

Monday, 20th February, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 1950

(1st February to 13th March, 1950)

FIRST SESSION
OF
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950

CONTENTS

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

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

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

CORRIGENDA

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

In Volume I,—

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

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

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

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

In Volume II,—

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

36. No. 15, dated the 3rd April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1254, line 1, for "**Dr. P. S. Mookerjee**" read "**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee**";
 - (ii) Page 1268, line 16 from bottom, for "*rehbiwalas*" read "*Rahriwalas*";
 - (iii) Page 1271, line 9 from bottom, for "*Ministry*" read "*Minister*";
37. No. 16, dated the 4th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1282, line 2 from bottom, for "*happend*" read "*happened*" and line 1 from bottom, omit "*here*";
 - (ii) Page 1291, line 5 from bottom, after "*that*" insert "*may be*";
38. No. 18, dated the 6th April, 1950,—
- (i) Page 1358, in heading to Starred Question No. 1467, for "**EXPERTS**" read "**EXPORTS**"; line 21, for "*4*" read "*41*" and line 6 from bottom, for "*spending*" read "*sending*";
 - (ii) Page 1354, line 4, for "*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 " बड़ढी " 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 آرو ۴۴ کے بجائے دد اور ۴۴ پڑھیں -

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(۲) صفحہ ۷۲۵ - سطر ۸ - دد پیکلک ۴۴ کے بجائے دد پیکلنگ 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 کے بجائے دہ مدر ۴۴ پڑھیں -

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

- (۱) صفحہ ۱۵۰۸ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دہ ہاوس ۴۰ کے بجائے دہ ہاوس ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۲) صفحہ ۱۵۱۲ - سطر ۷ - دہ مولما کے بجائے دہ مولانا ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۳) صفحہ ۱۵۱۲ - نیچے سے سطر ۳ - دہ کرن کے بجائے دہ کرن کے ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۴) صفحہ ۱۵۱۶ - سطر ۴ - دہ فورا کے بجائے دہ فوراً ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۵) صفحہ ۱۵۱۶ - نیچے سے سطر ۱۲ - دہ ۷۷۱۰ کے بجائے دہ ۷۷۲۰ ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۶) صفحہ ۱۵۱۸ - سطر ۳ - دہ دالونکا کے بجائے دہ دالونکا ۴۴ پڑھیں -
(۷) صفحہ ۱۵۲۵ - نیچے سے سطر ۲ - دہ ۱۹۳۱ کے بجائے دہ ۱۹۳۹ ۴۴ پڑھیں -

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

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

In Volume III—

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

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

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Monday, 20th February, 1950.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

Colonel B. H. Zaidi (Uttar Pradesh).

Shri V. T. Krishnamachari (Rajasthan).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

RAILWAY COLLISION AT KANPUR

*344. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on or about 20th August 1949 the Delhi-Howrah Express collided with the G.I.P. Passenger at Kanpur?

(b) If so how many persons were injured and how many died?

(c) What was the cause of this accident?

(d) Has an enquiry been held and if so, what are the findings?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) 12 Down Delhi-Howrah Express collided with the rake of 806 Up G.I.P. Passenger.

(b) Sixteen persons received minor injuries.

(c) and (d). An Enquiry by a Committee of Senior Railway Officers was held. The Finding of the Committee was that the accident was caused by No. 12 Down Express having been wrongly admitted on a line already occupied by the rake of the Kanpur-Banda Passenger train at Kanpur Central, as a result of the non-observance of certain of the prescribed rules by the Assistant Station Masters of the two Cabins, on duty at the time of the accidents.

Shri Sidhva: May I know what action has been taken against the Assistant Station Masters and others who were responsible for this?

Shri Santhanam: Two Assistant Station Masters have been demoted as Signallers. One senior Cabin Assistant Station Master has been demoted temporarily for one year. And in regard to the driver of No. 12 Down Express, his increment has been stopped for six months.

Shri Sidhva: Do Government consider this punishment sufficient for avoiding any further accidents?

Mr. Speaker: It is a matter of opinion.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether a similar type of accident—that is, wrong siding—occurred last week in respect of a train on the G.I.P. track with the result that there were several casualties, and if so, what steps Government intend to take to stop the intentional lack of the sense of duty on the part of railway officials?

Shri Santhanam: Unless the hon. Member gives me the particulars of the accident I cannot say anything offhand. But the senior officers considered this punishment adequate for the purpose.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether any amount was paid by way of compensation to the persons involved in the accident?

Shri Santhanam: The injuries to persons in this accident were very minor and therefore there was no question of compensation.

Shri Kamath: Are railway accidents in India tending to be on the increase or the decrease as compared with the previous years?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is a very general question.

Shri Kamath: I shall put it this way. Have there been more railway accidents this year, that is from the 1st of April 1949 up-to-date, than in the corresponding period of the previous year?

Shri Santhanam: I think in the last year there have been less accidents than in the previous year.

Shri Sonavane: May I know whether there is any automatic mechanical device of preventing trains running into tracks already occupied by another train, and if not, will the Government ask any scientist to devise one?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will not make suggestions but ask for information only. Is there any reply to the first part of it?

Shri Santhanam: I do not think it is possible for any scientist to devise any machinery by which a track cannot be occupied by two trains at the same time.

Shri Frank Anthony: May I know whether in any case in the past year where officials have been found guilty of departing from traffic rules and precipitating accidents, any official has been removed from service?

Shri Santhanam: I have already stated that the officials concerned in this particular instance have been punished.

Shri Kamath: How many of the accidents during the last year have been due to the negligence on the part of the running staff and station staff and how many due to mechanical defects and sabotage?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think this really arises out of the question.

PRIORITY FOR BOOKING GOODS ON G. I. P. AND B. B. & C. I. RAILWAYS

*345. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what is the present position of priority for booking goods from Bombay on G.I.P. and B.B. & C.I. Railways?

(b) What are the articles which are closed for small bookings by passenger trains and by goods trains?

(c) How many stations on B.B. and C.I. and G.I.P. Railways are closed for booking from the month of April 1949 up-to-date and when do Government intend re-opening the stations for booking?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) The booking of goods from Bombay—G.I.P. and B.B. & C.I. Railways is free except that priority regulation is enforced as and when necessitated by operating conditions. Such occasions are infrequent.

(b) A list of the articles which are not accepted for booking as parcels by passenger train over the G.I.P. and B.B. & C.I. Railways is laid on the Table of the House. (*Copy placed in the Library. See No. P-62/50.*)

There is no restriction in the booking of any article as "Smalls" by goods train.

(c) No station on the G.I.P. and B.B. & C.I. Railways has remained closed for booking from April 1949 up-to-date. The latter part of the question does not therefore, arise.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the wagon situation on the broad gauge line has been improved, and if so, why on a small scale the restriction is still maintained?

Shri Santhanam: I have already stated that the restrictions are not maintained, but occasionally when there is congestion temporary restrictions are placed. Otherwise, both the lines are generally free.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether, apart from small bookings, large bookings by passenger trains are open?

Shri Santhanam: I am afraid my hon. friend has not understood the position. Small booking is by goods train and the other one, namely, parcel is by passenger train. Only certain articles are not allowed to be sent as parcels by passenger trains. They are allowed to be sent either as "smalls" or by wagon-loads in goods trains.

Shri Sidhva: What is the maximum weight of the parcel described by the hon. Minister which can be sent by a passenger train?

Shri Santhanam: There are some limitations both as regards volume and weight for which, however, I would require notice.

Shri Sidhva: Does the hon. Member know the difference between a "parcel" and a "small goods"?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: How many days does a passenger-parcel train take to reach Delhi from Bombay?

Shri Santhanam: It depends upon the train. Sometimes it comes very quick, but sometimes due to unloading of parcels at way-side stations it takes a lot of time.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is he aware of the fact that it takes about ten days for a passenger-parcel-train to reach Delhi from Bombay?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sonavane: What is the priority number in respect of leather goods and raw hides for booking as "goods"?

RESTRICTIONS ON ENTERTAINMENT OF GUESTS

*346. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that in the Food Ministers' Conference held in August

last, it was decided that there should be an uniform system regarding the number of guests to be entertained at parties in connection with various functions?

(b) If so, what is the number?

(c) Is it a fact that the Government of India recommended at the instance of various State Governments, that 50 should be the maximum number of guests on such occasions excluding the members of household?

(d) Are all the State Governments following an uniform policy as decided in the Conference?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) to (c). The Food Ministers' Conference in August last accepted the need for adopting austerity measures throughout the country but in view of the divergent opinions expressed on the proposals regarding the number of guests etc., agreed that the final decision should be left to the Government of India. The Government of India decided with regard to number that (i) on occasions of marriage and funerals, the number of guests, excluding the members of the household, who may be provided with rationed grains should not exceed 50 in number and (ii) for ordinary entertainments at which rationed food is served the number of persons including host/hosts should not exceed 25.

(d) Some of the State Governments have suggested minor variations as to the occasions or articles of food for which the above limits are prescribed.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether these orders of the Government of India are being followed by all the States Governments? Is it not a fact that the Governments of Bombay and the Punjab are not following them?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As I have said, they have suggested minor changes which are being considered. I expect that all the States Governments will carry out the final decision given by the Government of India.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that a high official of the Government of India recently fed about 2,000 people during a marriage at his house?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware of that, but I do not know whether rationed food was distributed there.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Do the rules operate also on any parties held by the President and the Embassies?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Certain exceptions are made in Delhi. For instance, there is no restriction in the case of Government House so far as the number of guests is concerned. And one or two special exceptions are made as in the case of Embassies.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: So, there is no restriction as far as the Embassies are concerned?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): None of the Embassies is affected by these rules.

Shri Kamath: Have any instances been brought to the notice of Government recently when Governors or Ministers in the States refused to participate in dinners and walked out because the party consisted of more than twenty-five?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes.

Shri Kamath: What action was taken in those cases against the hosts?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I believe the parties must have been stopped or the rationed articles removed. In any case, I understand there was one instance in Bihar and I shall enquire as to what happened.

Shri R. Subramaniam: Is this limit regarding the number of guests applicable to non-rationed areas also?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It applies to the entire area of the State—rationed or unrationed.

Shri Tirumala Rao: With regard to the reply given by the Prime Minister, do our Embassies abroad enjoy the same privilege?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, Sir.

Shri B. K. Chaudhuri: May I know if two or three Members who hold ration cards can combine together and invite twenty-five each?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That is entering into an argument.

Khwaja Inait Ullah: Does this rule apply to the rural areas also?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes.

Shri Kamath: Apart from stopping the party, is no action taken against the host who invited more than twenty-five guests?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

PRODUCTION OF CEREALS

*347. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state the latest position about production of cereals in the country, and the deficit, if any, expected during the next six months?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): The food estimates are not assessed on a six-monthly basis, but for the whole year. According to the State Governments estimates the total deficit in their food budgets during 1950 will amount to 35 lakh tons. In view of better crop prospects this year the total distribution required from the centre at present is expected to amount to 20.57 lakh tons of which 6.75 lakh tons is likely to be available from surplus areas within the country.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या सरकार के पास अलग अलग प्रान्तों से इस प्रकार की रिपोर्ट आई है कि खरीफ़ फ़सल जो बोई गई थी, उसकी उपज इस साल गये खरीफ़ फ़सल से कम आशा की जाती है ?

Seth Govind Das: Have the Government received separate reports from the Governments of the States, intimating them any expected fall in the *kharif* crop to be harvested this year as compared to the one in the preceding year?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: In the case of most States the prospects are better, but in the case of some reports have come that the prospects will be worse than the previous year's.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : सब मिलाकर क्या यह आशा की जाती है कि खरीफ़ फ़सल गये साल जो आई थी, इस साल उससे ज्यादा आयेंगे ?

Seth Govind Das: Could this be expected that the total of all of them will exceed this year as compared to the previous year's?

श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : ज्यादा आयेगी, except in Madras.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It will exceed except in Madras.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जहां तक रबी की फसल का मामला है, क्या गवर्नमेंट के पास इसकी रिपोर्ट आई हैं कि रबी की फसलों को काफी नुकसान हुआ है ?

Seth Govind Das: Is the Government in possession of any reports giving intimation of an appreciable damage having been done as far as the *Rabbi* crop is concerned?

श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : यह भी है ।

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is also the case.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : कितने प्रान्तों से रिपोर्टें अभी तक आई हैं और कितनों से बाकी हैं ?

Seth Govind Das: How many of the States have sent in such reports and from how many they are still expected?

श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : पंजाब से मैंने ताजा सुना है कि पहले बरसात आई थी, उससे फ़ायदा हुआ और बाद में कोल्ड वेव्स की वजह से नुकसान हुआ ।

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The latest I have heard is from the Punjab. It is to the effect that previously rains proved to be beneficial but damage has occurred now because of the cold waves.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अभी जो कुल रिपोर्टें गवर्नमेंट के पास मौजूद हैं उनसे क्या आशा की जाती है कि इस साल खरीफ़ और रबी की फसल दोनों मिलाकर कुल फसल ज्यादा होगी, या कम होगी ?

Seth Govind Das: From all such reports in possession of the Government till date, could it be anticipated that the sum-total of the *kharif* and the *Rabbi* crops will be more or less?

श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : अभी रबी के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा जा सकता है, उम्मीद तो है, बेहतर होगी ।

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Nothing can be anticipated with regard to the *Rabbi* crops at this stage. The prospects, however, seem to be better.

LOSS OF FOOD GRAINS

*348. Seth Govind Das: Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state the steps that are proposed to be taken to safeguard decomposition or loss of food-grains due to bad storage or due to insects and rats?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (1) Grain is stored preferably in damp and rat proof godowns.

(2) Disinfestation measures such as dusting of insecticides on bags, fumigation of stocks etc. are carried out wherever technical staff is available.

(3) Training for insecticides work has been given to 1327 members of the staff of 14 States and training will be extended to the other states.

(4) Technical organisations to carry out the above measures have been set up at the Central Government depots and by some of the State Governments. Such of the State Governments as have not yet set up technical organisations have been asked to do so immediately. The State Governments have been also asked to provide proper godowns for storing grains. The loss due to bad storage and insects and rats will be substantially reduced as these steps are taken.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : गये साल जितना नुकसान हुआ था उसकी बनिस्बत क्या इस साल इस तरह का नुकसान कम होगा, ऐसी आशा की जाती है ?

Seth Govind Das: Is there any hope that damage of the type done during the last year will be less this year?

श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : यही आशा है। As a matter of fact, we are progressing. In 1947 the loss in transit and storage in Central godowns was .6 per cent. In 1949 it was reduced to .3 per cent. that is by about one half.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Such is the hope. As a matter of fact, we are progressing. In 1947 the loss in transit and storage in Central godowns was .6 per cent. In 1949 it was reduced to .3 per cent. that is by about one half.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : किन किन स्टेट्स में यह जो केन्द्रीय काम हो रहा है इसको बचाने के लिये, वह किन किन स्टेट्स में शुरू हो गया है और किन किन स्टेट्स में बाक़ी है ?

Seth Govind Das: In which of the States, this work carried on by the Centre to safeguard against loss of this type has already commenced and in which of them this is still to be commenced?

श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम : बम्बई, मद्रास, सी० पी०, यू० पी०, पंजाब और मसूर, इनमें छोटी छोटी टेकनिकल आरगनाइजेशनस् (Technical Organisations) हैं, लेकिन दूसरी जो स्टेट्स हैं, उनमें अभी तो सोचा जा रहा है।

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There are small technical organisations functioning in the States of Bombay, Madras, C.P., U.P., the Punjab and Mysore. The matter is under consideration in the rest of them.

Shri Ramalingam Chettiar: Sir, may I request the Minister at least to reply in English so that the others can understand?

Mr. Speaker: What does the hon. Member want? He wants an English translation?

Shri Ramalingam Chettiar: I asked whether the Minister will be so pleased as to reply at least in English. The Members can put questions in Hindi but at least the Ministers can reply in English.

Mr. Speaker: The point is that it is perfectly legitimate and permissible to use Hindi. And I may go further and say that the new Constitution makes it obligatory. But that is a different matter. The hon. Member will get an English translation in the proceedings.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the Government be pleased to state what is the total quantity lost on account of decomposition, insects and rats during the last year ending December, 1949?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Speaking of the Central Government godowns, the loss due to storage was grain worth about two to three lakhs. I am sorry I have not got all the figures handy, but with regard to loss in the country as a whole it will be much vaster.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that some times loss due to men are attributed to rats and insects?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is an inference.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is there any provision in Bihar for carrying out these methods of preserving grain that may be lost in this manner?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think Bihar is one of those Governments who are yet considering the question of setting up a technical organisation.

श्री भट्ट : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर गया है कि सड़े अनाज के बहाने, अच्छा अनाज या वह जानवरों के लिये दिया गया था ? बम्बई की मिसाल में दे रहा हूँ ।

Shri Bhatt: Has the hon. Minister given his attention to the fact that foodgrains in good condition have been allotted for animal consumption on the pretext of the commodity being rotten? I am citing Bombay in this case.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That matter is under enquiry.

श्री भट्ट : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि कई सरकारें व्यापारियों के गुदाम ज़ब्त कर लेती हैं और वह ज़ब्त किये हुए गुदाम कई महीनों तक वैसे के वैसे ही रहते हैं और उसमें अनाज सड़ जाता है ।

Shri Bhatt: Is the hon. Minister aware that in many States godowns of businessmen are sealed and remain sealed for months and the foodgrains rot there.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not think that is generally true, but if my attention is drawn to any particular area, I will have the matter enquired into.

Shri Alexander: May I know the amount of money realized by the sale of decomposed foodstuffs?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: When the grain gets rotten, we generally sell it to starch manufacturers who use it for the purpose of manufacturing starch.

Shri Alexander: What is the amount realized in 1949 by such sale?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I require notice.

Shri Sidhya: Has the attention of the hon. Minister been drawn to a statement made by the Governor of U.P. that a large number of monkeys have destroyed food?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: My attention has been drawn by the U.P. Government. In fact, everybody's attention has been drawn.

Shri Kamath: Is the over-all food deficit in the country more or less, than the total loss due to storage, destruction by rats etc.?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think the loss which we suffer on account of insects, rats and other causes would be greater than the deficit, I have mentioned.

PRODUCTION OF SUGAR

*349. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the total production of sugar upto February, 1950, and whether any sugar scarcity is apprehended during the next six months, and if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to minimise the difficulties of the public?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): Sugar production up to the end of January 1950 was 4,64,672 tons. Production during February is still to be known.

The total production during the year will be known after the completion of the season. It is, therefore, not possible at this stage to state whether any sugar scarcity will occur. However, in case it occurs, steps to be taken are under consideration.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अब तक इस साल जितनी शक्कर बनी है क्या वह पर साल अब तक जितनी शक्कर बनी थी उससे कम है ?

Seth Govind Das: Is the total production in respect of sugar, till this time of the running year, less than the quantity manufactured till the corresponding period of the last year?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The production up to the end of January this year is greater than the production up to the end of January last year.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेंट को इस बात की रिपोर्ट मिली है कि इधर गन्ने का गुड़ बन चुका है और मार्च के महीने से शक्कर के मिल बन्द होने की संभावना है ?

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government in receipt of any report to the effect that *gur* has been manufactured from the cane this side of the country and consequently there is a possibility of the sugar mills closing down with effect from the month of March?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, there has been considerable diversion of sugar cane to *gur*, but it is too early to say as to whether it will be necessary for the mills to close down.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या इस साल गवर्नमेंट बाहर से कुछ शक्कर मंगाने का विचार कर रही है या यहीं की शक्कर से काम चलाया जायगा ?

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government considering this year any proposals for importing sugar from outside or the sugar manufactured locally will be made to suffice?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No decision has been taken. The matter is under consideration.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether the proposed Committee to go into the sugar muddle has been appointed and if so, who are the members?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That matter is under consideration. The Committee has not yet been appointed. The Tariff Board report is under examination.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: What is the production of sugar by mills in the Western U.P. up to 31st January? Is it less than that of last year and have some mills already closed?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The production of sugar in the Western U.P., area has gone down. The production in Eastern U.P. is expected to be better, so also production in Bihar and possibly also in Madras and Bombay.

With regard to closing down of any particular factory in the Western U.P., I am not aware.

Shri Tyagi: What is the present method of distribution of sugar? Does sugar stand frozen even today?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The method that was adopted in September last continues.

Shri Tyagi: What is that method? On what basis is sugar distributed? Is it given to merchants to sell?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is given to the provinces on the basis of what each province used to receive in the pre-control period. The provinces are given discretion as to the manner in which distribution is to be made, and also, the quantity to be given to urban and the quantity to be given to rural areas.

Shri Tirumala Rao: In view of the statement that fresh stocks are being produced, may I know if this has led to any easing of the situation with regard to supply and price of sugar?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The supply to all the provinces has been increased.

Shri Tirumala Rao: And the price?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Himatsingka: Is the falling off of production of sugar and diversion of sugarcane to *gur* in the Western U.P. due to any action taken by the State Government of the U.P. in connection with realization of money from cane growers?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I would not be able to say. It will be for the U.P. Government to say.

Shri Sidhya: Is the distribution of sugar being done by Government or the Sugar Syndicate?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government are doing it. The Syndicate has nothing to do with it.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Do Government consider that the mills on the whole will be able to crush for the 100 minimum days as settled by the first Tariff Board?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I would not wish to make any forecast at present. We are making efforts to see that the factories get the maximum cane.

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF ARECANUTS

*350. **Shri Barman:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what is the annual consumption of arecanuts in India?

(b) What is the annual production in India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Accurate figures regarding the total consumption of arecanuts in India are not available. Consumption depends on the level of prices. It is estimated on the basis of production, imports and exports that the average annual consumption during the last three years has been between 36 and 37 lakh maunds.

(b) About 24 lakh maunds.

Shri Barman: What is the expenditure of the Government of India in importing arecanut to make up the deficiency?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am afraid my Ministry is not dealing with import of arecanuts.

Shri Shankarajya: How much is exported?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not think much is exported, but import and export are not being dealt with by my Ministry.

Shri R. K. Chandhuri: May I know what quantity of arecanuts is still imported from Pakistan?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The figures that I have do not include anything from Pakistan, unless it is included in the general statement "Other countries", against which is mentioned 0.4 lakh maunds.

Shri Karunakara Menon: What is the progress of work that the All-India Central Arecanut Committee has made since its creation, and in what directions?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It has set up a sub-committee to work out plans for development. Its report is expected at the next meeting. The proposals are to set up arecanut nurseries in Western Bengal, Orissa, Travancore-Cochin, Assam and Coorg and also research stations in Malabar, Orissa and Bombay.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is it a fact that because of unrestricted imports of arecanut, the price of arecanut grown in our country has gone down?

Shri Karunakara Menon: May I know how much of the money set apart for the Arecanut Committee for 1949-50 is contemplated to be spent this year?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The expenditure for the current year is expected to be about Rs. 76,000.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Does not the Ministry of Agriculture keep information about import and export of the different items which are its concern in order to control or improve production?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Import and export matters are dealt with by the Commerce Ministry. But there is continuous consultation whenever questions dealing with production arise.

WIRELESS CONTROL OF THE MOVEMENTS OF AEROPLANES

*352. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state what aerodromes in the Indian Union are functioning as the centres for the wireless control of the movements of aeroplanes for commercial civil aviation in India?

(b) Are such aerodromes furnished with up-to-date modern scientific equipments and apparatus?

(c) If so, what is the total investment made by the Government of India on such air stations?

(d) Are any further improvements contemplated thereon and if so, at what costs and by which time?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 44.*]

(b) No, Sir. The stations are equipped mostly with war-time surplus equipment acquired from Disposals.

