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to
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(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

Volume V, 1950
(15th November to 22nd December, 1950)



THIRD SESSION (FIRST PART)
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Z

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The Deputy-Speaker

Shri M. ANANTHASAYANAM AYYANGAR.

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SHRIMATI G. DURGABAI.

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL HIMATSINGKA.

SARDAR HUKAM SINGH.

SHRI MANILAL CHATURBHAI SHAH.

Secretary

Shri M. N. KAUL, BARRISTER-AT-LAW.

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Shri N. C. NANDI.

Shri D. N. MAJUMDAR.

Shri C. V. NARAYANA RAO.

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Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs and the States—The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Minister of Education—The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

Minister Without Portfolio—The Honourable Shri C. Rajagopalachari.

Minister of Defence—The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh.

Minister of Labour—The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram.

Minister of Communications—The Honourable Shri Raft Ahmad Kidwai.

Minister of Health—The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.

Minister of Law—The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.

Minister of Works, Mines and Power—The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil.

Minister of Transport and Railways—The Honourable Shri N. Gopaldaswami Ayyangar.

Minister of Industry and Supply—The Honourable Shri Hare Krishna Mahtab.

Minister of Food and Agriculture—The Honourable Shri K. M. Munshi.

Minister of Commerce—The Honourable Shri Sri Prakasa.

Minister of Finance—The Honourable Shri Chintaman Dwarakanath Deshmukh.

Ministers not in the Cabinet

Minister for the purposes of agreement between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan of the 8th April, 1950—The Honourable Shri C. C. Biswas.

Minister of State for Transport and Railways—The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam.

Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting—The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs—The Honourable Shri Satyanarayan Sinha.

Minister of State for Rehabilitation—The Honourable Shri Ajit Prasad Jain.

Deputy Minister of Communications—Shri Khurshed Lal.

Deputy Minister of External Affairs—Dr. B. V. Keskar.

Deputy Minister of Commerce—Shri Dattatraya Parashuram Karmarkar.

Deputy Minister of Defence—Major General Himatsinhji.

Deputy Minister of Works, Mines and Power—Shri S. N. Buragohain.

Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture—Shri M. Thirumala Rao.

**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

VOL. V

No. 1

Second day of the Third Session of Parliament of India.

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 15th November, 1950

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

MR. SPEAKER (the Honourable Shri G. V. Mavalankar) *in the Chair.*

MEMBERS SWORN.

Shri Saprawnga (Assam Tribal Areas).

Shri Abdus Sattar (West Bengal).

Shri M. A. Haque (West Bengal).

Dr. K. V. Thakkar (Saurashtra).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Questions. Mr. B. K. Das.

Dr. Deshmukh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we go on to Questions, may I request you to give your ruling so far as the sitting accommodation is concerned?—whether we are to sit in the same places which we occupied yesterday, whether the seats occupied today will be maintained, or whether we are entitled to go back to the old seating arrangements and claim our seats. Which of the three alternatives are you prepared to accept and give your ruling accordingly? There is a lot of confusion. A lot of old Members were claiming that they have been sitting there from 1945—when Parliament was not there and the Constituent Assembly was not there. As I said, a lot of confusion has arisen. I was the first to arrive in the House yesterday, I was second in number, next to Mr. Sondhi, today. And yet I am unable to have a seat of my choice. I would, therefore, like to know what your ruling is.

Shri B. Das: I would like to point out, Sir, that for twenty-three years I sat at that place which my friend Prof. K. T. Shah has occupied before I came. I gladly wish him to sit by me because he is an eminent economist but I don't like being seated like

this. I hope that some arrangements will be made by you so that some of the senior Members have a chance to sit nearer you.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, it is not a question of seats, it is.....

Mr. Speaker: I don't think we need take the time of the Question Hour over this. About the seating arrangements a number of Members had a talk with me yesterday and I myself was thinking as to what really should be done or could be done in this matter. I would prefer to leave the matter entirely, so far as possible, to the good sense of the Members to recognise the claims of senior or other Members and to take their proper seats. Of course, if the seats are allotted, it is a great convenience to me, because I can immediately spot out the particular Member whom I want to call upon or who wants to speak. But I also feel that some kind of directive is necessary and I am thinking as to what could be done in this matter. I have not yet come to any conclusions, but I shall have discussions with the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and then I may decide as to how the seats should be allotted. I should, of course, prefer Members, in the meanwhile to use the same seats from day to day, as it will facilitate my work in spotting out Members. For the present, I think this is enough. We will proceed with the Questions.

DHUBULIA CAMP INCIDENT

*1. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) what were the circumstances that led to the death of a displaced person in the Dhubulia Camp in West Bengal;

(b) what steps have been taken against persons responsible for the incident; and

(c) what precautionary measures have been taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A copy of

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Shri Abdus Sattar (West Bengal).

Shri M. A. Haque (West Bengal).

Dr. K. V. Thakkar (Saurashtra).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker: Questions. **Mr. B. K. Das.**

Dr. Deshmukh: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we go on to Questions, may I request you to give your ruling so far as the sitting accommodation is concerned?—whether we are to sit in the same places which we occupied yesterday, whether the seats occupied today will be maintained, or whether we are entitled to go back to the old seating arrangements and claim our seats. Which of the three alternatives are you prepared to accept and give your ruling accordingly? There is a lot of confusion. A lot of old Members were claiming that they have been sitting there from 1945—when Parliament was not there and the Constituent Assembly was not there. As I said, a lot of confusion has arisen. I was the first to arrive in the House yesterday, I was second in number, next to Mr. Sondhi, today. And yet I am unable to have a seat of my choice. I would, therefore, like to know what your ruling is.

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this. I hope that some arrangements will be made by you so that some of the senior Members have a chance to sit nearer you.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, it is not a question of seats, it is.....

Mr. Speaker: I don't think we need take the time of the Question Hour over this. About the seating arrangements a number of Members had a talk with me yesterday and I myself was thinking as to what really should be done or could be done in this matter. I would prefer to leave the matter entirely, so far as possible, to the good sense of the Members to recognise the claims of senior or other Members and to take their proper seats. Of course, if the seats are allotted, it is a great convenience to me, because I can immediately spot out the particular Member whom I want to call upon or who wants to speak. But I also feel that some kind of directive is necessary and I am thinking as to what could be done in this matter. I have not yet come to any conclusions, but I shall have discussions with the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and then I may decide as to how the seats should be allotted. I should, of course, prefer Members, in the meanwhile to use the same seats from day to day, as it will facilitate my work in spotting out Members. For the present, I think this is enough. We will proceed with the Questions.

DHUBULIA CAMP INCIDENT

*1. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) what were the circumstances that led to the death of a displaced person in the Dhubulia Camp in West Bengal;

(b) what steps have been taken against persons responsible for the incident; and

(c) what precautionary measures have been taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A copy of

the detailed report based on the findings of the Deputy Rehabilitation Commissioner Incharge, giving the details of the circumstances required is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 1.]

(b) As the case is under police investigation, it would be premature to attach responsibility at this stage.

(c) The Commandant has been replaced by a social worker of repute and police pickets have been strengthened.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what is the nature of the enquiry that was held after the incident?

Shri A. P. Jain: The Deputy Rehabilitation Commissioner went to the Dhubulia Camp, made an enquiry on the spot and the report has been based on the enquiry which he held.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know what provocations were there in relation to such incidents from the side of the inhabitants of the Camp?

Shri A. P. Jain: The details are given in the report which has been placed on the Table. I might repeat them. There has been a rule in that Camp that all public meetings are held with the authority of the Camp Commandant. This meeting was held without the authority of the Camp Commandant. The Camp Commandant took three leaders of the party to interrogate them in his office. Other members of the meeting thought that they had been arrested, they went and surrounded the Commandant's office and later on armed police was called. There was a scuffle and this led to the unfortunate incident.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know the date of this incident?

Shri A. P. Jain: 19th September, 1950.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that some interested people are exploiting the present condition of refugees and rousing the feelings of refugees against the Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: Unfortunately that is so. There is no doubt that some people are trying to exploit the situation not to the advantage of the refugees but to their own advantage.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is possible for Government, or whether it is contemplated by Government to take some steps against these persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not know exactly what step the hon. Member has in mind, unless any action that we may take against these instigators come under the mischief of the penal law.

Shri B. K. Das: Were there any grievances from the side of the inmates regarding food, clothing and sanitary arrangements?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have personally visited that Camp and I saw the representatives of the refugees. No such grievances were placed before me.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact that the Commandant of the Camp has since been promoted as Assistant Rehabilitation Commissioner?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is not my information. Perhaps the hon. Member may know more.

Shri Kamath: He does.

TOWNSHIPS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*2. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) in respect of how many townships plans have been finalised for the rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons;

(b) what would be the total capacity of the townships; and

(c) what gainful occupations are being provided for in or about the townships?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The following 6 townships schemes have been finalised in West Bengal. (i) Fulia, (ii) Habra, (iii) Goyeshpur, (iv) Bansdroni, (v) Gorla, and (vi) Jirat.

(b) The total capacity of the townships will be as follows:—

(i) Fulia	1000 families.
(ii) Habra	1600 ..
(iii) Goyeshpur	2580 ..
(iv) Ba. droni	200 ..
(v) Gorla	700 ..
(vi) Jirat	590 ..
Total	6580 ..

(c) A statement showing the gainful occupations designed to be provided in the Fulia Township and the trades in which training will be imparted in the Training-cum-work Centres at Habra and Goyeshpur is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 2.]

As other townships are located in the immediate proximity of Calcutta, no direct State enterprise to provide employment has been set up in them.

Shri B. K. Das: Has any polytechnic been started near the camps?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not so far.

Shri S. C. Samanta: There was a proposal that these camps would be built on the lines of the Nilokheri township. Is the present scheme like that?

Shri A. P. Jain: There appears to be some confusion in the mind of the hon. Member. A camp is a place where refugees are temporarily accommodated; a township is a thing set up for the permanent rehabilitation of the refugees. In the townships of course there is a scheme for setting up of polytechnics, but not in camps where refugees are only temporarily housed.

Shri B. K. Das: My question is about townships. I would like to know whether any polytechnics have been started in any of the townships and whether it will be on the Nilokheri township line,—or, is there any other scheme?

Shri A. P. Jain: Fulia is contemplated on the same lines as Nilokheri. It has not been completed as yet, but there is a scheme for setting up a polytechnic there. In Habra and Goyeshpur there is no proposal to set up a polytechnic, but vocational training will be provided in a number of industries.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know whether the township at Fulia is being built under the direction of the Government of India or of the Government of Bengal.

Shri A. P. Jain: The Government of India.

Shri Chattopadhyay: What amount has been sanctioned for the purpose?

Shri A. P. Jain: I believe it is about Rs. 37½ lakhs.

Shri Chattopadhyay: May I know for how many people these Rs. 37½ lakhs have been sanctioned?

Shri A. P. Jain: One thousand families, that is, 5,000 persons.

Shri Kesava Rao: In addition to the townships constructed in India, are there any plans to construct townships in Andaman and Nicobar Islands?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have been examining the question of settling refugees in Andamans and Nicobars. The scheme has not yet been finalised, but it has reached quite a stage of maturity. It may not be a township on the same lines as Nilokheri or Fulia. But when rehabilitation takes place some sort of a township will be built.

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Is the hon. Minister aware that out of 17,000 persons in Habra only 2,000 are employed; the others are unemployed?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have no such information. When I visited Habra, there were certain complaints of unemployment but nothing to the extent

that the hon. Member is trying to make out.

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Is the hon. Minister aware that except in bazaars, there are no other sources of employment?

Shri A. P. Jain: There are a number of private concerns which are employing people.

گھاتی جی - ایس - مسافر : ویسٹ پاکستان کے ریفریجیز کھلنے کے لیے ٹاؤنشپ بنانے کے لیے میں کتنے ناکامیاب رہے۔

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** How many townships have been founded for the refugees from the West Punjab and how many of them have failed to thrive?]

جی ای. پی. جین : ویسٹ پاکستان کے ریفریجیوں کے لیے بہت سارے ٹاؤنشپ بنائے گئے ہیں، ان میں سے کچھ کے نام میں آپ کو بتلاؤں گا۔ کانپلا، نیلکھیری، راجپورا، فریڈاباد۔ پور ان میں سے کوئی ناکامیاب نہیں رہے۔ اب تک جو ٹاؤنشپ بنائے گئے ان میں سے کوئی ناکامیاب نہیں رہے۔

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** A number of townships have been founded for the refugees from West Punjab. The names of some of them are Kandla, Nilokheri, Rajpura, Faridabad; none of them has failed to thrive. None of the townships founded so far has failed to thrive.]

گھاتی جی - ایس - مسافر : میرا سوال یہ ہے کہ کتنے ٹاؤنشپ ناکامیاب رہے ہیں - ان کے نام میں بتانا چاہتا ہوں۔

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** My question is how many of these townships have failed to thrive. I want to know their names?]

جی ای. پی. جین : میں نے تو بتلایا کہ کوئی ناکامیاب نہیں رہے۔ اب کوئی ناکامیاب نہیں رہے تو نام کیا بتلاؤں گا۔

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have already stated that none of them has failed to thrive. When none of them was a failure what names can I give?]

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Is there any plan for establishing townships in Assam, and, if so, how many?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not so far.

श्री रामनारायणसिंह : राजपुरा में अभी कितने लोगों के लिये बन्दोबस्त हुआ है और जब इसके लिये शुरु में प्लान तैयार हुआ था उस वक्त कितने लोगों को रखने का बन्दोबस्त हुआ था ?

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh: For how many people have arrangements been made at present at Rajpura and what is the number for whose accommodation provision had been made under the original plan?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मेरे पास बिल्कुल ठीक आंकड़े तो इस वक्त नहीं हैं। लेकिन जहाँ तक मुझे याद है शुरु में ६० हजार की वहाँ पर तयवीज थी। और इस वक्त वहाँ पर करीब करीब दो हजार मकानात बन गये हैं जिनके अन्दर इस हजार से कुछ ऊपर आदमी आबाद हो गये हैं। बाकी कुछ लोग और बचे हैं। अब वहाँ पर करीब १५ या २० हजार आदमी आबाद होंगे।

[Shri A. P. Jain: I do not possess the exact figures at this time, but so far as I remember the original plan was to provide for sixty thousand persons. About two thousand houses have already been built there which have accommodated a little more than ten thousand persons. Some people are still left. About 15 or 20 thousand people are to be settled there now.]

Sardar B. S. Man: Is it a fact that many of the houses constructed in existing towns as opposed to new townships in Punjab have not been occupied so far by the refugees?

Shri A. P. Jain: Unfortunately that is so, so far as new extensions to the existing towns are concerned.

WORK OF NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

*3. **Shri Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement giving an account of the work done by the National Planning Commission up-to-date?

(b) What are the priorities fixed for Central plans?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 3].

(b) Priorities for Central plans will be recommended by the Planning Commission as part of the Five-Year Plan which is under preparation.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether the Planning Commission is considering the plans of the various State Governments and encouraging any of them?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, the Planning Commission is in intimate contact with the State Governments. They consider their plans and confer with them.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether the Planning Commission has recommended any grant of money to any of these State schemes?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Planning Commission does not recommend grants of money to anybody.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: May I know what priority has been given to labour housing in the programme of the Planning Commission and how it is proposed to implement it?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Has the Planning Commission drawn up any financial plan?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have laid on the Table a long statement which I hope hon. Members will read through carefully. The Planning Commission has to consider, first of all, the existing state of our resources, finances, etc., and then consider how far we can develop them in various ways and then see how much we can do within those limits and give priority to the various schemes.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know whether it is the Planning Commission which has the last word in regard to a particular plan, or scheme, or whether it is the Ministry concerned?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So far as any particular scheme is concerned, it is only a part on which the Planning Commission may be consulted or give advice. The whole plan when it is made, of which that particular scheme will be a part will ultimately come up before the Cabinet for decision.

Shri Tyagi: Is it one of the plans of the Planning Commission to enroll a lakh or more of social workers on payment?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Planning Commission has considered the possibility of enrolling honorary workers but not as part of planning exactly,

or as a part of the Planning Commission's work as such. They were eager to utilise honorary workers and produce an atmosphere of enthusiasm in the country. Therefore, they considered it. It is not the Commission's work—it is for other people to do it.

Shri Tyagi: I hope no honoraria will be paid to them.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Hussain Imam: Is it not the procedure that such important statements which are laid on the Table of the House should be circulated to Members of the House before they are published?

Mr. Speaker: The procedure has been decided already.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether the Planning Commission has drawn up any definite plan for execution immediately?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Planning Commission intends, as has been mentioned in the President's Address yesterday, to lay down a short-term immediate plan which probably would be ready in the course of two months or so, and a five year plan, that is a plan for a longer term, which will come later.

Maulvi Wajed Ali: May I know whether there is any scheme recommended for the State of Assam by the Planning Commission?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No doubt in the complete scheme of planning, Assam will have an important part.

KOREA

*4. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the action, detailing the various steps, so far taken by Government of India in the wake of acceptance of the second resolution (of June 27, 1950) of the Security Council on Korea; and

(b) the action that Government propose to take in the Security Council or the General Assembly of U. N. O. to help terminate hostilities and restore peace in Korea?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) India has sent a field ambulance unit, a medical unit and a gift of medical supplies to Korea for the use of the United Nations Forces. Arrangements are being made for the despatch of 400,000 jute bags.

(b) The position of the Government of India has been stated from time to time on behalf of Government.

Shri Kamath: Will the field ambulance unit and the medical unit function with the U.N. forces irrespective of North or South or only south of the 38th Parallel?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It will function with the U.N. forces wherever it is sent by the Commander.

Shri Kamath: Has India taken any steps in the U.N. or the Security Council in respect of the alleged atrocities committed by the Syngman Rhee administration which has foisted itself in North Korea in defiance of the U.N.?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There have been reports, and very painful reports, of atrocities committed by both sides in this war in Korea. We have taken no official steps but we have expressed our deep concern and regret at what has happened.

Shri Kamath: What has India's attitude been to the alleged saturation bombing of non-military targets and of defenceless towns and villages in North Korea under cover of U.N. action against aggression?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: India's attitude to all such bombing is that it dislikes it and opposes it. But in regard to any particular case, unless there is an enquiry and facts are known, we cannot take up a definite attitude to condemn it without such an enquiry.

Shri Kamath: Has Government ever considered the desirability of having an Asian Conference for considering the Korean problem and allied East Asian problems as was done in the case of Indonesia two years ago?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. They do not think the parallel is exact or that such world questions can be discussed by an Asian Conference.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: In view of the reported association of Chinese forces with the North Korean forces in attacking U.N. forces in Korea, will the Government of India revise their attitude to the Security Council Resolution on Korea and participate in the U.N. Commission on Korea?

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid it is a suggestion for action.

Pandit Kuanru: Has the Prime Minister any reason to believe that any proposal short of the restoration of North Korea to the North Korean Government will be acceptable to China?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is rather difficult for me to answer that with any precision, but there seems to be general agreement that Korea should

be united, that Korea should be free; and it has been stated on the part of the United Nations that there should be elections conducted under the United Nations observation and supervision. What the reaction of the Chinese Government to that last statement may be I do not know, except that it seems to me clear that anything done without their consultation would not have their approval. At one time it was stated, I believe, that if China was associated with the consideration of the future of Korea, they would be agreeable to that. The question of North Korea being kept separate under a separate Government has not, I think, been pressed by any power.

Shri Kamath: Arising out of answer to part (b) of the question, are there any grounds for the fear that there is no early prospect of termination of hostilities in Korea?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There are such grounds.

Shri Kamath: Is there any truth in the press report from Bombay of the Prime Minister's speech some days ago that there was fear of outbreak of a world war fifteen months hence?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That report was on the face of it not very intelligent. What will happen fifteen months hence I have no idea. What I said was war may come—in a year, fifteen months, eighteen months or two years. I made a general statement of that type.

Shri Harihar Nath Shastri: Is there any change in the policy of the Government in regard to their participation in the U.N. Commission on Korea in view of the reported association of Chinese forces with the North Korean forces in attacking U.N. forces in Korea?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir.

Pandit Kunzru: When the Chinese Government said that if they were consulted they might have agreed to the unification of Korea, did they give an indication of the interests which they would like to see protected before giving their consent?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I should make it clear. There is no question of the Chinese Government having consented to any proposal. I merely stated that it was understood that the Chinese Government was prepared to associate itself with other powers concerned in the consideration of this question. I do not know of any specific conditions which they have in their mind.

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad: Is there any evidence that the Chinese Army as such is participating in this war?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The position is that the Commander of the U.N. forces has reported to the Security Council about the presence of Chinese forces. The Chinese Government, however, has said that they are all volunteers and not regular forces.

Shri Hussain Imam: Has Government taken any step, and if so what, to see that the war in Korea does not spread to other parts of the Asian Continent?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is our policy. We try to do it. But it is quite obvious that the situation is not completely in our control.

GENERAL ELECTIONS

*5. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in respect of the preparation of electoral rolls and delimitation of constituencies in each of the Part A, Part B and Part C States; and

(b) the firm date for the holding of general elections under the new Constitution?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No 4.]

(b) This question has been dealt with yesterday in the President's opening address.

Shri Kamath: Is it a fact Sir, that in the President's Order issued some time in October the total population of Scheduled tribes in Part A and Part B States of the Indian Union has been given as 179 lakhs or so while according to the Census of 1941 the total population of Scheduled tribes in those States is about 248 lakhs?

Dr. Ambedkar: This question should be addressed to the hon. the Home Member.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if the hon. Minister of Law is aware that according to the present arrangement, considerable hardship would be caused to a Scheduled Caste candidate and whether he is intending to take any steps by which this double constituency which is likely to fall to the share of the Scheduled Caste and the Scheduled tribes candidates would be reduced to a single constituency.

Dr. Ambedkar: That is a matter which undoubtedly will be dealt with by the House when the Order dealing

with constituencies will be placed before the House.

Prof. Ranga: Is it absolutely incumbent according to the Constitution to have the elections for the Parliament—the House of the People and also for the State Legislatures—simultaneously?

Dr. Ambedkar: That would be a matter which would be dealt with on the basis of convenience by the Election Commissioner.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know for the purposes of delimitation of constituencies whether the results of Census which is shortly to be taken in '51 will be taken into consideration or the present figures of 1941 will be considered?

Dr. Ambedkar: I think under the Constitution, the provision is that the election is to take place within three years from the date of the provisional Parliament. The old Census may be taken, subject to the fact that in certain Provinces like the Punjab and West Bengal the population may be estimated by the President on the basis of the voting strength.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether the Government has received any representations from the minority communities for having plural Member constituencies for them?

Dr. Ambedkar: I do not know what complaints have been received by the Election Commission, but I may say that I have received various representations relating to that matter.

Dr. Deshmukh: May I know if the complaints of castes which have been omitted from the President's Order for the first time are going to be considered by Government?

Dr. Ambedkar: It cannot be considered now. The provision in the Constitution is that whereas the Order is made by the President enumerating the various castes and tribes, the Government is excluded from any further action. The matter is left for Parliament to be dealt with.

Shri Tyagi: When does the hon. Minister propose to introduce the Peoples' Representation Bill in its final shape and place the electoral rules before this House?

Dr. Ambedkar: The Bill certainly I am placing before the House during the course of this session, but I do not know what my hon. friend means by "rules".

Shri Tyagi: I mean rules of election.

Dr. Ambedkar: Well, I do not know whether the rules of election could be framed unless and until we pass this Act.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Is it a fact, Sir, that the population as determined by the hon. the President has been open to very serious objection on the ground that the determined population has been less in some instances than the census of 1941 and as it was determined on the number of voters as on the voting list which has been found to be defective, is there any likelihood of the revision of the determined population?

Dr. Ambedkar: That question ought to be addressed to the hon. the Home Minister.

Shri Chandrika Rao: May I know how many States have been able to delimit the constituencies for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled tribes?

Dr. Ambedkar: I do not think the delimitation of constituencies for the Scheduled Castes is a matter which is dealt with separately from the delimitation of the general constituency.

Shri Kamath: In view of the fact that the date of the General Elections has now been postponed from April-May to November-December, 1951, will there be any change in the qualifying date and qualifying period for the voters?

Dr. Ambedkar: Unless the Act that has already been passed is amended, we could make no change.

Mr. Speaker: I think we will go to the next question.

SWEDISH PREFAB. HUTS

***6. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Mr. V. T. Krishnamachari's report of the inquiry on the Swedish prefab. hardboard huts has been received;

(b) if so, what his findings and conclusions are; and

(c) the action so far taken or proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) A summary of the report has already been released to the press. A copy of the report is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, *annexure No. 5.*]

(c) (i) The inquiry revealed that the material supplied by the Swedish firm was not in accordance with the

specifications guaranteed by the firm and embodied in the agreement entered into by them with the Government. The Directorate General of Industry and Supply have accordingly taken up the matter with the firm. The payment of a sum of Rs. 2,36,800 to the firm has also been withheld.

(ii) Directorate General of Industry and Supply are making enquiries into the circumstances in which their Inspectorate in London certified the stores to be in accordance with the specifications.

(iii) Chief Engineer, C.P.W.D., and the Chief Engineer, Punjab P.W.D., have been asked to report whether the huts were erected in accordance with the instructions of the firm's engineers.

Shri Kamath: What were the reasons, Sir, for the erection of these huts in April 1950 in spite of the fact that by then the huts were certified as not being in accordance with specifications according to the report of Mr. Krishnamachari?

