concerned the Government of India failed to utilise properly the opportunities afforded to them. If they had done this much greater relief might have been available to these suffering people. Madam, I am expressing nothing but this general opinion that if the Government had been a little more alert, if the Government had been a little more careful and firm, the position could never have remained what it is today. What is the position today? Not only have we got these evacuees and these refugees, but from day to day, more and more of them are coming back to India. We have not only failed to give proper relief to those persons who were victims soon after Partition, but we have failed also to prevent hundreds and thousands of more people being reduced to similar conditions more or less from day to day and from month to month. When we see that these people who have already suffered and are here are not being looked after it must be admitted that people are showing a great deal of patience if

on this account alone, they do not condemn the administration of India. Madam, every one of us, every citizen of India is conscious of the responsibilities of this Government and of the difficulties that face them. They have shown an admirable appreciation of the fact that ours is a new won freedom and thought: "Lest we jeopardise this freedom, let us forbear and tolerate all and every possible ill." It is only from this recognition of the situation that people have kept quiet despite the highly unsatisfactory manner in which Pakistan was dealt with by the Government of India. Otherwise it would have been possible that things would have been different, especially when thousands of people, deprived of all their belongings were driven out of their homes under despicable conditions from Pakistan. Any reasonable man would have straightaway housed them in the places from where our Muslim brethren had gone out of this country. I have no doubt whatever that it would have been reasonable if we had counted the numbers of people who were driven from Pakistan and who came here and deported an equal number of people from here to Pakistan to go and occupy the places vacated by the former. Instead of doing so, we have kept quiet for years and hon. Members of the House have put a restraint upon their tongues and actions and have not said all these things though their hearts and conscience have been impelling them to do so.

Madam, this resolution gives us an opportunity to impress upon the Government that the steps they are taking in this direction are insufficient, not only from the point of view of the relief that is being given to these unfortunate people, but from the way in which they are dealing with Pakistan in getting what belongs to us. We have had a recent example of a banking concern being almost forcibly thrown out of a building that belonged to it. They had decided to remain in Pakistan but the claims of a Pakistan Bank are so superior that we must make room for it irrespective of the legality of the position. That is the way in which our erstwhile brothers are trying to behave with the nationals of this country, who tried to do some sort of a business and are still sticking to their positions in that country. My hon. friends have spoken that a good deal of responsibility if not whole, for this situation lies on our shoulders. It is certainly true. Madam, the whole responsibility for Partition is ours and what is more we were responsible for giving false hopes and asked the people to stick to their guns and remain there. Had not we held out those false hopes, probably the troubles of thousands might have been saved and there might not have been so many murders and rapes. But we tried to behave in a certain way which was responsible for causing so much misery and privation. So the Indian Nation, young although it is, must recognize the responsibility in the fullest possible measure for the sufferings of these people and the losses they have suffered but the first means I would like to urge is of getting proper redress from Pakistan. It is not necessary to quote Mr. Ayyangar's speeches that he accepts the responsibility of making good the losses of these people. It is the bounden duty of this Nation and the Government of this country to make good the losses they have suffered to the utmost possible extent and that is the reason why I have not, in my amendment, supported any particular measure. If it is possible to raise funds by voluntary means, that might be attempted. If it is necessary and possible to tax the people and if it is possible for the people to pay the additional taxes, that also may be attempted. Whatever means we can have recourse to, we should try to help these people to the largest possible extent. That is why I do not wish to suggest any particular action. All that we suggest is that these losses ought to be made good to the largest possible extent by every possible means. I want only to emphasise the fact that the first means that should be urgently resorted to is to see that it is Pakistan that makes good the losses and not the people of this country. That is why I have suggested my amendment but in view of the fact that it would be included in Pandit Bhargava's amendment, I did not wish to move it.

[Dr. Deshmukh]

So what I hope is that at least hereafter we will see that Pakistan does not behave in a manner which is described in a Hindi proverb :

“हमारा सो हमारा, तुम्हारा सो हमारे बाप का ”

(*Hamara so hamara, tumhara so hamare baap ka*)

We have allowed them far too much latitude to behave in this manner. Whatever they have, they are keeping and whatever we owe to them, we are good enough and generous enough to send though without even their asking. I do not think this attitude of the Government of India is correct and I would be glad if the hon. Minister Mr. Ayyangar becomes a little sterner than he is—probably inside he is sterner but some impediments there are by which he cannot act more firmly. I hope he may do so at least in future.

मास्टर नन्द लाल : मोहतरमा सदर साहबा, मैं सरदार हुकम सिंह के रिजोल्यूशन (Resolution) से इखतलाफ़ करता हूँ, टैक्स (Tax) लगाने के मामले में, वेस्ट लैंड्स (Waste lands) फ़रोख्त करने के मामले में और हमारे कम्पेन्सेशन (compensation) में ५० फीसदी कमी करने के मामले में। सबसे पहले तो मुझे सरदार जी और आनरेबल (Honourable) देशमुख साहब के इस आरग्युमेंट (argument) की मुखालिफ़त करता हूँ जिसमें उन्होंने कहा है कि कांग्रेस जिम्मेदार है इस पाकिस्तान के बनाने की। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह कांग्रेस पर गलत इत्जाम है। जैसा कि सरदार हुकम सिंह जी ने कहा है कि यह कांग्रेस की जिम्मेदारी है। मैं उनको यह याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कांग्रेस जब सन १९४२ ई० में जेलखानों के अन्दर थी तो मुस्लिम लीग इस कदर ताकतवर नहीं थी। उस समय कांग्रेस गवर्नमेंट ७ प्रांतों से बाहर निकल आई थी।

Sardar Hukam Singh: Nobody has said that Congress is responsible for the creation of Pakistan, neither I nor Dr. Deshmukh.

मास्टर नन्द लाल : आपने कहा कि ८ जनवरी को कांग्रेस ने पाकिस्तान बनाना मंजूर कर लिया इसलिए कांग्रेस पर जिम्मेदारी आती है। यह आपके साफ़ शब्द थे। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि कांग्रेस की कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं थी और न उस पर कोई जिम्मेदारी आती है। अगर पाकिस्तान को बनाया तो वह अकाली दल और हिन्दू महासभा वालों ने बनाया। इसमें कांग्रेस की जिम्मेदारी बिल्कुल नहीं आती है। उस समय कांग्रेस ७ प्रांतों से बाहर निकल आई थी और उसको जेलखाने में बन्द कर दिया गया था अकाली दल वालों ने और हिन्दू महासभा वालों ने अंग्रेजों का साथ देकर मुस्लिम लीग की ताकत को उस समय बढ़ाया। सरदार साहब को मालूम होगा कि उस समय पर मास्टर तारा सिंह पेशावर गये थे। वहाँ पर खान

भाइयों की हुकूमत ने सरकार को छोड़ दिया था और मास्टर तारा सिंह वहाँ पर हुकूमत चलाने के लिये गये हुए थे। उस समय बम्बई से साबरकर साहब ने यह संदेश भेजा था कि मेरा आप लोगों के लिये आशीर्वाद है, आप लोग अच्छी तरह से हुकूमत चलावें। इस तरह से मास्टर तारा सिंह ने सरदार अजीत सिंह की भी मदद ली थी। आसाम के अन्दर भी आप लोगों ने हुकूमत बनाई और इस तरह से आप लोगों ने कांग्रेस के तीन साल तक जेलखाने में रहने पर मुस्लिम लीग की ताकत को बढ़ाया। जिस तरह से सरदार साहब ने, अकाली दल वालों ने और हिन्दू महासभा वालों ने जिस हिस्से में मुस्लिम लीग की मदद की थी वही हिस्सा मुस्लिम लीग के पास चला गया। जहाँ पर कांग्रेस की हुकूमत थी वह हिस्सा कांग्रेस के पास गया और मुस्लिम लीग की इस हिस्से को ले जाने की हिम्मत नहीं हुई। अगर कांग्रेस पंजाब और बंगाल के मामले में जोर नहीं लगाती तो यह आधा हिस्सा भी चला गया होता। आप को याद होगा कि ५ फरवरी को मास्टर तारा सिंह, सिक्ख और हिन्दू महासभा वाले दिल्ली आये और उन्होंने कांग्रेस से कहा कि हमको बचाइये। उन्होंने कांग्रेस से बंगाल और पंजाब के तकसीम करने पर जोर दिया और उन्होंने इस बात को मंजूर भी कर लिया। ८ फरवरी को एक रिजोल्यूशन हुआ जिसमें तकसीम की बात तय हुई और उसको सिक्खों ने मंजूर किया। मैं सरदार साहब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि २३ मार्च सन् १९४० ई० को मुस्लिम लीग ने लाहौर में जो बैठक की थी क्या उसमें 'पाकिस्तान' का कोई भी शब्द था। यह बात तो हमारे कम्यूनल (communal) जमात हिन्दू महासभा और अकाली दल वालों ने पैदा की। उन्होंने ने ही इस पाकिस्तान को जन्म दिया और मुसलमानों ने इस का इस्तेमाल किया। आप लोगों ने ही, फिरकापरस्तों ने ही हिन्दुस्तान को तबाह और बरबाद किया और आज आप ही लोग इस तरह की बातें करते और कांग्रेस के ऊपर यह जिम्मेदारी लगाते हो। जैसा आप लोगों ने किया उस का फल भोगना ही होगा।

Dr. Patabhi: On a point of order. I think it is all irrelevant and it may be stopped hereafter.

Shri Sidhva: The other Member stated how Pakistan originated. My friend is perfectly justified in replying.

मि०चेयरमैन मैं आनरेबल मेम्बर को बतलाना चाहती हूँ कि वह अपने एमेन्डमेन्ट (amendment) के सबस्टेंस (substance) पर बोलें।

मास्टर नन्द लाल : मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि सरदार साहब ने जो यह बात टैक्स लगने की कही है वह मुझे पसन्द नहीं है। मैं भी रिफ्यूजी (refugee) हूँ और इस बात को समझता हूँ।

[मास्टर नन्द लाल]

मैं भी किसी प्रकार बच कर यहां आया। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने यू० पी० (U. P.) का भी दौरा किया है रिफ्यूजीज से मिलने के लिये, मैं सी० पी० (C. P.) भी गया हूँ, मैं राजस्थान में भी गया। जहां मैं जाता हूँ वहां देखता हूँ कि रिफ्यूजी और लोकल का सवाल पैदा हो गया है। वह आपस में इस्त्रलाफ रखते हैं। इस चीज से और एक बड़ा ज़बर्दस्त सवाल पैदा हो जायगा। अगर हम आज खास तौर पर रिफ्यूजी टैक्स (refugee tax) लागू करेंगे तो नतीजा यह होगा कि जो आज सवाल पैदा हो गया है वह और बढ़ेगा। मैं तो महसूस करता हूँ कि हम सारे हिन्दुस्तान में ज्यादा नहीं हैं सब मिला कर तीन फीसदी हैं, सत्तानवे फीसदी के मुकाबले में क्या होते हैं? हमारी कोशिश यह होनी चाहिये कि उनसे मिल कर रहें, उनसे मिलकर अपनी ज़िन्दगी बसर करने की कोशिश करें। अगर आज हम टैक्स लगाने में मदद करेंगे तो तकलीफ भी बढ़ेगी और हमारी ज़िन्दगी दोभर हो जायगी। यहां के लोगों का क्या है, उनका घर है, वह बैठे हुए हैं, अगर हम यह सब करेंगे तो वह हमें नुकसान पहुंचायेंगे।

इसके बाद वेस्ट लैंड्स के मुताल्लिक मेरी अर्ज यह है कि अगर आज हम गवर्नमेन्ट से कहते हैं कि अपनी वेस्ट लैंड्स को बेच कर मुआवजा दो और वह उसे मान भी ले, तो हम ही डिढ़ोरा पीटेंगे कि हमारी सरकार तो दिवालिया है, हमें वेस्ट लैंड्स बेच कर खया दिया है। हम चाहते हैं कि हमें कम्पेन्सेशन मिले, जो हमारी जायदाद वहां चली गई है उसका एक एक पैसा हमें मिले लेकिन हम आठ आने लेने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं। मैं दख्खास्त करता हूँ गवर्नमेन्ट से कि वह पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेन्ट से मतालबा करे कि वह पूरा पूरा रुपया हमें दे। अगर वह नहीं देती तो मैं कहता हूँ कि हर तरीके से हमारी मदद की जाय कि हमारी गई हुई जायदाद वापस आये। इन अल्फ़ाज़ के साथ मैं अमेंडमेंट को पेश नहीं करता। मैंने सिर्फ बोलने के लिये वक्त चाहा था बोल मैंने लिया है, मैंने अमेंडमेंट पेश करने का समय नहीं चाहा था।

(English translation of the above speech.)

