

Monday, 6th March, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Monday, 6th March, 1950

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DESTRUCTION OF FOOD GRAINS BY MONKEYS

*627. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state the quantity of food crops that is destroyed by monkeys in the U.P.?

(b) What steps have Government taken with a view to stop this destruction caused by monkeys?

(c) Have Government approached State Government in this respect?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Quantitative assessment of such damage has not been made.

(b) and (c). The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the reply given in answer to Question No. 560 on 28th February, 1950.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total number of monkeys in U. P. may I know?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Sidhva: May I know how much crop is being destroyed by the monkeys in U.P.?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: A quantitative assessment is not possible. The U.P. Government have made a rough estimate. Different provinces have made different estimates: Punjab about 10 lakhs; U.P. about 25 crores.

Shri Sidhva: Has the Government of U.P. drawn attention to the fact that the monkeys destroy a larger quantity of crops than what is required for human consumption? What steps have the Government taken in this direction?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As I said, a quantitative estimate has not been made and cannot be made.

Shri Sidhva: Is there any programme to stop such a large destruction? Has the Government taken any steps?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Government have taken steps. Government have advised, as I said in reply to an earlier question, that the Provincial and State Governments could take up the question of destroying the monkeys or taking any other steps for preventing this destruction. A large number of States have got some kind of arrangement for arming the cultivators. In the State of Orissa, last year, they killed about 122,000 monkeys.

Shri Kamath: In which parts or districts of Uttar Pradesh is the monkey menace at its worst?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That was clear from what the U.P. Government stated recently.

Shri Kamath: In which parts is it at its worst?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am afraid we have got no details about that.

Dr. Deshmukh: Can the hon. Minister give a rough estimate of the number of monkeys all over India?

Mr. Speaker: There has not been any census of monkeys. We will go to the next question.

AIR MAIL

*628. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the names of air mail companies which carried inland air mail, and the amount paid to each company for transmission of air mails for the period from September 1949 to date?

(b) What was the amount paid to railways for the same period?

(c) Does the concession in the rate of petrol to air mail companies still continue?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) I lay on the Table a statement giving the required information for the period from September to December, 1949. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 23.]

(b) Rs. 21,66,854/6/-.

(c) Yes, Sir. The concession of a rebate of customs and excise duty on aviation petrol is being given not only to Companies carrying air mail but to all Indian air transport companies, flying Clubs and other operators of aircraft registered in India.

Shri Sidhva: The hon. Minister stated in reply to part (b) that Rs. 1,21,000 were paid to the railways. What was the amount paid to the Air companies in the same period?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Rs. 17,82,473/8/3.

Shri Sidhva: Was I correct in understanding that Rs. 1,21,000 were paid to the Railways, or was the amount Rs. 12 lakhs and odd?

Shri Khurshed Lal: It was 21 lakhs; neither 1 lakh nor 12 lakhs.

Shri Tyagi: What is the total amount of the concessions given to all these Air companies?

Shri Khurshed Lal: We gave a rebate of nine annas per gallon.

Shri Tyagi: I wanted to know the total amount.

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): We require notice for that.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if there is any supervision over these Air companies carrying air mails since the time they have been allowed to carry passengers also?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Air companies carrying air mails have to comp'y, like all other companies, with all the aircraft rules and they are enforced.

Dr. Deshmukh: My question is whether since the time passengers are allowed to travel in them, any supervision is exercised by the Government so far as comforts of passengers are concerned.

Shri Khurshed Lal: As I said, in all matters, Air companies carrying passengers are required to conform to the aircraft rules whether they fly in the night or in the day. We do see that the rules are complied with.

Shri Sidhva: May I know which of the companies earn the largest amount for carrying air mail?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The largest amount is earned by Air India.

Shri Sidhva: What is the amount?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Rs. 7,18,033/14/10.

Shri Sidhva: Which is the company which earns the least?

Shri Khurshed Lal: During this period, the lowest amount was given to the Indian Overseas Air Lines: Rs. 10,430/6/-.

ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*629. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state the total number of houses built during the year 1949 for employees of the Government, how many of those have been allotted to officer class and how many to clerks and peons?

(b) How many houses are still under construction and when are they likely to be completed?

(c) Are any more houses to be built during 1950?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) and (b). A statement furnishing the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 24.]

(c) No construction of new quarters for inclusion in the general pool of accommodation in Delhi, is proposed to be undertaken during the year 1950. Additional houses will, however, be constructed for Members of Parliament.

Shri Sidhva: How many houses will be built for Members of Parliament?

Shri Gadgil: The proposal is to construct 100 units for the occupation of Members of Parliament in the course of this year.

Shri Sidhva: My question was, what was the total number of houses built? Will the hon. Minister be good enough to tell us the total number of houses built during 1949? How many were allotted to officers, how many to clerks, peons, etc.?

Shri Gadgil: That is contained in the statement. For the benefit of my hon. friend I may say 203 were intended to be built, but 113 have been built and are being allotted to officers. Against another unit of 2,000 houses for clerks; 556 are already completed and are being allotted. For class IV servants, out of 1915 houses, 72 are completed and are being allotted. The rest will be completed by June this year.

Shri Dwivedi: Have some quarters been allotted to accredited representatives of the Press?

Mr. Speaker: Which Press?

Shri Dwivedi: Accredited representatives of the Press.

Shri Gadgil: There is no obligation on the part of the Government to offer accommodation for the Press. However, the Government of India have given 12 quarters hutments and those are occupied by representatives of the Press. There was no intention to give further concessions in this respect.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the basis for such allotment?

Shri Gadgil: The allotment is actually made by the Press Association here.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: Arising out of the answer to question No. 629, may I know how many houses are allotted to the women employees of the Government?

Shri Gadgil: There is some provision made; but it is not possible to give correct figures. About 100 units are reserved for unmarried women employees of the Government of India.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: Is the Minister aware of the fact that Y.W.C.A. employees of the Government are allotted some houses?

Shri Gadgil: It is not so. Accommodation has been put at the disposal of the Y.W.C.A. some two or three years ago and as desired by the Government of India, preference is always given to Government employees.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask whether it is a fact that the Government have recently come to a decision not to permit any more private housebuilding within Delhi?

Shri Gadgil: That is not a fact.

Shri Rathnaswamy: May I know if priority is given to men as against women?

Dr. Deshmukh: As regards the houses meant for Members of Parliament, may I know if any new pattern is being evolved and if so, whether any Member of Parliament was consulted?

Shri Gadgil: Not any new pattern. The same accommodation standard that has been accepted for the occupation of Government servants has been accepted as the standard for Members also. I do not know whether one can call it a standard or not. In this respect the decision of the Government has been greatly influenced by the views expressed by the House Accommodation Committee.

Shri Y. N. Singh: May I ask whether the rent charged for any particular building is based on the salary of the occupant thereof or on the basis of its cost to Government?

Shri Gadgil: Both are taken into account. In the case of Government servants the maximum rent chargeable is 10 per cent. of his salary. In the case of those who are not Government servants and who come here for Government business, there is a rule which lays down what is economic rent for the building.

Shri Sidhva: Is any provision made in the next official year for building houses for clerks and peons?

Shri Gadgil: That is clear from my answer to part (c): For the next financial year no provision has been made.

Shri Sidhva: Is there any provision made for officers' houses?

Shri Gadgil: No, Sir.

REPLACEMENT OF RAILS

*631. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the reasons for which old rails are being replaced by new and heavier ones?

(b) What portion of this was replaced for the purpose of speeding up the trains?

(c) Was any replacement undertaken for the purpose of using the new locomotives imported into India?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) Rails in running tracks are subject to two kinds of wear, side and head. Side wear occurs on sections with sharp curves but the wear of the head of the rail, especially at rail ends, is more general. Battered rail ends, with the head worn create a condition which renders maintenance of line and level extremely difficult, and the track then becomes unfit to carry the traffic with prescribed axle loads and at prescribed speeds. Before rails reach this worn condition, they have to be replaced; otherwise restrictions of speed would become unavoidable.

On certain sections of railways, where the track originally laid was lighter than the section required to carry present day axle loads, old rails have had to be replaced with rails of standard section.

(b) None.

(c) No.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether the present track is strong enough for the new engines to run at the maximum speed?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Yes.

Shri Sidhva: What is the maximum speed of the new engines?

Shri Gopaldaswami: The maximum speed of the new engines is somewhere about 75 miles per hour.

Shri Sidhva: Has any experiment been made to see whether these new engines can be run at that speed and if so on what track?

Shri Gopaldaswami: We have not made any experiment with this maximum speed of 75 miles, but we have made experiments with the maximum that is permissible under our own rules.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the maximum speed which the old rails are capable of putting up with?

Shri Gopalaswami: They differ with different types of rails. It depends upon the weight of the rails.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is it correct to say that if we want to attain a speed of 75 miles an hour or more, we will have to replace most of our rails?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not think so.

Shri Sidhva: If that is not so, may I know why they are not run at a speed of 75 miles an hour?

DEVELOPMENT OF MINOR PORTS IN THE WEST COAST

*632. **Shri Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what are the proposals under contemplation for the development of the Minor ports in the West Coast of India?

(b) Is it a fact that due to financial stringency the plans of development in the majority of cases had to be abandoned?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The development of minor ports has been and continues to be the responsibility of State Governments and the Government of India are not aware of the specific proposals which are now under consideration by State Governments. The two reports of the West Coast Major Port Development Committee relating to the setting up of a major port on the coast covered by Kathiawar and Cutch and another between Mormugao and Cochin Port copies of which are in the library contain recommendations for the development of minor ports which have been commended to the State Governments concerned.

(b) As already stated, the responsibility for developing the minor ports rests with the State Governments and the Government of India are not in a position to say to what extent the financial stringency has affected the plans of development of minor ports.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In view of the fact that under the Constitution the subject 'Minor Ports' is in the Concurrent List, are the Government of India prepared or are they making preparations to put into operation a comprehensive scheme for the administration of all the minor ports all over the country so there may be a co-ordinated policy for them all?

Shri Gopalaswami: Well, we have the question of suitable Legislation to be undertaken for the purpose of giving effect to the change in the Constitution to which my hon. friend referred under consideration. We have also under consideration the setting up of a National Harbours Board which will take these and other matters into consideration for the purpose of effecting a co-ordinated development of both major and minor ports.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In view of the fact that the Government of India can now interfere in this matter, may I ask whether they will make enquiries and find out what the position of the minor ports funds are in each case and how they are to be utilised in the future, and also to ensure that the Government of India will be consulted before the funds are utilised for any other purpose than the development of minor ports?

Shri Gopalaswami: Before we exercise actual control we have to take power. But, quite apart from that, I am quite willing to ask the State Government for information on the point referred to by my hon. friend.

Shri Joachim Alva: Do the Government consider the development of Malpe on the West-Coast as a case of major development of a port or a minor development of a port?

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not know. Perhaps my hon. friend has mixed up minor and major developments with minor and major ports. As a matter of fact, the West Coast Major Port Development Committee, as I have informed the House on a previous occasion, has recommended the setting up of a major port at Malpe. For the time being we have not accepted it. We have ordered further investigation.

POST OFFICES FOR RAJASTHAN

***633. Shri R. O. Upadhyaya:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many towns there are in Rajasthan having a population of more than 2,000 which are without Post offices; and

(b) the number of towns in Rajasthan where the Post offices were established during the year 1949-50?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) 155 on 1st February, 1950.

(b) 86 (during the year 1949-50, up to 31st January, 1950).

Shri Kamath: Is there any proposal to start mobile post offices in Rajasthan?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The question I believe refers to rural post offices.

Shri Kamath: The question refers to post offices in general.

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Khurshed Lal: I will take note of the suggestion.

Shri Sidhva: May I know whether these are full-fledged post offices?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): What does he mean by 'full-fledged' Sir?

Shri Sidhva: I mean post offices which transact all business such as handling money orders, registers, V. Ps., Insured articles, Book Parcels, etc.

Shri Kidwai: Yes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: How does the ratio of the number of post offices to population in Rajasthan compare with the ratio of post offices to population of the other cities?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I have not got that information.

CENTRAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, CUTTACK

***635. Shri Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what are the different aspects of activities undertaken so far by the Central Rice Research Institute, Cuttack, since its inception?

(b) How far has the Institute succeeded by its experiments in raising the yielding capacity of our rice crop?

(c) Has any research been carried on for the growing of non-Indian varieties of rice in the local soil and if so, how do these variations compare in yield with the indigenous kind?

(d) Have any attempts been made for popularising any of these successful variations amongst the rice-growers of different parts of the State of Orissa and with what results?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) and (b). A detailed statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 25].

(c) Several Chinese, Japanese, Russian and other foreign types of rice have been tested, but only three Chinese varieties were found suitable. The yield of these varieties in the experiments at the rice station varied from 992 to 1233 lbs. under unmanured conditions.

(d) The successful Chinese varieties are being multiplied for distribution.

Shri Kamath: What are the differences in quality or otherwise between the Japanese, the Russian and the Chinese varieties?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I am afraid, I shall require notice of that question. It is a technical matter.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask you, Sir, whether you have come to any decision on the promise made by the Deputy Speaker that copies of statements laid on the Table of the House would be supplied to Members asking the question in order to facilitate the asking of supplementary questions.

Mr. Speaker: As I have said on a former occasion, I have made certain inquiries and I am awaiting replies to those inquiries. After they come, I shall be in a position to decide the matter.

Shri Tyagi: May I know what is the surplus percentage of produce in the Chinese rice over the local rice?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: In India there are about 2,500 varieties of rice. The average yield for the country as a whole is estimated as 1,074 lbs. and the yield from the Chinese rice varies from 992 to 1233 lbs.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I ask if these Chinese varieties are suitable for places where there is not so much of rainfall as in Cuttack?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: At present they have been tried in Orissa and after they are multiplied, they will be tried elsewhere.

Shri Tyagi: How does the Chinese variety compare with the best varieties in India?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I think the best varieties of India go further in samples up to 5,000 lbs.

Shri Poonacha: Do these institutes conduct research work in the prevention of diseases to rice crops?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes in that aspect also. You will find this from the statement which I have placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Tyagi: Have the villagers ever taken the benefit of this Research Institute?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: For the last two years we have given all the produce of this Institute to the Orissa Government for further multiplication.

Shri Tyagi: May I ask how the cultivators are taking to it?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: They are taking to it very favourably.

Ch. Ranbir Singh: May I know what steps the Government have taken to distribute the seeds of these varieties to the cultivators?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We are carrying on our experiments also on the cultivators' fields besides having 80 demonstration farms and all the seed that is produced is handed over to the Orissa Government for further multiplication.

CONVERSION OF METRE GAUGE LINES INTO BROAD GAUGE ON THE S. I. RAILWAY

*636 **Shri Lakshmanan:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government propose to convert the metre gauge lines of the South Indian Railway into broad gauge lines?

(b) If not, will Government consider the advisability of such a measure?

(c) How much will this conversion cost?

(d) What has been the total income from these metre gauge lines for the years 1947, 1948 and 1949?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) and (b). The reply is in the negative.

(c) The cost of conversion is not available. It can only be worked out after a detailed investigation.

(d) Figures of gross earnings are available for financial years and are as follows:

1947-48	Rs. 1921.79 lakhs.
1948-49	Rs. 2153.39 lakhs.
1949-50 (from April to November)	Rs. 1443.65 lakhs.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I ask whether through tickets are issued from stations on the metre gauge lines in South Indian Railway to stations on broad gauge lines in Upper India?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Yes.

Shri Lakshmanan: May I know whether there is any arrangement to carry passengers from Egmore Station to the Central Station, Madras?

Shri Gopaldaswami: None, so far as the Railways are concerned.

Shri Audikesavalu Naicker: Is the Government aware of the urgent necessity for a broad gauge in the S. I. Railway?

Shri Gopaldaswami: There are parts of S. I. Railway which are on the broad gauge.

Kanwar Jaswant Singh: What is the reason for the fall in revenue in 1950 as compared to the previous year?

Mr. Speaker: It is only for nine months.

STALL-HOLDERS, BOOK-SELLERS AND CATERERS ON RAILWAY PLATFORMS

*637. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any tenders are invited before exclusive rights of carrying on business on Railway station platforms are granted to various firms of stall-holders, booksellers and caterers?

(b) What are the terms and conditions on which these rights and concessions are granted?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No tenders are invited. The Bookstall contracts are allotted on the licensing system on a royalty basis and the vending and catering contracts on reasonable licence fees and rents respectively, as opposed to the tender system.

(b) Contracts are given for a fixed period and are renewable from time to time for approved service. Contractors are required to sell articles of good quality at controlled prices fixed by the Administration; and are forbidden to assign, mortgage or sublet the whole or any part of their contracts.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know why there has been this departure from the usual tender policy of the Government?

Shri Santhanam: So far as this Department is concerned this has been dealt with on this basis and so there is no question of the usual tender policy. As a matter of fact we are considering whether for certain parts of these refreshment room contracts and others we may not introduce the tender system.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I ask the hon. Minister if non-nationals, i.e., persons who are nationals of Pakistan have been appointed in Northern India as caterers in the various Railway stations?

Shri Santhanam: So far as I know, certain allegations were made and investigations were made into those allegations and the contracts have been taken away from those who were proved to be non-nationals. So far as we know, all the present contractors are Indian nationals.

Shri P. G. Sen: May I ask if it is a fact that the majority of these contracts have been given over to the refugees and there is a representation to that effect to the Government?

Shri Santhanam: It is not true that a majority of these contracts have been given to refugees, but we have tried to give as many as possible especially at the smaller stations to the refugees who have settled there in order to give them some scope for occupation.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Is it a fact that a national of Pakistan is a caterer at the Banaras Railway Station?

Shri Santhanam: I would require notice of this particular question, but I do not think so.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Is there any part which is catering both to Pakistan as well as to Indian Railways?

Shri Santhanam: We have no such information. As I stated, there were some allegations against some people and these allegations were carefully investigated and in the case of one or two who were found to be running business on both sides, their contracts have been terminated.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Sir, if tenders are not invited, may I know what are the principles to guide the authorities to select the most suitable or desirable person?

Shri Santhanam: Sir, I could not follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: The question is, if tenders are not invited, what are the principles to guide the railway authorities in deciding the best or the most suitable contract?

Shri Santhanam: Sir from among those who are willing to pay the licence fee and the amount fixed the officials of the administration select such persons as are likely to give the best service, according to their judgment.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Sir, has the attention of Government been drawn to a representation or rather many representations made by vendors of various railway stations in the United Provinces, requesting Government to give the contract to co-operative societies rather than to individual contractors who sublet these contracts?

Shri Santhanam: Some representations have been received to that effect, and other representations have been received to the effect that in the name of co-operative societies individuals are trying to exploit the railways.

EXTENSION OF RAILWAY LINES

*639. **Shri B. Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is any plan to extend the Railway from Alwaye or Ernakulam through the Travancore State to connect with the Shenkottah-Quilon Line?

(b) If so, what measures are the Government going to take?

(c) Have the Travancore-Cochin Government submitted any request to the Government of the Indian Republic to expand the Railway through the above State?

(d) If so, what steps have the Government of India taken?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalswami): (a) Yes.

(b) The question of carrying out a fresh survey of the Quilon-Ernakulam project will be considered in 1950-51.

(c) Yes, but only in respect of a connection between Quilon and Ernakulam.

(d) The matter was considered by the Central Board of Transport at their meeting held on 6th January, 1950 and their decision was as stated in the reply to part (b).

Shri B. Velayudhan: Sir, may I know whether any preliminary survey was done previously?

Shri Gopalswami: Yes, there was a survey made several years ago.

Shri B. Velayudhan: May I know whether that was through the central Travancore region that this survey was made?

Shri Gopalswami: As I have said, it is only from Quilon to Ernakulam, more or less on the coast.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: May I know what is the nature of this survey? Is it a physical survey or does it include the ascertainment of the possible income that may be derived by the Government from such a line?

Shri Gopalaswami: I think the estimate of the cost of construction and the probable return on such cost was also included in the survey.

SOIL EROSION

*641. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any agency, official or other, for collecting data concerning soil erosion?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): No. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is financing two schemes from their funds for dealing with soil erosion. Some State Governments, particularly Bombay and Madras, have Research Stations for collecting such data in their own areas.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Sir, may I know whether this work is confined to the river valleys in India only, or whether it extends to the whole country?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: It extends to the whole of the country, because the problem of soil erosion exists in the whole country and not only in the river valleys.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Sir, may I know whether flood control is handled by other agencies and whether that is also co-ordinated with the work of collection of data of soil erosion?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The work is done by the State Governments.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: Sir, my question is whether this work of collection of data regarding soil erosion is co-ordinated with the work of the flood control operations.

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether the work of investigation into the soil erosion problem is co-ordinated with the work of flood control.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: As I said, there is no systematic collection of data with regard to soil erosion.

Shri Rudrappa: Sir, is this a Central subject or a Provincial subject?

Mr. Speaker: It is more or less a question of referring to the Constitution.

Shri Rudrappa: May I know whether the Central Government have given any directions to the Provincial Governments in this respect to take effective measures to check soil erosion?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes. We have given such instructions. We have also sent officers to tour the areas and also indicated the areas which need attention, and also given a tentative plan to be worked out.

Ch. Rapbir Singh: What is the grant made by the Central Government to the various States to check soil erosion?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We may make a grant also, if they put up a scheme

Mr. Speaker: He wanted to know the grants.

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, is it a fact that the Central Government trained a certain number of persons in soil erosion work in America and if so, are their services being utilised by the Central Government or by the Provinces?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Our predecessor Government had sent five persons for training. They have come back, and one of them is retained at the Centre and the other four offered to the Provinces for work there.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know whether the Agricultural Department is aware of the work on soil erosion done in the Allahabad Dairy Farm run by Americans?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: That also is known.

LAC PRODUCTION

*642. **Shri Zangre:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether any aid is proposed to be extended to the revitalizing lac production and the breeding of Kosa especially in Chhota Nagpur and Chhattisgarh?

(b) Is it a fact that indigenous breeding of Kosa has declined considerably?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) and (b). It is proposed to continue the programme whereby technical and financial aid is given for improving lac production. A rapid survey of idle lac host in easily accessible areas has been undertaken and working plans for cultivation of lac have been formulated. As a result about 78 lakh host trees have been located, out of which 3½ lakh trees have been infected. Demonstration centres have been established in different areas to show improved methods of cultivation.

Information regarding breeding of Kosa fibre is being collected and will be furnished to the hon. Member and will be placed on the Table of the House.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री को मालूम है कि किन किन झाड़ों में कोसा लगाया जाता है ?

Shri Zangre: Does the hon. Minister possess information as to the names of the trees helping in cultivation of 'Kosa'?

श्री जैरामदास दौलतराम : मैं ने यही कहा है कि हम यह सारी इन्फार्मेशन मंगा रहे हैं और उसे आपके और हाउस के सामने रखा जायगा ।

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I have just stated that information in this regard is being collected and will be furnished to the hon. Member and will also be placed on the Table of the House.

INDIAN LAC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

*643. **Shri Naik:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state since how long the Indian Lac Research Institute, Nankoom has been in existence?

(b) What is the annual expenditure incurred on this Institute?

(c) How far do the different commercial varieties of Indian lac answer to the standards reported to have been prescribed by the Shellac Committee of the International Organisation for standards, which recently met in New Delhi?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) Since 1925.

(b) The annual expenditure during the last 10 years has varied from Rs. 2,04,820. to Rs. 3,33,711.

(c) The current commercial grades of unadulterated seedlac and shellac come within the limits prescribed by the Shellac Committee of International Organisation for standards.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I ask if the hon. Minister is aware that his colleague, the Minister of Commerce the other day admitted that lac production has gone down and the quantity of export of this article from this country has considerably diminished, and if so what does the hon. Minister propose to do about it?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: Yes, it is a fact that the production of lac has gone down. We have taken steps by demonstration and propoganda to increase production. We have also field parties working in these areas.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: But with what result?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We propose to increase this activity, and we expect increased production by these methods.

Samadhi of MAHATMA GANDHI

*644. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Mines and Power** be pleased to state whether the plans for the construction of the *samadhi* of Mahatma Gandhi at Rajghat in Delhi are completed?

(b) If so, what progress has been made so far?

(c) By what time will the construction be completed?

(d) What is the estimated cost of this work?

(e) What are the main items of this construction?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) to (e). A scheme for laying out a park at the site at Rajghat where Mahatma Gandhi's body was cremated, was sanctioned last year by Government and the work is about to be completed. A statement giving details of this scheme, is placed on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix III, annexure No. 26.*]

The design of the main Memorial itself has not yet been finalised. A Committee is being set up for the purpose.

Dr. Deshmukh: Is any portion of the expenditure being met from the Gandhi Memorial Fund or is the Government incurring the whole expenditure?

Shri Gadgil: This is entirely a scheme that will be financed by the Government of India.

Shri B. Das: Has the attention of the hon. Minister been drawn to the resolution of the Committee that more land should be allocated and the Prime Minister also said that they will get more than 20 acres of land?

Shri Gadgil: There is a proposal from the Gandhi Memorial Fund Trustees that they should be given not only 20 acres of land but something more, but that scheme will be entirely financed by the Gandhi Memorial Fund Trustees.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Is there a proposal to build a monument at the place where Gandhiji fell, where he was shot?

Shri Gadgil: I have already stated that the plan of the main Memorial Committee has not yet been finalised.

Shri Sidhva: What is the total amount of the scheme and how much has so far been spent?

Shri Gadgil: The total amount sanctioned is Rs. 4,53,000. I think practically more than Rs. 3,50,000 have been spent already.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know whether Birla House where Gandhiji was killed is being acquired by the Government?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

DHANBAD MINING TRAINING CENTRE

*645. **Shri Zangre:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state the total annual expenditure on Dhanbad Mining Training Centre?

(b) What are the various courses of training?

(c) How many students are receiving training at present?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) The hon. Member is presumably referring to the Indian School of Mines and Applied Geology, Dhanbad.

The actual annual expenditure on the School, for the year 1948-49 and the estimated expenditure for 1949-50 and 1950-51 are respectively Rs. 11,77,400; Rs. 13,57,700; and Rs. 13,23,100.

(b) (1) Three Years' Certificate Courses in (a) Coal Mining, (b) Metalliferrous Mining, and (c) Geology.

(2) Four years' Diploma Courses in (a) Mining Engineering and (b) Geology.

The certificate courses will be abolished after the close of the 1950-51 Session as a part of the Reorganisation Scheme.

(c). 163.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि वहाँ पर शिक्षा पाये हुए विद्यार्थियों को यह ज्ञान प्राप्त होता है या नहीं कि कहां पर कौन सा खनिज-पदार्थ मिल सकता है ?

Shri Zangre: Is the hon. Minister aware whether the students trained in these institutions have the necessary knowledge as to what minerals can be located in particular places?

श्री गाडगिल : अगर वह किताबों को पढ़ें तो जरूर मालूम हो जायगा ।

Shri Gadgil: They will surely get this knowledge provided they peruse the books on the subject carefully.

Shri R. L. Malviya: May I know whether there has been any proposal to convert the Indian School of Mines into a University and, if so, how long it will take?

Shri Gadgil: That is one of the demands made by the students.

CONSTRUCTION OF AERODROME AT GUNTAKAL

***646. Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before the Government of India to construct an aerodrome at Guntakal?

(b) If so, what measures have the Government taken in this respect and if none, why?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) and (b). There is no proposal under consideration for the construction of an aerodrome at Guntakal. I may add that special consideration was given to the suggestion made in the course of supplementary questions in the Constituent Assembly of India (Legislative) on the 23rd February, 1949, that an aerodrome be constructed at Guntakal. It has been found that the traffic potential will not justify expenditure on such a project particularly when it is necessary to effect all possible economies in Government expenditure.

Shri Sanjivayya: Apart from Guntakal, Sir, do Government propose to construct an aerodrome in any other place in Rayalaseema?

Shri Khurshed Lal: There is a good airstrip in Bellary which is only 35 miles from this place. In view of the present financial situation of the Government of India, there is no proposal to erect an aerodrome here.

MANUFACTURE AND IMPORTS OF TELEPHONES

***647. Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of telephones manufactured in India during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50?

(b) What was the number of telephones imported during those years?

(c) When is India expected to become self-sufficient with regard to telephones?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Complete manufacture of telephones is not undertaken in India at present. The number of telephones assembled in India during 1948-49 was 12,662. Complete information for 1949-50 is not available. The number of telephones assembled in the Government Telephone Factory at Bangalore during 1949-50 was 17,125 up to the end of February but information regarding telephones assembled in the Posts and Telegraphs Workshops is not available yet. The information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The number of telephones imported during 1948-49 was 10,914 so far as the Posts and Telegraphs Department is concerned. During 1949-50 only 400 telephones were imported and other requirements of telephones were met from telephones assembled in the Government Telephone Factory at Bangalore.

(c) The Telephone Factory at Banga'ore has been established with a view to making India self-sufficient in the matter of telephones. The factory

is expected to go into full production within the next three years when India will become self-sufficient in the matter of telephones.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the annual demand for telephones in the country?

Shri Khurshed Lal: This will be expanding, but it is proposed that the Telephone Factory will in the first instance produce about 25,000 telephones a year, but it can produce up to 50,000.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What is the length of time during which the hon. Minister expects that the Factory will be able to meet the demands of the country?

Mr. Speaker: Three years, he has already said.

Shri Rudrappa: Has the Government installed a Telephone Factory in the Mysore State at Bangalore?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Rûdrappa: What is the percentage of the telephones assembled at Bangalore?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I have just given the figures of the telephones assembled.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know what percentage of the parts of the telephones assembled there is now being imported?

Shri Khurshed Lal: At present about 50 per cent. of the parts are being imported.

Shri Kamath: After the inauguration of the "own your own telephone" scheme, is the demand for telephones showing a tendency to increase or decrease?

Shri Khurshed Lal: We have so far collected about a crore and a quarter rupees.

Shri Kamath: I was referring to the demand for new connections.

Shri Khurshed Lal: This is about new connections.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Does the Government intend to hand over this Factory to a private concern?

Shri Khurshed Lal: A private company has been formed in which the Government of India have 70 per cent. of the shares, the Mysore Government 20 per cent. and the other 10 per cent. is owned by the A.T.E.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the number of telephones for which applications are still pending?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I will require notice of that.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: What is the percentage of the public demand for telephones satisfied last year, i.e., 1949, and what percentage Government expect to satisfy this year, in 1950?

Shri Khurshed Lal: I will not be able to give these figures without notice.

Shri M. A. Ayyangar: Is the management of this concern in the hands of Government Directors, or do Directors represent the various interests?

Shri Khurshed Lal: The Directors are nominated by the Government of India but the A.T.E. can also nominate one Director.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Is there any principle followed in the distribution of the available telephones among the various States?

Shri Khurshed Lal: Telephones are distributed as evenly as possible among the various States.

EXPANSION OF MADRAS HARBOUR

***648. Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state;

(a) the progress made in expanding the Madras harbour;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Corporation of Madras protested against this expansion; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken by the Government of India in the matter?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) The project for the construction of a wet dock capable of berthing four 600 feet ships drawing 30 feet with modern transit sheds etc., has been accepted in principle subject to examination in certain respects. Steps are being taken to settle the value of land opposite to Fort. St. George to be acquired for the purpose and other terms of transfer with the Government of Madras and to hand over the formal possession of the land to the Madras Port Trust.

(b) The Corporation of Madras did at one stage raise some objection but ultimately agreed to the expansion.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Sanjivayya: How far does this expansion extend towards the south of the harbour?

Shri Gopalaswami: It is all towards the south.

Shri Audikesavalu Naicker: Is the Government aware that the beauty of the Marina will be affected if the harbour is extended southwards?

Shri Gopalaswami: No. I think aesthetics will be maintained.

Shri Audikesavalu Naicker: Is the Government aware that a public meeting was held at Madras to protest against the extension of the harbour towards the south?

Shri Gopalaswami: I believe that is so. That is correct.

PLANS FOR WATER PROJECTS

***650. Dr. R. S. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state the names of companies which prepared plans for the water projects of India such as Hirakud, Kosi and others?

(b) How much did they charge for preparing plan of the Hirakud project?

(c) What amount will they charge for preparing the Kosi project plan?

