

Friday,  
12th March, 1948

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(LEGISLATIVE DEBATES)

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SECOND SESSION

of the

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

1948



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# CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

Friday, 12th March, 1948

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock, Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.

## STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### (a) ORAL ANSWERS

#### BROADCASTING STATIONS ESTABLISHED DURING 1947-48.

**710. \*Seth Govinddas:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state how many new Broadcasting Stations have been established in various places in India during the year 1947-48 and the names of such places?

(b) What is the criterion for sanctioning new Broadcasting Stations?

(c) Are Government aware that some language units have more than one station and there is no station at all for some other language units?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Three new Broadcasting Stations have been established at the following places: (i) Jullundur with a relay centre at Amritsar, (ii) Patna, and (iii) Cuttack.

(b) Some of the considerations that are taken into account in selecting new centres for Stations are as follows: (i) Relative needs of the Provinces and the various linguistic areas, (ii) Availability of programme talent in and around the centre and the effective range of the Broadcasting Station, and (iii) Need for meeting the requirements of the various Provinces and at least of the major language and population groups in the country.

(c) The Honourable Member would appreciate that language is not the only criterion. Nevertheless the present Stations of the All India Radio cater for all the principal languages of India and with the expansion of facilities contemplated during the next few years, the service in all these languages would be much improved and Stations would cater individually also for most languages.

**Seth Govinddas:** May I know by what date is it expected that the Nagpur station would be working?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Honourable Member will remember that I am acting as a kind of substitute and it is difficult to give specific information about dates, etc.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that so far there has not been any broadcasting station in the Central Provinces and that being a big Province is Government contemplating to start one more broadcasting station at Jabulpore?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I find from the notes here that a broadcasting station in the Central Provinces is contemplated.

**Seth Govinddas:** There is only one broadcasting station contemplated for the Central Provinces. I want to know, that province being so big, whether Government will consider the desirability of opening one more broadcasting station at Jabulpore.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have an idea that that is being considered.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** May I know if Government have decided to establish a broadcasting station for the Andhra area at Bezwada and if so, when they are going to open it?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The East Punjab, Bihar and Orissa have already been provided with broadcasting stations. This will meet the linguistic needs of those provinces. Similarly the projected broadcasting centres in Assam and C.P. will serve the listeners in those provinces in the prevailing principal languages. The next major linguistic groups to be taken up will be Telugu, Gujarati, Malayalam and Kannada. Telugu and Gujarati are to be served from Bezwada and Ahmedabad respectively. Malayalam will be served from Calicut and Kannada from Dharwar.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** While extending the broadcasting system as a whole will Government take steps to supply cheap radio sets to the rural areas, so that our villagers might benefit by the extension of the system?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I believe that is the idea.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** May I know whether it is a fact that the one-kilowatt transmitter installed in some of the new stations are capable of radiating only within a small radius of 10 to 15 miles and if it is so, will it not be better to provide some better equipment in all these new stations which are very important?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is a matter of balancing our requirements with our resources.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** In view of the fact that there is no recording machine in Patna broadcasting station, do Government propose to instal a recording machine there, so that when a speaker is absent his recorded speech may be broadcast?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is a question of detail: it is a question again of balancing. If we set up recording machines in some places only it means that we do not do something which ought to be done elsewhere.

**Shri V. U. Kesava Rao:** May I know the time allotted to Telugu broadcasts from the All India Radio Station at Madras?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am sorry I cannot tell you that.

**Shri Behini Kumar Chaudhuri:** May I know in what town the proposed broadcasting station for Assam is going to be established?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have read the relevant passage relating to Assam from my notes. I cannot say how far the scheme has proceeded.

#### WORK DONE BY RESEARCH ENGINEERS' SECTION OF A.I.R.

711. **\*Seth Govinddas:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what is the work done by the Research Engineers' Section of the All India Radio, so far?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Research Department of All India Radio is responsible for carrying out research work on such problems as have a practical application to and bearing on the design, operation and maintenance of All India Radio Broadcasting stations. A list of the investigations conducted by the Research Department is placed on the table.

*List of Investigations conducted by the Research Department of All-India Radio.*1. *Atmospheric Measurements.*

2. *Field strength measurements of mediumwave and shortwave stations.*—These measurements have a bearing on the choice of operating frequencies for broadcasting stations and for determining the service area within which satisfactory reception can be provided.

3. *Measurements of the angle of incidence at the ground of down-coming angles from the ionosphere.*—These measurements have been utilised in designing the receiving aerials at the All India Radio broadcasting stations—particularly, to receive the news transmissions radiated from Delhi.

4. *Design and acoustic treatment of studios.*—The results of the research have been made use of in designing the broadcasting studios of All India Radio.

5. *Whistling Meteors—Doppler Effect produced by Meteors entering the ionosphere.*—The passage of meteors through the upper rarified atmosphere causes abnormal propagations of wireless transmissions. The method evolved to detect the passage of meteors is useful in understanding this problem.

6. *Critical Frequency Measurements at Delhi, Bombay and Madras for forecasting operating frequencies of the internal and external shortwave services.*

7. *Study of the Morphology of the Ionosphere.*—This research work is being undertaken for the purpose of understanding the behaviour of the ionosphere and the changing conditions brought about from day time to night time, from summer to winter and from year to year throughout the sunspot cycle (a period of 11 years). It is expected that such a study will enable us to reduce fading, etc., and thus provide a better broadcasting service.

8. *Study and design of aerials for regional transmissions.*—The use of suitable aerials for regional transmissions is necessary to provide satisfactory reception within a region where shortwave reception is to be given. The study and design of aerials it is expected may result in the development of suitable aerials for improving our regional shortwave services.

## COMPLAINTS re EXTERNAL BROADCASTS

712. \*Seth Govinddas: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether Government are aware that there are complaints regarding the external broadcasts which are not clearly audible in those places to which they are directed?

(b) What steps are being taken to ascertain whether a particular broadcast directed to a certain place is well-timed and clearly audible?

(c) Do Government propose to consider the advisability of setting up necessary machinery to ascertain and report on these matters?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Government have received no such complaint.

(b) Listener reports and reports from Indian Representatives abroad are received and afford necessary information.

(c) Does not arise.

**Mr. Tajamal Hosain:** Does the Prime Minister know that external broadcasting is not audible on the medium wave length in the morning?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Prime Minister does not know.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** May I know whether there is any co-ordination between the external broadcasts conducted by the All India Radio and our foreign embassies or legations?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not quite understand what kind of coordination is meant unless it is that the embassies might be asked to report on those external broadcasts.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** That is what I meant.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** To my knowledge no such attempt has been made but I think it is a desirable suggestion to be followed up.

#### POPULARISATION OF RADIO IN INDIA

**712. \*Seth Govinddas:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of radio licences issued during the year 1946-47 and 1947-48 in urban and rural areas; and

(b) the steps taken to popularize the radio in India?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is placed on the table.

#### Statement

(a)

Year	No. of Licenses issued	
	Urban	Rural
1946-47	1,93,444	15,210
1947-48 (up to Jan. 1948)	1,96,688	14,765

(b) In order to popularize and widen the listening habit the Government of India formulated an '8-Year Plan for Development' which has been taken up for immediate implementation after approval by the Development Board and by the Standing Finance Committee of the Legislature. It covers the—

- (i) Establishment of new broadcasting centres at Cuttack, Nagpur, Shillong-Gauhati, Ahmedabad, Bewada, Calicut and Dharwar.
- (ii) Installation of high-power mediumwave transmitters at Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Allahabad.
- (iii) Construction of studio buildings at Madras and Calcutta.
- (iv) Provision of additional studio facilities at the existing broadcasting centres.

In their choice of new centres, the Government of India have been guided by the following factors:—

- (i) Demands of the linguistic areas hitherto unprovided with a service and the importance of the language from the literary point of view and from the size of population speaking the language.
- (ii) Demands of the various provinces.
- (iii) Density of urban population within the service area of the broadcasting centre and its potentialities to bring in increased revenue.
- (iv) Importance as an educational and cultural centre, and availability of programme talent at the centre or within easy reach thereof.
- (v) Density of rural population and distribution of villages and hamlets within the service area, which will determine the centre's usefulness as a rural centre.

All the services now to be provided will be on the mediumwave.

The total estimated capital cost of the entire scheme will be Rs 3,64,70,000. Works costing Rs 3,01,70,000 would be completed within the first 5 years. This 'Five Year Plan' part of the Development Plan would include the installation of 12 transmitters, 10 of which would be high power with new broadcasting Stations at Shillong (Gauhati), Cuttack, Nagpur, Bewada, Ahmedabad, Allahabad and would also provide for the strengthening of the transmitting facilities at Bombay, Madras, Calcutta and Delhi which would naturally provide listeners to these large Stations a greater variety of programmes.

Such an undertaking would naturally involve a certain amount of delay; occasioned by the acquisition of sites, construction of new buildings and their treatment, etc. But in order to provide an urgent interim service until the complete plan is implemented, the Government of India have undertaken the construction of 'pilot' Stations which are to form the nucleus of the future services and, in addition to meeting the immediate needs of the areas concerned, they would help to cultivate the potential talent at the centre and also make the people more radio-minded. Such a pilot station has already been opened at Cuttack and two more are under construction at Shillong (Gauhati) and Nagpur.

The eight years between 1938 and 1946 saw an increase in the licence figures from 64,480 to 2,32,368 in December 1946. (Figures thereafter are not readily available). The rate of increase might have even been higher, but for the limited supplies during the war and after it manufacturing conditions and import restrictions. Apart from the import of radio sets from abroad, the Government of India have in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting been very much interested in the promotion of the manufacture of radio sets in India. In this regard the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have financed several schemes of Research for the purpose and a good measure of success has already been achieved. Schemes relating to the manufacture of condensers, Resistances and loud-speakers have been completed and much research work on the design of cheap receivers has been made. The question of commercial utilisation of the results obtained from all these researches has also been taken up by the Council. Another scheme on the manufacture of radio valve is being financed by the Council at the University College of Science at Calcutta.

The Government of India are fully aware of the importance which should be attached to rural broadcasting and to this end All India Radio Stations broadcast a service to villages in areas where the Provincial Governments have been able to instal community receivers. There are at present approximately 2,057 such receivers. It is estimated that the daily average rural listening audience is 2 lakhs. Provincial Governments are assisted where necessary in the formulation and implementation of rural broadcasting schemes: the programme expenditure involved is met by the Central Government and that on the purchase and maintenance of receivers by the Provincial Governments.

Another sphere in which there has been evidence of an increase in the listening habit is in respect of Schools for which special school broadcasts are radiated by All India Radio in different languages. There are approximately 373 registered listening in schools; the special programmes are planned in consultation with the local educational authorities. Technical advice is always offered in respect of the installation of receivers in Schools and local educational authorities encouraged to instal receivers in educational institutions.

It is considered that concurrently with the increase in the number of broadcasting stations and transmitters at existing Stations and the availability of cheap receivers both for domestic and community listening, the habit in India will grow at a higher rate than hitherto.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that the small number of listeners in this country in spite of its vast population is due to the very high price of radio sets and is Government thinking of establishing a factory in this country to prepare radio sets, so that they may be available at cheap rates?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, Government is thinking on those lines and are investigating the possibilities.

**Begum Aizaz Rasul:** With reference to part (b) of the question, I should like to know whether the Honourable the Prime Minister is aware that the language at present used by the All India Radio is not conducive in making the radio popular in India?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am aware that complaints have come from a certain number of people and they continue to come. This is a highly intricate and difficult matter and involves the question as to how to balance the language. I have no doubt that gradually through experience and through the help of listeners and others a balanced language structure will arise.

**Seth Govinddas:** Is the Honourable Minister aware that in spite of the Muslim population being only 15 per cent. in this country too many Persian and Arabic words are used in the A.I.R. broadcasts?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** So far as I am concerned I am not aware of the fact that language has anything to do with religion.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** With reference to part (a) of the question have Government any information to show that many unlicensed radio sets are operating in this country?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Undoubtedly there are unlicensed sets. I do not know whether any attempt has been made to have a census of them. Of course any such attempt ought to lead to prosecutions and not merely to a census.

**Begum Aizaz Rasul:** Is Government aware that the language at present used by the All India Radio is not understood even by the 85 per cent. of the population?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** That, it is impossible for the Government or for me to say.

#### RESTRICTIONS ON CARRYING MONEY BY INDIAN TOURISTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

714. **Mr. R. K. Sidha:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether there is any restriction in carrying money by Indian tourists or visitors to England, European Countries, the U. S. A., Japan and Russia?

(b) If so, what are the restrictions and what is the maximum sum a single person is allowed to take with him during his tour?

(c) Is there any restriction of a similar nature in the near and far East countries?

(d) If so, what are the details of such restrictions?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a) and (c). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (d). I place a statement on the table of the House.

#### Statement

#### Maximum Travel Allowance for persons travelling on Pleasure or Business

#### I. PLEASURE:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. (i) Continent of Europe, including the United Kingdom and Russia but excluding the hard currency countries specified in (ii) below | £ 600 once every 3 years.                                 |
| (ii) Hard currency countries of Europe, i.e., Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal and Belgium   | The equivalent of £75 of the sum authorized in (i) above. |
| 2. U. S. A.   | Nil.  |
| 3. Japan  | Nil.  |
| 4. Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya and the Dutch East Indies  | Rs. 2,000 per adult and Rs. 1,000 per minor per annum.    |
| 5. For the remaining countries in the Near and Far East.  | £ 600 once every 3 years.                                 |

#### II. BUSINESS:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. United Kingdom  | A maximum of £. 15 a day for periods depending upon actual need, but not exceeding four months as a general rule. |
| 2. (i) Continent of Europe, including Russia but excluding the hard currency countries specified in II(ii) above | £ 10 a day, the period being restricted as in II. 1 above   |

(ii) *Under enemy countries of Europe*

3. U.S.A.

£8 a day the period being restricted as in II. 1 a above  
A maximum of £10 a day the period being restricted as in II. 1 above

4. Japan

A maximum of £7 a day for periods not exceeding 21 days, plus U.S. 40 to cover immediate expenses on arrival in Japan.

5. *For other countries in the Near and Far East*

£8 a day for periods restricted as in II. 1 above.

**Mr. E. K. Sidhva:** What is the minimum sum, a tourist or visitor is allowed to carry?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** It is contained in the statement.

**Mr. E. K. Sidhva:** I want to have some idea.

**Mr. Speaker:** The statement may be seen.

**Mr. E. K. Sidhva:** I want to know only the amount so that I may be able to put supplementary questions. What is the minimum amount?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** That statement can be passed on, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the contents of the statement can rather be perused later by the Honourable Member himself. The Honourable Minister need not answer the question.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** Can money be sent from one Dominion to another Dominion—for instance from India to Australia, New Zealand, Canada and so on?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** The maximum allowances that can be given to persons going to various countries is given in the statement.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** I have not read the statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Therefore, questions on this may be put later on.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Are any restrictions, reciprocal or retaliatory, placed on tourists and visitors from these countries to India?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** Sir, I want notice of that question.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is care taken to see that only in exceptional circumstances and where it is absolutely necessary this tourist programme is allowed in view of the shortage of foreign currency?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** Yes, Sir. We are exercising a very strict control in that respect.

**INCOME TAX ASSESSEES AND AMOUNT ASSESSED UNDER VARIOUS CATEGORIES.**

715. **\*Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to lay on the table of the House a Statement showing:

(a) the number of income-tax assesses and the amount assessed for the year ended 31st March 1947 (Financial year 1946-47) in the following categories—

- (i) From Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000;
- (ii) From Rs. 5,001 to Rs. 10,000;
- (iii) From Rs. 10,001 to Rs. 15,000;

- (iv) From Rs. 15,001 to Rs. 25,000;
- (v) From Rs. 25,001 to Rs. 1,00,000; and
- (vi) Above Rupees One lac;

(b) the number of companies assessed to income tax and the amount assessed for the same year;

(c) the total amount of super-tax, income-tax, surcharge and corporation tax demanded during the year; and

(d) the number of Excess Profits Tax assessments made during the above year and the net amount of demand?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** With your permission, Sir, I would reply to questions Nos. 715 and 716 together.

I lay on the table a statement showing the required information.

Question No. 715

Statement:

(a)	rates of Total income	No. of assesses	Rr. 000. Total income assessed
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	2,000 to 5,000	2,39,647	74,23.00
	5,001 to 10,000	1,00,990	71,25.05
	10,001 to 15,000	33,749	41,10.47
	15,001 to 25,000	22,730	45,14.86
	25,001 to 1,00,000	17,900	74,79.34
	above 1,00,000	2,985	1,73,21.87
(b)	No. of companies and other concerns assessed at company rate	Total income assessed in Rs. 000	
	6,561	1,44,38.13	
(c)	Total amount of tax demanded.		in Rs. 000
	Super tax		12,75.36
	Income tax		69,10.94
	Surcharge		14,83.87
	Corporation tax		12,06.05
(d)	No. of Excess Profits Tax assessments made		Excess Profits Tax assessed in Rs. 000
	4,551		95,23.91

Question No. 716

(i)	No. of appeals decided by Appellate Assistant Commissioners	43,724
	Total amount of relief granted	Rs. 14,396 thousands.
	No. of appeals in which relief was granted	119,790
	No. of appeals in which enhancement was made	132
(b)	No. of appeals decided by Tribunal	3,446
	No. of appeals successful and partly successful	2,122
	Amount of relief granted	Rs. 94,90 thousands.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is the Honourable Minister taking care to see that the latest publication of the Administrative Manual of the Income-tax Department showing these figures is brought up-to-date? Last year it was not issued.

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** I will make enquiries and see that it is kept up-to-date.

#### APPEALS DECIDED BY APPELLATE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS AND TRIBUNALS.

†716. **\*Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to lay on the table of the House a Statement showing:

(a) the number of appeals decided by the Appellate Assistant Commissioners, the total amount of relief granted by them, the number of appeals in which relief was granted, and the number of appeals in which enhancement was made; and

(b) the number of appeals decided by the Tribunals, and the number of appeals in which relief was granted by them and the amount of such relief?

#### NOTICES ISSUED UNDER SECTION 34 ETC. RESULTED IN ASSESSMENTS.

717. **\*Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to lay on the table of the House a statement showing:

(a) the number of notices issued under Section 34 and how many such notices resulted in assessments and how many were dropped; and

(b) the number of notices issued under Section 28; the number of cases decided under Sections 28 and 52 and the amount collected?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** The information has been called for and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

#### REPORT OF ECONOMIC ADVISER TO GOVERNMENT OF INDIA ON STOCK EXCHANGE.

718 **\*Mr. E. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that present Economic Adviser to the Government of India was asked to make a report on Stock Exchange?

(b) If so, has he made the report?

(c) What are his recommendations and have Government considered the same?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The recommendations which are under consideration cover a wide field and can hardly be explained in reply to a question.

**Mr. E. K. Sidhva:** When was this Report made?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** The Report was presented at the end of May 1947 and it is now being printed.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** How is it that all this time the Government has not taken any action at all on the Report except simply keeping it under consideration?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** Honourable Members know that since May 1947 a great many things have happened in the country which engaged the attention of the Government. As a matter of fact, this is one of the matters which I took up myself personally as soon as I came to office. We have had some consultations with the Provincial Governments.

†For answer to this question, see answer to starred question No. 715.

The matter is really this that any Stock Exchange legislation really requires the concurrence of all the Provinces concerned. I may assure the Honourable Member that I am very anxious that after such consultation this House must really enact a proper Stock Exchange legislation. Steps are being taken in this direction.

**Seth Govinddas:** Does the Report deal only with Stock Exchange or does it also include other kinds of speculation which are going on in different markets?

**The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** It is in relation to all transactions regarding Stock Exchange and similar transactions.

**Seth Govinddas:** May I ask whether it also deals with the Bullion market, the grain market and other markets where speculation is going on?

**The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** I do not know to what extent exactly all these have been covered in the Report.

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** Sir, I would like to point out that the last three questions required only statements to be laid on the table of the House and they should not have been given as starred questions at all.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have explained the position more than once in the House, that it will be better if Honourable Members can exercise their own discretion and not put such questions as starred questions. I have also stated that I was requested to exercise that discretion myself but I refused to undertake that duty.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** May I also say that it is not always easy for the Honourable Member concerned who puts the question to know whether it is going to be answered by a long statement which is placed on the table or it is going to be read out in the House?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a plausible defence.

**Seth Govinddas:** On the last occasion the Honourable the Finance Minister assured us that he was thinking of bringing in some legislation about speculation which is going on in the Bullion market. May I know whether anything has been done in that respect or whether it would be considered only after this Report is published?

**The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** The question is being tackled as a whole—speculation in stock exchange, shares, commodities, bullion etc.

#### INCOME TO GOVERNMENT FROM VARIOUS PROVINCES FROM TAXES OTHER THAN CORPORATION TAX ETC.

719. **\*Shri Biswanath Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount collected in each province separately during the financial years 1939-40, 1945-46 and 1946-47, under the head 'Taxes on income other than Corporation Tax, excluding central surcharge'; and

(b) the share of each province in each of these three years given on the basis of the Niemeyer award?

**The Honourable Shri B. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a) and (b). I lay a statement on the table.

*Statement*

I. Taxes on Income other than Corporation Tax and Excluding Central Surcharge  
(In thousands of rupees)

Province	1939-40	1945-46	1946-47
Madras	1,56,05	6,54,45	9,38,62
Bombay, Sind & Baluchistan	5,31,82	23,60,49	35,04,31
Bengal	5,40,51	13,26,23	19,12,70
U. P.	1,10,26	4,08,30	4,14,88
Punjab, N. W. F. P. and Delhi	1,24,86	4,67,96	4,68,39
Bihar and Orissa	68,05	1,77,88	2,27,12
Central Provinces	22,63	1,35,70	1,38,30
Assam	28,50	51,22	76,18
India	1,16,25	2,74,83	2,64,76
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,98,93</b>	<b>58,57,06</b>	<b>79,49,76</b>

II. Share of each of the provinces on the basis of the Niemeyer Award

(In thousands of rupees)

Madras	42,49	3,26,06	4,69,49
Bombay	56,65	4,34,74	6,52,65
Bengal	56,65	4,34,74	6,52,65
U. P.	42,49	3,26,06	4,69,49
Punjab	22,67	1,73,90	2,61,06
Bihar	28,32	2,17,37	3,26,32
C. P.	14,16	1,08,69	1,63,18
Assam	5,65	43,47	65,26
N. W. F. P.	2,83	21,74	32,63
Orissa	5,65	43,47	65,26
Sind	5,65	43,47	65,26
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,83,24</b>	<b>21,73,71</b>	<b>32,63,25</b>

NOTES.—(a) 1946-47. Figures are only approximate.

(b) Separate figures for Orissa, N. W. F. P., Delhi, Sind and Baluchistan are not available, as the Finance and Revenue Accounts show Collections only by circles of accounts.

(c) The share shown in each year represents the amount due in respect of the collections of that year and does not include any carry-over of arrears or over-payments.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know the basis on which the allotment of grants to Provinces out of the income-tax is given this year, that is during 1948-49?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** The basis of allotment is the Niemeyer Award. But since there was a partition of the Provinces of Bengal and the Punjab, the Government had to reallocate the total proceeds of the income-tax approximately on the basis of the Niemeyer Award.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know whether it was done on the basis of population or on the basis of realisation, or both taken together?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** All these factors are taken into consideration.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it not a fact that there were repeated protests from several Provincial Governments against this Niemeyer Award and the basis on which the allotment was made?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** Yes, Sir, I believe that almost every Province was dissatisfied with the Award.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** Is the Honourable Minister then taking any steps to call a conference of the Provincial Ministers with a view to finding out how best to readjust and improve upon this Niemeyer Award so as to give them satisfaction as far as possible?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** When I applied my mind to this question I thought that since the new Constitution will be enacted and will come into operation soon it was not worth while undertaking an enquiry into a controversial matter like this for the interim period. But I find in the Draft Constitution that has been placed in our hands a provision which means that the existing arrangement should continue for five years more. I do not know whether the Constituent Assembly is going to accept that or not. But after knowing the verdict of the Constituent Assembly, if I find that the Assembly ratifies that provision we will have to consider the advisability of going into that question and re-examining the whole thing.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know whether they have made any change in the law affecting the allocation of these monies to Provinces?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** No.

**Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay:** May I know whether Government has received any representation from the Government of West Bengal regarding the injustice done in the matter of this allotment?

**The Honourable Shri E. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** As I said, to my knowledge almost every Province has protested against that Award.

**Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay:** May I know whether Government is prepared to reconsider the matter?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has explained that position just now.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** The Honourable Minister said that almost every Province is satisfied with the basis of allotment. Is he aware that Bihar is not at all satisfied with it?

**Mr. Speaker:** He said that every Province is dissatisfied.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** If he has already realised the fact that the basis of his allocation is being disputed by every Province, may I know what steps the Honourable Minister is taking now to arrive at an equitable settlement between the Centre and the Provinces in regard to this matter?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has already explained the position.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** He has explained the position with reference to allocation in the coming years. But I am asking in respect of the present year, that is

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** From the fact that every Province is dissatisfied I at least draw the inference that the basis of the Award is fairly just.

**Shri Mihir Lal Chattopadhyay:** May I know whether the Province of Bombay has complained of any injustice?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** It has very loudly complained.

#### EXPENDITURE ON INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

**720. Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

- (a) when the department of Information was started;
- (b) the present monthly expenditure incurred on this account;
- (c) the total expenditure incurred so far; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal of retrenchment in this Department?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) 24th October, 1941.

(b) Rs. 38,225.

(c) Rs. 46,60,808 upto the current financial year.

(d) No.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Is it a fact that this department was started for the special benefit of our erstwhile rulers?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, like most other things in India.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** In view of this will the Government undertake drastic retrenchment since the independent Government of India would probably have no need for such information?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is a very curious inference to draw for the Honourable Member, which does not follow at all. In every country there is a very great need for information not in the sense of propaganda, but just from the educational point of view and from many other points of view. Now that engine of publicity may be misused or may be directed to wrong aims. Then it should be redirected to right aims. It will not be right to say it should be put an end to because it is used for wrong ends. It is for the House to determine. If there is any wastage in it, it should be stopped. That is a different matter entirely. But the fact is that in most modern countries more and more attention is paid to using such departments as Radio and Broadcasting for educational purposes.

**Seth Govinddas:** With respect to clause (d) of the question, will the Honourable the Prime Minister please see that the expenditure is increased in this department so that there may be more and more propaganda for the rural masses of the country?

**Mr. Speaker:** These are suggestions for action.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** In which foreign countries has our Information Department bureaux or branches or agencies?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** We have Public Relations Officers and the like in a number of countries. I cannot straightaway give the names, but in quite a good few countries, for example in London, Washington, I think in Moscow, and a number of other places, we have our agencies.

**Shri Krishna Chandra Sharma:** Are there any publications issued by them?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** There are quite a number of publications issued.

**Shri Krishna Chandra Sharma:** How many?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot give the precise number.

#### HYDRABAD'S CLAIMS FOR ALLEGED DAMAGES IN HYDRABAD RESIDENCY.

**721. \*Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news published in the *Free Press Journal* dated the 25th February, 1948, that the Nizam of Hyderabad has claimed from the Government of India Rs. 20 lakhs as compensation for alleged damages done to, and the value of articles stated to have been removed from the Hyderabad residency which was handed over to him recently?

(b) Is it a fact that the protest is embodied in a telegram to Lord Mountbatten?

(c) What steps have the Government of India taken in this matter?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) In a press statement our Agent-General has already denied the allegations made.

**Shrimati G. Durgabai:** May I know whether it is a fact that on the request of the Nizam's Government our Agent-General has left some costly fittings and furniture which belong to us? If so, are they to be written off as bad debt or treated as a gift or are they being paid for?

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid the Honourable Member is getting into very many minute details. I do not think that could be permitted.

#### DEMAND FOR MERGER OF JIND STATE WITH EAST PUNJAB PROVINCE

**722. \*Ch. Ranbir Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the State Congress of Jind State has demanded merger of the State with the Province of East Punjab?

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

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) and (b). Yes. This question is under examination as a part of the general scheme relating to the future set-up for the East Punjab States.

#### IMPROPER REPORTING OF SPEECHES ON KASHMIR BY INDIAN REPRESENTATIVES IN U.N.O.

**723. \*Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the speeches of the Indian representatives in the United Nations Organisation in the debate over the Kashmir question have not been properly reported in the United States of America and in other foreign countries and even in India; and

(b) if so, what action the Government of India propose to take in the matter?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Yes.

(b) Government have sent their own Public Relations Officer with the Delegation and it is hoped that this would result in improved publicity arrangements.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** What was the news agency that was expected to report the proceedings?

\*Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The normal news agencies that function, and so far as foreign countries and India are concerned, the biggest agency is the Reuters Agency.

**Mr. Tajamul Hossain:** Do Government propose to protest against this to the United Nations Organisation that the proceedings of the Indian delegates are not properly reported?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** What has the United Nations Organization got to do with the reporting of the proceedings?

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** In view of the fact that Reuters has failed to report the proceedings properly, has the attention of Reuters been drawn to it?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know if the matter has been referred to their representatives here.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is 'In view of the fact that Reuters have failed to report the proceedings properly, has the attention of Reuters been drawn to it?'

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** It is a difficult matter. It is a semi-private agency. They report what they consider proper. If you do not consider their report good enough, you can of course tell them, and they are told about the matter. The other method is you should have your own method of publicizing.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Has any arrangement been made by Government to distribute the White Paper on Kashmir among the members of the Security Council?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** We have sent a number of copies to our delegation and I presume they have distributed them.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** May I know whether the Honourable Minister has given definite instructions to the Public Relations Officer who has been sent there to see that the White Paper is distributed to member-nations to dispel all misunderstandings and misconceptions about the situation in Kashmir?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have made it clear that the Leader of our Delegation has taken a number of copies with him. Obviously he will see that the best use is made of these copies.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** This is all presumption.

**Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad:** Is it a fact that Reuters are paid exclusively a sum of Rs. 50,000 per annum by the Government of India to supply foreign news?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I think there is another question dealing with this matter. They are not paid money as such, but their news services are bought by the Government, that is we are subscribers to them. In that sense subsidy is paid to them, not direct money grant.

**Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad:** In view of the unsatisfactory nature of the reports of Reuters, will the Honourable the Prime Minister consider the engagement of an Indian news agency to supply us foreign news?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Government is only a subscriber to Reuters service and we subscribe to other services too. We shall gladly welcome fully independent Indian news agencies being established in foreign countries to supply news.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I know if, apart from news coming in through Reuters, Government were not getting news from their own delegation from time to time in this regard, and if so, why they did not place it at the disposal of newspapers in India?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes. As a matter of fact they were placed at their disposal. What happened normally was that a fuller report came rather late. It did appear, but it was rather out of date some times.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** In view of the sad experience, will Government consider the desirability of having its own news agency or encouraging some independent news agency?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am not quite sure if it is desirable for a news agency to be wholly officially controlled, but certainly as I have said, we would welcome any Indian news agencies to function and Government would support any such proposal.

#### FACILITIES TO REUTER NEWS AGENCY BY GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

724. **\*Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) what facilities Reuter gets from the Government of India as a news agency;

(b) whether the Government of India make any pecuniary contribution to Reuter in any form—either as subscription or as subsidy;

(c) if so, what is the amount and on what account and on what terms is the payment made;

(d) whether any other news agency controlled by or subsidiary to Reuter gets any pecuniary contribution—subscription or subsidy from the Government of India; and

(e) if so, what is the amount and on what account and on what terms is such payment made?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a), (c) and (e). A statement is placed on the table of the House.

(b) Yes, as subscription.

(d) Yes, as subscription for the news service of the Associated Press of India.

#### Statement

**Foot (a)** The following facilities are available to all news agencies including Reuters—

1. Teletypewriter circuits on rental subject to their availability.

2. Accredited correspondents can:

(i) book press telegrams at reduced rates.

(ii) book foreign press telegrams without censorship.