Master Nand Lal: Madam, I dissent to the resolution moved by the hon. Sardar Hukam Singh in the matters of imposition of a special tax, sale of the Government waste lands and reduction of compensation to 50 per cent. of the actual losses. First of all I have to refute the argument advanced by the hon. Sardarji and the hon. Dr. Deshmukh holding the Congress responsible for creation of Pakistan. I consider this accusation to be an inaccurate one. Sardarji has laid the responsibility for that act on the Congress. I wish to remind him that the Muslim League had not captured so much power in 1942 when the Congressmen were behind the prison bars after giving up governments in seven of India's provinces.

Sardar Hukam Singh: No body has said that Congress is responsible for the creation of Pakistan, neither I nor Dr. Deshmukh.

Master Nand Lal: You said it previously that the Congress had agreed to its creation on the 8th January and, as such, it has to accept responsibility for that. You used those words in a clear sense. I want to submit that the Congress could not be held responsible for that anyway and no responsibility can come to it either. The Akali Dal and the Hindu Mahasabha, in fact, must share responsibility for its creation. I categorically deny any responsibility coming to the Congress on that score. The Congress had laid down the reins of administration in seven of the provinces at that time and they were shut up in the prisons. The Akali Dal and the Hindu Mahasabha collaborated with the Britishers and thereby strengthened the hands of the Muslim League further at that time. The hon. Sardar Saheb may be aware of the visit of Master Tara Singh to Peshawar in those days. The Khan Brothers had then quit the Government there and Master Tara Singh had been there to run the administration. Shri Savarkar had sent a message from Bombay in which he had blessed those people and had asked them to run the Government in a very efficient way. Similarly Master Tara Singh had been assisted by Sardar Ajit Singh in this connection. You people formed the Ministry in Assam as well and, thus, keeping the Congress behind the prison bars, enhanced the power of the Muslim League. So that part of the country in which Sardar Saheb, the Akali Dal and the Hindu Mahasabha had helped the Muslim League, has gone over to them, viz., the Muslim League; the other, where the Congress ruled, has remained with the Congress and the Muslim League has not dared to take that too away. Had the Congress not taken a firm stand on the Punjab and Bengal issue, the remaining half of those provinces within this country might well have gone away. The Sikhs and the Mahasabha people came to Delhi to seek the Congress aid against their inclusion in the other half. They pressed the Congress for partition of the Punjab and Bengal and the later accepted that view-point. A resolution deciding upon partition was drawn up and the Sikhs accepted the same. May I know it from the hon. Sardar Saheb if a single word like Pakistan was uttered in the meeting of the Muslim League held in Lahore on the 26th March 1940? That was a creation of our communal bodies namely the Akali Dal and the Hindu Mahasabha. Pakistan owes its birth to these bodies and it has been utilised afterwards by the Muslim League. People of your type, viz., the communalists are really responsible to ruin India and it is you again who still talk in that very tone and hold the Congress responsible for all that. You will have to reap for your past misdeeds.

Dr. Pattabhi (Madras): On a point of order. I think it is all irrelevant and it may be stopped hereafter.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): The other Member stated how Pakistan originated. My friend is perfectly justified in replying.

Mr. Chairman: I want to ask the hon. Member to speak on the subject-matter of his amendment.

Master Nand Lal: My submission is that I do not approve of the idea of imposition of a tax as suggested by the hon. Sardar Saheb. Being a refugee myself, I can understand the spirit behind this suggestion. I also happen to have managed to escape to this place somehow or the other. I submit that I have toured the U.P., Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan in order to meet the refugees; wherever I go, I find the existence of a question of a refugee *versus* non-refugee or the local people. They have their differences. We shall have to face even a more formidable problem if we proceed with the imposition of a

[Master Nand Lal]

special tax and it may result in giving further intense form to the already existing trouble. Considering our being in a minority of three per cent. as compared to the remaining 97 per cent. of the population of India, I feel the helpless state in which we are at present. We should rather strive to mix up with them and pass our days in co-operation with them. The imposition of a tax will enhance the trouble and make our lives more miserable. No harm will come to the people living already here. They have houses of their own and are quite secure there. If we do that all, we may come to grief.

As for the waste-lands, I have to submit that in the event of our Government agreeing and giving effect to that proposal, it shall be we who will tom-tom that our Government is bankrupt; it has paid us by sale of waste lands. We certainly want to be compensated *in toto* for our properties left there but we will not agree to accept eight annas for a rupee. I request the Government to call upon the Government of Pakistan to pay full compensation. Failing that, the Government should take all steps to help us to get our properties back. With these words I conclude and I do not want to put forth my amendment. I wanted time to speak and that I have done. I had no wish to put forth the amendment.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (West Bengal): Madam, I rise to support the amendment of the hon. Member, Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava. Admittedly since the partition of this country and the dismemberment of our Provinces, the problem of the refugees, who have been uprooted from their moorings, is one that must have prior consideration both at the hands of the Government and of the people of this country. Pandit Bhargava has dwelt at length on the first part of the resolution. I intend to speak mainly about the intensification and expansion of measures of rehabilitation, so that the refugees may get absorbed in the economic life of India. Madam, when this problem first confronted us, we seemed to be so overwhelmed by it that our consideration was at that time, and continued to be for a long time afterwards, merely to set up relief camps where doles were given to refugees. This factor, I think, has been very detrimental to the reabsorption of refugees into society in India. Today when we turn to rehabilitation, we cannot help realising that living on doles during all this time, has had a very injurious psychological effect from many angles. In the Session of November 1947, some of us pointed out that even from that early stage rehabilitation measures should have been brought in; but it was not till a much later stage that the Government of India realized the necessity of this. Anyway I will not dwell on what is past. Today we are faced with a situation that in spite of all the efforts that have been made—and I do not want to belittle them—we are still at the very fringe of this problem.

During the last year some concrete schemes and plans emerged for rehabilitation and we are now trying to implement these. I have closer knowledge myself of the difficulties of administration since the hon. Minister for rehabilitation asked me to assist in an honorary capacity as Regional Adviser for West Bengal; I know exactly and have a fair idea of all the difficulties involved. But at the same time, I have to point out that there are many things which should have been done differently. First of all, I would say that the machinery for administration is one with which it is difficult to go ahead. I do not cast any reflections on some of the officials who both at the Centre and in the Provinces have worked ceaselessly towards the solution of this problem. But I do say and I think that they themselves will acknowledge that this machinery of administration is such that it is difficult to implement anything satisfactorily or quickly. I will just give one or two examples. For instance, before any

scheme can be implemented even if it is in full accord with the general policy and plan laid down by the Government of India, it must go through the administration and also has to go through the Finance Departments both of the Provinces concerned and then of the Centre, resulting in a great deal of delay. Although we all talk of red tape and of lack of co-ordination between department and department and even inter-departmentally, it is only now that I have had some personal experience of it that I understand the full implications. It is incredible what a great deal of time is wasted before any small scheme, even the smallest, which fits into the overall plan already accepted can be implemented. Some time months and months of delay takes place. I can understand that financial checks have to be kept but when we are dealing with human lives, our approach must be a little different. We must surely waive a number of technicalities. I would very much like to ask the hon. Minister and the Government of India to see to it that some of these technicalities are waived in the future, because we cannot go ahead if this is not so done.

There are also many strange things that happen. There is a directive that housing loans should be given to refugees and at the same time ways and means found for some gainful employment. I know of many instances where these housing loans are given but there is no attempt to find employment of any kind with the consequent result that the refugee often eats into the housing loan and is not able to build the house. These things are constantly happening. In many places, settlements come into existence and at a later stage when it is found that the area is not suitable for employment purposes, we have to abandon such settlements. Again, there is also very little attempt to make rehabilitation fall into the picture of the nation building activities that we want for the future. I asked the hon. Minister a question this morning in regard to co-operatives. I have to say with dismay that there is very little attempt on the part of either the Central administration or of any of the Provinces to encourage co-operative efforts amongst the refugees, although the hon. Minister does believe it is the best method through which to rehabilitate refugees.

Now in regard to the labour exchanges, the names of refugees are registered at the labour exchanges and of course, quite a number of refugees have found employment through them, but much larger numbers have not found employment. I think, that one of the reasons behind this is the fact that there is no proper investigation made in the camps as to what would be a suitable employment, what type of training should be given to refugees according to their capacity. The result is that we often have square pegs in round holes. I do not mean that no attempt is made anywhere but such attempts are not widespread or thorough.

Madam, I would like to say a few words about the refugees from East Bengal. As you know this problem of the refugees from East Bengal was tackled at a very much later stage. It was very surprising to many of us who come from Bengal and who are members of this House, when we asked a question during the November Session of 1947 were told by the then Minister of Rehabilitation that, neither the Central Government nor the Provincial Government, considered that there was any such problem. This was at a time when the streets of Calcutta were flooded with refugees and Sealdah station was crowded with them. When the Budget Session of 1948 was almost over, the new Premier of Bengal approached the Centre but very little funds were then available as allocations had already been made. Not till the 1949 Budget Session when more adequate finances were made available for the refugees from East Bengal was this problem properly tackled at all. We are still on the fringe of the problem and it is only in the last few months that there has been any intensified effort to deal with it. We are now faced with a new and grave problem, the new influx of refugees from Eastern Pakistan. We have to come

[Shrimati Renuka Ray]

to grips with this problem; we cannot shelve it. In answer to an adjournment moved by Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra a few days ago, the hon. the Prime Minister said that this matter was being dealt with. We have heard, since that at the provincial secretariat level there have been talks. I do not think that these talks are going to produce much results. Many hon. Members have already spoken about the record that Pakistan has of violation of pacts and agreements into which India has entered with them. The hon. Minister Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar can tell us much about this. I do not think that such talks on a permanent secretariat level as are going on now will bear much result.....

Shri Sondhi (Punjab): What is the remedy she would suggest then?

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I will come to it. The time has come when we have to think of other ways.

India is a secular state and we are going to maintain the secular character of our State. We have high ideals which we shall not discard. But whilst we follow a policy of patience and forbearance, across the border a hymn of hatred is being spread and the resultant effect on the minorities in East Bengal is terrible. I have neither the time nor even the power to describe some of the things that are happening. Many of us are receiving letters day after day from East Bengal Hindus which give evidence of the dreadful things happening there. It is easy to say why should they not have greater courage, why should they not try to resist this treatment? I want to tell this House 3 P.M. that those who have stayed behind have shown a great deal of courage. They do not lack backbone but they are scattered and a few are now faced with an incredible and impossible position.

