

Thursday
24th March, 1949

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Official Report

Volume III, 1949
(18th March to 7th April, 1949)

Fourth Session
OF THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE)
1949



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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Thursday, 24th March, 1949

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

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

ORAL ANSWERS

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Question No. 1340†. The Honourable Minister is not present, what is the position now?

Mr. Speaker: Of course, the honourable member does not lose his right.

APPOINTMENT OF NON-INDIANS TO CIVIL POSTS

*1340. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether any non-Indians were appointed to civil posts in the service of the Government of India during the year 1948 and if so, what are their designations and salaries?

(b) Were efforts made to see whether Indians of similar qualifications were available in India?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Yes. A statement relating to appointments made by the Government of India is placed on the table of the House.

(b) Yes.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Were these posts, which are referred to in this question, advertised by the Federal Public Services Commission or were they filled departmentally?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The general practice is to appoint non-Indians only when the Federal Public Services Commission has certified that suitable Indians are not likely to be available for the post, or it is quite clear from the circumstances of the case that no Indian will be available.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know whether these non-Indian posts are of a technical nature or for ordinary administrative purposes?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Most or a large number of the appointments are outside India.

Mr. Speaker: This question was dealt with a few days back.

PRODUCTION OF INFORMATION FILMS

*1341. **Shri V. O. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the total number of Information Films made during the last official year?

† This question was actually taken up after Starred Question No. 1341. Printed serially the day's Debate.

‡ Not printed in the day's Debate. A copy placed in the Library of the House.

(h) What is the average length of the films and what is the average cost of production per film?

(c) What is the average cost of a film produced by the industry in India?

(d) On what terms are the information films exhibited?

(e) Has any one of these films been sent outside India for exhibition?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: (a) A total of twenty-nine films have been produced upto 22nd March 1949, in addition, eight films have been re-edited and material for five others has been filmed.

(b) The average length of a news reel is about 1,000 ft., while a documentary varies from 1,000 to 2,000 ft. As regards the cost of production, it is not possible to state any average figure until cost accounting is done.

(c) Information regarding the average cost of films produced by the Industry is not available; the cost however, varies according to the length and type of films and subjects dealt with.

(d) Information films are at present exhibited by the cinemas on distribution through a commercial channel on a percentage basis; the question of future arrangements is however under consideration.

(e) Yes.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Is it a fact that certain films produced as early as January 1948 have not been released so far?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: There was some difficulty about distribution because our own distribution machinery is not yet on its legs. Therefore, there might have been a particular film which was not released.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know in what way the film industry is associated with the production of films?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: So far as copies are concerned, we go to the producers to get copies. Another way of association is that whenever we require films which we cannot produce, or which are in excess of our production programme, we go to the producers.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Is it a fact that these films were not released due to a quarrel between the officers in the Department?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: I do not think so.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: What are the subjects specially selected for the purpose of these films?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: There are two types of films. One is the news-film and the other is the documentary film. The newsfilm of course deals with news. The documentary film deals with certain subjects which we want to show either to outside countries or in our own country.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: May I know, Sir, what is the procedure when a foreigner produces a film in India? Is the film subject to censorship?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: Yes. As a matter of fact, all films are subject to censorship.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Arising out of the answer to part (e) to which countries outside India have these films been sent so far?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: To such of the countries where our Embassies specially ask for them.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Which Embassies have asked for them?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: I cannot give the answer straightaway, but I can say they were sent to America and Switzerland.

Shri H. R. Guruv Raddy: Is Government contemplating the exhibition of these documentary films compulsory in all theatres in India?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: Yes, it is; and it is also consulting all the Provincial Governments in this matter, and possibly it may be put into force within a year or so.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Is it a fact that the film of the Jaipur Congress, filmed by the Information Films of India, will not be shown because another foreign source has stolen a march over them by releasing it on the third day?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: I do not think so.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: In this matter, will the Honourable Minister please examine the efficiency of the Information Films?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: Yes, I will.

Seth Govind Das: Has the Government made any definite plan as to the subjects which will be filmed by the Information Films, and with respect to the news films, which news will be filmed?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: My honourable friend may know that documentary films are usually made for two subjects. One is the cultural subject and the other deals with subjects like cottage industries or those subjects which we wish to show to other countries.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: In the matter of production of films, may I enquire, of the Honourable Minister if there is any Board which decides on the particular type of film to be produced?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: The usual thing is, just as in the case of other Publicity, the Ministry concerned gives the subjects to us which it wants to get filmed and then we take up the matter; we take up some of them on our own initiative, such as cultural films.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know what is the total number of national and cultural films produced by the film division of this Ministry?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: I have given the reply in answer to part (a) of the question.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I know if there are any films taken on health subjects?

The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar: I do not know exactly.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Sir, I have a question to put. I got up several times.

Mr. Speaker: So many people are getting up. Six minutes have been taken over this question.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: But the question is important.

Mr. Speaker: May be, next time.

PENSION TO FAMILIES OF DECEASED ARMY PERSONNEL

*1341. **Shri V. C. Kesava Rao:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state the amount of pensions sanctioned to the families of officers and other ranks who died in active service?

(b) Apart from the pension, what are the other facilities offered to them?

(c) What is the number of such pensioners?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) and (c). The total cost of Pensions sanctioned to the families of officers and other ranks whose death was attributable

to active service during the late World War and thereafter amounted to approximately 227 lakhs per annum. The number of such pensioners is about 76,000.

(b) The families of deceased personnel of the Armed Forces who are in distressed circumstances and are not in receipt of family pensions are eligible for relief, either by way of lump sum grants or in the form of a monthly pension, from charitable funds at the disposal of the Headquarters of the three Services.

The children of Commissioned officers whose death is attributable to service are eligible for educational allowances, subject to certain conditions, in cases of real need; and the children of other ranks (including Junior Commissioned Officers) are eligible for practically free education. A certain number of scholarships at the Prince of Wales Royal Indian Military College, Dehra Dun, are available for the sons of Junior Commissioned Officers and other ranks; while daughters of sailors, soldiers and airmen who were killed in action are granted a number of annual scholarships tenable at recognised educational institutions for girls.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: What is the maximum and minimum pension allowed to an individual?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I am afraid, Sir, I have not that information, but I can get it for the honourable member.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Is it a fact that the dependent of a Kashmir hero was given rupees eight as pension?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: There is no discrimination at all. In the case of dependents of soldiers and other officers serving in Kashmir and who lost their lives, these dependents get the pension prescribed in the rules.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: Is it a fact that the Premier of the United Provinces has given a pension of rupees eight to the dependent of a Kashmir hero?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I am not concerned with what the Premier of the United Provinces has done. I am only stating the position as it exists in the armed forces.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: What is the scale of the pension that is given by the Government of India to the dependent of any one of these Kashmir martyrs?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The pension is uniform and I could not tell you . . .

Prof. N. G. Ranga: For the ranks.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: As I was saying the pension is uniform and there is absolutely no discrimination and I could not tell you off hand what the actual amount is.

Mr. Frank Anthony: Have the pension rates for the widows and families of officers employed on active service been considerably reduced, as a result of the new Pay Code?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I do not think so.

Mr. Frank Anthony: Is it not a fact that the pension rates have been reduced ranging from anything like 50 to 60 per cent.?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: My information is that the pension rates for certain class of officers and other ranks have been considerably increased. It is not possible for me to give the honourable member the actual amount that the dependents are getting.

Shri H. R. Guruv Reddy: Do Government propose to grant the Malavir Chakra and Desai Chakra to the Kashmir heroes in lieu of money consideration?

Mr. Speaker: That is a suggestion for action.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: What the honourable member means is that those who are recipients of the Mahavir and Paramvir Chakras, whether they get any monetary grants or not. The answer is that those who are entitled under the rules to get monetary grants are given the grants.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: May I know if the rules entitling persons to military pensions have of late been revised and changed to such an extent that those who were formerly entitled to pension are not now entitled to it?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The rules have not been revised in that sense but certain increases were allowed under certain conditions, for instance the rise in the cost of living and the high prices. I would say that the rules have not been revised generally.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra: My question was whether the new rules have not disentitled people to pensions which they would otherwise have been entitled to before the new rules came in.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No, Sir.

Srijut Kuladhar Chakira: Is it a fact that the widow of a Colonel gets a pension of only Rs. 70 per month?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I could not say whether she gets Rs. 70 or more. Whatever she is entitled to under the rules she will get.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: By the military department sometimes family pension is also granted. May I know for how many generations the pension will continue?

Mr. Speaker: I suppose the honourable member wants to know for how long land grants continue?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Yes, Sir.

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The pension is granted to the dependent and after the death of the dependent it does not continue.

SCHEDULED AND NON-SCHEDULED BANKS

*1343. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of existing Scheduled Banks and non-Scheduled Banks with their offices and branches respectively; and

(b) what was the total number of Banks which have been closed or have suspended operations as at the end of 1948 on account of their inability to meet their liabilities?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) There were 100 Scheduled banks, with 3,038 offices; and approximately 341 non-scheduled banks, with 2,611 offices, on the 31st December, 1948.

(b) during the year 1948.

Seth Govind Das: Out of these banks which have failed during 1948, how many were scheduled and how many non-scheduled banks?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: It is not possible for me to give the information straightaway but I would try and get the information for the honourable member.

Seth Govind Das: Is it a fact that most of these banks which have failed approached the Reserve Bank for certain help?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Yes. Banks in difficulty are in the habit of applying to the Reserve Bank for assistance but the Reserve Bank does not give assistance except under conditions which are satisfactory from their point of view.

Seth Govind Das: Is it a fact that certain banks were ready to fulfil those conditions but the Reserve Bank sent their reply to the requests from the banks rather late and in the meantime they had to stop payment?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think that we need enter into that argument. All these questions have been gone into when the amendment of the Reserve Bank Act was discussed and recently also on another occasion these questions were considered.

Seth Govind Das: These questions were not discussed, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I remember the grievance being discussed that the Reserve Bank did not come to the help of banks when they required such assistance. There is no use further pursuing this general question.

Shri R. N. Munavalli: What is the policy of the Government as regards opening of new banks? May I know whether they will be encouraged or not?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I do not follow the honourable member.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid the question is too general. The honourable member can ask for information, if he wants.

Srijiit Rohini Kumar Chaudhuri: What was the reason for the failure of so many banks almost about the same time in the year 1948?

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry I cannot allow general questions like that.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: What is the total loss to the depositors from the closure of the banks?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I have no information.

Shri L. Vishwaswami Bharathi: What province has contributed most to the number of bank failures? I would like to have the figures province-wise.

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I am not in a position to answer the question straightaway. Besides, I do not think that it is in the public interest that I should give that information.

Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi: What is the number of banks that are still enjoying a moratorium?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: Out of these 57 banks as far as my information goes, about half the number went into liquidation and somewhere about seven have been granted a moratorium.

Shri Arun Chandra Guha: What will be the amount of deposits involved in the failure of these banks?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I am not in a position to give the figure.

Shri Moturi Satyanarayana: In view of the fact that there are a very large number of banks which failed in the last year will the Reserve Bank adopt a more constructive policy so that more failures will not occur like this?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

*1344. [WITHDRAWN.]

FOREIGNERS IN EXTERNAL SERVICES OF ALL-INDIA RADIO

*1345. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether any foreigner in the service of the A.I.R. had to be dismissed some six months ago for grave misuse of broadcasting facilities?

(b) If so, what was the nature of the offence?

(c) Have any steps been taken to ensure that such misuse is not possible in future?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: (a) No. However, the services of two foreigners employed in the External Services of All India Radio were terminated on the re-organisation of the Unit, in August and September last.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that one of these foreigners was an Iranian gentleman and he was dismissed because he was using the A.I.R. for sending private messages home and for carrying on propaganda in favour of his wife's magazine?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: He was on temporary service. As I just now said, on the re-organisation of Unit when we got better and more efficient people, his services were terminated.

Sardar Hukam Singh: How many foreigners are still there in service?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: There are a number of foreigners so far as external broadcasts are concerned.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Is it a fact that this Service mistrusts our citizens and treats foreigners more?

Mr. Speaker: That is a question of opinion.

STAFF TRAINING SCHOOL OF ALL-INDIA RADIO

*1316. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether Government are making any provision for training Indians for External News Services?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: Yes, Sir. The Staff Training School of All-India Radio provides training to Indian for Home as well as External News Services.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know whether it is the intention of the Government to train young men and women with a little journalistic experience?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: I do not think it arises.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: It does arise.

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: While choosing persons for the staff naturally their journalistic experience is taken into consideration.

Shri V. C. Kamava Rao: May I know whether Government is taking any assistance from daily newspapers in training these people?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: No.

Prof. M. G. Banga: What proportion of those employed in the higher ranks of the External Services of the A.I.R. are Indian and what proportion are foreigners?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: I would like to have notice.

Shri M. Trumala Rao: Does the Department take the assistance of the External Affairs Ministry in appointing these people for external news service?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: That is so.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I know the number of persons trained in the Staff School?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: The Staff Training School has been recently started and people are still under training.

Beth Govind Das: Is there any definite course or curriculum for training these persons?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: Certainly there is a training curriculum and according to that plan the training is going on.

Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maltra: May I enquire whether the foreigners among the staff who were engaged in this Foreign News Service are permanent incumbents or whether they are on contract service for certain definite periods?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: I do not know the terms of all of them. But I should say that most of them are on temporary service.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know whether there is any proposal under consideration to appoint foreign correspondents and if so how many?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: I do not think it arises out of this question.

Shri V. C. Kesava Rao: May I enquire how many candidates are undergoing training for the present?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: I would like to have notice of that question.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I ask what are the languages in which training is imparted in these schools?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: There is only one training school and the language usually is English.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Are any foreign languages taught in this School; if they are not, how are men being trained for External News Services?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: The languages are not taught here. The people knowing those foreign languages are there undergoing training.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Have Government made any arrangements for teaching foreign languages to their own men so that they may get staff of the necessary qualifications for the External News Services?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: But that is a matter not for this Training School.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru: Is it a matter for Government or not?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: Yes, it is. But we are considering what curriculum is there in the Training School, and I have explained that in the curriculum there is no course for teaching languages.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Are the All-India Radio in the External News Service engaged; any Indians in other countries as Correspondents to supply them with news?

The Honourable Shri R. E. Diwakar: Yes, there is a proposal, but no Correspondent has yet been appointed.

SECURITIES FROM NEWSPAPERS IN CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED AREAS

*1347. **Sardar Hubam Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of newspapers in Centrally Administered areas from which securities have been demanded since 15th August, 1947; and

(b) the number of newspapers suppressed since that date?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Twenty-two.

(b) Eighteen.

Shri H. V. Kamath: May I know the names of the newspapers from which securities have been demanded or which have been suppressed, and the grounds on which such action has been taken?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If the honourable member wants the names of the newspapers I am prepared to give them. The names of the papers from which security is demanded are as follows:

- (1) English daily *Dawn*, (2) English weekly *Hindu Outlook*, (3) Hindi weekly *Masdoor Awas*, (4) Urdu weekly *Qaumi Hakumat*, (5) Hindi daily *Sanmarg*, (6) Urdu daily *Ranjit Nagara*, (7) Urdu weekly *Zarif Panch*, (8) Urdu weekly *Panth*, (9) Urdu daily *Jamhoor*, (10) Urdu daily *Jang*, (11) Bi-weekly *Alaman*, (12) Urdu daily *Wahadat*, (13) Urdu daily *Baljit*, (14) Urdu daily *Aj*, (15) English daily *Organiser*, (16) Urdu daily *Jai Bharat*, (17) Urdu daily *Partap*, (18) Urdu monthly *Motai*, (19) Hindi daily *Sarwadeshio*, (20) Urdu daily *Naya Daur*, (21) Urdu daily *Ranjit Nagara*—comes again, (22) Urdu weekly *Naya Daur*—this also comes again, (23) Urdu daily *Partap*—comes again and (24) *Dabar*.

Shri H. V. Kamath: What are the grounds on which action has been taken?

Mr. Speaker: It will be an exhaustive account that may be had elsewhere from the Honourable Minister.

Shri M. Trumala Rao: How many of these papers were advocating the cause of Communalism?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Most of these are advocating the cause of communalism. Here is the list:

- (1) English weekly *Hindu Outlook*, (2) Urdu daily *Aljamaat*, (3) Urdu weekly *Mera Punjab*, (4) Hindi daily *Aj*, (5) Urdu daily *Ranjit Nagara*, (6) Anglo-vernacular weekly *Swarajya*, (7) Gurmukhi daily *Daler Khalsa*, (8) Urdu daily *Jang*, (9) Urdu daily *Sangram*, (10) Urdu daily *Sangram*—comes again, (11) Urdu daily *Milap*, (12) Urdu weekly *Panth*, (13) English weekly *Bharat Times*, (14) Daily *Republic*, (15) Weekly *Khalsa*, (16) Hindi daily *Aj*, (17) Urdu daily *Ranjit Nagara*, (18) Gurmukhi weekly *Qaumi Satastra*, (19) English weekly *Organiser*, (20) English weekly *Organiser*—comes again and (21) Hindi daily *Bharat Parsh*.

I may inform the honourable members that in almost all these cases action has been taken on the advice of the Press Advisory Committee.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: With reference to part (b) of the question is it not a fact that many of these papers that were suppressed were guilty of the most violent articles and in some cases of open incitement to murder?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: That was so and therefore we took action on the advice of the Advisory Committee.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that most of the papers that were suppressed for only a temporary period and have now been restored?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Where suppression is considered necessary. The order is of suspension and it implies that it is only for a temporary period. Afterwards the orders are revised. If the newspapers change their attitude they are allowed to be resumed.

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that at the moment there are no papers which are suspended or may be only one or two?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: It may be so. I am not prepared to contradict that.

Seth Govind Das: Is it not a fact that there are still many papers which are publishing false and fabricated news and inciting people to violence, and may I know whether action is being taken against them?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Because of the convention, so long as we do not get the recommendations of the Advisory Committee we are unable to take any action.

Begum Aliza Begum: May I know how many papers out of the ones that the Honourable Minister read out have been preaching communalism?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Almost all of these actions are taken for preaching communalism.

Begum Aliza Begum: Communalism or Communism?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Communism. If it is meant for preaching Communism, it is very difficult because such papers hardly come under the clutches of the law.

Sri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it not a fact that the Advisory Committee only concurs with the action which is suggested by the Government? The initiative is not taken by the Advisory Committee; it only concurs or differs with the action suggested by Government.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Ordinarily action is taken on the recommendation of the Committee. But the Advisory Committee has also agreed that if there is an emergency Government may take action and put it before the Advisory Committee for confirmation.

Seth Govind Das: Are there any such papers action against which was recommended by the Advisory Committee and still the Government have not taken any action against them?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: Not to my knowledge.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What permanent benefit has been expected from the suppression of these papers?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: We should be satisfied with temporary benefits.

RETURN OF HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND ANCIENT BOOKS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

*1348. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the resolution passed by the Historical Records Commission on the 24th December, 1948 regarding the return of historical documents and ancient books from Britain, France, Holland and Portugal;

(b) whether these Governments have been approached in connection with this matter; and

(c) what steps are being proposed to be taken by Government to get back India's historical documents and ancient books?

آرمیل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : (a) انڈین گورنمنٹ کی ریسرچ اور پبلیکیشن کمیٹی نے جو رزلوشن پسن کیا تھا اس کا مطلب یہ نہیں تھا کہ ان ملکوں سے پورانی کتابیں اور پورے ڈاکومنٹ واپس لئے جائیں۔ جس بات پر زور دیا گیا تھا وہ یہ تھی کہ ان ملکوں کی گورنمنٹوں سے اس طرح کا انتظام کرنا چاہئے کہ پورانی چیزوں کی نقلیں ہمیں مل جائیں۔

(b) یہ رزلوشن ابھی تک قابضہ کے مطابق گورنمنٹ کو نہیں ملے ہے، لہٰذا گورنمنٹ کو اس کام کی ضرورت سوجھانے کے لئے کسی رزلوشن کی ضرورت نہیں ہے۔ اس کام کو ضرورت اس کے حوالے آ چکی ہے، اور وہ نیشنل آرکائیو ڈیپارٹمنٹ کے کومپلٹ سے شروع کر چکی ہے گورنمنٹ نے کوشش کی ہے کہ جن جن ملکوں میں ہندوستانی کی پرانی تاریخی چیزیں پائی جاتی ہیں، ان سے لکھا پڑھی کی جائے اور ملتی کورنٹل مشورہ سائنٹفک ممبروں سے انکی کاہیاں ملگائی جائیں۔ کئی چیزوں کی نقلیں اس وقت تک ہمارے ہاں نہیں آچکی ہیں۔ جسے ہالک مینسکریٹ اور مسجر ہراؤں کی لکھا پڑھی واپس ہونے کے ساتھ۔

(c) ہندوستان کی پرانی تاریخی چیزیں بہت سے ملکوں میں پھیلی ہوئی ہیں گورنمنٹ چاہتی ہے کہ پہلے ایک پروپوزیشن ان تمام چیزوں کا اسکے پاس تیار ہو جائے کچھ چیزیں کہاں کہاں ہیں؟ کس طرح کی ہیں؟ ہندوستان کی تاریخ سے اتنا کیا لکڑو ہے۔ یہ ہوں معلوم ہو جاتا چاہئے۔ پھر اس کے بعد گورنمنٹ کے اگے آسکر ہو جائیگا کہ جو چیزیں واپس لائی جا سکتی ہیں، واپس لائی جائیں، جو واپس نہیں مل سکتی انکی ایسی کاہیاں لے لی جائیں جو تھیک تھیک اصل کا کام دیں۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) The Resolution passed by the Research and Publication Committee, an adjunct of the Indian Historical Records Commission, at its last session in Delhi in December, 1948 does not envisage the return of any original historical documents and ancient books from Britain, France, Holland and Portugal, but recommends that arrangements should be made with the Governments of Holland, Portugal and France for obtaining copies of all such records in their possession as may have any bearing on India.

(b) The Resolution has not yet formally been received by the Government. The National Archives of India, are, however, in touch with the principal record repositories in Europe and elsewhere and have already procured microfilm copies of the Palk Manuscripts in the custody of Exeter City Library and Major Browne's correspondence with Warren Hastings in the custody of the India Office.

(c) The Government have before them a plan to have full and accurate information about the Indian treasures and historical documents and ancient books which are in foreign repositories.

The Director General of Archaeology and the Director of Archives have been asked to take necessary action in the matter.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि कुछ दिन पहले मन्मेंट ने वह तयबीय की थी कि वहाँ तक लःदन का सम्बन्ध है, वहाँ तक वहाँ पर कुछ लोग भेजे जायें और यह देखा जाय कि वहाँ पर हिन्दुस्तान के इतिहासिक कितनी चीजें हैं, और उन आदमियों के जिम्मे यह काम भी सौंप जाय कि वह उन चीजों को यहाँ वापिस लाने की कोशिश करें।

Seth Govind Das: Is it not a fact that the Government had formulated a plan some days ago that so far as London is concerned, some persons should be deputed to go there to find out as to how many documents as may have any bearing

on India are available there; and they should also be entrusted to make efforts to obtain all such records?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : نہ صرف انگلینڈ کے اچھے بلکہ دوسرے ملکوں کے اچھے بھی یہ تجویز سامنے آئی تھی مگر یہ کونسلٹ نے خیال کیا کہ پہلے ہمارے پاس پورا ریکارڈ ان چیزوں کا تیار ہو جانا چاہئے پھر کسی کمیٹی کا بنانا ٹھیک ہوگا چونکہ ہمیں پوری طرح معلوم نا ہو جائے کہ کہاں کہاں کیا کیا چیزیں لگی ہیں اس وقت تک کسی نتیجہ خیز کارروائی نہیں کی جا سکتی۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: This plan was considered not only in respect of England, but for all other countries. But the Government thought that first of all we should have full record of all such documents, and then only it would be advisable to set up any Committee. Until and unless we are able to ascertain the names of the various places to which the particular documents were sent, we cannot take any decisive action in the matter.

سٹھ گوبیند داس : **गवर्नमेंट कब तक यह उम्मीद करती है कि इस तरह का रिकार्ड गवर्नमेंट के पास तैयार हो जायगा।**

Seth Govind Daa: How long do the Government expect to take to have such record got ready?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : توہیک وقت بتانا مشکل ہے لیکن ہمارے پوری کوشش ہے کہ کم سے کم وقت میں یہ ریکارڈ تیار ہو جائے۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: It is difficult to specify the exact time, but we are doing our best to get this record ready in the least possible time.

ڈاکٹر بخشیشی، تھک، چند : کیا آنریبل مینسٹر یہ بتلائیگی کہ اس قسم کی کارروائی پاکستان کے ساتھ بھی ہو رہی ہے لہذا میں یونیورسٹی لائبریری اور پبلک لائبریری میں بہت سا ایسا ریکارڈ موجود ہے۔ کیا اسکے بارے میں بھی ایسی ہی کارروائی ہو رہی ہے یا صرف دوسرے ملکوں کے ساتھ ہی ایسا ہو رہا ہے؟

Dr. Balnshi Tek Chand: Will the Honourable Minister please state whether any such action is being taken in respect of Pakistan also? A lot of such record is lying in the University Library and Public Library in Lahore. Is any action being taken in this direction also, or is it confined to other countries only?

آنریبل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : پاکستان سے اسکا تعلق نہیں ہے پاکستان کے معاملہ کا جہاں تک تعلق ہے اس کے لئے ایک پارٹیشن کونسل بنی تھی اس نے جو فیصلہ کیا ہے اس کے مطابق چیزوں کا بقولہ ہوا

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: This is not applicable to Pakistan. So far as the question relating to Pakistan is involved, a Partition Council was set up and the assets are being divided in accordance with the decisions of this Committee.

