



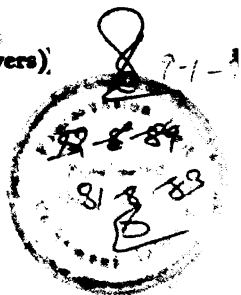
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# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME VI, 1951



(5th February to 31st March, 1951)

Third Session (Second Part)

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1951

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

2699

2709

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**

*Saturday, 31st March, 1951*

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

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

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**Shri Kamath:** Before we proceed with the questions, Sir, may I request that if the House is agreeable, Starred Question No. 2639 in today's list, about the ashes of Netaji Subhas Bose reported to be lying in a Japanese temple, might be given a little higher priority so that an oral answer may be given to that, not immediately, but a little later during the question-hour?

**Shri Sidhva:** I have no objection, but if this is a precedent then. . . .

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This won't be a precedent I am sure, but let us wait and see if we reach the Question in the ordinary course. If we don't reach it a short time before the question-hour is over, we will reconsider this matter.

**CONFERENCE OF COMMERCIAL COUNSELLORS**

\*2615. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the commercial counsellors and advisers of Indian embassies in Western Europe recently met in a conference in London?

(b) If so, what were the chief points under their consideration?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) Yes, Sir. The conference, however, was purely informal.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 4.]

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**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know to how many of our Embassies in Europe are Commercial Counsellors and Advisers attached, and how many of them were present in the conference?

**Shri Mahtab:** As many as ten representatives were present. All the following were present:

Commercial Adviser to the High Commissioner for India in London.

India Government Trade Commissioner, London.

Commercial Counsellor, Indian Embassy, Rome.

First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Prague.

Commercial Secretary, Indian Embassy, Paris.

Economic Adviser, Indian Military Mission, Berlin.

Commercial Secretary, Legation of India, Berne.

Commercial Second Secretary, Indian Embassy, Brussels.

Assistant Trade Commissioner London.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Is it a fact that some of these Commercial Advisers and Counsellors are highly critical of Government sending big officials from here for a short time for making purchases?

**Shri Mahtab:** I could not follow the question.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He wants to know if these Commercial Advisers have protested against high officials being sent for purchasing, over their heads.

**Shri Mahtab:** It was an informal conference and they discussed various questions.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is this one of them?

**Shri Mahtab:** I don't think so. They did not mention anything about this question.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** May I know whether these Commercial Counsellors are appointed in addition to the Trade Commissioner in the same Embassy? For example, in the High Commissioner's Office in London have we got a Commercial Counsellor apart from a Trade Commissioner?

**Shri Mahtab:** There are Trade Attaches attached in addition to these Trade Commissioners.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is there a Commercial Counsellor in addition to a Trade Commissioner?

**Shri Mahtab:** I cannot say the exact position in all these cases. In some cases there are more than one officer, in some places there is only one officer, and in some others there is one officer for more than one place.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** May I know whether in the Indian High Commissioner's office in London we are going to appoint another Commercial Counsellor in addition to what we are having today?

**Shri Mahtab:** That question does not arise with respect to this question which relates to the conference.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** What are the functions of the Commercial Counsellors?

**Shri Mahtab:** I would have to collect that information. This question is about a particular conference.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the number of officials sent abroad right now for making purchases over the heads of those Counsellors and Advisers of Supply Missions?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Even that does not arise out of this question.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know whether they were specially appointed for this conference or they are permanent Commercial Counsellors?

**Shri Mahtab:** They are permanent officials. They met informally to discuss certain things.

**Shri Sidhva:** In reply to a question earlier the hon. Minister said he had no information whether the Commercial Counsellors were in addition to Trade Commissioners. Would he give the information later on?

**Shri Mahtab:** I said they were not appointed specially for attending this

conference. They were officers permanently posted there. They collected together for the conference.

**Shri Sidhva:** No, no. That is not my point.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He wanted a list of Trade Commissioners who were appointed.

**Shri Mahtab:** But that is not a matter which arises out of this question which relates to a conference.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether they considered the question of a single agency for all the European countries for advice in respect of trade matters?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We are straying far away from the question. This question relates only to a conference of Commercial Counsellors.

#### INTERVIEWS BY CHIEF CONTROLLER OF IMPORTS

**\*2616. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether any restrictions have been laid down on the grant of interviews to members of the public by the Chief Controller of Imports?

(b) If so, when were those restrictions imposed?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) No, Sir, but there are certain regulations governing their interviews which are set out in this Ministry Public Notice No. 147-ITC(PN)/50, dated the 24th November, 1950, a copy of which is placed on the Table. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 5.]

(b) Does not arise in view of the answer given to (a) above.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What was the reason for imposing restrictions on the grant of interviews before the 28th November, 1950?

**Shri Mahtab:** The reason was that there were a large number of interviewers, and that has to be regulated.

#### EXPORTS

**\*2617. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the approximate values of our export trade for the months of September and October, 1950, separately?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

## STATEMENT

Values of our export trade for the months of September and October, 1950.

## I. By sea and air

Exports Rs. in Lakhs	Re-exports Rs. in Lakhs
September, 1950 45,14	1,79
October, 1950 54,80	3,39

II. By land	
September, 1950 3,13	
October, 1950 1,72	..

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the value of the increase in our export trade over the corresponding period of 1948-49?

**Shri Mahtab:** Those figures have been published, but they are not with me now.

**Shri Lakshmanan:** May I know whether there is a policy of giving rebate on import duty on articles that are used for some industry the manufactured product of which is exported, and, if so, to what extent has this policy stepped up our export?

**Shri Mahtab:** If the hon. Member puts a specific question I shall collect the information.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** How does that question about policy arise out of this question which deals only with the value of imports and exports?

## MANUFACTURE OF CARS AND RADIO BATTERIES

\*2618. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of factories manufacturing cars and radio batteries in the Indian Union;

(b) their total productive capacity and the number of batteries manufactured by these factories during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950;

(c) the number and value of cars and radio batteries imported into India during the aforesaid three years; and

(d) how the Indian-made batteries compare with the foreign batteries in respect of their quality and price?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) There are twelve factories manufacturing the accumulator type of batteries which are

used both in motor vehicles and radio sets.

(b) Total productive capacity is 297,000 per annum. Actual production in numbers during the last 3 years was as follows:

1948	1949	1950
110,000	107,065	187,123

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Favourably.

## STATEMENT

Import figures in numbers are not available separately for car and radio batteries. The value of imported batteries other than flash light batteries for the financial years 1948-50 and up to November, 1950 was :

1948-49 Rs. 14,06,297

1949-50 .. Rs. 35,86,293

April to November, 1950 Rs. 12,72,431.

**Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** May I know why these factories are not able to produce to their maximum productive capacity?

**Shri Mahtab:** I admit that the point has not been investigated, but we are taking steps to investigate these points not only with regard to this industry but with regard to other industries also.

**Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** May I know by what time India is likely to be self-sufficient in the production of these batteries?

**Shri Mahtab:** As the hon. Member knows, by the time our factories produce to installed capacity the major problem will be solved. But apart from that the import of batteries at present is restricted to types not manufactured in the country. At present we are importing only those types which are not manufactured here. As soon as local manufacture comes up to the country's requirements there will be no further imports.

**Dr. Parmar:** How many motor parts are manufactured in the country and how many are imported?

**Shri Mahtab:** This question is with regard to batteries.

**Dr. Parmar:** The question relates to cars as well.

**Shri Mahtab:** It relates to car batteries and radio batteries.

**Shri Chaliha:** May I know the reason for low production? Is it due to want of machinery?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is under investigation. What is the good of asking that question? He says not only with respect to this industry but with respect to other industries also he is making investigations.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** May I know whether these factories referred to in the question merely assemble different parts or they also manufacture the parts of car and radio batteries?

**Shri Mahtab:** Some of them are assembling factories, some of them are manufacturing factories.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** May I know whether locally made batteries cannot compete with imported batteries?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** They are able to stand on their legs.

#### SPORTS GOODS

\*2619. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount of sports goods exported from India in the years 1948 to 1950 to (i) hard currency areas; and (ii) soft currency areas?

(b) Are those goods standardised and graded before export?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

#### STATEMENT

*Value of sports goods exported from India in the years 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 to Hard currency areas (including dollar areas) and Soft currency areas.*

	1947-48	1948-49	1949-50
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Hard currency areas (including dollar areas)	2,93,639	20,885	34,053
Soft currency areas (including sterling areas)	6,20,523	2,58,837	4,52,123
*Pakistan	..	3,805	551

\*This falls in soft currency areas.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether export of sports goods falls short of the demand in hard currency areas?

**Shri Mahtab:** It may be so. At present the production in India is to the extent of about Rs. 10 million worth of sports goods. Of this, about five per cent. is exported. As soon as production here rises, we shall be in a position to export more.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether any arrangements have been made for standardisation of sports goods and whether any Sectional Committee has been appointed for this purpose?

**Shri Mahtab:** It appears that the hon. Member knows that the Indian Standards Institute has appointed a Sectional Committee to go into this question.

#### TRADE AGREEMENT re SHIPPING

\*2620. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether in our trade agreement with countries like Poland, Finland and Egypt any clause about shipping (compulsory use of ships belonging to a particular country to be used in the trade) has been included;

(b) what are the countries which have insisted that a certain percentage of their trade with India must be carried by ships belonging to them; and

(c) whether in our trade agreement containing any such condition in favour of a foreign country's shipping, similar conditions in favour of Indian shipping have also been included?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) and (c). There is no clause in any of our trade agreements providing for the compulsory use of ships belonging to any particular country. Suitable provisions have, however, been inserted in a number of trade agreements to ensure that India as well as the countries concerned will provide all facilities that they can reasonably accord to secure that the ships of the contracting parties carry as large a proportion as possible of goods exported from or imported into India under the terms of the agreements.

(b) None.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Is it not a fact that in the year 1949 the whole of our gunny export to Egypt and most of our cotton import from Egypt had to be compulsorily carried in Egyptian ships?



**Shri Mahtab:** There is no compulsion anywhere in the trade agreement. There might have been compulsion of circumstances.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know whether Government considers it necessary that for the welfare of Indian shipping part of India's export and import trade should be reserved for Indian ships?

**Shri Mahtab:** As I have said, we have been taking care to insert in some of our trade agreements a clause in the interests of Indian ships. For instance, I shall read out the provision in agreement with Australia.

"Government of India will appreciate it if the Government of Australia will provide all facilities that they can reasonably accord to enable Indian ships to carry as large a proportion as possible of the goods that enter into trade between India and Australia."

**Dr. M. M. Das:** So far as the coastal trade is concerned, any portion reserved for Indian ships?

**Shri Mahtab:** That is a different question. It is also not my subject. It belongs to another Ministry.

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** During the last few weeks, I have answered this question at least three or four times.

**Shri Veerabahu:** May I know in view of the changed conditions and the difficulty in securing shipping space if it is not desirable that no such clause is included in the agreements with the other countries?

**Shri Mahtab:** It is a counter suggestion. We took into consideration all the aspects and we thought that this was in the best interests of the country.

#### SUBSIDISED SCHEME

\*2621. **Dr. M. M. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the raw materials and what quantities thereof have been imported into India during the year 1950-51 under Subsidised Scheme of Government?

(b) What is the total value of the subsidy thus given?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) Under the Subsidy Scheme, 66,000 bales of cotton and 38,000 tons of steel were imported during 1950-51.

(b) The amount of subsidy paid on cotton and steel is Rs. 115.23 lakhs and Rs. 21.4 lakhs respectively.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know whether Government is going to contribute to the scheme of subsidised imports this year also?

**Shri Mahtab:** That has not yet been decided.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** What are the factors that are taken into consideration in determining whether the subsidised scheme of imports should be adopted in respect of some particular raw materials?

**Shri Mahtab:** With regard to cotton, when it was found last year that prices of foreign cotton were rising steeply, it was thought in the interests of the handloom weaver that 66,000 bales of cotton should be purchased exclusively for the manufacture of yarn for the handloom industry. The steel scheme is a permanent scheme. As the House knows, there is a fund known as the Equalisation Fund. It is a self-adjusting fund. Whatever is the difference between the landed cost and the control price is met from that fund. This will continue as it is till the foreign price is equal to the control price here.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Is there any means adopted by Government to realise the whole or part of this subsidy?

**Shri Mahtab:** The subsidy in respect of cotton is a gift. It is taken out of the general revenues. The steel subsidy, as I said, is a self-adjusting scheme. It is not met from general revenues, but it is met from the Equalisation Fund which has been created for the purpose.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Am I to understand that this fund is collected by increased prices of steel manufactured in our country?

**Shri Mahtab:** The Equalisation Fund is created out of the mean between the foreign prices and the local controlled prices and it is really intended to bridge the gap between the foreign price and the control price here.

**Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** May I know what amount was given as subsidy per bale of cotton over and above the local price?

**Shri Mahtab:** The subsidy was not given over and above the local prices. The rate of subsidy on cotton ranges from Rs. 225 to Rs. 237-8-0 per bale of 400 lbs. Subsidy paid during 1950-51 amounts to Rs. 1,75,23,441-7-0.

**MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES)**

\*2623. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the amount spent on account of travelling allowances in India and outside India separately for (i) the hon. Minister (ii) the Public Servants of his Ministry; and (iii) the non-official public travelling on the business of, or connected with the work of the Ministry, in the years 1946-47, 1947-48 (Post-partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar):** A statement containing information in respect of items (i) and (ii) of the question is laid on the Table. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 6.]

Information in regard to item (iii) is not available since such expenditure is not booked separately in the accounts but forms part of the total expenditure on delegations of which the non-officials are members.

Any attempt to give separate figures for journeys in or outside India would involve a scrutiny of each individual travelling allowance bill and the result will not be commensurate with the time and labour involved.

As the Ministry of External Affairs came into existence only after India had attained her Independence, no figures can be given for the year 1946-47.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** The figures given in the statement indicate that there is a tendency for the expenditure to increase—at least under parts (i) and (ii). May I know whether the attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to this and whether any steps are being taken to reduce the travelling allowances and halting allowances paid to officials as well as representatives of the public travelling on the business of the Ministry?

**Dr. Keskar:** Does the hon. Member refer to travelling and daily allowances abroad or in India?

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** Both in India and abroad.

**Dr. Keskar:** The travelling allowances in India are governed by general rules with regard to which the External Affairs Ministry has no hand.

With regard to travelling allowances outside India it is governed very much by the prices prevailing in that country. Prices have gone up very much in every country, especially after the war, with the result that Government is obliged to revise the

travelling and daily allowances in every country from time to time.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** Is it a fact, Sir, that a part, if not the whole, of the travelling allowances of our Delegations in connection with the United Nations Organisations is borne by those Organisations?

**Dr. Keskar:** That is correct, in the sense that for the General Assembly of the United Nations the cost of journey from India and to India is paid by the United Nations Organisation; also, the journey from and to India of certain members of the permanent commissions of the United Nations of which India is a Member are also paid by the United Nations Organisation.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** In that case, how does the increase in prices in foreign countries affect the portion that we have to pay, apart from these?

**Dr. Keskar:** The daily allowances will naturally be governed by the price index and the general prices prevailing in any country. I think it has nothing to do with the journey to and from.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** In that case do I understand that the daily allowance varies with the varying price index in each country?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Are we not entering into a very detailed argument?

**Dr. Keskar:** My hon. friend has tried to exaggerate my answer. What I said was that our Government, or any other Government, is obliged from time to time—and not every time a delegation goes—to change the daily allowance wherever necessary, when the prices in that particular country have risen or fallen. But that does not mean that every time a delegation is sent, or somebody is sent out, he should get the daily allowance which is different from the previous one.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** May I know when a Minister is travelling in India, whether, apart from the travelling allowance, he draws daily allowance too?

**Dr. Keskar:** Ministers' travelling and daily allowances are governed by definite rules which are available to hon. Members.

**SURPLUS STORES AND EQUIPMENT**

\*2624. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to lay on the Table

of the House a statement showing the total value of:

(i) the Stores and Equipment found to be useless, unserviceable, lost, or declared "Surplus" to requirements, in 1947-48 (Post-partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50;

(ii) the realisations out of Stores declared to be "surplus", damaged or otherwise unserviceable, and so put up for disposal and disposed of, to other Ministries of the Government of India, other State Governments, or to the public; and

(iii) the stores lost, or otherwise found unavailable on stock taking, or any other similar check, in 1947-48 (Post-partition), 1948-49 and 1949-50?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain):** The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when ready.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** Notice of this question had been given several weeks ago and I would like to know when we may expect the information to be collected and made available to us.

**Shri Buragohain:** The question covered a very wide range. At one time the hon. Speaker thought that the labour involved would not be justified and the question was accordingly disallowed. But on reconsideration the question has been admitted and we were informed only on the 26th of this month. The question relates to all the departments and all the Ministries and attached offices under them. It will naturally take some time before the information could be collected.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** This is a serious matter, Sir. Is it the Speaker who got the impression that it involved too much time or was it the Ministry who informed the Speaker that it would take too much time to be allowed for answer? This raises a very important question. I have met with this sort of answer before. But on enquiry it was found that it was the Ministry which had suggested this and therefore the Speaker was only a mouthpiece of the Ministry. I should like to know whether this is a way of avoiding an answer, or whether it is a genuine difficulty.

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** On a point of order, Sir. Is any hon. Member entitled to say that the Speaker is the mouthpiece of the Ministry?

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** I only wanted to enquire whether it was the Speaker on his own authority who thinks that

the time involved would be too much, or whether it was the Ministry who led the Speaker to think so.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** In any case, it is rather unfortunate that the hon. Member who is a good parliamentarian to have said that the Speaker is a mouthpiece of the Ministry. I do not think he means it, as he has said just now.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** I never intended that: if I have been misunderstood I should like to correct myself. I only wanted to know whether the Ministry conveyed to the Speaker that it will take too much time or...

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All that the hon. Member wanted to know was whether the initiative came from the Speaker or from the Ministry. Is not this Ministry maintaining a register of unserviceable articles at the end of each year—apart from collecting them today? This refers to unserviceable, useless or declared surplus to requirements articles in 1947-48. It is not as if they have to be collected today. Are they not making any check year after year? Is there no register maintained of those articles which have been declared to be useless? That information must be readily available with the Ministry.

**Shri Buragohain:** May I explain the position, Sir. When this question came, it was felt that it covered all the Ministries and the attached offices of those Ministries. It was not specifically mentioned that it only related to this Ministry. Although a reference was made, as suggested by my hon. friend, to the Parliament Secretariat, certain steps were taken to collect the information. But they are not complete. Apart from the Disposals, the question covered departments like Printing and Stationery, Central P.W.D., etc. So, the figures had to be collected from these departments also. Certain materials were collected, but in the meanwhile the Parliament Secretariat informed us that the question has been disallowed. We have been informed again that the question has been admitted and steps are being taken to collect further information.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Far from any question being allowed or disallowed, is it for the House to understand that this Ministry does not maintain a register showing the articles surplus to requirements, etc.? Evidently the Ministry has not got that information at all.

**Shri Buragohain:** They are to be collected from the various attached offices.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is it not done in the regular course of business of administration year after year?

**Shri Sidhva:** That was exactly what I wanted to know. Do not the Departments keep a regular register of useless, unserviceable, or damaged articles. As the House knows Sir, in the Khareghat report, it is stated that for want of a proper stock register lakhs and lakhs of rupees worth articles have been lost. I want to know whether the Departments of Works, Production and Supply maintain such a stock register.

**Shri Buragohain:** I have already stated that information is being collected.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** His question is simple—as to whether stock books are maintained by the Departments of the Ministry.

**Shri Buragohain:** I believe stock books are maintained.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I expect hon. Ministers to lay all the information before the House. It is not a matter for wrangling or debate. The question is simple. The Minister in charge must be able to answer whether a stock book is maintained or not. I hope that hereafter care will be taken to see that sufficient information is made available to the House.

**Prof. K. T. Shah:** Sir, may I request you to request the hon. Minister to expedite the information?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sure he will do so.

**Shri Buragohain:** Yes, Sir.

#### DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL

\*2625. **Shri A. C. Guha:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether any Hindu displaced persons are still coming from East Bengal to the Indian Union?

(b) If so, what was the number of such displaced persons every week during the month of November and December, 1950 and January, 1951?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar):** (a) and (b). It has not been possible to maintain statistics separately of Hindu migrants coming from East Bengal to the Indian Union. Figures have, however, been maintained of all Hindu passengers, including migrants, ordinary passengers and others, coming from East Bengal to the Indian Union, mostly by train. A statement showing the number of Hindus who came

to the Indian Union from East Bengal every week during the months November, 1950 to January, 1951, is laid on the Table.

#### STATEMENT

The number of Hindus who came from East Bengal to the Indian Union during the months of November and December, 1950, and January, 1951, week by week.

For the week ending	Number
4th November, 1950	51,041
11th November, 1950	45,428
18th November, 1950	41,931
25th November, 1950	51,897
2nd December, 1950	45,679
9th December, 1950	45,931
16th December, 1950	48,483
23rd December, 1950	46,342
30th December, 1950	46,891
6th January, 1951	42,876
13th January, 1951	35,447
20th January, 1951	35,522
27th January, 1951	42,250
Total	5,79,718

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know if the Government have got any report of some Hindus still coming as refugees from East Bengal?

**Dr. Keskar:** There are some Hindus coming as refugees but, as I said, it will not be possible to give the exact percentage. I may inform my hon. friend that from time to time experimental checks are made to find out the percentage of refugees. But as these percentages differ very considerably from day to day it will be very difficult to find out an average. Sometimes it might go up to 25 or 30 per cent., sometimes it is only 6 or 8 per cent.—I mean from what answers are given by the passengers themselves.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I infer that even now there is almost a continuous flow of refugees coming from East Bengal?

**Dr. Keskar:** Well, Sir, a number of refugees are even now coming. There is no doubt about it. Whether it is a big flow or not I cannot say.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : اس  
 عرصے میں کوئی ہندو اپنے گھروں کو  
 واپس بھی گئے ہیں؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Have some Hindus also returned to their homes during this period?]

डा० केशकर : जी! हाँ गये हैं। ६८०८९२

ईस्ट बंगाल वापस गये, नवम्बर से लेकर  
जनवरी तक ५१ तक।

[Dr. Keskar: Yes, some have returned. 6,80,892 Hindus returned to their homes during the period November, 1950 to January, 1951.]

گھائی جی - ایس - مسافر : کیا

انکے واپس جانے کی وجہ یہ ہے کہ

یہاں پر ان کا انتظام نہیں ہو سکا یا

کہ وہاں پر حالات اچھے ہو گئے ہیں؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Have they returned because arrangements could not be made for them here or because conditions have improved there?]

डा० केशकर : सरकार ने जो कोशिश

की थी कि जो लोग वहाँ से चले आये हैं

वह वापस चले जायें, यह उसका नतीजा

है कि वह वापस गये हैं।

[Dr. Keskar: It was the endeavour of the Government that those who had come from there should go back and it is the result of that that they have returned.]

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Was not this matter debated the whole of yesterday? I will proceed to the next question.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Sir, will you allow me to put one question?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No. The whole day was spent on this yesterday.

#### IMPORT AND EXPORT FROM AND TO BURMA

\*2626. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the commodities that India generally imported from and exported to Burma?

(b) What is the balance of trade at present?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) The main commodities imported from Burma are foodgrains, mineral oils and teak-wood and those exported to Burma are cotton manufactures, jute manufactures, tobacco (raw and manufactured), oils, iron or steel and coal.

(b) For the 9 months ending December, 1950 we had a favourable balance of trade to the extent of Rs. 5,70,67,000.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know whether Burma has begun exporting rice to other countries, the rice that used to come to India?

**Shri Mahtab:** That I do not know. But so far as newspaper reports go I understand that they are exporting rice and other things to other countries.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know the balance of trade between Burma and India in 1949 and what amount of foodgrains were imported in 1949?

**Shri Mahtab:** In 1947-48 the total value of trade was of the order of Rs. 24 crores. In 1948-49 it rose to Rs. 30 crores. But in 1949-50 it has dropped by Rs. 3 crores, that is, to about Rs. 27 crores. But I have not got the details of the imports and exports.

**Shri Chaliba:** Is it a fact that from the Shan States they are willing to export rice to Assam by the Stillwell Road and, if so, what is the quantity?

**Shri Mahtab:** These points will be discussed by the Trade Delegation which is now going to Burma and when we enter into a trade agreement all these points will be discussed.

**Shri Chaliba:** May I know whether it has been agreed with the Indian Tea Association in Assam to export 2,500 tons of rice from the Shan States via the Stillwell Road?

**Shri Mahtab:** So far as my information goes, no particular agreement has yet been arrived at.

**Shri Bharati:** I understand that a Trade Delegation is shortly to be sent to Burma. If so, may I know what are its terms of reference? Is it to deal with the import and export of these commodities from Burma?

**Shri Mahtab:** The main term of reference is to continue the pattern of trade as it was and as it has been existing for the last several years. That is to say, our import and export trade will be of the same pattern as it has been for the last so many years.

**Shri Bharati:** The hon. Minister has said that rice, foodgrains, timber and other things are to be imported. Can he give us a break-up of the value of the commodities of import and export for the present year?

**Shri Mahtab:** If the hon. Member wants to know the break-up of the figures for this year I can supply him later on. The details are not here with.

me. So far as the trade agreement goes our intention is of the nature that I have already suggested.

**Shri Bharati:** Does Government propose to have a long-term arrangement in regard to trade with Burma?

**Shri Mahtab:** That will depend on the agreement of both parties. My own desire is that it should be a long-term arrangement.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Are there decreases in regard to import from Burma or entire trade with Burma due to disturbances in Burma or to any other reason?

**Shri Mahtab:** It is due to unsettled conditions in Burma as they are existing today, and mainly in the matter of import of rice and teak-wood there are considerable difficulties.

**Shri Bharati:** When is the Trade Delegation going?

**Shri Mahtab:** I think in a week or two.

**Shri Bharati:** May I know the personnel of the delegation?

**Shri Mahtab:** The names have not been decided upon yet.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** Is it a fact that because of the 45 per cent. revenue duty Indian manufacturers of engineering goods are not able to export these goods to Burma and to the South East Asian countries where there is a lot of demand for these engineering goods?

**Shri Mahtab:** So far as exports to Burma are concerned, Burma is not a good market for engineering products.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** What about the other countries?

**Shri Mahtab:** We are now discussing our trade with Burma, and that is the position with regard to Burma.

**Dr. V. Subramaniam:** May I know whether the delegation that is going to be sent will be an official delegation or a non-official delegation?

**Shri Mahtab:** In addition to the officials we are thinking of adding a few non-officials.

**Dr. V. Subramaniam:** In regard to imports from Burma, are any steps being taken to import more timber in view of the shortage of teak-wood timber in this country?

**Shri Mahtab:** There is a question on the import of Burma teak coming later on.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Anyhow it may be answered. We may or may not reach it. All right, next question.

#### TRADE AGREEMENT WITH HUNGARY

\*2627. **Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what articles do we get from Hungary under the trade agreement with that country?

(b) What articles of our produce do they require in exchange?

(c) What are the terms of the agreement entered with Hungary?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) to (c). The attention of the hon. Member is invited to Starred Question No. 1340 asked by Shri Sivaprakasam on the 9th February, 1951 and reply thereto.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If it is a short answer, the hon. Minister may read it.

**Shri Mahtab:** "(a) to (c). Trade letters were exchanged between the Governments of India and Hungary on the 20th January, 1951. In these letters provision has been made to the effect that applications for licences for import of goods from Hungary into India would be treated as favourably as applications for import from any other country of the soft currency group in accordance with the licensing procedure in force from time to time, saving any exceptional commitments in any particular trade agreement. As regards imports into and exports from Hungary, that country has agreed to treat India as a trade agreement country for reasonable quantities of the commodities mentioned in the Schedules attached to the letters. No quantities have been specified in the Schedules. A copy of the letters and the Schedules referred to has been placed in the Library of the House."

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** May I know if there is any agreement in respect of shipping for carrying on this trade and if so, what ships are carrying them?

**Shri Mahtab:** There was some discussion as regards shipping with Hungary. This is the summary of the conclusion of that discussion. The Hungarian representative stated that the utilization of Indian shipping as far as possible to carry cargo in respect of Hungary's foreign trade with India and other countries in the East and Far East will be considered sympathetically.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.  
SCHEDULED CASTE FARMERS IN PAKISTAN

\*2628. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Scheduled Caste farmers

who want to come to India are being detained by Pakistan; and

(b) what steps are taken by Government to repatriate them?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar):** (a) and (b). There is no ban on the migration of Scheduled Caste farmers from Pakistan to India, though there are certain difficulties and impediments, such as a ban on the movement of cattle from Pakistan to India.

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** क्या यह सच है कि जो हरिजन किसान पाकिस्तान रह गये हैं उन को अब भी इस्लाम धर्म ग्रहण करने के लिए मजबूर किया जाता है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is it a fact that the Scheduled Caste farmers left behind in Pakistan are still being forced to embrace Islam?]

**Dr. Keskar:** I would like to know whether the question the hon. Member is putting is with regard to the whole of Pakistan or certain parts of Pakistan, because I am not able to give a general reply.

**Shri Balmiki:** Sind and Baluchistan in West Pakistan.

**Dr. Keskar:** There have been some complaints with regard to the treatment of Scheduled Castes in certain parts of West Pakistan, but we have not been able to get them verified.

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** क्या यह सच है कि सन् ४८ से पाकिस्तान गवर्नमेंट से जो लिखा पढ़ी हुई है उस का कोई नतीजा नहीं निकला ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is it a fact that no result has come out of the correspondence that took place with Pakistan since 1948?]

**Dr. Keskar:** Sir, it is true that with regard to evacuation of Scheduled Castes from West Pakistan to India, there has been correspondence going on with the Pakistan Government and we have not been able to get across to India successfully the major bulk of Scheduled Castes, who are there. The situation is different with certain parts. I might inform the House that the greatest difficulty that we have had is from Pakistan-Punjab province, where our information is that quite a large percentage of the Scheduled Castes people would like to come away, but they are impeded from coming to

India by various means, though officially there is no ban in their coming back to India.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know whether on the border of Sind and Cutch there are nearly 1,50,000 Harijan farmers and others who want to go to Cutch even by foot but are not allowed because they possess certain animals? If so, what steps have Government taken in this direction even though representations have been made since 1949?

**Dr. Keskar:** It is true that a large number of Scheduled Caste farmers in Sind would like to come away to India, and they are mainly not able to come because the Pakistan Government does not allow cattle to move away to India and the farmers cannot come without their cattle. There has been some correspondence going on, but we have not been able yet to get the agreement of the Government of Pakistan for allowing cattle to be brought to India.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** May I know what is the number of Scheduled Castes now remaining in Western Pakistan? Has the hon. Minister any idea?

**Dr. Keskar:** I would require notice of the question because a number of them have come this side, though the number is not considerable. It is quite possible that quite a number of people have moved in West Pakistan itself from one part to another. Even then, I am not so sure that we will be able to get reliable figures now.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know whether in a future conference that may take place between India and Pakistan in this respect, will they take up this question and expedite it?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is a suggestion.

**Shri Sidhva:** I want to know, Sir, whether this subject will be taken up.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is said it is on the agenda.

**Dr. Keskar:** It is being continuously taken up and these questions are always discussed at all the conferences.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What are the impediments that are being placed in the way of these people coming to India—I mean the Scheduled Caste farmers?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The impediment is the cattle.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Are there any more impediments other than cattle?

**Dr. Keskar:** The impediments are many. As I said, officially there is no ban. I am talking of Punjab-Pakistan. Our information is that the local villagers and the local officials put every sort of impediment so that they will not leave their villages. It is not possible for me to give in detail what are the impediments, but the result is that they are afraid to go away from that particular area; they feel that their lives or their property might be in danger.

**Dr. M. V. Gangadhara Siva:** May I know whether our High Commissioner in Pakistan is in contact with the Harijans there? If so, what is the information that he has in his possession?

**Dr. Keskar:** The information that I have just given is due to the contact that our High Commissioner has had with certain Scheduled Caste people. In spite of the ban, it does happen that some Scheduled Caste people trickle to the headquarters in Lahore and that is how we come to know of the situation prevailing in the districts.

#### CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

\*2629. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the number of co-operative societies State-wise formed in the years 1949-50 and 1950-51 up to date among Harijan displaced persons; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to inculcate the habit of co-operation among Harijan displaced persons?

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

(a) 1949-50	...	17
1950-51	...	4

State-wise statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Loans are given to Co-operative Societies in preference to individuals. Social Workers and officials preach the virtues of co-operation and help in the organization of co-operative societies.

#### STATEMENT

Number of co-operative societies formed in 1949-50 and 1950-51 among Harijan displaced persons.

State	No. of Co-operative Societies formed during	
	1949-50	1950-51
Delhi	3	1
West Bengal	..	1
Bombay	2	2
Punjab	12	..
Total :	17	4

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** इन कोऑपरेटिव सोसायटियों में गवर्नमेंट का कितना रुपया लगा हुआ है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** What amount of money have Government given to these co-operative societies?]

**श्री ए० पी० जैन :** इन की संख्या २१ है और कर्जा भी दिया गया है लेकिन मैं नहीं कह सकता कि कुल कितना रुपया इन्वाल्व है ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Their number is 21 and loans have also been given to them. But I cannot give out the total amount of money involved therein.]

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** क्या इन कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज को गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से कुछ कर्जा दिया गया है ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Have some loans been given to these co-operative societies by the Government?]

**श्री ए० पी० जैन :** जी हां, दिया गया है

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** Yes Sir, loans have been given.]

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में जो कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीज बनाई गई है वह कर्जों और गवर्नमेंट की दूसरी सहायता के बगैर दम तोड़ रही हैं ?

[**Shri Balmiki:** Is it a fact that the co-operative societies formed in Delhi are breaking up due to non-availability of loans and other facilities from the Government?]

**श्री ए० पी० जैन :** मुझे तो ऐसी कोई इत्तला नहीं है, लेकिन अगर ऐसी कोई बात है और उस की इत्तला मुझे को दी जायेगी तो मैं उस को देखूंगा ।

[**Shri A. P. Jain:** I have no such information but if that is so and I am informed of the facts I shall look to it.]

**श्री द्विवेदी :** क्या दिल्ली के अलावा पाटं सी० स्टेट्स में डिस्प्लेस्ड पर्सन्स के लिए कोई कोऑपरेटिव सोसाइटीयां बनाई



गई हैं और उन के लिए गवर्नमेंट ने क्या क्या किया है ?

[Shri Dwivedi: Have co-operative societies for displaced persons also been formed in Part C States beside Delhi and what the Government have done to help them?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : यह प्रश्न तो केवल हरिजन डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स से संबन्धित है। हरिजन डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स के लिए दिल्ली के सिवा सेंट्रल एडमिनिस्टर्ड एरिया में कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटियां नहीं बनाई गई हैं।

[Shri A. P. Jain: This question relates only to Harijan displaced persons. Co-operative societies for the Harijan displaced persons have not been formed in any Centrally Administered Areas except Delhi.]

Shri Jnani Ram: May I know how many of them are agricultural co-operative societies and how many multi-purpose societies?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has the hon. Minister got figures to show this?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have got the details, but it will take a little time to read them.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر :  
 ہر جتن تسہلیسڈ پرسنس کی کوآپریٹو  
 سوسائٹیز کو جو قرضہ دیا گیا ہے کیا  
 گورنمنٹ اس پر کچھ سود لیتی ہے -

[Giani G. S. Musafir: Do the Government charge any interest on the money given as loan to these co-operative societies meant for Harijan displaced persons?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : गवर्नमेंट जितना कर्जा देती है सब पर सूद लेती है। कर्ज के मानी यही हैं कि उस पर सूद लिया जाये।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Government charge interest on all the money they give out as loan. Indeed, giving of loans mean that interest should be charged thereon.]

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر :  
 سود لیا جاتا ہے ؟

[Giani G. S. Musafir: What is the rate of interest charged?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : आम तौर से केंद्रीय गवर्नमेंट ३ फ्री सदी या साढ़े तीन फ्री सदी सूद स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से लेती है, इस से ज्यादा नहीं।

[Shri A. P. Jain: Usually the Central Government charges 3 per cent. or 3½ per cent. rate of interest from the State Governments and not more than that.]

श्री बी० के० पी० सिन्हा : क्या हरिजनों और गैर हरिजनों के लिए अलग अलग सहयोग समितियां बनाई जाती हैं ?

[Shri B. K. P. Sinha: Are separate co-operative societies formed for Harijans and non-Harijans?]

श्री ए० पी० जैन : सहयोग समितियां तो इसी लिहाज से बनाई जाती हैं कि जो एक किस्म के आदमी हों और जिन का एक किस्म का काम हो और वह मिल जुल कर उस में काम करें। ऐसी दशा में यह अनिवार्य हो जाता है कि दोनों के लिए यह समितियां अलग अलग हों।

[Shri A. P. Jain: The co-operative societies are formed for the purpose of enabling similar types of people and those engaged in the same type of profession to work together. As such it becomes imperative that the co-operative societies for both should be separate.]

#### STATUS OF HIGH COMMISSIONERS

\*2630. Shri Rathnaswamy: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the intention of Government to raise the status of High Commissioners in various countries including Britain;

(b) if so, when Government are likely to take a decision on this question; and

(c) what is the present status enjoyed by the Indian High Commissioner, Britain as compared to the Indian Ambassadors in other foreign countries?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (c). There is no question of raising the status of High Commissioners, because their status is exactly the same as that of

Ambassadors and they enjoy the same privileges and immunities. Except for the designation, there is no difference between them.

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** Is it a fact that Sir Mirza Ismail recently appointed U.N. representative in Indonesia is enjoying the status of an Ambassador in a foreign country?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This question is not relevant to the main question.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What is the significance of the difference between these two designations?

**Dr. Keskar:** High Commissioner is the designation given to the representative of a Commonwealth country and Ambassador to the representative of a foreign country.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Is there any proposal to change the designation of High Commissioner to that of Ambassador?

**Dr. Keskar:** There is no such proposal.

**Shri Sidhva:** In the one but the last Commonwealth conference which took place at London the British delegate stated that they intended to change the designation of High Commissioner in Britain to that of Ambassador and our Prime Minister stated that in that event we shall also have to consider the question. What has happened to that proposal?

**Dr. Keskar:** I am not aware of any such definite proposal to change the designation of High Commissioner to Ambassador. But my hon. friend probably is referring to the status of the High Commissioner which was then still in question. Some of the Commonwealth countries on technical grounds were hesitating whether the High Commissioner should be given the same status as an Ambassador; but that has been settled now.

**Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** What does the rank of a "Minister in a foreign country" signify?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Oh, we are going away from the main question. We now go to the next question.

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** Sir, I have one more question on question No. 2630.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He may reserve it for some future occasion. Now we go to the next question.

#### SEMI-OFFICIAL DEPUTATION FROM WEST PAKISTAN

\*2631. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a semi-official deputation from West Pakistan is to visit Delhi to discuss measures to recover abducted women from both India and Pakistan; and

(b) what are the places which this Mission will visit in India?

**The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):**

(a) A non-official delegation, from West Pakistan, visited India during the second week of February, 1951 and discussed, with the authorities concerned, their proposals to expedite the recovery of abducted women and children both, in India and Pakistan.

(b) They visited Amritsar, Jullundur, Patiala, Ambala and Delhi.

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** May I know.....

**Shrimati Durgabai:** Sir, the answer was inaudible.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. Does the hon. Member desire that the answer should be read out again by the hon. Minister?

**Several Hon. Members:** Yes Sir.

**Shri Gopalaswami:** (a) A non-official delegation, from West Pakistan, visited India during the second week of February, 1951 and discussed, with the authorities concerned, their proposals to expedite the recovery of abducted women and children both, in India and Pakistan.

(b) They visited Amritsar, Jullundur, Patiala, Ambala and Delhi.

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** Has any approach been made to Government by non-officials in India to afford them the necessary facilities to reciprocate the same official visit from Pakistan?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** If the hon. Member refers to a suggestion made by the delegation for a corresponding delegation from India to Pakistan the answer is in the affirmative.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : اس  
کیپوٹیشن کے ممبروں کے نام کیا ہیں ؟

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** What are the names of the members of this deputation?]

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो सब जा  
कर चले गये ।

[**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** They have all gone back now.]

**Shri Rathnaswamy:** Can the hon. Minister please state the probable date when this deputation will visit Pakistan?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I don't think we have yet come to any decision on that matter.

گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر : میرے  
سوال کا جواب نہیں ملا - میں نے  
پوچھا تھا کہ انکے نام کیا تھے -

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** My question has not been answered. I had asked their names.]

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : जो लोग अये थे  
वह सब चले गये ।

[**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All those who had come have now gone back.]

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I can remember only the name of the leader of the delegation and that was Mr. Sadique Hussain.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** They remained a number of days here; probably the hon. Member was not in Delhi then.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** What were the actual measures suggested in order to expedite the work and will the same measures apply to the work in East Bengal also?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** The suggestions to expedite the recovery work, which were made by the delegation were these: first, that there should be an Indo-Pakistan conference of Ministers to reach quick and final decisions; second, that the date should be fixed for the surrender of the abducted persons after which criminal proceedings would be instituted against the abductor; thirdly, abducted women after recovery should be transferred immediately to camps in their own countries and not kept in transit camps in the country of recovery; fourthly, that police officers who do valuable work should be rewarded and then, that high officials of the States should try and influence public opinion by propaganda, over the radio, in the Press or otherwise, and lastly, the number of guides to be sent from one country to the other to help the recovery of persons should be increased. It was understood that the Pakistan Government's reactions should first be obtained to these suggestions and that we would receive a communication officially on this subject. So far we have not received it.

**Shri Kamath:** Sir, may I invite your attention to my Starred Question No.

2639 and also to the clock which shows it is already 11-40? \*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I thought in the ordinary course we would reach question No. 2639. But as it is, we have time only for one more question. If it is the wish of the House that we should take up that question now, I have no objection.

**Several Hon. Members:** Yes. We may take up that question.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If that is the general wish of the House as a special concession to-day which ought not to be quoted in future and having regard to the nature of the question I will allow that question to be taken up now.

**Shri Sivan Pillay:** But Sir, that will be against Rule 40 of our Rules of Procedure.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is open to the House always to give precedence to any question; and to that extent we have suspended the Standing Order. This is a very exceptional case.

ASHES OF NETAJI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE:

\*2639. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take steps to bring over to India the ashes of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, reported to be lying in a temple in Japan; and

(b) whether any communication to this effect has been received from Major-General J. K. Bhonsle, Chairman, Indian National Army Advisory Committee?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar):** (a) and (b). The Government of India have received a communication in this regard from Major-General J. K. Bhonsle and are in correspondence with him with a view to obtaining detailed information. The Government have also asked their Representative in Tokyo to verify this report and obtain fuller details.

**Shri Kamath:** Sir, have our representatives in Tokyo or elsewhere in South East Asia, in their periodical communications to Government conveyed reports circulating in those regions about Netaji being alive?

**Dr. Keskar:** Our representatives once or twice referred to rumours in various countries of South East Asia—but not circulating among the people. The reports were to the contrary—that the general belief is he is not alive.

**Shri Kamath:** Have Government obtained final and irrefutable confirmation of the death of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose?

**Dr. Keskar:** Government is not in a position to have any irrefutable proof of this.

**Shri Kamath:** Sir, what was the last source or communication from which Government obtained news or confirmation of Netaji's death?

**Dr. Keskar:** The question regarding the communication or source from which Government received confirmation or news of his death is one which I am not in a position to reply off-hand. I will have to go into dates and other things and certainly if the hon. Member would table another question I would.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But is not this question inconsistent with part (a) of the question? The scope of the question is very narrow and there is no use going beyond that; otherwise I would not have allowed this question getting preference over other questions. The question is quite simple, whether Government propose to take steps to bring the ashes over in memory of the deceased hero?

**Shri Kamath:** But as Government not got definite information.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member has some information and he has put this question and the answer is either "yes" or "no".

Very well, the question-hour is now over.

#### Short Notice Questions and Answers

##### THE BIHAR LAND REFORMS ACT AND AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a special Bench of the Patna High Court has held the Bihar Land Reforms Act *ultra-vires* of the Constitution; and

(b) whether there is truth in the Press report that Government will move for amendment of the Constitution in the current Session of Parliament?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Dr. Keskar):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

**Shri Kamath:** Has the Bihar Government decided to appeal or has the Centre advised the Bihar Government to appeal to the Supreme Court against the decision of the Patna High Court?

**Dr. Keskar:** My information as that the Bihar Government is going to appeal.

**Shri Kamath:** Will the Government await the decision of the Supreme Court before amending the Constitution?

**Dr. Keskar:** The question is under consideration of the Government. I think very soon Government will be in a position to make a pronouncement with regard to this matter before the House.

**Shri Kamath:** The answer to part (b) of the question is a monosyllabic 'Yes'. That is to say, there is truth in the Press report that Government will move for amendment of the Constitution. Now he says that the matter is under consideration.

**Dr. Keskar:** The question is under consideration as to what amendments are to be put before the House. With regard to that, very soon the Government would put before the House detailed proposals.

**Shri Kamath:** In view of the fact that several States have enacted legislation in this regard which has been challenged in the respective High Courts, is the Government going to move for piecemeal amendment of the Constitution, or is it going to await the verdict of all the High Courts, because it is quite likely that various articles of the Constitution may be questioned?

**Dr. Keskar:** It is very difficult to anticipate what the High Courts are going to decide. The whole thing, in all its aspects is under the consideration of the Government and very soon we will put forward before the House definite proposals with regard to this question.

**Shri Kamath:** Are they going to await the verdict of all the High Courts, or are they going to move for amendment straightaway?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He has answered that question already. He cannot wait till all the High Courts decide on all the fundamental rights.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** May I know whether it is a fact that the Government has constituted a Committee for the purpose of suggesting amendments to the Constitution and if so, who are the Members of that Committee, and what is the time fixed within which they have to make their recommendations?

**Dr. Keskar:** There is no formal Committee of the Government. There.

is a Cabinet Committee which is considering the question of the amendments that are to be put forward before the House for consideration. I think it is too premature to say anything with regard to this matter, further.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** May I know which are the particular articles of the Constitution that are sought to be amended?

**Dr. Keskar:** I am sorry, I am not in a position to answer that question.

PRODUCTION OF YARN, Dhoties AND Sarees

**Shri Sidhva:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to his statement made on the 8th March, 1951 on shortage of cloth and yarn and state:

(a) what quantity of *dhoties* and *sarees* was produced during the month of February, 1951 as a result of the direction given to mills in the beginning of February, 1951 for the production of *dhoties* and *sarees*; and

(b) the quantity of yarn produced in the months of January and February 1951?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) Direction for increasing the production of *dhoties* and *sarees* was communicated to the Mills by the Textile Commissioner on the 16th February, 1951. Since Mills require at least a fortnight to switch over from running varieties to other varieties, full effect of the direction would be visible only from April, 1951 onwards. It is expected that from April onwards the total monthly availability of *dhoties* and *sarees* would be 40,000 bales as against the average monthly availability of 33,000 bales during the latter half of 1950.

(b) The total quantity of free yarn packed by all the Mills in India was 45,692 bales in January and 61,715 bales in February, 1951 and includes yarn packed for export against pre-hand commitments and government contracts.

**Shri Sidhva:** When will these 40,000 bales be available in the market for sale?

**Shri Mahtab:** In April.

**Shri Sidhva:** Is it definite, Sir? Because last time he said that they will be available in February, I want to know whether this is definite.

8 PSD

**Shri Mahtab:** I strongly protest. My hon. friend is definitely wrong. I have never stated anywhere that *dhoties* will be available in February. I have always said that orders were issued in February.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** May I know whether any special quota of yarn has been issued to handloom weavers for the manufacture of *dhoties* and *sarees*?

**Shri Mahtab:** Handloom manufacture is not controlled. Yarn is issued to handloom weavers and production depends on them. There is control on production.

**Dr. Deshmukh:** Has any additional yarn been issued for the purpose of meeting the deficiency?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This question relates to mills: the hon. Member will kindly address himself to the question on hand.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know whether it is contemplated to increase the price of these *sarees* and *dhoties* or superior cloth, from the 1st of April?

**Shri Mahtab:** The question of prices is under consideration now.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** In view of the fact that yarn is absolutely unavailable in Assam, do Government propose to send any quota in the first part of April to Assam?

**Shri Mahtab:** The supply of yarn to all the States has been steadily increased from January onwards. I think they will receive the same quota, as I have said here once, in April, as they used to get previously.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** For the last two months, yarn was absolutely unavailable in Assam, in the rural parts.

**Shri Mahtab:** So far as Assam is concerned, I distinctly remember that a special quota has been given to Assam on the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, especially to Manipur State.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now we will proceed to the Adjournment Motions.

**Ch. Ranbir Singh:** May I ask one question, Sir?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** From yarn, we are going to *dhoties*; there is no limit to such questions.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

## REVISION OF YARN AND CLOTH PRICES

\*2382. **Shri Sardar Singhji:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the schedule of cloth and yarn prices is proposed to be revised upward shortly for the second time?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons that have induced Government to shift their ground so soon after the announcement of the prices on the 20th January, 1951?

(c) Is it a fact that the prices announced on the 20th January, 1951 were not fully based on the formula evolved by the Tariff Board and the prices now proposed approximate more to that formula?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, why was the Tariff Board's formula not fully taken into account in fixing the prices announced on the 20th January, 1951?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) The prices have already been revised.

(b) to (d). The cloth and yarn prices were revised for the period January-March, 1951, on the 20th January, 1951, in accordance with the formula recommended by the Tariff Board, allowing an increase of Rs. 150 per candy on the prices of new crop of cotton of 1950-51. For certain varieties of cloth, this increase in the prices of cotton was not taken into consideration as certain types of Indian cotton viz., Cambodia, Karunggunni Westerns, Vijay, Surat, etc., which are used for the manufacture of these varieties of cloth do not come into the market before the 31st March, 1951.

The Industry pointed out that the last year's crop of cotton would carry them only upto the middle of January, 1951 and that for these types of cloth, they have to mix new cotton with old cotton, sometimes to the extent of 100 per cent. The Government conceded to this position in consultation with the Cotton Textile and Cotton Control Committee and revised the prices accordingly with effect from the 1st February, 1951 in accordance with the formula suggested by the Tariff Board. The formula of the Tariff Board is invariably followed in fixing the prices of cloth and yarn.

## AMERICAN EMERGENCY FOOD COMMISSION

\*2614. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether an American Emergency Food Commission for India has been formed; and

(b) if so, whether it has had any correspondence with the Government?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) At the instance of Mrs. Dorothy Norman, a Committee known as the American Emergency Food Committee was started in December last. The object of this Committee was to mobilise public opinion in the United States of America in favour of allocation of foodgrains to India.

(b) There has been no direct correspondence with Government, but the Committee has kept in touch with our Embassy in Washington.

## STIPENDS TO DISPLACED STUDENTS

\*2622. **Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state what amount of money per year is being given by way of stipends to displaced students to prosecute further studies?

(b) What are the conditions which make an applicant eligible for stipends?

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) The Scheme for giving stipends for higher technical and general education was brought into force in July, 1950. Up to the end of the current financial year, a sum of about Rs. 21.5 lakhs will have been given to the displaced students for the prosecution of their studies.

(b) A statement showing the conditions which make an applicant eligible for stipend is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX annexure No. 7.]

## LANDS ACQUIRED FOR REHABILITATION PURPOSES

\*2632. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the total acreage of lands acquired for the purpose of rehabilitation and the acreage of lands on which houses have been and are being built in and around Delhi;

(b) what is the approximate number of persons who may be accommodated in the houses so far built;

(c) the number of persons who will remain to be rehabilitated after giving accommodation in these colonies; and

(d) how many persons will be accommodated in the houses built by individuals on Government plots?

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) 2628 acres have been acquired. Actual area built upon so far is not known.

(b) About 74,350.

(c) The number of Displaced Persons in Delhi is estimated at about 5 lakhs. 1,90,000 are reported to be living in evacuee houses; about 1,00,000 are likely to be accommodated in the houses and tenements which have been constructed and which are under construction. Apart from those who are living in rented houses, the number of squatters and of those who are in unauthorised occupation of Government quarters is between 20 to 30 thousand families.

(d) About 1100 plots have been allotted to Displaced Persons for construction of houses. This will provide accommodation for about 6600 persons at an average of 6 persons to a family.

#### LOANS TO BARODA

**\*2633. Shri R. Khan:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount granted by the Centre as relief and loans to Baroda, Saurashtra and Cutch in the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51 for rehabilitation of displaced persons; and

(b) what number of displaced persons have been settled by now in the above-mentioned areas?

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 8.]

(b) The hon. Member's attention is invited to the reply given by me to Starred Question No. 1312 by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh on the 9th February, 1951.

#### RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR M.P.s

**\*2634. Shri R. Khan:** (a) Will the Minister of Works Production and Supply be pleased to state when Government propose to supply self contained residential accommodation to all the Members of Parliament?

(b) What is the general policy in this respect?

(c) Will Government give (i) the number of the Members of Parliament, who are having self contained

residential accommodation; (ii) the number of those who are sharing accommodation with other Members; and (iii) the number of Members staying in the Constitution House and Western Court respectively?

(d) How many rooms are at present occupied by officers of the Government of India in the Constitution House and Western Court?

#### Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain):

(a) and (b). The proposal is to provide residential accommodation for 80 per cent. of the Members of Parliament under the new Constitution, out of whom, 224 will have hostel accommodation and the rest self contained accommodation, as shown below:

##### Hostel Accommodation:

(i) Western Court	41
(ii) Constitution House	183

##### Self Contained accommodation:

(i) Bungalows	108
(ii) Suites with kitchenettes in the Constitution House.	9
(iii) New flats under construction.	250

100 of the new flats under construction are expected to be ready by July, 1951 and the remaining 150 by October, 1951.

(c) (i) 69	
(ii) 82	
(iii) Constitution House:	69
Western Court:	27
(d) Constitution House:	24
Western Court:	46

#### IMPORT OF BURMA TEAK

**\*2635. Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities in which Burma Teak was imported into the country during each of the past ten years;

(b) whether it is a fact that in recent years a considerable fall has taken place in the import of Burma Teak;

(c) if so, the reason for the same;

(d) whether it is a fact that Burma Teak is superior in quality to the teak grown in various parts of the country; and

(e) whether the possibility of growing Burma teak in suitable parts of the country has been examined and if so, with what result?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 9.]

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Disturbed political conditions in Burma have prevented exploitation of teak in that country.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir, but the results have not been very encouraging.

#### IMPORT OF FRESH AND DRIED FRUITS

\*2636. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quantities and monetary value of (i) fresh and (ii) dried fruits of all kinds imported into and exported from India during each of the past five years?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 10.]

#### TRADE WITH TIBET

\*2637. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the various commodities that are exchanged in cash or kind between India and Tibet; and

(b) the total volume and value of trade each way in 1948, 1949 and 1950 respectively?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) A statement containing this information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 11.]

(b) No separate figures for Tibet alone are available. A statement showing total volume of trade each way with Tibet, Bhutan and Sikkim, in each of the years 1948, 1949 and 1950, is, however, laid on the Table of the House. Figures of values are not available.

#### STATEMENT

*India's trade with Tibet, Sikkim and Bhutan.*

	Quantities in maunds		
	1948	1949	1950
Imports	88,268	76,468	65,462
Exports	71,260	280,652	1,59,070

#### CLOTH RETAIL PRICES

\*2638. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the retail cloth dealers in Kutch State are authorised to charge 5 per cent. to 6 per cent. more in price to consumers than the maximum retail price marked on the cloth; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### SUB-COMMITTEE OF HAND-LOOM COMMITTEE

\*2640. **Shri Syamraandan Sahaya:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sub-committee had been formed under the Hand-loom Committee;

(b) if so when it was formed?

(c) how many meetings of this Committee have been held; and

(d) if not, why not?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) The Standing Handloom Committee of the All India Cottage Industries Board was re-constituted in July, 1950. The present Standing Handloom Committee has not constituted any sub-Committee.

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

#### COALFIELD LABOURERS (RATION)

\*2641. **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state what is the ration that the labourer in the Coalfields gets and at what price?

(b) Does he get the ration for himself or also for his adult and child dependants?

(c) Does the labourer get in addition to the ration  $\frac{1}{4}$  (one fourth) seer of rice free for every day of attendance?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) The coalmine workers receive basic ration at the following scale per week:

Basic Foodgrains	Scale per week
Worker	2 Sr. 10 Ch.
Adult dependant	2 Sr. 10 Ch.
Each child dependant	1 Sr. 5 Ch.



Rice is supplied at the rate of 3 Srs. per rupee and wheat at the rate of As. 6 per seer.

In addition to this each family receives dal equivalent to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the basic ration at the rate of 6 Srs per rupee.

(b) The worker gets ration both for himself or herself, and adult and child dependants.

(c) Yes.

#### SODA ASH AND CAUSTIC SODA

\*2642. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total annual demand in India in respect of soda ash and caustic soda?

(b) What is the latest installed capacity for production of these articles and what was the actual production during the years 1948, 1949 and 1950?

(c) How do the cost of production and selling price of Indian soda ash and caustic soda compare with those of foreign products?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) (i) Soda Ash—1,24,000 tons

(ii) Caustic Soda—63,500 tons

(b)

	Installed capacity (in tone per year)	Production (in tons)		
		1948	1949	1950
(i) Soda Ash	64,000	29,150	17,918	43,790
(ii) Caustic Soda	19,688	4,820	6,303	10,846

(c) The cost of production of both the chemicals produced in foreign countries is less than that obtaining in India. The selling price of the Indian chemicals, however, compares favourably with that of the imported varieties.

#### MINIMUM WAGES ACT

\*2643. **Shri Chandrika Ram:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether the question of extending the date of implementation of the Minimum Wages Act of 1948 by another year was referred to the Planning Commission and if so, what are the proposals of the Commission in this matter?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** Only the question of the fixation of minimum wages in agriculture was referred to the Planning Commission. The Commission

recommended that option should be given to State Governments to fix minimum wages for agricultural workers in such limited areas and at such times as they considered feasible.

#### DISPLACED MUSLIMS IN RAJASTHAN

\*2644. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a deputation consisting of Shri Qazmi, Member of Parliament, S. Sajjan Singh, M.L.A. Punjab State and some other gentlemen waited upon him on the 5th August, 1950, and put before him several grievances of the displaced Muslims of Matsya Union (Rajasthan State);

(b) whether S. Sajjan Singh referred to above handed over to the hon. Minister a representation regarding the grievances of the displaced Muslims;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry was ordered by Government about the complaints contained in the representation;

(d) what was the nature of the complaints made;

(e) to what extent the complaints narrated therein were found to be correct; and

(f) what action was taken by Government in the matter?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

(d) The general complaint was that the original lands and houses of Meos and other Muslims of Alwar and Bharatpur district of Rajasthan were not restored to them.

(e) and (f). A commission was appointed by the Government of Rajasthan at the instance of the Government of India to go into the entire question of resettlement of Meos and other Muslims as well as of displaced persons in Matsya. The Commission has since submitted its report. The decisions taken on the recommendations of this Commission are contained in the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th March, 1951, a copy of which was placed on the Table of the House, in connection with Starred Question No. 2529 by Shri D. S. Seth which was answered on the 26th March, 1951.

#### NON-RESTORATION OF LAND TO DISPLACED MUSLIMS

\*2645. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases were brought to the notice of the Hon. Minister by S. Sajjan Singh, M.L.A., (Punjab) *vide* his letter No. 944 dated the 24th July 1950, and No. 1021 dated the 4th August 1950, (Registered A.D.), where-in it was stated that certain Muslims at Ramgarh town and several other places of Alwar district were restored their lands but were refused restoration of their houses occupied by non-Muslim displaced persons;

(b) whether any cases of Govindgarh and Ramgarh Tehsils of Alwar district were brought to the notice of Government by the aforesaid gentleman stating that lands were partly restored to the displaced Muslims and their lands, allotted to the non-Muslim displaced persons, were refused to be restored to them; and

(c) if the answer to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, under what provision of law the houses and the lands belonging to the displaced Muslims have been refused to be restored?

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes, but only letter No. 1021 dated the 4th August, 1950 was received.

(b) Yes.

(c) According to the law prevailing in the States of Alwar and Bharatpur at the time of disturbances in 1947 all the lands deserted by the Muslims lapsed to the States. Subsequently on the merger of these States into Matsya Union, these lands were according to law, treated as Evacuee Property. Evacuee Property can be restored under Section 16 of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, to the owner subject to such terms and conditions as the Custodian may think fit to impose. As a matter of policy it has been decided that where displaced persons have been settled on evacuee property they will not be generally disturbed. In the case of Meos where restoration of original lands is not possible on account of settlement of Displaced Persons they are being given equivalent lands elsewhere. As regards *katcha* houses belonging to displaced Meos, financial assistance in the form of grants for the construction of new houses will be given in cases where it is not possible to restore them. In respect of *pukka* houses it has been decided that their Meo

owners will be entitled for restoration of them even though they are occupied by Displaced Persons.

#### PROPERTIES OF DISPLACED MUSLIMS (RESTORATION)

\*2646. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agency has been set up in Punjab, P.E.P.S.U. and Rajasthan States by the Government of India to entertain and dispose of applications by displaced Muslims for the restoration of their properties; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Under section 16 of the Evacuee Property Law all applications for restoration of evacuee property are to be entertained and displaced of by the Custodian of Evacuee Property. Custodians have been appointed in Punjab, P.E.P.S.U. and Rajasthan States.

(b) Does not arise.

#### FIRE IN JHIRRIPATKA SETTLEMENT

\*2647. **Shri Kannamwar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state how many shops, belonging to displaced families in the Jhirripatka Displaced Persons' settlement on the Kamptee Road in Madhya Pradesh were gutted by a fire on the 9th March, 1951?

(b) What was the cause of the fire?

(c) What is the loss estimated and what help have Government rendered to the sufferers?

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

#### YARN FOR MADHYA PRADESH

\*2648. **Shri Kannamwar:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state whether the quota of yarn for Madhya Pradesh is expected to be increased for the month of April 1951?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** 105,000.

The yarn quotas fixed for the various States in December, 1948 would be revised, if necessary, on receipt of the information from the State Governments regarding the number of handlooms called for by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay. With the measures already taken to

increase yarn supplies to handloom industry, it is expected to give larger allocation to Madhya Pradesh from April, 1951 onwards.

#### RAJAPALAYAM COTTON

\*2649. **Shri Ramaswamy Naidu:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government are aware that a variety of long staple cotton known as 'Co. 4 B 40' also known as 'Rajapalayam' is grown in Ramanathapuram District in Madras State?

(b) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the fact that merchants import inferior varieties into the area and pass off such varieties as 'Rajapalayam' Cotton?

(c) What steps do Government propose to take to preserve the purity of the Rajapalayam variety?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Powers have been delegated to the Madras Government under the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act, 1946 which will enable them to counteract this tendency if any.

#### ALIGANJ QUARTERS

\*2650. **Shri B. K. Pani:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to state the number of Daftari Quarters in the area known as Aliganj in New Delhi?

(b) How many of these quarters are provided with flush system latrines and how many are not yet provided?

(c) Are these quarters being provided with electricity?

(d) If not, when do Government propose to get these quarters electrified?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain):** (a) 345.

(b) 195 quarters are provided with flush system latrines and the remaining 150 quarters are without such a system.

(c) and (d). The matter is under consideration.

#### ORISSA COLLIERIES

\*2651. **Shri B. K. Pani:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state how many of the colliery owners in the State of Orissa have provided Pithead Baths in their collieries?

(b) What amount was spent for Labour Development works in the year 1950-51 and on what items?

(c) How many accidents in handling explosives have been reported from these collieries?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** (a) Two colliery owners have provided Pithead Baths in their collieries. In a third colliery Pithead Baths are almost complete and in a fourth one they are under construction.

(b) Rs. 1,11,432 upto the 28th February, 1951. A statement showing the items on which this amount was spent is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 12.] In addition to the sum of Rs. 80,000 already spent for the construction of labour quarters in Industrial areas, an additional sum of Rs. 5,20,000 is expected to be spent for the same purpose during the current financial year.