(c) The total estimated cost of the equipment installed at the 86 stations operated by the Director General of Civil Aviation is Rs. 45,00,000 approximately. The cost of the equipment installed at the other stations is not known to this Ministry.

(d) Yes, Sir. The development plans which are estimated to cost about Rs. 1,87,50,000 envisage all-round improvement of the Aeronautical Communication Service. The implementation of the plans will be spread over a number of years and will depend on the extent of the funds which can be made available for this purpose, having regard to the financial situation in the country. Among the improvements contemplated are (i) the provision of modern radio aids for all-weather flying and approach and landing at important aerodromes and (ii) the replacement of the present war-time structures in which the transmitting and receiving stations are housed by functionally designed permanent buildings.

Shri Sidhva: In reply to part (b) of the question the hon. Minister replied in the negative. May I know which of the aerodromes in the list mentioned are fitted with up-to-date scientific apparatus?

Shri Khurshed Lal: As I said most of them are equipped with war-time surplus equipment.

Shri Sidhva: I would like to know which of the international aerodromes are equipped with modern apparatus?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Certain important works are yet to be done at the international air ports: the instrument landing system at Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi; the ground control approach at Bombay and the long-way navigational aids in Bombay and Calcutta. These will be done as soon as funds permit.

Shri B. K. Chaudhuri: Has each aerodrome been equipped with such modern equipment? Is there any such centre in the province of Assam?

Shri Khurshed Lal: No.

Shri Hossain Imam: And in Bihar?

IMPORT OF SUGAR

*353. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of India have taken a decision to import sugar from Java?

(b) If so, what is the price of sugar in Java as compared with the price of sugar in India?

(c) At what approximate price is the sugar imported from Java likely to be sold in India?

(d) Have the Government of India taken any decision regarding import of sugar from other foreign countries also and if so, from which countries and in what quantities?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) to (d). An enquiry regarding availability of sugar for import into India and quotations and terms thereof has been made from the Government of Indonesia. No reply has yet been received. A decision in regard to import of sugar from the other foreign countries has not yet been taken.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या गवर्नमेंट इस बात का विचार कर रही है कि चीनी में से कंट्रोल हटा दिया जाय ?

Seth Govind Das: Are the Government considering any proposal to de-control sugar?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It has not yet been decided.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस बात पर विचार कर रही है ?

Seth Govind Das: What I want to know is whether this is under consideration?

Shri Trumala Rao: The hon. Minister replied that no decision has been taken. Is the matter actively under the consideration of Government—to import sugar from Java?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It is under consideration—whether it should be from Java or from other countries and has not yet been finally decided.

Dr. R. S. Singh: Is it a fact that some State Ministers are urging the agriculturists to give up sugar cane production in favour of cereals?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No Government has done so.

شری حسین امام : کہا منسٹر صاحب فرما سکتے ہیں کہ قیمت کے متعلق کن کن ملکوں سے انکوائری (Enquiry) کی جا رہی ہے کہ چھلی کن دامنوں پر ملے گی -

Shri Hossain Imam: Is the hon. Minister in a position to inform as to from which of the countries an enquiry regarding the price at which sugar is available there, is being made?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government have made no enquiries from other countries. We know that private trade channels have been making enquiries.

WEST COAST MAJOR PORT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

*354. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the West Coast Major Port Development Committee has submitted its report, if so, what are its recommendations; and

(b) whether the Central Board of Transport considered the recommendations of the Committee, and if so, with what results?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The West Coast Major Port Development Committee has submitted its report, a copy of which is placed in the library.

(b) Yes. The Central Board of Transport have suggested that the recommendations regarding the need for and the siting of the major port should be deferred for the present, and that a more thorough examination of the economic and engineering aspects should be undertaken when the financial position improved.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether Government stands committed to the development of a major port on the Western coast or not?

Shri Gopalaswami: They are committed to the development of a major port at Kandla on the West coast.

Shri Kamath: Have Government finally deferred consideration of the development of a port on the west coast from among the four ports of Mangalore, Bhatkal, Malpe and Karwar, recommended to them last year?

Shri Gopalaswami: It has been deferred pending a final investigation.

Shri Kamath: Is this report of the West Coast Major Port Development Committee being placed before the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Transport?

Shri Gopalaswami: Yes.

LATE RUNNING OF TRAINS ON O. T. RAILWAY.

***360. Shri Jnani Ram:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the late running of trains on the O.T. Railway?

(b) What measures are being taken for the punctual running of trains?

(c) When will it be possible to put the supply of wagons on the line on the pre-war level?

(d) What are the reasons for not putting the supply of wagons on the pre-war level?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes. A deterioration in punctuality set in during January 1950 owing to rush of Magh Mela traffic catered for by fewer than the normal number of trains. Some passenger trains had to be cancelled to find engines for movement of traffic via the Assam Rail Link consequent on the denial of transit facilities by the E. B. Railway.

(b) As soon as normal number of trains is restored, punctuality will improve. In the meanwhile special watch is being maintained on running of passenger trains to secure maximum possible punctuality under the present conditions.

(c) and (d). It is our constant aim to increase wagon supply to even above pre-war level by improving turn round of available stock, by reducing the number of wagons under repairs and by obtaining new wagons to the extent that funds permit.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that even important things like manure for 'Grow More Food' is not being sent from Delhi to the stations on the O. T. Railway for want of wagons, and if so what are Government going to do about it?

Shri Santhanam: If the hon. Member will give me particulars, I shall enquire. The real difficulty is at the transshipment points. On the broad gauge the position is easy. But in the metre gauge of the O. T. Railway the position is not so easy and at the transshipment points there are difficulties.

Shri Synamandan Sahaya: Are Government aware that B. B. and C. I. wagons go to the O. T. Railway without any transshipment—I mean the metre gauge wagons?

Shri Santhanam: In the metre gauge they can go through; but there are shortages of wagons owing to the congestion of traffic in that area.

DELHI SUGAR SYNDICATE

*361. **Shri N. S. Jain:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the sugar distribution monopoly in Delhi is given to one firm namely, Delhi Sugar Syndicate?

(b) What is the constitution of this Syndicate?

(c) Why have other trade channels been ignored?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) and (b). The work of purchasing sugar from the factories and storing and distributing it to ration shops in Delhi has been assigned by the Delhi Administration to a Syndicate consisting of (i) Messrs Mukandlal Hiralal, (ii) Messrs Sardarimal Kundanlal, (iii) Messrs Dindayal Murarilal, (iv) Ganesh Flour Mills Co., Ltd., and (v) Messrs Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co., Ltd.

(c) The Delhi Administration had entrusted this Agency during the last control period with the work of procurement and distribution of sugar and its work had been found by the Delhi Administration to be satisfactory. With the reimposition of control on sugar this Syndicate was again appointed as the importing and distributing agency by the Delhi Administration as it was felt that controlled distribution might continue for a brief period.

Shri N. S. Jain: Have any efforts been made by Government to see that the cooperative organisations take charge of the distribution?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The Government themselves have not asked any co-operative organisations. If any comes into the field, Government will surely consider.

Shri N. S. Jain: Are there any co-operative organisations in Delhi?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There are many co-operative organisations in Delhi which have been entrusted with the distribution of grains, but I do not know whether any co-operative organisation exists in Delhi for the distribution of sugar.

Shri N. S. Jain: May I know whether the Delhi Administration will be asked to contact co-operative organisations?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is making a suggestion.

Prof. Ranga: Who are supposed to be in charge of the Delhi Sugar Syndicate and what reasons did Government have to satisfy themselves that this will give satisfaction to the public?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: This was the decision of the Delhi Administration. The matter never came up to me. After all, the Delhi Administration is conducting the provincial administration. The Central Government is in charge of

major policy and can in certain cases over-rule, but the day to day administration is carried on by the Delhi Administration. If any particular proposal comes up before Government, Government will certainly consider it.

Shri Tyagi: What is the percentage of profit which this Syndicate derives from the sale of sugar and how much sugar is given to them every year?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: No decision has yet been arrived at as to how much profit should be given to this Syndicate.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether they are having any profit?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I said that the question has not yet been decided.

Shri Tyagi: What is the rate at which they get sugar and what is the rate at which they are selling it?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The matter has not yet been decided.

Mr. Speaker: His question is that the Syndicate must be selling the sugar at a certain profit. What is the percentage of that profit, he asks.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: So far as I know, they can only sell it to ration shops at the control rate.

Shri Tyagi: My question is whether there is any difference between the price at which they are getting and the price at which they are selling the sugar.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The Syndicate procures the quantity of sugar needed for Delhi, and then gives it to the retail shops at control rates. What profit this Syndicate should get has not yet been decided. The price fixed by the ration shops is determined by Government.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know, Sir, whether the wholesalers of sugar in Delhi made any representation to the Government of India that the arrangement of entrusting the distribution of sugar to the Syndicate was not satisfactory and if so, what action has been taken on the same?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There was a casual conversation between me and the hon. Member, but no deputation has so far come to me in this connection.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, he has not answered my question.

Mr. Speaker: He has answered it. The hon. Member has not followed his reply.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I said that what margin of profit the Syndicate should get is a matter to be yet decided.

Shri Tyagi: I want to know whether there is any difference between the two prices.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The question of how much profit the Syndicate should get has not yet been decided.

Shri Tyagi: He has not yet answered my question, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The matter is clear. He is still not in a position to give that information.

Shri Tyagi: Let him say so then.

Mr. Speaker: He has said so.

CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVE STORES IN DELHI

***362. Shri N. S. Jain:** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state how many Consumers' Co-operative Stores are there in Delhi under the control of the Rationing Organisation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): 95.

Shri Shiva Rao: Is the Government aware that it is extremely difficult for co-operative organisations to get registered in Delhi because of the difficulty of getting at the official concerned?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am not aware, but since it has been brought to my attention, I will go into the matter.

Prof. Ranga: What steps have Government taken to encourage these consumers' co-operative organisations in Delhi?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I will require notice of that question.

Shri Tirumala Rao: To a previous question, the hon. Minister replied that food grains are being distributed by these co-operative societies. If they are working satisfactorily, what prevents them from handling sugar?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Has Government considered the advisability of carrying on with this distribution through co-operatives, in other States apart from Delhi?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We have recommended to the various provincial governments to use the co-operative societies wherever possible for this purpose, and in some provinces it has been handed over to co-operative societies. But complaints have been received that some co-operative societies have been unable to clear sugar stocks from mills because of want of funds.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know if the Delhi Grain Syndicate holds a monopoly for the distribution of food grains in Delhi and, if so, whether there has been a good deal of agitation from the wholesalers against this monopoly? If so, what action has Government taken?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: My attention has not been drawn to any complaint or agitation at this arrangement, but I am prepared to go into the question.

Shri N. S. Jain: Does the Government know that in the U.P. the distribution of food grains and sugar has been taken up by co-operative societies and that they are working very well?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, but we have also received complaints with regard to the distribution by these co-operative societies.

BILNOR-CHANDPUR SECTION OF THE E.I.R.

***363. Shri N. S. Jain:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many railway lines had been dismantled during the last war?

(b) How many of them have been re-built?

(c) How many new lines have been sanctioned which have been either completed or are under construction since the end of the war?

(d) When do they intend to re-build the Bilnor-Chandpur section of the E. I. Railway?

(e) Is it a fact that the U.P. Government have asked for a priority for this section?

(f) If so, what are the reasons for the delay?

(g) Is it a fact that the U.P. Government have abandoned the construction of Bijnor-Chandpur metalled road on an assurance from the Railway Authorities that they would construct this section soon?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) 25 in the territory which now constitutes India.

(b) One.

(c) Ten, six on Indian Government Railways and four on States Railways.

(d) It is not possible at this stage to say when the restoration of this line will be taken in hand.

(e) Yes, they desire it to be included in the 1948—1953 quinquennial programme.

(f) Inadequate resources.

(g) Yes.

Shri N. S. Jain: Is it not the policy of the Government that the old lines should be restored first before they take up new lines?

Shri Gopaldaswami: No, not in all cases.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Has any Railway line been restored in Bihar?

Shri Gopaldaswami: I do not think so.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Is there any scheme for Bihar under consideration and included in this quinquennial period?

Shri Gopaldaswami: It will be considered. This quinquennial programme is with regard to the lines in Uttar Pradesh.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether the Nilambur-Shoranur line which was dismantled during the war will be restored?

Shri Gopaldaswami: This is one of the lines, the restoration of which has been recommended by the Central Board of Transport.

Dr. R. S. Singh: Was the Rajmahal line in Bihar dismantled during the war?

Shri Gopaldaswami: That is a separate question.

KOSI DAM PROJECT

*364. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state the progress made so far on the Kosi Dam Project?

(b) What is the number of officers including the engineers and labourers working on the dam site?

(c) What is the number of houses or other living accommodations and the sanitary and medical arrangements made available to them?

(d) What is the arrangement provided or proposed for transport of materials required for construction of the dam?

(e) How and to what extent has the existing financial stringency affected the project?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) Sufficient progress on the various items of investigations has been made. Enough hydrometeorological data have been collected to base designs on; more than 80 per cent. of the exploratory work of the dam foundation has been completed; property survey has been completed and computations made; flood and ground water investigations have been carried out; construction materials have been investigated; an area of more than 10 lakh acres out of nearly 70 lakhs acres has been surveyed; trial load analysis of the dam profile and design studies are nearing completion. The remaining investigations will be completed during 1950.

(b) 18 gazetted officers, 57 technical subordinates, and about a thousand non-technical subordinates including clerical staff.

(c) All gazetted, technical and such non-technical staff, as have to work throughout the year at the dam site, have been provided with suitable accommodation in temporary houses mostly of pre-fabricated construction. Seasonal labour is provided with thatched or tented accommodation. There is a dispensary at the site in charge of an Assistant Surgeon with facilities for indoor treatment for emergent or serious cases. The medical officer is also in charge of sanitary arrangements, and is assisted by a sanitary squad.

(d) It is proposed to extend rail and road communications to the dam site.

(e) The investigations are not affected by the existing financial stringency.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know, Sir, whether the work on the construction of the Chatra Barrage which is an integral part of the Kosi Project Scheme has been started? If not, what steps do Government propose to take for its construction and the period during which it will be completed?

Shri Gadgil: The construction of Chatra Barrage has not yet been started. The matter is under consideration.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether there has been any difference of opinion between the experts of the Bihar Government and the Government of India over these two schemes, i.e., the Chatra Barrage and the dam at Barakshetra?

Shri Gadgil: Difference of opinion between whom?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Between the experts of Bihar Government and the Government of India.

Shri Gadgil: None so far as I know.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is it a fact the work on the Kosi Project has been so slow and unsatisfactory that both the Bihar Government and the Bihar Provincial Congress Committee have sent representations to the Government for expediting the work? If so, what steps do Government propose to take on them?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The question calls for opinion.

Dr. R. S. Singh: May I know the name of the American firm which is working on the Kosi plan and what is the fee it is going to charge for the preparation of that plan?

Shri Gadgil: There is no American firm engaged as yet.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I ask the hon. Minister is a seismic survey has been made of this Project, and what is the result?

Shri Gadgil: In the process of investigation, what has been termed as seismic survey has undoubtedly been made.

Shri M. P. Mishra: Is it a fact that the Government of India was charged 190 per cent. more than the actual fee for the preparation of the estimate?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That cannot come under this.

Shri P. G. Sen: When will the actual work on the Dam begin?

Shri Gadgil: The investigations will be completed by the end of 1950, and when the Government finally decides the actual site where the dam is to be constructed in consultation with technical persons, then the question of finance will come. The hon. House is probably aware that the cost will be round about 100 crores. The decision will be taken at that stage.

Shri P. G. Sen: Is there any chance of getting a priority?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister says that he will put it through. Next question.

ESTIMATED DEFICIT OF FOOD GRAINS FOR 1950

*365. **Shri Blyani:** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state as to what is the estimated deficit in respect of principal food grains for the year 1950?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): The total of the food grains deficits as estimated by the various States to meet their rationing commitments during the year 1950 amounts to 35 lakh tons. But in the view of the Central Government the real deficit in the country is likely to be much less. Owing to better crop position this year we expect a lower offtake and a higher figure of procurement than what the States have estimated. The hon. member may also refer to my reply to the Starred Question No. 119 on 7th February, 1950.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask how these estimates are prepared and whether this is done entirely by the statistical organization under him or does he consult the Provincial Governments before coming to a final conclusion?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The provincial Governments send up their estimates. We revise them by checking it here with the help of our staff and after discussion and consultation with provincial officers, we reach a final conclusion.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I ask the hon. Minister as to how he proposes to tide over the food grains deficits?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We shall tide over the difficulty by maximising procurement and trying to import the minimum that is necessary for this year.

सेठ गोविन्द दाम : अभी आपने यह कहा कि इस मामले में अंक प्रान्तीय सरकारें भी रखती हैं और केन्द्रीय सरकार उनकी जांच करती है। तो क्या गवर्नमेंट को यह बात मालूम है कि जहां तक गवर्नमेंट के इन अंकों का सम्बन्ध है इस देश के विगेषज्ञ यह समझते हैं कि यह अंक गलत हैं।

Seth Govind Das: You have just said that the Governments of the States maintain such figures which are subsequently scrutinised by the Central Government. It being the case, are the Government aware of the fact that the experts in this country consider these figures to be inaccurate?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am afraid the hon. Member is referring not to the matter which is covered by this question. The Provincial Governments, for instance, send us their estimates as to what is called the offtakes, that is how much they expect will be taken by the ration card holders from the ration shops. Sometimes when the crops are harvested and prices fall in some centres ration card holders do not go to buy their food from the ration shops. Other factors also intervene and the offtake is sometimes less. We therefore discuss with the Provincial Governments and come to a final decision as to what will be the actual offtake. There is no question of statistics but it is a question of estimation and then from time to time we know how much is being consumed by the ration card holders in each Province and then we adjust allocations also from time to time.

Shrimati Durgabai: What percentage of the deficit stated by the hon. Minister is expected to be covered by the operation of the 'Grow More Food' schemes of this Government?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I do not think it will be possible to work out the percentage now. The proper estimate will be available roundabout June—July 1950, that means at the end of this Rabi crop and then we shall know exactly the rate of progress which we have made and also the percentage.

Shri Bharati: The hon. Minister said that the estimated deficit of food grains according to the statements of Provinces is 85 lakhs and according to the Government of India it is much less. May I know the exact estimate according to the Government of India?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think it will be roundabout 20 lakh tons.

Mr. Speaker: This was stated already in reply to a previous question.

Shri Tirumala Rao: Is it a fact that the Government have got 15 lakh tons of food which have accumulated this year and is it proposed to meet from this the 35 lakh tons of deficit?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: They have food not in one Central place of godown. Food is distributed from the Provincial godowns, the district godowns and the taluk godowns and the total quantity of this at the end of month of December 1949, was 15 lakh tons. Every year at the end of the last month there is always some food in all these centres and the total quantity available at the end of December 1949 was about 15 lakh tons and this will be included in the allocation to be made for the next year.

Shri Kamath: Is any area under food crops being diverted to money crops like jute and cotton? If so, how much?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: There are certain proposals under consideration in view of the need for increasing the production of jute.

Shri E. K. Chaudhuri: Does the hon. Minister still expect that India will be self-sufficient in 1951?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I certainly do.

Shri Sidhya: While arriving at the deficit of 35 lakh tons, will the hon. Minister state on what basis the Government have considered the consumption of food grains by the people of this country?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The figures relate to food which is being consumed by the ration card holders. There are no rough estimates. Each Province has fixed up as to what should be the ration issued to ration card holders within its area. Ordinarily it is 12 ounces. Therefore, this is the actual quantity which is given to a ration card holder.

Shri Alagesan: In view of the fact that Madras has estimated that the off-take there this year will be more than that of last year, do Government propose to increase the allotment sufficiently to cover deficit in Madras?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We are considering this matter in consultation with the Madras Government and we do expect to tide over the difficulty as was done in 1948. As a matter of fact, I may say, at present, it is not a question of food famine in Madras. There are plenty of stocks available with the Madras Government and we have given a special accelerated allocation of one lakh tons this month, and this has already begun to move. As a matter of fact, in the case of Madras, it is money-famine, income famine because of the failure of monsoon and agricultural labour has not been able to earn anything. It has not got the money to purchase food.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PURCHASE OF TRACTORS

***351. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the date on which the purchase of tractors and other implements was made out of the loan from the International Monetary Fund?

(b) How many tractors have arrived so far, and when are the remaining expected to be landed in India?

(c) Have Government made any enquiry as to the prices of these tractors in comparison with those manufactured in other countries?

(d) Is it a fact that most of the tractors purchased out of the International Monetary Fund are of American manufacture?

(e) Are Government aware that large commissions are awarded by manufacturers to the purchasers of any manufactured goods?

(f) Are Government aware that sometimes this commission is as high as 40 per cent?

(g) Will Government please state what commission was obtained on these purchases and if not, why not?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) From the loan given by the International Bank orders for 180 tractors were placed by the Director General, Industry and Supply on 28th and 29th July, 1949 and for 90 harrows and 58 land clearing blades on 25th and 26th August, 1949. Indents for the remaining 195 tractors and associated equipment to be purchased out of the loan have been placed on the Director General of Industries and Supplies, and the latter will in turn be placing orders on the firms concerned shortly.

(b) 149 tractors have arrived and the remaining 31 are expected in Bombay by the end of this month.

(c) Enquiries were made by the Director General, Industries and Supplies from all likely suppliers of tractors in U.S.A., U.K. and other European countries.

(d) All tractors purchased so far are of American manufacture.

(e) and (f). Yes.

(g) The Government have obtained half share of the discount allowed by the manufacturers to their agents i.e. 11 and 12½ per cent. commission respectively on the above mentioned tractors.

TAXIS IN DELHI

***355. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the number of taxis in Delhi is insufficient?

(b) Do Government propose to consider this question of ordering the Delhi Transport Service to arrange to have its own taxis at the same fare which obtains in Bombay?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) It is for the Transport Authority to fix, under Section 51(a) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, the number of contract carriages (motor cabs). The State Transport Authority, Delhi, has fixed the maximum number of taxis (cars) for the city of Delhi at 414, out of which 394 taxis (cars) are already on the road. In addition 152 motorcycle rickshaws are in operation bringing the total number of taxi cars and rickshaws on the road to 546. This number is considered by the State Transport Authority, Delhi, to be adequate as, according to the reports received by the Local Administration even the present number of taxis are not fully employed.

(b) No.

TAX ON TONGA DRIVERS AT NEW DELHI RAILWAY STATION

***356. Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state if it is a fact that every tonga driver has to pay annas two at the New Delhi railway station before a tonga is permitted to leave the station?

(b) Who has imposed this levy?

(c) What is the purpose and justification for the same?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) No. But in making enquiries it was revealed that some time back some unauthorised persons were unlawfully collecting annas two from each *tongawala* plying at Delhi and New Delhi Railway Stations. This was stopped when it was brought to the notice of the *tongawalas* that the amount was being charged from them illegally. Later on the Tonga Owners Union (a registered body under the Trade Union Act) started charging annas two per day from each tonga or *tuntum* plying for hire in Delhi. Both the practices were declared unlawful by the Municipal authorities and are not prevalent at present.