I will cite one small example of a woman who is a trained nurse, who came and helped us in the Noakhali riot days. She stayed back after the partition in East Bengal. She could have earned more perhaps in a city like Calcutta but she remained behind in the face of great odds. She felt that it was not right that she should go away while others could not do so. She is a widow with children and other women relatives. She is living in a little outside one of the cities. I will not go into greater details lest she should be more harassed. The harassment to which she has been put is something terrible.....

Shri Sondhi: I want her to suggest a remedy.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Yes, I will give you. In a particular case it may be possible for the person to come over but how are you going to deal with the problem that has arisen. We must remember that the spark was kindled in East Bengal, which set the whole country on fire for liberty. We must remember that when Partition came without a murmur, these people of East Bengal agreed to remain for ever as aliens from that India for which they had worked and sacrificed, because even at their own cost, they wanted to see the creation of independent India. Countless homes in East Bengal have sacrificed their all, generation after generation for the freedom of India and yet they are outside that India. At the time of the Partition we assured them that whatever may happen we would see to it that their lives and honour would be protected and we have to face that issue today. Pakistan should be made to realise that she cannot behave in this manner with minorities any longer. Whatever be the means we must be prepared to take them and see to it that Pakistan realises that the minorities in East Bengal are not treated in the way they have started treating them today.

Madam, I have done. I would only like to point out one thing more. In this country in recent months there seems to be a feeling that we have done a good deal for the refugees and that they are a tremendous problem to tackle. There seems to be a growing lack of sympathy among the local populace. I would point out that the refugees are not beggars. They have a right to our help, not only help on a governmental plane but the help of every citizen of this land. We might have been in their position and we should never forget what they have had to undergo. If at times we have to put up with inconveniences so that they may be absorbed in society, we must face them and see to it that they along with us feel that they are equally citizens of Republican India.

Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, there was an amendment in my name which I did not move to save the time of the House. I thought I would have an opportunity to speak.

Mr. Chairman: You will also be called upon to speak.

Shri Ahmad Meeran: The object of my amendment is to express my sympathy with the sufferers and at the same time to give enough latitude to the Government to help them in whatever way possible. That is why I have in my amendment tried to delete the words "by imposition of a special tax or by sale of Government waste lands and vacant sites." There are no two opinions on the subject that the displaced persons should be rehabilitated and helped in every manner possible. We need not go into the question as to who is responsible for this state of affairs. I do not think any useful purpose will be served by our considering that aspect of the question, because it is more or less academic. There is a *fait accompli*, there is a set of facts which we have to take note of. It is no use blaming this or that organisation for the position which we are facing today. At the same time when the displaced persons are suffering for no fault of theirs, it is important that that fact also has to be taken note of. When once you realise that they are sufferers for no fault of theirs and we also take note of the fact that they are our nationals and have come to stay in our land, it can admit of no controversy that it is the bounden duty of ours to help them, to rehabilitate them and if necessary to compensate them. As a matter of fact this fact is recognised and is given effect to by the Government every day. Ever since 1947 we have been spending several crores on them and provincial governments and other private agencies are trying to help them. At the same time, the object of this resolution is to see that some concrete step, some definite measure or proposal is placed before the Government, so that they can canalise some of their efforts and try to show their sympathy in a more concrete form than merely giving out doles or trying to give houses and other things to the refugees. Because, the fact that they are giving doles to the refugees living in camps and that they are trying to give shelter for others will not solve the problem. The displaced persons have suffered to the extent of several crores of rupees in the way of properties which they, in the nature of things, could not bring here. Therefore the object of this resolution is to draw the attention of the Government to see that something more than what is being done is done. There will be difference of opinion as to the method in which it should be done. We must try our best, and I am quite sure the House will support the Government in any step taken to get the compensation from the Pakistan Government. I am quite sure that there is no difference of opinion on that. The Government will have the fullest support on that point. At the same time, we know our own limitations and it is just possible that even if we succeed, we may not succeed fully. We may be able to get only partial compensation from the Pakistan Government. If ultimately due to the failure of the Pakistan Government to compensate, or to compensate fully, we find that the displaced persons are not fully and adequately compensated it is our bounden duty to compensate them. After all we have

[Shri Meeran]

been striving for a co-operative commonwealth and we have achieved it. That we have placed as our ideal in the new Constitution which we are working to-day. When we are trying to have a co-operative commonwealth, it is our duty to share the losses of these unfortunate beings who are suffering for no fault of theirs. As a matter of fact it is not without precedent that such sufferings are borne by a nation. Hon. Members will know that during war houses were being damaged, burnt and effaced by the German blitz and bombs. What did the British Government do? The Government passed an enactment by which all the immovable properties in England were to be compulsorily insured, so that the entire nation bore the losses and not only the actual sufferers who lost their houses as a result of the bombing. That was what was done in England. Even in India we passed an enactment called War Risks Insurance. Of course it was not applied to immovable property, but in respect of many of the movable properties in the shape of goods they were required to be compulsorily insured, the object being that it is not the actual sufferer who incurs the loss by an accident who should suffer but it is the duty of the entire nation to bear that loss. By compulsory insurance everybody had to pay his quota by way of premium. Some such precedent we can adopt and by that method we can surely try to compensate them. That is why when I wanted this particular clause to be removed I wanted to give enough latitude to the Government to take adequate steps in whatever form they think necessary. And I am quite sure that whatever measures they take will have the full support of the House. It may be by way of special taxation or by sale of vacant sites, or it may be in the form of compensation from the Pakistan Government, or again it may be by compulsorily asking properties to be insured or by any other device considered fit by Government.

There can be no parallel in the history of the world to the sufferings undergone by these people. We know that during war people in such large numbers might have suffered. But here there was no declaration of war between the two countries. There was no war, but at the same time the suffering that these people have undergone and the loss of property sustained by them is perhaps unprecedented in the history of the world. Therefore, to show our sympathy to these people, this resolution has to be accepted.

It was stated by Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava, if I remember aright, that the figures of losses cannot be accurately verified, that the reports that we get from some of the refugees are exaggerated and that therefore it is difficult to accept the resolution as it is. Though the losses cannot be accurately verified and though the figures given may be exaggerated, I am quite sure that Government can adopt means to accurately verify them. Though it may present some difficulty I think it is not impossible to verify them. Therefore I would only say that they may be verified and we must try our best to see that adequate compensation is given. Whether it be in the shape of eight annas in the rupee or less or more is not the point. I would only request the Government to take all steps to see that they are sufficiently and adequately compensated.

Shri J. B. Kapoor: While I extend my whole-hearted support to the amendment moved by Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava I must at the same time say that I am in full agreement and sympathy with the object of the resolution moved by Sardar Hukam Singh. The object of that resolution is to give compensation to the refugees who have lost heavily in Pakistan. In that resolution he demands that compensation to the extent of at least eight annas in the rupee be given. That is an object which, I suppose, has the fullest support of every Member of this House and, if I may say so, even of the Government as is apparent from the statement made by the hon. Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar during the course of the Refugee Conference which was held in Delhi in July last and to which reference has been made both by Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava

and Sardar Hukam Singh. I would even go further and say that the demand made by Sardar Hukam Singh in his resolution is a very reasonable and modest demand because it does not say that full compensation be given—it contents itself merely by demanding that only fifty per cent. compensation be given. Still I think that the methods which he has suggested in his resolution are not adequate enough to achieve his object. Even if the resolution is accepted and implemented in full I am afraid it cannot achieve even a fraction of the object with which it has been moved.

The first thing that Sardar Hukam Singh wants in his resolution is that "steps be taken by Government to get the losses of the refugees accurately verified". This is a request to the Government which at this stage appears to be unnecessary because the Government have already taken necessary steps in this matter. They have already issued an Ordinance appointing machinery to ascertain claims and they are doing all that is necessary to achieve this object. The second part of his resolution says that in order to raise funds the Government be asked to sell its vacant sites or in the alternative a rehabilitation tax be imposed. I think that none of these steps is adequate enough to raise sufficient funds to give compensation to the refugees even to the extent of eight annas in the rupee. Not much money can be raised either by sale of lands or by the imposition of a rehabilitation tax. Therefore, this Resolution, as worded, hardly serves any useful purpose.

But then I must submit, and submit emphatically, that I am entirely in favour of compensation being given to the refugees. I may also say that I am entirely in favour of a rehabilitation tax being imposed though not with the hope of raising any substantial funds which may be sufficient to enable us to give adequate compensation but for an entirely different object which I will mention presently. The losses of the refugees have been tremendous, their sufferings have been great, their sacrifices have been beyond calculation. To achieve the independence of the country, we had to agree to the partition of the country which led to these great sufferings to which the refugees have been subjected. Many a refugee have lost their dearest and nearest relatives. Many refugees have lost heavily in men, money and property. They have been uprooted from their hearth and home. Many of them are here without any shelter and without any adequate relief. They have to start life afresh. They have to build new homes and start a new career. They have been putting up with all these sufferings bravely and courageously and they have rightly earned the sympathy and admiration of every one of us. And it is impossible to compensate them in full. We cannot give them any adequate compensation for all their losses in men, money and property. Those who are dead cannot be brought back to life. There can be no compensation paid in that respect. We have not been able, we must admit to our shame and regret, to secure for them even their abducted women and children. There is only one thing in which we can compensate them and that is that we can compensate them for their monetary losses, and to do that we must exert ourselves to the utmost.

At one time it was considered to be a preposterous proposition to suggest that compensation should be given to them. During the course of the last Budget debate, when I made this suggestion, I was considered by some persons holding very responsible positions that I was talking like an irresponsible person. But happily today that is not the position, and as I have already stated, it is now admitted by the Government that compensation is due to the refugees. Similarly, I hope that though my suggestion that a rehabilitation tax be levied is not being accepted today and is perhaps being ridiculed by some, I have no doubt in my mind that in due course this suggestion also will be accepted and a rehabilitation tax will be levied.

The question, however, is that having accepted the proposition that compensation should be paid to the refugees, wherefrom is it to be paid and how
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is it to be paid? As has been suggested by some previous speakers, and as is of course obvious, one of the sources from which compensation can be paid is the evacuee property left behind by evacuees in this country, and therefore that will be one of the main sources from which compensation will have to be paid ultimately. It is therefore very necessary that our evacuee property legislation must be properly enacted and effectively implemented. That legislation is going to be placed before us shortly—perhaps even tomorrow—and I hope and trust that the Government will enact that legislation in such a manner that it may help the Government itself in solving this great problem to substantial extent.

The second source from which compensation is to be paid is of course the Pakistan Government itself from whom we must try to secure as large an amount of compensation as possible. There is absolutely no reason why we should not press the Pakistan Government to the utmost possible extent and employ every possible means to secure adequate compensation from the Pakistan Government.

An Hon. Member: "How"?

Shri J. R. Kapoor: I am asked, "How"? I have already stated that every possible means must be adopted and I will leave it to every Member of the House to exercise his mind in that respect and come forward with all the suggestions that strike his mind and offer those suggestions to the Government. Those suggestions can be many and I do not want that any Member of this House should ask me to categorically enumerate what those possible ways and methods could be.

Sardar B. S. Man (Punjab): Are those means to be violent means or non-violent means?

Shri J. R. Kapoor: Well, I have suggested all possible means. Of course, the means on a particular occasion may be violent and may be undesirable but that very means may be considered to be non-violent and may be considered to be reasonable on another occasion. Those who have rightly understood Mahatma Gandhi's theory of non-violence, I think would not in season and out of season put a question like that. Mahatma Gandhi's non-violence, as I understood it, did include violence when it was absolutely necessary, violence without malice, violence without any feelings of hostility but violence compelled by the necessity of the situation in order to do the righteous thing.