(c) Two—one fatal and serious—during 1950.

#### SALT

\*2652. **Shri Narayana Deo:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to state whether Government are aware of the scarcity of common salt in the country for human and animal consumption?

(b) What steps are being taken to encourage the producers to increase production?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain):** (a) The production of salt in 1950 was 713 lakh maunds as against a total demand of 684 lakh maunds. Government are aware of some temporary scarcity of salt in some parts of the country due to insufficient wagon supply on metre gauge system and similar other reasons. Immediate steps are taken in all such cases to meet the situation.

(b) The production is on the increase. A statement showing the steps, which have been taken to increase production is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 13.]

#### YARN SUPPLY

\*2653. **Shri Deogirikar:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the quota of yarn fixed for Bombay in November, 1948?

(b) What was the percentage of yarn supplied to Bombay in September, 1950 and in February, 1951?

(c) What was the quota fixed for Madras, Bengal and Orissa in November, 1948?

(d) What was the percentage of yarn supplied to Madras, Bengal and

Orissa: in September, 1950 and February, 1951?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) A monthly yarn quota of 10,885 bales was fixed for Bombay in December, 1948.

(b) 37 per cent. of the above yarn quota was supplied to Bombay in September, 1950 and 46 per cent. in February, 1951.

(c) In December, 1948, Madras's quota was fixed at 22,500 bales per month, Bengal's at 5,285 bales per month and that of Orissa at 3,710 bales per month.

(d) In September, 1950, the percentages of yarn supplied to Madras, Bengal and Orissa were 82 per cent., 78 per cent. and 62 per cent. respectively and in February, 1951 the percentages of offers were: 83 per cent., 78 per cent. and 63 per cent. respectively.

**चमड़े की वस्तुएं निर्यात करने वाली विदेशी फ़ैक्टरियां**

\*२६५४ श्री खारडे: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) विदेशी साधों की भारत में जूते एवं चमड़े की वस्तुएं बनाने वाली फ़ैक्टरियों की संख्या ।

(बी) क्या इन साधों ने सरकार से कोई करार किये हैं ;

(सी) यदि हां, तो उक्त करारों की अवधि तथा इन साधों के नाम ;

(डी) इन फ़ैक्टरियों में उक्त साधों द्वारा प्रस्थापित की गयी मशीनों में विनिधोजित पूंजी की परिमात्रा ;

(ई) इन फ़ैक्टरियों द्वारा निर्यात वस्तुएं केवल भारत में ही विक्रय की जाती हैं अथवा उनकी मांग आने पर विदेशों को भी निर्यात की जाती है ; तथा

(एफ) इन फ़ैक्टरियों द्वारा निर्यात जूते एवं चमड़े की वस्तुओं को आयात करने वाले देशों के नाम ?

**FOREIGN FACTORIES MANUFACTURING LEATHER GOODS**

[\*2654. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of shoes and leather goods manufacturing factories in India owned by foreign firms;

(b) whether these firms have entered into any agreements with Government;

(c) if so, the period covered by such agreements and the names of these firms?

(d) the amount of capital invested by these firms on machinery erected in these factories;

(e) whether the goods manufactured by these factories are sold in India alone or they are also exported to foreign countries on demand; and

(f) the names of those countries which import these shoes and leather goods manufactured by these factories?]

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) Four factories are owned by three companies registered in India but employing wholly or partly foreign capital.

(b) and (c). No.

(d) The information is not readily available.

(e) Goods manufactured by these factories are also exported.

(f) Mainly East African territories, the Middle East, the Far East and the neighbouring countries like Burma, Ceylon, etc.

**तेल**

\*२६५५ श्री खारडे: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(ए) भारत में मशीनों की सहायता से कितने मन मूंगफली, सरसों, तिल तथा ज्वरा का तेल निकाला जाता है ;

(बी) भारत में बेल परिवालित कोल्हुओं की संख्या तथा प्रति वर्ष उनके द्वारा निकाले जाने वाले तेल की मात्रा ;

(सी) क्या अन्य देशों को भी इन तेलों का निर्यात किया जाता है ; तथा

(डी) यदि हां तो निर्यात किये जाने वाले तेल की मात्रा ;

## OILS

[\*2655. **Shri Khaparde:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how many maunds of mustard, groundnut, sesamum and jawra oils are extracted in India with the help of machines;

(b) the number of bullock-driven oil presses in India and the quantity of oil extracted by them per year;

(c) whether these oils are exported to other countries also; and

(d) if so, the quantity of oil exported?]

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

## गलीचे

\*२६५६ श्री खापर्डे: (ए) क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री भारत में विभिन्न राज्यों के उन गांवों के नाम बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे जहां पर कि गलीचे बनाने की फ़ैक्टरियां स्थापित हैं तथा उन पर कितनी पूंजी विनियोजित की गयी है ?

(बी) १९४८, तथा १९५० में निर्यात किये गये गलीचों का मूल्य क्या था तथा किन देशों को उनका निर्यात किया गया एवं कितना निर्यात कर प्राप्त हुआ ?

(सी) इस प्रकार की फ़ैक्टरियों की संख्या में वृद्धि हो रही है अथवा कभी ?

(डी) क्या गलीचे बाहर से भी आयात किये जाते हैं ?

(ई) यदि हां तो उक्त आयात का क्या मूल्य है ?

(एफ) उक्त आयातित गलीचों के मूल्य भारत में निर्यातित गलीचों के मूल्य को तुलनात्मक क्या है ?

## CARPETS

[\*2656. **Shri Khaparde:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of those villages of the various States in India

8 P. 8.

where carpet-manufacturing factories are located and the capital invested on them?

(b) What was the value of the carpets exported in the years 1948, 1949 and 1950 and to which countries were they exported and how much export duty was realized?

(c) Is the number of such factories increasing or decreasing?

(d) Are carpets also imported from abroad?

(e) If so, what is the value of such imports?

(f) How do these imported carpets compare with those manufactured in India in respect of their prices?]

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) The names of the villages and the capital invested on the carpet-manufacturing factories are not known. A statement showing the names of the principal carpet producing centres in the different States is, however, laid on the Table. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 14 (Statement I).]

(b) A statement showing details of exports is laid on the Table. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 14 (Statement II).]

Presumably the hon. Member refers to "woollen carpets" only. Export duty is not levied on them.

(c) Increasing.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix XX, annexure No. 14 (Statement III).]

(f) Imported carpets are costlier than Indian carpets.

## POWER ALCOHOL

158. **Shri P. Basi Reddi:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether Government have accorded permission to certain firms in the Madras State for manufacture of power alcohol?

(b) If so, what are the firms?

(c) What is the price offered to them by Government and have they agreed to it?

(d) When are they expected to commence production of power alcohol?

(e) When do Government propose to extend the Indian Power Alcohol Act to the Madras State?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) and (b). The Government of India have agreed to the undermentioned distilleries modifying their plants for manufacture of power alcohol:

- (i) The Vizag Commercial Corporation Ltd., Vishakhapatnam.
- (ii) The K.C.P. Ltd., Vuyyuru (Kistna District).
- (iii) Messrs. Party & Co., Madras 1.
- (iv) The India Sugars and Refineries Ltd., Hospet (Bellary District).

(c) The question of prices will arise only when the factories produce power alcohol. No assurance has been given to them by the Central Government. The State Government have, however, been advised that prices higher than those being paid at present to other manufacturers will not be agreed to.

(d) In the next two years.

(e) The Central Act will be extended to Madras when arrangements for the admixing of petrol with power alcohol are complete.

#### GRANTS TO STATES

**159. Shri M. L. Gupta:** Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to state the basis of fixing grants to State Governments on account of Administration of Petroleum and Explosive Acts under Grant No. 36?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain):** An amount equal to the fees realised on licences issued by the

District Authorities under the rules framed under the Indian Explosives Act, 1884 and the Petroleum Act, 1934, is paid to the State Governments concerned as payment for the agency functions carried out by them in connection with the administration of the said Acts.

#### CLOSURE OF TEXTILE MILLS

**160. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some textile mills have given notices to close their mills on the 1st April, 1951, as a protest against the revised cloth and yarn prices recently announced by the Government of India; and

(b) if so, how many mills have given such notices?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** (a) and (b). The prices of cloth and yarn have been revised again with effect from 1st February, 1951. No complaints have been received against this so far.

#### HOARDED YARN

**161. Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what steps Government propose to take to seize the hoarded yarn in Bombay and have it released to the consumers in the different States where there is acute shortage?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** There is no hoarded yarn in Bombay. All free yarn available from the Mills in Bombay or elsewhere is distributed monthly to various States in accordance with the quotas fixed for each case.

Saturday, 31st March, 1951



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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VOLUME IX, 1951

(5th March, 1951 to 30th March, 1951)

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Third Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950-51



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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**

*Saturday, 31st March, 1951*

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

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

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

(See Part I)

11-53 A.M.

**MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT**

**ANGLO-AMERICAN RESOLUTION re.  
KASHMIR**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have received notices of four Adjournment Motions, all relating to the same subject. One by Shri M. L. Gupta and Shri S. V. Naik:

"The situation arising by the adoption of Anglo-American resolution regarding Kashmir by the Security Council".

Another by Dr. Deshmukh:

"The situation created by the agitation in the State of Jammu and Kashmir as a result of the resolution proposed by the Governments of United Kingdom and the United States of America and passed yesterday in the Security Council of the U.N.O."

Another by Dr. Deshmukh in another form:

"The situation arising out of the resolution passed yesterday by the Security Council of the U.N.O. on Kashmir."

Another by Prof. K. T. Shah and Pandit Mukut Bihari Lal Bhargava:

"The passing of the joint resolution of British and the U.S.A. in

the U.N. Security Council and the serious situation created thereby in regard to our relations with the State of Jammu and Kashmir which is part of the Union of India."

I think this has been sufficiently answered by the Prime Minister, in anticipation. Has he got anything more to say?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** If I may say so with all respect, I entirely appreciate the feeling which many Members of the House have on this subject. As you said, Sir, only two or three days ago, I referred to this at some length—not the passing of the resolution, but rather the resolution itself—in this House and I believe I can say with some confidence that the entire House agreed with the point of view that I put forward in regard to this matter. There is no doubt at all about what the House feels about it. I do not myself see what purpose a discussion on the Motion for Adjournment would serve at this stage. There is no doubt that it is a serious matter. We shall have to consider as a Government and we shall come to the House if the occasion arises.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** In view of the statement of the hon. Prime Minister these Adjournment Motions need not be pursued.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF ESTIMATES  
COMMITTEE**

**Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh):** Sir, on behalf of the Chairman of the Estimates Committee I lay on the Table the Minutes of the meetings of the Estimates Committee held during 1950-51. [Placed in Library. See No. O. 1(98)].

**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE  
(NO. 2) BILL**

**PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT  
COMMITTEE**

**The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar):** Sir, on behalf of the Chairman of the Select Committee I present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the conduct of elections to the Houses of Parliament and to the House or Houses of the Legislature of each State, the qualifications and disqualifications for membership of those Houses, the corrupt and illegal practices and other offences at or in connection with such elections and the decision of doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with such elections.

**Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh):** In regard to this matter may I know whether Government have taken any decision as to how many days will be allotted for the discussion of this very important Bill and when. That will be helpful to Members in more ways than one.

**The Prime Minister and the Leader of the House (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** Government considers that this measure should have top priority, so that as soon as the Finance Bill is discussed this Bill should be taken up.

**Shri Kamath:** How many days will be allotted for its discussion?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I cannot say.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member very often gets into the noose. It is no good saying that it is open to any Member or even the Government to restrict the time allotted for the discussion of a Bill. Let not the House give away its rights and privileges.

**SUPPLY OF LISTS OF NOTICES OF  
CUT MOTIONS TO MEMBERS**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Before the Demands for Grants are taken up, I am to inform hon. Members that according to the present practice copies of notices of all cut motions including Consolidated and Supplementary Lists of cut motions relating to Demands for Grants under the control of each Ministry are supplied in advance to Members at their residences. Copies of Consolidated and Supplementary Lists of cut motions relating to each Ministry are also included each day in the Members' sets of papers in the House.

The practice to include Consolidated List of cut motions relating to each Ministry in the Members' sets of papers will continue to be in operation when the discussion relating to a particular Ministry will be confined to one day only. In case the discussion is continued on any subsequent day; as in the case of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which is carried over from today to Monday, the Consolidated and Supplementary Lists of cut motions relating to that Ministry will not again be included in the Members' sets of papers on such day. Hon. Members are, therefore, requested to preserve these copies of consolidated and Supplementary Lists of cut motions relating to such Ministries and to bring them for use in the Chamber when discussion on them takes place subsequently. This will result in economy of paper.

Some sets of cut motions will also be placed in the Lobby and the Parliamentary Notice Office, and in case any Member forgets to bring his papers a set will be supplied to him on request.

Hon. Members are already aware that during the current session there are only two Ministries namely Commerce and Industry and Food and Agriculture which have been allotted two days each for discussion.

**BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE**

**Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh):** May I draw your attention to the fact that next Thursday, the 5th April, there are two Ministries scheduled for discussion, namely Home and Labour, which are important Ministries. I would request that one day may be allotted to each Ministry, or in the alternative the question list for that day may be postponed to Saturday and the House may sit till 7 o'clock on Thursday, so as to give adequate time to the House to discuss the two Ministries.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We will consider it on that day and I am sure the Leader of the House will also consider the request made.

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** As regards the former part of his request regarding an extra day it is difficult. We would gladly give any number of days but within the limited number of days available giving one day to each Ministry would mean taking away something meant for something else. I will certainly agree to the questions being postponed from Thursday to some other day as also for sitting longer on that day.

12 NOON.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I would like to announce to the House that the questions standing for Thursday will be postponed to Saturday next and if it is necessary, as the Leader of the House has suggested, we may have to sit for sometime longer, we shall do so.

## GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS

### SECOND STAGE

#### DEMAND NO. 1—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 59,52,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

#### DEMAND NO. 2—INDUSTRIES

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,10,92,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Industries'."

#### DEMAND NO. 3—COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STATISTICS

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 43,35,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Commercial Intelligence and Statistics'."

**Shri R. Velayudhan** (Travancore-Cochin): On a point of information, Sir, during the discussion of the Budget as well as on the Demands I noted that several hon. Members spoke more than three times and there are so many other Members who did not even get a chance either on the Railway Budget, the General Budget discussion or even on the Demands. I am one of such victims. Will you kindly see that at least those Members who have not spoken at all either on the Railway or the General Budget are given a chance with regard to some of the Demands?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Members must appreciate that it is impossible for the Chair to keep a tabular statement to find out how many times an hon. Member spoke. It is the duty of the Chair and the House to see that the debate as a whole is maintained at a high level. That does not depend on whether a Member has had a chance to speak or not. It is in that way that the debate is regulated.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** My request is not about a tabular statement but giving a chance to other people to speak.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Every Member will have a chance and he will be allowed to make his contribution.

**Shri Goenka** (Madras): Sir, before I speak on the policy of the Government in regard to the Commerce Ministry I would like the Treasury Benches to appreciate the fact that when we make any remarks, we do so in a spirit of constructive criticism and if in the process, we use strong words, we only reflect on the floor of the House what people outside feel and say. We only want to suggest various ways and means to allay these fears and I hope it is in that spirit that our criticisms will be received by the Treasury Benches.....

**Shri D. D. Pant** (Uttar Pradesh): On a point of order, is it permissible for an hon. Member to read a written speech?

**Shri Goenka:** I am not reading. I have only my notes. I am not so clever as my friend Mr. Pant to deliver an extempore speech without notes.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri** (Assam): Then let him address himself to the Chair and not to his table.

**Shri Goenka:** So far as our criticisms are concerned I, in all humility, would request the hon. Minister for Commerce and Industry to take them in the spirit in which we offer them and I assure him that whatever criticisms we make we do so for the purpose of reflecting what the people feel and say outside.

Let me come to the point. I will take the question of cloth in the first instance, namely the textile position. It is an admitted fact that there is a virtual cloth famine all over the country and you cannot get any cloth except from the black-marketeers who have hoarded practically all the supplies available in the country. (Interruption) I will come to control later: please wait. (Interruption). My friend is unnecessarily interrupting me. I

[Shri Goenka]

know what the Government should or should not do and I will have to say something about it in due course. But in all humility I will put the facts before the hon. Minister. The whole of yesterday I tried to get a *dhoti* in Delhi to make sure of the fact that *dhoties* are not available in Delhi. Here is a pair of *dhoties* which I bought for Rs. 20 and which is priced at Rs. 7, and that too in the black market because no shop was prepared to sell a pair of *dhoties*. (An Hon. Member: Present it to the hon. Minister.) Even then, Sir, you have to go to quarters who are in the know of things and whom the people who possess these *dhoties* also know.

Shri Jhunjhunwala (Bihar): On a point of information, did you have your ration card with you when you got that pair of *dhoties* from the dealer?

Shri Goenka: No ration card. (Interruption). If people go on interrupting, it is practically impossible to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He should speak in such a manner that he pleases the whole House.

Shri Goenka: If people are not interested in a pair of *dhoties* which is not available, I cannot help them. Here is a pair of *dhoties*. The printed price is Rs. 7 and I had to pay Rs. 20. It could not be obtained in any of the shops but from sources other than the shops where cloth is sold. (Interruption).

An Hon. Member: Where did you buy it?

An Hon. Member: Are you prepared to make a present of it?

Shri Goenka: All of you can have it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How was it necessary to bring a *dhoti* into the House? Everybody knows a *dhoti*.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): How could he come without the *dhoti*?

Shri R. K. Chaudhuri: On a point of order, Sir. Would you allow an approved criminal who has committed an offence under the law to proceed further with the debate?

Shri Tyagi: Hon. Members are immune on the floor of the House.

Shri Goenka: Sir, the fact is—and let me put it with all the emphasis at my command—that in this country

where so much of cloth is produced, no man can get cloth at the price which Government have fixed. The control price is a farce. That is the point I wanted to prove and I have proved it by practical experience. (Interruption). In a situation of this nature where cloth is simply not available, I would like to put certain facts before the hon. Minister and get some categorical answer on them.

From the figures I see that our production in 1950 was 3,700 million yards. We exported as much as 1,200 million yards. First we intended to export about 800 million yards. Then we stepped it up to 1,000 million yards and finally we stepped it up to 1,200 million yards. This is one part of the story. But what actually happens is this. Recently in January, when they had to issue quotas for the first half year, their idea was to issue a quota of 400 million yards but before they could know what quota should be issued, I find from the hon. Mr. Mahtab's statement that, a quota of 1,000 million yards had been issued. The result was that before 28th February any mill could pack any amount of cloth for purposes of export, of course to the extent of the quota which it had. Consequently, all the goods were made available for the export market and the mills were not interested in manufacturing *dhoties* and *saries* for home consumption. According to orders, before 28th February any quantity of cloth could be packed for export purposes within the quota, but on the 28th February they passed an order that only 40 per cent. of the cloth could be packed for export purposes. On the 21st March they passed another order saying that only 10 per cent. of the cloth could be packed for export purposes. By the time the order came on the 21st March, 400 million yards of cloth which was to be exported out of the country according to the programme of the Government of India had been exported in its entirety. Instead of the export quota being spread over all the months in instalments of 60 million or 65 million yards each month, the whole cloth had been actually shipped by that time. The result is that there is shortage of cloth in this country and the shortage is so acute that there is great scarcity throughout India, as we all know. This has affected even procurement of foodgrains. When the State Government people go for procurement of grains, the people tell them, "You come to us to take whatever you want, but you do not give us even a piece of cloth to cover our shame." That is the state of affairs.

Sir, who is responsible for this muddle? The responsibility should be divided between the Central Government, the State Governments and the industry. The Central Government have been passing orders, through their vacillating policy, off and on and have been changing them from time to time. Neither the State Governments nor the industry know what exactly is the policy of the Central Government. The figures which I shall place before you in due course will establish conclusively what I have got to say.

Sir, there is another part of the bargain, namely, cotton control. In regard to this the trouble is, in my opinion, that while Government should buy the cotton they have not got enough money to finance the purchase. The mills who have got enough money to finance it cannot buy the quantity which they require, there being a quota fixed. The position therefore is that the mills who want to buy and who have got the money cannot buy; nor can Government finance it. This is a thing in which something will have to be done by Government to see that the position is set right. There is another point in this connection. The prices of cotton cloth are normally fixed in every quarter. The prices were to be fixed on the 1st October. It was not done and they said that it would be done on the 1st December. Again, it was not done on that date. When the mills threatened closure, the prices were fixed on the 15th January. What actually happened was that in the interval of three months the prices had risen three times. Had the prices been fixed on 1st October, they would have been lower because the price of cotton was lower. Sir, I am told that again the prices are going to be re-fixed tomorrow, of which we have some information through the papers. This is what I call a vacillating policy. You must know your mind. You must know what you have got to do and what you have not got to do. If you decide to export 400 million yards of cloth, you must divide that quantity equally and distribute it among the six months. Today, what is the position? The 400 million yards have already been exported. Naturally, the industry complains that this will mean that India will be out of the world market during the next three months and may lead even to cancellation of contracts. What the industry says is correct and what the Government says is also correct.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Two more minutes only are left.

**Shri Goenka:** Is that all? We are discussing two Ministries, Commerce and Industry.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But what can I do?

**Shri Goenka:** If that is your ruling Sir, I cannot help it. This is the textile policy of the Government and you will remember that last time when we were discussing the textile policy during Question Hour and the whole House stood up, the Speaker ruled that it would come up for discussion during the Budget debate and therefore those questions need not be raised at that particular moment but might be covered during the Budget debate. This is one of the vital industries of the country. It is for you to decide whatever you please. So far as cloth is concerned, I may say that the policy of Government has been one of vacillation. They do not know their mind; they have not been able to decide what they should do, how much they should keep for home consumption and how much they should export. Whatever quota they decided upon for export should be distributed into monthly instalments. This is the reason why we have no cloth in the country now.

Then again, Sir, the mills have made huge profits. If you see the balance sheets of the various mills, you will find that though they have produced less, they have made 50 to 100 per cent. profits. That is an important aspect of the question to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister for Industries.

Then, Sir, I come to jute. In regard to this item we entered into an agreement with Pakistan, which provided for supply of 3½ lakhs of bales within six weeks of the date of the agreement. We gave them terms which we would never have dreamt of giving. The result is that we have not even got 20,000 bales although we agreed to 100:144 rupee exchange ratio. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what is the idea underlying the agreement? Is it only a one-sided agreement? Are we to go on supplying coal and other necessary materials to Pakistan while we do not get commodities in return according to the terms of the agreement? Our past experience in regard to Indo-Pakistan Agreements is that it is only a unilateral performance: we on our side abide by the terms of the agreement. No export prices have been given by the Pakistan Government to the private parties although it is one of the terms of the agreement. I would like to know what Government have been doing in regard to this matter and whether they will consider stopping further supplies of coal to Pakistan immediately, until and unless the jute

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which they have promised within six weeks of the agreement is supplied to us.

The other point I would like to touch upon is the policy of Government in regard to O.G.L. As I have said these black-marketeers do not want control; they do not want decontrol; they do not want O.G.L.; they do not want any goods to be outside the O.G.L.; they want O.G.L. in one instance and control in another so that they could make money at every opportunity.

I will take one recent happening. Camphor has been put on the O.G.L. What was the position of camphor before it was put on the O.G.L.? The supply position of camphor was that every user and every industrialist could get his quota according to his requirement. Then the trade was allowed to import on the basis of their imports in the previous years.

Now, Sir, camphor, as you know is burnt in temples—it is a luxury item. It is not a necessity for the country. So far as the industrial quota was concerned, it was perfectly all right, because they used to give to the industry what they wanted.

**Pandit Malaviya:** (Uttar Pradesh): Obviously the hon. Member Mr. Goenka should be aware that worship is not considered a luxury by the people of this country.

**Shri Goenka:** Worship does not mean burning of camphor. Anyway I am not going to enter into an argument over that matter.

There is very large speculation in this item. If camphor is to be put on the O.G.L., I would ask my hon. friend to put playing cards also on the O.G.L. People want all items of luxury. There is four hundred per cent. profit in that. Why should not that be put on the O.G.L.

What was the result of camphor being put on the O.G.L.? There was large speculation. There is a forward market in camphor. Once camphor came on the O.G.L., people speculated and the total supply of Japan and America has been purchased by one party in advance at a price which I shall give shortly. So all the produce of Japan and America has been purchased. Two parties who knew this information one month in advance cornered practically all the stocks of camphor here and they have also cornered the stocks in America and Japan. After all the produce of camphor is small and they get what they wanted. This is not the only item. We put pencil on the O.G.L.; we imported 2½ crores of

pencils which is our 2½ years' requirements. We have imported mercury which will last us 50 years.

I just want to know what is the policy of Government. Do they want control, or do they not want control. If they want control, let them have a firm policy with regard to it. What is the purpose of putting items on the O.G.L.? How did camphor come on the O.G.L.?

Then again, Sir, you will find many items which are put on the O.G.L. from time to time, e.g., cycle parts, cotton piecegoods, hand tools, etc. When it suits certain individuals an item goes into the O.G.L.; if it suits certain other individuals it goes out of O.G.L.

When an item is to be put on the O.G.L. a definite case should be made out that this country could not do without it and there is a shortage of that item in the foreign markets. I can understand an item being put on the O.G.L., if there is shortage of supplies outside and if it is vital for our requirements. That is a perfectly valid policy. But in regard to materials of which there is abundant supply in the foreign countries and our requirements of which is limited, I do not find any justification for their being put on the O.G.L. What is the justification, I would ask in all humility to my hon. friend, to put camphor on the O.G.L.?

**Shri Hussain Imam** (Bihar): Could the hon. Member please give us some figures of import of camphor last year?

**Shri Goenka:** The gamble in camphor runs into crores. There is a forward market in that commodity in Madras, Bombay and Calcutta, and while stocks will run into hundreds of cases the gamble will run into thousands of cases. This has been a notorious fact.

But our whole difficulty is this that our friends on the Treasury Benches are uninformed in regard to the articles in which there is a gamble. There is a gamble in sewing needle. One fine morning, if a man has got some influence he sees that sewing needles are put on the O.G.L. These things are happening day in day out. I would request the hon. Minister to find out what are the imported materials in regard to which there is a forward market and how the forward market operates. Today in regard to these things what happens is this. In regard to these items the Government does not get anything either by way of income-tax, or by way of sales tax—the black marketeers hoards get bigger and bigger.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member has taken 25 minutes.

**Shri Goenka:** I will conclude in two minutes. But let me make a final request to the hon. Minister. I would like him to have his own sources of information. I would like him to have all the information in regard to the forward markets, private or official, in this country. I would like him to study them himself. I would like him then to decide for himself as to what are the commodities which should go on the O.G.L. and what are the commodities which should not go on the O.G.L. This is one of the aspects of the question.

In regard to the cotton textile industry let them fix a quota for exports. Let them decide what should be the quota and then let it be equitably distributed. Let it not be said that all the cloth has been exported and there is a complete famine in this country, and one fine morning we stop that policy and take to another policy and again change it after three months. Let us not go on vacillating on uncertain policies. Let us decide once for all.

Finally I will make one request to my hon. friend the Commerce Minister, and that will be my final request. Let him allow people to read his mind. Let him not speak out. Today I honestly feel that the commercial community, the merchants and other people feel that they cannot rely on the statements of the Government. I am very sorry to say so. But this is exactly the feeling of a class of people. Sir, I would like my hon. friend the Commerce Minister; as he said when he joined office, that he will be absolutely mum, that he will not speak, that he will act. I would like him to act and act in his own way. But let him not speak out. Because, it creates a lot of dislocation in the market, it leads to a lot of complications, it leads to a lot of speculation, and when they know it is not done, for very good reasons, there is a grievance that people cannot rely upon the statements of the Government. I am saying this in all humility. I will beg of you not to misunderstand. I only tell him in the best interests of our country and in the best interests of the Government and everybody concerned.

**Shri M. C. Shah (Bombay):** At the outset I must say that I was first puzzled as to why the Ministries of Commerce and Industry were kept separate. I was very happy when I learnt during

the session that the Ministries of Commerce and Industry were joined together under one Minister so that there may be better co-ordination and efficiency.

If we survey the entire field of commerce and industry for the last year I think we can come to one conclusion namely that the policy followed by the Ministry was one of hesitancy, inaction, belated action and sometimes of drift. Sir, my hon. friend Mr. Goenka has already spoken about textiles. So I will not take much time over it. The hon. Minister on the 8th March stated in his reply to a short notice question that the position was improving as far as cloth and yarn were concerned. I have got some experience and I know also from those who have experience that the position has not improved at all. When I went to Ahmedabad last week I found that the black-market was flourishing like anything. I was informed by a reliable person that cloth of certain varieties cannot be obtained at controlled rates. At times the cloth was sold at 209 per cent. of the control price. Now it has receded and has gone to 150 per cent. Of course it is with regard to certain varieties only. The unfortunate position is that the policy of allowing export in the early months of 1950 and thereafter was so disastrous. It was pointed out then that if you export cloth of coarse and medium counts spun from Indian cotton which was controlled at a very low price when compared with the ruling rates of the world market, then naturally there will be scarcity of that cloth and at the same time the home consumers shall have to consume cloth, which costs about Rs. 1-2-0 or Rs. 1-3-0 a yard, that was spun from the imported cotton the price of which was very high. That has now come too true. The production has gone down. The peak production was in 1948 when it went to 4,300 millions. In 1949 it went down and in 1950 the production was less by about 36.25 millions or so. There was certainly some loss of production because of the strike in Bombay and there was a shortage of 203 millions. But there were about thirtyone units not working. They were uneconomic units. I am told certainly that they are uneconomic units. But it was up to the Ministry to consult the experts and find out the way how to increase the production. That was not done and the acute shortage is there.

There is another cause and that is shortage of cotton. That too, as I have stated was due to the policy of belated action. That is so. I am most reliably informed that mill-owners were prepared to purchase cotton from

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America which then stood at Rs. 1,500, but the decision came very very late when America banned the export and the price went up to Rs. 2,000 and odd. Egyptian cotton was available at about Rs. 2,200 but there again the price shot up to Rs. 4,900 or so. The shortage remained there. The cloth shortage came and at the same time shortage in yarn also.

We all know that there are about 25 lakh handlooms in the whole country and about one crore and fifteen lakh people are dependent on these handlooms. But because of the shortage of yarn only 40 per cent. of their requirements is being allowed to these handlooms and therefore these people have to remain idle. The position ought to have been improved.

I was speaking about the belated action, about inaction and about drift and I would like to give just one or two instances. In respect of Bengal cotton 1,50,000 bales were allowed to be exported. The control price was something like Rs. 600 plus export duty of about Rs. 800. But these exporters were allowed to sell it at Rs. 1,900 to Rs. 2,000. That means that those exporters or businessmen were allowed to bag a profit of several crores of rupees. As a matter of fact, if those 1,50,000 bales had been sent to the mills which could have produced so much of cloth of 10 to 12 counts, we would have to a certain extent solved the question of shortage.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair]

But 1,50,000 bales were allowed to be exported and that too at control rates plus Rs. 800 export duty. As a matter of fact if the Government had taken all this and wanted to export it for purposes of getting goods from Japan, they could have done it on a Government level and got those few crores to the Government treasury. That was not done. Sir, such is the position with regard to other matters also. Today the position is that the handlooms are practically starved because they get only 40 per cent. of their requirements, and so there is unemployment, starvation, hardship and suffering. Still, when questions are put we are told that 'the position is improving'. As a matter of fact I do not find that the position is improving. It is good that the hon. Minister has already appointed two high-power Development Committees and I am sure that if full powers are given to these Committees and if their advice is acted upon then there is some hope for improvement in the situation very soon.

