

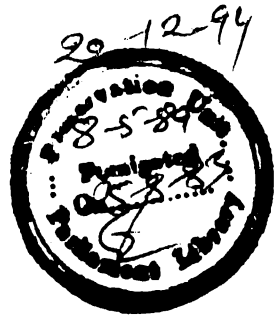


# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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VOLUME II, 1950

*(14th March to 17th April, 1950)*

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FIRST SESSION  
OF  
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES  
(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Monday, 27th March, 1950

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF LIVES AND PROPERTIES ON RAILWAYS

\*1125. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Railway be pleased to state:

(a) the total amounts of compensation the Railways had to pay for (i) the lives lost; and (ii) the persons injured in the Railway accidents that took place during the year 1948-49; and

(b) the highest and the lowest amounts paid as compensation for a man killed in those accidents?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) (i) and (ii). The compensation paid by the Railways in respect of lives lost and persons injured in railway accidents which took place during the year 1948-49 amounted to Rs. 46,487 and Rs. 1,06,951/8 respectively.

(b) The highest individual amount paid was Rs. 5,635/- and the lowest Rs. 800/-.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know, Sir, the status of the man for whose death the highest compensation was paid and the status of the man for whose death the lowest compensation was paid?

**Shri Santhanam:** Sir, according to the Railway Act the maximum is Rs. 10,000. The claim is judged on individual merits. I have not got the names of the particular individuals who got compensation.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** I want to know the profession to which these people belonged.

**Shri Santhanam:** Unless I have got a list of these individuals, I cannot say what profession they held or which particular man got the highest compensation.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The highest compensation was paid to a man. Was he a doctor or a lawyer?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has not got the names and unless he has got the names before him, he cannot say.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know whether any foreigners were involved in such accidents, and if so, what was the compensation paid to them?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think it is the same reply again.

**Maulvi Wajed Ali:** May I know what is the criterion on which this compensation is allowed in each individual case?

**Shri Santhanam:** Something like the schedule in the Workmen's Compensation Act.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know what amount of compensation was paid for a soldier in the Indian Army when he was involved in such accidents, such as the Solurpet accident?

**Mr. Speaker:** Are we sure that any soldier was involved in such accidents as a matter of fact?

**Shri V. J. Gupta:** May I know what is the total number of lives lost in the Solurpet accident?

**Shri Santhanam:** I think this happened recently in the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway and this question relates to 1948-49. The Solurpet accident happened very recently and for this the Claims Officer has already been appointed. I do not think the work of the Claims Officer has been completed. If the hon. Member wants other information, I may say that the M. and S. M. Railway had paid only Rs. 81 for injuries caused for the whole year, i.e., 1948-49.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** The question I want to put does not relate to the particular question, but may I know whether the hon. Minister could give information to the House whether the Claims Commissioner has already given his award; if not, what time he will take to arrive at a decision with regard to the compensation to be paid in connection with the accident which occurred between Madras and Calcutta?

**Shri Santhanam:** The Claims Commissioner is a sort of judicial commissioner and every judicial process takes a little time; he will have to give notice to the injured and to the Railways concerned and call them together and finally give his award. I do not think that his work would have been completed so early, but if the hon. Member wants it I am prepared to get the precise information required.

**Shri Kesava Rao:** May I know what is the number of persons who are paid the highest compensation?

**Shri Santhanam:** I have got the totals for each Railway which I can give if the hon. Member wants, but I cannot say how many people got this Rs. 5,635. The chances are that only one would have got this highest compensation.

**श्री भट्ट :** अभी इस साल कितना कम्पेनसेशन देना बाकी है ?

**Shri Bhatt:** May I know the arrears in respect of the compensation to be paid during the current year?

**Shri Santhanam:** I think some claims are pending in the O. T. Railway where Rs. 86,750 for 18 cases of death and Rs. 884 for nine cases of injuries have to be paid as compensation. I have no information regarding any pending cases in the other Railways.



## DACOITIES ON RAILWAYS

\*1126. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state;

(a) the number of dacoities involving loss of life and property on the Government Railways in 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(b) the number of deaths, the number of injured and the total amount of properties lost, in those dacoities; and

(c) the amounts of compensation given by Railways for (i) each life lost; (ii) each man injured; and (iii) properties lost?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) The number of dacoities involving loss of life and property on the Indian Government Railways was 215 during 1948-49 and 81 during 1949-50 upto 31st January, 1950.

(b) The number of deaths and injured and the total amount of properties lost were as under:

	1948-49	1949-50
(i) Number of deaths.	9	6
(ii) Number of injured.	61	57
(iii) Amount of properties lost.	Rs. 2,90,278/-	Rs. 1,50,659/-

(c) Prevention of dacoities and maintenance of law and order are primarily matters which concern State Governments and Railways are not liable for payment of compensation for losses arising therefrom unless in a particular case the loss arises directly out of railway negligence. No compensation was, in the circumstances, paid for death or injury to persons except in a solitary case, in which a sum of Rs. 100/- was paid as compensation for loss of property caused by dacoity, in which the person robbed was unable to bring the train to a stop due to a defect in the alarm chain communication.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know in how many cases the culprits were detected?

**Shri Santhanam:** I would require notice of that question.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know whether all these dacoities were committed on passengers of the higher classes, first and second classes and no dacoity was committed on third-class passengers?

**Shri Santhanam:** I am not sure about that. These dacoities include some dacoities in the staff quarters also.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I have noticed that on some other lines iron bars have been put on the outside of the windows. I want to know why this protective measure has not been extended to all the Railways?

**Shri Santhanam:** Iron bars in all the carriages will make them look like prison vans. We put iron bars only for the ladies' compartment for the present.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** May I know in which Railway the highest number of dacoities are committed?

**Shri Santhanam:** I have not got the figures of dacoities railway-wise; I would require notice.

**Dr. Beshmukh:** Am I right in understanding, Sir, that the Provincial Governments are responsible for protecting the trains and where the responsibility is that of the Railways, the Railway Ministry pays compensation?

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, he has replied to that question. If the dacoity was due to the negligence of the Railway, only then is the Railway responsible. He has said that previously.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** Sir, may I know what amounts to negligence on the part of the Railway? Has there been any instance where the Railways had recognised that it is their negligence that caused the dacoity?

**Mr. Speaker:** In one case, Rs. 100 was paid, he said.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** What is the number of criminals apprehended, prosecuted and convicted?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I believe it is hardly a question to be put to the Railway Minister. Hon. Members know that law and order is a matter for the State. Such questions should not be put.

**Shri Nandkishore Das:** What are the figures of death and injured on the Bengal Nagpur Railway, the places where the dacoities were committed?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has already stated that he has not got the figures railway-wise. He said that in reply to a previous question.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** Sir, may I know if any dacoity was committed on the female compartments, and what was the casualty, if any, amongst female passengers? I am speaking of the female passengers who were exposed to danger.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Minister has got the information, he may give it.

**Shri Santhanam:** I have not got the information. But the particular case in which Rs. 100 compensation was paid related to a lady, Sir.

#### DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

\*1128. **Shri Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the number of Government buses operating in Delhi?

(b) Are there any private buses still in operation in Delhi?

(c) Do Government propose to extend the transport facility to other centrally administered areas?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) I presume the hon. Member wants information about the number of Government buses operating in the cities of Delhi and New Delhi. If so, the present average figure is 176.

(b) No private buses are now plying in Delhi or New Delhi cities but there are two Electrical Trolley Buses operated by the Delhi Central Electric Power Authority in Old Delhi city.

(c) The hon. Member presumably wants to know whether Government propose to operate their own bus services in other Centrally Administered Areas. If so, I may state that Government owned transport services are already run in Himachal Pradesh, Kutch, Manipur and Bilaspur. There is no proposal at present to extend the operation of Government owned transport services in other Centrally Administered Areas.

**Shri Kesava Rao:** May I know whether the Government is aware that the present number of buses running in Delhi is insufficient and if so, is there any proposal to increase the number of buses?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, Sir. Government is fully aware of the position, and they have already ordered for forty more buses.

**Shri Alagesan:** Is there any proposal to construct waiting sheds?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, arrangements have already been made for that purpose.

**Shri B. K. P. Sinha:** May I know what is the profit earned by the Government controlled Delhi Transport Service during the year 1948-49 and the year 1949-50?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think these figures were stated during the course of the Budget discussion.

**Shri Santhanam:** And the Report of the Transport Ministry contains information on that matter.

**Shri Alagesan:** Is it a fact that a Calcutta firm has offered to build these waiting sheds free of cost?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes.

**Dr. Parmar:** Is it a fact that the Rani of Bilaspur running the bus service there holds the monopoly for the Bilaspur town?

**Shri Santhanam:** In Bilaspur the local administration is now running the motor transport service. It was originally started by the ruler of Bilaspur.

**Dr. Parmar:** Sir, I wanted to know whether the Bilaspur service is run by the Rani of Bilaspur.

**Shri Santhanam:** I said the local administration is running the service.

#### INCOME OF RAILWAYS FROM PUBLICITY

\*1129. **Shri Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state what average annual income the railways get by acting as medium of publicity for non-railway organisations?

(b) What are the usual rates charged for exhibiting commercial advertisements in railway premises?

(c) Are direct contracts made with the parties or through Advertising Consultants?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) Nearly Rs. 5 lakhs per year.

(b) Copies of the advertising tariffs in force on the various Railways are placed on the Table of the House. [*Information placed in the Library See No. P-72/50*].

(c) Contracts are concluded with advertisers directly as well as through canvassers and advertising agencies.

**Shri Kesava Rao:** May I know, Sir, what percentage of the profit is allowed to the advertising consultants?

**Shri Santhanam:** I think the rates vary from Railway to Railway. I cannot say what exactly is the commission allowed to each advertising agent.

**Shri Kesava Rao:** What portion of the money got from advertisement goes to the amenities of passengers?

**Shri Santhanam:** They add to the railway revenues from which all the expenditure for amenities is incurred.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** May I ask the hon. Minister if there has been any attempt to co-ordinate the policy of controlling the advertisements with a view to augmenting Government's resources?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, Sir. Recently we had a meeting of the Public Relations Officers of all the Railways when the various rates in the Railways were analysed and an attempt has recently been made to bring them into some kind of uniformity.

**Dr. V. Subramaniam:** Does this income include the advertisement charges in the running trains and at the stations?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, all.

**Shri Majumdar:** Does the reply cover advertisements published in time-tables?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes.

#### MAJOR IRRIGATION PROJECTS IN MADRAS

\*1130. **Shri V. K. Reddi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Mines and Power** be pleased to state what are the major irrigation projects which are under consideration of the Government of India in the Madras State?

(b) Which of them will be taken up this year?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** (a) The Government of India are naturally interested in all major irrigation projects throughout the country. But they are not directly responsible for any major irrigation project in Madras.

(b) The Government of India have no information.

**Shri V. K. Reddi:** May I know whether the Pennar Irrigation Project is under consideration of Government?

**Shri Gadgil:** That is a matter for the Government of Madras.

**Shri V. K. Reddi:** May I know what has happened to the Ramapadasagar Project?

**Shri Gadgil:** Nothing has happened. The position is now the same as before.

**Shri V. K. Reddi:** Do Government contemplate expediting the work on this project?

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the question?

**Shri V. K. Reddi:** Regarding the Ramapadasagar Project, will the Government consider expediting the work on it?

**Shri Gadgil:** So far as the Ramapadasagar Project is concerned, as I have already stated to this hon. House, it is not possible to proceed with it, in view of the financial position of the country.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I know, Sir, whether the Central Government have undertaken any other major irrigation work in India directly? The hon. Minister said with reference to a major project in the Madras Presidency, that it is the concern of the Madras State. I would like to know, if the Central Government have undertaken any major project on its own responsibility in any part of India?

**Shri Gadgil:** Yes, the Hirakud Project. It is one in which the responsibility of constructing it is directly undertaken by the Central Government, at the request of the State Government of Orissa.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** What are the terms and conditions on which the Central Government undertakes major projects in Provinces?

**Shri Gadgil:** The usual condition is that in the case of a major project, if the State asks for loans and if it is possible, loans are advanced. And if loans are advanced, naturally, the Central Government takes some hand in the management or control of the same. It is equally possible for an individual State to hand over the work of construction, to the Central Government, as has been done in the case of the Hirakud Project in the State of Orissa. Where the project embraces more than one State, some agency is devised as in the case of the Damodar Valley Corporation which is directly under the control of the Central Government.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Has any application been made by the Madras Government to the Central Government to undertake this project themselves, or to give loans?

**Shri Gadgil:** Not so far as I know.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** Sir, may I know whether Government propose to set apart a portion of the loan amount from the International Monetary Fund for major projects in Madras State, or whether Madras State has made an application to that effect?

**Shri Gadgil:** The subject of International loans is for my hon. colleague to deal with. But so far as I know, the Madras Government has not asked for any international loan for any of their projects.

**Shri Alagesan:** Sir,.....

**Mr. Speaker:** I think I will proceed to the next question.

#### POST OFFICE SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

**\*1181. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the number of Post Office Savings Accounts in the name of deceased persons, who died during communal disturbances in West Pakistan and whose successors have migrated to India;

(b) the number of cases in which the heirs or successors of the deceased have applied to the authorities for transfer of these accounts; and

(c) the number of cases in which accounts have so far been transferred to India?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** (a) to (c). A statement, giving the required information, is laid on the Table of the House.

## STATEMENT

	<i>Reply</i>
(a) The number of Post Office Savings Accounts in the name of deceased persons, who died during communal disturbances in West Pakistan and whose successors have migrated to India;	Information is not available;
(b) the number of cases in which the heirs or successors of the deceased have applied to the authorities for transfer of these accounts ; and	2,620;
(c) the number of cases in which accounts have so far been transferred to India.	68.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Is it a fact that no interest has been paid on these accounts for the last three years?

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** These accounts were so far in Pakistan. The heirs of the deceased had migrated to India. An agreement in respect of these was arrived at only on the 24th January, 1950. Till these accounts come here, no interest can be paid.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Was the responsibility of making these payments lying with the Government of India initially?

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** Initially it was with the Pakistan Government but we have entered into an agreement with them on the 24th January, 1950, by which these accounts can be paid in India.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Are there any accounts in the names of people who were there in Pakistan whose heirs have not till now come to claim the amounts?

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** The question relates to accounts of persons who were killed in communal disturbances in 1947 and whose heirs have claimed the amounts. We can have no information unless claims are made.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Would you consider the advisability of publishing the particulars of any accounts which have not been claimed so that their successors might know that their relatives had any accounts?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Sardar B. S. Man:** Is it not a fact that by the decisions of the Partition Council all outstanding payments were to be made by India?

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** They did not apply to these particular accounts.

## CORRUPTION AMONG RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

\*1132. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of railway employees who have been (i) prosecuted; and (ii) convicted for bribery, misappropriation, cheating and similar crimes in the year 1949?

(b) How many of these were Gazetted officers?

(c) How many of these cases were detected by the Central Intelligence Department and the Special Police Establishment?

**The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):** (a) (i) 690, (ii)

75.

(b) 10.

(c) 330. (72 by the Central Intelligence Department and 250 by the Special Police Establishment).

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Were any Gazetted Officers departmentally punished? If so, were any dismissed?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I have not got the figures for departmental punishments. If the hon. Member wants it, I can collect them.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** May I know the total amount of fine recovered from these persons?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I must ask for notice of that question.

**Oh. Ranbir Singh:** May I know whether the Minister is aware that there is a regular agency called 'Dalal' which exists between the Railway Employees and the Traders which is responsible for giving bribes to Railway employees?

**Mr. Speaker:** This is giving information.

#### CLAIMS AGAINST RAILWAYS FOR DAMAGE OR LOSS OF GOODS

\*1133. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of claims against Railways for damage or loss of goods decided during the year 1949?

(b) What was the total value of the claims in rupees?

(c) To what extent theft and pilferage were responsible for the said loss and damage?

(d) Were Railway employees involved in the thefts and pilferages and if so, what has been their number?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) The number of claims against Indian Government Railways on account of damage to or loss of consignments decided during the year 1949 was 4,59,470.

(b) Total value of the claims paid detailed under (a) above was approximately four crores.

(c) Out of about four crores of rupees paid out, theft and pilferage were responsible for approximately Rs. 1,27,70,000.

(d) Yes; on the Assam, E. I., E. P., and S. I. Railways a total number of 180 employees were found involved and a further 37 employees suspected to be involved now await trial. Information in respect of other Indian Government Railways is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** May I know if it has come to the notice of the Minister that trains are stopped by Railway employees at non-scheduled points to allow these pilferages which are shared by the railway employees?

**Shri Santhanam:** Some such allegations have reached us and we have taken steps to enquire into them and to put a stop to such practices wherever they may happen.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Have any people belonging to the Watch and Ward Department been convicted for these thefts?

**Shri Santhanam:** There may be some members of the Watch and Ward staff in the number I have given.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** May I know the number of claims that are still undecided?

**Shri Santhanam:** Claims are coming in everyday and they are being paid out. Therefore some claims must be pending at any particular time. On 31st December, 1948, there were pending 1,68,725 claims and on 31st December, 1949, there were 59,837.

**Shri Ethirajulu Naidu:** How much of this amount was paid by settlement with the parties?

**Shri Santhanam:** Most of the claims were settled by negotiation with the parties.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I know the average time taken to settle a claim?

**Shri Santhanam:** We have now fixed a target of three months for smaller claims, i.e., less than Rs. 200/- and six months for any claims except in rare cases where difficult points of law are involved.

**श्री भट्ट :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि लगेज आफिस और गुड्ज गोदाओं में जगह की कमी होने की वजह से यह चोरियाँ होती हैं ?

**Shri Bhatt:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that these thefts and pilferages take place because of there being a limited space in the luggage-offices and the godowns?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, we are trying to improve them as far as our resources permit.

#### WAGON SUPPLY DEPARTMENT IN RAILWAYS

\*1134. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many officers in Wagon Supply department under the different Railways have been prosecuted and convicted during the year 1949?

(b) How many of them were high-placed officers?

(c) What were the charges against them?

(d) Have any Station Masters been prosecuted and convicted?

**The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami):** (a) Two officers were prosecuted in 1949 but neither of these cases has been finalized as yet.

(b) None.

(c) One of the officers is alleged to have accepted illegal gratification in the discharge of his official duties in a conspiracy to arrange for the issue of priority certificates. The second officer has been prosecuted for accepting illegal gratification in the discharge of his official duties in arranging for the allotment of wagons.

(d) Yes, 21 Station Masters were prosecuted of whom four have been convicted and the cases of rest are still pending.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** To which Railway these Station Masters belong?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I am afraid I have not got a list of Stations.



**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Did any belong to the B. N. Railway?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I don't know.

**Oh. Ranbir Singh:** May I know the number of officers prosecuted from the O. T. Railway?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has not got the figures.

#### FOOD PROCUREMENT

\*1135. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state the quantity of food grains (i) wheat; (ii) gram; (iii) *jowar* and (iv) *bajra* collected in connection with the procurement scheme in Rajasthan between 1st April 1949 and 1st February, 1950 along with the cost incurred in this collection?

(b) Is it a fact that the *kisans* were ordered to bring such food grains themselves to the collection centres and if so, were any complaints received by the local authorities from such *kisans* in this behalf?

(c) Is it a fact that many of the *kisans* in Rajasthan had to buy food grains themselves in order to meet the demand made on them by the Government in pursuance of the procurement scheme?

(d) Were any complaints received by the local authorities or the Government with regard to the matter mentioned in part (c) above?

(e) Has a separate department now been set up by the Rajasthan Government for food-grain procurement; and if so, what would be the estimated expenditure on this Department?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) As intimated by the Rajasthan Government, the following quantities of foodgrains have been procured since April, 1949:

(i) Wheat	12,96,650	maunds.
(ii) Gram	2,46,200	..
(iii) <i>Jowar</i>	3,41,532	..
(iv) <i>Bajra</i>	1,99,956	..
Total . . .	<u>20,84,338</u>	maunds.

The cost of procuring these foodgrains has not been separately worked out by the Rajasthan Government.

(b) In the Rajasthan Food Procurement Order it is laid down that cultivators should deliver their share of levy at the selected collecting centres which are situated at short distances. No complaint has so far been received from the cultivators.

(c) This is not a fact. It is understood that only a small proportion of their produce is being recovered and liberal exemptions have been granted for cultivators of small holdings and in cases where crops failed or were damaged.

(d) No complaint was received.

(e) No separate department has been set up by the Rajasthan Government for foodgrains' procurement only.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** May I know the average distance for which these *kisans* had to take their foodgrains for the Centres?

**Mr. Speaker:** These are points of details which may better be put to the Rajasthan Government. The hon. Member is supplied with information here.

**श्री भट्ट :** राजस्थान गवर्नमेन्ट का १९४९ का जो प्रोक्योरमेन्ट का टार्गेट था उससे उन्होंने कम लिया था या ज्यादा लिया था ?

**Shri Bhatt:** Did the Rajasthan Government's collections exceed or fall short of their target of procurement for 1949?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** The Rajasthan Government have suggested that their target for procurement may be reduced because of the failure of crops in certain parts of Rajasthan.

**श्री भट्ट :** मैंने सवाल पूछा कि १९४९ का उनका जो टार्गेट था उन्होंने उससे कम लिया था या ज्यादा लिया था ?

**Shri Bhatt:** My question was whether they have procured more or less than their target for 1949!

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** In 1949 they procured 1,38,000 tons and I cannot say whether they will exceed or whether they will fall short of the target this year.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** May I ask my hon. friend whether the procurement scheme, whether it is in Rajasthan or anywhere else, undergoes any change after the receipt of the final forecast of the various crops?

... **Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** We constantly review the matter and according to changes in the circumstances, we do agree to changes in the target.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** May I know the procurement price of wheat there?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** In Jaipur the procurement price of wheat is Rs. 11/4/-; in Jodhpur Rs. 13/- and in Bikaner Rs. 13/8/-.

**श्री त्यागी :** क्या मैं दरयाफ्त कर सकता हूँ कि जो गल्ला प्रोक्योर किया जाता है उसके दाम किस बेसिस पर तै होते हैं ?

**Shri Tyagi:** May I know the basis on which procurement-prices in respect of all foodgrains are settled?

**श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम :** वहां पर जो चालू मारकेट प्राइसेज होती हैं उनका और कुछ कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन का अन्दाजा लगाकर और किस प्राइस पर हमें प्रोक्योरमेंट में गल्ला मिल सकेगा, यह सब बातें सोचकर प्राविशायल गवर्नमेंट्स हमको अपने सजेशनस भेजती हैं।

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** The State-Governments send their suggestions to us after taking into consideration the current local market-prices as also some estimate regarding the cost of production together with the prices on which food-grains could be expected to be had under the 'procurement scheme'.

**श्री त्यागी :** मेरे पूछने का मंशा यह था कि किस बेसिस पर प्राइसेज तै की जाती हैं। आया गल्ले की पैदावार, कमोडिटी की बहुतायत और जरूरत इन तमाम बातों का ख्याल करके कोई कीमत तै की जाती है ?

**Shri Tyagi:** The purpose of my question was to know the basis adopted for settlement of prices and that if the factors as the overall production of food-grains, abundance of the commodity and the total requirements thereof are taken into consideration while determining that basis.

**श्री जयरामदास दौलतराम :** मैंने कहा कि यह सब बातें सोचने का कोई एक बेसिस नहीं होता है। यह सब कन्सीडरेशन्स ध्यान में रखकर प्राइसेज फिक्स की जाती हैं।

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** I have said that no uniform basis exists to take all these factors into consideration. These considerations are kept in view while fixing prices.

#### QUARTERS IN EASTERN COURT AND ATUL GROVE, NEW DELHI

**\*1136. Shri Frank Anthony:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that quarters in Eastern Court and Atul Grove, New Delhi, have been reserved for General Service Personnel?

(b) Is it a fact that in spite of this reservation, a person who is not entitled to these quarters has, at the instance of the Government, been allotted both office and residential accommodation to the exclusion of General Service Personnel?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** (a) Some quarters in Eastern Court, Atul Grove and certain other areas in New Delhi have been reserved for General Service personnel.

(b) One unit was allotted for office and residence purposes to an official purely as a temporary measure.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** How long, Sir, is it proposed to keep this official in these quarters?

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** He has already been asked to make alternative arrangements.

#### LAUNCHING OF THE MODEL SCHEME BY THE I.C.A.R.

**\*1137. Shri S. O. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state what are the results of the Model Scheme launched in a group of ten villages in the State of Delhi by the I.C.A.R.?

(b) What is the amount spent for the scheme?