An Hon. Member: You are mistaken.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: I am not mistaken, my hon. friend who has misunderstood Mahatma Gandhi is certainly mistaken.

The third source from which compensation should be paid is our own resources.

Now, the question arises: in what form should the compensation be paid? It will take long to get compensation from Pakistan. It will take long to raise enough funds in our own country by tax or by any other means in order to compensate the refugees. The question then is: what should immediately be done to solve this problem even in some measure? The suggestion has been very rightly made in the amendment of Pt. Thakur Das Bhargava to the effect that some interim compensation must be paid to the refugees. What should be the scale of that interim compensation? This, of course, should be carefully considered and determined by the Government. In fact, during the course of the proceedings of the July conference, Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar himself had thrown out this suggestion and at that stage he said that it should

be carefully considered as to in what detailed form an interim compensation should be paid to the refugees. I very much wish that all these months between July and now had not been simply wasted, but that the hon. Minister, Shri Gopaldaswami, and his able colleague Shri Mohan Lal Saksena, should have applied their minds to this subject and should have by now come forward with a definite scheme of giving interim compensation to the refugees. Even now it is not too late and I hope they will at once sit down to apply their minds to this subject.

But paying compensation will not solve this problem as was rightly stated by our Prime Minister the other day. Giving monetary help may solve the problem only to a certain extent. It may give some relief, but it cannot satisfactorily rehabilitate refugees. For that, it is necessary that they must be given gainful occupation. We all know, of course, that the Government is doing a lot in all these directions and they have established a number of training centres to train refugees, so that they may earn a decent living, and rehabilitate themselves properly. We are receiving from the Rehabilitation Ministry a monthly review on the subject of rehabilitation which gives us very valuable information, and I would like to congratulate the Ministry for issuing that valuable document. As regards the various training centres, I would request hon. Members to find time to visit one or the other of the training centres. One of them is located here in Arab ki Sarai. I am sure they would be very happy to see how it is functioning. My view on this question has been put in a few words in the amendment of which I had given notice, but which I did not move. I would like only to read it out in order to save the time of the House.

Mr. Chairman: I would like to inform the hon. Member that since the amendment was not moved, he need not take the trouble to read it.

Shri J. E. Kapoor: I will not then read it. My view is that we should appreciate the efforts of the Government so far made to solve this question, and while we may urge upon it to redouble its efforts or to make its efforts tenfold, we must realise that this problem is of such great magnitude that it cannot be effectively solved without the full, effective and sympathetic co-operation of everyone living in this country. It was for this reason that I suggested that a rehabilitation tax must be imposed. The refugees must be made to feel that everyone in this country is prepared to share their troubles and opportunity must be given to everybody to do so.

Sardar B. S. Man: On a point of order, Madam. Is it open to an hon. Member of the House to get up and lead the House or its Chairman into a belief that a particular amendment is being moved and then, at the end, say that he will not be moving it? Is it open to an hon. Member to deceive the House into a belief like that?

Shri J. E. Kapoor: I have never said that I am moving it.

Mr. Chairman: He only expressed the wish to move the amendment. The ruling was already given. Therefore, the hon. Member need not take the trouble to repeat it, but conclude his speech.

Shri J. E. Kapoor: Therefore, my object in suggesting a rehabilitation tax was not to secure large funds thereby, but to create a spirit of unity in the country and to hearten the refugees and make them believe and realize that the whole country is with them. It will have a great psychological effect. It will show that sorrows and sufferings of one section are shared by the rest of the country and the whole country is one family. Let every citizen in this country contribute to this tax according to his mite and pocket. Madam, I have some-

Mr. Chairman: Before I call upon the other hon. Members to speak, I would like to inform the House that with its approval, I propose calling upon the hon. Minister to reply at 4 O'clock. I would request hon. Members to take as little time as possible, in order to enable as many as want to have an opportunity to speak. Hon. Members are aware that there is another Resolution on the Order Paper to be moved by Prof. K. T. Shah. Therefore, if the time permits, the House may be given an opportunity to consider that Resolution also.

گھاتی جی - ایس مسافر : صدر صاحبہ ! اس وقت ہاؤس کے سامنے ایک دار حکم سنگھ کا رزلویشن پیش ہے اور دوسرا پنڈت تھانو داس بھارگو کا امانڈمنٹ - میرا دماغ اس الجھن اور اس تذبذب میں پڑا ہوا ہے کہ کس کی تائید کروں اور کس کی تردید - سر ایچ چیف وہب کی طرف جھکتا ہے تو دل بغاوت کرتا ہے - صدر صاحبہ آپ نے ممبری الہجن کو اور بھی حل کر دیا ہے یہ کہہ کر کہ ممبران کو کچھ کہنے کے لئے وقت بہت تھوڑا ہے - پنڈت جی کے امانڈمنٹ کی میں اس خیال سے تائید کرتا ہوں کہ *Something is better than nothing* جہاں تک عمل کا سوال ہے وہ تو عمل سے ہی ہوگا رزلویشن سے نہیں ہوگا - جو پنڈت جی کا امانڈمنٹ ہے میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ وہ ان کا امانڈمنٹ نہیں ہے بلکہ سب کے صلح و مشورہ سے اس کو ایک فارم دی گئی ہے یا ایک امانڈمنٹ تیار کیا گیا ہے - جو زیادہ لوگوں کے لئے قابل قبول ہو - اور سرکار بھی شاید اس کو مان لے - تو یہ بہت اچھا ہوگا -

دو باتیں زہر بحث ہیں ایک ہے کمیٹیسیشن کا سوال - دوسرا ٹیکزیشن کا سوال سردار حکم سنگھ نے ان دو باتوں پر زور دیا اور پنڈت جی کے امانڈمنٹ میں بھی کمیٹیسیشن کے سوال کو لیا گیا ہے کمیٹیسیشن کا لفظ ضرور ان کے امانڈمنٹ کے ایک حصہ میں آیا ہے اور وہ اس طرح ہے کہ پاکستان پر زور دیا جائے کہ وہ کمیٹیسیٹ کرے اور جلد سے جلد کرے - میں کہتا ہوں کہ اگر پنڈت جی کا امانڈمنٹ پاس بھی کر دیا جائے تو اس طرف دھیان دینا ضروری ہے اور ہناری سرکار کو اس کا خیال رکھنا پڑے گا - اور مجھے یہ بہت مشکل معلوم ہوتا ہے جیسا کہ میرے اور ساتھیوں نے ظاہر کیا ہے کہ پاکستان کوئی بھی بات مان لے - اس وقت میرے سامنے وست پنجاب کے گورنر کی تقریر کے کچھ الفاظ ہوں جو انہوں نے ۳ فروری کو میاں والی میں کی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا ہے کہ جب تک ہندوستانی سرکار نہروں کے پانی کے متعلق پاکستان کے دعویٰ کو تسلیم نہیں کرتی اس وقت تک نکسی جائیداد کے معاملہ پر ہندوستان کے ساتھ کوئی سمجھوتہ نہیں ہو سکتا - یہیں تک نہیں بلکہ انہوں نے کہا ہے کہ جب تک نہروں کے پانی کا مسئلہ حل نہیں ہوگا اس وقت تک زمیوں کی قیمتیں نہیں لگائی جا سکتیں - اس طرح اگر کمیٹیسیشن کا مسئلہ پاکستان کی گورنمنٹ کی مرضی ہی پر رہتا ہے تو خواہ سردار حکم سنگھ کا رزلویشن پاس ہو جائے خواہ پنڈت جی کا امانڈمنٹ پاس ہو جائے شہنار تھیوں کا کچھ بلنے والا نہیں ہے - کیونکہ پاکستان کوئی بات بھی نہیں ماننا اور وہ اب تو با رہا

کہہ رہا ہے کہ زمینوں کی جو قیمتیں ہیں اُن کے لگانے میں ابھی کوئی فائدہ نہ ہوگا جب تک کہ پانی کا چھکڑا طے نہ ہو جائے۔ تو ادھر کمیٹیسیشن کے متعلق جیسا کہ باتی ستمبر نے یہی کہا ہے۔ جولائی کی ایک کانفرنس میں کہا گیا تھا کہ کمیٹیسیشن دیا جائے گا۔ پھر سوال یہی رہا جاتا ہے کہ پاکستان گورنمنٹ کے آرپو زور دیا جائے یا ہماری اپنی گورنمنٹ ہی اس کے لئے کچھ ہاتھ پیر ہلائے۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ اس جولائی کی کانفرنس میں دو چار دن ایسے تھے جب کہ ان دو تھائی برسوں میں ہماری گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے ایسی باتوں کی کئی جن سے ریفریجیز کو تسلی ہوئی۔ اس کانفرنس میں کچھ سب کمیٹیز بنائی گئیں تھیں۔ ان میں سے ایک کمیٹی کا کام سہماں کرنے کے لئے بنائی گئی تھی۔ اس کی صرف ایک میٹنگ ہوئی۔ جس میں میں بھی شامل تھا۔ اس کے بعد مجھے معلوم نہیں کہ وہ کمیٹی کہاں گئی اور کام کہاں گئے: ابھی حال میں ایک پنجابی ہانڈو مہا سہماںی بڑے دعویٰ سے کہہ رہے تھے کہ ریفریجیز کے جو کام دیئے گئے ہیں وہ رتی میں یک گئے اس کی تردید آریہل منسٹر نے کئی دفعہ کی تھی میں بھی آریہل منسٹر سے متعلق تھا مگر وہ بڑے دعویٰ سے کہتے تھے کہ ایک آدمی نے اپنا کام رتی میں پایا۔ وہ کوئی چیز خریدنے گیا تھا تو اس کے کام میں اس کو وہ چیز دی گئی۔ وہ اس بات کا ثبوت دیتا ہے کہ وہ کام ہی یک گئے۔ اگر یہ بات تھوک ہے تو پھر میں سمجھتا ہوں۔

کو ہمیں مکتب است ہمیں ملا کار طفلان تمام خواہد شد

پھر تو ریفریجیز بس چکے۔ میں نے پہلے ہی عرض کیا ہے کہ کافذات پر کچھ پاس کر دیا جائے۔ مگر جو سب کمیٹیاں ہیں وہ کس طرح کام کرتی ہوں یہ بھی دیکھنا چاہئے۔ جس اسمبلی میں تائید کر رہا ہوں اس کے تیسرے حصے میں بلڈت جی نے یہ لکھا ہے کہ یہ جو کمیٹیسیشن کا سوال ہے اس میں بہت جلدی ان لوگوں کو کہ جن کے پاس کوئی رسورس نہیں ہیں کمیٹیسیشن دیا جائے۔ ساتھ ہی انہوں نے قر بھی بتلایا ہے کہ اندازہ پورے طور پر نہیں لگایا جا سکتا۔ تو مہری تو سمجھ میں نہیں آتا کہ یہاں پر اندازہ کسے جلدی لگایا جائیگا۔ اگر کوئی کمیٹی آج بنائی جائے کہ وہ اس بات کا فیصلہ کرے کہ کس کس کو کمیٹیسیشن ملنا چاہئے۔ تو اس کے بلنے میں دیر لگے گی۔ اور بن بھی گئی تو فیصلہ نہیں کر پائے گی جہسی کہ اور کمیٹیوں کی حالت ہوئی ہے۔ اس لئے بات تو دونوں طرف سے برابر رہے گی۔

عمل سے زندگی بنتی ہے جلدت بھی جہلم بھی

یہ خاکی اپنی فطرت سے نہ نوری ہے نہ ناری ہے۔

[گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر]