Mr. Homi Mody: Have Government taken any special steps for the purpose of obtaining books, manuscripts and other precious things from the India office?

انریمل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : ابتدا تفس کے متعلق گورنمنٹ بات چیت کر چکی ہے وہ ہمارے قبضے سے باہر نہیں ہے ضرورت اس کی ہے کہ اس بارے میں ہم بہت جلد کارروائی کرنے والے ہوں

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: Government have already carried on negotiations, in the matter so far as it relates to India Office. These are within our possession. All that is wanting is that the issues relating to India and Pakistan have got to be decided. We shall soon be taking necessary action in this matter.

شری دیپھ بندوقو : کہا ہے ٹھیک ہے کہ ملک میں کتنے ہی لوگوں کے پاس بھی بہت بڑھی قیمت نسخے ہیں جنہیں حاصل کرنے کی کوشش نہیں کی جا رہی ہے کہا حکومت ایسا کوئی قدم اٹھانے کو تیار ہے جس سے کہ یہ نسخے حاصل ہو جائیں۔

Shri Deshbandhu Gupta: Is it a fact that many people in this country are in possession of very valuable prescriptions and no efforts to procure these are being made? Are Government prepared to take any such steps by which these

انریمل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : ابھی توڑی دیر میں ایک سوال کا جواب دینے ہوئے اس بات کو صاف کرنا۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: I will just elucidate this matter while replying to another question.

شی اچ۔ وی۔ کامات : جہاں اصل کی چیزیں پیل لکھتی ہیں وہیں نکلنے والی چیزوں کی بجائے کیا اصل کی چیزیں حاصل کرنے کا ارادہ گورنمنٹ کا ہے۔

Shri H. V. Kamath: Have Government any intention to secure original documents wherever these are available instead of artificial ones?

انریمل مولانا ابوالکلام آزاد : یقیناً۔

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: Certainly.

REPORT OF CABINET COMMITTEE ON DEVELOPMENT PLANS

*1849. **Seth Govind Das:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether any report has been submitted by the Cabinet Committee set up to review development plans of the Central and Provincial Governments?

(b) If so, what are the recommendations made by the Committee?

(c) What are the steps so far taken to implement those recommendations?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Attention of the honourable member is invited to the reply I gave to Question No. 462 on the 17th February 1949. These recommendations were accepted by Government and have been elucidated in paras 29 and 30 of my Budget speech.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it this Committee that recommended the go-slow policy on prohibition and zamindari abolition or a different Committee?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: This Committee has nothing to do with it.

CARRYING OF REFUSE IN OPEN CARTS IN DELHI

*1350. Lala Raj Kanwar: Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that night soil, refuse, street sweepings, rubbish and garbage are being carried in open carts, trucks, and vans through some of the main thoroughfares of Delhi;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to put a stop to this obnoxious practice which is so injurious to health and decency; and

(c) in which municipal cities and towns in India the practice of carrying night soil etc., in covered carts and other similar conveyances has been introduced?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) In the Shahdara Municipal area these are carried in open trucks, but care is taken to avoid the main thoroughfares while carting them. In the New Delhi Municipal area only street sweepings, rubbish and other garbage are carried in uncovered vehicles. Elsewhere covered vehicles are used.

(b) The attention of the Shahdara Municipal Committee has been drawn and arrangements for carting the refuse in properly covered vehicles are under their consideration.

(c) A Statement giving the information for the Centrally Administered areas of Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Coorg is laid on the table of the House. Information regarding the practice in the different towns in the Provinces is not available.

STATEMENT

Showing how night soil, refuse, street sweepings etc. are carried in areas within the jurisdiction of the various Municipal Cities and Towns in the Centrally Administered areas.

Name of the Municipal city or town	How night soil is carried	How refuse, street sweepings etc. are carried
Delhi—Area covered by—		
Delhi Municipal Committee	Covered trucks and carts.	Covered trucks and carts.
New Delhi Municipal Committee	Ditto	Uncovered vehicles.
Shahdara Municipal Committee	Open trucks	Open trucks.
Notified Area Committee Civil Station.	Covered carts	Covered trucks.
Ajmer-Merwara Area covered by—		
Ajmer Municipal Committee	Covered carts	Open trucks and carts.
Banswar Municipal Committee	Do.	Do.
Kakri Municipal Committee	Do.	Do.
Deoli Municipal Committee	Do.	Do.
Coorg—Area covered by—		
Virajpet Municipal Committee	Covered carts	Do.
Merwara Municipal Committee	Open carts	Do.

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

HOSPITALS FOR DEAF AND DUMB, BLIND AND MENTALLY DEFICIENT

†1351. **Lala Raj Kanwar:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of persons in the country who are (i) deaf and dumb;
- (ii) blind; and
- (iii) mentally deficient;
- (b) the names of Hospitals for the treatment and care of defectives of each of the above categories.
- (c) the annual expenditure at present being incurred on the upkeep of the above hospitals; and
- (d) whether Government propose to consider the advisability of opening more Hospitals at selected places to deal with patients of the above categories?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) to (c). A statement containing the information received from some of the Provinces is placed on the table of the House. Information regarding the other Provinces will be laid on the Table as soon as it is received.

(d) The attention of the Provincial Governments will be drawn to this question. Government are aware that not enough is being done for such sufferers.

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

STATEMENT

Name of Province Administration	Total number of persons			Names of hospitals for the treatment of			Annual expenditure at present being incurred on the upkeep of the hospitals mentioned in Column 8
	Deaf and Dumb	Blind	Mentally deficient	Deaf and Dumb	Blind	Mentally deficient	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Madras	Net known	*55,000	64 (in institu- tion).	Nil	Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Madras.	Govt. Mental Hospitals at Madras, Walliar and Colicut.	Rs. 18,19,637
Bombay	20,534	78,00*	Not known	Nil	17 hospitals— side enclosed list.	Central Mental Hospital, Yervada; Not known. N. M. Mental Hospital, Thana; Mental Hospital, Ahmedabad; Mental Hospital, Ratnagiri; Mental Hospital, Dharcwar. Government Mental Hospitals at Agra, Bareilly and Benares.	
United Provinces		Not known		Nil	Nil		
East Punjab		Not known		Nil	Nil		
Central Provinces and Bihar		Not known		Nil	A hospital main- tained by the Blind Relief Mission, Nagpur.	Government Mental Hospital, Ra. Nagpur.	Rs. 3,09,000 (for Mental Hospital, Nagpur).
Orissa		Not known		Nil	Nil	No hospital but 69 beds have been reserved in the Inter- provincial Hospital, Kanka, Bihar.	Rs. 43,000.
Azamgarh		†6,541 Not known	†840 (Known cases)	Nil	Nil	Mental Hospital, Tezpur, Assam	Rs. 3,08,949.
Delhi		Not known	40 (Known cases)	Nil	Nil	Patients of this kind are tem- porarily detained at the non- criminal lunatics detention ward, Balak Ram Hospital and at the District Jail, New Delhi.	Rs. 3,440.
Ajmer-Merwara		186	49 (Known cases)	Nil	Nil	Nil	.....
Coorg		77 (Known cases)	49 (Known cases)	Nil	Nil	Patients of this kind are treated in the Government Mental Hospital, Calicut.	Rs. 9,972.
Madhya Pradesh		Not known		Nil	Nil	Nil	.....

* This figure is based on the 1951 census.

† This figure is for the year 1947.

List showing the names of the Eye Hospitals in the Province of Bombay

1. Sir C. J. Ophthalmic Hospital, Bombay.
2. K. P. Inaji Bachooali Free Ophthalmic Hospital, Bombay.
3. The Ramwadi Free Eye Hospital, Kalbadevi, Bombay.
4. Eye Hospital, Hornby Road, Bombay.
5. Bhoomaya Pochetty Ashnoi Municipal Free Eye Hospital, Kamatipura, Bombay.
6. Sarvajanic Free Eye Hospital, Surat.
7. Eye Hospital, Sholapur.
8. Eye Hospital (Blind Relief Association), Chahiegaon.
9. Navrojee Ophthalmic Hospital (attached to Civil Hospital, Ahmedabad).
10. Bai Parvati Girdharlal Daipatram Charities Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad.
11. Dr. V. B. Mankad's Eye Hospital, Ahmedabad.
12. Sevaram Eye Hospital, Broach.
13. Henderson Eye Institute (attached to Civil Hospital, Bijapur).
14. Koppikar Eye Hospital, Nubli District, Dharwar.
15. Free Eye Hospital, Surat.
16. B. N. Free Eye Hospital, Bulsar.
17. Social Service League Free Eye Hospital, Kalyan.

LICENCE HOLDERS OF PRIVATE RADIO-SETS

*1352. **Shri R. K. Sridhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the number of Licence holders of private radios in India in the years 1946, 1947 and 1948 province-wise?

(b) What is the total revenue derived from the licence fees?

(c) What is the number of licence holders of radios in England?

(d) What are the reasons for the very small number of radios in India?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is placed on the table of the House.

(c) According to the latest information available, there were approximately 1,11,80,000 radio licence holders in England (including Scotland and Wales) at the end of March, 1948.

(d) The main reasons are, (i) high cost of radio sets, (ii) low purchasing power of the people, (iii) lack of electricity over the greater portion of the country, and (iv) paucity of sufficiently powerful medium wave transmitters in regional language areas.

STATEMENT
The number of licenseholders of private radio-sets in India during the calendar years 1946, 1947 and 1948 province-wise:

Province	1946	1947	1948	Remarks
Bombay	48,591	50,748	79,347*	
Madras	33,797	43,833	54,782	
United Provinces	23,378	29,299	31,908	
Central Provinces	8,275	10,545	10,684	
Delhi	12,658	15,283	21,476	
Bihar	7,195	9,023	11,584	In 1946 and 1947 Bihar and Orissa formed a single postal circle and figures were maintained accordingly.
Orissa			1,262	
West Bengal	48,524 (includes figures for East Bengal)	51,088 (includes figures for East Bengal upto 15.8.47).	56,013	In 1946 and upto 15.8.47 Bengal and Assam formed a single postal circle and figures were maintained accordingly.
Assam			4,087	
East Punjab	42,475 (includes figures for West Punjab and North West Frontier Province)	30,084 (includes figures for West Punjab and North West Frontier Province upto 15.8.47).	16,618	In 1948 and upto 15th August, 1947, Punjab and North West Frontier Province formed a single postal circle and figures were maintained accordingly.
Jind and Bahawalistan	13,790	8,428 (upto 15.8.47).		

II. Total returns derived in the Indian Union from licence fees during the last 3 years:

Financial Year 1945-46	Rs. 22,99,403
Financial Year 1946-47	Rs. 28,57,477
Financial Year 1947-48	Rs. 36,00,613.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: May I know how many radio-sets are there in villages with a population of under 10,000?

The Honourable Shri E. R. Diwakar: I want notice.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know whether the increase in the number of radio-sets could not be effected because of the very high cost of these radio sets?

The Honourable Shri E. R. Diwakar: That is one of the reasons given, but I may also bring to the notice of the honourable members that in the United Kingdom the home services alone utilise 1,400 K. W. of power whereas we are utilising for home services only 30 K. W. So we should not expect the number of radio-sets to increase very fast unless we also increase the number of K. W. power that we use for transmission.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Is it the intention of the Government to go fast or not, and if so what steps they are taking?

The Honourable Shri E. R. Diwakar: Government are going according to a plan and they certainly want to develop the services as fast as possible.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: What is the plan?

Mr. Speaker: The plan of increasing electricity lies with the Works, Mines and Power Ministry, I believe.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are there any grounds for fear that there are a large number of unlicensed radio-sets in this country?

The Honourable Shri E. R. Diwakar: I cannot say.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Are Government taking any steps to see that cheap radio-sets are manufactured in their laboratories? Have they set apart any amount of money for the research and encouragement of producing cheap radio sets?

Mr. Speaker: I think these questions can hardly be put. The honourable member knows that there are different Departments of the Government of India dealing with these subjects. The honourable member wants to make a suggestion that some such thing should be made and that being a suggestion for action, the question is disallowed.

Shrimati G. Durgabai: May I know whether it is a fact that some Madras engineers have conducted research in their laboratory and succeeded in producing cheap community sets?

The Honourable Shri E. R. Diwakar: They have produced a few and they may try further.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Do the figures for 1946, 1947 and 1948 show that the radio habit is getting more popular or less?

The Honourable Shri E. R. Diwakar: It is getting more popular, there is no doubt about it.

FOREIGNERS DETAINED IN INDIA

*1353. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many foreigners have been detained in India under the Foreigners Act?

(b) Why and since when have they been detained?

(c) Have they been asked whether they would prefer going to their own countries if released?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) to (c). I lay a statement on the table of the House giving the information asked for by the honourable member.

BY APPOINTMENT
 His Majesty the King
 in Council
 Order in Council
 under the provisions of the Immigration Act, 1918.

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE)

[24TH MARCH 1949]

Serial N	N no of foreigner (in full)	Nationality	Date since which detained	Reason for Detention	Whether prepared to leave India for his own country if released	Reference to authority under which detained	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Gerardino Cruz	Portuguese (American)	15-12-48	Indesirable foreigner.	No.	Paragraph 15 of the Foreigners Order 1948.	Departure for America being arranged in consultation with American Consul.
2	Isabel Vazquez Aviles Do.	Do.	16-12-48	Do.	No.	Do.	do.
3	Haji Ghahim Jaffer. Iraqi	Do.	18-10-48	Do.	No.	Do.	Passage being arranged ex-India; under deportation order.
4	Nasser Abdulla Mansoor. Arab	Do.	2-8-48	Do.	No.	Do.	Prosecution under Arms Act still pending in the court; under deportation orders.
5	Hau Heng Pi (Hou Heng Hui). Chinese	Do.	22-1-49	Do.	No.	Do.	Under deportation orders; passage ex-India being arranged.
6	Leong See Meng	Do.	27-11-48	Do.	No.	Do.	do.
7	Koh Ah Hok	Do.	16-12-48	Do.	No.	Do.	do.
8	Tsang Ah Toy	Do.	27-11-48	Do.	No.	Do.	do.
9	Wong Ah Peng	Do.	1-11-48	Do.	No.	Do.	do.

Shri Brajeshwar Prasad: Sir, I want to put a supplementary question. ~~to the~~ question.

Mr. Speaker: This question was recently dealt with in the House and a number of supplementaries were dealt with also. I have a clear memory of the Next question.

TRIAL BY JURY OF EUROPEAN BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CRIMINAL CASES

*1354. **Shri R. K. Sidhva:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether after 15th August, 1947, European British subjects in India are entitled to a trial by jury consisting of their own countrymen in criminal cases as was the case before the 15th August, 1947?

(b) If so, do Government intend to continue this privilege in view of the changed conditions?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) and (b). I would invite the honourable member's attention to the Criminal Law (Removal of Racial Discriminations) Bill, 1949, which was introduced in this House on the 10th March, 1949.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Was the Bill introduced after my question?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: The answer is there.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS ON SPECIAL DUTY

*1355. **Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many officers on special duty have been appointed by the various Ministries of the Government of India?

(b) What are their duties and functions?

(c) What are their salaries?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) to (c) A statement containing the information is laid on the Table.

STATEMENT

Officers on special duty appointed in the various Ministries of the Government of India as on the 1st March 1950.

S. No.	Name of the Ministry	Name of the officer on Special Duty	Duties and functions	Salary	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Ministry of Agriculture	(1) Prof. G. S. Puri (2) Dr. A. T. Sen (3) Mr. D. J. Goshy (4) Mr. D. C. Kaib (5) Dr. R. J. Kalelkar (6) Dr. S. P. Raychaudhari	To work out in consultation with the Provinces and States and insurance experts a detailed pilot scheme for the introduction of crop and cattle insurance in a representative selected area so as to provide reliable data on the basis of which more comprehensive scheme can be drawn up. These officers were trained in U.S.A. in soil conservation science. Their duties are— (i) to advise the Government of India and the local State Governments on all problems connected with soil conservation (ii) to prepare and execute projects of soil conservation as and when the Central Government may desire; and (iii) to train people in soil conservation methods.	Rs. 1,000 in the scale of Rs. 900-1,000-1,100-1,300	
2	Ministry of Commerce	(1) Mr. K. S. Sankaranarayanan (2) Mr. S. Rameswamy Ayyangar. (3) Mr. V. B. Ramaswamy (4) N. C. Choudhary (5) Mr. N. K. Mojudar (6) Mr. Lachhmi Narain Jersath.	Codification and revision of the law relating to merchant shipping. Work connected with the setting up of Government sponsored shipping corporations Revision and Rationalisation of Trade and Tariff classification of goods. Revision and Rationalisation of Trade and Tariff classification of goods Examination of the proposals regarding amendment of the Indian Companies Act. Examination of the present system of control of contingent and other expenditures of the Ministry of Commerce.	Rs. 1,300 P.M. Rs. 800 P.M. Rs. 950 P.M. Rs. 550 P.M. Rs. 1,600 P.M. Rs. 680 P.M. plus S.P. Rs. 75	

(7) Captain H. L. Davis, Member of the Merchant Navy Officers Training Committee which has been set up to enquire into the existing facilities for the training of Mercantile Marine Officers in India and to make recommendations for their expansion. He also advises the Ministry of Commerce on problems arising in the course of implementation of the recommendations made by the Merchant Navy Training Committee.

(8) Mr. H.N. Vihakar }
 (9) Mr. M.A. Velhodi }
 (10) Mr. J. Coelho }

(8) Not fixed Under consideration with Finance Ministry.

(9) Rs. 600.— in the scale of Rs. 540-30-000 E.B.—38—870 —40—950.

(10) Rs. 540 in the scale of Rs. 540—30—000 E.B.—38—870 —40—950

Rs. 650 P. M.

3 Ministry of Communi- Mr. T. R. Manjón Work connected with Overseas Communications Service and opening of a Telephone Factory in India.

4 Ministry of E.A. & C.R. (1) Miss Leilamani Naidn . Those of an Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Rs. 1,000 P. M.

(2) Mr. Hari Kiaben Shaighs Special work in the Central Cypher Bureau

Rs. 500 P. M.

5 Ministry of Finance Mr. P. V. R. Rao, I.C.S. . To assist the Economy Committee in their work.

3,000 P. M.

6 Ministry of Finance (Rev. Division) Mr. S. A. J. Narayana Row Work connected with technical matters relating to taxation and Estate Duty Bill.

Rs. 1,000 P. M.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
7 Ministry of Food	*Mr. T. M. Garbhwal	Deputy to Iraq for a period of three weeks to ascertain the possibilities of purchases of foodgrains in that country.	Rs. 1,160 P. M.	*Holds the post of Director of Inspection in the Ministry of Agriculture and continues to draw the same pay and allowances as permissible to that post during his tenure as officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of Food.	
8 Ministry of Home Affairs	(1) Mr. L. M. Lal, I.C.S. (2) Mr. S. B. Bapat, I.C.S.	Engaged on the task of setting up of machinery for negotiating and settling disputes regarding conditions of service between Government servants and the Government. Entrusted with the work of setting up a Subordinate Services Commission. Holds the posts of E. O. to the Government of India and Principal, I.A.S. Training School and performs the duties of officer on Special Duty in addition.	Rs. 2,250 P. M. S. P. 400 Over-see pay 300.	Rs. 3,000 P. M. He is getting his pay as Principal I.A.S. Training School thus no extra expenditure is being incurred.	
9 Ministry of Industry and Supply	(1) Mr. K. Rama Reddy, O.S. D. (Patents) (2) Mr. S. K. Chowdhury, O. S. D. (Silk Board)	Member-Secretary of the Patents Enquiry Committee, whose terms of reference are, among others, to survey and report on the working of the Patent System in India. He is Development Officer (Silk) in the D. G. of I. & S. and has been appointed temporarily, in addition to his own duties, as O.S.D. of the Silk Board, which is charged with devising ways and means for improving the production and marketing of silk and collection of statistics, etc.	1,700 P. M.	Rs. 1,420 P. M. in the scale of Rs. 1,300-40-1,600	

- 10 Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. Mr. K. N. Dasgupta
- Scrutiny of literature on Kashmir produced in Pakistan, scrutiny of various services issued by the units of this Ministry to see how far they are working on similar lines, scrutiny of manuscripts for Pamphlets and scripts for films etc., liaison with various units of this Ministry to settle questions of production, printing, distributing etc., detailed work in connection with the selection of subjects for various media, scrutiny of information intended to be used, correspondence with various authorities including the Ministries and the Jammu and Kashmir Government etc.
- Rs. 650 P. M.
- 11 Ministry of Labour Mr. P. S. Dhamooze
- To prepare a report indicating what further legislation is required to eradicate the evil of forced labour from the country and which of the existing defects can be cured by administrative action etc.
- Rs. 500 P. M.
- 12 Ministry of Law Mr. D. N. Majumdar
- To assist the Secretary to the Government Chief Whip in connection with the arrangement of business etc., in the Constituent Assembly of India (Leg.)
- Rs. 1,000 in the scale of Rs. 1,000-50-1,250.
- 13 Ministry of Railways (Railway Board)
- (1) Mr. Ranjit Singh }
 (2) Mr. R. Krishnaoami }
 (3) Mr. B. B. Verma
 (4) Mr. B. Sandilya
 (5) Mr. P. L. Roy
- These officers are visiting "difficult" sections on Indian Railways with a view to improving or overhauling operational methods to secure more efficient transportation in the light of their experience in foreign countries, where they had been on a study tour.
- To examine and progress action on the recommendations of the Indian Railway Enquiry Committee, 1947.
 To progress implementation of the Grainger Enquiry Committee report etc.
 Work in connection with the raising of the "Railway Territorial Units" on railways.
1. 2,150 plus
 Rs. 2,065 P.
 2. Rs. 1,025 plus
 2008 P.
 3,500 P. M.
 1,420 plus
 Rs. 200 S. P.
 Rs. 2,500 P. M.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
14	Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation	(1) Mr. Bishambhar Das	Deal with (1) all matters relating to administration of the Ministry; (2) all questions relating to the residuary work of the disbanded organisation and camp of the Ministry; and (3) matters concerning offices of Custodians of Evacuee Property, Debris and Ameer and Officer-in-charge Mining and Persons Enquiry and Search Service.	Rs. 1,250 P. M.	
		(2) Mr. Tara Chand	All matters relating to rural rehabilitation and co-ordination of work in the Rehabilitation Wing of the Ministry.	Rs. 1,550 P. M.	
		(3) Mr. Kailash Chander	Organisation regarding the atrocities committed by Muslims on non-Muslims	Rs. 750 P. M.	
15	Ministry of States	(1) Mr. Mahesh Bihari Lal	Fixation of Privy Purses of Rulers	Rs. 710 plus Rs. 100S. P.	
		(2) Mr. K. N. V. Nambisan	Work connected with the integration of States	Rs. 590 P. M.	
		(3) Mr. K. Sankaran Nayar	Winding up of the residuary work of the late Mysore Residency, Bangalore. Only officer there	Rs. 500 P. M. *Likely to cease very shortly.	
		(4) Mr. Kundan Lal Dutt	Winding up of the residuary work of the late Kashmir Residency Office, Srinagar.	Rs. 300 plus 35 S. P. for treasury work.	
		(5) Mr. Govinda Menon	Winding up of the residuary work of the late Madras States Agency.	Rs. 350 P. M.	
		(6) Mr. T. Sateyanarayana	Winding up of the residuary work of the late States Agency (An officer now of the Orissa Government)	Rs. 100 S. P. only	
		(7) Major R. S. Negi	Winding up of the residuary work of the office of the Agent General to the Government of India in Hyderabad (Deccan)	Rs. 700 P. M. plus 100S. P.	
		(8) Mr. B. M. Buchi	Carrying out of a Comprehensive investigation in present land revenue administration of Kutch and then, and extending to reforming it.	Rs. 800 P. M.	
16	Ministry of Transport	Mr. C. S. Anantapadmanabhan	In charge of the Economics and Statistical Section of the Roads Organisation; advises on the economic aspects of road construction and road transport; collects and collates road and road traffic statistics; advises on road taxation and similar problems.	Rs. 950 P. M. in the scale of Rs. 750-800-1,000 plus a technical pay of Rs. 250 P. M.	
17	Prime Minister's Secretariat	Dr. G. V. Chaudhary	To prepare the ground for the constitution of a Central Planning Commission for India. He is also concerned with the work of Inter-departmental co-ordination in Statistics and matters relating to economic affairs.	2,750 P. M.	

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Mr. Tyagi, No. 1356?

Sbri Mahavir Tyagi: It has already been dealt with; I do not want to put the question.

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member does not want to put the question. Next question.

DISMISSAL OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ON POLITICAL GROUNDS

*1357. **Shri Arun Chandra Guha:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the number of employees under the Government of India who were removed from their posts or dismissed from services on political grounds on police reports during the years 1940 to 1946?

(b) In how many cases has the ban been removed since September, 1946?

(c) How many of these have since been re-instated?

(d) Have those who have been reappointed, been given the benefit of continuity of service or have they been appointed as new employees?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) to (d). The honourable member's attention is invited to the reply given to starred question No. 457, by Giani Gurmukh Singh Musafir on the 17th February, 1949, and to paragraphs 11 and 15 of the Review of the activities of the Home Ministry, copies of which have been circulated to honourable members. Government have under consideration certain proposals designed to improve the procedure of reemployment and to resettle incidental matters including the question of continuity of service referred to by the honourable member.

SULPHONE THERAPY FOR TREATMENT OF LEPROSY

*1358. **Shrimati Dakshayani Velayudhan:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report which appeared in the *Illustrated London News* that sulphetrone, a new drug, is having amazingly beneficial effects in the treatment of leprosy?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative do Government propose to try the same in India?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) Government are aware of the use of sulphetrone and other drugs of the "sulphone group" in the treatment of leprosy.