Shri A. P. Jain: What happened before April 1950 was this: It was said by somebody that the hutments were not suitable but the question of suitability related not to their being water-proof or otherwise but because the hard boards were thin and it was thought that they will not stand the heat of the summer. There was great urgency for accommodation and so these huts were installed and the squatters in the Connaught Circus and who were in trouble themselves and creating trouble for the shopkeepers and others had to be shifted to that place. It was on that account of urgency that these hutments were installed.

Shri Kamath: Before erection the huts were examined and certified as not fire-proof and not water-proof. Why was not action taken to render them fire-proof and water-proof before the erection?

Shri A. P. Jain: I do not know whether they could be rendered fire-proof as for their not being water-proof, this was discovered much later.

Shri Kamath: The report of Mr. Krishnamachari says "when examined here in April 1950, the huts were found not water-proof". Here I have got the report with me.

Shri A. P. Jain: They had already been erected by that time.

Mr. Speaker: This subject was discussed in a half-an-hour's discussion in this House.

Shri Kamath: The report was not before this House at that time.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Will the Government be pleased to state what was the total out of which the sum of Rs. 2,36,800 has been withheld.

Shri A. P. Jain: Rs. 11,89,000.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Do Government consider that the sum of Rs. 2,36,800 withheld will be sufficient to meet the requirements of the situation, i.e., the amount payable by the firm to the Government. If any, what are the sources available to the Government from which they could recover from the firm the amount which the Government thinks they have lost over this transaction?

Shri A. P. Jain: Two actions are open to us. One is civil action in a court of law and the second is negotiations through the Swedish representative. We are tackling both of them.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that it has been found that this hard board is more easily combustible than the ordinary wood.

Shri A. P. Jain: We have not carried out that experiment.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is the Government aware that seven of these stalls have been burnt and the wood is still there but the hard board has been completely burnt out?

Shri A. P. Jain: Some six or seven stalls have been burnt. The wood is of a much thicker size and naturally it will burn out after the hard boards have been burnt.

Shri Tyagi: Was the Swedish firm introduced or recommended by the Director of Housing in the initial stages?

Shri A. P. Jain: That question has been answered. I think, more than once. The question of placing the order was decided by a Board presided over by my predecessor Shri Mohan Lal Saksena. The other members of the Board were Shri Shanker Prasad, Shri Mehr Chand Khanna, Shri Rameshwar Dayal, Shri S. N. Sapru, Shri K. M. Bhatia and Dr. Koenigsberger. It was this Committee which decided to place the order.

Shri Tyagi: I am not enquiring about the placing of the order. - What I am enquiring into is whether this firm was recommended or introduced by the person who, at present, is the Director of Housing of the Government of India.

Shri A. P. Jain: The representative of the firm came here, he saw the Technical Adviser and the matter was placed before the Board.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is Government aware that even those refugees whose stalls have not so far been burnt have lost their business because the whole-salers refuse to lend them on credit as they fear that these might be burnt out at any time?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I do not see how that question arises.

Shri Kamath: Is it not a fact that Mr. Bhatia, mentioned by the Minister, sent in a note disagreeing with the decision made by the Board?

Shri A. P. Jain: I shall have to look into it.

Shri Kamath: Have the rents for the stalls been fixed in consultation with Government or by the New Delhi Municipal Committee on their own?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not in consultation with Government, but by the Municipal Board of its own accord.

Shri Kesava Rao: May I know whether it is a fact that recently another Committee has been appointed to go into the question of these Prefab. stalls?

Shri A. P. Jain: No.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

MIGRATION BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

*7. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindu displaced persons who have migrated from East Bengal to India and the number of Muslim evacuees who have left West Bengal since the signing of the Nehru-Liaquat Pact, up to 30th September 1950;

(b) the number of Hindu displaced persons who have gone back to East Bengal and Muslim evacuees who have returned from East Bengal during the same period;

(c) the number of Muslim evacuees who have returned from West Pakistan to Uttar Pradesh and Delhi and the number of Hindu and Sikh displaced persons who have returned to West Pakistan during the same period;

(d) the total number of Hindus and Sikhs who are still living in West Pakistan and East Bengal respectively;

(e) the monthly average of incoming and outgoing Hindus and Muslims respectively into and from West Bengal for the months of July, August and September 1950; and

(f) the total number of Hindus who have left East Bengal since the partition of India and that of Muslims who have left West Bengal?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (f). It is not possible to give statistics of the movements of displaced persons only between Eastern Pakistan and West Bengal and Assam. The statistics kept referred to all travellers in either direction. Many of these travellers were normal passengers and were not migrants. There is always a good deal of such normal traffic between two countries.

I am laying a statement on the Table giving the information required. This statement is for all travellers. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 6.]

"NO-WAR" PROPOSAL

*8. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan have finally defined their attitude towards the 'no-war' declaration proposal made by him some time back; and

(b) whether Government propose to lay on the Table of the House a copy of the correspondence that has been exchanged on the subject between the two Governments?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). I am still in correspondence with the Pakistan Prime Minister on the subject of no war declaration. I hope to be able to lay a copy of the correspondence on the Table of the House during the current session of Parliament.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: May I know whether there is any proposal of another Conference taking place between the two Prime Ministers on this subject?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no present proposal.

Prof. Ranga: When was the last reply received from the Pakistan Prime Minister?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I should imagine that it came about three weeks ago to which we replied within a week. That is to say, our last letter went about two weeks ago.

Khadi (PURCHASE)

*9. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state the total quantity of khadi, both hand-made and mill-made, purchased for their use by the various departments under the Central Government during each of the last three years and the total price paid for the same?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahabab): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Khadi purchased by Government

Year	Quantity		Price.
	Yds.	Rs. As. P.	
1947-48	1512½	1690 - 10 - 7	
1948-49	1464½	1587 - 8 - 6	
1949-50	11,411	7467 - 14 - 2	

During the year 1950-51, so far orders have been placed for 81000 yards of khadi valued at Rs. 88,000.

I think the hon. Member means only handloom cloth. Accordingly the answer is, in 1947-48, 15123 yards, in 1948-49, 1464 yards and in 1949-50, 11,411 yards.

Prof. Ranga: There are two kinds of khadi mentioned here: hand-made and mill-made.

Shri Mahtab: No separate figures are available.

Shri Raj Kaanwar: May I know what special steps have Government taken to popularise and intensify the use of khadi, especially among the official classes.

Shri Mahtab: Here is a practical question. It seems the hon. Member makes a confusion. Khadi cannot be possibly mill-made.

Shri Sivan Pillay: What is it that is meant by mill-made khadi?

Mr. Speaker: The question might more properly be put to the questioner himself.

Prof. Ranga: Have Government accepted the recommendation made by the Planning Conference held some months ago that Government should purchase, or give preference to the purchase of, hand-woven cloth for all their needs?

Shri Mahtab: At our instance the Home Ministry have agreed to purchase hand-loom cloth for the uniform of Class IV servants. Accordingly they will purchase about 150,000 yards. But, they have sufficient stocks on hand and unless those stocks are disposed of, they cannot purchase. The Railway Ministry have agreed to purchase one-fourth of their requirements in hand-loom cloth. The problem today is not the saleability or unsaleability of the cloth; but the problem is the other way round. Hand-loom cloth is not available.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What is the total requirement of Government with

regard to the purchase of cloth and what proportion does this purchase of khadi constitute to that total?

Shri Mahtab: I am sorry, I would require notice.

Shri Tyagi: What steps are Government taking to encourage the manufacture of khadi as it was part of their Election Manifesto?

Shri Mahtab: For khadi hand-spun and hand-woven, we are taking all steps to encourage.

Shri Tyagi: What are those steps?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Raj Kaanwar: What measures have been taken to increase the production of khadi?

Shri Mahtab: First of all, the Cottage Industries Board have devoted some attention to this aspect of the question. The steps that we are taking to increase the production of hand-spun, hand-woven khadi are, to encourage them to manufacture goods to specification, to reduce their prices and if they cannot possibly reduce the price, we are thinking of subsidising the production of khadi to some extent.

Shri Tyagi: Only by making speeches?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Sardar B. S. Man: May I know whether Government have taken into consideration the price of khadi as compared with mill-made cloth? Is it a fact that khadi: hand-spun, hand-woven is dearer as compared with mill cloth?

Shri Mahtab: I think there is no dispute about that. It is well known.

Shri Tyagi: My question has not been replied. What practical steps have been taken by way of giving subsidy or some other sort of help for the manufacture of khadi?

Shri Mahtab: The answer is, subsidy has not yet been given.

Shri Tyagi: What has been done.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; I go to the next question.

REHABILITATION

*10. **Shri Raj Kaanwar:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the total number of (i) unattached, infirm and aged persons of both sexes, (ii) unattached women and (iii) orphan boys and girls who

have, as a result of the partition of the country, migrated or been brought into India from Pakistan and how they have been rehabilitated?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The exact number of displaced persons under each category is not readily available as they are widely dispersed in the country nor are separate homes for each such class of persons always opened. The total number of such displaced persons of all classes is 40,151. The maintenance of the aged and the infirm has been taken up by Government as a permanent liability. To the able-bodied young women and girls facilities are provided for training and work in useful crafts. The educated women and girls are also given stipends for training in nursing, midwifery, and stenography, etc. The unattached children and the dependents of infirm and aged persons and unattached women living in homes are maintained and educated at Government expense.

Shri Raj Kanwar: What will be the number of infirm and aged persons, unattached women, orphan boys and girls who have come over from Pakistan and who are yet to be rehabilitated?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have no such statistics. But, whenever any deserving person comes for admission to one of these homes, we admit him.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is there any idea of giving priority to such persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: They are already having priority. It is only the old and infirm unattached women and children who are admitted to these homes; none others.

Shri B. K. Das: Does this figure of 40,000 and odd given by the hon. Minister include migrants from East Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes; it does.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state the total number of unattached women and children from Eastern Pakistan and how many of them have been sent outside West Bengal for rehabilitation purposes?

Shri A. P. Jain: I am afraid I cannot give the figure of the total number of persons of this class who have come over from East Bengal. But, I might inform the hon. Member that no persons of this class as such have been sent outside Bengal. When displaced persons were sent for settlement outside Bengal, some of these

were included in those batches and arrangements for their care are being taken by those States.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: In view of the very large number of unattached women and children from East Pakistan, what steps do Government contemplate in settling some of them outside West Bengal also?

Shri A. P. Jain: I would very earnestly solicit the assistance of the hon. Member because it has been our unfortunate experience that refugees from East Bengal are most reluctant to go out of Bengal. When they were sent out of Bengal, some have deserted the camps and gone back.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Is it not a fact that many of these

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا
یہ ٹھیک ہے کہ کئی بوڑھے آدمیوں اور
بیوہ عورتوں کو صرف ایک روپیہ اور
بعض حالتوں میں آٹھ آنے ماہوار کی اتنی
ضروریات زندگی کے لئے مہلتیہلس
الپنس دیا گیا ہے؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Is it correct that some old men and widows have been granted only one rupee and in some cases just eight annas per mensem by way of maintenance allowance to meet their daily needs?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मेरे लायक दोस्त एक
गलत फहमी में हैं। मेन्टिनेन्स अलाउंस की
जो स्कीम है वह बिल्कुल दूसरे बेसिस पर है।
वह स्कीम बूढ़े आदमी और उन अनएटेन्ड
विमैन के लिये है जो पाकिस्तान में कोई
आमदनी छोड़ आये हैं उनको यह मेन्टिनेन्स
अलाउंस दिया जाता है। अगर पाकिस्तान
में उनकी आमदनी ३० रुपये तक थी तो
उनको उसना ही मेन्टिनेन्स अलाउंस दिया
जाता है जितनी कि उनकी आमदनी थी।
और अगर उनकी आमदनी ३० रुपये
साहवार से ज्यादा थी तो मेन्टिनेन्स कम
दिया जाता है और उसकी इन्तहाई लिमिट

५० रुपया है। एक रुपया कुछ लोगों को दिया गया है, लेकिन पाकिस्तान के अन्दर उनकी आमदनी भी एक ही रुपया थी।

[Shri A. P. Jain: My learned friend is labouring under a misapprehension. The scheme about the maintenance allowance rests on an entirely different basis. That scheme provides for the grant of a maintenance allowance to those old men and unattached women who have left behind some income in Pakistan. If, for instance, the income of such a person in Pakistan was thirty rupees he is granted a maintenance allowance equal to that income. If that income exceeded thirty rupees per mensem the maintenance allowance would be less than that (income), Rs. 50 being the maximum limit. Some persons have been granted one rupee only but then their income in Pakistan was also just that much.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا
منسٹر صاحب نے کہی لس بات پر غور
کیا ہے کہ جنہیں ایک روپیہ یا آٹھ آنے
ماہولہ منظور کیا گیا ہے ان کو دوپہی
بلاک میں وہ روپیہ لینے جانے کے لئے
کتنا روپیہ خرچ کرنا پڑتا ہے ؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Has the hon. Minister ever considered how much money a man, who has been sanctioned one rupee or eight annas per mensem, has got to spend in going to the 'P' Block in order to realize that petty amount?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : उन को इस बात की आज़ादी थी कि वह एक रुपया के लिये दरख्वास्त दें या न दें। उन्होंने खुद इस बात को पसंद किया और कहा कि पाकिस्तान में हम को एक रुपये माहवार की आमदनी थी और जितनी उन की आमदनी वहाँ थी उतना उनको दिया गया। वह अगर इस बात को नहीं चाहते तो यह सवाल पैदा नहीं होता।

[Shri A. P. Jain: He had the liberty whether to apply or not to apply for just one rupee. He himself chose to do so and stated that he had an income of one rupee per mensem in Pakistan. He was granted an allowance equal to his income there. If

he does not like this the question does not arise.]

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या मंत्रीजी कृपा कर के बतलायेंगे कि आपके नोटिस में ऐसे वाक्यात आये हैं कि जहाँ मेन्टीनेंस अलाउंस मंजूर हो गया है वहाँ एक साल से उनको पेमेंट का आर्डर नहीं मिला। एक साल से सेंक्शन हो चुका है लेकिन आर्डर नहीं मिला, क्या ऐसे केसेज आपके पास आये हैं ?

[Lala Achint Ram: Will the hon. Minister kindly state if any cases have come to his notice where the maintenance allowance was sanctioned a year back but no payment order has been received. The sanction took place a year ago but the order has not been received—have any such cases come to your notice?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : एक साल के लिये तो मैं नहीं कह सकता, लेकिन जहाँ कहीं मैं दौरे पर गया और मुझे यह कहा गया कि वहाँ पर उनकी बदायगी शुरू नहीं हुई है तो उसी मुकाम से मैं ने टेलीफोन के जरिए हिदायत कर दी।

[Shri A. P. Jain: I cannot say if there was any year-old case but whenever I happen to be on tour and was told that the payment of the allowance had not commenced in the case of that particular place I immediately issued instructions on telephone from that very place.]

लाला अचिंत राम : क्या फ़ीरोज़पुर में ऐसा केस था कि मैं ने दो बार सेक्रेटरी साहब को लिखा, लेकिन अभी तक रिमाइंडर देने के वावजूद पेमेंट नहीं हुआ है ?

[Lala Achint Ram: Is there a case from Ferozepore about which I wrote to the Secretary twice but no payment has yet been made, in spite of a reminder being given?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मुझे तो मालूम नहीं। मगर मुझको आप नाम बगैरह बतलावेंगे तो मैं जरूर देखूंगा और उसका पेमेंट कराऊंगा।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Not that I know. If, however, you were to give me the name and other particulars I will certainly look into it and have the payment made.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the hon. Minister direct his officers to give priority to these destitute women whose maintenance allowances have been fixed, but have not been given so far?

Shri A. P. Jain: There appears to be a large amount of misunderstanding on this question. Maintenance allowances are not given to destitute women of the type who go to women's homes; they are given to old men and unattached women who have left property in Pakistan; and efforts are being made to expedite the payment of such maintenance allowances. If there has been a default anywhere, I shall welcome the information and I promise that I shall see that it is immediately paid.

MILITARY BASES FOR U.S.A. IN KASHMIR

*11. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Dominion of Pakistan has conceded or agreed to concede military bases to the U. S. A. in that part of Kashmir State which is at present under its unlawful military occupation?

(b) Is it a fact that Sheikh Abdullah, the Chief Minister of Kashmir, has raised a protest in this matter?

(c) What steps, if any, have the Government of India taken with regard to this matter?

(d) Do Government feel satisfied by the statement issued in this behalf by the Ambassador of the U. S. A. in India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I would invite the hon. Member's attention to the denial by the American Ambassador to India of any desire on the part of his Government to establish military bases of any character anywhere in South Asia.

(b) Government have seen a press report in which Sheikh Abdullah is said to have asked the United States Government to contradict certain press reports on the subject.

(c) No action was necessary.

(d) Yes.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know, Sir, whether the Government of India have been in correspondence with the Chief Minister of Kashmir with regard to the source of the information which led him to make that request?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We did not think fit to correspond on the subject. I think he mentioned some

rumour, and he wanted that rumour contradicted, and it has been contradicted.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Sir, was that protest broadcast from our radio?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have no recollection.

Shri Kamath: Sir, may I take it that the Prime Minister, not of Kashmir but of India, has been incorrectly reported in the Press as saying that some foreign powers are seeking bases in Tibet and elsewhere in Asia?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, that is a completely incorrect report.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is the Government aware of a report that the American Ambassador in Pakistan urged Pakistan's intervention in Korea, in return for active American aid in Kashmir?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No. Government is not aware. But some press statements appeared, though I don't remember precisely what they said; but something to that effect did appear in the Press.

INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

*12. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state what steps have been taken by the Government of India to protect and safeguard the rights and interests of Indians in South Africa against the enforcement of the Group Areas Act?

(b) What is the number of Indians affected so far by the actual enforcement of the Act?

(c) What is the value of property held by Indians affected by the operation of this Act?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) As soon as the Government of India came to know of the intention of the Union Government to introduce the Group Areas Bill, they made a request to that Government to withhold introduction of the proposed Bill pointing out that it would add to the disabilities of the Indians at a time when this very question was going to be discussed at a round table conference between the three Governments concerned.

The Government of the Union of South Africa turned down this request, but the Government of India again approached them with a request for the postponement of the Bill. It was pointed out to the Union Government that it was the duty of all parties to the proposed round table

conference to refrain from taking any action that might spoil the atmosphere for the conference. As this request also was not accepted by the Union Government, the Government of India formally brought the matter to the notice of the United Nations and requested the inclusion of the subject in the agenda of the Fifth Session of the General Assembly.

The entire question will, it is expected, be discussed in the current session of the General Assembly. As a matter of fact it is being discussed now.

(b) and (c). The "group areas" have not yet been proclaimed. However, preliminary steps taken under the provisions of the Act are reported to have already affected the value of land and other interests of Indians in predominantly European areas. No estimate is available of the number of persons or the value of property already affected by the operation of the Act.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Do Government propose to take the matter before the International Court of Justice?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No Sir, we do not.

Shri Kamath: Sir, was this matter discussed or was the issue even raised at any of the Commonwealth conferences held during the last six months?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No Sir, it was not discussed nor was the issue raised in the Conference. But there was some talk outside the Conference between me and the Prime Minister of South Africa; that was, however, a private talk.

Shri Kamath: Was it cordial?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Raj Bahadur: In the light of the U.N. Declaration on Human Rights, of December 10th, 1948, may I know the reason why the matter is not being taken to the International Court of Justice?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member does not seem to remember what has happened in the past. We considered it far better for this matter to be dealt with by the U.N. General Assembly than by a legal court.

**EVACUEE PROPERTY BILL IN
ASSAM ASSEMBLY**

*13. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that further progress of the Bill relating to evacuee property in the State Assembly of

Assam was stopped in the midst of the last Autumn Session under the direction of the Government of India, owing to difference of opinion between the Governments of India and Pakistan regarding implementation and interpretation of certain Provisions of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement known as "DELHI PACT" of April 1950?

(b) If so, what are the points of difference and is there any chance of these points being amicably settled in the near future?

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

(b) The following are the three points of difference:

(i) Whether a Trust Committee set up under clause (vi) of Section B of the Delhi Agreement of April 1950, can take over the property of a migrant for management before 31st December, 1950 on an application by the migrant, even though the migrant may not declare his intention not to return.

(ii) Whether a migrant is entitled to object to the management of his property by the Trust Committee.

(iii) Whether a migrant who returns after the 31st December, 1950 is entitled to have his property restored to him by the Trust Committee for his own management.

These points of difference relate to the interpretation of the relevant clauses of the Delhi Agreement, and in order to try to resolve these the two Central Ministers met the representatives of the Governments of West Bengal, Assam and East Bengal at a conference at Shillong on November 7 and 8. The joint recommendation of the two Central Ministers is being awaited.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Sir, is it a fact that recently the conference met in Shillong and there has been no settlement of this question?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am unable to answer the hon. Member precisely. I have not seen the report of the conference yet.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS**

INDO-PAKISTAN TRADE

*14. **Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether it is a fact that as a result of the expiration of the period of Trade Agreement between India and Pakistan on the 30th September, 1950, export of coal from Assam to East Pakistan and import of articles such

as fish, eggs, poultry and fruits, etc. into Assam from East Pakistan have been completely stopped?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): The supply of coal from Assam to East Bengal did not form a part of the Trade Agreement which expired on the 30th September, 1950. Some quantities of coal were permitted for export from Assam to East Pakistan as an *ad hoc* measure on account of the special circumstances attending the cases of Messrs. Assam Bengal Cement Company Ltd., and the Indian Tea Association, Calcutta. As regards fresh fish, fruits and vegetables, eggs, poultry etc., being perishable commodities, the Government of India have not placed any restrictions on their movement by land between the two countries even after the expiration of the April, 1950 Agreement.

INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT (IMPLEMENTATION IN EAST PAKISTAN)

*15. Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there has been a large measure of effective implementation of Delhi Pact in East Pakistan in the months of August, September and October, 1950?

(b) If so, what is the number of Hindu and Muslim displaced persons who have permanently returned to East Pakistan and Assam respectively?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). Considerable progress has been made in the implementation of the Agreement, although much still remains to be done. The two Cabinet Ministers have been working hard for this implementation and have consistently kept the position under review.

The flow of returning migrants, in both directions, has been progressively increasing. The information desired by the hon. Member is given in the following tabular statement:

From Assam to East Pakistan.

(From 9th April, 1950 to 28th October, 1950).

Hindus	Muslims
65,079	44,152

From East Pakistan to Assam.

(From 9th April, 1950 to 28th October, 1950).

Hindus	Muslims
2,27,042	1,85,592

From West Bengal to East Pakistan.
(From 9th April, 1950 to 4th November, 1950).

Hindus	Muslims
11,58,715	6,56,982

From East Pakistan to West Bengal.

(From 9th April, 1950 to 4th November, 1950).

Hindus	Muslims
16,26,276	5,19,528

In each case the figures include a fairly large percentage of normal passengers and others, specially between West Bengal and East Bengal. A number of Muslims entering Assam from East Bengal are newcomers.

It is too early yet to say whether all returning migrants will stay back permanently.

IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE

*16. Shri Kesava Rao: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state what is the percentage of controlled import and export trade reserved for newcomers?

(b) Is there any proposal to increase this percentage?

(c) On what basis is this percentage fixed?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The percentage of the total import trade which is reserved for Newcomers works out to about 0.6 per cent. Newcomers are not admitted to all lines of the import trade, and if the import trade in these items for which Newcomers may apply is alone taken into account, the percentage reserved for Newcomers works out to about 5 per cent.

So far as exports are concerned, these are already very much liberalised. In the case of the jute goods, however, where individual quotas are worked out, the Newcomers' share is 10 per cent. of the quota.

(b) and (c). At present Newcomers are admitted to the import trade only in those lines in which it is possible to accommodate Actual Users (if any) to the full extent of their requirements and Established Importers to the extent of 100 per cent. of their past imports and yet to leave a balance in the relevant monetary ceiling. The balance is allotted to the Newcomers if it does not exceed 15 per cent. of the total ceiling. If it exceeds 15 per cent. of the total ceiling then only 15 per cent. is allotted to Newcomers. It is proposed to increase this percentage, if possible, in the next licensing period.

There is no proposal to increase the percentage reserved for Newcomers for export of jute goods, as it is considered adequate.

SHRI J. N. MANDAL'S STATEMENT

*17. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of Mr. Jogendra Nath Mandal, who has resigned from the Pakistan Cabinet, in regard to condition of minorities in that country after the Delhi Agreement?

(b) Is it a fact that there has been large scale forcible conversion of the Scheduled Caste population?

(c) If so, have Government sent any representation to the Pakistan Government and with what result?

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

(b) In course of the disturbances following the partition of the country in 1947 large numbers of Hindus, in particular, members of Scheduled Castes, were converted to the Muslim faith in the West Punjab. As communal tension eased most of the converts reverted to their ancestral faith. Reports of forcible conversions were also received from East Bengal after the communal disturbances in February and March. These conversions were not generally recognised by the Muslims themselves and the converts in most cases reverted to their original faith as soon as the disturbances ceased.

(c) Soon after the Punjab disturbances the Governments of India and Pakistan made a joint announcement that forced conversions would not be recognised. A similar provision is contained in the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of April, 1950.

Individual cases of forcible conversion which come to the Government of India's notice are taken up *ad hoc* with the Pakistan Government. In a few cases the Pakistan Government have replied that the persons concerned embraced Islam of their own free will.

SINDRI FERTILIZER FACTORY

*18. **Shri T. N. Singh:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state when the Sindri Factory will go into production and to what stage has the factory progressed?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): It is expected that the constructional work of the factory would be completed about the middle of 1951; and the first quantity of usable Ammonium Sulphate would be produced about the same time. It should be possible to establish one-third production about September 1951 and full production some six months later.