(iii) book special class of inland press telegrams known as "FLASH" at double that ordinary rate for inland private telegrams, if addressed to a newspaper or newsagency. This category of telegrams is given priority in transmission over express telegrams from the public.

Parts (c) and (e).

The following payments were made to Reuters and Associated Press of India during 1946—47.

Serial No.	Name of Agency	Reasons for Payment	Terms of contract	Amount of payment.
1.	Reuters	For the supply of Reuters ordinary, special and summary services to Govt. officers in India.	The minimum contracted wordage is as follows :—  Ordinary services—219,500 per annum. Special and Summary services —144,000 per annum	Rs.  49,200
2.	Reuters	For use of Reuters (including its subsidiary news agency—A.P.I.) service in Internal broadcasts of All India Radio.	Payment to Reuters on this account is calculated according to the following scales on the basis of the number of radio licences and subject to a minimum of Rs.25,000 annually.  As. 6 per licence on the first 60,000 licences. As. 4 per licence on all licences from 60,000 upto 1,00,000 As. 3 per licence on all licences from 1,00,000 up to 1,50,000 As. 2½ per licence on all licences from 1,50,000 up to 2,00,000 As. 2 per licence on all licences from 2,00,000 up to 3,00,000 As. 1 per licence on all licences from 3,00,000 up to 4,00,000 As.1 per licence on all licences from 4,00,000 up to 5,00,000 As 1 per licences on all licences thereafter.	58,000 <sup>c</sup> approximately.
3.	Reuters	For use of Reuters (including its subsidiary news agency—A.P.I.) service in external broadcasts of All India Radio	£. 2,000 - per annum at present.	33,333 - approximately.
4.	Associated Press of India	For supply of A.P. I. news service to Government Officers.	At the rate of Rs. 30 <sup>c</sup> per month per copy	7,035 -

NOTE 1. The contract at Sr. No. 3 above expired on 15th August, 1947 and a revised contract is under negotiation.

2. It has been decided to terminate the Contracts at Serial Nos. 1 and 4.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** What is the amount involved?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Reuters news service is supplied to high officials of Government. For this an annual payment of Rs. 49,200 is made. It has been decided to discontinue this service after giving Reuters notice admissible under the contract. The Associated Press of India service is also subscribed for high officials at the rate of Rs. 30 a copy. The expenditure during 1946-47 came to Rs. 7,085. It has been decided to discontinue this service as well after giving the agency notice admissible under the contract.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** Is there any Indian news agency to cater internal news to the Government?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, we get reports from some Indian news agencies too.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** In view of the fact that sometimes news that appear in Reuters are somewhat coloured and not quite favourable to India, is the Government making arrangements for any other foreign news agency to supply news as well?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I think I have answered that question.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Have Government enquired on what lines the Tass Agency has been encouraged by Soviet Russia, so that they may be able to know how they can possibly encourage Indian enterprise to develop their own news agencies here?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I do not know if the Minister for Information and Broadcasting has specially inquired into that matter. But the House will realise that the Tass Agency probably functions in a different set-up from any Agency elsewhere and unless you have that particular set-up, no news agency can function on those lines.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Is the Honourable the Prime Minister aware of the fact that Reuters have been circulating from Kashmir two different versions of the happenings—one sent to Papers in Pakistan and the other sent to papers in the Indian Dominion?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** We are aware of that.

**Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** In view of the fact that the Honourable the Prime Minister the other day during the Kashmir debate told us that certain news agencies have gone beyond limits of toleration in making false propoganda, will Government consider the desirability of not subsidising such agencies any longer?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I said nothing about any news-agency; I said about an individual newspaper correspondent.

**Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya:** In view of all these facts, Sir, may I know whether Government will be prepared to set apart independent lines or wires for the use of an Indian company, if one were to be formed, for replacing Reuters, as in the absence of such an assurance, no company can be formed.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am afraid Dr. Pattabhi is too technical for me. As I have already said Government is prepared to encourage the formation of independent news-agencies. In fact, one of the difficulties before Government is not only the foreign agencies which are functioning here, but also the tendency to the formation of large trusts and combines here which is a dangerous development which this Government does not want to encourage. They do wish to encourage the development of private news agencies which do not form into trusts or combines, but will work independently.

DEDICATION OF 'METCALF HALL' AGRA FOR CHARITABLE AND PHILANTHROPIC PURPOSES

**725. \*Shri Jaspat Roy Kapoor:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 'Metcalf Hall' in Agra Cantonment was dedicated by the donor for charitable and philanthropic purposes;

(b) whether the said building has been leased out to a cinema exhibitor;

(c) when this lease is going to expire;

(d) whether, after the expiry of the present lease, Government propose to allow the use of the said building for some public utility purpose, preferably for an educational institution for which there is great need in Agra Cantonment; and

(e) whether Government propose to lay on the table of the House copies of (i) the original deed of gift and (ii) the terms of the present lease?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** (a) and (e). No original deed of gift or document of dedication has been traced and it cannot be said for what object the Hall was originally meant. A copy of the lease which expired recently is laid on the table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This lease expired on 10th February, 1948.

(d) No Sir. The building is required for Army use.

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*Statement.*

(Original on Stamp Paper worth Rs. 75.)

This indenture of lease made this 13th day of March 1944 between the Governor General in Council (hereinafter called the Lessor, which expression shall include his successors in office, legal representatives and assignees) of the one part, and Messrs. (1) Lakhmi Chand son of Seth Kishan Lal, caste Vaish Aggarwal, resident of Daulat Nivas, Agra, by profession, Banker, (2) Jawala Pershad, son of L. Bhagwan Dass, caste Vaish, resident of Lohar Galli, Agra by profession, shopkeeper (hereinafter called the lessees which term shall, unless repugnant to the context include their respective heirs, successors, assignees and personal and legal representatives) of the other part.

Whereas the Lessor has agreed with the lessees for the lease to the latter of the buildings with the compound and outhouses, No. 180 Metcalfe Road, Agra Cantonment (hereinafter called Metcalfe Hall) butted and bounded as detailed at foot of this Indenture, for the period from 1st April, 1940 to 10th February, 1948 on the rent and emoluments and subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned.

**THIS INDENTURE HEREBY WITNESSETH AS FOLLOWS:—**

That the Lessees shall hold the demised premises for the period from 1st April 1940 to 10th February 1948 (unless the lease is terminated earlier under the provisions hereinafter mentioned), paying therefor to the Lessor, through the Military Estates Officer for the time being of Agra Circle (hereinafter called the Military Estates Officer) a monthly rent of rupees one hundred and fifty (Rs. 150 payable at the office of the Military Estates Officer (during business hours) on or before the fifth day of each month, in advance.

2. That the lessees have deposited in the Imperial Bank of India, Agra Branch, and pledged to the Military Estates Officer a sum of rupees two thousand, as security for the due performance and observance of the terms and conditions of this Indenture, which security deposit shall be liable to forfeiture in whole or in part, as the Commander, Meerut Area for the time being (hereinafter called the Commander) shall decide, for non-compliance with or violation of any provisions of this lease on the part of the Lessees (or either of them) without prejudice to any other remedy open to the Lessor, subject, to this the Security or part thereof as the case may be shall be refunded to the lessees on the expiry of the lease after deductions being made for all claims, of dues and damages against them.

## 3. The lessees covenant with Lessor :—

- (i) To pay the rent on the dates and the manner aforesaid.
- (ii) From time to time and at all times, to pay and discharge all rates, taxes, charges, assessments and outgoings of every description, which are now, or may at any time hereafter, be imposed, charged or assessed, on the demised premises (including any additional buildings authorised) to be erected thereon, the landlord or tenant in respect thereof.
- (iii) Not to carry out any additions or alterations to the buildings on the demised premises without the previous permission in writing of the Military Estates Officer, and otherwise than under the latter's supervision and in the manner prescribed by the said officer.
- (iv) Not to cut down or remove any of the trees growing on the land hereby demised without the consent in writing of the Military Estates Officer.
- (v) At all times to keep the demised premises (that is the buildings compounds, out-houses, etc.) in a clean and tidy condition and in good and substantial repairs, to the satisfaction of the Military Estates Officer.

(Stamp Paper worth Rs. 2/8/-.)

- (vi) On the expiry or termination of this tenancy to hand over the demised premises in a good condition (fair wear and tear alone expected) to the satisfaction of the Military Estates Officer falling which the Military Estates Officer will carry out the repairs necessary and recover the cost thereof from the lessees, in the same manner as if it were arrears of rent and further that on the expiry or sooner determination of the lease (due to any breach of its terms by the lessees) the lessees will not be entitled to remove the alterations etc. carried out by them or any other improvement nor to receive any compensation therefor.
- (vii) To insure all buildings on the demised premises against fire in the name and for the benefit of the Lessor, for rupees twenty-five thousand with an Insurance Co., to be approved by the Military Estates Officer, to pay the premia amounting to Rs. 150 per annum on the above Insurance policy, on due dates regularly and without fail and to deliver the premium receipts to the Military Estates Officer within one week of the actual receipt thereof by the Lessees, provided always that if the Lessees fail to pay the premia, the Lessor shall have a right to pay the same to the Company and recover the amount so paid, from the Lessees in the same manner as if it were arrears of rent, and also to that such other proceedings against the Lessees as he may be entitled to, under other provisions of this Indenture for breach of any of the covenants herein contained.
- (viii) To provide their own furniture, fittings and electric equipment, that may be required by them for all purposes, and be solely responsible to the Agra Electric Supply Co., Ltd., in respect of supply of electric current.
- (ix) Not to use the demised premises for any purpose other than Cinema shows and dances, or with the previous consent in writing of the Military Estates Officer, for other public entertainments, performances or functions of a lawful nature.
- (x) To run the demised premises upon the standard of a first class Cinema theatre and dance hall and in a way conforming in all respects, to the provisions of the Indian Cinematograph Act and all other legal enactments and rules having the force of law, which are or may at any time hereafter be brought into force and which may affect the premises, to the satisfaction of the Military Estates Officer.
- (xi) Not to exhibit films or slides which are prohibited for exhibition in British India.
- (xii) To notify all films and slides intended to be shown to the Military Estates Officer, at least one fortnight before the date of exhibition thereof.
- (xiii) Not to institute a Liquor Bar, Tea Shop and Cafe without the approval in writing of the Military Estates Officer and to abide by the rules laid down by him for the conduct of such bar, tea shop or cafe.
- (xiv) To exhibit in Metcalfe Hall, and by the Lessees' apparatus any film which the Officer Commanding the troops Agra, through the Military Estates Officer, may desire to be shown to the troops, at a nominal working rates that is only the cost of the electric current actually consumed and no other charges whatsoever.

- (xv) To allow the Military Estates Officer, the use of the Hall for any purpose considered public by him (such as, meetings, lectures, etc.) for a period not exceeding one day in a month on payment of such rent as the Military Estates Officer may deem reasonable and subject to 15 days notice in advance.
- (xvi) Not to sublet the demise premises or any part thereof, and not to allow the user of the same to any third party, without the written approval of the Military Estates Officer.
- (xvii) To maintain the garden in the demised premises in a proper state and condition, and engage and retain, and pay for the entire period of duration of this Indenture, a Mali for garden purposes. In case of their (Lessees') failure to keep a Mali, the Military Estates Officer, will be entitled to keep a Mali for the aforesaid purposes, and the emoluments paid to the Mali and other expenditure incurred on the garden shall be recoverable from the Lessees as if they were arrears of rent.
- (xviii) To employ at their own expense a Chowkidar to look after Metcalfe Hall at all hours of day and night, whose selection and appointment shall be subject to the approval of the Military Estates Officer.
- (xix) To employ or engage only such persons as Manager and Booking Clerks for the Cinema whose employment, as such is approved by the Military Estates Officer and to remove and disengage all or any of them whose retention the said officer considers undesirable.
- (xx) To charge from the visitors in respect of Cinema shows, the admission fees for various classes not in excess of the rates prevailing in the local Cantonment and Municipal limits; and in accordance with the Schedule of rates to be submitted by the Lessees within a week of the date of execution hereof, and approved by the Military Estates Officer, the said schedule being liable to revision by the said officer from time to time. In case of other performances, entertainments and functions only such fees shall be charged as shall have been sanctioned by the Military Estates Officer. This is without prejudice to sub-clause xiv hereof.

4. The LESSOR covenants with the Lessees :—

That so long as the rents and emoluments herein reserved are duly paid, and the terms and conditions of this Indenture duly observed by the Lessees, the latter shall enjoy the premises demised without any let or hindrance by the Lessor or any person or persons purporting to act on his behalf, for the entire period of duration of this lease.

5. It is further agreed and declared by the parties as follows :—

- (i) That the Officer Commanding the Station, the Military Estates Officer, or their representatives shall, at all times during the said demise and even during exhibition of cinema shows, performances, etc., have a right to admittance to every part of the demised buildings and property for the purposes of inspection and satisfaction that the conditions of the lease are not violated and there is nothing objectionable otherwise.
- (ii) That on breach by the Lessees (or either of them) of any of the terms and conditions herein contained the Lessor acting through the Commander shall have the option of forfeiting or appropriating, as the case may be, the security deposit, in whole or in part, (which security deposit shall have to be made good by the Lessees within thirty days of such forfeiture or appropriation), and or of terminating this lease and re-entering the demised premises, after giving fourteen days notice to the Lessees.
- (iii) Provided always that notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, the Military Estates Officer shall, in case the demised premises be required for Government purposes, have the right to terminate the lease on giving the Lessees one calendar month's notice; provided that in case the demised premises be required for Military purposes, seven days notice to quit only will be given. No compensation shall be payable to the lessees if the lease is terminated as aforesaid.
- (iv) That without prejudice to any other remedy for default the lessees shall be liable to pay interest at the rate of 7½ per month on all arrears of rent and other dues. from the date of default to the date of actual payment.
- (v) That in no case shall any orders or dispositions of the Military Authorities affect the rights and liabilities of any of the parties to the lease, under this Indenture.
- (vi) That for the purpose of this Indenture, every notice by the Military Estates Officer shall be considered to have been effectively and validly served upon the lessees if posted to either one or both the Lessees at his or their above men-

- tioned address, per registered post, or otherwise pasted on any conspicuous place or part of the Metcalfe Hall. Such service of notice on any one of the Lessees shall be treated as valid and effective service on both of them.
- (vii) That wherever in this Indenture references are made to time or any period of time, such time or period of time shall be deemed to be the essence of the contract.
- (viii) That all acts done, orders issued and proceedings taken by the Military Estates Officer shall be deemed to have been so done, issued and taken on behalf of and as representative of the Lessor; and all acts and appearances, etc., by the Lessor in connection with all matters concerning this Indenture shall be done on his behalf by the Military Estates Officer.
- (ix) That the Lessees shall be jointly and severally liable for all the liabilities and obligations, in connection with this Indenture of lease; and any act, omission or default by either of them shall be deemed to be an act, omission or default by both of them.
- (x) That on the expiry or sooner determination of this lease the lessees shall forthwith vacate and deliver possession of the property demised to the Military Estates Officer, in good and perfect condition, subject only to fair wear and tear.

In witness whereof, we the said parties do hereby set out hands to this deed, the date, month and year first above written.

The schedule of property above referred to :—

All that property situate at Metcalfe Road, Bungalow No. 180 known as the Metcalfe Hall, containing by admeasurement 2-386 acres or there about and bounded on the :—

North by Bungalow No. 63 (Agra Division Commissioner's residence).

South by the Military Dairy Farm Agra.

East by the Military Dairy Farm Agra.

West by Metcalfe Road,

and delineated and coloured red in the map or plan hereto annexed TOGETHER with all buildings fences, hedges, ditches, way waters, water courses, liberties, privileges, easements and appurtenances whatsoever to the said property belonging or anywise appertaining or usually held or enjoyed therewith reputed to belong or be appurtenant thereto :—

(Name and Description of Officer Signing)—

Signed by Captain Rachpal Singh, Milly. Estates Officer, Agra Circle, Agra by the order and direction of Governor-General of India in Council acting in the premises for and on behalf of the Governor General in Council in the presence of,

Signature of Officer, Signing.

(Sd.) RACHPAL SINGH, Captain.

Military Estate Officer, Agra Circle, Agra.

(Witness—Signature, Address, Description)—

(Sd.) ALTAF HUSSAIN,

Head Clerk,

Military Estates Office, Agra Cantt.

(Name of Lessee)—

(Sd.) LAKHMICHAND,

(Sd.) JWALA PERSHAD,

Signature of the Lessees.

In the presence of :—

First Witness—

Signature, address, description.—

(Sd.) RAMCHANDRA S. SHARMA,

House No 6032, Raoli, Agra.

Second Witness—

Signature, address, description.—

(Sd.) DWARKAPERSHAD.

## SPECIAL PROTECTION TO REFUGEES SERVING UNDER GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

**726. \*Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what special protection do Government intend to give to the refugees who have taken up jobs under the Government of India after the 15th August, 1947?

(b) Do Government propose to reserve, in future, posts for the refugees who have to start life afresh?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Proposals to confirm refugee Government employees in substantive appointments are under consideration.

(b) No, Sir.

## DESIGNS OF NEW COINS TO BE MINTED IN INDIAN MINTS

**727. \*Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Government have called for designs for new coins to be minted in our mints?

(b) If so, what is the design like?

(c) From what date will the new coins be available in the Treasury for the use of the public?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a), (b) and (c). The question of the future designs of our coins is under consideration.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** When is it likely to materialise?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** It will materialise as early as practicable.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** When do Government propose to issue the new design coins? Have they fixed any particular date, as the Government of Pakistan have done?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** No date has been fixed. Actually, the question of the design for the new coins has just been taken into consideration.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Have Government considered the advisability of placing the effigy of Mahatma Gandhi on these new coins?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** That is being considered.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Do Government propose to set up a Committee of numismatic experts to go into this question?

**Mr. Speaker:** There cannot be any answer unless the Honourable Member resumes his seat.

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** There is no proposal to set up any committee of numismatic experts. There are a sufficient number of artistically minded Members of the Cabinet who can be trusted with this job.

## INDIAN STATES MERGED INTO VARIOUS PROVINCES

†728. \*Shri Ram Sahai: Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state which Indian States have merged into various provinces?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: A statement containing this information is placed on the table of the House.

## Statement

50 States have so far been merged with the Provinces as follows:—

(i) 25 States merged with Orissa: Atgarh, Athmalik, Bamra, Baramba, Baudh, Bonai, Daspalla, Dhenkanal, Gangpur, Hindol, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Khandpara, Kharsawan, Narsinghpur, Nayagarh, Nilgiri, Pallahara, Patna, Bairakhol, Ranpur, Sersikella, Sonapur, Talcher, Tigiria.

(ii) 15 States merged with the Central Provinces and Berar: Bastar, Changbhakar, Chhulhadan, Jashpur, Kanker, Kawardha, Khairagarh, Korea, Nandgaon, Raigarh, Sakti, Sarangarh, Surguja, Udaipur, Makara.

(iii) 1—Loharu merged with East Punjab.

(iv) 2—Banganapalle and Pudukkottai merged with Madras.

(v) 16 States merged with Bombay: Akalkot, Aundh, Bhor, Jamkhandi, Jath, Kurundwad (Senior), Miraj (Senior), Kurundwad (Junior), Miraj (Junior), Mudhol, Phaltan, Ramdurg, Sangli, Savanur, Sawantwadi, Wadi, Jaghir.

## INDIAN DOMINION SUBJECTS KILLED IN WAR WITH RAIDERS IN KASHMIR

†729. \*Shri Ram Sahai: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state the number of Indian Dominion subjects who have been killed in the war with the raiders that is going on in Kashmir?

(b) What is the number of men killed who belong to the forces of Jammu and Kashmir?

(c) What is the number of civilians who have been killed?

(d) What is the number of houses burnt by the raiders?

(e) What is the approximate loss inflicted by the raiders on the civilian population?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) to (e). I regret, Sir, that information in the detail required by the Honourable Member is not readily available.

730. \*[Withdrawn.]

## REALISATION OF VARIOUS PAYMENTS FROM PAKISTAN LYING DUE PRIOR TO 15TH AUGUST, 1947

731. \*Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether Government are aware that the Government of Pakistan have passed orders, according to which no payment relating to the period prior to 15th August, 1947, can be made to any national of India, even against cheques already issued to them?

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken to see that payments due from All India Radio stations now in Pakistan and the University of Punjab are made?

(c) Are Government aware that during the recent disturbances, almost all banks refused to extend facilities for cashing cheques on their Pakistan branches, with the result that a large number of cheques have become out of date?

(d) Do Government propose to contact the Government of Pakistan regarding the renewal of cheques issued by the All India Radio and the University of Punjab which are out of date?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a) Yes Sir. Government have received a number of complaints that the Pakistan Government have declined to pay claims relating to the pre-partition period.

(b) The matter is under examination.

(c) Yes.

(d) Yes, so far as the Central Government cheques are concerned. The renewal of the Punjab University cheques is, however, a matter for settlement between the East and West Punjab Governments.

#### ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS BY INDIAN NATIONAL CADET CORPS COMMITTEE

**732. \*Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state what action, if any, Government have taken or have decided to take on the recommendations of the Indian National Cadet Corps Committee?

(b) When will the Report be published?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** (a) and (b). I hope to be able to make an announcement on this subject to-morrow.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunru:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that the Honourable Minister for Defence the other day promised that the report would be published by the 12th instant?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I said by the 18th.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunru:** Does the Honourable Minister wish that the members of this House should have absolutely no opportunity of knowing the contents of the report till after the debate?

**Mr. Speaker:** We shall proceed to the next question.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF MILITARY COLLEGE NEAR POONA

**733. \*Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state what progress has so far been made in the scheme for establishing a Military College near Poona?

(b) What are the reasons for the delay in starting the college?

(c) When is the college likely to be opened?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** (a) The Honourable Member is probably referring to the project for establishing a National War Academy at Kharakvasala, near Poona, for the training of officer cadets for the three Defence Services. The project was reviewed in the light of the changed conditions consequent on partition and Government have now decided to proceed with it. It will be some time, however, before the new Academy can function as the buildings required have to be planned and constructed, and it has accordingly been decided in the meantime to work the scheme for an Inter-Services Academy at Dehra Dun in the present Indian Military Academy. The work connected with the construction and equipment of the Academy at Kharakvasala will proceed concurrently.

(b) The delay was due to partition and the consequent uncertainty about the future strength and composition of the Armed Forces on which will depend the size of the Academy.

(c) It is hoped to start the Inter-Services Academy at Dehra Dun by the 1st January 1949; and at Kharakvasala, not for a considerable time thereafter.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know, Sir, why were the two extremes, Dehra Dun on the one side and Poona on the other, chosen for the location of the War Academy, and not a central place?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** The Military Academy at Dehra Dun was established some years ago; when the new Academy at Kharakvasala begins to function it is proposed to close the Indian Military Academy, at Dehra Dun.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** Will there be only two institutions, or is it proposed to start similar institutions in other parts of India?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** The proposal is that when the Kharakvasala institution is completed, the Dehra Dun Academy will be abolished.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Are there not any barracks either at Kharakvasala or Deohali where a beginning could be made to start the Academy earlier so that there may be no need for waiting until buildings are ready?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** No, Sir.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** May I know the reason why Dehra Dun is sought to be abolished?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** If my Honourable friend will go through the Report on the National War Academy, he will know the reasons. I will be able to give him a copy of the Report.

**Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** What will be the number of the officers that will be trained at Poona?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** As I have stated, it has not yet been finally decided; the number will depend on the future strength of the Army.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunru:** Will the Defence Minister supply every member of the House with a copy of this Report?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** If copies are available I will certainly supply to every member—anyway to those members who want it I will certainly supply a copy.

**Some Honourable Members:** We all want it.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunru:** Has the Report been published?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I am not quite sure, Sir, but a decision has been taken on the Report; if it has not been published it will be published.

**Pandit Hirday Nath Kunru:** When will it be published?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I have announced that the decision of the Government has been taken and the Report will be released to the Press tomorrow or day after.

#### EXPANSION OF U.O.T.C. AND MILITARY TRAINING FOR STUDENTS, GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ETC.

734. **\*Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state what steps, if any, have been or are proposed to be taken by Government to—

(a) develop and expand the U. O. T. C.;

(b) impart military training to senior boys of high schools;  
 (c) impart military training to Government employees of suitable ages in the civil departments; and

(d) to enlist and train Indian Public servants in the Auxiliary Force on lines on which the British and Anglo-Indian civil employees were enlisted and trained?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** (a) and (b). The U.O.T.C. will be merged in the National Cadet Corps which will also provide for the imparting of military training to senior boys of High Schools. I hope to be able to make an announcement on the subject tomorrow.

(c) and (d). Government are examining plans for the formation of a territorial army which would provide an opportunity for military training, amongst others, to public servants.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Does the proposed military training scheme also contemplate training—optional or voluntary not compulsory—for girls or women?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** Yes, the training will be voluntary.

#### PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF INFORMATION FILMS IN INDIA

735. **\*Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got any scheme for the preparation and distribution of Information Films in India;

(b) if so, the amount that is proposed to be spent on the scheme;

(c) the number of units proposed to be established and the places where they are going to be established;

(d) in how many Indian languages they are going to be prepared;

(e) whether Kannada is included in the scheme; and

(f) if not, why not?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) Yes.

(b) Rupees 9,25,000 non-recurring and an annual recurring cost of about Rupees 30 lakhs.

(c) Six documentary film units with headquarters at Bombay, ten News-reel Cameramen, one each in the capitals of Governor's Provinces and Delhi and five Branch Offices for distribution located at Bombay, Lucknow, Nagpur, Madras and Calcutta.

(d) Four.

(e) No.

(f) The cost involved will not be commensurate with the advantage gained in publicity.

**Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao:** Will arrangements be made to distribute these films in each linguistic area so that it may reach the masses?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Arrangements are made to distribute them as widely as possible.

**Shri H. V. Kamath:** Was the scheme for the preparation and distribution of the information films placed before the Standing Advisory Committee of the Ministry concerned at any time?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am sorry I do not know.

**Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao:** May I know, Sir, in what language these information films will be printed?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Various languages; not in all the languages of India, but we will try to extend it as far as possible. In the case of some languages it has been thought that the cost is too much, relative to the areas served by that language.

**Shri S. V. Krishnamurthy Rao:** Is it not necessary, Sir, that in the new set up these information films should reach the masses in every corner of the land?

**Mr. Speaker:** That will be a matter of opinion.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What is the order in which these films are produced?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am sorry I have not got that information with me.

#### ATTACKS BY PEOPLE FROM HYDERABAD STATE INSIDE INDIAN TERRITORY

**786. \*Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor:** Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of raids or attacks made since 15th August, 1947, inside the territory of the neighbouring Indian Provinces by people from Hyderabad State;

(b) the total number of casualties, dead or wounded, inflicted on the people of the said Provinces;

(c) the total estimated loss of or damage caused to property as a result of these attacks;

(d) whether Government have demanded or whether they propose to demand from Hyderabad State reparation or compensation for the casualties and losses;

(e) what steps Government propose to take to prevent such attacks in future;

(f) whether Government propose to equip the people on the India-Hyderabad border with arms, to enable them to protect themselves against such attacks; and

(g) whether any casualties were inflicted on the raiders or attackers, and whether any of them were taken into custody?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) to (c). I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to my answer to the Honourable Prof. N. G. Ranga's question No. 195 on the 9th February 1948 and add that while the Government are aware that several raids have been made they have no exact information about the number, the loss of life on account of the raids, the number of persons killed, the damage to property etc. Provincial Governments have been asked to furnish this information.

(d) Yes.

(e) and (f). The whole question of border protection is under negotiation with the Hyderabad Government.

(g) A few casualties among the raiders have been reported by the Provincial Governments. There is no information that any one has been taken into custody.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that these raids are still going on even after the last answer was given in this House, and reports are pouring in to the States Ministry as well as the Prime Minister's room about all these various raids that are being made into the Union territory and the loot of the properties taken away?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes. Occasionally reports do come in to that effect.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What is the redress that the people of our Dominion can possibly have when their properties are taken away, their person is injured and their women are being insulted, and their houses and even villages as a whole are set on fire?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I can assure the Honourable Member and the House that the closest attention is paid to this. It is always very difficult to stop sporadic things of this type; even crime when it becomes too prevalent is difficult to deal with. In the City of Delhi we have had a kind of crime wave; we deal with it and ultimately put an end to it, as we will to these border raids. But an occasional raid here or there is a little bit difficult.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it not a fact, Sir, that they are not sporadic raids but organised raids and that day after day they have happened with increasing crescendo and have increased in number as well as in intensity after the Standstill Agreement has been concluded?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** All I can say is that the closest attention is being paid to deal with this matter. The whole situation, not only in regard to the border raids but the larger question behind it, is an intricate and difficult one which we are trying to tackle.

**Seth Govinddas:** Has the Government written to the Hyderabad Government about the compensation of the people who have suffered on the borders and, have the Government received any reply from them as far as the compensation is concerned?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am afraid I do not know exactly what steps have been taken in that direction, but I have an idea that this subject has been broached.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** In view of the fact that Hyderabad was never an independent State and was once a Province of the Indian Empire, and in view of the fact that these raids are going on by them, where lies the difficulty for Government to take possession of the Hyderabad State? I want an answer to this.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I suppose the Honourable Member suggests a forcible possession of Hyderabad State. Well, the Government of India.....

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** In view of the fact that it was once a Province of the Moghul Empire which was an Indian empire, and of which we are now the successors.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The Government of India is in a sense a successor State but in essence it is a Government which derives its authority from the people—not from its predecessors, either the British or the Moghul Empire. Anyhow the House will realise that the question of Hyderabad is one which has given us the greatest difficulty. We are proceeding on the general lines laid down in regard to all States, that is that we want, as far as it is humanly possible, for the people of the State to decide. We want also to proceed as peacefully as possible, and sometimes following a very logical line of argument does not yield peaceful results—we want to avoid that. But some times it is difficult to avoid conflicts. It is not a such simple matter as saying that because we want a certain thing to happen, we issue a decree and it happens; it may happen in the end, we may bring it about, but the point is that we want to adopt methods which do not lead to undesirable results in the end. May I just say one thing, that I find from my notes that compensation has been demanded in several cases from the Nizam's Government.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** May I put just one more question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** It has been sufficiently answered.

**Seth Govinddas:** The Honourable the Prime Minister said that it depends upon the will of the people of Hyderabad to settle this question. May I know if there is any proposal to hold any sort of plebescite in Hyderabad, as was the case with Junagadh in this respect?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** What I said was that our policy is that the people should decide every debatable point. That is our policy, which we are following everywhere in regard to the States including Hyderabad. There is no specific proposal at the present moment for a plebescite, if that is what the Honourable Member wants to know. The reason is that various other things are happening including for instance these border raids referred to by Prof. Ranga which have to be dealt with immediately.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it not a fact that Provincial Governments have complained several times to the Central Government that their requests for the supply of sufficient arms and ammunition to arm their border protection forces have not been acceded to by the Union Government?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Probably that is true, because Provincial Governments have a habit of complaining.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** No, no.....

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

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Is the Honourable the Prime Minister aware of the fact that the Ittehad-ul-Musselmeins is carrying on highly provocative propaganda? Is it not a fact that they are the people responsible for these raids, and that the leader of the Ittehad-ul-Musselmeins, Razvi, delivered a highly inflammatory speech on 6th March inciting people to violence, saying that there can not be a responsible Government in Hyderabad nor any accession to Indian Union?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, we are aware of that.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Has anything been done in that connection?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** I have no doubt that the action which has been taken, and the speeches that are being delivered and the other activities of the Ittehad-ul-Musselmeins will lead to dangerous consequences in Hyderabad, and Government are fully alive to the situation in regard to that.

**Mr. Tajamul Hossain:** Does the Honourable the Prime Minister think that Hyderabad will ever accede to the Indian Union by means of negotiations?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a matter of opinion. Next question.

#### HURS FROM SIND FIGHTING AGAINST INDIAN TROOPS IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

737. **Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Hurs from Sind have been found fighting against the Indian troops in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) what their estimated strength is;

(c) whether they are equipped with modern weapons; and

(d) when they were first observed participating in the raid?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** (a) and (d). A report to this effect was made on the 21st February 1948, which Government are trying to verify.