(c) Has any such Model Scheme been launched anywhere else in India?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) Briefly the outstanding results are as under:

(i) Improved seeds for food crops, fruit plants, as also improved ploughs are being introduced.

- (ii) Arrangements have been made for the supply of new bulls of good pedigree.
- (iii) The breed of local poultry is being improved.
- (iv) The villagers are being trained to take up village improvement schemes on the principle of self-help.
- (v) The tanks of the villages have been developed as fish ponds.

(b) Net expenditure from the 1st April, 1948 to the 31st January, 1950 (22 months) is Rs. 72,978/-.

(c) The scheme is confined to a part of the Delhi province.

**Shri S. O. Samanta:** Does the Scheme undertake the responsibility of the supply and import of necessities other than agricultural ones?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** They also help in securing cement and other requirements of the agriculturists.

**Shri S. O. Samanta:** May I know the difficulties that the scheme has to face even now to make it self-sufficient or even a surplus one?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** The difficulty is largely of adequate trained staff and naturally also of further financial resources.

**Shri S. O. Samanta:** May I know the average increase of production in the year 1949?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** I am afraid that has not been worked out.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** Is it a fact that the implementation of this scheme is entirely in the hands of an official committee and is it a fact that at the last meeting of the I. C. A. R. the suggestion was made that non-officials should be associated with this Committee?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** That is a fact.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I know whether periodical reports are received about this scheme?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Yes, they are received. I myself and officials of the Ministry also visit the area sometimes.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** If so, how is it that he is not in possession of the figures for increased production?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Giving the increased production figures means that the yield per acre ought to have been calculated in the preceding year and then the further yield this year also should be weighed. There has been no regular weighing of the yields.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Is it a fact that the officer in charge is neither an economist nor a degree holder in agriculture?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** He has done good work among the rural people. He has been successful in the field and we also see the result of the work done by him. The demand for seeds last year was 8,920 maunds and this year it has been 6,281 maunds. Also the demand for fruit plants has increased from 2000 in 1948-49 to 3200 in 1949-50.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** What is the reason for not appointing an Agriculture Graduate when the Agricultural Department has undertaken this scheme?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think we are now going into administrative details.

SCRAPPING AND REPAIRING OF LOCOMOTIVES

\*1138. **Shri Lakshmanan:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of over-aged and uneconomical locomotives scrapped during the year 1949?

(b) What is the average age of the scrapped locomotives?

(c) What will be the cost of spares reclaimed from the scrapped locomotives and the cost of the labour involved?

(d) What is the number of engines repaired in workshops during the years 1948 and 1949 separately?

**The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami):** (a) 27 BG and 6 MG overaged and uneconomical locomotives were scrapped during the year 1949.

(b) The approximate average age of the scrapped locomotives is:

BG	44 years
MG	41 years

(c) The average cost of spares reclaimed from each of the scrapped locomotives was:

BG	Rs. 7703/-
MG	Rs. 5000/-

The average cost of the labour involved for scrapping each loco was:

BG	Rs. 2021/-
MG	Rs. 1500/-

(d) The number of engines of all gauges repaired in workshops during 1948 and 1949 was 2528 in 1948 and 2618 in 1949.

**Shri Lakshmanan:** May I know how many locomotives have been put on the rails in the place of those broken up?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** Quite a lot of new engines have come in.

**श्री भट्ट :** क्या आन्वीय मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि अजमेर वर्कशाप में हर साल कितने इंजन बनते हैं ।

**Shri Bhatt:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the number of engines manufactured yearly at the Ajmer work-shop?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I am afraid I have not got the exact number.

**श्री भट्ट :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि अजमेर में बने हुए इंजन ज्यादा टिकाऊ, अच्छे और फायदेमन्द होते हैं ?

**Shri Bhatt:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the engines manufactured at Ajmer are more durable, superior and economical?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** They serve the purpose. I have not made any comparative estimate of their efficiency.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** May I know how many complete engines have been made out of this scrap material?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** None. Different types of pieces are taken out from each scrapped engine, and they may be used for the repair of other engines.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** May I know if these numbers which have been given by the hon. Minister represent the average scrapping every year?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I have said they are the average figures.

**Shri Tyagi:** May I know whether, before these engines were scrapped, they were duly examined by the Chief Mechanical Engineer of the Railways and certified by him as useless for service and therefore should be scrapped, or whether they were just scrapped because they had exceeded their prescribed age?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** They are examined before they are actually scrapped.

**Shri Tyagi:** Who examines them?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** The Mechanical Engineer.

**Shri Lakshmanan:** How is it that even after a large number of engines have been scrapped, the number of repairs have increased?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** There are thousands of engines in use. If one lot has been scrapped or repaired, other lots come in for repair.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Has there been any improvement in the time taken for repairing an engine as reported by the Economy Committee?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** My recollection is that in the last year there has been an improvement.

#### CO-OPERATION AND CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENTS

\*1139. **Shri A. Joseph:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what steps are being taken by the Government of India to (i) encourage education and research in co-operation; and (ii) to co-ordinate and develop the co-operative movements of different States?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** Owing to financial stringency, Government have not been able to assist the State Governments and the co-operative institutions with regard to education and research in co-operation. Co-ordination of the activities of the co-operative movement is at present secured by *ad hoc* conferences of representatives of State Governments and co-operative movement to consider important problems. The recommendations of a Committee appointed to draw up a plan of co-operative development are being considered by the State Governments.

**Shri N. S. Jain:** Have the proceedings of the All India Co-operative Conference which was held recently in Delhi been brought to the notice of Government?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Yes.

**Shri N. S. Jain:** Are Government taking any steps to implement the recommendations?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** We shall consider the recommendations when received.

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** May I know if Government contemplates making an experiment in co-operative farming in some selected areas?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** These experiments are being made in a number of States and we are watching the results.

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** May I know if Government proposes to institute an enquiry into the causes that have led to the slow progress of the co-operative movement in the country?

**Dr. Deshmukh:** May I know if it is the intention of Government to organise a Central Co-operative Department?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Yes; that is the intention. But, in view of the financial stringency, we may not be able to go very far and may be putting up a very small nucleus organisation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

BOARD OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

\*1141. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state how many members there are on the Board of the Damodar Valley Corporation and what are their names and occupations?

(b) Is there any Engineer represented on the Board and if not why not?

(c) Do Government propose to take any Engineer on the Board?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** (a) Shri Mozumdar, Chairman, is a senior Member of the Indian Civil Service. Shri Varma, Member, was, at the time of appointment, an Advocate, a Member of the Bihar Provincial Legislative Assembly, Member of the Constituent Assembly of India, Member of the Central Legislature and a well-known public man of Bihar. Dr. Guha, another Member, was Head of the Department of Industrial Chemistry and Biochemistry in the Calcutta University and had been Technical Adviser to the Ministry of Food of the Government of India.

(b) No. While considering the appointment of Members of the Corporation, Government decided that the Corporation should be composed of non-technical personnel.

(c) No.

**Shri R. L. Malviya:** May I know what arrangement has been made for getting expert engineering advice?

**Shri Gadgil:** The Corporation has engaged the services of a dozen expert engineers.

**Shri R. L. Malviya:** May I know if these appointments are permanent?

**Shri Gadgil:** They are appointed for a period of five years under the Act.

**Shri Gautam:** Are they whole-timers and how much does the Corporation spend on their salaries?

**Shri Gadgil:** They are whole-timers. As regards the details of salaries, I require notice.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** May I know if any steps have been taken for the appointment of a Chief Engineer?

**Shri Gadgil:** I think I have already replied to this point in the debate that took place a few days ago. The Corporation wants to appoint a Chief Engineer and towards that end, steps are being taken.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** Are we to understand that the Corporation has been functioning for over a year without the assistance of a Chief Engineer?

**Shri Gadgil:** As a matter of fact, objectively, it is so. At the same time, it has engaged as I said nearly a dozen expert engineers.

**Shri Tyagi:** Have any instructions been issued to the Corporation not to place orders with foreign countries for goods which are available with the Government Department for Disposals?

**Shri Gadgil:** This does not arise out of this question.

**Shri Tyagi:** I want to know whether the Government has any hand in controlling the placing of orders for construction and other articles which are available here.

**Mr. Speaker:** The difficulty is this question is outside the scope of the main question.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** May I know whether all these engineers are Indians or nationals of other countries?

**Shri Gadgil:** As I said last time, out of 112 technical persons, two are foreigners.

#### PRODUCTION OF *Gur*

\*1142 **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state how much *gur* was produced in 1949?

(b) How much was exported to foreign countries in the same year?

(c) Have Government got any proposal under consideration to enlarge the scope and efficiency of *gur*-producing industry?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) The production of *gur* during the season 1948-49 has been estimated at 3,010,000 tons.

(b) Separate statistics of exports of *gur* as distinguished from some other products of cane are not maintained by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics. However, export by sea and land of *gur* including un-refined sugar, palmirah jaggery and molasses from January to December, 1949, was 29,400 tons.

(c) Research on improved processes of manufacture of *gur* is being done by the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. Standards of qualities have been laid down and the best method of storage has been suggested to the manufacturers.



**Shri Rathnaswamy:** May I know as to how much quantity Madras alone was able to produce in 1949?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** We have not got the provincial breakdown. I can give the total for the country as a whole.

**Kanwar Jaswant Singh:** To what countries is *gur* mainly exported?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** We have not got the details of that. But, 16,296 tons went by land and 19,140 tons by sea.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** May I know if the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to the fact that the Tariff Board has reported that one million tons of *gur* can be produced from palmyrah trees, and if the answer is yes, what steps are taken by Government in that direction?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** That is the ultimate potential figure. Steps are taken to increase the production of palm *gur*. We have set up a small organisation at the Centre and are developing with the help of State Government, centres in all parts of India for production of palm *gur*.

**Shri N. S. Jain:** Is it the policy of Government to encourage the export of *gur* to foreign countries?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** There is no such policy; but there is no prohibition. I think some small quantity has gone to East Bengal.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Is it a fact that during the last few months there has been a sharp rise in the price of *gur* and may I know what the reasons are?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Yes. The reason for the rise of price is scarcity of sugar and therefore there has been a rise in the price of *gur*.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** May I know the comparative figures for the production of *gur* during the last four years?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:**

1945-1946	...	2,712,000 tons.
1946-1947	...	3,058,000 tons.
1947-1948	...	3,169,000 tons.
1948-1949	...	3,010,000 tons.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** What is the policy of Government, whether to produce more *gur* or to convert this *gur* into sugar?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** We want more *gur* and more sugar.

**Shri B. Velayudhan:** May I know how the Government gets these figures regarding quantity of production?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** We receive them through the Sugar Technological Institute at Kanpur which is in touch with trade.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### LAND RECLAMATION

\*1145 **Shri Dwivedi:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state what steps Government have taken for bringing into cultivation arable, reclaimable and fallow lands in part B and C States?

(b) What are the facilities and financial help, if any, available in these areas to the *bona fide* (i) farmers with mechanised methods and (ii) small *kisans* with traditional methods?

(c) What is the progress of such work in various states?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) The following steps have been taken by the Government of India in this connection;

(i) Government of India sent tractors during 1948-49 to Matsya Union, which has since merged with Rajasthan, for mechanical cultivation of lands left fallow due to mass migration of Muslim cultivators and to Madhya Bharat for reclamation of waste land infested with *kans*.

(ii) Tractors were also employed during 1949 in Delhi.

(iii) Subsidies amounting to Rs. 69,871 were sanctioned to Coorg during 1947-48, Rs. 62,488 during 1948-49 and 71,250 during 1949-50 for their reclamation schemes.

(iv) Subsidies amounting to Rs. 9,08,990 were sanctioned to the Union of Travancore and Cochin during 1949-50 for their reclamation schemes.

(v) It is proposed to reclaim with the help of tractors *kans* infested land to the extent of 9,89,000 acres in Madhya Bharat and 5,22,000 acres in Bhopal during a period of seven years commencing from 1950.

(b) The facilities and financial help available to *bona fide* farmers using mechanised methods are;

(1) Grant of loans for purchase of tractors and other equipment;

(2) hiring of tractors for reclamation or mechanical cultivation at reasonable rates; and

(3) concession in payment of land revenue for reclaimed lands in the initial stages.

The facilities to small cultivators using traditional methods are the grant of a subsidy equivalent of 50 per cent. of the cost of reclamation done by them by means of their bullock power and manual labour. They are also given *taccavi* loans to cover their share of the expenditure which is later recovered in easy instalments.

(c) The progress of the work is as follows:

(i) 77,427 acres have been reclaimed and cultivated in Matsya Union.

(ii) 5,200 acres were reclaimed in Madhya Bharat.

(iii) 2,410 acres have been cultivated in Delhi.

(iv) 1,284 acres were reclaimed in Coorg during 1947-48 and 1948-49.

The progress of work during the current year will be known some time in July, 1950, after the crop year is over.

**श्री द्विवेदी :** क्या ऐसे राज्यों में सहकारी योजना को भी प्रोत्साहन दिया जा रहा है ?

**Shri Dwivedi:** Is the scheme for co-operative societies also being encouraged in such states?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Assistance is also being given to co-operative societies. As a matter of fact sometimes preference is given to them.

**श्री द्विवेदी :** क्या सहकारी योजना ऐसी रियासतों में बढ़ाई जा रही है ?

**Shri Dwivedi:** Is the scheme for co-operative societies being further developed in these States?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Yes, it is progressing rather slowly.

**Shri Vyas:** Does the Government know that the staff engaged on the tractors supplied to the Matsya Union have to wait for a number of days for petrol?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** It is true, because they were not able to receive petrol in time. On account of such delays work has to be stopped for some time but it means stopping work by some tractors only.

**Shri Barman:** What is the total acreage of land that is available by reclamation for the purpose of being put under cultivation?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** It is a very large area, which cannot be properly surveyed all at once but rough calculations have been made, on the basis of which we have prepared the programme for reclaiming 80 lakh acres in seven years.

**Shri Lakshmanan:** In view of the self sufficiency drive in food, do Government propose to penalise those who allow large areas of arable land to lie fallow?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Some State Governments have legislated for taking over of land which is not being cultivated and handing it over to others for cultivation.

**श्री द्विवेदी :** क्या विन्ध्य प्रदेश और भोपाल में भी इन योजनाओं के अनुसार कार्य हो रहा है ?

**Shri Dwivedi:** Is the work under these schemes being carried out in Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh also?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** I will not be able to give you the details of the steps taken by the Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh Governments for the purpose of transferring land from those who do not cultivate to those who are prepared to cultivate it. These are matters of administrative detail for which we have no information here.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** Is it a fact that not only on account of want of petrol but due to lack of spare parts and implements the tractors have to wait for weeks and months?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** On account of lack of spare parts sometimes tractors were not able to work. Spares had to be imported from America and that took unduly long time. All these tractors were purchased from the American Disposals soon after the war came to an end. Since then new models have been invented and therefore there has been difficulty in securing spare parts.

**Sardar B. S. Man:** Is it a fact that a lot of land reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organization in Matsya Province was not being utilised and, if so, what steps have Government taken to see that the reclaimed land does not remain fallow?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** As I had explained on an earlier occasion the function of the Central Ministry of Agriculture is to reclaim the land. The responsibility for making the preparations for actual cultivation lies with the local administration partly and partly with the Rehabilitation Ministry, who have to finance the refugees for their cultivation operations.

#### MINES IN SCHEDULED AREAS

\*1146. **Shri P. K. Ramiah:** Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether any reports have been called for from the Governments of the respective States about the existence and value of different mines in the Scheduled Areas and about the proposals for undertaking the working of the said mines as State enterprises?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** No.

**Shri P. K. Ramiah:** Will the hon. Minister please call for a report?

**Shri Gadgil:** I shall do that.

#### WATERFALLS AND COURSES IN SCHEDULED AREAS

\*1147 **Shri P. K. Ramiah:** Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether any and if so, what steps have been taken to call for a report from the Governments of respective States in the matter of investigation for utilization of waterfall and courses existing in the Scheduled Areas for industrial and agricultural purposes?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** The reply is in the negative.

#### PROCUREMENT PRICES OF RICE AND *Jawar*

\*1148. **Shri Rudrappa:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state the procurement prices of paddy or rice and *jawar* for the current year in the Mysore State and in the Dharwar district of the Bombay State?

(b) Was any representation made to the Government of India by the Government of Mysore to permit them to enhance the procurement price of paddy to the level of the procurement price prevailing in the Dharwar district, so that there may be no smuggling of food grains from Mysore State to Bombay State?

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

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) The procurement prices of paddy and *jawar* in Mysore State and Dharwar District of Bombay are as follows:

		<i>Mysore</i>		<i>Dharwar</i>
Paddy	I sort . . .	10-0-0	Superior	12-2-0
	II sort . . .	9-0-0	Medium	10-10-0
			Inferior	9-4-0
<i>Jawar</i>		7-2-0		11-0-0

(b) Yes, as an alternative to reducing prices in adjoining districts of Bombay to the level of Mysore.

(c) **The Bombay Government** had reduced the procurement price of paddy by about five per cent. in the Dharwar district narrowing down the gap and further reduction in Bombay prices was not possible. It was explained to the Mysore Government that absolute parity was not possible and they were advised to take suitable administrative measures to check smuggling.

**Shri Rudrappa:** May I know whether the Government of India have any hand in fixing the procurement prices of foodgrains?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Yes, they are all approved by the Central Government on the basis of the proposals put up by the State Governments.

**Shri Rudrappa:** May I know whether the Government of Mysore had recommended a higher price?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** They did make such a recommendation but in pursuance of the policy of the Government to bring about a gradual reduction in price levels we did not agree to that higher price.

**Shri Rudrappa:** May I know whether the procurement prices are uniform throughout the Provinces and the States?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** They are not uniform throughout the States; they do vary sometimes from district to district.

**Shri Rudrappa:** What steps do the Government of India intend to take to regularise the prices in the various Provinces and States?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** The disparity in prices is due to the disparity in conditions, distances from distributing centres, cost of production and various other factors and also to some extent to the chance of procurement at particular price levels. Therefore it is not possible to have one uniform price of procurement for all the States.

**Shri Alagesan:** What is the lowest procurement rate and in what State does it obtain?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** I am afraid I am not able to give that information straightaway, for all the grains.

**Shri Alagesan:** My question is with respect to paddy.

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Possibly in Orissa but I am speaking from memory. I would like to have notice of that question so that I can give full details.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** Do Government propose to have a uniform procurement price as far as possible in all States?

**Mr. Speaker:** That has already been replied to.

#### CONSTRUCTION OF CAPITAL FOR ORISSA

\*1149. **Shri Nandkishore Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to refer to the answers given by the Minister of Finance to starred question No. 671 put by Shri Maheswar Naik on 7th March 1950 regarding construction of capital for Orissa and state whether any complaint or information was received by the Government of India regarding defects in the construction work of the capital of Orissa at Bhubaneswar?

(b) Did any official of the Central P.W.D. pay any visit to Bhubaneswar recently to supervise the constructions already made?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, has the said official submitted any report to the Government of India?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** (a) to (c). At the request of the Chief Minister of Orissa, an officer of the Central Waterpower Irrigation and Navigation Commission inspected the construction work at Bhubaneswar. He will submit his report to the Government of Orissa, who are exclusively responsible for the work.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### ANDAMAN FORESTS

\*1122. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state whether the matter of leasing out of Andaman forests is still under consideration?

(b) What is the annual revenue derived from these forests and what is the establishment and other costs for maintaining them?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) Presumably the hon. Member is referring to North Andamans Forests. A scheme for their exploitation and leasing out is under consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

### PETROL STORAGE TANKS

\*1123. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of **Works, Mines and Power** be pleased to state the total capacity of storage tanks of petrol in various ports in India?

(b) Has any new storage tank been built after the year 1945 and if so, where and of what capacity?

(c) Is the present storage capacity sufficient for the consumption of petrol in India?

(d) Have Government taken steps to ask the importers of petroleum to construct more installations at various ports and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** (a) and (b). Government do not consider it to be in the public interest to disclose this information.

(c) Yes.

(d) Government have not found it necessary to issue any such instructions as the Oil Companies have of their own accord been taking steps for increasing the storage capacity, as and when necessary.

### CATTLE CENSUS

\*1124. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to give an estimate of the number of cattle in India in 1949-50?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** The last census of cattle was held in 1945. The number of cattle was then estimated at nearly 187 millions.

## DESTRUCTION OF FRUIT IN TRANSIT ON RAILWAYS

\*1140. **Shri Narayana Deo:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the destruction of fruit and other perishable food articles while in transit in hot weather?

(b) Why are construction of cold storage wagons not taken to minimise destruction and wastage?

(c) Is the cost of construction prohibitive or are the required parts not available to construct the cold storage wagons?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) The government have not received any specific complaints to this effect.

(b) To a limited extent such facilities are provided to meet the demand which at present exists. The possibility of development has been and continues to be explored. Last year a number of vans were made ready for the refrigerated transport of graded fruit from Kashmir, but the traffic did not eventuate.

(c) It is not so much a matter of construction costs being prohibitive and required parts not being available, as of the technical difficulties of providing a refrigerated service which could meet any general demand which could be stimulated. For example, different temperatures are required for different commodities. Moreover, the problem does not begin and end with rail transport. Pre-cooling arrangements and cold storage accommodation are also necessary.

## AREA UNDER CULTIVATION

\*1143. **Shri Mukhtiar Singh:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the area which has been brought newly under cultivation in different States during each of the last four years?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** The Central Government reclaimed 1,05,784 acres during 1947-48 and 1948-49 as indicated below:

1947-48

Uttar Pradesh.	25,077 acres
Madhya Pradesh.	7,454 acres
Total .	<u>32,531 acres</u>

1948-49

Uttar Pradesh.	20,800 acres
Madhya Pradesh.	30,247 acres
Madhya Bharat Union.	5,200 acres
Delhi.	1,756 acres
Punjab.	6,450 acres
Total .	<u>73,253 acres</u>
Grand Total .	<u>1,05,784 acres</u>

Figures of areas reclaimed by State Governments and Private parties in the States have been called for and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

## OIL SEEDS ADVISORY COUNCIL

\*1144. **Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the Constitution of Oil Seeds Advisory Council;
- (b) whether oil seeds producers are represented in the Council; and
- (c) whether oil seeds producers or producers' organisations have been refused seats in the Advisory Council and if so, why?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) A statement showing the constitution of the Indian Oilseeds Committee established under Act No. IX of 1948 is laid on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix VI annexure No. 1.*]

(b) Yes.

(c) No. Representatives of grower's interests are nominated on the Committee by the State and Central Governments after consulting growers associations.

## THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE IN DELHI

\*1150. **Shri Bhatkar:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state the date of the establishment of the College of Agriculture in Delhi?

(b) What rent per annum is paid for the building rented for this purpose?

(c) What is the total of other expenditure incurred on the college since its inception upto 1st February, 1950?

(d) What is the number of pupils who have successfully passed out of the college?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) April, 1947.

(b) Rs. 91,524/-. Part of the building is used for housing displaced employees of Posts and Telegraphs Department.

(c) Rs. 8,36,585/-.

(d) The first batch will appear for the final examination in April, 1950.

## SUGAR-CANE RESEARCH INSTITUTES

\*1151. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state how many sugar-cane research institutes have been at work in India and where?

(b) What is the annual cost of establishment of these institutes?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) and (b). There are in all twenty-five Stations and Sub-stations for research in sugar-cane. Their locations and the annual cost of each wherever ascertainable is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House [See *Appendix VI, annexure No. 2.*]



## FOREST LANDS

\*1152. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Agriculture** be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of forest land in India during the years 1947, 1948 and 1949;
- (b) the area of forest land expected to be submerged or disafforested by the execution of projects for irrigation and generation of power;
- (c) the area of land covered by afforestation work during the years 1947, 1948 and 1949; and
- (d) the expenditure incurred for the afforestation work?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jaiaramdas Doulatram):** (a) The State Governments reported that the forest area in their jurisdiction was 171,330 square miles in 1946-47. The data for later years are not yet available owing to partition of some Provinces and merger of States. The data is being collected afresh.

- (b) Eight Square Miles.
- (c) 19.3 square miles in 1946-47. For later years data are not available.
- (d) Information regarding the expenditure incurred in each of the above years on afforestation is being called for from the State Governments.

## ROAD TRANSPORT SERVICES

\*1153. **Shri P. Basu Reddi:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

- (a) the states which have undertaken Road Transport Services;
- (b) the states in which autonomous corporations have been established for the management of State-owned Road Transport Services; and
- (c) the steps that are taken for establishment of such corporations in states where they do not exist now?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) All the States with the exception of Bihar, PEPSU, Vindhya Pradesh, Ajmer, Bhopal, Coorg and Tripura, have undertaken road transport services but in varying degrees.