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

LOCUST

***357. Shri R. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the places in the country where the locusts breed and form swarms and the method adopted for the prevention of swarm formation;

(b) how many cases of locust swarm formations have been reported during the last five years;

(c) which and how much area has been affected and what is the estimated loss to crop during the period;

(d) what the main terms of the Indo-Iranian-Pakistan Locust Convention are and how they are enforced; and

(e) what the annual expenditure incurred by the Government on the maintenance of "The Plant Protection Organisation" is and where its offices are located?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) In this country the permanent breeding grounds are the desert areas of Rajasthan, the Saurashtra Union and Cutch.

The control of locust is carried out mainly by the destruction of eggs and hoppers. The methods used for the killing of hoppers depend on the terrain of the country. They are (i) the digging of trenches where soil is sandy in front of marching bands of hoppers in which they fall and are promptly buried (ii) spreading of poisoned baits in front of them or (iii) burning them during cool hours when they hide in wild bushes.

(b) There were four cases of swarm formation in 1945, none in 1946 to 1948 and four in 1949.

(c) The areas affected are parts of Rajasthan, the Saurashtra Union, Cutch and the East Punjab. In 1945 about 1,40,000 square miles were infested during 1946 about 10,000 square miles were infested with hoppers and in 1949 about 2,500 square miles were affected.

No appreciable damage was reported from anywhere as control operations were carried out successfully and in time.

(d) A copy of the Indo-Iranian-Pakistan Locust Convention is laid on the Table [See Appendix I, annexure No. 45]

The main features of this are:

The contracting parties have agreed to maintain a standing organisation for watching the changes in the locust population in their territories both during the solitary and swarming phases. They are also required to make adequate arrangements for the destruction of the pest in the swarming phase.

The terms of the Convention are enforced by holding, at suitable intervals, meetings of the representatives of the contracting parties.

(e) The average annual expenditure during the last four years on the maintenance of the Plant Protection Organisation has been about Rs. 5 lakhs. The main office of the Organisation is at present located in New Delhi, and there are sub-offices at Bangalore, Bombay and Jodhpur. The one at Jodhpur is the headquarters of the field organisation for fighting locust in permanent breeding grounds.

MANUFACTURE OF LOCOMOTIVES

***358. Shri B. L. Malviya:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the main terms of the five year agreement with the Locomotive Manufacturers' Company Limited, England for the manufacture of locomotives in India;

(b) whether the Company will have any hand in the Chittaranjan Project;

(c) whether the Company shall contribute to the capital of the project and if so, how much and on what terms;

(d) how many Indian technicians the Company will train in their locomotive manufacturing works in Great Britain every year and how long it will take for complete replacement of the technical personnel of the project by Indians and

(e) what is the method adopted for recruitment of the trainees and whether they will be recruited from among the Railway employees alone or from outsiders as well?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) The main terms of the five year agreement with the Locomotive Manufacturers' Company Limited, England, are:

- (i) Technical advice on the most efficient and economical methods of producing locomotives and boilers at Chittaranjan.
- (ii) Technical assistance to bring Chittaranjan Locomotive Works into operation by expert advice and the provision by L. M. Co. of skilled production and supervisory staff for temporary service at Chittaranjan at the expense of the Government.
- (iii) Technical aid by receiving into the Locomotive Works of Locomotive Manufacturers' Association member firms, Indian personnel for training in all branches connected with the manufacture of steam locomotives.
- (iv) L. M. Co. shall assist the Government to establish the manufacture at Chittaranjan as early as possible of all parts and components for the building of locomotives.

(b) The L. M. Co. will supply technical personnel to assist the Management on technical and production matters and will supply such specialists as are necessary during the early stages of production. The L. M. Co. will also supply on order such parts as are not manufactured in India and which are required for the construction of locomotives at Chittaranjan.

(c) No.

(d) The L. M. Co. London, undertake to arrange at the Workshops of the member firms of the Locomotive Manufacturers' Association the practical training of mutually agreed numbers of such Indian technical personnel as shall be selected by the Government of India for periods mutually agreed. It is expected that complete replacement by Indians of the foreign technical personnel of the project will be completed within the period of the agreement.

(e) At present the intention is to select staff from those in service at Chittaranjan as it is essential that the trainees should have attained a satisfactory level of skill and experience in locomotive manufacture work in order to be able to take full advantage of the specialised training.

OVERCROWDING IN TRAINS BETWEEN DELHI AND JAIPUR

***359. Shri R. C. Upadhyaya:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that all the trains running between Delhi and Jaipur are overcrowded?

(b) If so, will Government consider the proposal of increasing the number of trains between these stations?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) A tendency to overcrowding in the through trains running between Delhi and Jaipur has been noticed recently.

(b) For introduction of another through service, in addition to the two each way at present, necessary extra stock and power are not available. As and when coaching stock and train room are available, load of No. 18 Up and 14 Down through trains will continue to be strengthened. There are, of course, other short distance local trains covering the section.

SHIPPING AND INSURANCE OF IMPORTED FOODGRAINS

***366. Shri Biyani:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing (i) the imports of principal foodgrains from the various countries during the last five years, including 1949, both in terms of quantity and value; and (ii) the amounts expended on shipping and insurance charges of the same to Indian ports and the currencies involved?

(b) Was any part played by Indian shipping and insurance concerns in shipping and insurance of imported foodgrains?

(c) Is it desired to make any stipulation in future that at least a part of India's imports of foodgrains should be carried by Indian ships and covered by Indian Insurance Companies?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 46].

(b) Yes, Indian Shipping was utilised as far as possible. As the Government of India do not insure their cargoes of imported foodgrains the question of utilising Indian Insurance Companies does not arise.

(c) Wherever Indian ships are available they will continue to be used.

FOOD GRAINS ALLOTMENT FOR MADRAS

***367. Shri Kunhiraman:** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madras has requested the Government of India for the increase of food grain allotment by 8,00,000 tons more in order to meet the rationing commitments;

(b) whether the Government of India have been informed of the situation of food position in Madras owing to recent failure of monsoon etc.; in several parts of the State; and

(c) what the Government of India have decided to do to meet the situation?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Madras has been allotted three lakh tons of food grains. They have now asked that the quota may be increased by another five lakh tons.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government shall watch the situation from month to month and do the best it can to help Madras.

DERAILMENT OF BOMBAY MAIL

***368. Shri Nandkishore Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there was derailment of B. N. Railway Bombay Mail a few months ago, at a short distance from Kharagpur station?

(b) What were the results of this derailment?

(c) Was an enquiry made into the cause or causes of this derailment and if so, what was the result of the enquiry?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes; 2 Up Bombay Mail derailed at mile 82/6, between Kalaikunda and Surdiah stations on the 12th of October, 1949.

(b) The engine and the first seven bogies of the train derailed, the remaining four coaches in the rear having remained on the rails. Five persons were killed and 82 injured, of whom 6 seriously. The approximate cost of damage to engine, rolling stock and permanent way was Rs. 75,500.

(c) Yes; the Government Inspector of Railways, Ministry of Communications, held an enquiry. His finding is that the accident was caused by the track having been tampered with by some unknown person or persons.

SUSPENSION OF TRAINS BETWEEN MADHUBANI AND JAYANAGER (O.T.R.)

*369. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that trains have not been running between Madhubani and Jayanagar (O. T. R.) during the rainy season for many years past and if so, what are the reasons?

(b) Do Government propose to take steps to prevent the discontinuance of the train service during the rainy season?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No. Through running is only suspended when the causeway between Madhubani and Rajnagar gets flooded beyond the safety limit. In such an event shuttle service plies between Jaynagar and the causeway which is situated at the down outer signal of Madhubani.

(b) The O. T. Railway approached the Bihar Government to permit them to restore the bank to original level, above the flood level, at this causeway but the Bihar Government have so far not agreed.

WELL SUBSIDY SCHEME

*370. **Shri Audikesavalu Naicker:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which the well subsidy scheme in connection with the 'Grow More Food' Campaign is working;

(b) the help given by the Government of India to the States in the matter of affording well subsidies; and

(c) the monetary and other aids the Government of India propose to give to the States in the year 1950-51 and especially with regard to well subsidy schemes State-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Well subsidy schemes are at present working in the following States:

- (i) Bihar, (ii) Bombay, (iii) Madhya Pradesh, (iv) Uttar Pradesh,
- (v) Punjab, (vi) Madhya Bharat, (vii) P.E.P.S.U., (viii) Mysore,
- (ix) Travancore and Cochin and (x) Madras.

(b) The cultivator gets a subsidy upto 50 per cent. of the total cost of the well and the materials such as iron and steel for Persian wheel, slack coal for burning bricks and cement for plastering at controlled rates. The Government of India shares half the cost of this 50 per cent. subsidy given to the cultivator by the State Government.

(c) A block allocation of Rs. 15 crores has been set apart for financing all the 'Grow More Food' Schemes during 1950-51. There is no specific amount earmarked for well subsidy scheme. The grant for these schemes in different States will, depend upon the schemes actually submitted by the States.

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE FACTORY

*371. **Shri Ramraj Jajware:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state at what stage the construction of Chittaranjan locomotive factory is at present?

(b) When is it expected to manufacture engines with all its component parts?

(c) Have the roads and sanitation of the adjacent Mihijam bazar been affected by this project?

(d) If so, what steps are Government taking for their improvement?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalswami): (a) The Chittaranjan Locomotive Factory is about 40 per cent. complete at present.

(b) It is expected that engines and the full range of component parts, except proprietary fittings, will be manufactured at Chittaranjan in 1954, though manufacture of certain components will commence in 1950.

(c) Roads and sanitation of the adjacent Mihijam Bazar have been indirectly affected by this project as the activities of property owners and speculators have resulted in the formation of congested and insanitary areas.

(d) Government have provided for residences, shops, roads and other community facilities for staff employed by them in connection with this project within the colony which is now being developed. As regards the position in the adjacent Mihijam Bazar, the Bihar Government have been requested to examine conditions and to regulate the growth of this town.

TRAIN SERVICES ON THE O. T. RAILWAY

*372. **Shri Satish Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of engines, coaches and wagons transferred from each of the Metre gauge railway systems in the country for use on the new Assam Rail-Link?

(b) How many passenger and goods trains services have been cancelled on the O.T. Railway and other railways as a result of this transfer?

(c) When are these train services likely to be resumed?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalswami): (a) The number of engines and bogie coaches transferred from Metre Gauge Railways for use on the Assam Rail-Link are:

Engines.—All supplied initially from the O. T. Railway whose resulting shortages were later made up from other Railways.

B. B. & C. I. Railway	.	.	.	.	16
Jodhpur Railway	.	.	.	.	6
Mysore State Railway	.	.	.	.	7
Nizam State Railway	.	.	.	.	7
O. T. Railway	.	.	.	.	1
					<hr/> 37 <hr/>

Coaches.—

B.B. & C.I. Railway	.	.	.	.	13
M. & S. M. Railway.	.	.	.	.	14
O. T. Railway	.	.	.	.	16
S. I. Railway	.	.	.	.	10
					<hr/> 53 <hr/>

As regards wagons, 400 Metre Gauge wagons have been transferred from the Southern group of Metre Gauge railways to the Northern group to meet the requirements of the Assam Link.

(b) Twenty passenger and four goods trains were cancelled on the O. T. Railway and none on the other Railways.

(c) Four passenger train services have already been restored; two more will be restored shortly and the others as soon as the power position permits.

EXTENSION OF SOUTH INDIAN RAILWAYS

*373. **Shri Sivan Pillay:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of miles involved in the projected extension of the South Indian Railway line from Tiruchendur to Cape Comorin and connecting it with Trivandrum;

(b) whether any preliminary survey in this behalf has been made; and

(c) if not, when Government propose to make the survey?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) About 100 miles.

(b) A survey was carried out in 1926 for connecting Tinnevely with Nagercoil, but no survey has been carried out for connecting Tiruchendur with Trivandrum via Cape Comorin.

(c) There is no proposal to survey the extensions at present.

SURVEY FOR NEW RAILWAY PROJECTS

*374. **Shri Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government propose to convert the Mayurbhanj Light Railway and the Parlakhemdi Light Railway in the Howrah-Waltair section of the Bengal Nagpur Railway into broad gauge systems and if so, when do they propose to commence work in that behalf?

(b) Is it a fact that the Bengal Nagpur Railway had a proposal to link the Tatu-Badampahar branch with the Mayurbhanj Light Railway after conversion of the latter into a broad-gauge line and if so, what is the reason for the non-implementation of the scheme so far?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) There is no proposal immediately to convert these Narrow Gauge railways into Broad Gauge.

(b) Yes. The proposal has since been dropped in view of the prohibitive cost involved in crossing the difficult Bangriposi Ghat.

OIL-PROSPECTING WORK IN PATHARIA HILLS

*375. **Shri Ethirajulu Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether the Burmah Oil Company was carrying on oil-prospecting work in an area in the Patharia Hills and whether it is a fact that the work had been stopped on account of the boundary dispute?

(b) Is it a fact that the Indo-Pakistan Boundary Dispute Tribunal has given an award according to which the said area falls within the Indian territory?

(c) If so, do Government propose to issue directions for the resumption of oil-prospecting work?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (c). The Burmah Oil Company was carrying on oil-prospecting work in certain areas in the Patharia Hills and this work was stopped because of the Boundary dispute. The dividing line according to the decision of the Tribunal has yet to be demarcated on the ground. As soon as this is done, prospecting will, no doubt, be resumed.

TINPAHAR -RAJ MAHAL RAILWAY LINE

***376. Shri Ramraj Jajwara:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government propose to reopen the Tinpahar-Rajmahal Railway line which was closed during the war time?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): The question of restoration of the Tinpahar-Rajmahal Railway line will be examined after the results of preliminary investigations of the Ganga Barrage Scheme are available, as this would fix the point where the river can be crossed and may necessitate a change in railway alignment.

TRACTORS

***377. Shri P. G. Sen:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the number of tractors that are being used for the purpose of cultivation upto now?

(b) How many of them are owned by private concerns and how many of them are available on calls for public services?

(c) Is it a fact that the tractors purchased by individuals have not got the full implements and if so, what steps have been taken for their provision?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) and (b). Reliable data in regard to tractors owned by private persons is not available. The number owned by State Governments and used for cultivation purposes is 1540. According to the information received from the State Governments, they have made available 601 tractors to agriculturists and co-operative societies on hire.

(c) Yes. It has come to the notice of Government that in some cases individuals did not get implements for use with the tractors purchased by them. In order to ensure that sufficient number of implements are available for use it is proposed to make it obligatory on the part of importers to import implements to the extent of 20 per cent. of the value of tractors along with every consignment of tractors.

MANDI HYDRO-ELECTRIC WORKS

***378. Giani G. S. Musafir:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state the quantity of the electricity that is being supplied to Pakistan from the Mandi Hydro-Electric Works?

(b) What is the approximate number of the consumers of this electricity?

(c) What were the original plans regarding the diversion of this electricity towards the Indian consumers?

(d) How much electricity has been diverted to Indian consumers during the last two and a half years, and how much time will it take to get it fully utilized by the Indian people?

(e) Have the Government any plan to make this diverted electricity available only to the displaced persons and if not, why not?

The Minister of works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) In accordance with the latest agreement, power to the extent of a maximum demand of 9,000 K.W. is to be supplied to Pakistan with effect from 1st December 1949 to the end of March, 1950, with a possibility of its continuing to the end of November 1950.

(b) to (d). Exact information is not available.

(c) Preference is given to displaced persons.

DISCONTINUANCE OF RATIONING IN FOOD SURPLUS AREAS

***379. Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to stop rationing in Food Surplus Areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): No, there is no such proposal before the Government.

RINDERPEST

***380. Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the effect of Rinderpest (cattle plague) in cattle during the last three years in India?

(b) What steps have Government taken to control the disease?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Accurate and complete statistics of the incidence and mortality of cattle on account of rinderpest during the last three years are not available. A statement containing such information supplied by the State Governments is laid on the Table of the House (See Appendix I, annexure No. 47.)

In most of the States mortality on account of rinderpest has been on the decline.

(b) The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1484 of Shri V. C. Kesava Rao on the 30th March, 1949 and to the reply to Starred Question No. 1200 asked by Prof. N. G. Ranga on the 18th March, 1949.

RATIONING

***381. Shri Hossain Imam:** Will the Minister of Food be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the number of persons under each different system of rationing in (i) urban areas; and (ii) rural areas in the year 1949?

(b) What is the proposed number of people to be rationed in the year 1950 under each of the different systems of rationing in urban and rural areas?

(c) On what basis has the quota of rationed articles for Bombay been cut by half for the year 1950?

(d) Will Government please state the following facts about the stock for the year 1949 (i) opening stock with Central Government on 1st January, 1949, (ii) receipts from States, (iii) receipts from abroad, (iv) allotment to States up to 31st December, 1949 and (v) balances with Centre on 31st December, 1949?

(e) What was the quantity procured by each State Government in the year 1949 and what are the target figures for 1950?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) to (e). As desired by the hon. Member a statement is laid on the Table of the House in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the question. [*Copy placed in the Library.* See No. P-68/50].

RATIONED SUGAR

***382. Shri Hossain Imam:** (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the rationed quantity of sugar has been increased, if so, since when and what is the quota now?

(b) What was the monthly despatch from sugar mills to the States in each month up to January, 1950 since rationing started?

(c) Is the rationing confined to urban areas or does it extend to the rural areas as well and if so, what was the rationed unit in each State in January 1950?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) to (c). The sugar ration has generally been increased by the State Governments, the quantum and date of increase and extension to rural areas varies from State to State. A statement incorporating the available information relating to parts (a), (b) and (c) for each State is placed on the Table of the House. [*Copy placed in the Library.* See No. P-85/50].

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

***383. Shri Hossain Imam:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the following facts about the working of the D.T.S. up to the date of last audited accounts: (i) the Gross profits; (ii) the depreciation written down; (iii) provisions made for unusable assets; and (iv) the net profit?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The audit of the accounts of the Delhi Transport Service for the period from 14th May, 1948 to 31st March, 1949 only has been completed but the report has not yet been received. The information required by the hon. Member has however been collected from the Profit and Loss Account for the year 1948-49 prepared departmentally by the Delhi Transport Service and is furnished below:

	Rs.	as.	p.
(i) Gross profit	15,95,832	0	6
(ii) Depreciation written down	5,39,372	0	0
(iii) Provision made for unusable assets	Nil		
(iv) Net profit	10,24,791	10	1

EAST PUNJAB RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION

***384. Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the E.P. Railway Administration does not accept the certificates of the Registered Medical practitioners other than Railway doctors?

(b) What are the reasons for not accepting these certificates?

(c) Is it a fact that some employees have been discharged on this ground?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) No, not in all cases. Medical certificates of registered medical practitioners other than Railway doctors submitted by the Railway staff are not accepted only in cases where the Railway staff reside within the jurisdiction of their authorised Railway medical attendants.

(b) The reasons for not accepting these certificates are that Railway doctors are well acquainted with the special consideration to be kept in mind for each category of staff, as well as their habits and different types of work, and experience has shown that the average number of days covered by non-Railway doctors' certificates is many times more than that covered by railway doctors' certificates, resulting in greater loss of workmen days due to sickness etc.

(c) Yes.

DISCHARGE OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

***385. Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of Railway employees discharged on the E.P. Railway since the beginning of 1949?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): The information is not readily available but will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it has been collected.

Information is, however, available that the number of employees discharged on the E. P. Railway since 1st October 1949, otherwise than as a result of disciplinary action, is 628 (92 Class III and 536 Class IV).

COTTON

***386. Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that India is a deficit country in cotton?

(b) If so, what steps are taken to increase the production?

(c) What measures have been adopted to grow more cotton in P.E.P.S.U.?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Yes.

(b) Official estimate of the total production of cotton for 1949-50 is not yet available but it is 28 lakh bales according to trade estimates. Detailed proposals for increasing the production by another 6 lakh bales, are under examination in consultation with the States. The measures adopted for increasing production are extension of acreage, mixed cropping, manuring and use of improved seed.

(c) The measures for increasing production in P.E.P.S.U. are under discussion with the State Government.

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

***387. Shri Zangre:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether rural agriculturists are getting necessary iron implements for agriculture for the "Grow More Food Campaign"?

(b) What is the total output of iron materials for agricultural purposes, in India and how much has been imported in 1949?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) The cultivators' needs for iron implements are not being met in full.

(b) The total output of iron materials during 1949 for all purposes was 9,22,000 tons. Imports were 3,97,964 tons. For the financial year 1949-50 2,14,776 tons were allotted to the Provinces and States for agricultural purposes. In addition 26,000 tons (approximately) were allotted to steel processing firms for the manufacture of agricultural implements.

FLYING CLUBS AEROPLANES ACCIDENT

*388. **Shri Munavalli:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what is the number of accidents in which aeroplanes belonging to the flying clubs in India are involved during the years 1948 and 1949?

(b) Have any measures been adopted to prevent such accidents and if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) 24 during 1948 and 41 during 1949.

(b) Yes, Sir. Steps have been taken to ensure better planning of flying courses, greater flying discipline and rigorous enforcement of the regulations relating to airworthiness of aircraft and licensing of personnel laid down under the Indian Aircraft Rules, 1937.

ALLOTMENT OF RICE AND WHEAT TO TRAVANCORE-COCHIN UNION

*389. **Shri R. Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of **Food** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice and wheat allotted to the Travancore-Cochin Union in 1949;

(b) the quantity of the annual requirement for the same year in the same Union;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a Press statement made by the Burmese Premier at Madras that Burma has got any quantity of rice to be sold to India; and

(d) whether Government have made any deal for getting rice from Burma?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jaiaramdas Doulatram): (a) Rice 313,000 tons. Wheat 33,000 tons. Total: 346,000 tons.

(b) The demand of Travancore-Cochin on the Centre during 1949 was for 505,000 tons.

(c) Yes.

(d) Not yet.

RAILWAY ARRANGEMENTS FOR PILGRIMS TO KUMBHAMELA AT HARIDWAR

*390. **Shri P. K. Ramiah:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the nature of arrangements E.I. Railway authorities have made to meet the rush of pilgrims to Haridwar during the forthcoming Kumbhamela?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): The E. I. Railway authorities have made elaborate arrangements to meet the rush of pilgrims to Hardwar, which include the running of additional trains for the assemblage and dispersal of the pilgrims; covering of platforms; the opening of additional exit gates, booking offices, bathing places, flushing latrines and urinals, additional drinking water arrangements, catering facilities etc. Passenger and social guides are being posted to assist passengers and enquiry offices opened with loud speakers and public telephones.

MOVE OF NATIONAL SAVINGS COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE FROM SIMLA

*391. **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Mines and Power** be pleased to state whether it is proposed to move the office of the National Savings Commissioner from Simla to Bombay?

(b) How long has this office been located in Simla?

(c) Is it also proposed to move some offices from Delhi to Simla?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). The information asked for has already been given by the hon. the Finance Minister, in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Starred Question No. 228 answered on 13th February 1950.

(c) Only a small part of one office, that of the Director General of Health Services.

SUBSIDIARY FOOD PRODUCTION COMMITTEE

38. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food** be pleased to state the results so far obtained by the labour of the Subsidiary Food Committee?

(b) Has any actual saving been made so far in the food grains by the introduction of subsidiary food?

(c) What is the total amount so far spent for popularising subsidiary food?

(d) What is the total staff engaged for this work?

(e) Do Government intend to continue this scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) and (b). As will be seen from the Government of India, Ministry of Food resolution No. PY.625/2 dated the 6th May, 1949 appointing the Committee, copy of which is placed on the Table of the House [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 48*], it was decided that before any large scale scheme of this type can be undertaken it would be necessary to study a number of technical and other problems regarding storage, keeping quality, palatability, dehydration, cost, etc. The Committee has therefore undertaken its work on an experimental basis to study the above problems and report its conclusions to the Government.