(b) About 300.

(c) Yes.

## MOULVIS IN INDIAN ARMY FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTIONS TO MUSLIM PERSONNEL

**738. \*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether Moulvys are still employed in the Indian Army to give religious instructions to Muslim personnel?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, do Government propose to consider the question of extending the same facilities to Sikhs and Hindus?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** (a) Yes.

(b) Religious teachers are authorised for each religious class.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** In view of the fact that the Indian Union is a secular State, what is the idea of imparting religious training to anybody?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** We have not done away with religious teaching as yet.

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** May I know, Sir, if the Government of India intend to do away with this imparting of religious teaching, and if not, why not?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I have already replied to this question, that as long as we believe in religion, I think it is our duty to impart religious teaching.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What do you mean?

**Mr. Tajamul Hosain:** Religious teaching should be imparted at home not in the Army.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is now getting into an argument over the question.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Are similar efforts being made to give religious instruction to Hindus, Christians and everybody in the Army?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I have already stated, Sir, that it is so.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** May I know, Sir, whether in the Armies of other countries a similar practice is being followed?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I believe so.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Is it in the contemplation of the Government to go on giving religious instruction to all manner of public servants under them?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is perhaps beyond the Defence Ministry's jurisdiction to answer.

**Shri K. Santhanam:** What is the cost of all these priests of religion so far as the Army is concerned?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I require notice of this question.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** Is this religious instruction in the Army compulsory?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** That is the practice, and we propose to follow it.

**Mr. R. K. Sidhva:** I wanted to know whether it is compulsory or not.

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** It is not compulsory. But this practice has been in vogue for quite a number of years from the beginning of the Army.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** In view of the fact that this is a relic of the previous regime, will the Honourable Minister review the position again and consider the desirability of doing away with religious instruction in the Indian Army, so that the various components of the Army may weld themselves into a united India?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** I will bear that suggestion in mind.

**Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** May I know whether the Forces are permitted to go out on Fridays and other religious holidays?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** No, Sir.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maltra:** Who appoints these religious instructors?

**The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh:** The Army Authorities.

#### EXEMPTION FROM INCOME-TAX OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN INDIA WITH HEAD OFFICES IN U.K.

**739. \*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Co-operative Societies in India having their Head Offices in the United Kingdom are exempt from paying Income-tax to the Government of India?

(b) What are the names of the British firms in this category and what is the loss to the Indian Exchequer on this account?

(c) Do Government propose to amend the Income-tax Act in this respect?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a) The exemption granted under the Indian Income-tax Act does not extend to the income of any co-operative society registered in the United Kingdom.

(b) As the exemption does not apply to Co-operative Societies registered in the United Kingdom the names of such Societies are not readily available. In the case of one Society however, *vis.*, the English and Scottish Joint Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited the Madras High Court held in 1929 that its Indian income was not assessable to tax on the ground that the Society was trading with itself. In 1945 however the Calcutta High Court held in the case of the same Society, that it was not trading with itself. Steps have accordingly since been taken to assess the Society to Indian income-tax. The loss of revenue caused by the Madras High Court's ruling cannot be ascertained.

(c) The law does not require any amendment.

**Prof. N. G. Banga:** Has the Army and Navy Co-operative Stores of England any Branches in India?

**The Honourable Mr. R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** I must have notice of that question.

#### TERMS OF SERVICE OF OFFICIALS OF VARIOUS MERGED STATES

**740. \*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state the terms of service offered to officials of the various States which have merged with the Provinces?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House when complete.

#### FIRE ARMS WITHOUT LICENCE FOR MEMBERS OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES

**741. \*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether members of the Constituent Assembly and Provincial Assemblies are allowed to buy fire-arms without licence?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the categories of fire-arms which they are allowed to possess?

(c) Has this decision been communicated to the dealers in fire-arms and the Provincial Governments?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) I would invite attention to my reply to Shri Lakshmi Kanta Maitra's short notice question on the 12th December, 1947. Members of the Constituent Assembly of India are allowed to possess certain fire-arms without licence during the tenure of their office and for six months thereafter. This concession does not, however, extend to the members of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies:

(b) The Honourable Member's attention is invited to Column 2 against entry 1 of Schedule I to the Indian Arms Rules, 1924, a copy of which is in the Library.

(c) The Provincial Governments have been asked to communicate this position to all concerned.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What arrangements are being made, Sir, to enable the members of this House to go to the firms and take the fire-arms by satisfying them that they happen to be members of this House?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Does the Honourable Member want a certificate of identity to be produced to the firms?

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Quite so.

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Well, I am quite sure that if any member desires it, the Assembly Department will issue a certificate of identity for him.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am told that that is also the practice. If the member asks the Department, an identity card is issued.

#### (b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

##### BROADCASTS OF NEWS BY A.I.R. DELHI IN KANNADA AND ORIYA LANGUAGES

**742. \*Shri R. R. Diwakar:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the dates on which broadcasts of news in Kannada and Oriya Languages were introduced in A.I.R. Delhi Station?

(b) How many times, at what hours and for how many minutes is news broadcast in each of the two languages?

(c) In view of the fact that Karnatak has no separate broadcasting station, do Government propose to give more time to Kannada in Delhi A.I.R., or in Bombay A.I.R., or in Madras A.I.R.?

(d) Are Government aware that Kannada news is broadcast only once a day from Delhi A.I.R. at 5-45 p.m.?

**The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** (a) The news services in Kannada and Oriya were started on 1st October 1947 and 28th January 1948 respectively.

(b) and (d). There is one Kannada news bulletin of 15 minutes duration from 5-45 to 6 p.m.

There are three Oriya News bulletins—the first of 10 minutes duration from 7-30 to 7-30 a.m. the second of 5 minutes duration from 1-20 to 1-25 a.m. and the third of 15 minutes duration from 7-45 to 8 p.m.

(c) The question of increasing the frequency of Kannada news bulletins from Delhi is under consideration.

##### IMPORT AND PRODUCTION OF ALLOPATHIC MEDICINES IN INDIA

**743. \*Dr. V. Subramaniam:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state the total value of allopathic medicines imported into our country from foreign countries?

(b) Do Government propose to lay on the table of the House a list of institu-

tions or factories which manufacture allopathic medicines including vaccines in India, for use in India?

(c) Is our country self-sufficient in such medicines, and are all hospitals in India, getting Indian made medicines?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the negative, what are the arrangements made to make our country self-sufficient in such allopathic medicines?

(e) In view of the fact that a large variety of patent medicines is imported into India, do Government propose to consider the advisability of restricting the import of patent medicines from foreign countries?

**The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** (a) The Honourable Member has not specified the period for which information is desired. However, I invite his attention to the Annual Seaborne Trade Accounts which contain the required statistics and copies of which are available in the Library of the House.

(b) A list is laid on the table.

(c) The country is self-sufficient in regard to the common vaccines used for public health purposes, such as Cholera vaccine, T.A.B. Vaccine, Plague Vaccine and Vaccine Lymph. The indigenous production of other drugs is inadequate to meet the country's requirements and the hospitals obtain Indian made medicines to the extent they are available.

(d) The question of increasing the production of certain essential drugs is under the consideration of the Government of India in the Ministry of Industry and Supply in consultation with the Ministry of Health.

(e) In view of the shortage of foreign currency the Government are already following a restrictive policy in respect of import of medicines and drugs including patent medicines. Drugs are allowed to be imported only if they are essential.

*I. List of Government Institutions which manufacture vaccines in India.*

1. Central Research Institute, Kasauli.
2. Haffkine Institute, Bombay.
3. King Institute, Guindy, Madras.
4. Pasteur Institute, Shillong, Assam.
5. Public Health Laboratory, Bengal.
6. Provincial Health Laboratory, U. P., Lucknow.
7. Vaccine Institute, Belgaum, Bombay.
8. Vaccine Institute, Namkum, Bihar.
9. Vaccine Depot, Shillong, Assam.
10. Vaccine Institute, C. P., Nagpur.

*II. List of firms producing drugs and chemicals in India*

WEST BENGAL

S. No.	Name of the firm.
1.	M/S Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceutical Works, Ltd., 94, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta.
2.	.. Bengal Immunity Co., Ltd., 153 Dharmatola St., Calcutta.
3.	.. Standard Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., 67 South Rd., Entally, Calcutta.
4.	.. Smith Stanistreet & Co. Ltd., 18, Convent Road, Calcutta.
5.	.. Lister Antiseptic & Dressing Co. (1925) Ltd., 12, Umakanta Sen Lane, Calcutta.
6.	.. Calcutta Chemical Co. Ltd., 35, Panditia Road, Calcutta.
7.	.. Birla Laboratories, 64, Pathuria Ghatia St., Calcutta.
8.	.. East India Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., 71, Russa Road, Tollygunge, Calcutta.
9.	.. Batta Kristo Paal & Co. Ltd., No. 1 Bonfield Lane, Calcutta.
10.	.. Premier Stores Supplying Co. Ltd., 8, Royal Exchange Place, Calcutta.

11. M/S Bharat Laboratory & Chemical Works Ltd., 10, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Tollygung, Calcutta.
12. „ Union Drug Co. Ltd., 285, Bowbazar St., Calcutta.
13. „ H. Mumtaz & Co., 1 Colutola St., Calcutta.
14. „ Indian Chemical & Therapeutic Works Ltd., 9, Barrackpore Trunk Road, Calcutta.
15. „ Dabur (Dr. S. K. Burman) Ltd., 142, Rash Behari Avenue, Calcutta.
16. „ Indian Health Institute & Laboratory Ltd., 5-2, Beliaghatta Main Road, Calcutta.
17. „ Indian Mineral Industries Ltd., 22/1, Dum Dum Road, Calcutta.
18. „ Calcutta Drug House, Gooptu Mansion, 84.4, Clive St., Calcutta.
19. „ New Research Laboratory Ltd., 31A, Nandan Road, Bhowanipore, Calcutta.
20. „ Pharmaceutical Laboratories of India Ltd., 133, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.
21. „ Asia Drug Co., Ltd., Dassnagar, Howrah.
22. „ Pearl Chemical & Pharmaceutical Works, 29, Strand Rd., Calcutta.
23. „ All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, 110, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta.
24. „ Associated Industries Co., 63, Dharamtala St., Calcutta.
25. „ Albert David Co, P. B. No. 586, Calcutta.
26. „ Bararee Coke Co. Ltd., P. O. Kushunda (Office at Calcutta).
27. „ Calcutta Clinical Research Association, 6, Chowringhee Road, Calcutta.
28. „ Bengal Pharmaceutical Association, Rashbehari Avenue, Calcutta.
29. „ Bengal Drugs & Chemical Works, 33, Canning St., Calcutta.
30. „ Bengal Drug & Pharmaceutical Works, 11, Raja Raj Narayan St., Calcutta.
31. „ Ballygung Chemical Works, 13/C, Deodhar St., Ballygung, Calcutta.
32. „ Calcutta School & Tropical Medicines, Central Avenue, Calcutta.
33. „ General Distributors & Agency, 9, Clive St., Calcutta.

BOMBAY

1. M/S Chemical Industrial & Pharmaceutical Laboratories, Ltd., 289, Ballasis Road, Byculla, Bombay.
2. „ Teddington Chemical Factory, P. B. No. 229, Bombay.
3. „ Zandu Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., P. B. 5513, Bombay.
4. „ Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd., Bombay House, 24, Bruce St., Bombay.
5. „ Cheme Phazma Laboratories, 23, Club Buck Rd., Bombay.
6. „ Standard Pharmaceutical & Chemical Wks., Atlas Mills Rear Rd., Bombay.
7. „ Oriental Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., 45/47, Applo St., Bombay.
8. „ Sarabhai Chemicals Ltd., P. O. Box 31, Bombay.
9. „ Sanitax Chemical Industries Ltd., Pandra Road, Baroda.
10. „ Arcies Laboratories Ltd., Western India House, Sir Pheroze Shah Mehta Road, Bombay.
11. „ Indentors Syndicate, Advani Chambers, Sir P. Mehta Rd., Bombay
12. „ Indo Overseas Ltd., Chikhal House, Kalva Devi Road, Bombay.
13. „ Geoffrey Mauners & Co. Ltd., Cadells Road, Mahim, Bombay.
14. „ Eastern Co. (India) Ltd., Lloyd's Bank Bldg., Ballard Estate, Bombay.
15. „ Chemical Industries, 4.1 Bldg., Sir Pheroze Shah Mehta Road, Bombay.
16. „ Garutman's Laboratory, P. B. 4512, Bombay.
17. „ Crown Chemical & Surgical Wks., 248 Rippon Road, Byculla, Bombay.
19. „ E. Eyens & Co., Bellaris Road, Bombay.
20. „ G. Y. Kamat & Co., Lamington Road, Bombay.

BARODA

1. M/S Alembic Chemical Works, Baroda.

MYSORE

1. M/S Government Industrial and Testing Laboratory, P. O. Malleswaran, Bangalore.

KASHMIR

1. M/S Kashmir Pharmaceutical Works, Pratap Villa, Srinagar, Kashmir.

## EAST PUNJAB

1. M/S Shambu Nath & Sons Ltd., G. T. Road, Amritsar.
2. " S. P. Chemical Works, Chebarta
3. " Mehta Bros., Amritsar.
4. " Malone & Co., Kasauli.
5. " Amritsar Distillery Co., Amritsar.
6. " Amar Chemical Industries, Canal Road, Amritsar.

## MADRAS

1. M/S Chemicals Ltd., Nidadavol, M. S. Ely.
2. " Techno Chemical Industries Ltd., Calicut.
3. " Andhra Pharmaceutical Works, Ltd., Berwada.
4. " Parry & Co. Ltd., P. B. 12, Madras.

## UNITED PROVINCES

1. M/S. Leaco Chemical Works Ltd., Cawnpore.
2. " Cawnpore Chemical Works, Ltd., Anwarganj, Cawnpore.
3. " Hind Chemicals, Ltd., Raibazar, Cawnpore.
4. " Mining & Chemical Industries, Ltd., Jamuna Bridge, Agra, U. P.

## DELHI

1. M/S Shambhu Nath & Chemical Works Ltd., Delhi—Shahdara.

## RAMPUR

1. M/S Rampur Distillery & Chemical Co. Ltd., Rampur State

**DESCRIPTION OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION CONSIGNMENT FOR COOCH BEHAR STATE BY PAKISTAN AUTHORITIES.**

744. \*Shri Arun Chandra Guha: Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that towards the end of January, 1948, a consignment of arms and ammunition meant for the State of Cooch Behar was intercepted on the way and diverted to Pakistan;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Cooch Behar soldiers accompanying the consignment were arrested by the Pakistan authorities at Parbatipur and Lalmanirhat; and

(c) if so, what quantity of arms and ammunition is involved and what actions Government have taken or intend to take in the matter?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru (a) to (c). A report was received from the Cooch Behar State towards the end of January 1948 that five armed personnel of the State Forces escorting ordnance stores were arrested and disarmed at Lalmanirhat border station in Eastern Pakistan. The matter was investigated and as a result the personnel have since been released and the stores restored to the State.

**NON-OCCUPATION OF ROOMS IN WESTERN HOUSE ALLOTTED TO A.I.R. EMPLOYEES**

745. \*Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether it is a fact that rooms allotted to the employees of the All India Radio in the Western House have been lying un-occupied for the last one year?

The Honourable Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru: No rooms have been allotted to the employees of the All India Radio in the Western House.

**REPORTS OF COMMODITIES PRICES BOARD**

746. \*Pandit Hirday Nath Kunera: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state how many reports were submitted to Government by the Commodities Prices Board?

(b) How many of these reports have been published?

(c) Do Government propose to lay copies of the remaining reports on the table of the House?

**The Honourable Shri R. K. Shanmukham Chetty:** (a) The Board submitted in all ten Reports.

(b) Two Reports have been published. Another report is under print and will shortly be published.

(c) Of the remaining seven reports, three, namely, those on (i) raw cotton and export duty on cotton (ii) the *ad interim* report on pulses and (iii) that on Kerosene and petrol are purely of an informal nature. The remaining four reports, i.e. those on (i) Coal from Bihar and Bengal, (ii) Cloth and Yarn, (iii) Iron and Steel and (iv) Indigenous paper are being placed in the Library of the House.

## SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### RESTRICTIONS ON THE EXPORT OF CERTAIN ESSENTIAL GOODS

**Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to the Notification No. 8(27)-IETC/48 dated the 21st February 1948, of the Government of Pakistan, modifying some provisions of their notification of the 1st November, 1947, restricting the export of certain essential goods, such as, machinery, building and engineering materials, etc. ?

(b) If so, what action has been taken by the Government of India to see that goods, of the same type are not freely exported from this country to Pakistan?

(c) Has there been any reciprocal arrangement between the Government of India and Pakistan as regards restrictions on exports from the two Dominions to each other after Pakistan's action in restricting certain exports to India?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). From the 1st March, 1948, exports to Pakistan have been brought under the purview of the export control regulations framed under the Imports and Exports Control Act, 1947. All exports to Pakistan of controlled commodities are, therefore, now subject to licence. I would add for the Honourable Member's information that it is expected that discussions will shortly be initiated between the two Dominions regarding the conclusion of a general trade agreement between them.

### POLICY RE. PROHIBITION AGAINST EXPORT OF JUTE PRESSING MACHINERY TO PAKISTAN

**Pandit Hriday Nath Kunzru:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that certain jute plants in West Bengal have been dismantled and taken over to Eastern Pakistan?

(b) Have any steps been taken by Government to prohibit the export of Indian plant and machinery used for pressing jute to Pakistan?

(c) Do Government propose to announce their considered policy in this connection at an early date, particularly in view of the fact that the Government of Pakistan have already placed restrictions on the export of machinery and some other goods from that Dominion to India?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Bhabha:** (a) Government have heard rumours to this effect, but no such case has actually been brought to their notice.

(b) Yes. The Government of West Bengal propose to pass a measure prohibiting the dismantling of plants and machinery used for pressing or manufacturing jute for export to Pakistan. Jute mills and jute presses have also been warned in addition that they should not remove machinery and spare parts to places outside West Bengal.

(c) Exports to Pakistan are now subject to strict licensing under the Export

and Export Control Act of 1947 and the policy to be followed with regard to the restrictions to be placed on the export of machinery and other goods from India to Pakistan is now engaging the attention of Government. I would invite the Honourable Member's attention in this connection to the reply which I have just given to the previous question asked by him and would add that it is hoped to take up these matters for discussion with the representatives of the Dominion of Pakistan at a very early date.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** May I ask if the Honourable Minister on receipt of this question enquired of the West Bengal Government if there was actually any case of removal of machinery and spare parts?

**The Honourable Mr. C. H. Shabha:** Enquiries were made and no such cases were known to the West Bengal Government.

## GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS

### SECOND STAGE

#### DEMAND NO. 30—MINISTRY OF RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with the consideration of the demands for grants and cut motions. There are two demands for discussion to-day Nos. 30 and 24 and I am placing them before the House.

Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,00,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation'."

#### DEMAND NO. 24—MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,28,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Communications'."

I find that there are three cut motions. That again raises the difficulty of time, as I pointed out yesterday. The agreed time for the discussion of this particular demand is an hour and quarter, which means the time expires at 1 O'clock, and the time left is less by five minutes. I do not know whether this procedure of having all the cut motions moved and allotting time to each of the movers is really conducive to a proper debate of all the three cut motions. If the arrangement is an agreed one, I would not like to interfere, but if the House is agreeable, it will be better to take any one of these, in view of the short time and discuss more fully, so that each section of the House will have an opportunity of placing their views.

**Several Honourable Members:** No, Sir.

**Shri Mohan Lal Saksena (U.P.; General):** I think that the motions need not be moved. The points are there and the members may now be called upon to speak.

**Mr. Speaker:** That means the demand could be discussed generally. If that is so, even then that is a good proposal. It will give one hour and 10 minutes. The Honourable Minister will require some time. What time will he require?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy (Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation):** That depends upon the points that are made. I do realize their difficulty and I also realize that there is a general desire to discuss this demand at some length. I should, in any case, like to have a quarter of an hour.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well; that means I shall call upon him at about 12-45 or 5 minutes earlier.

Honourable Members will now restrict their speeches to as short a time-limit as possible.

پنڈت تھاکر داس بھارگو : ماننیہ سپیکر صاحب ! آپ کے حکم کے مطابق اب کسی موشن کو کٹ کرنے کی ضرورت نہیں اس واسطے میں عام طور سے اس منسٹری کے تیارانہ کے متعلق کچھ عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں۔

جناب والا! میں ایک عجیب کشمکش میں پڑا ہوں۔ جب میں مسٹر نہوگی صاحب کی طرف دیکھتا ہوں تو مہری سبجہ میں نہیں آتا کہ اس بجٹ کی کیا نکتہ چینی کروں۔ جب میں دیکھتا ہوں کہ وہ رات دن جانفشانی کے ساتھ شرنارتھیوں کی سہوا میں لگے ہیں۔ ہر طرح سے مصیبت اٹھا رہے ہیں جب کبھی دورے میں جاتے ہیں تو وہاں جاکر افسروں کو تاکوید کرتے ہیں کہ جتنی سوا ممکن ہو سکے شرنارتھیوں کی کھینچے۔ جب میں ڈیکو ممبران کوہلت کی طرف دیکھتا ہوں کہ وہ کس طرح نہایت ہمدردی کے ساتھ اپنا وقت لگاتے ہیں اور دورے بہاری استقلال کے ساتھ مشکاوں کو ساچھاتے ہیں تو میں یہ کہہ بغور نہیں رہ سکتا کہ ان صاحبان کی جتنی تعریف کی جائے وہ کم ہے۔ جب میں دیکھتا ہوں کہ تھائی کروڑ روپیہ پنجاب کی گورنمنٹ مکانوں کے واسطے تجویز کرتی ہے اور دس کروڑ کا انڈسٹریل فائنانسول کارپوریشن فار ری ہیبیلیٹیشن Industrial financial corporation for Rehabilitation اس ہاؤس نے بنا دیا ہے اور اس پر ساڑھے تین کروڑ روپیہ کھڑے پر گورنمنٹ نے خرچ کیا ہے۔ پندرہ لاکھ روپیہ روزانہ کھانے پینے کھائے خرچ کیا جاتا ہے جب میں دیکھتا ہوں کہ چالیس لاکھ آدمی ریست پنجاب سے اتنے تھوڑے عرصے کے اندر پہنچا دئے ہیں اور گورنمنٹ کے پاس جو کچھ آسائش ہو سکتی ہے وہ ان کو پہنچا رہی ہے تو ان سب باتوں کے لئے میں ان کا شکریہ ادا کئے بغیر نہیں رہ سکتا مجھے معلوم ہے اور میں نے بھی بہت سی مصیبتوں آگے دیکھی ہیں۔ قصداً کے زمانے میں پچھلی گورنمنٹ نے کیا کیا؟ اس کے اوپر بحث مباحثہ کرنا اچھا نہیں ہے اور اس گورنمنٹ کا اس گورنمنٹ سے مقابلہ کرنیکا کوئی سوال ہی نہیں پیدا ہوتا۔

لیکن جہاں میں اتنی ہمدردی دیکھتا ہوں جہاں میں یہ دیکھتا ہوں کہ اس قدر روپیہ پانی کی طرح گورنمنٹ شرنارتھیوں کے لئے خرچ کر رہی ہے تو دوسری طرف جب میں دیکھتا ہوں کہ شرنارتھیوں کی آج کیا حالت ہے اور کس طرح ان کے ساتھ سلوک ہوتا ہے تو مہری سبجہ میں نہیں آتا کہ گورنمنٹ کی ساری کوششیں ساری ہمدردی کیا ہوا میں ختم ہو جائیں گی۔ کیا کوئی نتیجہ اسکا نکلتا ہی نہیں یا گورنمنٹ ہی تھک جرح سے کام نہیں کر رہی ہے عجیب حالت ہے۔ جناب والا! جو شرنارتھیوں کے نام سے کہہ جاتے ہیں یہ وہ لوگ ہیں جو دراصل سراجیہ کی قسمت ہیں سارے دیہی نے سراجیہ حاصل کیا لیکن پنجاب میں نے یہاں یہ پہل پایا یہ پنجابی یعنی مقول

[پلڈت تھاکو دلس بہارگو]

صوبے میں سب سے زیادہ پراسپروس (prosperous) یعنی معمول تھے - بہت سے لوگ  
 محلوں میں رہتے تھے اور ایسی زمین میں کاشت کرتے تھے جو سونا اگلتی تھی آج ان  
 کی حالت خراب ہے آج وہ در بدر پھرتے ہیں اس کے ذمہ وار وہ نہیں ہیں یہ ایک ایسی  
 چیز ہوئی ہے کہ جسکے واسطے میں کسی کو دوش نہیں دینا چاہتا ہوں - اس میں  
 شک نہیں کہ ان لوگوں کے اوپر کافی مصیبتوں بڑی ہیں اور وہ ہرگز اس کے ذمہ وار نہیں  
 ہیں دعویٰ میں حکم نکلتا ہے کہ شرنارتھیوں کے لئے جگہ نہیں ہے - تھریوں سے حکم  
 نکلتا ہے کہ شرنارتھیوں کے لئے جگہ نہیں ہے - اس طرح چھاتوں میں بھی  
 شرنارتھیوں کے آنے میں روک لگی ہے اس طرح سے ان مصیبت زدہ لوگوں  
 کو کوئی بھی اچھے یہاں آنے نہیں دیتا یہ لوگ اس گورنمنٹ سے اس طرح کا حق  
 رکھتے ہیں جس طرح ہم اپنی نیشنل گورنمنٹ (National Government) سے  
 حق رکھتے ہیں یہ لوگ جو کچھ روپیہ اپنی ساری کمائی کا ساری عمر کا لے سکے ہیں  
 وہ تو کچھ کھاتے پہلے میں ان پانچ چھ مہینوں میں ختم ہو گیا ہے اور اب ان کی  
 حالت تہمت خراب ہے - میں جانتا ہوں کہ دہلی میں بہت سے جو شرنارتھی  
 جو نئی چھوٹی دوکانیں کرتے ہیں ان میں سے کالے ہی پنجاب کے گریجویٹ  
 ہیں کئی تانگہ چلاتے ہیں خوزچہ لگاتے ہیں اور وہ اس طرح سے اپنا چھوٹا سا کاروبار  
 کر کے اپنی گزر بسر کر رہے ہیں - ابھی تک ان شرنارتھیوں نے کسی کے سامنے ہاتھ نہیں  
 پھیلائے اور نہ ہی کسی سے بھیک مانگی - وہ اپنے ہاتھ سے کام کرنا چاہتے ہیں -  
 اس سے بہت سے ڈاکٹر وکھل انڈسٹریل ٹیکنیشن (Industrial Technicians)  
 یہ سب کے سب پنجاب سے آئے ہیں اور دہلی اور اس کے آس پاس آئے ہیں یہی  
 موقع تھا کہ ان سے فائدہ اٹھایا جاتا اور انہیں دیہی کے اندر بسایا جاتا اور دیہی کو  
 فائدہ پہنچایا جاتا لیکن ہماری بد قسمتی ہے کہ جس طرف ہم دیکھتے ہیں اس طرف  
 کچھ بھی دکھائی نہیں دیتا - مہینہ بھر جا پ تک اپوائنٹ منٹ (appointment)  
 مسٹر نہرکی صاحب کا نہیں ہوا تھا ہم پنجابی ایک کمیٹی میں ملتے رہے جسکے  
 چہرے میں بھٹی سر ٹیک چند تھے اور ہم لوگ اپنے دیہی کی روز مرہ کی تدبیریں  
 سوچتے رہے کہ کس طرح سے پنجابیوں کو وہی ہیڈمنٹیشن کیا جائے گا اس کے بعد  
 آفیشل (official) کمیٹی بھی بنی اور اس کے اندر مہینوں تک یہاں پر روز میٹنگ ہوتی  
 رہی اور اس کے ریزولوشن (resolutions) پاس ہوتے رہے لیکن نتیجہ کیا ہوا اس ساری  
 لہجوروی کمیٹی (Advisory Committee) کا جو چھ مہینے تک ہوتی رہی کہا  
 میں ادب سے پوچھ سکتا ہوں کہ ایک ہی پنجابی یا کسی شرنارتھی کو پرمانیبل  
 ہیڈمنٹیشن (permanent rehabilitation) کا موقع ملا ہے - میں ادب سے عرض  
 کرتا کہ آئندہ جو ریموونمنٹ پلاننگ (Development Planning) اسکیم میں اور  
 جن کے اوپر بہت سارا خرچہ کر رہے ہیں کہا ان سے کوئی مینٹریل فائدہ پہنچا

یا کوئی نتیجہ ان کاموں کا ہمارے سامنے آیا اس کے علاوہ ستمبر میں جو کچھ کہا گیا ہے دہلی میں زمیںیں جا کر دیکھی گئی - چاروں طرف چکر لگایا گیا لیکن کیا ہوا اس جگہ کا پتہ نہیں اس مسئلے کا پتہ نہیں - سب کی سب اسکیمیں ہوا کے اندر رہی ہیں۔ یہ تھیک ہے کہ ایسٹ پنجاب کی گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے دہائی کروڑ روپیہ کا اعلان مکان بنانے کے لئے ہوا ہے لیکن وہ روپیہ گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کا ہے معلوم نہیں کب مکن بنیں گے اور یہ کب وجود میں آئیں گے - لوگ آسان کی طرف دیکھتے ہیں لیکن بادل ہوں لیکن بروستے نہیں - میں ادب سے عرض کرونگا یہ جو حالت ہوئی ہے نہایت خراب ہے ہماری گورنمنٹ نے منقولہ پراپرٹی (property) اور لوکرس (lockers) کے بارے میں دوسری گورنمنٹ سے فیصلہ تو کر لیا ہے لیکن کیا نتیجہ ہوا۔ جناب والا آپ بھلکوں کی طرف دیکھیں پہلے سرکار ہی کی طرف سے کہا گیا ہے کہ بیلکوں کو مدد دی جائے گی لیکن آج کیا ہو رہا ہے آج وہ بیلک والے ادھر ادھر پھرتے ہیں میٹنگ کرتے ہوں انکو دو تین کروڑ روپیہ سے اڈر مدد دیجائے تو سات ہزار فیملیاہوں کے لئے سہارا مل جاتا - وہ ہوی جاتا رہا لیکن جو بھانکوں کے ساتھ سلوک ہوا وہ سب جانتے ہیں اور معام نہیں کہ پانچابہوں کے ساتھ کیا ہونے والا ہے اس کے علاوہ آپ لوکرس (lockers) کی پالیسی کو دیکھیں ادھر ہماری سرکار نے پاکستان سے فیصلہ تو کر لیا ہے مہینوں کے بعد جو فیصلہ کیا گیا وہ ایک روز میں ہونا چاہئے تھا مہینوں کے بعد وہ فیصلہ کیا گیا اور طے کیا گیا کہ لوگ واپس جائیں اور جا کر اپنے بھلکوں میں سے جو سو ف پڑے ہوں واپس لے آئیں - لیکن اس میں بھی اب مشکل آ پڑی ہے ادھر سے کہا گیا ہے کہ سکہ یہاں نہ آئیں سکہوں کے ساتھ فوج اور پولیس نہ آئے کیونکہ سکہوں کو دیکھ کر ہمارا خون ابلتا ہے - میں ادب سے عرض کرونگا کہ اگر سکہوں کو دیکھ کر ان کا خون ابلتا ہے تو ہم ہر ایک ہلدوستی کا فرض ہے کہ سب سکہوں کو ہی وہاں بھجوں اور کسی کو نہ بھجوں چاہے فیصلہ ہو یا نہ ہو - جناب والا اسکے بعد دوسری شرط لگائی گئی ہے کہ جو لوکرس (lockers) ہیں وہ آٹھ ہزار کے قریب ہیں اس کے اندر مسلمانوں کے زیور گروی ہیں اور مسلمانوں کے زیور گروی ہونیکے بجے ہاں یہ لوکرس (lockers) اگر کھولے جائیں گے تو مسلمانوں کے زیور چلے جائیں گے اور اس کے اوپر فیصلہ یہ ہوا ہے کہ مسلمانوں کے کاؤنڈر (claims) ملگئے جائیں ہم جانتے ہیں یہ ان کی جانب سے بہانہ بازی ہے اور کچھ نہیں ہے۔ آٹھ ہزار لوکرس (lockers) میں صرف آٹھ کاؤنڈر (claims) بھی نہ آئی اور آٹھ کاؤنڈر (claims) کرنے والے جو ہیں ان کے بارے میں پتہ نہیں کہ وہ درست بھی ہیں یا نہیں اس کے بعد یہ طے ہوا کہ نفس لوکرس (lockers) درز کھولے جائیں نفسی مزاق کئی بات ہے کہ آٹھ ہزار لوکرس (lockers) موجود ہیں لیکن درز نفس لوکرس کھولے جائیں - وہاں سے پوری کھولا گیا ہے کہ کھولنے کے بعد چالیس روپیہ فی تولہ فکات کے کسٹم