The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil): (a) The preparation of the Hirakud designs has been entrusted to the International Engineering Company Inc. Denver, Colorado, U.S.A., with whom a contract has been entered into for this purpose. The Trial Load Analysis work of Kosi Dam has been entrusted to the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (A Government

Department of the United States of America) under an agreement. No other work of this nature has been entrusted to a foreign firm by the Government of India.

(b) Final figures have not yet been received but the estimated cost is expected to be nearly \$ 1,76,000.

(c) The estimated cost on the Trial Load of Kosi Dam by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation is about one hundred thousand dollars. The amount of actual expenditure is likely to be less and will be known when the work has been completed.

Dr. R. S. Singh: Is the sum of 1,76,000 dollars charged by those firms about 190 per cent. more than the actual cost?

Shri Gadgil: That is a matter of opinion.

Dr. R. S. Singh: May I know, Sir, the estimated cost given to the Government of India by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation as well as the estimated cost given by the International Engineering Co.?

Shri Gadgil: If the hon. Member wants particulars about it I will require notice. We preferred the official organisation, namely the Bureau of Reclamation. There were other reasons also. That Bureau had agreed to associate our own engineers with the actual work. That is a great advantage, even assuming that the cost may be a little more.

Dr. R. S. Singh: Is it a fact that our own engineers working at Denver, Colorado, are dissatisfied with the quality of work of that company in view of the fee which they charge?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that question arises.

Syed Nausherahi: What was the actual difference between the two estimates?

Shri Gadgil: As I said I will require notice for that.

Shri Kamath: While on the Minister's own showing no other work of this nature was entrusted to foreign firms what were the reasons that induced the Government of India to entrust these two schemes to two foreign firms?

Shri Gadgil: These two schemes are so big that the Government of India naturally wanted the best advice available.

Shri Tyagi: Is it possible to postpone the question to another day when the hon. Minister will have fuller information?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may table a further question.

LOCUST WARNING ORGANISATION

*651. **Prof. Yashwant Rai:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India are maintaining a permanent Locust Warning Organisation?

(b) Do Government propose to state the main recommendations, if any, made by the British Locust Expert who visited India recently?

(c) Have the recommendations been examined?

(d) What were the views of this British expert on the work done by the Locust Warning Organisation in India during 1949?

(e) How much has his visit cost the country?

(f) What are the steps which are being taken to prevent the spread of locust in future?

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

(b) The main recommendation of this Expert was to strengthen and reorganise the anti-locust organisation in India with adequate modern machinery and motorised transport.

(c) Yes.

(d) His view was that the Locust control operation during 1949 was hampered by lack of adequate transport and equipment.

(e) Rs. 879/12/-.

(f) A meeting of representatives of the State Governments concerned has been called on the 11th March, to finalise the measures necessary to prevent the spread of locusts in future. The existing Locust Warning Organisation is also being strengthened.

Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the cost of the transport that was furnished by Government for this purpose?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We propose to budget for another lakh and a half rupees for purchasing land rovers and also for additional staff.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Have any trucks been made available to this organisation so far?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We are trying to secure an additional number of trucks.

Sardar Hukam Singh: My question was whether any trucks have been made available to this organisation so far.

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: I would require notice of that.

Shri R. C. Upadhyaya: How many State Governments maintain the locust department?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The State Governments that are round about the desert, which means Rajasthan, Bombay, Delhi and the Punjab.

Kanwar Jaswant Singh: May I know whether the menace of locust is under control or is on the increase?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We had a recent invasion by locusts from Pakistan and that was completely put under control.

Shri Kamath: Did the British locust expert who visited India recently find any difference in the methods of Indian and British locusts?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: The only difference was that he wanted that we should have more of motorised transport. To some extent this is correct. It is not possible to reach all the desert regions and the sand dune area, however, except with the aid of camels.

Shri R. C. Upadhyaya: Is it not a fact that the Rajasthan Government is not maintaining a locust organisation?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We asked them to maintain it,—I believe they are taking steps.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that the invasion from Pakistan was counteracted by offering some trucks to Pakistan?

Shri Jairamdas Doulatram: We wanted the co-operation not only of Pakistan but even of distant countries. I would require notice to answer whether we had to give them that assistance.

LINKING OF BIG CITIES BY WIRELESS

*652. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the Government have any scheme to link big cities in India by wireless?

(b) If so, what are the cities to be so linked?

(c) How long will it take to implement this scheme?

(d) How much would this scheme cost the Government?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) Yes.

(b) Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras.

(c) and (d). The cost was estimated at about fifty lakhs, but a more modest scheme is under preparation for execution within the limited funds likely to be available. It is expected that it will take about one year to put the revised scheme into effect.

SOCIAL GUIDES IN M. AND S. M. RAILWAY

*653. **Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Social Guides are appointed in the M. and S. M. Railway?

(b) If so, how many of them are women and how many are men?

(c) Is any educational qualification or age restriction fixed?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) Yes.

(b) 27 men and 14 women.

(c) Yes.

Shri Sidhva: Were these people recruited from social service organisations or from the railway service?

Shri Santhanam: They are recruited from the public and people with social service qualifications are preferred.

Shrimati Ammu Swamihadhan: What are the educational qualifications required for this service?

Shri Santhanam: Generally training in a social service centre is required.

Dr. Deshmukh: What is the age limit prescribed? Does it differ as between men and women?

Shri Santhanam: I have no idea of the limits: I would require notice of the question.

Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva: Why are more chances not given to women social guides than men?

Shri Santhanam: I have stated that 27 men and 14 women have been engaged. I think the proportion is higher than in any other section of public service.

Shri R. C. Upadhyaya: Is preference to some extent given to refugees?

Shri Santhanam: Wherever possible we do engage refugees and I think on the E. P. Railway especially many refugees are employed in this particular service.

Shri Rathnaswamy: As regards the appointment of women social guides would Government consider the advisability of appointing them from such women's organisations like the *Seva Dal*, etc?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Dr. V. Subramaniam: Are these people transferred to other departments of the Railways?

Shri Santhanam: Not at present. I have already explained in reply to a cut motion that we are thinking of integrating them with other railway services.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRICE OF MILK

*630. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of milk per pound in the capital cities of Scandinavia, England, Canada, Australia, Africa, America and India; and

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken to lower the rate in India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Donlatram): (a) Information with regard to the Capital cities of the countries mentioned is not available. In the case of capital of India, the rate is annas 6 per lb.

(b) Steps to be taken for the purpose are increasing the yield of milk per cow and lowering the cost of production of milk.

BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY EXTENSION

*634. **Shri Jagannath Mishra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether there is a proposal to extend the railway line from Khurda Road station on Bengal Nagpur Railway to Sambalpur through the merged territories of Orissa?

(b) If so, was any investigation or survey of the route made?

(c) What was the result of the survey and through which route will the said line pass?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes.

(b) The survey was carried out in two portions, one for a line between Khurda Road and Bolangir and the other for the portion between Bolangir and Sambalpur as part of the Sambalpur-Kantabanji project.

(c) The survey of Khurda Road-Bolangir project revealed that the return on a capital of Rs. 498 lakhs was expected to be minus 0.28 per cent. The Sambalpur-Kantabanji project as a whole would cost Rs. 447 lakhs and the return was expected to be about 3.1 per cent.

The alignment surveyed between Khurda and Bolangir passes through Begunia, Nayagarh, Daspalla and Sonepur, and that between Bolangir and Sambalpur via *Bargarkh*.

TELEPHONES IN ALLAHABAD

***638. Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephone installations at Allahabad up to the end of December 1949;

(b) how many persons applied for telephone installations at Allahabad in the year 1949;

(c) how many of them have been granted installations in the year 1949 and how many refused; and

(d) whether reasons are communicated to applicants when their requests are turned down?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) 412.

(b) 128.

(c) 20 and 108 respectively.

(d) Yes, reasons are given when telephone connections cannot be given immediately.

PORT AT CHANDBALI

***640. Shri Jagannath Mishra:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an investigation made for opening a port at Chandbali in Balasore district of Orissa; and

(b) if so, what was the result of the investigation?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): (a) Yes; certain investigations for opening a deep-sea port at Chandbali or at a site 16 miles downstream at Dhamra are in progress.

(b) The results of investigations so far made are not very encouraging and further investigations may have to be stopped.

BUS-TRAIN COLLISION

***649. Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the place where and the circumstances in which Talcher passenger train collided with a bus on the 15th February, 1950, as was reported by the P.T.I. from Calcutta and was published in Delhi newspapers;

- (b) the reasons for the accident;
- (c) the condition of those that were injured;
- (d) the total death roll;
- (e) the total loss of property; and
- (f) whether any financial aid to the families of the deceased and the injured, in cases of the poor and helpless is being given or being considered by the Government?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). 23 Down Puri-Talcher Passenger collided with a motor bus at the manned level crossing at mile 302/10 between Malatipatpur and Sakhigopal stations on the Khurda Road-Puri Branch of the Bengal Nagpur Railway. An Enquiry by District Officers has been held and its report is awaited. Preliminary enquiries, however, show that the gate was open and the bus driver attempted to cross the railway line at the level crossing in the face of the approaching train.

(c) and (d). Twenty-four passengers of the bus received injuries, of whom five died on the spot, four on the way to the Government Hospital at Puri and one immediately after admission into the Hospital. Of the remaining fourteen admitted in the same hospital, two are reported to be serious; the other twelve, who had received minor injuries, have since been discharged.

(e) This will be available on completion of the Enquiry.

(f) This will be considered as soon as the Railways liability is determined.

DAMAGE TO CROPS BY COLD WAVE

***654. Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what are the places where crops were damaged by the recent cold wave?

(b) Has an assessment of the value of damaged crops so far been made?

(c) If so, what is the assessed value?

(d) Can any protective measures be taken to save the crops from the recurrence of the cold wave in future?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) The crops were partly damaged by the recent cold wave in certain areas of the following States:

(i) Uttar Pradesh, (ii) Punjab, (iii) Madhya Pradesh, (iv) Bihar, (v) Bombay, (vi) Saurashtra, (vii) Rajasthan, and (viii) Madhya Bharat.

(b) and (c). Detailed information regarding the extent of the damage has been called for from the States and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

(d) No practicable measures for preventing the damage from extreme cold have so far been devised; but in the case of threatened frost, irrigation of orchards and crops like potato minimises the effects.

ALLOTMENT OF SUGAR TO AJMER

*655. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the *ad hoc* quota of sugar allotted to the State of Ajmer from October, 1949 to January 1950?

(b) How does this quota compare with the quota of sugar allotted to the State during the period just preceding the de-control of sugar?

(c) At what rate per adult and child is the sugar to be distributed in ration shops in the urban area?

(d) How does it compare with the distribution per head during the last control period and what are the reasons for the disparity, if any?

(e) What quantity of this *ad hoc* quota of sugar is being distributed in the urban and rural areas of the State respectively?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) 1200 tons from 15th September, 1949 to 31st January, 1950.

(b) The monthly quota of Ajmer during the last year of control was 300 tons per month as against nearly 270 tons per month during the period September, 1949 to January, 1950.

(c) The scale of ration in the urban area during October, 1949 was 4 ch. per head per week, but was reduced to 3 ch. per head per week during November-December 1949 and January 1950. It was restored to 4 ch. per card per week in February, 1950.

(d) The scale of urban ration allowed in October 1949 and in February 1950, is the same as was allowed during the last control period. The scale during November and December 1949 had to be cut down due to short supplies.

(e) There is no fixed scale for supply of sugar to rural areas, and the supply made depends upon the availability of stocks.

PASSENGER AND GOODS TRAINS BETWEEN SEALDAH AND AMINGAON

*656. **Shri J. N. Hazarik:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state how many passenger and goods trains are daily run between Sealdah and Amingaon by the Assam Link Express?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): One through passenger train service each way between Sealdah and Amingaon, connected by passenger river steamer service between Sakrigali and Manihari Ghats. In addition, one sectional passenger train each way on Sealdah-Sakrigali Ghat broad gauge and Manihari Ghat to Fakiragram, and two each way on Fakiragram to Amingaon sections. An average of 2 goods trains on broad gauge between Sealdah and Sakrigali Ghat, 2 between Manihari Ghat and Katihar, 3 to 4 between Katihar and Siliguri North, 4 to 5 between Siliguri North and Bongaigaon, and 3 to 4 between Bongaigaon and Amingaon.

DELHI SUGAR SYNDICATE

*657. **Shri N. S. Jain:** (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state how many maunds of crystal sugar has been lifted by the Delhi Sugar Syndicate since the imposition of control till 15th of February 1950 for distribution in Delhi?

(b) On what basis is the sugar distributed to retailers by the Syndicate?

(c) What is the selling rate of the Syndicate?

(d) What is the rate at which the Syndicate gets the sugar from the mills?

(e) Are the accounts of the Syndicate checked and audited by some agency to ensure that the distribution is made according to the orders of the local administration?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram): (a) 2,24,378 maunds from 5th October, 1949 (the date from which Delhi Sugar Syndicate were appointed as nominees of Delhi Administration) to 15th February, 1950.

(b) The Delhi Sugar Syndicate issues sugar to Area Rationing Depots and such establishments as get one or more than one bag of sugar every week, on the basis of the ration authorities issued by the Controller of Rationing.

(c) The present rate is Rs. 33/2/- per maund.

(d) The rates vary according to the grade of sugar supplied. A statement showing the ex-factory price for various grades of sugar is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 27.]

(e) The accounts are checked and arrangements will be made to have them audited.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC AND INCOME THEREFROM ON THE RAILWAYS

72. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the daily average number of passengers travelling in each of the three classes since the introduction of the three-class system on the Railways;

(b) the daily average number of passengers travelling in each of the four classes during the year preceding the introduction of the three-class system;

(c) the average daily income from the sale of passenger tickets before and after the introduction of the three-class system; and

(d) the nature of complaints, if any, arising out of the introduction of three-class system brought to the notice of the authorities?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):

(a) Class I	43,814
Class II	69,399
Class III	2,989,137
(b) 1st Class	4,508
2nd Class	55,462
Inter Class	62,586
3rd Class	2,600,977
(c) 1st Class	63,452
2nd Class	1,81,609
Inter Class	1,51,498
3rd Class	19,27,884
Class I	1,14,708
Class II	2,37,420
Class III	19,60,988

(d) The complaints mostly related to the inconvenience felt by passengers previously accustomed to travel by Second Class; overcrowding in Class II in main line trains and absence of Class II on Suburban Sections.

POSTS RESERVED FOR ANGLO-INDIANS ON RAILWAYS

73. Shri Frank Anthony: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) how many posts (and in what categories) were reserved for the Anglo-Indian Community in the year 1946-47 on the G. I. P., E. I., B. N., B. B. & O. I., M. & S. M., S. I., O. & T. and the B. & A. Railways respectively;

(b) how many posts (and in what categories) were reserved for the Anglo-Indian Community, on each of these Railways, during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50; and

(c) how many of the reserved posts (and in what categories) in each Railway for Anglo-Indians during the years 1948-49 and 1949-50 remained unfilled?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

POSTS RESERVED FOR ANGLO-INDIANS IN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

74. Shri Frank Anthony: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many posts (and in what categories) were reserved, for Anglo-Indians, in the Posts and Telegraphs Department in the year 1946-47;

(b) how many posts (and in what categories) were reserved for the Anglo-Indian Community in this Department in the years 1948-49 and 1949-50; and

(c) how many of these (and in what categories) remained unfilled for the years 1948-49 and 1949-50?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): There is special reservation for Anglo-Indians only in the grade of Telegraphists in the Posts and Telegraphs Department. Information required by the hon. Member is as follows:

(a) Vacancies reserved for Anglo-Indians in 1946-47 were 78.

(b) Vacancies reserved for Anglo-Indians in 1948-49 and 1949-50 are 92 and 28 respectively.

(c) Reserved vacancies which remained unfilled in the year 1948-49 were 76 and which still remain unfilled during the year 1949-50 are 26.

JUTE CULTIVATION AND PRODUCTION

75. Shri B. K. P. Sinha: Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to give the figures of jute cultivation and production in acres and bales, in the various States of the Indian Union in the years 1947, 1948 and 1949?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram): A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 28.]

The present estimates for 1949-50 are 10,68,000 acres and 27,24,000 bales.

TARGETS OF FOOD PRODUCTION

76. Shri T. N. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement containing figures relating to targets of production, if any fixed, for various States of the Union in regard to wheat, barley, maize, jowar and gram for the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(b) Do Government propose to give an outline of the concrete steps which are being taken by the Union and State Governments for reaching the targets?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doustram): (a) Two statements giving the available figures are placed on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix III, annexure No. 29.*]

Separate information in terms of different food grains is not available. These figures are liable to modification according to the experience gained in the working of the schemes.

(b) The following steps are being taken by the Union and State Governments:

(1) The Union Government in consultation with the States has prepared a detailed programme of production in each State for which grants and loans to the extent of Rs. 568 lakhs and 925 lakhs respectively have been sanctioned.

(2) The State Governments are implementing this programme by increasing irrigation facilities, use of manure and fertilizers, improved seeds and better cultivation facilities and reclamation of new land.

(3) Essential materials like iron and steel, cement, slack coal, fuel oils, etc. are being supplied to the agriculturists through the State Governments.

(4) Cultivators' committees are being formed for every village or group of villages to constitute a link between the cultivator and the Government in the work of food production.

(5) Deputy Commissioners or Collectors of districts are made responsible for food production work by the Governments of the States and they are given relief from their other routine work and powers of co-ordinating the activities of other Departments in their charge.

(6) Statistical organizations have been set up in States for assessing the results of Grow More Food work by a scientific system of random sample survey.

TELEPHONE MANUFACTURE CONCERN AT BANGALORE

77. Shri Sanjivayya: (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the telephone manufacture concern at Bangalore has been handed over to a private individual?

(b) If so, what are the terms and conditions of agreement between the Government of India and that individual?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal): (a) and (b). Government have formed a private company by the name of Indian Telephone Industries Limited to run the concern on commercial lines. About 70 per cent. of the share capital of the new company will be held by the Government of India, 20 per cent. by the Government of Mysore and the remaining 10 per cent. has to be allotted to the Automatic Telephone and Electric Company, Limited of England under the terms of their agreement with Government.

Monday, 6th March, 1950



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 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 II,—

1. No. 1, dated the 24th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 809, line 19 for "cbroadly" read "broadly".
 - (ii) Page 814, line 20 for "alsod" read "also a".
 - (iii) Page 826, line 24 after "have" read "got".
 - (iv) Page 831, line 12 for "stile" read "still" and in line 13 for "wouild" read "would".
 - (v) पृष्ठ ८५४, पंक्ति ६ में "बैठेगो" के स्थान पर "बैठेंगे" पढ़ें।
 - (vi) पृष्ठ ८५७, पंक्ति ४ में "डब्बो" से पहले "और" को निकाल दें।
 - (vii) Page 865, last line for "15th" read "25th".
2. No. 2, dated the 25th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 884, line 27 from bottom for "latterly" read "laterly".
 - (ii) Page 898, line 11 for "fact" read "feet".
 - (iii) Page 901, line 11 omit "a" after "had".
 - (iv) Page 903, line 10 from bottom for "low" read "law".
3. No. 3, dated the 27th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 950, line 5 from bottom for "alternation" read "alteration".
 - (ii) पृष्ठ ९६१, नीचे से पंक्ति १३ में "श्री ए० पी० सिंह" के स्थान पर "श्री ए० पी० सिन्हा" पढ़ें।
 - (iii) पृष्ठ ९६६, पंक्ति १ में "मा" के स्थान पर "या" पढ़ें।
 - (iv) Page 967, line 9 for "ot" read "to".
 - (v) Page 970, line 9 for "Mangers" read "Managers".
4. No. 4, dated the 28th February, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 984, line 11 for "Mr. Chairman :- The question is" read "The motion was adopted".
 - (ii) Page 986, for the existing last line read "The House then adjourned for lunch till half past two of the clock".
 - (iii) Page 994, line 27 from bottom for "onse" read "ones".
 - (iv) Page 1010, line 16 from bottom for "Mr. Gaganvinari lal" read "Mr. Gaganvihari Lal".
5. No. 5, dated the 1st March, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 1021, line 22 for "has been callous" read "has been even callous".
 - (ii) Page 1033, line 25 from bottom for "on" read "or".
 - (iii) Page 1053, line 21 for "Shri Ethirajula Naidu" read "Shri Ethirajulu Naidu".
 - (iv) Page 1054, transfer lines 29 and 30 after line 31.
 - (v) Page 1064, line 4 for "cadamom" read "cardamom".
6. No. 6, dated the 2nd March, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 1090, line 17 for "Hon. Members three minutes" read "Hon. Members say three minutes".
 - (ii) Page 1096, first line for "section" read "selection".
7. No. 7, dated the 6th March, 1950,—
 - (i) Page 1143, line 11 from bottom for "fact" read "face".
 - (ii) Page 1150, line 18 for "in" read "the".

(ii)

(iii) Page 1060, line 13 from bottom *delete* "no".

(iv) Page 1164, line 4 from bottom *for* "Shri Satis Chandra" *read* "Shri Satish Chandra".

(v) Page 1165, line 26 *for* "Dr. Matthai" *read* "Dr. Mathai".

(vi) Page 1171, line 2 *for* "as" *read* "or".

(vii) Page 1174, last line *for* "Hudget" *read* "Budget".

8. No. 8, dated the 7th March, 1950,—

(i) Page 1179, line 11 *for* "question" *read* "questions".

(ii) Page 1221, line 13 *for* "by" *read* "but".

9. No. 9, dated the 8th March, 1950,—

Page 1260, line 21 from bottom *after* "so far," *read* "but no".

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

(i) Page 1306, line 28 from bottom *for* "gah" *read* "Durgah".

(ii) Page 1321, line 28 *for* "has " *read* "This".

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

(i) Page 1342, line 23 from bottom *for* "panel" *read* "penal".

(ii) Page 1352, line 3 from bottom *for* "Houses" *read* "House".

12. No. 12, dated the 11th March, 1950,—

Page 1385, *for* the existing line 18 from bottom *read* "another thing that I wish to submit is this. It is but fair that, when the".

13. No. 14, dated the 14th March, 1950,—

Page 1507, line 11 from bottom *for* "Shri A. P. Fain" *read* "Shri A. P. Jain".

WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH, 1950—*contd.*Railway Budget—List of Demands—*contd.*

Construction of Chittorgarh—Kotah Line	1056—1057
Class III waiting hall at Kotdwara	1059—1060
Restoration of Nilambur—Shoranur Line	1063
Need for connecting Hassan—Managalore—Malpe	1063—1064
Demand No. 4—Working Expenses—Administration	1057—1059, 1061—1062.
(i) Janta Express on Howrah Puri Line,	
(ii) Oriyas on B. N. Railway, (iii) Establishment of a Workshop in Orissa	1057—1059
Over-crowding on B. N. Railway	1061—1062

THURSDAY, 2ND MARCH, 1950—

Motions for Adjournment re—

Safety of Refugees travelling by Assam and Dacca Mails in East Pakistan	1065—1074
Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill—Introduced	1074—1075
Railway Budget—List of Demands— <i>contd.</i>	1075—1112
Demand No. 4—Working Expenses—Administration— <i>contd.</i>	1075—1077, 1103—1109
Assam Railways	1075—1077
Social Guides	1103—1109
Demand No. 13—Appropriation to Development Fund	1077—1079, 1111
Restoration of Jaunpur—Sultanpur Railway Line	1077—1079
Demand No. 1—Railway Board— <i>contd.</i>	1079—1083, 1084—1092, 1109
Inadequacy of Railways on Travancore-Cochin State	1079—1080
Remodelling of Madura Junction	1080—1082
Shuttle train between Buxar and Patna	1082—1083
Amenities to passengers on B. B. & C. I. Railway	1084—1089
Janta Express on Madras-Trivendrum Line	1089—1093
Demand No. 15—Construction of New Lines— <i>contd.</i>	1083—1084, 1111
Madhepur-Murliganj Railway Line	1083—1084
Demand No. 6—Working Expenses—Operating Staff	1093—1099, 1110
Disabilities to Railway Staff	1093—1099
Demand No. 7—Working Expenses—Operation (Fuel)	1099—1103, 1110
Fuel Economy	1099—1103
Demand No. 11—Working Expenses—Appropriation to Depreciation Fund	1103—1109, 1110
Amenities to Class III passengers	1103—1109
Demands Nos. 2, 3, 5, 8—10, 12A, 12B, 14, 16—20	1109—1112

MONDAY, 6TH MARCH, 1950—

Death of Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha	1113
Business of the House	1113—1117
General Budget—General Discussion—not concluded	1117—1176

TUESDAY, 7TH MARCH, 1950—

Motion for Adjournment *re* :

Escape of Mir Laik Ali from custody	1177—1185
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Papers Laid on the Table—

Authenticated Schedule of Authorized Expenditure other than Railways—	
Supplementary Expenditure for 1949-50	1185
General Budget—General Discussion— <i>contd.</i>	1186—1231

WEDNESDAY, 8TH MARCH, 1950—

Motion for Adjournment *re* :

Escape of Mir Laik Ali of Hyderabad from custody—contd.	1233—1245
General Budget—General Discussion—contd.	1246—1290

THURSDAY, 9TH MARCH, 1950—

Papers laid on the Table—

Action taken on assurances, promises and undertakings given during November-December Session, 1949.	1291
General Budget—General Discussion—contd.	1291—1297
Transfer of Prisoners Bill—Introduced	1297
Judicial Commissioners' Courts (Declaration as High Courts) Bill—Passed as amended.	1297—1301, 1301—1304
Leave of Absence for Shri K.M. Munshi from the House	1301
Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill —Passed	1304—1305
Durgah Khwaja Saheb (Emergency Provisions) Bill—Passed	1305—1330
Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill—Discussion on motion to consider—not concluded	1330—1334

FRIDAY, 10TH MARCH, 1950—

Army Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	1335
Air Force Bill—Extension of time for presentation of Report of Select Committee	1336
Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill—Passed	1336—1368
Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill—Passed as amended	1369—1375
Capital Issues (Continuance of Control) Amendment Bill—Passed	1375—1377

SATURDAY, 11TH MARCH, 1950—

General Budget—List of Demands	1379—1457
Demand No. 26—Ministry of Defence	1380—1457
Policy	1381—1457
Demand No. 36—Ecclesiastical	1380, 1457
Demand No. 75—Defence Services, Effective Army	1380, 1457
Demand No. 76—Defence Services, Effective Navy	1380, 1457
Demand No. 77—Defence Services, Effective Air Force	1380—1457
Demand No. 78—Defence Services, Non-Effective Charges	1381, 1457
Demand No. 107—Defence Capital Outlay	1381, 1457

MONDAY, 13TH MARCH, 1950—

General Budget—List of Demands—contd.	1459—1504
Demand No. 24—Ministry of Food	1460, 1483—1503
General Policy	1483—1503
Demand No. 15—Ministry of Agriculture	1460, 1461—1503
Mechanization of Agriculture and Agricultural Education	1461—1503
Demand No. 6—Forest	1460—1503
Demand No. 39—Survey of India	1460—1503
Demand No. 40—Botanical Survey	1461—1503
Demand No. 41—Zoological Survey	1461—1503
Demand No. 51—Agriculture	1461—1503
Demand No. 52—Civil Veterinary Services	1461—1503
Demand No. 63—Indian Dairy Department	1461—1504
Demand No. 94—Capital Outlay on Forests	1461—1504

TUESDAY, 14TH MARCH, 1950—

Motion For Adjournment *re* :—

Escape of Mir Laik Ali of Hyderabad from custody	1505—1515
Business of the House	1515
General Budget—List of Demands— <i>contd.</i>	1515—1518,
Demand No. 7.—Irrigation (including Working Expenses), Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works met from Revenue	1519—1568 1516—1518, 1519—1540
Demand No. 21—Ministry of Works, Mines and Power	1516—1518, 1519—1540
Demand No. 42—Geological Survey	1516—1518, 1519—1540
Demand No. 43—Mines	1516—1518, 1519—1540
Demand No. 69—Other Civil Works	1516—1518, 1519—1541
Demand No. 72—Stationery and Printing	1516—1518
Demand No. 103—Delhi Capital Outlay	1519—1541
Demand No. 104—Capital Outlay on Civil Works	1516—1518, 1519—1541
Demand No. 109—Capital Outlay on Development	1516—1518, 1519—1541
Demand No. 20—Ministry of Labour	1541—1568
Arbitration award in cases of dispute between Labour and Employees	1541—1568
Leave of Absence for Dr. Zakir Husain from the House	1518

JOINT RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

78. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Joint Railway Advisory Committee appointed by Government to consider the effects of the Pay Commission's Report has completed its work and if so, whether the report is unanimous?

(b) When will Government give effect to the recommendations?

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): (a) The Joint Advisory Committee have not yet completed their work. Decisions are taken by the Committee, by voting on issues framed and these are communicated to Government for their consideration and orders from time to time. In cases, where the voting is inconclusive and the Chairman does not agree with either side, he makes his recommendation to Government. In a few cases, decisions taken by the Committee were unanimous. In this procedure, the question of a report does not arise.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee are examined by Government as soon as they are received. As I pointed out during the general debate on the Budget, of 32 recommendations received upto 22nd February, 1950, Government have issued orders on 18 and rejected 2—12 are under consideration.

TRANSPORT OF GHEE

79. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any restriction on transport of ghee by passenger trains exists on various Railways?

(b) Has any representation been received by the Railway Administration for removal of this restriction?

(c) What are the reasons for continuing this restriction and when do the Government intend to remove this restriction?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The main reason for continuing the restriction on the transport of ghee by passenger or parcel trains is the fact that such consignments often soil and damage other parcels or luggage carried in the same van. Consideration has recently been given to the introduction of a packing condition which will permit of small parcels of ghee not exceeding ten seers in weight being carried without risk to other traffic. The packing proposed is sound sealed tins enclosed in wooden boxes with adequate dunnage. The Trade are now being consulted and after they have confirmed the suitability of the proposal, the restriction will be lifted to that extent.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Monday, 6th March, 1950

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

DEATH OF DR. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA

The Deputy Prime Minister (Sardar Patel): I have the unpleasant duty of conveying to the House the sad news of the passing away last night of a great leader, a leader of great qualities of head and heart. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha who was the provisional President of the Constituent Assembly which drafted the Republican Constitution, slept his last sleep last night and passed away. He was a great leader. While our present President is the maker of modern Bihar, Dr. Sinha was the father of modern Bihar. He was a leader of the Bar in the Patna High Court, and practised for a long period. He had a distinguished career in the public life of India. He was the first Finance Member of the Bihar and Orissa Government. He was the President of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council. He was the first Deputy President elected in the Legislative Assembly of India. Apart from his great contribution to the public life in India he was also a great literary man and a great editor. He founded the famous magazine called *the Hindustan Review*, and he was the editor of that *Review* for a long period. He was one of the great leaders who were invited to give evidence before the Joint Parliamentary Committee in England when the Constitutional Reform was to be made. His period of active unbroken service is a very long one. Few people have left such impress on the public life of India as he has done. We all mourn his loss and I request you, Sir, to convey our condolences, the condolences of this House, to the bereaved family.

Mr. Speaker: I fully associate myself with what the hon. the Deputy Prime Minister has stated. We all are co-sharers in the mourning and I am sure our condolences will go to the bereaved family. The House may stand for a minute in silence as a token of its respect to the departed leader.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Speaker: I have to announce that, in view of certain urgent government business relating to the conversion of certain Ordinances, which are due

[Mr. Speaker]

to expire during the month of March, Thursday the 9th March and Friday the 10th March 1950 will be re-allotted for the disposal of such business. In order to complete the required number of days for discussion of the Demands, for Grants, General Budget, I have further to announce that meetings have been fixed on the next two Saturdays, namely, the 11th and the 18th March 1950. The Appropriation Bill, Railways, which was to be taken up, for consideration and passing, on the 9th March 1950 will now be taken up on the 24th March 1950, before the consideration and passing of Appropriation Bill, General Budget, on that day. A revised programme of days for General Budget and a time table showing the time allotted for consideration of the Demands relating to various Ministries will be circulated to the Members separately.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, may I enquire what date you are going to fix for private Members' Bills, which has been postponed for a long time?

Mr. Speaker: It will be some time, not in the month of March, but in April.