(b) The All-India Leprosy Workers' Conference held in Calcutta in December 1946, passed a resolution that as Sulphone therapy has proved to be effective in leprostatous leprosy, this group of drugs should be made available at an economic price for the treatment of suitable cases and should be permitted to enter the country duty-free. The question is under consideration. The possibility of producing Sulphone drugs in India will also be considered.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Has the Honourable Minister at any time consulted Ayurved experts or Vaidis about the treatment of this disease?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Vaidis are very frequently sending me samples of medicines for leprosy. But I have not had satisfactory proofs of the results of the treatment with their medicines.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Have they been given a trial?

The Honourable Rajkumar Amrit Kant: Trials would naturally be carried out by the Voids themselves.

JUBBULPORE SIGNALS SEPOYS MUTINY

*1839. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons involved in the Jubbulpore Signals Sepoys Mutiny of February-March, 1946;

(b) whether a trial by court-martial took place; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) and (b). I would refer the honourable member to my answer to part (h) of Short Notice Question No. 75 asked by Ch. Ranbir Singh on the 8th April 1948.

(c) Seventeen persons were convicted on trial by court-martial. Fifteen of them were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment ranging from one to three years, while the remaining two were dismissed from the Service. All those sentenced to imprisonment have since been released.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are these men who have been released, are they black-listed as far as future employment in any Government department is concerned?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Those who were sentenced to terms of imprisonment cannot be reemployed. Those who were discharged can be reemployed.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it not a fact that the so-called mutiny took place during the troubled days of the I.N.A. trial and the R.I.N. revolt?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: No, Sir.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is the date then wrong—February and March 1946?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I could not say definitely whether this mutiny took place during the I.N.A. trial.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it a fact that the Jubbulpore or Mahakoshal Congress Committee actively defended these mutineers?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: I have no such information.

WORKS OF ART AND ANTIQUITIES IN RAJPUTANA STATES

*1860. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many valuable collections of old manuscripts, works of art and other antiquities in the Rajputana States, till recently in the custody of the respective State Governments, have been converted by some rulers into their private property; and

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

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) We have no such information.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Under the Instrument of Accession, have the Rulers been graciously permitted by Government to adorn their residences with some of these works of art and antiquities?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If they belong to them, they are allowed.

Shri H. V. Kamath: This property which is under the State Government's custody, have the rulers been permitted to adorn their residences with them?

Mr. Speaker: The honourable member makes a difference between personal property and that of the State.

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If the property belongs to the Ruler, he is allowed to keep it. If the property is State property, he is not allowed.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Sir, with reference to (a), is it the policy of the Government to allow some of these rare pieces or art and treasures to be sold out to foreigners, if they happen to be the private property of these Princes?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: If it is private property, he is free to sell.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Sir, is it not necessary—I am not asking for action, but only want to know the policy of the Government—is it not . . .

Mr. Speaker: That is all right, but the honourable member is making a suggestion.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: No, Sir. I want information about the policy of the Government, about not allowing any of these treasures to be taken out of the country by any means.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

HOLDING OF MEETINGS AND DISTRIBUTION OF HANDBILLS BY GOVERNMENT SERVANTS IN SECRETARIAT

*1361. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned the holding of meetings or distribution of handbills by Government servants within the Secretariat premises or adjoining lawns during or after office hours; and

(b) if so, whether the ban applies to *bona fide* activities of Unions or Associations of Government servants?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) There is no ban but previous permission of the authorities concerned is necessary.

(b) Does not arise.

Pandit Hirday Nath Kuzru: I would like to put the Question No. 1362. †

Mr. Speaker: It will then come after the first round. Next question.

FORMATION OF NATIONAL CULTURAL TRUST

*1362. **Shri Raj Bahadur:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Education be pleased to state what decision, if any, the Government of India have taken on the report and recommendations made by the Committee appointed to examine the proposal for the formation of a National Cultural Trust for India adopted by the Central Advisory Board of Education?

(b) Have any steps been taken to implement the said recommendations and if so, what progress has so far been achieved towards the formation and functioning of the National Cultural Trust?

(c) Have Government earmarked any funds for the furtherance of the proposal and if so, what is the amount so earmarked?

†Not reached during the question hour. Printed serially in the day's debate.—Ed. of D.

(d) Have Government taken any steps, pending the coming into being of the National Cultural Trust, to trace out, procure and preserve the valuable and rare manuscripts and other unearthened or undiscovered literary wealth of India and if so, with what success and at what cost?

(e) Have Government received any representations or suggestions from private individuals or bodies to achieve the objectives mentioned in part (d) above?

(f) If so, from whom and when were they received?

(g) What steps have Government taken on such representations or suggestions, if any?

The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad: (a) and (b). The scheme for the establishment of a Central Cultural Trust as recommended by the Committee referred to in the question has been accepted in principle, but in accordance with the desire of the Standing Committee of Legislature the scheme has been slowed down and the details are being worked out.

(c) A sum of rupees one lakh has been included in the budget estimates for the year 1949-50. It is proposed to undertake some preliminary work in connection with the Trust and to call three conferences of experts in various branches of fine art and letters which will discuss the further programme of Cultural activities for the country.

(d) On the recommendations of the Indian Historical Records Commission, the Government of India provided in the budget of the National Archives of India a sum of Rs. 5,000 during 1947-48 and Rs. 5,400 during 1948-49 for purchase of historical documents with private individuals. Besides the above, the Indian Historical Records Commission have been authorised to set up eight *ad-hoc* Records Regional Survey Committees in the Provinces to carry out the survey work and to purchase documents. During the last three years, Government of India have given a grant of Rs. 28,000 to these Committees for the purpose. The documents as and when purchased are deposited with the National Archives of India.

(e) to (g). In addition to the Indian Historical Records Commission who made certain recommendations a suggestion has been received for the establishment of a Literary Directorate for India to collect the explored and un-explored literary wealth of India. The Government will ask the Trust after it has been established to consider this suggestion and any other suggestions which may be made to them.

SOLDIERS DISCHARGED AFTER AUGUST 1947

*1363. **Shri Mahavir Tyagi:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state how many soldiers have been discharged with their accounts finally settled, since August 1947?

(b) How many were discharged without payment of their dues, and how many of such persons lodged complaints with the Record Officer?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) and (b). The number of J.C.O.s, other Ranks, etc. who have been released from the Army during the period 1st August, 1947 to 31st January, 1949 being as many as 54,325, it would not be possible to collect the information asked for without an expenditure of time and labour hardly commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Generally speaking, however, a soldier's account is finally adjusted and credits paid to him before he proceeds to his home on discharge. In some cases, where

the relevant records are not readily available and the accounts cannot therefore be finalised before the soldier proceeds home on discharge, a portion of any credit balance in his account is withheld for adjustment and the balance is paid to him then and there. In the majority of cases, final adjustments are made within three months from the date of discharge and the credit balance if any, sent to the soldier at his home.

It is not possible to give the number of persons who have complained about non-receipt of their dues, but all cases of delay in the settlement of accounts which have been brought to the notice of Government have been examined and disposed of with all possible expedition.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Sir, what is the position with regard to the soldiers of the I.N.A.?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The question does not relate to I.N.A. It relates to officers and other ranks who have been released from the regular army.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it not a fact that so far as the I.N.A. were concerned, the British regime had devised three categories called, White, Grey and Black, and those under the White category were paid their full arrears of pay, and the Grey and Black who had shown greater enthusiasm for the national cause were not paid at all?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: How does this arise out of the question?

Shri H. V. Kamath: The I.N.A. also are soldiers.

Mr. Speaker: May be, but the question does not arise. Next question.

WOMEN POLICE FORCE IN DELHI

*1364. **Shrimati Dakahayani Velayudhan:** Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women in the Police Force in Delhi Province;
- (b) whether Government propose to increase the number of women police; and
- (c) in which Provinces and States women are employed in the Police Force?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) Twenty-one in all—One Sub-Inspector, two head constables and 18 foot constables.

- (b) An increase will be made if and when it is considered necessary.
- (c) The Government of India have no information.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is there any separate training school for women in the Police Force?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I do not think so.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Are the duties assigned to these women as arduous as are assigned to men?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: It is a matter of opinion; the women may consider that their duties are more arduous and the men may consider that their duties are more arduous; but they are both useful.

Shri H. V. Kamath: How many applicants were there for enrolment in the Women's Police Force, and how many of them were refugees?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I cannot say.

FILM CENSORSHIP

*1365. **Shri Basanta Kumar Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of films censored during the year 1948;

(b) the main principles followed in censoring films; and

(c) whether films censored in a foreign country have to be subjected to censorship again for the purpose of exhibition in this country?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: (a) and (b). Information required by the Honourable member is not available with the Government of India as censorship of films is at present undertaken by the Provincial Governments.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri Basanta Kumar Das: What control is exercised by the Ministry on the Provincial Censorship Boards?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: There is the Cinematograph Act and according to the Cinematograph Act, Provincial Censorship Boards are formed, and there is no direct control from the Centre on these Censorship Boards.

Seth Govind Das: Is there any proposal, Sir, to set up a Central Board, so far as censorship is concerned?

The Honourable Shri R. B. Diwakar: Yes: There is not only a proposal, but in the last session of the Constituent Assembly an amendment to Government of India Act has been passed which authorizes this Parliament to go in for legislation to establish Central Censorship.

Seth Govind Das: Have the Government seen the recent tendency of producing obscene films by many producers, and what steps are Government taking to see that the Censors work more rigidly?

Mr. Speaker: The question is only illustrative of the existing controls.

Seth Govind Das: When the Central Board comes into operation, will the Provincial Boards be scrapped?

Mr. Speaker: It is hypothetical.

RECRUITMENT TO ALL-INDIA SERVICES FROM STATES

*1366. **Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu:** Will the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government make any distinction between the citizens of the Provinces of India and of the acceding and non-acceding Indian States in recruiting candidates to their services—diplomatic, administrative or others; and

(b) the number, if any, of the citizens of the acceding and non-acceding Indian States who have been recruited to all India services diplomatic and others since August 1947?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: (a) No distinction is made between persons domiciled in acceding States and persons domiciled in Provinces of the Indian Union in respect of appointments to any Service or post retained exclusively under the control of the Central Government. Persons domiciled in non-acceding States are required to obtain a declaration of eligibility before appointment to such services or posts. The position is different in respect of the Indian Administrative Service, and the Indian Police Service. These Services are organised and maintained on an All-India basis, and appointments to these Services are regulated by a scheme which has been agreed upon by the Central and the Provincial Governments. According to this scheme, only those candidates who are domiciled in the participating provinces are at present eligible. It is intended, however, that the candidates from

acceding States should also be made eligible as and when the States concerned agree to participate in the Scheme.

(b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Among the persons recruited to these diplomatic, administrative and other services from the States, is it a fact that a larger number is drawn from the Princely families than from the Plebeians?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: I do not know. I have no information as to what appointments are made in foreign service. A few members who are considered to be very efficient and useful from the princely families may have been employed.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: With regard to part (a) of the answer, is it a fact that with regard to States that have acceded to the Indian Union like Mysore, Travancore and Cochin, a disability operates against those who are domiciled in the Indian Union from competing for administrative posts in those States, while the citizens of those States are free to join the All India Services?

The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel: It is quite possible. We are more broad-minded.

RECRUITING Melas HELD IN 1948

*1367. **Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state how many recruiting *melas* were held in the year 1948, province-wise, and what was the cost of each *mela*?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Ten *melas* were held in 1948 five in East Punjab, three in the Bombay Presidency and one each in the U.P. and Kolhapur State.

Information with regard to the cost of each *mela* is not readily available, as expenditure on such *melas*, except for actual recruiting expenses, are met by voluntary public contribution.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: May I ask Sir, why any such *mela* was not held in the Province of Bihar?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: As I pointed out, these *melas* are held generally at the request of the public and as no request was received from Bihar no *mela* was held there.

Pandit Hriday Nath Kunru: Is it a fact that these *melas* have had an excellent effect both on the Army and on the public?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Yes, Sir. It is generally believed that these *melas* are very good both from the public point of view and from the Army point of view.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: For how many days such *melas* continue at one place?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: The *melas* are held generally for a day only.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What is done in that *mela*, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

RECRUITMENT OF SOLDIERS FROM BIHAR

*1368. **Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state district-wise the number of soldiers and officers who have been recruited from the province of Bihar in the year 1948 and also the agencies through which the recruitment was made?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Recruitment to the officer ranks of the Armed Forces is made through Services Selection Boards while other ranks are recruited through the agency of the Recruiting Organisation and to a lesser extent by Regimental Recruiting Parties, some of which are drawn from the Bihar Regiment.

As regards the figures of officers and other ranks recruited in each district of Bihar, the information is not readily available.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Will the Honourable Minister collect the information and supply to me?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: It will take a long time to collect this information, because we will have to enquire from all the centres and it will take, I am afraid, a very, very long time. We are not in a position to collect it.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: When any information is required in the House, even if it entails a lot of trouble, will not the Department take this trouble and supply the information?

Mr. Speaker: I think perhaps the Honourable Minister did not mention the latter part of his reply, namely, that the trouble and cost will not be worth the information. That is how I gather from the trend of his reply.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: But who can judge whether the information is worth the trouble or not?

Mr. Speaker: The Honourable Minister himself.

MILITARY PENSIONS PAID IN 1948

*1369. **Babu Ramnarayan Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of military pensions paid in the year 1948 province-wise?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(In thousands of Rupees)

United Provinces	17,090
Bihar	1,780
Bombay	6,976
Madras	9,197
East Punjab	27,527
West Bengal	3,699
C.P. & Berar	978
Assam	448
Orissa	118
Centrally Administered Areas	7,084
Total	78,777

COMPULSORY MILITARY TRAINING TO STUDENTS

*1370. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether any scheme is being prepared for giving compulsory military training in schools and colleges to students between the ages of 18 and 25?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: Government do not consider it necessary to introduce compulsory military training in schools and colleges at present.

Sardar Bhopinder Singh Man: Have the Government any proposal to give compulsory military training in the proper way of receiving and giving salute to the Members of the Cabinet?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Next question.

EXPORT OF MONKEYS TO U. K.

*1371. **Shri H. V. Kamath:** Will the Honourable Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 250 monkeys were recently exported from Calcutta to the United Kingdom; and

(b) if so, on what terms, and for what purpose?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: (a) According to information available 150 monkeys (and not 250 as stated) were recently exported from Calcutta to the United Kingdom.

(b) The monkeys were intended for research work in connection with malaria and infantile paralysis. They were exported by private firms and no information in respect of the terms on which they were supplied is available.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Is it not a fact, Sir, that in the House of Commons, it was asked whether these monkeys were intended for experiments in bacteriological warfare?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I have not followed the discussion in the British Parliament on the subject of monkeys.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Am I to understand from the Honourable Minister that these monkeys were intended for experiments in connection with malaria and infantile paralysis?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: This is all the information that I have. If I may say so, Sir.....

Shri H. V. Kamath: If that be so, what are the reasons for exporting only Indian monkeys and not monkeys from other countries for the purpose?

The Honourable Dr. John Matthai: I would suggest that if the honourable member is so anxious to pursue this subject, he should put down a question to the relative Department, because what has happened in this particular case is that this question was referred to a number of Ministries none of whom would accept it. In the end, the question came to me, and I decided to accept it largely because I know that the honourable member has a keen personal interest in the subject.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

GRANT OF COMMISSIONS TO LICENTIATES IN I.A.M.C.

117. **Seth Govind Das:** Will the Honourable Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an article published in the *Hindustan Times*, dated 22nd November, 1948 under the heading "Commissions in I.A.M.C." and the two letters to the Editor which appeared in the Issues of the *Tribune*, dated the 9th and 15th December, 1948 respectively and which were replies to the above articles;

(b) if so, whether any Committee has been appointed to investigate the question of granting regular Commissions to ex-I.A.M.C. Licentiate officers in the I.A.M.C.; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, what further steps are being taken in the matter?

The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh: (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) The minimum qualifications are prescribed by the Indian Medical Act of 1933. It is not proposed to depart from these.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

118. Lala Raj Kanwar: Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the birth rate and death rate in the country during each of the past five decades, worked out on the basis of census figures;

(b) if the figures are available, the corresponding birth rate and death rate in Great Britain, Sweden, the United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Russia and China; and

(c) whether Government have considered or intend considering, in the near future, the question of birth control in relation to the population in the country?

The Honourable Rajkumar Amrit Kaur: (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the table of the House.

(c) The question of birth control has been discussed at pages 483—489 in Volume II of the Health Survey and Development Committee's Report. Government will consider the question in consultation with the Provincial Governments.

STATEMENT

Birth and death rates during the last five decades in the various countries

	Birth Rates					Death Rates				
	1896-1906	1906-1916	1916-1926	1926-1936	1936-1946	1896-1906	1906-1916	1916-1926	1926-1936	1936-1946
India	36.6	37.6	34.0	34.1	30.4	32.8	31.8	32.3	24.0	22.2
Great Britain	28.7	24.9	20.0	15.9	15.3	10.9	14.6	13.3	12.1	12.7
Sweden	..	..	..	16.2	16.7	..	..	..	11.9	11.1
U. S. A.	..	..	33.2	18.6	18.6	..	..	13.0	11.3	10.6
Canada	..	..	..	23.6	22.0	..	..	..	10.3	9.6
Australia	..	27.2	24.7	19.0	18.9	..	10.7	10.2	9.1	8.8
New Zealand	..	..	..	16.5	20.9	..	..	..	8.4	10.6
South Africa	..	..	..	26.1	26.5	..	..	..	9.6	9.6

(It has not been possible to obtain information in respect of China)
 In respect of Russia (European territory only) the following could be traced:

	1923-1926	1927	1928
Birth rate	40.6	66.6	36.4
Death rate	17.1	14.1	14.2

STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF LADY HARDING MEDICAL

COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL, DELHI

119. **Oh. Ranbir Singh:** Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to refer to Section 3 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and lay on the table of the House (i) a list of members of the Works Committee constituted in the establishment of the Association for the Control and Management of the Lady Hardinge Medical College for Women and Hospital for Women and Children, New Delhi; and (ii) a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of that Committee?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The Lady Hardinge Medical College for Women and Hospital for Women and Children is not an industrial establishment within the meaning of section 3 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The question of constituting a Works Committee under the section does not therefore arise.

LABOUR SUPERVISOR, LADY-HARDING MEDICAL COLLEGE, DELHI

120. **Oh. Ranbir Singh:** (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Health be pleased to state the status, pay and duties of the Labour Supervisor, Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi?

(b) Is he under the Chief Labour Commissioner with the Government of India?

The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: (a) The Labour Supervisor of the Lady Hardinge Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi is an ex-Commissioned officer of the rank of Subedar. He is a member of the subordinate staff of the institution. He gets a fixed pay of Rs. 150 per mensem plus the usual allowances. His duties consist of general supervision of the work of the Class IV servants of the institution numbering about 300 and of ensuring that they carry out their duties efficiently and punctually in the various departments of the College and the Hospital.

(b) No.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

REPRESENTATION FROM UNITED PLANTERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH INDIA re
ACCUMULATION OF RUBBER STOCKS

Sri T. T. Krishnamachari: (a) Will the Honourable Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have received any representation from the United Planters Association of South India, regarding the accumulation of stocks with rubber producers, owing to the absence of any demand from the Indian manufacturers of rubber products?

(b) Is it a fact that Government have been allowing the manufacturers to import rubber on the understanding that they would purchase all the rubber produced in India?

(c) Have Government any information whether the manufacturers are keeping to their part of the understanding?

(d) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. According to a Resolution adopted by the Indian Rubber Board in November 1948, before Government of India issue any import licences to rubber manufacturers, they have to satisfy themselves through the Rubber Production Commissioner, that all India's production of rubber (excluding sole crepe and latex) will be taken up simultaneously with the imported rubber. As

all the rubber produced during the first quarter of 1949 has not yet been taken up, no import licences have been issued during this quarter.

(c) Government have received reports from the Indian Rubber Board that manufacturers have been slow in lifting stocks of raw rubber. Particulars of the actual purchases made by the manufacturers during the current quarter are being obtained and the position will be examined by Government on receipt of fuller information.

(d) The complaint received from the United Planters Association of South India has been taken up with the rubber manufacturers' associations, and they have been asked to lift immediately as much quantity as possible from the accumulated stocks of raw rubber. The Government of India propose to discuss this matter shortly with representatives of the manufacturers.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I ask the Honourable Minister if the Executive Officer of the Rubber Board keeps the Government constantly informed of the position of stocks of rubber with the producers and their relation vis a vis the manufacturers of rubber products?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: Wherever there is any difficulty the Commissioner does keep the Government informed of the development.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: May I ask when the Commissioner last reported to the Government?

The Honourable Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee: We had not received any report till the complaint actually reached us. Now the matter is under investigation.

Thursday
24th April, 1949

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART II—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Official Report

Volume III, 1949

(19th March, 1949 to 5th April, 1949)

Fourth Session
OF THE
CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA
(LEGISLATIVE)

1949



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CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA (LEGISLATIVE) DEBATES

(PART II—PROCEEDINGS OTHER THAN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS)

Thursday, 24th March, 1949.

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

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11-50 A.M.

STATEMENT ON REPORT OF CATTLE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE.

The Honourable Shri Jalramdas Doulatram (Minister of Food and Agriculture): Sir, during the debate on Demands for Food and Agriculture on the 19th March 1949, the honourable Member, Seth Govind Das, referred to the question of improvement and welfare of cattle and the need of governmental action in regard to the question of slaughter of cattle. In the course of my reply, I dealt with this matter and announced the interim decision of Government on the report of the Cattle Protection and Preservation Committee. But as the discussion had to close at 5 P.M., my statement had to be very brief and I understand from the honourable Member that it would be helpful if the decision of Government was more clearly indicated. As the House is aware, the Cattle Protection and Preservation Committee appointed by Government made some recommendations which were communicated to the Provincial Governments for eliciting their opinion before the Government of India formulated their own conclusions. As replies from most of the Governments have by now been received, Government have come to certain conclusions which I may re-announce to the House. The Committee recommended that the slaughter of cattle was not desirable in India under any circumstances whatsoever and that its prohibition should be enforced by law. The prosperity of India to a very large extent depended on cattle and the soul of the country could feel satisfied only if cattle slaughter was banned completely and simultaneous steps were taken to improve cattle which were in a deplorable condition at present. In order to achieve this end, the Committee suggested that the following recommendations should be given effect to:

(1) The first step, which has to be given effect to immediately, should cover the total prohibition of slaughter of all useful cattle other than as indicated below:

- (a) Animals over 14 years of age and unfit for work and breeding;
- (b) Animals of any age permanently unable to work or breed owing to age, injury or deformity.

(2) Unlicensed and unauthorised slaughter of cattle should be prohibited immediately and it should be made a cognizable offence under law

(3) The law for prohibiting slaughter of cattle totally should be enforced as early as possible but in any case within two years of enactment of legislation during which period necessary arrangements should be made for the maintenance and care of unserviceable and unproductive animals.

[Shri Jairamdas Doulatram]

Under this third recommendation, the following steps were suggested:

- (a) A survey of the country where *Go-Sadans* could be established and the preparation of details of expenditure involved.
- (b) Enactment of legislation for raising funds by special cess. The Committee were of the opinion that a total sum of Rs. 24.4 crores non-recurring and Rs. 12.8 crores recurring would be needed for the preservation and improvement of cattle on the lines proposed in the third recommendation. In regard to this third recommendation of the Committee, in view of the opinions so far expressed by most of the Provincial Governments, Government would have to go more fully into the matter and are, therefore, postponing any decision on it at this stage. But as most of the opinions received from the Provinces are generally in favour of action suggested in the first two recommendations of the Committee, apart from the question of cognizability of the offence which will be examined, Government have decided to accept those recommendations and will take early suitable action to have them implemented.

Beth Govind Das (C. P. and Bihar: General): May I ask.....

Mr. Speaker: No question on a statement please.

PROTECTIVE DUTIES (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy (Minister of Commerce): I move:

"That the Bill to extend the date up to which certain duties characterised as protective in the First Schedule to the Indian Tariff Act, 1934, shall have effect, to determine or levy protective duties in certain other cases and further to amend the Sugar Industries (Protection) Act, 1932, be taken into consideration."

The Bill is a composite one and it is mainly intended to carry out the recommendations of the Tariff Board. If honourable Members will please turn to the Statement of Objects and Reasons, they will find that there are four categories indicated of industries which are affected by this Bill. Category (1) contains reference to 18 industries in respect of which the protection, which is at present enjoyed by them, is sought to be extended or continued. Category (2) relates to two industries in respect of which the Tariff Board have recommended the grant of protection for the first time and it is intended to implement these recommendations. Category (3) relates to a protected item, *vis.*, the nickel alloy, and the intention in this Bill is to reduce the scope of protection, that is to say, exclude certain types of nickel alloy from the protection that this industry already enjoys. Category (4) refers to two cases in which protection is sought to be discontinued—protection having proved successful, the two industries being new in a position to stand on their own legs.

Sir, again going back to category (a), I should like to give a brief indication of the period during which protection has been enjoyed in each case and the period for which protection is now intended to be extended. In the case of item (1) under (a), namely, sugar, protection has been in operation from 1932 under successive measures, and it is now intended to extend that protection up to two years more. Item (2) and item (3) relate to artificial silk and artificial silk and cotton mixed fabrics and sericulture respectively. Protection in respect of these industries was granted at the same time as protection to cotton textiles industry, namely, in 1934—as far as I can recollect. (*Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka*: "Yes.") Protection to cotton textile industries having been removed, the need for continuing protection to these two ancillary, if I may

say so, industries continues and it is now proposed to extend the period of protection for two years to these two types of industries. Item (4) relates to bicycles and bicycle parts and accessories. Protection was granted to this industry for the first time with effect from 1948 just for a year, and it is now proposed to continue the protection for three years more. Item (5)—preserved fruits: protection was granted with effect from 1948 just for a year and it is now proposed to be continued for two years more. Then follow a large number of items, items (6) to (16)—certain chemical industries. Protection in respect of these industries was granted with effect from 1948 just for a year and it is now proposed to extend that protection for a year more. Then comes item (17): protection was granted in 1948 and it is now proposed to extend it for one year. I may add in this connection that protection has not been availed of in this particular instance because the conditions that were laid down by the Tariff Board and which were accepted by the Government, namely, that certain alterations in their organisation would take place before the benefit of protection could be claimed by this industry, have not been complied with so far, so we propose to extend the protection for one year in case the industry finds it possible to comply with those conditions.