کام تو عمل سے ہوگا - جب تک عمل نہیں کیا جائے گا ہمارا کام منزل مقصود پر پہنچنے والا نہیں ہے - اس لئے جب کہ آج اس نان آفیشل دن پر مجھے اس رزولوشن پر بولنے کا موقع ملا ہے تو میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ میں یہ نہیں سمجھتا کہ سرکار کے لئے یہ کوئی بڑا کام ہے - اس بڑے ملک کی بڑی سرکار کے لئے ساٹھ ستر لاکھ آدمیوں کا بھانا کوئی بڑی مشکل بات نہیں - کہنے والے کہتے کہتے شرمندہ ہو گئے مگر ابھر تک کوئی تسلی نہیں ہوئی - میں تو یہ کہتا ہوں کہ یہ نہیں کہنا چاہیئے کہ ٹیکس لگانے سے ہمارے دوسرے بھائی ناراض ہوں گے - میں اس سے متفق نہیں ہوں کہ جب ٹیکس بڑے گا تو لوگ سمجھیں گے کہ یہ رفیوجیز ہمارے اوپر ایک بوجھ ہیں اور ان کو گالیاں نکالیں گے - آپ کوئی ٹیکس لگائیں یا نہ لگائیں اس سے مجھے کوئی مطلب نہیں - مگر میں اس دلیل کو ماننے کے لئے تیار نہیں ہوں - میں کہتا ہوں کہ جو شخص جیب سے ٹیکس دے گا وہ یہ محسوس کرے گا کہ یہ میرے بھائی بڑے دکھی ہیں - ان کے لئے پیسے دے کر میں ایک نیک کام کر رہا ہوں - اور تو سرکار کے ہزاروں ٹیکس ہیں کہ جن کے دینے سے لوگ کتراتے ہیں اور وہ ٹیکس پورے ادا بھی نہیں ہوتے لیکن جو یہ اپنے بھائی کے لئے ٹیکس دینا جائے گا اس میں کوئی ایسی بات نہیں ہے ناراضگی پیدا ہو جائے - میں تو سمجھتا ہوں کہ وہ ذرا نزدیک آئے گا اور سمجھے گا کہ وہ ایک اچھا کام کر رہا ہے - اور اپنے بھائی کے لئے ٹیکس دے رہا ہے - اس کے علاوہ میں یہ بھی کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر ٹیکس نہ بھی لیا جائے تو بھی اگر ہمارے دیہے کے پونجی بڑوں کے مفافع میں سے پانچ پرسیلٹ لے لیا جائے جیسا کہ میرے دوست مسٹر گوینکا نے مجھے بتلایا - تو کروڑوں روپیہ جمع ہو سکتا ہے اور رفیوجیز کا کام ہو سکتا ہے - میں کہتا ہوں کہ اس وقت کوئی نہ کوئی اودم کرنا ہی چاہیئے اور اس طرح کی بات کرنا چاہیئے - کیونکہ دن بہ دن رفیوجیز کی حالت دردناک ہوتی جا رہی ہے - جو تھوڑا بہت سرمایہ ان کے پاس تھا وہ خوج کر چکے ہیں - اگر سرکار ان کی مدد نہ کرے تو ان کا اور کوئی سہارا نہیں ہے - میں ہاؤس کا زیادہ وقت نہیں لینا چاہتا اور ان الفاظ کے ساتھ پلڈت جی کے امینڈمینٹ کو سپورٹ کرتا ہوں پر انہیں الفاظ سے جیسا کہ میں نے پہلے ظاہر دیا ہے - میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ پلڈت جی بھی اپنی ترمیم کے الفاظ سے پورے متفق نہیں ہیں - ان کا دل درد سے بھرا ہوا ہے - وہ بہت زیادہ چاہتے تھے - مگر کمپرومائز کی وجہ سے انہوں نے یہ امینڈمینٹ پیش کیا ہے - گورنمنٹ اس کو منظور کرے اور اس پر عمل کرے - تو میں پورے سداکار حکم سلکھ سے درخواست کروں گا کہ وہ اپنے رزولوشن کو واپس لے لیں اور یہ امینڈمنٹ یونائیٹڈ سلی پاس ہو جاوے اور اس کے بعد اور کام ہو -

(English translation of the above speech)

Giani G. S. Musafir (Punjab): Madam, at this time there are two things before the House, a resolution moved by Sardar Hukam Singh and an amendment by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava. I am in suspense whom to support and whom to oppose. While my head bows in obedience to our Chief whip my heart is inclined to revolt. Madam, you have solved my difficulty by remarking that there is not much time for the members to speak. I support the amendment moved by Panditji as I think that something is better than nothing. The real test lies in practice not in a resolution. The amendment moved by Panditji is, I know, not his own. It has been prepared and given its present form by general consent and consultation so that it may be acceptable to a large majority of people and it will be very good if the Government too agrees to it.

There are two things under discussion, one being the question of compensation and the other of taxation. Sardar Hukam Singh has laid stress on these two matters while Panditji's amendment too contains a reference to the question of compensation. At any rate the word 'compensation' does find a place in a part of his amendment. It says Pakistan be pressed upon to render compensation and to do so as early as possible. I would say, however, that even if Panditji's amendment were to be passed our Government will have to consider and take account of the fact that, as stated by other friends, it is very unlikely that Pakistan would agree to anything. I have before me a statement made by the Governor of the West Punjab in the course of a speech made by him on the 3rd February at Mianwali. He says that until the Indian Government accepts the Pakistan claim with regard to canal water there can be no agreement with it on the question of evacuee property. Not only that, he has also stated that it would not be possible to assess the value of the lands until the canal water question is solved. Thus, if the question of compensation is to rest on the sweet will of the Pakistan Government, it is not going to make any difference to the refugees whether it is the resolution of Sardar Hukam Singh or the amendment of Panditji that is passed, because Pakistan would not agree to anything. Since recently she has been proclaiming repeatedly that it would be no use assessing the value of the lands until the water dispute is settled. With regard to compensation, as stated already by others, it was stated at a conference held in July last that compensation would be awarded. Now, the question remains whether the Pakistan Government be compelled to do it or our own Government should also do something about it. I think that the three or four days taken up by the conference of July last were the only days during the last two or two and a half years when things were said on behalf of our Government which caused gratification to the refugees. A few sub-committees were also formed at this conference. One of these committees was meant for the settlement of claims. It had just single meeting at which I was also present. I do not know what happened after that to that committee and to the claims. Only recently a Punjabi Hindu Sabhaite was asserting with great authority that the claims filed by the refugees had been sold away as waste paper. This was contradicted by the hon. Minister several times. I too agreed with the hon. Minister but the other man was asserting very forcefully that a man discovered his claim being used as waste paper. He had gone to purchase something and the article was given to him wrapped in his claim paper. He is prepared to furnish proof to the effect that the very papers bearing those claims have been sold away. If this is correct then one is inclined to agree with the poet in saying—

Gar hamin maktab ast o hamin mulla—Kar-i-tiflan tamam khakad shud.

(If this is the school and this the teacher, surely the boys are doomed.)

[Giani G. S. Musafir]

What hope could then be there that the refugees would be rehabilitated? I have already stated that the mere passing of a measure on paper will not do. We have to see how the sub-committees do their job. In the third part of the amendment which I am supporting Panditji has mentioned that very soon those people who have no resources should be compensated. At the same time he has expressed his fear that a correct estimate is not possible. I fail to understand how will it then be possible to make an early estimate. If a committee were to be constituted to decide as to what persons are to be awarded compensation its constitution would take time and even if it is constituted it would not be able to arrive at a decision, as has been the case with other committees. Thus, the result would be the same in either case—

Amal se sindgi banti hai jannat bhi jahannam bhi,

Yeh khaki apni fitrat se na nuri hai na nari hai.

(Actions mould life,—turn it into a paradise or an inferno, for, essentially, man is composed of neither light nor fire.)

The task would be accomplished by action alone. Until we act the objective will not be attained. Hence, now that I have got the opportunity of speaking on this resolution on this non-official day, I would like to say that I do not regard this task as too big for the Government. The resettlement of sixty or seventy lakhs of people is nothing very difficult for the big Government of this big country. Appeals for help have been made *ad nauseam* but to no effect. I feel that it must not be said that the imposition of a tax would be taken ill by our other brethren. I am not inclined to agree with the contention that when the tax is imposed people would say, 'Oh, these refugees are a burden to us' and that they would abuse them. You may levy such a tax or you may not, I am unconcerned, but I am not prepared to concede that argument. On the other hand, I think that the man who pays towards that tax would have the feeling that by contributing towards the relief of his afflicted brethren he is doing a pious act. There are a number of other taxes levied by the Government which people are inclined to evade and those taxes are not even paid fully. But, in the case of this tax payable in aid of your own brother there is no cause for ill-will. I think the giver would thereby come closer to the receiver and feel he is doing a good act in paying a tax for the sake of his brother. I would also suggest that if this tax were not to be levied but the capitalists of this country were to be made to part with five per cent. of their profits, as hinted to me by my friend, Mr. Goenka, crores of rupees could be collected that way and the refugees' problem solved. I say it is high time we came out with some plan of action and did something of that kind. As time passes the plight of the refugees is becoming dreadful. They have exhausted whatever little resources they possessed. If the Government does not help them they have none else to look up to. I would not take any more time of the House and with these words support Panditji's amendment. But, as I have already stated, I feel that even Panditji himself is not fully satisfied with the phraseology of his amendment. His heart is full of anguish. He wanted much more than that but he has come forward with this amendment as a measure of compromise. Let the Government accept it and act on it. I would request Sardar Hukam Singh to withdraw his resolution so that this amendment might be passed unanimously and the House might then proceed to other business.

Shri B. K. Das (West Bengal): Madam, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this occasion. My hon. friend Mrs. Ray has already drawn the attention of this House to the problem that is facing us in the

eastern part of the country. The situation in East Bengal is very serious and people are daily flocking from that part of the country. In a sense, the whole situation is in a boiling pot.

The question of compensation and rehabilitation is also serious in that part. To my mind, the question of compensation can only be settled when the question of evacuee property is settled on a governmental basis. Unless and until that is done, I am afraid, no adequate compensation can be paid to the refugees.

During the Second Inter-Dominion Conference this question of evacuee property was discussed at Calcutta and it was settled that "the Governments of East Bengal and West Bengal will promulgate legislation for the setting up of evacuee property management boards in districts or areas from where a substantial exodus has taken place. These boards will be set up only when it is established that there is a demand for their establishment. These boards will assume management of properties only at the definite request of their own owners. Their functions will be of a managerial character and they will not have the power to alienate the property entrusted to them for management. These boards shall be composed of members of the minority community."

This decision of the Conference holds good and in East Bengal the question of compensation cannot be settled now. We will have occasion to discuss the Bill—that will be coming before the House in a few days, the Bill regarding evacuee property. For that reason it will not be possible to settle the question of compensation in East Bengal and West Bengal. The only thing that we can do with regard to that part of the country is to rehabilitate the refugees. So far as interim compensation is concerned, this is a matter which must be tackled with greater care and attention. Mrs. Ray has already drawn the attention of this House as to how this matter stands at present. Unless and until we go on with the work at greater speed and unless and until much more money and attention are given to that part of the country, the problem will remain all the more difficult. As the situation remains as it is, it will be a source of greater trouble to us.

In this connection I may make a humble suggestion. We are not going to have any tax; we are not going to have any legislation in order that we may give fair compensation to our suffering brethren; but we may make a voluntary contribution. A fund may be opened by the President in his name to which every citizen of the country may contribute his mite in order that some compensation may be paid to our suffering brethren. We have got a President who tackled a very serious catastrophe that befell this country in recent times. I venture to suggest that if he opens a fund it would not be difficult to collect crores of rupees. This may be supplemented by Government and some compensation paid to our suffering brethren. I heartily support the amendment that has been moved by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and appeal to the Government that everything possible should be done in the matter.