The construction of the factory as a whole is fast reaching its closing stages. Operational tests have already begun in the power plant and it is certain that some power would be produced before the beginning of January 1951. The Gas plant is nearly 95 per cent. complete and would be ready for testing by the time power is available. The Ammonia Synthesis plant and the Sulphate plant have made sufficient progress to justify the expectation that by the time gas is generated in the Gas plant, it would be possible to commence operational tests first in the Ammonia Synthesis plant and then, after some Ammonia is available, in the Sulphate plant.

FOREIGN POSSESSIONS IN INDIA

*19. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state what steps have been taken during the last 12 months in regard to the merger of foreign possessions in India with the Indian Union?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Dr. Keskar's reply to Question No. 194 on the 4th of August 1950, and his reply to Question No. 367 on the 14th August 1950, briefly stating the position in respect of the Government of India's negotiations with the French and the Portuguese Governments regarding their possessions in India. I have nothing to add to the statements, except that we are continuing with our efforts for an early and satisfactory settlement of the future of these possessions. Attempts at peaceful settlement of problems take longer but lead to more satisfactory and durable results.

TRADE WITH PAKISTAN

*20. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the value in rupees of our trade (Exports and Imports) with Pakistan during the months of May, June, July, August, September and October 1950; and

(b) the balance of trade with that country during these months?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement furnishing the required information for the months May to September 1950, is laid on the Table of the House. Figures for October 1950 are not yet available. For the period, May to September our exports to Pakistan came to 1655 lakhs, while our imports from Pakistan came to 2607 lakhs, thus leaving an adverse

balance against us of 952 lakhs. I should however say that the figures include the trade which was financed by private parties without any assistance from the respective Governments.

STATEMENT

India's imports from and exports to Pakistan and the balance of trade with that country during each of the five months May to September, 1950.

Month	Exports to	Imports from	Balance of
	Pakistan	Pakistan	trade
	Rs. (lakhs)	Rs. (lakhs)	Rs. (lakhs)
May 1950	147	311	-164
June 1950	230	365	-135
July 1950	220	491	-271
August 1950	409	799	-390
September 1950	649	641	+8
Total of five months, May to September, 1950	1,655	2,607	- 952

CENTRIFUGAL PUMPS (IMPORT)

*21. Dr. R. S. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the Government of India have allowed the import of centrifugal pumps for pumping water with horizontal spindle?

(b) If so, wherefrom are those pumps going to be imported?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the current licensing period, import is allowed from the Dollar Area, Switzerland and the Soft Currency Area which now also includes Western Germany and Belgium. Licences from the Dollar Area will be allowed to be switched over for imports from Japan.

HINDU RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

*22. Dr. R. S. Singh: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to enact any central measure to control Hindu religious and charitable endowments?

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): No, Sir. But in view of the fact that a Bill called the Hindu Mutts Bill has been sponsored by a number of hon. Members, I am obtaining further information on the subject from the State Governments. Thereafter I intend to consider whether Central legislation is required and if so on what lines it should be drafted.

MIGRATION TO CEYLON

*23. Dr. R. S. Singh: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that there have been illegal migrations to Ceylon from India in the recent months?

(b) If so, have the Government of Ceylon taken any action against those immigrants?

(c) What steps, if any, have the Government of India taken or propose to take to check such migrations?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) No case of illegal migration has been reported by the established sea routes to Ceylon through the ports of Dhanushkodi and Tuticorin. It has, however, come to the notice of Government, particularly after the coming into force of the Ceylon Immigrants and Emigrants Act (20 of 1948), that attempts to get across to Ceylon unlawfully by country-craft from minor ports along Tanjore, Ramnad and Tirunelveli have increased.

(b) It is understood that the Government of Ceylon have very recently taken steps to exercise close vigilance in detecting illicit landings in that country. Those caught landing in Ceylon without valid credentials are arrested, and prosecuted for offences under the Ceylon Immigrants and Emigrants Act. They are repatriated to India on their completing sentences imposed on them by the Ceylon Courts.

(c) The Customs and Emigration authorities have been asked to keep a closer watch. Persons found attempting to emigrate illicitly to Ceylon are prosecuted under the Indian Emigration Act, 1922 and the Indian Penal Code.

STATE TRADING CORPORATION

*24. Shri V. K. Reddy: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state what are the recommendations made by the State Trading Enquiry Committee?

(b) Have any of these recommendations been implemented?

(c) Is there any proposal before the Government for starting a State Trading Corporation?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) The recommendations made by the Committee on State Trading relate to several matters including the setting up of a State Trading Corporation which, it is recommended, should take over all the import and export operations of a commercial nature being handled at present by the Central Government departments, and also undertake export

trade in short-staple cotton and cottage industry products. A summary of all the recommendations, is contained in Chapter VII of the Report of the Committee, copies of which have been placed in the Library of the Parliament for reference.

(b) None of the recommendations has been implemented, as the Report of the Committee is still under examination.

(c) The recommendation of the Committee for setting up a State Trading Corporation is at present under examination along with its other recommendations.

DISPOSALS DEPARTMENT

*25. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken in pursuance of the statement made by Government in the First Session of Parliament 1950 that the Disposals Department would be closed from March 1951; and

(b) to what agency the surplus stores for disposal lying unsold are likely to be transferred?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) the following measures have been adopted to speed up disposals:—

(i) All items not required by Priority Indentors or which do not have to be dealt with centrally by the Director General of Disposals are cross-mandated to Regional Offices for early disposal by auction.

(ii) As far as possible, cross-mandating is done Depot-wise to facilitate rapid closure of Depots in the order of priority as desired by the Ministry of Defence.

(iii) To ensure speedy disposal, site disposal auctions are arranged for the clearance of major holdings, where necessary.

(iv) Frequency of auction sales has been increased and wherever possible, auction sales are held on Sundays and public holidays.

(v) Defence stock holders have been authorised to dispose of under their own arrangements salvage and scrap; and also surplus stores up to book value of Rs. 5,000 for any single category of stores.

(b) Stores lying unsold on 1st April, 1951 will be entrusted for disposal to the Director General (Industries and Supplies).

TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH RUSSIA

*26. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether the trade negotiations between India and Russia have been concluded?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): Certain negotiations were started in April 1948 but they did not result in an Agreement. The negotiations were not pursued as no satisfactory agreement could be reached on the price of the wheat and maize to be supplied by Russia. There was some difficulty also as to the manner of payment.

PRE-FABRICATED HOUSING FACTORY

*27. **Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to refer to the reply to my unstarred Question No. 84 asked on the 14th August 1950 and state:

(a) the terms and conditions under which the firm of Messrs. C. A. Wallenborg & Sons of Stockholm offered to start a factory for pre-fabricated houses in India; and

(b) the reply Government have given to this firm?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The firm offered to establish a factory for manufacture of timber prefabricated houses on following terms:—

(i) Government should give all the necessary assistance to the firm in acquiring two covered Assembling Depots, each with area of at least 90,000 sq. ft. Alternatively, the Government should grant necessary permits and priority certificates in favour of the firm for procurement of building materials in India or Government should provide for duty free importation from Sweden or England of at least 2 lots of three hangar-type buildings with the area of 30,000 sq. ft. Government should provide necessary land for the purpose of erecting the sheds.

(ii) Government should give assisted passage and working permits for 12 Swedish carpenters and two Engineers.

(iii) Government should guarantee that the proposed factory would be fully employed for seven years.

(b) Since it appeared that the Scheme will not mature for some time and because the Ministry of Rehabilitation which is a temporary one, could not guarantee to purchase the products of the factory for seven years, the firm was finally informed that though the

Government would welcome the establishment of the factory and would render assistance, as far as possible, to the firm in procuring machinery and Indian raw materials, the Government could not guarantee to purchase the products of the factory.

KOREAN WAR

*28. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what is the attitude of India in the Korean War on the question of the bombing of non-military objectives; and

(b) how India voted on the Russian resolution condemning bombing of non-military objectives by American troops and the reason therefor?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) and (b). The Government of India are entirely opposed to the bombing of non-military objectives in the Korean, or any other, war. They could not, however, assume without investigation the truth of reports on the bombing of non-military objectives by American troops. For this reason, the Indian Delegation voted against the Russian resolution which sought to condemn the United States Government without any investigation or proof.

HARIJANS IN PAKISTAN

*29. **Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state how far the Harijans left in Pakistan have been affected by the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of the 8th April, 1950?

(b) Have cases of forced marriages and forced conversions in Pakistan increased or decreased since the agreement came into force?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) There has been no noticeable change in West Pakistan. In East Pakistan the position has definitely improved as a result of the lessening of communal tension.

(b) The position in West Pakistan remains unchanged. In East Pakistan there has been a definite decrease in such cases.

KOREA

*30. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Indian Representative at the U.N.O. to see that the U.N. Forces did not cross the 38th parallel in Korea;

(b) which were the Nations which held this view and supported India; and

(c) what steps the Government of India propose to take for the purpose of obtaining support for the attitude taken by India in this respect?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) At the General Assembly debate on the Eight-Power resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom on October the 7th, the Indian Representative strongly opposed Clause (D) of the resolution which, by implication, authorized the United Nations Forces to cross the 38th parallel. He pointed out that this might result in prolonging North Korean resistance and even extending the area of conflict. He also advocated a 'cease fire' period for peace talks. India abstained from voting on the resolution which was adopted by 47 votes to 5.

(b) The other members who abstained from voting on the Eight-Power resolution were:

Egypt, Indonesia, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

(c) The question does not arise.

DIXON REPORT

*31. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether he proposes to make a statement on the Dixon Report?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I would invite the hon. Member's attention to the statement that I made at a press conference on the 30th September, 1950. For convenient reference, a copy has been placed in the library. [See Library No. P-116/50].

PLANTS FOR ARMS AND AMMUNITION (IMPORT FROM SWEDEN)

*32. **Shri Chaltha:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement of Mr. Tarapada Chakravarty, a member of the three-man Indian Trade Delegation to Sweden, that Sweden supplied Pakistan with four plants for the manufacture of arms and ammunition at a cost of four lakhs each;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact; and

(c) whether the Government of India require these kinds of plants and if so, whether arrangements can be made with the Swedish Government for the import of such plants to India?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes; Government have seen the statement referred to.

(b) and (c). The Government of India are not aware whether, in fact, plants have been supplied or of the details of the types of plants if they have been supplied. There is no reason to think that any difficulty will be experienced in importing any plant or machinery from Sweden that the Government of India may require.

TEA CHESTS (IMPORT FROM SWEDEN)

***33. Shri Chaliha:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 13 crore rupees worth of tea chests and other goods are imported annually from Sweden through British firms;

(b) whether it is a fact that India is losing yearly a very heavy sum on account of such imports of tea chests and other commodities through British firms in London;

(c) whether Government are aware that efforts to import directly tea chest panels were frustrated by the London Cartel, which had been pressing suppliers in those countries not to negotiate with India;

(d) whether the three-man Indian Trade Delegation to Sweden has been successful in inducing the Swedish and Finnish Mills to enter into direct trade relations with India or sell a certain quota of tea chests; and

(e) if so, whether Government are prepared to accept their offer of selling tea chests direct to India in 1950-51?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The correct figure of the value of tea chests imported from Sweden in each of the last three years has varied from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 13.95 lakhs. The value of the other goods not specified can not be verified.

(b) As far as possible India imports tea chests and other commodities directly from the country of origin. However when sufficient tea chests have not been thus obtained, imports have been permitted through United Kingdom firms. Such imports are necessarily slightly more expensive than direct imports but it would be incorrect to say that we are losing large sums of money on such imports, as we have made them because chests were not available from other soft currency sources.

(c) The answer is in the negative. It is, however, known that the bulk of Scandinavian plywood production is bought by United Kingdom buyers.

(d) It is understood that the Delegation which consisted of two representatives sent by the Tea Chests and Plywood Trades Association, Calcutta, to Sweden and other countries has succeeded in persuading a Finnish Mill to enter into direct trade relations with India.

(e) The Government of India have informed our Minister in Sweden, who is also accredited to Finland, that 1.6 million tea chests will be imported into India during the calendar year 1951 and that it will be made a condition of such imports that they should come directly from country of origin or from shippers of such countries. This will ensure direct supplies being made to India from countries such as Finland.

SHOPS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

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

(a) the number of shops lying vacant in Amrit Kaur Market, Paharganj, New Delhi, built by the Municipal Committee, Delhi, for displaced persons;

(b) for how much time these shops have been lying vacant and why; and

(c) whether there are no displaced applicants desirous of hiring these shops?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The question would be answered by the hon. Minister of Health to whom it has been transferred for answer.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES (DEVELOPMENT)

***35. Prof. Ranga:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cottage Industries Board has recommended the establishment of a Statutory Board for development of cottage industries;

(b) if so, when was that recommendation made;

(c) whether the Standing Advisory Committee for Industry and Supply Ministry has also approved of that recommendation;

(d) when the Government of India propose to introduce a Bill to implement that recommendation; and

(e) what funds have been sanctioned and spent so far, since the formation of the Cottage Industries Board, on different cottage industries?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) No such recommendation was made by the Cottage Industries Board. The proposal was initiated by me.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Standing Committee of Parliament attached to the Ministry of Industry and Supply agreed to the proposal.

(d) The proposal was considered by the Executive Committee of the Cottage Industries Board at their meeting held on 13th November, 1950. The Committee felt that it was not necessary to re-constitute the Board as a statutory body. They recommended that a small committee under the chairmanship of the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply, charged with executive powers, should be constituted to carry out the functions of the Board.

(e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See *Appendix I, annexeure No. 7.*]

YARN DISTRIBUTION

***36. Prof. Ranga:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of mill yarn produced in India which is being distributed between the Textile mills and Handlooms;

(b) the estimated capacity of the mills and handlooms to consume yarn;

(c) the steps taken during the last two years to increase the quantity of yarn supplied to handlooms; and

(d) whether it is a fact that, in several States, less than 10 lbs. per loom per month is being distributed and that it is not enough to keep a weaver employed for even ten days in the month?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) The total quantity of mill yarn produced during the half year January 1950 to July 1950 was 712,960,000 lbs., out of this quantity Mills had consumed 538,460,000 lbs. Out of the surplus available after meeting defence requirements and export commitments, 133,886,000 lbs. of yarn were released to the States for distribution to Handloom Industry, powerloom industry and other miscellaneous consumers and it is estimated that about 76 per cent. of this quantity was made available for consumption to the handloom industry.

(b) The average capacity of yarn consumption by composite mills in India during the last five years is about 1,000 million lbs. per annum. The Standing Handloom Committee of the Cottage Industries Board estimated that the Handloom Industry would be satisfied with the supplies of 480 million lbs. of yarn per annum.

(c) The following steps have been taken to increase the yarn supplies to the handloom industry:

(i) 25 per cent. of the total additional spindlage installed under the Textile Expansion Plan for the manufacture of yarn is to be reserved for the handloom industry. In the case of new mills in Madras and Orissa, they are required to reserve 50 per cent. and 33-1/3 per cent. respectively of the installed spindlage. Discretion has also been given to the State Governments to reserve more if they consider necessary.

(ii) 66,000 bales of American Cotton have been imported between April and August 1950 and given to the spinning mills at subsidised rates. The yarn manufactured out of this cotton will be made available for the handloom industry.

(iii) Export of yarn of counts below 30s has been stopped. The export of yarn of counts above 30s has been restricted to 1/4th of the production.

(iv) Permission of the Textile Commissioner is necessary to install powerlooms on cotton yarn and this restriction ensures that supplies intended for the Handloom industry are not utilised by the new powerlooms.

(d) The distribution of yarn to the handloom industry is made by State Governments and they should be presumed to be doing it fairly. It is an admitted fact that there has been acute shortage of yarn in the past three or four months and the position is sure to improve in December next as a result of the steps taken.

YARN (EXPORT)

***37. Prof. Ranga:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of each count of mill yarn produced in India that is being exported;

(b) why all these exports are permitted, while our handloom weavers are being under-employed;

(c) whether Government are aware of the demand of weavers to prohibit yarn exports;

(d) whether steps are being taken to import larger quantities of fine yarn and if so, to what extent; and

(e) whether there are any proposals to stop exports of Indian yarn?

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): (a) A statement showing quantity of Indian mill yarn actually exported in different counts is placed on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 8.]

(b) Free export of yarn was allowed at the time when there was glut of yarn in the country. Restrictions have been placed on exports of yarn from time to time as the occasion has warranted. At present export of yarn of counts upto 32s as well as 80s and 100s is totally prohibited. Exports of yarn of counts above 32s are restricted to one-fourth of the production of free yarn.

(c) Yes.

(d) A monetary limit of Rs. 30 lakhs was fixed for import of yarn. But it seems it has no demand in this country because of its high price.

(e) Yes. The question of totally banning the export of yarn is under consideration.

DISPLACED BAHAWALPUR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

***38. Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether former employees of Bahawalpur Government are being deprived of the privilege of being registered at the Transfer Bureau of the Government of India; and

(b) whether it is a fact that a directive was sent to Rajpura Development Board to employ former Bahawalpur Government staff alone to all vacancies and posts in the Rajpura Camp and township provided such persons with requisite qualifications were found available amongst Bahawalpuri displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The question would be answered by the hon. Minister of Home Affairs to whom it has been transferred for answer.

RAJINDER NAGAR (EVICTION)

***39. Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even poor displaced persons residing at Rajinder Nagar, Delhi have been served with notices for eviction on failure to pay arrears of rent; and

(b) if so, what arrangement Government have made to provide alternate accommodation to the evicted displaced persons?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Houses in Rajinder Nagar were allotted on rental basis and anyone who persistently fails to pay rent is liable to ejection. Some notices for ejection for failure have been issued.

(b) So far actually no ejection has been made on account of failure to pay rent.

HEALTH CO-OPERATIVE CENTRES

***40. Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Rehabilitation Ministry started a few Health Co-operative Centres in Delhi?

(b) If so, what was the total income and expenditure in each case during the period when they were financed by the Government?

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 9.]

EXPULSION OF WORKMEN FROM PONDICHERY

***41. Shri E. L. Malviya:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government have received any information of the dismissal of 300 workmen from the Mills at Pondichery and of the order of their expulsion from the French territory on their alleged sympathy with the democratic forces favouring the merger of the French possessions in India with the Indian Union?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken to protect those workers?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have no official information on the subject but conditions in French India are unsatisfactory and it is not unlikely that some labourers may have been dismissed on account of their pro-merger tendencies.

(b) Since no representation has been received, the question of protection does not arise.

FILMS (IMPORT)

*42. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries from which Cinema Films are imported into India for exhibition;

(b) the amount of money which was paid to each of these countries for these films during the years 1947, 1948 and 1949;

(c) the amount of money paid for Raw Film imported into India during the same years; and

(d) the names of the countries from which Raw Film is being imported?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (d). Two statements showing quantity and value of imports of exposed films and raw films into India during the years 1947, 48 and 1949 are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, *annexure No. 10.*]

CHINESE INVASION OF TIBET

*43. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the attention of the Government of India has been drawn to Press Reports about an invasion of Tibet by the Army of the People's Republic of China?

(b) If so, what is the actual position?

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

(b) On account of difficult communications news from Tibet are meagre. From information that we have obtained so far, we understand that the Chinese troops crossed the Dreehn river, which is the boundary between China and Tibet, on 7th October, 1950 at a number of places. They are reported to have captured Chamdo, the Capital of the Eastern Provinces of Kham and are said to be advancing towards Lhasa.

TREATIES

*44. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the principle contained in the suggestion for a "No-war" Declaration by India and Pakistan has been, or is to be, extended to any other countries, whether our immediate neighbours or those farther afield?

(b) Have the Government of India

offered to make with any country an Arbitration Treaty for settling any disputes between them?

(c) Has any Treaty of Offensive and Defensive Alliance been concluded, or negotiations started for such a treaty, with any country inside or outside the Commonwealth?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) to (c). The Government of India have already entered into Treaties of Friendship with a number of countries with the object of promoting peace and friendship with them. No mention has been made therein of a clause in the nature of a "No-war" declaration, though our Treaty with Iran specifically mentions that all differences between the two countries will be settled through peaceful means.

No specific Arbitration Treaty or Treaty of Offensive and Defensive Alliance has been considered or concluded.

FREIGHT RATES IN OVERSEAS TRADE

*45. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether Government have received any representation from Indian Shipping concerns regarding the excessive freight charges in the overseas trade of India?

(b) Are Government aware that British Shipping concerns decline to raise the freight charges on the trade between India and the United Kingdom, even though the prevailing rates be uneconomical, in pursuance of the British Export drive?

(c) What steps do Government intend to take to guard against the harmful consequences of such a policy on Indian trade, and on Indian shipping enterprise?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government are aware that the question of increasing the freight rates from U.K. and the Continent to India was considered by the India/U.K.—Continent Conference and that while the freight rates from Continent to India were increased those from the U.K. to India were not. Government have no information to justify the assumption that the prevailing freight rates from U.K. to India are uneconomical.

(c) The question will be considered if and when any harmful consequences become apparent.

SULPHUR FROM GYPSUM

*46. Prof. S. N. Mishra: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research at its last sitting recommended that the Government of India should put up a pilot plant for the manufacture of sulphur from gypsum?

(b) If so, what steps have been taken towards its implementation?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes. The recommendation was that Government should be requested to put up a plant for the manufacture of sulphuric acid from gypsum.

(b) The recommendation has been brought to the notice of the Planning Commission.

COAL SURVEY STATIONS

*47. Prof. S. N. Mishra: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has recommended the establishment of regional Coal Survey Stations; and

(b) if so, the number of stations established already or proposed to be established?

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

(b) The number proposed is six. Of these two Regional Coal Survey Stations for Jharia and Raniganj Coalfields, are functioning at Digwadih. Arrangements for setting up four more stations, namely at Ranchi for the Bokaro-Ramgarh-Karanpura Coalfields, at Kamptee for the Madhya Pradesh Coalfields, at Umaria for the Vindhya Pradesh Coalfields and at a suitable place in Assam for the Assam Coalfields are under way.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN

*48. Prof. S. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enter into a fresh Trade Agreement with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether any negotiations have been held in this regard?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) and (b). The Government of India will gladly enter into a fresh trade agreement with Pakistan as soon as the question of the fixation of the exchange ratio of the Pakistan Rupee, which is before the International Monetary Fund, has been resolved.

CARDAMOM (EXPORT)

*49. Shri Meeran: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of Cardamom exported during the last five years from India to foreign countries; and

(b) their estimated value?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The total quantity of Cardamom exported during the five years ending 1949-50 was 84,375 cwt.

(b) About Rs. 3½ crores.

STATEMENT

The Export of Cardamom during the five years ending 1949-50.

Year	Quantity (cwt)	Value (rupees)
1945-46	16,714	36,13,178
1946-47	13,217	41,92,567
1947-48	20,800	75,78,078
1948-49	17,506	73,23,405
1949-50	16,138	1,22,39,654
Total	84,375	3,40,41,882

RETURN OF INDIANS TO BURMA

*50. Shri Ramalingam Chettiar: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a large number of Indians born in Burma have large stakes in Burma and that they have been held up in India on account of want of facilities for return and other reasons?

(b) Are Government aware that the Government of Burma has fixed the 1st of January, 1951, as the latest date for the return of these Indians who have been detained in India?

(c) What steps are Government taking (i) to facilitate the return of these people to Burma; and (ii) to extend the time for their return?

(d) Are Government aware that the lands belonging to Indians are being brought to sale for payment of revenue?

(e) What steps have Government taken to avoid such sales at least in cases where lands are under cultivation by Burmese?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have received

representations to the effect that a large number of Indian evacuees from Burma who came to India during the last war have not yet returned to Burma.

(b) The Government of Burma have fixed the 31st December, 1950, as the last date by which persons in possession of Evacuee Identity Certificates can return to Burma on the strength of such certificates, after they are duly checked and endorsed by the Burmese Immigration authorities in India.

(c) (i) The Passport Issuing Authorities in India have been directed to afford necessary facilities to the Indian Evacuees from Burma, desirous of going back to Burma by issuing them passports expeditiously. The Shipping Companies in India are also being requested to provide increased shipping facilities to such persons, as and when necessary.

(ii) Representations have been made to the Government of Burma to extend the last date for the return of persons in possession of Evacuee Identity Certificates by six months.

(d) Government have received representations that the lands of Indian landowners in certain districts of Burma are being sold for non-payment of land revenue.

(e) Representations were made to the Government of Burma that those landlords who could not realise rent from their tenants, due to the prevalence of lawlessness and other circumstances beyond their control, should be granted remission of land revenue due from them. The Government of Burma have promised to consider specific cases on their merits and have suggested that all such cases should be represented to the District authorities concerned.

INDO-TIBETAN BORDER

1. Shri Kamath: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a P.T.I. report from Lucknow, dated the 26th October 1950, about the activities of dacoits and robbers near the Indo-Tibetan border in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is correct, if so, the details of such activities;

(c) whether any officers of Government have studied the situation on the spot;

(d) if so, who, and what is the gist of their reports; and

(e) the nature of security measures taken on the Indo-Tibetan border so as to prevent the recurrence of such incidents?

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

(b) There were two or three incidents of attacks on Bhutia traders by robbers and dacoits. The details are being obtained from the Uttar Pradesh Government and would be placed on the Table of the House on receipt.

(c) A Deputy Inspector General of Uttar Pradesh Police was asked to examine the position and has recently submitted his report to the Uttar Pradesh Government.