That is about cotton and about textiles. Let us now take up other things and examine what is the position. In regard to cotton waste there was a proposal to have 50 per cent. export duty. Then the matter was represented to the Ministries and the hon. the Minister of Commerce and Industry and the then Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Finance were kind enough to hear those representations, and the duty was lowered to 20 per cent. From the 1st of March the duty has been raised to 50 per cent. But unfortunately no exports are allowed. Though the Finance Minister has put about Rs. 1 crore as the income I am told that about a lakh of bales are still lying with the merchants. They are not allowed to be exported and no decision has yet been taken. There is suffering for the merchants. There is loss of money to the public Exchequer and no decision has yet been taken. If exports are to be banned, I am entirely for it. Let every ounce of cotton waste be put to use if our mills are able to spin yarn from that. But then the policy has to be decided upon. It must be decided soon so that there should be no unnecessary hardship to the trade. Let the normal trade channels put their position before the Government and let Government act upon it. I am sure that trade and industry will fully co-operate with you.

With regard to other controls I will refer to cement. There was a question of decontrolling cement. The production has gone up. It is now 2.6 millions and the capacity is for 3.1 million tons. There is also further production going to be to the extent of 6 laks tons next year, i.e., by the end of 1951. Thus we will have more than sufficient production of cement. I ask why should there be control now? There was a discussion about decontrolling cement. The hon. Minister of Industry and Supply also stated in Madras that the question was under consideration by the Government, but still no action is taken. Why should there be control when there is enough production? When I visited Bombay last August, though the production was going up, and there was no scarcity, there was a proposal to raise the price by Rs. 10 per ton, what was the reason for the Government to raise the prices of cement by about Rs. 10 per ton. I discussed this matter with the trade interests and we were all surprised and I had to write a letter to the hon. Minister for Industry stating that this proposal of the rise of Rs. 10 was absolutely unjustified. After this, the matter was dropped. I am happy to learn this. Today there are three factories in the South which might lose and therefore cement may not be decontrolled. That, I think is not the right



policy. By all means encourage these three factories, subsidize them if necessary but if there is no case now for control, why should the control be kept even for a minute further? Why should money be unnecessarily wasted on the staff that is kept?

Then I come to the question of coal. Here also the production has gone up. It is more than 31.9 million tons. The offtake is from 26 to 28 million tons. There is no case now for keeping any control over coal. Why should it not be removed? I feel that all controls except where it is necessary, should be lifted up as soon as possible. But nothing of the sort is being done.

As regards steel and pig iron there is scarcity. The production of pig iron is about 2,80,000 tons and the consumption is more than 3 lakh tons. I am told that a good quantity is to be exported to Japan. I am told also that some quantity is to be given to Pakistan. When we have got many small industries existing in India and when so many engineering industries have come up during this World War II, yet they are not given their full quota. If you have got this, 2,80,000 tons or more, I ask why should you not distribute it equitably among these engineering firms and why should any of this quantity be exported? I appeal to the hon. Minister of Industry and Commerce to consider all these points and to come to a decision as early as possible. Sir, I have much to say on many topics, but as my time is up, I am sorry, I cannot deal with them.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** Madam, I never expected that I will be getting a chance to speak today on this Ministry, i.e., Industry and Commerce.

**Mr. Chairman:** I would request the hon. Member to strictly confine to the time limit because there are a large number of Members who want to speak.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** I shall strictly confine myself to the time which is allotted to me, Madam. I think the Industry and Commerce Ministry is perhaps the live wire for the shaping of the economic structure of the country. Looking from this angle I visualize that the shaping of the future economy of the country depends mostly on these two Ministries, Industry and Commerce which have been amalgamated recently. I am very glad to see that for this Himalayan task, we have got a capable and earnest Minister in charge of the portfolio and I have great confidence that before he relinquishes the job, we will have a different economy altogether. Of course, for a settled economy, we require planning and we have appointed the Planning

Commission. I am not a critic of the Planning Commission as such, but I think without having a settled philosophy of economy before us, the Planning Commission, whatever reports it may produce, will not be of any use at all either for the country or for any Government. My complaint is that the Government have not only not prepared the people but they themselves are not prepared for a settled economy in the country. That is why we have not got an industrial policy. We have not yet a settled commercial policy nor any other social policy either for the people or for the Government itself. We have had enough planning in the country before and the Congress which is in power today had planned even in 1935 itself and had appointed a Planning Commission at that time and that Commission had done a lot of work and submitted its report. After that we have in the country the Tata Birla Plan and the plan of Gandhiji which was submitted by the Sewagram friends. None of these plans was useful to the Government nor the Government had any interest in working any of these plans, even though it was in power for the last four years. I think, recently the Prime Minister has come forward with a statement that within 2 months' time we will have the report of the Planning Commission and that the industrial, commercial and other developments of the country will depend upon that. I am certain that whatever reports we may produce, unless we prepare the country for a philosophy of economy or for a social order, no plan will be able to give a new enthusiasm, a new set-up or a new order in the country. That is the prime thing of the country today. Of course, it is high time for us to decide whether we want a capitalistic or socialist order. What we have today is a confused social order and confused thinking in the economic field altogether. We have no industrial plan to carry on long range plans. For example, take the case of hydro electric schemes. It is my humble submission, Madam, that even when these hydro electric schemes are completed, we will not have enough industries to make use of them. Thus we are working in a haphazard way; we are planless when we organize the industrial development of the country. It is high time for us to see whether private enterprise will succeed or not. My own personal view is that we have not given the capitalists of the country enough opportunities to see whether they could give us a controlled economy or a kind of a capitalist economy or radical economy in the country. I have got some hopes in the capitalists of India. But, my complaint is that Government has not given them the

[Shri R. Velayudhan]

opportunity to work. The surprising thing is that the Government have not given a chance even to the radical economic section in the country also. That is the greatest handicap in the way today. It is confusion that is pervading the country. There is psychological confusion; there is political confusion; there is confusion in the Government set up also. The time for a capitalistic system of economy has gone for ever in Asia. It is time to have a socialistic system of economy. We are having a number of controls today. Government is aware of the corruption, malpractices and blackmarketing in the country. But, at the same time, the Government is not able to get out of the control-mania because it has fallen into the vicious circle there. Take for example cement. It is well known in the country that we have got enough cement. Yet, the Government is not going to de-control it. Take the case of salt. Government itself has given forthright statements that there is enough salt in the country; yet it is not de-controlling salt. All these troubles, chaos, confusion have been created by Government because of these measures which they have introduced.

Let us turn to food control also. I can understand if there is strict control and strict rationing in the country. There is neither strict control nor strict rationing. Hundreds of people are queuing up before cloth shops. Have you heard at any time in the history of this country that people starving for want of cloth? Is it not a crime on the part of Government to allow people to go without cloth when we have got enough textile mills in the country, and when we have got handloom weaving in this country? Who is responsible for this? Is not the Government guilty for the present state of maladministration in the country, guilty for the misery, troubles and starvation of these people? I accuse them because I stand for the poor people, the common man, in the country. The Government is responsible for the present confusion in the industrial and commercial field. Nobody else is responsible.

I stand for private enterprise, because private enterprise will have a lot to do in this country today. Even the communist China, when they came into power, have removed all controls on factors that go towards capital formation. They have given free hand to private enterprise; but they have got the intelligence; they have got the drive

and they have got a specific economic plan. Behind all, the communist ideology is there. In India, there is a Government which has a tradition which was built up by the Master of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. We have not got that economic philosophy today; we have gone away from it. Even take the khadi industry. What has this Ministry done for that? That is a small thing when compared to the huge waste that this Government is incurring on the nation-building programmes which are mostly nation ruining devices. I was very happy when hon. Mr. Mahtab came to office, because he was a trusted follower of Mahatma Gandhi and I thought he will put first things first and that he would give a fillip to the khadi industry. Today, that industry is going out. A week before, the Secretary of the All India Spinners' Association has stated that he is winding up his Association and giving it up. Government is spending a lot of money. I ask, why cannot the Government come forward with a plan for the formation of a great corporation to take up all the village industries, and work out the constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi, instead of going to large-scale industries and wasting money. You do not know the technique of large scale industries; you have not got the trained personnel. Our tradition is a different one. We have an ancient culture and an ancient civilisation. We have our own rural organisations. Why not revive those rural organisations, in a socialist nature. It is no use saying that we are going for communism, that we are going for radicalism. All these things are invited by the Government and by nobody else. For planned industrialisation of the country, we will have to look to the background and traditions of the people. It is foolish to think that with hydro-electric power alone we can do everything in the country when the small man has not even a pie to purchase kerosene daily. It is simply a dream of the dreamers who think that they can create an industrial civilisation within the twinkling of the eye. That is impossible. We have got about forty crores of people in the country. We will have to give them food, clothing and shelter. These are the primary necessities. There is no good in saying that you will be giving them pre-fab houses after 10 years. Leaving the background and traditions of the people we are thinking in terms of large scale industries and wasting crores of rupees at the expense of the starving millions in the country. This Government is trading on the Carcasses of the people of this country. Four years time is quite enough for a Government at least to create a State of

a welfare satisfactory to a large number of people. I do not believe that the Government would create a revolution in the country. I do not believe that you are capable to introduce communism or socialism in the country. But let something be done immediately to give the people the above mentioned three elementary benefits. The problem could have been solved if you had the will. But, the Government is thinking of something else. They have wasted a lot of money. They are thinking of western culture and civilisation. But, they have failed in satisfying the people of the country.

**Dr. Deshmukh (Madhya Pradesh):** I am very glad that at long last, although late, the Ministries of Industry and Commerce were joined together. When sitting as Member of the State Trading Committee, this issue had although only indirectly come up before us, as a result of the evidence given by the officers of these two Ministries and it was apparent to us that one of the first things that the Government would be well-advised to do was to combine these two Ministries. I am also glad that we have in charge of this Ministry a person who is active, who is capable of taking decisions on his own, unfettered by the advice that he receives from the Secretariat. Yet, I am afraid, I must say that things have not improved to the extent that we would like them to improve. So far as industries are concerned, there is certainly an improvement and considerable noteworthy progress as is seen from the report supplied to us. But, I am constrained to say that much of this progress is in spite of the Government and not because of the Government. From razor blades to ship-building, there is progress and the country has geared itself to fairly rapid industrialisation. But, the help that the industries receive from the Ministry and from the officers, is precious little. I may give one instance which shows the general way in which most of the things are done so far as import licences for raw materials and other facilities are concerned.

Take the case of the biscuit industry. There is installed capacity so far as biscuit manufacture is concerned to the extent of 22,100 tons. The flour requirements are 15,480 tons, whereas the supply to these biscuit factories has been as follows. In 1948 it was 3,990 tons, in 1949 it was 1,715 tons and in 1950 it is likely to be something like 4,916 tons. That is to say the supply is hardly a third of the requirements, even in 1950 and it has been

much less in the other years. So, on the one hand Government wants to encourage industries, to achieve greater industrialisation of the country and they issue permits for importing costly machinery from abroad; but when these come what happens here? They are not allowed to be used for one reason or the other. Can you imagine any factory or industry can survive or make any progress under these circumstances when the raw material required is not being supplied to them in sufficient quantities? In spite of the combination of the Ministries of Commerce and Industry, and their whole-hearted support, I understand that this matter is held up in the Food Ministry. Hon. Members may feel that biscuits is an article of luxury and a matter not deserving of any urgent attention. But a little reflection would show that that is not so. I would like to inform the House that we were importing—and we shall probably continue to import if we do not produce it in the country—biscuits to the minimum of Rs. 35 lakhs and sometimes the imports were as much as Rs. 1 crore. If we want to stop this drain from this country, stop this strain on our foreign exchange resources, we have to help the people to produce the biscuits that we want to produce. If you do not believe in manufacturing biscuits and want to stop their consumption altogether, then come to such a decision and stop all these factories or confiscate them or do something of that sort. But if you want the biscuits to be produced and if you want these industries to flourish, then this sort of policy of the Government should stop. Sir, this is not the only instance. I can give many. The hon. Minister probably does not have an idea of the number of persons who have come to grief because the raw material required for their industry has been supplied in the most inadequate, in the most feasting manner. If Government is not able to make the supply, why do they not state that clearly? They seem to have bungled in a large number of items and things and there is hardly any redeeming feature in the matter of supply of raw materials to the industries. We have had a long debate in this House on Jute and our hon. friend Mr. Tyagi told the hon. Minister of Commerce that he must dismiss almost everybody in that Ministry. If he were on the Industries Ministry then, I am sure he would have probably recommended a similar step in respect of that Ministry also. But my contention is that a little more sense should be imported into the administration of these Ministries. We have a set of people on the treasury benches there—very nice people—but many of them are either abnormal or subnormal.

[Dr. Deshmukh]

Very few of them are normal and exercise their commonsense, excepting of course, my friend Mr. Tyagi. Generally I feel the exercise of commonsense is very much wanting. So far as Mr. Mahtab is concerned, he has strong commonsense and he can take decisions also, and I hope he will use it a little more and not allow things to drift in the way they do now. We appointed an Export Promotion Committee and that committee recommended certain things. We were concerned with our balance of payment position. It was not favourable. We wanted this state of adverse balances should be cured and so for the purpose of increasing exports the Committee made its recommendations. What happened? The whole Ministry and the whole Government went blindly after that report without stopping to see what the consequences would be. The deficiency in textiles Sir, is a sad commentary on the efficiency of the Government. The Government should have known what this export of yarn, this export of cotton, this export of cloth would lead to. They should have known that such indiscriminate export would inevitably lead to scarcity of cloth. It is no good my hon. friend coming here and trying to convince us by long explanations and saying that he is doing everything that is possible. True, he is doing everything that is possible, but the question is, why did he not or why did not his predecessor act correctly at the proper time? We do not question the sincerity or the intentions of any one. But neither good intentions nor hard work take us anywhere. The Minister must be able to deliver the goods which this Government, I am sorry to say, has failed to do. I feel the Government would have saved itself from many a blunder had the intelligence in this House been made proper use of. Certain concrete proposals were placed before Government by me on behalf of a group of Members of this House. Some 24 of us went round the country and saw how the various industries were working and we made a few specific suggestions to the hon. Minister for his consideration. We said these are the things which should be done if you want to help these industries and to help these people to industrialise the country. But I am sorry to say that Government has not seen the wisdom of these suggestions. They ...

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may resume his speech after lunch.

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.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair]

Dr. Deshmukh: I was dealing with the suggestion I had made to the hon. Minister about constituting a committee, a very small committee, representative of Members of the House as well as industrialists and labour, just to find out the ways and means and make suggestions so that we may be able to help the industries in the country and remove some at least of their handicaps. Because, we find that many of the industries were being handicapped without any necessity to do so, and there were many things which were easily remediable as a result of which the industries would have greatly benefited. When the hon. Minister is creating so many new bodies and development committees, I would suggest to him always to include a few Members of this House on those committees. There is a distinct advantage in consulting the representatives of the people. At present I find that in many instances these committees are exclusively composed of either the merchants or some other representatives, but very few Members of this House are associated with them. I do not want to suggest any particular names for that purpose I am prepared to leave it entirely to his choice—but it is very necessary that he should have some idea of the other sides and bearings of question which otherwise is not likely to be present before him.

There are some things which occasionally take place which are not strictly in consonance with the general policy of the Government. For instance, I think I am correct in saying that this Government does not like monopolies, whether it is of jagirdars, malguzars or zamindars. Everywhere we want to cut down private monopoly, but when the cotton situation was getting out of hand, although we hold and stated that it was not getting out of hand, the Government decided to handover the monopoly purchase of all the cotton in a particular area in my State to only 4 persons. My submission is that this is not at all in consonance with the Government's policy. Wherever monopolies are necessary there should be State monopolies and not private monopolies. Well, the result of this order of appointing only four people to buy all the cotton in a few districts was that the cotton markets were closed for a very long time and a lot of people suffered as a result of this. If monopolies are to be created, let them be state monopolies.

It is time that these nominees are completely removed.

This naturally brings me to the question of state-trading. It is a long time back that the State Trading Committee reported and we are told that the recommendations are still under consideration. As a matter of fact, when the State Trading Committee reported, the situation in the country and in the world was quite different. There was no Korean war, and it was pointed out to us that there was every possibility of trade and commerce coming back to normalcy. It was for that reason that we did not recommend a wholesale recourse to state-trading. But if one were to consider the recommendations of that Committee in the present context and examine them against the present background one would be forced to recommend that state-trading is absolutely desirable on a much larger scale and no time should be lost in resorting to it. I am glad to find from the debate on the jute question that even the hon. Finance Minister not only does not abhor it but likes it considerably and thinks that that is one of the ways of dealing with the jute problem. What losses we have suffered in jute is a matter for calculation. I think the former Commerce Minister admitted that at a conservative estimate the loss was at least Rs. 12 crores. According to my friend, Mr. Goenka, the amount went up to Rs. 48 crores.

Jute has been discussed at length but we have not had sufficient time to discuss the losses on cotton. The matter was referred to by my friend, Mr. Shah, earlier and if we similarly calculate the losses on the export of cotton, on the export of yarn and on the export of textiles, I am sure there would be another Rs. 50 crores of losses that we have suffered. So far as short staple cotton is concerned, it is being sold today at Rs. 1,950 per bale. Rs. 600 is the statutory price fixed by the Government, Rs. 800 per bale is the duty and the net profit derived by the merchant is Rs. 550. All this would have come to Government treasury if we had a state-trading scheme. And I am glad to say that the State Trading Committee had recommended trading in raw cotton specifically as an item worthy of being taken up. If we calculate the losses we have been made unnecessarily to suffer the amount lost would be colossal and if we had really been wise enough to save this amount we would not have been driven to the sorry pass to which the country has come today from the point of view of its finances. The somewhat inconsiderate export of yarn has led to a very very bad situation. I had given notice of an adjournment motion on the situ-

ation and satyagraha by weavers in Nagpur. In fact, the situation that obtains in Nagpur obtains in almost every textile centre. These persons, lakhs of them, have suffered for months and months; they are not getting sufficient quota of yarn. Whatever they get is very little as a major portion of it goes into the blackmarket. God knows how! Then there was in Nagpur a slump as a result of which there was no demand for the goods. The poor weaver who lives by nothing else but weaving found there was no demand for their goods. This led to a cut throat competition amongst them. If one offered a sari for Rs. 10 another offered it for Rs. 9-8-0 whether he could afford it or not because if he wants his family to live he must sell. There were actual riots when some of them tried to sell their manufactures at unremunerative prices because want of sale meant they could not buy yarn nor carry on their avocation. The situation has really been so desperate that nobody can blame the weavers for resorting to *satyagraha*. I am glad to say that due to the preachings of Mahatmaji in this country they resorted to *satyagraha*—I am sure if Mahatmaji had not taken his birth in this land and preached non-violence they would never have stopped at *satyagraha* alone. The situation is really desperate. Those who have seen things for themselves alone can realize it. Ten lakhs of weavers in Madhya Pradesh who have stood by the country, who have stood by the national movements in the country, who have always been with the Congress—most of them belong to the Congress—today hate the very name of Congress, dislike the sight of a white cap, they dislike everybody who is in authority on behalf of the Congress. And yet the *satyagrahis* carry the tri-colour and shout *Mahatma Gandhi ki Jai*. This is the situation which has arisen in Madhya Pradesh. An M. L. A. who has been elected on a Congress ticket is in jail, and there are many complaints against the treatment meted out to him in jail.—I am sure copies of telegrams sent by his wife must have been received by the hon. Minister.

Madam, all these things were entirely avoidable. When we were indulging in the campaign to export more, there should have been somebody who should have seen what consequences would follow out such exports.

Next I come to the question of ship-building. I am very glad to find that the only ship-building yard in the country is being helped and that Government has come forward with orders for building another three ships. In this connection, there is a slight mistake in the Estimates Committee's re-

[Dr. Deshmukh]

port which I would like to point out. The Estimates Committee is under the impression that it would be necessary to have as many as eight berths. Of course it would be ideal to have eight berths, but for the present if the number is increased even to four or five that would be quite sufficient. It would also be more economical. If we accept the necessity of adding two or three more berths only, then the expenditure involved would not be very much more than about Rs. 2.5 crores, and this expenditure could easily be spread over at least three to four years thus bringing the annual outlay to about fifty lakhs only. If that estimate is correct, I am sure the hon. Minister will not find it difficult to help the Scindhias immediately. I am glad that one of his colleagues Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar has already proclaimed that the financial difficulty is not insurmountable. I hope that this view of the matter would be taken into immediate consideration and the Estimates Committee's recommendations accepted without delay. Next ship-building, I attach the highest possible importance to the linked question of manufacture of steel. That should have the highest possible priority and I am sorry to see that sufficient earnestness has not been shown so far as manufacture of steel is concerned. I submit that that should receive every possible help and if we are really in earnest I think it should not be difficult to find the finances necessary. If need be, we may even stop some of our other activities and give this a higher priority.

I have already referred to jute as well as raw cotton. My friend Mr. Goenka referred to the vagaries of the orders so far as O. G. L. is concerned. I think there is much to be said so far as the inclusion and exclusion of items in the O. G. L. are concerned. It has been pointed out to me that there is a definite habit from which the Commerce Ministry regularly suffers. Whenever it issues a certain notification every three or six months within about two days' or three days' time of its issue an errata is issued. I do not know how this happens so habitually. I have also reasons to believe that the men who stand to benefit from these corrections of mistakes or conniving of errors already know that within two or three days' time there shall be an errata in which certain more articles would be included. Thus the allegations of my hon. friend Mr. Goenka are not at all exaggerated. We have definite instances where certain people have benefited simply because of the manipulation of the omission and addition of certain articles in the O. G. L.

So far as licensing is concerned, I want to suggest a certain improvement in the procedure. I think that there should be a counterfoil attached to the very application for licence and that alone should be brought or sent whenever it is necessary to extend the time or renew the licence. An advantage of having a counterfoil like that would be that that particular person will have to bring it or send it and it will also be possible to know how far he has utilised the licence that was issued to him. There are lots of malpractices so far as licences are concerned. I think a very large percentage of the people do not use licences themselves. They are in the habit of selling them to others. I do not think that any steps have been taken to stop that, although there is considerable improvement in dealing with these licences. But what I mentioned about biscuit factories still continues and holds good elsewhere also. A factory which wants about 150 tons of steel is given about 20 tons. It can neither dispense with the services of the people employed nor keep them on because it is not possible to carry on the industry. These are the difficulties which are easily removable. I hope the suggestions I have been able to make within the short time at my disposal would be acceptable.

**श्रीमती उमा मेहता :** श्रीमती बेयरमन साहिबा, आजकल की हालत को देखते हुए मैं अपनी सरकार को मुबारकबाद देती हूँ। क्योंकि आजकल की फिजा मे हमारी सरकार ने वास्तव में घरेलू उद्योग धंधों में कमाल दिखलाया है। मैंने रिपोर्ट को एक बार नहीं अनेक बार पढ़ा है। मैं समझती थी, मैं धोखे में थी कि जहाँ और उद्योग धंधों में काम हुआ है वहाँ शायद हमारी सरकार ने चरखे के सूत के बारे में भी कुछ काम किया होगा और वह काम रिपोर्ट में दिखलाई देगा। लेकिन मालूम नहीं इसमें उसका जिक्र क्यों नहीं है। शायद इस वजह से ऐसा हो क्योंकि आजकल का जमाना बदला हुआ है और चरखे का सूत ज्यादा पापुलर (Popular) भी नहीं है। और यह तो दूसरी बात है। लेकिन असल में जो बात देखने की है वह यह कि किस तरह के इस तरह

सालों में इस इन्डस्ट्रीज डिपार्टमेंट (Industries Department) ने इस काम को चलाया है। इस काम को इस तरह शुरू किया गया कि बड़ी मेहनत से इसके लिए एक बोर्ड (Board) बनाया गया। उस बोर्ड में ४५ मेम्बर (Members) रहे और फिर उसमें कुछ कमेटियों (Committees) भी बनाई गईं। उस बोर्ड को तैयार करने के बाद हमारे मिनिस्टर (Minister) साहब उसके चेयरमैन (Chairman) मूकरीर हुए। फिर हम क्या देखते हैं कि तीन बरस के अन्दर हमारे इस बोर्ड ने बहुत परिश्रम करके दो मीटिंग (Meetings) कीं। उसके बाद हमको यह देखना पड़ता है कि इन तीन बरसों के अन्दर इस बोर्ड ने जिसमें कि इतने योग्य लोग थे वो मीटिंगें करके जो काम किया उसका क्या असर हुआ और उस बोर्ड से क्या फायदा हुआ। उसके काम पर नजर करते हैं तो हम देखते हैं कि नई दिल्ली में एक इम्पोरियम (Emporium) खोला गया है। उसके बाद हम देखते हैं कि क्वीन्सवे (Queensway) पर औरतों के लिए सेंटर खोला गया है। फिर हम क्या देखते हैं कि अलीगढ़ के पास हरदुआगंज में हमारे भाइयों के लिए एक सेंटर कायम किया गया है। फिर हम यह देखते हैं कि बड़ी मेहनत के बाद अमरीका में भी एक छोटा सा आफिस खोला है, और सबसे कमाल की बात यह है कि हमने क्वीन मेरी जहाज में अपनी कारीगरी का एक छोटा सा शोकेस (Show case) रख दिया है यह सब बातें हमारे सामने रखी गई हैं। इसके साथ साथ हम यह भी देखते हैं कि इन तीन बरसों के अन्दर हमने एक डेली-गेशन (Delegation) जापान भेजा और

धर्रा से हमने चालीस हजार रुपये की मशीनें मंगाईं और यह मशीनें काई सी तरह की चीजें तैयार करने वाली हैं। लेकिन उन में कितनी चीजें तैयार होनी हैं इसका पता नहीं। आजकल सरसों के तेल का बड़ा रोना है। जब हम हरदुआगंज सेंटर जाकर पूछते हैं कि क्या तेल है तो मालूम होता है कि तेल नहीं है क्योंकि सरसों ही नहीं भेजी जाती है। इस हालत में तेल कहां से हो सकता है। इस तरह की कई चीजें हमको दिखाई देती हैं। नहीं मालूम होता कि किस तरह यह काम हो रहा है। जब महात्मा गांधी जिन्दा थे तो उनकी शिक्षा के अनुसार हमने भी कंस्ट्रक्टिव वर्क (Constructive work) किया था, हमने भी आश्रम बनाये थे और हमने भी इस तरह के काम किये थे, लेकिन उसमें जरा भेद था। भेद यह है कि जबतक दृष्टिकोण नहीं बदलेगी तबतक इन घरेलू उद्योग, धन्धों में कोई कामयाबी नहीं हो सकती। जब हम मुल्क में घूमते हैं तो यह देखते हैं। अगर हम मुजफ्फर नगर जाते हैं तो हमको वहां लोग घेर लेते हैं और कहते हैं कि उन दो। उन न मिलने की वजह से अब मुजफ्फर नगर के कम्बल खत्म हो गये हैं। अब हमको वह कम्बल नहीं मिलते क्योंकि उन लोगों के पास उन नहीं है। लेकिन जब हम मारकेट (Market) में जाते हैं तो हमको इटली के कम्बल उभर मिल जाते हैं और वह मुजफ्फरनगर के कम्बल से सस्ते मिलते हैं। इसका भेद तो हमारी सरकार जाने कि यह बात क्यों है। अगर आप मिरजापुर जायें तो वहां कालीन के उद्योग में वही रोना है। उनके पास सूत नहीं। चारों तरफ फाके मस्ती हो रही है। जिस वक्त हम यह सब मुल्क में देखते हैं तो समझ में नहीं आता कि

[ श्रीमती उमा नेहरू ]

क्या काम हो रहा है और हम क्या कर रहे हैं। इस रिपोर्ट को मैंने आज ही नहीं पहिले भी कई बार देखा है। जैसा कि मैंने कहा इससे मालूम होता है कि हमने चालीस हजार की मशीनें मंगाई हैं जिनसे सौ तरह के धन्धे हम बनाने वाले हैं। लेकिन इससे यह जाहिर नहीं होता कि इनसे कितना काम हमने किया है। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि इश्तिहार का काम तो किया गया है मगर इसके अलावा हमने कुछ नहीं किया है। इससे यह नहीं मालूम होता कि वास्तव में हमने कितना काम किया और वास्तव में अपने धन्धों को कहीं तक जिन्दा रखा। हमको मालूम होता है कि जितने भी हमारे घरेलू धन्धे हैं हमारी कार्टेज इंजिनीज हैं वह जिन्दा नहीं है। मुझे रोज और अकसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि वह बिल्कुल जिन्दा नहीं है और मुझे आज यह बात याद आती है कि अगर किसी देश को नष्ट होना होता है तो उसकी कारीगरी पहिले नष्ट हो जाती है।

आप को मालूम है कि ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी जिस वक्त यहां आई थी उस वक्त उस ने पहली चीज यह की कि देश की कारीगरी को नष्ट किया। लेकिन हम मिटे नहीं और आज हम अपनी यह दशा देख नहीं सकते। हम यह सोचते हैं कि ऐसी हालत में हमारा क्या फ़र्क होना चाहिये। यह हम ने माना कि पश्चिम ने बहुत बड़े भारी काम किये हैं, हम समझते हैं कि उस ने बहुत कुछ किया है। लेकिन फिर भी हम पश्चिम को अपना इतना बड़ा आईडियल (Ideal) नहीं बना सकते कि हम अपना सारा रुपया वहां खर्च कर दें और हमारे यहां के धन्धे बन्द हो जाय और हमारे यहां सब कारखाने बन्द

पड़े रहें। हमें तो पहले इस चीज पर विचार करना है कि पहले हम जिन्दा रहें और पीछे हम और कहीं बाहर अपनी नज़र डालें। लेकिन अभी मुझ से मेरे एक मित्र ने कहा कि यह कैसे हो सकता है। आज तो आप को सूत बाहर देना होगा, आप को तो ऊन बाहर देना होगा, क्योंकि उस के एक्ज में आप को अन्न मिलता है। अब हमारे सामने प्रश्न यह है, या तो हम खाये पेट भर कर और नंगे रहें या हम कपड़ा पहनें और भूखे रहें। यह सवाल हमारे सामने है। यह सवाल, मैं समझती हूँ, हमारी कांग्रेस की सरकार के सामने भी है। इस की वह देख समझ रही है, इस पर उस ने विचार किया है। महात्मा गांधीजी से उस को शिक्षा भी मिली है और इसे वह पूरा कर रही है। हम इस सवाल को हल करेंगे जब कि हम अपनी कारीगरी को जिन्दा करेंगे जब ही पश्चिमीय देश हमारे आगे सर मुकाबले लेकिन हम यह नहीं कर सकते कि पश्चिमी देशों को कच्चा माल दे दे कर हम अपने आप को खत्म कर दें।

इन बातों के बाद मैं आप से यह कहना चाहती हूँ और सोचा भी करती हूँ कि खादी की आखिर क्यों उन्नति नहीं हुई और इस का प्रचार क्यों कम होता जाता है। जब मैं इस हाउस में आती हूँ तो देखती हूँ जितने हमारे मेम्बरस पार्लियामेंट में हैं वह सब खादी में लिपटे हुए हैं, खादी के कपड़े पहने हुए हैं, खादी की टोपियां दिये हुए हैं। जितने कांग्रेस के मेम्बर हैं वह सब खादी पहने हुए हैं। लेकिन इस का नतीजा लाभदायक नहीं। आज तीन वर्ष से हमारी हुकूमत हो रही है। हमारी हुकूमत ने खादी का जरा भी प्रचार यहां नहीं किया। प्रचार का मतलब भेरा यह है कि यह हमारा धर्म था, हमारा फ़र्क था कि जितने यूनीफ़ॉर्म



(uniforms) यहां सैक्रेटेरिएट (Secretariat) में खर्च होते हैं वह सब खादी के होने चाहिये थे, और जितना भी कपड़ा हम यहां खर्च करते हैं वह खादी का होना चाहिये था। अगर हम ऐसा करते तो मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारी काटेंज इंडस्ट्री अवश्य फलती और फूलती।

अब मैं ज्यादा समय न ले कर इतना आप से कह दूँ कि मैं जब छोटी थी तो मैं ने एक किताब पढ़ी थी और वह किताब थी "अंधेर नगरी चौपट राजा"। लेकिन मैं यह अंधेर नगरी चौपट राजा नहीं कह सकती क्योंकि मेरे एक आध भाई ने जिन्होंने सन् १९४० में यह कहा था, अंधेर नगरी चौपट राजा, वह जेलखाने भेज दिये गये थे। मुझे तो सिर्फ इतना ही कहना है कि यह क्या बात है सब इतने काबिल आदमी हैं, और काटेंज इंडस्ट्री का काम बिल्कुल सिफर है, कुछ है ही नहीं। काटेंज इंडस्ट्री नाममात्र को है। इस आप की रिपोर्ट में सिवाय मैसूर की चर्चा के और कुछ नहीं है। मैसूर की चर्चा बहुत है, मैसूर क्या क्या तैयार करता है, लेकिन हम सेंटर से क्या करते हैं इस की चर्चा बिल्कुल नहीं है। मुझे तो यह सब देख कर यह कहना पड़ता है कि "अनबूझ नगरी, अनजान राजा"।

अब ज्यादा न कह कर मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से यह कहूंगी कि मैं तो कुछ शब्द उन के वास्ते कह ही नहीं सकती, क्योंकि मेरी तो हालत यह है कि अगर मैं कांग्रेस के किसी नुमायन्दे से कुछ कहती हूँ तो मुझे मालूम होता है कि मैं खुद अपने आप को कह रही हूँ। लेकिन इतना जरूर मुझे उन से कहना है कि बड़ी इनायत होगी, बड़ी मेहरबानी होगी, अगर वह काटेंज इंडस्ट्रीज को जिन्दा करेंगे। और यहां उन को मैं यह बता दूँ कि जिन्दा करने का

तरीका एक ही होता है और वह यह होता है कि जब तक आप जड़ को मजबूत नहीं करेंगे तब तक पेड़ मजबूत नहीं होगा। जड़ को मजबूत करने के वास्ते तो आप अच्छी तरह जानते हैं कि क्या करना है। सिर्फ आंख पीछने का तरीका रखना कि हम काटेंज इंडस्ट्रीज कर रहे हैं, हम यह कर रहे हैं, हम वह कर रहे हैं, यह एक बिल्कुल गलत चीज है। हम असल में क्या कर रहे हैं, हम ने कितनी उन्नति करी है, वह हम को देखना है।

ज्यादा न कह कर मैं इतना हा मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूंगी कि जहां जहां हमारे कांग्रेस के कंस्ट्रक्टिव प्रोग्राम (Constructive programme) के आश्रम हैं, जो कंस्ट्रक्टिव लाइन्स पर चल रहे हैं, उन को भी जरा अपने दूर (tour) में आप शामिल करें, वहां जा कर आप उन को देखें। दूसरे यह भी देखना है कि वहां कैसे लड़के तैयार हो रहे हैं। अब मैं ज्यादा न कह कर आप को फिर से मुबारकबाद देती हूँ और उम्मीद करती हूँ कि आप वास्तव में इस धरेलू उद्योग धन्धों को जिन्दा कर देंगे।

(English translation of the above speech)

**Shrimati Uma Nehru** (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, considering the present day general conditions, I feel I should congratulate the Government for their remarkable achievements in the sphere of cottage industries. I have read that Report time and over again. I was working under an illusion to think that along with other industries, the Government might have taken up work for the production of the Charkha spun yarn and that a mention thereof might be in the Report. But I do not know for what reasons no reference has been made to this point. It may be that the lapse is due to the changed times and also probably because the Charkha spun yarn is not so very popular now. Anyway, it is altogether a different thing.