A statement showing the progress made by the Committee upto the end of October 1949 was laid on the Table of the House in the November-December Session of the Constituent Assembly of India in reply to Starred Question No. 109 by Shri Satish Chandra Samanta on 30th November, 1949.

(c) The total amount of expenditure authorised upto the end of December, 1949 by the Committee in conducting its experiments, etc. (including establishment charges) is Rs. 4,21,948 with an estimated recovery of Rs. 2,04,821.

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix I, annexure No. 49*].

(e) The Government's decision will be taken after examining the report of the Committee which will be submitted shortly.

TARGET FOR PROCUREMENT OF FOOD GRAINS

39. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state what is the target fixed by the Government of India for the procurement of food grains for the year 1950?

(b) How much has so far been actually procured State-wise?

(c) How much is still required to be procured during the year?

(d) Is there any prospect of Government's stopping import of food grains in 1950?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Procurement targets are fixed by the State Governments in consultation with the Government of India. The State Governments' present targets for 1950 aggregate 54 lakh tons.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 50].

(d) No.

POLISHING OF RICE

40. Seth Govind Das: Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state if steps are in contemplation to abolish polishing of rice as a measure of food economy?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): The Government of India had issued a directive last year to all the States to ban the polishing of rice in order to avoid to the maximum extent the loss of the nutritive part of the rice, and the loss in outturn as a result of broken and bran produced in polishing through milling.

FRUIT PRESERVATION AND CANNING INDUSTRY

41. Parlit M. B. Bhargava: (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state the number of the factories for Food preservation and canning industry situated in the Union of India and the total investment thereon?

(b) Have the Government of India any control over such factories and have they got any administrative machinery to check and test the product from these factories before they are put in the market?

(c) What assistance or encouragement do these industries receive from the Government of India and State Governments?

(d) How do the products of these factories compare in quality and value with similar imported products from foreign countries?

(e) How does the Indian Industry of Fruit Technology help the development of these industries?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): The question should have been addressed to the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply. It has accordingly been transferred to the list of questions for 27th February, 1950, when the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply will answer it.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

42. Shri N. S. Jain: (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state how many railway accidents have happened since 1st January, 1950 giving the details and dates of accidents?

(b) What was the number of casualties in each case?

(c) What were the causes of accidents?

(d) Do Government propose to place on the Table of the House the Railway Inspectors' reports in each case?

(e) How many dependents of the persons killed in accidents and how many injured persons have been given compensation in each case and what were the amounts so given?

(f) What steps do Government intend to take to prevent such accidents?

(g) Do Government suspect any sabotage in any of these cases?

(h) What actions have been taken against the persons responsible for the accident in each case?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). The number of serious accidents to trains carrying passengers attended with loss of human life or grievous hurt, which occurred on the Indian Government Railways, since 1st January, 1950, is Three. A statement showing details including those of casualties in each case is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The Government Inspectors' Reports of enquiries into these accidents, which will contain *inter alia* the causes of the accidents, are not yet available.

(e) No compensation has been paid so far. All the three accidents are recent ones and claims Commissioners have been appointed in connection with the second and the third accidents to determine the amounts of reliefs due, the first one being left to the Railway Administration itself for investigation which is in progress.

(f) An enquiry is instituted into every such accident and suitable preventive action, as warranted is taken.

(g) *Prima facie* no; reference is also invited to the reply to parts (c) and (d) above.

(h) Suitable disciplinary action will be taken against the staff responsible, as may be found necessary on receipt of the Reports of Enquiries.

STATEMENT

Serial No.	Date of accident.	Railway.	Brief description of the accident.	Killed	Casualties.		
					Serious	Injured.	Total
1.	28-1-50.	East Indian.	Collision between 44 Down Assam Rail Link Express and Up Pakur Special (Goods) at Baitapur on Sahibganj Loop at about 17-55 hours.	1 (Gangmen)	Nil.	28	28
2.	29-1-50.	Eastern Punjab.	Side collision between 27 Up Kashmir Mail and the derailed wagons of a Goods train at Sirhind station on the Ambala-Ludhiana Section at about 3-25 hours.	69	40	40	80
3.	2-2-50.	Oudh Tirhut.	Collision between 4 Down Kanpur-Katihar Passenger and 1 Up Katihar-Lucknow Express at Munderwa station on the Gorakhpur-Gonda Section at about 7-0 hours.	3	3	27	30

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

43. Shri Hossain Imam: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the following facts about fares charged by the D.T.S. on 31st January, 1950, for ordinary buses and Pullman services: (i) the fare charged between the Secretariat and the next stage on each of the seven services, with the names and the distances; and (ii) similar for the next two stages of each service?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): Two statements giving the information required by the hon. Member are laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 51].

PROCUREMENT OF FOOD GRAINS

44. Shri N. S. Jain: Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have asked the U.P. State to double the quota of procurement of food grains for the year 1950 as compared to last year's procurement?

(b) Have Government received any request from the U.P. Government for allotment of food grain from the Centre to that State and if so, for how much?

(c) How much food grain are the Government releasing for that State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) No. But each State has been asked to maximise its procurement so as to meet if possible all its commitments.

(b) and (c). U.P. Government have asked for a loan of 100,000 tons of wheat from the Centre and the Centre has agreed to make available this quantity.

ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS

45. Shri N. S. Jain: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what help Government are giving to the farmers of the Centrally Administered areas to push the "Grow More Food" campaign especially in the following matters:

(i) providing interest-free loans to them for purchase of tractors and other necessary agricultural implements for bringing waste land under cultivation;

(ii) providing subsidy and necessary materials for sinking Masonry wells and tube wells; and

(iii) providing technical aid and advice specially in the matter of tractors?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (i) Advances are given to the Centrally Administered areas for giving loans to cultivators in respect of their food production plans. No request for giving interest-free loans to cultivators for purchase of tractors and other necessary agricultural implements to bring the waste land under cultivation has, however, been received from the Local Administration.

(ii) A subsidy equivalent to 50 per cent. of the total cost of the masonry well is given to the agriculturist by Government.

(iii) The Engineering Section of the Ministry of Agriculture gives technical advice to farmers regarding the types of suitable tractors and implements.

Monday, 20th February, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

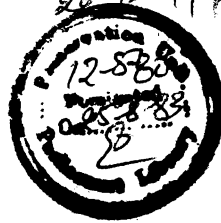
VOLUME I, 1950

(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 "इलाको" 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 "detrimetel" 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 "imperils" read "imperils" and in line 6 for "calus" read "Salus".
- (iii) पृष्ठ ६०८, पंक्ति ५ में "अम्मा" के स्थान पर "आमा" पढ़ें।
(iv) पृष्ठ ६०८, पंक्ति १२ में "तकरीर" के स्थान पर "जो तकरीर" पढ़ें।
(v) पृष्ठ ६१०, नीचे से पंक्ति ५ में "दस" के पश्चात् "दस" समाविष्ट करें।
(vi) पृष्ठ ६१४, नीचे से दूसरी पंक्ति में "तरह" के पश्चात् "से" समाविष्ट करें और "बंगाल" के पश्चात् "से" हटा दें।
(vii) Page 616, line 12 from bottom for "then" read "their".
- (viii) पृष्ठ ६२५, पंक्ति १५ के अन्त में 'यह' को हटा दें और १६ के आदि में "काम" के स्थान पर "महकमा" पढ़ें।
(ix) Page 637, omit "last line".
13. No. 15, dated the 20th February, 1950,—
(i) Page 659, line 12 for "acpital" read "Capital".
(ii) Page 662, line 21 from bottom for "of the" read "in the".
14. No. 17, dated the 22nd February, 1950,—
(i) Page 708, line 15 from bottom for "States" read "State".
(ii) Page 723, line 21 omit "It is" before "Jowan".
15. No. 18, dated the 23rd February, 1950,—
(i) Page 751, line 13 from bottom for "Begal" read "Bengal".
(ii) Page 758, line 24 from bottom for "turbulation on accuont" read "tribulation on account".
- (iii) पृष्ठ ७६०, नीचे से पंक्ति १८ के अन्त में "तो है मैं" के स्थान पर "हैं मैं तो" पढ़ें।
(iv) पृष्ठ ७७६, नीचे से पंक्ति ७ में "हा" को "कहा" पढ़ें।
(v) Page 783, line 2 for "a" read "as".
(vi) Page 798, line 2 for "coutry" read "country".
(vii) Page 800, line 9 from bottom for "33 percent" read "33 1/2 percent".
(viii) Page 801, line 6 for "ward" read "award".

CONTENTS

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

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

(ii)

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

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

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Monday, 20th February, 1950

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

11-45 A.M.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Santhanam: I introduce the Bill.

HIGH COURTS (SEALS) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the use of seals of common form and design by the High Courts in the States.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the use of seals of common form and design by the High Courts in the States."

The motion was adopted.

Sardar Patel: I introduce the Bill.

ARMY BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the regular Army, be extended upto Friday, the 10th March, 1950."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the regular Army, be extended upto Friday, the 10th March, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

AIR FORCE BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE.

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the Air Force, be extended upto Friday, the 10th March, 1950."

Shri R. K. Chandhuri 7082—

Mr. Speaker: I have not put the motion to the House. I will put the motion to the House and then the Member may ask questions. That will be the correct procedure.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the Air Force, be extended upto Friday, the 10th March, 1950."

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): Is it competent for a Member of this House to enquire into the reason for asking these extensions?

Mr. Speaker: It is perfectly in order.

Shri R. K. Chandhuri: May I put that question as to why in both places he is asking for extension of time?

Sardar Baldev Singh: The reason is that both the Bills are identical and most of the provisions in the two Bills are common. Each Select Committee has to take into consideration the recommendations made in the other Bill. Therefore in order to facilitate matters, we want both these Select Committees to compare the recommendations that they are making.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the government of the Air Force, be extended upto Friday, the 10th March, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

CONTROL OF SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Control of Shipping Act, 1947, be taken into consideration."

The necessity for this amending Bill has arisen more or less out of a technical situation that has been created by a decision of the Federal Court. The Control of Shipping Act would normally expire on the 31st March 1950 but by the amending Bill which was passed in 1948, a proviso was added empowering the Central Government to extend the life of the measure, if necessary, for a period of one year beyond the 31st March 1950. A Bihar case which came up before the Federal Court, whose decision is reported in Federal Court Law Journal 1949 July/August Number, the heading being—*Jatindranath Gupta Vs Province of Bihar*—involved an issue which has some bearing upon the legality of the provision of this character under which the Executive Government can extend the life of an enactment by virtue of a provision in a law passed by the Legislature itself. Sir, the observation of the Honourable the Chief Justice of the Federal Court in that case is to the following effect:

"The power to extend the operation of the Act beyond the period mentioned in the Act *prima facie* is a legislative power. It is for the Legislature to state how long a particular legislation will be in operation. That cannot be left to the discretion of some other body."

Although the decision was in specific terms applicable to the case from Bihar, we are advised that it is right that we should come up before the House in order to avoid any difficulty that may arise hereafter with regard to the operation of the proviso which I have already referred to.

Normally it would have been sufficient therefore to ask for the extension upto the end of March 1951 because that was the utmost limit upto which the Executive Government could have extended the life of the enactment by virtue of the provision of the proviso to which I have referred. I may tell the House that this particular measure *vis.*, the Control of Shipping Act is going to be incorporated into the Merchant Shipping Law of the country which is under revision. Now, the Merchant Shipping Law of the country is contained not merely in the Merchant Shipping Act, 1923 of the Indian Legislature but a considerable number of sections of the British Merchant Shipping Act also apply to India. Indeed the Indian Merchant Shipping Act can be described justly as a supplementary enactment supplementing the British law as applicable to India. This is a position which is not going to continue and should not be allowed to continue very much longer. Government had therefore undertaken a comprehensive revision of the whole law of which the enactment, which is now before the House for purposes of amendment, will form only a very small part. I am glad to be able to assure the House that so far as the departmental draft of this very intricate and rather technical measure is concerned, it is almost ready. The departmental draft will now be put into the hands of our Draftsmen who, as the House knows, are very busy because of the numerous Bills and Select Committees that have to be handled by them during the Legislative Session. It is my hope however that soon after the present Legislative Session is over, the draftsmen will be able to give their attention to the departmental draft proposals and that it will be possible for us to introduce the comprehensive measure dealing with Merchant Shipping Law of the country sometime either during the next session of this House or perhaps during the next Budget Session.

If meanwhile the general elections take place, that will make the position somewhat difficult so far as the progress of legislation is concerned. Apart from the uncertainty of the time-table of the general elections on which will depend the time-table of the legislature, there will have to be two Houses whose consideration will be required as a condition of passing any measure in the future. For that reason, as a measure of abundant caution I have sought to extend the life of this enactment by two years, that is to say up to the end of March 1952. In view of the circumstances that I have explained to the House I very much hope that this measure will be adopted as an entirely non-controversial measure.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Control of Shipping Act, 1947, be taken into consideration."

Shri Sidhya (Madhya Pradesh): The hon. Minister has stated the reasons why he desires two years' extension for this measure. At the same time he also explained that the comprehensive draft Bill is nearly ready and will be considered after this Session is over and placed before this House at an early date. In that event I fully appreciate the comprehensive changes that will be required in this Act, in view of the changes that have taken place in our new set up. I would not therefore grudge a very short extension of six months and I am prepared to go up to one year even. But when many Indian shipping questions are involved I do not understand why the hon. Minister desires two years' extension for this Act.

Under this Act many important factors are to be considered relating to passenger fares and cargo freight. When this Bill was moved in 1938, under clause 6 passenger fares and cargo freights had also to be taken into consideration

[Shri Sidhva]

and this becomes at the present juncture very important, in view of the fact that several companies have raised the passenger fares in coastal shipping without any consideration of the travellers' interests. This grievance had been ventilated in this House by way of interpellations on many occasions and the answers certainly were not satisfactory. When this present measure is being considered I would like to know what steps Government intend to take in this respect; whether they are going to appoint an Advisory Committee similar to the Advisory Committee on the Railways, which exists for the purpose of ensuring passengers' benefits and fair cargo freights for the trades? The previous Government once upon a time stated that they considered this matter to be really very important and that they would consider appointing an Advisory Committee.

Those who have travelled on deck in Indian ships on coast lines know what hardship and suffering they have to undergo while travelling on deck. Railway travel in third class is far better than deck travel on coastal lines where conditions are very derogatory to the travelling public. There are no proper facilities as regards water supply or latrines or food as also as regards the space allotted to the passengers. Certain companies have also been increasing the cargo freights according to their whims without any consideration for the public. All these points which are important have been stressed many times both in this House and outside. Mahatma Gandhi had taken a very great interest in the improvement of travelling conditions for deck passengers. He had personal experience of the great hardships and inconveniences suffered by the deck passengers. He had also suggested the appointment of a committee to go into this matter, for the purpose of inquiring into what improvements are needed and he had also suggested the appointment of a permanent committee. I do not know whether until the proposed Bill comes into force Government will

consider this aspect of the question, namely the appointment of a
12 NOON committee to look into this matter. While the hon. Minister has asked for two years, the Act may not come into operation before three years. During this period what steps do Government intend to take regarding Indian coastal shipping, which is absolutely in the hands of the people of this country, regarding better travelling facilities and also as regards cargo freight. The Act comprises of various sections and I do not want to waste the time of the House by dealing with them, because it will not be proper under this very small Bill, where only an extension is required. But these two are very important factors which I hope the hon. Minister will consider irrespective of when the measure may come before the House for enactment. I would ask the hon. Minister to say whether under the provisions of the present Act he would take steps to see that committees are appointed or at least definite steps are taken in this direction, *viz.*, to improve the conditions of the travelling public as also to consider the cargo freight from one port to another. Otherwise, if it is possible, I would request him to amend the Bill to give the extension for one year only, so that the House may have an opportunity at an early date of discussing this important measure rather than holding it up for two years.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): It was gratifying to me to hear that the Federal Court, which is now the Supreme Court of India, was alert about the rights of the legislature and was also alert enough to see that the Executive did not take too drastic powers into its own hands. For that I congratulate the Supreme Court.

While I support the main principle of the Bill that the Control of Shipping Act should be extended till 1952, I am at a loss to understand why the Government of India did not issue Adaptation Acts and General Clauses Acts as had been issued after the 1935 Constitution came into existence. If we look into

our enactments we find them strewn with the ghosts of the Crown, His Majesty the King, the British Government and so many other things. Those of us who participated in framing the Constitution felt that simultaneously with the inauguration of the Republic on the 26th January, 1950 the Government of India and their advisers would have supplied the Members of this House and the general public with an Adaptation Act, by which these ghosts would have vanished from our enactments.

I am glad that my hon. friend Mr. Neogy took us into his confidence about the amendment of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act. My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva expatiated on what the general public expected in the matter of the new Shipping Act. Whatever it be it should be the enactment of a free Government of India. My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva, I think, looked into the future. If we followed this practice as a precedent, namely that every Ministry will examine the existing Acts and modify them to suit our future conditions, probably the Government of India will not come forward with a general amendment of all the Acts. I would suggest that it is your prerogative to demand from the Government of India the reason why they have not followed the wholesome practice, which they followed after the 1935 Act, namely to amend the enactments of India to suit the principles of the Constitution under which we are functioning. My hon. friend Dr. Ambedkar is not here but I do hope my hon. friend Mr. Neogy, being the astute politician that he was in the past, will enlighten us as to the intentions of the present Cabinet and the Government of India and why they are playing such dilatory tactics thus bringing us shame and humiliation.

I find that another Bill has been introduced the other day by my hon. friend Shri Jagjivan Ram for the purpose of consolidating all the Labour Acts. It is a desirable thing. But whereas he is keen to consolidate all labour legislation—which raise serious difficulties and obstacles against the factory owners' and employers—at the same time I think it is an Act which is necessary. He has introduced that Bill and we will discuss it soon on the floor of the House. But I am most anxious that the Government of India should not continue the old Acts without adaptation. They must introduce adaptation clauses so that nobody will continue to think of the names of "the Crown" or "His Majesty's Government" and such other associations with the U. K. Government. Those things must be removed from our enactments.

With these remarks, Sir, I support the motion.

Shri Himatsingka (West Bengal): I heard my hon. friend Mr. Sidhva but I think after the explanation given by the hon. Minister he should not have raised this question. There is no bar to any comprehensive legislation being brought in simply because we shall be extending this Act for two years. This matter was considered in the Advisory Committee attached to the Ministry and it was felt that in view of certain difficulties which might crop up and in view of the remarks made in the case that has been decided by the Federal Court it would be better if the time is extended by two years. The difficulties that have been pointed out by Mr. Sidhva can also be met with under the existing Act. There is nothing in the present Act which can stand in the way of reforms being introduced. Therefore there is no reason why this Act should be curtailed to one year and not extended to two years.

Shri Neogy: My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva is evidently labouring under a misapprehension when he thinks that the remedies that he wants to be applied to certain complaints that he has voiced from time to time cannot be applied under the present Control of Shipping Act. For instance, he has mentioned two particular points. One is as regards relief in the matter of passenger fares and cargo freight, and the other is as regards the grievances of deck passengers. So far as the first point is concerned, the House is aware—because I had to

[Shri Neogy]

answer at least one question on the subject—that we have already set up a Board under the Control of Shipping Act itself, because that provides for the appointment of a Board for purposes of recommending the rates and fares, about which references may be made to any such body by Government.

Shri Sidhva: When was it?

Shri Neogy: That was long ago. I think I answered my hon. friend's own question.

However, that body is functioning with respect to certain specific complaints that were made about the rates and fares on the Konkan coast.

As regards the question of deck passengers' grievances, there is another body which has been set up, and in regard to which a press communique was issued some time ago, to go into this question of grievances of deck passengers.

Shri Sidhva: What is the result of it?

Shri Neogy: I do not yet know, because that body has to meet and submit its report.

Shri Sidhva: When was it set up?

Shri Neogy: Several weeks ago.

Shri Sidhva: What were they doing all these weeks?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister is replying to the fear expressed that if this is delayed then under the present Act the relief that the hon. Member wanted would not be possible. He is saying that the relief is possible.

Shri Sidhva: But nothing has been done under the Act.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Neogy: None of my hon. friend's fears would be removed simply by the passing of the consolidating measure. If Government are remiss under the present circumstances, where they have ample power to take action on the lines sought by him, Government may as well continue to be negligent of the interests of the public in those very matters even if the consolidating measure is passed.

My hon. friend Mr. B. Das also seems to be labouring under a misapprehension. It is not a question of passing any adaptation law for the purpose of avoiding the application of the British law in regard to merchant shipping matters. Orders or adaptation laws can function only with reference to the legislation that has already been passed by the Legislature of this country. And adaptation is intended to bring the provisions of the law of the Indian Legislature itself into conformity with any provision of the new Constitution that may be necessary. If my hon. friend wants to suggest that we could have taken recourse to this adaptation procedure for the purpose of adopting the numerous provisions of the British law as our own, then I am afraid he would be guilty of attempting to encroach upon the functions of this sovereign Parliament. It is this Parliament alone that can possibly adopt any provision of the British law that may apply to us in the transitional conditions of the country but which must form a part of the law of the land itself, based on the authority of this sovereign Parliament. I am afraid proper appreciation is wanting of the complexity of this particular problem. Here is the Indian Merchant Shipping Act. It consists of 296 Sections most of which are of a technical character. Apart from all these Sections some of which

have from time to time been amended, the experience in the working of this particular law points to the necessity of revision in certain particulars. That again requires technical examination, apart from examination from the Draftsman's point of view. Then again, the question of adopting—not adapting—the provisions of the British enactment and of making them suitable to Indian conditions, is not a matter to be dealt with light-heartedly. I can again assure the House that everything possible is being done and, as I have already stated, departmental proposals in the form of a draft are almost ready and it is my hope that it would be possible to introduce that Bill perhaps towards the end of the next session, and if that is not possible, at any rate towards the beginning of the next Budget Session. It is in these circumstances that I plead for the extension of time by two years.

Shri B. Das: I was referring to the general question of adaptation of our laws.

Shri Neogy: I am afraid I can answer only with reference to the measure for which I am responsible.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Control of Shipping Act, 1947, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 1 and 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1 and 2 were added to the Bill.

The Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Neogy: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

INDIAN TEA CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy): I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, be taken into consideration."

The tea industry faced an unprecedented and catastrophic slump in the early thirties which threatened the very existence of the industry, particularly the smaller units of the industry. Early in 1933 the principal producing countries, namely India, Ceylon and the Dutch East Indies, now named Indonesia, reached an agreement to regulate exports of tea and in certain ways to restrict production. The Government of India supported this move and gave necessary legislative cover to the agreement that was reached by these three countries, and the Tea Control Act of 1933 was the result. Under that Act, the export quota of each of the contracting countries was fixed for each year at a percentage of the highest export figure during any of the three years, namely 1929, 1930 and 1931. The quota that belonged to any country—and the Indian quota—had to be distributed among the estates by a committee

[Shri Neogy]

composed of representatives of tea interests. The second provision related to restriction of cultivation which was effected by agreement and was to the effect that no virgin land shall be brought under cultivation except in the case of those estates whose economic existence would be otherwise imperilled, and the extension for the whole of India was limited to one half per cent. of the area actually under tea on the 31st March, 1933. Infilling of worn-out plantations was also permitted under certain limitations. The third important provision was the banning of the export of tea seeds to non-participant countries. By this method we sought to control the possibility of competition developing in countries that were not parties to the agreement.

The first agreement and legislation of 1933 were effective for five years and were periodically renewed subject to minor changes, the last renewal having been made in 1948 for two years. The agreement and the Act of 1948 would expire on the 31st March, 1950.