Dr. Deshmukh: It is very unfair. Only two days are allotted for private Members' Bills, and one day on which the debate was to have taken place in February has been postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Speaker: It has not been postponed indefinitely. It will be definitely taken up some time during the course of this session.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): Two days were allotted for this purpose and one day has been taken away. Now only one day remains. I beg of you to allot two days for private Members' Bills.

Mr. Speaker: We shall see as to what business we have and as to when we want to end this session.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): May I remind you of your promise to the House that the Questions which had been fixed for the 19th February will be taken up on a Saturday, and if so on which Saturday will they come up?

Mr. Speaker: That I have in mind and I shall surely allot the day.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras): May I know if the Government is in a position to tell us how long the session will go on in April and whether it is likely to be extended, as such reports are appearing in the papers?

Mr. Speaker: It is perhaps too early to say. However, we shall see where we stand in the last week of March when we shall be able to have a better idea.

An hon. Member: Has any decision been reached about the change of timings?

Mr. Speaker: No, not yet. I understand there have been some discussions outside. But, I shall have to consider the matter in all aspects and after due consideration I shall see what is possible. But, I do not wish Members to entertain any hope that the change will be necessarily followed. The whole problem of timing and work is one which requires careful examination. There are many aspects which have to be considered carefully.

Prof. K. T. Shah (Bihar): May I invite your attention to a request I have made to the hon. the Leader of the House, a copy of which I have sent to you, regarding some relaxation of the time-limit on the discussion of such important matters as the Budget, and greater opportunities for more full and thorough discussion of this subject? I have addressed this to the Leader of the House, and,

as I said, a copy has been sent to you, that the time hitherto allotted seems to be inadequate, and the discussion tends to be very superficial, so that often premium seems to be placed rather upon ignorant generalisation than informed constructive criticism of matters placed before the House. I wonder if you have been pleased to consider the matter, and whether any discussions have taken place with the Leader of the House and whether the request, or suggestion, I have made, would be granted.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, the hon. Member has sent a letter to me. I have not been able to apply my mind to it because there is the connected question of the timings of the sittings of the House and the total number of hours that it is possible to put through. Then there is also the question of the length of each session, as to how many days, or months, the Parliament will be sitting throughout the year. These are all connected questions, and unless we have a close examination of all these questions and a complete picture, it will not be possible to come to a correct decision as to what we should do. And, after all, whatever we do will be in the nature of an experiment. We shall be changing things as and when we find that a change is necessary. I understand.....

Pandit Kunzru (Uttar Pradesh): The new Constitution does not require us to pass the Budget by the 31st of March. We have much more latitude now—although I know that our Finance Minister wants that the old procedure should be followed in connection with this Budget too.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): It is unconstitutional to follow the old practice.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Hon. Members need not discuss without studying the question and the constitutional aspect of it.

Dr. Deshmukh: Should there not be a Committee to investigate into this so that the Members of the House may be associated with it?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it is necessary.

Shri Frank Anthony (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, may I make a submission? When the schedule of work is announced, particularly regarding the Budget discussion which we regard more important than Government business, it should be adhered to. Some of us have to work outside the House and have made other arrangements, which means we will not be able to be present at the discussion.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I do appreciate that difficulty and I entirely agree that we should not, so far as possible, alter the schedule. But there are always some difficulties coming up; they may have perhaps been anticipated or may not have been anticipated, but we have to try to adjust, as best as we can, to the needs of the situation. Of course, I do agree that once a programme is fixed it should not be altered unless the circumstances are such that it must be changed. However, I think Government are the best judge as to which business is more important.

Shri Kamath: Have you not decided as to how many months, under the new set-up, Parliament will have to sit and whether it will be advisable, like the British Parliament, for it to sit continuously with recesses in between, now and then?

Mr. Speaker: Our Constitution came into force very recently. The new procedure which the hon. Member, Pandit Kunzru, referred to has been laid down recently. I think, for the first year, there was a provision made by the rules which were adapted, that they might follow the old procedure only for this year; and that had become necessary in view of the very short time at the disposal of Government from January 26 till now. Whatever that may be, this year

[Mr. Speaker]

at least, I understand, that the programme is to put through the Budget before the 31st March. From next year onwards, it will not be so necessary under the provisions of the new Constitution and the rules.

Shri Kamath: I am referring to Government business as a whole, not the Budget only. It will require more time.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, as I said, even the fixing of the daily time of the House requires consideration of the total number of days that we want to sit—all that has to be considered. These matters cannot be considered independently of each other; they have to be considered all together and then we have to come to some decisions.

Shri Tyagi: Could it be possible for you to take a Committee of this House into consultation before you arrive at this final decision? I wish the House may be consulted in the matter of changing the time and days of discussion.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, in view of the very large number of hon. Members anxious to participate in the General Discussion of the Budget, may I request the House to sit at least one hour longer all these three days when the General Discussion takes place?

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection to the House sitting late only for three days, but it should not be taken as a precedent that, whenever Members like to speak for a longer time, the House would sit longer.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Only for these three days.

Mr. Speaker: The House may sit for any length of time—there are so many proposals—I have no objection to the House sitting all the 24 hours. The real point was made to some extent by Prof. K. T. Shah, that there should not be very general speeches but there should be informed and studied speeches. I should try my best to encourage all such speeches if possible, and personally I have expressed it so often. I do not like a larger number of speeches covering merely general and vague grounds. The House has to be satisfied with fewer speeches and studied discussions if proper work has to be put through.

2 Noon That is my view—I do not wish to enforce it on any hon. Member who does not agree with it, but a smaller number of speeches, more informed and studied would be preferable; that is what we desire and that alone will enable the House, to my mind, to put the work through in the proper manner as it should. I do not think more speeches are going to help materially.

An hon. Member: There are new Members.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, there are many new Members, but I shall appeal to new Members—even to old if I may be permitted to do so—to devote more time to study and have fewer speeches rather than have speeches which are really.....

Dr. Deshmukh: We all remember this advice.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, I know some Members will resent.....

Dr. Deshmukh: No, no, we do not resent it; I only said we always remember this advice.

Mr. Speaker: Well, I think I need not go into this matter further. It is one thing to stay in the Chair and hear all speeches, it is quite another to make a speech and then go to the lobbies. But I need not enter into that criticism—

I am likely to be misunderstood. However, as an occasion has been given to me by various suggestions, I should earnestly appeal to Members that the best way to help the Government in the administration of the country will be to study each subject and then have informed speeches and constructive criticism of whatever Government is doing. General criticism may perhaps satisfy us that we have said, or given expression or vent to, whatever we feel, but that will not be able to help the Government or the administration of the country materially. So, all these factors have to be taken into consideration. If the House wants to sit till six, I have no objection for these three days at all.

I may make another announcement.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): May I make a suggestion?

Mr. Speaker: We are now taking up time from the time for the General Discussion, whatever the suggestions coming up are.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: You have to take into consideration the coming election.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I hope the Members do not take the implication of this remark very seriously.

GENERAL BUDGET—GENERAL DISCUSSION

FIRST STAGE

Mr. Speaker: We shall now proceed to the discussion of the General Budget, but before doing so I have to announce to the House that under Rule 132 I fix a time-limit for this purpose. What shall I fix? Ten or fifteen minutes?

Some hon. Members: Ten minutes.

Some hon. Members: Fifteen.

Shri Hanumanthaiya (Mysore): Sir, some of us entirely agree with the observations you have been pleased to make. If you allot ten or fifteen minutes, it will not be possible for any speaker to make the points he has got. If he studies the Budget, it is not worthwhile making a speech within fifteen minutes. With regard to the Opposition also, small as their number is, they can only argue their point of view and criticise the Government. If you give only fifteen minutes, it would not be fair. For a man like Prof. Shah to be fixed by a time-limit of ten or fifteen minutes would not be fair from any standpoint. Therefore, for some speeches which are, as you have expressed, studied speeches you may give time according to your discretion. To reduce every speech to ten or fifteen minutes would be neither democratic nor would it be of any use to this House.

Mr. Speaker: It places me in a very awkward position. If I try to give more time to any Member, it will be tantamount to an expression of opinion on my part that his speech is a studied one as compared with others. Whatever it may be, I shall say generally so that all may be satisfied, that the ordinary time-limit is ten minutes, and it may be extended to fifteen leaving it to the good sense of the Member that he should not exceed it. The hon. the Finance Minister will be given 45 minutes or more for his reply.

Then, I may again repeat what I have stated, that, if it is desired that a large number of hon. Members should be allowed to participate in the debate, each hon. Member wishing to speak will strictly confine himself to relevant remarks and will avoid repetitions and try to close his remarks within the time-limit fixed.

[Mr. Speaker]

Then there is one other point to which I would like to invite the attention of the Members. That is as regards the scope of discussion. I shall invite attention to rule 132 which follows exactly the rule which existed prior to the adaptations—there is no change, so far as this rule is concerned. The rule runs thus:

“On a day to be appointed by the Speaker subsequent to the day on which the Budget is presented and for such time as the Speaker may allot for this purpose, Parliament shall be at liberty to discuss the Budget as a whole or any question of principle involved therein.....”

Hon. Members will get opportunities of voicing specific grievances and moving cut motions for discussing particular subjects when the Demands for Grants are taken up. They will again get other opportunities when the Finance Bill is taken up. So the scope of the General Discussion will be to discuss “the Budget as a whole or any question of principle involved therein.” We shall now begin.

पंडित टाकुर दासभार्गव : जनाब, मैं आपका शुक्रिया अदा करता हूँ कि आपने रिपब्लिक के अव्वल बजट पर मुझे सबसे अव्वल बोलने का मौका दिया है।

इस के बाद मैं जनाब फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब को

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): Sir, I thank you for giving me the first opportunity to speak on the first budget of the Republic.

Then, to the Finance Minister I would.....

Shri H. V. Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): The Finance Minister looks anxious and worried!

Hon. Members: Speak in English.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I congratulate the hon. the Finance Minister for his unconventional speech. It made it possible for a layman like me to understand the full implications of his Budget. It is a Budget of extraordinary value, in one sense if I may say so. It is a featureless Budget. It has no spectacular aspects. It is all the more reason why I congratulate him. He has been quite brave. If he chose, he could have put in things which would have elicited the admiration of the general populace, but he has put all the facts before us bravely and tried to diagnose the disease, at the same time suggesting remedies for it.

According to him, the disease is that there is no incentive for the public to invest. He has described it on pages 9 and 21 of his speech. In his own words, there was “inflation” and the only remedy for inflation is more production. Production can only take place if there are savings, and savings can only take place if there are good incomes, and if persons save, then alone can persons invest. That is his reasoning. According to him, the general level of taxation is not one which the country can bear. He has proposed certain remedies for it. It is quite true, frankly speaking, that the Budget can not elicit any praise for him. People are not satisfied. They want some other things. They want reduction in the price of matches and kerosene. They want relief in other things also. A layman like me would like that the general level of taxation is raised and relief given to incomes below Rs. 4000 or 5000. I would further like justice to be done to the Joint Hindu family. The displaced persons want all the money to be spent on their rehabilitation. Other people want other things. We want more money for the Bhakra Dam and other constructive projects. There are people who want that the pattern of the society should be changed by a revolution. The true worth of this Budget lies in the fact that the malady has been diagnosed and a remedy has been suggested. If you do not agree upon the malady, or upon the treatment offered,

then there is ground for complaint and grievance. If you agree upon the two things, then the hon. the Finance Minister like a good doctor, it may be said, has not cared for the patient but has only given the right remedy to cure the disease. His argument is flawless.

My humble submission is that we were very greatly mistaken in thinking that when we got independence, it would be a panacea for all our ills. We forgot that we have been slaves for centuries and that slavery has left its marks upon our body economic as well as body politic. When the Britishers left India, there was no Navy in the land, in spite of our having a coastline of five thousand miles. We had no locomotive plant although we had 40,000 miles of railway lines. In all matters, so far as our economic position was concerned, we were left absolutely helpless. Similarly, our slavery for centuries has left certain characteristics in us, which do not stand us in good stead today. We have to change the whole thing, but it cannot be changed over night.

Then again I visualise today how, sitting in the Constitution House, we studied the Liaquat Ali Budget of 1946. That Budget had been a sort of a bomb shell, so far as our internal economy was concerned. Speaking on it, I said in this House that all our reserves in the industries will vanish and our industries would be shattered. We see today that my words were true. It took our Government three to four years to efface the whole effect of that bomb shell. Still, the process is not complete. The business profits tax imposed in 1946 is now sought to be removed. Then again, we were given the Income-Tax Investigation Commission in 1946. This is the other thing which requires to be looked into. Out of the 1365 cases referred to it, only 116 have been settled so far and an income of Rs. 2½ crores has been brought to the coffers of Government. Originally, it was estimated that only 30 cases would be referred to it and it would fetch an income of something like Rs. 500 to 600 crores to Government. We see what is happening today. There is so much uncertainty in the public mind in India about various matters and this makes the capital shy. The real cure of our disease is to remove this uncertainty. The one panacea for removing this uncertainty is to do away with this Income-Tax Investigation Commission.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): Hear, hear. I agree with you.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: If you want to infuse more confidence in the investing public, then don't bother about this paltry sum of Rs. 25 crores, which the Commission if successful will bring to you. You will gain more by removing this uncertainty. On the Republic Day, even persons who were undergoing capital punishment or transportation of life were given amnesty. What if tax evaders were allowed to write upon a clean slate again. I do not plead for the tax-dodgers. I want every pie to be collected from them. At the same time, I do think the removal of this uncertainty is the more radical remedy. It is the better cure. This is by the way if uncertainty is to be removed. I was submitting that after 1946 our Government was faced with a great many difficulties,—the Kashmir trouble, the Hyderabad trouble, the relief and rehabilitation of refugees and now the East Bengal question, which has come to the forefront. There is no time for us to see that our economy is rehabilitated in the right way and on the right pattern. We are, as a matter of fact, following a policy of drift. Our Government announced their policy on 6th April last. All the same, I find that during 1949, their policy has been one of drift. The grim realities of inextinguishable situations have resulted in this policy.

What has happened to our sterling balances? On account of the Open General Licence Scheme, our sterling balances which were £1,537 millions at the end of the war were reduced to £820 millions by the end of June 1949. Of course, out of this amount about £187 millions went as Pakistan's share of the balances and £296 millions were paid to England, thus totalling £483

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

millions. But what of the rest? As the hon. the Finance Minister said we have been living extravagantly. We ought not to have spent our hard-earned sterling balances in the import of luxury articles. If the sterling balances are allowed to be dissipated in this manner, as the hon. the Finance Minister said, I do not know where we will be. The policy which was subsequently adopted of restriction of imports and the intensification of exports is the right policy. I hope the hon. the Finance Minister will stick to this policy for a long time and bring happiness and contentment to the people of this country.

So far as the question of change of pattern of society and having an altered social outlook, they are all questions which will arise subsequently. I am very glad that the Government have appointed a Planning Commission and at the same time another committee for finding out the national income, etc. After these two committees have reported, it will be time for us to see in what way we should plan and what should be the future structure of taxation. I thank the hon. the Finance Minister for assuring us that we have turned the corner. But I have got my own fears; I am still doubtful as to whether we are completely out of the wood. Naturally it is impossible to expect any Government to work wonders within a very short time. Our Government has been in office only for the past two years and a half and it is too much to expect them to put our shattered resources and shattered economy on sound lines. But all the same if we adopt the principles and methods which we were taught by the Father of the Nation and by our reverend leaders, I have got every hope that our economy may be placed on quite sound lines and will be able to rise to its full stature.

Now, so far as the ordinary principles of progress are concerned, we have to adopt the principle of austerity and the principle of devotion to work, if we want to redeem ourselves. Unless and until we adopt these two principles, I think nobody will be able to help us—not even our wise Finance Minister. Unless we make determined effort to live an austere life, unless we decide that we shall not import anything which smacks of luxury, unless we take a vow to work very hard and to create wealth our future will be dark.

So far as the hon. the Finance Minister is concerned, he as a doctor has tried to see that India does not suffer from the disease of inanition. It appears from his diagnosis that fresh blood is not being created in India, in that there is no investment of capital. It is to infuse fresh blood that he has given relief to business and industry. People are bound to differ on the question of the best method of giving relief. All the same I bow to his superior wisdom. As a good doctor he has stuck to his conclusion not caring for what the patient says.

I congratulate him again and hope that the country would recover and grow more prosperous in course of time if it adopts the principles which Mahatmaji taught us.

Shri Shiva Rao (Madras): Sir, I shall try my best to compress my observations on the Budget into the time that you have been pleased to allot to me.

My first observation on the Budget is that whatever views hon. Members of this House may have on specific proposals contained in the Budget, in respect of one matter the hon. the Finance Minister and the House are entitled to derive a considerable measure of satisfaction. Last year, speaking on a somewhat similar occasion, I had pointed out that in the Budget statement which he presented then, there was considerable variation both on the revenue and on the expenditure side as between the original estimates and the revised estimates for that year, on both sides the variations being in the neighbourhood of over Rs. 80 crores. This year, the hon. the Finance Minister has been

much more accurate in his forecasts. So far as revenue is concerned, he was out by only Rs. nine crores and in regard to expenditure the variation was about Rs. 13½ crores. I think that is a remarkable achievement, having regard to the fluctuations both in the economic and the financial situation during the year. The variation has dropped from 25 per cent. to about three to four per cent this year. I do not know whether it was a fortunate coincidence or whether it was the result of more accurate budgeting.

In any case, it seems to me that I may renew the suggestion which I made last year that the time seems appropriate for the establishment inside the Finance Ministry of a section for planning and research.

Shri B. Das: A duplication of the Planning Commission?

Shri Shiva Rao: So far as Finance is concerned, I do not see why one should wait until the Planning Commission has completed its labours.

In the beginning of his speech last week the Finance Minister gave us a lucid account of the economic and financial background for the year in order to justify the proposals he placed before the House. But it seemed to me somewhat surprising that at the end of his speech in which he described the Budget as a human document, he himself failed to give the House any appreciation of the social background. That I consider to have been a somewhat serious omission. It seems to me that the Central Government should, appropriately, at budget time give the House a comprehensive account not only of the economic and the financial situation in the year, but of the different trends including the social and political ones. In this connection I would like to make a suggestion to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Several years ago it used to be the practice under the old regime for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting—Department of Information as it used to be called—to issue an annual report summing up the salient features of administration both at the Centre and in the provinces. I would suggest to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to revive that practice. The Ministry of Information has an expanding Publications Division and it undertakes the publication of a number of periodicals and journals which, from my point of view, fall legitimately within the scope of private enterprise and should never be undertaken by a Ministry. On the other hand, it neglects what seems to me a most important and essential feature of the work of a Ministry of that kind. I would like the Ministry of Information to prepare an Annual Year Book of the kind that is issued, say, by the Australian or Canadian Governments or the Government of the Free State of Ireland, giving the main features of administration both at the Centre and in the Provinces.

So far as the social back-ground is concerned, not finding anything in the budget of the hon. Finance Minister, one was necessarily compelled to turn to the budgets presented by the Finance Ministers in the States. So far as those budgets are concerned, it seems to be the same story everywhere, of slackened progress in the social field. Education, medical relief, public health and all the so-called social services have suffered somewhat seriously during the last twelve months. The Finance Minister spoke to us for over an hour and a half last week and he was applauded several times in the course of that speech. But, the most applauded passage in his speech was the one in which he referred to the item of defence expenditure. He went on to add that heavy as was that item, absorbing about half of the total revenues of the Central Government for this year, he would have no hesitation in asking the House to sanction an even heavier defence expenditure should there be any attack on our liberties or any external aggression. The House gave him unqualified support when he gave expression to that sentiment. I too joined in the applause which greeted that remark. But, I would like to add here that the danger to our liberty is not only from external aggression; but there is, it seems to me, at the present moment a graver, because it is more insidious, danger to our liberty from inside.

[Shri Shiva Rao]

Since that budget speech was made on the 28th of February, we have had some disturbing incidents in different parts of the country revealing the existence of anti-social forces at work. We had the tragedy of 25 policemen being killed in Rajasthan. We had the derailment of the Madras-Calcutta Mail two or three days ago. There has been a clash between the police and the communists in Kanpur jail. Without adding to the list, one would have read too the resolution of the Hyderabad State Congress in which it asked for vigorous action against what it called the alarming growth of communist influence in certain parts of Hyderabad. These anti-social forces, as we have chosen to describe them, are well organised; there are powerful brains behind that organisation and their tactic is one of infiltration into students' movements, into the Universities, into the trade unions, into Women's conferences, in fact, into every kind of organisation, whether it is non-official or even official. Its leaders not only believe in fishing in troubled waters, but they deliberately trouble the waters in order to be able to fish in them. It seems to be a very serious omission in the Finance Minister's statement that he took hardly any account of the danger to our liberty from inside. This House has not hesitated to give the Executive strong powers to deal with situations of the kind that I have just described. But, hon. Members of the House, at any rate, several of them like myself, have been frankly distressed by one aspect of this situation. During the last twelve months, almost every High Court in the country has passed adverse judgments on actions of the Executive in depriving citizens of their liberties without due regard for legal proprieties or processes. Therein, it seems to me, lies the danger not only to individual liberties, but to our newly established freedom. We do not want in this country, in the name of the establishment of law and order, any type of dictatorship, whether it is of the right or of the left. The basic principles of our Constitution are rooted in a social democracy and it is for that reason that I have chosen to draw the attention of the House to this aspect of the problem. It seems to me, the Finance Minister lost a good opportunity when he had a surplus budget in not giving adequate funds for social purposes such as a vigorous housing programme. Two years ago, the Labour Minister speaking at budget time spoke of a million houses to be built in this country in industrial centres in the course of ten years. He has chosen, probably prudently, not to disclose to this House what progress has been made in regard to that particular plan of his.

An hon. Member: Nothing.

Shri Shiva Rao: I have mentioned this because we have an announcement of a Planning Commission. Its terms of reference and other details have not been disclosed to us. I hope before the House adjourns this session, we shall have an appropriate opportunity for a full discussion of the scope of work of the Planning Commission, what it proposes to do and how it proposes to do it. There have been some meagre details in the speech which the President delivered on the opening day. I think he spoke of the Planning Commission having certain social objectives in mind. What those objectives are, we have not been told. It was encouraging to be told in that speech that the Planning Commission will strive to the utmost of its power to secure the maximum non-official support and enthusiasm. When he made that remark, I thought to myself how far has it been applied in practice. I am sorry the hon. Minister for Industry and Supply is not in his place today. I was present at a meeting of the All India Cottage Industries Board only a few days ago in Jaipur. I am compelled to say, judging from the proceedings of the Cottage Industries Board and its most disappointing record since it was set up, I could not help coming to the conclusion that the Cottage Industries Movement which has immense potentialities not only for the internal market,

but also for foreign markets, is languishing, is almost being stifled to death—only for one reason, because, the officials connected with the Ministry of Industry and Supply have adopted an unhelpful attitude, even an obstructive attitude which borders almost on contempt for non-official support and advice. It seems to me that if the Central Government is going to put any vigour and life into the Cottage Industries Board and the movement in this country, it should be separated from the Ministry of Industry and Supply, because no Minister who has large-scale industries in his charge can do justice to cottage industries.

Shri Kamath: Right you are.

Shri Shiva Rao: And this movement has no future for it unless it is placed in the hands of those who have faith in its future and are zealous in its support.

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

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): What about the Committee appointed by the Ministry of Industry and Supply?

Shri Shiva Rao: That Committee met for the first time in 1948 and met again fourteen months later, only for the Ministry of Industry and Supply to announce that it would be wound up. It was only on an urgent appeal from the Members of the Board who were present at Jaipur that it was pleased to pump in a little oxygen into the dying movement.

What I said about cottage industries also applies to Agricultural research. I am finishing presently. The Council of Agricultural Research, on which I am one of the representatives of this House, is suffering from the same spirit of bureaucratic rigidity as the Cottage Industries Board. Very little attempt is made to bring the results of agricultural research to the notice of the cultivator. Let me take the instance of the All-India Cattle Show. This used to be held in the old days in Delhi and, this time, as a change, it was sent on to Lucknow. It is my firm conviction that if the results of research, particularly in these fields, are to be brought to the notice of the masses, there must be a more vigorous attempt to go to the masses rather than hold these shows in big cities for the delectation of Members of Parliament and a few educated people.

These are the points which I wanted to bring up in this first general discussion of the Budget. I have given notice of cut motions in respect of several matters and I hope there will be suitable opportunities next week for a more detailed discussion of the work and policies of the different Ministries.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, may I know if it will be proper and possible for you to summon the Ministers who are absent from the House? I feel that during the general discussion of the Budget it is sheer arrogance on the part of the Ministers to be absent from the House. There is no use, I am afraid, having a general discussion in their absence.

The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthai): My hon. friend Shri Shiva Rao referred to some matters connected with the Ministry of Industry and Supply. I would like to explain to the House that my hon. Colleague the Minister for Industry and Supply had to accompany the Prime Minister to Calcutta on very urgent and important business and he has asked me to take note of any points relating to the working of his Ministry so that I might get into touch with the officials of the Ministry and be in a position to reply to those criticisms when my turn comes for replying to the general discussion.

Shri Kamath: Have the other absent Ministers also requested the Finance Minister to make notes similarly?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the speeches are sufficiently interesting, surely the other Ministers will come in and be present to hear them.

Shri Tyagi: May I suggest that we have a convention that during the general discussion all the Ministers must be in their seats so that the respect for the House is observed?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They are generally expected to be here. If they are unavoidably to be present elsewhere, they cannot be here.

Dr. Matthal: I will take the earliest opportunity of conveying the sense of the House to my hon. Colleagues.

Shri Frank Anthony (Madhya Pradesh): While I feel that the hon. the Finance Minister deserves tribute for his undoubted ingenuity in balancing the Budget. I propose to underline the attention of the House in respect of one matter where I feel that Government has fallen down and fallen down badly. That matter is the very urgent and vital matter of economy.

I am not pointing a finger at the hon. the Finance Minister when I tell him that there is a general feeling—and it is generally regarded as a well-founded feeling—in the country that during the last two years the Government's attitude towards spending has been characterised by what has been described as squander-mania, an irresponsible and extravagant misdirection of public finances. This charge has been levelled, and levelled from the most authoritative quarters, not only against the Central, but also against the provincial Governments. My hon. friend, perhaps, in replying, may take the position that the Central Government is not responsible for and cannot be held responsible for the shortcomings of the provincial Governments. But my plea is that the Central Government is invested with entire authority to crack the financial whip and make the province toe a reasonable line in the matter of spending.

There is a strong feeling, and it is growing rapidly, that there is no inclination or tendency on the part of the Government to exercise even reasonable economy. On the other hand, whatever information comes to the knowledge of Members of this House and the members of the public, all underline the fact that there is not only a reluctance on the part of the Central Government, but more particularly, resistance on the part of individual Ministers to any attempt at reasonable economy. In order to support this feeling people point to the ill-fated Economy Committee's recommendations and also to the pigeon-holing of the Ayyangar recommendations. All these recommendations were directed towards the long over-due and urgent measures of economy, but they have been put into cold-storage.

The House will want to know and want some justification for the present level of expenditure with regard to civil administration. So far as the figures are available, they show that the expenditure on civil administration in 1939 was in the region of thirteen crores. Last year it was forty crores and this year it is more than 50 crores. I know my hon. friend will say that the very necessary expansion of the duties of the Government have made this expansion of financial liabilities imperative. At the same time there is a feeling that your administration is unduly inflated and that unduly inflated condition has led to this tremendous increase in your expenditure on civil administration. And there is a feeling—my hon. friend will have to admit it—that vested interests in the civil administration are responsible for maintaining this inflated budget. When I refer to vested interests I am talking about the senior officials. It is alleged, and there are grounds for believing it, that the senior officials, in their own interests insist on having inflated staffs believing that their seniority and their official status depend upon the degree to which their staffs are inflated and that any attempt to cut down the staff will mean a certain derogation from their official status and their earnings as officials.

There is very bitter criticism in the matter of governmental spending, both Central and provincial on grandiose schemes for nation building. No one will attempt to point a finger at the Central or Provincial Governments for trying to lay down schemes for national development, for trying to evolve satisfactory multi-purpose and other schemes for industrial development, but this charge is made and I feel that my hon. friend will find it utterly impossible to refute that charge or to refute it even partially, that there has been utter irresponsibility, complete absence of even the semblance of any rationalization or planning in the multiplicity of grandiose schemes which are being evolved from the brains of your Provincial Governments and the Central Government. No one is however able to nail the degree of extravagance, the criminal waste of public monies to the counter, because we are not in possession of specific details.

But, we have certain overall figures. I was reading a book the other day which issued from one of the Chambers of Commerce and I have no reason to disbelieve the figures and there I found that all these numerous chaotic schemes, un-planned, without any overall basis of rationalization, entail an over all expenditure of more than Rs. 200 crores. This pamphlet went on to say it was hoped that all these schemes would come to fruition or they would be implemented within ten or twelve or fifteen years but because you are so utterly bogged in this morass of irresponsible expenditure, without any semblance of co-ordination and planning that it is not humanly possible for you to attempt to implement these grandiose schemes within a period of twenty-five years. What has been the result? Each Province has thought fit to preen itself on its competence by putting out a number of grandiose blue-prints because the Central Government has not attempted to introduce a semblance of co-ordination; the result has been this that you now cannot possibly implement all these schemes in a period of 25 years: because you cannot get the machinery. To begin with, you have not got the exchange resources either sterling or dollar to be able to implement these schemes. What has been the result? Your schemes which should receive the highest priority, schemes vital to the continuing economic well-being of this country have either been pigeon-holed or abandoned and with regard to other schemes, even the most vital, you have had to adopt a "go slow" policy.

The other figures available show that with regard to your Damodar Valley Scheme, you contemplate eight dams: you have not even completed one dam. Last year the budget expenditure contemplated was Rupees nine crores and because of this irresponsible spending you now propose only to allocate Rs. 1.5 crores with the result that target date has to be put back. With regard to the Bakhra and Hirakud Dams, if you wanted to reach or implement your target date of 1956 you should have allocated Rs. 15 crores: because of lack of finance you have provided for far less and the target date of 1956 has had to be put back perhaps to 1966. Your Ranapadasagar Scheme in Madras is still in an embryo stage. This is the result, as I say of utter irresponsibility in the matter of formulating schemes, in evolving schemes. There is not, as I said, a semblance of any co-ordination of planning. With regard to the provinces the story is even a sorer one. Some of the allegations made to me, for instance, in my own province—they are not allegations but they are facts—the way that the Aluminium factory was handled was nothing short of a public scandal. If private individuals handle public money in this way, they would be put behind bars. Because people in governmental positions do it, you either bless their actions or sanctify their faults. What happened with regard to this Aluminium factory? Government allowed this to be undertaken by a private concern and said it would invest Rs. 1.5 crores. Ultimately because of utter ineptitude the public company went into liquidation and Government has taken the whole thing over: the extravagant expenditure of that private company has now been foisted on to the shoulders of Government and from the shoulders of

[Shri Frank Anthony]

the Government on to the unfortunate man in the street, with the result that they have spent Rs. 88 lakhs on this Aluminium factory and it has not yet begun to function.

With regard to the Sindhri scheme it has also been said that Government's ineptitude and hesitancy came in the way. I believe the Dairy Commission stating that the Sindhri Fertilizer Project could have easily been built in four years; but the time was extended because of the Government's feeble handling of it. Your original estimate of ten crores has now to be increased to Rs. 20 crores. People want to know how you are spending this money. Because of the hesitant and halting methods that you adopt these major projects which ought to have been completed take twice the time and your estimates come to twice the original figure. It is the same story with regard to U. P. and other Provinces. We want to know what lives are going to be saved, how is the economy of this country going to be improved or stiffened if you spend lakhs and lakhs on purposeless and idiotic investigations like your under-ground Railway for Calcutta. Is that something which should receive a high priority? So long as the Centre does not choose, as I say, to crack the financial whip, you will get this utterly reckless expenditure of public monies by people who are handling it in a puerile and juvenile manner, people who have absolutely no experience of administration and less experience in spending of public monies. Sir, I have spoken strongly because there is a great deal of strength of feeling in this country. Yes, you need money for your nation-building projects, for your nation-building services. Give it to them. But Health and Education today are starving and are not even receiving what they were getting before. All your schemes, as I say, reveal the same story, because you have induced a general paralysis over all your schemes by trying to undertake something which is not humanly possible. I suggest to the hon. Minister that he brings all these schemes within the purview of this Planning Commission. Let priorities be given by the Planning Commission. Concentrate on one or two of the most vital projects, your Damodar, Bakhra or Hirakud schemes and put others into cold storage. See that no more lakhs and lakhs and crores are spent on exploration and investigation. Concentrate on three or four vital schemes and push them through if possible, even ahead of your target dates.