(d) and (e). The report is being examined and necessary security measures will be taken, after the examination of the report, in consultation with the Uttar Pradesh Government.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH INDONESIA

2. Prof. S. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state whether any trade agreement is proposed to be signed for direct trade between India and Indonesia?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): Yes, Sir.

Wednesday, 15th November, 1950

Volume VI

No. 1—19



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

OFFICIAL REPORT

Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers.

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Price Five Annas

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers.)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Wednesday, 15th November, 1950

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven
of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

ATTACK ON CITIZENS OF LUCKNOW BY
JACKALS, WOLVES, HYENAS

Mr. Speaker: I have received notices of two adjournment motions. The first one stands in the name of Shri Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri and the other one in the name of Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena. The first motion reads as follows:

"That this House do now adjourn to consider a question of urgent public importance of recent origin to wit failure of the Government of India to lend to the Government of Uttar Pradesh, sufficient military force to aid the local police in stopping depredations caused by the combined attack on the citizens of Lucknow and its suburbs by mad jackals, wolves, hyenas and man-eaters in the months of September and October last, as a result of which there was considerable loss of human lives and cattle."

I do not think I need labour on this motion, as the House has expressed its view on it, as the motion was being read out.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, I would like to point out

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that the mere putting forward of a motion of this kind, which is full of wrong statements and false insinuations does not entitle it to be read. You were good enough to rule it out but when it goes out to the public it will contain some very false insinuations and completely wrong statements.

Mr. Speaker: I was just thinking as to whether I should bring it before the House at all. But the House felt last time that any adjournment motion had better be read out here. Of course, as regards the facts I have no knowledge.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Suppose an adjournment motion is obscene and indecent: would it also be read out?

Mr. Speaker: No, no. They cannot all be read out.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So there are certain tests which should be applied...

Mr. Speaker: I was making some distinction regarding the interpretation. I had no knowledge of the facts beyond the fact that there was some press report.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): Sir, will you give me an opportunity to explain?

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary now.

PROHIBITION OF MANUFACTURE OF GUR
FROM SUGARCANE WITH THE HELP OF
Kolhus.

Mr. Speaker: The second adjournment motion by Prof. S. L. Saksena reads:

"That the House do adjourn to consider the most exasperating situation created in gur producing areas, especially in the U.P. by the Notification S.R.O. 735, of the Ministry of Agriculture, dated the 7th October, 1950, and the order issued under it, directing that no

gur shall be manufactured from sugarcane in the zones of sugar factories with the help of *kolhus* i.e., 'cane-crushers', except under and in accordance with the conditions specified in a licence issued in this behalf."

I do not think that this subject is at all important either from the point of view of all-India importance or for the matter of that from the point of view of even urgency. I therefore do not propose to give my consent to it. As it appears from the motion itself, I find that they have introduced a system of giving licences and there is no absolute prohibition of manufacture with the help of *kolhus*. This subject may form the basis of a discussion but certainly not by the method of an adjournment motion. I would be glad if the hon. Minister for Agriculture would explain the position.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Sir, on a proper occasion I shall be very willing to have this matter discussed on the floor of the House but I submit it is not a fit subject for an adjournment motion.

Prof. S. L. Saksena (Uttar Pradesh): May I say a word?

Mr. Speaker: Not on this occasion. The motion is *prima facie* not admissible at all.

Prof. S. L. Saksena: Members from many of the States have told me that even in the States this has been a matter of exasperation to the agriculturists.

Mr. Speaker: He will have an opportunity of discussing the subject, as the Minister has said that he will explain the situation on another occasion.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): May I take it, Sir, that you have ruled that the matter is not urgent? Is that the final ruling and therefore the motion has been rejected?

Mr. Speaker: I have said that the matter is neither urgent nor important in the all-India background. I have already given an exhaustive ruling on a previous occasion when the adjournment motion on Mir Laik Ali was discussed regarding the tests of urgency and importance.

Shri Tyagi: I submit that in such a matter it is not merely the content of the motion that we are concerned with. On an adjournment motion primarily it is the policy which is to be discussed or criticised. In this regard.....

Mr. Speaker: Order. order. The hon. Member is proceeding to argue. A

policy which is continuing from day to day cannot be the subject matter of an adjournment motion.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I make a point clear? We are always willing to give an opportunity to the House to discuss any matter which the House desires. But it should be clearly understood that we have not committed ourselves to give a particular day to discuss *gur*.

RESIGNATION OF SHRI AMRITLAL VITHALDAS THAKKAR

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the hon. Members that Shri Amritlal Vithaldas Thakkar resigned his seat in Parliament with effect from the 15th August, 1950.

BILLS ASSENTED TO BY THE PRESIDENT

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the table a statement showing the Bills which were passed by Parliament during the Second Session, July-August, 1950, and assented to by the President.

STATEMENT

1. The Contingency Fund of India Act, 1950.
2. The Preventive Detention (Amendment) Act, 1950.
3. The Census (Amendment) Act, 1950.
4. The Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Amendment Act, 1950.
5. The Cantonment Laws (Extension and Amendment) Act, 1950.
6. The Finance Laws (Amendment) Act, 1950.
7. The Influx from Pakistan (Control) Amendment Act, 1950.
8. The Minimum Wages (Amendment) Act, 1950.
9. The Naval Forces (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1950.
10. The Dentists (Amendment) Act, 1950.
11. The Salaries of Ministers (Amendment) Act, 1950.
12. The Appropriation (No. 3) Act, 1950.
13. The Voluntary Surrender of Salaries (Exemption from Taxation Act, 1950.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF INDIAN STANDARDS INSTITUTION

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): Sir, I lay on the table a copy of the Annual Report of the Indian Standards Institution for the year ending the 31st March, 1950. [Placed in Library. See No. IV R.O. (121)].

AMENDMENTS TO INSURANCE RULES, 1939

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Sri Prakasa): Sir, I lay on the table a copy of certain further amendments to the Insurance Rules, 1939, published in Notification No. 102-Ins-E/50, dated the 18th August, 1950, under subsection (3) of section 114 of the Insurance Act, 1938. [Placed in Library. See No. P-109/50].

ORDINANCES PROMULGATED AFTER SECOND SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Sir, I lay on the table a statement showing the Ordinances promulgated after the termination of the Second Session of Parliament, and before the commencement of the Third Session of Parliament [See Appendix I, Annexure II.]

ASSAM RIFLES (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, I introduce a Bill to amend the Assam Rifles Act, 1941.

DELHI LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): Sir, I introduce a Bill further to amend the Delhi Laws Act, 1915.

HYDERABAD PUBLIC COMPANIES (LIMITATION OF DIVIDENDS) REPEALING BILL.

The Minister of Home Affairs and the States (Sardar Patel): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal the Public Companies (Limitation of Dividends) Regulation, 1358 F. of Hyderabad.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to repeal the Public Companies (Limitation of Dividends) Regulation, 1358 F. of Hyderabad."

The motion was adopted.

Sardar Patel: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Employers' Liability Act, 1938.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:—

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Employers' Liability Act, 1938".

The motion was adopted.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATIONS BILL

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the incorporation and regulation of Road Transport Corporations.

LABOUR RELATIONS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Sir, I move:—

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the regulation of the relationship between employers and employees, for the prevention, investigation and settlement of labour disputes and for certain matters incidental thereto, be further extended upto Friday, the 1st December, 1950."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:—

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the regulation of the relationship between employers and employees, for the prevention, investigation and settlement of labour disputes and for certain matters incidental thereto, be further extended upto Friday, the 1st December, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

TRADE UNIONS BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the registration and recognition of trade unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered and recognised trade unions and to certain unfair practices by employers and recognised trade unions, be further extended upto Friday, the 1st December, 1950."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the registration and recognition of trade unions and in certain respects to define the law relating to registered and recognised trade unions and to certain unfair practices by employers and recognised trade unions, be further extended upto Friday, the 1st December, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I beg to move that an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:

"That the Members of Parliament assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms:

"That the Members of Parliament assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to the House."

As regards the time limit on this, I think we shall have, generally, a time limit of fifteen minutes for each speaker, and I would request hon. Members to be as short as possible, in view of the large number of amendments and the large number of persons who will desire to speak.

Shri Hussain Imam (Bihar): May I request the Government through you, Sir, that as the food situation in India is very bad a separate day might be set apart for this and that it should not come into the general discussion of the President's Address. Would they kind-

ly do it? It is the general desire of the House.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I do not know whether the hon. Member represents the general desire of the House or not.

Shri Hussain Imam: Yes, Sir.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: In the course of the Session it may well be desirable to consider the food situation.

Mr. Speaker: It has a bearing on this debate to this extent that, if a day is going to be granted, then, there would be no discussion on it and that time will be saved for other discussion.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If it is the desire of the House, we will grant a day.

Prof. Ranga (Madras): Yes, Sir, it is of very great importance. Different parts of the country are in the grip of a food famine.

Shri Hussain Imam: Government have agreed to it.

Prof. Ranga: That is why I am saying it.

Mr. Speaker: If it is the general desire of the House, then of course we will have it.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): Sir, I should certainly like the idea that there should be a day allotted to this rather than that it should be discussed during the motion on the President's Address.

Mr. Speaker: Then, we take it for granted that a day will be allotted, and Members may not touch that aspect now so that time may be saved for other matters.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Sir, this is the third occasion when the President was pleased to come to this House to deliver his Address before it. It was on the 31st January of this year that he came before the Parliament of India for the first time, in his capacity as the head of the Sovereign Independent Republic of our country to deliver his Address. The second time that we had the privilege of having him in our midst was on the first of August last, exactly six months after his first appearance in this House. And, again, yesterday we got the opportunity to accord our respectful welcome to him and to listen to him with close attention.

Shri R. Velayudhan (Travancore-Cochin): Can the hon. Member read the speech?

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Yes, I am reading the speech.

12 Noon.

Shri Frank Anthony (Madhya Pradesh): On a point of order. Can a Member give his own decision in the matter?

Mr. Speaker: I think the hon. Member will do well not to read a speech but to deliver a speech.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: That is what I am doing, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I know in the predecessor to this House, there was a practice which permitted the reading of speeches, but I should like to discourage as much as possible written speeches. He may refer to his points which he may have to make out. Of course, the question of important statements the exact phraseology of which is very important, stand on a different footing, but certainly he is not making a statement.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: As a matter of fact, delivering and reading the speech may not be interpreted too strictly in this case, and, therefore, I would beg of you to give me the indulgence of . . .

Shri Syamanandan Sahaya (Bihar): Glancing through it and speaking.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: No, Sir. Just going through it. Otherwise you may take my speech as read and I as having finished.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will see the disadvantage of allowing written speeches. They are written without reference to what is going on in the debate in the House, and more often than not, they are unreal and many times repeat the same arguments which others have advanced. In this case, of course, he can plead an exceptional circumstance that he is the first to speak. But really that should not make any difference. I know the hon. Member is a good speaker. He should set an example. He may refer to his notes as often as he likes—even quote some passages if he likes—but then let him not make an effort of reading the speech but of delivering it independently. That is in the best interests of the House and its traditions.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Sir, actually I very seriously beg of you either to permit me to read my speech or take my speech as read because I will not be able to put in what I wanted to say.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may go on but he may remember, and others also may remember, that I will not give these facilities again.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: Thank you, Sir.

It is not for nothing that our Constitution makes provisions for such Presidential Addresses. Article 86(1) of the Constitution empowers the President to "Address either House of Parliament or both Houses assembled together, and for that purpose require the attendance of members". This article gives the President the power to address Parliament at any time when it is sitting even though he has addressed it at the commencement of its session. Article 87(1) makes it obligatory on the President to deliver his address to Parliament by laying it down that "At the commencement of every Session the President shall address both houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons". So far, the President has not deemed it necessary to bring into use article 86(1) of the Constitution. It is only under the obligation imposed upon him by article 87(1) that he has addressed this House at the commencement of its Sessions. And, when we recapitulate all that he has told us in all the three of his Addresses we begin to realise the importance, the meaning, and the great necessity of such an occasion provided to us by our Constitution. The address of the President is not a mere formality. The very fact that the Constitution asks him to "inform Parliament of the causes of its summons", makes his Address a statement of importance. He lights the torch for us so that we may see clearly our duties and responsibilities which have been cast upon us by virtue of our membership of this august House. Sir, we of this House cannot be too grateful to the President for his unerring guidance to us in our Parliamentary work.

At the very outset of his address, the President has referred to the deepening crisis as a result of recent developments in the Korean situation. No one, not even those who advocated solution of the Korean Tangle by Military Action alone, can afford to look at the trend of events in Korea with any degree of equanimity. We seem to be perilously near the brink of the precipice. Soon after the end of the last Global War, Peace of the World has always appeared to be hanging by a slender thread. Our Prime Minister has never lost sight of this touch-and-go situation. He very clearly visualized the dangers that were inherent in the policy which does not look beyond the use of force for solving human psychological problems. India did not favour such a policy. But ours was a lone voice. The world would pay little heed to our counsel for sanity, amity and goodwill. Let none misunderstand us. We did not tolerate aggress-

sion. We supported whole-heartedly the U.N.O. in their resolve to give no quarters to the aggressors. Though we could hardly suppress our astonishment at the alacrity with which the North Koreans were declared as aggressors and our amazement was of no mean dimension when we found the International Binocular focussed at different angles for observing two identical situations, we still supported unhesitatingly the U.N.O. decision on the Korean question. What we did not, what we could not support was the decision to cross the 38th parallel, because we feared that such a step, in all likelihood, would defeat the very objectives of the Korean War, namely putting a stop to aggressive tendencies and preserving World Peace. I, therefore, maintain that this House fully shares the anxiety of the President that the world appears to stand perilously on the verge of War.

Here I should like to make one observation in regard to our stand on the Korean issue. In my opinion our viewpoint on this question needs a little amplification, though the Prime Minister has clarified it more than once. The mere fact of our support to the U.N. Resolution on Korea does not entitle any one to conclude that we support the Syngman Rhee Government of South Korea or that we will tolerate this unpopular, unrepresentative and repudiated regime to continue to rule over South Korea or to establish its domination over the North Korean people. As the House is aware, the Syngman Rhee Government was not able to get South Korean People's confidence in the elections that were held prior to the North Korean Aggression. Thus, this regime is an unmitigated, unadulterated, unwanted incubus on the Korean people. And it does not deserve either our support or sympathy. It is the duty of the United Nations Organisation to free the Koreans from this nightmare.

The President in his address has touched upon the general International situation with a breadth of vision and deep understanding which characterise our Foreign Policy. The attempts of our Prime Minister for the preservation of World Peace bring forcefully to my mind what the Father of the Nation said more than thirty years ago. Said he:

"I am standing on the top of a volcano trying to turn it into a hard incombustible rock. It may erupt any moment. That, alas, has been the fate of every Reformer"

Today Jawaharlal might as well repeat these immortal words. People on

the International Stage have criticized our foreign policy. They have shown their inaptitude to feel with us, to understand us, to appreciate us and to strive for peace along with us. I do not know if it is our misfortune or theirs. But I hope, the House will agree with me, that it is more theirs than ours. Even so, we too will have to pass through the fire if the East-West-Partisanship sets the world ablaze. As the President has said, "This Parliament has expressed its will to peace on many occasions". This will to peace does not warrant our taking sides except on the merits of each case presented before the International Forum. I would like to take this occasion to dispel the cloud of misunderstanding which surrounds our foreign policy as a result of the unwillingness of the interested parties to understand us. It is true that our Prime Minister has resolutely set his face against group-alignments in the International sphere. Why? For the mere fun of it? Is it merely the flash for originality that has lured him into persuading this House to adopt this policy? If any one thinks like this, all I can say is that he has lost his balance, that he refuses to see the very obvious, that the candle of his faith burns dim.

Let not this Hon. House forget that we had no foreign policy of our own worth the name when we took over this country's administration on the 15th August, 1947. Till that day India had no foreign policy except the one that was laid down for it by the British Foreign Office. The onerous task of evolving our foreign policy, consistent with our dignity as an independent Nation, consistent with our interests, traditions and teachings of our Master, fell upon Shri Jawaharlal Nehru. A lesser man could not but have chosen to adopt the line of least resistance, which was to fall in the trap of this or that group. Our Prime Minister was quick to realize the danger of losing our very soul if such a policy were adopted. If we joined a group or a bloc, we would, perforce, have had to ditto what the big Brother in the group dictated, irrespective of whether Truth and our National interests could be served by obeying the big Brother's *ukase*. Was such a situation desirable from the point of view of our country's interest? Could we tolerate, even for a moment, the adoption of a foreign policy which would make us a marionette in the hands of a group, which would deprive us of the right to examine each International question on its merit, which would compel us to fall in, blindfold, with the arch manipulators of International events? Shall we have

been able in this way to serve the cause of peace? No, Sir, such a position was *infra dignitatem* to our national prestige, to our national honour and to our sense of propriety. Such a position, where we at least could play the second fiddle, and that too on the tune set for us by somebody, would do terrible violence to our Country's desire to hold to truth, deified by the Father of the Nation as Satya Narayan as Truth God or God that is Truth.

And then, ours is a Congress Party Government and the great Congress Organisation has not been without a foreign policy of its own. There, again, it was Shri Jawaharlal who, under Bapu's inspiring leadership, gave to the Congress a foreign policy which brought us in closest contacts with the fighters for freedom all over the world. That foreign policy which the Indian National Congress in its non-official form pursued for wellnigh two decades was more or less of the same hue with which our present Government's foreign policy is tinged.

In the speech of the President there are many questions like the Tibetan and the Nepalese problem and the Indo-Pakistan Pact about which I would have liked to say something, but as my time seems to be up, I would not like to take any more time. I would, however, request you, Sir, to give me a few minutes in which I may say something about the Indo-Pakistan Pact, because that is a question on which I would like to say something before this House. The President in his Address has said:

"I am glad that as a result of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of April 8th, 1950, there has been a gradual improvement of conditions and a flow back of migrants to their original homes".

I would like to say something about this aspect of his Address.

This Agreement is commonly known as the Nehru-Liaquat Pact. We remember still how furious was the controversy that raged over this Pact. I frankly admit that I was sceptical about the results of this Pact. I know that many of my colleagues in this House were uneasy about the step which our Prime Minister took at that time. On his part it was an act of faith—faith sturdy, undimmed and unshaken in the gloom that surrounded us at that time. Time now seems to prove that he was right and that we who doubted the wisdom of his action were wrong. A factual statement of migrations of the Hindus and Mussalmans from West and East Bengal will convince the critics that this much-maligned Nehru-Liaquat Pact has tended to ease the situation and that

it has helped greatly both the communities in getting back to their homes.

The figures I give relate to the period between 7th October, 1950 and 6th November, 1950. The number of Hindus going from West Bengal to East Bengal is 2,36,181 and that of Hindus coming from East to West Bengal is 1,76,718. This shows that the number of Hindus going back to their homes in East Bengal has a preponderance over those who are coming out of that place. The difference of 59,468 over a period of one month cannot be considered either negligible or only a result of an off-chance. Take the case of Muslims also. During the month 84,226 Muslims came from East to West Bengal and 76,527 went from West to East Bengal. This shows that those who went from this side are less by 5,699 than those who came to resettle in their homes here. Surely this is a sign of returning confidence. Also, this is a vindication of the Prime Minister's policy.

Sir, I am conscious that I have not done full justice to the Address of the President. Having taken so much time of this House I will not now attempt to touch upon many other aspects which are in the Address. I am grateful to you, Sir, for showing so much indulgence to me. I am grateful to the House also. Sir, I move.

Mr. Speaker: I was just thinking as to the best way of having a real debate on the various points involved in the Address. I have received eighty-eight amendments—of course, there are not eighty-eight persons to move them. They can as well be grouped under various heads such as for example the food situation—but we are setting that aside—elections, rehabilitation, Tibet and Nepal, something about scheduled castes, something about Kashmir, controls, and the others are miscellaneous. I would like to know whether the House would wish to take each one of these heads for a discussion for an hour and a half and so on, so that whatever Members may have to say on a particular point may be said in a pointed manner.

An Hon. Member: Then the same Member will speak on so many heads.

Mr. Speaker: Fortunately the amendments are not overlapping, though the persons are. What I feel is that if one has to speak on all the points that have been raised in the various amendments within a short space of fifteen minutes, it is impossible to do any justice to any of the subjects. But I am leaving the matter to the House. If each Member wants to speak on all and sundry, I have no

objection. But, I shall strictly enforce the time-limit.

Pandit Balkrishna Sharma: You may leave it to individual Members to choose whatever they like, but if you lay down this procedure it is likely that Members may feel, if they wanted to digress to some other subject, that they will be debarred from doing so.

Mr. Speaker: I am not trying to lay down any limits. I am merely inviting the attention of Members to the aspects of discussion which should be real to my mind.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: May I, Sir, respectfully agree with you that a discussion in which every Member speaks about every subject is not a discussion; it does not draw the attention of the House or the country to any particular topic; it is too digressive and discursive. If it is possible to concentrate on a few important subjects and have a discussion on them it will be very desirable. Well, perhaps the most important subject before us in which the House is very much interested is the food question. You have just said that it might be preferable to discuss it later. Another question in which the House is no doubt interested is international affairs taken as a whole. Then there are other questions: elections, I believe. I do not know whether the matter is coming up in the form of a Bill before the House and whether it is necessary for us to discuss that question now. I would submit that there is no particular need to talk about elections at this stage. We may take three or four groups of subjects: foreign affairs, food, rehabilitation, controls—that may come under food. As far as I can see the subjects fall more or less under these three or four main groups. If the House so prefers I am prepared to give some other time for foreign affairs. That is to say, if the House discusses food which is an important matter tomorrow, the foreign situation is developing and I shall be glad to come to the House later and we can discuss it.

Pandit Kunzru (Uttar Pradesh): I think the suggestion made by the Prime Minister is excellent. I wanted to suggest myself that he be good enough to give us a separate day for the discussion of international affairs which have assumed great importance at the present time. We are deeply interested in certain aspects of it and I felt that in the course of a general debate on the Address it would not be possible for us to do justice to the subject. I hope therefore that the House will gladly avail itself of the Prime Minister's offer to allot a

separate day for the discussion of international affairs.

Mr. Speaker: The arrangement proposed comes to this, that we discuss all and sundry, the other subjects, today. Tomorrow we discuss Food and then the foreign policy or the International Affairs will be discussed on a separate day later on.

Prof. Ranga: It may not be possible for us to conclude our debate on foreign affairs just in one day. I would like to request the Prime Minister to just watch how the debate proceeds, and if he could possibly give us some more time, he should accommodate us.

Mr. Speaker: There is force in the argument. Let some time pass and then we may discuss the international affairs.

Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh): We shall discuss today whatever we like.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If necessary, we may have a day or a day and a half for this.

Mr. Speaker: As I was saying the position is this: We shall not discuss today either food or the international affairs. Food we shall discuss tomorrow and then the other subjects are there, elections, rehabilitation, Scheduled Castes, controls etc. and they may be discussed.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): May I ask whether the debate promised some time in future during this session will cover not merely foreign affairs, but also defence?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No; it will not.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta (Delhi): I would like you to include Part C States, in the list of subjects because this is the only occasion when we can raise a discussion on the future of Part C States.

Mr. Speaker: That is perfectly competent so far as the amendments go. Now with this agreement, I shall call upon Shrimati Durgabai to support the motion.