The International Tea Committee which is actually a creature of the arrangements brought about by the tea agreement and on which are represented the producers and also the Governments of India, Ceylon, Pakistan and Indonesia, has recommended that the agreement, subject to necessary modifications, may be continued for a period of five more years, namely from 1st April, 1950, to 31st March, 1955. The proposed agreement for 1950—55, like its predecessors, deals mainly with control over tea exports and tea acreage. Existing provisions regarding a standard export figure for each participating country have not been modified in any way in the present proposals. The standard export figures based on the maximum export in any one of the years 1929 to 1931 for the four participating countries are as follows:

India		348 million lbs.
Pakistan	Very nearly	35 million lbs.
Ceylon	About	251 million lbs.
Indonesia	About	173 million lbs.

During 1948—50, the participating countries to the agreement were also permitted to extend their tea cultivation up to two per cent. per annum and to replace existing tea areas up to five per cent. per annum of the permissible acreage as on the 31st March, 1948. These figures of permissible acreage as on 31st March, 1948 were as follows:

India		775,700 acres
Pakistan		76,700 acres.
Ceylon	...	565,603 acres.
Indonesia	...	519,000 odd acres.

The permissible acreage as on 31st March, 1950 under the proposed agreement for 1950—55, has been worked out on the foregoing basis and is irrespective of whether or not such expansion of cultivation did in fact take place during 1948—50. In addition, during 1950—55 each producing country can extend tea cultivation up to one per cent per annum and can replace worn-out tea areas up to two per cent per annum of the permissible acreage as on 31st March, 1950. Under this agreement, the tea export release for producing countries during each financial year is to be determined and announced by the International Tea Committee. During 1948—50 the export release has been 125 per cent of the standard export figures. In the proposed agreement for 1950—55 provision is contained for increasing the quantum of export to 130 per cent for the year 1950-51 while for subsequent years the permissible percentages would be determined by the International Tea Committee from year to year.

The voting rights on the International Tea Committee are distributed as follows:

India	... 34
Pakistan	... 4
Ceylon	... 25
Indonesia	... 17

Thus it will be seen that in regard to the duties that have to be performed by the International Tea Committee, India will have the predominant voice. Members representing the Governments of producing countries can alone exercise these voting rights. I may mention that apart from a Government representative from each of the participating countries, there are representatives of the tea industry from each country, but it is the Government representative alone who exercises the voting rights on behalf of the country that he represents.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): How many of them are Government representatives?

Shri Neogy: Only one Government nominee is the Government representative. The others are nominated by Government but are expected to represent the interests of the industry and trade.

Shri Tyagi: Out of the 34 how many shall be Government representatives?

Shri Neogy: It is one officer who will exercise 34 votes—it is not 34 members that will be nominated by us.

As a matter of fact, India will be represented by a nominee of the Government as an official member authorised to exercise the vote on behalf of India, the value of that vote being 34. India will also nominate four others to represent trading interests, but they will not exercise voting rights.

The Indian tea producing interests who have fully participated in the discussions leading to the framing of the new draft Agreement are generally in favour of the proposed Agreement for 1950—55. The matter was also considered by the Central Tea Board, which has also given its general approval to the entire scheme. I do not know if it would be necessary for me to go into further details at this stage. I do hope that the House will give careful consideration to these proposals.

The tea industry has at all times occupied a very important place in the economy of India. The partition of the country has been responsible for a great deal of change in the pattern of trade. We have lost quite a few important commodities as a result of the partition, and among manufacturing industries jute occupies the first position and tea comes next. It is unnecessary for me, therefore, to emphasize the importance of tea from the point of view of the foreign trade of the country. Government are convinced that a renewal of the Agreement and re-enactment of the law for a further period of five years are essential in the interests of maintaining this industry and the trade in a condition where unbridled competition from abroad cannot have any effect. As a matter of fact, there are countries which, at the present moment, grow tea and which are not parties to this Agreement. I have worked out the figures of their acreage and average outturn. It is a very small proportion indeed of the tea production of the world.

Shri Chaliha (Assam): What about South Africa?

Shri Neogy: I have taken everything into consideration. As a matter of fact, the hon. Member will find all these details in a leaflet which has been circulated to all hon. Members—"A Note circulated by the Ministry of Commerce in connection with the consideration of the Indian Tea Control (Amendment) Bill, 1950". I do not know whether my hon. friend has got a copy.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): It was circulated only this morning.

Shri Neogy: I am extremely sorry. This was sent out long ago, but evidently something has gone wrong.

Mr. Speaker: I understand it was circulated two days back.

Shri Neogy: I am thankful to you, Sir.

I do not think I need say anything very much more for the purpose of bringing home to the House the importance of this measure. I would only like to give an idea about the comparative position of the participating and non-participating countries in point of acreage and production. So far as acreage is concerned, the position was as follows:

Participating countries.

1933	1856 (thousand acres).
1940	1922 "
1947	1937 " (Permissible acreage).
1948	1937 "

Non-participating countries.

1933	320 (thousand acres).
1940	284 "
1947	369 "
1948	343 "

Percentage of acreage of non-participating countries to participating countries.

1933	17 per cent.
1940	15 per cent.
1947	19 per cent.
1948	18 per cent.

I shall now give figures relating to production.

Participating countries.

1933	770 (million lbs.).
1940	910 "
1947	905 "
1948	943 "

Non-participating countries.

1933	120 (million lbs.).
1940	215 "
1947	136 "
1948	136 "

Percentage of production of non-participating countries to participating countries.

1933	16 per cent.
1940	24 per cent.
1947	15 per cent.
1948	14 per cent.

From the above figures, you will see that, if anything, the progress has not only not been maintained, but taking the later figures, there has been a recession in the production of the non-participating countries as compared to the production

of the participating countries and also, to a certain extent, in acreage. Therefore, there need be no apprehension that because the other producing countries are not parties to this Agreement, the interests of the Indian tea producer will be in jeopardy in any way.

I should like to say a word about the interests of the smaller growers. I am perfectly aware of the existence, in certain parts of the country, of a very large number of small units, either of a proprietary character or owned by limited companies. There are certain special problems which have to be considered in connection with these small units and some hon. friends interested in the tea industry have brought to my notice several points which will require careful consideration for the purpose of giving necessary and legitimate protection to them. I can give a general assurance that, so far as it lies in our power, we would be prepared to give adequate protection, which may be justified by the circumstances of the case, to these smaller units. Some of these points do not actually arise out of the Agreement itself, but can be dealt with under the rule-making power which Government have got under the enactment which has so far been applicable and which, if the House so pleases, will be extended for the next five years. These are problems of a domestic nature. The consideration of the special interests of the smaller producers need not, therefore, influence us in the consideration of the proposal I have placed before the House, which does not prejudicially affect these smaller interests but which, I may once more repeat, is a matter of domestic concern with which we can deal as Government by virtue of the rule-making powers.

I do hope that, in view of the assurances I have given, my hon. friends who, I know, are genuinely interested in the smaller units, will not find it necessary to raise their voice in criticism of the proposal I have placed before the House.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, be taken into consideration."

Shri Venkataraman (Madras): The hon. Minister while giving an account of the non-participating countries had omitted to mention some of the salient features particularly which tend to show that these non-participating countries are going on expanding both their acreage and their production.

I will first mention the countries which are not participating in this International Tea Agreement. The Soviet Union, China, Formosa, the East African territories of Kenya, Uganda and Nyasaland are the most important non-participating countries in this International Tea Agreement.

[*MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.*]

So far as the East African territories are concerned, they have expanded not only their acreage, but have also increased production in millions of pounds. We have no figures as to the acreage in the Soviet Union. We have only been furnished figures of production for the year 1940. There are no figures for the years after 1940. Only members of the International Tea Agreement are under this agreement bound to furnish statistical information to the International Tea Committee and the non-participating countries are not bound to supply the information and we know we are not able to get any information from countries like the Soviet Union. The note circulated by the Ministry of Commerce shows that in the year 1940 the Soviet Union had produced 28 million and odd pounds of tea. Nine years have since elapsed and we have no figures as to what extent they have improved their production.

So far as East Africa is concerned, I have the report of the International Tea Committee for the month of February 1950 which discloses an increase in every one of these countries. Production figures are not given by the International

[Shri Venkataraman]

Tea Committee, but the figures of export of tea from these countries show that they have increased their export from 1948 to 1949. Japan, which in 1948 exported only about 8.8 million pounds, exported about 15.8 million pounds in 1949. Should we not now take into account the future of the tea industry in this country? If the countries which are not participating in this agreement are allowed to expand their acreage, and to improve upon their export quota and are allowed to go on as they like, both with regard to their new plantings, as well as with regard to replacement, ultimately a time is bound to come when we will have to face very keen competition from countries like East Africa which, we are told, offers very great scope for the improvement in the cultivation of tea as even South India is. Therefore it was brought even to the notice of the Central Tea Board that we are not over-zealous about entering into the International Tea Agreement, unless all the producing countries are brought into it. By not bringing in those countries which have both the capacity and also facilities for producing tea, we are only placing upon ourselves restrictions which may ultimately land us in great difficulties. For instance, if within the period of five years the other countries are able to produce and expand their acreage to such an extent as to capture a part of the world market, it will only go from out of the market which is available to the participating countries and particularly to India because India is today supplying 50 per cent. of the tea which is being consumed in the world.

If the Government of India had bestowed a little attention earlier to this problem, they could have brought these non-participating countries into the International Tea Agreement.

Shri Neogy: How?

Shri Venkataraman: I shall explain it.

We are all members of the International Tea Market Expansion Board. Kenya, Uganda and Nyasaland are all members of the International Tea Market Expansion Board. The International Tea Market Expansion Board does propaganda for consumption of tea as such, and not for Indian tea. We contribute about 50 per cent. of the total expenditure of the International Tea Market Expansion Board which comes to about £45 thousand. The propaganda which is done by the International Tea Market Expansion Board in favour of consumption of tea is taken advantage of by the countries which are not parties to the International Tea Agreement. Tea from China and tea from East Africa is being sold in the American markets today under the cover of the propaganda which is being done by the International Tea Market Expansion Board. If the Government of India had put its firm foot and said: "We will not admit you as members of the International Tea Market Expansion Board unless you agree to join the International Tea Agreement, and at least agree to furnish statistics of your expansion of acreage, of your production and of your exports", and if the Government of India had said that they would not conform to the same percentage of the expansion and new plantings which are imposed on the participating countries, I wonder if these countries would not have joined the International Tea Agreement.

Without the International Tea Market Expansion Board's activities, it is not possible for these non-participating countries to find a market for their tea. I find, that most of the tea which is produced by the non-participating countries, except perhaps the Soviet Union, is exported to other countries. The Soviet Union has not given any figures of export and we presume, therefore, that the tea which is produced in that country is consumed therein. But for the facilities offered by the Tea Market Expansion Board the non-participating

countries would not be in a position to sell the tea produced by them. In the note which is circulated occurs this statement:

"The period of shortage of supplies is not yet altogether over and its effects will continue to influence the tea markets, though in a progressively decreasing measure, till Indonesia and possibly other war devastated countries, such as China and Formosa, resume their exports on a prewar level. It is not unlikely that the tea industry will then face over-production once more, as was the position during the years 1929-32, if unplanned expansion is allowed to take place."

Another note circulated by the Commerce Ministry says.

"While the problem at that time was that of curtailing the supplies to adjust over production, we have now to face an expanding market where the supplies are still short."

You are also aware that the Vice-Chairman of the International Tea Market Expansion Board said that the world consumption of tea is far greater than the world production, that there is still an over-all shortage and that there is no fear of any slump for some time to come. If that is so, why should our country bind itself to restriction in its expansion of acreage? Why should our country lose the market which it will necessarily do by curtailing her exports and why should our country be faced ultimately with competition from other countries, particularly East Africa where the original planters of India have now settled, and where they are trying to bring large tracts under cultivation of tea. The potential competitor to Indian tea will be tea produced from East Africa. You will find that having entered into this International Tea Agreement, having restricted our acreage, having put a ban on our exports and having allowed other people to take advantage of the benefits offered by the International Tea Market Expansion Board and having spent our money and our contributions for the propaganda of tea as such under which China tea, tea from Africa and all the other countries will benefit, we will ultimately find that our tea has no market, or a reduced or shrunken market.

I wonder, why the Government of India did not make any effort whatsoever to bring the non-participating countries into the Tea Agreement by suggesting to them that they will be excluded from the International Tea Expansion Board. The Government of India has not taken any steps to see that all the producing countries come into this agreement. Sir, merely to enter into an agreement by which we will be curtailing our production while our competitors in the world will be increasing their production and their acreage does not sound good in the long run. I must, however, point out that there is a tendency for the tea industry to grow monopolistic. It does not want the expansion of this industry in this country. It likes to preserve a limited acreage, and the support that you have received from the Central Tea Board which is dominating the affairs of the industry is a qualified support, a support which is in their own interests because it wants to see that they have a monopoly in the tea industry. The consumers' interests and the labour interests were certainly against any such restriction. It was the consumers' interests which insisted that at least the International Tea Committee's recommendations of five per cent. new planting and ten per cent. replacement should be accepted, while the Central Tea Board wanted that one-half of the International Committee's figures only should be accepted. Because the future of the tea industry, according to the Government, will be one of great slump, I would urge that liberal provision be made for expansion and replacement, particularly for replacement because India has been cultivating tea for a very long time and the soil has dried up. There is no great harm in allowing unlimited replacement, at least, because they can replace tea from those soils which have dried up to new areas where the soil is fresh and virgin so that thereby, if we cannot increase acreage, at least we can enhance production. With these words, I suggest that a more liberal provision be made for both expansion as well as replacement.

Shri B. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): I have long resisted the temptation to raise point of order on this Bill, but now that you are in the Chair, I feel bold to raise that point of order. The point of order is this.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should not make such observations. It is open to him to raise any point of order. Possibly he was not sure of his own point of order, but I shall try to be strong.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: You have perfectly guessed my reason, Sir. The point of order which I intended to raise is this: In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is mentioned that the agreement is yet to take place. There have been several changes in the body of the Bill but no explanation, no reason, has been given for the insertion of those amendments in the Bill. My point of order is this: Can a Bill be placed before the House without any statement of objects and reasons?

An Hon. Member: Adequate.

Shri B. K. Chaudhuri: With regard to those sections which the Bill seeks to amend, is it not necessary and imperative to give some reasons for putting in those amendments in the Bill? My second objection is this.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Objection or point of order?

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Objection contained in the point of order. It is stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons that the agreement has not yet been formally concluded, but these formalities are expected to be completed by the first week of March. It further says in para. 2:

"After consultation with the various tea interests in India and the Central Tea Board, the Central Government have decided to give recognition to the proposed International Tea Agreement as soon as it comes into force."

That is to say, we are asked to give our consent by this Bill to the agreement which will be subsequently arrived at. Then it further says in para. 3:

"The Indian Tea Control (Amendment) Bill, 1950, has, therefore, been designed to continue the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, upto the 31st March 1955 with such modifications as are necessary to give effect to the terms of the new agreement."

This means that this agreement may not be completed before 1955, and therefore power is sought to be taken by this Bill, whenever that agreement comes into force before 1955, without further reference to this House. I submit, that such course of action, such piece of legislation, is not warranted by our Constitution. I therefore raise this point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As regards the points made by Mr. Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri in his point of order, I shall take them up one by one. Regarding the inadequacy of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, I do not see that any point of order arises. The Statement of Objects and Reasons has been more than amply added to or supplemented by the hon. Minister's speech. The statement of objects and reasons is not a necessary part of any Bill, and for purposes of interpretation by courts of law, the statement of objects and reasons is not looked into. However, for the benefit of the House, a detailed statement of objects and reasons ought to be given, as far as possible without the need for further explanations, but that cannot be raised as a point of order for proceeding with the Bill.

As regards para. 2, it empowers the Central Government to give recognition to the proposed International Tea Agreement as soon as it comes into force. It is expected to be completed before the first week of March, and today is the 20th February. I do not see how it is not competent for this House to pass a Bill of this kind so that as soon as the agreement comes into force, i.e., on the 1st March, it may apply. I do not see how a point of order arises in this case.

Regarding para. 3, "with such modifications as are necessary to give effect to the terms of the new agreement", the House is fully aware of the various measures which have been taken, empowering Government to apply particular sections as and when occasion arises or circumstances necessitate. A general Bill of this kind to clothe the Government with power to modify or adapt it according to circumstances, from time to time, for a period of five years, is altogether within the competence of this House. I do not see any point of order arising here.

The hon. Member, if he wishes to speak on this Bill, may do so.

I would like to make another reference as regards the observation made by the hon. Member that he was waiting until I came. If he felt that if he should make this point to the Speaker, he would not allow it, then it is an aspersion. If it is said that his point is weak and therefore, he was waiting for me, it is an aspersion against me that I would easily yield. In either case it is an aspersion against the Chair. I know the hon. Member did not mean anything because he was referring to this matter in his usual humour. He ought not to have made such references to the Chair. If it is a good point of order, it is always open to him to raise it and submit it to the decision of the Chair.

Shri Karmarkar (Bombay): May I say, Sir, that it was only a courtesy to the Chair. My hon. friend would have said the same thing if somebody else was in the Chair.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us drop further discussion on this matter.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Then does it mean that if this agreement is not completed within March 1950, then this legislation does not take effect or are we to wait till the 31st March 1955 for the implementation of that agreement?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us wait and see. Evidently Government feels that there may not be sufficient time for the House to pass this Bill. This is the Budget session; the Railway Budget will be presented and the General Budget will also be presented. The hon. Minister evidently thinks that there may not be sufficient time for introduction, discussion and passing of this Bill. Therefore, he has come in advance—not too much in advance.

Shri Neogy: It may be that my hon. friend apprehends that supposing the agreement does not materialize, why should we in anticipation give legislative cover to an agreement which may not materialize. Now the Act which I am seeking to continue by this amending measure provides in section 9(1) ample powers for the Central Government in a way to repeal the Act. It says:

"The Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, declare the Committee to be dissolved and on the date of the publication of any such notification the Committee shall stand dissolved and this Act shall be deemed to be repealed."

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I find myself rather confused. This Bill of 1950 which is before us says as follows:

"Amendment of section 1, Act VIII of 1938.—In section 1 of the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938 (hereinafter referred to as the said Act),—

- (i) in sub-section (2) the words and letter 'except Part B States' shall be omitted; and
- (ii) in sub-section (4), for the figures '1950' the figures '1955' shall be substituted."

So far as sub-clause (i) is concerned, I do not find any reference to 'Part B States' in the Act of 1938.

Shri Neogy: There have been subsequent amendments and adaptation orders have been passed.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I have also before me the Bill of 1948, the amending Act of 1948 and the amending Act of 1949. I do not find any reference to "Part B States" in any of these Acts.

Shri Neogy: That only indicates that my hon. friend's study is not quite up-to-date.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I want to be up-to-date. I want to know from the hon. Minister.

Shri Neogy: I will.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Such a confusion is quite natural. The hon. Minister did not refer at all in his speech about this appropriation. I cannot see why this appropriation, this change has been made. If the words "expect Part B States" can be introduced without bringing a legislation on the subject, then what was the object of introducing an amending clause to that effect in this Bill. That is what I want to know.

Shri Neogy: I see.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: I will give time to the hon. Minister to explain.

Shri Neogy: I will explain the whole position when I reply.

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

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: My hon. friend the Minister has complained to the House that I am not up-to-date. It is quite a patent fact from my appearance that I am not an up-to-date man. I came to this House and am still in this House to acquire knowledge and not to display it. The only thing that I would cavil against the hon. Minister is this that being an old friend of mine, he should not have exposed me as an old fool before the new hon. Members of this House. While you were not here I had made a grievance that the Statement of Objects and Reasons was not fully illuminating and as a matter of fact it was deficient in certain important particulars. Since then the hon. Minister has been pleased to place on our Table during Lunch a fuller explanation of those clauses which was not incorporated in the main Statement of Objects and Reasons and I am thankful to the Minister for having done so because it will enable the Members of the House to understand the scope of the present Bill properly.

I think my hon. friend will not say that it is difficult to rouse a man who is not sleeping actually—that is not the fact in my case! I really do not understand the full implication of clauses 9 and 10 and I do not know whether the amendment proposed really improves the position of the Indian Tea Planters or not. I am not holding a brief for any class of planters in this country. I might make a candid confession in this House that I am not interested in tea, either its manufacture or its plantation excepting to the extent that I consume about half-a-dozen cups of tea every day and that keeps me in the spirit in which the House sees me to-day and that is a point to convince the non-tea drinking Members of this House that if they only follow my example, they might be able to keep as strong as I am in my present age. This I say particularly as on a previous occasion when tea was discussed in this House several hon. Members came up before the House and said that it is better not to pay more attention to the expansion of tea because tea is really bad for the health. That was a mistake and has to be corrected. Once again, although I hold no brief to my friend on my left, I should make it clear that the drinking of tea is really beneficial for the health of the people.

Hon. Members: No.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Here in clause 9 sub-clause (ii) it says:

“for the words ‘five per cent.’ the words ‘two per cent.’ shall be substituted.”

The original Section is Section 26 of the Act which says:

“So long as this Act remains in force, no one shall plant tea in any land which was not planted with tea on the 31st day of March 1938, save in pursuance of a written permission granted by or on behalf of the Committee:

Provided that this section shall apply to the replacing of tea areas by planting new areas, but nothing in this section shall prohibit the in-filling of or supplying of vacancies on land planted with tea at the 31st day of March, 1933, or the replanting of tea upon—

- (a) land planted with tea at the 31st day of March, 1933, from which the original bushes have been uprooted, or
- (b) land planted with tea at the 31st day of March, 1931, from which the original bushes have been uprooted.”

Here I do not find 5 per cent. at all. I want to know whether it is in a subsequent amendment of 1948?

Shri Neogy: Yes. There is sub-clause (b) to the proviso.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: There it was 5 per cent. The explanation given is:

“The proposed amendment seeks to facilitate the infilling of tea and also replanting on old lands including those planted upto 1948, that is even two years before.”

That I understand. Then it says:

“The proposed amendment is because the International Tea Agreement for 1950-55 will provide for replacement of tea area upto two per cent. per annum of permissible acreage on 31st March 1950 as against five per cent. per annum under the 1948-50 Agreement.”

I wanted to know from the hon. Minister as well as other Members who have studied the subject whether this change proposed now is going to act in the interest of the Indian Tea Planters. The House is aware that the Indian Tea Planters were at a great disadvantage when the British control was in the country. As a matter of fact they had a herculean task to keep their concerns going. This amendment, if I understand it correctly, is going to interfere with the interests of the Indian Tea Planters who had not got sufficient quota of plantation in their vacant spaces in the tea gardens. I submit that the Amendment of 1948 was rather conducive to their interests and the present Amendment which perhaps is the result of the Agreement—will not be in their interests. I also draw the attention of the House to clause 10 of the Bill which says that:

“In sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 27 of the said Act, for the words ‘four per cent.’ wherever they occur, the words ‘five per cent.’ shall be substituted.”

This increase of one per cent. may be interpreted to be an advantage over the existing Act but I submit that this is not an advantage. Rather the old provision in 1948 Act was to the advantage of the Indian Tea Planters. The hon. Minister will remember that when he was framing the last Act there was a Select Committee and in that various interests—the Indian Tea Planters and also experts in tea matters, and Indians,—had been represented and as a result of consultation and compromise the Act of 1948 was passed. These two amendments to which I want to draw the pointed attention of the House, I submit, tend to injure the interests of Indian planters rather than improve them. I submit this overall complaint I have on this matter, namely, that we must not anticipate matters nor leave the entire control with the Government. We must be in a position to know or at least have an idea of what this International Trade Agreement is which is expected to be finalised next March or it may not be finalised in one year or more. We do not know what may happen

[Shri R. K. Chaurhuri]

in the meantime. Things move very slowly nowadays in every sphere of life that it is very difficult to say for certain that agreement will be reached in March next.