Now, so far as category (b) is concerned, it deals with two new industries, one of which is Pickers. Here the proposal is just to convert the existing revenue duty into a protective duty without changing the rate itself. Now the proposal is to grant protection for a period of two years in this case. As regards the other industry, namely, motor vehicle batteries and plates therefor, the recommendation now is that protection should be granted for one year. In view of this recommendation to the House being for such a short period, Government decided to exercise the authority that this Legislature has given to Government to grant protection under the provisions of the Protective Duties Act in November last, and I am placing the proposal now in terms of that Act before the Legislature for either confirmation or any other action that the House chooses to take. I want to repeat that the protection in this case is now being recommended just for one year ending March 1950 only and as the House was not in session at the time when the report was received, it was thought necessary without waiting for the summoning of the Legislature to take action under that particular Act.

Now, Sir, I do not think I need say anything about (c) or (d). It is a matter of rejoicing in respect of item (d) that in this Bill we are in a position to point out two industries which have benefited by protection, thus justifying the Government's policy in this matter, and I hope that the House will have nothing further to do in regard to these industries in future and that they will be able to survive all competition.

Sir, I know the House takes a keen interest in the sugar industry and although it is not possible to deal at length with the merits of all the various items covered by this Bill, I should like to say just a few words about the sugar industry. As I said before, the sugar industry has been in the enjoyment of protection ever since 1932. In the first instance, protection was granted for fourteen years, although in the course of this period the quantum of protection as represented by the rate of import duty was reduced in 1939 from Rs. 7/9/0 per cwt. to Rs. 6/12/0 per cwt. which still continues to be the rate of duty imposed on foreign imports. Now, when the period of protection which was extended up to 31st March 1941 by the Sugar Industry Protection Act, 1939, came to a close, it was found that the position of the industry had not improved to any appreciable extent. In view of this fact, as also having regard to the unsettled conditions due to the war, the duty which I have referred to, namely, Rs. 6/12/0 a cwt., was extended as a measure of protection from year to year under the Protective Duties (Continuation) Acts. When the Legislature agreed to this extension in April 1946, Government gave an undertaking that future extension of protection thereafter would be asked for only

12 Noon.

[Shri K. C. Neogy]

after a proper Tariff Board enquiry. Accordingly a summary enquiry was made by the Interim Tariff Board in January 1947. The Board on that occasion recommended the continuance of protection for a further period of one year from April 1st, 1947. The Board on that occasion expressed the view that the Indian Sugar Industry was likely to require protection for some time to come and that a detailed enquiry into the extent of protection necessary should be undertaken when conditions both in India and abroad—that is to say, countries from where competition was apprehended—became normal. At that time, the Board optimistically thought that normalcy would perhaps be restored before the end of 1948, and made the suggestion that the proposed enquiry should take place about that time, namely, about the end of 1948. In accordance with this understanding, the Tariff Board was asked to make a regular enquiry into the position of the sugar industry, but as a result of the representatives made by nearly all the Provincial Governments, research institutions and Sugar Mills Associations as well as the Sugar Syndicate to the effect that the general economic conditions were yet abnormal and unstable, and a detailed enquiry into the costs and other factors should be postponed, the Board itself found that the conditions that prevail today are not sufficiently normal so as to enable a regular enquiry to be made into the position of this industry. Therefore, the Board adopted a somewhat summary method. They held a sort of Conference where all the various issues were discussed with the representatives of Governments and the various interests concerned including interests of the consumer, and as a result of this summary enquiry the Board has recommended the extension of the existing protection for two years more in the hope that later it would be possible for the Board, if the Government so desire, to undertake a fuller enquiry into the position of this industry.

Now, Sir, I should like very briefly to refer to a few of the difficulties that confront the industry at the present moment. It has to be remembered that the effect of protection was indeed very gratifying. In the first five or six years, considerable improvement took place in the growth of the sugarcane as also of the yield of sugar and so on. Unfortunately the rate of progress has not been maintained. Indeed, there are signs that there has been a deterioration in certain matters, particularly of late. Now the total acreage under cultivation of sugar-cane has gone above 4 million. The average yield of cane per acre, which is 14 tons, has not improved and in the opinion of sugar manufacturers and experts, the yield of sugar has actually deteriorated in many areas, although the percentage recovery of sugar increased from 8.5 before the war to 10.31 in 1942-43. It has been declining since then, and in 1947-48 it was 9.85.

Now, Sir, coming to the cost, it is a high cost industry. Perhaps the percentage of the cost of raw materials stands about highest in the case of any industry in India. The cost of sugar-cane now stands somewhere between 60 and 70 per cent of the total cost of sugar, which is a very high standard of cost and recently Government have actually declared a reduction in the price of sugar-cane. That determined the cost of sugar to this extent and a resulting decrease in the price of sugar also has resulted or will result shortly.

Now, Sir, in order to meet the difficulties, to which I have made a brief reference, confronting the industry, Government have further increased their grants to the Fund of the Central Sugar-cane Committee, namely, with effect from 1st April 1948 from one anna per cwt. to four annas per cwt., the amount thus made available to the Committee being very nearly 50 lakhs a year. It is hoped that with this additional help from the Government of India, it will be possible for the sugar industry—and when I mention the sugar industry I include sugar-cane cultivation also—to show a substantial improvement and that at some future date it may not be necessary for this House to have to agree to a proposal of this kind, namely, for extending the protection to the sugar industry from time to time.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena (U. P.: General): What is the amount of sugar imported last year?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: The import figures are not very alarming. As a matter of fact, it is because of the import control that the import of sugar has been negligible or nil as of late. If my honourable friend permits me, I should like to give him these details in my reply as I have to look up the figures. The actual importation is not any problem for the reason that the import controls operate today. But then it will be realized that the import controls under the general tariffs and trade agreement are not primarily intended for the purpose of giving protection to industry, and such controls can be justified only on grounds of balance of payment difficulties, except in special cases which are specifically dealt with in the agreement itself, and within the terms of which, I am afraid, the sugar industry cannot be said to fall. Therefore, it will be extremely difficult to invoke the aid of the general agreement on tariffs and trade for the purpose of maintaining any effective control on the imports of sugar just for the purpose of giving protection to the sugar industry.

I do not think that I should take any more time of the House. I dare say my honourable friend, Prof. Saksena will raise a few points in regard to the sugar industry and I hope to be able to satisfy him on any point that he may raise and the criticisms that he may offer on our present proposal.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to extend the date up to which certain duties characterised as protective in the First Schedule to the Indian Tariff Act, 1934, shall have effect, to determine or levy protective duties in certain other cases and further to amend the Sugar Industries Protection Act, 1932, be taken into consideration."

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: I have listened with great interest to the debate on the motion made by my honourable friend, Mr. Neogy. He has himself said that the import figures are not alarming but yet he says that the duty is necessary. I have given a motion for the reduction of the period of protection from two to one year. But I must frankly say I would have wished that the period was not extended. Before coming to my reasons for it, I may point out one thing, and that is the importance of this industry to this country. Sir, there are about 150 factories at present in this country. In fact, when protection was given in 1932 there were only 32 factories, and since then number of factories rose to 150 in the year 1943-44 and last year the number of factories was 141. So the number of factories has risen from 32 to 141 today. They employ about two lakhs of labourers and cater for about ten lakhs of others, which means that about 50 lakhs of people in the country are directly connected with the fate of this industry. Also, the Government derives revenue from this industry to the tune of about eight crores in excise duty. Besides about 3 or 4 crores by way of cess: apart from that about 10 crores in the form of income-tax, which increases sometimes; and apart from that, the growers who grow the cane also pay revenue and rent. From this industry the Government derives a revenue of 30 crores. So this is an industry of national importance with which the fate of millions of cultivators and labourers is intertwined, not to mention the thirty-five crores of consumers also. Last year the price of sugar was raised by Rs. 5 and it was also at Re. 1 per seer. How much it was felt by the people is well known. I want the House to give particular attention to this industry which is next only to the textile industry.

I would like to make a survey of the industry during the last 17 years, since 1932, during protection was given. During the first period, that is before the first Tariff Board enquiry in 1937, the number of factories had risen from 32 to 137 and the amount of profits made in those 7 years by the factories were three times the actual investment. That was up to 1937. In the last 12 years

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their profits are about 100 crores which means about six times the cost of the investment, so that the amount of investment in the factories is roughly about 18 lakhs. If there are about 150 factories we can say that about 27 'crores of rupees is invested. Out of the 27 crores' investment 150 factories made profits. We cannot say that the industry has not done very well.

I have got the report of the Tariff Board for 1947. When the industry wanted further protection at that time there were conflicting views. The Government spokesman, Mr. Mehta, who was the Secretary of the Sugar Board in the U.P. for several years, stated that it was not necessary to give further protection. Even the sugar merchants were of the unanimous opinion that protection should not be given further. The Board has said that if after fourteen years the industry has not been able to put itself on a firm foundation there was no ease for protection. Still protection has been given because it is said that there might be some future danger. I feel that if we do not give protection there would be no harm and the industry would be able to become more efficient and better managed. Even if we were to give protection we should do so on condition. At present when sugar is not imported from outside there is no competition from outside. Apart from foreign competition even internal competition has been eliminated. At present U.P. and Bihar have formed a syndicate. You can say that manufacturers are at liberty to form a syndicate. But this is a syndicate with government support. No factory in U. P. or Bihar can crush a single maund of cane unless the factory-owner becomes member of the syndicate, so that the syndicate is not a voluntary one of the millowners but a compulsory one formed by the Government. That means that the manufacturers have no competition from abroad and no competition from inside also.

This report says that out of 150 plants there are 90 which are not economic units. That means that the syndicate tries to put up the prices in a manner that even the 60 uneconomic units are supported and maintained. That is why the price of sugar is so high. If there was competition from the foreign market the millowners would try to reduce the prices or if there was internal competition it would be better. The syndicate was formed in 1937 and there was no syndicate before that date. The price of sugar in 1937 was Rs. 5/8 per maund. Internal competition reduced the price to Rs. 5/8. Today Rs. 29/8 is the price. If you remove the syndicate I can understand that you save the industry from foreign competition but you should not be pampering the industry. There are some units where due to partition and other quarrels the cost of production is increased. Still the price is fixed in a manner that even they must make a profit. Every sugar factory must make a profit and there is a guarantee for 10 per cent and the manufacturing charges are calculated on the actual expenses which include other charges as well.

The present position is that we have to carry on even the most inefficient units and the faults of the industry are on our shoulders and the country has to pay higher prices. Surely there must be some time limit after which protection should become unnecessary. The Indian Tariff Board has laid down four conditions: 1. That there exists competition from which the indigenous industry requires protection; 2. that the protection required is temporary and could be dispensed with within a reasonable period; 3. that the cost to the consumer arising out of the protection is not excessive; and 4. that the industry is run on sound business lines. Out of these four conditions almost none is satisfied. Just now my honourable friend said that there were imports even though there is protection. It shows that there is not much need for protection. What is the amount of protection today. Today the protection works out at 12/0/8 per maund on sugar if you include the excise duty. The price of sugar from outside has to be reduced to Rs. 15 per maund. Sugar produced in the country has to pay Rs. 2/2 per maund excise duty. That means that if

the difference between the price of sugar internally and outside is more than Rs. 12 then alone can foreign goods come here. Cuba sugar is going to Pakistan, where I am told the import price is Rs. 21. If you add this Rs. 12 it comes to Rs. 33, so that below Rs. 33 you can put any price on sugar. Until last year Cula sugar could not be brought to Pakistan. For Rs. 33 there is no need of protection. Our sugar is sold at Rs. 28/8. So there is a difference of Rs. 4½ out of the Rs. 12/4 and you could have reduced the protection to something less.

Sir, Mr. B. B. Singh told the Tariff Board that the present protective duties might be used as a sort of bargaining counter at international conferences and that they might be gradually removed later on if circumstances warranted such a course. He feared that if these duties were taken off just now, capital would become shy and there would be absolutely no expansion of the industry either by replacement of the present plants or by the setting up of new factories and that such a step would cripple the industry, in which case the object of self-sufficiency of the country in sugar would be totally defeated.

I do not want just now to ask the honourable Minister to remove this duty or even to reduce it. Two things I want. In the first place the protection should be given on certain conditions. Secondly it must not be given for more than a year. I hope my honourable friend will accept the amendment I have tabled and that we shall be able next year to review the progress that has been achieved and see whether the conditions have been fulfilled. The conditions I want to be fulfilled are firstly that the Syndicate must go. There should not be a Syndicate compulsorily formed by the Government which is a sort of monopoly and which sees to it that prices do not come down and that there is no competition in the country. Therefore the Syndicate must go. Secondly the profit that the industry makes must be evenly distributed. I have told you just now that the industry has made so much profit. But what is the condition of the labourers and the cane growers? If you see the figures you will find that up to 1937, that is before the Congress came into power, the growers were never getting more than 5 annas per maund. Let us say that now they are getting about Rs. 2—this year it is Rs. 1-10 in the U.P. and Rs. 1-18 in Bihar. After the Congress Governments came in the sugarcane grower has got some justice. But what about the labourer? When I went to Gorakhpur as Professor in 1930 I made some enquiries as part of my college work in some of the sugar factories and I found that the labourers were getting Rs. 4 month. That was the state of affairs! After some organisation, and after some hesitation the minimum wage was fixed in 1938 at Rs. 11-6. It was pre-war of course. After that it was Rs. 22-8—just before we came out of jails—a long way after the wage of Rs. 45 to 50 a year that was obtaining. Now, the actual amount of labour cost in the price of Rs. 28-8 of sugar is only Rs. 2 which means only 10 per cent. My honourable friend said that the raw material itself costs about 70 per cent. That comes to 80 per cent and the rest, namely 20 per cent, is the cost of machinery, etc. I wish to say that protection was granted to the industry on the express condition that the benefits will be distributed all over the community. I find that even in 1937 the Committee which enquired into the labour conditions in sugar factories had observed:

"Our attention has been drawn to the fact that many mills employ the greater part of their staff only temporarily for the working season and that the salaries paid are not such as to attract the best men. In Java and other countries and in some mills in India, the staff is mainly permanent and the employment of a permanent staff appears to be justified by the results. We are told that a sufficient number of fully qualified Indians are now available and in our opinion the mills which enjoy the benefits of protection should be under an obligation to employ fully qualified men on adequate salaries."

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This is what they said in 1937. I am sorry to have to say that even now the cost of labour is only 10 per cent of the total cost, whereas in other industries like the textile industry it is 60 per cent.

Prof. N. G. Ranga (Madras: General): This is seasonal labour, is it not?

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: It is seasonal as well as permanent. About one-third of the labour remains for the whole year for overhauling and cleaning the whole machinery and two-third of the labour is seasonal. So it is partly seasonal and partly permanent. Even the seasonal labour must remain permanently.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Even that labour?

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: They are given an off-season wage which is half in that industry. If the amount of profits which the industry has made during the last 17 years is about Rs. 150 crores when the industrial capital is only Rs. 127 crores it is surely justice that this labour should be paid adequately. Now the Central Pay Commission recommend a minimum wage of Rs. 30 for every labourer plus Rs. 25 towards the cost of living, so that the minimum wage of the Government employees is Rs. 55. In U.P. a Committee was appointed to go into the wages of labour in sugar factories. They recommended a minimum wage of Rs. 30 plus Rs. 2-6 per point of the average index figure on the basis of the figure for 1939 which gives a wage of Rs. 90 per month for the four months during which the crushing season lasts and to give 25 per cent of the wage in the off-season. The amount that goes to the grower is about Rs. 1-11 per maund of sugar and even that Rs. 1-11 is grudged whereas the cost of manufacture is put at about Rs. 6. And sugar is selling now at Rs. 28-8. I therefore say that if the protection is to be continued there must be a Committee which must enquire into the question whether the profits earned by the industry have been evenly distributed, whether the cane-growers have been given a fair deal and whether the sugar workers have been given a fair deal. Unless that is done I do not think there is any case for protection. And the protection should be given on certain conditions and after removing the Syndicate which is a sort of monopoly. You must appoint a Commission to enquire whether the profits of the industry in the last 19 years have been evenly distributed. The cane-growers till 1937 were getting just four and five annas per maund. There are fifty lakhs of people concerned in the industry suffering hardships and what little the growers are getting the labour is not getting any justice. They are denied the benefits even after the Report of the Committee which was signed by the millowners who are not co-operating. If protection is to be continued Government must see that a fair deal is given to all. The consumer must not be made to pay exorbitant prices just to enrich the pockets of the millowners. Last year the price was Rs. 45-8. From the total profits of Rs. 30 crores made I have estimated that rupees nine per maund was the average profit on sugar. Some people have challenged that. I want to present to the honourable Minister these figures from the "Commerce" of the 5th of March 1949. Here is the balance sheet of two companies, Bnland and Raza Companies. The Buland Sugar Company had a capital of Rs. 18 lakhs and the profits were Rs. 33,54,283. If a company with a capital investment of Rs. 18 lakhs made a profit of Rs. 33 lakhs according to the published balance sheet I would make it 1½ times.

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: What about the other companies?

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: I have studied the whole thing except the Eastern U.P. where too the profits are more than what they usually make in normal years. To those who challenge the figure of Rs. 30 crores profits I would

refer to what the sugar merchants who deal in sugar said. According to them the profit was Rs. 14,30,00,000 in U.P. and Rs. 16,20,00,000 in Bihar, or a total of Rs. 30,50,00,000. The total amount of sugar produced is about 8 crores maunds. If Rs. 8 is taken to be the average profit it will amount to Rs. 24 crores. If an enquiry is held by the Government of India itself about the profits made they will find very interesting figures, and how they have been deceived about the cost of production.

I was glad to hear the honourable Minister for Agriculture saying the other day that he proposes to appoint a Committee which will go into the cost of production and he himself admitted about the huge profits made by the manufacturers. When the industry has made so huge profits there is no reason why protection should be continued. I would not now ask the honourable Commerce Minister not to continue protection for the present, but it should not be done for more than a year. It should be continued for a year so that next year they may be able to come to this House and say "this is the improvement which has been made: these are the methods by which they will increase cultivation". The crux of the solution to the problem lies in the sugarcane cultivation. I can tell you that you cannot compete with the world so long as the raw material is sold at this price. Now you can say that Rs. 2 is a heavy price. You yourself said that 14 tons is the production per acre which means 380 maunds. The actual quantity that each acre supplies to the factory is about 300 maunds. If the price is Rs. 2 per maund it is only Rs. 600 for the 300 maunds. Today the price of wheat and other produce is much higher than that of sugarcane. If you deduct the amount of labour and other expenditure from this Rs. 2 per maund of cane you will find that the profit per acre of cane is much less than that in the case of other crops. I come from Gorakhpur where there are 21 sugar factories which produce about one-fourth of the total production in the country. But in that district there is also large cultivation of rice. Whereas in 1937 these factories could not consume all the sugarcane produced, today there is not enough sugarcane because rice cultivation is yielding more profit to the growers than sugarcane. So, I say that if you really want to put this industry on a stable foundation then you have to do something so that cane cultivation becomes profitable and is on a par with other countries.

While you have said that 40 tons is the production per acre here, in Java there are cases of 300 tons per acre. So we are still producing only 1/8th or 1/10th of that. I therefore want that every effort should be made to develop production. In fact, one of the reasons why protection was demanded by the industrial magnates was that they said that it is the cane cultivation which is mainly responsible for the high cost of sugar. I say it is not true. They have not done anything to help the development of cane cultivation. If you see the way in which they have spent this amount of 33 lakhs profit you will find that about 21 lakhs has gone to the Reserve Fund but not a single pie has been spent on improving the cultivation of cane. A company makes a profit of 33 lakhs, yet.....

Shri Padampat Singhania (U. P.: General): Government should do it. What about the cane cess?

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: If out of 33 lakhs of rupees you say 21 lakhs should go to the Reserve Fund and Government should see to the improvement of cane cultivation, I do not agree with it. Government is doing something, as the honourable Minister said. The Government of U.P. is also helping in the matter. My friend Pandit Pant has also set apart Rs. 1 crore for the Research Association and 50 lakhs for housing the workers. But what has the industry done? It has not given a single pie for the improvement of.

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cane. You say you want to be given protection because the cane-grower is not giving you good cane. But before any protection is given I want that the improvement of cane must be made a condition. The industry must come forward to do something for improving cane cultivation. The industry as well as the Government should collaborate in the matter and see that steps are taken to improve the cultivation so that we are able to produce much more cane than now and of a better quality.

One word about the administration of this industry. I find it falls in three divisions: it is under the Agriculture Ministry, it is under the Ministry of Industry and Supply, and under Commerce. When we come to production we go to the honourable Minister for Commerce, when it is something industrial we go to Mr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, and the rest of the whole thing is in the hands of the Agriculture Minister. I do want that there should be some co-ordination in this industry.

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: There is.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: Then I find there is an Indian Central Sugarcane Committee. On that there is not a single representative of the Ministry of Commerce or of the Ministry of Industry. Though there are altogether 45 members on it, neither the Commerce nor the Industry Ministry is represented. Besides, labour is not represented on that, and even this House which is so interested in the welfare of this national industry is not represented. This Committee should be more representative; it should have representatives from all these sides so that we can co-ordinate its activities and have some scheme for development.

So far the U.P. and Bihar have been trying to co-ordinate their policies and evolve a scheme for cane prices, for labour etc. I want that in the case of this industry whatever is done should be done on an all-India scale. There must be planning for the industry on a country wide basis. Whatever rates are fixed for labour or whatever prices are fixed for the cane, they must be the same all over the country so that there may not be any complaint from various sectors that here we are paying too much and there they are paying too little. In fact, my suggestion is that we must fix a minimum price for sugarcane which should be such as to yield to the cultivator sufficient profit for his pains. Secondly, Government must fix the minimum labour wage which should be a fair wage. After that, let them leave the price of sugar to find its level. If the minimum for cane is fixed and if the minimum for labour is fixed and the manufacturers are left to have their own way, I am sure prices will come down, efficiency will increase and there will be a tendency towards bigger units to improve efficiency. Those that are efficient will remain and those that are not will go out. We shall not be burdened with carrying these people on our head always. But if you continue to guarantee the price with a minimum profit, there will not be any improvement whatsoever. Therefore I say that you must guarantee a minimum sugarcane price and a minimum price of labour and then the producers will find their own price. The Syndicate will then be broken. If you give them a guaranteed price they shall never improve and they shall never be able to compete with other markets.

These are my suggestions and I hope next time the honourable Minister will not come to us for asking for protection for this industry. With these words I support the motion. I have moved an amendment which seeks to reduce the period of protection from two years to one so that next year we may again have the opportunity of discussing the question.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Mr. Deputy Speaker (Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar)].

Shri B. Des (Orissa: General): Sir, last year when my friend Mr. Gadgil brought forward the very Bill, I never expected that the Government will adopt further dilatory methods and will ask us to grant protection to the sugar industry for another two years. Knowing my friend the honourable Mr. K. C. Neogy and having worked under his leadership on the floor of this House, I am surprised at the policy of protection that he indicated today, that industries must be protected at any cost to the consumer and at no benefit to the country.

Last year most of the speakers pointed out that there were no reports available in the library. Even the Interim Chetty Committee's recommendations on the sugar industry were not available to us last year in the library. Although I find it was published on the 3rd May 1947, it was not available in the library last year when we discussed this Bill on 28rd March 1948. And we are discussing it again today the 24th March, 1949. My honourable friend Mr. Neogy also said that this subject has been examined to a certain extent by the present Tariff Board, and he seemed to have read out some of the conclusions of that Board. I have been hunting the Library to see if the Commerce Ministry has sent a copy of these suggestions or conclusions of the Tariff Board, but I have found none. With the knowledge that we possess, I have come to the conclusion that sugar industry needs no protection. The Chetty Committee pointed out that the imports had been nil. I do not like that. That Committee pointed out that our manufacture of sugar is 11 million tons in 1942-43 and there has been no import by 1945-46, of Java sugar or Cuba sugar. Sir, the predecessor to our present government wanted to give discriminative protection, I do not know what the present government wishes to do. I hope the honourable Shri Neogy will clarify the position, and tell us what is their intention.

Sir, sugar is not an essential commodity, and if it is not an essential commodity, a certain degree of competition will enable both the industrialists and also as a corollary, the agricultural labour to cry balt to their incessant demands, one wanting larger and larger profits for the money invested, and the other wanting larger and larger wages. We do not know where Prof. Ranga and Prof. Saksena—both professors of eminence, will stop.

Sir, why is there no incentive on the part of the sugar industrialists to reduce the price of sugar? It is because there is no competition. Look at Pakistan. I am told Pakistan is selling sugar at Rs. 18 per maund. Is that so Professor? (Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: "Rs. 21".) I was told this morning that the price there was Rs. 18 a maund. And we are here selling it at Rs. 32 a maund. Sir, if there is a certain quantity of sugar imported—I know Java cannot send us any, but Cuba can supply us some—then the manufacturers who think they are controlling the Government in the matter of sugar, they will be chastened and they will reduce their cost of production, and try to increase their efficiency. Of course, I must say that the Commerce Minister has pointed out that they have raised the yield of sugar from 8.5 per cent. to 10.3 per cent. At the same time, the honourable Commerce Minister will find that there is a slackness on the part of Indian manufacturers in making experiments to increase the yield of sugar from the sugarcane.