श्री डी० एस० मेठ : अगर बजट का मनलब, जैसा कि पहले कभी क्लासिक सेंस (classic sense) में समझा जाता था, इतना ही होता कि आमदनी और खर्च के अनुमान के आंकड़े इकट्ठा करके उनका मिलान कर दिया जाय तो मैं अवश्य ही माननीय फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब को उनकी योग्यता और परिश्रम के लिये बधाई देता। लेकिन इस बदलती हुई दुनिया में, जब कि आर्थिक ढांच का नित्य प्रति विकास हो रहा है, बजट की परीक्षा इस बात से होती है कि उसमें सामाजिक तत्व, अर्थात् सोशियल कंटेंट्स (social contents), कितना है और उससे समाज की अधिक से अधिक मैजिमम यूटिलिटी (maximum utility) होती है या नहीं। अगर इस दृष्टि से हम इस बजट को देखते हैं तो मुझे खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि हमें निराशा का सामना करना पड़ता है। इस बजट को ईमानदारी के साथ एक कैपिटलिस्ट बजट (Capitalist budget) कहा जा सकता है। या हम यह कह सकते हैं कि यह बजट उद्योगपतियों, इण्डस्ट्रियलिस्टों (industrialists) और बिग बिजनेस मैनो (big business men) के लिये ही बनाया गया है।

बात कड़वी है लेकिन सच है। सन् १९४७ ई० में माननीय लियाकतअली खां ने जो बजट इस हाउस में पेश किया था अगरचे उसे एक सोशलिस्ट (Socialist) बजट नहीं कह सकते हैं लेकिन इस में सन्देह नहीं है कि वह सोशलिज्म (Socialism) की तरफ एक कदम जरूर था। लेकिन अफसोस की बात है कि उसे मजहबी रंग देकर उसके बाद बराबर वह कदम पीछे हटता चला आ रहा है और इस साल का बजट तो सोलह आना एक कैपिटलिस्ट (Capitalist) बजट है।

श्री राज बहादुर : लियाकतअली खां साहब ने इस कदम को पाकिस्तान में नहीं उठाया है।

श्री डी० एस० सेठ : इस बजट में सिवाय उद्योगपतियों के और बिग बिजनेस मैनो (big business men) के दूसरों के लिये कोई भी सहारा नहीं दिखाई देता। इसमें लेबर, जो सारी सम्पत्ति को पैदा करता है उसके लिये कोई स्थान नहीं है। यहां तक कि आदरणीय फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने इस बजट के दौरान में अपनी स्पीच में इनफ्लेशन (inflation) का अर्थ, उसका मतलब और उसकी परिभाषा को बदल दिया है। उन्होंने कहा है कि टैक्सों (taxation) का जो लेवल (level) है, करों का जो स्तर है, वह इतना ऊंचा है कि इससे पूंजीपतियों और उद्योगपतियों को अधिक लाभ नहीं होता और नये उद्योग खोलने के लिये काफी पैसे की बचत नहीं होती। हो सकता है कि यह फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब की अपनी राय ऐसी हो लेकिन मुझे इसमें जरा भी सन्देह नहीं है कि सिवाय उद्योगपतियों के कुछ पिट्टुओं को छोड़ कर देश के जो बड़े अर्थ शास्त्री हैं वह फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब की इस राय से कभी भी इत्फाक एग्री (agree) नहीं करेंगे। मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि हर देश में ही प्रोडक्शन (production) का एक बड़ा महत्त्वपूर्ण स्थान होता है। इनफ्लेशन (inflation) को दूर करने के लिये प्रोडक्शन (production) काफी शक्तिशाली चीज़ होती है लेकिन साथ ही जब हम प्रोडक्शन (production) की बात करते हैं तो हमें यह सोचना होता है कि प्रोडक्शन कौन करता है। प्रोडक्शन उद्योगपति नहीं करता है। प्रोडक्शन करने वाला जिसमें पूंजी की उपज भी शामिल होती है वह है मँहतत करने वाला श्रमिक। अगर श्रमिक वर्ग संतुष्ट है तब ही प्रोडक्शन बढ़ सकता है अन्यथा नहीं। हमने देखा कि पिछले तीन वर्षों से हर बजट में पूंजीपतियों के साथ काफी रियायत की जा रही है। उनको टैक्स के बोझ के विचार से ज्यादा हल्का किया गया है। लेकिन इसका नतीजा क्या हुआ, यह हम देख रहे हैं। इससे कितना प्रोडक्शन बढ़ा? इसके विपरीत हमने देखा कि श्रमिक वर्ग के साथ कुछ भी विशेष रियायत नहीं की गयी लेकिन फिर भी देशभक्ति की भावना को रखते हुये उनकी हड़तालों में बहुत कमी हो गई है। उन्होंने इस वर्ष बहुत कम हड़तालें और झगड़े किये। इससे हमको यह सबक सीखना चाहिये कि हमको उनको ही विशेष रूप से संतुष्ट करना चाहिये। श्रमिक को हम जब तक संतुष्ट नहीं करेंगे उपज के लिये हम चाहे जितना भी जोर उन पर डालें वह तब तक इस उपज को ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ायेंगे जब तक कि उनको हम अच्छी तरह से संतुष्ट न कर दें। क्योंकि जब श्रमिक देखता है कि उसको तो नपा तुला मिलता है चाहे वह कितना ही काम करे तो उसको ज्यादा काम करने का उत्साह ही नहीं होता। वह प्रोडक्शन तब बढ़ायेगा जबकि वह देखेगा कि उस प्रोडक्शन में वह भी साझीदार है, उसको पूरा हिस्सा मिलेगा और वह भूखा नहीं मरेगा।

जैसा मैंने अभी आपसे निवेदन किया है कि इस बजट में श्रमिक के लिये किसी प्रकार की भी कोई चीज नहीं रक्खी गई है। इतना ही नहीं, इस बजट में जनसाधारण के लिये भी कोई स्थान नहीं है। हम बराबर इस बात को सुना करते हैं और हमारे प्रधान मन्त्री जी और हर एक

[श्री डी० एस० सेठ]

मन्त्री जब कभी मौका पड़ता है मध्यम वर्ग के प्रति सहानुभूति का प्रकाश करते हैं। लेकिन मैंने कई बार माननीय फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब की स्पीच को पूरे ध्यान से पढ़ा, और वाइट पेपर (White Paper) जो है उसको भी काफी गौर से देखा। मगर उसमें कहीं भी मध्यम वर्ग के लिये सहानुभूति और सुविधा की कोई भी बात नहीं बतलाई गई है और न इस तरह की कोई बात करने की कोशिश की गई है। ऐसी बात नहीं थी कि इस बजट में मध्यम वर्ग और निम्न मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों को सुविधा देने की गुंजाइश नहीं थी। इस बजट में जो बनाया गया है ९ करोड़ से अधिक रुपया सरप्लस (surplus) रखा गया है और अगर फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब चाहते और उनके दिल में दया होती तो मध्यम वर्ग और निम्न मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों को सुविधा देने की बात जरूर करते। लेकिन वह तो शायद उनको किसी प्रकार की भी सुविधा देना नहीं चाहते और न इसको वह जरूरी ही समझते हैं।

इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कह देना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश के प्रदेशों अर्थात् स्टेटों (States) के बजटों को भी इस बजट ने गड़बड़ा और अनबैलेंस्ड कर दिया है। इन्कम टैक्स की और सुपर टैक्स (super-tax) की दर कम करके, करीब १५ करोड़ का घाटा होता है। इस १५ करोड़ में से ७ करोड़ से कुछ अधिक रुपया प्रदेशों का है जो इस देश के राज्य हैं। अगर इस प्रकार

(English translation of the above speech.)

Shri D. S. Seth (Uttar Pradesh): If "Budget" in the classic sense were to be the estimate of statistics of revenue and expenditure, then I should like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for his ability and hard work. But in this changing world, when the financial structure is becoming more and more vast everyday, the test of the Budget lies in the fact that how much social content it imbibes and whether or not the society derives the maximum utility out of it. If we see this Budget from this perspective, then I am constrained to say that we have to face disappointment. This Budget can be very honestly described as a capitalist budget, or we can say that this has been designed for the benefit of the mill-owners, industrialists and big businessmen. Sir, though bitter, yet true it is. Although the Budget presented by the hon. Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan before this House in the year 1947 cannot be described as a 'Socialist Budget' yet there is no doubt in it that it certainly marked a first milestone on the road to socialism. But it is a matter of great regret that it was given a communal tinge and everything is being done continually to retrace the forward steps that that Budget took and this year's Budget is a cent per cent capitalist budget.

Shri Raj Bahadur (Rajasthan): Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan has not taken such steps in Pakistan.

Shri D. S. Seth: This Budget does not envisage any relief to anybody except the industrialists and the big businessmen. The labour which produces all this wealth does not find any place in it. Not only this but the hon. Finance Minister has during the course of his budget speech changed the meanings, implications and technicalities of the term 'inflation'. He has stated that the level of taxation is so high that it does not confer much benefit upon the industrialists and the capitalists and they cannot save sufficient funds to float new industries. It is possible that this might be the personal opinion of the Finance Minister. But I have not got the least doubt in it that except the industrialists and barring the few stooges of the renowned economists in this country shall never agree with this view held by the Finance Minister. I admit that production occupies a very

important place in every country. Production plays a dominant role to counteract the inflation. But along with this when we talk of production we have to think who is the producer. The industrialist is not the producer. It is the labourer who toils and produces and also contributes to the production of wealth. If the labouring classes are satisfied it is only then that the production can be increased, otherwise not. We have seen that since the last three years many concessions are being granted to the capitalists in every budget. They have been considerably relieved of the burden of taxation. But what was the outcome of all this? That we are seeing. How far did it help to increase the production? On the reverse we saw that even though no special concession was given to the labouring class, yet there was an appreciable reduction in the number of strikes obviously on account of their patriotic instinct. During this year they resorted to comparatively quite a fewer strikes and disputes. We ought to take a lesson from that which we should make special efforts to appease them. In spite of the pressure that we might put upon the labour to produce more, we cannot achieve our object so long as we do not satisfy them in every possible manner. Because, when a labourer finds that he gets a fixed amount only irrespective of the fact how much work he may put in, then he loses the incentive to work more. He will increase the production only when he knows that he has got a share in that production and will be fully remunerated and not die of starvation.

Just as I have stated above, this Budget does not contain anything for the benefit of the labourers. Not only this much, the common man also does not find any place in it. We constantly hear this and our Prime Minister as well as every Minister always express their sympathy towards the middle classes when ever an opportunity arises. But I have very carefully gone through the speech of the Finance Minister many a time and also scanned through the White Paper with great attention. But it does not at any place contain any expression of sympathy towards the middle classes nor grant them any relief. And, moreover no such attempt has been made to provide them any relief. It is not due to the reason that there was no scope in this Budget for the grant of any relief to the middle classes and the lower middle classes. This Budget provides for a surplus of over Rs. nine crores and if the Finance Minister wished and had some feeling of sympathy in his heart, he would have surely done something to provide for relief to the middle class and the lower middle class. But on the contrary he does not perhaps like to give them any sort of relief and nor does he consider it necessary.

Along with this, I should also like to mention that this Budget has disturbed the States' budgets and made them 'unbalanced'. By reducing the rate of income-tax and super-tax, there is a loss of approximately Rs. 15 crores. These fifteen crores comprise of little above Rs. seven crores which belong to the States of this Country. If in this manner.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is now one o'clock. The hon. Member has taken six minutes. I will allow him another four minutes, if the House will kindly consent to sit.

The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): There are three days, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. The House will now stand adjourned to 2-30 P.M.

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

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

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

Shri D. S. Seth *rose*—

Shri Tyagi: Sir, may I again make a request that the Ministers be summoned? After all, what is the good of any criticism when the Ministers concerned are not here to listen to the criticisms in the House. Only the Finance Minister is present here. The policy of the other Ministers also is under consideration.

Dr. Matthai: May I submit, Sir, that my colleagues are anxious to be present in the House as much as possible consistent with their other duties. In the meantime, I am here representing all Ministries.

Shri Tyagi: It is not enough. I must submit, Sir, that if they have other duties, they must postpone those duties. It is their first and foremost duty to be present in the House when the Budget is being discussed. I submit that we must agree on a convention of this nature that the Ministers must be here when general discussion on the Budget is being held.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly note that for one month the General Budget and the Demands for Grants and also the Finance Bill will be under discussion. It is open during the general discussion on the General Budget and the Finance Bill to refer to every matter relating to Government policy. During the cut motions the Ministers have necessarily to be here. I can assure the Members that nothing will go by default. Everything will be noted down and carried to the individual Ministers concerned and then it is for them to come here and explain. When individual departments are under consideration by the House, they will certainly be present here along with the Finance Minister. The Finance Minister has introduced the Budget and he has taken the responsibility, and therefore the onus is his, whenever he thinks necessary, to call in the other Ministers to explain matters. He will certainly see to it that nothing will go by default.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I submit that there are fewer Ministers present in the House now than in the morning, which seems to suggest that they have not taken seriously what was said in the House this morning and are even indifferent to it?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We must accept what the hon. the Finance Minister has said. He is nothing down everything.

Shri Tyagi: Do you not think, Sir, that as far as possible it is desirable to ask them to come?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Certainly I agree with the hon. Member that as far as possible, consistent with their other duties, they must be present here. If it is possible for them to avoid leaving the Parliament Chamber, then certainly they will do so. I am sure they will bear this in mind.

Mr. Damodar Swarup Seth will kindly continue.

श्री डी० एस० सेठ : मैं यह कह रहा था कि मिडिल क्लास और लोअर मिडिल क्लास के लोगों को इस बजट में कुछ रिलीफ (relief) नहीं दिया गया है। इसका कारण यह नहीं बताया जा सकता कि सरकार के पास रुपये की कमी थी क्योंकि आमदनी की मद में नौ करोड़ से अधिक रुपया बताया गया था और अगर सरकार चाहती तो उस रुपये से मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों और निम्न मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों को सुविधा दी जा सकती थी। मैं जानता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में यह कहा जायगा कि पोस्टल रेट में, लोकल पोस्टल रेट में जो कमी की गई है, टेलिग्राफ चार्ज (Telegraph charges) में जो कमी की गई है और ट्रंक काल्स (trunk calls) में जो कमी की गई है यह सब उन्हीं लोगों के लाभ के लिये है। लेकिन मैं ऐसा नहीं मानता। मेरा कहना है कि इन रेटों में कमी करने का लाभ भी औद्योगिक वर्ग और व्यापारिक वर्ग के लोगों को ही मिलेगा। कामन मैन (common man), आम लोगों को इसका लाभ हासिल नहीं हो सकेगा।

इसके अलावा फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने ऊँचे वर्ग के लोगों की आमदनी के टैक्स और सुपर टैक्स में जो कमी की गई है उससे सरकार को पन्द्रह करोड़ रुपये की कम वसूली होगी, और इस पन्द्रह करोड़ रुपये में से लगभग आधा रुपया प्रादेशिक सरकार को जाता। तो इस प्रकार आमदनी कम करके फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने प्रदेशों के बजट को अनबैलैन्सड (unbalanced) कर दिया है। अन्यथा यह सम्भव था कि प्रदेशों के अर्थमन्त्री अपने राज्यों के, अपने प्रदेशों के मध्यम वर्ग और निम्न मध्यम वर्ग को कुछ सुविधा देते। और अगर मैं भूलता नहीं तो उत्तर प्रदेश के प्रधान मन्त्री ने इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार की कुछ कड़ी आलोचना भी की है।

इस प्रकार अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस बजट में न केवल श्रमिक वर्ग और जनसाधारण की स्थिति को सुधारने के लिये कुछ प्रयत्न नहीं किया है बल्कि प्रदेशों की सरकार के भी हाथ काट दिये हैं। इसका अन्तिम परिणाम शुभ नहीं दिखाई देता। अगर स्थिति इसी प्रकार रही और हमारी सरकार निरन्तर पूर्जापतियों और उद्योगपतियों की पीठ ठोकती रही तो मैं बड़ी नम्रता के साथ सरकार को चेतावनी देना चाहता हूँ कि जब यहां के मेहनत करने वाले लोग जो सम्पत्ति का उत्पादन करते हैं, उनके सड़क का प्याला भर जाना तो यहां इस प्रकार की विकट स्थिति पैदा हो सकती है, यहां इस प्रकार की उथल-पुथल हो सकती है कि सरकार का उस पर काबू पाना कठिन हो जायगा।

इस लिये मेरी यह प्रार्थना है कि फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब जो टैक्सेशन कमीशन (Taxation Commission) मقرر करने वाले हैं उसके द्वारा कुछ इस प्रकार की तब्दीली इस बजट में करें जिससे गरीब जनता, कामन मैन (common man) को भी कुछ सहाय हो। मैं नहीं जानता कि मेरी इत्तला कहां तक ठीक है लेकिन मैंने सुना है कि शायद मौजूदा फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब का यह आखिरी बजट है। अगर ऐसी बात है तो मैं यह चाहता था कि वह इस बजट को ऐसा रूप देते कि जो मही मानों में आम जनता का बजट और उनकी एक यादगार हो जाता। पर अगर मेरी इत्तला गलत है तो मैं चाहूंगा कि मौजूदा फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर साहब इस बात की तरफ ध्यान दें कि अब भी जो कुछ सम्भव हो इस बजट में कुछ ऐसी तब्दीली करे कि जिससे आम जनता और श्रमिक वर्ग को भी यथासम्भव कुछ लाभ पहुंच सके।

(English translation of the above speech.)

Shri D. S. Seth: I was saying that this Budget does not envisage the grant of any relief to the middle classes and the lower middle classes. This cannot be attributed to the reason that the Government lacked funds because

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under the head 'Income' a sum of over rupees nine crores was shown and if the Government desired, that money could have been utilized in the form of giving relief to the middle class and lower-middle class. I know it will be said in this connection that all this reduction that has been made in the local postal rates, telegraph and telephone trunk-call charges is intended for the benefit of those very persons. But I do not see eye to eye with this. My submission is that the reduction in these rates will only benefit the industrialists and the business community. The common man will not be able to derive any benefit out of this.

Apart from this, the reduction made by the Finance Minister in the rates of Income Tax and Super-tax recoverable from the people in the higher income groups will result in a loss of rupees fifteen crores to the Government, and out of these fifteen crores approximately half of the amount would have gone to the States. So by reducing the revenue in this manner the Finance Minister has unbalanced the States' budgets. Otherwise it was possible that the States' Finance Ministers would have surely given some relief to the middle and lower-middle class people in their respective States and, if I mistake not, the Chief Minister of U. P. has also severely criticised the Central Government in this respect.

So, in this way, not only that no provision has been made in this Budget for the amelioration of the condition of the labouring class and the common man, but the hands of the States Government have also been cut off. Its ultimate result does not seem to be good. If the situation continues to remain so and our Government constantly goes on patting the back of the industrialists and the capitalists, then with all due respect, I should like to warn them that as soon as the cup of patience of the labouring class who produce the wealth is full, a grave situation can emerge here which will be followed by serious repercussions and it will then become difficult for Government to control it.

It is, therefore, that I submit that the Finance Minister should make some such changes in this Budget through the Taxation Commission contemplated to be set up by him as would confer some relief on the common man. I do not know how far my information is correct, but I have heard that perhaps this is the last Budget of the present Finance Minister. If this is so, then much as I would have desired, he should have prepared this Budget in such a form as would have given it the outlook of a common man's budget in the real sense and it would have served as a souvenir of his Ministership. But in case my information is wrong, then I would like the present Finance Minister to look to this aspect and make all possible changes in the Budget even at this stage which may afford the necessary relief to the common man as well as the labouring class.

Shri Goenka (Madras): I congratulate the hon. the Finance Minister on the very bold manner in which he has carried out into practice his convictions. If I scrutinise critically the Budget as presented by him, I do so not because I doubt his sincerity even for a moment—in fact, his honesty, integrity and sincerity are proverbial—but because I feel that the conclusions he has arrived at are not based either on facts or on experience. I underline the word "experience" in this connection. For the last two years we have been giving concessions after concessions, and in the last budget the hon. the Finance Minister pointed out that capital's shyness was the only psychological factor that was standing in the way of the investment market boosting up, business expanding, production expanding and all that. What has been our experience? In any case, if he had presented this Budget, which I call a capitalist budget, and with that also got rid of the Income-tax Investigation Commission, then I would have understood that he was carrying his convictions to their logical

conclusion. Then it would have left nothing to the capitalists, or the investors or the financiers again to complain. If everything that they demanded was done for them, we would then be able to see whether they would play the game in future or not. But that was not done. It is only a piecemeal business. Let me tell my hon. friend the Finance Minister that his hopes will never be realised, because next year they will ask for the abolition of the Tax Evasion Investigation Commission. They would say that because of this Investigation Commission going into so many matters, which are inconvenient for them, they have not been able to put their heart and soul into the business and expand trade and industry. That will be put against him and probably he will have no answer.

Therefore, according to me, it is wrong to have thrown away Rs. 15 crores in the manner in which the hon. Minister has done. Even if he wanted to do it, he ought to have done the other thing which I mentioned. Before he gives away Rs. 15 crores to the haves and not a pie to the have-nots he has to prove beyond reasonable doubt that that sum is either going to improve the economic situation of the country or combat inflation, or check the rising prices and encourage production and investment. He has to prove these before he can justify the giving away of Rs. 15 crores. He should also prove, if he can, that it will ameliorate the condition of the masses. It is the provincial Governments which are primarily charged with the task of ameliorating the condition of the poor people and the masses. What is the position of the Provincial Governments so far as this Budget is concerned?

Under the Budget the Provincial Governments are the worst sufferers, and I am not sure whether the Provinces do not resent the treatment given to them. Half of the so-called tax relief is at the cost of the Provinces. The biggest axe in the capital budget also falls on the Provinces.

I will refer to two or three figures. The grants to State Governments for development have been to the tune of Rs. 24 crores, the budgeted figure being Rs. 26 crores. This has been cut down to nine crores in the next year. It is not a free gift nor a grant but only a loan to the Provinces.

As regards loans to the Provinces including those for various projects, the budgeted figure was 58 crores, the sum actually given was 52 crores and this year the budget figure is only 34 crores. The result is that instead of 76 crores which were given this year for loans and advances to the Provinces it has been cut down to 43 crores, that is 33 crores have been cut down from the advances given to the Provinces. Apart from that Rs. seven crores are practically being taken away from the Provinces because that will be their share of income-tax if this tax relief was not given. Actually, therefore, Rs. 40 crores are being taken away from the Provinces.

When tax relief is asked for, the hon. Finance Minister in reply says that it is the primary duty of the Provinces to look after the poor people and the masses. I have given the House a sample of the way in which they are helped to do that . . .

Shri Sidhva: Where is the money to come from?

Shri Goenka: Why then give away the 15 crores? It has been laid down by all the economists and financiers in the world—it is practically a unanimous opinion—that when there is inflation you must have not only a balanced but a surplus budget to mop up the superfluous money. I will refer to the Budget speech of the predecessor of the hon. Finance Minister, namely Mr. Shanmukham Chetty. He said:

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"In a time of inflation the Budget should not only be balanced but there should be a comfortable surplus for mopping up the excess purchasing power, and to encourage economy in private spending."

What are we doing? We are giving away 15 crores relief to the haves. Also, today we are giving 41.56 crores which has been in deposit with the Government of India on account of E.P.T. and income-tax. This money is being pumped into the market. If that is not going to add to the inflation, I do not know what else it will do.

Let me now come to the investment part of my story. The Finance Minister said:

"There are two general considerations which I wish to mention with regard to these taxation proposals. I have for sometime held the view that the present level of taxation in this country is uneconomic in the sense that the economy of the country cannot bear it."

What is the economy of the country? Does it consist of only about 10,000 or 20,000 people who are assessed for tax on an income of Rs. 10,000 or more? Does not the economy of the country consist of the rural areas, the masses and the middle class people? The Finance Minister has come to the conclusion that this heavy taxation is inflationary rather than disinflationary. I do not understand the argument. If money is pumped into the market, according to me, it is inflationary. That is what I understand. These are high finances. I feel that the hon. Finance Minister came to the conclusion and then tried to adduce arguments in support of it. This is how it appears to a lay man . . .

Shri B. Das: Not so simple.

Shri Goenka: I know it is not so simple. He talks of the investing public and says that his proposals will encourage investment. In his Budget speech the hon. Finance Minister said:

"As far as I am able to judge the activity in the investment market—I am particularly thinking of the stock exchanges—it is still confined very largely to professional operators. I am not for a moment suggesting that professional operations are necessarily unhealthy; but unless the activity of the professional operator is supplemented and corrected by the activity of the genuine investor, the investment market will not be sufficiently broad-based."

I do not know who are the genuine investors Mr. Shanmukham Chetty in his speech said:

"If you analyse the list of shareholders of a number of companies you will find that probably not less than 70 or 75 per cent. of the shareholders can really be classified as middle class people."

It is the middle class people who are the backbone of the investing public. If that is so, how does this tax relief to the higher class of society, whose income is over Rs. 10,000 and goes up to Rs. 10, 15 or 20 lakhs, go to encourage investment? How is he going to achieve that by giving the tax relief to the haves? Actually, the middle class people are penalised in this Budget in regard to investment. A man who does not pay taxes and who has a couple of thousand rupees goes and buys twenty shares in a company. When the dividend comes he is entitled to a refund to the tune of the income-tax paid by the company; it was five annas before, and has now been reduced to four annas. That is to say, he gets his dividend plus four annas of the dividend amount instead of five annas as before. It works out to about five per cent. of the dividend. Is this the way of encouraging real and true investments? If you analyse the Budget figures, you will find that the hon. the Finance Minister, instead of reducing the Corporation Tax, if he wanted to give relief to the companies which it was his intention to do, has increased the Corporation Tax. What is the reason for it? It is because the five crores of rupees which he gets by increasing the Corporation Tax comes to the Central revenue, while

the reduction in Income-tax is shared by the Provinces. In other words, he takes money from the Provinces and gives it to the haves. He takes Rs. seven crores from the Provinces. By the increase in the Corporation Tax he gets Rs. five crores. Part of what he has to pay he gets from the Corporation Tax, and part of it he puts from his pocket. But the Provinces have to pay to the tune of Rs. seven crores. I think I have been able to establish that the Budget neither ameliorates the condition of the people, nor helps in the economic recovery nor combats inflation, nor checks the rise in prices. So far as investment is concerned, it is certainly not going to encourage investment except the investment of the haves, provided this Income-tax Investigation Commission goes. If the Commission remains, take it from me that even the class of people whom he is helping will not come forward and place their money in the market.

Let me take the question of production. I ask in all seriousness what is the increase in production which my hon. friend thinks he is going to achieve by this process? The real production needed in the country today is of foodstuffs and raw materials for our cotton and jute mills. Cotton, jute and tea constitute 80 per cent. of our exports. For that we want raw materials. It is the raw material which stands between us and our exports. Production has been cut down by the mills simply because they have no raw materials. Where is my hon. friend going to get the raw material from except from the agriculturists? Where is he going to get foodstuffs from except from the agriculturists? Therefore, he ought to have applied his mind to see how he could encourage agriculture, how he could expedite and accelerate the irrigation schemes; he ought to have seen that thousands of tube wells are sunk all over the country so that the agriculturists get water and with that water they could produce more of jute, cotton and foodstuffs which are the necessity of the hour. As I said, the jute and cotton industries, which are the main industries, have not been producing more—in fact less—because there is no raw material available. Taking again the question of export of oilseeds, have we done anything to produce more oilseeds for export? The price of edible oil has gone up eight times. My hon. friend may give me an index figure and say "According to this index figure the prices are stationary". But the fact remains that though the index is based on some figures, the figures are taken not from the real market but from the nominal paper prices which you have fixed. Then the index figures and their basis change from day to day and from time to time.

In regard to production, can my hon. friend say that with this Rs. 15 crores he is going to have more production? This money does not necessarily go to the industrialists. It also goes to those Rajas, Maharajas or those who have got crores—two, five or ten crores—and what is the guarantee that all this money which we pump out to the tune of Rs. 15 crores is going to come back for investment? I expected of the Finance Minister to keep these Rs. 9.69 crores and allow the Provinces to have the Rs. seven crores of the divisible pool. With Rs. 9.69 crores he ought to have investigated where he could get more revenue from the country, because it is necessary that he should have a big surplus budget to cope with this capital deficit. I have not come to the capital deficit because I have no time to discuss the capital budget. He ought to have found out ways and means of raising more money so that he could meet this capital deficit. As you are aware, Sir, on the recommendation of the House, a Devaluation Committee was appointed and the Committee met once for an hour, and another day for another hour. Certain suggestions were made in the Committee and it was promised that Government would examine the propositions by which a sum of Rs. 30 or 40 crores more a year could be secured. But though three months have elapsed, the promise that

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these things will be gone into and that a note from the Government would be given to the members of the Committee, was never carried out. I am referring to jute and tea. I can prove beyond all reasonable doubt, and we have the evidence of the President of the Jute Mills' Association, of the Brokers' Association and of the Shippers' Association, that while the price of jute in this country is Rs. 55 (jute hessian)—and that is the ceiling fixed by the Commerce Ministry—in America the price is round about Rs. 75. What do we do? We say that you must sell it only at Rs. 55! Either allow them to sell at the rate at which the buyer buys, and take the Rs. 20 profit or a share of it by income-tax or levy a duty on it so that that money comes to the State. One of the two things must happen. Today it is an open secret that every mill-owner in the name of somebody exports jute to foreign countries and that goes to foreign countries at the rate of Rs. 55 and is sold there at Rs. 71 or 72.

An hon. Member: Could you find a market at that price?

Shri Goenka: Certainly. I shall buy and market even 10,000 tons. I was pointing out that these facts and figures were placed before the Finance Minister three months ago and Government promised to go into them. The price of tea in this country is only 50 per cent. of the price available in foreign countries. Still we sell it at Rs. 1-8 or thereabout because of our agreement with the United Kingdom. Why should we not raise the export duty on tea and get a little more money? We can secure Rs. 30 or 40 crores on these two commodities alone. If the Finance Minister thus saves Rs. 50 crores, that will meet his capital deficit and he can accelerate all the irrigation schemes.

With regard to loans, in 1948-49 we estimated for a loan of Rs. 150 crores; we actually got 50. In 1949-50 we budgeted for Rs. 85 crores but got 45. We are now budgeting for Rs. 75 crores and God knows what we shall get.

Take the question of purchase of securities in the market. On page 63 of the Explanatory Memorandum, you will find that in the Issue

3 P. M. Department of the Reserve Bank of India the securities have gone up from Rs. 350 crores to Rs. 415 crores—Rs. 65 crore worth Rupee securities have been added in the Reserve Bank of India. I would like a statement from the hon. Minister as to what is the amount of securities which Government had issued in the last two years, what is the amount of securities which they had paid in the last two years, and what is the amount of securities which they had bought from the open market or from their own issue either for the Reserve Bank of India or for the Government of India? If these figures are forthcoming, then and then alone can you say what is the amount which you have borrowed from the market, and also whether you have actually borrowed from the market or you have actually lent to the market. From the figures which I find here, I am convinced that we have practically borrowed nothing because the Reserve Bank of India was the biggest buyer of securities all these days with a view, probably to maintain prices. That is why from Rs. 350 crores, the securities held by the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India have gone up to Rs. 415 crores. I can only quote these figures. If there are any manipulations between the Government of India and the Reserve Bank, I do not know; it is for the hon. the Finance Minister to explain.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao (Mysore): Sir, a time-limit of ten minutes has been fixed by the hon. the Speaker for a speech on this Budget, and when I remember the somewhat rigid classification that the hon. Member, Prof. K. T. Shah, made of the kinds of Budget speeches that could be made, as either ignorant generalization or informed criticism, I am afraid that it would be rather difficult for a new Member like me to develop the high-

potential of informed criticism within the time-limit of ten minutes, and therefore my only endeavour would be to steer very wide and clear of the other category of speeches and to hope that those observations which I make will not be classified as ignorant generalizations.