But the real thing that deserves our notice is the way the Ministry of Industry have handled this work during the last three years. We find that as

[Shrimati Uma Nehru]

a result of very hard work they have to make a start, set up a Board. 45 members in all constituted its personnel throughout and a number of committees were also appointed subsequently. After its formation, the hon. Minister was elected its Chairman. Then we note that the Board, taking considerable pains, held two meetings in a period of three years. Next we divert our attention to probe into the nett outcome and the good that has come out of these two meetings of the Board which consisted of so many persons of pronounced ability. While reviewing their work, we come to know that firstly an emporium was opened in New Delhi. Again we find that a Women's Centre has been started on the Queensway and we further come to know that a centre has also been opened at Harduaganj in Aligarh for the benefit of our male brethren. We also see that after taking considerable pains they have succeeded in opening a small stall in America and the most remarkable thing to note is that we have now placed a small show-case displaying our skill at handicrafts in the ship "Queen Mary". These facts have been placed before us. Along with these facts we note that a delegation was sent to Japan from which country machinery valued at forty thousand of rupees was purchased. Multifarious articles numbering hundreds can be produced with the help of these machines. But it is not known what things are actually being produced? These days a general complaint about the scarcity of mustard oil is heard. Every time we enquire at the Harduaganj Centre whether it was available we are informed in the negative because of the reason that mustard seeds are not being supplied to them. In the circumstances it is futile to expect that oil could be available. We come across many similar instances. We fail to follow the method that is being followed in the conduct of this work. Following the instructions of Mahatma Gandhi in his life-time, we had also done some constructive work; we too had opened such centres or *ashrams* and had taken to such industries, but all this was done with some difference. The difference was in the outlook. No success can be expected in the cause of cottage industries till the outlook undergoes a change. We feel it wherever we go about the country. Take for instance the complaint that was made to me when I visited Muzaffarnagar. People surrounded us on all sides and demanded that wool should be supplied to them. Because of the inavailability of wool blanket industry of that place

is ruined. We do not get those blankets because the people there do not get wool. Italian blankets, on the other hand, are available in the market and that too at cheaper prices than those made at Muzaffarnagar. Only the Government can explain the reason for this anomaly. Going to Mirzapur, one hears the same complaint with regards the carpet industry. They have no yarn. Starvation reigns supreme everywhere. When we watch all this happening throughout the length and breadth of the country, we feel simply perplexed and are unable to make out anything about the situation as also of our attitude towards it. I have seen this Report many times before. As I have stated we have imported machinery worth forty thousands of rupees which we intend to harness in the operation of multifarious industries. But the Report is quite silent as to the actual use that has so far been made of these machines. The publicity through advertisements etc. has, no doubt, been done but beyond that nothing appears to have been accomplished. The report makes no mention of the actual work that has so far been done and the extent to which we have succeeded in keeping these industries going. It appears to us as if all of our cottage industries have become extinct today. I have to submit with feelings of regret and sorrow that they are altogether lifeless and unsplid and this reminds me today of the saying that crafts of a nation perish first before ruin and destruction overtakes that nation itself. You know well that the first thing that the East India Company did after their capturing power in this country was to destroy all the industries of our land, but we still survived and did not perish. Today we are unable to feel conscious of the conditions to which we were reduced then. Now we think in terms of our duty to meet the present day situation. We admit that the West has wonder achievements to its credit and we realize that they in the West have accomplished a good deal. Despite all this we see no reason to adopt the West as our ideal so much so as to spend all our money in those lands and that too at the expense of our own cottage industries and big factories. We have rather to think how best to maintain first all our own self and only then cast a glance beyond the frontiers of our country. An hon. friend has, however, just observed that this state of affairs is nearly impossible. He maintains that we will have to export yarn and wool to foreign countries as we have got to get foodgrains in return for them. The choice before us, according to him, is either to go hungry and have cloth or to go naked and have the food. The same question, I think,

confronts our Congress Government too. They have been viewing this problem with concern and have also thought over it a good deal. They have had the benefit of Mahatma Gandhi's advice in this matter and have been making efforts to act upto that advice. We are sure to solve this problem some day or the other. The moment we revive our cottage industries, all Western countries will feel subservient to us. It is, however, impossible to think that we should continue to supply them our raw materials and, thus, strangle our own industries.

Further I have to submit and often think over this matter as to what is after all the reason that has held up the progress of the cause of *Khadi* and why its popularity is dwindling everyday. Every time I enter this House, I find all the hon. Members fully clad in *Khadi* and wearing *Khadi* caps. All the Members of the Congress wear *Khadi*. But the outcome of all this is not beneficial in anyway. It is now the third year of our administration of the country but our Government have not done the least publicity in favour of *Khadi*. By publicity what I mean is that it was our duty that all the uniforms required in the Secretariat should have been made of *Khadi* and similarly our other requirements in respect of cloth should have been met from *Khadi*. Had we done so, I feel sure that our cottage industry would have flourished by this time.

Next, not taking any more time, I would submit that in childhood I had read a book entitled *Andher Nagri Chopat Raja* (corrupt Government foolish king). I however cannot use this expression because the people who had used it in 1940 were sent to prison. I would, therefore, like to know as to what is after all the matter that despite their being so outstandingly capable, their achievements in the sphere of cottage industries are absolutely nil. The word cottage industry exists merely in name. The whole of your report is full of praise for Mysore and there is nothing in it besides that. It is full of what and what not Mysore is doing, but it makes no reference at all to what we in the Centre are doing in this behalf. Seeing all this I feel constrained to quote the proverb *anbujh nagri anjan raja* (foolish Government simpleton king).

In the end I have to submit to the hon. Minister that I cannot make any

remarks about him for the very reason that while making any remarks to any representative of the Congress, I feel as if I am blaming none else but myself. I, however, have to submit that he should very kindly see that the cottage industries are revived and I may convey to him that there is only one and only one method for infusing life into anything and that is to strengthen first of all its very roots, because till that happens, the tree will never grow strong. You know well, what is required to be done to strengthen the roots. It is entirely wrong to do things in a way as may be mere eye wash by saying that this or that is being done to promote the cause of cottage industries. What are we actually doing and what have we really achieved, that is what we should always try to ascertain.

Finally, I have to submit that the hon. Minister while on tour should also include in his programme visits to the constructive programme *ashrams* of the Congress which are working on some constructive lines and should see what kind of boys are being trained there. While congratulating you once more, I hope that you will see to it that our cottage industries are actually revived.

श्री हेडा : मेरे मित्रों की इच्छा है कि मैं हिन्दी में भाषण करूँ, इसलिये मैं अपना भाषण हिन्दी में शुरू करता हूँ। समानेत्रीजी, मेरी दृष्टि में कामर्स और इंडस्ट्री (Commerœ and Industries) का विभाग अत्यन्त महत्वपूर्ण विभाग है, क्योंकि इस जमाने के अन्दर आज हम जो कुछ भी बोलते हैं, जो कुछ भी हम विचार जाहिर करते हैं, चाहे वह राजनैतिक हों, चाहे वह आर्थिक हों उन के ऊपर कोई विश्वास नहीं करता; उन को कोई संजीदगी के साथ नहीं लेता। वह जमाना या आज़ादी के पहले और आज़ादी के तुरन्त बाद जब कि हमारी एक भाष स्पीच, हमारा एक भाष स्टेटमेंट, (Statement) हमारा एक भाष रिज़ोल्यूशन (Resolution) काफ़ी होता या जनता के दिलों को स्पर्श करने के लिए और उन को अपनी ओर क आने के लिए। परन्तु आज जनता में राजनैतिक जागृति बढ़ गयी है और

[श्री हेडा]

वह यह तो देखती है कि हम क्या बोलते हैं ; इस के अलावा वह यह भी देखती है कि हम क्या करते हैं। महज यह कहना कि हम एंग्लो-अमेरिकन ब्लॉक (Anglo-American Bloc) से अलग रहेंगे, रशो-चाइनीज ब्लॉक (Russo-Chinese Bloc) से अलग रहेंगे काफ़ी नहीं है। यहां की जनता और बाहर की जनता यह देखती है कि जहां तक उत्पादन का सवाल है, मोड आफ प्रोडक्शन (Mode of Production) का सवाल है वहां तक हमारा तरीका किस प्रकार का है। और आज जब हम इस दृष्टि से हिन्दुस्तान की तरफ देखते हैं तो मालूम होता है कि न तो हम ने एंग्लो-अमेरिकन तरीका अख्तियार किया है, और न हम ने रशो-चाइनीज तरीका अख्तियार किया है, बल्कि एक प्रकार का अराज या निराज सा इस मामले में दिखाई देता है। यह चीज बहुत खतरनाक है, क्योंकि प्लान (Plan) भले ही कोई न हो लेकिन कोई चीज किसी क्रिस्म के प्लान के वगैर नहीं होती। जब मैं यह कहता हूँ कि उद्योग और व्यापार में कोई प्लान कोई योजना नहीं है तो मेरा मतलब यही है कि सरकार की तरफ से ऐसा कोई प्लान हमें दिखाई नहीं देता परन्तु आज जो अलग अलग इंडस्ट्रीज हैं, अलग अलग व्यापार हैं वह आपस में मिल जुल कर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं, चाहे वह उस को जेंटिलमैनस एग्रीमेंट (Gentlemen's Agreement) से करें, चाहे कार्टेल सिस्टम (Cartel-System) से करें, चाहे ग्रुप्स (groups) बना कर करें। आज हम यह देखते हैं कि हम चाहे फ्री एंटरप्राइज (free enterprise) करें चाहे न करें, लेकिन एंटरप्राइज कभी भी फ्री नहीं रहता। उसे या तो

हम बन्धन लगायेंगे और अगर हम बन्धन नहीं लगायेंगे तो खुद बड़े बड़े व्योपारी और उद्योगपति बन्धन लगायेंगे और इस तरह शोषण की नीति चलते रहेगी।

इस सिलसिले में मैं एक चीज और कह देना चाहता हूँ। वह यह है कि यह हमारी खुशक्रिस्मती है कि एक ऐसी डाइनेमिक पर्सनैलिटी (Dynamic personality) इतने बड़े हमारे नेता इस मिनिस्ट्री के हैड (head) हैं और जिन के सम्बन्ध में मेरे दिल में शुरू से ही आदर रहा है। महात्मा गांधी जी की सर्वोदय विचार प्रणाली को वह बहुत अच्छी तरह जानते हैं और उसी विचार प्रणाली में विश्वास रखने वाले एक व्यक्ति की हैसियत से मुझे उन से बड़ी बड़ी उम्मीदें थीं और अभी भी वह उम्मीदें खत्म नहीं हुई हैं, गो थोड़ी ठेस जरूर लगी है। खुशी की बात यह है कि हमारे मेहताबजी साहब न सिर्फ़ एक अच्छे विचारक हैं बल्कि अपने विचारों को बहुत अच्छी तरह पेश भी करते हैं। खासकर उनके भाषण का पूर्वाह्न, अर्थात् वह भाग जिस में वह समस्याओं का विश्लेषण करते हैं और हमारे सामने खोल कर रखते हैं वह बहुत सुन्दर होता है। मैं तो एक कदम आगे जा कर कहता हूँ कि उनका विश्लेषण शत प्रति शत सही होता है लेकिन जब उत्तराह्न का सवाल आता है अर्थात् प्लैनिंग या एग्जिक्यूशन (execution) का, योजना व इलाज का सवाल आता है तब या तो उन के पास कोई बात नहीं रहती या तो वह बहुत कुछ स्पष्ट नहीं रहती है, कुछ धुंधली सी रहती है। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि वह अपनी योजनाओं को स्पष्ट करेंगे।

3 P. M.

आजादी हासिल करने के बाद हमारी हुकूमत ने जो पालिसी (Policy) अस्तियार की तो उस का बहुत गहराई और सूक्ष्मता से अध्ययन करने के बाद में इस नतीजे पर पहुंचा कि जो भी चीजें हमारी हुकूमत के दिमाग के तहों में रही हैं, भले ही वह कम मात्रा में क्यों न हों, उन में से एक चीज यह है कि प्राथमिक आवश्यकताओं जैसे अन्न वस्त्र इत्यादि, के सम्बन्ध की जो चीजें हैं उन की कीमतें बढ़ने न पावें। उन की कीमतें जहां तक हो सके कायम रहें और अगर हो सके तो वह कीमतें घट जायें। दूसरी चीज उन के दिमाग या दिल की गहराई में यह मौजूद है कि हमारा जो उत्पादन है वह बड़े पैदावार में इजाफ़ा हो। यह दोनों ही चीजें बहुत आवश्यक हैं लेकिन जहां उन्होंने ने अन्न के बारे में मजबूती से कदम उठाया; लेवी (levy) वालेन्ट्री प्रोक्योरमेंट (voluntary procurement) के जरिये से उन्होंने भावों को बराबर कायम किया। इस प्रकार न करते तो आज तक हमारी इकानमी (Economy) कहां की कहां पहुंच जाती। लेकिन इस तरह का मजबूत कदम जहां तक दूसरी चीजों का सम्बन्ध है, खास तौर से कपास और तेल के सम्बन्ध में नहीं उठाया गया। मैं समझता हूँ कि समय आ गया है कि जब हुकूमत को कदम आगे बढ़ाना चाहिये। दस साल के पहले विदेशी हुकूमत ने एक कदम उठाया था और उस का एक शानदार और अच्छा पहलू आज दिखाई दे रहा है। वह है काफ़ी बोर्ड (Coffee Board) के सम्बन्ध में। इस के सम्बन्ध में मुझे ज्यादा कहने की जरूरत नहीं है। क्योंकि यहां के सभी सदस्य जानते हैं। बोर्ड के द्वारा व्यापार की कौसी

व्यवस्था की गयी है जिसकी वजह से प्लान्टर्स (Planters) अर्थात् पैदा करने वालों को और कन्ज्यूमर्स (Consumers) अर्थात् खर्च करने वालों को इस से ज्यादा से ज्यादा फ़ायदा हुआ है और मिडल मैन (middleman) को कम से कम। मैं समझता हूँ कि स्पेक्युलेशन (speculation) सट्टे की गुंजाइश शायद नहीं के बराबर रही है। क्या इस तरह की कोई चीज हम कपास और तेल के सम्बन्ध में नहीं कर सकते? हमारी हुकूमत को इस की जरूरत है और इस के लिये जिन साधनों की आवश्यकता हो उन को जुटाना चाहिये। मैं जानता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में एक बहुत बड़ा सवाल हमारे सामने आज आता है। वह सवाल यह आता है कि हमारे पास पैसा नहीं है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि जितने पैसे से आज व्यापारियों द्वारा यह सारे का सारा व्यापार चलता है उस के एक दशांश पैसे से यह व्यापार हुकूमत के द्वारा चल सकता है, अगर मोनोपली (monopoly) के तौर पर सारी कपास और तेल के सारे बीज गवर्नमेंट अपने पास बटोर ले और सारे जनिंग प्रेसेस (ginning presses) और आयल मिल्स को अपने कब्जे में ले ले और इन मिल्स को खुद चलाये। वहां जो रुई पैदा होती है, जो तेल निकलेगा; रुई को स्वयं रास्त मिल्स को बेचे और तेल को रास्त लोगों को बेचे तो मैं समझता हूँ कि हम काफ़ी कम पैसे से, व्यापारियों को जितने पैसे की जरूरत होती है उस के दशांश पूंजी में यह सारा काम कर सकेंगे। इस प्रकार के स्टेट ट्रेडिंग (State Trading) की बहुत आवश्यकता है। जैसा मैं न पहले बतलाया कि आप इस प्राइवेट एन्टरप्राइज़ या फ्री एन्टरप्राइज़ कह

[श्री हेडा]

कर खुला छोड़ देंगे तो वह फ्री ट्रेड (Free Trade) नहीं रह पाता। इसी तरह से जहाँ आपने जनता का, कन्स्यूमर्स का पैसा शोषण करने की छूट दी पूंजीवादी वर्ग के अन्दर एक संगठन शक्ति आ जाती है और व्यापार और उद्योग दोनों मिल कर खूब नफ़ा कमाने लगते हैं। जिन को आज हम पूंजीवादी राज्य कहते हैं उन की ओर आप देखिये, हम अमरीका की तरफ देखें, इंग्लैंड की तरफ देखें तो मालूम होगा कि वहाँ एक प्लैन है, और सरकार का कंट्रोल या नियंत्रण मौजूद है। लेकिन हमारे पास किसी भी हद तक कंट्रोल या नियंत्रण नहीं है। इतना सब होते हुए भी जहाँ तक पूंजीवादी वर्ग का सवाल है उस ने क्या किया? खुद उस रिपोर्ट में जिस को इंडस्ट्री एन्ड सप्लाय ने पेश किया है यह प्रकट किया गया है कि पूंजीवादी वर्ग आगे आ कर नई नई मिलें, नई नई फैक्ट्रियाँ, नये नये उद्योग प्रारम्भ नहीं कर रहा है। यह इस वर्ष की बात नहीं है बल्कि गत दो तीन वर्षों की भी है। कैपिटल शार्प (Capital shy) रहा है, वह आगे नहीं आ पाया है। इस प्रकार हम ने देखा कि पूंजीवादी वर्ग को साथ ले कर, उस में कैपिटलिस्ट मोड आफ प्रोडक्शन (Capitalist mode of production) क्यों न हो उस की लेकर हम आगे बढ़ नहीं सके। हम एक सीमा तक पूंजीवादी पद्धति से उत्पादन बढ़ा सकते हैं। इतना सब करने पर भी पूंजीवादी वर्ग हमारा साथ नहीं देता। दूसरी तरफ आज हमारे ऊपर आलोचनार्यों की जाती है कि यह हुकूमत प्रो-कैपिटलिस्ट (Pro-Capitalist) है और इसी हुकूमत की वजह से पूंजीवादियों को ब्लैक मार्केट (Black market) करने का मौका

मिला है। इस आलोचना को पूरी तौर भुलाया नहीं जा सकता। श्री गोयनका जी ने इस बारे में काफी बातें बतलाई। आज कंट्रोल (Control) है, फिर डि-कंट्रोल (decontrol) कर दिया, आज ओ. जी. एल. (O.G.L.) है फिर लाइसेन्स (Licence) कर दिया। हाल ही में अरंडी के बीज (castor seed) के मार्केट (market) में यह हुआ कि वह अब तक ओ. जी. एल. के मातहत पाकिस्तान को भेजी जा रही थीं, लेकिन अब लाइसेन्स शुरू हो गया है। शायद इस का सम्बन्ध सीड्स एडवाइजरी कमेटी (Seeds Advisory Committee) से है। उस का हुकूम निकलने से पहले ही काफी बड़ी मात्रा में बम्बई, कलकत्ते हैदराबाद में बड़े बड़े व्यापारियों ने यह चीजें फार्वर्ड मार्केट में बेच दीं और करोड़ों रुपये कमा लिए गये। जब व्यापारी देखते हैं कि हम व्यापार के ज़ोर से करोड़ों रुपये कमा सकते हैं, और इनकम टैक्स (Income Tax) से भी बचने की कोशिश कर सकते हैं तो वह क्यों उद्योग के अन्दर लगने लगे। लेकिन अगर इस तरह से यह व्यापारी बड़े बड़े व्यापारियों को अपने हाथ में ले लेंगे, सारा स्पेकुलेशन (Speculation) खत्म कर देंगे तो परिणामस्वरूप वह सारा रुपया उद्योगों के अन्दर आज नहीं तो कल लगेगा और इस तरह से हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ेगा। तो मेरी प्रार्थना है कि इस मंत्रिमंडल के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि वह इस सम्बन्ध में सोचे कि कैसे यह कपास और तेल के मामले को (organise) कर लिया जाये। जिस तरह काफ़ी के सम्बन्ध में किया गया वैसे ही यदि सारे भारतीय व्यवसाय में नहीं तो कम से कम व्यवसाय के एक आष क्षेत्र में हमें प्रारम्भ करना हो

चाहिए। एक क्षेत्र कामयाब होने के बाद हम दूसरे क्षेत्र में इस को शुरू कर सकते हैं।

अंत में मैं ग्राम उद्योग के सम्बन्ध में एक चीज कहना चाहता हूँ। माननीय मेहताब के यहाँ होने के बावजूद और गांधी जी का नाम इस हुकूमत ने तो इतनी बार लिया है उन के इतने जोर देने के बावजूद काटेज इन्डस्ट्री (Cottage industries) के बारे में इस हुकूमत ने तकरीबन कुछ नहीं किया है, यह बड़े खेद की बात है। मैं श्री मेहताब से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वह मेहरबानी कर के इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ करें। सौ वर्ष से या पचास वर्ष से आने वाले इतिहास की भी यह कल्पना करें। क्या वह नहीं कहेगा हमारी हुकूमत गांधी जी को भूल रही है। जो कुछ आज तक गांधी जी कहते रहे हैं उस को इतने थोड़े दिनों में इस हुकूमत ने भुला दिया है। क्या वह नहीं कहेगा कि शायद चर्चिल, हिल्लर या स्टालिन गांधी को भूल नहीं पायेंगे, पर यह हुकूमत भूल गयी।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Heda (Hyderabad): It is the desire of my friends that I should speak in Hindi. I will therefore speak in Hindi. Madam, in my opinion the Commerce and Industry Department is of great importance because now-a-days whatever speeches we may deliver or whatever ideas we may express regarding political or financial matters, no one believes them and gives them serious consideration. It was in the pre-Independence period and the period immediately following Independence when our few speeches, statements and resolutions were enough to catch the attention of the people and to have their support. But today there is general political awakening in the masses, and they not only hear what we say but also observe what steps we take to implement them. The mere declaration that we will keep aloof from Anglo-American Bloc or Russo-Chinese

Bloc is not sufficient. The people of this country as well as of other countries take into consideration the efforts put by us so far as the question of production and the mode of production is concerned. And today when we consider this problem of our country we find that we have adopted neither the Anglo-American System nor the Russo-Chinese System and we have no definite plan in regard to this matter. The absence of any definite plan is very dangerous because no programmes can be carried out without chalking out any plan. When I say that there is no plan for Commerce and Industry, I only mean that we do not see any plan made by the Government. But today the different industries are combining themselves into groups and carrying on their business, whether they may do so by resorting to gentlemen's agreement or by Cartel System or by forming groups. We see that even if we want to have free enterprise it can never be free. Either we ourselves will impose restrictions on it or the business magnates themselves will do so and the policy of exploitation will continue.

In this connection I would like to state one thing more. We are fortunate in having a dynamic personality and a leader of great eminence at the head of this Ministry, for whom I have great esteem ever since. He is very well-acquainted with the Sarvodaya School of thought of Mahatma Gandhi and as a follower of the same I had great expectations from him. I am still cherishing them though I have been slightly disappointed. It is most cheering that Shri Mahtab is not only a great thinker but is also very well conversant in expressing his views. Specially, the first half of his speech, that is, the part wherein he dissects and analyses the problems, is very attractive. I may go one step further to say that his analysis is always 100 per cent. correct. But in the later half of his speech, wherein he refers to planning or execution of schemes then either he has nothing to suggest or he is not very clear in what he says. I hope he will still more clarify his schemes.

After studying thoroughly and minutely the policy adopted by our Government, I have come to the conclusion that whatever schemes or plans our Government might have thought of, it is possible that these may be inadequate, but there is one definite aspect of those plans that the prices of foodstuffs, cloth and other things of prime necessity must not rise. As far as possible the prices of these commodities should remain the same and if possible they may be reduced. The

[Shri Heda]

other things which the Government are considering seriously are to increase our production of consumer's goods and increase the yield of crops. Both these things are very essential, but where they have adopted a firm measure about the food problem, they have been able to maintain the prices at the same level, by resorting to levy and voluntary procurement. If such a measure was not adopted, the position of our economy would have become unstable. But such a firm step has not been taken so far as other commodities specially cotton and oil are concerned. I think the time has come now when the Government should take steps in regard to this matter. Ten years ago the British Government had taken such a step and the result of that step is quite apparent before us. That was in connection with the Coffee Board. I need not go into the details of this Board, as all the Members of this House know how the Board has introduced such changes in the industry as a result of which the planters and the consumers have benefited the most and the middleman has been the least benefited. I think there is the least possibility of speculation. Can we not take a similar step in connection with cotton and oil? Our Government stands in need of such a step and the material necessary towards this end should be collected. I know we have to face a problem and that is the problem of money, we do not have sufficient money. But in my opinion this industry can be run by the Government with even one tenth of the amount which today the industrialists have invested in their industries if the Government were to take the monopoly of cotton, stock the entire produce of oil seeds, have all the ginning presses and the oil mills under their control and run these mills themselves. I think that only if the Government sell cotton so produced and the oil so extracted therefrom directly to the mills and the people then it is possible for them to run this industry with much less investment say even one tenth of what is required by the industrialists. There is growing necessity of such state trading. As I have already stated that if you leave the matter simply by declaring it as private enterprise or free enterprise, then in that case also it will not at all remain free trade. If the Government would not adopt a firm policy to check the exploitation of the masses and the consumers, the capitalists would get impetus and the industrialists and businessmen would indulge in excessive profiteering. If we just look at the conditions of U.S.A. and England and other countries, whom we call the

capitalist states, we will come to know that they have got their plans and the Governments exercise control. On the other hand our Government do not exercise any control whatsoever. What the capitalists have done in spite of all this? It has been stated in the Report published by the Industry and Supply Ministry that the capitalists are not taking initiative in starting new mills, factories and industries. It is not a matter of this year alone but for the last two or three years also, it has been so. The capital has been shy and is not forthcoming. We have thus noticed that we have not been able to carry out our plans, although there has been capitalistic mode of production, with the co-operation of the capitalists. We can increase the production to some extent by the capitalistic system. In spite of all these efforts the capitalists do not co-operate with us. On the other hand we are criticised that the present Government is pro-capitalist and that the capitalists get opportunities to indulge in blackmarketing due to the lenient policy of Government, we cannot say that this criticism is completely wrong. Shri Goenka stated many facts about this matter. The facts are that today you impose control the next day you remove them. Today you adopt the policy of Open General Licence while next day change to licence system. Take the case of castor seed market—recently seeds were being exported to Pakistan under Open General Licence but now licences have to be obtained for their export. Perhaps this matter is concerned with the Seeds Advisory Committee. Before the submission of their report, the merchants in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras sold their seeds in large quantities in the forward market and earned crores of rupees. When the merchants see that they can earn millions of rupees through this type of business and at the same time they can evade the income-tax then why will they invest their money in industries. But if the businessmen take over these big industries, and if they put an end to the speculation, then as a result of this money will automatically be invested in these industries in future, if not now, thus our production will be increased. This is my humble submission that the Ministry concerned must consider this matter as to how these cotton and oil industries may be organised. As a Board had been set up for coffee, if it may not possible to do this for all the industries, then we can at least initiate this system in respect of some industries. After achieving success in one industry we can impose it on other industries.

In the end I want to say something about the cottage industries. It is a



matter of great regret that in spite of Shri Mahtab being at the head of this Ministry and innumerable repetitions made by our Government in showing reverence towards the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi, the Government have done practically nothing for the development of the cottage industries. I would request Shri Mahtab to do something in the matter. He should think of the future, he should think of the historians who would come fifty or hundred years hence! Will not they think that the Government had forgotten Gandhiji? The Government have in fact forgotten all the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi in such a short period. Will not the future generation say that Churchill, Hitler or Stalin could not forget Mahatma Gandhi while our Government did so?

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay** (Uttar Pradesh): The real index of the prosperity of any country is really the prosperity of that country's industry and commerce. Therefore, the subject with which we are dealing today is a subject of considerable importance. It is specially important for our country because only three years ago, our country was ruled by a foreign country which was a highly industrialised country, which wanted raw materials from our country and which wanted a market for her finished goods in this country. Therefore, they did not allow any kind of industrialisation to any considerable extent in our country. We had all along been feeling that as soon as we get an opportunity, we shall try to industrialise our country and bring prosperity to our nation. As soon as we attained *Swaraj*, in post haste, we started a number of projects and we devoted the largest sum of money to these projects. A large amount of our resources are now booked for these projects that we have undertaken. By having taken up these schemes we have locked up a large amount of wealth of our country although in the near future we are not going to get any return out of it. As a long range development, it might be very useful for the country—in fact, it is really useful—but then we had to make arrangements for the satisfaction of our immediate needs also. Having invested a large sum in these projects, we have very little left for working out other schemes that would be of immediate use to us, because we find that these projects are only going to yield fruit, if at all, after a number of years. In respect of these projects, we are absolutely in foreign hands because in a number of things, say, experts, the machinery and plant and other materials, we have to get them from foreign countries and to get these materials, we have also to have foreign

exchanges. Then we have to have shipping facilities. Then the international situation should also remain satisfactory. If all these conditions are fulfilled, then we might be able to go according to schedule. Even then, I find that there are so many other difficulties in the execution of these projects, that it is not possible for us to go according to schedule. It is a matter of common knowledge and it is a matter of experience that in respect of these projects, we are not going according to schedule. We are much behind it. The execution is being delayed and I find that this delay in the execution is due to so many other causes. The persons who are connected with the working out of these schemes have not been very particular, it appears or they have had no experience of such big schemes that they really find themselves incapable of completing these schemes within time or according to schedule. In respect of these schemes, as I submitted, we are in foreign hands and we are also in the hands of the experts. Leaders of our country wanted that there should be immediate development, that the nation should become prosperous in a very short period of time, but nothing remains in their hands in spite of their anxiety and in spite of their being very earnest and particular about it they can do nothing. It is for the experts to say what steps should be taken and ultimately it is for the experts to say whether those projects have been properly worked out; it is for them to certify whether they are properly completed, whether they are really sound projects and unless those certificates are given, the laymen who are interested in seeing that the development of the country should go fast will remain absolutely at sea and can do nothing about it. My submission is that in pursuing these projects, we have, as a matter of fact, left these matters in the hands of experts and also in the hands of foreigners. It is from foreign lands that we have to get men, material, machinery, plant and everything, and if there is any chance of a third World War, then I do not know what will be the position of this country in respect of the investments that we have made in these projects.