Sir, talking on behalf of the people, sugar, I must say, has not benefited any. It is all carbo-hydrate. From the point of view of their health, it does not benefit the people at all. How much sugar do we consume? It is only

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a few educated people who use it,—in tea like me and in coffee like you, Sir. And the richer classes consume a lot of sweets. But the poor masses, what they want is gur, although the price of gur too has gone up, thanks to the higher wages of labour. Therefore, we need not bother about self-sufficiency in sugar in India any more. If we do that, then the industrialists will make no effort to reduce the cost of production. Sugar has had protection from 1934 which has made the consumer pay a protective tax coming to a total of Rs. 11-11 1/5 for a hundred-weight. That is a burden on the consumer and not on the producer. Therefore the manufacturer of this particular article has no sympathy from me. Why my honourable friend Mr. Neogy shows such sympathy for them, I cannot follow. He also talked of increasing the excise duty from 4 annas to 8 annas,

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: It is not an increase of excise duty. It is an increase in the amount of grant made by Government to the funds of the Sugar Committee.

Shri B. Das: I do not know who manages that Committee. There is then that misnomer—the Imperial Research Institute. Very little work is being done there.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Question. If that is your opinion about the I.C.A.R., God save us.

Shri B. Das: That is my impression. Professor Ranga will please wait and read the report of the Economy Committee. He will find out that the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research itself is doing no research work, but only wasting money which has not benefited the people at large. If you think development of research will lead to efficiency in the industry, and that the results will permeate the hard skin of the industrialists and make them reduce the cost of manufacture, that will never happen. It will never happen. And why should the consumer be made to pay more just to make India self-sufficient in sugar, a commodity which is consumed by only ten to twenty per cent. of the population of India? If that is the principle of the Government, if that is the system that the Government of India would adopt, I may point out that we are not self-sufficient in steel. We are not self-sufficient in a good many other things. You may as well have high tariff-walls as the U.S.A. but do not say that we shall have a high protective duty.

I have fought against the consumption of foreign goods. But those days are over. Today in the light of the newly won freedom that we are enjoying, I think there should be competition in every industry through imports, so that the industries may stand in proper competitive condition with even Holland and Indonesia.

I listened most attentively to Prof. Saksena. If nationalisation is the order of the day, I can have sympathy with what he said. But I do not think that the provincial governments at every stage should come to the succour of the agriculturists at the cost of the industrialists or at the cost of the Government of India. If Provincial Governments failed from 1934 onwards to ensure to the agriculturists the price recommended in the Tariff Board's Report—8 as. per maund—it is not the fault of the Central Government. It is not the fault of the Centre alone. If the industrialists mistreat the agriculturists with all sorts of chicanery and dirty tricks, well, that is a thing that has made the sugar areas of U.P. into socialist areas, into socialist followers of Professor Saksena. They may make them communists, unless we are very careful, unless the industrialists are very careful.

Sir, all these things lead to one conclusion. I have examined the subject I have analysed it, and I have come to the conclusion that the sugar industry needs no protection. If last year his predecessor, the honourable Mr. Gadgil wanted an extension of one year, why does he want an extension of two years now? Does he mean that in the next two years, conditions will be so restored in the country side that the agriculturists will be compelled to accept a lesser price, not the economic price, but the price which will enable the sugar manufacturers to produce sugar at a lesser cost? They are very inefficient; they have put in very large capital and even in the day to day maintenance of these sugar factories they continue to be inefficient. All these plans have landed them to the condition of inefficiency that we find they are in today. I do not know where the sugar committee exists and how it functions. This is a British pattern handed down to us, which make the industrialist stew in their own juice. It is time that my Government should adopt what should be our protective policy. How can we expect this Sugar Committee to make experiments and research, when the Committee itself consists mostly of these sugar manufacturers? They may want more profit, but they cannot apply their minds impartially to the ideas of research and reduce cost of production. They are fighting with each other as to how to get more profits. Have they applied their minds objectively so that more sugar can be produced and improvement can be made? Unfortunately whether it is the sugar manufacturers or cotton mill-owners, none of them have in mind any desire to manufacture the plant and machinery that they require for cotton mills or sugar mills. When there is no technical brain fostered for development of efficient processes in plant or process of manufacture, how can we expect a few chemists at the beck and call of this Sugar Research Board to increase production.

This is kind of bureaucratic mentality and the processes invented by the Bureaucracy to satisfy Members and questioners in this House and outside will not be allowed to be continued and will not produce the desired result. Though Japan is destroyed and though Indonesia is being assailed by the Dutch power, let us go to Cuba and find out how they are producing sugar at such cheap rate. I wish to know from my honourable friend, the honourable Minister of Commerce if any Government delegation was sent to those countries where sugar is produced at such cheap rates and why our sugar plants cannot produce? Sometimes the plant were borrowed, of course, at a high price from England and other countries; they were the most inefficient type of plants that were sold to India.

Sir, I do not wish to touch on many points in the Bill except make a few remarks. There are three new items of protection which my honourable friend, the Commerce Minister said were introduced for the first time last year and that in certain other matters we need not think of protection so much as the quantum of protection. If there is not a quantum of protection for a period of years, it is no use our feeling self-satisfied that India is giving tariff protection for development of industries. It is better to adopt the method of granting subsidy to the industries for development. Let us now turn a new leaf and not follow blindly what the British Government did in the past. Let us grant to particular industries some kind of subsidy and instead of that we are creating protective tariff which will create unnecessary hardship to the consumers though perhaps it balances the budget, and it is the consumer that always suffers, and as I am always a consumer, I strongly protest and I ask my Government and particularly the honourable the Commerce Minister who has a great deal of knowledge of these matters.

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: Then who will pay the subsidy?

Shri B. Das: You can do it by income-tax and various other methods of taxation. I am not going to allow it to be an indirect tax on the consumer. Today the consumer suffers more. Nobody thinks of the consumer and though we are supposed to have abolished the salt tax, we are putting more and more indirect taxes on the consumer and it should not be allowed.

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

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

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar (Madras: General): A list of 30 industries has been placed before us, some of them for the purpose of continuing the protection already granted, others for the grant of new protections, yet others for restricting the protection granted and the last for the discontinuance of protection. I do not know how much the total burden which will be placed upon the consumer will come to if the recommendations are granted and protection given. I made a rough calculation and found that so far as the sugar industry alone is concerned, about 10 to 12 crores will fall on the consumer.

Sir, each one of these industries was placed before the Tariff Board and it sent in its recommendations. But so far as we are concerned, it is physically impossible for us to go through in detail this list of 30 items, each differing from the other in respect of this claim for protection. I should think that more time should have been given to the House for the consideration of the claims of these industries in detail to find out whether in any particular case the industry seeking protection is likely within a reasonable period to stand on its own legs and whether there are facilities for raw materials, labour, etc. for it to develop. These and other circumstances have to be considered before we decide to grant protection to any industry. Otherwise it may mean that the protection now granted may be only the beginning and there may be claims coming for perpetual protection.

As it is, we have no means of knowing whether the conditions under which protection is to be granted have been satisfied by the industry seeking protection. And in cases where a renewal of protection is sought to be made by a motion before the House, we have no means of knowing how far that industry has justified the protection already granted and whether steps necessary to make it stand on its own legs have been taken by it enabling it to face world competition. We must have all this information. Detailed information on these points with respect to each one of these 30 industries is necessary. I am glad the honourable Minister circulated to us, three or four days ago, a tabular statement or abstract showing the grounds on which protection is claimed for these industries, together with one or two annexures containing some information for honourable Members in regard to this matter. But I wanted to see the original report of the Tariff Board and looked for it in the library. I could not get it. If the honourable Minister has placed it on the table of the House and if it is the mistake of the Librarian that I could not get it, I do not complain. Like me, my honourable friends Mr. B. Das and Professor Saksena were also not able to get at the original report of the Tariff Board recommending the continuance of protection for sugar industry for a couple of years more.

Mr. Speaker: Is the honourable Member referring to the latest report of the Tariff Board?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Was the latest report of the Tariff Board printed?

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: No, Sir. As a matter of fact the report was received very recently. The Tariff Board sent down their recommendations in advance in anticipation of the report in view of the fact that the existing protection would expire on 31st March.

Mr. Speaker: That explains the absence of a copy of the Report in the Library.

Shri B. Das: But why does he not place the recommendations of Tariff Board in the Library?

Mr. Speaker: The Report is a different thing altogether. Mr. Ayyangar was referring to the report not being available in the Library.

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: The recommendations have been tabulated and supplied to honourable Members.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I believe, when there is a proposal to continue protection to an industry, we should know what the chances of that industry establishing itself firmly are and whether they would not be coming up again for more protection. We have not got information on these points. Now, therefore, if copies are not available, at least the original might have been placed on the table of the House to be taken back after use. So long as the Assembly lasts and the Government lasts, industry after industry will be coming up for protection and for more protection. That is why I made the suggestion for the consideration of the honourable Minister, so that the Members may not be handicapped. As we are told that the Tariff Board report was received only recently and as the Government itself has not in all cases accepted the Tariff Board report, we should have been given at least extracts from it. If the Government have the right to differ from the Tariff Board on occasions, does the honourable Minister expect that we alone, of all people in the world, have no right to differ from the Tariff Board? If the Government accepts it, I must accept the report. If the Government does not accept it, I must accept the Government's report. If that is the position, I have no place in the Assembly.

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: I may mention, Sir, that this matter was placed before the Advisory Committee attached to this Ministry and the proposals were approved by that Committee.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I am glad. That note also might have been circulated to us. But I do not know if my honourable friend placed all these matters—every one of these items—before the Advisory Committee or only one or two items.

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: The whole Bill.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: The whole Bill has been placed before the Advisory Committee. I am glad that step has been taken. (An honourable Member: 'When?') It must be after the Tariff Board report has been received, because the Bill is based on the Tariff Board report or the

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Government Resolution upon the Tariff Board report. I accept whatever has been done. But still the Advisory Committee is only a sub-committee of this House. We must also have an opportunity. What I am suggesting is this. As soon as the Government Resolution was made—I do not know when it was done—at the beginning of the session, a motion for reference to Select Committee ought to have been made and the members of the Select Committee might have leisurely looked into this matter.

Mr. Speaker: As I have understood the position, the Tariff Board report is still awaited. (*The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy:* 'Yes.') And as they are not able to place their full report before Government before 31st March, 1949, they have sent an abstract of their recommendations only to Government.

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: That is the position.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: No, Sir. The difficulty is this. These protections expire on 31st March. Last year, you were here and you may remember how we fought over this matter. Just at the fag end of 31st March these protections expire and this happens every year.

Prof. N. G. Ranga: Last year the same thing took place.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Last year the same thing took place, the year before last the same thing took place. Likewise it goes on every year. When are we to settle these things? I am sure the honourable the Commerce Minister would have bestowed all attention and the other members of the Advisory Committee also would have brought to bear their intelligence and discriminatory judgment on this matter, but each one of us, before we give a vote upon this, must to some extent be satisfied. If I go out and I am asked, I have merely to say that I have confidence in the honourable Minister, so I voted. When I do so, I am not credited with any kind of standing in this House. Therefore, as soon as the Bill was ready—at any rate, if the Bill was not ready he should have got it ready—he should have moved for reference to Select Committee. I am not prepared to accept these excuses. If it is not possible within the 31st of March to get the Bill through, there is the Ordinance-making power. They issue so many Ordinance. They may issue an ordinance continuing the protection. But when they do come here, they must satisfy us as to how we are called upon to vote on this Bill. I tell you, it is not merely academic. For instance, my honourable friend Prof. Shibbanlal Saksena wants that instead of two years, it should be only one year. That is one point. Number two, what is this quantum? I will presently show you.

Cuba sugar is selling in Pakistan at Rs. 21 or thereabouts—I am not giving the annas and pies—but roughly it is Rs. 21. We are selling at Rs. 28. Our excise duty is Rs. 3/12/-. Now Rs. 28 minus Rs. 3/12/-, it comes to Rs. 24 or so roughly. Thus between Cuba sugar and our own sugar, we have Rs. 4. Now, at the rate of Rs. 4 per maund, on this sugar that we produce in this country, the yearly profit is Rs. 10 crores. I do not agree with my friend Mr. Das when he says that sugar is not a necessary article.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar: General): Certainly not.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: When he falls ill, I am sure he would not go to sugar, but Glucose probably. Therefore sugar is one of the items which is very indispensable. As soon as a child is born, honey is given to the child. What is carbo-hydrate? It is the very beat to burn this body until death.

An Honourable Member: Sugar water is also given to the child.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Therefore, it is meaningless to say that sugar is not a necessary article. Sir, why I am particular about this is, when we are producing so much sugar in the country our intake is very low. These 140 and odd factories there are, some of them are running, many of them limping. According to my friend Prof. Shibbanlal Saksena, 91 of them are limping. What is our intake? Let us see. Our *per capita* consumption was 6.2 lbs. in the year 1931-32. When protection was given, they produced a little more, but gradually in 1944-45 it come down to 5.9 lbs. per head per year. Now, let us see the comparative figures. U. K. the intake is 106 lbs. per head per year. United States 97 lbs. Australia 116 lbs.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao (Madras: General): They are eating too much of chocolates.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: If we eat, we would have grown patagonians, at present we are pygmies. Cuba 86 lbs. Japan 83 lbs. Union of South Africa 47 lbs. Netherland 64 lbs. It might be said that we are eating *gur* also, but it not so good as you think.

Prof. H. G. Ranga: *Gur* the best; they call it *good* instead of *gur*.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: In regard to that in 1931-32 it was 17.2 lbs. per head. It has gone up to 24.1 lbs. in 1944-45. *Gur* and jaggery both combined we have 80 lbs. per head.

Shri H. V. Kamath (C.P. and Berar: General): How much honey?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Honey is money and when there is no money we are not able to get honey. My friend is still a bachelor; if he were married, he would not be talking of honey, but he would be talking of salt and *kanji*. Therefore, that is unfortunately the position in which we are. Is it for merely satisfying these 140 and odd people that we should pay rupees ten crores a year, when every man, woman and child in the country is going without sugar, not from 1932 but right up to 1949? There is a temple in my place. At the top of a hill, it is situated. When we take a child up the hill to the temple, we tell the child, "The temple is here, it has come"—well, it may not have started, still we say, "It is near, it is near." Likewise,—I am not talking of my friend the honourable Minister: he is absolutely innocent; I am talking of the industry—they started getting protection in 1932. In 1938 there was the Sugar Industry Protection (Temporary Extension) Act; again in 1939; again in 1941; then in 1942; then in 1946; then in 1947; then in 1948. Every year, it is limping. Every year, we are seeing the industry is hefooling us saying "Tomorrow, tomorrow" and tomorrow never comes.

Last year, as soon as the control was removed, the gentlemen in the industry behaved in such a manner that the prices soared up. Government had to intervene; they—the industry—said one thing and another; therefore, Government with its force had to come upon them. The entire capital invested in this industry is Rs. 27 crores. As against this Rs. 27 crores, my estimate is that the total divisible profits including depreciation etc. must have come to Rs. 80 crores. This is one industry which is very well established, barring only the textile industry where practically cent. per cent. profit, almost equal to the capital at charge, is realised every year from the public.

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Now, what are the steps that have been taken to improve the industry? Either the honourable Minister, or the industry or the Tariff Board should have given us information about the steps that have been taken in improving sugar cane production. What is the labour, the machinery, the prospect of this industry becoming self-sufficient in a short time, and so on. If that had been done, I would have been satisfied.

Let us take one after the other. So far as sugar cane is concerned, in this country in an acre the yield is 300 maunds. In other countries, let us take Japan, the yield is 3,000 maunds per acre. Now, what are the steps that are being taken to improve the yield? The industry is responsible; it is not as if it is irresponsible. Researches must be made; it cannot merely say, I am producing more or trying to produce more; but it must bear the burden of all this. I would not allow Cuba sugar to come here and I would not allow any competition from outside. No such steps have been taken.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: How is the industrialist responsible for the agriculturist's default?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Well, industry must depend upon its raw materials. My honourable friend will kindly bear with me—he has himself voted for this—did we not vote that so far as raw materials for industry are concerned, every concession ought to be shown for raw materials needed for industry? There is the imposition of taxes. The customs duty is reduced. Priority is given for them. The rates and fares are not so heavy for them, in inland traffic as in respect of other matters. We are taking every step to see that materials are given to the industry as cheap as possible and as quickly as possible. Isn't it their turn to see that they should help with the raw material or, is it that he must lie flat on his back and we must carry this with us from the beginning to the end? It appears that he is neither dead nor alive. Either he must stand or walk. Can you see any boon here other than in the war years? War itself is a piece of production. From Cuba no sugar came and from Java no sugar came as well. If during the war you make capital profit and during peace time you want protection, when is it all to end? Even an opportunity is not given to me in this House to understand the position. Let me know why I should vote for this? All right, I will get Java sugar. The other alternative is that I will take charge of this essential commodity also. I urge Government to take over all these commodities. After all the present worth of these factories, though originally, costing Rs. 27 crores, may not be more than Rs. 18/14 crores.

Shri B. L. Sondhi (East Punjab: General): What about the growers?

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: They will combine themselves into co-operative societies and would not be dependent on myself or Mr. Sondhi! This is a co-operative commonwealth. With regard to every small endeavour that is taking place in this country, the capitalists are not subscribing to our loans and they are forcing us to go down on our bended knees and if things continue like this I say that by the end of a year there will be a revolution in this country. This is only an experimental stage. We have come to the end of our tether in every department. But one industrialist feels that he is the best man and he dictates terms to the rest. We must cry a halt up to a particular date. I want however to be assured that he has done his best but *prima facie* he has not improved. Unfortunately, my friend and colleague, whom I can ill afford to lose, commenced to starve and die along with the labour. Fortunately he has been saved.

Mr. Hossain Imam (Bihar: Muslim): Against himself!

Shri M. Ananthaayanam Ayyangar: Yes, against himself. I think I have said enough so far as this industry is concerned. I am satisfied that the industry has not justified the continuance of protection. Whatever you might think in the interest of the community might be different; but the industry has not justified itself in coming up to us. One of the materials before any conclusion can be arrived at has not been justified. I would refer to column 8, of the second annexure, regarding sugar where the percentage of profit allowed is 'not available'. What then is the percentage of profit allowed in this country? And if it is not available to the honourable the Commerce Minister, how can he expect us to see it?

It is a case of the blind leading the blind. I say it is cent per cent blindness. Is he in a position to challenge that it is not so? Therefore, it is rather strange that one of the most organized industries does not prepare to place statistics before Government. It wants to play a game of hide and seek and before the end of 31st March, run up and catch hold of this man or that and plead that unless something is done the country will sink along with you. I would rather sink one day and get rid of this nuisance. Therefore, I would say that these people have not pleaded properly with us. It is unfortunate for our fate is linked up with their fate. Therefore, ungrudgingly I am prepared to support my honourable friend, Prof. Saksena to reduce the period and within less than six months if it is possible, we must have some report as to how they have planned to progress and within a year how this can be stabilized, otherwise there will be an attempt for a review. I would urge upon the Commerce Minister to consider the sterling aspect. A Committee of the House was appointed and the Standing Finance Committee was asked to watch events. Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari was taken to England with the honourable the Finance Minister. Then emerged the International Monetary Fund. The Committee was asked to report how we should link up with this Fund. I would like to urge upon the honourable the Commerce Minister and the Members of the House to appoint a Standing Committee of this House, apart from the Standing Committee for Commerce and Industry to review all cases of protection. The Tariff report must be placed before them. This is a matter which has to be watched from time to time. It may be we give protection up to Rs. 6/12/- but during the course of the year it may be too much. Therefore instead of depending on departmental officers' advice or the Members of the House, who will take the ultimate responsibility, this policy will be welcomed. It is not too late yet. We are organizing Standing Committees in various departments. As we have a Standing Committee for Railways and Transport, or an Advisory Council, some such body may be set up for this also.

I agree with my friend, Mr. Saksena, that today, on account of protection, we have a monopoly from foreign competition. There seems to be a syndicate here. The sooner it is liquidated the better. At a time when there is unfair and unhealthy competition, cutting one another's throat and reducing prices, the industry may have to be saved against itself, and the people today have to be saved against the industrialists. Therefore, there is no longer any need for a syndicate inside the country and there should be no fear of healthy competition so far as the producers, or industrialists or factory owners are concerned.

If you refer to page 1 of the annexure, the Tariff Board has, in regard to Sericulture, come to the conclusion that the protection will have to be extended

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though they have not yet determined the actual quantum of protection required. It is therefore proposed to continue the protection until the 31st March 1951 as in the case of artificial silk. I do not know whether it is meant that the same quantum of protection will be continued till 1951 or whether meanwhile we will vote for continuance of this protection. Immediately after the tariff board makes a recommendation that the same quantum of protection need not be given, is he going to reduce? He may reduce and confine the protection only to that limit as required by the Tariff Board.

In the early para he deals with artificial silk and artificial silk and cotton mixed fabrics. The Government held that since the artificial silk industry in India was in its infancy, the protective duties on these articles should not be removed without a full enquiry. The duties on them have accordingly been continued by yearly extensions and are due to expire on the 31st March 1949. In accordance with the recommendations contained in the present report of the Tariff Board, it is now proposed to extend the protection up to 31st March 1951. This is a case where the Government disagreed with the recommendations of the Tariff Board so early as 1948 about there being no more protection. They

said that on account of its infancy the position had to be reconsidered. Now they say that protection has to be extended up to 1951. Assuming that there is a ground for protection the question is whether the full quantum or a reduced quantum of protection ought to be given.

There is one other point. When the Tariff Board recommends that protection is not necessary for a particular industry we accept it in the normal course. But what is the meaning in saying "I have given up protection in accordance with the recommendation of the Tariff Board but I will continue the same duty as a revenue duty"? Why give it another name? The industry gets that amount of protection all the same. I may be wrong; I may not be an expert in the matter. I am only judging from the papers placed before me and I have drawn this conclusion.

Then there is item 4, Magnesium Chloride. It is stated:

"In accordance with the recommendation of the present Tariff Board which has reviewed the case, protection to the industry will be allowed to lapse after the 31st March, 1949. It is proposed to maintain the existing rate of duty as revenue duty."

Whether it is a revenue duty or a protective duty does not matter as long as the internal price of the commodity is at the same level. What is the justification for this? We have got no answer or remarks.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari (Madras: General): More money.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: Call it then a protective duty and satisfy the other man also. Revenue is taken care of by the Finance Ministry but do it in regard to something else.

Page 4, item 13 relates to non-ferrous nickel alloys. With respect to this they say "The Tariff Board has been consulted." In another place we find that the "Tariff Board has recommended". Here the Tariff Board has not recommended but has been consulted. It is a third expression but does the Government agree or not.

In conclusion I would submit that such matters ought not to be allowed to pass without greater scrutiny. The normal procedure that is adopted with

regard to certain very old industries is to refer the Bill to the Select Committee early in the session, so that we may have an opportunity to sit leisurely, study the report and express ourselves either for or against. That opportunity must have been given here. I would therefore request the honourable Minister to take these matters into consideration. Merely because it is said for a year or two let it not be understood that it should run the period. Just because it is said it is Rs. 6/12/- let it not be that much always all through the period of protection. We will have to be ever vigilant. I would urge upon the Minister to come and report to us in the next session as to how this has worked. Even with respect to this there must be an annual report to the House as to how far it has been justified. The Tariff Board does not report to us but to the Government. I hope the honourable Minister will place the matter before us and hear the various points of view so that we might see where we stand as far as protection is concerned. Otherwise, Sir, I support the motion.

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka (West Bengal: General): Sir, I support the motion moved by the honourable Minister for continuing protection for some of the industries as mentioned by him. I find that the sugar industry has been subjected to a good deal of criticism. I think there are grounds for misapprehension in the minds of various Members unless the facts are properly placed before them. Honourable Member Prof. Saksena has placed various facts and figures to show how sugar was selling at Rs. 5/8 a maund in 1937 and it is now selling Rs. 28/8. We have to consider the facts leading to this position. In 1937 sugarcane was selling at about four or five annas per maund. Now the Provincial Government has fixed the price at Rs. 1/18. Therefore the price now is about six times what it was in 1937. That price has been statutorily fixed by the governments of the provinces where sugar is being mainly manufactured. Over and above the price of Rs. 1/18 there is a cess of three annas imposed by the provinces, which is to be utilised for improving the yield and so on of cane. So a maund of cane costs Rs. 2 in Bihar. He has also given the figure that the yield from sugarcane is about 9.8 per cent of sugar. Roughly therefore you require $10\frac{1}{4}$ maunds of cane for producing one maund of sugar. Taking Rs. 2 as the price of sugarcane Rs. 21 is the cost of the sugarcane alone. Add to that Rs. 3 as duty. It comes to Rs. 24. Prof. Saksena has also said that the cost of labour comes to 10 per cent. Taking Rs. 28/8 as the price I will put the cost of labour at Rs. 2/12.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: The price of sugarcane today is Rs. 1/10 a maund.

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: It is Rs. 1/18 in Bihar and 1/10 in U.P. So sugarcane itself as I said costs Rs. 21. Rs. 3 is the excise duty which takes it to Rs. 24 and taking Rs. 2/12 as the cost of production and labour the total cost comes to Rs. 26/12. The price of sugar is fixed by Government at Rs. 28/8, which leaves a balance of Rs. 1/12, and this covers depreciation and other charges. As a matter of fact the control that is at present exercised is more for the benefit of the agriculturists producing cane than for the industry.