It is not my desire to venture upon any analysis, mathematical or statistical, of the Budget figures that have been placed before this House by the hon. the Finance Minister, and that for two reasons. Firstly, the hon. the Finance Minister has warned the House that these figures cannot properly be compared with the corresponding figures for the previous financial years by reason of the fact that the integrated States now enter into the financial computations of the next year. The second reason is that the hon. Member, Mr. Goenka, in his very lucid and expressive speech has just shown to the House how dangerous, if not difficult, it is to stray into those figures. And for one like me, who is not versed in the technique of probing into the mysteries of the operational side of practical public finance, I must confess, it is extremely difficult to get any clear and useful information out of these figures, much less to make any informed criticism based upon those figures. I would, however, venture to make a few general observations on this Budget.

First of all, I should say that the key-note of the proposals that have been placed before the House would appear to be that we are budgeting for security, that we are certainly not budgeting for welfare. A reference was made by one of the hon. Members earlier in the day to the applause that greeted the speech of the hon. the Finance Minister on one particular occasion when he addressed this House, and that was when a reference was made by him to the fact that Government would not hesitate to go before the country and ask it to make additional sacrifices to maintain the security of the State. I really think that these Budget proposals have mainly concentrated upon the security of the country much more than upon any other thing, because it seems to me that the whole atmosphere is surcharged with some kind of impending, unusual possibility, either about to happen or contemplated by us. Having regard to the characteristic feature of this Budget as a security Budget, I am not at all surprised that we should be spending as much as or more than 50 per cent. of our revenues upon Defence expenditure. But then, when we look at how the other 50 per cent. of the revenues are proposed to be spent, I am rather surprised that the hon. the Finance Minister has chosen to step down the revenue surplus of Rs. nine odd crores to a little over a crore by the taxation reliefs that he has placed before the House and which he contemplates giving effect to in his Finance Bill. As the hon. Member, Mr. Goenka, took pains to point out from the Budget speech of the hon. Member, Mr. Shannukham Chetty, the then Finance Minister, in the year 1948, it seems to be an accepted canon of public finance that during inflationary times Governments budget for a surplus and boldly do so, and during periods of depression Governments boldly launch upon very expensive schemes and do not hesitate to budget for a huge deficit, if need be, in the interests of the nation. Therefore, it is the more surprising to me as to why there should have been this anxiety not to have the surplus of nine crores and odd and to reduce it to as low a figure as 1.31 crores. Incidentally, the kinds of relief that have been granted in taxation are such that they really do not constitute any measure of relief to the bulk of the people in this country. I am constrained to say that the common man, in this vast country of ours, must be pardoned if he does not enthuse over these Budget proposals. Not only is he not able to enthuse, but he is rather disappointed to some extent that the huge finances of the country, that all the resourcefulness and talent that is available at the head of this Government, are not harnessed to the task of making the burden a little more light for the common man who is not able to live upon two square meals a day and clothe the nakedness of those whom he has got to support.

[Shri M. V. Rama Rao]

A very detailed and elaborate reference was made to world movement of prices in the speech of the hon. the Finance Minister. I do not propose to go into any one of those details, much as I should wish to, for any reference to them would not only require an amount of time which is not available to me, but I am also doubtful whether I shall be able to make myself understood if I venture to go into those details within the time at my disposal. Therefore, I shall merely pass on to the next point. My next point is that these taxation reliefs are proposed to be made by way of inducement to the investing public to be more responsive to the Government's programme of borrowing in order to finance their capital expenditure. With regard to the poor response, I am afraid that this poor response has been a characteristic not merely of the current year but also of the previous years, and whatever inducements have been offered—and many have, in fact, been offered during the past year and the year before that—they have not succeeded in eliciting that degree and measure of response which was expected from the investing public. When I heard, and again took the trouble to read through, the hon. the Finance Minister's speech and read through the White Paper etc. that have been supplied to us, I was not able to find out what proportion of the blame for this poor response is to be placed squarely upon the institutional investors and what proportion accounts for the poor response of what has been called the "genuine investor". It is very doubtful if the poor response is not due to the decreasing response on the part of the institutional investors. That would be very strange because among the most important of the institutional investors are the insurance companies and the banks, and it is a notorious fact that insurance companies have been making huge profits, phenomenal profits, from their premium-incomes and banking companies have been doing very good business indeed except when, latterly, they have been restricting their policy of granting loans against goods of a particular kind. Therefore, it really amounts to this, that the poor response has to be further investigated and the causes determined before these reliefs are given by way of inducement to evoke greater response to Government's borrowing programme.

The second point that I would like to refer to is that a great deal of emphasis was laid upon the fact that the problem before the country is, increased production generally and production of foodstuffs more than everything else. Figures have been quoted to show that there has been a genuine increase in the production of foodstuffs. I have taken pains to study the statistics published by the Government of India and they are as follows: For a period of one year ending the 30th June, 1947, the total area under food crops was 190·177 million acres. For a corresponding period during 1948, the figure diminished to 186·854 million acres. For a corresponding period during 1949, the figure further diminished to 184·173 million acres. The production of foodstuffs was as follows: During 1947, it was 49·093 million tons. During 1948, it was 52·152 million tons. During 1949 it was 47·960 million tons. I infer from these figures that there has clearly been a progressive decline both in the acreage under cultivation and in the production of foodstuffs. This is a very alarming feature, I venture to submit, because we have to remember that the population is steadily increasing. During 1947 it was 338·73 millions. During 1948 it was 342·105 millions. During 1949 it has been estimated roughly at 346 millions. The rate of increase in the population is as follows: 1947—0·69 per cent.; 1948—0·83 per cent. and 1949 (thanks to the excellent way in which the Ministry of Health has been discharging its duties) 1·062 per cent. By the time we take the census in 1951, it is possible that the population may well be 350 millions. When we remember these facts, I think that much more concentrated and coordinated effort must be made for seeing that we produce enough food in this country for the teeming millions. This does

not, of course, take into account the millions who are likely to come into India either from the east or from the west owing to those things that are happening and to which a reference may well not be made here.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The hon. Member has already taken sixteen minutes.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao: I would just say one sentence and conclude. Now that we are budgeting for security, it is very good for us, but in the years to come, we may have to budget for survival. That is a fact of which we all should take note now, lest it may be too late.

Shri Khandubhai Desai (Bombay): In the first instance, I would like to thank the Finance Minister for the appreciation (albeit belated) of the efforts of the working class in the matter of production and of economic recovery. Unfortunately, however, the grand patriarch has given this appreciation, which is very dry, not associated with some gifts and concessions as have been meted out to other friends, about whom the less said the better. The other friends, who ought to have assisted the country in its economic recovery, have somehow or other been sitting quiet, sitting tight. In spite of that, very generous gifts and concessions have been showered on them. As far as the working class is concerned, in the last two years they have responded to the call of the nation unconditionally, without asking for anything. They thought it their patriotic duty to help the country, and they have done it.

Now, coming to the Budget, this is the very first Budget of the Indian Republic. It is very difficult to give an opinion one way or the other about it. I would, however, like to place before the House my own reactions to it. My first reaction is that it is not a Finance Minister's Budget, or the Budget of the custodian of our country's finances. Though, on the face of it, it looks very logical, it is one of the most illogical Budgets that I have ever seen. It is, in short, a sort of book-keeper's or a Chief Accountant's Budget. The Chief Accountant, at the end of the year, is very much worried as to how he is going to deal with his surplus in budget. Similarly, the hon. the Finance Minister wanted to give away his surplus to somebody and he has given it to those who neither deserved it or desired it. That is the reaction on my mind. At the same time, he has also put the States into difficulty. The surplus that he has got is not his own absolute surplus which he can dispose of in any way he likes. It is a surplus to which the States are also entitled. Whenever the question of reconstruction or the constructive programme comes up, the Government of India always says that it is a provincial business. True, it is a provincial business, but why should you not allow the Provinces to make any progress by taking away the money from them to which they are legitimately entitled.

Let us look at the trend for the last two years. You will remember that this is the third Budget after independence. The relief to the classes to which this Budget also gives concessions, has been to the tune of about Rs. 25 crores during the course of the last three years. There is one thing for which we should be grateful to the Finance Minister—he has not, while giving these concessions, increased the burden on others for the first time. During the last two years, there had been an additional burden on all except those to whom these gifts are again been given. On the other hand all the rest are suffering the burden, imposed on them. They are suffering under this burden of about Rs. 36 crores out of which 11 plus 13, that is Rs. 24 crores, were recently imposed in the form of excise duty. If there is a surplus in the budget, why should the excise duties which have been imposed during the last two years not be reduced to that extent.

Then the question is whether the condition of the 95 per cent. of the people, to whom these concessions or relief, whatever you may like to call it, has not

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been given, had improved to any extent. According to the figures which he has given, there has been a slight reduction in the cost of living in the beginning of 1948. Then it has gone up again; then it has gone down and he is happy that it is going down. But these are only seasonal variations and I do not know what will be the position after two months or so. Now with the index figure at 380, or 371, all others except these five per cent. are suffering on account of the additional burden of Rs. 36 crores which were the excise duties which were imposed during the last two years. Is this the way to create a proper climate for economic recovery? I think not. The enthusiasm of the masses of the whole country is necessary for the economic recovery.

The hon. the Prime Minister stated that we are now launching on an experiment in democratic planning—possibly the first experiment in the world. There have been planning in Russia and Germany, but they have been planning under dictatorship. And when planning under democracy is going to be experimented on, the enthusiasm of the people would have to be whipped up. Has the Finance Minister done anything in the Budget with imagination to whip up the enthusiasm of the masses? No. The masses have been left entirely cold by this Budget.

The question that naturally arises is: What should be done? Of course the Budget has been presented; normally it will get through, as it must. But there is no hope of the economic recovery in the next year as he has envisaged. If he had a surplus of Rs. nine crores, it could as well have been better utilised for the irrigation projects, as many of the previous speakers have pointed out. Why has he not done so? How are the industries and other establishments going to function without the raw materials? I think the whole of the surplus should have been utilised for financing those schemes which have been promised to the country. He has not done that. On the contrary, they have been curtailed and the pace of the schemes has been slowed down. This is not the way for proper economic progress.

There was one point which Mr. Goenka mentioned and to which I think in fairness I must reply. That is in regard to the giving away of the excess profits tax deposits to the manufacturers. I think nothing wrong was done. The excess profits deposits I think were released for putting up equipments and plants for additional production and to that extent it is not inflation. It was given away to produce more.

Now, I would like to say a word or two about the Planning Commission. As I said, this Budget has not created the proper atmosphere for the Planning Commission. If anything, it has retarded hopes which some of us held when the Planning Commission was announced. The Finance Minister thinks that this will bring in capital from the investors. I do not think it will bring, as our experience during the last two years has been rather disappointing. It will again prove to be a concession at the wrong end. While giving the concessions, when there is a surplus, I think the best course he could have adopted was to give relief to the income group of Rs. 4,000 to 5,000. The exemption limit should have been raised up. It is these people who are suffering the most. He has not been able, as promised during the last two years, to bring down the prices. We all were thinking that possibly the prices would be brought down and there would be some relief. The prices have not been brought down and he is responsible for it. It is his failure. He should have been able to discharge his responsibilities properly as the custodian of the interests of the poor people. When he has failed, he should as well have now said: "Well, I tried my best; some people in the country, a section of society, have not responded, as I thought they would respond. So, here it is. I have got Rs. nine crores. I will give away Rs. three or four crores

in granting exemption from income tax in the lower categories and spend the rest of surplus in subsidising grain in rationed areas." These are some of the points which I have attempted to place before him, not for consideration this year, but with a view, if I may say so, to changing his mind a little for the future.

Shri Satyanarayana (Madras): For a long time I used to treat this Budget Session, when I was not a Member of this august House, as a great event, as I used to see a good deal of emotional appeal in this Budget Session throughout the country. The businessmen, the merchants, the industrialists, the stock broker, the share broker and all of them used to wait and see what the Finance Minister will bring out. The amount of activity I used to see was so great that I used to be tempted to study it. All this activity was only among those people who had great stakes either in the industries, or business or heavy taxes or something like that. During the last three or four years, the Budget has come to attract the ordinary common man. This is because everybody began to expect that the *Swaraj* Government that we have got will bring some new prosperity, new relief and new activity in the country. Last year, when we discussed this Budget, we all felt very glad that the Finance Minister had produced a balanced Budget and therefore there was no necessity for any kind of panic that our economic structure was collapsing. This year, I expected the Finance Minister to do much better than he has done. I am sorry to say that I am very much disappointed. I am disappointed for this reason that this Budget has not at all stirred any emotion among the general mass of the people. It has not created any kind of psychological atmosphere or impression on the people that this first *Swaraj* Republican Budget has brought something to them either by way of relief or by way of prosperity or by way of anything for which they can feel obliged to Government or pleased. I am not considering this Budget either from the point of view of an industrialist or from that of an income-tax payer or from the point of view of a trader or businessman. I want to place a few observations before this House as I have tried to study it from the point of view of a common man as it is said, or in other words a consumer or a producer.

It is generally argued that the Central Government has nothing to do with provincial subjects and the common man's lot has to be properly guarded or protected only by the provincial, now State Governments and that the business of the Central Government is entirely different. It may be so. But, I want to know how the tax-payer or consumer is benefited, because, all the 350 crores of rupees, that is, the income derived by the Central Government, every pie of it is paid either by the producer or the consumer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Less talk in the benches please; we are not able to hear the hon. Member.

Shri Satyanarayana: Therefore, whether it is an increase in the tax or an increase in the excise or any increase that is made or any tax that is collected, it is paid in some shape or other either by the producer or by the consumer. Therefore, the first attention that has to be paid whenever relief is to be given, whenever a prosperous view of the whole Budget has to be taken, is to the consumer or to the producer. I ask how has the Finance Minister fared in this budget? He has fared just exactly as he has fared before this Budget was introduced. We have to consider how exactly the Budget has supplied new incentives either towards greater production or towards giving relief to the consumer who has been paying an enormous price on account of inflation. Inflation has often been mentioned by the Finance Minister; he says that we have got into a spiral of inflation which we are not able to get rid of on account of so many circumstances, which are mostly outside our control due to international events. I do not know whether this is true or whether it would be possible for us to get rid of that or not. That is a quite different matter. I

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want to examine the Budget from a different point of view, the point of view being how exactly we stood last year in the matter of production of wealth in the country.

I do not think we have made any headway in the matter of production of wealth. Last year, as the figures showed—I do not know whether these figures are correct; I have culled them out from the literature that I could get hold of—the national income of this country was estimated to be somewhere about 4200 crores of rupees. Out of this 4200 crores what exactly is the proportion that is paid by way of taxes by the common man either as a producer or a consumer? It is in the neighbourhood of 600 crores. This 600 crores of rupees is being paid for the purpose of defence, for the purpose of administration and for purposes of various other amenities. I do not know whether this 600 crores is a good ratio or a bad ratio. That would have to be examined either by comparison with other countries or by the capacity that we possess for paying this 600 crores. But, the real question is how we are spending this 600 crores and what amount is available for development purposes. Out of this 600 crores, roughly 180 or 170 crores is spent for defence. That is, on a rough calculation, we give nearly by way of taxes to the Government Rs. 20/- *per capita*. Out of this, five rupees are being spent for security, rupees ten for administration and rupees five only for welfare work. Is this enough? It is not. It will be argued, how would it be possible for us to reduce the defence expenditure? The Finance Minister would say, or the Defence Minister would say or the whole Cabinet will say, we cannot cut down the defence expenditure. We cannot also argue it because it is a matter which we should not argue in the public interests. Take administration. We are spending rupees ten *per capita* on administration. Is it possible for a poor country, when our whole national income is only 4200 crores for a population of 34 crores, to spend rupees ten *per capita* on administration. It is quite obvious that we cannot afford to spend so much. If we cannot afford to spend this amount, the only alternative is that we should cut down this. But, how to cut down? It is said that it is not possible to cut down. We cannot bring any cut motion and we cannot make any suggestion because in accountancy, unless and until the person in charge of the finances is willing to agree, it is not possible to convince him. This is a matter of experience. The only alternative therefore is to increase our national income. We can increase the national wealth only by supplying such incentives which would make the people begin to act more, produce more, and which would bring about that psychology, that atmosphere in which they could feel enthusiastic. Is there anything like that in this budget? I have tried to examine this and I must say that I am very much disappointed. There is nothing like that in this budget. The mills are there; the big industries are there; the people in charge of those big industries alone are given a little more incentive; nothing else has been done. The best thing would have been for the Finance Minister to view the whole thing from the point of view of national wealth, greater production of wealth and the creation of an enthusiasm in the people by which the whole country as such would feel enthusiastic and produce more and more in this country. After all, what is budget? The budget as I consider it, is not a collection of figures; it is not mere accountancy; it is not merely adjusting this and that. It is not mere balancing, how much money we have to provide for this and how much money for that. It is not mere taxation. It is a question of taking the whole country, all its resources, physical, material, psychological, together, co-ordinating them and placing them on a plan by which every citizen in the country would feel enthusiastic and put his maximum effort in the matter of production. Unless and until we keep in mind this point of view and create the enthusiasm, it is not possible to increase the national wealth. Considered from this point of view, I am not at all satisfied and I feel disappointed.

Coming to smaller details, it is said that the industrial sector in this country has been showing a certain amount of non-cooperation and therefore to extract co-operation from them, a greater incentive has to be given to them. Quite true; they have to be given greater incentive. But, I say that money can never give the incentive to anybody because there is nothing like the last word in the matter of money. Whatever money you give, more is expected. Therefore, the only thing that you can do is to appeal to them to become more and more patriotic, more and more human and more and more social. It is only in that way that you can give an incentive to them. It is argued that unless and until we give some relief to these people who pay a higher tax, it is not possible for them to contribute to capital formation and expand our industries.

It is quite true as far as the industries go. Are there industries alone in this country? What is the income derived from the industries in this country? How many people are engaged in the industries? What kind of managerial strength we have? What kind of organisational strength have we? You will see that the industries play a very insignificant role in the production of national wealth in this country. The most significant part played in the national wealth produced in this country is by 85 per cent. of our population and they are our agriculturists. They produce about 2,500 crores or about 54 per cent. of the total wealth of the country while the industrialists produce only 21 per cent. of the total wealth. Thus we have the situation that 80 per cent. of the population of the country produce 54 per cent. of the total wealth. And what have you done to increase the facilities for greater production of agriculture, cottage industries and village industries, and for house-building, road-making, or any of them? If we ask for money for these things, we are told that there is no money. Of course money is only a means. The end is the human activity which has to be whipped up. Unless this is done it will not be possible for this country to rise.

Now, a sum of Rs. 180 crores has been provided for defence purposes or for security purposes. Are we not secure in this State? There is peace in the land and is this not to be availed of for increasing production? I feel that this is a sad aspect of the Budget which I feel bound to draw attention to and express my disappointment.

I now come to the levy of income-tax. The rich people who ought to pay higher income-tax are to be given relief according to the Budget proposals. It is stated that these people deserve this concession, while the country at large and this House have no sympathy for them. This relief will not go to the general tax-payer, the producer or the consumer and the provinces stand to lose much of their income. The provinces have nothing with which to develop local industries and they will all protest. In the fact of such protests all round I do not know how the Finance Minister can enthruse the people to support his proposals. I hope next year at least the financial proposals will be favourable to the interests I have mentioned. Then alone the wealth of the country can be increased. With these few words I express my own dissatisfaction and also my hope that in the course of the discussion of the Finance Bill something better will be done.

श्री आर० सी० उपाध्याय : इस वर्ष के आरम्भ से ही देश के ऊपर एक आर्थिक संकट रहा है। अर्थ मन्त्री ने हमें बतलाया है कि वह संकट साल के बीच में काफी बढ़ गया था, लेकिन अब देश का आर्थिक संकट कुछ कम हुआ है। हमें इस बात से बड़ा संतोष है कि इस वर्ष के बजट में सिर्फ पौने चार करोड़ का घाटा हुआ है। मुझे अच्छी तरह से याद है कि सन् १९४९ के आटम सेशन (autumn session) में जिस वक्त की पार्लियामेंट का सेशन हो रहा था, सदस्यों में काफी कानाफूसी थी कि हमारे देश के

[श्री आर० सी० उपाध्याय]

बजट में कोई बस्ती, या नब्बे करोड़ का घाटा होगा। उसको देखते हुए मैं यह कहूंगा कि हमारे अर्थ मन्त्री इस बात के लिये धन्यवाद के पात्र हैं कि जो कुछ भी पिछले साल में घाटा रहा, वह इतना ज्यादा नहीं।

अर्थ मन्त्री ने बतलाया है कि इस वर्ष देश की पैदावार बढ़ी। आपने बतलाया है कि टेक्सटाइल (textiles) और जूट इण्डस्ट्री (Jute industry) के अलावा सभी इण्डस्ट्रीज की पैदावार बढ़ी है, उसके लिये मैं आपको मुबारकबाद देना चाहता हूँ। यह भी बताया गया है कि एग्रीकल्चर प्रोड्यूस (agriculture produce) भी ज्यादा बढ़ी, मगर मुझे उस पर भरोसा नहीं क्यों कि यह सिर्फ एक कयास है। एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोड्यूस को जानने के लिये हमारे पास कोई साधन नहीं है जिससे हम ठीक से बतला सकें कि दरअसल पैदावार बढ़ी या घटी। इस लिये मैं यह दरखास्त करूंगा कि आयन्दा के लिये अगर आप देश की आर्थिक स्थिति ठीक जांचना चाहते हैं और यह जानना चाहते हैं कि हमारी प्रोड्यूस घट रही है या बढ़ रही है, हम घाटे में हैं या नफे में हैं, तो आपको ऐसा तरीका निकालना चाहिये जिससे पैदावार के आंकड़े ठीक मालूम हो सकें। आपने यह भी बतलाया है कि पिछले साल हमारे एक्सपोर्ट्स (exports) और इम्पोर्ट्स (imports) में हमें बहुत घाटा रहा, यह बड़े दुःख की बात है। चूँकि आपके पास स्टर्लिंग बैलेन्स (sterling balances) काफी हैं, इस लिये आप चिन्ता नहीं करते और इम्पोर्ट्स बढ़ाने ही रहे। मगर आपको याद रहना चाहिये कि यह जो स्टर्लिंग बैलेन्स हैं वह बहुत जल्द खत्म हो जाने वाले हैं। बल्कि आपको यह भी देखना चाहिये कि आयन्दा दूसरे अर्थ मन्त्री भी होंगे और दूसरी गवर्नमेंटें होंगी और नये जनता के प्रतिनिधि होंगे, उनकी मुसीबत के वक्त के लिये आपको कुछ बाकी छोड़ना है। आपका यह मोचना कि चूँकि आपके पास स्टर्लिंग बैलेन्स काफी हैं, और उस लिये चिन्ता की बात नहीं है, यह नीति कतई गलत है।

इस वर्ष की मनी मार्केट की हालत का जिक्र करते हुए, आपने बताया है कि मनी मार्केट बहुत टाइट (tight) रहा, तो यह बड़े दुःख की बात है। फाईनेन्स मिनिस्टर का मुख्य काम यह होता है कि सरकार को जितनी पूंजी की आवश्यकता पड़े, उतनी पूंजी फाईनेन्स मिनिस्टर दें। तो मैं देखता हूँ कि उसमें ये कामयाब नहीं उतरते हैं वह आपकी एक बड़ी नाकामयाबी है। नाकामयाबी के कारण आप कुछ भी बतलायें, लेकिन यह बात तय है कि मनी मार्केट का टाइट होने से सरकार को धक्का लगा और इस थोड़ी पूंजीको भी आपने सावधानी से खर्च नहीं किया आज—जो मन्त्रालय एग्ज्योनि ने उठाया वह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण था। यह साफ है कि उद्योगों में जो आपने धन लगाया वह अच्छी तरह सोचा नहीं। मेरे पास और जो सभी सदस्यों के पास उद्योगपतियों की तरफ से एक पत्रिका आई है, जिसमें उन्होंने बतलाया है कि गवर्नमेन्ट का प्लान और गवर्नमेन्ट को स्वीकृत कितनी खोखली थी। उन्होंने कितना रुपया देश का बर्बाद किया, उसको पढ़ते हुए और श्री फ्रैंक एग्जोनि की स्पीच को सुनते हुए मैं आपसे यह दरखास्त करूंगा कि पिछले साल हमारी क्या गलतियाँ रहीं थीं और आयन्दा साल के लिये हमें क्या करना चाहिये, उसके लिये आप प्लानिंग कमीशन (Planning Commission) की तरफ से एक कमेटी मुकर्रर करें ताकि आयन्दा हम यह जान सकें कि हम कौन क्या करना चाहिये।

और इस तरह हमारे सामने पिछले दो साल के अनुभव का देग पूरा लाभ उठा सके। यह बड़ी बस्ती की बात है, सरकार ने प्लानिंग कमीशन की नियुक्ति की जिसका परसोनल (personnel) आपने एनाउन्स (announce) किया, लेकिन मैं आपसे कहे देता हूँ कि इन प्लानिंग कमीशन के परसोनल से पहले हम लोगों को और देश को बहुत बड़ी आशा थी और हम समझ रहे थे कि इसमें हमारे देशके वार्षिक ढाँचे की प्लानिंग होगी और उसको हम धीरे धीरे तरक्की करते जायेंगे, लेकिन उसके

परसोनेल एनाउन्स होने के बाद देश में एक नाउम्मीदी की लहर दौड़ी है। हम समझते थे कि उसमें गांधीबन अर्थ शास्त्र के पण्डितों का बहुमत होगा, लेकिन आपने उसे एक खिचड़ी सी बना दिया, जैसी खिचड़ी बनाने की आपकी हमेशा आदत है। मैं आपसे पूछता हूँ कि आखिर कैसी प्लानिंग आपने करनी निश्चय की है, यह क्या कि एक आदमी कांग्रेस का ले लिया, दूसरा इसके खिलाफ स्याल का ले लिया। अगर कांग्रेस के दृष्टिकोण की प्लानिंग आपको करनी है, तो उसके लिये यह तो नहीं हो सकता कि आपने कुछ आई० सी० एस० ले लिये, कुछ दूसरे होशियार एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर ले लिये, उससे कोई लाभ नहीं हो सकता। इससे कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। आपको पहले निश्चय करना चाहिये कि आपकी गवर्नमेंट किस ध्येय पर प्लानिंग करने जा रही है, यदि गांधियन आईडौलिजी (Gandhian ideology) पर करना चाहती है, तो उसके लिये आपको वैसे ही आदमी उसमें रखने चाहियें जो गांधियन आईडौलिजी से वाकिफ़ हों और उसमें विश्वास रखते हों और उस पर अमल करते हों। अब भी आपको मौका है, एक रिक्त स्थान पर ऐसे ही व्यक्ति को रखें। हां, यदि कोई दूसरी आईडौलिजी का स्याल है तो हमें स्पष्ट बता दें।

अगले साल के लिये आपने सरप्लस बजट रखा है, और उसके लिये मैं आपको मुबारिकबाद दे सकता हूँ, लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि उसमें मुबारिकबाद की कोई बात नहीं है, यह सरप्लस रियासतों के इन्टिग्रेशन (integration) की वजह से हुआ है, उसमें आपकी कोई कारीगरी नहीं है, आपने अपनी कोई कारीगरी सरप्लस (surplus) बजट बनाने में नहीं दिखाई है। फ़ेश टैक्सेशन नहीं लगाया, लेकिन पहले से टैक्सेशन कौन से कम हैं आप क्या ज्यादा लगाते। देश पर कोई आर्थिक संकट है, यह आपके खर्च के वजट से नहीं जान पड़ता। मुझे दुःख से कहना पड़ता है कि तनिक आप अपनी मिनिस्ट्रीज़ के एक्सपेन्सेज़ (expenses) को देखिये, सेक्रेटेरियट के खर्च को देखिये, सिविल एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन के खर्च को देखिये, यह सब बढ़ा है कहीं से घटा नहीं है। सिविल शासन के खर्चों को दस करोड़ से ज्यादा बढ़ाया है। आप विदेशी मामलों के महकमे के खर्चों को देखिये। मुझे तो दुःख होता है कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट को तो एक सनक है कि कोई देश ऐसा बाकी न रह जाय जहां हमारा दूतावास न हो, इसी से दुनिया में हमारा नाम बढ़ेगा, यह तो उस आदमी की हालत है कि जो घर में भूखा मरे मगर दुनिया को दिखाने को खर्चा करे जिससे लोग यह न समझें कि वह भूखा है बल्कि मालदार समझें। आप बाहर की जनता को बतलाना चाहते हैं कि हम गरीब नहीं हैं, हम मालदार हैं जिसका नतीजा यह है कि हम दिन पर दिन गरीबी की ओर बढ़ते चले जा रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस चीज़ को बन्द करिये अपना दृष्टिकोण बदलिये। आप यह कहेंगे कि देशके लिये यह आवश्यक है परन्तु यह कोई मानने वाला नहीं है।

रहा सवाल कैपिटल (capital) बजट का। मुझे बहुत खुशी हुई कि अब आपको देश की असली हालत का भान हो गया, अब आपने समझ लिया कि देश आपको कितनी कैपिटल देने जा रहा है और उसी के मुताबिक आपने बजट बनाया है। आपने पिछले साल जो ८५ करोड़ लॉन्स (loans) के लिये रखा था उसमें आधे से भी कम मिला। इस साल आपने ७५ करोड़ रखा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर यही नीति चलती रही तो आप इस वर्ष भी इसमें कामयाब नहीं होंगे। आप देखते हैं कैपिटलिस्ट्स (capitalists) की तरफ़। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप यह अच्छी तरह समझ लें कि देश के अन्दर कुछ मालदार ही नहीं बल्कि ३० करोड़ जनता रहती है और उसमें ५ आदमी की एक फैमिली मान ली जाय तो देश में ६ करोड़ फैमिलीज़ होती हैं। तो आप ऐसी स्कीमें बनाइये कि जिससे सारी जनता आपको लॉन्स में मदद दे वरना कैपिटलिस्ट्स और इण्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स (industrialists) की

[श्री आर० सी० उपाध्याय]

तरफ ही देखते रहें तो काम नहीं चलेगा। आपने टैक्सेशन में रिडक्शन (reduction) किया है तो अच्छा है, आप मालदारों को राहत पहुंचायें। हमको इसमें कोई गुरेज नहीं है। लेकिन आप यह देखिये कि अगर इस पर भी आप जो चाहते हैं नहीं करा पाये तो अगले साल आप क्या करेंगे। अगले साल आपके पास कोई जवाब देने के लिये नहीं होगा। और आप पछतायेंगे। तो मैं कहना यह चाहता हूँ कि लोन्स के लिये और स्माल सेविंगज (small savings) के लिये ऐसे तरीके बनाने चाहियें, ऐसे तरीके सोचने चाहियें जिनसे सारी जनता में आप सेविंगज ले सकें, लोन्स ले सकें। समाल सेविंगज के मामले में, मुझे बड़ा अफसोस है कि स्टेट्स यूनियन्स (States Unions) को कायम हुए इतना समय हो गया लेकिन वहाँ सेविंगज का कोई महकमा नहीं कायम हुआ है। आपने सिर्फ तीन स्टेट्स में एजेन्सी सिस्टम कायम किया है। यह साफ है कि सेविंग बढ़ाने के लिये एजेन्सी का ही अच्छा तरीका है। लेकिन इस एजेन्सी के कायम करने में भी आपको काफी समय लगा और वह काम भी सिर्फ तीन स्टेट्स में ही किया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर इसी तरीके से काम चला तो २८ करोड़ की सेविंगज का जो ख्याल है वह भी पूरा नहीं होगा। मेरी समझ में साल में एक हफ्ता इस काम के लिये रखना चाहिये और उसमें तमाम सरकारी कर्मचारी और हर एक पार्टी के जनमेवक सहयोग दें। उनकी यह जिम्मेदारी होनी चाहिये कि उस सप्ताह में जितनी भी सेविंगज सम्भव हों हर एक के घर घर और गांव गांव में जाकर इकट्ठा करें। आप और हम, इस काम को करें। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इस तरीके से इण्डिस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स से जितना रुपया मिल सकता है उससे ज्यादा आपको मिल सकेगा।

मुझे इन्टरनेशनल बैंक के बारे में भी कुछ कहना है। आपने ३४ मिलियन डालर (34 million dollars) का कर्ज लोकोमोटिवज (locomotives) के लिये लिया है। अगर आप पैसा लेते हैं तो ऐसे कामों के लिये लीजिये जैसे कैपिटल मैशीनरी आदि के लिये जो साधारण तौर से आपको नहीं मिलती है। केवल इसी तरह की चीजों के लिये आप इंटरनेशनल मानीटरी फण्ड (International Monetary Fund) में रुपया लें। लेकिन लोकोमोटिवज के लिये ३४ करोड़ का कर्जा लेना मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। १० मिलियन डालर का कर्जा आपने एथीकल चरल मैशीनरी के लिये लिया है इस तरह से ४४ मिलियन डालर का कर्जा इस साल लिया है उसमें एक पैसा भी इण्डिस्ट्रियलाइजेशन के लिये नहीं लिया है। फिर उसकी अदायगी की शर्तें और ब्याज की दर को देखने हुए हमें काफी सतर्क रहना चाहिये और उस कर्ज का काम से कम उपयोग करना चाहिये। जबकि आपको कहीं और जगह बहु चीज नहीं मिले और आपकी इण्डस्ट्री नुकसान उठावे तो कैपिटल मैशीनरी के लिये ही इस तरह के लोन का इस्तेमाल करें।

मे एक मिनट और लूंगा। टैक्स में जो आपने रिडक्शन किया है उसमें यह बात तजर आती है कि आपने १० और १५ हजार रुपये सालाना आय वालों को आपने मिडिल क्लास (middle class) बनलाया है। अगर देश की मिडिल क्लास का आपका यह क्राइटीरियन (criterion) है तो आपका सारा आर्थिक ढांचा ही गलत है। देश में १० और १५ हजार रुपये वाले मिडिल क्लास के लोग नहीं हैं बल्कि वे ऊंचे दर्जे के लोग हैं। मिडिल क्लासेज के नाम पर आप कैपिटलिस्ट्स को फायदा पहुंचाते हैं। आपने जो रिडक्शन प्रपोज़ किये हैं उनसे साधारण नागरिक पर कोई असर नहीं पड़ने वाला है और न उन्हें कोई लाभ ही होने वाला है। टैलियाम या टैलीफोन या शहर की डाक की जो रेट कम कर दी है उससे साधारण नागरिक को कोई फायदा नहीं होने वाला है। तो मैं आपसे यही कहूंगा कि जो कुछ भी रिडक्शन आपने किये हैं वह, जैसा कि औरों ने कहा है मैं भी कहूंगा कि आपने उनमें साधारण नागरिक के लिये कुछ भी नहीं किया है।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri R. C. Upadhyaya (Rajasthan): The country has been faced with a financial crisis since the very commencement of the current year. The hon. Finance Minister has told us that the crisis had become fairly acute during the middle of the last year and we were gratified, after his speech, to find that the crisis had abated to a certain extent. The very first thing he has disclosed is that the deficit in the current year's budget amounts to only three crores and seventy-five lakhs. I fully remember that while the 1949 autumn session of the Parliament was in progress there was a lot of whispering going on that a deficit of seventy, eighty or perhaps ninety crores in the budget of our country was anticipated. In view of this I would say that the hon. Finance Minister deserves our gratitude that whatever deficit has been caused during the previous year is not much.