(b) So far a Road Transport Corporation has been established in Bombay. A similar corporation will be established in Delhi from 1st April, 1950.

(c) The initiative for the re-organisation of road transport services rests with the State Governments who have got the authority in the matter. To enable those State Governments who may desire to set up statutory transport corporations, a Central Act known as the Road Transport Corporations Act was enacted in 1948. As certain provisions of this Act were found to be legally defective, a fresh Bill has been introduced in the Parliament.

## NEW TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS FOR MADRAS

\*1154. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state how many applications were received in 1949 in Madras for telephone connection and how many were complied with in the same year?

- (b) How many applications are still pending?
- (c) What is the basis on which applications are given priority?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** (a) 957 applications were received in 1949 and 220 connections were given in the same year. Out of these, 81 connections were given to those who applied in 1949 and 189 to those who had applied in earlier years.

(b) 4,506 applications were pending on the waiting list, at the time of the introduction of 'Own Your Telephone Scheme'.

(c) The 'Own Your Telephone Scheme' has been applied to Madras. Under it a connection is given on payment of a sum of Rs. 2,000/- and priority is given in the order in which this money is deposited by the applicant. 80 per cent. of the telephones to be allotted are reserved for exempted categories as follows:

(1) Public men . . . . .	5 per cent.
(2) Public Institutions . . . . .	5 per cent.
(3) Deserving Refugees . . . . .	5 per cent.
(4) Medical Profession . . . . .	5 per cent.
(5) (a) Persons whose telephone had been disconnected during the war and have not yet been restored.	7½ per cent.
(b) Persons who had been allotted telephone connections by the Telephone Advisory Committee prior to the introduction of the 'Own Your Telephone' scheme	
(c) Press	
(6) Persons to whom the Director-General or Government may allot at their discretion.	2½ per cent.

The allotment of telephones in the exempted categories, except in the case of the 2½ per cent. allotment which is reserved at the discretion of the Director-General or the Government, is done on the advice of the Telephone Advisory Committee, who are to distribute them equitably, priority of application being one of the factors to be taken into consideration by them.

#### WAGONS IN BENGAL AND BIHAR COALFIELDS

\*1155. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there were unabsorbed wagons in the Bengal and Bihar coalfields during the months from July to November 1949 after meeting the normal indents and wagons allotted as Specials without indents by the Coal Commissioner's Department; and

(b) if so, the number of such unabsorbed wagons lying idle at different Railway yards during the period July to November 1949 in the Bengal and Bihar coalfields and the reasons thereof?

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

(b) Figures of unabsorbed wagons at different Railway Yards during the period in question are not readily available, but the overall daily average of unutilised wagons in the coal-field areas was approximately as under:

July,	1949	..	334
Aug.,	..	..	570
Sept.,	..	..	31
Oct.,	..	..	863
Novr.,	..	..	161

This was mainly due to insufficient indents throughout the entire period. On some occasions, however, the Railways had to limit recommendations for allotment due to operational restrictions for movement *via* certain junctions and break-of-gauge stations.

#### PUBLICATION—"FOOD AND NUTRITION"

\*1156. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state whether the Government are aware that their monthly publication "Food and Nutrition" which is meant for spreading knowledge on Food and Nutrition among the general public, is not very popular because it is being published in English and not in Hindi?

(b) If so, do Government propose to publish this journal in Hindi and if not, why not?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) Being published in English the Journal "Food and Nutrition" has naturally a restricted appeal.

(b) The question of translation of this journal either in whole or in parts in the local languages so as to increase its circulation was referred to the State Governments. In some States, articles published in this journal are being translated in the local languages whilst in others the question is under consideration.

#### PUBLICITY ON MATTERS RELATING TO NUTRITION

\*1157. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state what steps the Government have taken for wide publicity on matters relating to Nutrition, during the year 1949?

(b) What steps do they propose to take for the next year?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jairamdas Doulatram):** (a) The following steps were taken in 1949:

(i) Publication of a monthly magazine, containing articles on food and nutrition;

(ii) exhibition of Nutrition models, posters and charts;

(iii) broadcast talks relating to food and nutrition; and

(iv) publication of Subsidiary food recipes.

(b) Government will continue to take steps to secure publicity in regard to nutrition. The monthly publication is however likely to be discontinued on account of financial stringency.

## KASHMIR MAIL DISASTER

\*1158. **Kaka Bhagwant Roy:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what is the result of the enquiry made into the Kashmir Mail disaster on the E.P.R.?

(b) What is the total loss incurred by the Government?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** (a) The Government Inspector of Railways' Report has not yet been finalized.

(b) The cost of damage to Railway property is estimated to be Rs. 1,22,000.

## SCHEDULED CASTES IN POSTAL DEPARTMENT, UTTAR PRADESH

\*1159. { **Shri Sohan Lal:**  
**Shri Chandrika Ram:**

(a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the total number of Clerks and Inspectors in the Postal Department in the State of Uttar Pradesh?

(b) How many of them belong to the Scheduled Castes?

(c) Is it a fact that Scheduled Castes candidates do not have their quota reserved for them by the Government specially in the Gorakhpur division for (i) Clerks (ii) Inspectors and (iii) Class IV servants?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what step if any are Government taking to fill up the said quota?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) During the period from 15th August, 1947, to 31st December, 1949, two scheduled caste clerks were recruited in the Gorakhpur Division as against the quota of six reserved for them, while no scheduled caste persons were recruited in Class IV as against the quota of two reserved for them. There is no quota for scheduled caste candidates in the Inspectors' grade as vacancies in this grade are filled by promotion of departmental officials through an examination.

(d) The Postmaster-General of Uttar Pradesh Circle is being instructed to take special steps to stimulate the recruitment of members of Scheduled castes in the Gorakhpur Division.

## A RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN TALCHER AND ROWRKELA ON B.N. RAILWAY

\*1160. **Shri Nalk:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether any survey has been made for construction of a railway line linking Talcher with Rowrkela over the Howrah-Bombay section of the B. N. Railway.?

(b) If so, what is the estimated cost thereof?

(c) When do the Government propose to start work in that behalf?

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

(b) Rs. 5,85,44,000 including interest on capital during the construction period and the cost of junction arrangements

(c) A final decision on this project has not yet been taken, and the Government are, therefore, not in a position at this stage to state whether the project will be approved and when, if approved, it is likely to commence.

**NATIONAL HIGHWAYS**

\*1161. **Shri Nalk:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how many new National Highways are proposed to be constructed during the next five years and how many are under actual construction?

(b) What progress has so far been made in respect of construction of Calcutta-Bombay and Calcutta-Madras National Highways?

(c) How many major rivers require to be bridged on these two Highways and how many of them come within the State of Orissa?

(d) What is the total cost estimated on these two Highways?

(e) When do the Government expect to complete construction thereof?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) National Highways will conform for the most part to existing roads and no entirely new roads are likely to be constructed as National Highways:—

It is also not possible to anticipate which new roads, if any, will be designated as National Highways by law under the Constitution. The hon. Member may refer to the reply given to part (a) of question No. 942 asked by Shri Sree Narayan Das on the 17th March 1950.

Construction work is in progress in stretches of 23 of the 36 routes provisionally designated as National Highways and will be taken in hand at different places on the others as funds permit.

Owing to shortage of funds and the uncertainties of future budget provisions, there is at present no five-year programme of construction. All roads at present provisionally regarded as National Highways are, however, being maintained and repaired at Central expense.

(b) These Highways are already in existence though there is a gap of about 300 miles in the Bombay-Calcutta Highway where there is no direct connection and the Highway follows at present an indirect line.

This gap is being gradually closed. Eighteen miles of new road in the gap have recently been completed and 66 miles improved. Thirteen bridges are at present under construction on both these Highways.

(c) Thirty-four; eighteen in Orissa.

(d) About Rs. 22 crores at present day costs.

(e) As quickly as funds become available.

**HARBOUR ELECTRIFICATION SCHEME AT NAGAPATTINAM**

\*1162. **Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government propose to take up the harbour electrification scheme at Nagapattinam?

(b) Do Government consider the desirability of constructing a rest house for passengers there?

**The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):** (a) and (b). The responsibility for the improvement of the minor port of Nagapattinam rests with the Government of Madras and the Government of India have no information.

### CLASS I ACCOMMODATION IN TRAINS ON THE SUBURBAN SECTIONS OF S.I. RAILWAY

\*1163. **Shri Sanjivayya:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that class I accommodation in trains will be abolished on the suburban sections of S.I. Railway?

(b) If so, what are the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) Yes, Class I accommodation will be replaced by Class II Special on Suburban Electric trains on the S. I. Railway from 1st April, 1950.

(b) The reason for abolition of Class I accommodation on such trains is insufficient demand by the public for this class and their insistent demand for the provision of Class II Special accommodation instead.

### A BRIDGE OVER GANDAK RIVER

\*1164. **Shri B. B. Varma:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the stage at which the investigation of a suitable site for a bridge over Gandak river in connection with Chakia Sidhwalia Survey (O.T. Railway) has reached?

(b) Has any survey on the question of the connecting railway line been made and if so, with what result?

(c) How long will it take to complete the investigation, survey and construction of the railway line and the bridge?

(d) How much money has so far been spent towards the survey etc.?

**The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):** (a) A detailed survey of the site was made in 1927-28. The site has not yet been re-surveyed.

(b) The connecting railway lines were surveyed in 1927-28 and revealed that the Chakia-Sidhwalia project would not be financially remunerative.

(c) A fresh survey for the proposed bridge and connecting railway lines is estimated to take a full working season and the construction of a project of this magnitude would require at least three years to complete.

(d) Rs. 14,928 were spent on the surveys carried out in 1927-28.

### PETROL

\*1165. **Shri V. K. Reddi:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what is the basis of distribution of petrol between various States?

(b) Why is it that the State quotas are reduced from quarter to quarter?

(c) Is there any proposal for increasing the quota for the States?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) Petrol quotas to various States are fixed on the basis of the total availability of petrol for civil consumption and the estimated requirements of each State calculated on the number of vehicles on the road and their use.

(b) It is not correct to say that quotas are reduced from quarter to quarter. Since August 1946, when the present quota system was introduced, the quota for each quarter has shown an increase over that for the preceding quarter excepting for four quarters, namely November 1947 to July 1948, and July-September, 1949.

(c) Petrol quotas allocated for the next quarter represent an increase of five per cent. as compared with the current quarter.

## COLLIERIES IN MANBHUM

\*1166. **Shri Kshudiram Mahata:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Mines and Power be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some collieries in Manbhum are neither under Jharia Water Board of Mines nor under Raniganj Water Board of Mines?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what is the number of such collieries?

(c) What is the cause for not including these under Jharia Water Board of Mines?

(d) What is the present arrangement for supply of drinking water for labourers in these collieries?

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgi):** (a) to (d). The question concerns the hon. Minister of Labour who will answer it on a date

## REPORT ON ACCIDENT TO CALCUTTA MAIL

\*1167. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government Inspector of Railways has sent a report on the recent accident to the Calcutta Mail near Sulturpet?

(b) If so, how many witnesses were examined?

(c) What was the general opinion of the witnesses?

(d) Has the Inspector suggested any immediate device to stop such accidents?

(e) If so, what steps do Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** (a) The Government Inspector's Report has not yet been received.

(b) to (e). Do not arise.

## SQUARE MEAL CANTEENS

132. **Shri R. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Minister of Food be pleased to state whether Government are aware about the working of the Bombay Government Square Meal Canteen which is supplying a well-balanced and nutritious meal to the Bombay Government employees at cheap rates?

(b) If so, do Government propose to open similar canteens in Delhi, New Delhi and other Centrally Administrative areas, for the benefit of Government employees?

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

(b) The example of the Bombay Government Square Meal Canteen was brought to the notice of all State Governments (other than Bombay) and Centrally Administered areas so that similar canteens may be opened wherever considered necessary by the local Governments. The question has been left to the discretion of each local administration. In New Delhi, a number of canteens have been started for supplying meals/snacks to Government employees at cheap rates.

Monday, 27th March, 1950



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

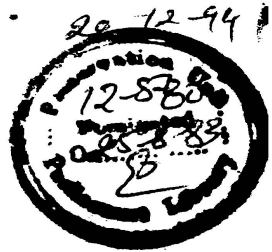
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# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Monday, 27th 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.

### INDIAN PATENTS AND DESIGNS (AMENDMENT) BILL

**The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1911.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1911."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** I introduce the Bill.

### FINANCE BILL

#### PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar (Madras):** I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the year beginning on the 1st day of April, 1950.

*Premature publicity of recommendations of Select Committee on Finance Bill*

**Mr. Speaker:** In this connection, I may state to the House that my attention was invited by the Deputy-Speaker, who was the Chairman of the Select Committee, to a publication of the proceedings of the Committee or some parts of it in the morning edition of the *Statesman* yesterday. I wish to invite the attention of the press to the fact that it is a breach of the privilege of the House to give publicity to proceedings of its Committees before their Reports are presented to the House. The Deputy-Speaker requested me to consider the matter and I promised him that I would take up the matter. But in the meanwhile I have received a letter of unconditional apology from the paper's office. And the writer says:

"I referred to the conclusions of the Select Committee on the Finance Bill. I understood this morning that a reference of this kind was improper. In apologizing unreservedly for this error I wish to assure you that this mistake was committed in *bona fide* ignorance and will not be repeated."

I am mentioning it to the House so that the press may now take notice of this; and this may not recur and they may not be in ignorance as to what is proper and what is and what is not a matter of the privileges of the House.

**Shri Shiva Rao (Madras):** May I make a submission in this connection, Sir? I have invited the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister to the leakage in the press in recent weeks of proceedings of Standing Committees or of memoranda supplied to Members of Standing Committees. I speak with a certain amount of feeling on this subject because I have found that whenever there is a leakage of this character, hon. Members look at some of us who have the misfortune to be newspapermen—Shri Deshbandhu Gupta, Shri Goenka and myself—in a very insinuating manner, and their looks are even more offensive than words. I can assure you, Sir, that we would be the last persons to take unfair advantage of our membership of Standing Committees. But at the same time I think the Finance Minister will agree that in the instances to which I have invited his attention, the leakage was of a fairly serious character and I think it is a matter which should engage your attention so that leakage of that kind does not recur.

**Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh):** May I add a word, Sir? There can be no such leakage without the connivance of some of the Members or officials. My submission is that since this is the first case that has come to the notice of Parliament, a Committee be instituted to go into the conduct of the Member or the official who has been the cause of this leakage. Otherwise such leakages cannot stop. If it is the fault of the Member then he has violated the dignity of the House by becoming a tool to this leakage. And I would submit that if a Member is accused and it is found that he is guilty of the offence, he must be brought before the House and dealt with accordingly.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not think any further discussion of this is necessary. We need not take time in this. I am sure the hon. the Finance Minister will do what is proper in this matter.

We will now proceed with the next item of business, namely, Demands for Supplementary Grants.

**Maulvi Wajed Ali (Assam):** May I know, Sir, whether Members will be supplied with copies of this Select Committee Report?

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, they will be.

## DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1949-50—RAILWAYS

### DEMAND NO. 3—MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,57,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure'."

### DEMAND NO. 5—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,49,93,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Repairs and Maintenance'."

### DEMAND NO. 7—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—OPERATION (FUEL)

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,12,72,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operation (Fuel)'."

## DEMAND NO. 8—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—OPERATION OTHER THAN STAFF AND FUEL

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,82,08,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operation other than Staff and Fuel'."

## DEMAND NO. 10—PAYMENTS TO INDIAN STATES AND COMPANIES

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 33,86,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Payments to Indian States and Companies.'"

## DEMAND NO. 15—CONSTRUCTION OF NEW LINES

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Construction of New Lines.'"

## DEMAND NO. 18—OPEN LINE WORKS—BETTERMENT FUND (PASSENGER AMENITIES)

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Open Line Works—Betterment Fund (Passenger Amenities).'"

So far as I understand, there are no cut motions in respect of the Demands for the Railways.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar (Madras):** I would like to make only a few general observations. If hon. Members would refer to the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways, dated the 24th March, 1950, they will find on page 2 that the original Budget Estimate under Demand No. 5, Revenue Working Expenses, was Rs. 49 crores, the revised estimate was Rs. 65 crores, the latest estimate of the Railways is Rs. 66 crores and they want an additional supplementary grant of Rs. 60 lakhs. Thus, the original estimate of Rs. 49 crores has increased to the latest estimate of Rs. 66 crores. My general observation is that such disparity between the original and the revised estimates ought not to have been allowed to come in. I would like to make the same observation with respect to the other Demands, Demands Nos. 7 and 8. In Demand No. 7 from Rs. 24 crores it has increased to Rs. 28 crores, and in Demand No. 8 from Rs. eight crores it has risen to Rs. eleven crores. And we are now asked to vote additional sums of Rs. two crores and Rs. one crore respectively under Demands No. 7 and No. 8.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister how far the increase is due to faulty estimates. It may be that the increase may be due to faulty estimates in the first instance. Secondly, it may be due to increase in the running charges. Or, as against a distance of a thousand miles expected, a distance of 2,000 miles was the distance that the trains were engaged in. The increased mileage might naturally cause this. I would like to know whether the increase is under this head. Or, because during the course of the year increase in earnings has been noticed, has there been a corresponding increase in expenditure? Has there been any additional staff employed merely because of that? In other words, merely because there was increased income, has there been an unnecessary increase in expenditure? These are the ways in which we can easily find out if there has been uneconomic expenditure in the matter of this Railway administration. That is all that I would like to ask at this stage.



I think nobody has given notice of any cut motion. As originally the hon. Minister gave a very good account of the administration last year, the absence of cut motions only shows that Parliament as a whole is not up against him. The administration is good in general. But I would urge upon him to see to it that the original estimate as far as possible corresponds to what is to be ultimately spent. There is a tendency—not only in his Department but in all Departments—because there are larger earnings, particularly in earning Departments, to increase expenditure. I am anxious to avoid that.

**The Minister of Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):** I wish only to say, with regard to the point raised by my hon. friend the Deputy-Speaker, that the three items—or rather the two main items—under which there has been some increase in the amount that is now asked for under Supplementary Demands over what we contemplated asking for on the basis of our Revised Estimates, are Coal and Claims.

With regard to coal, the total increase comes to about Rs. two crores. Part of this is due to the fact that we had to debit, to revenue, expenditure on the removal of overburden found in collieries which in the ordinary course would have been debited to capital. Hon. Members are aware that the railway collieries—although the financial responsibility for them is with the Railways—are under the management and control of another Ministry and there was some hitch in the arrangements that existed in our getting figures from the other Ministry as regards the debiting of this expenditure which really exceeded the Revised Estimate by about a crore of rupees so far as the removal of overburden was concerned. The matter was settled subsequent to the submission of the Revised Estimates to this House and it was then decided between the three Ministries concerned, namely, my Ministry, the I. and S. Ministry and the Finance Ministry, that this particular sum might, in the current year, be debited to revenue because our revenue position was favourable.

The second thing was this: We had to spend an extra sum amounting to somewhere about Rs. 90 lakhs, firstly, because additional coal had to be taken by a number of Railway Administrations out of the allotment made by the Coal Commissioner, because we had to increase our services. Secondly, more coal was despatched by sea instead of by rail, and the sea freight is heavier than the rail freight. That explains about Rs. two crores in all on coal.

The other big item relates to claims. I think it amounts to about Rs. 66 lakhs. I mean the increase. Hon. Members are aware that there has been a very energetic drive in all Railway Administrations for the purpose of reducing arrears under claims. As the figures stood when we had to present the Revised Estimates, we thought that we would be able to finance the expenditure in the current year with what we provided for in them, but subsequent figures up to the end of February have since been received and it is found that the work has been even more expeditiously attended to than we had anticipated. That explains an increased expenditure of about Rs. 66 lakhs. As we have the figures ready, and as we are presenting the Supplementary Demands practically at the close of the Session, we thought that it would be the proper thing to include this in the Supplementary Demands which we are now presenting to the House.

The others relate to a number of minor items and out of those there are certain items which have been responsible for increased expenditure because we have had to incur more expenditure on operation of increased services and so on. That is all that I have to say.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** I am anxious to know something about Demand No. 5 where the original estimate was Rs. 49 crores and the Revised Estimate is

Rs. 68 crores. Now, a Supplementary Demand of Rs. 16 crores has been brought before us. The Demand refers to repairs and maintenance.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari** (Madras): On the particular Demand which the hon. the Deputy-Speaker has referred to, I should like to make a query, if I am permitted.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** In Demand No. 5, the "inflationary element in expenditure after 1942-43" is Rs. 14,89,88,000.

I tried to reconcile this with the details given in the Report of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways (page 2), but I am afraid I have not been able to reconcile the figures or find an adequate explanation. Of course, it is one of those queer things that have happened to railway finance from 1942-43, namely, the addition of a lump sum by way of "inflationary element". I would like the hon. Minister to give us an idea as to how this amount of Rs. 14 crores and odd is made up, particularly in view of the fact that in the Revised Estimate the amount is only Rs. 15,68,00,000. I would like to have a split-up of this amount.

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I will explain that. In October 1949, we made calculations in regard to the particular matter to which my friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari has referred. The position was analysed and it was decided that the following adjustments in the accounts for the current year should be made on an *ad hoc* basis:

(a) The "inflationary element" in the cost of replacing assets should be charged to revenue instead of to the Depreciation Reserve Fund, subject to a ceiling of Rs. ten crores.

(b) The cost of "improvement element" in the replacing of assets should similarly be charged to revenue instead of capital, subject to a ceiling of Rs. five crores.

The inflationary element was, in fact, calculated on a formula which was more or less on the following lines:

Rolling stock and machinery, etc., except wagons	...	...	40 per cent.
Wagons	...	...	43 per cent.
Other works	...	...	50 per cent.

The result was that the total of the inflationary element that was charged to the Depreciation Fund since 1942-43 came to something like Rs. 18,11,00,000. In the current year, so far as that part of it is concerned, we have debited to revenue and credited correspondingly to the Depreciation Fund a sum of Rs. ten crores. The remaining amount of Rs. five crores represents the "improvement element" which has been similarly charged to the Depreciation Fund or capital and which we have now written back to it by debiting to revenue.

**Shri Alagesan** (Madras): May I request the hon. Minister to throw some light on the policy of electrification on Railways?

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not think I should allow any further discussion in that manner. The hon. Minister has already replied to the debate.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** May I put one more query? What is the basis on which this particular item of "inflationary element" is calculated? Does it vary from year to year? Has it any bearing on the present prices, which undoubtedly must have risen since 1942-43? Can the hon. Minister throw some light on these points?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** Of course, the inflationary element must vary from year to year, but when we are in a particular year, trying to write back what we had previously debited to the Depreciation Fund, we have to take some kind of an average percentage, taking the period since 1942-43, and the percentages are those which I have read out just now.

**Pandit Kunzru** (Uttar Pradesh): May I ask my hon. friend for information on some other point? According to the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways (dated 8th and 9th February) the adjustment to be made on account of the inflationary element should amount, apparently, to Rs. 15·89 crores. If my hon. friend will turn to page 57 of the proceedings I have referred to, he will find that paragraph 3, after referring to the various elements that had to be taken into account in determining the amount due to inflationary causes, says:

“This accounts for an adjustment of Rs. 15 crores. The balance of the increase, Rs. 89 lakhs, is mainly due to the following variations :”

And then follow the items under which variations have taken place. Now, apparently, in accordance with what is stated in paragraph 3 the total amount ought to be Rs. 15·89 crores while the amount mentioned in connection with Demand No. 5 is only Rs. 14·89 crores. Will my hon. friend explain what this discrepancy is due to?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** If my hon. friend will refer to the report of the 24th March 1950, he will find the whole matter explained there.

**Pandit Kunzru:** I have got the report of 24th March with me.

**Shri Santhanam:** Then he will find on page 1 the Revenue expenses shown as Rs. 15·89 crores. For the additional amounts the explanation is given in the following paragraphs.

**Pandit Kunzru:** The hon. Minister of State has missed the point of my question altogether. I am not referring to the total amount that we are asked to vote. If he will refer to page 2 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants he will understand that the item that I am referring to is the “inflationary element in expenditure after 1942-43”. It is in connection with this that I am asking my hon. friend the Minister of Railways to explain the difference between the figure mentioned here and the figure that should have been there in accordance with what is stated in the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways of the 9th February 1950.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I feel some difficulty in following the point raised by my hon. friend. Is he drawing attention to the statement that an amount of Rs. 15 crores had been debited to revenue and credited to the depreciation fund and capital and does he want to know why that amount has been varied since? Is that the point?