Therefore I would rather be not a party to a piece of legislation which is really being enacted in anticipation of certain events which may not at all take place. Hence I caution the House and the hon. Minister that they should rather proceed cautiously in this matter. Supposing, as he anticipates, the agreement is concluded in March, there is no harm in this piece of legislation coming up before us in March. We can then finish this Bill just as expeditiously as we are prepared to do to-day. Therefore, after all is said and done, I would most respectfully request the Minister to consider that phase of the matter and see whether it is not possible, without detriment to the interests of the country, to defer the consideration of the Bill till after the agreement has been finally concluded, so that the House may have some idea as to what the agreement will be.

Shri Chaitia: I should like to view this motion from the point of view whether it will advance the cause of Indian planters or it will benefit the commercial community in tea which is non-Indian. In fact, the Commerce Ministry has fallen into the trap of the British interests. It is a British legacy which the hon. Minister has inherited from the past and has not been able to get over it.

Somehow or other the composition of the Tea Board and the Tea Licensing Committee is so arranged that the European interests prevail and the voice of Indian interests finds no place in them. The other day Mr. Poonacha said that he wanted to represent the cause of the poor growers, when they wanted to take off a certain percentage from their export quota, but the bigger interests, the European interests wanted to cut the export quota of the poorer growers by one per cent. and increase their own. A certain gentleman—representing certain big Indian planters went against the interests of Indians. He may be an Indian but for certain reasons he had to support European interests. If that is the case, and the few Members of Parliament who are on the Board confess their weakness that they have failed to influence them, it is time for the Commerce Ministry to change the gear so as to advance the interests of Indian planters and not of foreign investors.

It is hardly known to hon. Members that 84 per cent. of the tea estates and tea production is with the British. Whenever an agreement is entered into their interests are advanced.

Let us see what the composition of the International Committee is. There is only one Indian who represents the bigger interests and he does not care for the interests of the poor people. We have the land. Seventy-five per cent. of the land is in Assam and the rest in Bengal and other places. The labour is contributed by us. But you look only to the investment by capital. You forget the sweat and toil of labour which contributes to the production of tea. The Europeans come with a suave tongue and engaging manners. You lose yourself in their flattery and in that atmosphere where you find that you are respected so much. You should gear your policy in such a way that Indian interests are advanced but I do not find it in these international agreements.

Let us see how the International Tea Committee is composed. The Chairman is Mr. K. C. Brooks and the Deputy Chairman Mr. A. N. Stuart. Then there is Mr. M. J. Desai who is ignorant about tea, except the theoretical study of tea reports, etc. These I.C.S. people indulge themselves in the

belief that they know so much of everything that there is hardly any other person who can teach them anything. Then there are Mr. A. N. Stuart, Mr. D. C. Ghose, Mr. W. B. Bryans and Mr. W. G. Lely. Mr. Ghose may be a big pleader but can hardly influence or contribute to the discussions of the International Tea Committee. Probably he had been in the Tea Board or the Licensing Committee. You can well imagine how well he can represent our interest or how well he will advance our cause. I do not find fault with his intentions: he may be very progressive and sympathetic. But this Parliament should have more representation in the Tea Board and the Licensing Committee and the International Board, so that their whole mental outlook might change. I suggest that in the International Committee we should have more representation not by capital invested but according to population, land, land revenue, production and export. If there is such representation in the International Committee in London then you will be able to do something for your countrymen. We shall then be able to expand more our plantation, export more and we will be able to do things better.

I have very great respect for the hon. Commerce Minister and I do say that he has the best of intentions. But he is in the clutches of these I.C.S. men who will point out to him the little snag here and the other small snag elsewhere, and he falls a prey into their hands.

Shri Neogy: I shall be grateful to the hon. Member if he can give any practical suggestion by which the European planters could be reduced from 86 per cent.—I thought it was 80—how the composition of the various bodies could be improved and to what extent. That would conduce to the interest of the Indian tea industry.

Shri Chaliha: I am very grateful to the hon. Minister for his suggestion. It would be of interest to the House how the 86 per cent. could be reduced to 14 per cent. We should see how it should be done. We shall contribute our intelligence and knowledge to the extent possible. But it is a long range view. From the way things are done, export licences granted and many other little things are done, so long as that continues he will not be able to change the atmosphere. Your mental outlook should be such that you sympathise with your own poor, down-trodden and oppressed people. It should not be your function to find excuses or legal loopholes and stress them. But you must encourage our people so that they may get more representation. I say that from this House we should send some representative to the International Committee. It may be said that a Member of Parliament does not know much about tea but his presence has a wholesome effect on the Committee. Even the views of experts change with the presence of Members of Parliament. They should be also on the Tea Board and the Licensing Committee if the welfare of the producers of our own country is to be served duly.

Let us see whether this Agreement is in any way advantageous for us in regard to export. We find that our production in 1940 was 572 million lbs. It was 394 million lbs. in 1931. But then one fact ought to be taken note of, and that is in 1914 or near about our consumption was only 19 million lbs. That has now gone up to 163 million lbs. (including Pakistan) or about 125 million lbs. excluding Pakistan. That is to say, we are consuming more and more. As compared to 1914 the consumption has increased to 165 million lbs. and we will be consuming more and more. If we are to export tea, then it is essentially necessary that we should plant more lands with tea to meet the home and external demands. But you have not amended section 28 so that we may have some advantage in extending the tea estates of Indian tea owners. Unless an amendment is brought to section 28 I do not think it will be possible. But you

-[Shri Chaliha].

have not brought any amendment to section 28. And it cannot be incorporated in section 27—probably it will not fit in properly. Therefore I would suggest that the hon. Minister in charge of Commerce be pleased to bring an amendment to the Act so that it is possible for the Indian tea owners to extend their tea estates.

Extension of one or two per cent. of the acreage will not improve very much. If it is allowed at all it will be advantageous only to the non-Indian interests. One per cent. extension means that for a hundred acres it will be the addition of one acre only. But those who have got 20,000 acres will be able to extend the acreage by 200 acres. Therefore, even in the distribution you should not go mechanically in the way that was being done, but the small growers—people who have less area—should be given greater advantage over the others possessing larger acreages. It should be so arranged and so distributed that the Indian growers get a greater advantage. And people who have got 500 or 1,000 acres should not be allowed to extend the acreage at all.

Having looked at the matter from that point of view, my opinion is that this International Agreement has not improved the lot of the Indian tea planters. I do not say that it is absolutely wrong to have the Agreement because we want dollars very much and this Agreement to that extent may be helpful. But the Agreement was not so contrived as to advance the cause of the Indian tea planters. As such I give to this measure a qualified support—not a hearty support. For, we could not press our point of view that our acreage should be extended or our export should be increased. We have not been able to do so.

Another thing. Indonesia which exported about 173 million lbs. in 1931 exported only 19 million lbs. in 1948. Have we been able to take advantage of that? Who has taken advantage of that? Why could not our representatives on the International Tea Committee press that the advantage should come to us? We should have pressed that to get the advantage, and I think our representatives failed to impress on the International Committee that the advantage should come to us. Therefore my submission is that your representation on the Committee is not such as to justify your praises. I think they ought to have pressed that this export quota should come to us. And how has the quota gone? I find from page 21 of the booklet which has been supplied to me very kindly by the hon. Minister that this export quota has been distributed to other people. And our export remains almost static—I do not say static but it has not advanced to the extent that it should have. Our export is 376 million lbs. in 1948, whereas as early as in 1931 the figure was 345 million lbs.

Shri Neogy: Would it help my hon. friend if I were to tell him that the export quota which was allowed to India was not fully availed of? Why does my hon. friend assume that it is because of these restrictions that India could not export more?

Shri Tyagi: Because the prices paid were low under the H. M. G. Agreement.

Shri Chaliha: It is like this. The Indians were never allowed to extend their plantation and the whole thing comes in a vicious circle. If you had allowed them, they would have probably done their best and tried to do a little more. Java, containing as it does British interests, is more British than Dutch. Therefore their interest was not to allow the export quota to us

in spite of the fact that the Indonesian export fell to 19 million lbs. as against 175 million lbs. in 1931 and 1932. If you had allowed the Indian growers to extend the acreage and asked the International Tea Committee to allow an extension, probably the charge that we have not been able to export to this extent that we should have done would not have arisen. But I do not find fault with you. You have the British legacy, you have fallen into that trap which you have not been able to see through. What I would urge is that it should be so managed that more tea is grown by Indians and more tea is exported by Indian interests. And it should be so handled that our Secretaries under the Commerce Ministry should not fall into the trap of the British way of dealing with these things. It should be so arranged that we should derive greater advantage than others.

Shri Neogy: May I give my hon. friend some facts? Up to 1948 only small estates were allowed to apply for extension—'small estates' meaning 150 acres in the case of proprietorial gardens and 350 acres in the case of companies. I take it that the Indian interests which he represents, or rather for which he is the spokesman, fall within this category. This was the favour shown to them—I will give the other figures later in my reply—and they never availed of that opportunity. The areas allowed to them were not planted.

Shri Challa: That is a very interesting point, and I should thank my hon. friend for giving the same. The areas have been restricted in the past and as soon as the war was over their finance has gone, their labour has gone. If you had allowed them during the war it would have been possible for them to extend the areas. But of course you were not responsible during the war. It is only now that they have the incapacity, because their finance has dried up. It is not only they, but even this Government have not been able to raise proper finance and loans for their projects. Then why find fault with private owners? So, the private owners who cannot raise funds should not be found fault with. Formerly the bankers used to advance the money. If the Government of India cannot raise money for itself, is it possible

3 P. M. for private owners to do so? I think they are suffering from the same difficulty which this Government is suffering from now. We find that whatever project is taken up it is handicapped for want of finance. That explains matters in the case of these private owners also. But there is nothing to be very joyful about in their misery. You should have more sympathy for them.

On the whole, in spite of certain defects in the Bill, I generally and in a qualified way support this agreement, with the observation that the Commerce Ministry should change its angle of vision and angle of consideration from what it has been doing so far. With these words, I support the Bill.

Shri Buragohain (Assam): The hon. Minister has given the House a review of the circumstances which necessitated the sponsoring of the present Bill. The only question for the decision of the House is whether or not we should participate in the international collaboration of the four nations for the regulated production and export of tea. That appears to me to be the only question that has been raised by this Bill.

Then, as regards other matters, the question of giving preferential treatment to the smaller growers of tea is a matter of domestic concerns which is outside the scope of the International Tea Agreement.

[Shri Buragohain]

This industry is of very great importance to this country. The hon. Minister pointed out that it is only second to jute. From the figures that have been circulated, we find that we in this country produce 60 per cent. of the world's production of tea. Of this, my own State of Assam accounts for about 60 per cent. of our production. In fact, the economy of that part of India is very intimately bound up with the fortunes of the tea industry. Out of the total production of tea in this country, I believe four-fifths are exported out of the country bringing in a considerable sum of money into this country. In my own State, I believe as much as Rs. 22 crores are distributed in the form of wages to the labourers who are about a million souls. These million souls are not of indigenous origin—they belong to Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Madras. Anyway, a part of this sum of Rs. 22 crores passes into the hands of indigenous labourers and cultivators of my State and therefore, their economic condition is very much dependent on the tea industry. Looking back on the dreadful slump which came upon this industry two decades ago, we can now thank the Government for coming to the rescue of this industry and thereby saving the economy of that part of India.

It is true that four-fifths of the capital invested in tea is British. It is also true that Great Britain and Ireland are our biggest buyers; I believe together they absorb about 75 per cent. of India's production. Therefore, we may not have much to complain against the British growers in this country. The only point is that the export quota rights to the tune of about 100 million lbs. and the production rights of about 32,000 acres, arising as a result of the present agreement, should be distributed to the less economic producers, namely the indigenous producers. I am very glad to find that the hon. Minister has given an assurance to the House that it will be his concern to look to the interests of these indigenous growers who at present are carrying on in these difficult days, in a very uneconomic manner. In view of this assurance, I have no hesitation to commend the measure that the hon. Minister has presented before the House.

Shri Poonacha (Coorg): The hon. Minister of Commerce while moving this Bill made certain observations relating to the overall production of tea of the participating countries and also the production in the non-participating countries of the world. In giving his explanation, he tried to justify that those countries which have not come in into the International Tea Agreement, do not seriously affect the overall position of the tea industry in our own country. I am afraid I cannot agree with him in that respect. First of all, if we trace the history of this International Tea Agreement which originated some time in 1933, we find that the tea-producing interests belonging to India, Ceylon and Indonesia met at a conference in London and then, to protect their own interests, they conceived the idea of bringing about this International Tea Agreement. In my opinion, there is very little of internationalism behind this agreement. It is purely an agreement between the interested parties belonging to the three chief countries, namely India, Ceylon and Indonesia—now of course Pakistan is also there. Apart from these, the other producing countries never participated in this agreement. As pointed out by my hon. friend, Mr. Venkataraman, earlier in the day, this fact of not including all the tea-producing countries in this international agreement, in my opinion, brings about or might bring about a situation wherein India's tea-producing interests, India's monopoly, if I may say so, so far as tea production is concerned, would be very seriously jeopardised in a few years. From the booklet that has been circulated to Members by the Commerce Ministry, it could be seen that the East African

territories of Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika, Nyasaland and others have not only been progressively extending their area of tea cultivation but also increasing their tea production.

From the figures that have been supplied, we can see that the area in these countries has risen considerably. From 12,000 acres in Kenya it has gone up to 16,000 acres. From 1,000 acres in Uganda, it has gone up to 5,000 acres. In Tanganyika, what was 2,000 acres is now about 7,500 acres. In Nyasaland, what was 13,000 acres is now 20,000 acres. This is the increase that has occurred between the years 1933 and 1947. This progressive increase in the cultivation of tea by the non-participant countries will ultimately mean potential competitors to India. I want to know what precautionary steps Government have taken to prevent such a situation arising in the near future, which may very well jeopardize or threaten the existence of the tea industry in this country. Tea is one of our major industries, next to jute, which we have lost now. Tea occupies the first rank as a money crop. We export not less than Rs. 60 to 70 crores worth of tea annually. This commodity, which is one of the dollar earners, should be treated very carefully and every precaution must be taken to maintain the present position of India in so far as world tea production is concerned.

It is suggested that even the permissible quota allotted to India has not been adequately met. The hon. Minister raised this point in the course of the debate just now. Now, the reasons for this could be very many. This very fact itself will go to prove conclusively how this policy of prohibiting further cultivation of tea in this country is going to jeopardise our interests. We have progressively restricted the cultivation from 1933 onwards. Now, a situation has arisen when we could have taken advantage of the serious shortage of tea in the world, but we find ourselves completely handicapped because we have put restrictions on our own selves and thereby we have not been able to produce sufficiently to meet the world demand which has risen so much in recent times. I refer particularly to the war years. It is known to every one that on account of civil war, Indonesia's production went down considerably. Where she was producing 163 million lbs., she could hardly produce anything over 19 million lbs. Under the new regime, Indonesia is expected to produce about 45 million lbs., but even then it will take a long time to reach the pre-war level. By that time, if we do not seize the opportunity and develop our tea industry, what would happen to our interests? We have failed completely in this respect, and we are still going on with the same old policy of placing this unfortunate restriction on our own selves in the name of an International Trade Agreement. If we examine the question

intimately, it will be seen that this so-called International Tea Agreement has been drawn up only to the advantage of a few vested interests. It might not be a story if I were to tell the House that the very interests which are engaged in tea production in this country, having secured this prohibition of further extension of tea cultivation here in India, are now opening estates in East African colonies and thereby they are entrenching themselves in other countries. In a few years, they are going to by-pass India and march ahead. The United Kingdom, the principal buyer of Indian Tea, will hereafter naturally look to the British East African colonies for her tea requirements and no more to India. India will be thrown out of the U. K. market if we pursue the present policy. This matter must be taken seriously. I wonder what the Government have done in this regard to look ahead and prevent such a situation arising.

[Shri Poonacha]

As was rightly pointed out by my hon. friend Mr. Venkataraman, it is rather amusing to see the non-participant countries taking full advantage of the International Tea Market Expansion Board. They are not bound by these restrictions. They are free to open out new estates to any extent. At the same time, they are free to take full advantage of the propaganda that is being consistently and successfully carried on by the International Tea Market Expansion Board, to which we contribute about 50 per cent. of the costs from our pockets, at the same time, suffer from these restrictions. I am really amused to see that even in such circumstances the hon. Minister felt it quite safe to continue this Agreement for another five years.

If we look into the Bulletins and circulars issued by the International Tea Market Expansion Board from time to time, we find that world consumption of tea has gone up considerably, and consequently the demand for tea has risen. At the same time, production has been deliberately sealed at a particular level by the interested parties in the countries of Ceylon, India and Indonesia. Whereas the export quotas allotted to participating countries are generally fixed every year and are always restricted, the non-participating countries are trying to produce more and take advantage of the increased demand in the world market. My point is, when there is such a prospective and prosperous future for Indian tea in the world market, why should not our Government try to see that more tea is produced and exported to foreign countries? Tea is one of the industries that could be harnessed to bring in more foreign exchange, of which we are so badly in need.

Apart from that, what about the internal market itself? When putting on these restrictions, have we thought of the Indian consumer of tea? The annual consumption in our country is round about 150 million lbs., whereas in a small country like England, the same quantity is consumed. What I suggest is that sufficient propaganda in India itself should be done, so that we can develop a potential home market for Indian tea. On the other hand, we are placing restrictions on the production of tea, thus making tea exorbitantly costly and thereby putting the indigenous consumer of tea under a great handicap. This is not fair. I would very much like to know whether the Government have taken ample precautions and then investigated into the cost of production of Indian tea. I am afraid from the consumers' point of view the cost of tea is going very high and there is somebody somewhere taking away a huge chunk of the profits. That is why Indian tea which is sold in the Indian markets is becoming very costly day by day. This acts as a sort of deterrent for the further consumption of tea in India itself. If this matter is investigated into and Government institutes a thorough inquiry into the cost of production and then finds out what is the reasonable cost of production that is involved in producing tea and fixes up a fair price so far as internal market is concerned and thus try to develop the internal market, I am sure the consumption of tea in India would go up to anything above 200 million pounds. Therefore, there need be no fear of a slump in tea. It could be seen from facts that the world market also is improving steadily and that we have a very potential internal market too. With these possibilities before us what is the justification, what is the reason, that there should be such restrictions placed on the production of tea in India?

Coming to the constitution of the Indian Tea Board, my hon. friend Mr. Kuladhar Chaliha observed as to how this industry has been handled by the British interests to the detriment of the small Indian growers. It is true that

in the Tea Control Board the majority of members belong to the European interests. Thereby it is very difficult to secure a fair deal.

Shri Neogy: Majority of the total number of members?

Shri Poonacha: No.

Shri Neogy: Then what do you mean?

Shri Poonacha: I am coming to that. The majority of the interests concerned are the British interests. There is no doubt about it. In the Governing Body too it is the British interests that play a greater part. To quote an instance, I may tell the House that even in the.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am afraid we are going into points which may be only remotely relevant. We need not enter into the constitution of the Board at all. I wanted to know what Mr. Chaliha had to say. But I must frankly say that what he referred to was not directly relevant to the issue before the House. He has mentioned it and I think that should be sufficient.

Shri Poonacha: What I wanted to say was that the industry which is mainly in the hands of British interests in this country is taking a very unrealistic view of things and they are not alive to the situation as such. It was mentioned in the hon. Minister's speech that before bringing up this amending Bill the interests concerned, as also the Tea Control Board were consulted. But whereas the International Tea Market Expansion Board itself suggested new extensions of 5 per cent. and replacements of 10 per cent., the Indian Tea Board recommended that it shall be half of that. They were not even prepared to go as far as the International Tea Market Expansion Board and were more conservative than the International Board. It is from that aspect I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that in certain aspects the Indian Tea Board is not acting up to the situation and are not alive to the interests of the industry as a whole.

The hon. Minister while interrupting Mr. Chaliha asked as to how this situation could be improved. If he meant it very seriously, I am prepared to give a suggestion. As a matter of fact, the industry is fully under the control of the British vested interests, with the result that the Tea Board is also under their influence. From that point of view, I would suggest to the hon. Minister that more representation than two members could be given to the House the Indian Parliament; some representation could also be given to the small tea growers in this country, whether by nomination or by election, whatever procedure the Government is pleased to adopt. Increased representation both for the small grower as well as the consumer will secure a fair deal to everyone. With these remarks, Sir, I feel that the Government should institute a thorough enquiry into the whole industry and see that every tea producing country in the world does participate in this Agreement. Until that is done, it would not be quite advisable for us to commit ourselves to this International Tea Agreement.

Thakur Krishna Singh (Uttar Pradesh): I have my objections to the restrictive clauses regarding expansion and replacement of tea gardens in India and other participating countries. Sir, the tea industry is one of the most important industries of India and it brings us plenty of sterling and dollars. Sir, this industry has been mostly in the hands of the foreigners. It was in the hands of foreigners and even today the big estates are in the hands of foreigners. When the Father of the Nation started the "Quit India"

[Thakur Krishna Singh]

movement the owners of the big estates, who were mostly foreigners, had great fears in their minds. Their fear was that they were likely to lose these estates sooner or later. That fear may have been unfounded, but the fear was there all the same. Their second fear was potential competition from the small Indian planters who had started their estates.

When they had these fears, they started some of their industries in other parts of the world. From 1929-32 there was a slump in the tea industry, and to safeguard the interests of the tea planters, a central organisation was formed by the name of International Tea Committee which was set up in London as given in this note. The members of this body were and are still foreigners, and it is possible that the clauses relating to restrictions of extension and replacement of tea gardens had been put there purposely so that the non-participating countries where big tea gardens had been started by these planters, could extend and replace their tea gardens as much as they liked, whereas India, Ceylon, Pakistan and Indonesia could not extend or replace their tea gardens to the extent that it was possible. Sir, the control of exports, after that slump in the market, was advisable, but these restrictive clauses were not at all necessary. A slump in prices would have naturally dissuaded the growers from extending their gardens, but to restrict the extension and replacement is definitely harmful to this country and to the Indian tea planters. Provincial land laws are further hampering this industry. I am told that around these tea gardens there are vacant plots of land which the tea garden owners are finding it difficult to acquire for extension of tea. That is my information. I may be wrong, but if that is so, then it is hampering the tea industry. Secondly, I am told that the forests attached to the tea gardens which used to supply fuel to the tea garden factories are proposed to be taken away, and this will further aggravate the difficulties of the tea industry. If these things are there in the provincial laws, then I would submit that the provincial Governments should be instructed to see that the tea industry does not suffer in any way.

I would submit that the clauses relating to restrictions in extension and replacement should be deleted from this International Agreement. The hon. Minister of Commerce in his statement said that the non-participating countries have not been able to increase their acreage and production beyond a certain percentage and that the participating countries are not therefore at a disadvantage. The hon. Minister thereby means that natural factors and difficulties do not allow the non-participating countries to make extensions and increase their production beyond certain limits. If natural factors and difficulties have such effects, then why not allow those natural factors and difficulties regulate the extension and increase of production in these participating countries also? Therefore I would request the hon. Minister of Commerce not to allow these restrictive clauses to be incorporated in the said Agreement. They are definitely harmful to the participating countries and especially to the small tea planters of India. Hon. Members have given facts and figures to prove that non-participating countries will in future control the world market if these restrictive clauses are allowed to remain in that Agreement.