श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई : अध्यक्ष जी, मेरे लिये यह सूची की बात है कि राष्ट्रपति के भाषण पर जो कृतज्ञता और धन्यवाद प्रकट करने के लिए जो प्रस्ताव यहाँ पेश किया गया है, उसका समर्थन करने के लिए मुझे आज भोका मिला है। यह सीमाव्य की बात है कि आज हमें ऐसा राष्ट्रपति प्राप्त है जो हम में शान्ति और आत्मविश्वास की भावना भर सकता

है। हकीकत में हम को आज इन भाव-नाओं की बहुत जरूरत है। हमने अपनी स्वाधीनता को एक असाधारण उपाय से प्राप्त किया है। उस स्वाधीनता को प्राप्त करने में हमने अपना खून बहाया है पर दूसरों का खून हम ने नहीं बहाया है। आजकल भी हमारे सामने ऐसी बहुत कठिन से कठिन मुसीबतें उपस्थित हो गई हैं जैसे भूकम्प, अकाल और बाढ़ इत्यादि। इन मुसीबतों का भी सामना करने के लिए हम अपनी अमूर्त शक्ति और आत्मविश्वास पर पूरा-पूरा भरोसा करके उन का सामना करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

साम्राज्यवाद के विरुद्ध जब हम इस संसार के इतिहास में एक अनोखी लड़ाई लड़ रहे थे, तब हमारे नेता गांधी जी ने हमें यह शिक्षा दी कि हम बहादुर बनें और चाहे जो कुछ भी हो हम अपना आत्मविश्वास न खोयें और अपने सत्य मार्ग से विचलित न हों। इसी संदेश की हमारे राष्ट्रपति ने भी अपने भाषण में सूचना दी है और जो हमारे राष्ट्रपिता ने हम को बताया है हम उस पर चल कर कठिनाइयों का सहज में सामना कर सकेंगे। वह मार्ग है सभी लोगों के साथ, सभी देशों के साथ, सभी राष्ट्रों के साथ मैत्री भाव रखना, किसी से घृणा करने की नीति न रखना और चाहे जो कुछ भी हो क्षणिक लालच में पड़कर हम अपनी स्वाधीनता को बार्टर (Barter) नहीं करेंगे।

हमारे राष्ट्रपति ने इस संसद् के सामने, इस पार्लियामेंट (Parliament) के सामने, हमारे राष्ट्र को ताकत और मजबूत बनाने वाले और क्षति देने वाले कई ऐसे कार्यों की सूची प्रकट की है जो हमारी सरकार निर्वाह करना चाहती है। हम अपने राष्ट्रपति को

इस पार्लियामेंट की तरफ से विश्वास दिलाना चाहते हैं और उनके चुने हुए मन्त्रीगणों पर हमारी इस पार्लियामेंट का पूरा-पूरा भरोसा है और उन कार्यों को करने में पार्लियामेंट का सहयोग उन को पूरा पूरा मिलेगा।

यह हमारे लिये बड़े ही सौभाग्य की बात है कि हम को, इस गणतन्त्र को और भारतीय जनता को ऐसे दो महान् व्यक्ति नेता के रूप में प्राप्त हुआ है जिन में जनता का अगाध प्रेम, असीम विश्वास है। भारतीय जनता जानती है कि इन दोनों महान् नेताओं की सम्मिलित शक्ति से ही हमारी स्वाधीनता की रक्षा हो सकेगी, और हमारा देश उन्नति के शिखर पर अग्रसर हो सकेगा।

इस गणतन्त्र के जन्म से लेकर हम जिस विदेश नीति का अनुसरण कर रहे हैं, उस के बारे में मेरे मित्र बालकृष्ण शर्मा काफी बोल चुके हैं और जैसे उन्होंने यह कहा है कि हमारी विदेश नीति तटस्थता की है, तो वह तटस्थता एक कुबल देश की तटस्थता नहीं है, परन्तु एक बलवान राष्ट्र की तटस्थ नीति है।

(MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair)

मैं जानती हूँ कि इस नीति के अनुसरण करने में बहुत दिक्कतें हमारे सामने उपस्थित होती हैं। हम ने यह निश्चय किया है कि उन उन विशेष परिस्थितियों में हर एक विशेष परिस्थिति के औचित्य और अनौचित्य को तौल कर हम अपनी राय बनायेंगे और उस परिस्थिति को देख कर ही अपना कदम अग्रे बढ़ायेंगे। और ऐसा करने में हम क्षणिक लालच में पड़ कर अपनी स्वाधीनता को कभी भी बार्टर नहीं करेंगे।

मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि हमारी इस विदेश नीति का श्रेय व्यापार की

[श्रीमती दुर्गाबाई]

वृद्धि करना और सुरक्षा कायम करना ही नहीं है। मैं मानती हूँ कि हमारी नीति में यह दोनों मुख्यांग हैं, परन्तु हमें किसी ऐसी नीति का अनुसरण नहीं करना चाहिये जो हमें एक पक्ष या दूसरे पक्ष का भागीदार बना दे और जिस से हम बहुत मुश्किलों में पड़ जायें।

जो शिक्षा हमारे देश और राष्ट्र को हमारे पिता के नेतृत्व में मिली थी, वही शिक्षा के अभाव में आज संसार के अन्य देशों में क्या हो रहा है? चीन देश ने क्रोधोन्मत्त हो कर अपने एक पड़ोसी देश तिब्बत पर आक्रमण कर दिया बिना किसी कारण, बिना किसी प्रोबोकेशन (provocation) के। हम चाहते हैं और आशा करते हैं कि हमारी सरकार पड़ोसी देश तिब्बत की स्वाधीनता को कायम रखने में अपनी पूरी शक्ति लगा देगी और मुझे उम्मीद है कि उस को इस प्रयत्न में सफलता मिलेगी।

हमारे राष्ट्रपति ने अपने भाषण में नेपाल राज्य के प्रति जो संदेश दिया है उसके बारे में मैं अधिक आशापूरण हूँ, समय की कमी होने के कारण मैं उसके बारे में ज्यादा नहीं बोल सकती परन्तु हमारी सरकार का यह संकल्प है और नीति है कि प्रजातन्त्र का वहाँ पर राज्य हो, प्रजा के प्रति जिम्मेदार वहाँ हुकमत हो, किसी एक डिक्टेटर (Dictator)के हाथ में शासन की बागडोर रहने से खुला निमन्त्रण होगा उन शक्तियों को जो आज़ादी और समानता देने के रूप में आज तिब्बत पर आक्रमण कर रही हैं। इतना कह कर हमारे राष्ट्रपति ने हमारी नज़र भारत की उत्तरी सीमा से खींच कर अपनी घरेलू समस्याओं की तरफ़ झाँकी, जैसे खाद्य की समस्या है, अन्न की कमी है। यह तो सच है कि जब तक हमारे देश के अन्दर की

समस्यायें हल नहीं हो जातीं तब तक हमारी आबाज अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय संस्थाओं में पहुंचाने का बहुत कम समय मिल सकेगा और हम अपनी घरेलू समस्याओं को हल करने में ही उलझे रहेंगे। इसलिये मैं चाहती हूँ कि हम सब इसी दिशा की ओर प्रयत्न करें। हमें राष्ट्रपति से यह सुन कर प्रसन्नता हुई कि उन्होंने अपने भाषण में घोषणा कर दी कि ऐसी प्राकृतिक विपत्तियों के होने पर भी हमारा ध्येय यही रहेगा कि हम सन् १९५२ तक आत्मनिर्भर हों। खाली ऐसी घोषणा करने से यह नहीं होगा, हम अन्न को व्यर्थ न करें और कम खायें सिर्फ़ अपीलों मात्र से ही काम नहीं चलेगा।

हमें काम करना है। मैं यह बात मानती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार ने बहुत से मल्टी पर्पज प्रोजेक्ट्स (Multi-purpose projects) अपने हाथ में लिये हैं। जब सब प्रोजेक्ट्स (Projects) पूरे हो जायेंगे तो हमारी मुसीबतें बहुत कम हो जायेंगी। परन्तु इस समय के अन्दर भारत को हर एक दिन भूख भिटाने के लिए कोशिश करनी पड़ेगी। यह कोशिश एक विकराल समस्या है जिसे हल करने का एक ही उपाय है और वह है जनता की शक्ति। आज जनता की यह शक्ति लुप्त समझ पड़ती है। इसलिये हमारी सरकार को ऐसा काम करना चाहिये जिससे एक ऐसा वातावरण पैदा हो कि जनता अन्न की कमी के बारे में ज्यादा समय दे।

हमारे वर्तमान खाद्य मंत्री मुंशी साहब ने फरवरी में हमारे राष्ट्रपति के भाषण पर बोलते हुए और धन्यवाद पेश करते हुए यह कहा था कि जिन लोगों को काम करने की इच्छा है उन लोगों को मीका नहीं मिल रहा है, उन को क्षेत्र नहीं मिल रहा है, इस लिए

सरकार का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहिये कि वह कुछ न कुछ करे। मैं उनको यह बातें याद दिलाती हूँ और उन से पूछती हूँ कि उस के बारे में क्या हुआ है। अब तक केवल प्रोपैगैन्डा (Propaganda) हुआ है और रचनात्मक कार्यक्रम शुरू नहीं हुआ है, उसे उन को अपनी तरफ से कोशिश कर के आरम्भ करना पड़ेगा।

राष्ट्रपति के भाषण में आने वाले चुनावों का जिक्र भी किया गया। उन्होंने कहा कि आने वाले चुनाव अप्रैल मई से थोड़ा हटकर आगामी नवम्बर तक चले गये। यह बात सच है कि चुनाव के पहले चुनाव के सम्बन्ध में बहुत प्रबन्ध करना होगा। यह बहुत आवश्यक काम है। यह काम खाली दफ्तर का काम नहीं है। खाली चुनाव के बोटों की लिस्ट बन जाने से काम खत्म नहीं हो जाता या चुनाव की कान्स्टिटुएन्सीज (Constituencies) को निश्चित कर देने से काम समाप्त नहीं हो जाता। जो लोग इसमें भाग लेंगे उन को शिक्षित करना हमारा पहला कर्त्तव्य है। और बहुत सी जो राजनैतिक पार्टियाँ हैं उनको अपना प्रबन्ध समाप्त करने का, अपनी पार्टीज (Parties) को आगैना-इज (organise) करने का पूरा पूरा अवकाश दिया जाये। मैं आशा करती हूँ कि नवम्बर-दिसम्बर तक जो समय हम को मिलेगा उस समय को हमारी सरकार बहुत अच्छी तरह से काम में लायेगी और दूसरी राजनैतिक पार्टीज को यह कहने का मौका नहीं मिलेगा कि उन को अवकाश नहीं मिला। इस लिए राष्ट्रपति ने जो चुनाव को थोड़ा हटाने का काम किया है उसमें पार्लियामेन्ट का पूरा पूरा सहयोग उन्हें मिलेगा।

मैं एक और बात कहना चाहती हूँ। राष्ट्रपति ने अपने भाषण में कहा कि पार्लिया-

मेन्ट क इस अधिवेशन में, इस सेशन (Session) में, और भी कई महत्वपूर्ण बिल (Bill) पेश किये जायेंगे। मैं जहाँ तक समझती हूँ उन का यह मतलब होगा कि हिन्दू कोड बिल और इंडस्ट्रीज कंट्रोल बिल वगैरह पेश किये जायेंगे। मैं आशा करती हूँ और विश्वास करती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार को हिम्मत और साहस होगा कि जो लोग उन का विरोध करते हैं उन की बात न मान कर उन बिलों को जो उपयोगी हैं और जो हमारी आर्थिक और सामाजिक व्यवस्था को बहुत उन्नति के शिखर पर ले जाने वाले हैं कानून का रूप देगा। मैं इन्हीं बातों से इस बात का समर्थन करती हूँ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shrimati Durgabai (Madras): Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to have an opportunity today of supporting the motion of thanks that has been moved here to express obligations and thanks for the President's Address. It is fortunate that we have got such a president as can fill our hearts with the inspirations of peace and self-confidence. In reality, we badly require such inspirations today. We have achieved our independence in an extraordinary way. While achieving that independence, we have shed our blood but have not caused others' blood to flow. Even today a number of disastrous calamities such as earthquakes, famines and floods etc. have come across our way. Relying fully in our inner force and self-confidence we will attempt to meet these miseries as well.

While we were fighting a war against imperialism, which was a novel event in world's history, our leader, Gandhiji, taught us to become brave and not to lose self-confidence in any way. We should stick, he said, to our path to truth, whatsoever the circumstances may be. The same message has been hinted to by our President. The Father of the Nation disclosed to us a way which, if followed, can enable us to face the difficulties smoothly. We can achieve that by keeping friendly terms with all countries and nations and by doing away with the policy of hatred towards others. We shall not barter our independence for the sake of momentary gains under any circumstances.

[Shrimati Durgabai]

Our President has put before Parliament a list of certain works which our Government propose to undertake and which are meant to strengthen our nation. On behalf of Parliament, we wish to assure him that we have full confidence in the Ministers chosen by him and Parliament will give its entire co-operation to get these works done.

It is very fortunate for us that we, our Republic and the people of India have the privilege of having these two great personalities as leaders in whom people have unbounded love and unlimited confidence. People of India know that only by the joint strength of these two great leaders our independence can be well defended and our country can advance towards the height of prosperity.

My friend, Shri Balkrishna Sharma has already spoken much about our foreign policy which we have been following since the birth of this Republic. He told us that our foreign policy is based on neutrality but this neutrality is not that of a weak country but it is a neutrality of a strong nation.

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

I am aware that many difficulties will confront us in pursuance of this policy. We have decided that we will form our opinions after judging merits and demerits of each of those particular circumstances and will take further steps only after that. In doing so we will never barter our independence for the sake of momentary gains.

I wish to say that the aim of our foreign policy is not only to enhance the trade and maintain security. I agree that both of these are the main features of this policy, but we should not follow any such policy as may make us partisans of one party or the other and put us in great troubles.

What is happening in the other countries of the world in the absence of such teachings as were imparted to our country and the nation under the leadership of the Father of the Nation? For no reason, China has attacked Tibet, one of her neighbour countries. This aggression has been made without any cause or provocation. We wish and hope that our Government will use her full strength in maintaining the freedom of our neighbour country, Tibet, and I hope that they would be successful in their attempt.

I am optimistic about our President's message to Nepal State given in his Address. Being short of time, I cannot speak much on that, but it is the pledge and policy of our Government

that Democracy may rule there and a Government responsible to the people may be established. The reins of the Government in the hands of a Dictator will mean an open invitation to those forces which are invading Tibet today on pretext of freedom and equality. After having said so much, our President turned our attention from the northern frontiers of India to our own internal problems such as food problem and food deficit. It is true that until the internal problems of our country are solved, we will get little time to communicate our voice to the international organisations because we will be engrossed in solving our own domestic problems. Therefore, I want that we should take steps to achieve that end. We are glad to learn from the President's announcement that in spite of such natural calamities 1952 will be our target year for purpose of food-self-sufficiency. It will not be achieved by mere announcements. Let us not waste food. Let us consume less. Mere appeals will not serve the purpose.

We have to work. I admit that our Government have undertaken many multi-purpose projects. Our difficulties will lessen a good deal on the completion of all these projects. During this period, India will have to endeavour to check starvation. This is a horrible problem which can be solved in only one way and that is strength of the people. Today this strength seems to have disappeared. Therefore, our Government should do such things as may create an atmosphere in which people may devote more time to consider over the food problem.

While speaking and expressing thanks on President's Address in February, the present Food Minister, Shri Munshi, had remarked that those people who were anxious to work were not getting opportunities. They have no scope and as such Government's attention ought to be drawn towards it, so that the Government might do something or the other. I remind him of the same and ask him as to what has so far been done to that effect. Only propaganda has been done so far and no constructive programme has been started. He will have to make efforts himself and give it a start.

Coming Elections have also been referred to in the President's Address. He disclosed that the next Elections have been postponed from April-May to November next. It is true that many preliminary arrangements have got to be made before the Elections and it is a very important work to do. It is not only an office routine. Mere completion of Electoral rolls does not mean that the whole work is

finished. In the same way, the delimitation of the constituencies is not all that is to be done. Our prime duty is to educate those who are to take part in these elections. Many political parties will be given full time to complete their own arrangements and to organise their respective parties.

I hope that our Government will make the best use of the period at our disposal upto November-December and other political parties also will have no opportunity to complain that they did not get a chance. Therefore the President will get full co-operation of Parliament for postponing the Elections.

I wish to say one more thing. In the course of his Address, the President said that several other important Bills would be moved during the current Session of Parliament. As far as I could understand, he meant the Hindu Code Bill and Industries (Development and Control) Bill. I hope and believe that our Government would have the strength and the courage of defying those who oppose them and would enact such Bills into Laws that are beneficial and are likely to lead our economic and social status to the peak of prosperity.

Sir, I support the motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As many as 88 amendments have been tabled. The amendments need not be read by the hon. Members. I shall take them up and if the hon. Members are intent upon pressing the amendment, they may kindly rise in their seats and inform the House that they are intent on pursuing the amendment.

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad (West Bengal): Amendment No. 1: there has been a compromise with regard to that matter. We will hear tomorrow. It stands over. I will move my next amendment.

I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the relating to food.

"but regret the decision of the Government to postpone the elections".

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

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that sufficient appreciation has not been shown of the progressive failure of the policy of partial controls over the production, supply and distribution of the essentials of life, including

foodstuffs and clothing, and the consequent growth of corruption in innumerable forms and increasing degree in the administration of the country".

I also beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the absence of any mention in the address of any steps intended to be taken by Government for implementing the provisions of several articles in the Constitution, under the Chapter of 'Directive Principles of State Policy', designed to improve the standard of living of the people, and to secure to them a full measure of social justice and human equality".

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

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that on the question of compensation to the refugees from the West Pakistan for the loss of their properties the policy of the Government and the utterances of the responsible Ministers thereof have shown a lack of consistency resulting in disappointment and the consequent inability of the persons to rehabilitate themselves".

I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the measures so far adopted for the rehabilitation of refugees have been very inadequate, half-hearted and halting resulting in continued miseries and hardships to the millions of unfortunate migrants from the East and West Pakistan".

I also beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that very little effort has been made during the year to obliterate the foreign possessions from the map of India".

Shri Jaipal Singh (Bihar): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that no mention has been made in the Address of any intention to give effect to the special provisions relating to sub-

[Shri Jaipal Singh]

duled castes and scheduled tribes according to Part XVI of the Constitution”.

Shri Sarangdhar Das (Orissa): I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret that the Government have not taken any steps to withdraw the various Sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and all other Acts, which severely curtail the civil liberties of the people of India, and which militate against free and full education of the electorate, preliminary to the holding of free and fair general elections”.

Shri M. L. Gupta (Hyderabad): I shall move my amendment tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendment No. 39.

Shri Tyagi (Uttar Pradesh): I am anxious to get a reply from the Minister with regard to the suggestions in regard to the failure of Government to encourage and foster an opposition.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is for the hon. Member to make up his mind whether to move his amendment or not and not to get inspiration from the Chair. I would like to know whether the hon. Member is moving his amendment or not.

Shri Tyagi: I am not moving.

Shri Syamnandan Sahaya: Amendment No. 47. There are two parts of this amendment: one deals with international affairs and the other with food. I shall move tomorrow the part relating to food.

Shri Frank Anthony: Amendment No. 52 may be held over.

Shri Kamath: I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret that, despite the admission that ‘the world hungering for peace, appears to stand perilously on the verge of war,’ the Address has failed to deal with the immediate problem of securing the peace and integrity of the country against internal and external dangers, and has failed to rouse the national consciousness to the urgency of the situation.”

Sardar B. S. Man (Punjab): No. 78 I am moving today and 79 I am hold-

ing over for tomorrow. I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret to note that no mention has been made about the introduction of democracy in Part B States particularly in the bordering State of PEPSU where there is not even a popular Ministry”.

Pandit Kunzru: I shall move amendment No. 83, but not amendment No. 82. I beg to move:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but represents that in the changed circumstances of Asia our defence forces should be strengthened so as to be adequate to secure the safety and freedom of the people of India”.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Amendments moved:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret the decision of the Government to postpone the elections”.

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret that sufficient appreciation has not been shown of the progressive failure of the policy of partial controls over the production, supply, and distribution of the essentials of life, including foodstuffs and clothing and the consequent growth of corruption in innumerable forms and increasing degree in the administration of the country”.

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret that the absence of any mention in the address of any steps intended to be taken by Government for implementing the provisions of several articles in the Constitution, under the Chapter of ‘Directive Principles of State Policy’, designed to improve the standard of living of the people, and to secure to them a full measure of social justice and human equality”.

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

“but regret that on the question of compensation to the refugees from the West Pakistan for the

loss of their properties the policy of the Government and the utterances of the responsible Ministers thereof have shown a lack of consistency resulting in disappointment and the consequent inability of the persons to rehabilitate themselves."

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the measures so far adopted for the rehabilitation of refugees have been very inadequate, half-hearted and halting resulting in continued miseries and hardships to the millions of unfortunate migrants from the East and West Pakistan".

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that very little effort has been made during the year to obliterate the foreign possessions from the map of India".

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that no mention has been made in the Address of any intention to give effect to the special provisions relating to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes according to Part XVI of the Constitution".

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the Government have not taken any steps to withdraw the various Sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and all other Acts, which severely curtail the civil liberties of the people of India, and which militate against free and full education of the electorate, preliminary to the holding of free and fair general elections".

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that, despite the admission that 'the world, hungering for peace, appears to stand perilously on the verge of war,' the Address has failed to deal with the immediate problem of securing the peace and integrity of the country against internal and external dangers, and has failed to rouse the national consciousness to the urgency of the situation".

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret to note that no mention has been made about the introduction of democracy in Part B States particularly in the border-

ing State of PEPSU where there is not even a popular Ministry".

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but represents that in the changed circumstances of Asia our defence forces should be strengthened so as to be adequate to secure the safety and freedom of the people of India".

Shri Hussain Imam: Sir, what is the programme? Will "Food" be discussed to-morrow and.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, and there will be a separate day for "Foreign Relations". Pt. Kunzru.

Pandit Kunzru: My amendment runs as follows:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but represents that in the changed circumstances of Asia our defence forces should be strengthened so as to be adequate to secure the safety and freedom of the people of India."

Sir, we shall have another opportunity of discussing the changes to which I have referred in this amendment. But it must be plain to every one that they require great vigilance on our part. We must be watchful, very watchful, in order to see that our vital interests are adequately protected. For a long time we regarded our North-Western frontier as the only frontier that we need take account of. But owing to the developments that have taken place in Asia, we have become aware of our North-Eastern frontier and the need for taking proper measures for its security. The Great War for the first time reminded us that the North-Eastern frontier could no more be ignored than the North-Western frontier, and the events that have taken place recently have made us realise more forcibly that we are faced with a situation that requires the adoption of active measures by Government in order to see that neither the integrity of India nor the safety and freedom of our people are affected by what has taken place. Sir, there are many directions in which efforts will have to be made in order to provide for our adequate security and in order to decide what we should do and in order to safeguard our interests, we must take account of our responsibilities. We are responsible for the defence of Bhutan and Sikkim. We have recently signed a treaty of friendship with Nepal, and Ladakh is part of our territory.

[Pandit Kunzru]

The developments which have taken place already will affect all the four territories that I have named. In view of our special responsibility towards them it seems plain to me that our forces should be so rearranged and reorganised as to enable us to fulfil our responsibilities, if the need for it arises. It is not my purpose to ask the Government of India necessarily to add to the strength of our forces. So far as the Army is concerned it may be necessary only that it should not be reduced and that they should be stationed at such places as require to be guarded, in order to enable us to bear the new burdens that circumstances have thrown on our shoulders. But in any case this is a matter calling for serious thought and effort. We can no longer treat the North-Eastern Frontier as we have done hitherto. Our responsibilities in the East have become onerous and we are only now becoming aware of the realities of international politics. We have so far taken part in the discussion of questions that did not directly affect India but we are now face to face with events that have an important bearing on what concerns India and her Northern neighbours, towards whom she has accepted certain responsibilities.

As regards the Air Force I feel that it does require to be strengthened. While the present size of the Army and the Navy are enough for our purposes, I do not think that the present size of the Air Force will be sufficient. We have been proceeding in a leisurely manner in connection with the development of the Indian Air Force. It is years since the target was laid down and even that modest target has not yet been reached. Indeed I came to learn only three or four days ago that the Air Force did not expect to reach this target till 1954 or 1955. This, I think, is a very unsatisfactory state of things. In view of the changes in Northern Asia I think the development of the Air arm has become a matter of urgent necessity. Whatever the difficulties in our way may be we have to recognise that the situation that we have to deal with requires that we should grapple with these difficulties to the best of our ability and overcome them. They should not be an excuse for dilatory action: they should rather spur us to make greater efforts, so that at least the minimum required for our immediate safety may be attained as quickly as possible.

I think that questions relating to the defence of India have recently come more than once under the consideration of the Cabinet but in view of the economic situation of the country they

have been seen mainly from the economic angle. We are compelled to take our economic position into account in determining the size of our defence forces and in taking adequate steps to defend our interests in the changed circumstances. But I think that in the situation in which we find ourselves economy should not be the only consideration. We may by rearranging our forces and by laying stress on the development of certain arms only be able to achieve results without incurring heavy expenditure except in connection with the Air Force. But this is a matter of such urgency and importance that even in our present straightened circumstances we should not delay taking the measures that circumstances require us to take immediately. We cannot wait to develop our resources when we are actually face to face with a crisis. The events that are taking place are a warning to us. We have still time to mobilise our resources so as to be prepared, should an emergency arise, to meet it successfully. I trust, therefore, that the plea of economy will not be urged in this connection and that Government will declare their readiness to take immediate steps so as to be in a position to shoulder their new and much heavier responsibilities.

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

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

Dr. Deshmukh: Sir, we are discussing today the third address delivered by the President of the Republic of India. We have had therein certain broad outlines of policy which alone it is possible for the President to touch. It is not possible to expect that in the Address of the President every possible subject could be touched upon, and yet if we look at the amendments it is obvious that the hon. Members of this House have complained against the lack of reference to many points. A few points which I have myself jotted down form the subject-matter of the amendments of which I had given notice.

Before I proceed with any of the points which have been embodied in the amendments notice of which had been given by me, I would like to say that there is an amount of unreality so far as this House and its functions are concerned. Not that we do not understand what the functions are, or the Prime Minister or the hon. Speaker do not understand, but I do not feel very happy or satisfied that

the debates that take place in this House are really adequate to the needs of the country or adequate to meet the complaints and grievances that we as the representatives of the people wish to voice in this House. Very often, we find that you, Sir, decide on allotting one day for discussion on a particular subject. If we calculate the number of speakers who take advantage of that, we have found from our experience that hardly half a dozen speakers on this side of the House can speak, besides some one or two independent Members, that may be able to take part in the debate. The larger portion of the time available generally and probably inevitably to be allotted to the hon. Minister in charge. Therefore, I say that this is, in my opinion at any rate, not a very satisfactory thing. If we want to have a debate on any question, the minimum time available should be three days. I press for this especially because ours is such a vast country where there is so much difference in the situations that exist from State to State. Take for instance the food situation. If one were to expect at least one representative from each of the States with a population of two crores or more, sometimes going up to six crores, wanting to have an opportunity to place before the house and the country what situation obtains in that State and what the difficulties of the State administration are, and of the people as a whole, then how can one expect him to say any thing effective in ten minutes and give you and the country an idea of what he really wants? From this point of view, it is very necessary to review whether Parliament as the supreme legislature of the country is really functioning as it should so as to answer the needs of the country and whether we, as a matter of fact, by spending time very inadequately, do not leave many grievances unuttered, unadvocated, and therefore almost hopelessly left out and unattended to.