**Pandit Kunzru:** Why has that amount been reduced by nearly a crore since then?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** The point is this: Fifteen crores was the total amount which, I explained in the course of my budget speech, had been debited to revenue and credited correspondingly to depreciation fund and capital. Now in addition to that sum of Rs. 15 crores an amount of Rs. 18 lakhs has also been provided to meet the inflationary element of the cost of works carried out after 1942-43 for which throw-forward debits are now coming in. A small portion of this total amount of Rs. 15·18 crores will, however, be met by reappropriation from the savings under other sub-heads and, therefore, the Demand under the head “inflationary element in expenditure after 1942-43” is being placed for Rs. 14,89,88,000.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I ask one question of the hon. Minister. Is it not a fact that the hon. Minister's predecessor Sir Edward Benthall wanted to write off from the revenue accounts the excess for replacements. Has not, therefore, the inflationary element excess been written off some time ago from

revenue accounts since 1942-43? Is it to be written off for the first time? What have they been doing all along in the face of the statement made by the hon. Minister's predecessor?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** A certain portion of the inflationary element was dealt with in the way that was mentioned by my hon. friend. But in 1946 that system ceased to exist.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** (Madhya Pradesh): May I draw the hon. Minister's attention to a discrepancy which I find and for which no explanation is given? I refer to Demand No. 5—Revenue Working Expenses—Repairs and Maintenance. Page 1 of the Standing Finance Committee's Report mentions the figure as Rs. 15,89,93,000. At page 2 of the Supplementary Demand for Grants the total is shown as Rs. 16,49,93,000. There is also a discrepancy between pages 1 and 3, paragraph 6 where the following is mentioned:

"The approval of the Committee is requested to supplementary demands for 1949-50 being placed before Parliament for the raised amounts shown below:

Demand No. 5—Revenue working expenses—Repairs and maintenance: Rs. 16,49,93,000."

I want to know what exactly is the Demand placed before the House—whether it is Rs. 15,89,93,000 or Rs. 16,49,93,000.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** The explanation for that is that the Rs. 15 crores and odd related only to the inflationary and improvement element.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** But that is shown as Rs. 14-89 crores and odd on page 2.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** That is what I have just explained. The total of the calculations made as regards the inflationary and improvement elements came to Rs. 15-18 crores. Out of this some portion has been financed by reappropriation under other sub-heads. The net amount that has to be provided against inflationary element in expenditure since 1942-43 is Rs. 14-89 crores. The other amounts which make up the total of Rs. 16-49 crores relate to items other than the inflationary and improvement element which come under that Demand.

**Pandit Kunsru:** I do not understand my hon. friend's explanation. But I shall place the figures that I have before him later.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I will explain the whole position to my friend personally.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** The Demand is for Rs. 16,49,93,000.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,57,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,49,93,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Repairs and Maintenance'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,12,72,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operation (Fuel)'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,82,08,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operation other than Staff and Fuel'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 33,86,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Payments to Indian States and Companies'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Construction of New Lines'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Open Line Works—Betterment Fund (Passenger Amenities)'."

*The motion was adopted.*

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#### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1949-50

**Mr. Speaker:** I find that there are cut motions to be moved in respect of Demands Nos. 18, 53 and 73. The House will first take up Demand No. 18.

#### DEMAND NO. 18—MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,84,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of Home Affairs'."

There are three cut motions to this Demand. Are they going to be moved?

**Shrimati Durgabai (Madras):** I am not moving the cut motion.

**Shri E. Velayudhan (Travancore-Cochin):** I am not moving the cut motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is enough for the present to know that he is not moving the cut motion. Is Mr. Kesava Rao moving his Cut Motion?

**Shri Kesava Rao (Madras):** I am not moving it.

**Mr. Speaker:** If Mr. Velayudhan wants to speak, he need not formally move the cut motion under which he wants to discuss the retrenchment policy with regard to Scheduled Castes. Mr. Kesava Rao's cut motion is also to discuss the inadequate representation given to the Scheduled Castes in services. These are the two points on which the hon. Members desire to speak.

**Shri E. Velayudhan:** By giving notice of the cut motion, which I am not moving, I desired to speak on the retrenchment policy that is followed in regard to scheduled castes in the Home Ministry for the last one and a half years. It is not a pleasure for me to speak on communal questions. I have never stood for communal claims all my life hitherto. But here I am obliged to speak on this question of retrenchment as far as the scheduled castes are concerned. As a matter of fact the social security of these people ought to have

been taken into consideration in connection with questions of retrenchment affecting them. I have come to know that hundreds of scheduled castes employees have been retrenched during the last one and a half years. I recently came to know that the Government have already issued about 18 circulars in this connection and that in the last one the Home Ministry has asked that no scheduled caste man should be retrenched if he is qualified. But the evil has already been done.

**Mr. Speaker:** I want to be clear on one point. He cannot discuss the general policy on these Demands for additional Grants. I thought his point was that this additional sum is asked for, in spite of the fact that there has been retrenchment. That could be a ground for raising the question of retrenchment. But he is criticising the general policy.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** I was only quoting the circular.

**Mr. Speaker:** I want him to confine himself to the particular item in respect of which he has a complaint. He will find on page 10 of the Supplementary Demands, the items included in Demand No. 18.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** My grievance is only this: that in spite of issuing circulars.....

**Mr. Speaker:** His complaint could be made at the time of the General Debate on the Budget and at other times when the financial policy of the Government was discussed, but this question of retrenchment cannot be raised on this occasion, when additional amounts are asked for. I allowed him to speak because it is possible that some amounts might have been saved by retrenchment and that this Demand could have been reduced to that extent. I thought that would be his plea, for raising this question at this stage.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** Strictly speaking the question I want to raise would not come within the purview of this Demand today.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is Shri Kesava Rao speaking at this stage?

**Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh):** On a point of order, Sir. After all this is a Demand made to Parliament for voting certain sums. I respectfully submit that it is open to the House to deduct a sum of Rs. 100, although technically the hon. Member Shri Velayudhan has not moved his cut motion on any grounds that the House pleases. It is quite in order, quite legal and quite proper for the House to decide that a sum of Rs. 100 may be cut out of this Demand on the ground that retrenchment in respect of the scheduled castes has not been properly carried out. I therefore submit, especially when notice of an intention to discuss this particular question has been given by my friend, that he is quite in order in speaking on this particular issue and in placing before the House and the hon. Minister of Home Affairs any grievance felt by him. I do not think it is correct to pin him down to specific items of expenditure. As a matter of fact retrenchment is a thing for which there can be no provision in any Demand. If the hon. Member has asked for a limited sum under this Supplementary Demand, it should be presumed that this is so because of retrenchment effected. So, retrenchment is not a thing for which the hon. Minister must come to the House and ask for a vote. That is absolutely impossible. In this particular instance, at any rate, I suggest that my hon. friend is quite in order in raising a discussion on the question of the method and manner of retrenchment especially of the scheduled castes personnel in the service by means of the cut motion he has given notice of. I would also like to speak on this question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps the hon. Member is not conversant with the previous rulings on the subject. I am doubtful whether he has grasped the scope of the discussion on these Demands. In this case, it is the question of retrenchment of personnel that has been raised. Now, the hon. the Home Minister,

[Mr. Speaker]

or any Minister for the matter of fact, need not seek the approval of the House for any reduction in expenditure. That is perfectly clear. He has come asking for more funds. A cut motion could *prima facie* be moved on the assumption that there may have been, notwithstanding retrenchment on the one hand, need for an additional sum for some other additional staff. When I allowed him to speak on the point mentioned in the cut motion, in the beginning, I expected that he would speak on the particular point he had mentioned in it. But I found that he was trying to discuss the general policy with regard to the members of the scheduled castes. Therefore, I wanted him not to discuss the general policy as regards the scheduled castes. Now the scope about discussion in the Supplementary Demands is laid down in the *Decisions from the Chair*. I remember I have also referred to this many times before:

"The debate on supplementary and excess grants is restricted to the particulars contained in the estimates on which those grants are sought and to the application of the items which compose those grants; and the debate cannot touch the policy or the expenditure sanctioned, on other heads, by the estimate on which the original grant was obtained, except so far as such a policy or expenditure is brought before the Committee by the items contained in the supplementary or excess estimates."

If I were to permit discussion again by the far-fetched argument which the hon. Member has urged, this will again be a general discussion on the Administration. We are not concerned here with that now, and that is the reason why I cannot uphold the point of order raised by the hon. Member nor can I permit a discussion beyond the scope of the items. Now I would like to know from Shri Kesava Rao what he has to say. He also seems to want to discuss the general policy of inadequate representation given to the scheduled castes in services. Here too, I find, there is an item which says 'salary of officers'.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** That should cover it.

**Mr. Speaker:** And the question of inadequate representation may perhaps be covered on the ground that the excess amount required is for officers who do not belong to the scheduled castes to the extent to which they should have belonged. That will be a different ground altogether from the ground of retrenchment. I should like to know what the hon. Member has to say and after hearing him, I shall be able to decide finally.

**Shri Kesava Rao:** My point is clear. I want to bring to notice some of the difficulties that are experienced by the scheduled castes as regards the services. I want to know whether that will come within the scope of discussion.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid, he wants to raise general discussion which will not be permissible for the same reasons which I pointed out to Shri Velayudhan. This is after all a Demand for a Supplementary Grant, distinct in scope.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** I hope you will forgive me if I intervene again. I refer you to page 10, Demand No. 13, sub-head B.4. There is first of all pay of officers, allowances, honoraria, etc. and then under B.4 we have got 'Secret Service Expenditure (unaudited)'. Is it not possible to urge that so far as this expenditure is concerned, most of this expenditure is being spent on personnel which is non-scheduled caste, in spite of the Government's policy to have 12½ per cent. reservation for them in all Services?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid I cannot allow that. So then I shall put the demand to the House.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,84,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of Home Affairs'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall now take the other two demands.

**Shri Shiva Rao (Madras):** I have had a talk with the Minister of Agriculture and I think the points which I wanted to raise are probably points which are really outside the scope of discussion and are not appropriate on a debate on Supplementary Demands. I am not moving my cut motion.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not know whether the House wishes me to put the demands together or separately.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras):** I would like to raise certain points with regard to Demand No. 78.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then I shall put it separately. I take it that the discussion will be within the limits which I have already prescribed.

**Shri Chalhha (Assam):** I want to speak on Demand No. 4.

**Mr. Speaker:** I presume he will speak within the limits now prescribed. Let me take Demand No. 78 first.

#### DEMAND No. 78—STATIONERY AND PRINTING.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,46,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I propose to confine myself strictly to the two items, one for Rs. 23,46,000 under 'Paper' and Rs. 4,00,000 under 'Other Stores'. Certain matters have come to light in regard to the administration of the Stationery and Printing Department, which I am not able to reconcile with either the Supplementary Demand or with the original Demand which was submitted, namely, Rs. 1,88,84,000, or, with the Demands for the next year. I am not quite sure how it came to happen but I think the matter was before one of the Committees of this House and Mr. Goenka was asked to enquire into it; I do not know what it is but it has come to light that a sum of a little over Rs. six lakhs has been paid as demurrage for a very large amount of paper which was lying in the Calcutta docks and was not taken possession of by the Controller for a period of six months.

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

One would like to know whether that amount is represented by this Rs. 23 lakhs, that is, was it a portion of it or it goes with the original Demand of Rs. 1,88,84,000. That is a point which I would like my hon. friend the Minister of Works, Mines and Power to make clear. I was also told in this connection that in one case about ten million forms were ordered by the Controller of Stationery and paper was issued for ten million forms. Apparently that is covered by the original Demand or probably by the Supplementary Demand because we cannot really say which part of the paper was assigned for each, but it appears that only two million forms were supplied and the other eight millions were not supplied at all. It seems to me that though it is a matter which undoubtedly encroaches on a field which is admittedly that which is to be covered during the time when the Demands are made for the next year, in view of the fact that most of this information has come to light subsequently, if they are true, will be a very serious position in regard to the administration of this Department, I am raising it now. I would like to know how this Rs. six lakhs and odd in respect of demurrage is accounted for or whether this Rs. 23 lakhs includes also the Rs. six lakhs. I would also like to know what my hon. friend the Minister has done in regard to the apportionment of blame and the recovery of the money from the parties responsible. I would also like



[Shri T. T. Krishnamachari]

to know, if this additional demand which is now supposed to have arisen by reason of the extra quantity of paper that the Government Printing Office consumes is not due to other acts of negligence which has made the original estimate fall short of the actual demand and how much of this money has gone into channels which are not traceable. And I would like the hon. Minister also to tell me what steps he has taken to regularise the accounting in respect of the shortfall mentioned. I would like to know if the hon. the Finance Minister has done anything in this matter, whether the matter has been looked into by the Department and whether the matter is now engaging the attention of the Auditor-General. These are all serious matters, if they are true; but I am asking for information with a certain amount of hesitation, because it is a very serious charge to make against any Department that six lakhs of rupees have been lost merely by reason of the fact that the Controller of Printing and Stationery did not know, or was not aware or was indifferent to a large quantity of paper lying in the Calcutta docks. Admittedly, it means that one Department of Government pays another Department which is probably on a quasi governmental basis. But nevertheless we are not concerned about that, so long as the loss has arisen, and we would like to know, before passing this Supplementary Demand, whether steps have been taken, and what steps my two hon. friends, the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of Works, Mines and Power have taken in this regard, and how they propose to deal with a similar situation that might arise in the future, under these circumstances.

**Shri Ohalha:** I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister how he has asked for a sum of Rs. 28 lakhs and odd as a Supplementary Demand under Demand No. 4, and.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are now on Demand No. 73. Let us hear about that first.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** In addition to the points raised by my hon. friend Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, I would like the hon. Minister of Works, Mines and Power to tell us whether there is any proper system of checking the quantities of paper and stores that go into the section of stationery and printing, and whether there is a system of checking again at every other subsequent stage, to ensure that in the paper and stores that go to the various Ministeries and to the State Governments there is no leakage at any of these stages. This is a large sum of money—Rs. 27,46,000, and it is a little difficult for a member of the Standing Finance Committee to speak here, because frankly speaking, the explanations given by the Ministry were not particularly convincing on this point, and speaking for myself we would have been justified, if the Finance Minister had come to us at an earlier stage, in saying that we would like to have fuller explanation of some of the items involved in this rather large sum. Apart from the question of irregularity, if it is a case of irregularity, because at the present stage, without proper enquiry, one cannot definitely establish that there has been irregularity, but apart from the instances to which my hon. friend has invited attention of the House, I would like to know what exactly is the system that is at work, and whether the Minister of Works, Mines and Power proposes to have a proper enquiry into the whole thing to prevent this sort of thing from happening.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I thought it is the duty of members of the Standing Finance Committee, if there is any doubt, about particular matters, to take the House into confidence and not withhold from the House anything which comes to their notice. Ultimately it is the House that has to decide.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** If I may explain myself, we had asked for a further explanation on this subject, but so far none has been forthcoming. There have been memoranda from other Ministries from which similar explanations were asked for, but I find from the papers circulated by the Finance Minister that this particular memorandum for which we had asked is not among the papers that I have received; that is my difficulty, and therefore I have said I am not in a position to say definitely whether there has been any irregularity or not.

**Shri Joachim Alva (Bombay):** The state of affairs as revealed by the hon. Member is almost scandalous, for the simple reason that the Government of India consumes such a vast quantity of paper and keeps out genuine users of paper such as people running periodicals or newspapers. Government corners almost all paper and the Government of India has a kind of monopoly on the use of paper that is manufactured in this country by the few mills that manufacture paper here; though we want more of such mills. This sum of Rs. six lakhs demurrage paid for paper is something almost shocking. Some kind of check should be exercised on the use of paper in the Departments of the Government of India. Publications which can easily be printed on ordinary newsprint are printed on very luxurious kind of art paper which is not available to the ordinary consumer, whether he wants it for running a periodical or a newspaper or a book.

Secondly, apart from the white printing paper made by some mills in India, all the white art paper manufactured by these mills again is cornered by the Government of India. The position of newsprint is deplorable and we are reaching conditions to-day which are almost like war conditions. For newsprint one has to go to the blackmarket. There are honest people running newspapers and they do not get the quantity of paper they want. They go to the Import Offices and there is difficulty in getting licences, and even if they get the licences, it is doubtful if they will get them in time. And here we have the revealing fact as it has been shown by the hon. Member that Rs. six lakhs have been paid as demurrage at Calcutta, a thing which should never have happened.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that the Government of India and the Provincial Governments should really curb their activities in the matter of the use of paper. There is the larger public which wants the use of paper the primary schools, the elementary schools, the secondary schools they are all positively starved for paper, so much so that a little after the war, or during the war, there was a scheme by which secondary schools wanted to use an ordinary kind of blotting or coarser kind of paper instead of newsprint for printing books for the use of our growing children. This is a neglected department. It does not come into the purview or notice of many people. However, this is a commodity which we require for our constant and perpetual use, though many of us are apt to ignore or neglect it. First and foremost, as my hon. friend Mr. Shiva Rao said, there should be a kind of audit and re-audit and even a final kind of checking to see that stocks of paper are not wasted away. And there are huge stocks of paper which Government takes for itself for printing things which can be printed on ordinary paper, but which they print on art paper. This has to be checked so that this state of affairs may not be prolonged. During the war we suffered from shortage of paper as blackmarketeers were dealing in paper. I regret to say that many such blackmarketeers in Bombay could not be effectively dealt with by the law. Newspaper owners could not get paper and they had to pay not double, but even three times the price in blackmarkets for running their papers or periodicals with the result that they could not make both ends meet. I would therefore invite the attention of the House to the fact that there should be a severe check-up conducted in all the Departments of Government in the matter of consumption of paper. Government cannot go on recklessly using

[Shri Jouchim Alva]

and utilising paper; they must look to the needs of the civil consumers also, I mean the vast public whether they be elementary schools, or secondary schools or colleges or societies or organisations or any other kind of public bodies which need the use of paper for carrying on their useful and social activities for the benefit of the public.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** I want to speak on Demand No. 58.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** We are now discussing Demand No. 78. **Mr. Rama Rao.**

**Shri M. V. Rama Rao (Mysore):** I want to say a few things about the Publications Section connected with the W. M. & P. Ministry when we are dealing with Supplementary Demand No. 78. A considerable amount of printing and publication work is being done and it is explained in this note that is appended to this Demand as having been caused by the increased activities of the various Departments of the Government of India. I find that these publications that are being printed in the Government Press and placed for disposal in the Government's Sales Depots, are not readily available, even in respect of priced publications. As an instance I might say that the Rules of the Supreme Court which were issued on the 28th January last were not available to the Advocates while a number of these copies were sold by the Government Depots to any body who chose to purchase them at one anna per copy and all sorts of people purchased them for packing paper and many Advocates went without these Rules. Another thing is that these Sales Depots do not maintain a stock list or catalogue of what is available for sale and it is extremely difficult to know, by the way in which these publications are printed at the instance of every Ministry, as to what literature is available on any particular subject at a given time. The information is not available from the Manager of Publications nor is it available from the Sales Depots. The Sales Depots, being Government establishments, are subject to all the limitations which Governmental institutions suffer from in the way of business. For instance if anybody wants to buy a complete set of the Debates of the Constituent Assembly, he is given a broad invitation to look into the dusty piles and make his own discoveries as to whatever is available. It is impossible to find out which is the set that is complete and which is not or what is printed or what is out of stock.

I would suggest that the hon. Minister for W.M. & P. should inform this House what arrangements he proposes to make for seeing that publications of the Government are issued in categorized series firstly, and secondly, all publications when they are issued are incorporated in a list which will be kept up-to-date and maintained simultaneously at three or four points such as, the Manager of Publications, the Ministry concerned, the various Sales Depots and lastly—but most important of all—the Library of the Parliament of India. I hope it will be the intention of Government to effect some improvement in the very unsatisfactory state of things which now prevails with regard to the availability of publications issued by Government.

**The Minister of Works, Mines and Power (Shri Gadgil):** I am grateful to hon. Members who have raised certain points in the course of the discussion on this Demand. Let me frankly tell the House that I also share the anxiety with which they have been actuated so far as matters connected with wharfage on paper are concerned. As a matter of fact a few months ago, when I first received notice about the wharfage, I immediately ordered an enquiry and the enquiry is still going on. The exact amount of wharfage as has been stated is about Rs. 658,672. I do not want to anticipate the findings of the enquiry but I am only giving to the House the fact.....

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** What sort of enquiry?

**Shri Gadgil:** A special officer has been appointed to go into this question as to who is responsible for this negligence.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Of what status, a Superintendent?

**Shri Gadgil:** A much higher Officer. When the orders were placed, it was expected, in fact it was arranged that the delivery should be spread over for a number of months but in experience it was found that deliveries were accelerated with the result that it was not possible to take delivery of the consignment that has arrived in Calcutta and store it. That was one reason. The second reason was that a considerable portion of the consignment was found in a scattered state.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** May I ask if he is aware that the Port Commissioner of Calcutta has got an enormous amount of storage space?

**Shri Gadgil:** It was not the storage space made available by the Port Commissioner that I referred, but it was the storage space available to this Ministry to take the delivery and stock the paper that I referred to. As I said, it was very difficult to take the delivery of a part of the consignment in this state. Possibly it may be negligence, possibly it may be an error of judgment. In any case the Port authorities have been so much exorbitant in charging penal wharfage that ordinarily the rate is Re. 0/8/0 and they actually charged Rs. 1/8/0. We are negotiating and it is expected that out of the Rs. 6,59,872/-, if the penal wharfage is given up, we should be able to recover about five lakhs. That does not absolve the officers concerned.

**Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh):** What has been done to them so far? Has any explanation been called for from them?

**Shri Gadgil:** The matter is under enquiry and as soon as we are in a position to have the findings of the enquiry, suitable action will be taken.

**Shri Tyagi:** Has the officer been suspended?

**Shri Gadgil:** Now as regards the general management of the Printing and Press Departments.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know if the officer concerned has been suspended.

**Shri Gadgil:** There is no question of suspension here. It is not a case of dishonesty. If it was one such case, then I would have issued orders for suspension.

**Shri Tyagi:** Is negligence not offence in your Department?

**Shri Gadgil:** Negligence is not an offence normally unless it results in some accident to life. Negligence in these matters can be amply punished by infliction of fine or recovery of the loss that Government may have sustained. The whole point is that at present there is nothing that I can say with certainty as regards the persons who would be held responsible and to the extent to which they can be held responsible but as I said that I share the anxiety. As a matter of fact, it was I who initiated the enquiry as soon as I knew about the state of affairs and I may repeat my assurance that ultimately whosoever is found responsible for this, he will be made to pay the damage caused to Government.

As regards the general working of the Government of India Presses, when I visited some of them at Simla, Calcutta and Aligarh, I found that the machinery was not up to the mark, it was far below standard, and in the course of the last eight or ten years not even necessary repairs had been effected. I found that in comparison with other private presses the work that was turned out was quantitatively and qualitatively not to our satisfaction. I therefore, with the

[Shri Gadgil]

permission of the Government of India, appointed a Committee of Inquiry with wide terms of reference with a view to improve the management as well as to make suggestions with respect to the technical equipment. The report of that Committee has been very recently submitted to us and we are going through it.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Minister. May I know whether the terms of reference of this Committee include an inquiry into the points that I have raised, *viz.* ensuring that the stores and paper are properly kept and also seeing that the issue on the one side and delivery of the paper on the other are according to the orders given?

**Shri Gadgil:** That is not one of the terms of reference. That Committee was asked to make suggestions with respect to the management of the Press, machinery, etc., but not about the storage of paper. In addition, two years ago the Government of India decided to have an up to date press and orders have already been placed and parts of machinery are being received and that Press will be set up in the course of the next year.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Have you placed an order for a new Superintendent also?

**Shri Gadgil:** In such matters, I cannot imitate my hon. friend and be frivolous. All I can say is that with a sense of responsibility which I owe to myself and to this House and to the country, I am doing my level best. Now, I will also cite to hon. Members a point which has not been raised in the course of the discussion. A machine was lying for more than six months at the dock. I am taking the House into my confidence. I have already ordered an inquiry in respect of that also. The whole point is that the present machinery is sadly behind the standards that are expected of a modern press, and we are trying to make it up to date.