In fact the Sugar Syndicate also is being maintained so far as I know, against the wishes of the industry generally. The major portion of the industry wanted this syndicate to be scrapped. They do not want these controls at every stage by Government. The industry will be glad if the U.P. and Bihar Governments agree to scrap the syndicate and leave the whole thing to free trade. Do not fix the price of sugarcane, leave it to free competition and let sugar also come from outside. But so long as you exercise control over the

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price of cane, over production, distribution and labour, necessarily protection comes in. At present the wages for labour have been fixed. It was formerly about Rs. 30 and now it has risen to 90. (*An honourable Member*: 'It is Rs. 55.') What about dearness allowance? I suppose it is included in the Rs. 55. At every stage the two provinces of Bihar and U.P., where most of the sugar mills are situated are exercising control and fixing the price of the sugarcane, labour and other charges, which practically takes away Rs. 28 and some annas per maund. Therefore you cannot expect sugar to sell at less than that. If you leave it to free competition I am sure a number of mills may come to grief and will go out of existence. Some of the present managing agents will go out of existence. Some of the mills are not on an economic basis and they will not be able to stand competition but those in the industry who run economic units and whose management is efficient will certainly be able to stand any competition. They will not need any spoon-feeding any further. But that only can be possible if you take away this control at the different stages exercised by the government.

At present what is the position. The Tariff Board was asked to make enquiries and report to the government as to the necessity or otherwise of continuing protection. The Tariff Board finds it difficult to be able to make any report that will be worth anything because of the want of data. At present there is no sugar import. They do not know the cost of production and therefore they have said that they are not in a position at present to make any recommendations based on definite facts. Therefore the Government has thought fit to extend the period of protection for a small period, pending the Tariff Board making enquiries and giving their definite suggestions. That is therefore the position as regards the price of sugar at Rs. 28-8. The total production of sugar at the present moment is about 10 lakhs and odd tons which comes to about 3 crore maunds. Therefore the figure that the industry is making Rs. 30 or 40 crores profit per year is on the face of it not correct because you cannot make a profit of Rs. 10 when the margin is only Rs. 1-12 that is left after deducting the cost to the grower, the cost of excise duty, the cost of labour—not to speak of depreciation and other charges.

Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena: What have you to say to the figures given in the "Commerce"?

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: I do not know to what my honourable friend is referring. The facts are so clear that it does not leave any room for doubt that the profit cannot be on the basis of Rs. 10 per maund. When the balance between the price of Rs. 28-8 and the different costs which I have shown which come to Rs. 26 odd is only about Rs. 2, how can a profit of Rs. 10 per maund be made? You cannot add Rs. 8 to the profit when only Rs. 2 is left.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: What is the profit according to you?

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: At the present moment the profit I think will not exceed eight annas per maund. I have got the Investor's Year Book and I will take off hand a number of sugar mills which have given the figures. Dividend generally is not more than eight annas per share of Rs. 10. I will take a number of sugar mills mentioned here—Sitalpore, South Bihar, Samastipur and New India. All of them are in Bihar. I will give figures for ten years which are quoted there. Sitalpore Sugar Works—its investment was Rs. 28 lakhs in the year ended June 1938. It made a profit of Rs. 79

thousand in 1938, Rs. 58 thousand in 1939, Rs. 85 thousand in 1940, Rs. 1,55,000 in 1941, Rs. 1,09,000 in 1942, Rs. 1,89,000 in 1943, Rs. 1,18,000 in 1944, Rs. 56 thousand in 1945, had a loss of Rs. 2,200 in 1946, made a profit of Rs. 45 thousand in 1947.

An Honourable Member: What is the figure for 1946?

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: The figures for 1946 are not here.

In South Behar Sugar Mills in 1937 they had a profit of Rs. 8,32,000; in 1938 Rs. 8,74,000; in 1939 Rs. 2,58,000; in 1940 Rs. 8,69,000; in 1941 Rs. 8,53,000; in 1942 Rs. 1,68,000; in 1943 Rs. 85,000; in 1944 a loss of Rs. 2,48,000; in 1945 a loss of Rs. 2,76,000; in 1946 a loss of Rs. 2,50,000. It is not therefore, a profit all along. The Samastipur Company is under the management of one of the best managing agents. Other companies also show a similar story of different profits in different years and not profits all along as suggested by my friend Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena.

Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu (Orissa: General): How much are the managing agents taking?

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: They take from the profits a certain percentage. (*Interruption*). Of course in some of the companies they might be charging on the amount of sugar produced per maund or something like that. But these companies that I have mentioned charge commission on the profits that the company makes. Therefore their, the managing Agents, profit is based on the profits the company has made. If my honourable friends want, those figures are also there.

What we have to see is whether we should condemn the industry as such or look at the proposition from the point of view of giving help if it needs. As I said, the industry will be too glad if the different kinds of control are removed and if it is allowed to have a free existence. They will not mind it. But if you exercise control at a certain stage you must necessarily give it protection so that it will be able to pay the amount of price that has been fixed by Government. Why is this price so high? The sugarcane yield per acre in India is about 14 tons whereas in other countries it is as much as 62 tons per acre.

Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar (Madras: General): The yield of 14 tons is only in Bihar and U.P.

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: May be in Madras and other places it is more. I am referring to the two main Sugar provinces.

Shri T. A. Ramalingam Chettiar: In Madras the average is 20 tons and sometimes 28 tons.

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka: Therefore it is no reason why those who are in charge of producing sugarcane should not take steps to improve the yield per acre of sugarcane and also to improve the quality of sugarcane so that the sucrose contents may increase and the yield per maund may be more. That will necessarily decrease the price of sugar; the yield will be more and the cost will be less. These are factors which should be taken into consideration and steps should be taken to improve the quality of sugarcane and the quantity produced per acre.

As I said, the industry will be glad if my honourable friends can help the liquidation of the Syndicate. May be some of them will be sorry. But most of them will welcome the step and they will be able to get out of the control of the Syndicate. As a matter of fact the Governments of the U.P. and

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Bihar have made it impossible for any company to remain outside the Syndicate because no company can crush or is permitted to crush any sugarcane unless it is a member of the Syndicate. Therefore my friends should appeal to the Governments of Bihar and U.P. to do away with this Syndicate. With these words I support the motion of the honourable Minister for giving protection to the different industries.

Shri Khandhubhai K. Desai (Bombay; General): Sir, the Honourable Mr. Neogy has come before this House to ask for protection to certain industries. It is an omnibus Bill which also includes the sugar industry. As we all know the sugar industry has been protected for the last seventeen years, and the consumer throughout this long period has given protection to this industry. If after seventeen years it is not able to stand on its own legs there must be something wrong with those who have managed the industry for the last seventeen years. It is not in infancy; as a matter of fact it has become fully mature. Not only has it become fully mature but it has become in my opinion a sort of bully who kicks actually the protectors, who have protected the industry, for the last seventeen years, by establishing a syndicate. I am only looking at this question from the point of view of a principle. The industry has been given protection, import of foreign sugar has been prohibited, and internal competition between one factory and another has been stopped effectively by a syndicate. So the poor consumer had been left entirely at the sweet mercy of the syndicate. These are the real facts and we must appreciate these facts before we give our accord to this Bill.

It has been stated by a previous speaker, by giving certain figures, that the profits are not as big as my friend Shri Shibban Lal makes them to be. According to the previous speaker, probably the profits may be nil or very slight.

Well, I cannot find fault with him. Neither can I find fault with Mr. Shibban Lal for quoting figures which he cannot substantiate nor with the previous speaker for his figures which he could not substantiate. I therefore find fault with the honourable Minister. When he has come before this House for asking further protection to an industry which has created huge reserves, which has been making huge profits for at least the last ten years, he should have come before us with the consolidated balance sheets for the last ten years of the profits which the industry has made so that we may be able to judge the situation properly. I do not understand why, while granting protection to an industry or units of an industry, a condition should not be laid down that those industries which are protected should submit annual balance sheets to the Government. The Government should consolidate those balance sheets and place before us from time to time the true picture of the financial position of those industries when the protection was granted and when a case for additional protection is made out again today. Then and then only, Sir, will we be in a position properly to judge the situation:

It was stated that the industry will be too glad if the protection is removed. (An honourable Member: 'Syndicate, not protection.') No, no, even the protection. It was stated that they will be glad if the protection is removed and the control all round is removed. So now the situation has come when the industrialists come before this House and say, "This protection is not being granted for our benefit. This protection is granted for the cultivators". Well, honestly if the Government comes before us to ask for protection for cultivators, then this House will know what terms to make with the industry

in order to grant the cultivators protection if it is necessary. But to come under the cover of either cotton growers or labourers to ask for protection is, in my opinion, a wrong principle. Of course the Bill has been placed before us. It is an omnibus Bill, it will get the support, I will also support it. But I must place before the Government the reactions that are generally there in the minds of the Members of this House as far as protecting the industry is concerned.

There are certain healthy principles which the Government should lay down before granting protection to any industry. Any industry coming for protection should be prepared to take the technical advice and should agree to submit to the supervision both financial and technical, from the Government, and such supervision by the Government should be made compulsory and it should be carried out.

Shri B. L. Sondhi: Under the new Bill you are getting it.

Shri Khandubhai K. Desai: Under the new Bill I am getting it, but what about the old cases?

Shri B. L. Sondhi: Sugar is covered.

Shri Khandubhai K. Desai: We shall see when that Bill comes. I do not know what the other people will have to say. The House will I hope give full accord to that Bill.

Let us see what an amount of sacrifice the consumers have put in order to protect this industry. The principle of putting even an excise duty on a protected industry is, in my opinion, entirely wrong from the point of view, of a principle. Once the consumer pays in the shape of protection by prohibitive import duties any foreign competition is ruled out. Secondly, he has to pay for the same product in the form of excise. Again the consumer has to pay some provincial taxation, the cess and what not. So, out of every Rs. 26/8, according to my calculations the consumer will be paying not less than Rs. 14 to 15 per maund of sugar in order to prop up this industry. Therefore, I again appeal to the honourable Minister to take stock of the whole situation and come before this House for protection with the full picture of the industry before us. As far as the sugar industry is concerned, it has come to a position when it is able to produce enough sugar for the consumption of the country. It does not require any more expansion. Therefore the time should come early when this protection should be taken away. The syndicate should also be abolished as early as possible. Thirdly, I think the extension of protection to this industry should not go beyond a year. These are my suggestions to the honourable the Commerce Minister.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Sir, my old and honourable friend, the Minister for Commerce.....

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh (C.P. and Berar: General): On a point of order, Sir. May I know if speakers are called according to any list?

Mr. Speaker: There is no list with me. And even when a list is there, I do not necessarily follow the order or call all the names, therein.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: I was saying that my old and honourable friend Mr. Neogy, the Commerce Minister, has come forward with a proposal that certain industries be further protected. I am sorry to say that it appears that our friends in the Cabinet seem to have lost all powers of initiative, and like a *lakir-ke-faqir*—meaning follower of a beaten path—are following the path chopped.

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out by the British. Sir, the Britishers introduced this industry. In introducing this industry they might have been guided by several interests. The Britishers were led by the interests of selling machinery to the Indian people. In some cases they invested their money in this industry. Sir, this industry has been protected for the last 17 years, and this means that the whole country has been taxed, for the sake of the few capitalists. My friends the capitalists or the Government may not care for the labourers and the agriculturists. But I may tell the House that we had some sort of industry even before this sugar industry in its present form and before the sugar factories were introduced. Sir, I am a cultivator myself and I grow sugar-cane. And in my area, fortunately or unfortunately, there is no sugar factory. We crush our canes and prepare our *gur*. And Sir, according to Ayurved, *gur* has much more nutritive value than sugar. (Interruption) I shall advise my friend Mr. Das to take more *gur* instead of sugar, he will get more nutrition. And what is more, Sir, *gur* develops the development of body. At the same time, Sir, it has been said by Mr. Ayyangar that sugar is not an essential thing.

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar: I said it was essential.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: When it was said that it is not an essential thing, you objected and said that it is essential. Well, I say that it is not essential. Sir, it is only 25 years ago that these sugar factories came into existence. Even before that, from times immemorial, we used to grow sugar-cane. There were the sugar-cane growers, and there was enough of *gur*, of *cheeni*, of *miseri* in the whole country.

Shri H. V. Kamath: Ram Rajya in sugar.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: My friend here says, it was Ram Rajya. Yes, it was so. We used to prepare sugar in our own way. Therefore if these factories now cannot stand on their own legs, even after enjoying protection for so many years, it is better that this industry fails and nobody need shed tears for the labourers and the agriculturists. If the labour does not get employed in the sugar factories, it will engage itself somewhere else and perhaps more profitably. At the same time, if sugar cane is not grown, in those lands, I think more land will be available for the production of cereals.

Sir, my honourable friend Mr. Neogy said, and he has been supported by my friend Mr. Himatsingka, that this protection ought to be given. But they have given no justification for that. Their justification was simply that the Tariff Board has said so. Sir, this reminds me of conditions in the villages. In certain villages there are the village priests called *Gaunwan Pandey*. A villager will do anything and will say, "*Gaunwan Pandey* wanted it to be done". He will quote *Gaunwan Pandey* for everything. In the same way Mr. Neogy says that he asks for protection. He does not think over it and finds out whether it is a proper thing to do or an improper thing, but the Tariff Board—the *Gaunwan Pandey*—wants it to be so. This process, Sir, must stop now. We have got our own government and we must think it all over in our own way. We must have more power and initiative, and we must leave this industry to its fate. I bless it; let it flourish. But this defective system of taxing the whole country for this industry must stop at once.

[At this stage Mr. Speaker vacated the Chair, which was then occupied by Mr. Deputy-Speaker (Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.)]

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, there have been many speeches in which the honourable Minister for Commerce has been assailed. Last time this measure was brought before the House by the honourable Minister in charge of Works, Mines and Power. This year, it has fallen to the lot of the Commerce Minister. But actually it should be the baby of the Agriculture Minister because the manufacture of sugar depends upon the cultivation of sugar-cane. And there is also, side by side with the question of protection, the question of the protection of the interests of the sugar-cane grower, which, I think, should be more the direct concern of the Minister for Agriculture. But this is a very unsatisfactory arrangement we have here, of a single subject being the concern of not one, but more than two Ministers. The third Minister concerned is the Minister for Industry and Supply. This is not satisfactory, and we should not therefore put the whole blame on the honourable Minister for Commerce at any rate so long as the present arrangement is not altered.

Sir, there has been a long discussion on the subject of this protection of this sugar industry and I do not want to take up much time of the House. My justification for standing up at this late hour is this. Many of the honourable Members believe that protection is necessary and has been brought about, or has been kept up in the interests of the sugar-cane grower. Now, I would like to say that the sugar-cane grower has very rarely, if at all, received any benefit out of this protection. My friends who spoke on behalf of the manufacturers quoted certain figures and said that Rs. 1/18/- was the price paid in U.P. and Bihar for every maund of sugar-cane. But according to my information, although this is the price fixed by the Government, the industry generally obtains the cane at a far lesser rate. And if we go from the provinces of U.P. and Bihar to other provinces, you will be surprised that the rate is still lower. For instance in Madras the sugar-cane grower gets only Rs. 1/10/- per maund. And in Bombay where the factories are more efficient and where the cane grown is much more per acre, he gets only Rs. 1/4/- although in Bombay they grow more cane per acre than in U.P. and Bihar. While in U.P. and Bihar the average per acre is only 14 tons per acre in Bombay they grow any thing between 35 to 70 tons per acre. And another wonderful thing that we see in this united India of ours is that is one of the Indian States namely, Gwalior in the Union of Madhya Bharat, one of the sugar-factories is offering nothing more than 10 as. per maund of sugar-cane.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (East Punjab: General): Similarly in East Punjab also.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: My friend here says that the same is the case in East Punjab also. Therefore my friends cannot turn round and say that the profits are low or that there are no profits. On the other hand I feel that these people have, during the last eight or nine years, made large profits, if not exorbitant profits. According to my information even now the profits are wellnigh unconscionable. I think there is fullest justification and more correctness in the assertion that the profits are excessive. This question was discussed at the Central Sugarcane Committee, and I am glad to say that for the first time when I was a member thereof, I was able to persuade the Central Sugarcane Committee to fix the price of Sugarcane at not less than Rs. 2/- per maund and the price of sugar at less than Rs. 80/- per maund. As a matter of fact it was the first time, that the sugar-cane grower was recommended not less than Rs. 2/- per maund everywhere in India. As the protection is extended to the whole of India every sugar factory gets the benefit of protection but nobody unfortunately protected the interests of the sugar-cane growers. This has caused heavy losses to the sugar-cane growers. If you ask even the

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factory owners—and a good many of them have land of their own and they cultivate their own sugar-cane, if you ask them the cost of growing one maund of sugar-cane, they will tell you that it is not less than Rs. 1/4/- a maund, in Bombay and still in Bombay they do not pay anything more than Rs. 1/4/- to the cultivator. You must remember this is what the factory owners say. Actually the cost is at least Rs. 1/10/-. This shows that the prices paid are far lower than the cost incurred by the grower, and it is therefore, easy to show that the protection has not benefited the cane grower at all. For the first time the sugar-cane price was recommended to be raised by the Sugar-cane Committee. All through the War, the cane grower never got anything more than 7 as. or 8 as. per maund. That is the reason why such large profits have been made all along. The profits shown in the Investor's Year Book, I am sure have not been altogether truthfully stated. It is quite probable that the real profits have been suppressed. I regret to be forced to say that it is not uncommon at least for some of our industrialists to do so. There are many instances where we find that there are more than one set of accounts and it is quite likely that the facts stated in the Investor's Year Book are based on one set of accounts books. But nobody can be deceived by this, because we know that is a fact that the industry has made tremendous profits.

Then, Sir, there are many more evils arising out of this problem. As is well known and as you have also shown the average consumption of sugar per head of an Indian comes to about $3\frac{1}{4}$ lb. of a tola per day. It is less than 6 lbs. per year. As against this we have enormous larger quantities of sugar consumed by the peoples of other countries.

Now, Sir, if we were to lift the protection altogether, then our industries will have to sell sugar at half the rates, because more or less that is the rate for which we could easily get sugar from outside. Thus, supposing we lift the protection altogether and allow sugar to come from outside, our people would be consuming for the cost that they incur today at least double the amount of sugar. The figures which are obvious show that the sugar industry is and has been actually maintained out of the funds which the consumers contribute to them more or less directly, and if this sort of thing continues, there will be no improvement in the condition of the industry also. Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena has stated that there is no competition between the various industries; there is no competition from outside either; and this leads to this unhealthy condition, namely, that neither the cultivation of sugarcane is satisfactory nor is the efficiency of this industry gratifying. For that purpose, I have a new suggestion to make, a suggestion which has not been made by anybody so far. According to my information the present protective duty is of the order of 135 per cent. That is the information I have. I think, as a first step, and after accepting the recommendation which has been made by Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena and supported by you, Sir, that the protection should be continued for one year, I propose that the duty also should be lowered. We will then see how during the coming year the world market and conditions react upon it, and how far it is possible for outsiders to export to us any sugar. We could easily regulate the matter in such a way that the imported sugar will sell at not less than the rate at which we can sell our own sugar here. It will then be possible for us to know how we progress.

Secondly, Sir, as has been shown the yield of sugar-cane in the U.P. and Bihar is very low. In Bombay, the average yield of sugar-cane comes to about 50 to 60 tons as against 14 tons in U.P. and Bihar. So it shows, Sir, as a matter of fact that much of the land which is used for sugar-cane cultivation

in the U.P. and Bihar is not suited for such cultivation or something is radically wrong there. If it is possible to lower the duty, it will not only help the sugar-cane grower but also the whole of India. Instead of the Honourable Minister for Agriculture appealing to the agriculturist not to cultivate sugar-cane, or compelling him to do so it would be better to say to him that he has got to reduce his prices, so that he will be forced to grow more foodgrains and we will be to that extent relieved from any complaints being made by the Agriculturist on the one hand and we would also be getting more foodgrains. Because, sugar-cane is a wet crop. Irrigation is necessary wherever sugar-cane is grown. Now if this land under irrigation is turned into land for growing foodgrains, I am sure, for less quantity of water, for probably half the manure, it will be possible for them to grow two crops. Even if out of 4 million acres of land under sugarcane at the present moment we have about 50,000 acres given over to foodgrains, because it is not economically profitable to grow sugar-cane, we will find that a very substantial portion of our deficit of foodgrains will be made up and the cultivators will not have any legitimate grouse. There is yet another advantage that will also be secured. If we revise our policy so far as protection is concerned and if we reduce the duty and allow a certain amount of sugar from outside, we will also be deriving a considerable revenue by way of duty which we are levying upon it. From all these points of view, I think the whole question ought to be thoroughly examined and at the present moment, my honourable friend should be content to have this protection for only one year; and secondly even after the Bill is passed, if the Honourable Minister reduces the protective duty considerably, there will be some competition, at any rate, which will make both the sugar-cane growers as well as the industries to strive harder. The industrialists will be forced to better their management and the sugar-cane cultivators to make better efforts to produce more from their lands.

Mr. Hossain Imam: The Honourable the Commerce Minister has introduced an omnibus Bill, but very skilfully placed Sugar as item No. 1 on the agenda with the result that all attention has been diverted towards this one subject and all the rest of these items have practically gone Scot free. Being an old Parliamentarian, Sir, he knows his job and he has done it well. The sugar case is very strong. I do not think we could have a stronger case for the protection of any industry than that of sugar, because in that case their protection is not dictated by the needs of the industry but by the needs of the producers and here I should like to advert to the general matter of policy of the Government and whether it proposes really to end inflation and bring down the prices or it wants to make the prices at the levels at which they are. I find from a perusal of the Tariff Board's reports that the price of sugar-cane in 1931, when there was no depression, when everything was O.K. was something like 8 annas a maund. (An honourable Member: 'Was there any depression in 1931?') Yes. According to the Tariff Board Report in 1938 it was at the rate of 5½ annas a maund. It had gone down to 3½ annas in 1937. Today's price is six times the price on the basis on which the report of 1938 was given. If you were to work out the resultant product by this ratio of this increase in raw material, instead of having the price of Rs. 28, you should have more than Rs. 42. The wages are so high today and everyone knows that the cost of living has gone up by 300 to 400 per cent. and you cannot grudge the labourer getting a salary at least three times what it was in 1938 and 1939. So what really happens is that you have fixed two extremes, the resultant price and the raw material which according to the Honourable Mr. Neogy is responsible for the 70 per cent. of the crop knowing that 70 per cent. has risen to six times and then you get a coefficient of 32 rupees per maund instead of which you have got Rs. 28 a maund. I think the industry has been brow-beaten and made to accept a price which is not very economical. Referring to the figure which Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena had quoted, I took the trouble of going through those papers,

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and I found, Sir, that the accounts of the Dalmia Group industries have to be read with a great deal of care. They have shown an existing stock of about 2½ lakh maunds. Probably they followed it at the rate prevailing then, namely Rs. 85 a maund, which was the last price. You do not know if there is any factory in the State and on what basis they have fixed the price. Mr. Himatsingka quoted the figures for manufacturing cost. In 1937 sugar was selling at Rs. 5/8 per maund. With the increase in the overhead charges it is bound to be double in 1948 and 1949.

On that basis, with Rs. 21 required for raw material, and Rs. 8 for excise, there is a balance of only Rs. 4/8. These two items will come to more than that sum. So, this calls for action, not so much on behalf of the Ministry of Commerce as on behalf of the Cabinet as to whether the provinces should be allowed to fix the prices. The Centre should have the power to check and not to give advice. This reminds me of the thoughtful words which fell from Dr. John Matthai's mouth when he was replying to the debate on the Finance Bill, that we must make adequate provision for this in the Constitution. It is quite possible that in some of the provinces in future there will be parties other than the dominant party at the Centre coming to power. If such parties move in a manner which is prejudicial to the interests of other parts of the country, the Centre must have power to dictate. It is to give expression to this view that I have intervened in this debate. I want that we must grow wiser with experience. Theories are all right, but it is only by testing them in practice that you will come to a right decision as to the line of action that you have to adopt.

I should like to say, as a matter of general policy, now that we have developed other techniques for protecting the industries than fixing duties, that these should also be examined. I refer to two methods which are most common: firstly there is the system of fixing quotas of imports. By means of that you can control the prices. As an illustration I would state that, three or four years ago, when we started manufacturing aluminium ourselves for the first time, foreign aluminium was much cheaper and bulk supply was coming from foreign countries. A convention was established by the Central Government under which the consumption of the two articles was made compulsory by the manufacturers in a certain proportion. Thereby the low prices for external goods and high prices for internal goods were maintained. That is one method for giving the Indian manufacturer higher prices than he would get in competition with other countries. The second method is the well known method of subsidy.

In this connection I should remind the House that in regard two articles our export trade has definitely fallen. Sugar was being exported to Pakistan and, because of the fact that your prices went too high, Pakistan had to go outside and start purchasing from Cuba and Brasil at £85½ per ton.

The honourable the Finance Minister pointed out in his Budget speech to the fact that our oil seeds are finding it difficult to sell because of internal high prices. Internal high prices must be checked at all costs if industrial development is to take place. You cannot have industrial development and high inflationary prices prevailing. In our country only in respect of transport charges of the Government there has been no inflation. That has increased least from the pre-war period. With regard to all other things, prices have increased or have been increased by the Government.

In this connection, I join you Mr. Deputy-Speaker, in objecting to the re-imposition, as revenue duty, of the protective duty taken off. We have fixed the duty at a certain rate for certain purposes, the purposes being to protect the industry, etc. Now, having protected the industry and made it stand on its own legs, it is time that the consumer is allowed to reap the benefit. Just as a father denies to himself some comforts in the earlier days in order to bring up his son with good education and all that in the expectation that in his old age that son will feed him and look after him, the industries that have been granted protection owe a debt to the consumer which they can repay only by making their articles available at a cheaper price than was the case before protection was granted. The idea of giving protection to an industry in its earlier stages is to get those articles at a price lower than the price prevailing before protection was granted.