Dr. Tek Chand (Punjab): Madam, at this late hour I do not propose to address the House at any great length, nor do I wish to analyse the merits and demerits of the Resolution and the various amendments which have been moved. I have only a few words to say to the Ministers who are present. I hope they will convey it to the Prime Minister and to the Inner Cabinet.

Madam, we have been faced with the problem of refugee rehabilitation for nearly thirty months. The manner in which the problem has been approached by the Government, with all the sincerity and goodwill of the Ministers, has been slipshod half-hearted and planless. That is the reason why the problem has remained unsolved. The number of displaced persons from the provinces

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on which the first on-slaught of Muslim fury fell namely, the Punjab and N.W.F.P., was about 40-45 lakhs. The percentage of these displaced persons in a population of 80 crores in India was only 1½. Is it or is it not a sad commentary on our statesmanship and upon our patriotism that one hundred persons in India, have not been able to absorb one person each in thirty months? In November 1947 it was pressed upon the Ministry and upon the Cabinet that steps should be taken to rehabilitate refugees from these provinces immediately. It was urged that the problem of the people coming from the Punjab, the N.W.F.P. and Bahawalpur should be solved before other similar problems arise from other provinces. It was definitely pointed out that very soon a situation was likely to arise when the Sindhi non-Moslems might be turned out and another twelve to fourteen lakhs of persons would be on your hands. It was therefore proper to solve the earlier problem forthwith. We were told on the highest authority in reply: 'Oh, Sindhi Hindus are living in Sindh peacefully. The Muslim League Government and the Muslim population of Sindh are co-operating with the Sindhi Hindus and they are living like brothers'. This was what we were told. They said from the Advisory Committees and other bodies, the Sindhis were to be excluded, as there was no refugee problem in that province! But what happened in less than six months? Trouble began in Sindh; the situation deteriorated, and now we find that no self-respecting Hindu can live there? They have been harassed, persecuted and turned out. Similar questions were raised about East Bengal also. But here again, as our respected sister Shrimati Renuka Ray has said, the answer which Shri Neogy—a gentleman from Bengal who was expected to know more about the situation in Bengal—gave in this House was that there was no migration of refugees from East Bengal and that there was no apprehension of an East Bengal problem arising. But, what is happening in East Bengal now? More than 1½ million persons have already migrated to India and there are over 10 million Hindus still there who are being harassed and persecuted. How will you deal with these enormous numbers? The Punjabees are still on your hands, the N.W.F.P. people are on your hands, the people from Bahawalpur are on your hands and the Sindhis are roving about, unsettled. The total number of these people is about sixty lakhs.

Now I ask you what have you done to rehabilitate them? The stories that have been circulated say that most of these people have been settled in life and the problem has nearly been solved. Have they really been settled? How many are still without shelter? Of the urban population not even 5 per cent. have actually been rehabilitated. I suggest that the only way to deal with this question is to give it top priority and treat it as an emergency measure. Thus only can you solve the problem. There is no use passing this or that resolution. We have been getting sympathies and hearing the Governor-General Shri Rajagopalachari going to people and saying "Oh, I admire the spirit in which the evacuees are facing the situation. They are men of great self-respect. They have not begged." We have heard Sardar Patel saying that these people had been sacrificed for the sake of the freedom and liberty of the country. But what has been the result? We have our Prime Minister who, addressing refugee young boys some time ago said: 'You refugee boys are the wealth of the nation'. But go and see what is the condition of the refugees in different parts of the country. Thousands are still squatting on the road without any means of sustenance. I say, treat this as an emergency measure just as you treated the evacuation problem. There was Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar who was the Chairman of a Committee, consisting of accredited representatives of various Ministries. They passed orders that so many motor lorries and cars and so much food should be made available, and in a week everything was ready. An efficient machinery was set up, which with the assistance of the Army worked

rounders. But here we are proceeding in a slipshod manner at a snail's pace. We have some townships under contemplation. But how are we proceeding with them? We have no plans. We heard stories about one of the townships where houses tumbled down when there was rain in July last. The explanation was that rain came suddenly and with greater severity than was anticipated. Is that a proper explanation? I will next give the instance of Bahawalpur refugees.

Mr. Chairman: I would request the hon. Member to finish his speech within five minutes as I have already announced that the hon. Minister will reply at 4 O'clock.

Dr. Tek Chand: They were all refugees and they were brought first to Patiala and then taken to Kurukshetra. After several months it was decided to remove them from Kurukshetra and settle them in a township. Rajpura in Patiala State was selected. But these people did not like to go there. Several of them had already been sent to Patiala, as the idea was that refugees from Bahawalpur should be settled in another State. But they said that they had found the whole atmosphere very hostile and they had to leave that place. They were, however, told that the arrangements would now be in the hands of the Government of India and that there would now be no opposition from the local people. Contrary to their wishes and after a great deal of propaganda they were taken to Rajpura in May or June 1949. Then came the rains and the whole place was flooded; the tents fell down. They were therefore taken to Patiala and one or two other outlying places. The military was called and the State authorities lent their lorries etc. There they were kept for 2 or 3 months, after which they were brought back again to Rajpura and plans for building the new township re-started. But now it has been discovered that there is not sufficient water there and the place is otherwise unsuitable. It is not certain whether the persons responsible for the scheme are still satisfied whether Rajpura is a suitable place to rehabilitate displaced persons. But Rajpura had been thought of more than a year ago and this is the position after a year. I ask you, is that the way to tackle this problem? And yet Rajpura was to absorb 25,000 persons only. Does this not show that the whole thing is planless? I may be pardoned for saying that the urgency of the problem has not been realized yet.

Take another case. We are talking of compensation. In this the first step is to verify the claims of persons and then evaluate the properties left there. After all, whether you make a claim against Pakistan or whether you pay out of the funds of the Government of India or from a tax collected from the people; whether it is full compensation or 50 or 40 per cent., the first thing would be to ascertain the value of the property left in Pakistan. This was pointed out to the Ministry as far back as November 1947. But nothing has been done so far. We have just been told by Giani Gurmukh Singh that all those claim applications are not traceable.

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saxena): I must say that it is a malicious lie.

Dr. Tek Chand: Whether traceable or not, those claims have not been classified yet. Then in the July Conference, we were told that steps would be taken forthwith to have the claims registered once again, and verified and for this purpose an Ordinance would issue. But it has taken 6 months for that Ordinance to be promulgated. It was only 10 days ago that Ordinance V of 1950 came out and it is a bare skeleton. It contains no details for which I asked some responsible person "when are you going to set up the machinery". He told me that they have asked for the views of the local Governments, but they have not replied yet. Then we have to take the sanction of the Finance

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Department to sanction the expenditure, and then we have to do certain other things and all this would take six months. Now if you are going to deal with this matter in this way, this problem is not going to be solved. It can only be solved if you treat it as a war measure and give it top priority. I repeat that passing this or that Resolution will not do. The presence of all these refugees on the footpaths is a challenge to the statesmanship of Pandit Nehru, is a challenge to the statesmanship of Sardar Patel and of the whole Cabinet and I do hope that they will see to this matter soon. They have done great things in this country, they have solved many problems. They are facing still more difficult problems which, we all hope, they will overcome, but this is a problem which should receive the earnest attention of our Minister for Rehabilitation, the earnest attention of our Super-Minister for Rehabilitation Mr. Gopalswami Ayyangar and the earnest attention of the Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Madam . . .

Mr. Chairman: I have already announced that I would call upon the hon. Minister at 4 O'clock.

Shri E. K. Chaudhuri: My hon. friend Pandit Bhargava in his speech made reference to Assam and made some allegations against Assam Government. If you would give me two and a half minutes, I will reply to him.

Mr. Chairman: I think the Minister is also in charge of Assam matters and he would suitably reply making a reference to it.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Before I speak which will be the last speech, on behalf of Government, I should like my colleague Mr. Gopalswami Ayyangar to speak for a few minutes.

Mr. Chairman: Since that is an arrangement between two hon. Ministers the hon. Mr. Ayyangar may speak.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): On a point of Order. From the list of subjects allotted to Ministers, which I have with me, I find that the hon. Minister for Railways has got only one extra subject apart from Railways and Transport, and that is, matters relating to abducted women. I do not know whether he is merely assisting Mr. Saksena but if it is some other arrangement, I should like to know.

Mr. Chairman: I am sure the hon. Member is aware that the Cabinet has collective responsibility and therefore any hon. Minister can reply for any other hon. Minister.

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalswami): I am speaking not only on my own behalf but on behalf of the Government of this country. I should not have intervened in this debate except for the fact that several members made references to me in the course of the remarks that they addressed to the House. The subject is undoubtedly in the charge of my colleague Shri Mohanlal Saksena and he will deal elaborately with the Members who have spoken or taken part in this debate. I rise merely for the purpose of stressing one or two points. The first of these points that I should like to lay stress on is the question of compensation raised in the original Resolution. So far as that matter is concerned, I took upon myself the responsibility of stating the policy of this Government at a governmental conference convened by my hon. colleague to which a large number of leading displaced persons were invited. That policy was not one which was sprung upon the public on that occasion. It had been the policy of the Government previously; it continues to be the policy of the

Government even today. I wish to stress this fact because at the back of the minds of many of those who have spoken during this debate, there seemed to lurk a suspicion that Government were trying to wriggle out of this particular statement of policy. That is not so, and I say it authoritatively on behalf of the Government.

When you come to tackle the question of compensation, you are not tackling the whole of the problem relating to displaced persons. Compensation in the restricted interpretation of that word could have reference only to paying some recompense for what you had lost particularly in the shape of property. That, of course, is a very important part of the problem, but a much more important part of the problem with which we as a Government, and we as citizens of the Republic have got to be concerned, is the problem of rehabilitating millions of people who have come over from the other side and have to find, not merely a house to live in but also an occupation from which they could earn their living immediately as well as permanently. Now Government have tried to address themselves to both these problems. On the question of property, as everybody has recognised in the course of the debate, they have taken the view that the first thing to do is to come to some satisfactory arrangement with the other country. They held a series of conferences. How sincere they were in their efforts, everybody knows. We have taken the initiative in suggesting proposals for the successful tackling of this problem and if we have not reached results which could have satisfied everybody, it is because of the intransigence of the other country which we have got first to remove before we can arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. We are pressing this matter over and over again with the other Government. We have even given indications to them that if they are unable to accept all the proposals we make, the main issues relating to that problem might be referred to some impartial third party for the purpose of giving a decision which both countries will accept. I see no particular danger in agreeing to that position. Even on that matter the other country has got to make up its mind and agree to have some sort of reference to a third party. It is not impossible, in my opinion, and if the other country will sit down across a table and deal with this problem without any bias against us or any undue bias in their own favour, I do not despair of reaching a solution which will satisfy everybody. That is for the purpose of a permanent settlement of the question of compensation. There is an aspect of compensation which is perhaps of a more limited character. While we go on negotiating with the other country, these displaced persons who have come over to our country, many of them are continuing to suffer hardships, which it is the duty of every civilized Government to remove to the maximum possible extent, and in this particular matter, I think, the Ministry of Rehabilitation have a record which even though it may not be of a perfect character is a record of which they need not be ashamed. I will ask the House to look at this problem, to sift the facts and to come to their own independent conclusions as to whether they have not made sufficient effort in the circumstances in which they were placed to tackle this problem of giving immediate relief and of trying to rehabilitate the persons. I do agree that with better support, in better conditions it should have been possible to have proceeded at a much greater pace than perhaps it has been possible to do till now.