[ پلڈت تھاکر داس بھارگو ]

(custom) لیا جائے مہیں ادب سے عرض کرونگا کہ اس در مصہبت لوگوں پر ڈالی ہوں میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ ان کے صدر کا پھانہ ادویز ہو چکا ہے اب واک ہے کہ کوئی نہ کوئی عملی قدم اس سلسلہ میں اٹھایا جائے اس کے علاوہ بہت دنوں سے آئے ہیں پنڈجاہوں کو طرح طرح کی نوکریاں ایمپلائمنٹ ایکسچینج (Employment Exchange) میں ملنے لگی ہیں اس کی قافی بھی آج ملدوسٹان تاتر میں کھل چکی ہے۔ آج کے لکھنؤ میں بیچ ہے کہ دعویٰ اور اجیر کے ایمپلائمنٹ ایکسچینج (Employment Exchange) میں ۲۷ ہزار درخواستیں آئی ہیں۔ ۶۰۰۰۰ ایک ہزار ایک۔ و چودہ کو صرف نوکریاں ملتی گئی ہوں۔ واسطے مہیں ادب سے عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں کہ واک کی کسی کے کارن میں اور چھوڑوں کو چھوڑنا ہے۔ انڈسٹریز (factories) کے بارے میں ۳۰۰۰۰ ہرے کرنے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔ مکینوں کا۔ دل ہی ہمارے۔ بلکہ ہے۔ یہ ہی نہیں ہے کہ کم سے کم ایک زمین ہی دیدیں۔ اور ان کو پرمائیٹس ہی دودھادویشن (permanent rehabilitation) دیا جائے۔ یہ دوزن اور واک نے اب ایک فوہاہ نہیں کہا کہ ان زمینوں اور مکینوں کا کہا ہوگا کہ سے پرمائیٹس ہی دودھادویشن (permanent rehabilitation) ہو۔ اسے اس ماک کے اندر زمین ہے پائی ہے کھاس ہے پھوس ہے اور کچھ باتس ہے کہوں نہیں مٹی کے مکن بنائے جاتے۔ حصار ضلع میں ایک۔ و برس پڑانے تک کے مٹی کے مکنات آج کے دن ہی موجود ہوں کوئی وجہ نہیں ہے کہ مٹی کے مکن کووں نہ بنائے جائوں۔ ان کو۔ سدھی بات یہ ہے کہ یہاں پلاننگ اور ایجوکیشن (imagination) قطعی نہیں ہے۔

جذاب والا! مجھے سعادت فرمائیے گا میں جذب کی اجازت سے ایک بات اور بنانا چاہتا ہوں۔ جنای پالوسی ہماری اس کورنٹ کی ہے یا تو اس کو ڈیویان (Divine) پالوسی کہا جائے اور یا انہوجن (Inhuman) پالوسی کہا جائے۔ ہوجن (Human) پالوسی تو ہے نہیں۔ یہاں پر فوہاہ ہو گیا ہے کہ ایسٹرن پنڈجاہ کے لوگ پاکستان چلے جائوں گے لیکن ہم کہا دیکھتے ہیں کہ گدھی جی پتی پتی کے اسٹوڈنٹس پر توں ہزار مسلمانوں سے پرلرہلما کرتے ہیں اور خوشامد کرتے ہیں کہ وہ یہوں پڑے رہوں اور پاکستان نہ جائوں۔ لیکن وہ پاکستان چلے گئے۔ ملدوسٹان مسلمانوں کو پھل کم کرنے کو تھار ہے۔ میں متناہوں کہ ہماری۔ رکارڈ شیف ہے۔ اور مٹی انکیاس (ideals) پر قائم ہے اور اس کا ثبوت یہ ہے کہ درہزار مکنات دس۔ ستر سے خیالی رکھے ہوئے ہیں کہ وہ لوگ جب واپس آئیں گے تو ان کو بنایا جائے گا اس واسطے وہ مکن شرنارہوں کو نہیں دئے جاتے۔ تمام مکنوں میں دس ہزار شرنارہوں کو بسایا جائے گا۔ مہری سمجھ میں نہیں آتا کہ یہ۔ اساء کنکب جاری رہے گا۔ پہلے آپ رہدوچی بلکہ ہی کہوں دیکھتے ہیں۔ پہلے رہدوچی بلکہوں اور پلاننگ کو ڈی دودھادویشن کریں۔ آج پلاننگ کے

اندر جو ساو پراسیس آف ایکسڈوس (Slow process of Exodus) کا ہے اس کو ہمیں روکنا چاہئے۔ گورنمنٹ کا کام ہے کہ اس کو روکے ایک وقت تھا کہ جب گورنمنٹ کہتی تھی کہ ہمیں تجربہ نہیں تھا ہمیں عقل نہیں تھی ہمیں Imaginaton نہیں تھا آج سارا تجربہ موجود ہے ایک طرف مسلمانوں کو جو سے جانا چاہتے ہیں ان کو روکا جاتا ہے اور دوسری طرف سارے ہندو سکھ بھائی جو لاکھوں کی تعداد میں وہاں سے بھاگ کر شرن میں آئے ہیں ان کو بسایا نہیں جاتا گورنمنٹ کو اس کے بارے میں فہصلہ کرنا چاہئے مہدی ادب سے گزارش یہ ہے کہ جب تک بلکال کا ایکسڈوس (exodus) جاری ہے میں اس گورنمنٹ کی بڑی بھاری لن ایملی شیلنس (inefficiency) سمجھتا ہوں۔ میرا تو یہ کہنا ہے کہ جو لوگ یہاں سے جانا چاہتے ہیں ہم انہیں جانے دیں اور انہیں نہ روکیں اور قریب ایک کروڑ آدمی جو یہاں بسنا چاہتے ہیں ان کے رہائش کا انتظام کیا جائے اگر ایسا نہ کیا جائے گا اور گورنمنٹ ایملی پالیسی ٹھیک نہیں کریگی تو پھر پاپولیشن (population) کا تس پلنس منٹ (Displacement) ہوگا اور کمیونل رائٹس (Communal Riots) ہوں گے۔ میں چاہتا ہوں کہ کم سے کم اب وہ سب باتیں نہ ہوں۔ لوگ پاکستان سے آکر کشمیر میں ریڈ Raid کرتے ہیں لیکن ان کو جواب دینے کی ضرورت نہیں ہے اس بارے میں ایک بڑے بھاری آریہ سماجی نے کہا ہے کہ ہماری گورنمنٹ کی پالیسی تو ایسی ہے جیسے بھیلنس کے آئے ہیں بچانا۔ مہدی شکیت تو یہی ہے کہ ہماری گورنمنٹ اور ہماری منسٹری ذیادہ سے ذیادہ شریف ہے اور میں چاہتا ہوں کہ اب یہ پالیسی چھوڑ دی جائے اور یہ پالیسی جس کو ہم روز اتنے عرصے سے دیکھتے آئے ہیں اور اس سے نہ کوئی ابھی تک نتیجہ نکلا ہے اور نہ نکل سکتا ہے۔ اب وقت آگیا ہے کہ خوشامد کرنے کی پالیسی چھوڑ دی جائے اور گورنمنٹ کی اس پالیسی کا ریورسل (reversal) کیا جائے تاکہ لوگوں کو تسای ہو۔ گورنمنٹ کی موجودہ پالیسی تسای بخش نہیں ہے اس پالیسی کا ایک ہی اثر ہے کہ یہاں پر فرسٹریشن (frustration) ہے اور وہاں پر وہ من مانی کرتے ہیں۔ میں ضرور مانتا ہوں کہ یہ پالیسی شریف اور ہائی ایڈیلس (ideals) پر مبنی ہے لیکن ان مہوموں (inhuman) ہے اس لئے کہ انسان تو اس کو سمجھ نہیں سکتے دیرتا ہی بولے سمجھ سکتے ہوں اس منسٹری کو اب تھوڑا سا امپھی نیشن (Imagination) پر کام کرنا چاہئے اور نئے مکانات بلانا چاہئے اور اس کے لئے پلاننگ (Planning) کرنی چاہئے۔ اس وقت کتنے ہی آدمی دہلی میں ایسے ہیں جنہیں ایک مکانات اور زمینیں نہیں مل سکی ہیں۔ کرنل اور دوسرے ضلعوں میں بھی لوگ گھس جاتے ہیں اور وہ ری ہیبلیٹیمٹ (Rehabilitate) نہیں ہو سکتے۔ میں ری ہیبلیٹیشن (Rehabilitation) کا لوگ ہی معنی سمجھتا ہوں کہ سب کو زمین دی جائے۔ آج تک اس سے قبل فہصلہ نہیں ہوا کہ انہیں

[ بلڈت تھاکور داس بہارگوا ]

مکن بلانے کے لئے زمین دی جائے۔ اتنے ٹکڑے پڑے ہیں ان کے بھیجے میں زمینیں دی جائیں اور وہ آپ خود فیصلہ کر لیں کہ یہ بلجانبی جاتے ہیں ان ہی کے اوپر ہار ڈالنے اور کسی طرح زمین مکن بلانے کے لئے انہیں دینے تو آپ تھیں ہوس کے اندر یہ حالت دیکھنے کے کہ سب طرف مکن ہی مکن نظر آئے۔

ایک چیز کی شکایت یہ ہے کہ شہزادوں ابھی جاتے ہیں کہ گورنمنٹ ہمارے لئے کہیں سے سوگ بنا دینی یہ سمجھتے ہوئے وہ گورنمنٹ کی حکومت کی کم پروا کرتے ہیں۔ یہاں بھی گورنمنٹ کی فطری ہے گورنمنٹ حکم دینی ایک شخص جسے آپ حکم دیتے ہیں کہ دہلی کا مکن چھوڑ دو اگر وہ دہلی میں بٹھے ہوئے ہیں تو آؤں دیں۔ کہ وہ یا تو حکم مانیں ورنہ مدد کی توقع نہ کریں۔

(English translation of the above speech)

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** (East Punjab: General): Mr. Speaker, Sir, since your ruling that it is not necessary to move a cut motion I shall speak only generally on the demands of this Ministry.

Sir, my mind is puzzled. When I see Mr. Neogy I cannot decide whether I should criticise this Budget for I find him busy day and night in the service of refugees, facing every difficulty. When he goes out on tours he instructs officers to serve the refugees to the best of their capacities. Again when I look to other Honourable Ministers of the Cabinet and find them sympathising with refugees—devoting all their time and energy to bring good to them—solving intricate matters calmly and patiently, I cannot help remarking that they are worthy of all praise. The Punjab Government have proposed a sum of rupees two and a half crores to be spent on building houses and this House has allotted to the Industrial and Financial Corporation for Rehabilitation a sum of rupees ten crores, and the Government have spent about three crores on their clothing and a further fifteen lakhs are being spent on their food and further about 40 lakhs of people have been brought from West Punjab in a comparatively short time and the Government are providing them with all possible facilities. I cannot help thanking them for all that they are doing. I know and I have also suffered from difficulties at one time. What the former Government did when there was famine here; it is needless to discuss as the question of comparison of the two Governments simply does not arise.

However, when I find so much sympathy being shown to refugees and so much money being spent on them I am really surprised to see the present condition of refugees and the treatment meted out to them; I seriously begin to doubt whether all the sympathy of the Government and their efforts will be in vain. Is it that no result comes out of the efforts of the Governments or that there is something wrong with the working of the Government. This is all very strange. Sir, these people who are now called refugees are in fact the price of freedom. The whole country has found freedom but the Punjabis have suffered badly. These people were the most prosperous in their province. Several of them were living in palaces and were cultivating lands that yielded gold. They are helpless today and have to wander about from door to door. It is no fault of their own and you cannot hold them responsible for their present condition. I for my part would not blame any body for this. These people have passed through many difficulties and they are not responsible for them. It is a pity, therefore, when orders are issued that there is no room for refugees in Delhi or when it is declared from Dehra Dun that it cannot have refugees or when some of the States also put restrictions on the entry of refugees. That means that nobody is willing to have these distressed people.

They have the same claim on this Government as we have. Then Sir, the refugees have, during the last five or six months of their stay spent every penny they had and their condition is now extremely bad. I understand that there are many graduates of the Punjab University among the refugees who have set up stalls in Delhi. Some of them are plying tongas; others have taken to hawking. Thus by doing business on a small scale only they are earning their daily bread. The refugees have not so far begged for anything, they know how to work. I would point out that many doctors, lawyers and industrial technicians have in large number come from the Punjab to Delhi and other neighbouring places. It was time to settle them here and take an advantage of their presence for the good of the country. We are facing disappointment on every side. Just a month before Mr. Neogy's appointment, we the Punjabis, used to meet here regularly in a committee; of which Bakshi Sir Tek Chand was the Chairman. We used to consider measures for our rehabilitation in this Committee. Later the official committee was set up and it held its meetings for months together, practically every day, and passed resolutions. Though the Advisory Committee sat for about six months it brought forth nothing for us.

I would most respectfully ask if a single refugee or a Punjabi has been given the opportunity of permanent rehabilitation here? I, therefore, beg to say that though we are spending a lot on our future development plans and schemes yet we are not having any material benefit from them. The inspection of sites etc., was carried out in the month of September last but nothing was done. What has happened to those sites? Where is that problem now? All these schemes have now totally disappeared. It is true that the East Punjab Government has proposed two and a half crores for building houses but the money belongs to the Government of India and we do not know when these houses will be built. People look towards the sky, the clouds are there, but they do not rain. I beg to say that this is a very bad state of affairs. Our Government have reached an agreement with the other Government on the matter of lockers and immovable property but what has been the result of it? Government had promised to help the banks but what is happening today? The bank people are knocking about and holding meetings. If they could have been helped to the extent of two to three crores it would have been a help to seven thousand families. Leaving aside this the treatment meted out to banks is well known. It is not known what more is there in store for the Punjabis.

Now turning to the policy about lockers, we find that though the Government have reached an agreement with the Pakistan Government, the agreement which took months instead of a day, the agreement was that people should go to Pakistan and bring back their property from the lockers. This matter has been made more complicated when it is said from the other side that the Sikhs must not go there, not even under police or military guard; because the people there get excited at the sight of Sikhs. Most respectfully I would say that if the very sight of a Sikh makes their blood boil then it is the duty of every Hindustani to send there only Sikhs and none else, whether we are able to agree to anything or not. Not only this, they further stipulated that there were about eight thousand lockers in all which also contained ornaments of the Muslim-mortgagers, it was not fair therefore to open them now for the Muslims would lose their ornaments. Thereupon it was decided that the Muslims should be asked to submit their claims. We know that all this is trickery and nothing else, for against this number of eight thousand lockers not even eight claims have been received; even the genuineness of these eight claims is seriously in doubt. At this it was decided that only thirty lockers should be opened every day. Is it not ridiculous that only thirty lockers should be opened in a day when there are about eight thousand of them. It was also stated that Rs. 40 per tola would be charged as custom duty on gold. I may point out respectfully that the people have been subjected to so much hardship that they have

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

lost patience now and it is the time when some action should be taken in this matter. We were also told that Punjabis would be provided with jobs through the Employment Exchange, but the hollowness of these statements has been made known in an article in the *Hindustan Times* of today's date, which says, that against 27 thousand applications received by the Delhi and Ajmer Employment Exchanges, jobs were provided for only 1,114 applicants. For want of time I am not discussing other matters. I am also not taking up the matter of factories; the housing problem is still facing us. It is not even that some land should have been given to them for permanent rehabilitation. The two Governments have not so far even made up their minds as to what should be done about the land and houses for refugees and how they can give them a chance of permanent rehabilitation. There is plenty of land, water, straw, grass and bamboo in this country. I cannot understand why *kacha* houses made of mud cannot be built for these people. In Hissar District *kacha* houses made of mud built over a hundred years ago are still existing. There is, therefore, no reason why *kacha* houses should not be built here. The fact remains there is no imagination or planning here.

Sir, I may be excused if I may say something more with your permission. I do not know if the entire policy of the Government should be called a divine policy or an inhuman policy. It is not human policy in any case. They have decided that the people from the Eastern Punjab shall go to Pakistan, but we find Mahatma Gandhi persuading and begging three thousand Muslims on Panipat Railway Station that they should stay here and should not go to Pakistan. In spite of this they all left for Pakistan. The Indian Union is in no doubt willing to welcome the Muslims and I agree that our Government is very gentle and is based on very high ideals. As a proof of this we find that about two thousand houses have been lying vacant since the 10th September for those who might come back from Pakistan and for this reason these houses have not been given to refugees. I am sure at least ten thousand refugees could be housed in these vacant houses. I do not understand how long this state of affairs will continue. It is no good to have refugees first and then to face the question of their rehabilitation. We should stop that process of exodus that is going on today in Bengal, it is the duty of the Government to stop it. At one time the Government pleaded that they had no experience they had no foresight and that they had no imagination but today they have all this. But what happens: on the one hand they are persuading those Mohammedans to stay here who want to leave this country, on the other they have not made any arrangement for accommodating those Lakhs of Hindus and Sikhs brethren who left their country and have come to take their shelter here. The Government should decide about their policy in this matter. I beg to say that so long as exodus from Bengal continues it is due to the inefficiency of the Government. I suggest that those who want to leave this country should be permitted to do so, while those numbering about one crore who are willing to settle down here, should be provided with accommodation. If this is not done and the Government do not change their policy displacement of population is bound to take place and there will be communal riots. I wish that such things do not happen again. People from Pakistan are raiding the Kashmir territory, do you think they should not be dealt with in a like manner? A prominent Arya Samaji remarked in this connection that the policy of our Government could be compared to the playing of flute before a buffalo. I, therefore, beg to say that my only complaint is that our Government and our Ministry are too gentle and I want that this policy should be changed now. It is time that this policy of appeasement is discarded and the policy is reversed so that people may feel satisfied. This policy of the Government is not satisfactory. It has only one effect *viz.* that there is frustration here, while in Pakistan they do what they like. I quite agree that this policy of Government is based on high ideals but it is inhuman in the sense that it is beyond the

comprehension of human beings and can be understood by gods alone. The Ministry should have some imagination; it should build houses for refugees and chalk out their programme in this connection. There are still many people here who have not so far been able to secure a house nor a land in Delhi. Even those who entered the Karnal and Hissar Districts have not been rehabilitated there. What I understand from rehabilitation is that land should be given to every one; but nothing has been decided upto this time. There are so many plots of land; some of these should be given over to the refugees and leave it to be decided among themselves. You may also leave the matter of building the houses to them. You will then find that in the course of only three years there will be houses on every side.

I would also complain that refugees are under the impression that the Government will create paradise for them, so they do not listen to Government orders. This is also a mistake on the part of the Government. Government should order them. If a man has been ordered to vacate a house and he continues to stay in Delhi he should be told to respect the orders otherwise he should not expect any help from the Government.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray** (West Bengal: General): Mr. Speaker, I shall speak specifically on the problem of rescue and restoration of women on which I have tabled a cut motion.

No one in this House or in the world outside will dispute the fact that the worst horror that has come as an outcome of the communal frenzy and bestiality in this country is the treatment that has been meted out to women. This dreadful aspect of it which first arose in Noakhali, has since spread far and wide and has assumed a magnitude and a proportion that is unparalleled in human history. Sir, the rescue and the restoration to the social fold of women who have been the victims of this outrage is the most difficult and yet the most essential part of rehabilitation work. The little experience that I have had in the rescue of such women makes it impossible for me to discount or minimize in any manner the very great difficulty of this type of work. I hope that the Honourable Minister for Relief and Rehabilitation will realize that any suggestions that I have to offer are not in the nature of destructive criticism.

Apart from the question of rescue itself, on which I will say a few words later, the mental rehabilitation, the restoration of such women who have been the victims of outrage, is a problem which requires very intricate and delicate handling.

I will not have the time to go into any great detail or any descriptive analysis, nor do I think it is necessary. I should like to confine my remarks as far as possible to some concrete suggestions.

In the first place, I feel strongly that women who have been so grievously hurt and wounded should be kept apart from other refugees until such time as they are in a position to take up the threads of normal life. They should be kept under the individual care and supervision of women who are skilled and competent to help them and nurse them back to take up their positions in the social fold. Even if the families of such women are anxious to take them back, I think it is undesirable that they should go back until such time as they are mentally as well as physically restored. There is a great likelihood of their being crippled and maimed for life unless some action is taken to see that they are not required to readjust themselves to ordinary life until they have had time to get back to normalcy. I think some competent authority such as the women's section of the Relief and Rehabilitation Ministry with the help of women's organisation should be in charge of this work and it is they who should decide when such women are fit to return to their homes. A much more important matter is the question of unmarried young

[Shrimati Renuka Ray]

girls. In regard to the return of these girls to those who claim to be their relatives, unless they are their own parents, I think the authenticity as well as the desirability of such relatives should be gone into before they are handed over; unless this is done there is the likelihood and danger of further exploitation of these girls. If there is any dispute over this there should be some such machinery as a Court of Wards which should be set up to decide the matter. I do think that the Government or the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation should immediately empower itself legally in both these types of cases so as to be in a position and have the right to decide what is best for the women concerned.

I will now turn to the question of rehabilitation. The last speaker has made a very eloquent speech on this subject and I only want to point out some specific points with regard to the rehabilitation of women. I do not think that the establishment of homes where some little occupation is given which has not been properly planned is enough. In this country there is a very great dearth of women who come forward to be trained in the different fields of nation building services that are so necessary for the development of the nation. This great tragedy has left thousands and thousands of women homeless and alone. Why should we not utilise even their circumstances to whatever extent possible to our advantage. The opportunity should be taken to train these women to become useful and purposeful citizens: Tinkering with the problem by doing a little here and there will not be sufficient. What is required is a properly planned scheme of vocational training on a long term basis. The women can be trained in a variety of occupations according to their aptitude and inclination—such as nurses, teachers, social workers, training them in useful occupations such as running laundry services, co-operative Restaurants, Community Kitchens and various other things. I would request, in fact I would earnestly appeal to the Rehabilitation Minister to take up this question immediately. It is quite unnecessary to draw up a scheme with large overhead expenses which may mean delay. Simple schemes which can be implemented immediately should be taken up. But I think a good deal of time has already been wasted, and I hope that there will be no more delay.

I will now turn to another aspect and that is the question of rescue. I think that this House is aware of the fact that there is an apparent reluctance on the part of a certain number of women to return to their homes. There are two main causes for this. One is (and I have seen cases like this myself) where women act as hostages for the protection and the safe conduct of their families. Until and unless these families are returned from the danger zone these women would rather sacrifice themselves than jeopardise the future of their dear and near ones. The second point is that a great deal of propaganda has been done in regard to the bigotry and prejudices of Hindu society. If these women come to know that the compelling force of circumstances have broken down these prejudices to a large extent, and if they also know whether they have honours to come back to or not, the Government of India with the help of the women's organisations of this country are willing to take up the responsibility and see to it that they are not victimised, they would come back. I think that every avenue should be explored to see that this news reaches them through the Indian newspapers which have circulation in Pakistan, or through transit camps or High Commissioner's offices. Systematic propaganda to make the truth of the matter known should be taken up immediately.

Sir, there is one other point which I would like to make if you would give me the time and that is that the customs barriers that have been imposed since March have raised a new problem. We have heard from reliable witnesses about women being searched across the border in Eastern Pakistan and of the

outrages that have been committed on them. There is likelihood of retaliation but I hope this will not be. But I do think that the Government should approach the Pakistan authorities and both Governments should appoint women investigators or women police to search women on both sides. It is true that the Government of India can only show its own good faith, its own effectiveness and can only request and not compel Pakistan. But I think that if we on our side show that we are sincere and earnest about this problem, then whatever is or is not done on the other side this itself will be the most compelling force on our side. This is the way that Mahatma Gandhi wanted us to act. We cannot pay him tribute only by changing the name of towns, townships and roads nor by engraving his name or picture on stamps. If we wish to honour and pay tribute to him, which we failed to do during the last many months, let us put our minds to this problem, about which he was so deeply agitated. Let us each and every one of us help the Government of India to see to it that women are not victimised further. We can show our own good faith, as I said, and I am sure that in the end this will have its effect on the other side. Neither retaliation nor lukewarm behaviour, because of lack of response on the other side, will achieve what we desire.

گھائی گورنمنٹ سلگم مسافر : سہیادتی جی ! معامہ بہت اہم ہے - پر وقت تھوڑا ہے اس لئے میں کوئی رسمی مبارکباد یا کوئی اور تمہیدی بات کہنے کے بغیر اصلی مطلب پر آتا ہوں جہاں تک مبارکباد کا تعلق ہے ہمارے پلڈت جی نے جو بہت پرانے تجربہ کار ہیں - بزرگ ہیں انہوں نے اپنا فرض پورا کر دیا - پرمائنٹ رھیبلیٹیشن عارضی رھائش اور Rescue کرانا جیسا کہ شریعتی ریلوکارے جی نے کٹ موشن پھس کی ہے یہ جلد باتوں میں جو اس وقت زیر بحث ہیں - صاحب صدر ! یہ ایک صاف بات ہے کہ پرمائنٹ رھیبلیٹیشن دو ہی طریقوں سے ہو سکتی ہے اور وہ ہیں کہ یا تو ان لوگوں کے لئے جو ہمارے بھائی یہاں آئے ہیں نئے مکان تعمیر کئے جائیں نہایت اہتمام کیا جائے یا جو مسلمان بھائی یہاں سے چلے گئے ہیں ان کی جگہ جو خالی ہوئی ہے ان پر ان کو بسایا جائے - تیسری بات اگرچہ اہم ہے مگر اس کے متعلق کچھ کہا نہیں جا سکتا وہ احساس کی بات ہے کہ ہمارے دل میں دوبارہ بسانے کا احساس ہو میں یہ تو نہیں کہتا کہ بسانہکا احساس نہیں ہے ، مگر بسانے کے خیال پر پوری توجہ ہوتی تو بہت کچھ کام اس وقت تک ہو سکتا تھا - میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ یہاں بلہادی طور پر ایک فرق سا نظر آ رہا ہے - ہماری گورنمنٹ کی پالیسی یہ ہے کہ جہاں سے جو آیا ہے وہ وہیں چلے جائے اور یہاں سے جو گیا ہے وہ واپس آ جائے - ہماری آل انڈیا کانگریس کمیٹی نے جس کے فیصلوں کا ہماری گورنمنٹ پر بھی بہت اثر ہے ایک ریزولوشن اس بات کا پاس کیا تھا میں بھی اس سے متفق ہوں - یہ ٹھیک ہے کہ کوئی بھی خوشی سے اپنے گھر کے باہر رھنا پسند نہیں کرتا کوئی بھی اپنے وطن کو نہیں چھوڑ سکتا اب جن بہت سی ہوزہی عورتوں کو پاکستان سے لایا جا رہا ہے وہ دراصل وطن کے پریم ہی میں رھان بھتی ہوئی ہیں - پاکستان والے کہتے ہیں کہ ہمارے پاس یہی افواہ عورتوں میں ہے - ہوزہی عورتوں کے افواہ کا کوئی سوال پیدا نہیں ہوتا - نوجوان لوگہاں تو بہت

[کہانی گورنمنٹ سکول مسافر]

کم واپس لائی جاتی ہیں۔ بڑھی عورتیں تو اپنا کپڑا چھوڑنا پسند نہیں کرتی تھیں؟ بلہائی طور پر تو یہ بات تھپک ہے کہ جو جس جگہ کا ہے وہ وہیں آرام سے رہے۔ مگر دیکھنا یہ ہے کہ موجودہ حالات میں اس پر عمل ہو سکتا ہے یا نہیں۔ دو مثالیں ہمارے سامنے ہیں۔ ۱۰ نومبر کو پاکستان سرکار کی منظوری سے کچھ فہر مسلم لہور اپنے لاکرز لہنے گئے۔ مسلم مجتہ نے ان پر حملہ کر دیا اور کہا گیا کہ سکھ سولہویں کو دیکھ کر مسلمانوں کو جوہ آگیا جس وجہ سے یہ واقع ہوا۔ یعنی وہ سکھوں کو دیکھنا نہیں چاہتے۔ دوسرا واقعہ ہے کراچی (سندھ) میں گورنمنٹ ہاؤس پر حملہ کرنا یہ واقعہ کہے ہوئے ہیں جس میں سکھوں کے ساتھ ہمارے ہندو بھائی بھی مارے گئے یعنی آئے کے ساتھ گھن بھی پس گیا اور اسکی وجہ یہ بتلائی گئی کہ بہت سے پناہ گزین سکھ ایک کھلے چھکڑے میں لائے گئے جس سے لوگوں میں اشتعال پیدا ہو گیا اور انہوں نے گورنمنٹ ہاؤس پر حملہ کر دیا ان واقعات سے یہ سمجھنا چاہئے کہ کسی سکھ کا جنگی تعداد تھوڑی نہیں ہے ۱۳ یا ۱۴ لاکھ کے قریب ہوگی پاکستان میں رہنا بڑا ہی مشکل ہے اور پاکستان کے اخبارات بھی اتنے جو روز کے مضامین ہیں ان میں لکھتے ہیں کہ

کوئی سکھ رہنے نہ پائے مغربی پنجاب میں

اس طرح سکھوں کا وہاں جانا بہت مشکل ہے۔ پلڈت تھاکر داس جی نے کہا کہ دہلی وہاں جانا ہے تو سب جاتھکے، سکھ کموں نہ اپنے گھروں میں جائیں ہم پہلے سکھوں کو بھجھیں گے۔۔۔ میں پلڈت جی کی اور انکی ہمدردی کو سمجھتا ہوں۔ اتنا سکھوں سے دلی پریم ہے اور اس پریم کی وجہ سے ہی انہوں نے یہ کہا ہے۔ لیکن سکھوں کو اگر وہاں بھجھا گیا تو پہلے بھی سکھ مرے تھے اور جو باقی رہ گئے ہیں وہ اب سارڈالے جاتھکے تو انکے Rehabilitation کا سوال ہی ختم ہو جاتا۔ یہ صاف طور پر نظر آ رہا ہے کہ وہاں جانا بہت مشکل ہے اور وہاں کوئی آج جا سکتا ہی نہیں جہتک کہ انتہام نہ ہو گورنمنٹ نے اسکا تو خیال کر لیا لیکن اس کے متعلق نہیں یا چار مہینوں میں گورنمنٹ نے کہا کہا یہ دوطرفہ بات ہے۔۔۔ وہاں کوئی فہر مسلم نہیں رہ سکتا جہتک پولیس مشترکہ نہ ہو۔ آرمی مشترکہ نہ ہو۔ منسٹری مشترکہ نہ ہو Services مشترکہ نہ ہوں۔ موجودہ صورت میں کسی کا وہاں رہنا بڑا مشکل ہو جاتا ہے۔ اب سوال آ جاتا ہے ہمارے مسلمان بھائیوں کا۔ اس سلسلے میں پہلی بات تو یہ ہے کہ پاکستان کا فیڈلسٹ کون ہے اور ہندوستان کا کون ہے جہتک یہ بلہائی بات طے نہیں ہوگی یہ مسئلہ طے نہیں ہو سکتا۔ ہم نے اپنے مسلمان بھائیوں کو یہاں واپس لانے کی بہت کوشش کی اور اس کوشش میں ہم نے اپنی نیک نیتی کا ثبوت دیا۔ ہم نے کونہ نازیوں کے خلاف پریکٹس کیا۔ ہم نے مسجدیں خالی کرا دیں عرصے کی