I must, for want of time, not give too much time myself to this point and therefore I would like to come to another important point, which has also been stated in my amendment. That is about the Government's failure in not appointing the Commission envisaged by Article 340 of the Constitution. I am sure, Sir, the hon. Prime Minister is aware of the need for the appointment of such a Commission, and I also feel that it must probably be exercising his mind; but there has been considerable delay in the appointment of this Commission. It is therefore time that some active

steps are taken by which this important problem is solved. After all, it is not only a provision in the Constitution that has to be fulfilled but there is also the expectations and aspirations of the people who look to the Commission to improve their status because that is the reason for which the Commission has been intended according to the terms of the article itself.

There is also another important provision in the Constitution to which I wish to draw the attention of the House, and it is embodied in the Directive Principles of State Policy. I have specifically referred to two articles, articles 39 and 45. Not that the other articles dealing with the Directive Principles of State Policy are less important. But so far as the introduction of compulsory education is concerned, there is a time limit of ten years given to us according to the Constitution and it is therefore time that we paid more direct attention to it. It was the fulfilment of this constitutional provision that was really responsible in making me propose somewhat unpopular measures for supplementing the finances of our Government. Those two proposals are embodied in the resolutions notice of which I have given. One is the stopping of prohibition and the other is the re-introduction of the salt duty, specifically and manifestly for the only purpose of earmarking that revenue for purposes of education and public health.

Since we find that our ordinary finances are hopelessly inadequate,—in fact we cannot, really speaking, meet even our current expenditure—I do not see much purpose in the expenditure that is being incurred on the Planning Commission even, because we have very little to plan on. The resources at our disposal in the beginning of our freedom were said to be ample and I think it is true to say that we have frittered away a large portion of them. There is at least one instance which I would like to point out where I should feel that the proper priorities are not being observed. This was something which I wanted to ventilate by way of questions and I think I spoke about it in the last Session of Parliament also. For instance, we find lakhs of rupees are being spent on extension of railway stations. I am glad one of the stations happens to be in the neighbourhood of my place which has given me a certain amount of satisfaction, but when we are so hard up for funds that we cannot even provide for housing accommodation for people, I for one would not like so much money being spent on such things as

[Dr. Deshmukh]
 railway stations. I would much rather utilise the very same amount for laying more lines. We all know how inadequate the railway system of India is, how inadequate the mileage as compared with the size of our country is. In view of this, I would much rather have lines and no stations at all instead of having the stations and fewer lines. So, that is one of the instances where I felt that the proper priorities are not being observed and the slender resources which have become slenderer still are not being utilised in the best possible way. Some may say that this is precisely the reason that there is a definite need for planning. But for such planning I do not think the whole paraphernalia which we have got is necessary. I should think that one or two individuals with proper imagination and administrative knowledge should be able to tackle it in a much more fruitful manner than appears to be possible now. There is also likely to be—and there is in fact—in the minds of many people considerable confusion as to the functions of the Planning Commission, as to what it is likely to do and what is likely to emerge. On the one hand we have got the departments holding their own views, having their own plans which were prepared not in a day, or six months or a year, but evolved during the course of several years. Now, what is going to happen to those plans and those priorities, one does not know. Speaking of the Planning Commission, I would also like to point out, Sir, that since it is such a vital and important matter, this House should have adequate opportunity of examining and scrutinising any plan which the Planning Commission may evolve and place before the country.

The next point which I want to urge is that the whole trend of our administration happens to be not at all popular with the people. Some people may probably find fault with the people themselves; some may, on the other hand, say that there is something to be said in favour of the accusations which people make, that there is considerable laxity, that there is no sense of proper responsibility, there is no proper supervision and that peoples' grievances are not being adequately attended to. At any rate, I think there is a clear case to examine how far this dissatisfaction is well-founded, whether their complaints have got any basis behind them or not. I do not think, Sir, that adequate attention is being paid either in the States or by the Central Government to what the people feel. Otherwise, I do not

see any reason why the people who are governing the country, who have everything in their favour because of the sacrifices they made in the cause of the struggle they put up, should have overnight, or in the course of a year or two, become not so much liked by the people. I, therefore, feel, Sir, that both so far as the Central Government as well as the Governments of the States are concerned, there is something radically wrong and it is very necessary not only for the purpose of satisfying the expectations of the people and removing their complaints, but for our very existence, and in the larger interests of the country itself that we should pay a little more attention to what the people say and examine how far our policies are in the right direction.

The only other point which I want to make on this occasion—because I am not likely to get an opportunity of speaking on the food debate, because I have exhausted my chance—is to say something on behalf of my State. Ours used to be a surplus state. But somehow circumstances have so conspired that we happen to be deficit at the moment. You would probably be surprised to hear that *juar* is selling at the present moment at ten annas per seer. Therefore, one can imagine what must be the condition of the labourer in our parts especially Berar. It is a veritable famine that is existing there, because for want of rain the *juar* crop has been spoilt. Ultimately it may be that our own resources may be sufficient for the needs of our province. But at the moment when the *juar* crop has not been reaped and we are passing through a period of acute scarcity, if the Food Minister were kind enough to allocate a larger quota it will not only keep prices at their present level or may even succeed in bringing them down, but will have a psychological effect of allaying the apprehensions of the people. If supplies are delayed on the ground that Madhya Pradesh happens to be a surplus State, the food situation will become worse and even the same allotment at a later day may not relieve the situation. From that point of view, Sir, I would like to urge that the hon. the Food Minister will be pleased to allocate at the moment a larger quota to the Madhya Pradesh Government so that the present acute scarcity may be met and the situation brought under control.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Sir, I too, would like to begin with a word of acknowledgment of thanks for your kind assistance in helping to focus this debate on specific issues, so that greater

light might be thrown on problems which are of the most urgent importance. I am not sure, however, of the exact procedure which seems to have been agreed upon this morning, in moving amendments or making suggestions in amendment form, on the particular days when those issues that are agreed to be held over come up. For my part I am going to move only two out of the four amendments which stand in my name, namely, that relating to the failure of the policy of partial Controls, and that with regard to those Directives of policy which appear to make our Constitution a great land of promise, and yet, in the steps actually taken, do not seem to have been approached. The two other amendments, on the other hand, (Nos. 11 and 12) which relate to our foreign policy and to the food situation, I would, if allowed, move on a more suitable occasion.

Beginning, however, Sir, with regard to the policy of controls, I feel that in the manner in which, and the degree to which, the policy of controls is being applied, it has failed. There is no other word for it, but complete failure. I would hasten to correct myself so far as to admit that I am a believer myself on principle in whole-sale control, so that complete socialisation may be achieved. But I cannot but recognise, in the actual circumstances in which this policy is being applied, that the result is anything but proper, effective control, anything but the accomplishment of the principal objective with which these controls are imposed and carried on.

If the objective of control is to secure proper distribution, to secure adequate production and a fair and reasonable price to the consumer with a good return to the producer, then I am afraid the result is not achieved on any very considerable level. One cause of this failure is the limited scope of controls. It must be remembered that modern industry, in fact the entire economic life nowadays, is so inter-dependent, that if you being to impose your controls or regulations only at one point or another, that cannot but give rise to lop-sided development and difficulties at others; and in solving which you may perhaps flounder into other and deeper pits.

My main difficulty, my main objection, therefore, to this policy, as it has been carried on, as it has been applied, in the last three or four years, is that there seems to be

lacking any heart in the measures of control, Government is attempting. The controls are half-hearted, hesitating, not complete, not universal. The result is that instead of bringing blessings to the people, there is all round discontent and corruption, all round complaints and dissatisfaction. Neither the trader, nor the producer, nor the consumer seems to be satisfied with the operation of the controls as they go on to-day.

The evil is greater because the controls are imposed on all essentials on all that make life worth living at all. Food is controlled; housing is controlled; even clothing is controlled. Primary necessities of life are, at one stage or another, supposed to be controlled; and the actual operation of the controls is such that the large masses of the people suffer more the disadvantages of such control than enjoy their advantages.

It is true that, in the absence of any control, let us say on foodstuffs, there would perhaps be such a shortage in some parts that it would be impossible to save large numbers from sheer starvation. But I am not sure that because of these controls we are able to alleviate this evil in any substantial measure.

I would not expatiate on this subject of the supply of foodstuffs at this stage because it involves other and deeper considerations and because we are going to consider them more fully on another occasion. But speaking on controls generally, in housing or in clothing for example, we have not taken all the care which should have been taken from the beginning to make our policy of making controls universal, applying to every instance, at every stage, to every article, in the production, distribution, sale and consumption, regulating prices, fixing quotas, determining quantities, so that the trade, both internal and external, may also be properly and effectively controlled.

It has given rise—and the complaint is universal—to such enormous corruption that, to give only one instance, licences in regard to imports or exports are said to be obtained easily, not by people primarily interested in it, but by those who only speculate in it and sell the licences at a net profit to themselves, leaving it to the trader to get the required article or not. It is a matter which is of daily occurrence, and yet steps are hardly being taken anywhere that I can see, to stem this evil at all.

The substitutes of controlled articles are not thought out in advance. Fake

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the question that has recently cropped up. Because of sugar control you have had to control eventually *gur*. And this *gur* is controlled in such a manner, at such price that, speaking of the State with which I am more directly connected, the complaint has become universal that.....

Prof. Ranga: Even *gur* has gone underground.

Prof. K. T. Shah: Yes, even *gur* has gone underground just as good men have gone underground. The problem has become acute; and yet you are applying piecemeal, hesitatingly, and halfheartedly this policy of control which can breed, and does breed nothing but evil and disadvantage to the people.

I trust that a discussion of the more urgent and the more important aspects of food control will bring to the notice of this House the many evils that are involved in the present policy of controls to such a degree that Government would be called upon to revise it radically. In my opinion the only solution, of course, is complete control under wholesale and universal socialisation of all the means of production, distribution and exchange.

But even if you do not adopt this, even if you feel that we are not ready and prepared for such a wholesale departure from existing conditions, I would ask Government to consider the existence of these evils, and to revise their policy if only to teach those who take a false advantage of the present conditions and the present policy, resulting in black-marketing and profiteering, so that at least those industries which are enjoying very heavy fiscal protection should be left completely free and the market may be open to try at least the experiment of a real free enterprise and free trade, with the result perhaps very likely, in my opinion, that the complaints from the consumers' side will not be so many.

This is only one suggestion; several could be made if there was any indication that the policy is going to be radically altered. I would not, however, take the time of the House on this matter any more and will pass on to that other of my amendments which relates to the provisions of articles in the Chapter in the Constitution entitled 'Directive Principles of State Policy'.

A number of pious wishes have been enumerated and enunciated in that Chapter which, on the face of it, made excellent reading and seemed to hold out the promise that this will be a

land of milk and honey. As it works, however, one fails to see any concrete, definite step being yet taken to implement and carry out, within a measurable distance, these very rich and attractive promises of a new life and a new order in this country.

It is, of course, quite obvious that these are not what have been called the justiciable rights; and therefore there is no means in the hands of the people to call upon Governments, even when they have been described as the obligation of the State, and a categorical obligation of Government, to get them enforced within any reasonable time. In one case it has been stated that it shall be carried out within ten years; elsewhere it has been stated that it will be carried out subject to the capacity or the ability of the Government to do so. On the whole, in the ten or twelve directives of policy which have been enumerated in this Chapter, I fear there is a very disappointing blank or lack of any very considerable effort to see that within a measurable period we shall be achieving these very laudable objectives.

Take the case, for instance, of the right to work or the right to live under decent conditions or equal pay for equal work or again the right to a certain degree of primary education, or the protection of children and women and the conservation of their strength and energy as provided in article 39. We have in all these articles excellent promises. I repeat, which, however, seem to be broken more in the actual practice than they are contained in the letter of the law. If we mean to carry out these, we should have some indication in such general pronouncements of policy as the Presidential Address to this House which might hold out more definite and concrete hope and expectation for their accomplishment.

I am aware that a good many of these are, or can be said to be, within the jurisdiction of the State Governments and that the responsibility of the Central Government may not be quite so direct and immediate as might at first sight be expected. Nevertheless, the Government of India have possessed themselves of such resources under the Constitution that the State Governments will almost in every case—the richest of them included—require very substantial assistance if the principles of policy enunciated in this Chapter are to be implemented at all. I can see no single State which can carry out so many, sometimes mutually contradictory and always expensive, objectives as are

conveyed in this Chapter, without the aid of the Central Government. The Central Government has the resources, it has so many productive sources of revenue to itself and the problem of social reform will compel the State Governments to adopt such measures as might result in a substantial contraction of their resources that in the aggregate the possibility of carrying out these policies and of giving effect to these promises would be rare indeed. I would therefore very earnestly beg the authorities concerned that here is a very laudable, very praiseworthy Chapter of our intentions and that if they really mean to do so they should at least make a beginning, whether by means of a concretely planned economy or by other directions of policy to give effect to these promises.

In conclusion, may I take this opportunity of offering my humble congratulations to our fair friend here who made an excellent beginning with a speech in Hindi which is supposed to be our national language but to implement which and to make it a really national language we do not seem to make any effort.

3 P.M.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I have got three amendments in my name. Two amendments refer the rehabilitation and the third one refers to the foreign possessions in the map of India. I do not think I shall have the opportunity to deal with this third one. I only want to bring to the notice of the Government that reports have appeared in the Press that bases are being constructed in Goa, that a large territorial army was being raised there. Our Government should pay more attention to that side so that these foreign possessions are liquidated as early as possible.

So far as my other amendments are concerned, they are connected and I will take them altogether. They relate to the rehabilitation of refugees. Of course, my intention is to take the refugees from West Punjab particularly because the other subject might be dealt with by other hon. Members.

The President has been pleased to mention about the subject in paragraphs 11 and 12 and it is as follows:

"Progress has been made in the rehabilitation of displaced persons and some of the new townships, such as Faridabad, Nilokheri, Rajpura, Kandla and Fulia, have now taken shape and most of them are functioning."

There is no doubt about that and I must acknowledge that some progress has been made, but my charge is that all along the policy has been very slow, halting and half-hearted and even after the lapse of three years those refugees have not been rehabilitated. The Government has taken the liquidation of camps as tantamount to rehabilitation of refugees and of this I shall illustrate by one or two examples hereafter.

It has been said also in this address that now more accurate figures were available and that 50 lakhs of persons have migrated from the West Pakistan to this side. About 30 lakhs of them had been offered land with some help for equipment, but I must remark here that even this number does not give us exactly the number of refugees who have really settled there. An indication is also given in this address that there are about five lakhs who, though they secured allotment of land, preferred to live in the villages. What I want to stress in this connection is that even when 30 lakhs of people have been given allotment of land, there is a good number out of them whose allotment is so inadequate that they cannot eke out their livelihood out of that. Some of them possess small holdings; they are not economic. Moreover the land on that side was canal irrigated and on this side they have been given un-irrigated land. Their difficulty was that they could not go and live in the villages. Therefore they preferred to stay on and they are to be provided here. So far as the town population was concerned, as the address says, even these five lakhs have to be provided for and therefore we had about 35 lakhs of people who have to be maintained in towns. Some of them had to be provided with houses alone and some with gainful employment as well.

The address says that some 20 lakhs of people have been given accommodation in evacuee houses. It may be correct that the number of houses may be there which has accommodated so many people but the accommodation which they have got is so meagre and the condition of the houses is so hopeless, because no repairs have been made during these years and their condition is not satisfactory, that we should not conclude that these people have been rehabilitated so far as housing is concerned.

Then again, there is another factor and that is that heavy rents are being charged from them. This is no rehabilitation, I must say, because people have no means of livelihood. They are not all gainfully employed any-

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where. They have lived for some time now in those houses. They are being thrown on the streets. They have been accounted as having been rehabilitated. No action is taken with regard to those persons and they are suffering great miseries. Sometimes the police forces have been used against them and they have been thrown on the street.

About gainful occupations, it is said that shops and business premises have been provided for 54,000 persons. If one person might be taken as a unit of the family and we might multiply it with five, it might have been a provision for about 2,70,000 persons. Out of 25 lakhs of people if we have given this gainful employment—only shops and other premises to 2,70,000 people—it is not creditable for the Government during this long period of three years. Even now we have only provided for about 1/8th or 1/7th of them.

Then about these shops as well. When the refugees came, they occupied certain advantageous positions in the streets before the shops in the markets. There they were able to carve out some maintenance for their children and could maintain their families for some time. But sanitation and other considerations impelled this Government to turn them out and they have been evicted from one place to another and now the accommodation that has been offered to them really does not give them so much custom where they can maintain themselves. As an illustration I might take the case of these Swedish huts which we discussed this morning. I have seen their *khatabahi* and I can tell you honestly that the maximum earning of an ordinary shop there amounted to sometimes Rs. five or six or ten. You can very well judge the extent of profit that such a stall-holder might be earning out of that. It may be one rupee or twelve annas and not more than that. If that is rehabilitation, you can very well see how we have rehabilitated them. Then there is the rent that is being charged. I fail to understand how we call this rehabilitation of refugees. I would rather contrast it by the methods that have been adopted there in Pakistan.

By giving another illustration, I would show that even the Municipality of Delhi, to take the case nearer here, constructed the Lajpat Rai Market and the whole expenditure that they incurred, they contrived to realize within three years. Of course there were reports that there were misappropriations and embezzlements as well and all these have to be

borne by these poor refugees. What we find now is that most of the shops are lying vacant and there the refugees cannot maintain themselves. Then there are *rehriwalas* who go round drawing carts and make their living. I have seen that the Municipal Committee here in Delhi is charging as a cess from Rs. 5 to 50 from each of them. It can very well be judged how they can save anything. There has been a considerable agitation against the cess. These poor people have not been given any help but rather have been made a source of income by the Municipal Committee. Then there are *patriwallahs* who sit on the floors in front of the shops. I have seen myself in Chandni Chowk these people being hunted by policemen. They take their loads on their heads and run before the policeman who strikes them with his stick. Some people fall there and in one instance an old man had to lose all his fruits, because he could not run so fast as the Police wanted him to.

Then we have been told that 17 lakhs of people have been given assistance of loans or vocational training. Some time ago I put a question whether the Government has got any record about the persons who have been given vocational training, whether such people have been absorbed, whether they got some employment or not, but the Government had no such data. Therefore, to say that because training has been given to these people, they have been rehabilitated, is not correct. They are still going about. Very few might have got some employment. As they have no capital to invest, they are not in a position to do their own business. Therefore, I say that even this vocational training has not equipped them to carry on their own business unless they also get the required capital.

Then, as I said just now, I would give one illustration. I refer to the Rajpura township. During the last session we were told that 60,000 persons were asked to migrate to this Rajpura township from Kurukshetra. These poor people did like that. But, when they arrived at Rajpura, they were told that there was no accommodation for such a large number of persons and they were asked to disperse. They were told that there was accommodation only for 20,000 persons. These 40,000 persons went to different places, they have not been rehabilitated. Even for these 20,000 people, they were told that there was no water available in the near vicinity and it was not possible to make a township for this number. Then that scheme was given up. Similar instances can be multiplied to

show that the rehabilitation that has been done has not really met the needs of the time. These poor people have exhausted all that they had with them or even that which they got as a loan or other assistance from Government.

I would like to contrast this with the rehabilitation that was done in Pakistan. I refer to the report concerning evacuee property that was distributed to us last year. There, I wanted to read a telegram from the then hon. Minister of State for Rehabilitation to the Minister of Rehabilitation of Pakistan. It was said there:

"I have seen a copy of Press note in which eighty per cent. of the rent payable by refugees has been written off. Other tenants have been allowed rebate of one-third. This method is extremely unfair to evacuees. If you want to give concessions to your refugees you may do so by charging the difference between rent payable and that you charge by debit to your rehabilitation expenditure..."

What is the reply that we got? The reply is:

"...I regret I cannot accept your contention that our method of calculating rent is unfair to evacuee or represents concession to refugee. We consider rent we are collecting is a full rent having regard to present value of property and changed circumstances... the rent we have fixed is strictly in accordance with capacity of the tenants to pay and is therefore under present circumstances a full rent and it is not possible to collect more from them..."

That is, they reduced eighty per cent. out of rent and twenty per cent. would be the collection charges. Thus, they are not collecting any rent. Similar is the case of agricultural property. They only collect the Government revenue; nothing beyond that. There is another interesting reference in this very telegram. The Minister of Rehabilitation of Pakistan says at the end of the telegram:

"Our information is that India was evidently following same principle in collecting rent from Moslem evacuee property."

But, immediately went out our reply,

"Your information that we have reduced rents in India not correct. We are endeavouring to recover full standard rent."

We are collecting all these rents from our refugees for the benefit of those people who have left. The fate of our refugees who have no source of income is very miserable and the promise that has been given to them, on which they have been living and feeding themselves, was that compensation would be paid to them. But, there have been so inconsistent statements made on this issue that people have lost all hope of getting anything by way of compensation. So far as the reference in the address to the judicial tribunal over the question of evacuee property is concerned, we got this even in February, 1949. The same answer was given that we have stressed that this question of evacuee property be referred to a judicial tribunal. The Pakistan Government did not care to reply. Then again, on the Gandhi Jayanti day, our Prime Minister referred in the same terms that we have asked the Pakistan Government to agree to a judicial tribunal. I wonder what advantage this gives if we repeat our offers twenty or thirty times. After six conferences with Pakistan we came to the conclusion that they have sequestered and confiscated all the property and that they are not prepared to pay anything and that they would not listen to reason. The refugees do not want that our Government should go to war on this question. We agree that this question might be settled by negotiation. But, we cannot understand why again and again such announcements are made. Definite commitments are made by responsible Ministers. Even our present Minister of State for Rehabilitation, at the Nasik Congress and subsequently also, gave a definite positive commitment that Government would give compensation irrespective of the fact whether any settlement is reached with the Pakistan Government or not. But, no source has so far been disclosed. A levy has been overruled. War is out of the question. We have no funds ourselves. Wherefrom this money is to come, is not disclosed. The refugees are losing hope every day. Whatever they had, they have exhausted and they doubt now whether Government is really earnest and means business. Because, these promises have been made for so long a time and nothing has come out of them. Therefore, my humble request is that Government should make up its mind in this matter. Even in February 1949, the hon. Minister of Transport and Railways committed himself on this question when Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava moved an amendment to my resolution. He said that there were two questions in that amendment: one was that Government should give interim compensa-

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tion to these refugees till final settlement was arrived at. At that time, it was admitted that Government was working with that policy and was pledged to it. Government was prepared to give interim compensation. This has gone on for a long time and nothing has come out of it. It is still a matter of policy and it is not being implemented, though an assurance was given and a resolution was adopted here in this House. My fears are that these poor miserable people who lost all that they had, and have now exhausted all their meagre resources that they could bring with them, are getting hopeless and are losing faith in this Government. Government, if they really mean business should make earnest efforts towards the solution of this problem, and if left unsolved for a longer period, it might result in some disaster.

Shri Poonacha (Coorg): Within the limited time before me, I would like to confine myself to the issues relating to Part C States.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri (Assam): I am sorry to interrupt; I would like to know what is the procedure that is being followed. Are the movers of the amendments given priority?

Mr. Speaker: Not necessarily so.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Anybody can stand up?

Mr. Speaker: Anybody can stand up; but nobody could be promised a chance. An hon. Member may stand a number of times and may get no chance still. I am trying to classify the amendments and I am trying to call upon the people who lay stress on different points of view. I am not going arbitrarily. I have evolved a method of my own.

Shri Tyagi: Then, Sir, it is no use standing up every time and trying to catch your eye.

Mr. Speaker: I cannot say that. If a person stands alone, he may be called upon.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: What about the general discussion, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: That is going on. This is part of the general discussion.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Will this go on tomorrow?

Mr. Speaker: Tomorrow we will discuss the food policy.

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: Food policy only?

Mr. Speaker: Only. That is the gist of the agreement between the Parties. Those who wish to speak in respect of food may reserve their remarks for tomorrow.

Sardar B. S. Man: I would submit that if no chance is given to the mover of an amendment, he is really at a disadvantage in asking the House to accept it. Especially when he moves an amendment on a distinct point, he must be given a chance so that he could appeal to the House.

Mr. Speaker: Perhaps, the hon. Member did not hear me. A question was put to me as to whether the mover of every amendment is going to get a chance. To that my reply was in the negative. I said that I have taken out the prominent points of certain amendments and I shall make my best efforts to see that I call upon every one who has made a separate distinct point, to speak. I gave a chance, as hon. Members will see, for a speech in respect of "rehabilitation", and there are other things also—I need not mention them—which I have called out, and I shall call upon the movers of those amendments to speak.

Shri T. Husain (Bihar): Sir, have you got a list of Members before you, according to which you are calling them?

Mr. Speaker: All the Members are before me; I need not have any special list.

Shri Poonacha: It was a bit disappointing to me and also to my other friends hailing from Part C States to note that there was absolutely no reference to the future administrative set-up of these Part C States in the address of the President. We were looking forward very eagerly to some sort of indication to be made in the President's address that we heard yesterday, regarding the future of these States. This is the third time that the President of the Indian Union has graced this august Assembly with his presence and given his address to us. The first time he addressed this Parliament—and that was in January of this year—we felt that it was rather too early to expect Government to make any specific provisions relating to the administrative set-up of Part C States. Therefore, naturally, we did not expect any kind of reference to the administrative set-up of these States. But subsequently, when in August last another address followed, we were more or less disheartened a bit, and some of us a bit disquietened by the fact that there was no reference at all in this regard in that address. We took up this matter and discussed with the Minister concerned

and laid before him the various difficulties and problems relating to the day to day administration of Part C States, and according to the assurances the Minister was good enough to give us at that time we had the hope that Government, with the time that was available to them, would at least by now make up their mind and put forth some positive scheme for introducing some sort of responsible government in these Part C States areas. But it was very disappointing to us to note that there was absolutely no reference in this connection in the President's address.