I want the House to realise that Government have spent nearly Rs. 45 crores on this problem since they began to tackle it. They have a programme of continuous expenditure on tackling this problem for the next few years. As you know, I for the moment happen to be presiding over a Committee of which my hon. friend Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava and Mrs. Ray are Members, a Committee whose object it is to find with the slender resources of the Government as much money as possible for financing expenditure on the tackling of

[Shri Gopaldaswami]

this problem. I want you to realize that Government are trying to do their best. They will try to do better and looking back over what has been said during this debate what struck me most is how small is the difference between the policy that, for instance, Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava's amendment recommends and the policy which Government have been following and intend to follow in the future. The first part of Panditjee's amendment asks us to intensify the efforts we have been making. The second part asks us to consider the question of giving some interim compensation to refugees who have been deprived of their resources and have not been able to obtain gainful employment. Well, those two aspects of it are aspects of the policy that is now in vogue and I take it that the object of hon. Pandit Thakurdas Bhargava's amendment, is simply to see, that we should be more energetic, that we should put more effort into this work of rehabilitation than we have been doing hitherto. Well, we take the House's recommendation in that regard in all sincerity. We will try to implement their wishes and I have no doubt that in the future this good work will go on with much greater vigour and perhaps to the greater satisfaction of those whom it is intended to help.

I wish to say nothing more except that we are not yet at the stage when it is at all necessary for us to consider the question of raising any special tax for a purpose of this kind. We have tried to make available monies which are much larger in volume than any monies that you could raise by a special tax. Assume for a moment that you re-introduce the Salt Tax which was abolished sometime ago. The salt tax is a thing to which everybody in the country could contribute, but I believe that tax brought us in the best years not more than nine or ten crores.

Shri Sidhva: Twelve crores

Shri Gopaldaswami: I speak from my recollection. But we have been finding much more money than that out of our existing resources. We propose to continue to find even more than twice that amount in future years also. I ask you to appreciate what has been done hitherto. So far as giving interim assistance to people is concerned we are doing it already. We will intensify it as you wish us to do which certainly, I hope, will give much greater satisfaction to people who are affected by it than perhaps they are inclined to acknowledge at the present moment. I do not think I will deal with the details which my hon. colleague who is in charge of the resolution will deal with.

Shri Mohar Lal Saksena: With the limited time at my disposal I will try to confine myself to the subject of the Resolution. The speeches delivered in the House have dealt with the question of evacuee property, which is coming before the House again in connection with the Bill that is before it and, therefore, I shall deal with the points made today on that occasion. I can only say that this is the most outstanding question between Pakistan and India and it is responsible for the bitterness on both sides of the frontier. The Government is doing all that it can to impress upon Pakistan to resolve this question as early as possible. It was for this reason that I asked my friend Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar who has been in charge of the negotiations with Pakistan to take part in this debate before I replied to it.

Shri Tyagi: But he has said nothing about Pakistan's attitude.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Anyway he is in charge and he chose to say what he could.

As regards the question of rehabilitation, I can only say that there is much which has not been done and there is also much which has been done. If you were to ask me to compile a list of the things that have not been done I could perhaps compile a bigger list. But to say that the Government has had no plan is I think not quite fair. The Government have had their plans but they depend on certain factors for their execution and the biggest factor is the refugees themselves. If India were to be taken as a whole and we were to rehabilitate all the displaced persons who have come in five or six lakh villages I am sure the problem would have been solved in no time. To each village ten families could have gone and we could have settled them there. They would have been the responsibility of the local authorities or the local government. But the difficulty is that these people want to stay in big cities.

We have a plan for Delhi. First of all we decided to settle one lakh of people, then two and later three lakh people. Still there are five lakhs or more people to be settled. Whatever plans we may have they can only be executed with the willing co-operation of the displaced persons themselves.

In the case of Rajpura we wanted to have some place where we could settle the Bahawalpur refugees. But the Bahawalpur refugees wanted that all 60,000 of them should be settled at one place. We had negotiations with the Punjab Government but they would not have any displaced persons except those from West Punjab or N.W.F.P. and refugees from Bahawalpur of Punjabee extraction. We had, therefore, to go to PEPSSU. They offered us three sites. Our engineers selected a site and it ultimately turned out that there was no water available. If these people did not want to settle in one town I am sure they could have been spread over in smaller towns. When we found that it was not possible to settle all the 60,000 in one place we decided that we would settle 20,000. Ultimately we found that even for this 20,000 no water was available. I would ask my friend Bakshi Tek Chand to tell me what are we to do with that plan. The people whom we consulted are our experts. We cannot go by the opinion of laymen. We consulted the best engineers. We have now decided to have a township in Patiala, instead of Rajpura. Similarly we have other plans but their implementation depends on certain factors. Another factor is money. We had a number of plans and schemes but ultimately because of financial stringency we had to hold back our hand. These are the difficulties which I hope my friend Bakshi Tek Chand will appreciate.

As regards the setting up of a machinery for verifying the claims, first of all I want to repudiate emphatically the malicious and lying propaganda of the Hindu Sabha leader. I am sorry that my friends have fallen into the trap and repeated it in the House. It was emphatically stated in the conference that those papers are intact and if they wanted to see them, they were there. As was pointed by my friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, after my appointment as Minister I appointed a Reorganisation Committee consisting of Members of this House. They went into the question and came to the conclusion that this claims organisation was serving no useful purpose. And so we had to wind it up. We found that those papers were not worth the paper on which the claims were written. Those papers are there and when these claims officers are appointed they will discover that their value is not much. Therefore, we had to pass an Ordinance in which we have provided that any displaced person who makes an exaggerated claim of his belongings in Pakistan will be punished and will forfeit his right to rehabilitation benefits.

My hon. friend Sardar Hukam Singh said that the displaced persons are down and out and their misery is writ large on their faces. I thought I was more aware of that than anybody else. I may point out to him that this Resolution does not offer a remedy. If you hold out hopes it is not going to solve the problem. I may give an illustration.

[Shri Mohan Lal Saksena]

After the conference of displaced persons in Delhi we prepared a scheme for giving maintenance allowance to widows, old men and students who had urban property in Pakistan. We wanted to give the maintenance allowance out of the rents collected in India. We prepared a scheme: it was ready and instructions were issued that at least before Dussera or Diwali these allowances should be given. We had notified all the Governments including the Delhi Administration. Twelve thousand applications were received in Delhi alone; and the representatives of displaced persons were themselves appointed on the committee to sort out the applications. The House will be surprised to learn that till January, notwithstanding the fact that there was so much time, they were not able to scrutinise more than 800 applications out of the 12,000. It is not an official machinery but it is a body composed of representatives of displaced persons themselves. I make an offer to my friend. Let him with other friends sort out the applications. I hope he does not mean to suggest that we should give the maintenance allowance without verifying the claims of the applicants. Let him suggest any other machinery by which we can expedite the work and issue orders for the payment of the allowance. After all the whole thing requires a certain amount of time. Before all that is done we will not be able to give that allowance.

I may also inform my friend about Jullunder. We got the records of agricultural property from Pakistan. Before that we had received claims, as has been pointed out by Pandit Bhargava, relating to lands which were much more in area than the two Punjabs combined. With great effort we were able to persuade the Pakistan Government to give us the records. Even with these records, though it is two and a half years, these claims have not been finally settled. Every time a date was fixed it had to be postponed. It is not that people were not working. There are 3,000 patwaries working there, besides other higher officers. So these things take time.

Even if the suggestion is accepted as it is it will require a number of years before we shall be in a position to give any compensation. So this resolution does not remove the misery or the hardship of the displaced persons. On the other hand it may raise a false hope in their mind. The Government has decided to set up an organisation for the verification of claims. We have been consulting the Provincial Governments to make their officers available to us, because we have had the experience that if we appointed persons who are not in service, they have no stake and there were so many allegations about corruption and of prolonging the work itself as it is to their interest, and the Provincial Governments were, therefore, of the view that this work should be entrusted only to those who are in government service. That being the view of the Provincial Governments we must get those officers. We require about 200 to 300 officers and even on the basis that an officer can dispose of ten claims per day—which is doubtful, I am sure—they will take a year or two. I would welcome any suggestion from my friend Bakshi Tek Chand by which this work could be expedited. There is common ground between us that this work will have to be done. Before this work is done we cannot give any compensation even if we had the means and wherewithal to pay the compensation.

As regards rehabilitation work, as I have said, I fully realize our shortcomings and difficulties. I can only repeat what has been said more than once that it is the responsibility of the Government of India to rehabilitate every displaced person, whether from West Pakistan or from East Pakistan. That is all that we can say. As has already been pointed out by the Prime Minister we have to have priorities in this matter. The first priority is the care of unattached women and children. The second is their education. The next is

feeding, housing and employment of the displaced persons. But this question of compensation, however much I may sympathise with the demand, will have to come lower down in the order of priority. I hope my friend Sardar Hukam Singh will realize in regard to his suggestion to levy this tax or that tax, that the yield from one tax as has been pointed out by my hon. friend Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar, will not be enough to meet our requirements. And once we depend for meeting the cost of the rehabilitation on the yield from a particular tax, the chances are that we are not likely to get more funds from other sources. Therefore, it will not serve much useful purpose to impose one particular tax for meeting the cost of rehabilitation.

My friends from West Bengal have raised the question of displaced persons who are coming from East Bengal. Well, as the Prime Minister has already pointed out, we will do all in our power to stop this influx. I also hope that better sense will prevail and conditions will improve in Eastern Pakistan, for if things continue in this manner we cannot go on like this for ever.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether something is being done by the Government to check this exodus?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Yes, at the present moment our Deputy High Commissioner has taken up the matter with the Government there and a meeting of the Chief Secretaries is being held. They are going to these places and seeing things for themselves. On behalf of the East Bengal Government it is said that there is a lot of exaggeration, and on this side it is said that this is all true. So the only thing possible is that the Chief Secretaries should meet and go to the spot and see for themselves as to what is the truth.

Dr. M. M. Das: There have been several such meetings in the past.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Anyhow this is what we are doing at present. I do not know what will be the out-come of it. There are only certain lines on which we can work and we still hope and trust that better sense will prevail with the Pakistan Government and that conditions will improve.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Does the hon. Minister feel that a meeting between the Provincial Chief Secretaries is going to bring much results when the problem is of such magnitude?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: At least it will bring out the truth about this matter as to what is happening in Khulna and other districts. If these two Secretaries meet, they can go into the reports from those districts and see things on the spot. At least it will bring out whether the report appearing in the Calcutta press are exaggerated or they represent the true picture.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Even a meeting of the Premiers of West and East Bengal could be understandable as a preliminary step.

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Anyway this is the first step. The Premiers also can meet later on. This is all that has been done so far. I do not know if there is any other suggestion made in the House as to what has to be done by Government.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether anything is going to be taken up between the Government of India and the Pakistan Government—and not between the Provincial Governments of East and West Bengal?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: Why not? It will be taken. In fact it has been taken...

Dr. M. M. Das: But when?

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: It has already been taken. As I said, this is the first step, because we have already provided a machinery to watch the progress of these Agreements. And as reference was made, in regard to the Minority Property Boards and their working we have provided for a meeting of the Chief Secretaries every month and also for a meeting of the Premiers. This matter has been taken up by the Government of India as well. But, as has been reported in the press, to begin with, the Chief Secretaries are meeting.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The suggestion was made by the Deputy Prime Minister that Pakistan will have to give some of its lands for the rehabilitation of these people if they were driven to India, and that suggestion should now be carried out by the Government of India...

Shri Mohan Lal Saksena: I am not yielding.