کمپنی میں شریک ہو کر بڑی کوشش کی جس سے انکو انڈیا کی - یہاں تک کہ اس مہینہ کی تکمیل کیلئے ہم نے اپنا قیمتی سرمایہ لٹوا دیا ، یہودی مراد مہانتا جی سے ہے - اتنی کوششوں کے بعد اب ہمیں دیکھنا ہے کہ ہم نے اپنا کتنا اعتبار قائم کیا اور ہماری گورنمنٹ اس تجربہ کے بعد کس نتیجہ پر پہنچی ہے چند ایک دہائی کے واقعات ہیں جو میں آپ کے سامنے رکھتا ہوں جبکہ دہائی میں ہم اپنے مسلمان بھائیوں کو بسانے کی کوشش کر رہے ہیں اور باوجود ہماری اس کوشش کے کچھ مسلمان بھائی الٹا ہی سوچ رہے ہیں - جیسا کہ ان مثالوں سے ظاہر ہے :- کیڈٹ پادرس میں ایک نیا انڈیا پریس ہے جو ایک مسلمان کا تھا اور وہ Evacuee Property تسلیم کیا گیا تھا لکن مالک مسٹر مظفر خاں صاحب واپس آئے انہوں نے درخواست دی کہ یہ پریس واپس کیا جائے وہ پریس واپس دیا گیا جیسے وہ ۳۵ ہزار روپے فروخت کر کے پاکستان چلے گئے ایک اور فرنیچر اکسویچینج پریس کیڈٹ پادرس میں ہے اسکے مالک بھی واپس آئے اور انہوں نے کہا کہ یہاں رہوں گے لیکن بعد میں اس پریس کو ایک لاکھ دس ہزار روپیہ میں فروخت کر کے اور ان روپوں کو جذب میں ڈال کر واپس چلے گئے یہاں ایک اور آدمی پریس ہے جو بکلے والا ہے مجھے یہاں تک معلوم ہوا ہے کہ اسکی ۱۰ لاکھ قیمت لگ چکی ہے وہ بوی Evacuee پر اپرٹی تھی اسکے مالک یہاں نہیں آئے کیونکہ کراچی میں اسکا Business ہے وہاں اسکا ایک سول مائٹری پریس ہے اور ایک وہ حیات نام کا روزنامہ بوی وہ کراچی سے چلا رہا ہے مجھے پتہ لگا ہے کہ وہ پاکستان میں رہنا چاہتا ہے اس نے اپنے لڑکے کو یہاں بھیجا - جہاں تک پتہ لگا ہے لڑکے کا حق ملکیت نہیں ہے مگر درخواست دے کر اس نے پریس کا قبضہ لے لیا اور وہ آجکل میں بکلے والا ہے اسطرح یہاں ایک اور جگہ ہے جہاں موٹر ایڈورٹائزس بکتے ہیں جسے عام طور سے موتیا خان کے کھاز خانے کہتے ہیں وہ جائداد بھی Evacuee Property تھی اسکے متعلق بھی میں نے سنا ہے کہ custodian کو جو دفعہ ۱۲ کے ماتحت درخواست دیجاتی ہے وہ بھی نہیں دی گئی اور بلدرہ دن کا نوٹس جو دیا جاتا ہے وہ بھی نہیں دیا گیا - تب بھی اسکو custodian نے واپس دے دیا وہ بھی تین لاکھ روپے قریب قریب بیچ کر یہاں سے چلتے بلے- یہاں ایک مشہور ہمدرد دولخانہ ہے وہ بھی ایلی جائداد کو تین کروڑ ۸۴ لاکھ میں قائم کیا سیمنٹ کمپنی کے پاس میں نے سنا ہے کہ بیچ چکے ہیں اور باقی ماندہ جائداد بھی بیچ کر جانہوالے ہیں - یہ مثالوں میں سے ہے کہ مطلب یہ ہے کہ ہم لوگوں پر ان کا اعتبار نہیں جم سکا تو ایسی حالت میں کچھ مسلمان جب اسطرح کر رہے ہیں تو ہمیں بھی ان پر کیا اعتبار ہو سکتا ہے - کہ وہ یہاں آئیں اور ہمدردستان کا وفادار citizen رہیں گے - مجھے پتہ لگا ہے کہ نیشنلسٹ مسلمان بھی اسطرح کی کارروائیاں کرنے مسلمانوں پر دیکھی ہو رہے ہیں - میں کہنا چاہتا

[ کیاتی گورنمنٹ سٹیکہ مسافر ]

میں نے خود کوشش کی ہے کہ ہمارے مسلمان بھائی یہاں رہیں کیونکہ یہ ایک Secular سٹیٹ ہے۔ آپ کو تو جب تک مل چکے نہ رہیں تو کچھ بہبود کی بات معلوم ہوتی ہے مگر کیا کریں گنا ہی آپ کوشش کریں جہتک اعتبار نہیں جتنا اسوقت تک کام ہونے کا نہیں ہے تو رہا ایک طرف دوسری طرف ہم دیکھتے ہیں کہ وہاں پاکستان میں جو بھی ہزاری ٹیکٹریز ہیں انکا فوراً الٹ ملت کیا جا رہا ہے اور ان میں کام جاری ہے یہاں پچھلے چھ مہینے میں صرف 150 انڈسٹریل پریمیز: الٹ کئے گئے ہیں اسکے بارے میں یہ کہا جاتا ہے کہ الٹ 100 کے متعلق ماسٹری آف انڈسٹری اور ماسٹری آف ری ہیبلیٹیشن میں جھگڑا چلتا رہا میں یہ دیکھتا ہوں کہ کوئی اور ماسٹر صاحب ہاؤس میں نہیں تشریف رکھتے ہیں یہ سی ہیبلیٹیشن اور Refugees کا جو معاملہ ہے وہ ایک کا معاملہ نہیں ہے اس میں سب مددگار ہیں۔ شری گڈل مکین دے سکتے ہیں اور ہمارے ہوم ماسٹر صاحب اچھی اچھی نوکریاں Refugees کو دے سکتے ہیں ہمارے ہیڈ ماسٹر صاحب خوراک دے سکتے ہوں۔ اور ہمارے پوائنٹ ماسٹر صاحب پاکستان سرکار سے انکی جائدادوں کے متعلق اچھے فیصلے کروا سکتے ہوں۔ میرے صاحب اے یہ ہے کہ ہر ایک محکمہ انکی بھلائی کے لئے کچھ نہ کچھ کر سکتا ہے۔ اور کر بھی رہے ہیں۔ مگر مزید توجہ کی اشد ضرورت ہے۔ محکمہ ری ہیبلیٹیشن کی بھرتی اور پہلو وضع نظر آتا ہے۔ اس محکمہ پر سرکار خرچ بھی کافی برداشت کر رہی ہے۔ مگر توجہ کے لحاظ خواہ مضواہ یہ شعر مہری زبان پر آتا ہے۔

بہت شور ملتے تھے پہلو میں دل کا

جو جھپٹا تو اک قطرہ خون نہ نکلا۔

جب ہم Custodian آفس میں جاتے ہیں تو وہاں سے ہمکو معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ کام بہت ہے مگر 1 مہینے سے زیادہ وقت گزر چکا ہے ابھی تک کوئی Business Premises الٹ نہیں کئے گئے ہیں اسکی وجہ یہ ہلاتے ہیں کہ ہم کہا کریں درخواستوں زیادہ ہوں اور جگہ توہی ہے ہمارا سارا وقت درخواستوں کو چھانٹنے میں نکل جاتا ہے۔ بڑے دکھ کی بات ہے کہ یہاں دہائی میں جو Refugees آئے ہوں انکے لئے اس طرح سے سست کام ہو رہا ہے۔

یہاں جو Refugees آئے ہوئے ہیں انکے تین classes ہیں ایک تو بڑے Landlord سرمایہ دار اور دوسرا منڈل کلاس والے اور تیسرے چھوٹے طبقہ والے۔ سرمایہ دار Land Lord جو ہیں وہ تو کچھ اپنے ساتھ کچھ نہ کچھ جو دلا سکتے تو لے آئے ہیں اور وہ اپنی گزر بسر کر رہے ہیں دوسرا طبقہ جو منڈل کلاس والا ہے وہ اپنے ساتھ چھ یا سات ہزار روپے لگ رہا ہے ان چھ مہینوں میں نھانے پھلے میں خرچ

کر چکا ہے - تیسرا طبقہ ان چھوٹے لوگوں کا ہے جو وہ دہلی میں چھوٹی چھوٹی پونجی سے کچھ سامان رکھ کر اور اسکو بیچ کر اپنی گزر کر رہا ہے - اور جو دوکانیں یہاں خالی ہوئی ہیں وہ اب تک انکو نہیں ملی ہیں - باقی رہی مکانوں کی بات جو مسلمان بھائی یہاں سے دو ہزار مکان چھوڑ کر چلے گئے ہیں مہری سبجہ میں نہیں آتا کہ انکو کب تک الاٹ کیا جائیگا اسکے علاوہ جو افسر اور منسٹر صاحبان ہیں انہیں سے بعض کی کوتاہیوں میں بیس بیس پچیس پچیس کمرے ہیں اور اُس میں کل پانچ پانچ آدمی رہتے ہیں اسکے متعلق اگر ایک افسر تھیک طرح سے اسکا Survey کرے تو بہت سے آدمی بسائے جا سکتے ہیں اسطرح کی بہت سی مثالیں میں آپکو دے سکتا ہوں - یہ جو چھوٹے کلاس کے ہمارے گورنمنٹ سرونٹس ہیں انکو گورنمنٹ کوارٹرس ملے ہیں انکے وہاں بہت سے رشتے دار Refugees ہو کر آئے ہوئے ہیں اور انکے پاس تہرے ہیں مجھکو پتہ چلا ہے کہ انکو اسبات کا نوٹس ملا ہے کہ وہ ان Premises کو خالی کر دیں دوسری طرف پاکستان میں ہم دیکھتے ہیں کہ کیا کچھ نہیں ہو رہا ہے Refugees کے بسانے کھلئے نئے مکان تیار کئے جارہے ہیں - ابھی مجھکو کل پتہ چلا ہے کہ لائل پور میں ایک لاکھ رفوجیز کو بسانے کھلئے بہت جلد مکان تیار کئے گئے ہیں لیکن یہاں اس سلسلہ میں بہت کم کام ہوا ہے - یہ تو ہوئی ایک بات -

دوسری بات میں صاحب صدر! آپکی اجازت سے کہونگا جسکا مہرے جذبات سے خاص تعلق ہے اس بارے میں ہماری گورنمنٹ کوشش بھی کر رہی ہے ابھی جیسا شری متی ریلوکارے نے کہا ہے مجھے علم ہے کہ بہت سی لوکھیاں Tribal Area میں چلی گئیں ہیں جو طریقہ ہماری افواہ شدہ لوکھیاں کو نکالنے کا استعمال کیا جا رہا ہے اگر اسی طریقہ سے چلا گیا تو برسوں لگ جائیں گے اور اسکے سانہ ساتھ جو لوکھیاں اور عورتوں ہیں وہ اور بھی درر کہیں پوشیدہ ہو جائیں گی - مارچ کے مہینے میں جب راولپنڈی میں جھکڑے ہوئے تھے اسوقت مہرے اپنے سگے بھائی اور اسکی بیوی دونوں کو مسلمان بنا دیا گیا اور وہ چھپا دئے گئے صاحب صدر! میں نے ایک مرتبہ انکو نکال لانے کی کوشش کی اور آدمی بھیجے وہ خالی واپس آئے اور انکو کہہ دیا گیا کہ وہ اس گڑ میں نہیں ہیں دوسری مرتبہ پھر اپنا خاص آدمی بھیجا - ترک بھیجا - ملٹری کا پہرہ بھیجا اور اسکے ساتھ ایک مسلمان دوست کو بھی بھیجا - لیکن اسلے آکر کہا کہ تمہارا بھائی کہتا ہے کہ میں تو اب مسلمان ہو گیا ہوں اور مہرا نام گھانی سنگھ سے بدلکر علم دین ہو گیا ہے - گھانی سنگھ اور علم دین میں فرق ہی کیا ہے - تیسری مرتبہ بڑے بھائی کے لڑکے کو کچھ آدمیوں کے سانہ بھیجا وہ گیا تو اسوقت بھی مہرے بھائی کو تو چھپا دیا گیا مگر وہ اسکی نوجوان بیوی کو بٹھا کر ترک میں لے آئے - راستے میں جو ملٹری کا سٹیشن تھا - ملٹری کے انچارج مسلمان کپٹن نے پوچھا کہ یہ کون لوکی ہے ساتھ والوں نے کہا ہمارے بھائی کی بیوی ہے بھائی نہیں ملا - یہ مل گئی اسکو لئے جا رہے ہیں -

[ گہانی گورنمنٹ سلٹھ مسٹر ]

انہوں نے کہا تم جھوٹ بول رہے ہو یہ مسلمان لوکی ہے یہ رو رہی ہے اور اسکو زبردستی پکڑ کر گوں میں واپس بھیجا دیا چونہی دفعہ جناب صدر! میں خود گیا اور مہرے ساتھ مہرے ایک دوست جو آجکل پنجاب میں مسٹر ہیں وہ بھی گئے تو دور ہی سے مہرے بھائی نے مجھکو پہچان لیا اور وہ دور کر مجھ سے آ کر ملا یہ اسوقت کا واقعہ ہے جبکہ ابوی پاکستان نہیں بنا تھا۔ میں نے جناب صدر! اسلئے اس واقعہ کو یہاں کہا کہ یہ مہرے اوپر گزرا ہوا واقعہ تھا اور یہ علاقہ جس میں مہرا بھائی تھا اس علاقہ کے ہم دھلے والے تھے اور مہرا ایک نیشنلسٹ ہونکی وجہ سے مسلمانوں میں کافی رسوخ بھی تھا۔ اسکے باوجود اتلی وقت ہوئی۔ تو جس طریقہ سے گورنمنٹ لوگوں کو نکالنے کی اور تھونڈھلے کی کوشش کر رہی ہے اس طریقہ سے کچھ پتہ نہیں چل سکتا۔ اس طرح کی بہت سی مثالوں میں آپکو دے سکتا ہوں۔ ایک لکھا سلٹھ اور ان کے ایک بھائی۔ سچان سلٹھ آجکل دہلی میں رہتے ہیں انکی طرف ایک چھٹی آئی ہے جسوں لکھا ہے کہ لکھا سلٹھ کی بہن بے انس کو مہرا بھائی شام راولپنڈی میں مصد امین تھوکیدار کے گھر ہے اور سچان سلٹھ کو عورت باؤنت کو بھلور کسوال شام راولپنڈی میں شہج مصد جسوں کے گھر ہ یعنی آدمی کا پتہ ہے نام کا پتہ ہے جبکہ کا پتہ ہے انکے رشتہ دار یہاں موجود ہیں مگر انکو نکال لانا بہت مشکل ہو رہا ہے۔ ایک آدمی جسکا نام برکت رام زگر ہے وہ ملتی بہالادین کے علاقہ سے آیا ہے وہ اپنی چار رشتہ دار لوکھاں چھروا کر ساتھ لیا ہے وہ کہتا ہے کہ وہاں لٹھڑے مسلمان یہ چال چل رہے ہیں کہ اپنی قارہاں پوھا کر صافہ باندھکر سکہ بن گئے ہیں اور وہاں جو ہلدو سکہ لوکھاں موجود ہیں انکو یہ کہہ کر روڈلاتے ہیں کہ ہم امرتسر سے آئے ہیں۔ وہاں سکھوں نے یہ فیصلہ کیا ہے کہ تم اگر اپنے وطن جاؤگی تو تمہیں قتل کر دیلگے کہونکہ تم پات ہو گئی ہو اس طرح لوگوں کو تروایا اور دھتکھا جا رہا ہے۔ ایک بات اور بتانا چاہتا ہوں کہ گھور کی ہوسٹل جیل میں بہت سے بچے لوندی ہیں قریب قریب نو سو لوندی ہیں جن میں چھوٹے چھوٹے ۵ سے ۸ سال تک کے بچے بھی ہیں صلت ہزارہ سلٹھ کوچراتوالہ والے ابھی وہاں سے رہا ہو کر آئے ہیں وہ بتاتے ہیں کہ وہاں بہت سے سکھوں کے کس کات دئے گئے ہیں اور دلہی کات دی گئی ہے اور انکو معہ ان چھوٹے چھوٹے بچوں کے مسلمان بنا لیا گیا ہے اس طرح ان لوگوں کی جان بھی خطرے میں ہے اور دھرم بھی خطرے میں ہے مگر اس معاملے میں ہم بالکل بے بس ہیں اور کچھ نہیں کر سکے ریست پنجاب کی جھاوں میں پانچ سات ہزار کے قریب ہمارے بھائی ہیں راولپنڈی جیل سے خطرناک خبریں آہی ہیں اس طرح سے ہمارے جو بلیں میں بھائی وہ گئے ہیں ان کی جان ہر وقت تھانوں کی وجہ سے خطرے میں ہے اور

ان لوگوں کو بہت دنوں سے راشن نہیں مل رہا ہے - سندھ میں بھی ہمارے بھائی موجود ہیں - سندھ میں ایک خاص کھوک سنگھ والا گاؤں ہے - اس میں لہانے سکھ رہتے تھے - جن پر حملہ ہوا اور بہت مارے گئے - لہانے سکھوں کی ایک پس ماندہ کلاس ہے - اب کئی گاؤں سندھ میں ایسے ہیں جہاں یہ لہانے سکھ کھرے ہوئے ہیں انکی جان بھی خطرے میں ہے - اس طرح بہت سی باتیں ہیں جن کو وقت کی کسی کی وجہ سے میں نہیں کہہ سکتا جناب صدر! میرا مطالب صرف یہ ہے کہ اب گورنمنٹ کو ایک خاص پالیسی بنا کر ایک خاص پلہن کے مطابق اس کام کو کرنا چاہئے - یہ کام اس طرح نہیں ہوگا جس طرح سے کیا جا رہا ہے - جب تک کہ کوئی پالیسی نہ بنائی جائے کہ ان کو ری ہیبیلیٹیشن کرنا ہے اور ان کو انڈین نیشنل بنانا ہے - یہ بات صاف طور پر ہماری سرکار کو طے کرنا چاہئے - تاکہ شرنارتھوں کو اچھی طرح سے بھروسہ ہو جائے کہ ہماری سرکار انکے لئے کچھ کر رہی ہے -

(English Translation of the above speech)

**Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar** (East Punjab: Sikh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the subject is very vital and the time is short. Therefore, without offering any sort of formal felicitations or indulging in an introductory prelude, I would straightaway come to the point at issue. Our revered Pandit Ji, who is a very experienced veteran, has done his duty. The cut motion moved by Shrimati Kenuka Ray covers only few points viz., permanent rehabilitation, temporary residential accommodation and rescue, and these are under discussion. Mr. Speaker, it is quite obvious that permanent rehabilitation can be achieved in two ways only and these are: either new houses should be built for our brethren who have come over here and some other new arrangements made or they should be settled in the houses rendered vacant by the migration of our Muslim brethren. Nothing can be said in regard to the third point although it is an important one. That is a question of realization. We should have some anxiety for the resettlement of refugees. I cannot dare say that we are not anxious for their rehabilitation, but if we had given full attention towards this work we would have accomplished a good deal by this time. I realize that apparently there is some sort of fundamental difference. The policy of our Government is to send back people to the places from where they have come and to encourage those who have left this place to return. A resolution to this effect was passed by the All India Congress Committee whose decisions have considerable influence on our Government. I also agree with it. It is true that no body would be happy to live outside his home. No one would leave his native place. Those aged women who are now being evacuated from Pakistan were indeed living there on account of their love for their homeland. The Pakistan authorities assert that these are the only abducted women in their country. The question of the abduction of old women does not arise at all. Very few young girls are being recovered. The aged women did not like to leave their homes. Fundamentally it is quite correct that one should live peacefully in the place to which he belongs. But it has to be seen whether in the present day circumstances, this can be acted upon. There are two examples before us. Certain non-Muslims went to Lahore on the 20th November last with the permission of the Pakistan Government to remove their goods from the lockers. The Muslim mob attacked them and it was stated that the Muslims were excited on the sight of Sikh soldiers. The reason which led to this incident is that they cannot tolerate the sight of a Sikh. The other incident relates to an attack on a Sikh Gurdwara in Karachi (Sind). How did

[Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar]

this incident take place in which our Hindu brethren were also killed along with Sikhs? "When the buffaloes fight crops suffer." It was alleged that most of the Sikh refugees were brought in an open truck which provoked the people and led to the attack on the Gurdwara. It should be understood from these incidents that it is very difficult for any Sikh—the Sikhs are in no less a number than 13 to 14 lakhs—to live in Pakistan. The newspapers in Pakistan are daily writing articles on the subject 'No Sikh should be allowed to remain in West Punjab'. So all this has rendered it very difficult for the Sikhs to go there. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava has stated "If we are to go there, we will go together. Why should not the Sikhs also return to their homes? First of all we will send the Sikhs." I appreciate Pandit Ji's motives and sincerity. He has got real love for the Sikhs and it is for this reason that he has said this. But if the Sikhs are sent there, it is feared that those who could escape previously will be killed now and thus the question of their rehabilitation will not arise at all. It is quite obvious that it is very difficult to go there and no body can dare go unless some arrangement exists. The Government thought of this but what has it done after all in this connection during the last three or four months? It is a question of reciprocity. No non-Muslim can live there unless the Police, Army, Ministry and services are jointly constituted. Under the present conditions, it becomes very difficult for any body to live there. Now the question arises—what about our Muslim brethren? The primary thing to be considered over in this connection is as to who are the Nationals of Pakistan and India? Unless this fundamental issue is decided, this problem cannot be solved. We tried our best to persuade our Muslim brethren to return to their homes and thus gave an ample proof of our good intentions. We carried on propaganda against communalism. We got the mosques vacated. We did our best to have the "URS" celebrated by participating in the "URS" Committee. So much so that in accomplishing this object, we lost our most precious possession. I refer to Mahatma Ji. After all these endeavours, we have to see how much confidence we have created, and to what conclusion our Government has arrived at as a result of these experiences. I would place before you a few cases which occurred in Delhi. While we are trying to settle our Muslim brethren in Delhi but in spite of our efforts in this direction the Muslims are taking a contrary view as would appear from these instances. There is one New India Press in Connaught Place which belonged to a Muslim and was treated as evacuees' property. Its Proprietor Mr. Muzaffar Khan came back and submitted an application that the Press should be returned to him. That Press was returned to him which he sold for Rs. Thirty Five Thousand and left for Pakistan. There is another Frontier Exchange Press in Connaught Place. Its owner too came back and stated that he would live here. But later on he sold this Press for Rs. 110,000, pocketed this money and went back to Pakistan. There is another Army Press here which is about to be sold. I have come to know that Rs. 15 lacs have already been offered for it. That was also evacuees' property. Its Proprietor did not come over here, because he is running his business at Karachi. There he has got a Civil Military Press and is publishing one daily paper 'Hayat' from Karachi. I have been told that he wants to live in Pakistan. He sent his son here. So far as I could ascertain, the son has got no legal rights of ownership. But he took over the possession of the Press by putting in an application and it is likely to be sold in a day or so. Similarly there is another place here which is generally called as 'Motiakhan's Kabar Khana'. That too was evacuee's property. About this too I have heard that the application which is required to be submitted to the Custodian under section 12 was not put in. Further fifteen days' notice prescribed under the rules was also not given. Even then the Custodian returned him this property. He too left this place after disposing it of at a price of about Rs. 3 lacs or so. There is a renowned "Hamdard Dawe-

khana". Its owners too, as I have learnt, sold their property to Dalmia Cement Company at a value of Rs. Three Crores and Fifty Four Lacs, and are about to leave after selling the remaining property. I have quoted these instances to show that these people could not repose confidence in us. Under these circumstances when the Muslims are resorting to this course of action, how can we have faith in them that they will return and remain as loyal citizens of India. I have come to know that the Nationalist Muslims too have felt aggrieved over such action of Muslims. I would like to say that if the Muslims want to live here they may do so because this is a secular state. I have myself tried to persuade our Muslim brethren to continue to stay here. To me all this appears unreal unless we can live harmoniously. But what should we do? Whatever efforts you may make, unless confidence is restored you cannot achieve the object. This is the one side of the picture. On the other side we find that almost all of our factories in Pakistan are immediately being allotted and these are working. Here during the last six months, only 150 industrial premises have been allotted. In this connection I would like to point out that controversy had been going on between the Ministries of Industries and Supply and Relief and Rehabilitation. I notice that no other Minister is present in the House. The problem concerning the refugees and their rehabilitation does not relate to any one particularly, but all of them have to render necessary assistance. The Honourable Shri Gadgil can provide houses, the Honourable Home Minister can fix up refugees in good posts, the Honourable Food Minister can give food, and lastly the Honourable Prime Minister can use his good offices in arriving at favourable decisions with the Government of Pakistan in regard to their (refugees) property. What I mean to say is that every Department can do something for their benefit and are doing so. But further attention is very urgently needed. The expansion of the Rehabilitation Department and the number of staff employed in it appears to be very vast. The Government is spending lot of money over this Department. But so far as the result, achieved by this Department are concerned, I am reminded of the following couplet in Urdu:

*"Bahaut Shour Sunte the pehlu main dil ka—  
Jo chira to ek Katra khun na nikla.."*

"(The game has not proved worth the candle)." When we go to the Office of the Custodian, we are told that there is a great rush of work. But a period of more than six months has elapsed and no business premises have up till now been allotted. The reasons explained for this are "What should we do? The number of applications far exceeds the places available. The whole of our time is spent in sorting the applications." It is a matter of deep regret that the work for refugees who have come over to Delhi is being done at such a slow pace.

The refugees who have come over here comprise of three classes; firstly land-lords and big capitalists; secondly middle class people and thirdly people belonging to the lower strata. The capitalists and landlords have been able to bring something along with them—which they could—and they are somehow managing. The middle class people, if at all they could bring something, had about six or seven thousand with them and that too has been practically spent by them during the last six months for the maintenance of their family. The third category consists of those persons with meagre resources who earn their livelihood by investing paltry sums in small goods and selling them here. The shops which have been left here vacant have not been allotted to them. Now there remains the question of houses. I do not understand as to when the two thousand houses left by the Muslim evacuees will be allotted. Besides this, the bungalows occupied by the Ministers and Officers consist of twenty to twenty five rooms and only five persons or so live there. If any officer carries out a proper survey in this connection a lot of people can be accommodated. I

[Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafar] can give you many such instances. The Government Servants in the lower class in occupation of Government quarters have accommodated many of their relatives who have come as refugees. I have come to know that they have been served with notices to vacate these premises. On the other side, we see what is happening in Pakistan. There new houses are being built to re-settle the refugees. Only yesterday I came to know that one lakh of houses have been immediately built in Lyallpur for the resettlement of refugees. But here very little work has been done in this connection. This is one aspect of the matter.

Mr. Speaker, with your permission, Sir, I will mention the second thing which affects my feelings particularly. Our Government is making efforts in this direction also. Just now Shrimati Renuka Ray has pointed out that many of the girls have been taken to the tribal areas. This is within my knowledge. If the present method of recovery of abducted women is pursued, I am afraid it will take years and the girls and women who are there will be removed to some far away places and hidden there. During the month of March last when there was an out-break of disturbances in Rawalpindi, my own real brother and his wife were both converted to Islam and they were hidden. Mr. Speaker, I made an attempt to get them rescued and sent men who returned empty handed, and were told that they were not in that village. Then again for the second time I sent some special messengers along with a truck and military escort. One of my Muslim friends also accompanied. But on his return he told me that my brother had said "I have now embraced Islam and my name has been changed from Giani Singh to Ilam Din. What is the difference between Giani Singh and Ilam Din?" For the third time I sent my elder brother's son along with some men. When he went there my brother was hidden in an obscure place at that time but they succeeded in bringing his young wife in the truck. On way back the Muslim Military Captain incharge of the military post enquired about the particulars of the girl. Those accompanying her said "She is our brother's wife. We could not find our brother. She was found and we are taking her along with us." On this he remarked "You are telling lies. She is a Muslim girl. She is weeping." She was snatched away forcibly and sent back to the village. For the fourth time, Sir, I myself went and one of my friends who is now-a-days a Minister in Punjab accompanied me. My brother recognised me from a distance. Then he ran towards me and met me. This incident happened at the time when the Pakistan State had not yet been constituted. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have narrated this episode because it was my own personal experience. We were the residents of the place where my brother lived. I had a sufficient influence amongst the Muslims on account of my being a Nationalist. In spite of this, we had to face so many difficulties. The manner in which the Government is trying to search and recover the girls, will not help in locating them. I can quote many such examples. A person named Lakha Singh and his brother Sujjan Singh are now-a-days living in Delhi. They have received a letter in which it has been stated that Lakha Singh's sister Beant Kaur is at present in the captivity of Mohd. Amin contractor, Village Morathian in the Rawalpindi District and Sujjan Singh's wife named Balwant Kaur was in the custody of Sh. Mohd. Hussain in Village Bhener Keswal in Rawalpindi District. The particulars of the persons and the name of the place is known. Their relatives are present here. But it has become a difficult task to rescue them. A man named Barkat Ram Goldsmith has come from Mandi Bahaud Din. He has rescued four girls related to him and brought them along with him. He says that the Muslim marauders there are playing this game. They have assumed the appearance of Sikhs after growing beards and putting on turbans on their heads. They pretend coming from Amritsar, and tell the Hindu and Sikh girls

living there that the Sikhs in Amritsar have decided that in case you come to your country you will be murdered because you have been degraded.' In this way the girls are being terrified and threatened. I would like to mention one thing more. In the Borstal Jail, Lahore, there are many child prisoners whose number is about nine hundred or so. Sant Hazara Singh of Gujranwala who has recently been released from there and has come over here tells me that the hair and beards of many of the Sikhs in the jail have been cut off and they along with their young children have been converted to Islam. It would thus be observed from this that both their lives and religion are in danger. But we are absolutely helpless in this matter and are unable to do anything. About five to seven thousand of our brothers are confined in the West Punjab jails. Alarming news are coming from Rāwalpindi jail. Similarly the lives of those of our brothers who have been left behind in Bannu are in danger on account of the tribal people. They are not getting rations for the last many days. In Sind also our brothers are living. There is a village named Kharak Singh Wala in Sind. It is inhabited by a sect of Sikhs called 'Lubanas'. They were attacked and many of them even killed. These 'Lubana' Sikhs are a backward class. There are so many villages in Sind where these 'Lubana' Sikhs have been stranded. Their lives are also in danger. Similarly there are so many things which I cannot mention for lack of time. Mr. Speaker, Sir, what I mean to say is that the Government should chalk out some definite policy and undertake this work in accordance with a particular plan. This task cannot be accomplished in the manner in which it is being done. Our Government should formulate a definite and clear cut policy for the rehabilitation of refugees and conferring upon them the rights of Indian Citizenship, so that this may restore full confidence in their minds that the Government is doing something for them.

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** Sir, I am afraid that in the few minutes that I have at my disposal it will not be possible for me to reply to all the points that have been made by my Honourable friends, and if I fail to cover all the points that have been raised, I beg of my Honourable friends not to take that as a discourtesy. I very much hope that in so far as there are specific points on which information can be given, they will do me the favour of giving notice of questions covering those points.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I make a suggestion? In view of the fact that this question has been agitating the minds of many people, if the House is agreeable, the Honourable Minister might take some time from 2-30, and to that extent the time allotted to the other Demand about Communications may be curtailed if the House is agreeable.