The hon. Finance Minister has stated that there has been an increase in production this year. He has told us that barring the textile and jute industries all others have registered an increase in production. For that too I wish to offer him my congratulations. It has further been stated that there has also been an increase in agricultural production but I would not rely on that information as it is based on guess-work. We have no system whereby we could precisely ascertain whether agricultural production has increased or decreased. Hence, I would suggest that in future if you want to make a correct estimate of the economic position of the country and to know whether our production is rising or falling, whether we are going at a profit or a loss, then you must evolve some method whereby you might be able to ascertain correct figures of production. The hon. Minister has further remarked that our exports and imports during the previous year reveal a very unfavourable trade balance. This is extremely deplorable. Since you happen to possess considerable sterling balances you are not worrying over this and have been increasing your imports. You must remember, however, that these sterling balances are likely to be exhausted very soon. You must also consider the fact that other finance ministers will come in future, there will be other governments and new representatives of the people and that you have to leave something to help them tide over a possible difficult period. Your argument that since you have sufficient sterling balances there is no cause for anxiety belies an entirely wrong policy.

Referring to the condition of the money market this year the hon. Finance Minister remarked that it remained fairly tight. Now, this is very much to be regretted. It is the main duty of a Finance Minister to provide the Government with whatever funds it needs and I find that the hon. Finance Minister has not been successful in that behalf. In fact, this is an outstanding failure on his part. You might adduce any reasons to explain the causes of this failure but it is an established fact that the Government suffered a set-back by reason of the money market being tight. Even these limited funds you have not expanded judiciously. The question which Shri Anthony raised to-day was of great importance. It is clear that the investment in industries was not made after due deliberation. I, as well as other Members, have received a pamphlet issued by industrialists wherein they have shown how hollow were the Government's plans and what considerable funds of the country they wasted. Having read that and also having heard the speech made by Shri Frank Anthony I would request that, with a view to ascertain the errors we committed during the previous year as also the course of action we should adopt during the coming year, you should appoint a committee under the direction of the Planning Commission so that we might be in a position to know how best to utilize our funds and the country might derive full benefit of our experience of the last two years.

[Shri R. C. Upadhyaya]

It is a matter of immense gratification that the Government have appointed the Planning Commission the personnel whereof has been announced. But, let me tell you that we people and the country had great hopes in regard to the personnel of this Planning Commission. We thought it was going to outline a plan of the future economic set-up of our country which was to be developed gradually. The announcement of its personnel has, however, caused a feeling of disgust all over the country. We anticipated that it was going to have a majority of the protagonists of the Gandhian economic philosophy while, in conformity with your usual tendency, you have made it just a hotchpotch affair. I ask you what kind of planning is it that you have decided to embark upon? How is it that whereas you take one man belonging to the Congress you take another professing a contrary viewpoint. If you are going to set about this planning from the Congress point of view it is untenable that you should take in some I.C.S. people and some other clever administrators. This is not going to serve any useful purpose. This shall not serve any useful purpose. You must decide beforehand what is the ideal on which your Government is going to broadbase this planning. If it is to be based on the Gandhian ideology you must have on it only such persons as are conversant with that ideology, have faith in it and also abide by it in practice. You still have an opportunity and you should appoint such a person to the place that is still unfilled. If, however, you are inspired by a different ideology you had better say so frankly.

Your budget for the next year discloses a surplus on which I might compliment you but I feel that there is nothing therein to merit a compliment. This surplus results from the integration of the States and does not give evidence of any achievement on your part. You have not revealed any rare gift on your part in bringing forth a surplus budget. Of course, no fresh taxation has been proposed, but, then, is it not fairly heavy already? What more could you have added to it? That the country is in the grip of an economic crisis, the expenditure side of your budget does not reflect! I am grieved to draw your attention for a while to the expenditure being incurred by your Ministries, the expenditure incurred over the Secretariat, the expenditure involved in the civil administration. All that has increased and there has been no reduction on any count. The expenses on civil administration have increased by over ten crores. Also look at the expenditure incurred by the External Affairs Department. It distresses me to observe that our Government suffers from an obsession that there should be no country left unprovided with an Indian embassy, and that this alone could raise our prestige in the eyes of the world. This resembles the case of the man who is starving at home but spends simply to represent to the world that he is not destitute but well off. You want to give it out to the outer world that you are not poor but wealthy with the result that day by day we are receding towards indigence. I think you should stop that and change your mental outlook. You will say this is essential in the country's interest but nobody is going to concede that.

As for the capital budget, I am greatly pleased to learn that you have at last come to form an idea of the country's real condition. You know now how much capital the country is going to advance to you, and you have formulated your budget accordingly. Out of the amount of 85 crores provided by you on account of loan last year less than one-half was subscribed. This year you have provided for 75 crores. I feel that if you persist in your present policy you will not succeed in attaining your objective even this year. You are looking towards the capitalists. I want you to realize fully the fact that the country is not inhabited by just a few capitalists but by 30 crores of people and if you were to assume five to be the average number of members in a family the total

number of families living in the country comes to six crores. Hence, you should so formulate your plans that the entire people contribute towards your loans. You will not achieve your purpose if you simply keep looking towards the capitalists and the industrialists. You have made a reduction in taxation. Well and good. You may afford relief to the wealthy; we shall not grudge it. But you must consider, if despite all that you fail to move them to act in the way you desire, what is going to be your course of action next year. You will not have any explanation to offer next year and then you will regret it. Hence, I wish to suggest that with a view to secure loans and to encourage small savings you should think out and devise such means whereby you may be able to persuade the entire people to effect small savings and to secure loans from them. In the matter of small savings, I am very sorry to observe that although it is long since the States Unions were established no savings departments have been set up there. You have introduced the agency system in three States only. It is clear that the agency system is the best way to attract savings. But it took you so long to establish that agency and that too in just three States. I feel that if work goes on in that fashion even the target of savings amounting to 28 crores is not likely to be realized. In my opinion, one week should be set apart in the year for that work, when all Government officials as well as public workers belonging to all parties should be invited to lend their co-operation. It should be their responsibility during that week to visit every village and every home and collect as much savings as possible. Let us all undertake that job. I am of the view that in this way you will be able to secure greater amount than you could get through the industrialists.

I have also to say something with respect to the International Bank. You have taken a loan of \$4 million dollars for locomotives. If you have to take a loan you should do so for such objects as the purchase of capital machinery etc. which you cannot obtain in the ordinary course. Only for things like that should you draw money from the International Monetary Fund. I am, however, unable to appreciate the raising of the loan of \$4 million dollars for locomotives. A loan of ten million dollars has been taken by you for agricultural machinery and in this way the total loan taken this year comes to 44 million dollars. Out of this amount not a penny is meant for industrialization. Also, in view of the conditions of its repayment and the rate of interest, we must be cautious and make the most sparing use of that loan. A loan of that kind should be availed of only for the acquisition of such capital machinery as is not available elsewhere and the absence whereof is likely to affect industry adversely.

I will take just a minute more. In effecting reduction in the taxes you seem to have designated the income-groups ranging from 10 to 15 thousand rupees per annum as the middle class. If this is your criterion for the determination of the middle class in the country then your entire conception of its economic set-up is erroneous. The ten to fifteen thousand income-groups do not form the middle class in this country. On the other hand they stand much higher. You are affording relief to capitalists in the name of the middle classes. The reduction proposed by you is not at all going to affect the common citizen who is not going to gain anything thereby. Nor is he likely in anyway to be benefited by the reduction in the rates of telegrams, telephones or the local post. Hence, I must say, as others have said already, that by whatever reductions you have made you have done nothing for the common citizen.

Shri S. C. Samanta (West Bengal): The chief necessities of life are food and cloth. Our hon. Finance Minister in his speech has referred to these things. He has stressed about the production of industrial goods and production of food. He is very hopeful about industrial production and he thinks food production

[Shri S. C. Samanta]

is also encouraging and from figures, he has proved it. I am very much satisfied with the speech because Mahatma Gandhiji in his prayer speech on October 10, 1947, said that there should be no control and the people should produce, but our National Government could not follow the instructions given by our honoured leader. So we have been put to difficulties. Now the time has come when the Government has realised the situation and Government thinks that there should be no more import of food, at least after 1951. In this connection I may say that the Government may feel that production is encouraging but the path which they are following is costing very much. At the cost of agriculturists, they are having production, but they are not being helped as much as they deserve. They ought to have the necessities of life which are very hard to get and as a result they are becoming Communists. I am speaking from my experience of the place from which I hail. There are Communist pockets and those Communists are turning those agriculturist into Communists. So, these poor agriculturists are being forced to be Communists. In this regard I should respectfully submit that Government should do one thing for these agriculturists at least at this moment. As there is an Industrial Finance Corporation for industrialists, in the same way agricultural relief corporations should at once be established to help these agriculturists so that they can be snatched away from the clutches of the Communists and then they will be the real producers of the country.

There are acres and acres of fallow land, cultivable land which can be utilised for the production of more food, and this could have
4 P. M. been done if only the refugees had been given, say ten to twenty acres of land each and the requisite money; the food production could also have been enhanced very much.

And now let me come to defence matters. Referring to this subject, the hon. Finance Minister observed:

"If, however, contrary to our expectations, events so develop that the peace and security of this country are endangered, Government will have no hesitation in raising whatever finance may be required for meeting the situation."

Though we have allotted about half the revenue for defence expenses, yet our hon. Finance Minister apprehends that he might have to spend more. In this connection, I may add that that emergency is coming and is at hand. You all know what the papers like *The Azan* and others are preaching in Pakistan. On 8th of February last one Pakistan paper published the following:

"Pakistanis, be prepared to occupy the rest of Bengal at the beginning of March when there will be war."

Another paper in its editorial entitled "Hindu Kahani" writes as follows:

"The real enemies of Pakistan are Hindus. Hindus are not reliable. Pakistani Muslims, always keep watch over every Hindu house."

This was published on 8th February last. And probably the hon. Finance Minister and also the hon. Prime Minister had gone through these papers and they apprehended that some such things may come. The attitude of Pakistan is evident from this that when these papers are carrying on propaganda in this manner—in a manner detrimental to the interests of both Pakistan and India.—the Government of Pakistan has not contradicted these utterances. On the other hand, you know, Sir, when the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister gave us an account of the actual happenings in Calcutta and gave the number of Muslims killed there as twenty, the Pakistan broadcast gave out that ten thousand Muslims had been killed in Calcutta. And this comes from a Government which is under agreement with India that all possible steps should be taken for the protection of the minorities in their respective places.

Therefore, at this juncture, in order to defend ourselves, in order to save India, we will have to spend more if the time comes, if such a situation arises, and I thank the hon. Finance Minister and the Prime Minister for their foresight and for informing the House that we may require more money for this purpose.

Then, I come to rehabilitation. This year the Government have allotted more than six crores of rupees for the rehabilitation and relief of refugees. I think the Government should be prepared to spend more, because we are always hearing and also seeing from the papers, the way in which minorities in Pakistan are being treated. From Sind, from the North West Frontier Province and from other places people are coming in numbers. From Eastern Pakistan they are trying to come, but they are not allowed to come. Still, more than 55,000 people have come over to West Bengal. On the way, we have read, those men have been tortured, they have been looted, the honour of women insulted and what not. That is the situation. So we must be prepared to welcome those friends of ours. We all in good faith thought that in Pakistan as minorities their rights would be preserved, their rights looked after. But they are not being so looked after. So we must be prepared to welcome them, if they come. We are not encouraging them to come. But every man's tolerance has a limit beyond which he cannot go. When the man finds that he cannot tolerate any more, when it passes this limit, then he leaves his hearth and home. Leaving one's hearth and home is not a play. One does it only when forced to do so. These people are forced to leave, and so they come. But as I said, they are not allowed to come either. They are detained on the pretext that "they are Pakistant nationals. Why should they go to any other country? Is it to save themselves?" "We will save them" it is said, and we know the sample of how this "saving of minorities" is being done. Those whom we have left in East Pakistan, you will remember, from 1905 to 1947 they were at one with us, they were with us for the achieving of independence. They sacrificed most, even more than we have, because they sacrificed themselves, even their Indian nationality in order to make us independent. And on the occasion of the first Republican Budget, let me remind you of those friends who have sacrifice their all for us.

Shri Lakshmanan (Travancore-Cochin): I rise to support the Budget presented by the hon. the Finance Minister not in a wholehearted fashion but with mixed feelings. As the first financial statement of Republican India, this Budget has got a very special significance. Indian finance is passing through a new phase. It was with much satisfaction that we heard the hon. the Finance Minister saying that he had been able to take the measure of this problem and that he was confident that Government will be in a position to meet and solve it. I would wish he were in a position to do so, but I am not so optimistic as he is in the matter. On a careful analysis of the financial statement before us, one would find that in the final event, giving all allowances for the nation-building schemes which are provided for here and there, the Budget is essentially a veiled attempt to prop up the tottering edifice of the order that is passing. It is indeed correct to say that the main economic evil of the day is inflation. I agree with the hon. the Finance Minister when he stresses that the only method of combating inflation is by stepping up production. It is highly gratifying to know that he has bestowed the highest attention to the question of production, but the real factor that ultimately bears upon this question of production, as he himself has told us, is the position of the investment market. This again in its turn depends greatly on the psychology of the potential investors who no more come from the higher strata of society. The general reasoning which he has adopted so far is, to my mind, flawless, but the real question is what measure has this Budget adopted in the matter of inspiring confidence and creating that mental condition which is so essential

[Shri Lakshmanan]

to encourage and foster investment? The tax remissions may be pointed out as the condition that will foster this mental outlook. On a careful analysis of these proposals, I am afraid, one would not agree that the benefit of the proposals would really go to the middle class public who really constitute the potential investing class today. That is the very reason why I say that the hon. the Finance Minister has not based his policy on sound lines. The surplus of 9.62 crores which he had been able to make as a result of the vigorous economy drive has been reduced to 1.31 crores as a result if the concessions given in the Budget to various interests. In fact, if the entire Federal revenues are taken into consideration, the loss that has been sustained as a result of these concessions, is much more. The abolition of the Business Profits Tax costs the exchequer Rs. eight crores. The reduction of the company rate of income-tax costs 10.56 crores, and the reduction of the maximum rate of income-tax costs 6.5 crores. Taking all and sundry, the figure will come to 30.16 crores. The returns in view of these concessions are estimated at 11.2 crores in the shape of increased returns in super-tax and other items of income-tax. Whether these expectations are going to materialise is to be seen. It has been said that these concessions are given to improve the position of the investment market. What guarantee is there that the surplus money, if at all there is a surplus, will flow into the channel of useful investment? So long as conditions here and abroad are as shaky as they are today, it is only natural that this stagnation in the investment market will continue. In my humble judgment, the surplus of 9.65 crores which we had been able to put by should have been retained and instead of frittering it away in the shape of concessions, it should have been conserved, and that together with the 30.16 crores which have been lost to the exchequer as a result of concessions would have come up to nearly 40 crores. This amount could have been better spent on nation-building activities, activities which would have produced tangible and direct results in the matter of increased production.

Another matter which I would like to refer to is the Planning Commission. No doubt, a Planning Commission is a very essential thing if we are to advance the material prosperity of our country in a scientific and orderly way, but much depends upon the terms of reference that we give to the Planning Commission. Unless the scope of the Commission is wide enough to embrace questions of socio-economic nature as well and for that matter all questions that directly and indirectly touch upon the material well-being of our people, no useful purpose is going to be served by the Commission.

In passing I may be permitted to refer briefly to the one burning question of the day, that is, corruption. Even if we do the best things for our people, the corrupt officers would prevent the benefit from reaching the people. Therefore it is highly necessary that provision must be made for an Anti-Corruption Board in this country. I would say that unless and until drastic steps are taken to root out this virus from the administrative services of the country which is eating into the very vitals of our polity, no good or benefit, whatever the measures that we adopt, will reach the common man.

With these words, I support in a qualified manner the financial statement that has been placed before the House by the Finance Minister.

Shri Sivan Pillay (Travancore-Cochin). The main thing that the hon. the Finance Minister said in developing his thesis is that production has to be stepped up in order to combat inflation. He says in his speech that the crux of the problem in our country is increased production, and he goes on to say that he does not believe that the monetary factor in inflation is nearly as important in this country as it is in any other. In another part of his speech

also he very emphatically says that the crux of the problem is production, more production and still more production, and then when referring to the export policy of the country, in order to conserve our sterling balances, he says that whichever way you look at the economic difficulties of this country, over and over again and at every turn, you come up against the problem of increased production.

As regards production, there are two kinds of production; one is agricultural production and the other is industrial production.

Analysing the industrial production also ultimately it comes to the production of the raw materials that supply the industries. Therefore in the ultimate analysis production means only production by the *kisans* who are distributed in the villages.

The Finance Minister talked very encouragingly about the food production of this country. He said that in 1948 it was 41 million tons, in 1949 43 million tons and in 1950 he expected 2.8 millions more. As Mr. Rama Rao pointed out, I also went through the monthly abstract of statistics supplied to us. Putting together the production figures for rice, wheat, cereals and gram I find that in 1949 the production of these four items amounted to 42 and odd million tons, in 1949 it amounted to only 39 and odd million tons. If you take groundnut and *gur* also into account in 1948 the production altogether was 52 million tons and in 1949 it was 47 million tons. Therefore in this background I do not know how far the expectation of the hon. Minister for 1950 is going to be fulfilled, unless the Budget looks upon this problem from a particular angle. I would have been very glad if the benefits so laboriously made out in the Budget had been turned to the agricultural producer.

As hon. Members who spoke before me said, it may be pointed out that this question is a matter for the States. But what about the Centre helping the States? At least as regards Travancore-Cochin, which is a maritime state we had many taxes to our credit before integration but now the States have lost much of their revenue. Therefore for development purposes they are looking towards the Centre for help. As Mr. Goenka pointed out in the budget estimate for 1949-50 the grants for States for development purposes was the huge sum of Rs. 26.81 crores but it has dwindled down to 9.59 crores. Out of this grant in the budget estimate for 1949-50 there were special provisions made for adult education, teachers' training, etc.; whereas in this budget we see a meagre sum of Rs. 25 lakhs for adult education and the rest generally as grant for the States. Therefore this Budget should have used the surplus in this direction rather than in giving relief to the investors as they are called.

My submission is that apart from encouraging the produce of the *kisans* small scale and cottage industries have a special role to play in the present emergency and they should be fully developed with a view to mitigate the essential shortages. In this direction the States could be encouraged only with grants from the Centre.

On the other hand, in the new proposal there has been a subtle reduction of whatever the States could have got. The income-tax has been reduced in certain cases from five to four annas. An increase has been made in the Corporation tax from two to two and a half annas. This takes away the amount of tax which would otherwise go to the divisible pool for division among the States. So from the point of view of the States this Budget really makes them lose more than gain.

[Shri Sivan Pillay]

In October 1948 an elaborate enquiry was made and opinions of various interests and persons were invited to arrive at some decision to combat inflation. The economists, the Congress Legislature Party sub-committee and other bodies also impressed upon the Government the necessity to give due importance to the food drive and also to cottage industries. But it is strange that in this budget only the business investors have been taken up as the favoured class. The Budget proposals have been made really with a view to break what the Socialists call the 'strike of capital'. The Finance Minister is really optimistic. He does not agree with the proposition that capital for tactical reasons is deliberately declining to utilise avenues of safe and gainful employment. The newspaper report that we read about stock market reactions has not been as favourable as is warranted by this tax relief proposal. May be the investors are shy and the feeling is more psychological that a condition of peace and security has not come to the people. Whatever the reason in spite of what in some quarters is characterised as bribe to the big business, I am not so optimistic as the hon. Finance Minister that he is going to get any return from the nine crores that he has given as tax relief to that part of the community.

In the present position of the country I can appreciate the circumstances and the handicaps under which the Budget has been framed. Fifty per cent. of our revenues have to be earmarked for defence purposes, because the country is not in a really secure position. There is the Kashmir problem, the Pakistan problem and the internal Communist problem also. Therefore his endeavour has been to keep the country going with a sound and stable economic position. In appreciating that position I can say that he has at least tried to keep the country going in a steady manner till better times will come when real benefit to the people can be given.

کیانی جی - ایس - مسافر: جناب ذیلتی اسپیکر صاحب - بڑی خوشی کی بات ہے کہ ریپبلک (Republic) بھارت کا یہ پہلا بجٹ کا بجٹ (Budget) ہے - اس کے متعلق جو وائٹ پیپر ہماری گورنمنٹ نے شائع کیا ہے اس میں پچھلی جنگ سے آج تک کی اقتصادی حالت کی اچھی طرح سے وضاحت کی گئی ہے اور جس تھلگ سے ہماری حکومت نے انٹی بھاری اقتصادی مشکلات کو قابو میں لایا ہے نہایت قابل تعریف ہے - خاص کر پچھلے سال ڈیویلوپمنٹس (devaluation) اور انڈیوریل پبلکس آف ٹریڈ (unfavourable balance of trade) - جو مشکلات پیدا ہوئی تھیں انکو بڑی خوبی سے حل کیا گیا ہے - ڈیویلوپمنٹس کے نتیجے کے طور پر ہمیں ڈالر ایریا (Dollar area) سے تجارت کم کرنی پڑی ہے اور اس کا ایک فائدہ بھی ہوا کہ جو اسٹرنلنگ (Sterling) یونٹی ہماری برطانیہ میں پڑی تھی اب ہم اس کا زیادہ صحیح استعمال کر رہے ہیں - اس سارے انتظام کے لئے آپریشن فائنلنس منسٹر (hon. the Minister of Finance) بیشک مبارکباد کے مستحق ہیں -

مہرے بزرگ پلڈت تھاکرداس جی نے صحیح جب اس بجٹ پر جنرل تسکشن کا آغاز کیا تو انہوں نے یہ صحیح کہا تھا کہ ہمارے فائنلنس منسٹر ایک اچھے ڈاکٹر ہیں میں ان سے متعلق ہوں کہ واقعی وہ ایک

اچھے ڈاکٹر ہیں انہوں نے جو نسخہ تجویز کیا ہے وہ بہت اچھا ہے مرض کی پہچان بھی تھیک کی ہے - مگر ایک بات میں میرا مت بھید ہے نسخہ تو اچھا ہے اور بڑی مصلحت سے تیار بھی کیا گیا ہے مگر وہ دوا جو تیار کی گئی ہے وہ بجائے مریض کو دینے کے تندرست کر بلا دی گئی ہے یعنی مضبوط کو اور مضبوط بنا دیا گیا ہے اور جو کمزور تھے اُنکے اس سے اور کمزور ہو جانے کا اندیشہ ہے -

پچھلے سال کے بجٹ میں خسارہ کا اندازہ تھا اس خسارہ کو جہاں موٹر کاروں (Motor cars) سگریٹ (cigarettes) اور لکڑی (luxury) کے باقی سامانوں پر ٹیکس لگا کر پورا کیا گیا وہاں کھانے پینے کی چیزوں کو بھی ٹیکس اور دوسری چھوٹی چھوٹی غریبوں کے کام آنے والی چیزوں جیسے دیا سلٹنی پر بھی ٹیکس لگایا گیا تھا - اسوقت بجٹ کا بجٹ پیش کرنا اس بات کی دلیل ہے کہ جتنا نے سرکار کے ساتھ کوآپریشن (co-operation) کر کے دکھایا ہے جسکی وجہ سے ہمارے فائلڈس منسٹر صاحب 9 کروڑ ۶۲ لاکھ کی بجٹ کا بجٹ پیش کر رہے ہیں اگر اس بجٹ کی نسبت ہمارے فائلڈس منسٹر صاحب سوچنے کے لیے کسی ایسے تھڈگ سے یوٹیلٹیز (utilize) کیا جائے کہ جس سے ملک میں جو پرابلمس (problems) ہیں وہ حل ہو جائیں تو بہت اچھا ہونا انہوں نے اس روپیہ کو زیادہ تر غریبوں پر ٹیکس (tax) لگا کر وصول کیا ہے - اور اے ایک اچھے تھڈگ سے سرمایہ داروں میں بانٹ دیا ہے - یعنی اب جو ٹیکس چھوڑے گئے ہیں وہ ڈائریکٹ ارننگ (direct earning) کے ٹیکس ہیں اور ان ہی کو کم کیا گیا ہے یہ ایک سیدھی سادھی سمجھ کی بات ہے کہ ڈائریکٹ ٹیکس اس پر لگ سکتا ہے جس کے پاس روپیہ ہے سرمایہ ہے مالک ہے لیکن انڈائریکٹ ٹیکس (indirect tax) زیادہ تر ان لوگوں سے واسطہ رکھتے ہیں اور اس کا اثر ان لوگوں پر ہوتا ہے جنہوں نے اپنی دن بھر کی کمائی شام تک ختم کرنی ہوتی ہے مثال کے طور پر پہلا ٹیکس جو کم دیا گیا ہے وہ بزنس پرافٹ کا ٹیکس (Business profit tax) ہے اور دوسرا سپر ٹیکس (super tax) ہے - اس سلسلے میں یہ واضح کیا گیا ہے کہ اگر ہم ان لوگوں پر ٹیکس کم کر دینگے تو سرمایہ دار اپنا روپیہ زیادہ زور سے لگائینگے اس سے پروڈکشن (production) زیادہ ہوگا مگر مہرا خیال ہے کہ سرمایہ دار اس رعایت سے ماننے والے نہیں ہیں میں یہ نہیں کہتا کہ سرمایہ دار پیسہ والے کارخانہ دار سب برے ہوتے ہیں یہ مہرا مطلب نہیں ہے ہر ایک جگہ اچھے بھی ہوتے ہیں اور برے بھی لیکن جو سرمایہ دارانہ ذہنیت ہے اس سے ہم لوگ اچھی طرح واقف ہیں ہم جانتے ہیں کہ اس قسم کے سرمایہ دار لوگوں نے ملک کی کتنی خدمت کی ہے اور

[گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر]

اب وہ کیا خدمت کرنا چاہتے ہیں اپنے ملک کی - ہمارے فائڈس منسٹر صاحب ان پر سے ٹیکس گھٹانے کی کوئی بھی ترکیب کریں لیکن جو عام سرمایہ دارانہ ذہنیت ہے اس کو بدلنا بہت مشکل ہے اگر ان کو کمپنیز (companies) سے زیادہ فائدہ ہو گا تو وہ شیر ہولڈرز (share-holders) میں تقسیم ہو جائیگا یہ نہیں ہوگا کہ اس کو اچھے ملکی بھلائی کے کام میں لگائیں -

تیسری مدد ہے انکم ٹیکس (Income-tax) کی انکم ٹیکس کے بارے میں جو وائٹ پیپر (white paper) میں تصدیق کا ٹیبل (table) دیا گیا ہے اس سے بالکل اسپیشٹ ہے کہ جتنی جسکی آمدنی زیادہ ہے اتنی ہی اسکو ٹیکس میں زیادہ رعایت دی گئی ہے مثلاً بارہ ہزار کی آرڈر آمدنی پر پہلے پانچ پوائنٹ چھ (5.6) فیصدی ٹیکس تھا اب بھی یہی رہیگا - اس کے مقابلہ میں پندرہ ہزار روپیہ سالانہ آرڈر انکم پر پہلے جہاں سات پوائنٹ سات (7.7) فیصدی ٹیکس تھا اب سات پوائنٹ پانچ 7.3 فیصدی ٹیکس ہوگا یعنی جوں جوں آمدنی کسو کی زیادہ ہوگی اتنی ہی ٹیکس میں تخفیف ہوتی جائیگی - ان آرڈر انکم (Unearned income) پر جہاز پہلے 12.000 سالانہ پر 9.6 فیصدی انکم ٹیکس تھا اب 9 فیصدی رہ گیا ہے - مگر 15.000 سالانہ والے پر 12 سے 11 فیصدی رہ گیا ہے جو حال میں زیادہ فائدہ اس تخفیف سے زیادہ آمدنی والوں کو ہوا ہے عام جفتا کو اس تخفیف سے کوئی فائدہ نہیں ہے اس لئے یہ عام جفتا کا بچت نہیں کھلایا جا سکتا - اور جب یہ بات جفتا میں جائیگی تو یہ ضرور محسوس کیا جائیگا کہ ضرور اس میں ایسا خیال کیا جانا جس سے عوام کو فائدہ پہنچتا - اور عوام اپنی سرکار سے ایسی ہی آشا رکھتی ہیں کہ جو کچھ سرکار کر رہی ہے وہ عوام کی بھلائی کے لئے کر رہی ہے -