Shri Tyagi: I wish to offer my support to the Bill with only a few reservations. My first reservation is that while we pass this Bill, the hon. Minister might be pleased to give a promise to this House that according to this Act, whatever quantity of tea is exported outside, will not be sold to the Britishers alone. The difficulty is that according to this Act, when our export is limited to the extent that it is proposed, i.e., 348 million lbs., 300 million lbs., will be sold in bulk to the United Kingdom Government. When out of these

348 million lbs., 300 million lbs. go straight off to H. M. G. at a very cheap rate, there is little left for us to make a profit from. In fact, the remark escaped from the hon. Minister that although the export quota was big, the export was not up to that quota. The reason is obvious. The price of tea in India is much higher than the price of the exported quantity.

Shri Neogy: No, no. It is the other way about. The Indian prices are cheaper than the export prices.

Shri Tyagi: By export price I mean the price at which tea is sold in bulk to H. M. G. If you take into account the prices at which we sell to America and other countries, those prices are decidedly higher. But the price which has been agreed upon for bulk selling to H. M. G. is very much lower than the Indian price. Lately tea has been selling at Rs. 2 a pound in the Indian market, whereas under the agreement with the U. K., the price at which we sell them—I believe I am not wrong; I will stand corrected if I am wrong—is Re. 1/7/- per lb. I shall really be glad if the hon. Minister comes out with the new good news and says that I am wrong. My information is that we get only Re. 1/7/- per lb. from H. M. G. I submit that the regulation of the export trade from this country according to this Act has been really of great benefit to us. I come from Dehra Dun where there are many tea gardens, and I know the plight in which they were. They were going to ruin before this enactment was passed. So, I support this Bill because before the quota system came, the tea gardens were being practically wiped out. This quota system came and it rehabilitated them. So I support it, but the real difficulty is that the bulk of our exports will go to H. M. G. Till recently our own Tea Controller was a representative of H. M. G. He was our agent as well as theirs. So, my request is that, after we become a party to this Agreement, we should not arrive at another agreement with H. M. G. to sell our tea so cheap.

I would like to mention one other point. We get Re. 1/7/- per lb. from H. M. G., whereas the Government of Pakistan gets much more than what we are getting. This Pakistan tea is inferior to our tea in quality, but their price is higher. Because the Pakistan Government have not devaluated, they get more money, more rupees on their tea and the same quantity fetches us less amount. Inferior quality of tea according to the same agreement sent from the other side brings more money than the tea sent from here, although our tea is much superior. So I submit that while arriving at an agreement with the H. M. G. we should enter into an agreement which will enable us to get an increase of 40 per cent. in the price. Last time, therefore, I had proposed that even if we could impose an export duty of 4 annas a lb. we should gain in the tune of 30 millions of rupees, in our budget. We had only 4 annas per lb. duty whereas in America this tea, if it were to be sold openly, would fetch Rs. 4-12-0 per lb. Actually H.M.G. pays us only Re. 1-7-0. For entering into a further agreement the representatives of H. M. G. have already come to India in advance and I do not know whether the negotiations are already in hand or whether the terms have already been agreed upon but it seems to me that we are mostly controlled by the will of H. M. G. and if the agreement is arrived at, we shall suffer. As a margin of profit which H. M. G. derives out of our trade, if we could get 4 annas per lb. as our export duty, our Budget would get the benefit of at least 25 or 26 millions of rupees per year. I may be wrong in my calculations but these figures I collected during these days and I have ventured to give them out in the hope that there will be some favourable comment coming from the hon. Minister and then I shall stand corrected.

Shri Neogy: Poor H. M. G. has nothing to do with this Bill!

Shri Tyagi: The difficulty is that this Bill limits our exports. We can export 348 million lbs. of tea. Immediately after the passing of the Bill or before the passing of the Bill we have arrived at a commitment with H. M. G. to sell them 300 million lbs. out of 348 million lbs. by exports. The whole of our export goes to a cheaper market. That is my difficulty, Sir.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move:

“That the question be now put.”

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

“That the question be now put.”

The motion was adopted.

Shri Neogy: Much of what has been said by my hon. friends is not quite relevant to the issue before us and I sympathize with my hon. friend Shri Buragohain in his unsuccessful attempt to restore a sense of proportion in the discussion of the present measure.

I shall begin with my hon. friend, Shri Venkataraman. He as also Mr. Poonacha put forward the proposition that either we should be in a position to compel the countries which are not participants in the present agreement to join the agreement or we should have nothing to do with it.

I have not quite understood the procedure that we could follow in compelling half a dozen foreign countries including the Soviet Russia into this agreement but I may tell the House that it is not true to suggest that the different countries, excluding U. S. S. R., were not at any time parties to some of the restrictive clauses of the agreement.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI *in the Chair*]

For several years some of the East African countries had adopted some of the restrictions of this agreement without being a party to all the provisions of the restrictive clauses. I do not at least know what the present position is but that was the position till at least March 1947, namely, the various restrictions of the nature that are included in this agreement were partly in operation in most of these countries excluding the U. S. S. R.

Shri Poonacha: Was it in respect of extension of tea cultivation?

Shri Neogy: Yes, yes. For instance, here I will read:

“Even during the currency of the general agreement the Governments and the different producers in the British East African territories, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Nyasaland and also in Malaya agreed to support this scheme. At this stage their participation only extended to a limitation of planted areas in accordance with the special circumstances of each country. Then something happened during the second term of the agreement and so on.”

I say without being full participant in the agreement, some of the restrictions were in force by their own laws.

Shri Sivan Pillay (Travacore-Cochin): On a point of information, may I ask whether a conscientious attempt was made to get any of these parties also into this agreement?

Shri Neogy: Unfortunately, I cannot make this report over to my hon. friend, because it is marked ‘private and confidential’. There is an indication that now and again every attempt was made to get in as many of these other countries into the ambit of the agreement as possible and this particular booklet indicates the measure of success which was attained by these efforts.

I was somewhat amused—that was the word used by my hon. friend, Mr. Poonacha with reference to something I had said, but I may therefore be pardoned for using that word—at the suggestion that we had a very strong bargaining counter with the help of which we could have compelled these unwilling countries to come within the purview of the agreement and that was membership of the International Tea Market Expansion Board. It was pointed out that these other countries were benefiting by the activities of the International Tea Market Expansion Board and we should have refused them the facility of membership of that body unless they had agreed to become members of the other body as well and accepted the restrictions of the agreement in full measure. It was admitted by my hon. friend Mr. Venkataraman himself that the propaganda that the International Tea Market Expansion Board carries on is in favour of tea as tea and not as tea grown in India, Ceylon or Nyasaland or Tanganyika or anywhere else. Now assuming we were to turn out those people, the East African countries and others who contribute to the fund of this particular body which carries on propaganda in favour of tea as tea and not tea as produced by any particular country, how would that benefit us? Assuming we had done that and confined the membership and subscription to these four participating countries, namely, India, Pakistan, Indonesia and Ceylon and if that body were to continue to go on carrying propaganda in favour of tea as tea, would that propaganda also not have helped the other countries which are not participants in this agreement?

Shri Bharati (Madras): Supposing they carry on the propaganda only for tea for these four countries.

Shri Neogy: That is not so. They came to an understanding, that is to say they did not want to undertake propaganda on behalf of each single country which is a party to the agreement, but their idea was that the actual export trade should be left to the enterprise of each country, but so far as the general propaganda is concerned, which would ensure an ever increasing market for tea as a drink, well, it should be left to them to do that.

So long as that condition continues whether the other countries are allowed to subscribe to the funds of this body or not, they are going to benefit in any case. Therefore I do not think it is right to complain that Government have not done all that they could have done for the purpose of compelling those other countries to fall in line with us.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Sir, tea has already been defined in the Tea Control order as *Camellia Thea* (Linn). There should be no misunderstanding that tea has something to do with camel. The new definition is *Thea sinensis* for tea.

Shri Neogy: I do not know what bearing that has with what I have been saying. We drink it as tea and not as something associated with camels.

Mr. Chaliha delivered what I consider to be somewhat a political speech. It was rather unusual on his part to bring in arguments of prejudice. Though he is very familiar with the conditions of the tea industry particularly in his part of the country, I think the House has a right to complain against him in that he has not thrown as much light as he could have on the merits of the present proposal.

I have already stated that we have not succeeded in taking advantage of the expansion in acreage that is allowed to us under the Agreement. Secondly that we have not succeeded in reaching the permissible export quota which was available for us to export. I have got figures to indicate how the performance in these countries has always fallen short of the availabilities. I do not think I should take up any more time of the House by giving more

[Shri Neogy]

detailed figures. I have already stated that so far as the smaller tea gardens are concerned, they, at any rate, have no cause for complaint about the manner in which the control has been operated. I already pointed out that extension was confined only to the smaller units right upto 1948. It is only under the amendment of 1948 that the larger estates *i.e.*, estates in excess of 150 acres in area in the case of proprietary gardens, and in excess of 300 acres in the case of company-owned gardens, that is to say, these categories, which may be termed larger estates but many of which are of the middle size, these did not qualify for any extension till under the Amendment of 1948 and I have figures to indicate that the smaller estates which were given this opportunity have not taken fullest advantage of that opportunity. Much of the area made available to them is yet available. As a matter of fact I would read out a few figures which would indicate our programme. Let us think in terms of the future rather than of the past. Now the permissible acreage on the 31st March 1948 was in round figures, 776,000 acres. If you add 4 per cent. allowed for extension for the two years following 1948 amendment, that gives you 31,040 acres. The total is 807,040 acres. Now the area authorized upto 31st March 1948 is 775,380 acres. Additional allotment for small estates alone indicate 11,374 acres. Now a special allotment has recently been made in favour of a small tea garden amounting to 66 acres. Now the balance that we have been able to reserve for new-comers *viz.*, who have not been registered so far or who may even start new concerns, for those we have 1697 acres so that it is not merely that we are planning to meet all the legitimate demands for expansion in the case of the smaller gardens in particular but we are in a position to allot 1,000 and odd acres for absolute new concerns, if necessary. That is the proposition before the House and I maintain that there is sufficient margin yet left with us for enabling us to meet increased demands from foreign countries as also increased demand for internal consumption. So far as internal consumption goes, a point was made that there will not be sufficient tea left for internal consumption. Now there again I have got figures to indicate that that is not a correct proposition. Actually our consumption has never exceeded 25 per cent of the total production; it has varied between 20 and 25 per cent. and in some years we have got much more than that available because of reduced exports. Even in recent years that is the position.

Now I think it was Mr. Chaliha who made the complaint that Indians were not allowed to export. My hon. friend knows it very well, if anybody in this House knows at all, that in the case of smaller units who have never exported any tea outside under the Tea Control Act, they have been given export quotas, which export quotas were not availed of by them directly but they were permitted to sell these export quotas and which brought them at least 2 or 3 annas per lb. from fictitious sort of exports. This is a special form of help which the smaller concerns have got and my hon. friend knows that recently an attempt was made to revise what is called the crop basis, so that the fictitious character of these transactions could be removed and these export quotas could be fixed definitely in relation to facts, that is to say, such gardens alone would be able to utilize the quotas which had anything to export and then it would not be on the basis of fictitious calculation that this would be done. I want to tell this House that as a result, particularly of representation made by my hon. friend Mr. Chaliha, I have stopped the adoption of this revision and it is my intention to examine the matter further and I can give the assurance to my hon. friend that nothing will be done which will prejudicially affect the legitimate interest of the smaller growers of tea.

Some reference was made to the composition of the Central Tea Board. Although it is not quite relevant in this connection, I should like to point out that the constitution of the Central Tea Board was passed by this House and

under that Constitution—I have just gone through the list of members—out of a total of 35, only 11 are non-Indians. It does not lie in the mouth of my hon. friend Mr. Poonacha to say that this body is dominated by Europeans.

Shri Poonacha: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister as to whether the Government nominees in the Board are actually present at the time of the meetings and may I ask actually who forms the majority there?

Shri Neogy: Eleven out of thirty-five leaves a very ample margin, even if a few nominated officials absent themselves: it should make no difference.

Shri Venkataraman: It does: it happens in every one of these meetings.

Shri Neogy: That I do not know.

Then again reference was made to the composition of the Licensing Board. The latest information may not be available to the House and so I may tell the hon. Member that there again the Licensing Board, as it is now 4 p. m. being constituted, contains a majority of Indians. That perhaps was not the position in the past.

As far as the International Tea Committee is concerned I have already stated to the House that whatever its decision may be, the voting rights are exercised by a Government official, that is to say, an Indian officer who represents the Government of India, and India enjoys the largest number of votes and therefore it is he and he alone that casts that number of votes in favour of India. In practice therefore whoever there may be otherwise, as representing the trade and the industry, are virtually advisers of that officer. So far as the voting right goes it belongs to an officer of the Government of India, an Indian officer.

I should not like to deal with the other points, most of which, I think, have no relevance to the present issue. As I said in my opening speech, much of the detailed administration of the present measure will be determined by the rules that are to be framed by the Government and it is my desire that in the framing of those rules we will take into account the special interests, if any, of the smaller units and the Indian units in particular. More than this I cannot say. As a matter of fact, as my hon. friends have already stated, this industry is yet in the hands of the Europeans to the extent of 80 per cent, if not more. Therefore you cannot possibly help having some representation or voice granted to the non-Indian interests. I should remind the House that it is the non-Indians who were pioneers in this line and some credit should be given to them for having shown the way, which has been followed by many enterprising Indians and quite successfully too. It is not right that they should be brought up for criticism in season and out of season and suggestions should be thrown out that their interests perhaps should be—shall I say?—expropriated. That is a word which has not been used by anybody but if what my hon. friends say is to be translated into action it would definitely amount to expropriation and, as the House is aware, according to the declaration of our industrial policy as made by the hon. Prime Minister we are not entitled to discriminate between Indian interests and non-Indian interests in so far as they are already established in this country.

Shri Barman (West Bengal): I would like to ask the hon. Minister one question, in the interest of the small growers. Under section 27 of the Act the maximum acreage limit is 300 in the case of public companies and 150 in the case of private companies. Since the cost of production has gone high will the hon. Minister consider raising the maxima?

Shri Neogy: I shall certainly consider the question. I may further give the assurance that those hon. Members of this House who are directly interested

[Shri Neogy]

in the tea industry will be informally consulted by me before I take any action in regard to the various points of substance that have been raised and which have no relevance to the present measure.

Shri Tyagi: What is the policy of the Government with regard to the tea export? Will this bulk purchase by the U. K. Government be continued?

Shri Neogy: The scheme of bulk purchase of tea to which my hon. friend refers has not the least connection with the measure under consideration. If my hon. friend wants to know the position he might put down a question. But I may, even if irrelevant, point out to him that under the present negotiations we have definitely asked for an increase in price that would be payable under the bulk purchase system and we have agreed to allow that system to operate only on the basis of a reduced quantity. I may further tell my hon. friend that a considerable section of the tea interests in India, if not the whole of it, welcomes the bulk purchase system.

Shri Tyagi: Madam, I want to correct one figure. I said that 25 crores will be the gain if we were prepared to sell at the rate at which America is prepared to buy.

Shri Neogy: My hon. friend thinks that by imposing an export duty on tea we will be promoting our export to America. As a matter of fact we have been trying our best to expand our market in America and we have not been fully successful. Much of the success of any attempt to increase our export to the American market depends on the price of the commodity. My hon. friend thinks that if we were to make it dearer to the extent of the export duty there will be a greater chance of our being able to capture the market in America.

Shri Tyagi: My only point was that the loss that we are incurring in selling our tea to the U. K. is to the extent of 25 crores of rupees. If we sell it in the open market, if we were to sell it at the rate at which Pakistan is selling or impose a duty to that extent we will get eleven crores.

Shri Neogy: I have already said that we were increasing our prices.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Tea Control Act, 1938, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: As there are no amendments to the Bill I will put all the clauses together. The question is:

"That clauses 1 to 10 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Title and the Enacting Formula stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Neogy: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

ADMINISTRATION OF EVACUEE PROPERTY BILL—Contd.

Mr. Chairman: The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the motion moved by the hon. Shri Mohan Lal Saksena on the 16th February, namely, that the Bill to provide for the administration of evacuee property and for certain matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration.

Shri Pasanta Kumar Das will now continue his unfinished speech.

Shri B. K. Das (West Bengal): When I was on my legs the other day I was submitting to this House that when legislating about the evacuee property we should keep in view the property that is left in East Bengal. I was trying to impress upon this House that the condition in East Bengal is a little different from that in West Pakistan. There has been no violation of agreement on the part of Pakistan regarding the property in East Bengal, and as matters stand now displaced persons from East Bengal have to maintain connections with their relations in East Bengal who have been left there. There are some even amongst our government employees who have their families left there. There are many amongst the twenty lakhs of people who came to West Bengal who have their relations left in East Bengal with whom they have to keep pecuniary connections. As the agreement that was reached between Pakistan and India regarding property in East Bengal is still maintained we should see that no bar is placed against that agreement being maintained. The property left in East Bengal may be valued at more than Rs. 1,000 crores, and as I said the other day, as the situation is developing it will not be a strange thing if that swells into a thousand crore of rupees more or even greater than that. Therefore I was impressing on this House that if we were going to take any legislative measures we should take care that Pakistan may not find any pretext for breaking that agreement. I am aware, and very painfully aware, that Pakistan can break the agreement at any moment when it will suit them to do so. They will not wait for our provocation. Still, when we are within the bounds of legislative measures we should be fair, reasonable and judicious. Opinions have been expressed in this House, and very rightly so, that in the face of the desperate condition, in the face of the flagrant violation of the agreement in West Pakistan, very stringent provisions should be made so that persons who have been maintaining pecuniary connections with West Pakistan may not be able to do so. But in the face of the situation that I have already explained I plead for consideration of the case of West Bengal displaced persons also. I am at one with our friends from West Pakistan who are so bitter who are feeling a sort of despair that there is no chance and no hope of any solution about the property that they have left in West Pakistan. To my mind, if anything has to be done, we have to take some extra legislative measures. If we try to remember the condition that is at present prevailing in East Bengal, when property, life and honour is not respected, when almost a fire is burning in that part of the country, it is very fair and very necessary that this House should consider some urgent and immediate steps. I should think that those steps are not limited within the bounds of any legislation. The other day this House had to give consent to some measure like that in order to rectify the wrong done to us in respect of our jute. If today in a matter which is very grave, thousand times more grave than that in respect of jute, we think of any measure that would be appropriate to meet a situation like that, if

[Shri B. K. Das]

from this House which represents thirty-three crores of people a warning goes to Pakistan that Pakistan cannot play with life and property and the honour of women, I think Pakistan has to listen to that warning.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): Question.

Shri B. K. Das: I do not think that this House is so powerless, so effeminate, that a warning from this House will not be heard. I do not say that we should indulge in empty threats. I say, and very deliberately say, that that warning should have the force of the voice and the strength of thirty-three crores of people. We must be ready to implement that warning with action, and I feel that we have not become such a cowardly people that we have not the power to utter that warning. I would rather request my hon. friend Mr. P. Das that he should not think that this Government which has the support of thirty-three crores of people, which has the support of this House and which represents those thirty-three crores of people, will say something empty, something which has no power behind.

Shri B. Das: On a point of personal explanation, I did not question that this House has the power or our Government has the power. My doubts are that Pakistan has not sufficient gentlemanliness and honour to honour our request from this House.

Shri B. K. Das: I am glad that Mr. Das has come out with an explanation. I am glad that he shares with me the feeling that I was just expressing. However, one assurance I would like to give to our friends from the Punjab. Very strong expressions were given vent to by them the other day and as I have already stated they are rather despaired of any solution of the problem. My assurance is this: though today I am pleading the case of my friends of Bengal. I sympathise and am at one with my friends from the Punjab when they feel that this question cannot be solved within the bounds of legislative measures. We in Bengal are bleeding from deep wounds, as deep as they have been bleeding from, and I can say with confidence—I hope the voice of Bengal and of the representatives of Bengal is with me here—that we are at one with them to find a solution, a solution which may not be possible by enacting legislative measures. I need not dilate more on this point. All that I am saying is that considering the situation which prevails at present with regard to evacuee property, when we are enacting a piece of legislation like this we must be fair and judicious. Therefore, the suggestion that was made in this House the other day that the clause relating to intending evacuees should be more stringent, should be considered with great care. The other day I pointed out that there are loopholes in the measure. Probably in the past there has been such action on the part of certain people as to make us suspicious whether in the future something may not be done, using these loopholes which may be found in our definition of "intending evacuee", that will not be quite conducive to our interests. Therefore, if elaborate and stringent rules are provided, I think that difficulty can be overcome.

As regards the other provisions, under the rule-making powers Government should frame such elaborate rules that they may not be misused by the Custodian in whose hands so much power has been vested.

Several amendments have been tabled by the hon. Minister in order to improve the provisions of the Bill. I do not think I need say anything about them at this stage—when the proper time comes, we shall be able to deal with them more elaborately. With these words, I support the motion.

Shri Hossain Imam rose—

Mr. Chairman: Before I ask the hon. Member to speak, may I inform the House that today is practically the third day of discussion on the general consideration of this Bill. I still find there are a large number of Members who are desirous of speaking on the motion. Therefore, I would request hon. Members to be as brief as they can and accommodate other hon. Members who are desirous of speaking.

Shri Hossain Imam (Bihar): The Bill before the House is of such great importance that it is meet and proper that it should be properly considered and deliberated upon. Some Members of this House have pointed out that this is a Bill to deal with evacuee property and as such it has no connection with the rehabilitation of the displaced persons. I beg to differ. It is only the existence of the displaced persons with their miseries that justifies this House in passing a measure of this nature. Otherwise, a measure of this nature would not be justified.

Pandit Krishna Chandra Sharma (Uttar Pradesh): But there is no such reference in the Bill?

Shri Hossain Imam: Everything is not necessary to be mentioned. We all know what is the background. We are all aware of the strenuous efforts made by our Ministry to come to a settlement just and proper to all concerned. The brochure on evacuee property is an exhaustive document showing very clearly the efforts made by the Government of India to settle this question in a proper manner. I think it is wrong of us accusing the Government for any lack of appreciation or lack of effort. They did their best and if things have not turned out as we wished, it is no fault of theirs.

Let us look at the background. More than a crore of people crossed the frontiers of India and Pakistan in the West. They came without—and they could not come with—their immovable properties. They had to leave behind their immovable properties. It was under these circumstances that the two Governments, by agreement with each other, passed the first evacuee ordinances of September, 1947, so that the properties may not be destroyed by interlopers. That step was taken really to safeguard the property of both the sides. In this regard, we must not lose sight of the fact that the case of Bengal, as against the case of Punjab, is in a different category. Whereas the displaced persons in Bengal have not been deprived of their property and are still enjoying it, the people who have come from the West have lost their all except perhaps their movables.

It is necessary that we should also consider the consequences of our action. No amount of sympathy would act as a balm on the wounds of the displaced persons from Western Pakistan. What is necessary is to translate your promises into action. Unless their wounds are healed and unless they are provided with at least part of their lost property, they will not be content. A suggestion was made by my friend, Mr. Syamanandan Sahaya that the displaced persons should be given a part of their claims. I would suggest that just as in liquidation proceedings an interim dividend is declared by means of which partial payment is made without waiving thereby the right to receive the total payment, similarly it is necessary that these people who have lost their all should get a part of their property back in the inverse ratio of the quantum of their property. What I suggest is this. Those who had lost a small sum, or whose capital was small, should get as large a proportion of their income or property as possible, whereas those who had big properties should get a smaller payment.