**Some Honourable Members:** Yes.

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** I am much obliged to you.

**Mr. Speaker:** The Honourable Minister may take his own time now.

**The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy:** In the very first place I should like to convey my cordial thanks and gratitude to my Honourable friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava for the handsome terms in which he referred to me and the humble efforts that I have so far been able to put forth in the service of the refugee population. At the same time, I am afraid he was carried away by his eloquence so much so that he ignored some of the fundamental facts of the situation. My Honourable friend complimented Government on having made adequate financial provision for different schemes and having made provision for the relief of the refugees. But he wants to know what is the actual result. Sir, in all humility I claim that the actual result is to be seen in the fact that lakhs of our brothers and sisters are at the present moment enjoying a modicum of comfort and are in a position to eke out their living in some cases

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Not very long ago, the Delhi correspondent of a very powerful English newspaper made the prediction that numerous people among the refugees will not survive the winter. Sir, we have survived that wishful thinking. It is my proud claim today that the mortality that has prevailed among the refugee population is not in some cases even as high as the normal mortality in cities and towns and rural areas having comparable populations. Sir, that is the actual result. When after the partition our brothers and sisters living in Western Pakistan had to flee for fear of their lives, the slogan was "Bring them out alive"; and I make the claim that we did succeed in bringing them out alive.

The next problem was how to keep them alive; this was a problem for which there has been no precedent in the history of the world. I cannot claim any experience for myself in handling such a problem, but I dare say very few in the world can claim any experience in handling a problem of this magnitude. I remember the day I took over charge, with what trepidation, with what hesitation I went to Government House to take the oath! And today I have no reason to regret that I undertook this task and availed of the opportunity of serving my fellowmen.

Sir, what is meant by permanent rehabilitation? Permanent rehabilitation means creation of employment—because it ultimately comes to that; creation of employment for millions of people at a time when production is admittedly at a dangerously low ebb, and when the volume of trade and commerce in the country is shrinking. My Honourable friend Thakur Das Bhargava is disappointed at the poor number of people that have secured employment through the Employment Exchange. I am surprised that it has been possible to place so many as we have succeeded in placing in various capacities, through the Employment Exchange and otherwise. Full statistical information as regards people who have secured jobs in various capacities is not yet available and if, in the course of this session I am in a position to give more detailed information on this point, I will certainly do so.

Sir, permanent rehabilitation can be achieved satisfactorily only as a feature of the general development of the country as a whole. This is the point which I have emphasised once or twice before. Particularly when we are concerned with such a vast population, it is simply impossible to think in terms of rehabilitating them without at the same time proceeding with measures which would lead to the development of the resources of the country as a whole.

Sir, as the very first step towards permanent rehabilitation, we have to try and fill the gaps that have been left in the economy of our country by the withdrawal of the Muslims from East Punjab. But when we approach the question from that point of view, what is it that we find? It is not the same population in structure that has come across from the other side as the one that has gone over to Pakistan. Here numerical comparisons would be very misleading. The gaps that have been left by the withdrawal of the Muslims cannot easily be filled by the incoming refugees. The most broad-based method of permanent rehabilitation in a country which is predominantly rural in its economy would be by way of agricultural rehabilitation. Here again, the land that the refugees have left on the other side of the border was certainly superior to the land that was vacated by the Muslims who have gone across. Likewise, the average agricultural holding in Western Pakistan, which has been vacated by the incoming refugees, was larger than the average holding that has been vacated by the Muslim evacuees from India.

Then again, it must not be forgotten that we cannot think in terms of permanent rehabilitation even in regard to agriculture so long as the right, title and interest of the Muslim evacuees continue in regard to the property left behind by

them. And that is a fact. Even today all the property, agricultural or otherwise, that has been left behind by the Muslim evacuees from India still continues to be the property of the Muslim evacuees although they may be in Pakistan. Likewise, the right, title and interest of the Hindu-Sikh refugees who have come away from Pakistan, in regard to property left behind by them in Pakistan still continue to be there.

**Shri M. Anathasayanam Ayyangar** (Madras: General): On paper!

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy**: I do not think I should take such a pessimistic view as my Honourable friend opposite does. Sir, efforts are made continuously and we are, I venture to hope, reaching the final stages of the negotiations that would lead to a final settlement of this property question. A committee of officials would soon be meeting in Lahore to discuss this very problem in the very near future and it is my hope that before this Assembly Session terminates I would be able to report progress in that matter.

Sir, as a matter of fact, if we can succeed in having a satisfactory settlement on this property question, not only would it enable us to make permanent settlement of land and other property on both sides of the border in accordance with the terms which may be agreed upon, but the very fact that the refugees who are now in India would be in a position to claim some compensation in whatever shape, in whatever degree it may be, would enable them to stand on their own feet and rehabilitate themselves through their own efforts, at least in a large number of cases.

My Honourable friend Pandit Thakur Das referred to the question of housing accommodation at Delhi. He expressed his impatience at the delay that is taking place. I wish my Honourable friend were in my position because he would have then realised what are the difficulties that stand in the way of accomplishment of even the best-considered schemes which are promoted with the best of intentions by people who have nothing but the spirit of service to inspire them. I have before me a note which indicates the programme which we have in hand with regard to housing accommodation in Delhi, but I do not think I will be justified in reading through the various items that are now under active consideration. May I tell my Honourable friend that there are so many limitations as regards expansion of housing accommodation in Delhi that it will be risky on the part of anybody to embark on an unlimited expansion. Water-supply is the most difficult limiting factor in this regard. We are now engaged upon experimentation in tube-wells, although at one stage it was definitely declared by technical opinion that tube-wells cannot be a success in Delhi. Not daunted by such adverse opinion, we are now again embarking on experimentation in the matter of tube-wells. On the success of this measure would depend the extent to which we succeed in expanding housing accommodation. After all, there is an overall limit beyond which the capacity of Delhi cannot be expanded.

My Honourable friend does not like any restriction being placed upon the movement of the people, the refugees. Now, Sir, if we were to allow free movement of refugees to take place, what would happen to Delhi? My Honourable friend to the right is a distinguished citizen of Delhi, and if I were to claim the advantage of his opinion on the subject, I dare say I would have some support in the view that I am putting forward, that we cannot think in terms of permanently rehabilitating the refugees who are at the present moment in Delhi in their entirety. Let me be quite frank about it to the House. I have been nurtured in the Legislature. I have been a member of the Opposition for a longer period than I can well imagine, in a way. I have no secret from this House. Let me assure my Honourable friend, that they would be doing the greatest wrong to refugees if they were to create the impression that the capacity of Delhi to house them has not yet been exceeded. If they are real friends of the refugees, they had better tell them to leave Delhi and be controlled by Government. You cannot in one breath hold Government responsible for their

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failures, and at the same time, claim full freedom to go about from place to place wherever you like. Either you claim your freedom of action in this matter—then rehabilitation will be your responsibility—or, if you want to hold Government responsible for rehabilitation, you must agree to be controlled in your movement by the Government. (Hear, hear).

**Mr. Speaker:** If the Honourable Minister is going to some other point, there is hardly a minute. We might adjourn now and he may resume after Lunch.

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I am much obliged to you, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will re-assemble at 2-30.

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

*The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock. Mr. Speaker (The Honourable Mr. G. V. Mavalankar) in the Chair.*

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** Sir, part of the criticism advanced by my Honourable friend Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava could well have been directed against the East Punjab Government and here I should like to point out to the House that although I have no desire to disown my part of the responsibility, even the adoption of the plans, not to speak of detailed execution thereof is primarily the concern of the East Punjab Government in so far as the refugee people of that area are concerned. Sir, the House should not forget that in the East Punjab there is today a popular Government functioning with the support of a popular legislature and that legislature has recently been expanded by the addition of all the Hindu and Sikh M.L.As. from West Punjab, so that it can be truly said that the legislature of East Punjab is today fully representative of the interests of the refugees. We, in the Government of India undoubtedly try to influence their policies and their decisions—not always, let me add with cent per cent. success—but that is all that we can do. Undoubtedly we finance their schemes to a large extent and that is the only title, in a sense, that we have to control their activities in any effective manner.

Sir, that leads me to the question of the East Punjab Capital. I would be very much obliged to my Honourable friend if he were to use his eloquence with the East Punjab Ministers for the purpose of influencing them to make an early declaration in this matter.

**Shri Bikramlal Sondhi (East Punjab: General):** I was told by the Prime Minister of the Punjab the other day in Simla that he had already sent the papers and he was awaiting the orders of the Government of India.

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** I may tell my Honourable friend that up to yesterday the Cabinet of the Government of India had no information in this particular point.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai (Minister for Communications):** The latest letter says that they will intimate their decision in about a week's time. That letter was received a day ago.

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** My Honourable friend made a specific complaint of the restrictions that have been put on the operation of the safe deposit vaults. I want to tell the House that just at the present moment there is a non-official delegation, consisting of 5 members of the Advisory Committee attached to this Ministry carrying on negotiations at Lahore in regard to this matter and that delegation includes my Honourable friend Diwan Chaman Lall. Not merely are they going to help our organization at Lahore in this matter, but I propose to fly to Lahore tomorrow to take a hand, if necessary, in these discussions. I do not know what more is expected of the Government of India.

Sir, I should now like to give a very brief idea about the major features of our rehabilitation policy. Sir, schemes of rehabilitation may broadly be classified into two categories;

- (a) those undertaken directly by the Central Government, and
- (b) those undertaken at the initiative of Provincial Governments.

In order to co-ordinate rehabilitation schemes as far as possible with schemes of development, the Government of India have set up a high-powered Rehabilitation and Development Board. This Board is expected to work out schemes of rehabilitation as integral parts of schemes for the economic development of the country. The Board will, of course, work in the closest co-operation with the Provincial Governments concerned. Details regarding the allocation of expenditure on schemes undertaken by the Board have not yet been worked out. Some of the schemes may be undertaken as the sole responsibility of the Centre while others might be financed from the block grants for development made by the Centre or by some suitable arrangement with the Provinces.

With regard to schemes of rehabilitation undertaken by Provincial Governments, the responsibility will be mainly that of the provinces concerned. The Government of India, however, recognise that in carrying out such schemes the Provincial Governments should be helped financially to some extent by the Centre.

Unlike refugees from West Punjab who have facilities and the opportunities for rehabilitation in East Punjab and the East Punjab States taken together as a pooled Unit, rehabilitation of refugees from N.-W.F.P., Baluchistan, Bahawalpur and Sind other than those who have their old roots in East Punjab and can be resettled there, is the direct responsibility of the Government of India. For practical purposes this category of refugees comprises those dependent on what may be described as urban occupations.

In terms of the Resolution of the A.I.C.C. all agriculturists from West Punjab and those from N.-W.F.P., Bahawalpur and Sind who have their roots in East Punjab may be settled within the pooled unit of East Punjab and Indian States in that area.

Other agriculturists from N.-W.F.P., Baluchistan, Bahawalpur and Sind may be settled on soil elsewhere in India. Alwar, Bharatpur and Gwalior in particular have possibilities in this direction.

In regard to refugees depending on urban occupations, it is proposed to assist rehabilitation of those from West Punjab in East Punjab, and assist rehabilitation of those from other parts of Western Pakistan elsewhere in India.

It is proposed to pursue schemes of suburban development, establishment of new cities and development of new ports for rehabilitation of urban refugees.

It is proposed to promote establishment of cottage, village and large scale industries in such newly developed areas according to the environment and aptitudes of refugees to be resettled.

Rehabilitation finance facilities will extend to all refugees to promote rehabilitation. There will besides be other financial assistance to various categories of refugees, announcements about which have from time to time been made.

Sir, I now come to the very valuable suggestions which the Honourable lady from Bengal made in regard to certain social and psychological factors of the problem presented by the abducted women who may be rescued as a result of our efforts. These suggestions will be given due weight. I wish it were possible for the Honourable lady to make available to us her services in this behalf by continued presence at Delhi.

[Shri K. C. Neogy]

Sir, I should now like to take up a few points which my Honourable friend Musafirji made. A good deal of his speech would have been quite appropriate if it had been delivered in the Pakistan Constituent Assembly, because most of the charges, as far as I could make out, were not against this Government, but against the Government of Pakistan. I can easily understand my Honourable friend's impatience at the slow pace at which negotiations are going on and at the apparent unsuccess of our efforts so far.

Sir, in dealing with Pakistan we must have an abundant supply of patience. I have not yet despaired of ultimate success in our efforts.

My Honourable friend made a particular complaint about what is happening in the Custodian's organisation in regard to the allotment of business premises. We had a Custodian who was rather hasty in his action, and I have even now to deal with shoals of complaints on account of the somewhat hasty action taken by him. Now we have another Custodian today who is circumspect, who is very careful and who is scrutinising everything with the utmost care and attention with the help of a popular advisory committee. My Honourable friend comes along and makes an equally grave complaint that things are not moving fast enough. Now I should imagine that it would not be in the best interests of the refugees themselves if less care and attention were to be given to this very vexed question of allotment of business premises than what the Custodian is at the present moment in a position to do. There is a good deal of impatience at the pace at which rehabilitation work is proceeding. As I said before, we had no experience in this matter and our method has in many instances been one of trial and error. I also said before that I have no secrets from this House. I must confess that we have learnt by experience, by mistakes that we have made. But at the same time when I turn to literature that is available to us indicating the experience in such matters of other countries in the world, I find that in the case of Greece and Turkey—which were the first in modern times to have a similar experience of mass movements of population, the time taken for rehabilitation of a fraction of the population with which we are concerned today was five years, and they seem to take a pride that it was accomplished in that period.

Then, Sir, I was looking into what I suppose is the latest issue of the United Nations Bulletin (January) and there I find an article from the pen of the Executive Secretary of the I.R.O. (International Refugee Organisation), which is in a sense the successor of UNRRA. This is what he says with reference to the refugee camps now in Europe and other places:

"Many of the men, women and children for whom we are responsible are spending their third winter since the end of the war in the twilight existence of displaced persons camps in Germany, Austria, Italy and the Middle East."

Sir, as I said before, Greece took five years; we have not had as many months in India. And much as I am personally impatient at the slow pace of progress I should like to say that if we want extra quick results, the House had better look for a magician and not a Minister.

**Shri Bihramlal Sondhi:** What about the two thousand houses left vacant for months together?

**The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:** If my Honourable friend will put a question on that particular subject I shall be very happy to answer it. I have not got the latest information on the point.

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

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,00,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of 'Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation'."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Speaker:** May I take it that the same procedure will be followed in regard to the next demand and cut motions will not be formally moved?

**Several Honourable Members:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then I will call upon Shri Biswanath Das to speak.

**Shri Biswanath Das (Orissa: General):** Sir, move from rehabilitation to nationalisation is a necessary step and I move for the nationalisation of commercial air Services in India. It is a well known fact that the Ministry of Communications has all the departments in its charge practically nationalised except Civil Aviation. It is in charge of Posts and Telegraphs, Tele-communications, Telephones, Wireless and the like, and last but not the least is Civil Aviation. In this too the State plays a major part whether nationalised or not. The State has to maintain aerodromes, air lines, give technical assistance and also procure planes, spare parts and accessories, equipment and all other things necessary for overhauling these planes. In a word the State renders the greatest possible assistance with regard to commercial aviation. In a free country like America the State also gives all the necessary assistance to private enterprise. There they have got a Civil Aeronautic Board which controls the companies that are engaged in commercial aviation and gives them not only all possible assistance and negotiates for them international lines, helps them and gives them permits to use air lines within the State, but also gives them subsidies. Sir, we have to realise that in a country like the U.S.A. things are absolutely different. There, all enterprises are not owned by the State and the question of nationalisation does not arise. If today in the world different experiments are going on in different States, the United States of America is one of the few countries that has an experiment in this aspect, namely, free and private enterprise. We ourselves have taken an absolutely different course of action by having taken on us the responsibility of running the railways and running the other commercial services like posts, telegraphs, telephones and the like. Sir, here as early as 1944 a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of the then Member in charge of the Department Sir Muhammad Usman. The Committee went into the entire question, examined it in its different aspects and came to the conclusion that it should be left to private enterprise. The Committee constituted as it was could not have come to any other conclusion than the one that they arrived at. This Committee discussed two questions, namely, whether civil aviation should be taken up as a department of Government or as a department of Government with powers autonomous in itself, just as the railways are run at present by the Ministry in charge of Railways.

Sir, while discussing this question, the grounds they have stated are least convincing and I thought, having gone through the pages, that the personnel of the committee could not have done anything better. Even an astute politician like Mr. Churchill has cried at the top of his voice that war is coming and a third world war is fast approaching, and he calls upon the British Parliament to prepare itself to face such a situation. In America the Government has been preparing itself. That being the position, we have to keep ourselves fully prepared to face any emergency. Civil aviation, though not directly connected with war, is a service which contributes enormously to the war. We have seen how civil aviation was helpful and useful in our Kashmir operations. At the same time I do realise that the companies operating in civil aviation without the least hesitation agreed to place their resources at the disposal of Government. To that extent I am thankful and I believe this House will be thankful for all that has been done. But we have to realize this necessary course of action that with the immediate enlargement of civil aviation and development of the service in all its aspects large investment is necessary. As it is there are seven companies operating in India and from the international

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agreement to which India has been a party, I see that the State has to interfere in everything that is done. Even in matters of securing equipment or accessories or services of technicians, it is the State alone that could be useful and helpful to these operating companies. If it is the desire of Government and the House that we have to expand this service, I do not see any cheerful hope for the future unless it is nationalized and immediately taken in hand, so that it is given full scope for its development.

After the 15th August conditions have changed and these changed conditions have brought upon Government also necessary responsibilities, namely that the Army, owing to the R.A.F. having gone away bag and baggage, have had to convert itself into the R.I.A.F. This course brings upon itself the responsibilities, besides of defence, of civil aviation work in the sense that it has itself to maintain the aviation service to keep itself in touch with the operational headquarters that are scattered all over. It has also to carry on the work of policing the coast and other areas, and added to this, Sir, they have also to carry the Ministers of State, the Governor-General, or the heads of Departments, or army officials from place to place and also our delegates to international conferences. All this implies that a certain number of planes have to be kept up even for civil aviation. These are the reasons why this should be expanded further and all the resources of the State pooled by a process of nationalization. I plead that the time has come when the Ministry should make up its mind to nationalize the whole with a view to develop, and develop immediately before, as in the words of Mr. Churchill, a third world war is on us.

*[At this stage, Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Shri K. Santhanam (one of the Panel of Chairmen)].*

It is unfortunate that we in this country have not been able to manufacture aeroplanes: not to think of aeroplanes—not even parts are we able to manufacture. The result is that we have to depend on foreign countries not only for our fighter planes but also for civil aviation planes. That makes us dependent upon foreign countries and we have also to train up our own men as technicians for groundwork and for radio operations and for other operations connected with this work. All this means that private companies, however big, or good, or Nationalistic they may be, will not be able to cope with the work and there is a need for nationalization. Looked from any point of view, nationalization seems to hold the field.

It has been our experience to see that these companies are not able to maintain themselves. Some of them are not able to run their services efficiently. The disasters we have to face from time to time call upon us seriously to say that these private companies, however good they might be, cannot run far nor could they bring the country to its desired goal. We have to keep these poor unfortunate companies spoon-fed from time to time. I feel sure that the Honourable Minister in charge of the Department will agree with me that he has to keep these unfortunate companies spoon-fed in spite of the fact that there are great possibilities for the development of aviation in this country. It is a huge country. Commercial areas are scattered in different places and seasonal conditions are very good for civil aviation and passenger traffic for civil aviation is not small though India has started only recently.

Without these conveniences, these private companies, as they are, are not able to cope with the enormity of the work that they have to face within their limited means. A country like the United States of America is annually contributing about 20 million dollars to such companies. I do not want the same experiment to be carried on in this country. I want the Government to take

up a long range programme and carry it through. I assure him that this House will back him to the fullest extent and contribute to his activities without care for a few years without any profits. In state commercial undertakings I have always stood for a commercial accounting basis and some contribution to the coffers of the State. To that I still stand. We may not contribute anything, but let us know what losses we may have to bear for some years. I do not mind the losses and no one does it.

So under these circumstances, I feel that the time has come when civil aviation in this country should be nationalised and should be taken up immediately on hand. Let there be a long-range programme, so that we may be in a position to have a very good service, which in due course will be cheap, efficient and national and thus India may be prepared not only to manufacture her own planes but also the parts and be able to train her own technicians and have technical facilities.

**Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava** (Ajmer Merwara): Sir, I heartily support the proposition that has been advanced by my learned friend Mr. Biswanath Das. The question is of vital importance, because we are living in an age of air.

The question of nationalisation has been discussed on the floor of this House several times. On the previous occasion a non-official Resolution was moved by Sardar Mangal Singh and the then Government accepted the principle of that Resolution. Subsequently an All India Civil Aviation Conference was convened at Delhi and was presided over by the then Member in Charge, Mr. Nishtar. At this conference all provinces and states were represented, as also the leading operating companies in India and one of the main subjects for which this conference was convened was the question whether it was more in the national interest to nationalise civil aviation or it was better to leave it in the hands of private enterprise.

The question of nationalisation of civil aviation is to be considered not in respect to internal air services only but also in respect to external air services. India geographically occupies a unique position on the map of the world and in regard to air communication purposes she occupies a pre-eminent position. No international air route either from East to West or *vice versa* can pass except through India. Because of this unique geographical position of India in respect of international air communication she has also a great responsibility. India has to develop reciprocal agreements with countries like the U.K., the U.S.A. and others. We were informed during the last session that a bilateral agreement has already been arrived at with the U.S.A. and negotiations then were going on for an agreement with the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. We have to see how those agreements have been arrived at and what steps if any have been taken by the Government.

In that Civil Aviation Conference there was an overwhelming weight of opinion in favour of nationalisation so far as external services were concerned. In respect to internal services there was a great difference of opinion. But judging the question on its own merits the conclusion is irresistible that civil aviation in the wider national interest of the country must be nationalised as early as possible, because in air services many things are to be provided by the State itself, as for instance, aerodrome, radio and meteorology. Meteorological conditions in India are admirably suited to the development of civil aviation. After the war up to 1945 the air routes were mainly utilised for military purposes. From 1945 there has been a rapid and intensive development of civil aviation. The passenger traffic which in 1945 was about 22,000 passengers rose to 1,04,000 in the year 1946 and the ton mileage which was 2 millions also went up to 18 millions in 1946. We find that about 122 private companies have come before the Government for grant of licenses. That clearly shows that internal civil aviation has been found to be very profitable to all

[Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava]

these private companies and so there is absolutely no reason why the Government should not take this important means of communication into its own hands. Both from strategic and defence, apart from national economic point of view, it is absolutely essential.

Leaving aside the internal communication question we have to concentrate our attention upon external services. Here the record of India so far is a big zero, in spite of the fact that as early as 1944 it was decided that companies should be floated for external communications. It was then proposed that the external communications work should also be carried on through private companies. Because private companies were not coming forward on their own resources to take up external air communication, it was thought that they should receive substantial subsidies from the Government. Later on this scheme did not come into operation. At the last Civil Aviation Conference this question was also discussed threadbare. We do not know what decision the Government has taken on this point. My respectful submission is that it is absolutely essential that the external air services should be taken by the State in its own hand and it is essential that the scheme that has been designed should now be put into operation, of course not through private agency but by the Government. The question whether this is to be done departmentally, as is being done in the case of Posts and Telegraphs, or it should be left in the hands of an autonomous corporation, my submission is that the better course would be to create an autonomous corporation, in which the state alone should have interest and it should be managed by technical experts and in the day to day administration of that autonomous corporation the Government of the country should not interfere. But apart from that it should be absolutely independent and all profits to be earned by that autonomous corporation should go for the wider interests of the masses and should not be monopolised by a few persons.

Another matter that needs immediate attention by the Government is the training of a large personnel to carry on this technical work. In this also unless and until we have Indian nationals sufficient in number to take up internal and external civil aviation, our dependence will never come to an end. Therefore more important than anything else is that Government should not only spend only 1,59,00,000 as has been proposed in the present budget but substantially larger amount for the purpose of training persons. Without that we will always have to depend on other countries. We have also to arrange for the manufacture of our own aeroplanes and every spare part of aeroplanes. The other thing is that we have to devote our attention in a greater degree for exploring all possible avenues to augment the supply of Petrol.

With these words, Sir, I resume my seat.

**Shri S. M. Ghosh (West Bengal: General):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the time is very short and I shall not be able to develop my arguments, I shall try to touch the main points to which I like to draw the attention of our Honourable Minister.

The first is the question of civil aviation being nationalised. I am one with my other Honourable friends in thinking that it is high time that we nationalise the entire civil aviation in the country. In this connection may I draw the Honourable Minister's attention to the fact that today we have got no special control over civil aviation except general supervision? I would like to ask our Honourable Minister whether it is not possible to have some control, before we actually nationalise civil aviation, by taking about 51 per cent. of the shares of the present companies. I do not know who was responsible for it, but all of us

know that about eighty planes were rejected as scraps and afterwards they were found to be useful and probably they are in a flying condition today. I would like to know from the Honourable Minister what steps have been taken against the officer responsible for condemning as scrap these eighty planes, which were useful.

The second point is regarding telephone services. All of us know—I believe even the officials of the Department know—how difficult it is to get a telephone connection here at Delhi.

I have been told that there is a cadre of Engineering Supervisors—they are called the Post and Telegraph Engineering Services—most of whom have been recruited on a very low scale of pay although most of them are graduates. I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to this complaint. I understand that they are the real backbone of this telephone service.

Then I come to the condition of Tripura State so far as communications is concerned. Sir, the Tripura State is surrounded on three sides by Pakistan. Although there is a trunk line, I believe, it runs through Pakistan. It can be easily connected with Assam if serious attempt is made in that direction. Regarding the post offices in Tripura State I know the people from the State have to go to Pakistan for posting their letters or purchasing postage because there are no post offices near about the boundary of Tripura State, which, as I have already stated, is surrounded on three sides by Pakistan.

In this connection may I draw the attention of our Honourable Minister to the necessity of rural post offices in order to give general relief to our rural people? The number of rural post offices should be increased and the rural Postmasters should be given full pay instead of giving them only a nominal pay of Rs. 7 or 8.

Then I come to the condition of telephone services in Calcutta. In 1937 the exchange line in Calcutta was near about 12,000 and in 1947 I find it has come up to about 20,000. But the number of calls from 1937, when it was 28 and odd millions, has come up in 1947 to 52 and odd millions. That shows to what extent the telephone system in Calcutta has been overloaded. I know that in Calcutta they can give only about 3 or 4 hundred new telephone connections to the public; but there are 19 thousand applications for telephones in the waiting list, and I believe there are about 20 thousand more expectant applicants waiting outside. We have been told by our Honourable Minister that after some extension work is done they will be able to give about 8,000 more telephone connections in Calcutta. That also, I believe, will take some years and not before that. In the meantime we knew that there was a proposal pending before the Government for introducing automatic telephone service in Calcutta. That was held up because the Government thought that they would start an industry to manufacture telephone equipment in India before they take up the introduction of this automatic system in Calcutta. I am not against the starting of a factory for the manufacture of telephone equipment; but if we are to do that let the Government start it immediately and at once. Otherwise the trade, industry and commerce of Calcutta is going to be injured for want of proper facilities. Sir, in this question, loss of revenue also is involved. I would request the Honourable Minister not to take any short-sighted policy. In this matter we should have the consideration of the development of Calcutta and the revenue which the new telephones will bring, and at the same time we have to consider also the question of the manufacture of telephone equipment. I submit, Sir, that both things can go simultaneously.

Then I want to say a word about officials. We were told by our Honourable Ministers that when we criticize the departments generally, we criticize the officials and say something in praise of our Honourable Ministers. The reason is this. Our officials have inherited a legacy from the bureaucratic regime, their

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bureaucratic masters. It is very difficult for them to realise that with the change of time they are now no longer required to serve foreign masters, but they have got a state of their own, they have got a country of their own, they have got a people whose interests are to be supreme in their minds. So long they have viewed the country's problems on files inspired and initiated by British masters, but today they have to look directly after the interests of our people, and I appeal to them that they should also remain conscious all the 24 hours—day and night—that they are no longer servants of British masters, but they are the servants of their people, they have got a state to serve. They have got a country which requires their attention if they are to make our country great and prosperous. With these few words Sir, I support the cut motion.

**Mr. Frank E. Anthony (C. P. and Berar: General):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the few minutes at my disposal I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister and also of the House to what I believe is the cause of increasing discontent in the Telegraph Department. I had given notice of a cut motion to consider the system of selection in the Telegraph Department. I sincerely hope that I will not be misunderstood, and that the Honourable Minister will not reply, as his colleague the Honourable Minister for Railways did, suggesting that I am wanting the system of selection to be diluted. I am not asking for anything of the sort. I want to state very emphatically that I endorse completely the system of selection, that in principle it is absolutely unexceptionable but as on the railways, so in the Telegraph Department it is my information that the system of selection, which in principle is unexceptionable, in practice is being abused, and is one of the main causes of discontent in the Telegraph Department, and perhaps also of inefficiency in that Department. I feel that this is a matter which ought to be faced quite candidly and quite honestly. There is no doubt that a few years back the Telegraph Department had very proud traditions both of service and of efficiency. What are the causes for the undue inefficiency in the Department today? I believe that one of the main causes is to be found in the misapplication, the abuse of this system of selection. As I have said, I am not asking for one moment that standards should be relaxed or that they should be reduced. On the other hand, it is my contention that standards should be raised, that they should be restored. For instance I believe, I think quite rightly, that Telegraph Masters in the Telegraph Department, occupy a key position in that department, that perhaps they are one of the linchpins if not the linchpin, of that department; yet we find a relaxing of the standard in the Telegraph Master's examination. Formerly the standards for that examination were pitched at a very high level. Every person, after so many years experience, could only qualify as a Telegraph Master if in the examination he secured a minimum of 50 per cent. in each paper, and an aggregate minimum of 70 per cent. During the war, on the pretext of lack of personnel, these standards were relaxed. The minimum in the different papers was reduced to 40 per cent., and the aggregate minimum of 70 per cent. was done away with altogether. And although the standards were relaxed on the pretext of the war, even those men who could not qualify according to the lower standards were given grace marks and made Telegraph Masters. I do not want those reduced standards to continue any longer. I feel the time has come when old standards, standards which worked well and produced efficiency, should be restored.

Sir, my main complaint is directly against what is known as the Telegraph Traffic Service, Class II and Grade B of that Traffic Service. Telegraph Masters are key men in your Traffic Department, by relaxing the standard of their examination, you have brought in inefficient men. You have also changed the system of promotion to the next higher cadre, Class II, Grade B. In the old days only after your Telegraph Masters had qualified and they were found suitable, were

they promoted to this Grade B, Class II cadre. Today the Department has introduced the so-called system of selection. It is against this so-called system of selection that I am making my complaint. It is my information that the Selection Board is not working at all well; that favouritism and nepotism have come in and are coming in increasingly. I am not asking you to promote unsuitable, unqualified men. But under the old system, only after a man was found suitable and qualified as a Telegraph Master was he promoted to Class II in Grade B. That worked extremely well. Now we have replaced it by the so called system of selection. What has happened? I am open to correction. If the Honourable Minister has reliable information at his disposal then he can correct me. Recently 58 Telegraph Masters were considered for selection for 15 vacancies in the Telegraph Traffic Service. It is my information that these 15 vacancies were filled, and that the cases of the 58 men were disposed of in about half an hour. Not one of these men was called for an interview. I want to make this point very clear. My Honourable friend will say that the Selection Board did interview these 58 candidates. My information is categorical that not a single candidate was interviewed, and that the cases of these 58 men were disposed of for these 15 vacancies in about half an hour.