پچھلے سال پوسٹل ریٹ (postal rates) اس شکل میں پیش کئے گئے تھے کہ تمام ڈاک ہوائی جہاز سے جائیگی اس میں بھی ان لوگوں کا فائدہ تھا جو ہوائی جہاز سے ڈاک بھیج سکتے تھے - اور اب جو شہر سے اسی شہر میں بھیجنے کے لئے پوسٹ کرتے نو پائی سے چھ پائی کر دیا گیا ہے اور لفافہ کی جو قیمت کم کی گئی ہے اس کا بھی فائدہ دیہات والوں کو نہیں ہوگا میں شہر والوں کا مخالف نہیں ہوں میں شہر اور دیہات میں کوئی تمیز نہیں پیدا کرنا چاہتا میرا مطلب یہ ہے کہ اس سے دیہات والوں کو اور بھی کم فائدہ ہوگا کیونکہ اپنے گلوں سے اپنے گلوں میں کوئی لفافہ یا کڑے نہیں بھیجتا اس طرح تاروں کا سلسلہ - ٹیلیفونوں (telephones) کا سلسلہ ہے - یہ سب جو رعایتیں ہیں ان سے

وہ صرف وہی لوگ فائدہ اٹھا سکتے ہیں جو کہ شہروں میں رہتے ہیں۔ عوام کو اور دیہات کو اس سے بہت کم فائدہ پہنچ سکتا ہے۔

اس وقت تک۔ صاحب صدر : میں نے انہیں باتوں کا ذکر کیا ہے کہ جن کا ذکر وائٹ پیپر میں کیا گیا ہے۔ مگر اس کے علاوہ بہت سے اور نہیں باقی ہیں جن کی طرف دھیان نہیں دیا گیا اور میں ہاؤس کی وجہ ان کی طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں۔ یہ میری بدقسمتی ہے کہ جن باتوں کا ذکر میں اب کرنا چاہتا ہوں ان کے ساتھ سمینڈر رکھنے والے منسٹر صاحبان اس وقت ہاؤس میں بیٹھے ہوئے نہیں ہیں اور انہیں گھنٹی بجنے سے میں سمجھ گیا ہوں کہ اب زیادہ وقت مجھے بولنے کے لئے نہیں ہے۔

مگر دو باتیں میں صاحب صدر کی اجازت سے دو چار منٹ میں ضرور کہنا چاہتا ہوں۔

میسٹر ڈپٹی-سپیکر : دو مینٹ ٹیک ہیں چار مینٹ نہیں۔

گہانی جی۔ ایس۔ مسافر : ایک بات ری ہیبیلیٹیشن (rehabilitation) کے سلسلے میں ہے۔ سنہ ۲۷-۲۸ ع کے بجٹ میں جو سات ساڑھے سات مہینوں کا بجٹ تھا۔ اس میں ۲۲ کروڑ روپیہ ریلیف اور ری ہیبیلیٹیشن (Relief and Rehabilitation) کے لئے منظور کیا گیا تھا۔ اس وقت سارا آرگنائزیشن (organisation) اچھی طرح سے نہیں بنا تھا۔ اس لئے وہ پورا روپیہ خرچ نہیں ہو سکا تھا۔ اس کے بعد سنہ ۲۸-۲۹ ع کے بجٹ میں ۱۰ کروڑ روپیہ کا اندازہ کیا گیا تھا مگر خرچ ۱۵ کروڑ ہوا۔ کیونکہ عملی ورکنگ (working) سے پتہ لگا کہ خرچ زیادہ کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ سنہ ۲۹-۳۰ ع کے بجٹ میں پھر ۱۰ کروڑ روپیہ رکھا گیا مگر خرچ کا اندازہ ۱۳ کروڑ ۷۰ لاکھ کا ہے۔ یعنی پچھلے تجربہ سے فائدہ نہیں اٹھاتے ہوئے اس مرتبہ ری ہیبیلیٹیشن کیلئے صرف ۷ کروڑ روپیہ رکھا گیا ہے۔ اور جو پرابلمز اس وقت ہمارے دیس میں ہیں ان میں ری ہیبیلیٹیشن کی پرابلم بھی اسی طرح موجود ہے مگر آنریبل فائننس منسٹر کی جو تقریر ہے یا وائٹ پیپر ہے اس میں شاید اس پرابلم کو کوئی بڑی پرابلم نہیں سمجھا گیا۔ یہ خیال کیا گیا ہے کہ ری ہیبیلیٹیشن کا قصہ شاید ختم ہے۔ مگر یہ ختم نہیں ہے۔ ابھی تک لوگ اسی طرح ریفرجیٹیشن (shelter) کے میں جیسے کہ پہلے تھے۔ یہاں دہلی میں ہی جو ریفری چلانے والے ریفریجیز (refugees) ہیں۔ شرنارتھی ہیں ان سے ریفریوں کا جو کرایہ چارج (charge) کیا جاتا ہے وہ ۱۰ سے لے کر ۵۰ روپیہ تک ہے۔ دکان کی بات الگ رہی ریفری کا اتنا زیادہ کرایہ لیا جاتا ہے۔ خیر۔ یہ تو تفصیل کی بات ہے اور میرے پاس وقت بھی نہیں ہے اور یہاں ہاؤس میں اس پر بہتیرا کئی دفعہ کہا جا چکا ہے۔ مگر میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ جو روپیہ ٹیکس کھٹا کر سرمایہ داروں میں ایک تھنگ سے بانٹ

[گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر]

دیا گیا وہ اس ڈیپارٹمنٹ (Department) کو ہی دے دیا جاتا - اور میں آپ کو بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ اس وقت ویسٹ پنجاب (West Punjab) جس زمین سے فائدہ اٹھا رہا ہے اور اس وقت سندھ جس زمین سے فائدہ اٹھا رہا ہے یہ انہیں لوگوں کی بنائی ہوئی ہے جو کہ اب بے کھر ہو کر ہندوستان میں پڑے ہیں - اگر آپ اس وقت جتنی کراؤن لینڈ (Crown land) اور ویسٹ لینڈ (waste land) پڑی ہے وہ ان کے سپرد ڈولپ (develop) کرنے کو دے دیتے اور یہ روپیہ اس پر خرچ ہو جاتا تو اس تجویز سے ہی یہ سارا روپیہ ہیلپلیمینٹیشن کا معاملہ تقریباً ختم ہو جاتا - خیر - میرے پاس وقت نہیں ہے -

میں ایک بات (Defence) کے متعلق کہنا چاہتا ہوں - ڈفنس کے لئے بجٹ میں جو روپیہ رکھا گیا ہے وہ تقریباً کل بجٹ کا آدھا ہے - ڈفنس کیلئے یہ روپیہ خرچ ہوگا یہ بڑی خوشی کی بات ہے - اور جس ڈفنس سے آرمی - نیوی اور ایئر فورس (Army Navy and the Air Force) اس وقت کام کر رہی ہیں اور آرگنائز (Organise) ہو رہی ہیں یہ بڑا اچھا ڈفنس ہے - یہ بڑی ہی خوشی کی بات ہے - مگر ڈفنس کے متعلق ہمیں ایک بات یاد رکھنی چاہئے کہ ہم اس وقت تک مضبوط نہیں کہہ جا سکتے جب تک کہ ہمارے دشمن کو اور ہمارے اندر رہنے والی عام چٹنا کو اس بات کا احساس نہ ہو اور اعتماد نہ ہو کہ ہمارا ڈفنس مضبوط ہے - جب تک یہ حالت نہ ہو اس وقت تک ڈفنس کی مضبوطی پورے طور پر کام نہیں کر سکتی - ہمارے دشمنوں کو یقین ہونا چاہئے کہ ہم مضبوط ہیں - ہمارا ڈفنس مضبوط ہے - اور ہماری جو عام چٹنا ہے اس کو بھی یقین ہونا چاہئے کہ ہمارا ڈفنس مضبوط ہے - ابھی تک آرمی پر جو کچھ خرچ کیا جاتا ہے اس میں چٹنا کو یقین دلانے کے لئے ڈفنس ڈیپارٹمنٹ (Defence Department) نے کچھ نہیں کیا - اس کی طرف دھیان دینا بھی بڑا ضروری ہے - اس کیلئے تین چار تجویزیں ہیں جو ملیشیا (militia) ہے اس کو ایکٹو (active) کیا جانے اور بارڈر (borders) پر بڑھ کر ایک مرد عورت اڈالٹ (adult) کو فوجی ٹریننگ (training) دی جائے - ایسے طریقے سے کہ انہیں اس طرح کا احساس ہو کہ جس سے ایک خاص قوم بن جاتی ہے - مثلاً انگریزوں میں جو سی (sea) کے کنارے رہنے والے ہیں انہیں نیشن آف سیلرس (Nation of the sailors) کہا جاتا ہے - اس طرح بارڈر کی ایک نیشن بن جائے جو دشمن کا منہ توڑنے کیلئے تیار رہے - خود بہ خود اس میں اتنی کانفیڈنس (Confidence) ہو اور پوری ٹریننگ ہو کہ ہر وقت وہ پورا کام کر سکے - اس کی طرف دھیان دینا چاہئے اور جو برٹش گورنمنٹ (British Government) کے زمانہ کے نام کئے فوجی ہیں ان کو آرگنائز کیا جائے - آئی - این - اے (I.N.A.)

کے سپاہی جو اس وقت یوں ہی اُداس ہوئے پھرتے ہیں اور گورنمنٹ کے خلاف باتیں کرتے ہیں - کانگریس کے خلاف الیکشن لڑتے ہیں ان کو آرگینائز کر کے ان کے اندر جو فوجی سکل (skill) ہے اس کو کام میں لانا چاہئے - اس کے اوپر بھی روپیہ خرچ کیا جانا چاہئے - اور جو چھوٹے چھوٹے لوگوں کے اسکول وہاں وہاں پر بھی فوجی تعلیم شروع کی جائے - اس قسم کے اسکول بچوں کے واسطے اور کھولے جائیں - تو یہ تین چار تجویزیں ہیں جن سے پبلک (public) کا اعتماد حاصل کیا جا سکتا ہے - مہں ابھی بارڈر کا دورا کر کے آیا ہو - لوگوں میں یہ اطمینان ہونا چاہئے کہ ہماری فوج مضبوط ہے - ہماری طاقت موجود ہے - ہم دشمن کو اینٹ کا جواب پتھر سے دے سکتے ہیں یہ سب باتیں تھیک ہیں مگر اس سب کا یقین عام - جنتا کو ہونا چاہئے - خاص کر بارڈر کے لوگوں کو ہونا چاہئے کہ ہماری گورنمنٹ واقعی مضبوط ہے - پھر اس طرح دشمن تک یہ خبر پہنچے تو بہت اچھی بات ہے - تو میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ ڈفنس ڈیپارٹمنٹ میں جو روپیہ باقاعدہ فوجوں کے متعلق خرچ کیا جانا ہے اس میں سے کچھ روپیہ ان تجویزوں پر جو میں نے کہی ہیں لکایا جائے تاکہ یہ کام اچھی طرح ہو سکے -

مجھے اور بھی کچھ باتیں کہنی تھیں - مگر میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ میں کچھ زیادتی بھی کر گیا ہوں - وقت کچھ زیادہ لے گیا ہوں - میں ان الفاظ کے ساتھ پھر اپنے فائننس منسٹرو کو مبارک دیتا ہوں اور جن بانوں کی طرف میں نے دھیان دلایا ہے مجھکو اُمید ہے کہ ان کی طرف وہ بھی اپنی توجہ اگلے سال کے بجٹ میں یا ممکن ہو تو دوران سال کے بجٹ میں بھی کریں گے -

(English translation of the above speech)

Giani G. S. Musafir (Punjab): Sir, it is much gratifying to note that the first Budget of Republican India happens to be a surplus one. The White Paper issued by the Government in this connection explains fairly well the economic situation in the country during the interval following the presentation of the last Budget. Further, the way our Government have overcome the obviously acute economic problems is, no doubt, most praiseworthy. The complexities arising as an offshoot of the devaluation decision and the unfavourable balance of trade during the outgoing year have, in particular, been provided a very commendable solution. Following the devaluation, we have had to decrease our trade with the Dollar areas. This has resulted in one good at least inasmuch as to make us more cautious in the matter of utilizing our Sterling Balances lying with Britain in a more rightful manner. The hon. the Minister of Finance, no doubt, deserves to be congratulated for the way he has succeeded to manage all these things.

While initiating the general discussion on the Budget this morning, my senior colleague, the hon. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava, had very aptly described the hon. Minister of Finance in the role of an expert doctor. I agree with that observation and consider the remedy prescribed by the hon. Minister for our economic ills to be a very effective one. The disease too has been diagnosed very correctly. In one respect, however, I have to differ. The prescription is, admittedly, a good one and has been suggested after

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considerable pains have been taken. The resultant medical preparation, however, has been administered to the healthy person instead of the ailing one. In other words, the already strong one has been made further strong with the consequent apprehension of the already infirm being getting weaker and weaker.

In the last year's Budget, there was an estimated deficit which was made up, on the one hand, by taxation on motor-cars, cigarettes, and the other luxury goods and, on the other, by taxation on many an eatable, ghee, oil and minor items such as the matches of day to day use to the poorer sections of the people. The presentation of a surplus Budget this time is a convincing proof of the happy outcome of co-operation extended by the masses to the Government which has enabled the hon. Minister of Finance to bring forth a surplus Budget, with an estimated saving of nine crores and sixty-two lacs of rupees. The hon. Minister of Finance would have done a very desirable thing by exploring some ways and means whereby this surplus could help in solving the problems facing the country at present. These savings are directly the result of taxing the poor, but he has, in a strangely nice way, distributed even this money of the poor among the capitalists. In other words the reduction and concessions with regard to taxes has been confined to those which relate to the direct earnings. This is a matter requiring ordinary prudence to understand that 'direct tax' can be levied only on those who are moneyed persons and belong to the capitalist class such as a mill-owner. On the other hand, the indirect taxes have an effect on those who have to spend their daily earnings by the night. To provide illustrations, the first of these taxes which stands reduced in the present Budget, relate to the Business Profits Tax and the other is the 'super tax'. In this connection, it has been explained that a concession in the taxes will provide the necessary encouragement to the capitalists to invest their money with greater zeal which will ultimately result in increased production. To my mind, even this concession will fail to make the capitalists see the reason. I do not imply thereby that the capitalists and the mill-owners are not the right type of people as a rule. I mean nothing like that. One comes across good people as well as bad ones in every walk of life. We are, however, well familiar with the capitalistic mentality. We are also aware of the service this type of capitalists have rendered to the country in the past and the service they aim to put in now or in the near future. The hon. Minister of Finance may devise any means to reduce taxes from them, it will be an even difficult task to effect a change in their capitalistic leanings. These people will distribute the large profits accruing to the companies among the share-holders rather than invest the same in enterprises conducive to the national welfare.

The third item is that of income-tax. The table on rates of reduction which is incorporated in the White Paper, makes it clear beyond no doubt, that larger the income of a person, he or she stands to benefit more by way of the concession in this tax. For instance, the previous tax-rate at 5.6 per cent. on an earned income of Rs. 12,000 remains unaltered. As compared to it, the rate of 7.7 per cent. on an earned income of Rs. 15,000 has been reduced to 7.5 per cent. It means that higher and higher the incidence of one's income goes, the more and more of the relief by way of reduction in taxes afforded to him or her. Previously this tax used to be levied at a rate of 9.6 on an unearned annual income of Rs. 12,000. It has been brought down to nine per cent. now. But one with an annual income of Rs. 15,000 is required to pay at the rate of eleven per cent. instead of twelve per cent. as used to be the case in the past. From whatever angle you may look, the persons with larger incomes stand to benefit more than any other by this reduction. The

general public is in no way benefited by the proposed reduction and nor can we describe it to be a commonman's budget. When the masses come to know of it, a feeling is sure to rise that there should have been some consideration shown towards the welfare of the masses in these proposals. The people of the country, in general, do entertain such a hope and expect every act of the Government directed to the general welfare of the people.

Last year, the postal rates presented to us were determined on the understanding that all mail will be carried by air. There too, only those stood to gain who could afford to send their despatches by air. Now that a reduction from nine pias to six in the price of post-card for local use and also in the case of envelope is going to be effected, the people living in the countryside are once again to be deprived of the relief on this score. I am not opposed to the interests of the urban population and neither I seek any discrimination being exercised between the rural and the urban population. What I mean by this, is, that the rural public will once more be at a disadvantage, as, generally speaking, they do not post an envelope or a post-card to an addressee in the same village. Similar is the case with telegrams and telephone. Only those living in the cities and towns can avail of these concessions. To the villagers and the public in general this is a benefit of almost negligible consequence.

So far I have confined myself to refer to those things only a mention of which has been made in the White Paper. Apart from these, there are considerations to which no heed appears to have been paid. It is my intention to attract attention of the House to these very considerations. It is a misfortune of mine that the hon. Ministers concerned with the things I am going to say, are just now not present in the House and the bell has also gone. I know that not much time is left at my disposal to speak. I, however, wish to submit a few things with the permission of the Chair within the next two or four minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Two minutes are all right but not four minutes.

Giani G. S. Musafir: Further I wish to submit one thing with regard to the rehabilitation issue. In the Budget for 1947-48, a provision of 22 crores of rupees for the relief and the rehabilitation work covering a period of only seven to seven and a half months was sanctioned. The total funds, however, could not be utilized as there was no proper and complete set-up of the organisation to be entrusted with this work. Thereafter, in the Budget for 1948-49, an estimated expenditure of ten crores of rupees was provided, but the expenditure actually incurred came out to be 15 crores. Why was it so? It was because a practical working made the necessity of an increased expenditure quite clear. Ten crores of rupees were provided in the Budget for 1949-50, but the estimates with regard to expenditure come to Rs. 13,70,00,000. In other words while not profiting by the past experience anyway, we have provided only seven crores of rupees for the current year. The problem of rehabilitation is still there just like many others with which the country is faced at present. One gathers the impression that the Budget speech of the hon. Minister of Finance, or in the White Paper itself, due weight is perhaps not attached to this issue. The supposition seems to be that the rehabilitation business is already over. The actual position, however, is different. The people are still without a shelter as ever before. Here in Delhi, the refugees engaged in various trades as 'rehri-hawkers' are charged as much as Rs. 15/- to Rs. 50/- by way of rent for the *rehris*, not to speak of a shop. Anyway, this is a matter of detail and already much has been said on the topic in this House. I have no time left for that. I, however, wish to say that money made available by this reduction in taxes and, in a way, 'ploughed' back to the capitalists might well have been handed over to this Department. I may

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also convey it to you that the lands being utilized by the West Punjab and Sind at present to their advantage, owe their reclamation to the labours of these people alone, lying homeless at present in India. We could have seen an end of this rehabilitation business by now, if the suggestion to entrust to these people all the Crown as well as the waste lands with us at present and utilizing of these funds towards the development of such lands had been accepted and acted upon. Anyway, I have no time to go further into that.

I have to make one submission with regard to our Defence. The total budgetary provision with regard to Defence come to almost half of the Revenue. It is a matter of pleasure to note that money is proposed to be spent on nothing else but the Defence. Looking from the way our Army, Navy and the Air Force are discharging their respective obligations and the way they are being further organised, one has to feel much pleased and admit the soundness of their methods. There is, however, one thing in this connection which we are better advised to keep in view constantly. We cannot become strong till the enemy in our neighbourhood and the people of the country within feel conscious and confident about the strong character of our Defence. The firmness of our Defence cannot achieve the desired effects fully till this state of affairs is not forthcoming. Our enemies must be convinced that we are strong and so is our Defence. The same should be the case with our countrymen in general. Out of the funds spent on the Army till date, the Ministry of Defence has done nothing to take the public into confidence. It is of much importance to pay attention to this side of the problem. Three to four suggestions can be offered in this behalf. Our Militia should be converted into an active force and military training should be imparted to every adult person at our border irrespective of sex. This task should be accomplished in such a manner as to arouse in them a distinct common sense of a nationhood. To quote an instance, in England those living near the sea-shores are known generally as a 'Nation of the Sailors'. Similarly those living at our borders should form into a district nation ready by itself to beat the enemy back in a befitting manner at any time. This nation should in itself possess so much confidence and training as to do the job in a thorough way at all times. This matter should receive our due attention. Further, the persons retrenched from the Army in the days of British rule, and the I. N. A. army-men who go about the country in a dejected mood talking all sorts of things against the Government and even going to the length of contesting elections against the Congress, should be organised and the martial skill within them be properly harnessed to our national advantage. We should set apart certain funds to be spent on the working of this proposal. In addition, military training should be taken up also in the schools where our younger children are being educated and more schools of the type should be opened.

These are, therefore, a few of the suggestions which in my opinion, if practised, are capable of winning us the public confidence. I am just back after a tour of the border areas. I want the people to be satisfied with the strength of our armed forces. We have sufficient power to hit the enemy harder than he can do in any encounter. All this is quite correct. What is needed, however, is that general masses should also be convinced about it. Our people at the borders, in particular, should feel that the Government of the country is really a strong one. It will be much welcomed a thing if the enemy intelligence confirms the same. I, therefore, consider it to be a very desirable thing to do, if a part of the funds being spent on the regular armed forces is set apart for giving a practical shape to the suggestions offered by me. This will help in accomplishing this task in a satisfactory way. I had

a few more things to say. I am, however, conscious of having already transgressed my time-limit. With these words, I congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance once again. I also trust that the suggestions offered by me will receive his attention on the eve of preparing the next year's Budget and, if possible, some sort of provision will be made in the current one too.

Shri B. K. P. Sinha (Bihar): I rise to support this Budget. I think it is a good Budget, a wise Budget. There is the stamp of robust realism on it. The criticisms against it have been wide and varied. I am sure the criticisms would have been lesser if there had been a greater realisation of the fact that it is not given to a Finance Minister to budget either on a clean slate or in a social vacuum. Budget proposals are a reflection of, rather they are conditioned by, the socio-economic order in which they are laid down. There is a certain pattern of society before us. We have to look at the proposals from a certain point of view: whether these proposals tend to tone up this society, tend to tone up this particular economic order which prevails at present, or whether these proposals tend to bring down confidence, tend to paralyse the particular social order. We have put before us a policy of mixed economy. We have given a place in our economic development to private enterprise and private initiative. Would it be proper after that to frame proposals in such a manner that the confidence of that sector of economy which has to deal with private enterprise and initiative is shaken? I think if we move in that way, we are in for bad days. There have been so many criticisms on the score that this concession has been given to this class and that certain concessions have not been given to certain other classes. I am afraid we are used to spectacular and demonstrative things. I am afraid we lose sight of the wood for the trees. Here is the question of toning up of the whole economic order which is at present in a state of paralysis. How can we tone it up? Shall we tone it up by doling out certain concessions here and there, or shall we tone it up by adopting measures which are calculated to raise the whole economic order of the chaos in which it finds itself at present? Looked at from this point of view, Sir, John Matthai's approach is sound. Any other approach will not have the desired effect on the socio-economic pattern of the country.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): May I know when Dr. John Matthai was knighted?

Shri Raj Bahadur: He was knighted when the country was benighted!

An Hon. Member: You want to call him 'Sir' because he has given tax reliefs!

Shri B. K. P. Sinha: I do not know. Somebody told me that he is a Knight. I am sorry for having used the word 'Sir'. I stand corrected.

The basic principle of Dr. Matthai is to instil more confidence in the capitalists and investing public. "Capitalists" is a bad word to use these days, but Dr. Matthai believes that the money will fructify in their pockets, that it will be invested in industries, that the economic order will benefit and that there shall be more production. That argument is good so far as it goes. But life does not move in pre-ordained, logical pattern. There are certain psychological factors which inhibit investors. It is just possible that instead of investing their money in industries, they may take to more profitable avenues of investment. We read, of late, of speculation and black marketing in jute, cotton and other sectors. If Dr. Matthai's proposals are to succeed, we should make it impossible for people to speculate and put their money in black market operations. Unless we do that, a large amount of money which is meant to

[Shri B. K. P. Sinha]

flow into industries may go over to the other side. There is another thing also. The capitalists, instead of investing in industries, may put their money in luxury goods. They may like to enjoy a better time. We have to put a check on this too. We should take measures to minimise the consumption of luxury goods.

Assuming that the whole amount that is left to fructify in the pockets of the industrialists is invested in industry, let us see what are the sectors in which they are interested. Mostly, they consist of consumer goods like sugar, cloth and so on. But we require a balanced economy, and there is greater need for multi-purpose projects, for capital goods industries and heavy industries. These industries involve huge expenditure, and we cannot expect investors, in the very nature of things, to put their money into them. We are importing iron every year to the tune of Rs. 30 crores. We have decided to put up two iron mills, but they require an investment of something like Rs. 200 crores. There are other big multi-purpose projects. Where is the money for them to come from? If the investing classes are allowed freedom, it is natural that they would invest their savings in more profitable channels, and these channels are the channels that produce consumer goods. I therefore suggest for the consideration of the hon. the Finance Minister to extend the scope of compulsory savings. So far, savings have been made compulsory for Government servants alone. But, of late, the large masses of this country have had large accretions of wealth, which they are neither using properly nor wisely. Very often, as I have said already, they waste it on luxuries. Why not extend the scope of compulsory saving to rural areas? Also include the capitalist sectors. If we do that, we shall have plenty of money which we can invest in those sectors which are not going to be built up by the ordinary manners. Otherwise, I am afraid our development will be lopsided, and those sectors which ought to be developed alike in the interests of national defence, national security and economic development from a long range point of view will not be built up. So much about the basic approach of Dr. Matthai.

Now, to advert to the question of defence. We were given to understand that our defences would not be allowed to fall below a certain limit, where our security will be in jeopardy. The small reduction that has been made will not, I am sure, minimise or affect our security. We have actually reduced the expenditure only by Rs. two crores. We are spending about Rs. eight crores on State Forces, which was a burden hitherto borne by the States. From this point of view, there is a reduction of only Rs. ten crores in our defence expenditure. Even reduced as it is, I think that it will not affect our strength. I am not so much against this reduction as against the tendency of reducing this expenditure.

श्री उराव : हमारे लिए एक मिनट का समय दिया जाय । मैं अंग्रेजी नहीं जानता हूँ

Shri Oraon (Bihar): Sir, I may be given one minute. I do not know English.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair.]

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. Shri Satish Chandra.

Shri Satis Chandra (Uttar Pradesh): At the fag end of the day I will not tax the patience of hon. Members by referring to statistical data in my possession. I would like to emulate the example of the hon. the Finance Minister by speaking informally.

I must admit that the first reaction of the speech of the hon. the Finance Minister on my mind was favourable. I was greatly impressed by his speech for two reasons: firstly, because he put his case in a very convincing manner by picking up and amplifying those facts which could appear palatable to the House, and passing over some of the other hard facts which are contained in the White Paper, and secondly, because there were no proposals for fresh taxation which had almost become a regular feature of each of the successive budgets presented to this House during the past few years. For these two reasons I had a very favourable impression on my mind. But later on, when I tried to study quietly the proposals contained in the White Paper and re-read his speech at home, I came to the conclusion that the picture was not as rosy as it was made out to be.

I do not know, why that original impression changed. I tried to argue with myself as to why my first reaction which was so favourable had changed to one of disappointment. I tried actually to understand the working of my own mind, and in a reflective mood I thought that it was neither the fault of the hon. Minister of Finance, nor my own, but it was due to the fact that my psychological approach to present day problems was naturally different from his, as we belonged to different periods of history. While the hon. Dr. Matthai was born in the peaceful reign of Queen Victoria,—excuse me, Madam, for making this personal reference—I was born during the reign of her grandson, in the midst of the First World War, in the year of the Russian Revolution. Naturally, there was bound to be a fundamental difference between his way of thinking and my way of looking at things.

It then occurred to me that I should judge this Budget—the facts as they have been presented by Dr. Matthai—not against the background of my outlook, but according to his own outlook. I must judge whether his analysis of the facts truly represents what he feels about the present day conditions.

I must admit that the proposals contained in the Budget which is presented on behalf of the Congress Party Government, do not conform with the various resolutions of that great organisation, or with the economic programme of that organisation; yet, in the present structure of society, as it is—(and if we are not prepared to change that structure by a revolutionary process and must out of necessity put up with the illogicalities of a difficult period of transition)—these proposals represent what I may call sound policies which may lead our country forward to progress. With that mixed feeling I welcome this Budget.

I now come to the question of inflation. The hon. the Finance Minister has dealt at great length with the subject of Inflation. To put a check on these inflationary tendencies, an eight-point programme was formulated by the Government in October 1949 after the devaluation. This House is entitled to know from the hon. the Finance Minister, in his reply to the debate, whether those items of the programme have been taken up one by one and whether they have been implemented. I know that some of them have received his attention. One of the items was that Government assistance would be given for the extension of banking facilities in rural areas. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government have taken in this direction. He has not touched this point in his Budget speech.

The hon. the Finance Minister referred to the fact that the present economic difficulties have arisen due to lower production, because of the wheels of industry not moving, and also because of the money market being tight. He has diagnosed the trouble and in his own way has attributed some reasons for it. In the course of his Budget speech he said that he belonged to the same class as we all do. I do not quite agree with him on this point. I would however, respectfully submit that the main reason why the middle class people are not prepared to invest their money in industrial undertakings is due to

[Shri Satish Chandra]

the vagaries of the managing agency system and due to lack of confidence with which the common investor looks upon the persons in whose hands the money is to be entrusted. An average man of the middle class is not sure whether he will get a due share in the profits by investing his hard earned small savings.

I will refer to another point in the short time at my disposal and that is about the divisible pool of income-tax. The Deshmukh Award has revised the share, of various States. The share of Uttar Pradesh has been reduced by one per cent. It is not quite fair to divide the Income-tax pool on the basis of the income derived from each of the provinces or States. That should not be the criterion for the distribution of the amount. The only sound criterion on which that tax should be divided is the population of the State, because, after all, it is the consumer who bears the incidence of all taxes that are levied. As such, I hope that the Finance Commission that is to be appointed by the Government and the Government itself, will examine and look into this matter carefully.

I may also draw the attention of the Government to grants made by the Centre as subventions and subsidies to various State Governments. If I go into that question, it would take a long time. Only as an instance, I draw attention to the fact that the food subsidy of three crores that the Centre is giving to the State of Madras is not being utilised for the benefit of the consumer or for reduction of the foodgrains prices, but is being utilised for subsidising the prohibition programme. The grant that the Centre gives as food subsidy is taken from the consumer in the shape of sales tax levied on foodgrains at three to four stages. There are many other facts of a similar nature which I could mention but I do not wish to take more time of the House.