There are as many as ten millions of people living in these different Part C States, scattered all over India, and with the general elections coming forward within a year from this date, these people naturally feel very much disappointed and disheartened that their share in the day to day administration of their State is completely neglected and a kind of bureaucratic official administration continues its reign there. These people who have been banking very much on the democratic principles underlying our Constitution and who were hoping and expecting that their aspirations and wishes would be fulfilled before the general elections come now feel that their expectations are completely relegated to the background and they are completely disillusioned. The centrally administered areas now come under the control of two Ministries. A few of them are under the Home Ministry and a few others under the States Ministry, and there is absolutely no co-ordination between these Ministries so far as the day to day administration of these areas is concerned.

Shri Kamath: But there is only one Minister.

Shri Poonacha: Though the Minister may be one, there is absolutely no co-ordination, for the reason that Part C States coming under the States Ministry are the merged Indian States, and under the Home Ministry the former Chief Commissioner's Provinces that were already in existence. In actual practice, in day to day administration there is absolutely no co-ordination whatsoever, and the same old kind of bureaucratic rule continues. I am sorry to use this expression here. But I have been all along exercising a lot of patience in this matter. From the very beginning in the course of the deliberations in the Constituent Assembly as well as in the course of the deliberations we subsequently had we have been always attempting to place before the Government of India that

some sort of responsible government has to be introduced in these areas, and these ten million people should not be left without the benefit of the democratic principles that have been envisaged in our Constitution. But all along we have been told that these matters would be taken up when better conditions prevail. As a matter of fact, the Government for a long time was burdened with other burning problems of the day, and as a matter of fact, we were exercising the greatest patience and nurturing great hopes that we would at a subsequent date have some sort of responsible government in these areas. Even in the Constitution, owing to the smallness of some of these areas and also due to the scantiness of their financial resources, a limited form of responsible Government has been conceded. With these various limitations and restrictions, the part relating to Part C States has been approved by the Constituent Assembly, and since the inauguration of this Constitution, that part of the Constitution is in force today. In accordance with those provisions the people of Part C States were very anxiously looking forward that at least this limited and restricted form of responsible government would be extended to them. But as we see there has been absolutely no reference to these matters in the President's address. We feel very much disappointed and frustrated and we fear that Government have not done their duty in not advising the President to take appropriate steps to implement that part of the Constitution and thus introduce responsible government and give a legitimate share in the day to day administration of these areas to the people concerned in those areas.

We have been speaking quite a lot here in India about the conditions that are prevailing in the small pockets of foreign possessions within the Indian Union. It was also, at one time, the fashion of the day to speak about the highhanded, bureaucratic or autocratic rule that existed in the Indian States some time ago. But what is the situation today in India in so far as Part C States are concerned? If we took some pains to look into these matters we will see that the administrative set-up in these areas is not far happier than what exists in the foreign possessions or what once existed in some of the Indian States some time back. So in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution and also in keeping with the democratic ideals to which we have been wedded, I feel that it is the duty of the Government of India to advise the President to take appropriate action in this respect to devise some form of responsible

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administration which would give in the limited measure contemplated in the Constitution a due share in the daily administration of the respective areas concerned.

There have been what are called Advisory Councils in some of the Part C States and in Coorg there is a sort of legislative Council, which has been there since 1924. But the experience of that legislative Council has not been very happy at all and I understand from friends that the experience in other Part C States so far as the Advisory Councils are concerned is no more happier. I learn that the Ajmer-Merwara Council is not functioning at all and that all the members there have resigned. In Himachal Pradesh I understand they are heading towards a crisis and it is likely that the members of the Advisory Council will resign very soon, because these Advisory Councils are not taken seriously, their advice is never cared for, the officers look to directions from their respective superiors in Delhi. They totally ignore the aspirations and desires of the people and administer the area in their own way according to their sweet will. That has been the experience so far.

So far as financial matters are concerned there have been very hard limitations placed upon the financial resources of these areas in different parts of the country. Take for example my own province, whose finances were unfortunately separated from that of the Centre since 1924. We had been made to work within the framework of our own slender finances. The Government of India has not at any time given us any appreciable aid for any kind of development work. Furthermore, when we have been working within the framework of our own financial resources, the central income-tax collected by the Centre is taken away entirely without giving a pie to our province. When this matter was referred to the Government of India they said that the Constitution did not provide for anything else. Though on principle Coorg was considered a separate administrative unit with its own financial resources, it was very strange that grants from out of the incometax collections, which were given to other provinces, were denied to Coorg. Even now I do not think there is any prospect of our getting any share of the income-tax proceeds collected by the Government of India. As far as administrative control is concerned all laws and all restrictions come into force immediately in Coorg. Whatever the Central Government

want to do, they do it immediately. But for all kinds of developmental work, financial assistance, liberalisation of the administrative set-up, for which we have been making all kinds of approaches to the Government of India, nothing happens and we have been always ignored or neglected.

Very recently, four or five days after the inauguration of the Constitution, on the 31st January a Bill was introduced in the Coorg Legislative Council called the Summary Assessment Bill purporting to double the existing land tax and treble the existing estates tax. This Bill was placed to be passed by the Coorg Legislature within a day, as they wanted to bring the law into force in the next financial year from the 1st April. So far as taxation measures are concerned, so far as control measures are concerned, so far as extension of Ordinances is concerned, there is absolutely no delay. But so far as conceding the legitimate demands of the people, so far as associating them in some form with the day-to-day administration is concerned, absolutely no consideration is given. We are disappointed at the fact that there was no reference to this in the President's address and I hope that the Government of India will take appropriate steps hereafter at least to bring out a scheme wherein the people of these areas will be associated with the day-to-day administration of their province.

Shri Jaipal Singh: My amendment reads as follows:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that no mention has been made in the address of any intention to give effect to the special provisions relating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes according to Part XVI of the Constitution."

At the beginning of the last session, I moved an amendment similarly worded but agreed to withdraw it thinking, that having said what I had, something would be done by the Treasury Benches. But today I find the same sad picture in the Treasury Benches which are almost empty and I have to address myself to Ministers who are not there. That is the kind of respect I regret to say, is not due to us.

My amendment seeks to remind Government once again that certain articles of the Constitution are being deliberately flouted and frustrated by the present Government.

Some Hon. Members: The Prime Minister has come.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very glad that, immediately on my having made a grievance of it, the Leader of the House has been pleased to come in. He is good enough for my purpose. I would like to remind him that there were certain solemn promises given by him in the Constituent Assembly and also by the Deputy Prime Minister in regard to the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes in particular and, in general, of the other backward classes such as the Scheduled Castes. Two precious years have been lost. The first big damage that has been done is in regard to the calculation of the tribal figures. According to the 1941 census they were 248 lakhs. Our independent Government have made a discovery. On making the estimates again we find that the Census Commissioner now finds that the tribal people do not number 248 lakhs but that they are only 178 lakhs. In other words, not allowing for the decennial increase in their figures, even by the total of 248 lakhs of the last census, they are less by seven million! There is a Department of Anthropology under the Government of India. According to the calculations of its own Department the reduction has been by something like seven to nine million people. Now, before the President issued his order making the inventory of the Scheduled Tribes throughout the various States in India, the various State Governors, Rajpramukhs and others were consulted but not the Department of Anthropology which is the expert body and which is in a position to advise the Government. No, not that. But political considerations are brought into the picture and the same type of obscurantism that was so evident and forcible during constitution-making has again come into the picture. What is it?

Look at article 332 whereby there is reservation for these poor, unfortunate people. What is the result of the President's order? It simply means that something like 70 to 90 members go unrepresented in the various State legislatures. Reckoning on the basis of one member per lakh, it means that by reducing something like between 70 to 90 lakhs, you are robbing the tribal people to the extent of the same figure, and equally at the Centre also. There will be fewer tribal members, by seven to nine in the Parliament of India. In other words, the provisions, the safeguards that have been solemnly promised in the Constitution in article 332 have been vitiated by the party in power today.

And not only Article 332. For ever the tribal people are going to be denied what has been promised them in the way of welfare activities not only by the Union Government but by the various State Governments. According to article 275 certain funds, certain grants-in-aid, have been laid down to be given to the various State Governments. Why?—so that these unfortunate, backward, undeveloped people may be taken to the level of the general mass of the population. Now, by reducing the figure the net result will be that no adequate funds will be granted. My friend, Dr. Deshmukh will bear me out what a piteous sight it has been in the Scholarships Committee of which he is a member and so am I. We were given certain sums. Last year because there were not enough applicants, something like Rs. 1,40,000/- remained unspent. This year the picture has been totally different. Take the depressed classes, rather the other backward classes. That is a particular group which is also a beneficiary of awards. There were 9,000 applicants. We had to reject something like 8,500. No adequate funds.

I could go on, but I only want to point this out. There is the Constitution. The Constitution is being vitiated, it seems to me, deliberately. I can see no other reason whatever. I cannot see that under independence tribal people have become something else. Or that there were political considerations in the previous regimes for which the tribal figures were inflated. I don't think it was ever the case that in the previous regime anybody wanted to claim himself a tribal.

An Hon. Member: They have been upgraded.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I wish they had been upgraded. I wish the rest of the Indian community comes up to the standard, honesty, uprightness and hardwork of the tribals of India. If that is the case I am very glad they have been upgraded. But do not upgrade them for the purpose of divesting them of their dues, financially as well as by representation in the State legislatures and in Parliament.

There is another point and then I am done with, and it is with regard to the wherewithal, the means that the Constitution provides for their expression of opinion during the ten years. It is the question of the formation of the Tribes Advisory Councils. I find that only in Assam and Orissa have these Tribes Advisory Councils been formed. Now in Part XVI of the Constitution there are certain special pro-

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visions. I had hoped that the President's Ministers would have advised him to implement those provisions whereby, for example, there would have been the specific Commission to investigate into the conditions of the Tribal people, the Scheduled Castes and other backward classes and also to see what measures should be taken, how the activities should be co-ordinated, so that something effective and real could be done. Well, that has not been done. The President's Ministers have not thought it fit or opportune to advise him in that particular regard. I venture to suggest that the leader of the House, who is here, will, if he has time, read Part XVI of the Constitution and if he has time also to recapitulate to his mind all the solemn promises he made on the floor of the Constituent Assembly in regard to the Tribal people.

Sardar B. S. Man: My amendment reads:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret to note that no mention has been made about the introduction of democracy in Part B States particularly in the bordering State of PEPSU where there is not even a popular Ministry".

I am not underrating the work done by the States Ministry generally as regards the other States in India. Really it is a stupendous job that they have achieved in welding together six hundred States into certain geographical, compact units. But I feel that in bringing about that consolidation from a purely geographical point of view, it is success; as regards the introduction of certain democratic institutions in these States, or associating the democratic forces of the States concerned, the policy of the States Ministry is very halting. It is particularly so on this side of River Jumna. Apparently it may be a very small problem when I talk about the Patiala States affairs, but considering its strategic importance, its being a border State, it has got very far reaching consequences. Many friends have come to me and said that I should move this amendment because they would get an opportunity of speaking about Rajasthan or Hyderabad States. It would be for them to speak about those States because they will be more conversant with the situation there and therefore I will confine myself to the Patiala States.

During the debate on the last Budget, it was admitted by the States Minister that when a talk of merging

or creation of the Patiala States Union was raised we were told that it was the express wish of the Sikhs that a sort of Sikh home land was created for them. But what sort of Sikh homeland has been created? They are not permitted to associate themselves with and contribute their constructive roles towards the problems of the State. Therefore, the question arises—the very pertinent question which we cannot really answer back—that because of that the democratic right to govern themselves is denied to them and no popular Ministry is being instituted there. We in Patiala—it will be very surprising for the House to know—are still governed by the I.C.S. ministers and by the permanent service people. I don't know if anywhere else such a constitutional anomaly exists, but here one of the Ministers is a Regional Commissioner, a Minister, and, in his third capacity, a constitutional adviser to the Rajpramukh. Three capacities are combined in one personality. Sometimes we have to approach the Regional Commissioner for acts of omission and commission committed by the Minister. That is like making the accused a judge of the matter.

This may perhaps not be the proper forum for entering into the details of the PEPSU administration, but I have to bring to the notice of this House one glaring omission and that is that the failure of the Government to allow a democratic Ministry has brought about certain consequences. The gap there between the people and the Government is widening and irresponsible people, not having any political sagacity are eager to take advantage of the sheer frustration of the people and create chaotic conditions to serve their ends. I plead, therefore, that a proper opportunity be given to the masses in the Patiala States Union to associate themselves in the governance of their State, so that this frustration which is taking hold of them may give place to something constructive.

We are still administered by officers who possess no qualifications or merit. They were at one time recruited by the whimsical rulers of the covenanted States. Law and order are the worst victims in Patiala today. Everything is now attributed to communists. It is not so. It might be an approaching danger, but at present the bisweddar officers who predominate the Police Department of Patiala use it as an excuse to eject their tenants, just as you give the dog a bad name if you want to hang it. They call it a Communist agitation. It is not so. Robberies and dacoities are due to the inefficiency of the Patiala States authorities. But the frustration of the people

may eventually lead them to look forward to other quarters.

I must also bring to the notice of Government that the Chief Minister there was a Minister of the Maharaja when he was ruling the State. He is still the Chief Minister. He is a maternal uncle of the present Maharaja. That is a very strange situation. In fact the Maharaja of Patiala is ruling the Patiala States Union through the back-door. Now the elections are approaching. The Chief Minister there is a very close relation of the Maharaja and thus in all the spheres of State activities it is the influence of the Maharaja that predominates. Now in the coming elections we have a genuine fear that we may have, what they call in political parlance 'the King's Party' in the Patiala States. I consider that the urgency of the problem is such that by bringing about a political change in the Patiala States Union we will be able to stop the gap between the Sikh masses and the Government. Given an opportunity I consider that they can be easily weaned away from the agitations and prove a cementing force.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee (West Bengal): Since Parliament met last events of considerable importance, both in the internal and international spheres, have taken place and reference to many of these has been made in the President's address. According to the ruling given by the Speaker we are not to debate on the foreign policy of Government, nor on the food situation today.

I would, however, mention at the outset that we feel rather surprised at the omission of any reference from the President's address to Kashmir. Since Parliament last met the Dixon Report has been published and certain developments have taken place which are of a disturbing character. No doubt at the Press Conference held by the Prime Minister shortly after the publication of the Dixon Report some references were made to the Kashmir situation, but we would have liked to know from Government what exactly the present position is and how Government expects that this very difficult problem which is affecting not only the peace and prosperity of India, but also may affect our position in the international world, is ultimately going to be solved.

It is a matter of humiliation for any free country that a portion of its sacred territory should be in the occupation of another power. I am not referring to the relations between India and

Pakistan on Kashmir, because if I get an opportunity to do so I shall refer to this matter on the foreign policy debate. But I do feel that the time has come when our Government should adopt an overall policy while dealing with Pakistan. It is hardly to be expected that we shall be friendly with Pakistan in relation to some matters and we shall be at virtual war with Pakistan in relation to other matters. So far as Kashmir is concerned, our Prime Minister has expressed his surprise at the attitude of some of the big powers which definitely are pro-Pakistan. We would like to know from the Prime Minister when he gives a reply to the debate as to whether there is going to be any change with regard to India's attitude for the purpose of re-establishing its position with regard to Kashmir.

A very scanty reference has been made with regard to the problem of West Bengal and East Bengal. In only about three lines the President has referred to Indo-Pak. Agreement and I am rather disturbed at finding a note of complacency while dealing with this problem. I do not propose to go into details with regard to this matter today. But there are certain aspects of the problem to which I would like to refer. The President has stated here that he is glad that as a result of the Agreement of April 8th, 1950, there has been a great deal of improvement of conditions and flow back of migrants to their original homes. The Prime Minister laid on the table this morning a statement showing the total number of refugees who have migrated to India from East Bengal and also the number that has returned to East Pakistan. According to these figures the net result is that today about 35 lakhs of Hindus are still in India who have come away from East Bengal since partition, and about eight or nine lakhs have gone back to East Bengal. These figures, as the House will remember, relate only to those who came by train or by steamer. That was admitted by Government from the very beginning. According to calculations which were made by the West Bengal Government, I am not referring to calculations which non-official organisations have made, roughly about a million more must have come by other routes. In other words, about 45 lakhs of Hindus are still with us who have been forced to come away from East Bengal to West Bengal, Assam and other parts of India. What about the other side of the picture? According to the statement made by the Prime Minister this morning about four lakhs of Muslims have left West Bengal and have gone to East Bengal. Of course,

[Dr. S. P. Mookerjee]

he could not give any figures of Muslims who have gone from West Bengal to East Bengal before January 1950. The number was almost nil. So this has been a one-way traffic, however we may try to explain away the problem. My regret has been that there has been no attempt on the part of Government to probe into the real cause of this trouble. The real problem is: Can Hindus live in East Bengal? The object of the Agreement was not somehow or other to enable Hindus to come away from East Bengal to West Bengal or other parts of India but to see that conditions are created by the Pakistan Government whereby it would be possible for Hindus to live in East Bengal in peace and with honour. Now, that basic problem still remains unsolved. The President in his speech, while referring to world conditions, rightly observed, "The peace that we seek and that is worth preserving is a living peace and not the peace of the grave". I would like to repeat what the President has said and I would like to say that what the Hindus have got in East Bengal is peace of the grave and not peace of the living.

4 P.M.

I have been in constant touch with people who have been coming from East Bengal recently, and only three or four days ago I met some very leading Hindus who are still in East Bengal, who came to India and who have gone back again. From what I learned from them and others the conclusion is irresistible that there is no possibility of Hindus living in Pakistan so long as that country is administered as it is today. In fact, only a few weeks ago the Prime Minister of Pakistan made no secret about his idealism. He spoke not once but twice that the Muslim League is Pakistan and Pakistan is the Muslim League. There was no secrecy about it, and that is how that Government is administering East Bengal. You may ask, then why is it that people have gone away during the last few months? Now, those who have gone away have in the first place been compelled to do so because the conditions of rehabilitation and of living in West Bengal in India are such that it was almost impossible for them to make both ends meet. I do not know whether the attention of the Prime Minister was drawn to at least half a dozen cases of suicide committed by persons, young and old, who came as refugees from East Bengal to India, and to that pathetic letter which was left by a young lad of twentyone who placed his head under an incoming running train indicating why he was putting an end

to his life—failure to manage things so that he could maintain himself and the family which was dependent on him. These are typical cases.

So far as other conditions are concerned, it appears that there are no major incidents happening in East Bengal today. In fact, that is not necessary. The whole object of creating conditions of terror whereby Hindus, and particularly respectable Hindus and Hindus who held some position of power or responsibility, would be compelled to go away from that country, has been successfully carried out and now a situation has come when if Hindus decide to stay on they could only live, not as honourable citizens, but as persons who will accept a subordinate position in Pakistan. As one of the leading Hindus still living there explained to me, it was not the terror of being assaulted or of being attacked which was the only fear that occupied the minds of these people: there was really no hope for Hindus so far as their future was concerned.

Education was one item to which special reference has been made, and this has also appeared in newspapers to which no doubt the attention of the Prime Minister has been drawn. The entire educational system has been Islamised. Practically the schools and colleges have disappeared. The way in which education is being imparted there and the syllabus and curriculum have all been changed, has resulted in this that if Hindus decided to live there they can live not as Hindus but as semi-Muslims. Then, with regard to the prospect of getting services or with regard to getting means of economic employment, they are practically nil. It is therefore not possible for Hindus to make up their minds to live there. The entire social and economic structure has broken down. If a person has to live in society, naturally there must be environments which will be congenial to him from every point of view. That congenial atmosphere has completely disappeared. One old gentleman who is about seventy-two and is still living there in East Bengal explained to me pathetically that he could visualize that in the course of the next few years a large number of Hindus who are being compelled to live in East Bengal would be converted to Islam. Either they would accept it by force or be compelled by circumstances to do so. In fact, reports of conversion are coming to us and in some cases where we did have enquiries made it appeared that many of those conversions have been more or less of a voluntary character—voluntary in the sense that the spirit of resistance has disappeared. And

the choice which lies before them is either to live in West Bengal or in India without much hope of being rehabilitated, and thereby also courting death some time or other, or to go back to East Bengal and somehow to live there, surrendering everything that they hold dear—their religion, their culture, their independence and their economic existence.

This basic problem has not been touched by our Government. It is no use Government trying to hide itself or saying that Agreement has worked very well and that the President is glad on behalf of the Government that things have improved. Outwardly things might have improved, but the seeds of disintegration have germinated and germinated to such an extent that unless some radical change is made there is no hope of recovery. I shall not be impudent enough to suggest that the Government and especially the Prime Minister are so dull that they do not understand the problem. They do understand the problem. There is no want of capacity to understand. But there is a want of capacity to face what is nothing but a crisis, the like of which has not come in the history of many nations. We thus watch before our very eyes the disappearance of a section of the Indian people for no fault of their own.

So far as the problem of rehabilitation is concerned, the President in his address has referred to about eleven lakhs of people coming from East Bengal who have been rehabilitated in some way or other. Even if I take that figure to be correct, there are still more than three million people who have to be looked after. I have been in touch with the work of rehabilitation in some way or other and the more I go into the matter the more oppressed I feel by the sheer magnitude of the problem. Every family has to be rehabilitated. It is not a question of finding some temporary shelter for them. In fact some shelter has been found by Government in many places. But I know of cases where after giving them shelter there has been no provision for work. So far as the problem of rehabilitation is concerned, I would like some opportunity to be given to the House to go into the details of this question on some day in the course of this session. I have always felt, particularly in West Bengal, that this problem of rehabilitation has to be looked at in an integrated manner, that is, the question of economic discontent affecting the people of West Bengal, a problem which was acute enough even before the refugees started coming from East

Bengal, has to be tackled; there have been some signs of misunderstanding between the people of West Bengal and those who are coming there for shelter. We must be able so to evolve our plans for rehabilitation that it will lead to the betterment of the economic conditions of the Province as a whole so that not only will these unfortunate persons who have come can be properly resettled but also others who are today suffering for want of opportunities may get their chance in life.

There is one aspect of this matter on which representation has been made to the Prime Minister and that is giving the right of citizenship to those who have come away from Pakistan. According to the Constitution those who came after 25th July 1949 are not entitled to Indian citizenship. I wrote to Sardar Patel about this matter some time ago and he was good enough to reply that Government have decided to amend the law suitably so that the rights of citizenship would be given to persons who might migrate to India after the 25th July 1949. A representation has been handed over to me which is going to the Prime Minister signed by about three to four lakhs of refugees who have come from East Bengal demanding rights of citizenship and also opportunity to take part in the coming elections. The elections at that time were supposed to be held in April or May 1951 but now that the date has been shifted to November or December 1951, I hope, Government will consider sympathetically the desirability of allowing those who are entitled to become voters to take part in the coming election. There is no right on the part of anybody, Government or any one outside the Government, to disfranchise nearly about 50 lakhs if they desire to participate in the coming elections. After all they were persons whose contributions led to the achievement of freedom of India as a whole and if they decide to come and settle in India, there is no question of their being deprived of what is their right. So far as the general elections are concerned, the Prime Minister announced only a few weeks ago that he would not postpone the elections beyond April-May, 1951.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Where did I announce it?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: In some Press Conference. We read in the newspapers.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Don't believe everything that you read in the newspapers.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: We would like to believe what the Prime Minister says. At any rate he was very anxious that the elections should be held in April-May 1951. The date has now been announced; of course, reference has been made by the President to the Bihar difficulties. In any case now that we have known that the elections will be held in November-December 1951. I would like to suggest that full scope should be given to all parties and organizations to carry on their election activities completely unhampered by the present Government.

Some distributing reports have come from some quarters and I have seen also actually some examples of that where restrictions has been imposed by the Government now in power and full opportunities are not given to conduct election meetings.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): Has anyone been prevented?

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: For instance, in Banaras only about ten days ago permission was given to hold meetings, but permission was withdrawn so far as publicity was concerned. What was said was that publicity could be given but no loud speaker could be used for the purpose of giving publicity; these are pin-pricks. I am not suggesting that the Government of India has anything to do with this matter but it has been repeatedly expressed by persons in authority that fullest scope and freedom must be given to all for the purpose of carrying on election propoganda before the election is actually held. After all, if we want democracy to function in this country, there could be no suggestion of stifling public opinion in any way whatsoever. If anyone says anything or does anything which transgresses the law, naturally the usual consequences will follow but for a party Government in power to try to stifle in any way the holding of public meetings or of demonstrations or discussions will be completely foreign to any democratic principle.

Lastly, I refer very briefly to the growing economic deterioration in the country. I shall not go into the details about the food position but during the last month it was given to me to move about in different parts of Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, rather *in-cognito*; I went by car and covered about 1,500 miles and I passed through many villages, unknown places, and I must say that it was an experience which was new to me, in moving about villages and coming across people who

did not know me at all and discussing with them about problems which concern them. I knew, of course, the growing discontent in the country; I know, of course the big gaps that exist between the people and the Government today, but what alarmed me most was the way in which that discontent was deepening in the minds of the illiterate people, men who did not even know what sort of Government was in power today and what exactly their rights were under the new Constitution but who knew that the British Raj had gone and that the Indian Raj has come. I was surprised to find that over 90 per cent. of such people had not a good word to say about the Government or of the Congress Organization. This is not a matter to be gloated over. (*Interruption*) Well, my hon. friend thinks it is a very sad experience; he is the Secretary of the Congress. I suppose he will not be proud of the experience.