**Shri Lakshmi Kanta Maitra (West Bengal: General):** Where was this done?

**Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** Very recently in Delhi by the so called Selection Board. In about half an hour you dispose of 58 cases. These men were interviewed by what are known as Circle Officers. The circle officers on the basis of personal interviews and on the basis of official records of the interviewees sent up their list of recommendations and the Selection Board, without seeing the men, without having an opportunity of even looking at them or speaking to them, has ignored the recommendations of the Circle Officers. Men who were put at the top by the Circle Officers have been put at the bottom by the Selection Board, and men who were put at the bottom have, for quite inexplicable reasons, been brought right at the top by the Selection Board. And what is even more inexplicable, Sir, is that men who had been put at the top by the Circle Officers after a careful scrutiny of their officials records were not even selected by the Selection Board, which disposed of the cases of 53 persons in about half an hour's time. That is why there is so much resentment, justifiable resentment, in the Telegraph Department. Can the Telegraph Department justifiably ask these men to give of their very best in the way of efficient service? They are not giving of their best, because the men feel that so long as the Department has a system of encouraging favourites and relatives, near and distant that the Department has no right to ask them to give of their very best.

Another grievance against this so-called Selection Board is this: that it observes no uniform principle. When it suits the Selection Board they will be guided by the principle of seniority *cum* selection; when it does not suit them, they resort to the principle of selection *cum* seniority. My request is this that the Department should revert to the old system, that is, have a really difficult examination for the selection of Telegraph Masters and then promote the men to the next higher cadre on the basis of seniority *cum* selection. If this is done, one of the main causes of dissatisfaction in the Telegraph Department will have been eradicated.

Sir, I have also been informed that, with a view apparently to achieving greater efficiency, it is under the consideration of this Department to make direct recruitment to the Class II cadre. I sincerely hope, Sir, that this will not be done. As one who had to do a great deal with departmental labour, I feel, that this will be grossly unfair to the qualified subordinates. I know that there is a great deal of vested interest in this matter. Policy is laid down by senior officers who are themselves direct recruits and labour under an obsession that only direct

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recruits can produce results. I feel, Sir, that if under the pretext of improving efficiency if direct recruits are brought in, it will not produce greater efficiency. Bringing into Class II bespectacled youths with first class degrees will not necessarily lead to greater efficiency. People who have not been put to the test of experience may not have practical knowledge and may not be able to control labour.

And finally, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister to this particular point. I do not know to what extent there is substance in this complaint—but it is a complaint nevertheless—that this Directorate is the monopoly of the engineering staff. I am not pointing my finger at all at the ability of these people. But these engineering officers are naturally obsessed with the importance of engineering side. With the best intentions, with the best will in the world, they have not the necessary experience which they can bring to bear on traffic problems.

These, Sir, are the two main items to which I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister and I do feel that if he will go into them impartially, particularly into the question of the misapplication of the system of selection, I feel that he will find the answer very largely to the question of inefficiency in the Telegraph Department.

Mr. Hussain Imam (Bihar: Muslim): Mr. Chairman, as one of those unfortunate men who have to travel much by the Indian Airways, I would like to say a few words on this particular subject. In the last ninety days from the end of last session to this day, I have travelled more than 10 thousand miles on the Airways and I find that there is extreme inco-ordination in the services. There are certain lines on which aeroplanes go almost empty; there are lines on which you cannot have a seat for love or for money, unless you wait for a number of days. I had the first chance yesterday afternoon in Bombay. Although it was booked on the 9th, yet the first chance did not materialise till yesterday and I had to come today because I had provisionally booked for today as well. I think, Sir, that so long as the private enterprise is there and you have this system of one company working against the other, you will have these anomalies of having too many services on one line and too little on the other. For instance I will give one instance, which was also the subject matter of some question in this House: there was no seat available for Karachi by the I. N. A. service unless you booked a month ahead. Even with priority it was difficult to get a seat five or six days ahead. Whereas in one particular airway by which I have to travel most, I mean the Bharat Airways belonging to Mr. G. D. Birla, I have always had accommodation available except once when I had to take the help of the Communications Department. The definite conclusion of the Conference which was held in February last was that the foreign services should be nationalised; and internal services should remain in the hands of private companies, was the opinion of the Industrialists. The opinion of many, and I was one of those who participated in that Conference, was that these also should be nationalised. If it cannot be done today it should be done on a near future date; this must be considered as the ultimate goal of civil aviation. Another view which was urged was that internal competition of a bad kind, or what is called cut-throat competition, should not be allowed. I should like one thing to be considered very seriously. That is the new lines that you are opening really means bringing in new personnel from outside India. With the exception of the two lines, the Air India and the I. N. A., we do not find many Indian nationals in any other lines.

I would invite the attention of the House to the fact that during the war, R. I. A. F. and other service men were trained in much smaller time than is done today. If war can prepare personnel for this technical job I think peacetime can also do it. The only trouble is that the flying clubs are really meant for rich people who do not go in for service. I would like the Honourable

Minister to find out how many members who qualified from the flying clubs have joined any of these Indian services. You will find that less than 5 or 10 per cent people take to service. We spend money not for the enjoyment of the rich. We want them to be utilised for the service of the nation. This can be done only if you have schools, which can impart training on condition that the trainees after completion of their course will take to service. That is the way in which you can do the job.

Another thing in which we are very deficient is the ground engineering staff; we are miserably poor in that. Even the few people who are available are not of that high standard which we expect in this service. I regret, Sir, that India's very fair record of no accidents in civil aviation was destroyed by the best private aviation company that we have got—the Tata Air India—and by one of the best planes that they had—a Viking. It is one of the tragedies and it is inexplicable that such a thing should have happened. These are the things which just go to prove how careful we have to be, they only prove that too much care cannot be taken.

I would also invite the attention of the Honourable Minister to the fact that it is necessary that the multiplication of companies that is going on should not be allowed. It will only mean further difficulties when you want to nationalize. There should be rationalization in the services. Pool them together; let these established companies form themselves into a merger just like the Associated Cement Company in which you had the merger of all the cement-manufacturing companies. I would advise that there should be a merger of the civil aviation companies so that you may have the services running where they are required by the public and not on different lines. I accept the formula that has been accepted by the Government of having full control on the fares, on the examination of the air-worthiness of the planes; all these things should continue. Even if it is decided not to nationalize civil aviation at once, at least these things should be done.

Referring to the point which was made by Mr. Anthony, I would invite the attention of the Ministries as a whole to the evidence which was tendered before the Central Pay Commission. Every one of the employees' organisations which came up before us was vehemently against the present system of selection; without exception I say every one of the associations urged that an improvement should be made. Two suggestions were made: either examination, or seniority. There was difference of opinion as to what should be the basis. But on the present system of selection there was complete unanimity and it has given so much dissatisfaction. If the records are examined, it will be found that the present system of selection stands self-condemned. I have no particular grouse and I have no knowledge of the particular selection board. I simply wish to draw attention of Government to a fact which can be verified from the records of the Government itself.

Sir, I do not like to mention—because the matter is too well-known—the vagaries of the telephone. If India could manufacture ten thousand and one part which were required for the war, I do not understand why she cannot manufacture things required for the telephone. If we could manufacture things ourselves—at least the bigger components—it would be possible to improve it. Continuing to complain against the technical personnel would do no good. It is not the fault of the personnel only; the personnel are at fault no doubt, but the fault is more due to the want of goods. Unless you have got all the goods necessary you cannot have good facilities. I would therefore invite the attention of the Honourable Minister to embark upon this manufacturing activity. They are already manufacturing telephone instruments; other essential things should also be manufactured either by ourselves or by the Indian concerns with the help of experts. At present the need for more facilities is too great. As the Honourable Member from Bengal said the business life is suffering greatly and

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the loss which they are incurring is greater than the loss which we would incur if we manufacture the things at a higher cost.

عربی دیسہ بلدیہ لکھتا : جناب صدرا یہ جو کلموشن میں Move کرنا چاہتا تھا اس کے دو حصے ہیں۔ ایک حصہ تھلمپن ویہاک سے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور دوسرا حصہ ڈاک ویہاک ہے۔ جہانتک ڈاک کا تعلق ہے جناب صدرا! مسوہ سے پہلے بہت کچھ کہا جا چکا ہے اور میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ خود آنریبل ملسٹر صاحب کو یہ تجربہ ہوا کہ ابھی تک یہ محکمہ اسی پرانی چھکڑے کی چال سے چل رہا ہے۔ بمقابلہ عامر وہی رفتار سے تھلمگی جو پہلے تھی سو اب بھی ہے یعنی خطوط بہت زیادہ دیر میں پہنچتے ہیں خصوصیت کے ساتھ جن چٹھوں پر ہندی میں پتہ لکھا ہوتا ہے ان چٹھوں کے جلد مہل کے فاصلہ پر پہنچنے میں بھی بہت گئی دیر لگ جاتی ہے۔ جناب صدرا! آج حالت یہ ہے کہ اس میں ذرا مبالغہ نہیں کہ نیویارک لندن اور اسی طرح دوسرے ملکوں اور دوسرے بڑے بڑے شہروں سے دو دن میں ہوائی ڈاک کے ذریعہ یہاں چٹھیاں پہنچ جاتی ہیں۔ لیکن ہمارے یہاں دیہاتی مقامات سے اگر کوئی چٹھی پلندرا مہل کے فاصلہ پر بھی دوسرے دیہات میں بھجی جائے تو اس میں اس سے زیادہ وقت لگ جاتا ہے لہذا میں آنریبل ملسٹر صاحب سے عرض کروں گا کہ وہ اس طرف توجہ کریں اور اس حالت کو بدلنے کی کوشش کریں اور اس فریب کسان کے جو تھن پم سے خرچ کر کے ایک چٹھی اچھ کسی عزیز کو بھجھتا ہے خیال کریں کہ اگر وہ چٹھی وقت پر نہیں پہنچتی تو اس کے دل پر کیا گزرتی ہوگی۔ اس فریب کو ساری عمر میں بہت کم چٹھیاں لکھتے اور پانے کا موقعہ ہوتا ہے اس کے علاوہ چٹھی پڑھوانے میں بھی اس کا کچھ وقت لگ جاتا ہے اس طرح اسکا مطلب فوت ہو جاتا ہے۔ سمجھئے خیال میں اس شکیت کو دور کرنے ایک طریقہ یہ ہو سکتا ہے کہ ہندی knowing staff ڈاک کے چھانٹنے اور تقسیم کرنے کے لئے اور زیادہ رکھا جائے۔ جس وقت تک آپ ایسا نہ کریں گے اس وقت تک یہ مشکل دور نہ ہو سکے گی۔

اب جناب! تار کا سوال لہجئے اگرچہ مسوہ کلموشن میں اس کا ذکر نہیں ہے پھر بھی میں آپ نی اجازت سے اس کے متعلق جلد الفاظ کہوں گا اور وہ یہ ہے کہ جہانتک تار کے محکمہ کا تعلق ہے اس کی efficiency کا اندازہ اس بات سے کیا جاسکتا ہے کہ اگر آرڈنری تھلمپن اور اکسپرس تھلمپن کے اعداد و شمار جمع کئے جائیں اور ان کی ایک دوسرے سے کیا نسبت ہے یہ نکلیں اور اس کا مقابلہ pre-war days کے اعداد و شمار نسبت سے کریں تو آپ کو پتہ چلے گا کہ آج کل لوگوں نے آرڈنری تھلمپن بھجھنے بہت کم کردنیے ہیں چونکہ بسا اوقات یہ تار خط سے بھی دیر میں پہنچتے ہیں اور آرڈنری تھلمپن بھجھنے سے کوئی فائدہ نہیں ہوتا۔ اب رہا اکسپرس تھلمپن کا سوال۔ عام شکیت ہے کہ وہ بھی وقت پر نہیں پہنچتے اس لئے آنریبل ملسٹر صاحب کو اس طرف توجہ دینی چاہئے۔

جناب صدر ! تھلہنوں وبھاگ کا جہانتک تعلق ہے اسکا حال اس سے بھی زیادہ خراب ہے ۔ اس سلسلے میں میرے لائق دوست نے مجھ پر بھی کرم فرمایا اور کہ حال میں انہوں نے جو تھلہنوں ایڈوائزی کھتی بھائی ہے اسکا مجھ کو بھی ایک مسہر نامزد کر دیا پچھلے تین مہینوں میں اس کھتی پر کام کرنے کے بعد میں نے یہ محسوس کیا کہ حقیقت میں میرے لائق دوست نے کھتی ہذا کو مقرر کر کے اس کھات کو درست ثابت کر دیا ہے کہ بلدر کی بلا طویل کے سر۔ جناب والا ! اس کھتی کے سامنے تھلہنوں کلکھن کھائے تھائی ہزار applications پلڈنگ میں اور ان تین مہینوں میں ہم نے صرف ۴۵ کلکھن دئے ہیں اور وہ بھی زیادہ تر اسلئے کہ بہت سے لوگوں کے پاکستان چلے ۔ جانہکی وجہ سے جو تھلہنوں خالی ہو گئے ہوئے تھے وہ دوسروں کو دے دئے گئے اس سے آپ اندازہ کر سکتے ہیں کہ دہای میں تھلہنوں کی کھا حالت ہے ۔ جناب صدر ! ہمارا دعویٰ تو یہ ہے کہ ہمارا ملک بہت بوا اونچا اور ترکی پسند ہے لیکن اگر فور سے دیکھا جائے تو یہ ماننا پڑیگا کہ ہمارا ملک اس معاملہ میں بہت پچھلے ہے ۔ اکلے نیویارک شہر میں تین million سے زیادہ تھلہنوں ہیں اور ہمارے سارے ملک میں صرف ایک لاکھ بیس ہزار تھلہنوں ہیں اس سے آپ سمجھ سکتے ہیں کہ ہلے اس معاملہ میں کتنی کم ترلی ہے یہ تو ہے تھلہنوں کی تعداد کی حالت جہانتک Efficiency کا تعلق ہے مجھے اسسوس کے ساتھ کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ نیشنل گورنمنٹ کے آنے سے پہلے efficiency کا معیار اس معاملے میں بہت اونچا تھا مجھکو اسکا خود تجربہ ہے ۔ چلانچہ جب سردار بھگت سنگھ کو پنجاب ہائی کورٹ سے سنہ ۳۱ء میں پھانسی کا حکم سنایا گیا تھا تو میں نے یہ سوچا کہ ملک میں ہوتال ہونی چاہئے اسوقت میں ایک Rebel سمجھا جاتا تھا اسپر بھی اسوقت ٹرنک کالز کرنے میں اتلی آسانی تھی کہ میں نے پہلے پلڈت موتی لال جی نہرو سے جو اسوقت مسوری میں قہام پزیر تھے تھلہنوں پر اجازت لی اور اسکے دو کھلئے کے اندر اندر تمام پراونسز کے Capitals کو تھلہنوں سے خیر کر دئے کہ وہ ہوتال ملانہں میں نے دیکھا کہ دو کھلئے کے بعد اخبارات کے دفٹروں میں اطلاعیں آنے لکھیں کہ فلاں جگہ جلوس بلد کو دیا گیا فلاں جگہ ہوتال کا اعلان ہو گیا ۔ اس سے جناب والا اسوقت کی efficiency کا اندازہ ہو سکتا ہے مجھے یقین ہے کہ اگر آج منسٹر صاحب خود بھی تھلہنوں کرنا چاہیں تو دو کھلئے میں تمام پراونسز کے Capitals میں وہ تھلہنوں نہیں کر سکیں گے ۔ جناب صدر دھلی کی مقامی حالت کا جہانتک تعلق ہے یہاں صرف ساڑھے نو ہزار تھلہنوں ہیں جن میں سے ساڑھے چار ہزار بہت سے دفٹروں میں اور سرکاری افسران کے گھروں پر لگے ہوئے ہیں دو ہزار کے قریب نئی دھلی میں لگے ہوئے ہیں اور باقی

[شری دیھی بلدمو کہتا]

مائدہ پرائی دہلی اور چھاونی میں لگے ہوئے ہیں معلوم ہوا ہے کہ نئی دہلی کے لئے ایک نیا exchange بنایا جا رہا ہے جس میں چار ہزار نئی Lines ہونگی لیکن پرائی دہلی کے ساتھ پورے ہی سوشلی مل کا سلوک کیا جا رہا ہے اور باوجود اسکے کہ اسٹانڈنگ فائلڈس کمیٹی نے قیودہ سال ہوا یہ فیصلہ کیا تھا کہ پرائی دہلی میں ایک نیا ایکسچینج کھولا جائے ابھی تک اسکے لئے کوئی Order تک نہیں دیا گیا جسکے معنی یہ ہیں کہ کئی سال تک پرائی دہلی میں نیا ایکسچینج لگانے کا نسخہ نہیں آسکتا اسلئے مہری یہ کڑاں ہے کہ آرڈینل مسٹرو صاحب کو اس طرف جلد توجہ دینی چاہئے اور نئے ایکسچینج قائم کرچکی رفتار تیز کرنی چاہئے اسکے علاوہ ایسے ہی efficiency بڑھانے کی بہت ہی ضرورت ہے میں دیکھتا ہوں کہ اس طرف مناسب دھیان نہیں دیا جا رہا۔ آج ہم یہ دیکھتے ہیں موجودہ inefficiency کی ایک وجہ یہ ہے کہ اگر کوئی عملہ میں آپریٹر ایک کھانچے میں دس عملہ میں ٹرنک کالز کرتا ہے اور دوسرا دو کرتا ہے تو ہم دس والے کو کوئی encouragement نہیں دیتے حالانکہ جو دس کالز کرتا ہے اس سے محکمہ کی آمدنی میں کافی فرق پڑتا ہے اور دہلی سے مدراس کو دو کالز ہی زیادہ ہو جاتیں تو کیا تملک کو ۸۰ یا ۹۰ روپیہ وائد مل جاتے ہیں اسلئے ضرورت ہے کہ ہم efficiency کو طرف زیادہ توجہ کریں اور جو آپریٹرس بہتر کام کرتے ہیں انہیں rewards دینے چاہئیں تاکہ efficiency بڑھے اسکے علاوہ عملہ میں آپریٹرس کا جہانتک تعلق ہے اس میں مردوں کی تعداد برابر کی ہے میں سمجھتا ہوں اگر اس محکمہ میں Girls کو زیادہ employ کیا جائے اور آپریٹرس کی ساری کی ساری posts پر جو ابھی fifty fifty پرسلٹ ہیں انہیں کو تملک کو دیا جائے تو نہ صرف efficiency بڑھ سکتی ہے بلکہ corruption بھی کم ہو سکتی ہے اسکی وجہ یہ ہے کہ جہانتک مردوں کا تعلق ہے business کی ٹرنک کال میں انکے corrupt ہونکے زیادہ chances ہیں کہونکہ وہ business کرتے ہیں یہ راہ رسم بنا لیتے ہیں لیکن ہماری بہنوں جب وہاں کام کریں گی تو انکے corrupt ہونکے chances وہاں کم ہونگے۔ اسلئے اسکی طرف بھی میں آپکی توجہ دلتا چاہتا ہوں۔

ایک چیز اور ہے جسکی طرف میں چاہتا ہوں کہ مہرے لائق دوست توجہ دیں اور وہ یہ ہے کہ اسٹاف کا جہاں تک تعلق ہے اسکو satisfied رکھنے کی ضرورت ہے کیا وجہ ہے کہ کلکتہ اور بمبئی میں جسٹس انٹیمینٹ عملہ میں کھلیاں کام کرتی ہیں تو اتنی efficiency زیادہ تھی؟ مجھکو معلوم ہوا ہے کہ سال ۳۳ ع میں یہ کھلیاں کورنسلٹ نے لے لی تھیں لیکن ان کے اسٹاف کو آج تک departmental نہیں کہا گیا وہ اسٹاف اسطرح چلا آ رہا ہے، ان کی Efficiency پر اثر پڑتا ہے۔

ایک اور چیز کی طرف میں اچھے لائق دوست کی توجہ کھینچنا چاہتا ہوں دلی میں انہوں نے ٹیلیفون اینڈ ریڈیو کمیٹی تو بنا دی ہے اور اس سے کچھ فائدہ بھی ضرور ہوا ہے لیکن اس کے ساتھ ساتھ وہ ایک قدم اور بڑھائیں اور بجائے اینڈ ریڈیو کمیٹی کے دلی کے لئے ایک علیحدہ انڈیپنڈنٹ بورڈ سارے انتظامات کی دیکھ بھال کھلئے بنا دیں اور کم سے کم دی میں اس کا تجربہ کر کے دیکھیں کہ اس کا کیا اثر ہوتا ہے۔ محکمہ ٹیلیفون کے جن بڑے افسروں سے میرا واسطہ پڑا ہے انہیں سے کئی کے متعلق میں کہہ سکتا ہوں کہ وہ کافی دلچسپی کھساتے کام کر رہے ہیں لیکن ان کے ہاتھ پاؤں بندھے ہوئے ہیں اگر آپ ایک چھوٹا سا بورڈ بنائیں اور اسے کافی اختیار دیں تو ان کی واجب مانگوں کو پورا کر دیں تو میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ efficiency ضرور بڑھ سکتی ہے، جناب صدر! میری اس تجویز کو عملی جامہ پہنا کر ہم دہلی میں اس کا تجربہ کر سکتے ہیں اور اگر تجربہ کامیاب ہو تو پھر دوسری جگہ بھی اسے شروع کیا جا سکتا ہے اس کا ایک بڑا فائدہ یہ ہوگا کہ موجودہ Red tapism کیوجہ سے جو تجویزیں مدتوں لگتی رہتی ہیں اور چھوٹی چھوٹی چیزوں کھلئے آل انڈیا basis پر فیصلہ کرنیکی وجہ سے جو دیر لگتی ہے ہم اس سے بچ جائیں گے۔

ایک خاص چیز جسکی طرف میں اور دھیان کھینچنا چاہتا ہوں وہ یہ ہے کہ آج ہمارا ملک آزاد ہو چکا ہے ہم دنیا میں اپنی individuality قائم کرنا چاہتے ہیں لیکن ہماری حالت یہ ہے کہ تار صرف انگریزی زبان میں دئے جا سکتے ہیں اور اب تک قیہارتملت نے ایسا کوئی قدم نہیں اٹھایا ہے کہ محض ہندی پڑھے ہوئے لوگ ہندی زبان میں قیہارتگرام دے سکیں۔ ہمارے ایجوکیشن منسٹر ایسا کہتے ہیں کہ پانچ سال کے بعد ہندوستان کے تمام یونیورسٹیوں میں تعلیم صرف اپنی مادری زبان میں ہوا کریگی لیکن پوسٹل قیہارتملت نے ایسا کوئی پروگرام نہیں بنایا کہ کب تک تار میں وہیہ صرف ہندوستانی زبان میں دی جائے لگیکے۔

میں اُسہد کرتا ہوں کہ جو suggestions میں نے کئے ہیں انکی طرف دھیان دیا جائے اور یہ محض رسمی بات نہ ہوگی کہ ایک کت موشن یہی ہوا اور اس کا جواب دیدیا گیا بلکہ efficiency کو improve کرنے کے لئے عملی ذرائع اختیار کئے جائیں گے۔

(English translation of the above speech)

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi):** Mr. Chairman, the cut motion which I wanted to move consists of two parts, one relates to the telephone Department and the other to the Postal Department. Much has already been said, Sir, in regard to the latter. I think the Honourable Minister also must have realised himself that his department has been moving along like an old and rickety cart. In the poet's words:

"Wohi raftar bedhangti jo pahle thee woh ale bhi hai,"

(Things remain as bad as before).

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta]

In other words letters reach their destination very late; especially letters bearing addresses in Hindi take long to cover even very short distances. Sir without exaggeration the state of affairs today is that air mail letters from New York, London and other foreign important places reach here within a couple of days. But here in India, if a letter is posted from one rural place to another, even fifteen miles distant, it takes longer to reach its destination. I would, therefore, request the Honourable Minister to give his attention to this so that this state of affairs may be improved. I wish he could imagine the feelings of a poor peasant, who, after spending three pice to post a letter to his dear one, finds that the letter has not reached the addressee in time. The poor man has very few opportunities of writing and posting letters in his life time. Moreover, some of his time is also spent in getting his letters read out to him. In this way the letter loses its utility. I think the one way of removing this grievance is to increase the Hindi knowing staff for sorting and distribution of post. So long as this is not done, this difficulty will persist.

Take the case of telegrams now. Although my cut motion makes no mention of this, yet with your permission I will say a few words about it. So far as the Telegraph Department is concerned, its efficiency can be estimated if you total up the number of ordinary and express telegrams received now and before the war, and see their proportion to each other you will find that people are sending fewer ordinary telegrams now than they used to do before because often these telegrams take even longer to reach than letters. No useful purpose is therefore served by sending ordinary telegrams. Now take the case of Express telegrams. People generally complain that even these are not delivered in time. The Honourable Minister must, therefore, look into it. Sir, so far as the Telephone Department is concerned it is still worse. My learned friend was kind enough to nominate me as a member to the recently formed Telephone Advisory Committee. My experience of the last three months as a member of this committee has made me feel that by appointing this committee my Honourable friend has proved the truth of an old proverb:

*"Bender ki Bala tawels ke sir."*

Sir, the committee have 2,500 applications pending before it and only 45 new connections have been given during the past three months; and that too was possible on account of the migration to Pakistan. The telephones released thus were allotted to some of these applicants. This will give you an idea of the state of affairs of telephones in Delhi. Sir, we claim that India is a very large, and progressive country with high ideals. But if we observe carefully we will have to admit that in this direction our country is very backward. In the city of New York alone there are over three millions of telephones whereas in the whole of India we have only 1,20,000. You can therefore judge how little progress we have made in this matter. So much for the number of telephones. As regards efficiency, I regret to say that before the advent of National Government the standard was much higher. I have a personal experience of this. When Sardar Bhagat Singh was sentenced to death in 1931 by the Punjab High Court, it struck me that there should be a 'Hartal' in the country. I was looked upon then as a 'rebel'. Even then, it was so easy to make trunk calls at that time that, first of all, I rang up Pt. Moti Lal Nehru who was at that time staying at Musorie. I obtained his approval and within two hours of that I was able to phone up and advise all the provincial capitals to observe 'Hartal'. I found that after two hours the offices of the various newspapers began to receive news of banning of processions and of 'Hartals' at different places. This will give you an idea of the efficiency of work at that time. I am sure even if the Honourable Minister himself tries today, he will not be able to have telephonic talks with all the provincial capitals in just two hours.

Sir, so far as the local condition in Delhi is concerned, there are only 9,500 telephones here. Of these 4,500 are installed in the Government offices or at the residences of Government officials. About 2,000 are installed in New Delhi and the remaining in old Delhi and in Delhi Cantt. It is heard that a new telephone exchange is being put up in New Delhi which will have 4,000 new lines. Old Delhi is still receiving a step motherly treatment. In spite of the fact that the Standing Finance Committee decided a year and a half ago to set up a new Exchange in old Delhi, no orders have so far been issued to this effect. It means that for many years to come there are no chances of a new Exchange in old Delhi. I would, therefore, request the Honourable Minister to attend to this at once, and to expedite the work of the installation of new Exchanges.

Apart from that, there is also a great need for increasing efficiency. I find due attention is not being paid to it. One of the causes of present inefficiency is that the operator who puts through 10 trunk calls does not receive any encouragement and is treated in the same way as the operator who puts through only two calls although the former increases the income of the Department. If only two more Trunk Calls are made from Delhi to Madras, the Department gets an additional income of eighty to ninety rupees. It is, therefore, necessary to lend our greater attention to efficiency; and we should give rewards etc., to those operators who work better so that efficiency may be encouraged. Apart from that, so far as telephone operators are concerned, the number of male and female operators at present is equal. I think if larger number of girls are employed in this Department and if all the posts of operators, are filled by them, not only then efficiency will increase but also corruption will decrease. It is because, men are more likely to become corrupt while dealing with business trunk calls because they are more in contact with businessmen. The employment of our sisters there will minimise chances of corruption. I, therefore, desire to draw your attention to this also. To one thing more I want to invite the attention of my Honourable friend. So far as the staff is concerned it should be kept satisfied. How is it that when independent telephone companies operated in Calcutta and Bombay, their efficiency was greater? I have come to know that in 1943 these companies were taken over by the Government but their staff have not so far been absorbed in the Department. It is continuing as non-departmental staff. This affects their efficiency.

My Honourable friend has of course appointed a Telephone Advisory Committee in Delhi and it has no doubt resulted in some improvement. But side by side with that he should take another step. Instead of an Advisory Committee he should constitute an Independent Board for Delhi to look after the entire administration. It should at least be given a trial in Delhi. I can say from my personal experience with some of the high officers of the Telephone Department with whom I have had to deal, that a good number of them take a lot of interest in their work; but their hands are tied. If you establish a small Board, vest it with enough powers, and meet its due demands, I feel efficiency is bound to improve. Sir, this scheme of mine may be enforced in Delhi as an experimental measure. If the experiment succeeds here, the system can be introduced at other places also. One great advantage that will accrue as a result of this is that we will be avoiding delays in the enforcement of schemes, which have been lingering on for years due to the existing system of 'red tapism', and hesitations to take decisions on small schemes on an all India basis.

One particular matter to which I like to draw attention is this. Today our country is free and we want to establish our individuality in the world. But our condition is such that telegraphic messages can be transmitted only in English, and upto this time the Department has taken no such step as may enable Hindi knowing people to get their telegraphic messages transmitted in Hindi. Our Education Minister tells us that after five years all Indian Universities will be imparting education in our national language, but the postal Department has

[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta]

made no such programme as may indicate how long it will take to introduce the practice of transmitting telegraphic messages only in Hindustani language.

I hope the suggestions I have made will receive due consideration; merely the formality of answering a cut motion will not do; but practical steps will be taken to improve the efficiency.

**Shri Khurshed Lal (U.P.: General):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the cut motion of which I had given notice of, I had intended to raise the question of 'Communication Industries'. Now, Sir, how important that question is is apparent from the fact that for the last few years all progress in the matter of extension of telephones has been held up for want of equipment and instruments. Even as it is, so far as the telephone map of the world is concerned, India is nowhere. Whereas, Sir, in

the U.S.A. there are 21 telephones for every 100 of the population, in India the percentage is .03. We have claimed in various conferences that we are the potential leaders of Asia, but in this matter of telephones, we do not lead even Asia. Well, the average for Asia is 0.1 and the Indian average is .03 per cent. That shows, Sir, that we need communication industries not only to consolidate our present position and to put our house in order, but we also need them if we are to expand the telephones and telegraphs in this country. It won't do, Sir, to depend entirely on imports from outside. If we have to make any progress, we have to set up our own factories; we have to set up our own plants in order to manufacture all our requirements in the matter of telegraphs and telephones. I have before me a report of the Conference on Industrial Development in India. The report says that there are three factories working in India at the present moment. The Super Services India Limited, Bombay, Messrs. India Electric Works Limited, Calcutta and Telephone Manufacturers Limited, Dehra Dun. Sir, I have not been able to find out much about the Bombay and Calcutta firms but I happen to know something about the firm at Dehra Dun and if the other firms are of the same pattern, I should say: God help us. The House will probably be interested to know that the Dehra Dun Telephone Manufacturers Limited has not a single Indian shareholder it is a subsidiary company of four British companies; it was set up in Dehra Dun during the war to manufacture some parts of telephone instruments, and if my information is true, Sir, they are closing down very shortly. Out of the three firms one firm is closing down: I do not know what is the condition of the other two firms, whether they are Indian firms, whether they are like the Telephone Manufacturers Limited an absolutely European firm and what they propose to do. The Department of the Honourable Minister, Sir, has got two factories working, one at Jubbulpore and one at Allpore.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** And one at Bombay.

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** Thank you very much. Most of the essential parts of telephone instruments are not manufactured in any of these factories either owned by the Government or by the private companies and we have to depend on imports from outside. I would, therefore seriously urge upon the Honourable Minister to take note of this state of affairs and to take steps to set up factories and plants where the most important parts of telephone instruments and telegraph instruments could be manufactured—I know, Sir, it is not possible in a year or two—but we must set up some time-limit by which time we must be self-sufficient in the matter of manufacture of all these instruments. Today we complain of lack of foreign exchange; we complain of so many things and if we have in the process of our development to depend on all these things being imported from outside, then, Sir, our progress is bound to be held up indefinitely.