श्री एस० ऐन० दास : आज इस बजट पर कुछ बोलने के पहिले में हाउस (House) के सामने एक बात रखना जरूरी समझता हूँ। २६ जनवरी को जो घोषणा हिन्दुस्तान में हुई, वह घोषणा अगर नहीं हुई होती, तो आज इस बजट की जो समालोचना हो रही है, वैसी समालोचना नहीं होती। २६ जनवरी की खीर हिन्दुस्तान की जनता का ध्यान उस तरह खिंचा हुआ नहीं था, जिस तरह २८ फरवरी की ओर था, उस दिन हमारे माननीय अर्थ मन्त्री ने अपने प्रजातन्त्री देश का पहला बजट पेश किया, इस लिये उस दिन की धेर लेंगों का ध्यान विशेष रूप से लगा हुआ था। सदियों से गुलाम रहने के कारण उनकी तकलीफों की ओर उस समय के शासकों ने कभी ध्यान नहीं दिया था। २६ जनवरी को जब देश में सर्वशक्ति सम्पन्न प्रजातन्त्रात्मक राज्य की घोषणा हुई, मेरा ख्याल है, कि आषा की एक लहर चारों तरफ दौड़ गई और लोगों को ख्याल हुआ कि सदियों की गुलामी के बाद अब हमारे देश का निर्माण हमारे देश के प्रतिनिधियों के हाथ में आया है और अब देश की बीमारी का इलाज बहुत ठीक तरह से किया जायगा। इस लिये २८ फरवरी को, जिस दिन हमारे माननीय अर्थ मन्त्री ने अपना पहला बजट पेश किया, उस दिन तमाम देश की जनता की नजर इस ओर लगी थी कि यह बजट कोई रास्ता आगे का दिखाता है या नहीं। जनता के सामने सरकार की कठिनाइयाँ रहती हैं। और नहीं भी रहती हैं लेकिन चूँकि देश के प्रजातन्त्र का यह पहला बजट था, इस लिये इस बात की आशा की गई थी कि यद्यपि सरकार अपने इस पमले बजट में हमारी पूरी तकलीफों का निराकरण तो नहीं कर सकेगी, सारी कठिनाइयों को दूर तो नहीं कर सकेगी, फिर भी हमें रास्ता बतलायेगी कि जिस रास्ते से चल कर देश की पुरानी बीमारी, गरीबी और बेकारी का जन्म होगा। हिन्दुस्तान की समस्या जैसा कि हमारे माननीय अर्थ मन्त्री ने बतलाया कि यहां की मुद्रास्फीति या इनफ्लेशन (inflation) है। मैं समझता हूँ कि देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था की जड़ में सदियों की गरीबी है। यह हिन्दुस्तान की आर्थिक व्यवस्था की जड़ में बहुत दिनों से जड़ बचाये बैठी हुई है। इस बीमारी का निदान किये बिना एक इन भी अगर देश का कोई

अर्थ शास्त्री या शासक आने बढ़ता है तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उसको अपने काम में सफलता होने वाली नहीं है। मेरा ख्याल है कि जिस मुद्रास्फीति की बात यहां कही गई है, वह न केवल हिन्दुस्तान की समस्या है, वरन सारे संसार की समस्या है और यह समस्या हर लड़ाई के बाद उपस्थित हुआ करती है। जिस समय देश में इनफ्लेशन नहीं था, मुद्रास्फीति नहीं थी, क्या उस समय हिन्दुस्तान की जनता की हालत ठीक कही जा सकती थी? क्या उस समय हिन्दुस्तान में गरीबी तथा बेकारी नहीं थी? क्या उस समय हिन्दुस्तान के लोग नंगे और भूखे नहीं रहते थे? मैं समझता हूँ कि इनफ्लेशन एक बीमारी का लक्षण है। हमारे एक माननीय सदस्य ने बतलाया था कि रोगी के कहने की कुछ भी परवाह न करके अर्थ मन्त्री ने जो दवा ठीक समझी है, उस दवा का उन्होंने प्रयोग किया है। इस बजट को पेश करते हुये माननीय अर्थ मन्त्री ने जो भाषण दिया है उसमें देश की अस्सी पचासी फी सदी गरीब जनता की जो दयनीय अवस्था है, उसका और देश की वर्तमान आर्थिक व्यवस्था का सही दिग्दर्शन होना चाहिये था। उसमें उनकी कठिनाइयों का जिक्र रहना चाहिये था। तब मैं समझ सकता था कि सरकार के सामने जो कठिनाइयां हैं चाहे वह बाहर की हों या भीतर की हों अथवा अभी जो हाल में समस्याएँ पैदा हुई हैं वह हों, उन समस्याओं को देखते हुये हम अपनी पूरी पूरी बीमारी का इलाज एकाएक नहीं कर सकते हैं। जनता के प्रतिनिधि की हैसियत से तथा ऐसी जगह से आने के कारण जहां शहर में बसने वालों की संख्या बहुत कम है बजट की स्पीच को गौर से पढ़ने के बाद मुझे उसी तरह की निराशा हुई, जिस तरह की निराशा हनुमान जी को, मोती की माला में डूढ़ने पर भी भगवान रामचन्द्र का नाम नहीं पाकर हुई थी। मैंने इस बजट में बहुतेरा ढूंडा कि इसमें देश की अस्सी नव्वे फी सदी गरीब जनता की आर्थिक व्यवस्था का जिक्र उनकी बीमारी का निदान कहीं है या नहीं। पर ढूढ़ने पर भी उसका कहीं पता न चला। यह ठीक है कि देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था एक दो वर्ष में दुस्त नहीं हो सकती है, लेकिन इस गरीबी को दूर करने के लिये अगर सरकार के सामने नक़्सा रहता, अगर देश की अर्थ नीति एवं आर्थिक व्यवस्था को सही दृष्टिकोण से देखा जाता, तो देश की जनता को विश्वास होता, उन्हें आशा होती, और वह उमंग के साथ सरकार की योजना और कामों में जी जान से लग जाती। मगर बजट में इसका कुछ भी आभास नहीं है। निदान तो ठीक नहीं हुआ पर दवा ठीक निकल आयी। दवा है उत्पादन, अधिक उत्पादन। देश की गरीब जनता को सुखी और सम्पन्न बनाने के लिये, देश की आर्थिक अवस्था को समृद्ध बनाने के लिये यह सही बात है कि देश का प्रोडक्शन (production) बढ़ाया जाय, उत्पादन पर जोर दिया जाय। लेकिन उत्पादन किस पद्धति से हो, किस प्रणाली से हो, किस ढंग से हो, ताकि उत्पादन देश के लिये वरदान हो। अभिशाप नहीं यह एक बड़ा सवाल है। देश के बाहर और मुल्कों में बड़े बड़े उद्योग धन्यों को चला कर, बड़े बड़े कारखाने चलाकर और कई मी वर्षों के वैज्ञानिक अनुसन्धान का सहारा लेकर, पाश्चात्य देश की आर्थिक समस्या का हल ठीक ठीक नहीं हो पाया है और आज भी वहां करोड़ों नहीं तो लाखों ऐसी जनता है जो बेकार रहती है और लाखों व्यक्ति विन्कुल गरीबी में अपना समय गुजारते हैं। उस पद्धति का यदि हम अनुकरण करेंगे, उस पद्धति में यदि हम अपने उत्पादन को बढ़ाने की कोशिश करेंगे, तो मेरे ख्याल है कि हिन्दुस्तान अपना सवाल हल नहीं कर सकता। हमें उनके धनुभवों से जिनको पाश्चात्य देश के लोगों ने बहुत परिश्रम से, बहुत बड़ी कठिनाइयों के बाद, बहुत संकटों को पार करके, प्राप्त किया है, लाभ उठाना चाहिये। यदि हम उन अनुभवों को सामने रख कर नहीं चलेंगे तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उत्पादन करते हुये भी हम अपने सवाल को हल नहीं कर पायेंगे। कहा जाता है कि उत्पादन के लिये पूंजी नहीं है, यह बात सही हो सकती है, लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि उत्पादन की समस्या को हल करने में सिर्फ पूंजी की ही आवश्यकता नहीं है। भारत की जनशक्ति का उपयोग भी आवश्यक है यहां के करोड़ों आदमी ऐसे हैं जिनकी शक्ति का उपयोग समाज या राष्ट्र नहीं करता है।

[श्री एस० ऐन० दास]

हिन्दुस्तान की जनता में आज करोड़ों ऐसे हैं जो खेती के काम में अथवा दूसरे कामों में अपना समय गजारते हैं। मगर अपने काम करने के बाद उनके पास काफी समय लगभग ५-६ महीने ऐसे होते हैं जिसमें वह बेकार रहते हैं। सरकार हिन्दुस्तान की इस शक्ति का उपयोग नहीं कर रही है। मैं समझता हूँ कि बगैर इस शक्ति का पूरा उपयोग किये देश के उत्पादन का सवाल हल होने वाला नहीं है। जो रुपये टैक्स में कमी करके उद्योगपतियों के हाथ में छोड़ने का प्रस्ताव किया गया है उससे थोड़े समय में कल कारखाने कायम करके उत्पादन की कमी की पूर्ति नहीं हो सकती। मैं समझता हूँ कि एक वर्ष क्या उसमें भी अधिक समय बाहर से ऐसी ऐसी चीजों के मंगाने में बीत जायगा जिनका यहाँ अभाव है और जो आपको बाहर से लानी होंगी यदि सरकार कल कारखानों के द्वारा बड़े पैमाने पर उत्पादन करना चाहेगी।

अब घण्टी बज गयी है। इस लिये मैं आपको बहुत तो नहीं बता सकता, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस बजट के लिये मैं माननीय अर्थ मन्त्री को धन्यवाद जरूर देता, बघाई भी जरूर देता, अगर उन्होंने अपने बजट में प्रोडक्शन को बढ़ाने के तरीके का ठीक ठीक निर्देश किया होता। खेती के और उन करोड़ों लोगों के खेती से बचे हुये समय का उपयोग करने के लिये छोटे छोटे व्यवसाय और उद्योग धंधों को कोओपरेटिव बेसिस (cooperative basis) पर चलाने का प्रावजन (provision) उसमें किया होता। मेरा ख्याल है कि इस तरह काम करने से यहाँ हिन्दुस्तान के उत्पादन का सवाल बहुत हद तक हल हो जा सकता है।

अब मैं सभा का ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लाना चाहता। वक्त भी नहीं है। लेकिन मैं सभा में कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज की हालत में बजट में छोटी छोटी चीजें जैसे टैलीफोन और टैलीग्राम का दाम कम करके साधारण जनता को कुछ राहत पहुंचाने की बात करना उनकी गरीबी की समस्या के साथ उपहास करना है। यदि हिन्दुस्तान के जन साधारण को फायदा पहुंचाना है तो आपको विकेंद्रित तरीके से को-ओपरेटिव बेसिस पर, खेती और छोटे छोटे व्यवसायों और ग्राम उद्योग धंधों का उपयोग योजना बना कर करना होगा। तभी देश का उद्धार हो सकता है।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri S. N. Das (Bihar): Before expressing my views on the Budget I wish to place a few things before the House. Had the inauguration of Republic not been made on the 26th January then such discussions on the Budget, as we are having to-day, could never have taken place. The attention of the people of our country had not been focussed on 26th January as much as on 28th February, when our hon. Minister of Finance presented the first Budget of our Republic. Therefore people had specially looked upon this day with hope and expectation. Throughout the ages and ages of slavery their rulers had never paid any attention towards their plight and misery. When on 26th January the Sovereign Republic of India was declared, then I think a wave of hope and expectation spread all over the country and the people began to think that after generations of slavery the task of rebuilding of the country has now come to rest with the representatives of the people and so all their plight and misery would be eradicated. Therefore upon this 28th February, when the hon. Minister of Finance presented the Budget, was focussed the entire attention of all the people of our country and they were all along thinking whether the budget would present before them any way out of their difficulties or not. The people judge the difficulties of the Government in the light of their own experiences. But as this was the first Budget of the Indian Republic so it was expected that through the first Budget though the Government would not

be able to eradicate our entire difficulties and misery yet it would guide on to the way whereby we would be able to exterminate the age-long sufferings of our people and the poverty and unemployment in the country would come to an end. The real source of trouble in India, as has been put by the hon. Minister of Finance, is due to the inflation of currency. But in my opinion the age-long poverty of generations and generations is the root-cause of this present economic situation. This poverty has been undermining the economic structure of our country since a very long time. If any economic expert or Government of this country wants to go even a step further without resolving this difficulty then I think that that enterprise or project will never prove successful. I think that the plea of the inflation mentioned here is not only the problem of India alone but it is a world-wide problem and is a natural after-effect of every world war. When there was no inflation in our country was the condition of the people satisfactory? Was there no poverty and unemployment in India then? Were not the people at that time ill-fed and ill-clothed? I think inflation to be a symptom of some particular disease, and as an hon. Member has just suggested that the hon. Minister of Finance without in the least taking into consideration reaction of the afflicted has tried to administer the best possible remedy to eradicate this illness. I think that in his budget speech the hon. Minister of Finance should have made a mention of the miserable plight of the 80 to 85 per cent. of the poor people of the country as also of the correct economic position of the country. He ought to have referred to their sorrowful plight. Only then could I have agreed that the Government also is in a tight corner and is alive to all situations, may they be external or internal or may have cropped up quite recently. Without fully taking these situations and difficulties into consideration we cannot eradicate them completely and totally. Being a representative of the people and representing such a constituency where the urban population is very scanty, I, after very carefully going through the budget speech had to face the same frustration and disappointment as, so the story goes, Shri Hanuman had to face on not finding the name of Shri Ramchandra written inside the pearls of the necklace that was given to him. I very carefully read the speech over and over again in order to find out whether there was or not any mention of the economic condition of those unfortunate poor people of our country who constitute 80 to 90 per cent. of the total population. But even after a careful study I could not come across any such thing. It is true that the economic condition of the country cannot be made sound within a two or three years' time, but if the Government would have before it a clear cut plan for the removal of this dire poverty, if the economic condition and the economic policy of the country would have been taken into consideration from correct perspective then the people would have based confidence and hope in the Government, and so would have whole-heartedly and actively co-operated with the Government in all her plans and schemes. But there is not a trace of any such thing in the speech. Though the diagnosis of the trouble is wrong yet he has suggested a remedy, and this way out is 'More and more production'. In order to make the poor and down-trodden people of our country happy and prosperous as also to place the economic position on sound basis it is essential to undertake increased production and stress should be laid on more and more production. But the question is on what lines the production is to be increased so that this increased production instead of becoming a curse may become a boon for the country. The big industrial countries of the world even after starting huge factories and industries and pursuing continued expert scientific research for hundreds of years have not yet been able to resolve this economic instability and still now there are if not millions then lacs of such people who are unemployed and have to pass their lives in dire poverty and utter misery. If we would work on those very lines, if we would adopt those very measures to step up the production in our country, then I think that India would not at all be able to resolve her difficulties. We must learn from those experiences that the Western countries have gained after long and

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tiresome experimentation undertaken in face of arduous difficulties and privations. If we would not undertake to fulfil our task in the light of the experiences gained by them then we would not be able to resolve our difficulties. It is generally said that capital is wanting for large-scale production. This can be true to some extent but I can say that capital is not the only thing required for increased and more production. It is also essential to utilize the immense manpower of our country. There are millions of such people here whose labour is not at all utilized by the society or the country. There are millions of such people in our country who earn their living by agriculture or some such work. After finishing their work they get sufficient time say of five or six months when they have nothing to do and so remain idle during that period. Government is not utilizing this immense manpower of India. I think that without utilizing this manpower to the fullest possible extent the problem of increased production is not to be resolved. Only with that money, that has been left with the capitalists through a decrease in the taxation proposals no big factories and industries can be set up and thus the deficiency of production cannot be accomplished. I think that what to say of one year, much more time would be taken up in importing those articles that are needed here, and all of them will have to be imported from other countries if the Government would take upon itself to launch a large-scale production scheme by setting up huge factories and industries.

Now the bell has gone, therefore I cannot say a lot of things. But I like to submit that I would have thanked the hon. Minister of Finance and would have surely congratulated him for this budget had he definitely and clearly indicated in his speech the steps that he wished to adopt to undertake large-scale production, or had made some provision in the budget for usefully utilizing the spare time of the agriculturists and millions of other people by setting up small cottage industries on the co-operative basis. In my opinion by acting upon these suggestions the problem of increased production can to a great extent be resolved.

I do not want to take any more time of the House and there is no time also at my disposal. But I wish to submit that under the present circumstances simple assertions that the reduction of the telegraph and telephone charges would give a relief to the common people, are nothing short of making fun of their dire poverty. If the Government really wish to give relief to the common people then the Government will have to undertake this task by organising agriculture and fully developing small village and cottage industries on co-operative basis and only in this way the prosperity of the country can be achieved.

Shri Meeran (Madras): So far as this Budget is concerned, we all know that this is the first Budget after the inauguration of the Republic. Our hon. Finance Minister naturally took pride in presenting it. Now, as this is the first Budget after the inauguration of the Republic, I would like to scan it from the point of view of the principle for which our Republic stands—I mean the principles laid down in the Constitution in unambiguous language. We have taken upon ourselves and resolved in our Constitution that we will secure adequate means of livelihood to all the citizens. We have also resolved to see that no one suffers from undeserved want and we have resolved to see that wealth is not concentrated in the hands of a few. Further, we have resolved to secure public assistance in the case of the unemployed. These are some of the principles for which we stand. In trying to see how far this Budget satisfies the principles for which we stand I shall endeavour to say a few words. I know we will not be able to secure all these overnight, especially in view of the fact that we have achieved freedom just now after more than 150 years of slavery. But yet, if there is any indication in the Budget that this Budget stands for some of these principles

which we have enunciated in unambiguous language I will be satisfied. Therefore I am trying to see how far as whether there is any hint or sign to show that we are sincere in the application of the principles for which our Constitution stands.

Now let us examine how the unemployment problem is today. We have got statistics of the unemployed, though not complete. We have got employment exchanges at which the unemployed may register for employment at their option. We have got statistics of the unemployed for October, November and December—statistics of those who registered themselves for employment. The number of persons who registered themselves during the three months are 71,464, 77,317 and 71,819 respectively and the number of those who have been found employment during the period are 16,388, 18,508 and 19,505. So altogether, as against 71,464 who sought employment in October, we have provided employment only for 16,388. Some 55,000 who sought employment have not been found jobs in that one month. They are still unemployed. We also find from the statistics furnished to us that, in November, some 8,000 odd Government servants were discharged from service. This figure represents the net discharge. In addition, there are the unemployed in factories and mills and the like. Is there any proposal in the Budget before us to see that this unemployment problem is solved or at least mitigated or something done to show that this Government is really earnest and sincere? I would be failing in my duty if I do not say that the proposals found in the Budget do not tend to diminish the problem. They tend rather to aggravate it. The unemployment problem can be solved by various ways. One of these is by applying our mind to increase the production. There are many other methods according to our Finance Minister by which more labour can be absorbed and unemployment reduced. From a perusal of the Budget one gathers the impression that if any assistance is going to be given to anybody it is to the capitalist and the highest industrialist and to the mechanised industries. Nothing has been sought to be given to the unemployed agriculturists and others. I fear that as a result of this policy there will be industrial development of the western type which will increase unemployment. Therefore any relief by way of taxation to these high placed capitalist will only, in my opinion, result in more unemployment. I have my own doubts whether this relief which you propose to give to the capitalists will get back to the industry. Even assuming that it does, I doubt very much whether it will solve the economic problem and the unemployment problem.

Now I would like to say one or two words with reference to the under-employed. I am not speaking of those private employees alone and I ask: Are they paid in accordance with the increase of prices in the country? The statistics show that food materials alone have increased by 400 per cent., that is, the statistics of other materials also have increased since 1938 to 400 per cent. I want to know whether the hon. Finance Minister is satisfied with the wages of the employees of the Government or private agencies,—I am speaking of the ordinary middle class or lower middle class—and whether their pay has been increased sufficiently to increase their standard of life and if it is not increased, what steps have been taken to see that they get an adequate standard of living? If we are not able to secure to the citizens the minimum standard of comfort in life, food, cloth, shelter, etc. in our State (indeed we feel proud that we have achieved our independence) it will only mean change of masters from one hand to another. Of course, I know the time has been so short that we could not work wonders overnight, but at the same time I want to know whether there is any indication in the Budget to offer relief to unemployment, to increase the wages of those who are already employed and to see that they are going to get better living, better food and better clothing and better housing.

Shri M. P. Mishra (Bihar): I also feel tempted to join the chorus of congratulations extended to the Finance Minister, but I would not congratulate him on this budget which has been rightly described as the Investors' Budget. I congratulate him on the great atmosphere of hopes that he has created around him even at this age and in spite of the very distressing economic condition of the country. I also feel like congratulating him for the very unconventional manner of his speech when he came to this House and presented the Budget. I wish, his budget was as unconventional as his speech, but I am sorry to remark that the first budget of the Republican India is as conventional as the budget presented during the last few years. I would say it is not anything different from the budgets that our British masters used to present to us every year in spite of our wishes (*Hear, hear*). I do not like that a discussion on this budget should be raised to any fundamental level. I am aware that in the transitional period the present Government of the country has certain limitations and the Finance Minister has to move with caution. I am also aware and I agree that his diagnosis of the main economic maladies of the country are very correct. But that does not do him any credit because even the man in the street, even a college student is aware that our main maladies are inflation and our high prices. He has also proposed that the ultimate remedy to all this malaise is nothing but production, more production and still more production. For giving this slogan, I shall not thank the Finance Minister. Where has he given the real remedies to counteract the situation, fight inflation, fight the high prices and better the economic condition of the country? I am very much at variance with the ways he has suggested. It is perhaps good to keep the country on hopes, but it is not good to keep the country on hopes for long and for ever. The Finance Minister has created an atmosphere of hope by telling the country that by the year 1950 our economic position, the national economy of the country has turned the corner and that we have crossed the danger spot. I wish, he was true. I do think that a nation is either a bookshop or a business firm whose economic soundness should be stated in terms of adjustment of accounts, of profit and loss. A nation's economic soundness should be judged by the economic position that the average man accrues. A nation's economy or its soundness should be judged by the power of consumption of the average man or whom we call the common man and who has been derided many times. And from that point of view, I am pretty sure that the economic condition of the country, the economic position in which the common man of India finds himself today is as precarious as ever, if not worse. So long as this condition obtains, we cannot create any hope among our people, in the nation, unless we give a bold remedy to those malaise that we have suffered all these years.

The cry is that production and still more production is the main remedy but how to increase the production in the country is the question. This slogan has been raised for years but still production has not gone up. In some of the figures that have been shown there has been some rise in the production of textile goods and others. But I do not think that they are enough or they would take us anywhere near solving our problem. But then the Finance Minister has come out to meet the demand. I will remind the House that on the next day after the budget was presented to this House, the *Hindustan Times*, a paper owned by one of the leading members of the investors' community in India gave a headline to the page "Stock market's wishes answered". Perhaps our friends here are aware that the so-called investors are the owners of the stock market who own the major section of the press of the country. They have been shouting for years, they have raised a scare that capital formation is impossible unless the taxation is lowered down and their scare has been answered.

It does not matter giving away Rs. 15 crores or giving away Rs. 20 crores to the capitalists, to the investors. That will not make the country any poorer than it already is. These very investors whom we in other words may call the

'capitalists' or the 'industrialists', I would like to call them just mere 'stock marketmen'. They contributed on the appeal of our national leaders outside this House about Rs. eight to nine crores of rupees to a great national fund of ours. So I do not mind if Rs. 20 crores are given away to them if I can understand that if these Rs. 20 crores are given away and the country's production rises, in the real sense of the term, that we will get cheaper goods in a year's time or so and our people's requirements are fulfilled. I for one would not mind it then. But I am pretty sure that the hope that has led the Finance Minister to give this concession to the capitalists will be belied before long. And in a year's time when he comes with the next budget to this House, I am sure he will say that the basis on which he raised his hope had been gone. I am pretty sure about that.

The real remedy is production, and more production, no doubt. But for that it has been admitted now after this problem has remained insoluble for years, that a psychological condition has to be created among the people and among the real producers. The real producers are the *kisans* in the villages, the workers in the factories and the middle-class people. Unless this psychological atmosphere is created, I am afraid the production in the country will not go up. And for the creation of this psychological atmosphere it was essential that some inducement, such as those Government have tried to give to the capitalists should have been given to the tottering middle-class people and the other producers in the country, the working classes and the peasantry. But you have refused to do that, whereas you have gone all out to meet the wishes of those who are already well off and you have refused to meet the wishes of those who are the real producers. But unless you do that you cannot and will not raise production in the country.

Shri Poonacha (Coorg): Madam, I take this opportunity to congratulate the Finance Minister on his able presentation of the Budget. No doubt much criticism has come out on this Budget in the course of the debate from several Members on the floor of this House. But I for one, propose to associate myself with his proposals and to whole-heartedly congratulate him for his able presentation of the Budget. In doing so, I will first refer to the unique aspect of this Budget that is before us, unique in the sense that it is of a new pattern which has woven into a common fabric our fiscal and financial systems. I refer to the very harmonious integration of the Central finances with those of Part B States and so the present Budget which has come out is one single Budget for the whole of India; which achievement is of no mean order and it deserves congratulations from every quarter. I for one congratulate the Finance Minister particularly and the Government as a whole for this.

Apart from that, there is the other side of the question which should be taken into consideration, that is the background in which this first Budget of our Republic has been presented to this House. It is very easy to have said that it is a Budget which purports to help the capitalists of this country. But I for one would like to recognise the limitations that were placed upon the Government and the handicaps that had to be faced by the Government when bringing out this Budget and it is highly satisfactory and a happy thing to note that in spite of the heavy odds that our country had had to face, a balanced budget has been presented. Very recently, that is, a few months back we had in this very House a thorough discussion about our economic condition, I mean the debate we had on the devaluation of the rupee, on the floor of this House, when the economic condition of the country was discussed more or less thoroughly. We should understand the difficulties that followed, particularly in so far as our relationship with Pakistan is concerned, and consequent upon which a sort of economic warfare has been started from the other side. The situation created thereby was not an easy one for anybody to tackle and nobody can say

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that we could have had a happier budget than the one before us now. If Members take into consideration all these difficulties and handicaps that have been placed upon our finances, particularly in regard to trade balances with Pakistan and the strained trade relations with Pakistan, into which our economic condition was and is still to a large extent woven up, they will be able to appreciate the Budget better.

I was referring to the previous debate we had on the devaluation of the rupee. Then the Government placed before the House an eight points programme. But I am sorry that nothing about this programme or its achievements or failures whatever had happened, has been placed before us in this Budget. It would have been good if the Finance Minister could have apprised this Parliament as well as the country as a whole as to what have been the effects or what have been the results of this eight points programme announced at that time. I still hope that in the course of this debate the Finance Minister will take an opportunity to apprise the House as to what extent Government have been able to pursue this eight-point programme announced by them at the time of the previous discussion.

I come now to some minor aspects of this Budget. As was mentioned by some Members earlier in the day, I would also like to refer in passing to the number of committees, particularly to the commodity committees that are functioning under the auspices of the Government. It will be a good thing if the Finance Minister will investigate and examine the expenditure side of these commodity committees and see how far they have been functioning successfully, and also find out to what extent they have not been extravagant on the liberal financial aid they have been receiving from time to time or annually from the Government.

Next I come to the question of the Planning Commission. It has been mentioned in the White Paper that the Planning Commission will more or less examine our future development plans *de novo*. Well, that surprises me a bit, because we know we have been promising the country all sorts of reconstruction schemes during the last five years. Several times it has been clearly said that the Government of India have accepted these schemes and that all these would be put into execution. If the whole question is to be examined again *de novo* by this Planning Commission and the whole set of procedure is to be followed up again, I am afraid we would be holding up the progress of the country to a very large extent and would be creating disappointment in the minds of the people and as such, I would very much like to know from the Government and the Finance Minister in particular as to what precise terms of reference will be given to this Commission. I take it that such of the approved schemes as have been thoroughly investigated and examined by the Government will not be the subject matter of examination over and over again with unnecessary duplication. With these remarks, I support the Budget.

Shri J. N. Hazarika (Assam): It is a very hopeful augury that the first Budget of the new born Republic of India is a surplus Budget prepared under the articles of the new Constitution of India. Though it is a general principle of all public finance to have a deficit Budget at a time when unemployment exists, yet, considered from the standpoint of financial stringency of India, the surplus Budget is not only a measure of expediency, and hence welcome, but also a basis on which future India would establish an edifice of financial morality.

The future leaders of Indian Public Finance will always look forward to this Budget with some honour and respect. This Budget is, indeed, the most healthy Budget ever produced in India, since World War II. Ours is a country

now which is fully Sovereign and Independent. Economically thinking, notwithstanding the fact of our country being politically sovereign, India has admittedly many disadvantages in the sphere of economic thriving—both external as well as internal: one of the most fundamental defects of India's economic position is the potential relationship with other sterling countries—especially with the United Kingdom.

But, with the inauguration of India's Democratic Republic, every one of our countrymen most piously hopes that social economy would replace the *laissez faire* system, completely abolishing the old system of economy root and branch. Every citizen expects that our National Government would begin to heal the economic wounds India has received during the last one century and a half under the foreign domination. If this Budget is our hope, the dream of India would materialise in no time to come.

This Budget is really a reflection of India's economic structure although not of a true Democratic Republic. It is what it is, but not what it should be. India's finance is no longer responsible to the Authority sitting in London. In shaping the economic destiny of our country, the old imperial preferences and foreign interests must not be the grounds of influence on our public finance and National Economy. The hon. the Finance Minister seems to have emphasised the fact that foreign capital is welcome to restore confidence in our indigenous industries. But, I cannot fully agree with him. If the industrialists of India do not restore confidence in themselves the only way for the Government would be complete nationalization of industries, as early as possible despite the Congress Working Committee's recommendations in favour of a mixed economy.

The last year's Budget Estimate (1949-50) ushering in a deficit of 147 million rupees was most disheartening to the masses of India, although it was reduced consequently by fresh taxation. The most notorious features of last year's Budget were the abolition of Capital Gains Tax, relief in Income-tax, reduction in Super-tax, removal of export duty on certain goods, increase in excise duty on sugar, and its extension on cotton cloth. Viewing from this standpoint, the hon. Dr. Matthai's last year's Budget was purely a Budget for the interests of the capitalists as against the poor masses, in this country.

On the whole, this year's Budget, however, is an improvement over the last year's, in the sense that tax-relief to the 'haves' this year has not resulted in a deficit Budget.

Political revolution in our country is far more advanced than economic. The emergence of a Sovereign Democratic Republic in India out of a foreign bureaucratic rule, is the most unique feature of our political revolution. But, the Budget does not seem to honour the spirit of economic provisions of our Constitution. I cannot understand how the old structure of our public finance can be quite consistent with the Democratic Republicanism.

The abolition of business profit tax, the reduction in rate of income tax on incomes from Rs. 10,000 to 15,000, the reduction in company rate of income tax, the reduction in maximum rate of income tax, will no doubt give economic relief to a section of the 'haves', but it is by no means a relief to the Nation. It is said that such reduction would give incentives to the investing interests; but, I submit, in spite of the relief given last year to the investors, it appears that the industrialists and business concerns got no incentives and encouragement to the proportion the relief was made, and no considerable enthusiasm was shown by the investors last year in spite of tax relief. On the contrary, their capital was kept idle to the detriment of the national interests. Therefore, tax relief intended to be given to the capitalists is no relief to the country. On the

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other hand, the burden on the consumers has by no means been reduced. Taxation on consumption in our country is so high that the poorer section of the population is living a miserable life.

Reduction of tax rate on income in our country is by no means commendable. The lesser the burden of taxation on income, the heavier it seems the burden of taxation on consumption. It goes against the equitable principle of public finance of a democratic country like ours. "More taxation on income and less taxation on consumption" should be the principle of our public finance.

The net reduction in revenue of Rs. 14.99 crores of which the Centre will bear Rs. 7.87 crores, will seriously affect the revenues of the States also; under the existing arrangement, the loss of Rs. 7.12 crores to the States would very grievously hurt the poorer ones, like Assam and Orissa. Assam and Orissa each would lose over Rs. 20 lakhs from what would have been their respective revenues otherwise, this year.

The poorer States like Assam and Orissa, of whose respective populations backward tribes are one-third and one-fifth of the totals, will be deprived of larger shares of finance for their educational and economic development. These poorer States need more motherly treatment from the Centre. In "Provincial Development Programme" published by the Government of India, it is said in respect of Assam "That two-thirds of its area is inhabited by aborigines, who form one-third of its population, is a fact of far-reaching importance and creates problems of its own not only from the administrative but also economic standpoint." This shows how Assam needs Central aids even under article 275 of the Constitution. I am glad that grants-in-aid to Assam under the said article of the Constitution have been shown in the Budget, though it will not meet even one-tenth of the present needs. It is disappointing to see that Assam has spent only Rs. 5.76 crores from 1946-47 to 1949-50 in her development, whereas Bombay, a State already a richer one, has spent 47.73 crores within the last four years. This shows that no development has been made in Assam. Bombay gets more than what she deserves for her development. As you find it, "Nearly 19 per cent. of the total expenditure on provincial development plans for the country as a whole is accounted for by expenditure in Bombay, whereas the population of this Province is only 11 per cent. of the total population of all the provinces taken together." Yet, due attention has not been given, for the development of the tribes whose population is over 16 lakhs.

To sum up, all over India we have to look after the most backward element of our country. The Scheduled tribes with a population of over 25 million, cannot be developed educationally and economically unless the Central Government grants yearly adequate sums of money from the very commencement of our Republican Constitution. The antisocial elements like the Communists often infiltrate into the areas of these innocent masses of India and influence their political and social outlook. The main reason of it is the economic backwardness of these voiceless millions. The only measure I can recommend to the Government for redress of these people is the economic measure which should receive the priority of the Central Government.

With these remarks, I commend the Budget.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 7th March, 1950.