Now, as regards the amount of printing that has been done in the course of the last two years, if I were to give figures, hon. Members will be surprised to learn to what extent the amount has increased. The load of printing of reports and proceedings, especially from the Constituent Assembly, was very great. Thousands of copies of the Draft Constitution were printed. Some were printed no doubt in outside presses, but the main burden was borne by the Government of India Press. Now, the work of this Parliament also has increased. That accounts for the additional expenditure which is now included in the Supplementary Grant. Over and above this, hon. Members are well aware of the fact that Government activities have increased considerably. It is no longer a police State, confined merely to the maintenance of law and order, and more and more you are asking the Government to interfere into what was once merely a private sphere. Therefore, whatever is done by the Government has to be done by Orders and Acts and this means more stationery and more printing. Then, as a result of the new Constitution, certain Chief Commissioners have come into existence and certain powers and functions have been taken over by the Central Government. All this has increased the work and the net impact on the printing press of the Government of India is great.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Before the hon. Minister closes his peroration, may I ask him to tell the House as to what has happened to the eight million forms which have been unaccounted for?

1 P.M.

**Shri Gadgil:** As I have said, it is a matter for enquiry. Then, about publications generally, all I can say is that I had no idea that this point would be raised; otherwise I would have been in a position to satisfy the curiosity of my hon. friend.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Will the hon. Minister take long?

**Shri Gadgil:** No, Sir. I am just finishing. To sum up, the Supplementary Grant that has become necessary is due to causes which were, I think, necessary in the circumstances of the case and partly also to circumstances, as my hon. friend suggests, which are beyond our control.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** Before you put the Motion to the House, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that, while he has taken steps to see that the printing machinery is of the most up to date character, the steps he has so far taken to ensure that the human machinery is also adequate to deal with this very rapidly growing department are not particularly encouraging, and I would like him to direct his attention to that aspect of the matter.

**Shri Gadgil:** I shall do that.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister has already stated that he is ordering an enquiry into the whole thing.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** The enquiry is with regard to the alleged irregularities which have been touched upon and some of which he has also admitted on the floor of the House. I am suggesting an enquiry into the whole system of management also.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sure the hon. Minister will take every suggestion into consideration. The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,46,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Before we disperse, I would like to ask hon. Members what particular Demands they would like to discuss and debate in the House. I find that all the cut motions have been disposed of. If there are a number of hon. Members, certainly we will have to adjourn and re-assemble at 2-30, so that the Ministers concerned may be present. There is no point in debating the Demands in their absence. Now, may I know from hon. Members what particular Demands they would like to debate in the House?

**Shri Chaliha:** I would like to speak on Demand No. 4.

**Shri Rathnaswamy (Madras):** I would like to speak on Demand No. 82.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** I would like to speak on Demand No. 58.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh (Punjab):** I would like to speak on Demand Nos. 53, 85 and 86.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I would like to speak on Demands Nos. 94 and 104.

**Shri N. S. Jain (Uttar Pradesh):** I would like to speak on Demands Nos. 40, 55, 85 and 107.

**Shri T. N. Singh (Uttar Pradesh):** I would like to speak on Demand No. 21.

**Shri Naik (Orissa):** I would like to speak on Demand No. 9.

**Lala Achint Ram (Punjab):** I would like to speak on Demand No. 75.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The office will prepare a list according to the serial number. If there are any other Members, they might let me know, but I think there is a sufficient number already.

**The Minister of Finance (Dr. Matthal):** In regard to Demands Nos. 85 and 86, I think that just before you assumed the Chair, the hon. Speaker asked the

[Dr. Matthai]

House whether any matters relating to the Departments in charge of the Deputy Prime Minister would be raised and I understood that hon. Members said that there was no point that they would like to raise. If discussion is raised on these two Demands, it would be necessary for the Deputy Prime Minister to come back to the House. I think he was given the impression by the hon. Speaker that matters relating to his Departments would not be raised.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** May I know who are the Members who want to speak on Demands Nos. 85 and 86?

**Shri N. S. Jain:** I want to speak on Demand No. 85.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Do you insist on the hon. Minister coming back?

**Shri N. S. Jain:** I want to speak on two things: about co-operation in Delhi and about the charges in the Mahatma Gandhi Murder trial.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** These Supplementary Demands are confined to those amounts which have been spent in excess of the amounts already voted with respect to policies which have been accepted by the House, earlier during the Budget. They are not to be re-opened now.

**Shri N. S. Jain:** It is not a question of reopening the policy. The question is, why this excess.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We shall see then.

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. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

#### RESIGNATION OF SHRI V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI

**Mr. Speaker:** I have to inform hon. Members that under clause 3(b) of article 101 of the Constitution, Shri V. T. Krishnamachari has sent me his resignation of his seat in Parliament.

#### DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1949-50.—*contd.*

##### DEMAND No. 4—OPIUM

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall take up the Demands for Supplementary Grants as suggested by the House in the order agreed to. I shall put them to the House now and the rest I shall put *en bloc* at the end.

Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 23,53,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Opium'."

**Shri Chhalba:** It was the policy of the Government that the cultivation of opium should be curtailed by ten per cent. every year and last year there was a conference of Ministers when this policy was adopted. On page 4 of the Memorandum on Supplementary Demands under item C—Payments for Special Cultivation in Malwa (Rs. 28,58,000)—in the note it is said:

"The excess is due mainly to the encashment in the current year of a cheque for Rs. 28.46 lakhs issued in 1948-49 for raw opium purchased during that year . . . . ."

I should like to know what was the reason for 'special cultivation' in Malwa. In Ghazipur and Neemuch we manufacture opium and we have also cultivation in U. P. If our production as well as cultivation is to be reduced by ten per cent. I do not think this payment is justified. Apart from that our policy is to reduce it to the medicinal needs of the country and our purchasers are the U.K., the U.S.A. and some Eastern countries. We have sacrificed a great deal of revenue and we had brought it down to less than one crore of rupees. It has risen again to four crores of rupees. This is an unjustifiable cultivation and this expenditure is not justified and I should like to have some explanation from the hon. Finance Minister. There is absolutely no reason why we should go back on our policy. We also desire that every year the cultivation of opium in the States that have come into the Indian Union should be reduced by ten per cent. As such I do not know why this amount has been demanded and why there has been special cultivation in Malwa. Was it undertaken under the instructions of the Government of India or was it done by the Government of the State in which Malwa is situated? If an explanation is forthcoming the expenditure may be justified.

**Dr. Matthal:** The hon. Member is perfectly right in stating that the policy of the Government now is to bring about a progressive reduction in the consumption and consequently the production of opium. In the conference of Ministers of Provinces and States that I held last August a resolution was adopted unanimously that within a maximum period of ten years the consumption of opium should be stopped except for medical and scientific purposes. That policy has been accepted by the Centre and also unanimously by all the Provinces. It would interest the hon. Member to know that one result of the integration of the States is that the control of opium being a Federal Subject, the responsibility would be in our hands in regard not merely to the old Provinces but also in regard to the States. That is the policy of the Government and we propose to adhere to that policy and implement it. In this particular case it is simply a technical provision, because the expenditure referred to—something like Rs. 23 lakhs—was incurred in respect of purchase of opium from Malwa in 1948-49 but the cheque issued for the purpose of meeting that expenditure was encashed only in 1949-50. It does not mean any change in our policy or increase in production. The hon. Member has my assurance that the policy adopted by the Conference of Ministers of States and Provinces is the policy of the Government of India, which they propose by every possible measure to implement.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 23,53,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Opium'."

*The motion was adopted.*

#### DEMAND NO. 9—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,25,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department'."

**Shri Shiva Rao:** In view of the absence of the Minister of Communications may I suggest that this Demand might be held over until some other items are disposed of. Towards the end of the morning session it was decided that these grants should be taken up in the afternoon, despite the statement made by the Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs that certain Ministers would not be required to be here in the afternoon. In view of that this Demand may be held over for the time being.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have no objection to hold it over.



**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** On this particular item I do not know what the hon. Member had in mind to speak about, when he expressed such a desire in the morning. The bulk of the Demand happens to be Posts and Telegraphs Audit and perhaps the hon. Finance Minister will be able to say something about it.

**Dr. Matthal:** As far as the Ministry of Finance is concerned, I think this morning, before we adjourned for Lunch, apart from the item regarding opium, there was one other matter about which an hon. Member gave notice that he would like to raise a discussion, That was Demand No. 107. I do not know if the hon. Member who wanted to raise his question is present and if he is I should be in a position to reply to that.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Would the hon. Finance Minister be able to say something on Demand No. 104 which comprises a number of Ministries. The Supplementary grant will be accounted for on behalf of the Ministry of Finance.

**Mr. Speaker:** No. 94 is Capital Outlay on Industrial Development. No. 104 is Capital Outlay on Schemes of State Trading.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have raised a query on these two particular Demands. My point is that where token Demands are asked for, the House is entitled to an explanation. If they are tabled under the main Demands they are explained. But these are token Demands. That means the expenses might ultimately be anything. So, before the House commits itself to these token Demands it must be assured to what extent the commitment will be.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** I would also suggest that the hon. the Agriculture Minister may be sent for, because when Demand No. 58, which is about the Indian Sugarcane Committee, is taken up, his presence may be necessary.

**Dr. Matthal:** Sir, I must apologize for the absence of the Ministers concerned with State Trading. Actually, these State Trading schemes relate to Agriculture and Industry and Supply, and this morning when Demands were referred to by hon. Members who wanted to speak, Demand No. 104 was not mentioned.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I did so, but probably the hon. Minister did not hear me. I mentioned items 94 and 104. In fact the hon. Minister will recollect that I also mentioned that while token Demands are made, the House is entitled to an explanation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Anyhow, the Deputy Minister of Communications is now here and we may take up Demand No. 9—Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department.

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Khurshed Lal):** I am sorry, Sir, I could not come earlier.

**Mr. Speaker:** Since nobody wishes to raise any discussion I shall put the Demand to the House.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,25,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department'."

*The motion was adopted.*

#### DEMAND NO. 21—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

**Mr. Speaker:** Then we shall take up the Ministry of Commerce. Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,30,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce'."

**Shri T. N. Singh:** I have not much to say except that I feel that this Demand has been made because of certain increase in staff and increases in pay, dearness allowance, etc. in the Foreign Trade Control Department. In regard to these temporary increases, especially in a temporary Department, by the nature of which it is not possible to contemplate that this Department will be continued too long, I feel that very rigid economy as well as strictness should be exercised. My point is that we know that these control measures regarding imports and exports are of a temporary nature. They cannot continue for long. Then, by increasing staff in the middle of the year you burden yourself with a staff which sooner or latter you will have to curtail. This sort of thing has happened in other Departments also. But I am raising this point here specially because I feel that this Department is not of a permanent nature. Therefore you may continue to have a certain minimum staff, but as this control business is bound to go in a few years the more you burden yourself with temporary staff, the greater the problems you will have to face in future. Their disbandment, their reabsorption in some Departments, all these questions will arise. I also feel that we could do with a little less staff in this Department. I have had a feeling that this Department is over-burdened with more staff with the result that the output of work is slower. Sometimes it does happen that if you have a larger number of staff than you actually need the output of work goes down. A sound principle in business, at least to my mind, is that if you require ten men, probably you will get the best out of your men if you have only nine, for the very simple reason that due to heavy pressure of work the lesser number of men try to give their best so that they can cope with the work. So I would suggest that such increase in a temporary department should be avoided as far as possible.

Secondly, in this item a large sum has been spent on frequent advertisements. I want to point out that these advertisements are due to the fact that the policy of the Government has been changing in regard to this control system too frequently. For instance, in regard to the Open General Licence business, which came in for discussion during the Budget discussion also, we removed the restrictions on Sterling Areas so far as certain categories of imports were concerned. The result was—of course the Finance Minister got a lot of revenue through Customs duty and he was very happy—that six months after, we realized that we were very rapidly running short of our Sterling Balances. Therefore we had to stop it. Now, I feel that this change of policy has been mostly due to the fact that there has been clamour from this section or that section of business. Especially with regard to the O.G.L. I am firmly of the view that the merchant class, the trading class, which is interested in the import and export business—which is interested in importing and selling it and getting the commission out of the trade—that class of people managed to put a lot of pressure, managed to publicize their grievances and we were influenced by them and we changed our policy regarding the O.G.L. The moment there was a glut in the market it did not suit their interest.....

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Neogy):** Sir, are we discussing the general question of policy in regard to Open General Licence?

**Mr. Speaker:** No, no.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** I am pointing out that you had to spend more on advertisements and in that connection I wanted only to say that it was because of the changing policy that you have to advertise frequently. Once you went to O. G. L. you had to give the whole list and advertise. When you stopped it you had to do so. When you restricted it or modified it you had to advertise again and thus so many frequent advertisements had to be made. That is why I am pointing out this aspect only to emphasize that you could have avoided this expenditure if you had got a consistent and steady policy throughout the year. That was my point. I wanted

{Shri T. N. Singh}

to point out these things, not that I grudge the expenses, but I feel that if in the next year we take note of this point, probably we shall not have the necessity to come before the House for supplementary expenditure for this sort of thing.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** I regret I cannot agree with my hon. friend who has just sat down. I do not know what particular information his conclusions and inferences are based upon, but I for one would strongly support the Demand and would not grudge a little more expenditure on this because the complaints with regard to the control over our foreign trade have even now not diminished in any way. My friend was of the opinion that controls are likely to be removed and therefore there should be only temporary staff. The fact is that it is the temporary nature of the staff which has given rise to so many complaints. They have no stake in their appointments. Therefore, it is only human nature that they do not take their work seriously and resort to other means of making good or enhancing their income. Looking to the complaints in this respect that are mounting daily, I feel that there should be some security and surety of continuity of tenure provided to these officers, so that the way in which the control is exercised at the present moment would be improved. At present, what happens is that thousands of applications are received and the staff is hopelessly limited. One person cannot go through 200 or 300 applications daily and you cannot expect him to scrutinise all of them and come to a decision. From this point of view, I would urge that the temporary staff should be made permanent as far as possible and their status and salary should be increased, so that they can be trusted to deal with these matters more reliably and honestly. The whole merchant community—in fact, everybody who is connected with foreign trade—is today in a hopelessly harassed condition. They have to come and stay here for weeks and weeks and ultimately they find that the papers are not traceable or something of that sort. From this point of view, this Demand is, in my opinion, quite justified. I would urge the hon. Minister to look into the matter with greater care and see that the temporary nature of the officers and staff does not continue for long to do the mischief it is doing today.

**Shri Tyagi:** I have not much to comment regarding the Demand. I only want to point out to the hon. Minister of Finance that when there are Supplementary Demands on account of additional posts or increased expenditure due to dearness and other allowances, some detailed notes are necessary. It is not enough to say "due mainly to the creation of additional posts..." That cannot enable Parliament to know whether the demand is really genuine or not. We must be told the number of posts; why they were created; whether there was additional work; what kind of additional work there was; and so on. The previous Government did not think it necessary and it was not their practice to take the House much into confidence. They tried to get their demands passed somehow. But today Parliament wants to understand the position as it stands, and whenever similar demands are made, I would request the hon. Minister of Finance to give us fuller notes. He should not mind a little more expense by printing a few more lines on paper. This would enable the House to know how the demand came about.

**Shri Neogy:** I entirely appreciate my hon. friend Shri Tyagi's difficulty. As a matter of fact, the past practice has been to circulate along with the Supplementary Demands the relative proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee. Unfortunately, some of the Demands under discussion relate to proceedings which took place very recently and evidently the proceedings could not be printed. I have before me a pretty long statement of the case on behalf of the Commerce Ministry which was laid before the Standing Finance Committee, on the basis of which this Grant was approved by that Committee. The whole

note was expected to be printed and circulated to Members as also the gist of what took place and the opinion of the Standing Finance Committee. It is a pretty long document. I can show it to my hon. friend and I am sure he would be satisfied in regard to everything that he wanted to know.

**Shri Tyagi:** In that case, a brief note would have been better.

**Mr. Speaker:** I may inform the hon. Member that three copies of these proceedings have been placed in the Library. A circular was sent last night to hon. Members, notifying this fact. It is possible, of course, that all hon. Members may not have read them.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have gone through those proceedings, but I am afraid I am not any the wiser. I would like my hon. friend the Minister of Commerce to note that.

**Shri Neogy:** Well, I do not know. At least, the Standing Finance Committee was perfectly satisfied as to how the Demands arose.

**Shri Tyagi:** My point is not clear, it seems. What I want to have is this. In the footnote, there should be a reference either to the decision or to the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee which considered this matter. There should be a reference to the papers laid on the Table by my hon. friend. One or two paragraphs alone on these lines would have sufficed. I do not want that lengthy note to be incorporated. Supposing posts are created in Bombay or Calcutta. We must be told why they were created—whether due to additional work or otherwise—etc. Only a few remarks like that should be incorporated in such cases.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Might I be permitted to add, as a person who has been for donkey's years a member of the Standing Finance Committee, that the Standing Finance Committee Report is always in the form of answers to a questionnaire and unless we know what is the background of the thing referred to, Members may not be any the wiser by reading the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee alone.

**Shri Neogy:** The questionnaire forms part of the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee. I have a copy of the memorandum which is in the nature of answers to various questions. (*Interruption.*) It is usual to supply a copy in the form of a printed booklet. This year, due to shortness of time obviously, the printing could not be done, but as pointed by you, Sir, a few copies have been placed in the Library. That is all that I can say with regard to the question of procedure.

As regards the question of staff, it is very regrettable that, in the very nature of things, the staff of a temporary organisation of Government has to be temporary. We cannot possibly make permanent appointments in a temporary organisation, but subject to this difficulty we are trying our best to see that a fair proportion of at least those who have to do the responsible part of the work—i.e. officers—is drafted from permanent appointments which they may be holding elsewhere, their services being, so to say, lent to this organisation. That is all that can be done, and that is what we are aiming at. As a matter of fact, some of the officers belong to permanent Services and they have been drafted from various Ministries including the Commerce Ministry itself. I do not think that I need say anything more on this particular point.

Now, I wish I could agree with the hon. Member who said that the fewer the staff the greater the efficiency will be. As a matter of fact, as has been stated by my hon. friend Dr. Deshmukh, there is a lot of complaint on the score of accumulation of work, delay and all that. From my own experience, I may say that when I took over charge of this portfolio—I am speaking from memory—there were very nearly 60,000 applications pending consideration. In order to clear up these arrears, the Finance Ministry sanctioned quite a considerable

[Shri Neogy]

addition to our staff. I forget the number—it may be over 70. We also managed to draft the services of some of the officers of the Commerce Ministry itself to the Import Control Organisation, and the very first difficulty that we were faced with was that there was not sufficient room for the additional staff to sit in. So, we are working under various handicaps about which I think most hon. Members have no idea. I am perfectly aware of the grievances of the public, but the circumstances under which people have to work are also most difficult. But we are trying our best to improve matters. As a matter of fact, the question came up on different occasions in this House both in this Session and in the last, and the House has committed itself to giving the Import Control Organisation an increase in the number of staff so as to enable the work to be expedited and improved. We have already taken in hand the reorganisation and we shall be in a position to see in the course of a few months as to whether the required improvement takes place.

3 P. M.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,30,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce'."

*The motion was adopted.*

#### DEMAND NO. 58—AGRICULTURE

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,66,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Agriculture'."

**Dr. Deshmukh:** The demand relates partially, at any rate, to a grant to the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. The amount provided for is Rs. 1,75,000.

Now, with regard to the working of the Central Sugarcane Committee, I think the hon. Minister of Agriculture will agree that this Committee has been urging upon him the desirability of endowing it with certain executive powers. I know that there are certain difficulties, constitutional as well as otherwise on account of which Government is not a position to give full autonomous powers to the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee.

But, the situation at the present moment has altered altogether. We had the Sugar Syndicate working for a number of years. That has now been more or less disbanded, although we do not know at what stage that disbandment is at the present moment. There are only short occasional reports appearing in the papers that the Syndicate is going to be wound up; we do not yet know what exactly has in fact happened. Then there has been another change which is very important, and that is with regard to the withdrawal of protection to the sugar industry, although under the present circumstances the withdrawal of the protection will probably not have any adverse effect either on the sugar industry or cane growers. We have on the one hand no foreign exchange to buy sugar abroad, and secondly there is also a ban on the importation of sugar. But the whole position about the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee is far from satisfactory.

In the course of a speech before the Indian Sugarcane Committee the hon. Minister of Agriculture suggested that it was his idea to form a sort of a sugar council. It was intended, I believe, to be an advisory body in matters relating to growing more sugarcane, fixing the prices of sugarcane and sugar, grant of protection to the industry etc. The proposed council was also expected to deal with matters relating to distribution of sugar. The whole crisis in regard to

sugar has occurred on account of the unsatisfactory distribution of the commodity and yet the Ministry is acting on its own and the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee has nothing to do with it. Now, I think the claim of the Central Sugarcane Committee to have a say in the distribution of sugar is not an unreasonable one. I would, therefore, like to urge, taking opportunity of this demand coming before the House, that the hon. Minister should examine the possibility of associating a small sub-committee of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee, firstly, by endowing it with some executive powers, and secondly, consulting it in regard to the distribution of the commodity.

As we know, this is one of the main and vital problems which has affected and afflicted the whole nation and it is high time that Government takes into consideration the advice of an expert body like the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. It is natural that a common man should say that there is no reason why the price of sugar should have gone so abnormally high—as high as Rs. 3-8-0 per seer. As I had occasion to observe recently every hundred miles seem to put an extra four annas on the black-market price of sugar. Now nobody is happy about the position and I do not think that anything very grave would have happened if we had chalked out a definite and a different policy. I personally think that there is every reason to pursue a different policy from the one which we are following. We could, I think, have improved matters by associating the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. For the sake of being within bounds I am referring to the Indian Sugarcane Committee, as otherwise I am very much nervous that you will rule my observations out of order. Therefore, I have to connect every observation I make with the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee as I fear you may at any moment say that I cannot discuss the sugar policy of Government on this demand. If the hon. Minister had taken the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee into confidence, we would not have been in the plight in which we are at present.

I would also like to point out that the grants made to this Committee are hopelessly insufficient. If we compare the grant which is proposed to be given under this demand with the grant that was made in the previous year, we will find that there is a great difference. The Indian Central Sugarcane Committee has been agitating for a very long time for more funds and if these are not made available, research and other work which has been undertaken by the Committee, at the instance of Government, are liable to suffer.

**Prof. Ranga (Madras):** I agree with what my hon. friend Dr. Deshmukh has said just now. At the same time I wish to warn him as well as this House that it is not enough to endow this committee, or any other commodity committee with a few or a large number of executive powers. What is more important is that in addition to giving these powers the Finance Ministry should realise that these committees should be given sufficient authority to spend moneys that are placed at their disposal.

My hon. friend Dr. Deshmukh said that the money placed at the disposal of this Committee is not enough. But the complaint that was made at the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee was that the Sugarcane Committee was not able to spend all the money that was placed at its disposal. Some of my colleagues were rather inclined to the view that even the funds that are placed at their disposal may be further reduced on the plea that this Committee was not able to spend it. It is as well for this House to enquire why it is that this Committee and the other commodity committees like the Indian Oilseeds Committee have not been able to spend the funds placed at their disposal for developmental research. It is all because of the difficulties that the Finance Ministry puts in the way of these committees spending their own funds. How do these committees function? They are all statutory bodies and they have a number of sub-committees formed subject-wise. Their reports

[Prof. Ranga]

go to the Finance Sub-Committee and after scrutiny there in the light of the funds at their disposal and in the light of the demands of the State Governments for their own schemes, certain decisions are arrived at. These decisions then go before the whole of the Commodity Committee which was at one time called the Commodity Parliament. The decisions are discussed there at great length and conclusions come to. The Secretaries of these different Committees then try to implement those decisions by drawing funds from their own allotments already deposited in Banks in their own names. But, unfortunately, at present these decisions have to be communicated by the Secretaries along with the schemes to the Agriculture Ministry. The Agriculture Ministry sits over these proposals for several days if not months before sending them up to the Finance Ministry. In that Ministry the tortuous progress begins. There are references to and from this Ministry to that and in the end the Finance Ministry cuts down the grants and sends back the papers to the Commodity Committee. This Committee, which is not in the know of the details of the schemes proposed, sends up the thing back to the appropriate Committee or the State Government concerned. The State Governments thereupon say: 'We do not want these things. These funds are not enough. We have appointed some staff and if these are all the funds that we could have the staff will have to be disbanded'. The schemes come back again with the information necessary to give the Finance Department a satisfactory answer and ultimately the committee concerned, in exasperation, accepts whatever the Finance Department gives. I do not know if these things come to the notice of the hon. Dr. Matthai. Some six months later the full committee meets again and if it does not agree with the Finance Department, a delay of another six months results. In this way one year or two years are wasted over the implementation of schemes. As a Vice-Chairman of one of these Committees this has been my experience. I am not able to say to this House that we have been able to implement even 50 per cent of the schemes passed. This is so, not because we have no funds, but for reasons I have given. For instance the Oil Seeds Committee has ten lakhs groaning in the Bank; we do not know what to do with the funds. The Finance Department is responsible for this situation. The Sugarcane Committee also has large funds at its disposal.