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Mahtab):** Which projects the hon. Member is referring to?

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** I refer to all development projects. A considerable amount of money has been locked up and that money is expected to yield fruit after a certain period of time. We should have looked to the immediate need of the country.

[Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay]

We should have looked to small scale industries, to cottage industries and to other means to supply the immediate needs of the people. As I stated, the execution of these schemes is being delayed at every stage. Some times the estimate is submitted very late, the contract is made after 2 or 3 years, then sites have to be acquired after so many months and years and then it takes a good deal of time to get the machinery and it takes a still longer time to get some experts or firms to help in the execution of these projects. Only when all these conditions are fulfilled we can see that the work is completed and is capable of yielding any fruit. Besides this there are other schemes with the State Governments. There is no co-ordination between all these schemes. Sometimes they overlap. As regards the regional schemes, sometimes on account of lack of co-ordination, we do not fix them up properly and sometimes it is found that it is impossible to go on with those schemes. As regards the execution of these schemes, as I submitted, if at a stage we find that it is difficult to go on with them and if we try to leave them, then it means a dead loss to the nation. Therefore all that we have to do is to go on with these schemes, investing money in them and looking forward to the day when they might yield some fruits.

The other matter which I would like to deal is about the balance of trade. It is said that we have a favourable balance of trade. This favourable balance of trade, we have had at what cost? The favourable balance of trade we have because we have exported a good deal of cloth; although there is scarcity of cloth in the country, still we had been exporting cloth without at all caring as to what would be the position of cloth in the country. The scarcity of cloth that is being felt at present, I think should have been anticipated when the export of cloth was being made. We also did not import foodgrains, thinking that we had a scheme of becoming self-sufficient. Now there is scarcity of foodgrains in the country. This is also creating anxiety. So at this cost we have this kind of favourable balance of trade. It does not mean any prosperity for the country. If the Government is not able to feed and clothe people, it is no use of having prosperity after so many years. Within this period, so many people may die, so many may starve and may suffer considerable difficulties.

As regards export and import and purchases, I have to submit this. For

purchasing articles sometimes Government officers are sent to foreign countries. That means a considerable expense and sometimes the articles that they go and select, when they come back to India, there is nobody to see whether the same articles, of the same quality are being despatched or not. This work should have been done through the Trade Commissioners and other departments which are working in those countries and as I was looking into the report of the Government itself, I found that a number of departments were there, whose business is almost very similar. There are purchase departments, import organisations, export organisations, trade commissioners, commercial attaches, commercial counsellors and so on and so forth. There are so many of these people connected with this work. Cannot all of them be amalgamated into one department? I feel that this could be done and thereby a good deal of economy could be effected. I would therefore, suggest that this matter should be properly looked into.

The other item in which there is considerable scope for fraud and corruption is the item of stores and disposals. The book value of the stores and disposals left with us after the war was as much as Rs. 787.46 crores. But I do not know what they are worth now. These articles are not properly stored and kept. Probably it is not possible to keep them safely because there is not sufficient accommodation for keeping them. Moreover, sufficient care is not taken to see that proper values are realised on these stores, as I find from the report of the Estimates Committee; the department seems to be indifferent to these stores. In one case there was a ban for 21 months on the sales of the articles, as is mentioned in the report of the Estimates Committee, though there was demand for these articles in the Rehabilitation Ministry and that Ministry had to purchase the things that they needed. I think this sort of negligence on the part of a Government Department should not be tolerated and that they should have paid sufficient attention and prevented the loss incurred in connection with the stores and disposals.

Then I have one or two suggestions with regard to Imports and Exports.....

**Mr. Chairman:** There is a long list of intending speakers here.

**Shri J. N. Hazarika (Assam):** The scarcity of yarn and cloth is being felt throughout the length and breadth of the land. Indeed, as a matter of fact,

during the last ten years or so there has not been any stability in the matter of production of yarn and cloth and their distribution. The predecessor Government produced some kind of cloth called the standard cloth and this was distributed to the poor people also at standard rates. I do not know why our national government should not adopt some such scheme and make cloth available to the poor people at cheaper rates. I welcome the recent decision of the Government to stop export of cloth so as to meet the present scarcity in the country. The sale concessions now given to the producers of one third of their production is not desirable. They retain a third and two-thirds are given to the Government for distribution to the various States according to their own schemes. Government has withdrawn the one-third concession on production of yarn and I think that is a wise decision. I think that the withdrawal of similar concession with regard to cloth is also necessary. I would like to get this assurance from the Government that these concessions will also be withdrawn in order that the poor people may be able to get their cloth cheaply and according to their needs.

The Government have said that possibly the distribution of the increased production is defective, also that in this direction both the Central and the State Governments are taking vigorous steps to tighten the administration so that the benefit of the increased production may go to the people unhampered by adventurers or speculators in the middle. I am very glad that Government intends to do this, as it is the middleman or speculator who creates the difficulty in the distribution of cloth. The buyer is ready to pay one or two annas more for his cloth provided benefit goes to the wearer of the cloth and he is able to buy his cloth in the open market. It is high time that Government should decide whether they want control on cloth or not. If they want control, then there should be cent. per cent. control. It should not be one-third control or two-thirds control. And if they want to withdraw the control, let them do so immediately and completely.

Government also are understood to have ordered to employ a minimum of 50 per cent. of all looms of reed space between 48" to 59" for the production of *dhoties* and *saris*, and to use 60 per cent. of this for the production of *dhoties* only. If this is done, I think the poor will be benefited. If this decision is implemented, then I think it should benefit the country.

Government have also said that in 1948 the production of cloth was the

highest being as much as 359 million bales. But the distribution of cloth to Assam has not been proportionate and it has been very inadequate. During the last six months of 1950 the allotted supply to Assam was about 19,000 bales and therefore—annually came to be only 40,000 bales. Only that much was actually supplied, and according to the needs of the State this supply was very inadequate. Recently the hon. Minister of Industry and Supply assured us that the quota of 1948 will be now made available to the State. That is a very welcome assurance and I request that it may be implemented immediately.

One point that I should like to stress is about the width of *dhoties* and *saris*. Some of them are of extra width and some are of very narrow width. The poor peasants of the villages of Assam want *dhoties*, that is markin cloth, of 32 inches width; the poor peasants do not want superfine *dhoties* of 50 or 55 inches width—as I said they want markin cloth, of 32 inches width. I would request the hon. Minister to arrange the production of more markin cloth of the 32 inches width to meet the demands of poor peasants.

I want to say a few words regarding the industrial development of our country. During the war and in the early post-war days, extensive plans for development were drawn up by various authorities throughout the country, but to our surprise we find that Government have not given effect to them. One of the proposals of the Commonwealth Consultative Committee—made at the Sydney Conference and passed at London, was a plan to develop certain industries, mainly of the consumer goods type, for example textiles, which will enable India to supply to South-East Asian countries, particularly, goods in which they are in short-supply. But to this date the Government has done nothing about the proposal. Even there the amount allotted for industrial development is 1785 million rupees, which amounts to only 9 per cent. of the total. From all this, therefore, it seems that the Government has no definite policy for the industrial development of the country. Government has failed to give sufficient impetus to the growth of industries in the various states. Within the past few years the Government of Assam took up the question of setting up several industries; one of them was setting up a sugar factory and another a textile mill. But at that time came devaluation and all our industrial development schemes were cut short compelling the Government of Assam to abandon its policy of development. If our country is to proceed like this, every aspect of its life is influenced by

[Shri J. N. Hazarika]

policies of foreign Governments—call it devaluation or whatever you like—there will be no development of the country and there will be no prosperity in the country. Therefore, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this question of industrial development in the various States.

Madam, I do not desire to take more time. In conclusion I would say that the present cloth prices in the various parts of the country are very high. Recently I came across reports from various parts of Assam that a pair of dhoties is sold at Rs. 25 and a sari at Rs. 30. I hope the hon. Minister will do something to remedy this state of affairs.

Shri Krishnanand Rai (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, it is not a fitting commentary on the efforts of this Government that while it has got a very brilliant record in fighting communalism, communism, estate-lordism and many other isms in this country, it has totally failed in fighting out the black evils in our economic life. Frankly speaking, this Government has carried on a policy of appeasement towards these anti-social elements. Our hon. Ministers have started taking a very complacent view of the difficulties of our people. The hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry, in his reply to the debate on the Tariff Bill said that the House will have to form a definite opinion as to whether it wants to give protection to indigenous industries or to have cheaper things in the market. As if all the high prices of blackmarketing and profiteering going on in the country are due to the circumstances that we have to give protection to indigenous industries and not to our lack of grasp over the entire economic sphere.

The whole policy of protection of the Government is open to challenge. After the war the Tariff Board was appointed for two definite purposes: one was to investigate into the claims of industries which ask for protection, and the second was to watch the industries at every step to see whether they are not going to be a burden on the society. The Tariff Board during its five years' life has recommended so far protection for about 90 industries, but has conveniently forgotten the second aspect of the question: that is, whether the protection that is given to any industry is going to cast an excessive burden on the community or not. Whenever these questions of high prices and excessive profits are raised, the hon. Minister's reply is that a

Tariff Commission is going to be set up as a statutory body. Similarly, whenever the question of co-ordination of large-scale industries and small-scale industries is raised in the House, the answer is that a Planning Commission is going to be set up for the purpose. I do not know how long people have to wait for these commissions.

I have raised this question of protection deliberately because our country has got a very bad experience of certain major industries which have enjoyed protection for a long number of years. Of course, it will be too premature for me to pass any judgement over the protection that has been given to the small-scale industries by our national Government, but let me take the sugar industry. After enjoying protection for eighteen years, the sugar industry definitely refused to submit to the wishes of the people and even of the Government, but the Government instead of taking any bold step succumbed and surrendered to the industry at every step. I thought some enquiry committee had just been set up, but one fine day I saw the announcement that it had been withdrawn. God knows why! Take the case of the textile industry. The country is proud of it because it is our biggest industry. If memories are not short, the first protection that this industry got on account of the patriotic feelings of the country was under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi who asked for a boycott of foreign cloth in order to give a market to this industry. And for twenty years this industry has enjoyed protection from Japanese competition. What is its behaviour today? The hon. Minister announced certain prices and the Bombay mill-owners definitely say, "No, we are not going to give you any cloth at those prices. We will raise the prices." Then the Kanpur millowners say "You have raised the prices of good qualities of cloth, but not of coarse cloth. We are not able to give the quota we have to the U.P." and they surrender the quota. Madam, I have always failed to understand what these Chambers of Commerce, Syndicates, Millowners' Associations etc. are that are functioning from Delhi to Bombay. Are they organisations to see to the national interests also or are they organisations of certain people who want just to watch their own self-interest? I do not know why our Finance Minister, the Minister of Commerce and Industry and even the Prime Minister go so often to them and stand before them and defend the control orders as if they are doing something wrong. In financial matters, our Finance Minister goes there and gives defences for this policy

and that policy and that is the case with every other Minister who has anything to do with the economic life of the country.

As far as the cloth policy is concerned, it is a matter of common knowledge that great grumbling is going on everywhere in the country on account of cloth shortage. In reply to a question in this House, the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry openly said that because there was less production and greater export than in 1949, there is shortage. But the point is: who is responsible for it? If questions are parried in this way, then who will accept responsibility for allowing this huge export when there is a serious shortage of cloth in the country? I submit that these questions should be answered with greater seriousness.

One more fact I wish to point. It is not a local affair of U.P. It affects the whole country. A lot of trade has been going on between U.P. and Tibet. I do not know whether any Indo-Tibetan Trade Agreement exists or not. Of course, the conditions in Tibet as far as Government is concerned are rather in a jeopardised state; yet I would like to know whether some Trade Agreement is going to be concluded or not, if it does not exist now.

**Shri Khandubhai Desai (Bombay):** Madam, the Ministry that is before us for discussion today is a very important Ministry, particularly after it has been combined with the Commerce Ministry. For the last 3½ years there might have been some excuse, because the Industry Minister would say that the policy of his Ministry had not been carried out by the Commerce Ministry and vice versa. For the last two months this Ministry is under one Minister and under one Secretary. Let us hope that the administration or mal-administration of this Ministry in the previous years may not be experienced in the coming years, because I feel that this is an important Ministry and its policy and execution thereof, is going to make or mar the future economic development of this country. If it is handled properly by the hon. Minister in charge today or in the future, the country will be prosperous. If it is mishandled, then woe betide the country. I personally feel that the policy that had been followed during the last 3½ years by either Ministry was not such as would get any approbation from anybody in the country and the existing economic situation is the result of that policy which has not been handled with foresight and understanding.

In the very short time at my disposal, I would place before this House some of my reactions to the policy that has been followed. I will first take up the question of the textile industry. I have come to this conclusion that the administration of the control, as far as the textile industry is concerned, has been an utter failure up to now. There had been control; there had been decontrol; there had been semi-decontrol. The distribution had been handed over for some time to the State Governments. Now it is being worked by both the State Governments and the private traders, but it does not give any satisfaction. What do I ascribe this failure to? I think it is the lack of experience and knowledge about the position of the industry that has brought about this difficulty.

Madam, let us take the facts as they stood last year. Our production was in the neighbourhood of about 3,600 million yards as far as the mill industry was concerned. Last year's production of handloom cloth was about 800 million yards. Out of the total production, 1,200 million yards were exported, leaving hardly less than 10 yards per capita, whereas the normal consumption of cloth in our country is between 14 and 15 yards per head. This has led to the present difficulties of blackmarketing, taking human nature as it is. I had always been urging that the one question that is disturbing the whole economic structure of this country is, mainly due to the failure of the government in properly handling the cloth problem. From this forum, I would like to make an appeal to the Finance Minister particularly, to try to find out his foreign exchange from any other source—he may curtail other requirements, if need be—but let him stop the export of cloth even to the extent of a single yard. If this decision is taken by Government, the other factors which are corollaries will adjust themselves automatically.

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** Even cloth made out of imported cotton?

**Shri Khandubhai Desai:** Yes, Sir. Let us understand what the position is. The installed capacity of our textile industry at the moment is about 4,500 million yards while that of the handloom is about 3,000 million yards, because there are 25 lakh looms and at the rate of even 4 yards a day the handloom industry can give you 3,000 million yards per year. You asked us to satisfy ourselves with only 3,200 million yards last year and this year, probably, you will give us 400 or 500 million yards more. Then, you will

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say that the provincial Governments have failed to make proper distribution and the provincial Governments will say that the Centre has mismanaged the whole thing. This situation is going to remain as it is unless the Government takes the decision to make available to the consumers at least 15 yards per capita in this country. That, in my opinion, is the only solution. Try this solution for a year; the other economic evils, in my opinion, will automatically disappear, because most of the present economic difficulties are due to, as I said, the administration or maladministration of the textile industry as cloth is the second need of the people after food and accounts for various economic activities of the people and the government.

I am neither for control nor for de-control. Whatever is in the interests of the country, let the Government carry out, and let the people co-operate. But, this muddle headed policy, which is no policy, is responsible for all our difficulties. I will cite only two instances. Cloth control is being maintained because the prices are likely to go up; Cement and Coal control is maintained because the prices are likely to go down. I would like to know what your policy is? Is it your policy to maintain the prices or is it your policy to bring down the prices? If there is a tendency for the prices to fall because of adequate supply, why do you want to maintain the controls? I cannot understand that. The latest is the control on printing papers. In reply to one of the questions, the hon. Minister said that the newsprint position is precarious, and that there is world shortage of printing paper. If that is so, does not the hon. Minister realise that more than 50 per cent. of the space is taken by advertisements? If there is real scarcity, why should we not impose a control and limit the space for advertisement so that much needed printing paper may be economised.

**An Hon. Member:** How to advertise goods?

**Shri Khandubhai Desai:** That is a question for your consideration. One has to make one's choice between advertising useless goods and valuable news and views items when there is scarcity. You would have to close down all Papers after two months and there will be no material for you to judge either the policy of the Government or of the different parties when you go in for the elections. Is that the position that you want to create? Because the position is precarious, as the hon. Minister has stated, you may

have to close down all Papers in the very near future, unless foresight is used.

There is one problem which has been worrying me, that is the problem of the cottage industries, particularly the handloom industry. All the attention, as far as the Government of India is concerned is only concentrated on large scale industries which can look after themselves. Cottage industries and the handloom industry get a step-motherly treatment. Whenever that question comes up before the Government of India, they say that it is a provincial subject and that the provinces will manage it. We know that within the limited resources at the disposal of the provinces, with the limited technical experience at their disposal, with the limited initiative that they have got and with the various competitions that arise even from our own large scale industries as from foreign countries, this industry has not the ghost of a chance either to survive or develop. Therefore, I would suggest that the Government of India should appoint a special Minister for cottage industries at the Centre with a cabinet rank, who will look after the cottage industries and develop them with all the assistance that they need. Let us examine what the difficulties of the handloom industry are. Three or four years ago they were producing about 1,800 million yards of cloth; last year, according to this report, they have produced only 800 million yards, because there was shortage of yarn. Shortage of yarn may have been due to less supply of cotton on the one side and the export of cloth particularly woven on wider looms, on the other. The export quota had been given not on square yardage, but on lineal yardage. That is, cloth which is produced on a 42" loom is also one yard and cloth produced on a 62" loom is also one yard, though that would consume nearly 40 to 60 per cent. more yarn. That is one of the reasons why there is shortage of yarn. If you give any export quota—I strongly urge that there should be no export till we are able to solve our own domestic consumption problem—if there is to be any export, Government should lay down that whatever yardage it allows should be the square yardage and not the lineal yardage. That is an important point which the Government should take into consideration.

As far as the export of waste is concerned, my view is very definite, that not a single bale of waste should be exported if it could be utilised by our mills. After all, the export of waste cotton is to the extent of 3½ lakh bales.

If this cotton waste is from the combing process—we are using foreign cotton—that could be utilised to spin counts from 10 to 15. I say that that cotton should not be permitted to be exported to the detriment of the economic interest of country when there is definitely a shortage of cotton and when the handloom weaver is crying for more yarn for his livelihood. It is a question of employment in the rural areas.

I would not criticise the policy of this Government for the past because, after all, they had not got much experience about the whole matter, but 3½ years experience in administration should be now sufficient for proper understanding. They were like some tool between various conflicting interests. Somebody makes some suggestions; others make some other conflicting suggestions. They take the one or the other without understanding the implications. Possibly after two or three months they will again change that policy with the result that there is an overall profit for a few and difficulties for many. This must now stop.

There is one last word and I have done. If the time at my disposal had been long enough, I would have gone into the details. I have only touched some of the points. I would urge upon the Government that, without listening to the conflicting interests of the vested interests, they must decide their policy and execute it in the interests of the country as a whole, without being guided by the so-called experienced and technical industrialists, who, I may very humbly suggest, have generally been misleading the Government for the last so many years, and the people have suffered in consequence.

**Shri S. V. Naik** (Hyderabad): Madam, when one reads the report of the Commerce and Industry Department, one feels that there is a lot of improvement and development that has taken place during this year except in the production of cotton textiles, jute and sugar. But there is one point that I would like to point out. On page 3 of the Administration Report, of the Ministry of Commerce for 1950-51 the hon. Minister says that to increase the exports they have to produce more, and they have taken steps to produce each and every article more. They say:

“Raw cotton has improved by 10.4 per cent., raw jute by nearly 3 per cent., sesamum by 3.3 per cent., groundnut by 5.8 per cent. and castor by somewhat less than

one per cent. As regards hides, one of the methods suggested to improve production is the removal of the ban on cow slaughter, with a view to enabling more material to flow into the market. The question is under examination, in consultation with the State Governments.”

In order to increase the production of raw hides and to export that, they want to remove the ban on cow slaughter. As the matter is under consideration, I do not want to dilute on it here and I will proceed further. I would like the hon. Minister to give due consideration to this point, in view of our country being an agricultural country and in view of the scarcity of cow's milk in the country, and in view of the health of our small children.

The second point I would like to touch is this. There are three economic advisers as far as I can see from the report and the Demands for Grants. One is attached to the Cabinet, the other is attached to the Commerce and Industry Department and the third is attached to the Agricultural Department. Their advice, as far as I think and presume, clash with each other and instead of being complimentary are sometimes contradictory and I feel that a reduction of one or two of these economic advisers is possible and if this reduction is made, probably it would improve in the reduction of expenses.

4 P. M.

The third point that I would like to touch is with regard to the cottage industry. Last year it was pointed out that Rs. 10 lakhs were set apart for the improvement of the industries throughout India and quotas were allotted to different States. The Hyderabad State got about Rs. 19,000 out of the seven lakhs allotted to all States. But even this small meagre sum is not provided in this year's budget. I do not know the reason why Hyderabad has received such a harsh treatment at the hands of the hon. Minister and I would request him to look into this.

While I am on the cottage industries, I would like to speak a word or two with regard to the shortage of yarn in the Hyderabad State. In reply to my question, No. 1774 put on the 27th February, 1951 the hon. Minister pointed that the yarn quota allotted to Hyderabad was

[Shri S. V. Naik]

based on the Fact Finding Commission's report. The report of the Fact Finding Commission submitted in 1943 was taken as a basis. At that time the handlooms in Hyderabad State were about 70,000. Now the handlooms have increased to about 1,48,000, but as the Minister says, there are about 1,40,000 out of which effective handlooms are about 1,38,000. Considering the increase from 70,000 to 1,38,000, taking them as effective, still the increase in the bales of yarn that was given is only about 116 bales, i.e., from 3,749 bales, as a generosity measure, they have increased it to 3,865. The result is that the handloom weavers there do not get even the yarn for working their looms for about 2 or 3 days in a month. Now take the case of a village. There is a village called Aland near Gulberga. It had a population of 8,000 weavers and there were 1,800 looms. They were getting 100 bales per month. Now the quota has been reduced to about 30. Now the handlooms working there are only 500. The rest are remaining idle. Previously they used to earn about Rs. 4 per day. Now they are hardly able to earn one rupee and they have migrated to Sholapur, one of the districts in the Bombay Province.

There are some difficulties with regard to the Sales Tax. As you are aware, the Sales Tax was very recently introduced in the Hyderabad State. At that time many of the mercantile associations and the Chambers of Commerce represented the matter to the Hyderabad Government and also to the Central Government that the tax should not be a multiple point tax but should be a single point tax. Their request was not heeded to. Generally in all the States except perhaps Madras and one or two other States, the tax is a single point tax. In Hyderabad State by whatever sources Government can get money in the shape of taxes the measure is introduced in Hyderabad State. Sometimes they take one portion of legislation from the Madras State, and some other portion from some other State and the rest from a third State and the combination is made into laws and regulations and the people are charged according to that. My request is to have uniformity with regard to the Sales Tax. I would request the hon. Minister to take the whole matter of the Sales Tax Administration to the Centre and have a single point tax, a tax at the consumers, end and give

exemption to the forwarding, carrying and commission charges and then apportion the quotas of the income to different States. I think, that would obviate the differences in the taxes in the different States of India.

There are one or two small points with regard to the Sales Tax. Of course, one may consider that it is a local question and that it may not be brought here. It is not so. It comes under section 286, sub-section 3 that is inter-state trading. If a firm having its head office outside Hyderabad has a branch there, that firm is taxed on each and every sale but if the firm has no branch in Hyderabad State, it is exempt from the sales tax on the sales that are carried on by that firm. When the firm represents the matter to the Hyderabad Government and further says that the matter be referred to the Central Government, the Hyderabad Government refuses to forward the matter to the Central Government saying that it is in their discretion to charge the firm and that they cannot forward the representation to the Centre. In this way the merchants are being forced to go to the court of law. I think it would be better in such cases to issue instructions to the State Governments to forward such matters to the Central Government so that a uniform policy could be followed.

Now, I would like to speak a word or two with regard to the general position of the industries in Hyderabad State. I think the policy of the Central Government or that of the Hyderabad Government is halting, hesitating and not definite. To give you a background, many of the industries were started during the war. Before that there were only a few industries which could be counted on one's fingers. During the war and later on, many of the industries were started with the support of the then Government. No doubt, they were based more or less on communal bias and the Hyderabad Government helped them with large amounts of money. After the Police Action, many of the companies tumbled down and it was a regular South Sea Bubble. Every day you get up in the morning, open some paper and you would find that some company had gone into liquidation or is on the verge of going into liquidation. This being the state, the Government after the Police Action appointed Mr. Wadia to go into the whole thing and to audit the accounts of those companies in which Government had invested large amounts of money. Our request to the Government was



that instead of only examining and auditing the accounts of those companies in which Government have invested, they may audit and investigate all the companies and find out which have been mismanaged. No doubt, Mr. Wadia had submitted a report but up to now, though it is a long time, it has neither been published nor the public knows anything about it. When Sardar Patel had been to Hyderabad last, we represented the matter to him and he, at our instance, was generous enough to say that he would send Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai to investigate into the matter of industries. He did send him. Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai in one of the public meetings there, also said that before coming to Hyderabad, he had seen a report on industries prepared by the Central Commerce and Industry Department re Hyderabad Industries and he had thoroughly gone through that and on that basis, he was going to investigate and audit the industries.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

He has submitted his report; but none knows what that report of the Commerce and Industry Ministry is, nor indeed the report of Shri Kasturbhai. Nobody knows what points he has suggested. It is understood that about Rs. 7 crores have been invested by Hyderabad Government and also by the Industrial Trust Fund in concerns many of which are almost going into liquidation and also that another Rs. 5 crores are given as loan making a total of Rs. 12 crores. And according to the five year plan which is going to be submitted to the Planning Commission here as far as I know there is to be another sum of Rs. 3.26 crores to be invested and that too with regard to only five industries being the Sirpur Paper Mills Ltd. the Sir Silk Ltd. and the Taj Glass Works and the Alcohol Factory and the Singarein Collieries. That means, as Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai has said, that after investing money in concerns in which it should not have been invested, so as to save them Government is investing further sums into them. I would request the hon. Minister to look into these matters and submit them to serious scrutiny and investigation. These reports should be published and the public should be taken into confidence and if found not desirable such sums should not be invested in these concerns and other concerns denied assistance. He should give assistance where assistance will be productive of general good to the industries of the Hyderabad State.

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The day has come when we have to look to the progress and development of industry not only in one particular phase, but towards the general industrial life of the whole State.

Then there is just one small point and that is with regard to the importing of machinery from abroad. When such machineries are imported, the necessary accessories are not imported along with them and this leads to a lot of waste and difficulty. For instance when tractors are got down, the necessary parts and accessories are not obtained and so when these tractors develop some trouble when working out in the fields, they cannot be set right and so they have to remain idle for a long time. So also in the case of cameras and photographic materials and other such things. Therefore, I would request that when heavy materials and machineries are imported, the necessary accessories also should be imported in sufficient quantities.