As regards the question of paying interim compensation, there again I would submit that the question will depend not only on the settlement with Pakistan but also upon the progress made in the verification of claims. So far as agricultural lands are concerned, we have just allotted lands in East Punjab to those owners of land who have come from West Punjab. Of course there is the question of the land-owners who have come from Sind, North West Frontier Province and Bahawalpur who are not Punjabi extraction. We are trying to give them land wherever it is possible. We are trying to settle twenty thousand families in Matsya, now in Rajasthan,—and more families have been settled in Bhopal and other places.

As I have said, this scheme for giving maintenance allowance to widows, old men and students who own urban property on the other side, is only the first step in giving some sort of compensation to the owners of urban properties. The allotment of lands to the owners of land is also a step in that direction. There are two categories of displaced persons. There are those who have already got something and either by Government help or by their own resources and have been able to start in life. They may not be as well off as they were in Pakistan; but still they do not require immediate help. But there are others who are either old or who have not been able to make a start in life afresh and they will certainly have prior consideration on the part of the Government than others. In addition, as hon. Members are aware, the Rehabilitation Finance Administration has been advancing loans for business and industry. We have again a difficulty. There are about seven or eight thousand applications. We had placed at the disposal of the Administration about Rs. 7 crores this year, but they were not able to disburse it. Some hon. Members are on the Advisory body of that Administration, some of them are even on the Managing Board, and they know the difficulties and the reasons why these applications have not been expedited. After all, it is not only the money and the machinery that are the factors, it also takes time to verify the applications of these displaced persons who are spread all over the country. As for the machinery, there is a big staff which has been working in the Rehabilitation Finance Administration.

In the end, I may say that as has been explained by Pandit Bhargava and as I also have pointed out, the Resolution as moved by my friend Sardar Hukam Singh is not at all workable and is impracticable. Therefore, I would request my friend the Mover that he may withdraw it. The Government is however prepared to accept the amendment moved by Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.

Mr. Chairman: I wish to ask the hon. the Mover of the Resolution whether he would like to press the Resolution after the assurances given by the hon. Minister. If the Resolution is not pressed, I think the amendments will automatically lapse.

Some Hon. Members: No, no

Mr. Chairman: Then I will put the amendment first.

Master Nand Lal: I beg leave to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Then Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava's amendment suggesting a substitute Resolution.

An Hon. Member: But there are other amendments to the main Resolution.

Mr. Chairman: But if Pandit Bhargava's amendment is carried then the original Resolution will be substituted.

Shri Meeran: Madam, since this amendment suggests a substitute Resolution, may I request that the other amendments be taken first?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): But if the substitute Resolution is passed, then the other amendments are not necessary.

Mr. Chairman: That is the correct procedure, that if the substitute Resolution is passed then the other amendments will fall. Therefore, the substitute amendment will come first.

Shri Tyagi: On a point of order, as far as my impression goes, the amendments which amend in the least must be put first.

Mr. Chairman: Then I will put Dr. Deshmukh's amendment. Does the hon. Member press it?

Dr. Deshmukh: No, Madam. I beg leave to withdraw it.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Shri Meeran: I beg leave to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Chairman: Now I shall put Pandit Bhargava's amendment. The question is:

"That for the original Resolution the following be substituted :

"This House is of opinion that the Government of India should take all possible steps to expedite the settlement with Pakistan of the issue of compensation for properties left behind by refugees on a Government to Government basis and in the meanwhile it urges,—

- (a) the intensification and expansion of measures of rehabilitation so that the refugees may get absorbed in the economic life of India; and
- (b) consideration of the question of giving some interim compensation to those refugees who have been deprived of their resources and have not been able to obtain gainful employment."

The motion was adopted.

RESOLUTION RE QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION TO PARLIAMENT AND LEGISLATURES OF STATES.

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

"This House is of opinion that qualifications be laid down for membership of Parliament and Legislatures of States in the Union of India and that necessary steps be taken forthwith to give effect to them before the next election."

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): Madam, on a point of order. This Resolution, I claim, is absolutely out of order. The Constitution has been passed and not only does the Constitution not refer to any additional qualifications, but amendments to this effect moved at the time of passing the Constitution have been rejected. There were amendments which were intended to put some restriction on adult franchise by way of predicating some sort of an additional qualification. In view of that and in view of the fact that all these amendments have been rejected, I claim that the Resolution is absolutely out of order.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): I think my hon. friend is wrong. In the Constitution it is laid down in so many words that the qualifications for candidates will be such as will be prescribed by Parliament. The Constitution demands of us to prescribe qualifications for candidates.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): May I point out articles 84(c) and 173(b) in this connection? The two clauses are identical in language and construction. Article 84(c) says that a person shall not be qualified to be chosen to fill a seat in Parliament unless he possesses such other qualifications as may be prescribed in that behalf by or under any law made by Parliament.

This Resolution has relation to that clause, and I think it is in order.

Dr. Deshmukh: Madam, I request you to kindly permit me to answer this objection which has been raised.

Mr. Chairman: No, I will answer it. I think the point of order raised by the hon. Member is answered by Mr. Kamath's statement. The hon. Member who raised the point of order may as well look to article 84(c) of the Constitution as read out by Mr. Kamath. I think there is no point of order and the Resolution is perfectly in order. The Mover may go on.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I suggest that although the section has been read out...

Some Hon. Members: The ruling has been given.

Dr. Deshmukh: I am in possession of the House.

Mr. Chairman: The ruling has been given. The hon. Mover may be permitted to go on with his speech.

Prof. K. T. Shah: In commending this motion to the House, I was myself going to quote as my authority the section just now read out by Mr. Kamath, namely, section 84(c). It specifically authorises Parliament to enact further legislation or make provision for laying down such qualifications as it may deem fit. That being the position, the argument urged that while the Constitution was going through the C. A. certain amendments to this effect had been moved and were rejected has no place, for the simple reason that even at this time I was convinced that Parliament should not be tied down in advance by the letter of the Constitution, and provision should not be inserted in the Constitution laying down specific qualifications or disqualifications which may unnecessarily come in the way of Parliament hereafter. It was for that reason that provision was made in the Constitution itself as now read out, which exclusively authorises that such qualifications may be laid down.

By this resolution, I am not proposing to lay down here and now definite qualifications. I am only indicating the opinion of this House that it is time these qualifications were laid down. And if the powers that be smile upon this motion, I have every hope that some definite steps will be taken and effective machinery framed which will carefully consider qualifications that

may be proper for this House. These, in their turn will be brought before this House in the form of either a proposal for legislation or otherwise, as it may be found suitable, and then enacted with the full concurrence of this House.

Dr. Deshmukh: Madam, I think you will pardon me for raising another point of order. My point of order is this, that this resolution does not propose to lay down any qualifications. If it is claimed, and if it is the ruling that the section which has been referred to in the Constitution permits the Parliament to have additional qualifications, then this resolution is absolutely redundant. It merely repeats what is provided in the Constitution, that there shall be certain more qualifications laid down. So, what is the use of a resolution if there is provision in the Constitution? This is merely a repetition, absolutely useless and a waste of time.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao (Madras): How is it a point of order? It may be a repetition.

Dr. Deshmukh: It contravenes the section.

Shri Bharati (Madras): It does not contravene.

Shri Kamath: May I answer my friend, Dr. Deshmukh?

Mr. Chairman: Yes.

Shri Kamath: May I submit that it is perfectly in consonance with the particular Articles quoted, namely 84(c) and 173(c) of the Constitution, for this House to discuss this matter of additional qualifications. After discussion of this matter, the House may bring in a piece of legislation to give effect to Articles 84(c) or 173(c). Previous discussion is not barred.

Dr. Deshmukh: I claim that there should be the legislation itself on which we should have discussion and not merely a duplication of something that is laid down in the Constitution, if that is claimed by the hon. Member.

Mr. Chairman: The Constitution lays down the qualifications of the voters, but what this resolution seeks to do is to lay down the qualification of candidates for members of the Parliament. So it is perfectly in order and sub-section (c) of section 84 applies. Therefore, the point of order has absolutely no force.

Prof. K. T. Shah: This resolution only gives a sort of an impetus to the powers that be to act in the matter and fulfil the promise that is implicit in this clause of the Constitution. The attempts made in the past to bring forward amendments may have been rejected and were, I believe, rejected, on the ground that it would make the Constitution to go too much into detail to provide such minute characteristics there.

Besides, qualifications of this kind or disqualifications may, from time to time, change their aspect and what was once regarded as suitable qualification or disqualification may, at a later time, not be so considered. For instance, when the theory of representation required the representative to be conversant with his locality, the qualification of residence was insisted upon very strongly. The time has come when the feeling of national solidarity in most parts of the world has grown to such an extent that residence in a particular locality is not now deemed so essential as was once upon a time the case.

Similarly, qualifications relating to property or ability to pay certain taxes, or fulfilling certain tests by way of religion etc. are not also any longer necessary. A Constitution, especially a written Constitution, if it is burdened with all those details may fail in its very objective. It may become much too rigid to be satisfactorily workable, and, therefore, I myself recognised at the time—and I recognise now—that it was perhaps for the best that those qualifications and disqualifications which I had the honour then to propose were not included in the Constitution.

[Prof. K. T. Shah]

Today, however, none of those reasons exist, nor do I propose by this motion to indicate, here and now, or to lay down here and now, any specific qualifications or otherwise which will bind the House. Instead I propose to leave the House free to consider in a proper manner at a proper time when full investigation has been made into the problem and the matter is brought before the House in an appropriate form whether in the form of any proposed legislation or otherwise to be given effect to. I consider this to be a sort of a preliminary enquiry, necessary to test not only public opinion, but also the appropriate, requisite qualifications that, under the present circumstances, may be deemed to be desirable to lay down.

Dr. Deshmukh: Let it go for public opinion and you will know.

Prof. K. T. Shah: For instance, there is in the Constitution itself a clause which requires citizenship as a condition precedent for anybody to be a candidate, and that is further qualified by saying that if anybody has given up his citizenship, and acquired the citizenship of another country, that qualification would become inoperative or a disqualification. That is to say, a person who has gone, let us say, to the neighbouring country, and acquired, of his own choice, citizenship there, then he ceases to be a citizen of this country, and would therefore not be qualified to be a voter or a candidate.

On that basis, then, the need for laying down qualifications according to the circumstances and conditions of the time being is ever so much more important today than in the past at any time or perhaps in any other country. I would like to disabuse those critics of this motion at this stage by pointing out that this is not a motion in any way to restrict the franchise of the people as a whole, that is to say, the assumption underlying this Constitution, with which I wholeheartedly agree—that democracy in this country is based on adult franchise irrespective of sex, irrespective of property or other qualifications. The voters, the sovereign people, remain unaffected except by such conditions regarding maturity of age as have been provided for in the Constitution. But for other things, parliamentary legislation is necessary, and that is only in regard to candidates for Members.

At this point, I would like to invite the attention of this House to the very basis of the representative capacity of a legislative body like this. We are assembled in this House as representatives of the people. The representatives of the people are not merely mandataries or delegates, but are representing in a way so as to reflect generally, for the good of the country, the current public opinion and the sentiment of the people on important matters of policy and legislation.

If we are charged, as in this House we are charged, with the task of controlling, of checking, of supervising, the country's administration of holding the Ministers responsible and answerable for their acts in this House, then I submit the function cannot be fully and satisfactorily discharged.

5 P. M. Our trust, or the trust laid in us by the electors cannot be properly discharged unless there is a certain degree of competence, of ability and of understanding in the members of Parliament to discharge their duty.

official day.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may continue his speech on the next non-official day. The House stands adjourned till quarter to eleven of the clock tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 10th February, 1950.