**An Hon. Member:** Forty-nine lakhs.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** Seventy-four lakhs.

**Prof. Ranga:** All this money is there groaning in the banks. And yet the Finance Minister says we have no grants for research. Here is money earmarked for certain purposes and placed at the disposal of the various Committees, to guard against the exigencies of the Central requirements.

Lest this House should have all the time to devote to the administration of these things, we have created 'Parliaments' and even when those 'Parliaments' come to definite decisions, some clerk in the Finance Department looks into these things and raises a question, 'why?'. Then the whole chain begins to move. In this fashion we are frustrated and rendered incapable of spending the funds placed at our disposal. Do we not want cheaper sugar and greater production of sugarcane at cheaper prices? Then, is it not necessary to improve and develop these researches? How can you do so unless funds are placed at our disposal? Is it contended seriously that a statutorily-constituted body is less responsible than a clerk, a Deputy Secretary or even a Secretary of the Finance Department? I have been one of the champions of the Finance Ministry remaining as the watchdog of our finances. I am still their champion in that respect. But here you have created a special machinery. They should not bring in this Agriculture Department first of all, as a sort of

midwife. It need not intervene between the Commodity Committee and the Finance Ministry.

The second thing is that in the Finance Ministry also, some responsible officer at top level should be responsible for scrutinising these things and passing them within a definite period. Within a fixed period of time, he must see to it that all the questioning is over and definite sanction is given to the schemes sent up to the Finance Ministry after scrutiny by the various sub-committees and the Commodity Committee. Unless and until the Agriculture Ministry as well as the Finance Ministry make up their minds to speed up the work, it will be impossible to do anything to push ahead agricultural research. What is the earthly use of blaming the poor Indian Council of Agricultural Research that it is not able to give satisfactory results? Some friends of mine.....

**Shri B. Das:** You forget that it was the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. It did nothing and it will do nothing!

**Prof. Ranga:** I have always disagreed with friends who held that view with regard to this Council. I have always held the view that this Council is of very great importance and I am glad that it was established. I am anxious that it should be further strengthened. But I am free to confess to the House that its working will be unsatisfactory so long as this double-filtration that is going on today is insisted upon, first by the Agriculture Ministry and then by the Finance Ministry. How did you raise the funds placed at the disposal of these Committees? The funds were raised by an agricultural produce cess. You said that you are placing these funds at their disposal. In the Indian Council, the States Governments are also represented. They have a number of sub-committees for various schemes. After scrutiny and consideration, they finalise certain schemes and send up their proposals to the Agricultural Ministry. There somebody sits over the proposals and again in the Finance Ministry this business is repeated. Therefore, even in the case of the Agriculture Ministry I suggest that the same procedure should be followed as soon as possible.

The hon. Dr. Matthai, whenever he accepts a point, is really quick in properly responding to this House and implementing its decision. I sincerely hope that he would be able to help the Indian Agricultural Council as well as the Sugarcane Research Committee, etc. to discharge their functions and give better satisfaction to this House.

**Sri M. A. Ayyangar (Madras):** I was one and I will be one now to oppose the Grant to the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee of Rs. 1,75,000 for this reason that it has accumulated a sum of Rs. 74,00,000 already. What is now asked for is not required for its current expenditure. From the excise duty on sugar at the rate of one anna, year after year, for this research on sugarcane a sum of Rs. 49,00,000 has been collected. This year what is wanted by way of a Supplementary Grant is not that they are short of funds and therefore Rs. 1,75,000 are necessary for payment to the establishment before the end of the year. This must also go as if this is the first charge upon the excise duty on sugar on the general revenues of India. The idea is that this money must go into this pocket and go on accumulating there. It is a charge on our funds, and therefore wherever any Research institute is established, money may be paid to it from time to time, but technically and constitutionally it is not proper that we should allocate this money so that it may accumulate for years and years. It is not a statutory cess that is imposed. It is under the Finance Bill that the excise duty is imposed and this one anna is set apart for purposes of research. It is obligatory for the Minister of Agriculture to come and tell us why Rs. 1,75,000 are necessary for this year that he wants a supplementary grant; otherwise the Institute will have to be closed. Nothing



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of that kind is placed before us. On the other hand he wants that money to be accumulated. I entirely agree with my hon. friend Prof. Ranga that this money we supply from time to time is being accumulated and the very basis of a supplementary grant is not there. Why should we create an incentive for squandering the accumulated resources? It is not as if when the Central Government sanctions an expenditure of Rs. 350 crores year by year, it will not be able to give Rs. 1,75,000 for the purposes of sugarcane research.

I understand that this Research Committee meets often and officers from the Finance as well as the Agriculture Ministries attend the Committee meetings. They listen to what is said, they are practically parties to the resolutions and when the formal sanction is sought and the papers go to them, the very officer who nods his head to those resolutions puts up a query as to why this money is wanted. I do not know how this kind of red-tapism will produce the desired results in research. If it is a question of window-dressing, it is all right. I feel that the research funds are not at all serving any useful purpose.

I understand that there is only one gentleman who is in charge of 100 committees in agricultural research. He is supposed to know everything, such as sugarcane, oilseed, rice, potato, etc. In this way vested interests are created; one man catches hold of an Institute and he would not allow that Institute to go forward. There is Mr. Venkatraman who is an expert on sugarcane. He is prepared to spend all his time but another man has got hold of that Institute and he would not allow it to progress and that is the way these Institutes are working. Formerly I was under the impression that various funds are needed for various research institutes but now I see that there are pockets and vested interests created in various ways. It is all a window-show to the outside world that we have so many research institutes. But nothing happens in the field of research, in the field of agriculture or in the field of industry. We are spending lakhs and lakhs and these amounts never come under our scrutiny. No administrative reports are given. We do not know what is going to happen. I am not one of those who believe that no research is necessary. I believe that research is necessary in every department and that is the only sure way to make progress. We are in a scientific age and we are far behind other countries in this matter but unfortunately these are in the hands of persons who have absolutely no knowledge of research; they are sticking to what they learnt 25 years ago in their school days and they will not allow knowledge to percolate. That is the unfortunate position. I would therefore urge upon the Minister and the Government to appoint an Enquiry Committee to go into the various institutions that have been created.

Another matter which I wish to bring to notice is that a scientist whose job it is to make research immediately after taking the job finds it profitable to go into the Secretariat and thus wastes all his time and energy in sitting at the desk and doing clerical work. In one breath we say there is want of scientific man power and in another breath we are drawing all the scientists into the administrative offices of the Secretariat. I would therefore say that the time has come when greater impetus ought to be given to scientific research. I would urge upon the Government to appoint a Committee to go into all these research institutions for which moneys are being granted from time to time and see how far research has really improved, what gain has come to us and how far these researches have been implemented and until all this is done, I am not in favour of granting this Rs. 1,75,000. It is not wanted for current expenditure, but it is for the purpose of accumulating in some other fund over which you and I have no control. That is my point so far as that matter is concerned.

Then, with respect to a small expenditure we are making much. I am a Member of the Standing Finance Committee. The Standing Finance Committee proceedings are printed and supplied to us. We are only 15 or 20 persons. Are they printing only 15 or 20 copies? At least 250 or 300 copies are printed and they could be circulated to the Members of this House.

**Dr. Matthal:** My hon. friend Mr. Ayyangar will understand that the meetings of the Standing Finance Committee in regard to these matters were held so recently that it was not possible for us to get them printed in time. So in order to put the House in possession of the information, we adopted this rather provisional arrangement.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** I am glad, but unfortunately the hon. Minister forgets that I am also a Member of the Standing Finance Committee. From time to time as and when the meetings are held we get printed books of this kind. I agree that if a meeting was held the day before yesterday, it would not be possible to supply copies but these volumes were printed in January and there is not even an index and it is a job for a man who is a Member of this Committee to go through them or make any constructive suggestion.

Then I come to another matter and I would like hon. Members to note this: During the Budget session all materials are placed before the House and new schemes also come within the Budget. But after the year is past, before another year comes in, if any new schemes have to be undertaken, which is the agency which goes into that matter? The Ministry concerned makes a proposal and sends it to the Standing Finance Committee. The Standing Finance Committee goes into that matter fully and it is only in the form of supplementary grant the scheme can be embarked upon and this may ultimately cost crores of rupees. In all these matters, I would insist upon the hon. Ministers to whom these items relate to stand up and explain them to the House, because this is not a supplementary demand but they are in excess with respect to the principles which we have accepted already; they must stand up and then say: "During the year under review for which I have come for the voting of a supplementary demand, these are the new schemes I have undertaken." It is going to cost so much and it will take so many years to complete it.' It is not enough if some information is given in some corner of this book; it does not mean that pointed attention is drawn to all these matters. There are enormous schemes for which there are Demands of Rs. 1,000. But I would urge upon the hon. Minister to come forward and inform us why and how these Demands are made, before asking the House to pass them.

As regards sugar, I think I have said enough.

There are just one or two matters more which I would like to touch upon. If you will kindly turn to page 25 of this book, there you will find Demand No. 53 and there is this item—F. 4 Grant to the Rajasthan Underground Water Resources Board—Rs. 1,50,000, and the note says it is "to examine the possibility of tapping the underground water resources in Rajasthan." Now, there has been in Delhi for the past four or five years an Underground Water Board and I understand one Assistant Engineer with the rigs already available here demonstrated that he could bore wells at the cost of Rs. 15,000. He actually dug three such wells round about Delhi. All along it was said that it will cost Rs. 75,000 to bore one such well and white men have to be imported from America for this work, and without this cost and the men and machinery from abroad nothing could be done. But here was a demonstration by an Assistant Engineer of three wells close to the capital of India being dug at the cost of Rs. 15,000 a well. But then they did not pursue this matter. No pumps were allowed and water was not allowed to be pumped up. The existing Underground Water Board was disbanded, the whole organisation went underground. And here we have it again all through the desert coming

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up again in Rajasthan. At the Centre you do not want it now, you have disbanded it, and it is reported that Rs. 75,000 would be necessary for boring a well. But it was pointed out that Rs. 15,000 was enough. This was done by an Assistant Engineer, but because he was an Assistant Engineer who did something which the Engineer could not, what do we do? We decide to drop the whole scheme. And now you want to have this work started at Rajasthan. This is a new scheme started after the Budget. Should we not go into this matter? Unfortunately this is the position. The Ministers are not able to check the subordinates under them. Investigation is necessary in these matters. Here was the case of three wells being dug close to Delhi and at the cost of only Rs. 15,000 a well, and this organisation that you had in Delhi has been disbanded and here is a Demand put forward to start another at Rajasthan. How on earth can the hon. Minister expect me to support this Demand?

**Shri Tyagi:** No action has been taken against the Engineer who.....

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram):** May I point out that the organisation at Delhi has not been abolished?

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Is the central organisation here in Delhi now?

**Shri Jai Ramdas Doulatram:** Yes. I shall explain the position when I reply.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Very good, I shall wait for the hon. Minister's reply. But I have also been at this for some time now and I have understood it differently.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is called the Central Ground Water Organisation.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Well, as I said these are post-Budget schemes. There is then the grant for the scheme of crop cutting experiment on wheat and paddy. I am not against making researches, and during the course of the year many things may come up for which money is required. But we have to go into these matters also. For a long time in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute experiments have been conducted and there have been statisticians also. There was one—I forget his name, but it began with the letter N. What we want to know is, what has been done so far, and how far is this additional sum necessary, and this the Minister in charge has to explain to the House before the House can vote in its favour.

**श्री श्री रजबीर सिंह :** मानरेबिल डिप्टी स्पीकर (Hon. the Deputy Speaker)

साहब ने जो मांग की है कि इंडियन सुगर केन कमेटी (Indian sugar cane Committee) को ग्रांट (grant) न दिया जाय उससे मैं सहमत नहीं हो सकता। उन्होंने इस की वजह यह बताई कि उस संस्था के पास पहिले ही रुपया ज्यादा है। मेरे लायक दोस्त प्रोफेसर रंगा और डाक्टर देशमुख ने कमेटी (Committee) के काम करने के सिलसिले में और उसके सामने रकाबत खड़ी करने के सिलसिले में कुछ बातें कही हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसका कारण कोई दूसरा ही है जिसके बारे में इन दो दोस्तों ने लाइट (light) नहीं डाली है। इसका कारण यह मालूम होता है कि जिससे संस्था में रुपया बहुत इकट्ठा हो गया है कि जितनी भी कमोडिटीज कमेटी (Commodities Committee) हैं अगर आप उनका विचार करें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि यह रिसर्च कमेटी (Research Committee) नहीं है बल्कि किसी ब्यापार की दृष्टि से बनाई गई है। आप सुगर केन कमेटी को ले लीजिये या दूसरी कमोडिटीज

कमेटी को ले लीजिये तो उसके अन्दर आपको व्यापार का इंटरेस्ट (interest) इतना ज्यादा मिलेगा, कारखाने वालों के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव (representative) ज्यादा मिलेंगे। जो लोग उसमें सुधार करना चाहते हैं, या जो लोग उस रुपये को किसी अनुसंधान में लगाना चाहते हैं उसकी आवाज की बहा पर उठने नहीं देते। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि यह रुपया इकट्ठा न हो और यह रुपया सुधार के और अनुसंधान के कामों में इस्तेमाल किया जाय जिससे कि पैदावार भी बढ़े तो इसके लिये यह आवश्यक है कि इन कम्पैक्टिबल कमेटियों के ऊपर एग्रीकल्चरिस्टों (agriculturists) का रिप्रेजेंटेटिव (representative) को बढ़ा दिया जाय। इसके अलावा कारखाने वालों या दूसरों के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव सिर्फ एक एक या दो दो ही काफी समझे जावें। अगर ऐसा किया गया तो जो डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब ने रुपया इकट्ठा होने की आपत्ति की शिकायत की है वह दूर हो जायेगी। अगर इसमें एग्रीकल्चरिस्टों की मेजोरिटी (majority) हो जायेगी तो वह फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर (the hon. the Finance Minister) को मजबूर कर देंगे कि वे उसके मतानुसार चलें।

मैं प्रोफ़ेसर रंगा की इस बात से सहमत नहीं हूँ कि एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री (Ministry of Agriculture) नहीं होना चाहिये। मैं समझता हूँ कि एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री को एक वकील के तौर पर उसके लिए खड़ा रहना चाहिये। इस तरह से उनकी कठिनाई को दूर किया जा सकता है। एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री को सिर्फ इमदाद और एक वकील की तरह इसमें केवल सलाह देनी चाहिये।

इसके अलावा आनरेबल डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब ने अंडर ग्राउन्ड रिसर्च बोर्ड (underground Research Board) के बारे में जो खिचर किया है इसमें मैं उनके साथ सहमत हूँ। मैं इस बारे में हाउस के सामने कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। एक असिस्टेंट इंजीनियर (Assistant Engineer) मिस्टर कश्यप हैं। उन्होंने एक किताब निकाली है जिसमें आनरेबल मिनिस्टर आफ एग्रीकल्चर (hon. Minister of Agriculture) का फोटो भी है। उस फोटो के अन्दर यह दिखलाया गया है कि मिनिस्टर साहब वहां पर खड़े हैं और एक कुआ तैयार किया जा रहा है। उसने यह दावा किया है कि यह कुआ १८ और २४ घंटों के अन्दर तैयार किया जा सकता है। वह यह भी दावा करते हैं कि जो यह बात कही जाती है कि हमारे देश के अन्दर रिग्स (Rigs) नहीं मिलते, और हम अपने देश के अन्दर कुएं जल्दी नहीं बना सकते हैं। वह इन सब बातों को झूठा साबित करना चाहता है। वह कहते हैं कि अगर इन सब बातों को कोई झूठा साबित करदे तो मुझे जेल भेज दिया जाय। मैं इस बारे में नहीं कह सकता हूँ कि यह बात कहां तक सत्य है। उस किताब में यह भी शिकायत की गई है कि अन्डर सेक्रेटरी (Under Secretary) की वजह से कुओं की स्कीम (Scheme) को रोक दिया गया। उन्होंने यह मांग की है कि उस अफसर के ऊपर कोई कार्यवाई की जाय जिसने कि देश को इतना नुकसान पहुंचाया है या उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई की जाय। मैं और कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ, मैं सिर्फ एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो एक लाख ३२ हजार रुपया अमेरिकन काटन (American cotton) अंगाने पर (Subsidiary) का दिया जा रहा है उसके बारे में इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह हमारे देश की बदकिस्मती है कि हमारे देश के जो इकोनॉमिस्ट (economist) या जो इस तरह सोचते हैं कि देश के एग्रीकल्चर प्रोडक्ट्स (Agriculture Products) की पैदावार को उनकी कीमत घटा कर पैदावार बढ़ाई जा सकती है। मैं आर्थिक साइंस और दूसरे साइंसेस के बारे में नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। बूर्जुआ (Bourgeois) आर्थिक साइंस जिसे कहते हैं उसके हिसाब से भी बिना किसी चीज की पैदावार बढ़ानी होती उसके लिए यह जरूरी होता है कि उसकी कीमत बढ़ाई जाय।

## [बीघरी रनबीर सिंह]

यहां उससे उल्टा है। जो चीज जिस कीमत पर अमेरिका (America) के किसान पैदा नहीं कर सकते, जिस चीज को मिश्र के अन्दर, जहां लाखों रुपये काटन के सुधार के लिये खर्च होते हैं, वह जिस कीमत पर पैदा नहीं कर सकते हैं उस कीमत पर पैदा करने की हिंदुस्तान के रहने वाले किसानों से तबक़्तो की जाती है। यह तबक़्तो की जाती है कि वह उस से भी कम कीमत पर पैदा कर सकेंगे और उसकी पैदावार बढ़ा सकेंगे। हमें देखना चाहिये कि इस खयाल को अपने दीमाग में रखते हुए हम कब तक हिंदुस्तान की पैदावार को बढ़ा सकेंगे। अगर आप दरअसल यह चाहते हैं कि अमरीकन काटन को आपको सबसिद्धाइज (subsidize) न करना पड़े और अमरीका या दूसरे देशों से जो अनाज आता है उसके लिये सबसिद्धाइज न करना पड़े तो इसके लिये निहायत जरूरी है कि एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोडक्ट्स के लिये मिनिमम प्राइस (minimum prices) फिक्स (fix) की जायें। बॉयडोर (Boyd Orr) जो इंटरनेशनल यू० एन० ओ० के सेक्रेटरी हैं उनसे मेरी बात चीत हुई, उन्होंने बतलाया कि अमेरीका के अन्दर खेती की चीजों को तभी बढ़ाया जा सका जब अमरीकन गवर्नमेंट ने यह जिम्मेदारी ली कि अगर उनका भाव मुकर्रर भावों से कम रहा तो सरकार मुकर्रर भाव पर खरीदेगी। तो मैं इस बारे में इतना हो कहना चाहता हूँ कि काटन के लिये आपको ज्यादा रुपया सबसिद्धी के तौर पर दूसरे देशों से आई हुई काटन पर न देना पड़े तो आप काटन की एकोनोमिक प्राइस (economic price) मुकर्रर करें। कुछ भाइयों का ऐसा भी खयाल है कि किसान बिल्कुल ओला भाला है और जो रुपये की कीमत है उसे उसके बारे में कोई ठीक ज्ञान नहीं है। मैं इस बारे में इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह ठीक है कि वह पूरा बोलने वाला अभी नहीं हुआ है और तकरीबन डम्ब ड्रिवेन कैटिल (Dumb driven cattle) सा है परन्तु इसके बाबजूद आज उसे इतनी समझ जरूर आ गई है कि जिस चीज में उसको कोई फायदा है वह जरूर अधिक पैदा करता है। इसके लिये मैं एक ही मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ गन्ने को ले लीजिये। गन्ने में जब भाव पहले ज्यादा था तो लोग ज्यादा पैदा करते थे। जब दो साल पहले गुड़ का भाव गिरा तो लोगों ने गन्ने की पैदावार बहुत कम कर दी और जब अब की शुगर का पैसा उन्हें अच्छा मिला और शुगर केन की भी कीमत नहीं कम की गई तो काफी ज्यादा तादाद में इस साल किसान शुगर केन बो रहे हैं।

इसके अलावा एक और चीज मुझे कहनी है, और वह एग्रीकल्चरल रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट (Agricultural Research Institute) के बारे में कहना है। इस सिलसिले में मेरी प्रार्थना यह है वहां में भी गया, प्रोफेसर रंगा भी हमारे साथ थे और दूसरे साथी कुछ किसान भाई हमारे साथ थे। हम एग्रीकल्चर रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट में गये। वहां के आला अफसर जो डाक्टर थे, उन्होंने बतलाया कि उन्होंने क्या रिसर्च (research) की है। अगर इन रिसर्चों का अन्दाजा लगाया जाय तो हिंदुस्तान में हम काफी से ज्यादा आगे बढ़ चुके। लेकिन अगर सही मानों में देखें कि इसका नतीजा भी कुछ बरामद हुआ है या नहीं, तो वह तकरीबन आपको नहीं ही में मिलेगा। इसका कारण यही है कि उस रिसर्च को किसानों के खेत तक नहीं पहुंचाया गया है। अमरीका जैसे देश के अन्दर, जहां कि किसान सारे पढ़े लिखे हैं, वहां एक्स्टेंशन (extension) सर्विसेज (services) आज जारी हैं, वहां सरकार की तरफ से बड़े-बड़े खेत हैं, उसके अन्दर यह तजुर्बा करके दिखलाते हैं। लोगों को वहां बुलाते हैं और उनको यह दिखलाते हैं कि इस बीज के बोने से पैदावार बढ़ेगी। लेकिन हमारा देश तो एक ऐसा देश है जिसके किसान बिल्कुल सोलह आने नहीं तो रुपये में पन्द्रह आने अनपढ़ जरूर हैं। और जो आपके रेडियो (radio) की बातें हैं उनको भी बहुत हद तक समझ नहीं सकते हैं। बात असल यह है कि इसकी तरफ ध्या भी कम दिया जाता है और कभी उसका खयाल भी आता है तो ऐसे

आदमी इसका काम करने के लिये लगा दिये जाते हैं जिनका वहां के लोगों से कोई वास्ता नहीं। आज सुबह का ख़िर्क है, दिल्ली के अन्दर एक स्कीम चल रही है, वह जो आदमी .....

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is trying to cover the whole ground. He will restrict himself to the particular Demand that is before us. He need not go into the question of general agricultural research by the I.C.A.R.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** There is a Demand:

"Payment of the Net Proceeds of the Cess on Agricultural produce to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research."

म अभी जो बातें कह रहा था वह मैं रिसर्च की दृष्टि से कह रहा था। हमें इस डिमांड का कोई फ़ायदा नहीं हो सकता जब कि रिसर्च को खेत में न पहुंचाया जाय। इसी तिलसिले में जो कुश्म मैंने देखा है वह कह रहा था और मैं समझता हूं आप मुझ से सहमत होंगे।

**Mr. Speaker:** He has sufficiently spoken on that point.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** I bow to your ruling मैं यह कह रहा था कि इसके लिये यह जरूरी है कि जहां पर आप जो चीज चलाना चाहते हैं वहां ऐसे आदमियों के जरिये आपको चलाना चाहिये जो कि उनसे वाकफ़ियत रखते हों और उनसे उनका वास्ता हो, मेरा इसमें कोई ऐसा मन्ना नहीं था कि मैं कोई प्राविन्शालिज्म (provincialism) की या दूसरी बात करूं। लेकिन इसके लिये यह जरूरी है। मैं इसके लिये ज्यादा नहीं कहता लेकिन एक सजेशन अपना रखना चाहता हूं कि इंडियन एग्रीकल्चर रिसर्च से जो नतीजा बरामद किया जाता है वह किसानों तक पहुंचाने के लिये मैं जरूरी समझता हूं कि इसके साथ कोई नान आफिशियल (non-official) बाडी (body) अटैच (attach) की जाय और वह जो नतीजा बरामद किया जाता है उसको सही तौर पर देश के कोने कोने में पहुंचा कर इसका प्रचार करे।

*(English Translation of the above speech)*

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** At the very outset I find myself unable to agree with the plea advanced by hon. the Deputy-Speaker that no grant should be sanctioned to the Indian Sugar-cane Committee. His plea is based on the ground that enough funds are already lying with the Committee in question. My able friends, hon. Prof. Ranga and hon. Dr. Deshmukh have made references to the Committee's work in general and to the various obstacles placed in their way. To me it appears that the reasons are somewhat different on which the hon. friends have thrown no light. Looking at the constitution governing the working of the various Commodities Committees, to me the reason for this accumulation of huge funds appears to be that the Committee in question has been set up for some business motive rather than to function as a research committee. Whether it happens to be the Sugar-cane Committee or any other Commodity Committee, business interests and representatives of mill-owners seem to dominate everywhere. These people can counter-act immediately all manoeuvres aiming at improvements; they are again capable of suppressing all opinions in favour of utilizing these funds towards any research-work. If you really wish not to let these funds getting accumulated or to use them on some research-work which may result in increasing our production, then it is quite necessary that the agriculturist representation should be increased in these Commodities Committees and over and above that to confine the number of representatives of mill-owners or all other interests to one or two only which should be regarded sufficient for their purposes. Adoption of such a course will remove the basis for the objection or the complaint made by hon. the Deputy-Speaker. Once the agriculturists attain majority they are sure to bring pressure on the hon. the Minister of Finance to accept their advice or recommendations and act upto them.