श्री शानो राम : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय. भारत सरकार को लोक प्रिय बनने में जितनी त्रुटियां बाधक हैं उन में वस्त्र वितरण एक प्रधान कारण है। इस विषय पर इस संसद में माननीय पूर्व वक्ताओं ने बहुत प्रकाश डाला है, लेकिन मैं भी इस विषय में कुछ कह देना आवश्यक समझता हूँ क्योंकि सारे भारत में यह एक कठिन समस्या है। माननीय महोदय आज कपड़े का सवाल इतना कठिन हो गया है कि उस को सुलझाना सरकार के लिए भी कठिन हो रहा है। इस समय सरकार की कपड़े की नीति में कोई सामंजस्य नहीं है। कभी तो कंट्रोल (control) होता है, कभी कंट्रोल ढीला कर दिया जाता है, कभी कंट्रोल तोड़ दिया जाता है। जब जब कंट्रोल उठाया गया कपड़े की कीमत बढ़ती गई। अगर इस नीति में सामंजस्य रहता और एक नीति रहती तो आज जो कपड़े का इतना दाम बढ़ा हुआ है यह नहीं बढ़ता और इतनी कठिनाई भी नहीं होती। सन् ४७ का जमाना था जब कि हमारे जिले में इलेक्शन (Election) हो रहा था। मैं

[श्री ज्ञानी राम]

उस में घूमता था। उस समय लोग कपड़े की कठिनाई के बारे में आन्दोलन करते थे। जब मैं ने इलेक्शन के बाद इस बारे में मंत्री जी को कहा तो उन्होंने इस काम को हाथ में लिया। हम ने घूम घूम कर इसके लिए पंचायतें कायम की और पंचायतों द्वारा दुकानदारों को निश्चित किया और कूपन (coupons) जारी किये और कड़ाई से काम लिया गया। अफसरों को ताकीद की तो थोड़े ही दिनों में लोग खुश हो गये और उन में कांग्रेस और सरकार के प्रति जो दुर्भावना थी वह दूर हो गई। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि इसके थोड़े दिनों के बाद कट्रोल ढाला कर दिया गया और उस का नतीजा यह है कि आज यह दुर्गति हो रही है। जनता सरकार की कठिनाइयों को जानती है और उन कठिनाइयों को क्षमा भी कर सकती है लेकिन वह वितरण की त्रुटियों को क्षमा नहीं कर सकती। जनता जानती है कि कपड़े की कमी है लेकिन उस के वितरण में जो ढीलापन है उस को क्षमा नहीं कर सकती। अभी जब मैं अपने जिले में गया था तो एक आदमी ने कहा कि एक साड़ी की जिस का दाम सात रुपया था उस का उसे बारह रुपया देना पड़ा। उस ने मेरा नाम ले कर कहा कि उन से कह दूंगा तो दुकानदार ने उस से कहा कि तुम को आयन्दा कपड़ा नहीं दूंगा तुम बखेड़िया आदमी हो। मुझे स्टेशन पर काशी महतो ने बतलाया कि उन को एक साड़ी की आवश्यकता थी। दुकानदार के पास गये तो उसने कहा कि नहीं है। जब उस ने कांग्रेस के सभापति को कहा और सप्लाई इंस्पेक्टर को रिपोर्ट की गई तो उस दुकानदार ने कहा कि यह तो सुपरफाइन (superfine) भारकीन मांगत थे। इस प्रकार का झूठा जबाब दे कर लोगों को टाल देते हैं। जो

कुछ हो बं सरकार को यही राय देता हूं कि चाहे थोड़ा ही कपड़ा हो लेकिन उस के बांटने का एक अच्छा उपाय निकालें खास कर गांवों में। शहरों में तो कूपन सिस्टम (Coupon system) होने से कुछ मिल भी जाता है लेकिन देहातों में एक गज भी कपड़ा नहीं मिलता। मैं मंत्री महोदय से अनुरोध करता हूं कि वह कूपन के वितरण के लिए उचित प्रबन्ध करें, प्रायः सरकारों को उचित परामर्श दें और बड़े बड़े अफसरों को जरा ताकीद करें जिस में वह अच्छा नियंत्रण करें और जो छोटे छोटे अफसर हैं वह जांच करें। बहुत से लोग तो कह रहे थे कि सरकार गलती कर रही है कि वह सप्लाई इंस्पेक्टरों (Supply inspectors) की पोस्ट को नीलाम नहीं करती। कपड़ा तो इसी तरह बढ़ता रहेगा पर ऐसा करने से सरकार को कुछ आमदनी हो जायगी। अगर जनता का सरकार पर इस प्रकार का सन्देह रहेगा तो सरकार जनप्रिय नहीं हो सकती। मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि सरकार को कपड़े के वितरण को ठीक करना चाहिये और बड़े अफसरों को ताकीद करनी चाहिये कि जिस में अच्छा नियंत्रण हो। कपड़ा चाहे लोगों को एक गज या आधा गज ही मिले, पर वह लोगों के सामने रख कर ठीक से बांट दिया जाय तो लोग सरकार की बदनामी नहीं करेगे। यह तो हुआ कपड़े के विषय में।

अब मैं लोहे और सीमेंट के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। लोहे और सीमेंट का बंटवारा भी अन्धेरे के तरीके से होता है। जो चाहता है उसको नहीं मिलता और जो नहीं चाहता है उस को मिल जाता है। अगर आप अन्वेषण करें कि जितने लोगों ने पिछले पांच बरसों में मकान बनवाये हैं तो आपको मालूम होगा कि जिन को लोहा

मिला उन्होंने तो ब्लैक मार्केटिंग (Black marketing) किया और जिन को नहीं मिला उन्होंने ब्लैक मार्केट से खरीदा। तो इन में से कोई आप को ऐसा आदमी नहीं मिलेगा कि जिस ने इन पांच वर्षों में ब्लैक मार्केटिंग न किया हो और इस का कुमूरवार न हो। इस के लिए भी मैं कहूंगा कि नियंत्रण कड़ाई के साथ होना चाहिये और इस की जांच होनी चाहिये। इस के बाद मैं अपने राज्य के माइका (mica) या अभ्रक के उद्योग के विषय में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। अभ्रक हिन्दुस्तान की एक मुख्य वस्तु है बल्कि यह कहा जा सकता है कि यह हिन्दुस्तान की मानोपली (monopoly) है। लेकिन यह व्यवसाय भी खतरे से खाली नहीं है। विज्ञान के द्वारा सिन्थेटिक माइका (Synthetic mica) भी तैयार होने लगा है। आस्ट्रेलिया और अमरीका में माइका निकला भी है, ब्राजिल में भी निकला है। इस व्यवसाय की रक्षा के लिए सरकार का विशेष ध्यान रहना चाहिये। लोग हिन्दुस्तान में ब्राजिल और आस्ट्रेलिया का माइका मंगा कर उस की फंक्नी फाइते हैं। यूरोप और अमरीका के लोग इस काम में तजुर्बेकार नहीं हैं। इस काम में हमारे हिन्दुस्तान के मजदूर ही दक्ष हैं। कुछ व्यवसायी इस माइका को मंगा कर नफा कमा रहे हैं। लेकिन अगर दूर दृष्टि से देखा जाय तो मैं कहूंगा कि यह चीज हिन्दुस्तान के अभ्रक व्यवसाय को धक्का पहुंचायगी और सरकार इस की जांच करने के बाद अगर उचित समझे तो बाहरी माइका को फंक्नी फाइने के लिए मंगाने में रुकावट डाले।

दूसरी बात इस सिलसिले में यह कहनी है कि यहां जो माइका एक पैसे और दो पैसे को बिकता है वही जब बाहर से बन कर आता है तो इलेक्टिसिटी (Electricity)

के सामान के लिए उस के हम को तीन और चार रुपये देने पड़ते हैं। इस प्रकार हमारा विशाल धन विदेशों को चला जाता है। अगर यहां पर माइकानाइट इंडस्ट्री (Micanite Industry) खोली जाये तो जो इतनी ताबाद में हमारा रुपया माइका के सामान की कीमत में बाहर चला जाता है वह बच जायेगा। कोडरमा में बांध बन रहा है उस से बिजली मिलने लगेगी और अगर माइकानाइट इंडस्ट्री पर ध्यान दिया जाय तो मैं समझता हूँ कि जो सरकार पांच करोड़ रुपया बाहर भेज कर कमाती है कुछ ही दिनों में इस इंडस्ट्री से बीस तीस करोड़ तक कमाने लगेगी। मैं ने अभ्रक के व्यवसायियों से पूछा कि यह काम क्यों नहीं करते हो तो उन्होंने कहा कि इस की रक्षा का उपाय नहीं है। अगर हम लोग माइकानाइट इंडस्ट्री के कल कारखाने खोलें तो हो सकता है कि सरकार से हम को प्रोटेक्शन (Protection) न मिले और हम फेल हो जायें। इसलिये मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि वे माइकानाइट इंडस्ट्री पर विशेष ध्यान दें।

बिहार सरकार ने एक राय महाशय को अमरीका इस व्यवसाय को सीखने के लिए भेजा था, लेकिन जब वह वापस आये तो उन को काम नहीं मिल सका और उन को वापस जाना पड़ा। सरकार उन्हें कोई काम नहीं दे सकी और राय को वाबस अमरीका जाकर काम खोजना पड़ा। मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि माइकानाइट इंडस्ट्री के लिए जल्दी से जल्दी एक कमेटी कायम करे जो कि यह बतावे कि कोडरमा के व्यवसायियों को किस प्रकार की सहायता और प्रोटेक्शन दिया जाय कि यह काम जल्दी से जल्दी शुरू हो सके।

[श्री ज्ञानी राम]

दूसरे में रेशम के व्यवसाय के विषय में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। यह हिन्दुस्तान का एक पुराना व्यवसाय है। यह भारत के करीब-करीब सभी भागों में होता रहा है। लेकिन गत महायुद्ध के पहले चीन और जापान के नकली रेशम ने हमारे बाजार को बिठा दिया और यह व्यवसाय खत्म होता जा रहा है। अगर इस कपड़े की कमी के समय में हम इस का पुनरुद्धार करें तो इस से कपड़े का प्रश्न भी कुछ हद तक हल हो सकता है। मेरी राय है कि सरकार कोये की मानोपली परचेज (purchase) कर के जहाँ जहाँ पुराने जमाने में रेशम के कीड़े पाले जाते थे वहाँ उन्हें पालने के लिए लोगों को कालच दे और सहायता दे जिस में काफी तादाद में कोया हमारे बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश, आसाम आदि प्रदेशों में उत्पादन किया जाय और इस से हमारा कपड़े का जो सवाल है वह भी कुछ हद तक हल हो जायेगा। रेशम अब भी बहुत जगहों में तैयार होता है लेकिन इस व्यवसाय को उचित पूँजी और सहायता नहीं मिलती है।

दूसरे भ्रम में कोल (coal) के विषय में कहता हूँ। कोल इंडस्ट्री भी बहुत दूर तक कम हो रही है, उस पर भी विशेष ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। एक कोलियरी (colliery) हमारे जिले में थी, लाखों मन कोयले का उत्पादन वहाँ होता था। लेकिन उस को रेलवे बैगन न मिलने की वजह से बन्द करना पड़ा। अगर हमारे एक डिपार्टमेंट को दूसरे से, रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट का इंडस्ट्री डिपार्टमेंट से सामंजस्य रहता, मिलाप रहता, कोआर्डिनेशन (co-ordination) रहता, तो उस रेलवे कोलियरी को बन्द नहीं करना पड़ता।

आज तो सरकार जोर लगाती है कि उत्पादन बढ़े। और कोयला सारे भारत में ही नहीं बल्कि यहाँ का कोयला बाहर भी पाकिस्तान और दूसरे देशों को भेजा जाता है। लेकिन हम कोयले का उत्पादन किसी न किसी कारणवश बन्द कर देते हैं। सरकार को चाहिये कि इस प्रकार का उत्पादन किसी भी प्रकार बन्द न हो। उस को पहले से दूरदर्शी होना चाहिये और उस को रोकने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। इस को पहले से ध्यान रखना चाहिये कि हमारी इंडस्ट्री किसी प्रकार बरबाद न हो।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Jnani Ram (Bihar): Sir, mal-distribution of cloth is a leading factor among the mistakes that have worked as impediments in the way of our Government becoming popular. Many hon. Members speaking before have thrown sufficient light on this subject but I think it necessary to say something because it is an acute problem facing the whole of the country. The problem of cloth is so critical today that it has become difficult even for the Government too to solve it. At present there is no stability in the Government's policy towards cloth. Sometimes the control is imposed sometimes it is relaxed and sometimes it is removed. Whenever the control was lifted the prices of cloth began rising. Had there been a balanced and a uniform policy the prices of cloth would not have gone as high as they are today and the overall supply position would also have been easier. In 1947, elections were being held in my district. I made tours in that connection. People then used to agitate against cloth shortage. When I talked to the hon. Minister in that connection, he took the work in his own hands. We toured and set up the panchayats at various places. These panchayats selected the shop-keepers. Strictness was observed and instructions were given to the officials to that effect. In a short time people became satisfied and their feeling against the congress and the Government subsided. But unfortunately, control was relaxed after some time resulting in the

present crisis. The people realise the difficulties of the Government and can also condone them. But they cannot forgive their faults made in process of distribution. Recently when I was in my district, somebody told me that he had to pay Rs. 12-0-0 for a 'saree' costing Rs. 7-0-0 only and when he referred my name that he would complain to me, the shopkeeper threatened that he was a quarrelsome person and therefore he would not be given any cloth in future. I was told by Shri Kashi Mehto on the railway station that he was in need of a saree and when he went to a shopkeeper, he said that he had none. When he complained to the President of the city Congress Committee and reported the matter to the Supply Inspector, the shopkeeper said that Shri Mehto had asked for superfine *markin* (long cloth) and not *saree*. In this way these shopkeepers deceive the people. It is my sincere advice to the Government that they should find out some proper system of cloth distribution, particularly in the villages. In cities people are able to get some cloth due to prevalence of the coupon system, but in the villages hardly any cloth is available. I urge upon the hon. Minister to make appropriate arrangements for the distribution of cloth, render opportune advice to the State Governments and give suitable instructions to the high officials so that they may exercise a proper control and the lesser officials may have a thorough grasp over the situation. Many persons were of the opinion that the Government were making a mistake by not auctioning the posts of Supply Inspectors to the highest bidder. They think it would not affect the distribution of the cloth, but the Government would be able to earn some money by doing so. Till the time people are so suspicious of the Government the latter cannot be popular. I would only say that the Government must improve the system of cloth distribution and instruct the officials to effect a better control. People may get a small quantity of cloth may it be one yard or half yard but if that is distributed properly amongst the people, they would not blame the Government. This is what I wanted to submit my views about cloth.

I would now like to say something about iron and cement. Distribution of iron and cement is also being done haphazardly. The needy do not get them while those who actually do not need get them. If you make an investigation about the people who have built houses during the last five

years, you will find that those who got the iron sold it in the black-market and those who did not get it purchased it from the black-market. You will not find a single person who did not resort to black-marketing during the last five years and is not guilty of the same. I would appeal that the distribution should be strictly controlled and an enquiry be conducted in the matter.

Then I want to say something about the mica industry of my State. Mica is an important industry of India. It may rather be said, that India holds the monopoly of mica. But even this industry is not secure. Synthetic mica has now began to be produced by scientific process. Mica has also been discovered in Australia, America Brazil as well and. Government must devote particular attention for the protection of this industry. People import mica from Australia and Brazil into India and split the layers. People in Europe and America are inexperienced in this work. Only the Indian workers are skilled in it. But considering the long range effects, this state of affairs would harm the Indian mica industry. Therefore, if the Government think it desirable they should impose restrictions upon the import of foreign mica for purposes of splitting of layers.

I would also like to add in this connection that for the mica that sells for one or two pice here, we have to pay three or four rupees when it is imported in processed form in the shape of electric accessories from foreign countries. In this way a huge amount of our country's wealth is drained away to the foreign countries. If micanite industry is started here, the Government shall be saving five crores of rupees that are sent out of the country to get the finished materials. A dam is being built in Koderma from which electricity will be available and if attention is paid to the micanite industry. I think the industry, would be earning from twenty to thirty crores of rupees before long. I had a talk with some persons dealing in Mica about this matter and they said that there was no provision for this industry being protected. If they opened micanite factories, it was possible that they may fail in absence of Government protection. Hence I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to pay heed to the micanite industry.

The Government of Bihar had sent some gentleman known as Shri Roy to America to learn this trade. But

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when he returned he could not find a job and he had to go back. The Government could not provide him with work and he had to go back to America in search of work. I request the Government to appoint a committee as soon as possible for mica industry to advise on such matters as to how help and protection could be given to mica industrialists of Koderma so that the work may be started without delay.

Then I want to say something about the silk industry. It is an old industry of India and was existent in almost all the parts of the country. But before the last Great War, artificial silk from China and Japan had flooded our markets with the result that this industry suffered a huge setback. If we could revitalize this industry in these times of cloth scarcity, the problem of cloth could also be solved to an extent. I think that the Government should purchase the cocoon monopoly and induce and help the people to take rearing of silk worms at the old sericulture centre so that cocoons may be produced in enough quantities in the regions of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Assam etc. and our problem of cloth may be solved to some extent. Silk is still manufactured at a number of places but this industry is not getting sufficient finances and facilities.

Now, I take up coal industry. Coal industry is also languishing and proper attention is not being paid to it. There was a colliery in my district where thousands of maunds of coal was produced. But that had to be closed due to non-availability of railway wagons. Had there been contact and co-ordination between our Departments, between the Railway and the Industry Departments, that colliery would not have to be closed down. Today the Government endeavours hard to increase production. This coal is not consumed in India only but is also exported to Pakistan and other countries. But somehow or other we reduce the production of coal. Government must see that its production does not stop. They must work with a foresight and should try to check it. They must pay proper attention so that our industry may not be handicapped in any way.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Coal has gone to some other Ministry.

**Shri Jnani Ram:** Formerly it was under this Ministry.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Has the hon. Member finished his speech?

**Shri Jnani Ram:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri Damodara Menon (Travancore-Cochin):** To begin with I would speak a few words in support of what Sarimati Uma Nehru said today about the Government's policy with regard to cottage industries. That policy requires radical revision. In the report of the Commerce and Industry Ministry there is a paragraph about the activities of the Cottage Industries Board. It is said that that Board is now mainly engaged in stimulating export of our cottage industry products, that we are trying to sell the products of our cottage industries in foreign countries, especially in America. Now that is a good endeavour. It would earn for us foreign exchange also. But, Sir, in my opinion, we are having a wrong emphasis on cottage industries and their role in our economy when we think primarily of export. Cottage industries must cater to the needs of our home consumers; then only will they be supplying the long-felt need in our economy. In this connection I want to bring to your attention a general proposition. In an under-developed and a thickly populated country like India industry must be labour-intensive and not capital-intensive. We have to use the vast manpower that is our wealth. Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the creator of modern China, once said that the greatest asset of China is her manpower. That proposition is equally true in our case. The problem today is how we are going to utilise the manpower in our villages, the manpower which is not being properly utilised now for the furtherance of our economic uplift? It is well-known that the pressure on our agricultural lands is very heavy. We have somehow to find work for millions. It is because of this that Mahatma Gandhi, when he was leading us in the fight for freedom, laid special emphasis on decentralised industry. He dreamt a beautiful dream, he thought that free India would have many villages which will be self-contained and which will be humming with life and activity, free from the worries and miseries of want, free from the evils that arise from want. But today my complaint is that the Industry Ministry is not viewing that problem in that perspective. It is true that the Congress at its Nasik session passed a resolution in which it emphasised that khadi must occupy the centre of our cottage industries. We also passed a resolution on the economic problem, the famous economic resolution of the

Congress. In that resolution we said that we must make our cottage industries efficient. Sir, all these things go to show that we wanted these cottage industries to cater primarily to our home needs. Today on the other hand we are treating it as an exporting industry. We want to produce some articles of luxury and send them abroad for sale. We are forgetting the masses of this country, who are on the point of rebellion. We have to divert these people and give them work and utilise their energy and also their capacity for producing national wealth. I would ask the hon. Minister who is a very great enthusiast of *khadi*, because I know he is a staunch Congressman of long standing and a leader, what he has done to encourage *khadi* and make it the most popular cottage industry in our country. I would make a suggestion to him. If we want *khadi* to thrive, if we want to realise the ideal which Mahatma Gandhi placed before us, we should eliminate the competition of mill cloth with *khadi*. That can be done, Sir.

Many hon. Members have spoken this afternoon about the cloth scarcity in this country. I realise that if we take any radical step all of a sudden, it may involve a lot of suffering on the part of the people. Therefore, I suggest that we should have a graduated programme, by which we can eliminate mill cloth from our home market. Possibly, it may be necessary for us to enhance the excise duty upon mill cloth and utilise the proceeds for the encouragement of *khadi*. This may sound rather unsavoury to people who are crying out because of the rise in prices of cloth, but I am of the view that our people will be willing to suffer any burden and undergo any sacrifice if they only know that they are working for a cause, for a dream, for a new social order and for the ideology for which Congress has been standing for so long. When I say that in our country industry must be labour-intensive and not capital-intensive, I have also in my mind the shyness of the capital. The Finance Minister has been mentioning it and we all know that capital is shy. Our industrialists are not sinking their money. Our traders, our moneyed men and our rich folk are not willing to come forward with their money for large scale industries, and we are looking for outside help. I do not think it would be possible for us in the present international set-up to get much money from outside for large scale enterprises. Therefore, we have to think in terms of cottage industries,

not as fancy things but as a necessary item of our economic life. We should plan them and not leave them to haphazard efforts.

Sir, the main subject which I wanted to deal with today was rubber. The part of the country from which I come, namely, Travancore-Cochin State and also Malabar are the places in India where rubber is produced. There has been a lot of discussion about this matter in this House. You, Sir, observed the other day when questions were asked that we had had enough of this elastic substance. I am referring again to this subject because I find that the hon. Minister's view about rubber prices is a very static and very rigid one. I thought that probably rubber being elastic his view in this matter would also be a little more elastic. India is a country which is fortunate in one respect. We are the producers of raw rubber as well as manufactured rubber articles. Therefore, we have to be very careful about this industry of ours. The hon. Minister seems to think that rubber is a product that can be grown in all parts of India. It is not so, Sir. I am subject to correction, but on the 19th February when there was the half hour discussion he gave expression to some such sentiment which led me to think like that. In any case, it would have been better, I think, if rubber had grown in all parts of India. If it had grown probably in North India and somewhere near Delhi, then the voice of the Rubber Producers would have been better heard by the people here. Travancore-Cochin is a long way from Delhi and yet I hope, Sir, that the needs of this strategic rubber industry will not be forgotten by the Minister. We are producing about 15,000 tons of rubber every year. Our own industrial needs of rubber are of the order of 20,000 tons. It is well known that this industry has not been progressing for some time past and the hon. Minister stated on the 19th February that there is enough encouragement for the growers of rubber. I do not want to suggest that the hon. Minister is not conscious of the difficulties of the growers. As a matter of fact, they are thankful to him for granting an interim relief of about Rs. 32-8-0 by way of enhancement in the price existing before. But what I want to say is that he seems to think that this industry does not need to be encouraged in the way in which it should be, because he says that there is sufficient encouragement. That is not true. If there had been sufficient incentive for the growers to produce

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more with the existing price, then we would not have had this sorry spectacle of an increase of about 1½ acres of rubber plantations during the last one year or so. Previously from 1942 to 1947 the increase was to the tune of about 8,000 acres. It has suddenly fallen. What is the reason for it? If the price of rubber is really an incentive to the growers, normally we should have expected that the increase of land under rubber cultivation would have been much more. Therefore, if we want this industry to supply enough for our home needs, there must be more encouragement to the growers. When it comes to a question of giving increase in the price to the manufactured articles, especially rubber tyres, the Ministry moves with a swiftness and alacrity which is worthy of admiration and as I had said in the half an hour debate an increase of about 15 to 23½ per cent has been allowed to tyres. That increase has been given, the hon. Minister explained, on account of the fact that there have been imports of raw rubber from outside at a higher cost. This import would not have been necessary at all had our rubber plantations been able to produce enough rubber for home consumption. The other day the hon. Minister stated, when I raised the question of raising the price of raw rubber, that he must refer to the cost of production. But, Sir, I want to know and Mr. Krishnamachari also put the same question whether, when there is an increase in the price of tyres and other manufactured articles, he has sanctioned the increase after a scrutiny of the cost of production. If that is not so, why should you be so scrupulous about this raw rubber alone? There is another factor also apart from this. We must know and the hon. Minister also must know that all over this country the price of all raw materials has gone up steep. Why should you keep down the price of raw rubber alone and make it impossible for the raw rubber producers to work under these difficult conditions. They are producing a material which is of strategic importance. If this policy is pursued, then I am afraid the rubber industry in this country will suffer and it will be very difficult for us to rebuild what we lose. Today we find that people all over the world are rushing for rubber. They want to stock-pile raw rubber. When that is so, why should we in our own country where we have this industry, not show greater care to see that there is sufficient inducement for these peo-

ple to produce more raw rubber. I would therefore once more request the hon. Minister to revise his policy. He must if necessary, go out of his way to encourage this industry.

One more word and I have done. I come from a part of India where many money crops are grown. We grow coconuts; we grow pepper; we grow ginger; we grow tea; we grow cardamoms and several other money crops which bring us a lot of dollar and foreign exchange. I am sure that this part of India requires greater care and attention from the rest of India. Most hon. Members here will appreciate that these money crops will have to be encouraged by the Government and the hon. Minister will have to pursue a policy of sympathy and active encouragement in our case.

श्री एस० एन दास : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, बड़ी कृपा है कि दिन के अन्त में इधर भी आप की नजर पड़ी है। व्यवसाय और उद्योग का विषय इतना विस्तृत है कि उस के किसी भी भाग पर कुछ प्रकाश डालने के लिए विशेष समय की आवश्यकता है। लेकिन दिन के अन्त में जब बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने इस के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर अपने विचार प्रकट कर दिये हैं तो मैं इस सभा का ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा। मेरा ख्याल है कि इस समय देश की जो औद्योगिक नीति है उस का आधार ६ अप्रैल १९४८ के सरकारी प्रस्ताव है। इस प्रस्ताव में इस बात का भी जिक्र किया गया है कि इस नीति के पीछे विधान में वर्णित सामाजिक आदेश है। सामाजिक, आर्थिक और राजनैतिक, न्याय ही इस की भित्ति है। लेकिन इस प्रस्ताव के अन्त में कहा गया है कि प्रस्ताव में जो विचार प्रकट किये गये हैं उन को देखते हुए देश में जो पूंजीपति है, जो पूंजी देने वाले हैं, वे अब इस दिशा में विशेष ध्यान देंगे। इस प्रस्ताव का सारांश यह मालूम होता है कि जब देश में उत्पादन की कमी होने लगी और जिन के हाथ में आज उत्पादन का मुख्य साधन तो नहीं लेकिन उत्पादन का एक मुख्य जरिया पूंजी है वह हमारे समाज



के हाथ में न हो कर व्यक्ति विशेष के हाथ में है, इस वजह से उन्होंने जब सरकार के उत्पादन की योजना में पूरा सहयोग देने से इन्कार किया और बार-बार खुलासा करन पर भी जब उन्हें इस बात का डर बना ही रहा कि देश में उद्योग और व्यवसाय का आगे चल कर समाजोन्नरण हो जायेगा तो इस कारण पूंजीपतियों ने उद्योगों को बढ़ाने के लिए अपनी थैली के रुपये निकालने की हिम्मत नहीं दिखलाई, तब सरकार को इस बात की जरूरत महसूस हुई कि सरकार का मत और नीति एक प्रस्ताव के जरिये से फिर स्पष्ट की जाय। वह ६ अप्रैल सन् ४८ का प्रस्ताव उसी का परिणाम है। उसी प्रस्ताव के आधार पर जहां-तहां उद्योग के विकास के काम किये जाते हैं और कहा जाता है कि देश में मिश्रित आर्थिक नीति मिक्स्ड इकानामी (mixed economy) चलेगी। इस मिश्रित आर्थिक नीति का देश में मिश्रित स्वागत ही हो रहा है। कुछ इसे देश के लिए अच्छा समझते हैं और कुछ इस की निन्दा करते हैं। नितने केन्द्र के विषय हैं, मेरा ख्याल है कि उन सबों में व्यवसाय और उद्योग का सीधा सम्बन्ध जनता से अधिक है। वैसे तो सभी विषय जनता से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं। पर इस विभाग की कारंवाई का असर जनता पर सीधे पड़ता है। आज साग हाउस यह स्पष्ट रूप से समझ रहा है कि आज की आर्थिक नीति में और दुनिया की आर्थिक व्यवस्था में इस विषय में नियंत्रण जरूरी है। सम्भवतः इस सभा के बहुत से सदस्य इस सम्बन्ध में विरोध भी रखते हैं। लेकिन मैं उन लोगों में से नहीं हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि देश की अर्थ व्यवस्था में और दुनिया की आज की स्थिति में किसी भी प्रजातंत्र के लिए जरूरी है कि वह वस्तुओं की कमी होने पर उन पर नियंत्रण जारी करे। लेकिन इस नये प्रजातंत्र में जब वस्तुओं का अभाव होना शुरू हुआ, जब सरकार ने यह समझा कि नियंत्रण होना जरूरी है।

लेकिन यह बात हर एक को महसूस होती है, और मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारे माननीय मंत्रीजी को भी यह बात महसूस होती होगी कि इस प्रजातंत्र में नियंत्रण चलाने के लिए जिस मशीनरी की जरूरत है जिस प्रकार की प्रणाली की जरूरत है उस प्रणाली का अभाव हमारे देश में है। इसलिए सुबह शाम-यहां की जनता को इस बात का पता चलता जा रहा है कि सरकार हमारी समस्याओं का समाधान, हमारी समस्याओं का हल नहीं निकालती है। चाहे अन्न के क्षेत्र को लीजिये, चाहे वस्त्र के क्षेत्र को लीजिये या किसी भी दूसरी समस्या को लीजिये जो कुछ भी हमने करने का प्रयत्न किया या जो कुछ भी हमने अभी तक किया है उस में आप को आधी सफलता भी नहीं मिली है। इसलिये सभी राज्यों के अन्दर असन्तोष दिखाई पड़ता है। जहां तक केन्द्रीय विषयों का ताल्लुक है अब उस के संचालन के सम्बन्ध में भी निराशा होने लगी है। इसलिये मैं कहूंगा कि जो नीति सरकार बरत रही है उस नीति के निर्धारण में भारत की अवस्था का विचार नहीं किया गया है। भारत एक कृषि प्रधान देश है यहां के उद्योग व्यवसाय को सफलता पूर्वक चलाने के लिए कृषि को पूरा ध्यान में रखना पड़ेगा। कृषि और उद्योग का पूरा समन्वय किये बिना हम कोई भी इकानामी (economy) चलायें, वह सफल नहीं हो सकती है। मेरा ख्याल है कि सरकार को स्वराज्य के बाद जो जो कठिनाइयां हुई हैं उन कठिनाइयों की वजह से योजना बनाने के लिये सारे विषयों को अपने सामने रख कर एक नीति कायम करने के लिए मौका नहीं मिला है। सब से बड़ी बात तो यह है कि इस सरकार ने नीति निर्धारण किया ही नहीं। जब जो समस्यायें हमारे सामने उठ खड़ी हुईं उन्हीं को हल करने में वह समय लगाती रही है जिस की

[श्री एस० ऐन० दास]

वजह से न जनता संतुष्ट हो सकी है न पूजीपति ही संतुष्ट हो सके हैं और न यह सरकार दूसरे वर्ग वालों को ही संतुष्ट कर सकी है। इसलिए उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे विचार में इस समय उद्योग की नीति को सफल करने के लिए देश की मनुष्य शक्ति में पावर (man power) को ध्यान में रख कर योजना बनानी होगी तब हमारे देश की अर्थ नीति सफल हो सकती है। यहां सँकड़े में ६७ आदमी खेतों में काम करते हैं। आज जितने उद्योग हमारे मुल्क में चलते हैं—जहां तक मुझे मालूम है—हो सकता है उस में कुछ कमी बेसी हो, उन में लगभग तीस लाख आदमी लगे हुए हैं। बाकी जो लोग हैं वे खेती में ही लगे हुए हैं। इस के साथ मुझे यह भी मालूम है कि खेत के लिए जितने आदमियों की जरूरत है उस से कहीं अधिक आदमी खेतों में लगे हुए हैं जिस से हमारे देश के मनुष्यों की बहुत शक्ति बरबाद होती है। जिस देश में उपयोग की चीजों की कमी हो, अन्न का अभाव हो, साथ ही करोड़ों आदमी बेकार हों, वहां की अर्थ नीति कैसे सफल हो सकती है। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार योजना बना कर उद्योग के विकास के क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़े योजना समिति की रिपोर्ट शीघ्र हमारे सामने आने वाली है इसलिए उद्योग नीति के सम्बन्ध में मैं अभी अपने विचार नहीं प्रकट करूँगा। जब योजना कमिशन का निर्णय हमारे सामने आयेगा उस पर विचार करते हुए देश की स्थिति पर पूरा गौर किया जायेगा। लेकिन मैं अभी अपने माननीय मंत्री से कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब तक वे वर्तमान उद्योगों का गठबंधन, खेती से सम्बन्ध रखने वाले उद्योगों से

नहीं करेंगे तब तक वे देश की समस्याओं का समाधान नहीं कर सकते हैं। जो ग्रामोद्योग डाइरेक्टरेट कायम किया गया है उस की रिपोर्ट को मैंने देखा है। जैसा हमारे एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है सरकार गृहउद्योगों के साथ स्टेप मदरली (Stepmotherly) बरताव करती है। काटेंज इन्डस्ट्री बोर्ड (Cottage Industries Board) बनाया गया, पर उस के काम आगे नहीं बढ़ पाये हैं। मैं जानता हूँ कि यह ग्रामोद्योग का विषय अधिकतर राज्यों से सम्बन्ध रखने वाली वस्तु है। लेकिन आज की स्थिति में जब कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अन्न के अभाव में और वस्त्र के अभाव में राज्यों के अधिकार और शक्ति अपने हाथ में ले ली है, मैं उन से निवेदन करूँगा कि देश की उद्योग नीति का निर्धारण करते समय आज देश के जो करोड़ों आदमी हैं जो आधे समय काम करते हैं और आधे समय बेकार रहते हैं उन की शक्ति का उपयोग आप करेंगे तो इस देश में अन्न, वस्त्र और दूसरी उपयोग की चीजों का अभाव नहीं रह सकता है। मेरा अपना ह्याल है कि आगे जो योजना आयोग, प्लैनिंग कमिशन (Planning Commission) की रिपोर्ट पेश होगी, वह सारे देश की समस्याओं को सामने रख कर, देश के कृषि में लगे हुए लोगों के प्रश्नों को अपने सामने रख कर तमाम समस्याओं को हल करने की योजना बनायेगी।

मैं यह कह कर खत्म करूँगा कि आज वाणिज्य व्यवसाय के क्षेत्र में हमारे सामने जो प्रश्न हैं, चाहे आयात के हों या निर्यात के हों, संरक्षण के हों या नियंत्रण के हों। यह सारी नीति योजना के अनुसार नहीं बनाई गई है। वे समय

समय पर पैदा होने वाली समस्याओं के छिटफुट हल करने के प्रयत्न भर हैं। इसलिए अगर उस में सफलता न हो तो कोई आश्चर्य की बात नहीं है।

अंत में मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से फिर अपील करूंगा कि वे कांग्रेस संस्था के उन विचारों को मानने वाले रहे हैं जिन के द्वारा देश की तमाम मनुष्य शक्ति के उपयोग की बात कही जाती रही है। आशा है भविष्य की उद्योग नीति का निर्धारण करते समय उन शक्तियों को अपनाने की योजना पर पूरा ध्यान देंगे। यदि ऐसा किया गया तो मेरा ब्याल है कि अन्न और वस्त्र या उपयोग की किसी भी चीज का जो कुछ भी अभाव इस देश में है वह हमारे बीच में नहीं रहेगा।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri S. N. Das (Bihar): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak at the fag end of the day. The subject of commerce and industry is so wide that it requires sufficient time to deal with any question relating to it. But at the end of the day when a number of hon. Members have already expressed their views on the various aspects of the subject, I would not take much time of the House. I think that the present industrial policy of our country is based on the official resolution of the 6th April, 1948. It has been stated in the resolution that the social ideals as described in the constitution and justice—social, economic, and political—form the basis of this policy. But the resolution in the end expressed the hope that the capitalists, in view of the objectives made clear in it, would pay particular attention in this direction. The reason for such a resolution seems to be like this. When production in our country began to diminish and when those who possess a very important, if not the main factor of production, namely capital, which should have been in the hands of the society instead of a few individuals, refused to co-operate with the production plan of the Government and when in spite of repeated

clarifications, they feared nationalization of industries in the country with the result that they hesitated in investing their money. Then the Government felt the necessity of clarifying their intentions and policy through a resolution and this resolution of the 6th April, 1948 is an outcome of that. On the basis of this resolution, it is declared at all places where any work of industrial development is undertaken that the Government would continue following the policy of mixed economy. This policy of mixed economy is meeting mixed reception in the country. Some persons think it suitable for the country while others are opposed to it. Among the Central subjects, I think commerce and industry is a subject that has a more direct concern with the people. Of course, all subjects are concerned with the people, but the policy and actions of this department have a direct effect on the people. Today the whole House understands that controls are necessary in view of the present economic policy and the economic set-up of the world. It may be that many of the hon. Members may be opposed to the policy of controls but I am not one of them. I feel that under the present economic conditions of our country and in view of the existing world situation it is very essential for a democratic country to impose controls on the commodities that are not available in sufficient quantities. But in this new democratic country of ours the Government realised the necessity of imposing controls when the commodities had begun to be scarce. But everyone feels and I think even the hon. Minister himself feels that our country lacks that machinery which is required to work the controls successfully. Therefore the people have begun to feel that the Government are not able to solve their problems. Whatever the Government tried to do whether in the field of food or of cloth or any other thing, it did not meet with any appreciable success. That is why people are discontented everywhere. People are also getting disappointed regarding the subjects concerned with the Central Government. I therefore submit that the conditions present in India have not been taken into account while formulating the policy which the Government is following these days. India is predominantly an agricultural country and as such agriculture shall have to be given due consideration for the successful development and growth of our industries. No economy, whatsoever, can be successful without bringing about a pro-

[Shri S. N. Das]

per co-ordination between agriculture and industry. In my opinion, the Government on account of certain initial difficulties which faced them immediately after the attainment of freedom, could not have enough opportunities to formulate a definite policy after a careful examination of the various aspects thereof. The most important fact is that the Government never framed a clear-cut policy. It only tried to solve the problems as and when they arose, with the result that neither the people nor the capitalists and other classes were satisfied. Therefore, Sir, in order to be successful in our economic policy. I think, we will have to take our man power into full consideration and then formulate a definite plan in this direction. In our country, 67 out of hundred persons work in the fields. As far as my information goes, there might be slight differences in it, about thirty lakhs of people are engaged in the various industries of our country and the rest are all agriculturists. I also know that the member engaged in the agriculture is much greater than what is actually required, with the result that much of our man-power is being wasted. How can we expect the economic policy to be successful in a country where there is a paucity of consumer goods, food-grains and where crores of people remain idle. Therefore I wish to submit that the Government should proceed with the industrial development of the country only after a careful planning. The Report of the Planning Commission is soon going to be out. Therefore I do not propose to express my views on the industrial policy at present. The whole situation will be reviewed only after we get the proposals of the Planning Commission. I would submit to the hon. Minister that unless he brings about co-ordination between industry and agriculture, it will be very difficult for him to find out a solution of our problems. I have seen the report of the Cottage Industries Directorate. As one of the hon. Members has said, the Government is giving a stepmotherly treatment to the cottage industries. Cottage Industries Board was set up but it has not made any progress. I know that cottage industries are mainly the concern of the States. But in the existing conditions when the Central Government have taken over more and more powers of the State Governments on account of the prevailing scarcity of food and cloth, I would request the Government that while framing the industrial policy, they should make it a point to utilise

the services of these crores of people of our country who have not enough work to keep them engaged. If this is done, there cannot be any scarcity of foodgrains, cloth and other commodities. I hope that the Planning Commission would submit its report after carefully examining the various problems of the country and would make proposals in the light of the important problem facing our agricultural population.