In this connection, I would remind the House of the legislation passed in U. P. and Bihar, where zamindari is being abolished, and those of us who were, in the olden days, fortunate enough to have large holdings are getting token payments.

Shri A. P. Jain (Uttar Pradesh): Not token, but substantial.

Shri Hossain Imam: I, for my part, would consider that as a good model and would suggest that compensation be paid to the landed proprietors who have come over from Western Pakistan in the same manner. In the case of small cultivators, they should be provided with as much land as possible. The brochure on evacuee property mentions that the displaced persons have left in Western Punjab nearly double of what is available in Eastern Punjab. That shows that we can provide almost fully for those who had an economic holding, and in the case of those who had more than an economic holding, the allotment should be progressively reduced.

Industrialists who have come over from Western Pakistan have already been provided for and should continue to be provided for by issue of special licences for import and export. It is a very good substitute for what they have lost. Although it will not compensate them fully, it will materially lessen their troubles.

Now, I should like to point out a fact which has been lost sight of by many of our friends, namely, that even today in Western Pakistan Dalmias, Birlas, Shri Rams etc. are holding large properties.

Shri B. Das: Are they?

Shri Hossain Imam: Yes.

Shri B. Das: What is the total value of their capital?

Shri Hossain Imam: I do not know. I know this much, that the biggest factory in Northern India for manufacture of textiles is situated in Western Pakistan, owned by Birlas and is still in their possession.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): And the largest cement factory is in Karachi, owned by Dalmias.

Shri B. Das: May I enquire if the Indian Managers of those concerns are treated well?

Shri Hossain Imam: I know only this much, that Sir Shanker Lal has gone to see his factory in Lyallpur only this morning.

Shri B. Das: How do you know? Are you in league with him?

Shri Hossain Imam: He told me only yesterday afternoon, and both you and I were present.

It is also, perhaps, not known to people that the biggest factory in Asia for production of sugar is owned by a Hindu gentleman and it is still in N.W.F.P. I think it is not still complete, it is being completed.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): I hope the hon. Member is aware, it is owned by the husband of the sister of the wife of Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan.

Shri Hossain Imam: May be the husband of the sister of the wife of somebody, but what I am telling you are the facts.

Dr. R. S. Singh (Bihar): Is the hon. Member trying to evade the case of refugees by referring to zamindars and capitalists?

Mr. Chairman: I would ask the hon. Members to allow the speaker to go on uninterrupted.

Shri Hossain Imam: I was mentioning those facts to point out that things are not as black as they have been made out by some friends. They are dark enough, and our displaced persons have incurred tremendous losses, but I am

simply telling you that there are certain things of which you must take care, so that our actions may not give a handle to the other side to take over even those things which are left over today.

Shri Bharati (Madras): The Dalmia Factory has already been taken over.

Shri Hossain Imam: The position of Bengal must also not be lost sight of. In Eastern Bengal, the Evacuee Act of Pakistan does not apply. People are in enjoyment of their property, and they have still the right of sale and of re-mitting money.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani (Uttar Pradesh): Do not say 'enjoyment'. Enjoyment is a wrong word to use at this juncture.

Shri Hossain Imam: It is a matter of relativity. We are living in the days of Einstein, and we have to look at relative values, not absolute values.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: It is neither relative, nor absolute.

Shri Hossain Imam: As far as this legislation is concerned, the background and justification is that Pakistan has not carried out the Agreements and decisions arrived at in various Conferences. Also, certain parts of the country are still suffering from the ravages of evacuee legislation. Now, I do wish that everything possible should be done for displaced persons, but in doing that, we should not create another problem for us. Legislation and executive action differ materially. Legislation has to be specific, clear and understandable, whereas executive action may be dictated by momentary impulses or necessities. It is for this reason that we have been pressing for separation of the judiciary from the executive. We should not give undue discretion or power to the executive, because this being a peculiar and special legislation, we cannot have everything examined by the ordinary court. As we have not provided for appeals to civil courts in many cases, it is necessary that the powers of the executive should be clear, unambiguous and cut and dried.

The basic points of this legislation are two: evacuees and intending evacuees. The whole of the edifice is built on these two pillars. "Evacuee" has been described as a person who is guilty of certain actions which are so pronouncedly, so palpably, so evidently, against the interests of displaced persons that there can be no two opinions on the subject of his being declared so. "Intending evacuee" is, like Section 304, guilty of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

An Hon. Member: They are intending murderers!

Shri Hossain Imam: So, I say there are sections 302 and 304 and furthermore, section 34. I am particularly referring to actions encouraged by Government. Take, for instance, exchange of property. This was a thing agreed to at the Karachi Conference in January 1949. If a person acted under it, can you say he is an intending evacuee? He did exactly the same thing you wanted him to do. You did not put any estoppel on transfer of funds from India to Pakistan or from Pakistan to India. Those who did that thing, did it under the impression that it was unexceptionable. Therefore, it would be wrong to declare those who had sent some money to Pakistan as intending evacuees now. I, therefore, claim that while I am as anxious as anybody else to serve the interests of displaced persons, I do not wish to create a class of people who will be unable to leave India but will have to starve because all their property will be taken over by the Custodian. By all means punish all those whose actions are to the disadvantage of the displaced persons, but if there are others who have done no harm to the displaced persons they should not be made liable to punishment.

[Shri Hossain Imam]

In this connection, I should also invite the attention of the Government to a small class of persons—I refer to those who came back to India from Pakistan before the permit system was started with the intention of settling down here. There have also come about 10,000 people from Pakistan with permits for permanent settlement. Are they after coming here going to be subject to these rigours or, are they going to be absolved? I say, that they should be absolved, because they have come under amnesty.

Shri B. Das: But have they come with permits from the Government of India or the High Commissioner?

Shri Hossain Imam: They have come with valid permits for permanent settlement. I ask that they should be completely exonerated for all past action. Once you bring them you should treat them as free men.

Shri B. Das: They might have brought transmitters to transmit news as detected at Saharanpur.

Shri Hossain Imam: Then it was wrong of the Government to have allowed them to come here.

I would also ask the Government to clearly indicate their policy about these intending evacuees. Under what circumstances are their properties to be treated as evacuee properties?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: What is the position of those who have come without any permits?

Shri Hossain Imam: The definition of "evacuee" in sub-clause (d) of clause 2 is "any person who on account of the setting up of the Dominions of India and Pakistan or on account of civil disturbances or fear of such disturbances, leaves any place in a Province for any place outside the territories now forming part of India." I know of cases in which the fact of leaving a place and remaining in India was construed as making a man an evacuee. As long as the thing had not gone too far, Government did not enforce any permit system. It was only when large numbers of people began coming that the Government thought of imposing a permit system. The permit system has been in force for nearly only a year and a half. It was only for about eight months that you had free ingress into and egress from Pakistan. It was on the 19th of July 1948 that the permit system was introduced.

In this connection I was surprised that nobody, not even the hon. Minister, had a word to say about Ordinance No. V which was promulgated on the 19th of January. It shows very clearly Government's intention to find out correct facts about the property left behind by the displaced persons. I welcome that ordinance and I hope that very shortly the hon. Minister in charge of Rehabilitation will either bring forward by means of a resolution or a piece of legislation to give effect to it.

In this connection I was reminded of a remark of my hon. friend—it was Master Nand Lal who made it—that the Rehabilitation Department will never allow the displaced persons to settle down permanently, because it will finish their career. I do not go so far as that. But I do feel that some kind of a settlement is very necessary. I am very anxious not because I am making a show of it, but because I feel that until they are contented, our own position will always remain doubtful and dangerous in this country. It is more or less from self-interest that I urge that the displaced persons should be settled finally and given something which they can tangibly call their own.

An Hon. Member: But how? By words?

Shri Hossain Imam: Before I conclude, I should like to mention two points. I for one have advocated for the past twenty years in the Central Legislature that laws should be specific. We can arm the Executive only with the task of carrying out our intentions, and we cannot make them absolute judges. In this Act many things have to be prescribed by rules. I, therefore, ask that the rules should be laid on the Table of the House and should be open to discussion, as is the practice in the House of Commons. Now that we are an independent Parliament it is only proper that when we arm the Executive—by which I mean the Ministry—with power, we should not completely divest ourselves of power of superintendence over them. The procedure in the House of Commons is that rules framed under an Act of Parliament are laid on the Table of the House and if within fifteen days no discussion is raised in the House, the rules are taken to be approved. It is not necessary to bring forward a specific resolution approving the rules; simply laying them on the Table is sufficient.

Shri Sidhva: But who initiates discussion?

Shri Hossain Imam: Any Member of Parliament. Just as we have got two days—Wednesdays and Fridays—for raising a debate on unsatisfactory answers to questions, some procedure could be provided for discussing the rules also. It is time that good principles and practices of other countries are copied by us. Because of the fact that it is an English practice, we should not reject it; nor because it is an English precedent should we blindly accept it. But this practice in the House of Commons appears to me a good one and I, therefore, request the House to adopt it.

The second point which I want to urge on the hon. Minister in charge is that notifications are not necessarily published in the Gazette. A notification otherwise than the ones published in the Gazette is likely to lead to difficulties. I therefore advocate—not only in regard to this measure, but as a general practice and that is why I have reserved it for the concluding part of my speech—that all announcements and notifications should always appear in the local gazette and not otherwise, because that otherwise leaves room for loopholes for all things to be done under the garb of correct methods.

Pandit Maitra (West Bengal): I am indeed grateful to you for giving me a chance at long last. I must frankly confess at the very beginning that I am at a disadvantage in that I could not be present in the House when the hon. Minister made his speech and others followed him. I was called away to some other place in connection with public duties of another kind. I find from the press reports of the discussions that the debate has covered a very wide field. I further find from the two speeches that preceded mine that enough stress has been laid on this item or that item, on this particular point or that particular point. Let me tell this House frankly that I am not in that mood when I rise to speak on this Bill. Today we are discussing evacuee property and its administration. The term "evacuee" refers for the time being to our unfortunate brethren displaced from the Punjab, Sind, and the North-West Frontier mainly, and their number total about 60 lakhs. But today this House, this country, is faced with the prospect of having to deal with refugees if they can be brought to this country, numbering more than a crore and a quarter. I am talking of our unfortunate brethren in Eastern Bengal, East Pakistan. The House is aware that on the very first day I tried to focus the attention of the Government of India on the very menacing situation that was developing in East Bengal by an adjournment motion. Discussing the admissibility of that adjournment motion, I briefly narrated certain facts, certain outrages that had been committed in the District of Khulna, and the hon. the

[Pandit Maitra]

Prime Minister was pleased to give an assurance that the matter was engaging the serious attention of the Government of India and that they were taking up the matter with the Pakistan Government and that he was taking a very serious view of the whole thing at a governmental level. I did not proceed further, but may I tell you that during my absence from this city during the last three days, I have had shoals of telegrams and letters narrating the outrages, the harrowing situations, the pandemonium that is being created there. I am not going to trouble the House with the details of these telegrams. There are a few here, but there are sheafs of letters and telegrams with me, and as I was listening to the speech of my hon. friend, Mr. Hossain Imam, I was wondering whether we were taking a realistic view of the things that are shaping today. Now you are in the midst of a gathering storm and let me give this warning to the Ministers here that if they do not take action just now, action betimes, this gathering storm will overwhelm and break up the whole country and there will be no escape for any part of it. I will read an abstract of one or two telegrams which will give you an idea of what is happening in Eastern Pakistan. The whole attention of the country seems to be engrossed at the moment with the developments in Calcutta. Wherever I go, my friends ask, "What is the position of Calcutta? What is the position of Calcutta?" I am surprised that we are so ignorant of the things that are taking place in Eastern Pakistan. What after all has happened in Calcutta? The trouble started first in Khulna and Barisal districts of Eastern Pakistan. You know that already in the city of Calcutta there are twenty lakhs of refugees. Naturally when they heard of the terrible things that were happening in East Bengal, passions were inflamed. I do not justify that. There were certain repercussions in Calcutta but they were magnified beyond all proportion. We were asked to take all possible precautions to bring this under control, to put a stop to that. I am glad that it has been done, but what is necessary to remember in this connection is that it originally started in Eastern Pakistan. Now, while the situation in Calcutta has subsided, things have flared up all over Eastern Bengal, in the cities, towns, villages, the countryside, none excepted. Now, yesterday evening I received a telegram which will give you an idea of the things happening there.

Mr. Chairman: May I know whether the hon. Member is speaking within the scope of this Bill?

Pandit Maitra: My remarks become relevant in this way that the Bill is premature and that the whole thing will have to be reconsidered in the light of the incidents that I am talking about, in the light of the situation that is developing in Eastern Bengal, because the present definition of evacuees will have to be recast in an entirely different way. I hope that you will allow me to continue. The telegram reads:

"Extensive burning looting stabbing Barisal Town 12 to 14 February aaa Numerous persons murdered aaa Very few Hindu houses spared aaa Hospitals overcrowded aaa Injured lying in lawns aaa Hundreds of women committed suicide by jumping into river and tanks aaa All Hindu passengers travelling Barisal Express plying between Dacca and Barisal 12th night slaughtered aaa Dead bodies thrown into river aaa Situation awful aaa Worse in Chittagong, Feni Town and rural areas aaa Thousands of Hindus sheltered in few town centres without food for days aaa No food arranged by Government aaa Immediately arrange a that Hindus be allowed by Pakistan Government to travel by train and come out to India aaa Their safety can only be assured if all trains are escorted by military aaa Please keep informants name confidential aaa."

Shri Sidhva: From where has the telegram been sent?

Pandit Maitra: This is about Barisal district. There are telegrams regarding Chittagong, Chandpur, Faridpur, Agartala, Noakhali, Dacca and other places, I can assure you that there are heaps of them giving the position in Eastern Pakistan.

5 P. M.

Mr. Chairman: May I know whether the hon. Member will require more time? It is already 5 o'clock.

Pandit Maitra: If the House would extend to me the indulgence for a few minutes more, I will conclude my speech today, because I am going away on public duty tomorrow morning. Only a few remarks more.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya (Bihar): I think the matter is of great importance and the hon. Member should be allowed 15 minutes time as nothing would be lost if the House sits for 15 minutes more.

Pandit Maitra: May I continue, Madam?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may proceed. The House has agreed.

Pandit Maitra: I am deeply grateful to this House for this. After all the fate of our own kith and kin, numbering about a crore is hanging in the balance. I know the tremendous sympathy that has been evinced by my friends in the House and outside and from different parts of India about the Hindus of this ill-fated Province of Eastern Bengal. I know that at any time and every time whenever I had occasion to raise this matter before this House, I had superabundance of sympathy, not only from my friends, from the Punjab, Sind and N.-W. Frontier, where the people have also shared the same fate as we have now been undergoing but also from all other Provinces.

I was just pointing out that from the analysis of the shoals of telegrams and letters, one fact becomes clear that it is a pre-meditated sort of thing that has been let loose in Eastern Pakistan, that it is all a planned business. The burnt of the attack in the first exodus was 17 or 18 lakhs of sturdy Scheduled Class peoples, known as Nama Sudras. They are stubborn fighters and strong men. The Pakistan Government at first wanted to eliminate the intelligentsia, the educated people; they have successfully done that by reckless requisitioning all their property, by economic strangulation, by all manner of pin-pricks, by harassment, by molestation and insult to women-folk. Those that remained were mainly the tillers of the soil, who had their sustenance from the soil. They were there and they were determined to be there listening to the appeals issued by the Prime Minister of India that they should not leave their place but settle there. They fondly hoped, that they would be allowed to live there in the normal way, but Pakistan thought it otherwise. The Pakistanis were determined and they planned to exterminate, to drive out these sturdy Nama Sudras and this is how the Khulna trouble started. After this the reports of Calcutta happenings which were of a very minor nature were circulated and published in such a manner that all the districts of Eastern Pakistan flared up and in this way communal frenzy, communal riots!

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri Mohan Lal Saxena): May I submit that what the hon. Member is speaking about is not relevant to the issue under discussion?

Pandit Maitra: It is not relevant to my hon. friend.

Shri Mohan Lal Saxena: It is certainly a very important matter. It could have been raised by a motion of adjournment. In any case it is not relevant to this Bill.

Pandit Maitra: Madam, my suggestion is that the whole Bill should be shelved. This is not the time to go on with the Bill.

Mr. Chairman: I do feel that what the hon. Member is making is not strictly relevant to the Bill under consideration.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: The hon. Minister himself in introducing this Bill took three quarters of the time that he devoted on his speech on discussing the refugee problem. Is it not open to us now to refute the points which he has made. As it is, the Bill is good to nobody.

Mr. Chairman: The question is not with regard to the time taken by the hon. Minister but with regard to the speech of the hon. Member who is now speaking.

Pandit Maitra: I do not want to refer to the time this Member or that Member takes or of Members who would speak in season and out of season and *ad nauseum*. When I speak I want to be heard. The point before the House today is whether or not the Evacuee Property Bill which is sought to be enacted into law, whether this Bill is appropriate, whether the Bill is opportune. I say "No", for the simple reason that at the moment, you have in your Bill, excluded West Bengal, you have excluded Assam, you have excluded Cooch-Bihar, Manipur, Tripura etc. Up to the time when this Bill was in the stage of an Ordinance, we did not mind because things were not so bad in Eastern Pakistan. Now a situation has developed, and suddenly developed, and fast developing further and nobody knows what its end would be. If such a contingency arises making evacuation imperative, lakhs and lakhs of people would be coming from Eastern Pakistan to India. How are you going to rehabilitate them. Where is the evacuee property? Your own conception of evacuee property will have to be changed and we will have to mould it in a different way.

An Hon. Member: Another Bill.

Pandit Maitra: I therefore say that in connection with these Bills, when you go clause by clause, you have to bear in mind the facts that I am stating before this House, facts, appalling facts which may not be palatable to my hon. friend, Mr. Mohan Lal Saksena. I do not know why he resents them. No other Member in the House resented it. Does he fear because he has done so little for rehabilitation? I am not afraid of interruptions, but I know my hon. friend's record with regard to rehabilitation in my Province. Therefore, I know that he should be naturally nervous, when I raise this question. The Government of India will have to face it or will have to go. There is no question about that. There is no shilly-shallying or dilly-dallying with this problem any further. The question therefore is that these lakhs and lakhs of people will be coming, as they have started coming, for the moment they are marooned, their communications are cut off by the Pakistan Government, planes are full, but trains are coming empty and where are you going to shelter them? Where is the property or land or house? Where are you going to house them. Certainly, these are considerations which must weigh with the hon. Members here before they discuss the Evacuee Property Bill. It is not a question of simply defining "intending evacuees". No. This is a question of far more importance, far more gravity and these things would have to be looked into and it is no use taking shelter behind technicalities and say that this is not within the scope of the Bill and to say bring an adjournment motion. My hon. friend knows as anybody in this House knows how adjournment motions are dealt with in this House, where there is only one party Government. We have got to face facts. Is it the time for anyone of us to shirk responsibility and ignore facts? That is the question which I want to ask. Is not this House going to face this enormous problem? This problem unless properly solved and tackled firmly now will mean death of our own Republic. I want every one of you to look at it from that point of view and from that aspect. Do not go on taking a light or technical view of things. These matters must be carefully gone into, pondered, and suitable action devised. I give you a warning, about the situation that is developing. I had run to Calcutta a few days ago and I am again running down to Calcutta.

I cannot have peace and though many people may have peace, I cannot have because after all in our battle for freedom, the Punjab, the Frontier and Bengal have all suffered beyond all measure. Therefore, it is all very well for my hon. friend hon. Shri Mohan Lal Saksena sitting here to say that this is all irrelevant and the House should not discuss all these things. I say he has not felt what partition meant for the Punjab, what partition meant for Bengal. We in Bengal have suffered the 'direct action' of the Muslim League, and their rule for 15 years and we have seen the partition and the after-math of partition just as the Punjab has faced. Therefore I would ask him in all earnestness to be attentive to what I say, and to ponder over the situation which is developing and to advise his Government, Members of the Cabinet to plan out some definite scheme of action by which this tragedy may be averted. It is really a tragedy. I tell you that this Government in dealing with this evacuee property will have to face problems of such tremendous nature that it will baffle all solution. Therefore, I appeal again to my hon. friend, the Rehabilitation Minister, to consider even now whether he should withdraw the Bill at this stage. As the present Ordinance is due to expire on the 30th of April 1950, I suggest it might be taken up at a later stage of this session and not now.

In the course of a month or so they will be exactly in a position to know the shape of things to come. Then and then alone you could define 'evacuee' in terms that would be justified by the situation then existing. From all these considerations, I suggest that this is not the time for the passage of this Bill. I know enough sympathy has been shown by the sufferers from West Punjab and other places who have not sought to tighten the provisions of the Evacuee Property Bill for the simple reason that it would have tremendous repercussions in Eastern Pakistan. My hon. friend Mr. Hossain Imam was glibly speaking of how the Hindus were 'enjoying' property in Eastern Pakistan. He has now disappeared. Does he know how people are 'enjoying' the property there? I have large number of my relatives and friends in Eastern Pakistan and I know how they are enjoying property, how the people have been made short shrift of. They have been thrown into the streets and they have trekked into West Bengal. Tenants do not pay rent to the *samindars*. Thousands of *samindars* are being sold for one rupee or two rupees. No Hindu is having any business worth the name. These gentlemen come here and plead here for the relaxation of this or that provision and the tragedy is that on formal grounds a factual statement is resented by the Minister who sponsors this Bill.

I will close. I know you are looking at the clock and I know your difficulty as well as that of my friends. I think I have done my duty and before I close I want to tell this House that Pakistan has been carrying on an amount of propaganda in *Dawn*—which you will do well to read. It will demonstrate to you that it is part of a preconceived plan, and what have we done? We immediately sent our Maulana Saheb to Calcutta to pacify our Muslim friends there, and what was the report. He clearly admitted that the magnitude of the disturbances was very small but could we not send one single Hindu Minister? Did it not strike one Hindu Minister to go and assure the refugees who had come from Eastern Pakistan that we shall do something for them. Have we no duty for these 1½ crores of people?

Shri Kamath (Uttar Pradesh): Ours is a Secular State.

Pandit Mahtre: Yes, 'Secular' with a vengeance. Your State will founder on this secularism unless you look to the interest of every section. I do not want to be hard on particular communities but if we try to be generous to others at the cost of justice to our own kith and kin, that policy will end the State.

Madam, this is a very serious matter. My hon. friend Mr. Gopalaswami Ayyangar was here and probably he listened to a part of my speech. I hope

[Pandit Maitra]

the warning that I have given, the picture that I have drawn before you out of the material and data that have been supplied to me by telegrams and letters may reach him. There may be exaggerations, nobody can verify them; there is complete black-out of news from Pakistan. Press Correspondents have been put in prison and nothing can come out without censorship. Those who have been able to slip into Calcutta by plane have been sending frantic telegrams. It is worth while for this Government immediately to set up a really vigorous enquiry and embark upon a policy that will assuage the feelings and make possible an honourable living for our own kith and kin.

Shri Sondhi (Punjab): Only an enquiry is all that you want?

Pandit Maitra: What I want is vigorous action based on enquiry. Mere Fact Finding Commissions will not help. Before any Commission would go all traces would be wiped out. They will take jolly good care to see to that. Therefore, I say that instead of sending any Commission or discussing this Bill, our Government could do something to save millions of our kith and kin.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 21st February 1950.