[Ch. Ranbir Singh]

I am unable to subscribe to the view of hon. Prof. Ranga that the Ministry of Agriculture should in no way be concerned with these Committees. In my opinion, the assistance of that Ministry should always be available to them in a similar position as that of an ardent advocate. Many of their difficulties can be removed by accepting this suggestion. The Ministry of Agriculture should be willing to render all possible assistance and only their advice should be available in the capacity of an advocate.

Further, I agree with all that the hon. the Deputy-Speaker has said in connection with the work of the Underground Research Board. I want to place before the House a few points on this matter. Firstly, I have to draw attention of the House to what Mr. Kashyap, an Assistant Engineer, has written in a book published by himself. In that Book he has given even a photo of the hon. Minister of Agriculture, wherein he, while standing, is shown watching a well being sunk. The author has claimed that the well of that type can be got ready within 18 to 24 hours. He also makes an attempt to prove all such excuses as unavailability of rigs in India or the plea that we in India can never construct wells quickly as false. He is even prepared to court imprisonment should anyone prove him to be wrong. Personally I am unable to say how far his statement is correct. He has, again, thrown the responsibility for suspension of the scheme concerned with sinking of wells on the Under Secretary. He has demanded action against the said officer who has been the cause of so much harm to the interests of the country and he has not exempted even himself from any such penalty on that score.

I don't wish to say any further but for a brief reference to the subsidy of Rs. 1,32,000/- proposed to be given for the import of American cotton, I consider it to be our misfortune that our economists and all others who hold similar views, should strive to increase production through effecting a reduction in the prices of our own agricultural products. I have no wish to get myself involved in the intricacies of the economics or of any other science. Consistent with even the fundamentals of bourgeois economics, it is necessary to raise the prices of a commodity in respect of which we seek to achieve an increased production. But here it is happening quite the reverse of that. We expect the Indian cultivators to produce cotton at prices which even the American or the Egyptian producers are unable to accept despite the fact that in the later country lacs of rupees are spent towards the improvement of quality of cotton. We expect our peasantry to produce it even at still further reduced prices and, at the same time we want them to be able to help in increasing the over all production. We should pause to think how far we shall be successful to increase production while holding such notions. You will have to fix the minimum prices in respect of agricultural products if you entertain an earnest desire to avoid all sorts of subsidizing either on the score of American cotton or on that of imports of foodgrains from abroad. Lord Boyd Orr, a Secretary to the U.N.O. told me in a conversation that the progress with the production of agricultural products in America was possible only when the Government there had come forward to accept the responsibility to purchase such products at fixed prices in the event of their falling down. I have only to recommend the fixation of economic prices of cotton in order to avoid heavy subsidies on imported cotton. Some hon. friends consider the peasants to be simple-folk who are ignorant of the actual value of the rupee. To that I have to submit only this much that it is true that the voice of the peasants is still not loud enough and that they are no more than the dumb-driven cattle even now. Despite all this the *kisan* has, at least, developed this much sense as to grow more of these products only which promise any margin of profit. I will cite but one instance in this regard. Take the case of sugar-cane. People produced more of it when its prices were high. With the reduction of prices of

gur they have effected a substantial reduction in the production of sugar-cane. Now that they have had ample return on sugar this year and over that no reduction has been made in the prices of sugar-cane, the peasants are busy this time to sow more and more of the cane.

Further, I have to make a submission with regard to the working of the Agricultural Research Institute. I had been there in the company of the hon. Prof. Ranga and some of our *kisan* brethren. The officer-in-charge there is a doctor. He informed us of the research conducted there so far. Acting on that information, we should think that we have made outstanding progress here in India. Looking, however, for some substantial achievements, one has only to be dismayed. The reason is that the results of this research have not been put in practice in the actual work on fields. In a country like America where all peasants are literate, 'Extension Services' are in force at present whose job it is to show things in actual experiments on the vast Government fields. They invite the people to see how production can be increased by sowing a particular kind of seeds. But in the case of our country, the peasantry is illiterate, if not entirely, at least an overwhelming majority of them. They are unable even to understand the radio broadcasts completely. The fact is that not enough attention is being paid to this aspect and even if an occasional consideration is given to the matter, the people put on this work are such who have no link with the local people. This morning, the people concerned with a scheme being worked out at present in Delhi.....

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is trying to cover the whole ground. He will restrict himself to the particular Demand that is before us. He need not go into the question of general agricultural research by the I.C.A.R.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** There is a Demand:

"Payment of the Net Proceeds of the Cess on Agricultural produce to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research."

I was just dwelling on the subject from the research point of view. We stand to benefit from research in no way till the results thereof are applied to the actual work on the fields. I was expressing what I have seen myself and I hope you also agree with me in this matter.....

**Mr. Speaker:** He has sufficiently spoken on that point.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** I bow to your ruling. I was referring to this end the necessity to put only such people to work out these schemes who know the subject well and who happen to be in a close practical touch with it. There was no provincial or any such idea or intention of the type in my mind. Not saying any further, I have only to make one suggestion namely that a non-official body should be attached to the Agricultural Research Institute whose main concern it should be how best to convey and propagate the results of such research amongst the peasants in every part of the country.

**Shri B. Das (Orissa):** My hon. friend Ch. Ranbir Singh rather confused the two issues,—the I.C.A.R. which requires the sanction of Rs. 3,60,000 and the research that is carried on in the Indian Agriculture Research Institute, sometime called as Pusa Institute, New Delhi. The two are fundamentally different. One is a research institution where great researches are made and if those researches do not reach the countryside, it is for the Food Minister to say why such researches do not reach the countryside. As for the grant under reference, I am one of those who are very particular about the activities of the I.C.A.R. for the last two years. There is no research anywhere. Lord Linlithgow who was a member of the Royal Commission on Agriculture wanted to justify that he had done something for our agriculture and when he was the Viceroy he set apart Rs. 15 lakhs in 1929 for this Institute.



**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** On a point of order. The obligation to pay to the I.C.A.R. is not a thing which is optional. It has got to be paid and I do not think this is merely a matter which is legitimising a thing which the government has to do. I do not know if it is proper to go into the question of I.C.A.R.

**Shri B. Das:** You please hear me.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let him address the Chair:

**Shri B. Das:** That sum of 15 lakhs was set apart and the I.C.A.R. started functioning as an autonomous Department under the Department of Education, Health and Lands. At that time agriculture received the attention of half the time of a Deputy Secretary, and a quarter of the time of the Secretary of the Education Department. Then the Ministry of Agriculture was created and some of us felt that this I.C.A.R. would be abolished and I draw the attention of the hon. the Finance Minister and the hon. Minister of Agriculture to the weighty recommendation of the Economy Committee regarding this matter. It felt that while there is a full-fledged Secretariat in the Ministry of Agriculture, with a Secretary, Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretaries and Under Secretaries, there is no necessity for the I.C.A.R. to continue doing the only work of, as my friend, Prof. Ranga pointed out, taking hold of the commodities' receipts, holding annual meetings of Provincial and State representatives trying to distribute that money. The unfortunate part of it is they have a series of experts sitting in the hutments—opposite Imperial Hotel—and the Minister of Agriculture has got similar series of experts, most of them above 55, 60 and 75, and they are all doing research in Delhi. They are all doing research in Delhi, research on their tables and desks.

What surprised me most is that two prominent Members of the Standing Finance Committee were expressing such views. This I did not expect from my hon. friend, Prof. Ranga, and the Deputy-Speaker. I agree with my hon. friend, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, that the money must have been already taken and spent. It must be sanctioned no doubt, but I would like to hear from my hon. friend, Shri Jairamdas Doulatram whether they have paid any respect to the recommendations of the Economy Committee and whether he justifies in his own conscience the continuance of this Council of Agricultural Research which was started in 1929 and particularly when today he has a larger number of experts and administrative officers in his own Ministry of Agriculture. I entirely agree with my hon. friend, Mr. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, when he says that he does not understand why there should be two sets of statisticians, one set of statisticians in that hutment opposite the Imperial Hotel and the other set in the Ministry of Agriculture under Mr. Natu. In the Economy Committee we took evidence of some of the highest authorities in the Agriculture Ministry. I do not wish to name the gentleman—he is occupying a very high position today in our Diplomatic Service—he said there is no justification for the existence of this Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. The former Legislature had granted a lot of funds and this Council simply disposes of the travelling allowance and other claims of the States representatives and only distributes the funds to the States. My own personal view is—and I have mentioned it in my Minute of Dissent and it can be verified—that the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research should be abolished and its staff absorbed in the Agriculture Ministry, and one Deputy Secretary can easily manage the whole thing under the direction of the Secretary and the hon. Minister of Agriculture. Today the House will be surprised to know that the Chairman—or whatever he is called—of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research is Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture. Why should Sardar Dattar Singh be Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture?

**Prof. Banga:** Is his opposition to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research or is it to the gentleman who is in charge of it?

**Shri B. Das:** I oppose the whole thing. I do not know why this creation of Lord Linlithgow should continue for ever, in opposition and hostility to the Ministry of Agriculture. I have got definite proofs of this and I make that declaration on the floor of this House. I am glad that the hon. the Prime Minister is present. He is out for economy. My point is that the recommendations of the Economy Committee should have been examined at a high level by the Cabinet. My feeling—my injured feeling—is that the Cabinet has taken no notice of the recommendations. There is no use cutting down 10 per cent. from the contingent expenses. I want the whole Council to be abolished. This is the first time I have got an opportunity to refer to that matter. Here is a clear wastage of public money and a wastage of experts and I would like to hear from my friend, Shri Jairamdas Doulatram, whether there is any co-ordination between these two sets of experts. I do hope that the independent Government which appointed me a Member of the Economy Committee would pay some respect to the recommendations that we made.

**Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** I want to say a few things which relate to this supplementary demand. The first relates to the grant proposed to be made to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. I wholeheartedly support this grant. I have got two suggestions to make in this connection. One is that the actual results achieved in agricultural research should be made available to the whole country by means of publications in every provincial vernacular language. That is being done, as I personally know, with regard to the results that are achieved in the Research Section of the Coimbatore Agricultural College. I wish the Government of India would take more interest in seeing that the results achieved in research are actually handed down to the agriculturists who have to implement them in actual practice so that more crops are raised and more food is produced.

The second suggestion that I want to make is this: I learn that it is proposed to close down some departments of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. This will have a very deplorable effect. A very considerable amount of research work has been carried on in this Institute, and I would urge that the first priority should be given to this kind of research work so that we can feed all hungry mouths in this country and also clothe the naked in this country.

The other subject that I wish to refer to is the grant that is proposed to be made to the Rajasthan Underground Water Resources Board.

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

With regard to this, what I want to say is that the need for investigating the underground water resources in Rajasthan is a direct consequence of the fact that the rainfall is very scanty in this area and the entire territory is almost a desert. The land has been abused for centuries in the past and all vegetation has disappeared from the surface of the land, and therefore water has gone underground. Today it is proposed to investigate the underground water resources there and to utilize them for carrying on irrigational agriculture on the surface of the land. I apprehend that this might have a deleterious effect on the future prospects of rainfall all over the region, and I would therefore urge that the Government of India should invite a competent expert on Hydrology to advise them on this matter before they proceed with the investigation and utilization of the underground water resources in Rajasthan and spend huge sums of money over it.

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I wish to say just a few words about one particular matter with regard to this Rajasthan Underground Water Resources Board or whatever it may be called, because it was on my insistence

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that this was formed temporarily and, if I may say so, I think it has completely justified its existence. It is rather an unusual thing to do, because it was an attempt to utilise the ability of a gentleman who has certain unusual powers in regard to water divining. So, it does not come within the normal scheme of things. He has these unusual powers and we felt that we ought to utilise them to the fullest extent. We found, when he was sent to various places, that he did undoubtedly spot water, but then nothing happened. It remained there. Something else had to be done. It was necessary to have a scientific

4 P.M. background to that also to work it out. So, we formed a very small, relatively speaking, inexpensive unit, associating two persons of scientific experience who had worked previously for water there, and these gentlemen, with a small staff, were told to go ahead. There was a great deal of delay at first, because, there was the Rajasthan Government and the Central Government and references went from one to the other. We thought the best way would be to form semi-autonomous unit, and give them some money and of course, keep a complete check over it, and let them go ahead and find water. Actually we asked them to make arrangements for the cultivation of the land utilising that water. I must say I am not completely satisfied with the progress made, that is to say, progress in regard to irrigation, in regard to the utilisation of water. But, the fact is that water has been discovered and in very large quantities in an area called Samudhari in Jodhpur. There is no doubt about that and anybody can go and see it. I forgot the exact quantity of water—it is about 100,000 gallons per hour in one well. But, the difficulty has been, maybe due to lack of planning as was pointed out in another case that the pump is not forthcoming. We spot water; wells are bored; but the pump is not forthcoming. That may be lack of planning. Whatever it is, I do submit that this attempt to have this autonomous unit for water is a temporary thing and it has completely justified itself, even though the results achieved have not been quite as great as I hoped they would be. Still, there is no doubt that we have found water in very large quantities in an area where there was very little water. Although it has taken a longer time than I hoped a large area is going to be brought under cultivation.

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** I would like to deal with some of the more important points which have been brought out in the course of this discussion. Since the last reference was to the Rajasthan Water Board, I might supplement the information given by the hon. Prime Minister and then deal with the Ground Water Organisation to which our Deputy-Speaker made reference.

The question in Rajasthan is not so much the discovery of water, because there is sufficient evidence that ample water resources lie under-ground in that area. Nor has there been any difficulty in pumping out that water because the requisite number of pumps for the wells so far dug are available. The difficulty has been about the utilisation of that water for the purpose of irrigating land. The land in that area belongs to big *jagirdars* and *thakurs* and it has taken a little time to acquire that land from them. At the first well where we were able to find water, we secured the land on a three years lease pending further arrangements of a permanent nature. Now, there is another large area, nearly three thousand acres which we expect to get on lease and ultimately to acquire it. So far as Rajasthan is concerned, it has been proved that there are adequate supplies of water over a distance of forty miles from Samudhari to Tilwara, near about the Luni river. The difficulty has been with regard to securing the land for using that water. Obviously that is the State Government's function and the State authorities have to take action. The latest information which we have is that they are trying their best to use some special procedure to acquire that large area of 3,000 acres in the course of a few weeks. We hope that that land would be available so that we can use water which has been discovered.

With regard to the Central Ground Water Organisation, I must say frankly that I was considerably pained by the references made by our Deputy-Speaker to a certain officer who has given certain information to some Members of the House. I think the more helpful procedure would be for a direct discussion between Members of the House who receive any information from any officer, who may for certain reasons be dissatisfied, so that the misunderstanding could be removed. So far as this particular effort of a particular officer to dig a number of wells at comparatively low cost is concerned, our Food Commissioner has gone very thoroughly and deeply into the whole question and he came to the conclusion that in the interests of the speedy realisation of our target for 1951, it was impossible to leave the whole thing in the hands of an Assistant Engineer, who may be having certain views as to his ability. Because, what he was able to do, another Engineer did in the course of a few days in another part of Delhi.

**Shri Tyagi:** Who did it first?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Another officer of the Ministry also did it. The point is, on account of certain temperamental peculiarities, the Food Commissioner felt that this officer would not be able to get on with those above him and with those below him. A man may be able, enthusiastic and earnest. But, there are certain other qualifications required for getting on in team work. The stakes were very vast. So, ultimately, the Food Commissioner came to the conclusion, even after considerable discussion with some hon. friends who were interested in this question, that the best solution was to entrust the operations to the Provincial Governments. The U.P., Bihar, and Punjab, all the three Provinces had previous experience of this work. They had a certain number of Engineers already available, certain areas marked out and investigated as to the existence of under-ground water, and also a certain number of contractors who were experienced in tube-well digging. He left the thing entirely to the discretion of the Provincial Governments to come to a decision as to the machinery through which to carry out their tube-well programme. Those provinces, I understand from the Food Commissioner, have themselves come to the conclusion that if the targets to which they are pledged are to be achieved, it is not a question of an individual Engineer here or there; but, it is a question of substantial equipment, a large number of rigs and other machinery and a large number of pumps to be made available in a brief period, so that in the course of one year, about 1,000 wells could be dug, which means practically eighty wells in a month, almost three well a day. All this requires a tremendous amount of organisation and equipment. All that equipment and organisation was not available with us here or even with the Provincial Governments. Attempts were made by those who preceded me to find out if any Engineers or firms were available in America. Representatives of those firms came here and they made investigations and made certain tentative suggestions for the construction of about 8,000 tube-wells which was the Government of India's programme at that time. We found the terms which they offered to be excessive, and therefore we turned down those offers. We had the whole matter re-considered. In the meantime came up the question of the International Bank. Then, a fresh attempt was made to find out if we could secure extra dollars. We re-examined this scheme to find out which was the best agency through which we could implement that scheme and considered the whole matter *de novo*. But, the scheme had not been as thoroughly investigated as the Bank wanted. They wanted certain details regarding different parts of the country. Those details not being available in time, we did not further press the scheme, because at that time there were other firms in other countries belonging to the sterling area from where we had received offers. Because of the Dollar difficulty we permitted the Provincial Governments to discuss on their own with any firm in the sterling area which was prepared to undertake and complete the programme within the time limit. A certain firm from

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the U.K. put its detailed proposals before the Provincial Governments. There were long conferences and discussions and as a result the offer of that British firm—which even from the start had suggested that they would like to work in collaboration with the Indian firms available in India—has probably been accepted. The final decision may have been made or is about to be made. Kirloskar and one or two other Indian manufacturers are collaborators with this firm in carrying out the tube-well programme.

When we discussed with the Provincial Governments the cost, the U.P. and the Punjab Governments told us that the cost at which the British firm will dig the tube-wells, power the tube-wells, see that pumps are available and also, where necessary, make the generating plant and electric current available, so as to cheapen irrigation, would be almost the same as what the U.P. Government would have to pay if they were to conduct the operations themselves. It was under these conditions that the arrangement for tube-well digging had to be given to this firm in collaboration with Indian firms and not entrusting the whole thing to any single engineer here.....

**Dr. Deshmukh:** Has it come to the notice of the hon. Minister that this British firm is actually going to obtain the machinery from the American firm which had originally tendered?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** That will be entirely their concern. We do not know whether they will obtain it from the dollar area or not. We are not going to provide the dollars for them. We were told that it would be at the same cost at which the U. P. Government would be able to get it done if they undertook it themselves through any Indian firm which however today lacks the equipment. Even Kirloskar and the other firms which are collaborating will be collaborating only for certain types of machinery which alone they can manufacture here.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** Has it been ascertained whether this firm manufactures any of the articles required for digging or are they merely going to work as middlemen?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** In some of the Western countries operations are divided and decentralised. There are certain firms which specialise in installation. Their function is to be expert installers; they are not themselves the manufacturers of the equipment; they procure the equipment. The rapidity, efficiency and competence with which a certain task like installation is completed is a specialised job. It is not only so in this case. In the case of fisheries, whereas in India one single firm will do all the fishing operations, in the U. K. and the U. S. A. there will be a dozen firms, each doing one particular item of work. Therefore the decision is to engage the services of a British installing firm. They will make the equipment available. They will collaborate with Indian firms and complete the task within the cost which the U. P. Government says is the cost at which the work can be done by local contractors.

There is one small point which I would like to clear. The Central Ground Water Organisation has not been abolished. What has happened is that as a part of the scheme of decentralisation we have handed over our equipment and our staff to the Provincial Governments of U. P., Bihar and the Punjab retaining a small nucleus staff and a minimum of equipment here, because under the terms of the Central Ground Water Organisation we have to do some kind of exploration work. Today some of my hon. friends have said that the Central Ground Water Organisation did or did not do certain things. The Standing Finance Committee laid certain limitations as to the functions of this

Organisation. They said that this Organisation must not dig wells in the Provinces, as that was within the provincial sphere and that all that they must do is to make preliminary exploration of new areas and if there was water leave the further digging of wells to the Provinces. Unless a Province is so situated that they had no equipment and they wanted the Organisation to do the digging operation there, this Organisation was not to undertake such work. It was under these limitations that this Organisation was functioning. There was a request from Orissa, where they wanted certain areas to be explored. If necessary with one rig a single officer will have to do the exploration. There has been no abolition of the Organisation but retention of it on a restricted scale.

Something has been said about the Commodity Committees. All that I can say is that I have no doubt that the Commodity Committees have been of great value. We need not mix up the merits of the work of a Commodity Committee with any personal question. I know that there is a certain amount of feeling or prejudice in regard to certain personal aspect of this matter in regard to one man being associated with all the Committees. But so far as the Committees are concerned I think they have done very substantial work. One single instance is that of the Central Cotton Committee. Its research work has led to crores and crores of rupees being earned by the peasants, because they were able to produce better varieties. Also in the case of the Sugarcane Committee the improvement in the various kinds of sugarcane has led to crores and crores of rupees being earned by the peasants of U. P., Bihar and some other Provinces. So is the case with regard to rice. The other day you heard that Kashmir State was able to experiment with the Russian and Chinese varieties. Who is doing it? Who is financing it? It is the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The Commodity Committees are investigating vital questions relating to tea, coffee, lac and several other commodities. Therefore I would suggest that we need not mix up the work of the Commodity Committees and the work of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research with any personal aspect of the matter.

I want to take advantage of this occasion to inform the House that about a fortnight ago Sardar Datar Singh wrote to me to say that he wanted to resign his chairmanship of most of the Commodity Committees and concentrate his attention on cotton and jute and one or two other most essential Commodity Committees, in regard to which big results are immediately required.

With regard to the extensive work done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, I am afraid that it may be that our lack of publicity is responsible for the opinion of the House, that that organisation should be wound up. That organisation is the result of very careful consideration by a Commission on Agriculture which reported about twenty years ago. They felt that the best way of coordinating agricultural research and thus economising money is to have a central body devoted to finding out which schemes are necessary and in which parts of the country and to share with the Provincial Government the cost of those experiments and to have an overall technical supervision with regard to research. In the Ministry of Agriculture there might be one or two agricultural experts: there are not a dozen or twenty as some people suppose. But in this Council have been brought together the best agricultural scientists from all over the Provinces. Some of the best men from the Provinces are on the Council, on its sub-committees and on its technical organisations. Therefore it will be very unwise to suggest that this organisation should be wound up. I can understand that the lack of publicity and another inherent factor seem to have influenced the opinion of the Members of the House. The inherent factor operates not only with regard to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research but with regard to most research in

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this country, namely that we have not been able to carry the results of research down to the worker in the field. This is not the fault of the research organisation. No research organisation is expected to do that. The function of the Research Institute is to conduct the research. Another organisation or machinery is needed to bring the results of the research down to the field of the cultivator. In other countries this type of machinery is called the Extension Service and it has been functioning in those countries for a number of years. After all this Government does not want to be responsible for acts of omission and commission of the preceding Government. It is however not possible in the course of a year or two to be able to plan out and implement all the various programmes of development. Our Central Government today are spending only about one anna per man in regard to agriculture, whereas even in the U.K. they spend two rupees per man on agricultural development and research. I have no doubt that when more money becomes available and as soon as it becomes available we should be able to set up an Extension Service which will bring research to the field of the cultivator just as now it is bringing research to the factories of the industrialist. Because the industrialist is educated, has money and has contacts, he takes advantage of anything which is discovered so far as industrial research is concerned. I have no doubt that the work being done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is very valuable work, and all the Provinces appreciate it. But if there are any matters of a personal nature, they can be certainly remedied. And if more publicity is needed, that also will of course have to be done.