The last point that I would like to submit is that the various problems relating to commerce, whether relating to export and import or to controls and protection, that confront the Government are due to the fact that their policy has not been formulated in accordance with some definite plan. In the absence of such a plan, they have merely attempted to find ways and means for the solution of problems only as and when they arose. Therefore there is no wonder if they have not met with any success.

In the end I would submit that the hon. Minister has been a supporter of those views of the Congress through which it has always laid stress on the utilization of the total manpower of the country and therefore we hope that he would take this fact into consideration while enunciating the future industrial policy of India. If this is done, I believe the prevailing scarcity of foodgrains, cloth and other consumer goods would disappear.

**श्री घुले :** आज के इस विषय पर बहुत से सदस्य अपने विचार प्रकट कर चुके हैं और ऐसी परिस्थिति में मैं अपने आप को खास तौर से जो हमारी आम जनता का, और जनता का प्रमुख विषय है अर्थात् कपड़े का, उसी तक महद्द रखूंगा।

आप को यह मालूम है कि इस देश की जनता की जरूरियात बहुत थोड़ी हैं। शायद मुनिया में कोई ऐसा देश नहीं होगा जहाँ के आदमी इतनी कम जरूरियात में अपना मुजारा कर सकते हैं। अन्न, वस्त्र और रहने के लिये मामूली से मकान, अगर यह तीन चीजें इस देश के आदमियों को मिल जायें तो हिन्दुस्तान के आदमी अपने आप को सब से ज्यादा सुखी मानते हैं। उन को इन थोड़ी सी जरूरियात की चीजों में हमारी हुकूमत ने

कौन कौन सी चीजें मुहैया की हैं यह हमारी जनता देखेगी, और अगर वह कुछ नहीं कर सकी है तो सही रास्ता बताना हम लोगों का फर्ज है। इस तरह से जब हम सोचते हैं तो जब सब से पहले अन्न की तरफ देखते हैं तो अनेक नैचुरल कलैमिटीज (Natural calamities) का हवाला दिया जाता है। बाढ़ का हवाला दिया जाता है, अवर्षा का हवाला दिया जाता है, और हम लोग जो दरअसल जनता में घूमते हैं और अन्न के बारे में सुनते सुनाते हैं, तो यह बज्रहात सही है, इन से कोई इनकार नहीं कर सकता है और हम लोगों को उन के समझने समझाने में ज्यादा दिक्कत पेश नहीं आती। इसी तरह दूसरी जरूरत इंसानों को मकानों की है। उस के बारे में भी यह जवाब दिया जाता है कि पाकिस्तान से एक दम लाखों आदमी आये और उन को एक दम से एक साल में बसाना, या दो साल में मकान मुहैया करना हर एक दृक्कत के अिए मशकल है। यह आसान काम नहीं है और इस तरह से हम लोगों की तसल्ली कर सकते हैं। लेकिन कपड़े की जो समस्या है उस के बारे में जितने सवालों के जबाब इस हाउस (House) में दिये गये, जहाँ बयान मिनिस्टर साहब के किये गये पेश किये गये और जो जो कागजात यहाँ रखे गये उन तमाम कागजात को देखने के बाद भी हम मुतमईन नहीं हो सके। यह समस्या ऐसी थी जिस से जनता को तथा मुस्क को कठिनाइयाँ भुगतनी पड़ीं। हमारी सरकार उन कठिनाइयों को अभी तक दूर नहीं कर सकी। आज कपड़े की समस्या के बारे में यह बताया जाता है कि कपास की कमी की वजह से और एक्सपोर्ट (export) ज्यादा तादाद में होने की वजह से इस देश को कमी पड़ रही है। कपास की कमी हम समझ सकते हैं। पाकिस्तान के हम से अलग हो जान

की वजह से कपास की जो कमी हमको भुगतनी पड़ रही है वह किसी से छिपी नहीं है और उस के लिए जो प्रयत्न होने चाहिये वह हो रहे हैं। इसलिये इस कारण जो तकलीफ हो रही है उस को हम बरदाश्त कर सकते हैं और अपने देशवासियों से कह सकते हैं कि तुम को यह तकलीफ बरदाश्त करनी पड़ेगी। लेकिन क्या यह एक्सपोर्ट ऐसी चीज थी कि जो हमारे लिए लाजिमी थी। उस सूरत में जब कि हमारे लोगों के पास कफन तक के लिए कपड़ा नहीं था, पहनने के लिये कपड़ा नहीं था, जब कि हमारे लोगों के पास शादी के लिए कपड़ा नहीं था और मामूली मामूली चीजों के लिए तिगुने दाम देने पड़ते थे, क्या बारह सौ मिलियन (million) गज कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट करना लाजिमी था। इस रिपोर्ट (Report) में यह बतलाया गया है कि सन् १९४९ में कपड़े की इतनी तादाद बढ़ गई थी कि उस को एक्सपोर्ट करना आवश्यक था। मेरा सम्बन्ध भी कपड़े के वितरण से रहा है और यह जो कहा जाता है वह कुछ हद तक ठीक है। सन् ४८ के आखीर में और सन् ४९ के शुरू में कपड़े की इतनी इफरात हो गई थी कि कपड़ा नहीं उठाया जाता था लेकिन मैं मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि जिस कपड़े की इफरात हुई वह कपड़ा ऐसा था जिस की जरूरत कि यहाँ के लोगों को नहीं थी। आम तौर पर यह शिकायत है, और कभी कभी मैं भी इसी दृष्टि से सोचने लगता हूँ, कि मिल मालिक और आप के जो अधिकारी डिपार्टमेंटल हेड्स (Departmental Heads) हैं वह आपस में मिले हुए हैं और इस लिये मिल मालिकों ने वह कपड़ा पैदा किया कि जिस की हिन्दुस्तान में खपत नहीं थी और उस के पीछे यह उद्देश्य था कि इस तरह गवर्नमेंट को मजबूर करेंगे कि हम

[श्री: घुले]

को एक्सपोर्ट का परमिट (permit) दे। आगे की बातों से यह बात सत्य मालूम होती है। आप ने उन को एक्सपोर्ट के परमिट दिये और कोई रोक टोक नहीं रखी जिस का कि आपने इकबाल किया है। दूसरी तरफ आप ने यह किया कि एक तिहाई कपड़ा मिल मालिकों के अस्तित्व में दे दिया कि वह चाहे जिस को बेचे। इसलिये जनता के पास कपड़ा पहुँचने के जो चैनल (Channel) हैं इस कपड़े ने वह रास्ता अस्तित्व नहीं किया। यह जो कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट किया गया उस की देश में सस्त जरूरत थी। एक्सपोर्ट खुल जाने से कपड़े के व्यवसायियों ने उस कपड़े को पैदा ही नहीं किया जिस की यहां जरूरत थी। आप की रिपोर्ट में यह बताया गया है कि ८० प्रतिशत मोटा कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट किया गया। तो जनता का यह कहना है कि जब यहां की जनता को आवश्यकता थी तो यह क्यों एक्सपोर्ट किया गया।

यह बताया गया है कि पाकिस्तान से जो ईस्टर्न काटन (Eastern Cotton) आती थी वह डिबैल्यूएशन (devaluation) होने की वजह से नहीं आ सकी। डिबैल्यूएशन तो सन् '४९ में हुआ था और जब आप को यह मालूम था कि म कोह ईस्टर्न काटन को ३६ लाख गांठों की आवश्यकता है और हमारे यहां कुछ ३२ लाख गांठे हैं तो आप के अधिकारियों ने इस रुई का पहले से प्रबन्ध क्यों नहीं किया। ऐसी सूरत में आप के अधिकारियों द्वारा जो ८० प्रतिशत मोटा कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट हो जाने दिया गया क्या हम इस को अपराध नहीं कहेंगे। क्या यह एक्सपोर्ट कोई ऐसी आफत थी कि जिस का कोई इलाज ही नहीं था। अगर मैं अपने कपड़े उतार दूँ और

कहूँ कि मेरे पास कपड़े नहीं हैं तो इस के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार होगा। यह जो हज़ारों गज कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट किया गया है इस के लिए रिपोर्ट में ऐसे शब्द इस्तेमाल किये गये हैं जिन से यह मालूम हो कि ऐसा करना लाजिमी था। एक जगह यह बताया गया है कि यह एक्सपोर्ट इसलिये किया गया कि कपास खरीदने के लिए एक्सचेंज (Exchange) की कमी थी। यह मुझे सही नहीं मालूम होता, लेकिन अगर घड़ी भर के लिए यह मान भी लिया जाय कि एक्सचेंज की कमी थी, तो यह तो देखना था कि किस चीज को भेज कर यह एक्सचेंज की कमी पूरी की जानी चाहिये थी। आप हमारे लोगों को नंगा रख कर यह एक्सचेंज नहीं पैदा कर सकते। इस कपड़े की कमी की वजह से लोगों का कितनी तकलीफ़ हो रही है। यार्न (yarn) की कमी की वजह से लाखों लोग बेकार हो गये हैं और आप ने अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा कि कपड़े की कमी की वजह से प्रान्तों में कैसा हाहाकार मच रहा है। आज कपड़े की कमी की वजह से और यार्न की कमी की वजह से इतनी मृत्युएँ, सारी परेशानियाँ और भुखमरी हो रही हैं। अगर आज हमारे देश में अकाल पड़ जाये और अनाज की कमी हो तो हम लोगों से कह सकते हैं कि देश में अनाज की कमी है और वह इस को समझ सकते हैं, लेकिन कपड़े के मामले में तो लाखों आदमियों के हाथ खिलवाड़ किया गया है, इसे कभी बरदाश्त नहीं किया जा सकता। एक तरफ तो यह बतलाया जाता है कि हम को फारिन एक्सचेंज (Foreign Exchange) हासिल करने के लिए कपड़ा बाहर भेजना पड़ा और दूसरी तरफ एक दिन सवालालत हुए थे तो मिनिस्टर साहब ने यह बतलाया था कि हमारा कलकुलेशन (Calculation) गलत हो गया। माननीय

देशमुख साहब ने यह पूछा कि क्या आप को इस के लिए अफसोस है और क्या आयन्दा ऐसा न होने की आप जिम्मेदारी लेते हैं, तो आप ने कहा था कि कैलकुलेशन गलत हो ही जाता है। अगर इस ओर पहले से माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान न दिलाया जाता तो यह कहा जा सकता था कि उधर उन का ध्यान नहीं गया। लेकिन आप ताज्जुब करेंगे कि मैं बराबर तीन महीने से उन का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाता रहा हूँ, बल्कि मैं इस सिलसिले में उन से मिला भी था। यद्यपि मैं जानता था कि सारे देश में कपड़े की कमी थी, पर मैं ने सारे देश की जिम्मेदारी लेना उचित न समझ कर मंत्री जी से यही नम्र निवेदन किया था कि मेरे प्रान्त में धोतियों की बहुत कमी है और इस का इलाज भी मैं ने बतलाया था कि जब तक आप प्रोडक्शन (production) को किसी न किसी सूरत में कंट्रोल (control) नहीं करेंगे तब तक इस का इलाज नहीं हो सकता। इस के अलावा दूसरी बात में ने यह बतलाई थी कि यह जो त्रितीयांश कपड़ा मिल मालिकों को दे दिया जाता है जब तक इस की रोक न की जायेगी तब तक आप की समस्या हल नहीं होगी। यह बात मेरी आप ने मानी लेकिन फरवरी के मध्य में आप ने यह आर्डर (Order) निकाला। अगर आप के अधिकारी जागरूक रहते तो क्या जो आर्डर फरवरी में निकाला उस को चार महीने पहले नहीं निकाल सकते थे। जून और जुलाई से धोतियों की कमी हो रही थी। इस का कारण यह था कि जो कपड़ा एक्सपोर्ट में जाता था उस के कारण धोतियां नहीं बनती थी और चूंकि आप ने एक्सपोर्ट एलाउ (allow) कर दिया था इस लिये मिल मालिक धोतियां नहीं बनाते थे क्योंकि उन की

कीमत कम आती थी और वही कपड़ा बनाते थे जिस की कीमत ज्यादा आती थी और उस का परिणाम यह हुआ है, जैसा कि आज सुबह गोयनका जी ने बतलाया, कि धोतियों के ट्राम दुर्गने और तिगने देने पड़ रहे हैं।

दूसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि पिछली जनवरी में मैं ने मिनिस्टर साहब को एक पत्र लिखा था। उस समय मंत्रिमंडल में कुछ बदलाव हो रहा था। पर मैं ने समझ कर कि शायद सप्लाई का काम मंत्री जी के पास रहेगा एक पत्र लिखा था कि हमारे यहाँ धोतियों की बहुत कमी है और यह समस्या बहुत खराब होती जा रही है।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—**  
Already the hon. Member has taken 14 minutes, There is only one more minute.

**श्री घुले:—** मैं कह रहा था कि उस चिट्ठी का जवाब आज साढ़े तीन महीने बाद मिला है कि इस सम्बन्ध में यह किया जा रहा है। पहले पत्र के बाद चूंकि मुझे उत्तर नहीं मिला इसलिये मैं ने २० जनवरी को एक पत्र और लिखा था मगर उस का अभी तक जवाब नहीं मिला है। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप हमेशा कहा करते हैं कि जो चीजें मंत्री महोदय से आसानी से मालूम हो सकती हैं उन को उन से मालूम कर लिया जाये। लेकिन पार्लियामेंट (Parliament) के सदस्यों का हीसला कैसे बढ़ सकता है जब कि उन को अपने पत्रों का एकनालिजमेंट (Acknowledgment) तक नहीं मिलता उन का जवाब तो दरकिनारा रहा। इस लिये मैं आप से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि कपड़े के

[श्री घुले]

सम्बन्ध में जो भी जवाब दिये गये हैं वह तसल्लीबस्स नहीं है और मुझे तो पूरा यकीन हो गया है कि इस गड़बड़ी के लिए महकमा जिम्मेदार है। मंत्री महोदय नातजुबेकार हो सकते हैं—लेकिन अधिकारी लोग जो बरसों से यह काम करते आ रहे हैं वह नातजुबेकार नहीं हो सकते। आज यह कंट्रोल का काम दस बरसों से चल रहा है। महकमे को इस का काफी अनभव होना चाहिये। इस लिये यह मानना होगा कि अधिकारी बहुत तजुबेकार हैं और यह नतीजा हम को उन की तजुबेकारी के कारण ही मिल रहा है कि आज लाखों लोगों को इतनी तकलीफ हो रही है।

एक दो और चीजों की तरफ में हिंट (hint) करना चाहता हूँ।

श्री महताब : पिछले वजट सेशन में जो डिस्कशन हुआ था उस में मेरे प्रीडेसेसर (Predecessor) ने इस पर कहा था कि अभी जो सब हो रहा है इस में संसद् के सदस्यों की भी कुछ जिम्मेदार है।

श्री घुले : एक बात की सूचना मैं और देना चाहता हूँ, और वह यह है कि मन्त्रीजी यह कह रहे हैं कि अप्रैल में प्रोडक्शन (Production) काफी हो जायगा। इस में मुझे सन् ४८ जैसी हालत का खतरा दिखाई पड़ रहा है। मन्त्रीजी और उन के अधिकारियों को मालूम होना चाहिये कि अप्रैल के बाद गरमियों में इस देश में कपड़े की खपत बहुत कम हो जाती है। गरमियों में और बरसात में सब से कम कपड़े की खपत होती है। जो कुछ खपत होती है वह सितम्बर से अप्रैल तक के महीनों में होती है। आप का सन् ४८ में जो पीक प्रोडक्शन ईयर (peak production year) था उस

प्रोडक्शन को कायम किया गया तो मुझे डर है कि आप के सामने जो सन् ४८ में समस्या आई थी कहीं वही हालत फिर पैदा न हो जाय। मेरे ख्याल में वही नतीजा फिर पैदा होने वाला है और मिल मालिक फिर आप के ऊपर हावी हो जायेंगे कि साहब कपड़ा बहुत इकट्ठा हो गया है, अब इस को आप एक्सपोर्ट करने की इजाजत दीजिये और फिर आप आंखें मूंद कर जैसे रेवड़ी बांटी जाती हैं उसी प्रकार का काम करेंगे। फिर एक्सपोर्ट खुल जायेगा और फिर सितम्बर के महीने में वही कपड़े की समस्या पैदा हो जायेगी। इसलिये मेहरबानी कर के आप इस का ख्याल रखें और आयन्दा जब आप एक्सपोर्ट खोलें तो हिन्दुस्तान की जरूरियात का पूरा ख्याल कर के कोई निर्णय करें। आपके पास इतनी बड़ी पलटन है, स्टैटिस्टिशियन्स लाखों भरे पड़े हैं, क्या वह सब मिल कर हिन्दुस्तान की तीस पैंतीस करोड़ जनता की क्या आवश्यकता हो सकती है, उस के लिये कितना रिजर्व रखना चाहिये, इस को नहीं सोच सकते यह मैं मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ। तो अप्रैल का महीना जब आयेगा तो फिर आवश्यकता होगी, फिर कपड़े की मांग होगी और फिर यही अवस्था होगी। आप की इस प्रकार की गलतियों से तो हमारे सारे देश का कबाड़ा होता जा रहा है। इस प्रकार की गलतियाँ नहीं होनी चाहियें।

एक और दूसरी इंडस्ट्री के बारे में थोड़ा सा और कह देना चाहता हूँ कि हम लोगों की यह आदत है कि जब मुसीबत आ जाती है तो उस मुसीबत के आ जाने पर हम जागते हैं। मैं कहीं



एक छोटी सी बात आप को कह देना चाहता हूँ। बीपीटीकेल की के इंडस्ट्री के बारे में ऐसा ही किया गया। लाखों रुपये इस में इनवैस्ट (invest) कर दिये गये। अब इस के बाद जब उस को बन्द करने का सवाल आता है तो यह कहा जाता है कि इस में लाखों रुपये इनवैस्ट हो चुके हैं, यह इतनी बड़ी इंडस्ट्री है, इस को कैसे बन्द किया जा सकता है। आज यही बात कोका कोला के बारे में हो रही है। कोका कोला की इंडस्ट्री आज सिर ऊंचा उठा रही है, उस में लाखों रुपये इनवैस्ट हो जायेंगे। फिर जब लोग कहेंगे कि साहब इस में यह तकलीफ है, इस में यह कैफीन (caffeine) है, इस से यह बुरा असर होता है, इस से यह नुकसान होता है, तब फिर यह सोचेंगे कि साहब इस में लाखों रुपये लग चुके हैं, अब इस को कैसे बन्द किया जा सकता है। तो हम लोगों को वक्त पर जागने की बोड़ी सी आबत डालनी चाहिये। अगर हम वक्त पर काम किया करें तो बहुत कुछ मुसीबतें इस देश की दूर हो जाया करें। यह कपड़े की मुसीबत तो ऐसी है कि जिस को वक्त पर नहीं सोचा गया जिस के कारण यह समस्या हो गयी।

मैं और भी कुछ कहना चाहता था, कैफिन समय काफी हो गया है और आप की मेहरबानी से पांच सात मिनट की मुझे ज़्यादा मिल गये हैं। इसलिए मैं आप की मेहरबानी का बेचा फ़ायदा न उठाते हुए अब खत्म करता हूँ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Ghule (Madhya Bharat): Many an hon. Member has expressed his or her views on the present subject and as such I would like to confine my speech to the important issue of the cloth which today happens to be the chief problem of the masses.

The House is aware that the wants of the people in this country are much less in number. Probably there is no other country in the world where people may be content with only such a small number of wants. People of India would consider themselves to be most happy persons on the earth if they get three things, viz., food, cloth and an ordinary house to live in. People will like to see for themselves as to which of their wants, very few as they are, have been fulfilled by their Government. If the Government have not been able to do anything to this effect, it is our duty to lead them to the right path. When we talk of food-grains, they refer to the natural calamities such as floods, droughts etc. As we mix with the masses and discuss with them the existing food situation, we do not feel much difficulty in convincing them that these causes are genuine. They, too, do not deny this fact. The second want is in respect of houses. In this connection also it is argued that to rehabilitate lacs of refugees, from Pakistan immediately or within one or two years is a hard nut to crack for any Government in power. They convince us by pointing out that it is by no means an easy task. But the third issue of cloth is certainly such that in spite of the answers given on the floor of the House, statements made by the hon. Minister and papers laid here in this connection, we have not been convinced in this respect. Due to this problem the people and the country had to undergo great hardships and our Government have not been able to remove them as yet. Today the scarcity of cloth is stated to have been due to the shortage of cotton and the increased quantity of export. We can well realise the shortage of cotton. There is no denying the fact that after partition we had to suffer much on account of cotton shortage in this country. The necessary efforts to remove such shortage are also being made. We can, therefore, bear all these troubles which we are undergoing as a result of this shortage and can also ask our countrymen to tolerate them. But, may I know whether this export was essential for us? In view of the fact that we had not got enough cloth even for shrouds or for marriage purposes or for our daily use and we had to pay treble prices for most ordinary things, was it essential to export twelve hundred million yards of cloth? It has been stated in this Report that in 1949 the cloth was available in such a huge quantity that its export was deemed necessary. I have been connected with the distribution of cloth and as such I know

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that this is true to some extent. Towards the end of 1948 and in the beginning of 1949, cloth was in so much abundance that stocks were not even removed. But I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that the quality of the cloth that was in plenty was such as was not in demand by the people of this country. Generally people complain, and sometimes I also think, that such officers of the Government as were departmental heads contrived with the mill-owners and consequently the mill-owners mostly produced such cloth as had no market in India. The aim behind this plot seemed to be that the Government might be forced to issue export permits to them. The events that followed also confirm this view. The Government had freely granted export permits. It is a fact which they themselves have acknowledged. The distribution of cloth was not made according to plans that were made to make the cloth available to the people. On the other hand 1/3 of the cloth manufactured was left with the Mills to be sold to any one they liked. Thus this cloth also did not take the usual channels to reach the consumers. The cloth that was so exported was much demanded in the country. As a result of no restriction being imposed on export, the cloth manufacturers did not produce such cloth as was in demand here. The report states that 80 per cent. coarse cloth was exported. The people ask as to why the cloth was exported at all when already there was a demand for it in the country itself.

It has been stated that the Eastern Cotton that used to be imported from Pakistan could not be imported as a result of devaluation. Devaluation was done in 1949. When the Government knew it that 36 lacs of cotton bales would be required while they had only 32 lacs of bales, then why did they not make any arrangements beforehand? Are we not to call this an offence that the Government officers allowed 80 per cent. of coarse cloth to be exported? Was this export an inevitable thing? If I put off my clothes and say that I have got no clothes, who will be responsible for this? The Report describes this export of thousands of yards of cloth in such words as if it was but essential. It states that the Government exported cloth because they required foreign exchange. I do not think it to be the real cause; but even if we believe it for a while that they were short of foreign exchange, still they ought to have considered properly as to the export of which commodity could help remove this foreign ex-

change shortage. The Government cannot gain foreign exchange by keeping their people without clothes. Due to this cloth shortage people are facing many difficulties. Lacs of persons have gone out of employment as a result of yarn shortage. The hon. Members might have read in papers about the dissatisfaction spreading in various states. Today people are dying, starving and undergoing every sort of trouble due to the cloth and yarn shortage. If our country is visited by a famine and there is food shortage, we can say to the people that such a shortage is due to famine conditions and people can also understand it. But so far as cloth is concerned, lacs of persons have been treated to tom foolery. They are not going to tolerate it at any cost. On one hand it is stated that the Government had to export cloth in order to enable themselves to gain foreign exchange, while on the other the hon. Minister says in reply to a question that their calculation was wrongly made. On being asked by Shri Deshmukh whether he was sorry for that and whether he liked to take the responsibility for such a mistake not being repeated in future, the hon. Minister had said that calculations usually go wrong. Had the attention of the hon. Minister not been drawn to this fact, it could have been said that it had escaped his attention. But the hon. Members will be surprised to know that I have been constantly drawing his attention for last three months. Besides, I had also met him personally in this connection. Although I was aware that the entire country is suffering from cloth shortage; yet, I did not consider it proper to take the responsibility for the whole country and, therefore, I submitted to the hon. Minister that dhotis were very scarce in my own State and suggested a remedy to remove this shortage. I told him that unless the Government controlled the production in any form, this difficulty would not be removed. Besides, I also told him that unless the one third quota of cloth that was given to the mill-owners was stopped, the problem would not be solved. The hon. Minister agreed to this suggestion but issued orders in this connection only in February. Had the Government officers remained alive to the situation, they could have very easily issued these orders four months earlier. The scarcity of dhotis was being felt since June or July. This scarcity was due to the fact that no dhotis could be produced as a result of the export of cloth. Because the Government had permitted the export,

the mill-owners did not produce dhotis for they fetched comparatively lesser prices. They produced only such cloth as fetched higher prices and consequently, as Shri Goenka said this morning the prices of dhotis became double and treble.

The other thing which I have to submit is that I had written a letter to the hon. Minister last January. At that time some changes were being affected in the Cabinet. Considering that probably the portfolio of Supply would be retained with the hon. Minister in question, I had addressed a letter to him writing therein that the dhotis were scarce and the situation was deteriorating day by day.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Already the hon. Member has taken 14 minutes. There is only one more minute.

**Shri Ghule:** Today, after about three and a half months, I have received a reply of that letter intimating as to what is being done in this connection. As I had not received any reply to my previous letter till then, I had sent one more letter on the 20th January, but the reply of this letter is yet to come. Sir, you often ask us to make personal enquiries from the hon. Ministers and ascertain what can be easily enquired. But how can the Members of Parliament be encouraged to do so if their letters are not even acknowledged. What to say of being replied? I, therefore, beg to submit that the answers given in respect of cloth problem are not satisfactory. I am totally convinced that the Department is responsible for this. May be that the hon. Minister be inexperienced; but how can the staff who has been working for years together be inexperienced? As this control business has been continuing for ten years, the department concerned should be naturally much experienced. Therefore it will have to be accepted that the staff is much experienced and it is because of their experience alone that lacs of persons are under going such hardships.

I want to make a hint in respect of a couple of things more.

**Shri Mahtab:** During the last Budget Session my predecessor had remarked that the Members of Parliament were also responsible to some extent for what was happening.

**Shri Ghule:** I want to give you one more information. According to the statement of the hon. Minister there would be enough production in the

month of April. I am afraid the dangerous situation of the year 1948 may not repeat itself again. The hon. Minister and the authorities concerned must know that generally after the month of April, in the hot season, the consumption of cloth becomes considerably less in this country. The minimum consumption of cloth takes place in the hot and rainy seasons. The sale, whatever it may be, takes place only from September to April. If the production you had in the peak production year 1948, were to be continued again this time I am afraid you will have to face the same problem that you had to face then. In my view, the outcome of this policy would be the same and the mill-owners would outwit you again with their usual excuses of the overwhelming stock of cloth, and would prevail upon you to grant them permission to export it and I am afraid you will act again like the blind man who distributed the sweets only among those who were his own men. The result would be that the export of cloth would be resumed again and certainly the same old problem of cloth shortage would again face us in the month of September. So it is requested that you must take the needs of the country into consideration before some decision with regard to this matter for future is finally taken. You have got a large army of statisticians. I am not ready to accept that they cannot find out what are the necessities of India's 30 or 35 crores of people and how much reserve stock should be kept to meet their requirements. In the month of April again the necessities will arise, again there will be the demand and the condition will be the same again. On account of your mistakes our country is heading towards complete ruin. Such mistake should not be committed.

I want to submit something more regarding another industry. It is our habit that we wake up only when we find ourselves fully involved in trouble. Here I would like to draw your attention towards a matter of minor importance. Similar has been the case of the vegetable ghee industry. Lacs of rupees were invested in this industry. Now when the question of its closing down arises it is argued that lacs of rupees have been invested in this industry and it being so large an industry how can it be closed down. Similar is the case with Coca Cola. The Coca Cola Industry is expanding and large amounts of money would be invested

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in this industry. But then people will begin to complain about this industry that it contains caffeine it causes bad effects and it is harmful, again the same excuse of the large investments would be put forth and the same problem as to how it could be closed would arise. We must, therefore, learn to wake up in time. The practice of doing things at the proper time can protect us from so many calamities. The problem of

cloth shortage is also one which was not considered at proper time.

I would have said more but I have already taken some 5 or 6 minutes more through your kindness and would not be taking undue advantage of this kindness and would conclude

The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Monday, the 2nd April, 1951.