There is one thing more to which I would like to draw the attention of the Honourable Minister. Even in a highly industrialized country like England 90 per cent. of the telegraph and telephone poles are of treated timber. Today,

Sir, we have got an immense shortage of steel and steel is required for so many things. We have got quite a large number of forests in our country. If I remember correctly, Sir, some important experiments were made some years ago in the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun for treating timber and I would strongly urge upon the Honourable Minister to consider the possibility of replacing these steel posts by treated timber and use treated timber as far as possible. As I said in an industrialized country like England they are using 90 per cent. treated timber which they have to get all the way from Scandinavia, here we have timber in this country which can be treated and if it is treated properly can be utilised in place of a large amount of steel which is required for other purposes. So, I would urge upon the Honourable Minister to take these factors into consideration. I know, Sir, that the task before the Honourable Minister is very difficult. He has inherited a Department, which during the war years had reached the lowest point of efficiency. But we in the United Provinces have known the Honourable Minister for his energy, for his drive and I am sure, if he applies his undoubted powers to the reform of this Department, there is no reason why the complaints which we have heard so much in recent days should not disappear. Even as it is the position remains pretty bad. But it must be said that the working of the telephones has during the past few days shown some signs of improvement and if this improvement continues, I am sure things will soon come to normal. Nowadays there is no point in sending ordinary telegrams and unless the intention is that people must be forced to send express telegrams, so that there may be more revenue for the Government, I am sure ordinary telegrams would soon come to take its proper place.

श्री गोकुलभाई दौलतराम भट्ट : माननीय सभापति जी, डाक और तार के मामले में जो बातें माननीय गुप्ता जी ने कही हैं उसे मैं दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूँ। लेकिन यहां दिल्ली की हालत एक अजीब सी है। दिल्ली में, नई दिल्ली में खास करके, मौसम भी दिन बदिन बदलता रहता है। दिल्ली के लिये टेलीफोन और तार की सबको कुछन कुछ दिक्कत रहती है, और अव्यवस्था इस प्रकार की है कि कुछ कहना ही नहीं। दिल्ली के ऐडवाइजरी बोर्ड (Advisory Board) की भी बात कही गई है और दूसरे बोर्डों की भी। लेकिन और जगहों के लिये हम खास तौर से कोई ध्यान नहीं देते हैं। मैं यह जरूर कहना चाहता हूँ कि तार या टेलीग्राम (Telegram) के बारे में सुधार की बड़ी जरूरत है। यहां दिल्ली में जहां कि राजधानी है वहां तो बहुत ज्यादा सुधार होने चाहिये और जल्दी से होने चाहिये क्योंकि यहां जो बैठे हैं, वह सारे देश की बागडोर हाथ में लेकर बैठे हैं, और यहां दूसरे जो समासद भी बैठे हैं वह हिन्दुस्तान के कोने कोने में आये हुये हैं और उनको काम भी कोने कोने में करना पड़ता है। इस तरह यह स्वाभाविक है कि दिल्ली में अगर अव्यवस्था होती है तो सारे हिन्दुस्तान में अंधेरा है ऐसा मालूम होता है। मैं एक मिसाल दूँ। यह टेलीफोन वर्गरेह की गड़बड़ी चाहे जितनी दिल्ली में हो लेकिन बम्बई में जब देखता हूँ तो इस तरह की गड़बड़ी नहीं मालूम होती। जैसे वहां पहले चीजें थीं उसी तरह आज भी चल रही हैं। लेकिन जब दिल्ली में आता हूँ तो एक अंधेरा सा मालूम होता है। यह क्यों है, इसकी जांच और पड़ताल करने का काम हमारे

[श्री गोकुल भाई दीलनगरम मट्ट]

माननीय मंत्री जी का है जब कि हम लोग इतना बोझते हैं तब उन्हें यह मालूम हो जायगा कि यह लॉग बोझते हैं तो कुछ न कुछ तो करें। उनके अफसर जो यहां बंटे हैं उनके दिल में भी यह होता होगा कि हमारे ऊपर लथाड़ पड़ रही है। एक तरफ से कुछ शिकायतें मिल रही हैं, तो कुछ फटकार पड़ रही है। कुछ सुधार जरूर हो रहा है, पर जितनी जल्दी होना चाहिये और जितने ज्यादा होने चाहिये उनमें वह नहीं हो रहे हैं। और वह न होना बुरी बात है। वह धेरे लिये नहीं, देश के लिये, मुल्क के लिये बुरी बात है। इस एयरोप्लेन (Aeroplane) के मामले में हम छकड़े पर बैठ कर नहीं जाते हैं, मोटर पर नहीं जाते हैं, तो यह सुधार, कुछ-कुछ सुधार होने से हमें उनमें सन्तोष नहीं होगा। हमारे सुधारों में बहुत कुछ बढ़ोतरी होनी चाहिये। इसकी ओर मैं उनका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

एअर मेल (Air Mail) से डाक जाने से हम यह समझते हैं कि जल्दी पहुंच जायेगी और पैसा भी कम खर्च होगा पर मैंने कई मंत्रों यह देखा है कि एअर मेल (Air Mail) से चिट्ठियां डालने हैं, लेट फी (Late Fee) लगा कर और एक्सप्रेस डिलिवरी (Express Delivery) में भी भेजते हैं तो वह चिट्ठी पांच-पांच, छ-छ दिन तक, जहां एक दिन में पहुंचनी चाहिये, नहीं पहुंचती है। यह सुस्ती की बात है। ऐसी एअर मेल (Air Mail) को देखते हुये तो उसकी जगह पार्सल ट्रेन (Parcel Train) में, या गुरुम में भी यह चिट्ठी भेजी जाय तो शायद वह जल्दी पहुंच जाय। लेकिन एअर मेल की जब चिट्ठी इस तरह से पहुंचती है तो बड़े आवश्यक की बात है। और इसमें सुधार होने की आवश्यकता है।

एक दूसरी बात की तरफ मैं ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। मालूम नहीं कहां तक यह सब है, मैंने इसकी जांच नहीं की। लेकिन चिट्ठियां बांटने वाले जो सॉर्टर्स (Sorters) होने हैं रेलवे मेल बंन में, उनके दिमागों में कुछ बू है। मुझे यह कहा गया है कि कभी-कभी किन्हीं अम्बारों के पार्सल जिसको सॉर्टर्स (Sorters) अलग करते हैं, उनका दिमाग अलग होते हैं, उनकी बू अलग होती है शायद वह कोई हिन्दू महा-सभा के साथ ताल्लुक रखने वाले होते हैं, या भार० एस० एस० (R. S. S.) में हमदर्दी रखने वाले हों या नेशनल गार्ड (National Guard) की तरफ उनका कुछ ध्यान हो, तो ऐसे आदमी क्या करते हैं कि जो राष्ट्रीय अम्बार होते हैं उनको उठा लेते हैं और अलग रख देते हैं। दूसरे अम्बारों के बन्डलों को आगे कर देते हैं जिससे वह नियमित रूप से पहुंच जायें और राष्ट्रीय अम्बार पीछे पड़ जायें। यह शिकायत मैंने अभी-अभी सुनी है और मैं इसकी जांच भी करना चाहता हूँ। उसके बाद मैं इसे माननीय मंत्री जी के पास यह सारी बात पेश करूंगा। लेकिन अभी मैं इस ओर

उनकी तबज्जह जरूर दिलाना चाहता हूँ जो कि मने सुना है। मैं इसकी ओर उनका ध्यान दिलाऊंगा कि अखबार देर में पहुंचते हैं क्योंकि जो उन्हें सॉर्ट (sort) करने वाले आदमी होते हैं वह ऐसी गड़बड़ी करते हैं।

एक दूसरी बात यह है जिसकी तरफ़ में पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट (Postal Department) का ध्यान अकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि कई स्थानों के जो नाम पहले रखे गए थे उनमें भी तब्दीली होनी चाहिये। मिसाल के तौर पर एरिन्पुरा (Erinpura) और एरिन्पुरा रोड (Erinpura Road) के नाम दिये गए थे, इसमें बड़ी गड़बड़ी होती है। तो इसके स्थान पर इसका नाम शिवगंज रख दिया जाय जो कि इसका पुराना नाम है। पता नहीं क्यों पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट (Postal Department) के लोगों के दिमागों में यह नहीं आता कि इसे कैसे बदला जाये। लेकिन इसी तरह से कई जगहों के नाम बदलना चाहिये जिससे तार और डाक पहुंचाने में ज्यादा सहूलियत हो।

दूसरी बात में कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि गांवों में पोस्ट आफिस कई जगह ऐसे हैं कि बहुत से गांव होते हुए भी १५-१५ मील तक एक ही पोस्ट-आफिस रहता है। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव यह है कि कम से कम यह ध्यान रखा जाये कि पांच-सात मील के अंतर में एक पोस्ट-आफिस जरूर हो जिससे आस-पास के गांवों में बहुत नहीं तो तीन-चार रोज़ में डाक मिलती रहे और मनीआर्डर भी शीघ्र ही उन्हें मिलें।

इतना कहते हुए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो कुछ सधार हुए इसमें हमें सन्तोष नहीं है, इस लिये जो सुस्ती है वह निकालनी चाहिये। लापरवाही है वह हटानी चाहिये और अनियमितता दूर करनी चाहिये।

*(English translation of the above speech.)*

**Shri Gokulbhai Deulratram Bhatt** (Eastern Rajputana States Group): Honourable Chairman, I do not want to repeat what has been said by Shri Gupta about Posts and Telegraphs. But the situation in Delhi is queer. The weather is always changing in Delhi particularly in New Delhi. Every body complains about telephones and telegrams here and mismanagement is such as defies description. References have been made of the Advisory Boards of Delhi and other places. But we are not at all paying any special attention to outside places. I must emphasise that telephones and telegrams badly require improvement. Delhi, the Capital of India, needs the best and speedy improvements because it is inhabited by people who control the destiny of our country and also by representatives in the Assembly who have come from far and wide and who have interests in all corners of India. Naturally if there is disorder in Delhi it has repercussion outside. Let me give an illustration: The telephone disorder that we find in Delhi is not found in Bombay. Life is normal at the latter place. But things in Delhi on the other way. Our Honourable Minister must find out the reasons for it. He must see that our speeches and complaints do not go in vain. The officers of this Department must also be feeling that they are being censured. On the one hand they are being patted while on the other they are being scolded. This has of course improved affairs but the improvement is slow; this delay is bad not only for me but for the whole of the

[Shri Gokulbhai Daulatram Bhatt]

country. In the age of aeroplanes we cannot afford to travel by carts nor even by motor cars. Slowness of reforms in this direction will not satisfy. Reforms must be undertaken on a large scale. To this I solicit the attention of the Honourable Minister.

Air Mail means quick and cheap postal service. But many a time I have experienced that despite payment of late fees and express delivery fees on Air Mail letters, it takes five to six days for a letter to reach its destination, whereas normally it should not take more than a day. This shows a lackness on the part of the department. A parcel train or a goods train might probably be quicker than this Air Mail service. It is surprising to find this kind of Air Mail service. This needs reforms.

To one more thing I would like to invite the attention of the Honourable Minister. How far this is true, I can not say because I have not investigated it. The behaviour of the sorters of the R.M.S. is objectionable. I have been told that the sorting staff who think and act in a strange way, and who might be connected with either the Hindu Mahasabha, the R.S.S. or the National Guards, sort out certain news-papers in such a way as ensures punctual delivery of the anti-national papers, whereas intentional mis-sorting of national newspaper leads to their delayed delivery. This complaint reached my ears only recently and I want to enquire into it. After proper investigations, however, I will place the whole thing before the Honourable Minister. But at this stage I must acquaint him with all that I have heard; and I must point out to him that delivery of newspapers is delayed because the 'sorters' play this mischief.

Another thing to which I would like to draw the attention of the postal department is that old names of certain places should be changed. For example there is a place known as 'Erinpura' and 'Erinpura Road'. This leads to confusion. It should be renamed by its old name of Shiv Ganj. I am at a loss to understand why the postal department is unable to find out a way of changing this name. Similarly to facilitate the delivery of post and telegrams, names of many other places should be changed.

Yet another thing that I have to say is that rural post offices at some places are so located that despite the presence of many villages round about, people have got to go even fifteen miles to find a post office. I would, therefore, recommend that care should be taken to see that a post office is situated within a radius of five miles from a village so that postal deliveries can be made, if not earlier, at least every third or fourth day, and so that the villagers receive quick payments of money orders.

With these words I would say that the reforms that have been made do not satisfy us. The department must shake off its laziness and carelessness that is sticking to it; and unpunctuality must go.

**Begam Aizaz Rasul (U.P. : Muslim):** Sir, at the very outset I may say that I was the loudest in my complaints regarding the inefficiency of the telephone and telegraph department five months ago. But I must say to the credit of the Honourable Minister that since he took charge of this department there has been a remarkable improvement in the telephone system of the country. My personal experience has been that whereas in Delhi one could not previously get telephone connections for a long time it is now possible to get calls after a few minutes. And I can say the same about Lucknow. I used to feel extremely annoyed over the inefficiency of the staff in Lucknow before August 13—but since then I found a marked improvement and I must say that it is being maintained. But as regards letters I must say that there is not much improvement: they still take a long time to be delivered at the destination. As a mother I am very anxious to hear from my children at Lucknow every day, but it takes three or four days for an ordinary letter to come from

that place to Delhi. Even air mail letters take at least three days to reach here, and ordinarily they take four days. Telegrams sometimes reach even later than letters. These things must certainly be improved; and I am at one with those Honourable Members who make a complaint about delay in the delivery of letters.

There is one other point and that is that the Lucknow Telephone Directory has not been changed for sixteen months and many of the names and addresses have become out of date. I will request the Honourable Minister to make a note of that.

I have nothing more to say except this that we expected a great deal of improvement in the department with the Honourable Minister in charge. He has done a great deal but there is still a lot more to be done. I hope the department will take note of all this and see that the requirements of the public are kept in view and that in these days of speed and efficiency this department does not lag behind.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Sir, I am thankful to Honourable Members for the criticisms that they have made as regards the working of the department under my charge. I should like to take the speakers one by one, but there are points which have been touched upon by more than one speaker. Therefore I will first deal with the nationalisation of air services and then with the criticism as regards the working of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

One of the Honourable Members mentioned that in February last year the then Assembly accepted the principle of nationalisation of air services. That, Sir, is not correct. As a matter of fact in November 1946 this question was discussed in the House and the House dispersed without reaching any conclusion; and all that the then Minister said was that he would take into consideration all the points of view expressed in the House. It is true that a conference on Civil Aviation was held in February but there too no decision was taken. When I took over charge of this Department, matters stood there. The question of nationalization of air services was under consideration but no decision was taken. It is true most of the air services were in favour of nationalization of air services outside India. But so far as internal services were concerned, they were opposed to it because they thought that the internal services would pay their way from the beginning, while they will have to incur much loss if they take to external service. I think the House knows that the Government have already reached their decision about external services. We have entered into an agreement with Air India and in May next our first external service will start touching Egypt, Switzerland and England. In the beginning this will be twice a week. It is a partly owned Government company and partly a private company. Government holds 49 per cent., of the shares and Government has also a lien on another 2 per cent., which they can acquire in any way from Tata's. So Government has a controlling share there and on the directorate too, Government has a controlling position.

So far as internal services are concerned, the motions put forward by my friends on the other side, have my sympathy. But today Government has no organisation which can immediately take over the air services and therefore at the last meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee it was decided to set up a departmental committee and that committee has been appointed, and I will read out to you the terms of reference of that Committee which will make it clear that Government is taking over one route, and after that when an organization is set up it will be possible for them to take over other routes. The Committee has been appointed to:

(a) select a route on which an air service may be operated by Government with an organization under, and directed by, the Government of India:

(b) advise Government on the details of the organization for the purpose:

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(c) give a broad indication of the economic possibilities of the operation of this service.

**Mr. Hussain Imam:** Will the service operate as a monopoly service or in competition with the existing services?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I have not been able to follow the Honourable Member's question because most of the services today are monopoly services in the sense that each company runs a route and there will be hardly any route which is served by two competing companies.

**Mr. Hussain Imam:** Bombay-Calcutta: Delhi-Calcutta?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** There is one non-stop service on the Bombay-Calcutta route run under one company and there is another one that stops in between and is run by another.

I think our policy about the nationalization of air services has been clarified by the appointment of this committee.

Now I will take up the criticism that has been levelled against the P. & T. Department.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** I know what is the Government policy with regard to manufacture of parts and training of technicians?

**Mr. Chairman:** I suggest that the Honourable Minister should be allowed to finish his speech, and then if necessary, questions may be asked. If members go on interrupting now, he will not be able to finish his speech. So I hope no member will interrupt the Honourable Minister.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I am thankful to my friend Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta for his very cautious speech but I am a little disappointed. I had always thought he keeps himself up to date. He referred to a state of affairs that existed two or three months back but not today. I will quote some figures which will give the state of affairs today. About the telegrams that were booked here from month to month, this was the state of affairs:

In August, from 15th to 31st August the total number of telegrams that were sent from Delhi was	thousands.
	1,38,269
Number transmitted by wire	1,32,243
Number sent by post	3,956

*In September 1947.*

Telegrams registered	2,74,692
Telegrams sent by wire	2,31,846
Telegrams sent by post	42,846

That was the cause of the delay.

*In October:*

Telegrams registered	2,74,560
Telegrams sent by wire	2,25,746
Telegrams sent by post	14,600

*In December*

Telegrams registered	3,06,690
Telegrams sent by wire	2,08,490
Telegrams sent by post	8,125

*In January 1948 :*

Telegrams registered	2,91,780
Telegrams sent by wire	2,80,015
Telegrams sent by post	5,765

*In February 1948 :*

Telegrams registered	2,70,850
Telegrams sent by wire	2,73,620
Telegrams sent by post	3,195

*In the first ten days of March*

Telegrams registered	1,81,027
Telegrams sent by wire	1,80,600
Telegrams sent by post	427

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** What is the proportion of Express telegrams to Ordinary telegrams ?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** There is an improvement in the despatch of telegrams by wire. Although there is a big increase in the number of telegrams being received in Delhi, the number being received by post is decreasing. This month, so far only 400 and a few have been sent by post, while as much as over 42,000 were sent by post in September 1947. That shows an improvement.

I now come to telephones and the following information may interest members:

In August only about 12,200 effective calls were booked.

In September 10,200 effective calls were booked.

In October 12,400 effective calls were booked.

In November 14,000 effective calls were booked.

In December 14,000 effective calls were booked.

In January 17,800 effective calls were booked.

In February the number has gone even higher and today an ordinary call you can get from Delhi to other places in less than 4 hours' time, while in September or October last you could not have got an urgent or express call to any place outside of Delhi in less than eight hours. That was the position two or three months ago and we have to compare it with what it is today.

I think the Delhi Telephone situation is improving and we are trying an experiment which will start on the 15th of this month by which you can get calls to some stations on demand. If you want Lucknow and if it is on the list, as soon as your demand is received you will be put in contact with it without being asked to wait. Improvement is all the time going on.

We all know in what circumstances we had to work in September and October last year. Anywhere the working would have broken down and it broke down here.

I need not say much about telegrams. I have just given the figures for Delhi. The same is the state of affairs all over the country. There has been all round improvement and I hope soon the department will be restored to their former efficiency.

**Mr. Naziruddin Ahmad (West Bengal: Muslim):** There is one point about telephones which requires clarification. Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta has suggested.....

**Mr. Chairman:** I have already requested Honourable Members that questions may be put at the end, when you can ask questions on all the subjects.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** A plea has been put forward for extending postal services to our villages. Such extension can take only three directions—increase in the number of post offices, increase in the number of deliveries per week and extension of postal facilities to villages, where they do not exist today. That work is on hand. Up to date the following extensions have been made. 2,156 new post offices in villages have been opened. 542 postmen have been added to the existing post offices: postal facilities have been extended to 1,603 villages, where up till now no facilities existed. This work will continue.....

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Is it one year's record?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** It is two years' record. The work was held up during the disturbances. For the current year a large amount has been provided to extend facilities. As a matter of fact directions have been issued to Circle Officers that they should try to have a post office in every village with a population of 2,000 or more, even if the post office in the beginning had to run at a loss up to Rs. 500 a year. Therefore let us hope that as soon as facilities are available the postal service will be extended to all the villages, where they do not exist today.

It is also proposed to provide cycles to village postmen, so that they can cover a larger area.

Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta has expressed his fear that perhaps in the next few years we will not be able to provide new telephone connections in Delhi itself. So far as my information goes I hope by September 1,000 new connections can be given in New Delhi and by early next year another 1,500 new connections will be available.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** What about old Delhi?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Both will be covered by this.

Much has been said about the inefficiency of the Department. I share the feelings of the House in that criticism and I think I have been as great a critic of the departmental inefficiency as any other member in this House. But I would also like to draw the attention of the House to the good work that the Department had to do during the last six months. As members are aware on account of the Partition many parts of our country were almost isolated. We had to face the difficulty of communicating with Assam. We had to do something almost immediately. The first thing we did was to instal a wireless transmitter at Gauhati, Shillong and at Tripura and this put us in communication with that part of the country. Then the department took up the construction of telegraph and telephone lines and a work that would normally have taken more than a year was completed within five months. A similar situation arose when Kashmir acceded to India and we had to connect it with our communication lines. As a first resort we set up a transmitter in Srinagar and in Jammu and in a month we were in direct contact with Srinagar and Jammu both by telephone and by telegraph. That is a remarkable achievement, for in ordinary times it would have taken six months.

Similarly our officers had to contact many other posts in the frontier of Western Pakistan, the Rajputana state frontiers and in Central Provinces also. Where on account of developments in Hyderabad we had to have telephonic connections with the border towns. These connections were provided as quickly as could be expected. I hope the House will also appreciate this.

I have to say a few words about the measures that we are taking to improve the departmental services. When the trouble arose in East Punjab and there was complete breakdown of communications the department installed wireless sets in all the important centres and communication was restored. Similarly, we had to do with other places. Now we have to improve our daily communications both telegraphic and telephonic. It takes long to construct new lines and therefore we have decided to instal wireless transmitters and receivers at important centres. I think before the close of this month wireless communication will be available between Delhi and Calcutta. Similarly all important places like Madras, Bombay and other political centres will be connected by wireless.

**Begum Aizaz Rasul:** What about Lucknow?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Not immediately.....

**An Honourable Member:** Lucknow can afford to wait.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** If we have wireless transmission there will not be so much delay in telegrams and we will not have to send them by post because the wireless transmission will be supplementing the existing line system. We are also considering to have in this country wireless telephony and I hope that in the next few months we will be able to formulate a scheme which will connect all the existing centres with wireless telephony. That will improve our communications very much.

I think, Sir, I have touched almost all the points that were raised by Honourable Members except that of Mr. Anthony. When Mr. Anthony was praising the present system of promotion I thought he was in favour of promotion by merit and not promotion by seniority. In most of the departmental services we propose to introduce the system of promotion by merit. I know that the present reporting system is not fool-proof; I know there is opportunity for favouritism and jobbery. I have in the course of the last five or six months received several representations in some of which I saw that injustice was done. Therefore we are thinking of introducing such a system wherein full care shall be taken that the reporting authority is an impartial authority. If we are sure of the impartiality of the authority, then, in promoting an officer all that we have to see is his past record. Then favouritism will not come in. But I admit that till we are able to devise a fool-proof reporting system there is some occasion or scope for favouritism or discrimination. I assure the Honourable Member, Mr. Anthony, that I will look into the cases that he has referred to and if I find that any injustice has been done, then the injustice will be removed. Similarly, in future also, if there is any such case I will look into the complaint if it reaches me.

**Mr. Nasiruddin Ahmad:** Sir, the Honourable Member, Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta made a suggestion, and I would ask the Honourable Minister whether it is feasible, for the improvement of the telephonic system that telephone girls should be manned.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Much has been said about establishing a telephone factory here. I am sorry I forgot to touch this point in the course of my reply. We were negotiating with three or four countries for establishing a factory here in India. Sometime back we had deputed a special officer to negotiate with them and to bring the terms so that we might decide on our course of action. I am glad to inform the House that we have almost reached our conclusions and in the course of the next few days a delegation will go to complete the negotiations with them and if these negotiations are completed and finalised, of which we have every hope, then in the course of the next few months we will start establishing a factory here and start manufacturing some instruments. Let us hope that by the time the next Budget is placed before this House that factory will be manufacturing some parts of our requirements. A part of the agreement is that so long as full

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manufacturing is not started, that company will supply us from its own factory in Europe the parts or the equipment that we require for improving our services here.

**Mr. Chairman:** Now that there is time Honourable Members may put questions.

**Shri Mohan Lal Saxena:** I was surprised to hear the Honourable Minister saying that telegrams were taken and they were despatched by post and that no intimation was sent to the persons who sent the telegrams. I want to know whether any intimation was sent to them and whether their money was refunded to them.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** No intimation is necessary because it has been notified that if a telegram is not received in time a refund can be claimed and it will be given. Is not that sufficient intimation?

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** I do not want to put any inconvenient question to my Honourable friend the Communications Minister.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** There is no question which is inconvenient.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Inconvenient from the point of view of answering offhand. May I ask him whether or not it is a fact that during the days of the old regime members of this House used to be supplied with a distinct publication called "Posts and Telegraphs" which showed all the income and expenditure of the Postal Department? It was a self-contained document. This year we have not got it. Does the Honourable the Communications Minister know that this was the practice, and if so why did he discontinue it? That is number one.

Number two is that apart from this publication which used to be supplied to the members, along with the papers connected with the budget, there used to be a departmental publication relating to the administration of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. That has also been discontinued. At the moment we have absolutely no information about the working of the Posts and Telegraphs Department except two pages in the Explanatory Memorandum and one paragraph in one place. And the House knows that we are going to vote a sum of more than Rs. 26 crores. I would like to know from the Honourable Minister what led to the discontinuance of the practice of supplying that document and the discontinuance of the departmental publication on the administration of the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I am not aware when this was supplied and when it was discontinued, but I think the Honourable Member is right because I also happened to be a member of the Assembly sometime back and I remember to have received such pamphlets. But I will see that all the information that Members require, that is necessary for the Members' knowledge, is circulated to them.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra:** Here there are only two pages of information in the Explanatory Memorandum.

**Mr. Chairman:** May I ask the Honourable Minister whether no Report has been issued by the Department?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** It takes three or four years to bring a Report. I do not know if the Report for 1946 has been published.

**Mr. B. K. Sarda (C. P. and Berar: General):** No. The Library has not got it.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Because no press is available.

**Shri Biswanath Das:** The Honourable Minister has replied to a few of the points that I raised, namely, the nationalisation of international airways so far as India is concerned. May I know the Government's policy with regard to the training of technicians as also with regard to the manufacturing of parts? That is a bigger and long range problem.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Only three or four days ago there was a question about a flying training school. In reply to that question I had stated that we are opening a training school for flying and for-ground engineering and that we have already got a training school for communications. So far as the manufacture of parts is concerned, that is to be done by the Industries Department and the question may be directed to that Department.

**Shri Khurshed Lal:** The Honourable Minister referred to telegrams being sent by wireless from Delhi to Bombay, Calcutta and other places.

Is the Honourable Minister aware that in the United Provinces there is a wireless station at every district headquarters and the provincial government has assigned it for official use? It has not been fully used. Will he make it available to the public?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I know that most of the provinces have police wireless sets and we in the department are thinking of taking over the stations so that we may put them to the use of the public.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** May I know whether it is a fact that the Standing Finance Committee did pass a resolution authorising 4,000 new lines to be ordered for Old Delhi? What action has been taken on same?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I confess my ignorance.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar: General):** The Honourable Minister just said that he is prepared to open and run new village post offices at a loss of Rs. 500 a year. May I know whether this will be applicable to old village post offices, and if so whether the remuneration of the old employees of the old village post offices will be enhanced?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Well, Sir, I have not been able to follow the Honourable Member. He is making some enquiries about the existing village post offices. They have not to be reopened.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** I would like to repeat my question. The Honourable Minister said that he is going to open new village post offices even at a loss of Rs. 500 a year.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Yes, at the initial stage.

**Shri Ramnarayan Singh:** But I want to know whether this will be applicable even to the old village post offices?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Does the Honourable Member want to reopen post offices in places where they already exist?

**Mr. Chairman:** I think the Honourable Member's question is whether the Honourable Minister is prepared to incur a loss of Rs. 500 for every old post office?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** The old post offices are not being run at a loss. The loss is only at the initial stage. Up to now the limit was Rs. 240, now it has been raised to Rs. 500.

**Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U. P.: General):** Will the Honourable Minister please say whether the strike period pay of the postmen will be given to them because it was promised when they were on strike by leaders that it will be paid and that is a question which is still agitating the postmen?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** No, there is no intention of paying anybody for the strike period. They have enjoyed their holidays.

**Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri** (Assam: General): I want to ask two questions arising out of the motions which I have tabled. Question No. 1 is: Government adopted some time ago the policy of appointing people of the province of Assam in the Postal and Telegraph Department there. Now that policy has been practically negated by the fact of a large number of surplus people being placed there and by giving extension to existing officers who should have been superannuated.

The other question is, what is the attitude of the Honourable Minister towards the telephone girls? I am using the word 'girl' as a matter of courtesy. There are also old women among them. The position is that throughout Calcutta, there is complaint about the rude behaviour of these telephone girls. On the other hand my friend Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta wants to convert them into men. I want to know what is the exact attitude of the Honourable Minister.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** My sympathies are with Mr. Deshbandhu Gupta. A representation was received a few days ago from Assam making a complaint like the one repeated just now by the honourable Member. The matter is under investigation.

**Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar:** May I ask the Honourable Minister if, before finalizing an agreement with a foreign company for the establishment of a telephone factory in this country, he will place that agreement on the Table of the House and give an opportunity to the House to discuss the terms?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** It will not be possible to place the Draft Agreement before the House firstly because, as I said we have been negotiating with different companies, and also because each different company has taken an assurance from us that the terms will not be revealed till they have been finalized.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari** (Madras: General): I would like to ask the Honourable Minister about the Government's agreement to participate in the starting of the Air India International Air Service whether he has satisfied himself that Government can participate in the capital structure of this new corporation while having it incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, or in view of the very big capital commitment on the part of the Government, whether he would recommend Government to have a law enacted for the purpose of starting this particular concern.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** Well, I was advised that the company can be registered under the ordinary Companies Act and so it has already been registered.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I would like the Minister to have this point examined. The capital commitment of the Government is Rs. one crore at the moment. It is likely to become greater in future. It does seem it would be much better to have a statutory corporation than an ordinary corporation incorporated under the Companies Act where the Government as a shareholder is in no better position than any other private shareholder.

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I will consider the suggestion and will consult the Law Department about it.

**Shri B. P. Jhunjhunwala** (Bihar: General): May I ask the Honourable Minister how the financial position of the telephone companies in Bombay and Calcutta which have been taken over by Government stands and also about the present efficiency?

**The Honourable Mr. Rafi Ahmed Kidwai:** I will get a comparative statement prepared and circulate it to Members.

**Mr. Hussain Imam:** May I know the Directorate of the company which has been formed?

**The Honourable Mr. Raf Ahmed Kidwai:** Three Government nominees, two representing Tatas, and one representing other shareholders. One of the Government Directors will be Special Director with special powers to veto any expenditure which he thinks unnecessary unless Government's approval has been obtained.

**Mr. Chairman:** I shall now put the Demand before the House.

The question is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,25,000 be granted to the Governor General to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1949, in respect of the 'Ministry of Communications'."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. Chairman:** The House stands adjourned till 10.45 a.m. tomorrow.

I may inform Honourable Members that there will be no question tomorrow.

*The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Saturday the 18th March 1949.*