With regard to the Sugarcane Committee, there is a certain misapprehension. There are no large sums like Rs. 74 lakhs lying with the Sugarcane Committee. There was a block grant of round about Rs. 50 or Rs. 54 lakhs which was given to the Sugarcane Committee for the purpose of the building up of a big farm and institute at Lucknow. It was for the purpose of acquiring and putting up that big farm and running it and constructing that big technical institute that this grant was given. It is more or less still with them for that purpose. When the conditions are ripe for that farm to be taken over from the U. P. Government and the institute to be constructed, all that money would be useful for that purpose. On the contrary, the Sugarcane Committee has been pressing on the Government of India to increase the grant and to levy the excise duty at four annas per cwt. instead of at one anna per cwt. What I feel is that there is plenty of scope for work for the Sugarcane Committee and I personally would not grudge money for any such purpose. I think a useful way of dealing with research would be to give it the money required but at the same time to take work out of it and see that proper research work is being carried on and put into practice.

It is said that the Sugarcane Committee has no work in view of the Sugar Syndicate having been abolished. What has been published in the papers is absolutely correct. The recognition of the Sugar Syndicate has been taken away by the U. P. and Bihar Governments under the instructions of the Government of India. Now it has been left entirely to voluntary action as to whether or not the various mills will combine into a non-official organisation, or do whatever they like. Government of India now is considering the question as to what type of organisation should be set up to take up some of the functions which the Sugar Syndicate had been performing. But I do believe that marketing is a kind of function which Government should be very chary of taking upon itself except during control period. I also think that any non-official organisation which takes up the marketing function may develop the

same kind of features which ultimately arose in the case of the Sugar Syndicate. I therefore suggest that the Sugarcane Committee should certainly have more powers of action. I have had discussion with the members of the Sugarcane Committee with regard to its future line of action. But the Sugarcane Committee itself is dominated by certain interests, and sometimes some sectional interest or other predominates—at some time it may be the industrialists who predominate the Sugarcane Committee. I do not think that executive powers of any large nature can be handed over to the Sugarcane Committee. That it should fix prices, that it should deal with distribution, etc. are, I think, matters which will have to be very carefully considered. So long as the Ministry does these things it is responsible to the House and it is open to the House by means of interpellations, budget debate etc., to take all possible information from the Ministry, to challenge its actions, dispute its deeds and, as on the present occasion, to take a reply from it for all that it has done. Government has to be responsible to Parliament. But in regard to these Committees, if they get all the powers which Government now exercise, I believe that these Committees will be functioning in their own way and Parliament will complain, just as it is doing in the case of certain Corporations which have been given fairly autonomous powers. Therefore, we have got to examine this question very carefully.

So far as I am personally concerned, I have taken the Sugarcane Committee into very frequent consultation, and I think Members who are present here and who belong to the Committee will remember that when the sugar situation was developing and we were feeling that probably a crisis was ahead, I myself took the initiative and discussed the matter with members of the Committee informally and later on.....

**Dr. Deshmukh:** But their advice was not accepted in full.

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** Some part of the advice was accepted. But as hon. Members know, this Ministry was not entirely a free agent as matters developed from day to day and many things happened, to which I do not want to make a reference. I do propose to take the Sugarcane Committee into very frequent consultation. Not only that. I suggested a very unusual and unorthodox procedure for it to make up for delays. I suggested that as soon as the meeting of the Committee was over, within a few days, there should be immediately a meeting with the Ministry of Agriculture at which the Ministry of Finance will be represented and as a result of that direct discussion we will be able to wipe out all the delays of files coming and going and by personal face to face discussion take decisions on the recommendations and resolutions of the Sugarcane Committee. And I do propose to follow that procedure at the end of every meeting.

**Prof. Ranga:** So far as finance is concerned will it not be feasible for the Ministry to invite the representative of the Finance Ministry at the time of the meeting so that decisions can be taken straightaway?

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** I am saying so. At the end of the Sugarcane Committee's meeting when we pass Resolutions, immediately in the presence of the Finance Ministry's representative we can come to decisions to shorten all the procedure and to save time.

**Prof. Ranga:** Before decisions are taken I would like representatives of the Agriculture Ministry and the Finance Ministry to be there so that they can help the Committees to come to proper and agreeable findings.

**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** They are present in the general body meetings. I am not sure whether they are present in all the Sub-Committees.

**Prof. Ranga:** At the time of the Sub-Committee meetings they should be present.



**Shri Jairamdas Doulatram:** That can be arranged. Any kind of procedure which cuts out delays and at the same time ensures sound decisions will certainly be taken up.

Then there was some reference to our crop cutting experiments and our statisticians. I may inform the House that one officer of my Ministry who was mentioned here is not a statistician but he is an economist—Mr. Natu. With regard to statistics it is a separate department and the extra amount that has been asked for is in the interest of meeting the very requirement which has frequently been placed before Government by this House, and that requirement is to try to have as definite and reliable data as possible with regard to outturn in our fields. We have so far carried out crop cutting experiments, which is the recognized, latest and established sound method of assessing results. We have so far been carrying on experiments with regard to two crops, namely, paddy and wheat, and that also in one district in each Province. It is obvious that where we are carrying out this random sample survey of crop cutting only with regard to two grains, and in one district in each Province, it is not a sufficiently broad basis with which to challenge the figures of the Provincial Governments which say that by actual enumeration from field to field through *patwaris* or other agency this is the outturn. Therefore we propose now to extend this to all the grains and we propose to extend it from one district in each Province to all districts of all the States. It is only when this random sample survey is available to us for all districts of all the States that we can have a sufficiently broad basis for drawing conclusions.

I would therefore suggest that this Demand which we have made which is only for less than Rs. two lakhs is fully justified and should be granted.

I believe I have covered most of the points which were brought out in the course of the debate.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will now put the Demand to the House. The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,66,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Agriculture'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri Gadgil:** Sir, in the morning in the course of the discussion I stated that an enquiry has been ordered, and the question was asked as to the status of the officer who was conducting the enquiry into that matter. The officer is Mr. Sen who is the Controller of Printing and Stationery. I may also add that the Deputy Controller who is *prima facie* responsible for the payment of this huge sum on demurrage has been suspended two months ago.

#### DEMAND NO. 55—INDUSTRIES AND SUPPLIES

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I shall now place Demand No. 55 before the House.

Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Industries and Supplies'."

**Shri N. S. Jain:** This is a token Demand. I am only referring to it in order to get some information regarding the subsidy which is to be given to the indigenous aluminium industry. I want to know certain facts. I have before me the Resolution of the Ministry of Commerce, on the basis of which this Demand has been made. The Resolution says:

" . . . Most of the subsidy will be met out of the additional revenue that is expected to be realised by the enhanced duties that will be imposed on the aluminium ingots and sheets."

I would like to know what is the extra amount of revenue that would accrue to Government on account of this additional duty.

The second thing that I would like to know is this. What have the aluminium interests in India done so far to form a strong organisation comprising the whole industry for giving general guidance to the industry, especially as this is an important condition laid down by the Tariff Board when they recommended this subsidy? I had occasion to visit certain aluminium stalls in the Exhibition that is being held in the Ramlila Grounds. I found two Companies having two different stalls and the price which I found there was not very economic. I am not sure how it compares with the British or other foreign price, but I would like the hon. Minister to tell us whether there is any possibility of its going down as a result of this subsidy that is being given. It is only to know these details that I spoke on this Demand.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Will it not be desirable—I am enquiring from the hon. Minister of Finance and the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply—to take up Demand No. 94 also along with this one? It relates to Capital Outlay on Industrial Development.

**Dr. Matthai:** As a matter of fact, my hon. friend Shri T. T. Krishnamachari, at the beginning of the afternoon sitting, said that both Demand No. 94 and Demand No. 104, with both of which my hon. colleague the Minister of Industry and Supply is concerned, may be taken up together.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** So I shall place Demand No. 104 also.

DEMAND NO. 94—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Industrial Development'."

DEMAND NO. 104—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF STATE TRADING

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of State Trading'."

**Shri Shiva Rao:** I was under the impression that my hon. friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari would raise this point, but ...(*Interruption*).

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This Demand has to be concluded. We will have to close the discussion at five o'clock when the guillotine will be applied in respect of all other Demands. So, those who wish to speak must conclude within two or three minutes, so that there may be time for the hon. Minister to reply.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** I will take only two or three minutes. This point was taken up in the morning by Mr. Krishnamachari and at some length by you yourself, Sir, when you spoke earlier in the afternoon. The point is very simple but of very great importance. The question is whether it is open to a Minister to come forward with a token Demand for a sum of Rs. 1,000 without clearly specifying to this House the precise amount that would be required for implementing a certain policy. I think that the point will be best illustrated by a reference to Demand No. 94 and the explanation given in the footnote, which says :

"The Government of India have placed an order with Messrs. Coindia Steam Navigation Company, Limited, for the construction of three ships at Visakhapatnam shipyard. A sum of Rs. 30 lakhs has been paid to the Company as 'imprest' during 1949-50. The expenditure will be met by reappropriation of savings under other sub-heads of the Grant. A token demand is presented as the expenditure is on a 'new service'."

[Shri Shiva Rao]

So, while this is a token Demand, the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply has not so far taken the House into full confidence as to the precise implications of the policy which he wants this House to sanction. Take a negative motion by an hon. Member of this House wanting to cut a particular Demand by, say, Rs. 100. It is well understood that it is not to be taken literally; it is implied as a motion of no-confidence. Similarly, this token Demand which the Minister makes is really asking for the confidence of the House in the policy that he is going to implement and also permission in advance to incur expenditure in regard to the implementation of that policy. That seems to go somewhat farther than what this House is prepared to accept at the present moment. Therefore, I hope the hon. Finance Minister will explain the precise implications of this token Demand.

The same remark applies to Demand No. 104. I will not repeat that observation in regard to it in detail.

You will remember, Sir, that in regard to one Demand in respect of purchases by the Ministry of Food we did not have sufficient explanation in the Standing Finance Committee about the progress made in regard to the production and utilisation of food crops of a subsidiary nature such as sweet potatoes, tapioca, banana, etc. I think it would be useful if either the Minister of Agriculture returns to the House and replies or the Finance Minister gives us an indication as to the progress that has been made under this scheme.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I would generally suggest for the consideration of the Minister of Finance that, just as they do in regard to the Budget where they include statements for the benefit of the House, so with respect to new schemes for which token Grants are brought before the House, the House should have fuller information. Instead of merely indicating in a footnote that these matters may be referred to in the Standing Finance Committee Report,—the House is not bound by what is done in the Standing Finance Committee; there may be other matters which the House may like to know, because it is the ultimate authority—I would suggest for the consideration of Government that in future when 'new services' are embarked upon and for which token Grants are brought before the House, details must be submitted to the House and to the Members, so that they may consider the *pros* and *cons* before coming to their conclusion.

**Dr. Matthal:** I am grateful to you, Sir, for that suggestion. In fact that suggestion had already been made by certain hon. Members who took part in today's debate. I am sorry that the information which we have been able to put in this book of Demands is not sufficient for the House to be able to form a proper judgment of it. But I certainly will keep in mind the suggestion that you have made and the next time I come up for supplementary grants, I shall put the House in possession of full information.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** There is only one point that I would like to add to what Mr. Shiva Rao has said. I happen to know that in regard to some of these 'Grow More Food Schemes'—I see the hon. Minister of Agriculture is not in his seat—certain grants have been promised and the Provincial Governments are holding the sums as suspense debits. For instance, I know of one particular State Government where the expenditure on one item, well sinking, has exceeded Rs. three crores. Ultimately it has got to be written off. People to whom money has been given practically get it free. But it is hanging fire so far as the Provincial Government's accounts are concerned. I do not know when these accounts are going to be adjusted and when we are going to be apprised how much is going to be given free. So far as these advances are concerned, I think the hon. the Finance Minister will be doing a service to this House if he will call for some fairly accurate and up-to-date statements regarding

the present position in respect of every State. I say this with a certain amount of emphasis because I happen to know the position with regard to one particular State. I had occasion to go into these accounts and I found that so far as the Government of India is concerned, the position is extremely unsatisfactory; it also leaves the State in a position of comparative uncertainty as to their final commitments.

Therefore, I only suggest that more attention may be paid to matters like State-trading schemes, Grow More Food schemes, etc., where oftentimes a token demand is made and to know the extent of our ultimate commitment and for full particulars we have to wait till the revised estimates at the time of the presentation of the budget next year or for the actuals presented a year later.

I would only endorse what the Chair has suggested that in these matters some more information could be given to the House and also that the Finance Minister should be a little more firm in regard to accepting Demands from his colleagues as a token Demand of this nature.

**Dr. Matthal:** May I intervene for a moment at this stage? As regards the first point made by my friend Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari I will try and see if a statement could be prepared showing the recoveries still outstanding from States in respect of purchase of food-grains. As regards this question of token grants, the fact that the House gives its approval to the token grants only implies that the House accepts in principle the policy implied in it. Actually the specific amount that will ultimately become payable in respect of the policy accepted by the House is a matter for scrutiny by the Finance Department and whatever additional expenditure is involved would come before the House again in the form of a Demand for supplementary grant. I do not think that there is any relaxation of financial control either by the Ministry or by Parliament involved in this procedure.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is it not a fact—the hon. the Finance Minister knows it too well—that at the later stage, whatever might be the amount, the principle cannot be once again discussed?

**Dr. Matthal:** No doubt, the principle cannot be discussed. If the House accepts the token grant, it accepts the principle. In pursuance of that principle what particular amount would be required, is a matter which both the Finance Ministry and the House would have an opportunity of examining.

**Prof. Banga:** I wish to draw your attention to Demand No. 94. I am glad to say that my hon. friend the Minister of Industry and Supply has taken prompt action in preventing wholesale retrenchment of the workers at the Ship-building yard in Vizagapatam. I also wish to congratulate the workers employed in that ship-building yard for the patriotism they have displayed and for the ready response they have given to the call made by Government itself for economy. They were faced with two alternatives: either to have a drastic cut in their salaries and allowances, or prefer to let a portion of them to be retrenched. For the first time in the history of Indian labour in this country, the workers employed in the Vizagapatam yard decided to sacrifice a portion of their salaries and allowances, rather than throw some of their colleagues into unemployment. By a voluntary cut they co-operated in helping the Government to keep this work going.

At the same time I wish to sound a note of warning to Government. Because these workers are extremely anxious to economise expenditure they are anxious to prevent all sorts of wastage by way of corruption, bribery, pilferages, etc. They therefore insist upon similar economies being practised not only in the working of the ship-building yard but also in the salaries and allowances to the

[Prof. Ranga]

higher and lower staff. On account of their vigilance in recent weeks these workers were able to catch some of the officers in the process of pilfering and mis-using the scrap and various other materials. This is likely to lead to bad feelings between the officers and the workers and we do not as yet know what the higher officers are going to do to the workers. Naturally, the workers are very apprehensive and they are extremely anxious that Government should pay special attention to their interests and try to appreciate their anxiety to economise expenditure on this yard.

Again, it is much better, as a majority of my colleagues on the Standing Finance Committee suggested, that instead of leaving this construction work in the hands of a private entrepreneur, the State itself takes over the business and runs it as a semi-public corporation. In that way the nation will stand to benefit.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri** (Assam): rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are now hardly ten minutes left and the hon. Minister should have sufficient time to reply.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** I have to make only one point which has not been touched till now.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But the one point may take ten minutes.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** I want to say a word about the Central Silk Board.

**The Minister of Industry and Supply (Dr. S. P. Mookerjee):** The hon. Member is a member of the Central Silk Board. He can tell me everything there.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** I want more money for that Board.

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee:** I need not say anything about the general question raised by you, Sir, namely the desirability of placing more information before the House and getting the direct approval of the House for new proposals which may be under the consideration of Government. The Finance Minister has more or less accepted the principle. I hope in future that procedure will be followed.

With regard to the three points raised, so far as aluminium is concerned, the House will remember that we had a full-fledged debate on the need for giving protection to this industry some time ago. I have no desire to cover the same ground today. So far as the actual subsidy proposed to be given in 1949-50 to the two aluminium companies from 15th May to 31st December 1949 is concerned, the Indian Aluminium Company has put forward a demand for Rs. 5,10,000 and the Aluminium Corporation of India for Rs. 6,40,000. This claim is now being examined by my Ministry in consultation with Finance. The House will remember that the subsidy will be to the extent of the difference between the fair selling price of their products, having regard to their respective cost of production and the fair selling price of similar imported articles.

Now, the price of imported articles from Canada is today Rs. 2,000 per ingot and Rs. 6,818 for sheets and circles. So far as the Indian price is concerned, it is Rs. 2462-8-0 for ingots and Rs. 3,455 for sheets and circles. With regard to the price of this article we have not imposed any control, but we will watch the situation. We do not like to increase the number of the controlled commodities. But if necessary we will take appropriate steps in future in that direction particularly because this is a subsidised industry. The Government will be prepared to examine that question from time to time. I have not got here the total revenue we will derive from the duties imposed. As the House knows it is 30

per cent. *ad valorem* and a specific duty on ingot at Rs. 146 per ton. The note which I have got from the Finance Ministry says that no additional grant will be necessary and that the subsidy amount will be covered by the extra revenue from this duty.

With regard to the improvements to be effected every year, the Tariff Board is going to re-examine the matter and, when the cost of production is checked at the end of the year, the question whether the industry did actually implement the suggestions made to it and undertaken by it will also be examined. This subsidy is to be given for a period of three years only.

With regard to the trading activity of my Ministry for which a token grant has been asked for, one of the two items therein relates to the re-sale of cloth and yarn which we had set apart for Pakistan. This was an item which we possibly could not anticipate when the Budget was prepared last year. Between 1st September 1948 and 31st August 1949 India agreed to supply 8,00,000 bales of cloth and 1,00,000 bales of yarn to Pakistan at ex-mill prices plus 15 per cent. for cloth and ten per cent. for yarn. These were to be sold on State account. Actually 5,777 bales of yarn were agreed to be purchased by Pakistan and arrangements were made to send them to a port so that they could be despatched by sea. But, suddenly, Pakistan changed its mind and was not prepared to purchase the stock. Meanwhile we had asked the mills to despatch the yarn to the port and 5,777 bales were lying there. We had to pay the mills Rs. 44 lakhs. They could not possibly suffer for the failure of Pakistan to purchase. Meanwhile we have re-sold them and up till now 4,968 bales have been sold. By this we have suffered a loss of only Rs. 1,544 and 814 bales remain to be sold. It is very likely that we may not at all lose in the bargain. That is one item of State trading.

The other item is with regard to the sale of coal to Pakistan. This also was decided to be undertaken on State account. Between October 1949 and 24th December 1949, the date from which we decided not to supply coal, we supplied 529,950 tons to Pakistan. The supply was made through the normal trade channels, but on state account. After devaluation we decided to charge an extra sum of Rs. 12 per ton. That gave us extra money. This is an item where again the Government of India has not suffered any loss by direct State trading. With regard to the supply of coal to other countries, there was no question of charging more arising on account of devaluation and in those cases we adhered to the control price of coal as before.

The last item is with regard to the ship-building yard. During the Budget debate we had some discussion about this. I believe Shri Shiva Rao has stated that full details were not given. But I find that on two or three occasions in answering questions I had narrated the conditions on which this assistance was proposed to be offered to the Vizagapatam shipyard. Again, in the course of my Budget speech I gave details. Apparently Mr. Shiva Rao's memory failed him on this occasion at least. So in order to help the hon. Member I will repeat the facts once again. Our proposal is to order three ships of 8,000 tons each to be built at the Vizagapatam shipyard. The cost of each ship is estimated to be Rs. 84.5 lakhs. It is on a fixed contract basis with a scale for variations in the price of steel, timber and machinery. If prices of these articles increase or fall, Government will readjust the total cost. The cost will include overhead charges, but no interest or profit to the company. It is estimated that these ships will cost us Rs. 198.5 lakhs and that in about 18 months' time the three ships will be constructed. This was a policy decision which had to be taken by Government in the circumstances which are well-known to the House. It was not possible, for financial reasons, for Government to undertake the continuance of the ship-yard and so the other alternative was that the shipyard would be closed

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

down. That being so, we thought that we will place an order for these three ships so that for the next eighteen months the shipyard will function. Meanwhile a policy decision on the major question of administration of the shipyard in collaboration with another agency or directly by Government could be taken. In this connection the suggestions made by my friend Prof. Ranga will be borne in mind. One net result of this is that 4,500 men, most of whom are technically trained men, have not been discharged and their services are being continued. The men also have shown a fine gesture in agreeing to accept lower wages so that all of them can be employed on the work for eighteen months without throwing any extra burden on the company. I think this is an instance where the Government have not allowed a national industry like ship-building to lag behind and have taken a temporary decision which I hope will have the unanimous support of the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,25,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Industries and Supplies'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Industrial Development'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of State Trading'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is now five o'clock and I shall put the rest of the 5 P. M. demands together.

The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper, except in the case of heads of Supplementary Demands Nos. 4, 9, 13, 21, 53, 55, 73, 94, and 104, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of the corresponding heads of Supplementary Demands entered in the second column thereof."

*The motion was adopted.*

[As directed by Mr. Deputy-Speaker the motions for Demands for Supplementary Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below.—Ed. of Deb.]

#### DEMAND NO. 1—CUSTOMS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 25,68,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Customs'."

#### DEMAND NO. 2—CENTRAL EXCISE DUTIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,23,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Central Excise Duties'."

## DEMAND No. 3—TAXES ON INCOME INCLUDING CORPORATION TAX

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,20,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax'."

## DEMAND No. 6—STAMPS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,60,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Stamps'."

## DEMAND No. 10—CABINET

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 45,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Cabinet'."

## DEMAND No. 11—CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,58,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Constituent Assembly'."

## DEMAND No. 15—MINISTRY OF LAW

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of Law'."

## DEMAND No. 19—MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 36,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of External Affairs'."

## DEMAND No. 27—MINISTRY OF STATES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,25,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of States'."

## DEMAND No. 28—MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 73,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ministry of Defence'."

## DEMAND No. 31—PAYMENTS TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS, DEPARTMENTS, ETC. ON ACCOUNT OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF AGENCY SUBJECTS AND MANAGEMENT OF TREASURIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 33,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Payments to other Governments, Departments, etc., on account of the administration of Agency Subjects and management of Treasuries'."

## DEMAND No. 33—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,99,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Administration of Justice'."

## DEMAND No. 35—POLICE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 17,30,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Police'."

## DEMAND No. 37—LIGHTHOUSES AND LIGHTSHIPS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,50,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Lighthouses and Lightships'."



## DEMAND NO. 38—ECCLESIASTICAL

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ecclesiastical'."

## DEMAND NO. 39—TRIBAL AREAS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Tribal Areas'."

## DEMAND NO. 40—EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,25,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'External Affairs'."

## DEMAND NO. 66—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,79,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments'."

## DEMAND NO. 67—CURRENCY

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 23,29,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Currency'."

## DEMAND NO. 69—CIVIL WORKS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 27,05,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Civil Works'."

## DEMAND NO. 74—MISCELLANEOUS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

## DEMAND NO. 75—EXPENDITURE ON REFUGEES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 42,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Expenditure on Refugees'."

## DEMAND NO. 76—DEFENCE SERVICES, EFFECTIVE-ARMY

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,69,22,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective-Army'."

## DEMAND NO. 79—DEFENCE SERVICES NON-EFFECTIVE CHARGES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 62,60,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Defence Services, Non-effective charges'."

## DEMAND NO. 81—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE CENTRAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 44,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments'."

## DEMAND NO. 82—RESETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Resettlement and Development'."

## DEMAND No. 85—DELHI

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 23,90,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Delhi'."

## DEMAND No. 86—AJMER-MERWARA

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 23,90,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Ajmer-Merwara'."

## DEMAND No. 87—PANTH PIPLODA

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 12,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Panth Piploda'."

## DEMAND No. 92—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs'."

## DEMAND No. 101—COMMUTED VALUE OF PENSIONS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,15,28,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Commutated Value of Pensions'."

## DEMAND No. 102—PAYMENTS TO RETRENCHED PERSONNEL

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,19,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Payments to Retrenched Personnel'."

## DEMAND No. 107—INTEREST-FREE AND INTEREST-BEARING ADVANCES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,87,21,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1950, in respect of 'Interest-free and Interest-bearing Advances'."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I wish to make an announcement. The Select Committee report on the Finance Bill was presented this morning. Every effort is being made to get copies of the Select Committee report printed. They will be issued to Members tonight and they will be in receipt of them either tonight or tomorrow morning. Tomorrow is a holiday and the House will meet the day after tomorrow. The 29th and 30th March are reserved for discussion on the Finance Bill. Those hon. Members who wish to table amendments may table them tomorrow. Though tomorrow is a holiday a nucleus staff will be working till five o'clock tomorrow. In this way all the amendments tabled would be received by the House.

*The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 29th March, 1950.*