Shri Kala Venkatarao (Madras): We are very proud of the situation as it is the opposite of what you say.

Dr. S. P. Mookerjee: This attitude of complacency has been the cause of ruin of this country and if my hon. friend continues to remain in that atmosphere, it will further worsen. In any case, it is not my intention to cast any reflection on anybody because this is a matter which affects the well-being of the people as a whole. Within three years after the attainment of freedom the people generally feel deeply frustrated, dejected and hopeless about their present condition and future. That is a question which we have to ask ourselves as Members of Parliament, no matter to which party or organization we may belong.

So far as the economic condition is concerned, it cannot be solved by Government alone; it can only be solved by the co-operation of all, but the feeling is deepening in the minds of the people, not the educated people alone but of the general masses that today they do not get even what they used to get when the British Raj was here. I was surprised to find illiterate people saying that it would have been much better if the British Raj had continued. They not only lament their fate but they doubt the capacity of the Government to serve the real interests of the people. I think we should be able to realize this growing menace extending far and wide in the country. Whatever happens, people are accustomed to blame the Communists. How far the Communists actually have a hold over the country is a matter which I am not going to enter into

but I should certainly say that the Communists thrive because certain conditions are in existence in this country and those conditions are poverty, disease, squalor and want of facilities which the citizens think they are entitled to get as a matter of right. It is those conditions in which Communism may thrive and unfortunately they do thrive in different parts of India.

When we discuss the food problem tomorrow, this problem will come up in greater details. Unless we are able to tackle this problem, I am afraid the situation in the country, taken along with the international situation, will further worsen. I hope that in the course of the discussions that we will have during this session, it will be possible for Government to place before the House its constructive proposals, especially with regard to the economic side, and satisfy the House and the public that everything possible is being done for the purpose of combating the present grave menace.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am reluctant to intervene and take up the time of the House when, as has been pointed out, hon. Members do not have so much of time to give expression to their views. I am not going to address myself to the various subjects that have been raised, but rather put before the House for its consideration certain aspects of this discussion.

It has been said repeatedly that various matters have not been mentioned in the President's address, or have been inadequately mentioned. I submit that the President's address is not a survey of all the problems of India, important or unimportant. The President's address, if I may say so, is not modelled after the address of the President of the United States of America. It is supposed to be a brief statement indicating the general relations of India with the world, and the work we have to do. It cannot, in the very nature of things, therefore, take into consideration all these various matters that are raised, which are important no doubt. It is, generally speaking, not a controversial document, except for the fact that Government policy may be controversial. It is a brief document, certainly not a comprehensive document. I would beg the House to remember that. It is undoubtedly a statement of Government's policy. It is, in fact, the Government's address although the President delivers it. Some hon. Members imagine that it is a private address of the President. It is nothing of the kind.

Shri Kamath: Oh, no.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Not Mr. Kamath, of course, who so well knows Constitutional law. I have even read in some reputable newspapers something to that effect. It is nothing of the kind. It is a brief statement, as far as possible made in a non-controversial spirit, of the broad lines of Government's policy. Therefore, much of the criticism is rather beside the point, although the points raised may be important.

One of the points, that is important certainly, was mentioned by my hon. friend who just spoke; that is about Kashmir. If I may say so, important as the Kashmir issue is, there is nothing that the President could have said about it. Much has been said about it and as the House knows, the issue is, at the present moment, before the Security Council of the United Nations and it is a little difficult for the President, or even for Government, to say much about it at this particular stage. I have said a good deal about it elsewhere and in this House on several occasions. When the occasion arises, I would inevitably come to this House and inform it of any new development.

One or two other matters have been referred to. About the elections, may I assure my hon. friend and the House that, in so far as this Government is concerned, we have taken every step that we can and we will take every step to ensure that the elections are absolutely free and fair, and that every group and party has the fullest opportunities and equal opportunities. We have impressed this upon the Election Commission and I believe the Election Commission itself has taken great care to see that it is functioning in that way and that it will continue to do so. About some incident that happened in Banaras, I know nothing about it. The provincial Government or the local authorities may have had some special reasons on special occasions. It has nothing to do with the elections. Elections are pretty far off.

He mentioned also something about rehabilitation and the refugee situation. I am perfectly prepared to agree with him that the situation of the displaced persons is very far from desirable. He mentioned some cases of deplorable and sad happenings. Undoubtedly that is so. It is no good denying that. But, we have to view the situation as a whole and decide what we can do about it. Accepting the criticism of my hon. friend, I would, nevertheless, submit two or three broad generalisations for the consideration of this House. We have had to face this refugee problem

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of a magnitude which I doubt if any other country in the world has had to face. I submit,—for the moment I am talking about the refugees from Western Pakistan—that the results that we have achieved are creditable to Government. I submit that compared to the way in which the refugee problem has been dealt with in any country, our results have been creditable. I do not say that they are satisfactory; that is a different thing entirely. I say that they compare well. There have been refugee problems and there are refugee problems today in many countries in the world, Germany, Japan and many countries of Europe, after the war, and even before the war. Refugees from the last war are still continuing in camps in many countries in Europe. That is point number one.

The second point is in regard to Eastern Pakistan, West Bengal and Assam. Again, the situation is not at all satisfactory, I admit completely. Nevertheless, I would submit to this House that it is rather extraordinary that large numbers of migrants are returning to their homes. No doubt, if you provide them with far better conditions, they will not return. No doubt, if you provide employment to the unemployed persons, they would choose to remain here. But, the point is, under stress of circumstances, large numbers of Hindus from East Pakistan and large numbers of Muslims from West Bengal and Assam left their homes through fear, apprehension, whatever it was. At that time, nothing else counted except immediate fear. I can assure you that something has happened to make them go back. They have, on the whole, preferred to go back to remaining here, and the number of people who have gone back, both Hindus and Muslims, is really astonishing. Even in my most optimistic moments I did not expect this big flow-back which is happening for the last six weeks or so. That, surely, does not mean that conditions are satisfactory and that they have no difficulty to contend against. All that is true. But, nevertheless, it does show that there is an improvement in those conditions. Every other information that we have got also tends to show that there is a definite improvement whether it is in the number of dacoities or insecurity of life, etc. Much of what my hon. friend has said, is true; I am not denying that. But, I say these things flow from a large number of factors including basically and fundamentally certain conflicts that exist between India and Pakistan. Not that it is so only here; it is so all over the country.

which raises big issues into which I am not going at present. I do submit that the situation in Eastern Pakistan, West Bengal, etc., is far better from the point of view of the migrants and displaced persons than it has been in the last six months or so.

My hon. friend referred to the question of citizenship. There is no doubt, of course, that people who have come to India, those displaced persons who stay in India, are bound to have citizenship. If the law is inadequate, the law should be changed. The real point that arises is more in connection with the elections, and the date to be fixed. Now, this House once changed the date for the preparation of the electoral rolls, during the last session, I believe, with the result that almost all the work that had been done was not entirely wasted, but largely so. It upset the work entirely; because we had been working up to a certain date, we had to start afresh and do all that again. If you go about changing these dates, it means enormous labour, enormous expense and fresh delays. Therefore, this changing of dates has to be carefully considered. The number that my hon. friend gave, I do not think, is accurate. He indicated that fifty lakhs of people have been disenfranchised. I do not think any such number has been disenfranchised, because from any calculation, a very large portion of this fifty lakhs came before that date. Another difficulty arises at the present moment. Quite a considerable number of people are going back daily. On the average, the surplus going back may be as much as 2,000 a day or 1,500 a day. The situation is, therefore, a fluid one. One is not quite sure as to who will go back and who will not go back. Therefore, it is a little difficult to lay down hard and fast rules at the present moment. It may become better a little later. My point is that all those who stay are bound to have full rights of citizenship even if it requires a change in the law.

Secondly, in regard to the elections, it is not easy to change the date again and again. It is not a question of the displaced persons only. A far greater number than the refugees will attain majority if you add a few months. Persons who were twenty may attain the age of twenty-one and you will say that so many have been disenfranchised. The whole thing is upset. This is bound to happen. You cannot have absolutely accurate rules that the moment one becomes twenty-one, he votes.

One thing more. A lot has been said about Government's treatment or the lack of interest in regard to the

Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Well, I do not think it would be quite correct to say that it is due to lack of interest etc. But it is true to say again, that much that ought to be done has not been done and is not done because, ultimately, of lack of resources and other difficulties. We can appoint a Commission if you like. It is easy enough to appoint a Commission. But as the House knows, the appointment of a Commission is a way out sometimes out of a difficulty, for it makes people think that we are doing something though we really do not do much. But deliberately we do not want to delude the public when we do not have the wherewithal to do much good. But I may inform the House that so far as the appointment of the Special Officer—I don't know what it is called in the Constitution—the Special Officer for the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes, the President has decided upon such an appointment and if it has not already been announced it will be announced very soon.

That is all I have to say.

Shri Kamath: What about the legitimate complaint that so far as the Scheduled Tribes are concerned, their total population for purposes of election, according to the President's order, is far less than what the last census shows?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a matter of calculation. We will go into it carefully and find out the position.

An Hon. Member: Nothing has been said about the democratisation of the set-up in Parts B and C States.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Nothing has been said so far as I am concerned about many subjects mentioned here. I was not dealing with the debate, but only pointing out a few things. Of course the point mentioned by the hon. Member is a very important one and I have no doubt that attention will be paid to it.

Shri Nasiruddin Ahmad: After the very moving speech made by Dr. Mookerjee, I feel I should say one or two words. Dr. Mookerjee said that the Pact has not succeeded well. But I think it has well succeeded. I submit that the refugees from East Bengal are leaving daily by thousands. With regard to the conditions in East Pakistan, I heard the following from a very important member of the Hindu com-

munity living in East Bengal and who is a Member of the Pakistan Constituent Assembly and who was travelling by the same train as I was travelling. I asked him point blank, what is the condition of Hindus in East Bengal and he said it is normal. I asked him whether there was any trouble and he said there are troubles here and there, as there are bad people everywhere. But apart from that, he said, life is normal, and he says he will remain there and he thinks that others should go back. With regard to the difficulties of refugees in West Bengal, the situation is entirely due to the huge problem the like of which no country has seen. To tackle about 30 lakhs of refugees is a colossal thing for a government whose resources are weak. Dr. Mookerjee has again discovered that there has been some amount of dissatisfaction amongst the people. I believe that so long as he was in the Government there was no dissatisfaction. The dissatisfaction began since he left the Government. I therefore, think that this dissatisfaction, if any, was due solely or at least largely to his departure from the Government. I submit, therefore, that he should come back and join the Government and stem the tide of dissatisfaction and improve the state of affairs.

Now, I come to the postponement of the general elections. With regard to this, I think there has been certainly a departure by the Government. There was certainly a very emphatic declaration that the elections must be held by April—May next. But there has been a change. I submit, that it is not a very good thing to make bold declarations, that elections should be held in April-May and then change it to November-December. I also find a strange phraseology being used by Government. They speak of fixing a date for the elections and fixing a "firm" date for the elections. This is a nice coinage by somebody, probably connected with the minting department. I submit that whenever a date is fixed, it must be a firm date. It means that a firm date is fixed. I submit that language is akin to that used by circus proprietors and cinema proprietors. They say, "to-day is the last day" and the next day they say, "to-day is positively the last day". We should not have these changes in the dates and justify them by using strong language. So far as the elections are concerned, I think we are rather moving in an awkward direction. During the debate on the Constitution relating to this

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point I suggested that the elections might be held after the census which would be taken in March 1951. It is not proper to hold the elections in April-May on the old bases which have been proved by so many speakers to be totally wrong in so many ways as there are so many gaps and anomalies. It would have been far better to wait till the results of the next census are out. By November-December, 1951, the figures would be different. You cannot hold an election when the figures on which the elections are based are entirely out of date. Therefore the elections should have been held by April or May as originally determined and should not have been postponed to November-December. If we once accustom ourselves to changing our dates the result would be that by November-December next the date would again be changed. I should think that there should be some amount of fixity in the matter of elections. As Dr. Mookerjee has suggested, some really firm date should be fixed. I submit, therefore, that so far as the elections are concerned this change is creating a very bad impression in the country and the more we delay the situation in the country would become rather bad.

So far as other matters that have been raised in the House are concerned, I shall deal with only the one relating to the Defence Forces which has been referred to by Prof. Shah. I think India is rapidly being drawn within the danger zone. War is perhaps visibly moving towards India. It is perhaps not too late to mend and I think the Government should attend to the strengthening of the defence forces of the country. Our internal enemy or troubles are not very great but the external enemy would be a really formidable one. In these circumstances the defence forces should be reorganised, enhanced and made really strong. What is the use of a defence force which would not be able to defend the country? It is said somewhat authoritatively that the Chinese army is about ten times stronger than the Indian army. I do not know whether this figure is correct but if it is even nearly correct it shows the dangerous weakness of our country so far as our defence is concerned. I hope the Government will look into this.

I have a few more points to touch on but as there are one or two other speakers who want to speak I shall conclude.

Shri Kamath: My amendment is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that, despite the admission that 'the world, hungering for peace, appears to stand perilously on the verge of war', the address has failed to deal with the immediate problem of securing the peace and integrity of the country against internal and external dangers, and has failed to rouse the national consciousness to the urgency of the situation."

Shri Hussain Imam: Sir, on a point of information. Is not foreign affairs to be taken up separately?

Shri Kamath: It does not relate exclusively to foreign affairs.....

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad: On a point of order, Sir, I have carefully followed the amendment. It says that the country should be protected from internal and external danger. So far as external danger is concerned it is outside the scope of to-day's discussion.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): I could not follow the point raised.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think the hon. Mover by his amendment is referring to the steps that ought to be taken to maintain internal order. Defending the country against foreign aggression is different from foreign relations.

Shri Kamath: I am inclined to think that foreign policy and defence are so closely interwoven that it is difficult to divorce them, and war is only foreign policy pursued by means other than diplomacy. In this view we cannot look upon foreign affairs and defence as two things absolutely separate. Even so, as the House has decided that foreign affairs should be discussed on some other date, I will not stress that aspect so much today as the other one, the cognate one, of defending the country internally as well as externally from the dangers that lie ahead.

The last session of Parliament opened with a debate on Korea and ended with a disastrous earthquake in Assam. That earthquake is to my mind ominous, coming as it did on the 15th August 1950, a day which we have been celebrating as our Independence Day for the last three years. When the Bihar earthquake occurred in 1934 Mahatma Gandhi remarked on that occasion that that earthquake had come

as a punishment for the sins of untouchability in Malabar. I am sure that Members would remember that remark of Gandhiji. I do not know what he would have said had he been alive today, what crimes or what sins we had committed as a nation that this earthquake should have been timed for the 15th August, of all days. My friends will pardon me if I am sentimental but it does appear to me that there was an ominous significance behind this earthquake. After that earthquake, events have happened, one after another in close succession, in Asia and more particularly on the borders of India. What there is in store for us, God alone knows, but there are certain potential dangers which we as men in charge of affairs of this nation must take into account. It is wise to be forewarned, because it makes us fore-armed.

The internal situation today is far from satisfactory and if war comes—which God forbid—the internal situation is such, at any rate judged from what it is today, that the front will hardly be safe, because the rear is not at all strong. The waste of national resources which had been husbanded with so much care and energy during the war years has been colossal, and even criminal, if I may be permitted to say so. The Finance Minister's observations at the Press Conference the other day, namely that his attempts to introduce or effect economy in the departments of his colleagues had apparently borne very little fruit came to us as a bolt from the blue. It was a very disquieting and depressing statement to hear from the Finance Minister and he went on to say of course that he had not lost all hope and that he had asked his Secretary to put up his own proposals. I do not know what his Secretary has since put up before him as a result of his vigorous efforts in this direction.

The House is very well aware in what directions our resources have been squandered. To take only a few instances, the Damodar Valley Corporation under the facade of an autonomous corporation has been drawing upon our resources not too wisely. The pre-fabricated venture has been a colossal failure against which I warned the House in March last that they must be prepared for the ignominious failure of the project. The huts and houses are collapsing before our very eyes, and so far as the factory is concerned I understand that there is standstill agreement between the consulting firm and the Government, that production is in a state of suspended animation. Then there is the wastage in our

Disposals Section which has been brought before the House so often that I need not dilate upon it. There is again the Sindri Factory for which the estimates have gone from Rs. eight crores in 1946 to Rs. 23 crores with not a single pound of ammonium sulphate in sight. This to my mind is so criminal a waste that the Minister in charge should have resigned.

But our Ministers not only try to defend the mistakes of those in charge, but they seem to gloss over them and to make light of them. Amidst so much of distress and misery in the land our Ministers have got time to open a Coca-Cola plant. To my mind it was simply childish for a Minister of Government to open a Coca-Cola plant, to advertise this American stuff. I don't know what prompted the Minister to perform this childish inauguration ceremony of a Coca-Cola plant. There has been propaganda in many Asian and European countries that this is a new form of colonisation: Coca-Colonisation. That a Minister of our Government should lend his good offices to the opening of a Coca-Cola plant is too puerile, too childish for me to further expatiate upon.

All these failures, all these kinds of mismanagement have created a feeling of discontent in the land that is growing in volume day by day. The story that my friend Dr. Mookerjee related has been narrated to me in another manner, and it was this. I don't vouch for the truth of the story, but it appears—my informer told me—that at a meeting addressed by the Chief Minister of Bombay, Mr. Kher, some time ago after he finished his speech he invited questions and one of the persons in the audience got up and asked him, "When will the British come back?" I don't know if this is a true story, but it was related to me by someone from Bombay. What I was driving at was this, that unless there is social change, unless there is economic change, unless Government is determined to implement its own laws and not be indifferent about them, unless Government is prepared to punish those who have been guilty in various ventures and not let them go scot-free, I warn this House that the day is not far off when people will revolt against the Government.

Shri Sondhi (Punjab): Non-violent revolt?

Shri Kamath: Non-violent or violent, when people revolt they will take the

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law into their own hands, they will adopt their own methods.

Shri Raj Bahadur (Rajasthan): Are you on the side of the people or the Government?

Shri Kamath: I don't know where my friend will be.

So far, as regards the internal situation. Now coming to the external situation, that is defence against external dangers, the fact must be faced that now on the borders of India is a Power which today we cannot regard as much a friendly power as it was three or four months ago. The House will remember that Mount Kailas is in Tibet. The House will remember that Mana Sarovar is in Tibet. The Tibetan border is about 70 miles from Nainital and about 100 miles from Simla, and the House will do well to take notice of the fact that with the Chinese invasion of Tibet, though so far Tibet was regarded as a virtually independent State, now the border of China has come nearer to India. Not that any war is looming on the horizon, but we have to take suitable measures against this potential danger on our border.

My friend Pandit Kunzru in the morning suggested certain measures with regard to the Army. While agreeing with him that it is high time that the Army should be reorganised and rearranged, and more importance given to the Land and Air Forces of our country, I will go further and say that the time has come when the Government should issue an appeal in the manner in which Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose issued his appeal in East Asia during the war years. In the same manner, in the same spirit they should appeal to the hearts of people, to the youngsters—hundreds of thousands of them are unemployed—to volunteer themselves for the defence of the country and organise a national militia, and also, at this crisis in our national history, Government should invite the former members and officers of the I.N.A. to enlist themselves, to come forward in the service of the nation. If this opportunity is let go, is allowed to pass, I am sure that the hearts of the members of the I.N.A. will be definitely turned against the Government, if even in this hour of crisis Government makes no approach to them at all.

One last word and I have done. I have said that the defence of our country has assumed greater prominence now that the Himalayan border is no

longer impregnable. So far we used to regard the pregnable frontiers as the North-West and the East, but now in 1950 it has been brought home to us that the Himalayas are equally pregnable and we can no longer regard them as impregnable. Therefore, the entire border from Kashmir to Assam is vulnerable and it is high time that the strategy of our defence is accordingly altered and shaped so as to suit the needs of the present day.

As regards the upheaval in Nepal, that upheaval has also endangered the safety of India. Considering that it is a delicate subject, I would not go into it too deeply but I would like to suggest that in its own interests, in the interests of its own safety, its own integrity, its own independence, Nepal should lose no time in democratizing her administration, and also in its own interests take early measures to co-ordinate its defence and its foreign policy with those of India at the earliest opportunity. If this does not happen betimes, if the present people's movement in that State is mercilessly crushed, pitilessly crushed, I for one feel that that will be a standing invitation to Communism in that State.

In conclusion I would only say one word, and that is that the Government has at this supreme moment failed to rouse the national consciousness to the gravity of the situation. There is not a single word in the whole address where people are asked or should have been asked to stand up, to come forward and defend the integrity and the independence of India. That note is missing, and in so far as that note is missing I for one feel that it has failed in its purpose, and in its effect upon the nation.

The Minister of Industry and Supply (Shri Mahtab): Mr. Kamath in his usual way made some tangential remarks about me and he also said something about the Sindri Factory about which he does not know much.

Shri Kamath: I know more than the Minister does.

Shri Mahtab: It is very easy to interrupt in an informal manner but it is something else to know the thing. If we compare the Sindri Factory with other factories of a similar type in other countries, I think we will be proud of the Sindri Factory as it is today. The I.C.I. started a factory in England exactly for the same purposes as we did in Sindri. Their original estimate was £120 million. They have already spent £240 million, but only a part has been built as yet.

Similarly, other industries elsewhere. Unless we have sufficient explanations, sufficient reasons for the increase in the cost of setting up the factory, we need not be very much worried about this increase. Of course it is one thing to ask why Government decided upon that factory at that particular time when the price of articles was rising. That is a different matter. But I would request Mr. Kamath and other friends who think alike to have all materials about the Sindri Factory and then pass opinions on them. Otherwise they make themselves ludicrous, if I may be allowed to say so.

5 P.M.

Shri Tyagi: May I know if the English factory had also made some arrangements with the firms which were constructing their factory on cost plus basis?

Shri Mahtab: That is a different matter. I am prepared to discuss it with any hon. Member and I am fully convinced that there is nothing wrong in it.

Then with regard to the opening of some particular industry here, I wonder if the hon. Member has been persuaded to make a mention of that here for purposes of propaganda; otherwise there was no occasion for it.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order, Sir. I strongly resent this remark that I have been persuaded to make a mention of it for purposes of propaganda. I cannot add to the propaganda done by the hon. Minister already. All that I said was that certain Ministers have got time for such opening ceremonies.

Shri Mahtab: The hon. Member may have some bias against this or that person or industry, but I have no bias against this or that person or industry.

Here is an industry which was started by the Raj Pramukh of PEPSU, the Maharaja of Patiala. He personally invited me to attend that function. He convinced me that he had put in all his capital in that industry and there was nothing immoral about that industry. I do not see any reason why I should not have agreed to open that industry. I see nothing wrong in it.

Shri Kamath: The cat is now out of the bag; I am satisfied.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Where is the bag?

Shri Kamath: It is a big bag.

Shri Mahtab: The bag is on the side of the hon. Member attached to the desk.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall proceed with those amendments which relate to the discussion of today and reserve the other amendments regarding food situation for tomorrow. I shall now put one amendment after another to the vote of the House.

The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret the decision of the Government to postpone the elections."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is: That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that sufficient appreciation has not been shown of the progressive failure of the policy of partial controls over the production, supply, and distribution of the essentials of life, including foodstuffs, and clothing, and the consequent growth of corruption in innumerable forms and increasing degree in the administration of the country."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the absence of any mention in the address of any steps intended to be taken by Government for implementing the provisions of several articles in the Constitution, under the Chapter of 'Directive Principles of State Policy', designed to improve the standard of living of the people, and to secure to them a full measure of social justice and human equality."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that on the question of compensation to the refugees from the West Pakistan for the loss of their properties the policy of the Government and the utterances of the responsible Ministers thereof have shown a lack of consistency resulting in disappointment and the consequent inability of the persons to rehabilitate themselves."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the measures so far adopted for the rehabilitation of refugees have been very inadequate, half-hearted and halting resulting in continued miseries and hardships to the millions of unfortunate migrants from the East and West Pakistan."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that very little effort has been made during the year to obliterate the foreign possessions from the map of India."

The motion was negatived.

Pandit Kunzru: May I know whether any person on behalf of Government has replied to the debate?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Prime Minister spoke; the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply has also spoken.

Pandit Kunzru: The Prime Minister said nothing about the debate. He only said that we cannot expect the President's address to cover all the subjects. What the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply said was not by way of reply, but by way of an explanation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it open to any hon. Member to insist that the hon. Ministers must go on answering every point that has been raised? On whatever has not been replied to, it is open to hon. Members to draw any conclusion they like.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that no mention has been made in the address of any intention to give effect to the special provisions relating to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes according to Part XVI of the Constitution."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker. The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that the Government have not taken any steps to withdraw the various sections of the Criminal Procedure Code and all other Acts, which severely curtail the civil liberties of the people of India, and which militate against free and full education of the electorate, preliminary to the holding of free and fair general elections."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but regret that, despite the admission that 'the world, hungering for peace, appears to stand perilously on the verge of war,' the address has failed to deal with the immediate problem of securing the peace and integrity of the country against internal and external dangers, and has failed to rouse the national consciousness to the urgency of the situation."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then there is amendment No. 78 in the name of Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man.

Sardar B. S. Man: I beg leave to withdraw my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

That at the end of the motion the following be added:

"but represents that in the changed circumstances of Asia our defence forces should be strengthened so as to be adequate to secure the safety and freedom of the people of India."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House now stands adjourned to 10-45 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 16th November, 1950.