There is another class of industry for which protection is granted. They are essential for the life of the community. Essential articles, no matter at what cost, we have to produce in order to make the country able to stand up in case of war or other troubles. It is only in the case of those industries on which the potentiality of the country for defence depends that protection cannot be limited to time. In such cases protecting the industry means protecting the country. Ordinary things do not come under this category. In this connection I should ask the honourable the Commerce Minister to explain how it is possible, by increasing the price of item 17 he can allow the fair selling price of Rs. 31? I am referring to sericulture. The landed cost of the imported article is only Rs. 17-9-0, but the selling price in India has been fixed at Rs. 31-12-0. If you want to keep the price at Rs. 31-12-0 you should have increased the duty much more. Or, if you are fixing it by means of quota restrictions and not allowing larger imports, then there is no need to have even that amount of protection. Sir, next to food, cloth is the most important item in the Budget of the common man. Having removed the salt tax—a tax which was fetching you 9 crores—because of your pledges to the public, are you going to get it back by taxing this essential article of textiles? I strongly object to it. I may mention that it is a very wrong thing to tax the necessities of life in the manner in which they are being taxed.

Another item to which some attention should be paid concerns motor vehicles, item 21 in the list. The prices there do not seem to be at all comparable to the fair prices fixed by the Government under item 7. Fair prices have been fixed at 44 and 45, whereas the cost of the imported article with duty is Rs. 32-12-0 and Rs. 47-10-0. As you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, pointed out, it has become a habit with the Government, when you give them one year's or two years' time, as in the saying, 'marry in haste and repent at leisure', to come forward with a Bill at the fag end of the year and make that as an excuse for getting it passed. This same thing has happened, at regular intervals of two years, since 1942. There is nothing sacrosanct about these two-year periods. We know that it is not going to be limited to that period. We expect at the end of this period this National Government to make up its mind what they are going to do with regard to these industries and what methods are to be adopted such as the grant of tariff protection and the like to let them stand on their own legs. It is very essential, in my opinion, that there must be a definite time-limit within which a protected industry ought to stand on its legs and during that time it is the duty of the industry to stand on its legs and the duty of the Government to give all help to it.

In this connection, I would not like to advert to the sugar question—whether it was the duty of the industrialists or of the Government to help the development of the agricultural part, but it would be ungracious on the part

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of the House not to acknowledge the great achievement of the Coimbatore Institute which has done such an amount of work in finding out much better varieties of sugarcane. Had it not been for the Coimbatore Institute's work we would not have been where we are. It seems as if nothing has been done. People have referred to the agricultural aspect of the question with an amount of want of knowledge which shows that either they do not wish to give credit where credit is due or in order to attack a person they wish to turn a blind eye towards others also. The Coimbatore Institute has really been as much a partner in the establishment of the sugar industry as the industry itself. And I should like to mention while on the subject that the Government has been collecting a large amount of taxes—both the provinces and the Centre. The Centre has contributed towards the Sugarcane Committee which has been doing very useful work. It has established many Institutes, but people are rather in a hurry. Agriculture is a very slow process. One process takes one year to complete and you cannot repeat it until the next year. So it cannot be expected that within a period of two or three any spectacular results can be achieved. There are certain natural facilities available to Java and Cuba which are to some extent shared by Madras, and therefore the yield in Madras is much higher than the yield in Northern India. You cannot thereby blame the North Indian industries for the reduction in their production of sugarcane in the fields. It is not their job. It is not the job of the industry or the agricultural people. It is the job of the gods. They have placed certain lands in certain advantageous positions. If you go round the world, you find that in the tropical belt you have the best cultivation of sugarcane. Java comes there; Cuba comes there; Brazil comes there, and when you get to the rest of the countries in the Tropic of Cancer you get a reduction in the production. It is possible to produce, but not as extensively as in the other case. It is therefore necessary, and I appeal to the Government, not to behave in the manner of the last Government, with whom every item of a Bill was a matter of prestige. As a National Government, I appeal to the honourable Minister to accept the amendment, if moved, for making it only one year and in the meantime to give us more information and to proceed with this Bill not as one Bill, but in parts. It should be divided up into two or three different parts, because the problems, as you yourself Sir pointed out, are very different in different items and to have an omnibus Bill of 21 items necessarily means that all attention is concentrated on one item and the rest has escaped scrutiny.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: Sir, the first item in the list of industries that have come up for protection is sugar. Sugar has come to occupy a very important place in the items of industries in our country. (*Shri Mahavir Tyagi:* 'It is sweet.') Of course, yes. When protection was given in 1932, we were importing nearly Rs. 16 crores worth of sugar into this country. We were also paying an additional import duty of Rs. 6 crores, thus in the aggregate it was costing us Rs. 24 crores. When that outflow of the hard-earned money of the poor people is stopped and the industry is sought to be made to stand on its own legs, protection has done its part in converting this industry into a national industry. After the key industries of the country, I think the sugar industry gives employment to a large number of people and has come to stay, having a link with the industrial development of the country and the primary producer which cannot now be reversed or altered.

Sir, my friends were of course very critical of the profit-making tendency of the industrialists, but we must also see how far the primary producer has helped the industry in improving its conditions, in improving the sugar content of sugarcane: Whether it is static or whether it is progressing. So there is no use

comparing the sugar that we get from Java and other places where those countries form parts of colonial exploitation, where the foreign exploiters come with all the scientific equipment and capital and all the modern methods of cultivation and practically grow their own sugarcane on their own fields. The sugar industry in India is not developed in such a manner. There is no connection here between the cane grower and the industrialists who run the factory except that the latter buy the raw product that is produced and carry it to the sugar factory. From the figures we find that the content of sugar that is being produced in the country has remained stationary all these years. The average sugar content in 1931-32 of Indian sugar was 8.89 and in 1945-46 it has remained at 10.1. But there are reports to show that this content has appreciably deteriorated in certain parts of the country to as low as 6.5. I do not blame the poor cultivator who is wedded to his age-old methods, but here the responsibility of the Government also comes. What has the Agriculture Department been doing all along? I quite appreciate the compliment that is made to Coimbatore Institute and I can, in this connection, mention the name of the famous scientist Sir T. S. Venkataraman who has produced a new variety of sugarcane that is greatly responsible for the prosperity of the industry and the primary producer nowadays. But that is not enough. The Government must come to the aid of these primary cultivators to see that they grow better cane and also the sugar factories must be told that there should be a more lively connection between the cane grower and the sugarcane factories. For instance, when recently the Central Sugarcane Committee was convened, we were taken to Walchandnagar, where the enterprising industrialist Walchand Hirachand has brought about 40,000 acres of absolute jungle land into cultivation and is cultivating sugarcane. He is running a factory with 1500 tons a day capacity, which entirely depends on cane produced by the Company itself on its own fields,—a composite unit where all the processes of sugar production are attended to and manufacture from cane production down to the other by-products of sugar: it is a place where you will see the industry in a prosperous condition. So there is no use blaming anybody in this matter.

For instance, the sugar now produced is worth about Rs. 75 crores and from the statistics that we have got here, the cultivator reaps about Rs. 27 to 28 crores out of this towards the cost of the cane alone. Today, you stop protection—what happens to this? Will the cultivator go back to *gur* and will the consumer be satisfied if he is asked to take *gur* instead of sugar, or will you allow foreign sugar to be dumped into this country, though at a cheap price? Therefore, there is no question of going back on the industry. But then, how are we to go forward?

This protective duty only enables the industry to go on from hand to mouth as it has been going on until today. The acreage under sugar has not improved; the quantum of content of sugar in the cane has not improved. Therefore, Government must come with greater vigour with regard to the improvement of the conditions of cultivation of sugarcane. There is no use demanding higher prices for sugarcane at every step by the growers without undertaking the corresponding responsibility of improving the quality of cane and the sugar content of the cane. Herein comes into the picture the responsibility of Government. There are a number of research institutions going about the country and all these results that are achieved by these institutions have to be tacked on to the practical achievement of better cane for the improvement of the industry. Therefore, I have no more to say except that this industry has to be protected by some sort of duty and we must see also that the consumer is not overburdened. When there is a deficit in the Finance Minister's budget, he looks to sugar and taxes it, though in reality taxing the poor consumer. He says he is otherwise unable to balance his budget but when my friends ask that the protection should also be done away

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with then how is he going to look to sugar and its production because he will not have the income from this duty. Therefore, we must consider this as a national industry and a national problem of agriculture in respect of which we have to use all the scientific methods evolved by the research institutes in the provinces. Recently the Madras Government came with a Bill to control the price of sugarcane and also to impose its conditions on the industry. Then all the industrialists including the foreign capitalists in India got moving. The Chairman of the Madras Chamber of Commerce has come down upon the Madras Government saying that the days of the sugar industry are numbered. But there is a responsibility always resting on the Government to see that capitalists do not exploit at the cost of the consumer: and the primary grower also should not try to intimidate the Government into increasing the price of his primary product inconsiderably without reference to the quality of the product he produces.

With regard to another item, I want to say just a word. It is called protection for hurricane lanterns. I want to bring to the notice of the honourable the Commerce Minister and his Department that there is another item which is of course not covered by any sort of protection recommended by the Tariff Board. These are the pressure lamps, or Petromax lamps. This industry is entirely indigenous. There are about half a dozen factories in India that produce these lamps and the capital sunk into them is Rs. 40/50 lakhs. I have seen one factory in Calcutta, which was purchased from a Pakistani gentleman by a Hindu capitalist and in that factory they manufacture 113 component parts. The factory is managed by a German-returned Bengali young man very efficiently. This industry is threatened with a difficulty because these lights are being imported from Italy and Norway at a very cheap price. They are undercutting the price of the articles of local manufacture to the tune of Rs. 14 a light and there are hundreds of skilled workers threatened of being driven out of employment if Government does not come to their rescue. I request the honourable Minister to go into the problem of this nascent industry which is trying to stand on its own legs.

Shri R. K. Sidhva (C.P. and Berar: General): He must go to the Tariff Board.

Shri M. Tirumala Rao: That is the long range programme. The Government must see whether the industry can be given protection by the Tariff Board. Apart from the orthodox view that the import licence should not be utilised for giving protection to an industry, Government must come to the interim rescue of the industry which is threatened with great hardship.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Before the attainment of freedom, we were all supporting the Indian industry at all costs even at the cost of the consumers' price being higher. We wanted that Indian industry should prosper, there were many complaints that if you go on giving protection to all kinds of Indian industries, the beneficiary will be only one class and the rest of the people would be put to a heavy loss. Despite all this, we supported protection of Indian industry realising that when freedom comes to this country, this industry will be an asset. It may be either nationalized or even if it is not nationalized it would be absolutely under our control.

I shall now come to the personnel of the Tariff Board. The Chairman of the 1947 Tariff Board was Mr. Shanmukham Chetty. The other members were Mr. C. C. Desai, Dr. Nazir Ahmad and Dr. H. I. Dey; this report is

signed by Mr. Shanmukham Chetty, Mr. C. C. Desai and Dr. H. L. Dey. I thought after the attainment of freedom Government would certainly change its policy and see that in the personnel of the Board there should be the representatives of the consumers. (*Interruption*). I know that Mr. Shanmukham Chetty is a great industrialist. Everybody, from the smallest to the biggest man, today, will say that he is a consumer. But consumer is one whose avocation is not multiple. A member may not be necessarily a sugar industry man, though he may be an industrialist. Mr. Gagan Bihar Mehta is now the Chairman. Both of them possess ability, knowledge and experience. What I contend is that in future the personnel of the Tariff Board should be 50 per cent. consumers and 50 per cent. industrialists.

Shri Mahavir Tyagi (U.P.: General): And agriculturists also!

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Just now we are protecting the industry and therefore the question of agriculturist does not arise. When we are protecting industry at the cost of consumers, the consumers must be there. That is my suggestion and I hope the honourable Minister will take steps to see that this Board is reorganised.

Honourable Members have dealt very ably with regard to the sugar industry. It has been stated that the yield of Indian sugar is very low. Therefore it cannot stand in competition with imported sugar. I am prepared to accept that the yield is lower when compared with the other countries. But they must not forget certain factors while comparing the figures as to what is the yield of other countries. There are twelve countries where sugar is produced and they will be surprised to know that with a margin of .7 or .8 per cent, the other countries competing with us have an yield which is slightly higher than in India. In India there have been various yields. In the U.P., in Bihar and in Bombay, some say it is 16 and some say that it is 17. But I am taking the conservative view from the report in my possession. 14.70 tons per acre is the yield of India, and of Cuba, from where sugar is coming, it is 17.12. There is only a difference of 2.42; whereas the maximum in Hawaii is 18.76, a difference of just 2.06. Cuba with 17.12, against ours of 14.70, can today compete with India. Hawaii with its yield has the same price. I do say that yield should be increased. That is the general complaint for all cereals. Similarly, our rice yield is lower and so also is our wheat yield. Now coming to Brazil, from where sugar comes to India, it is 15.68. What have my friends to say, especially those who are stating that because of the larger yield in the other countries we must have protection here: 15.68 as against 14.70 in India, just .98 less, and yet Brazil sugar is coming in large quantities. This sugar is also coming into Pakistan.

Then again in Argentine also it is 17.05 and in Rio de Janeiro it is 18.20, which latter is less than what our yield is. So where does all that argument go? We must have our improved machinery for the purpose of yielding all kinds of cereals. We may be backward in that. To say that the yield is lower and therefore they need protection is I should say absurd.

This matter came up before the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industries at the first and second session when I was a member and I complained that they had made 120 per cent. profit. I said then "If you fritter away the profits and not build up your reserves you will at a later stage at the cost of the consumer ask for protection." They say that it is not so and the percentage of profits is 7, 10 or 12. I am not prepared to accept this statement for the reason we know how the statements are prepared. Prof. Saksena has given the figures from the audited accounts. Managing agency, takes away a lot from the shareholders money. A question was put to my honourable friend

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regarding managing agencies and he was not able to answer. Even when there is no profit the managing agents are the first charge on the gross revenue.

Pandit Thakur Dsa Bhargava: It is usually ten per cent. of the profits.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: But the fact remains that there have been 60 or 70 per cent. profit before the war. Where that money has gone nobody could answer. Seven years have passed and therefore you can say that you did not get that profit.

There is an association called the Bombay Sugar Merchants Association, Ltd. They represent the merchants and also the consumers. They have made very startling remarks against the industry. They say that Government merely says ditto to what the industry says and the merchants and consumers are put to a loss. I will read the relevant extracts from the annual report and the presidential address at a meeting which was held on the 16th March, 1949, only a few days ago, for the benefit of the House:

"There is no parallel in the history of Indian industries that the Government has been so much misled by the sugar industry to serve its own end. Even with the recent reduction of price to Rs. 28/8/- from Rs. 35/7/- the sugar price level in India is still considerably high."

They further state that the syndicate at present is trying to have the monopoly of all-India sugar production and they cite the examples of Cuba and Java. In the Cuba and Java the syndicate is not protected in any way by the Government. That is one fact to remember. They stand on their own legs.....

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: That is our danger.

Shri R. K. Sidhva: What is the danger? My point is that so long as you tell the industry that they will get protection from the Government at the cost of state money they will never try to get away from the fact that they will go on getting protection. The other day the Agriculture Minister definitely fixed a datum line, that from 1951 there shall be no import of foodgrains. You will see that there will never be any import and the country will manage its own affairs efficiently and satisfactorily. (*An honourable Member.* 'Question.') Why should not the Commerce Minister tell them that from such and such a year you shall have no protection? Minister feels that it is state money and can give it as he likes it. There are so many associations laying charges against the Government saying that they pay no attention but merely follow the old tradition and say the industry should be supported.

The Honourable Shri K. C. Neogy: Is the association interested in imports?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: No. You may think anything. I am asking you why are you supporting these industries, when they can stand on their own legs. Why don't you want them to bring down the prices? If there is no protection the prices will be less.....

Mr. Hossain Imam: Have the textile prices fallen because of the removal of protection?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: What kind of protection? That is not the position. I am stating.....

Mr. Hossain Imam: Protective duties have been removed from last year.

Pandit Thakur Dsa Bhargava: Does not Government fix the price of sugar?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Yes.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Also of sugarcane?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: Yes.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Where then does the industry come in for exceptionally high profits?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: The whole basic principle is wrong. Today you cannot have the old notion of protecting industry because we are out to support them at any cost. I say again, as I said in my opening remarks, that if industry is to prosper it has to stand on its own legs. When they meet competition we will consider each case on its merits. But this case of the sugar industry does not stand on that footing where state aid is necessary. That is a fact which you must remember. The case of petromax lamps was pleaded by Mr. Tirumala Rao. That is a justifiable case where the industry cannot stand competition, whereas in this instance it does not justify protection. Why should protection be granted to sugar industry alone, when there is so much profit? That is the point to answer. I contend in this matter no case has been made out.

Prof. Saksena has cited some quotations from the report of the Tariff Board where the continuance of protection is recommended. Our own Sugar Controller Mr. Mone gives an opinion which is absolutely incorrect. He said that he did not expect foreign sugar will be available at present at less than double the price of indigenous sugar, whereas we know that the price of imported sugar in India is 25 per cent. less. The Report further says:

"Mr. N. C. Mehta who was the first Sugar Controller during the last war and who had a lot to do with the sugar industry even previously suggested that since sugar was subject to complete control in respect of its production, distribution and price, there was no need for protection at the present time. He thought that so long as the present control continued, protection was entirely unnecessary and ineffective and might be held in abeyance."

Mr. Hossain Imam: What was the date of these two reports?

Shri R. K. Sidhva: 1947. It is Mr. Mehta's evidence that was given in 1947 and it is not a century old. The report further says:

"He pointed out that under the present system of control, all sugar, indigenous or imported would be sold at a uniform price fixed by the Controller, so that there would be no question of the indigenous producers being undercut by importers."

This is an answer to my friend Pandit Bhargava who said that these prices are not fixed. They are fixed and the Controllers who have vast experience of sugar industry come and tell us that protection is not necessary. This evidence has been brushed aside and the three gentlemen of the Board have recommended protection to the industry. I have given the important parts of the Report on which the Commerce Minister seeks the vote of the House, but the whole case goes against him. I do not know what argument he is going to advance. But whatever argument he may advance I may tell him as my other colleagues have stated, that he must definitely make an announcement here that this is the last period of the protection and he may definitely make it known to the industrialists that after that period if they are not able to stand without protection then Government are not going to come to their rescue. In all fairness and justice that should be his reply.

I would like to point out that with regard to artificial silk there is a very heavy difference between the import price and the indigenous price. In this matter I feel that the indigenous industry suffers immensely. The difference

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is so great that protection is not going to help. I would therefore suggest that this industry must be taken over by Government. There is no other solution. If you are to meet the competition of foreign artificial silk this industry should be taken over by Government and it will be really beneficial to the state and the country.

As regards sewing machines the total demand for the year is 1 lakh and odd machines, the estimated production in 1948-49 is 17,000, but in the last column under "Prejudice to indigenous products" it is stated as nil. I am rather surprised because this means it can stand competition. I fear it cannot. I do not know why it is mentioned nil here and I hope the honourable Minister will kindly explain this because it is prejudicial to the indigenous products to a certain extent.

The Honourable Shri K. O. Neogy: That has been corrected in my copy. It is Rs. 30. I am sorry the correction was not communicated.

Shri B. K. Sidhva: Your mistake is your own and still you laugh. Sir, I am glad that he has corrected the mistake. Now I only expect that in regard to sugar, where if a free vote is taken today I am sure he will get a negative vote, therefore he will in his reply make an announcement as I have suggested.

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण साहू : उप वाचस्पति जी, माननीय वाणिज्य मंत्री जी ने जो बिल उपस्थित किया है उस बिल में वे कुछ चीजों के ऊपर रक्षा कर लगाने के लिये हम लोगों से कहते हैं। इस रक्षा कर लगाने से तो हम जो शुगर इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स हैं उनकी रक्षा करते हैं। इस बिल में बहुत सी और चीजें हैं उन सबको मैं छोड़ देता हूँ। मैं एक ही चीज को लेता हूँ, शुगर। पहिले तो मैं यह कहता हूँ कि अभी तो जाति का सवाल नहीं है पर जिस जाति से मैं आता हूँ वह मधुकर जाति है, हलवाई जाति है, जो भूमिठाई बनाती है, जिसका सम्बन्ध शुगर से ज्यादा होता है। एक बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय तिरूमल राव ने कहा और कई कई ने कहा कि गवर्नमेंट ने बहुत से एक्सपैरिमेंट किये और शुगर की बहुत उन्नति हुई। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट के एक्सपैरिमेंट से शुगर की उन्नति नहीं हुई है बल्कि खराबी हुई है। पहिले जो ईख पैदा होती थी उसको हम उड़िया में 'कन्तारि आखु' कहते थे। अब वह पैदा नहीं होती है, वह खत्म हो गई है क्योंकि हाईनिट्रिडिजेशन कर दिया है जिससे रस एकदम कम हो जाता है। अब आप यह कहते हैं कि एक एकड़ में ज्यादा पैदा होता है। मैं कहता हूँ कि कम होता है। वजन ज्यादा होने से रस कम होता है। यह बात मैं दिखानी करके नहीं कहता हूँ। जो रिसर्च होता है उस पर मेरा विश्वास नहीं है। बहुत पहिले मैं देखता

या कि पहिले हम लोग उड़ीसा में परबायल (Parboiled) चावल खाते थे। वह बहुत साफ नहीं होता था और हम लोग वह मोटा चावल खाते थे। अब श्री फूड मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा था कि परबायल राइस में बहुत सी Nutrient चीजें हैं। तो मैं ऐसा कहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट के जो एक्सपेरीमेंट शुगर इंडस्ट्री के लिये हुए हैं उन्होंने देश की शुगर को खराब कर दिया है। यह बात मैं दिल्ली से नहीं कहता हूँ, बहुत सोच विचार कर कहता हूँ।

दूसरी बात में वह कहता हूँ कि प्रोटेक्टिव ड्यूटी देकर हम शुगर इंडस्ट्री के लिये जहाँ कहीं फ़ैक्टरी बनाते हैं वहाँ एक जगह जहाँ कहीं शुगर फ़ैक्टरी बन गयी तो वहाँ जितने छोटे छोटे एग्रीकल्चरिस्ट थे उनकी ज़मीन सब ले ली जाती है और बहुत से आदमी गरीब होकर वहाँ की हवा खराब होने से निकल जाते हैं। हम कहते हैं कि लोगों के स्टैंडर्ड आफ़ लिविंग को हम बढ़ाने के लिये ऐसी कोशिश करते हैं। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि ऐसा इनके Standard बढ़ाने से कोई जगह का नाम नहीं रहेगा। जहाँ कहीं आप फ़ैक्टरी बनाते हैं वहाँ बहुत खराबी हो जाती है और सब आदमी निकल जाते हैं।

जो यह प्रोटेक्टिव ड्यूटी देने के लिये मंत्रीजी कहते हैं तो शुगर फ़ैक्टरीज़ को काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज़ बना कर प्रोटेक्टिव ड्यूटी देने से बहुत अच्छा होगा। और मैं यह भी देखता हूँ कि इस शुगर को जितना साफ़ करते हैं उतनी उसमें मिठास कम होती है। गुड़ में मिठास ज्यादा है और यह जो शुगर जितनी ज्यादा साफ़ होती है उसमें मिठास और भी कम हो जाता है। तो एक तरफ़ तो हम यह कहते हैं कि विटैमिन चाहिये, न्यूट्रीशन ज्यादा चाहिये और दूसरी तरफ़ यह कहते हैं कि यह ज्यादा साफ़ हो। मैं तो यह कहता हूँ कि जब हम लोगों का ऐसा इरादा है कि साफ़ शुगर चाहिये तो शुगर इंडस्ट्री नेशनलाइज़ हो, जब हमारा आखिर में ध्येय नेशनलाइज़ेशन का है तो अभी मौका है कि जितनी शुगर फ़ैक्टरीज़ हैं सब को नेशनलाइज़ कर दिया जाय।

Shri B. L. Sondhi : Where is the money ?

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण माहू : इसमें तीस करोड़ रुपया खर्च होगा। आप कितने करोड़ों रुपये इधर उधर खर्च करते हैं।

एक बात मैं आप से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप देखेंगे कि जापान में ६५ पर सेंट इंडस्ट्रीज़ छोटी छोटी काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज़ हैं। यहाँ इस हिन्दुस्तान देश का आदमी तो ऐसा है कि ७ लाख विलेज या गाँव से बसते हैं। उसमें यह छोटी छोटी इंडस्ट्रीज़ बनाने के लिए कोशिश करना चाहिये।

[श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण साहू]

एक बात में आपसे और कहना चाहता हूँ कि शुगर फ़ैक्टरी में एक डेंजर और यह होता है कि इससे सब बड़े बड़े आदमियों की भलाई होती है। बड़े बड़े आदमी ही शकर को खाते हैं। छोटे आदमी शकर नहीं खाते। तो छोटे आदमी के नाम पर आप यहां बड़े आदमी को एडवांस करते हैं। यह देखिये कि जहां शुगर फ़ैक्टरी हुआ है वहां क्या होता है। लोग कोशिश करते हैं और मैंने देखा है कि वहां अभी चॉकोलेट फ़ैक्टरी भी बनता है। और चॉकोलेट कौन खाते हैं? वह सब बड़े बड़े आदमी खायेंगे, हम नहीं खायेंगे।

श्री बी० दास: बच्चे खाते हैं।

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण साहू: आपके बच्चे खाते हैं, लेकिन मेरे बच्चे नहीं खा सकते।

अब एक बात यह भी हो गई है कि शुगर फ़ैक्टरीज जहां हो गई हैं वहां सब जगह कोशिश की जाती है कि दारू भी बनावें और यह दारू बनाने भी लगे हैं।

श्री बी० एल० सोंधी: पावर-एलकाहल के लिये।

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण साहू: पावर एलकाहल तो अच्छा है लेकिन फिर पीने का एलकाहल भी बन जायगा। यह भी डर है।

अब मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लेता हूँ क्योंकि वक्त नहीं है। तो भी मैं बार बार एक बात यह देखता हूँ कि हम जो कुछ यहां करते हैं तो सिटी लोगों के लिये करते हैं कि कैसे वह अच्छे हों। उन्हीं का स्याल करते हैं क्योंकि हम सिटी में बैठते हैं। जो कोई हम गांव से आ कर यहां बैठते हैं तो ठीक है लेकिन [दिल्ली की आबोहवा में जब कोई आदमी एक वर्ष या दो वर्ष रह जाता है तो वह गांव को भूल जाता है और गांव का इंटेरेस्ट नहीं रखता है। इसीलिये मैं कहता हूँ कि ओर इंडस्ट्री के लिये अभी जितनी प्रोटेक्टिव ड्यूटीज रखते हैं वह सोच विचार कर रखिये परन्तु मैं समझता हूँ कि शुगर इंडस्ट्री को Protection नहीं देने से भी वह चल सकेगी।

(English translation of the above speech).

Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: Sir, in the Bill which the honourable the Commerce Minister has presented to the House he asks us for the levy of a protective duty in respect of certain commodities. By the levy of this protective

duty we help the sugar industries. There are many other things in this Bill, but I leave them all and take up only one, viz., sugar. In the first instance, I say that, although there is no question of caste involved in here, the caste that I come of is the Madhukar Caste, or the class of confectioners who prepare sweetmeats, who have very much to do with sugar. There is one thing that I wish to say. The honourable Tirumala Rao has stated and several others have stated that the Government have made a lot of experiments which have led to great improvement in the production of sugar. I would say, however, that the Government experiments have not brought about improvement in the production of sugar but rather deterioration. The sugar-cane that used to be produced formerly—we called it *kantari Akh*—is not being produced any longer. It is finished because hybridization has been started which results in a considerable fall in the yield of juice. You say that there is a greater yield per acre now, while I say it is less. With the increase in weight there is a decrease in the juice. I do not say this lightly. I have no confidence in the research that is done. I have observed that a long time back we in Oriss used to take parboiled rice. It was not so fine. We used to take that coarse rice. Now too the honourable Food Minister has remarked that parboiled rice contains a number of nutrient elements. Hence, I say that the experiments that have been carried out by the Government in the interests of the sugar industry have brought about a deterioration in the country's sugar. I do not say this out of light-heartedness, but after due deliberation.

The second thing that I wish to say is this. We give them the benefit of a protective duty and help in the establishment of a sugar factory but once a sugar factory is established at a certain place the lands of all small agriculturists in the locality are taken over. Numbers of people are reduced to poverty. They leave the locality as the atmosphere becomes noxious. We say we are making efforts to raise the standard of living of the people. I say, however, that if this is how we raise their standard there will be no place, worth the name left. Wherever you set up a factory the atmosphere becomes unwholesome and all people quit.

Since the honourable Minister has suggested that a protective duty should be provided for it would be very much beneficial if sugar factories are turned into cottage industries before the protective duty is provided. I also find that the more this sugar is refined the lesser becomes its sweetness. *Gur* has greater sweetness while as you refine sugar its sweetness diminishes. On the one hand we say we should have more of the vitamins, we should have better nutrition, while on the other we insist that the sugar should be finer. I would say that if we people are resolved that we must have refined sugar the sugar industry should be nationalised. If nationalization is our final goal this is the time to nationalize all sugar factories. (*Shri B. L. Sondhi*: 'Where is the money?') This would cost thirty crore rupees. How many crores of rupees you are already spending aimlessly! You will notice that 65 per cent. of the industries in Japan are small-scale cottage industries. Conditions in India are such that there are 7 lakh villages where people live. We should make efforts to establish these small-scale industries in them.

I would say one thing more. There is another danger in the establishment of sugar factories inasmuch as this conduces to the good of big people alone. It is the big people alone who take sugar. The small people do not take sugar. Thus you are advancing the cause of the big people while proclaiming to be helping the small ones. Just see what happens when a sugar-factory is set up at any place. People try further and I have noticed that a chocolate factory has also been set up there just now. And, who are the people who eat chocolates? Only the big people would eat them and not we.

[Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu]

Shri B. Das: The children eat them.

Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: Your children eat them but mine cannot.

There is yet another development. Wherever sugar factories have come into existence efforts are made to manufacture drugs too and they have already started manufacturing these drugs.

Shri B. L. Soudhi: For purposes of power alcohol.

Shri Lakshminarayan Sahu: Power alcohol is all right but in due course the alcohol for drinking would also start being produced. That danger is also there.

I would not take any more time as time is up already. I have noticed it again and again, however, that whatever we do here we do for the city folks so that their lot should improve. We think only of them because we sit in a city. It is true that some of us sitting here come from villages but when a man has lived in the atmosphere of Delhi for a year or two he forgets the village and does not hold its interests dear any more. Hence, I would say that you might, after due deliberations, provide whatever protective duties you think proper in respect of other industries, for the present, but I feel that the sugar industry would be able to thrive even if no protection is granted to it.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं ने इस सवाल पर जो वहस हुई है उसको बहुत तवज्जह के साथ सुना है और जो मुस्तलिफ़ प्वाइंट आफ व्यू हाउस के सामने बयान किये गये हैं उन पर गौर किया है। लेकिन मुझे चन्द स्पीचें सुन कर बड़ा ताज्जुब हुआ। मैं इस मामले में ज्यादा हिस्सा नहीं लेना चाहता था क्योंकि मैं इस मामले में अपने आपको बहुत एक्सपर्ट नहीं पाता। लेकिन ताहम जो बहस अब हाउस के सामने हो चुकी है इसके अन्दर चन्द बातें ऐसी कही गई हैं जिन को मेरी अक़ल तस्लीम नहीं करती। इस वजह से मैं इस मुबाहसे में हिस्सा लेता हूँ।

पहली बात में अदब से यह अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं ने यह देखा है कि जब कोई मिनिस्टर हमारे में से निकल कर उन बेंचें के ऊपर जा बैठता है तो हमको उस मिनिस्टर के खिलाफ़ ख्वामस्वाह ग़लत तौर पर शुबहा पैदा हो जाता है। आज अगर मिस्टर सन्तानम वहां जा कर बैठ गये तो मैं तो यह स्थाल नहीं करता कि वह वहां जाकर किसी दूसरे नुक्ते निगाह में देखने लग जावेंगे और उस नुक्ते निगाह से नहीं जिस नुक्ते निगाह से कि वह इधर बैठे थे तो फ़िटिसाइज़ किया करते थे। इसी-तरह मैं कहता हूँ कि मुझे यह यक़ीन नहीं हो सकता कि जब मिस्टर नियोगी साहब को मैं ने बराबर कंज्यूमर के इंटरेस्ट की तरफ़ बोलते हुए सुना है तो क्योंकि वह उधर जा बैठे है तो उनकी ज़हनियत में तबवीली हो गयी है और वह अब उस नुक्ते निगाह से नहीं देखेंगे।

बाबू राम नारायण सिंह : डिपार्टमेंट के लिये यह बात है।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : डिपार्टमेंट के लिये भी मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे यकीन है कि न्यु सेंट अप में बहुत सारे डिपार्टमेंट के लोग वैसे ही काम करते हैं जैसा कि मिनिस्टर करते हैं और जैसा कि हम सब करते हैं। लेकिन ताहम डिपार्टमेंट वाले कुछ करते रहें मुझे अपने मिनिस्टर में और उन मिनिस्टर्स और गवर्नमेंट में एक मिनट के वास्ते भी शक नहीं हो सकता कि वह अपने नुकते निगाह को छोड़ें। मुझे पूरा एतबार है कि जब कभी ऐसा मौका आवेगा कि पब्लिक इंटरेस्ट में और गवर्नमेंट इंटरेस्ट में क्लेश होगा तो वह सब से पहले अपना इस्तीफा दे देंगे। इसलिये मैं सस्पिशन की निगाह से किसी गवर्नमेंट के ऐक्ट को नहीं देखना चाहता और जब मेरे सामने एक तजवीज ऐसे मिनिस्टर साहब की तरफ से आती है जिन पर कि मुझे पूरा भरोसा है तो हमें उस चीज को देखना तो जरूर चाहिये और जैसा जनाब बाला ने फरमाया हमारा फ्रज है कि उस चीज को इंडिपेंडेंटली देखें और इस भरोसे से देखें कि वह कतई गलत नहीं होगी। वह इस तरह शब्दा की चीज नहीं होगी जिस पर खामख्वाह के लिये नुकता चीनी करें।

इस प्रोटैक्शन के बारे में मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मैं चाहता था कि इस हाउस के सामने जिस कदर मसाला मौजूद होता आ जाता। लेकिन इसके अन्दर मैं आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब का कोई कसूर नहीं पाता। अगर टैरिफ बोर्ड ने एक ऐसे वक्त में रिपोर्ट दी है और इस किस्म की रिपोर्ट दी है कि वह सरकार के सामने मुकम्मिल तरीके पर पेश नहीं होती तो मैं नहीं समझता कि मिनिस्टर साहब किस तरह कोई रिपोर्ट अपने दिमाग से गढ़ कर पेश कर देते। इस वास्ते जब तक यह मुकम्मिल रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने पेश नहीं होती मुझे अफसोस है कि हम लोग ठीक तौर से रायजनी इस मामले में नहीं कर सकते। इसलिये मुझे ताज्जुब है कि इस रिपोर्ट के हमारे सामने न होते हुए मिनिस्टर सिधवा कैसे कहते हैं कि मिनिस्टर साहब आज ही नोटिस दें तमाम इंडस्ट्रीज को कि यह प्रोटैक्शन उड़ जायगा। जब आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब के पास भी मसाला इस नतीजे पर पहुंचने के लिये नहीं है तो इस नतीजे पर वह कैसे पहुंच सकते हैं कि प्रोटैक्शन अगले साल से बन्द हो जायगा। यह नोटिस कैसे दिया जा सकता है। मैं अदब से अर्ज करूंगा कि ऐसे

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भागवं]

नोटिस देने के लिये मौका उस वक्त होगा जब कि मसाला पूरा सामने आ जाय और हम फ्रैसला कर सकें कि प्रोटैक्शन मिलेगा या नहीं मिलेगा।

प्रोटैक्शन का मामला एक निहायत डैलीकेट मामला है, खसूसन एक ऐसी इंडस्ट्री के लिये जिस को कि बरसों से प्रोटैक्शन दिया जाता रहा हो। और उस प्रोटैक्शन को एकदम से उठा देने के मामी में समझने से कासिर हूँ जब कि हम उसके फुल इम्प्लीकेशन्स पर गौर न करलें। अगर आज आप इस प्रोटैक्शन को दूर कर देंगे तो इन ५० लाख किसानों का क्या होगा जो कि डेढ़ रुपये और दो रुपये के भाव से गन्ना देते हैं। उनकी इकोनोमी का क्या हाल होगा? आज जो रेलवे अनं करती हैं उनकी इकोनोमी का क्या हाल होगा? मैं अर्ज करता हूँ कि जो इकोनोमी एक बड़े अरसे से बन चुकी है तो उस पर बहुत सोच विचार करने की जरूरत है। इस मामले पर एक दम फ्रैसला नहीं किया जा सकता जब कि हम इसको बराबर पंद्रह सोलह बरस से प्रोटैक्शन देते चले आये हैं। इससे मेरी यह मुराद नहीं है कि जो प्रोटैक्शन दे दिया जाय वह हमेशा के लिये हो और उसको परपीचुअल कर दिया जाय। हरगिज मेरी यह मुराद नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि केवल प्रोटैक्शन की बिना पर हमको इसे देखना चाहिये कि आया यह प्रोटैक्शन देना चाहिये या नहीं। अगर इससे कंज्यूमर का इंटेरेस्ट सफ़र होता है तो हम हरगिज इस प्रोटैक्शन को देने को तैयार नहीं होंगे। लेकिन महज इसलिये कि इस में इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट का नाम आता है तो इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट को चार गालियां देने से काम नहीं बन जायगा। मुझे एक कहानी याद है। एक शख्स एक दुकान पर गया और उसने चाहा कि एक पैसे की कोई चीज मांगे। उस दुकानदार से उसने एक पैसे की चीज मांगी और जब पैसा दे दिया और चीज मिल गयी तो उस ने उस से हुज्जत की। तो उस दुकानदार ने उसका वह पैसा भी वापस कर दिया। जब वह घर वापस आया तो उसके पास चीज भी थी और पैसा भी था। लेकिन फिर भी वह कहने लगा कि दुकानदार ने मुझे तो ठग लिया। तो आज जो सवाल हमारे सामने है उसमें हमें देखना है कि सरकार ने क्या क्रीमत मुकर्रर की है, सरकार ने गन्ने की क्रीमत मुकर्रर कर दी, सरकार ने सैस मुकर्रर कर दी और सरकार ने उनके मुनाफ़े की क्रीमत मुकर्रर कर दी। सरकार ने लेबर के लिये मिनिमम वेजेज मुकर्रर कर दी। अभी मुझे बतलाया गया है कि किसी ज़माने में चार रुपये माहवार इस इंडस्ट्री में मजदूर को मिलता था। आज के दिन ५५ रुपये मिलते हैं। मुझे खुद मालूम है कि १५ आने और दो दो आने मन गन्ना बिकता था। उस वक्त प्रोटैक्शन नहीं दिया गया था उस वक्त यह क्रीमत थी। आज के दिन गन्ने की क्रीमत डेढ़ रुपये

और दो रुपये तक बढ़ गयी है। फिर भी आप कहते हैं कि इस इंडस्ट्री ने तीस करोड़ रुपये बना लिये तो मेरी अक्ल के बाहर की यह बात है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि क्यों क्यूबा की मिसाल दी जाती है कि वहां चीनी का २१ रुपये का भाव होता है। २१ रुपये तो यहां शुगर केन की कीमत दी जाती है तो फिर कैसे क्यूबा के मुताबिक यहां शुगर पैदा हो सकती है और उसके मुताबिक बिक सकती है। मैं अदब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस हिसाब किताब के मुताबिक जब यह नहीं हो सकता तो हम को अपनी हिसाब की सेन्स को खैरबाद नहीं कह देना चाहिये।

यह दुरुस्त है कि हमें जा कर क्यूबा के अन्दर देखना चाहिये कि वहां कैसी कंडीशन्स हैं और क्यों वह वहां कम कीमत पर पैदा करते हैं। और क्यों नहीं हम भी उसी कीमत पर पैदा कर सकते हैं। मैं नहीं समझ सकता कि जब शुगर केन की प्राइसेज मुकर्रर की हुई हैं और फिर कई और आइटेमज की भी ऐसी मुकर्रर है कि जिनके अन्दर इंडस्ट्री दखल नहीं दे सकती जिन की कीमत २८ से २६ रुपये तक हो सकती है तो फिर कैसे हम कह सकते हैं कि क्यूबा की कीमत पर यहां शुगर पैदा हो जाय। मेरी यह मुराद हरगिज नहीं है कि इंडस्ट्री वाले बहुत मुनाफ़ा पैदा करें। अगर वह ज्यादा मुनाफ़ा करती है तो उसको आप फ़ौरन उड़ा दें। आपको इसका पूरा अस्तियार है कि उसको कम कर दें। अभी परसों एक बिल आया है जिसके अन्दर गवर्नमेंट ने एक फेहरिस्त बनाई है बहुत सी चीजों की और उन में शुगर भी है और टी भी है। गवर्नमेंट उन चीजों को कंट्रोल करेगी। मैं अदब से अर्ज करूंगा कि उस बिल में गवर्नमेंट ने यह भी रखा है कि गवर्नमेंट जो इन्डस्ट्रीज से कराना चाहेंगी वह इंडस्ट्री को करना पड़ेगा और जब गवर्नमेंट खुद यह रिसर्च वगैरह की जिम्मेवारी ले रही है और उसके लिये सेन्स मुकर्रर करती है तो मैं अदब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट के हाथ में जब यह सब चीजें हैं तो फिर इंडस्ट्री को क्या अस्तियार रह जाता है कि वह देश को नुकसान पहुंचावे। मैं अदब से अर्ज करूंगा कि आप आंखें अपनी खोलें और प्रेज्यूडिस से हर एक चीज को देखना शुरू न करें।

मैं मिसाल के तौर पर एक चीज और अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि देश में जो माल पैदा करते हैं उसकी कौस्ट प्राइस पर भी निगाह रखनी चाहिये कि किस कौस्ट प्राइस पर वह माल पैदा होता है। अगर कौस्ट प्राइस बहुत ज्यादा है तो जरूरत होती है कि बाहर से माल मंगायें। लेकिन देश में जरूरी चीजों के लिये self sufficiency का असूल मानना पड़ेगा। लड़ाई से पहले रूस में गेहूँ का कौस्ट हमारे कौस्ट से बहुत कम था और वहां के लोग ताल्ले

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की कीमत ठीक रखने के लिये उसको जला देते थे। अगर हम सस्ते गल्ले को अपने देश में आने देंगे जब कि गल्ले की पैदावार भी हमारी काफी होगी तो हमारे कार्तकार तबाह हो जावेंगे और हमारी सारी Economy इकोनोमी खत्म हो जावेगी। हमको अपने देश की इकोनोमी और हालत को देखना है और उसके मुताबिक हमें फ़ैसला करना चाहिये और इस तरह फ़ैसला करना है कि जिस से हमारी इकोनोमी रुईन न हो जाय।

आज यह शुगर की ऐसी इन्डस्ट्री है, जिसके अन्दर कितने ही लाख आदमी हमारे देश के हैं जो अपनी रोजी इसी से पैदा करते हैं। शुगर हमारे देश के वास्ते फ़िज़ूल चीज़ है यह कहना आसान है। जो लोग यह कहते हैं कि हमें गुड़ खाना चाहिये, और हमें चीनी न खानी चाहिये क्योंकि इससे तन्दुरुस्तो बिगड़ती है, वही लोग में कह सकता हूँ कि गुड़ नहीं खाते। लेकिन अगर यह दुस्त है तो इसका मतलब यह तो नहीं है कि गवर्नमेंट शुगर इन्डस्ट्री को नेशनलाइज़ करदे। अगर शुगर ऐसी चीज़ है जिसका हमें इस्तेमाल नहीं करना चाहिये तो क्यों नहीं इस इन्डस्ट्री को बन्द कर देते? उन मशीनों को तोड़ दिया जाय, फेंक दिया जाय ताकि यह हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर ख़राबी न पैदा कर सके। लेकिन यह न कहा जाय कि इस इन्डस्ट्री को नेशनलाइज़ कर दिया जाय क्योंकि इस तरह से तो, वही सफ़ेद चीनी प्रोड्यूस की जायेगी जो ख़राब चीज़ कही जाती है। हाँ, अगर यह सवाल नहीं है तो दूसरी बात है, मैं तो इस मत का हूँ कि अगर हिन्दुस्तान का फ़ायदा इसी में है कि यहां गुड़ ख़ाया जाय, अगर यह ज़्यादा अच्छा है तो हमें बोल्ड ऐक्शन लेना चाहिये। हमें सदा के वास्ते शुगर इन्डस्ट्री को ख़त्म कर देना चाहिये। लेकिन अगर ऐसी बात नहीं है तो मैं यह मानने को तैयार नहीं हूँ कि चूँकि इन्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट के नाम से चन्द लोग चिढ़ते हैं इसलिये इन्डस्ट्री को ही ख़त्म कर दिया जाय जिसकी वजह से लाखों कार्तकार और दूसरे आदमी रोजी कमाते हैं। मुझे मालूम है कि जावा की गवर्नमेंट जो मदद प्रोटेक्शन के तौर पर वहां की शुगर इन्डस्ट्री को देती थी वह उस मदद से ज़्यादा है जो यहां पर गवर्नमेंट इयूटी के अतिरिक्त देती है। जावा के अन्दर शुगर फ़ैक्ट्रीज़ के अपने फार्मस हैं, उनके लिये अलग नहरें हैं। वह खुद शुगर केन पैदा करती थी। उनके इन्तज़ामात भी हमसे मुक्तलिफ़ थे। एक फ़ैक्टरी ऐसी थी जिस में सिर्फ़ रस ही रस बनता था, और वहां से रस दूसरी जगहों पर जाता था और दूसरी जगह मास स्केल पर और प्रोसेस होते थे। इस तरह जावा वगैरा में कौस्ट कम होता था, हमें हर एक तरीक़े से अपना कौस्ट कम करना चाहिये लेकिन अगर आप गन्ने की कीमत इतनी कम कर देंगे कि कार्तकार को ठीक मुनाफ़ा न मिलेगा तो यह ठीक न होगा। कार्तकार व कार्तकाराने वालों

को वाजिबी मुनाफ़ा मिलना चाहिये। आप मिनिमम क्रीमस गन्ने की मुकर्रर करें और साथ ही मिनिमम मुनाफ़ा मुकर्रर कर दें ता कि कन्ज्यूमर पर गैर मुनासिब बोझ न पड़े। लेकिन मेरे दोस्त सक्सेना साहब ने अभी बताया है कि कितनी फैक्टरीज हैं जो मुनासिब मुनाफ़ा नहीं पाती हैं। ऐसा है तो देखना होगा कि प्रोटेक्शन काफी है या नहीं। जो अपने पैरों पर खड़े नहीं हो सकते हैं उन को क्या गवर्नमेन्ट को देखना नहीं चाहिये? क्या वजह है कि यह इन्डस्ट्रीज नहीं चलती हैं? जिस वक़्त शुगर इन्डस्ट्री को प्रोटेक्शन दिया गया था तो मुझे मालूम है कि वही साहबान जो प्रोटेक्शन के जारी रखने के खिलाफ़ हैं, जब तक प्रोटेक्शन नहीं था तब तक कहा करते थे कि यह गवर्नमेन्ट मारीशस और जावा की शुगर को चाहती है कि यहां आये, अन्डर सेल करे। इसी लिये यहां की शुगर इन्डस्ट्री को प्रोटेक्शन न दे कर उन लोगों की मदद करना नहीं चाहती है। आज ईश्वर की कृपा से जब हमारे पास इन्डस्ट्री क्रायम हो गई है तो हमारा फ़र्ज क्या यह नहीं है कि हम इसे अच्छी तरह से डेवलप करें और देश के इन्टरेस्ट के और Consumers के इन्टरेस्ट में इसको क्रायम रखें। मैं नहीं चाहता कि इन्डस्ट्रीज अनड्यू क्रायदा उठायें। लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि चूंकि इन्डस्ट्रीज के बारे में यह स्याल है कि क्रायदा उठाती है इस वास्ते इस असूल पर अमल करें कि (To cut one's nose to spite another's face) अपनी नाक काट डालें क्योंकि दूसरे का मुंह लाल करना है। जितने हमारे कन्ज्यूमर्स हैं सब का क्रायदा हमें देखना है। कन्ज्यूमर्स का क्रायदा काश्तकारों का और सारे इन्टरेस्ट को हमें इन्टीग्रेट करके देखना चाहिये कि यह प्रोटेक्शन क्रायम रखा जाय या नहीं। बिला इसके एक चीज पर एक तरफ़ से ही देख कर, और ऐसा कह कर कि तीस करोड़ रुपये का क्रायदा इन्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट उठाते हैं, जो किसी हिसाब से भी नहीं हो सकता है, प्रोटेक्शन बन्द कर दें, यह मैं एक मिनट के लिये भी मानने को तैयार नहीं हूँ।

इस वास्ते मैं बड़े अदब से अर्ज करूंगा कि इस मामले पर इस नज़र से न देखें कि कारखानेदारों ने हमें लूट लिया। आप घबरायें नहीं। उनको ज्यादा क्रायदा न लेने दीजिये लेकिन उस गूज को न मार डालिये जो गोल्डेन अंडे देती है। अगर आप को देश की नेशनल इन्डस्ट्रीज को क्रायम रखना है तो आप हरगिज ऐसा न करें। प्रोटेक्शन न मिलना चाहिये तो न दीजिये, इसमें मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं। लेकिन अगर प्रोटेक्शन मिलना चाहिये तो कोई वजह नहीं है कि हम उस प्रोटेक्शन को न दें। यह मन्त्राल हमें ठंडे दिमाग से merits पर हल करना चाहिये न कि कारखानेदारों के खिलाफ़ प्रेजुडिस पर।

(English translation of the above speech)

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Sir, I have heard with great attention the debate that has taken place over this question and thought over the various points of view that have been placed before the House. But I was a good deal surprised to hear some of the speeches. I did not want to take any great part in this discussion because I do not find myself much of an expert in this subject. Yet, in the course of the debate that has taken place before the House so far certain things have been said which do not appeal to my reason. Hence, I take part in this debate.

In the first instance I wish to say respectfully that I have noticed that whenever a Member sitting amongst us goes over to sit on the ministerial benches we come to have a wrong and uncalled for suspicion against him. If today Mr. Santhanam has gone over to sit there I do not think having gone there he would start viewing things from a different perspective and not from that from which he used to view and criticize things when he sat here. Similarly I say that when I have heard Mr. Neogy consistently speaking on the side of the consumer's interest I cannot believe that simply because he has gone and sat on the other side his mentality has undergone a change and that he would no longer see things from that point of view.

Babu Bannarayan Singh: This is for the department's sake.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: As for the department I wish to submit that I am sure that under the new set-up most of the people in the department act in the same way as the Ministers and we all do. Yet, in spite of what the people of the department might do, I cannot even for a minute have the suspicion that our Minister and the other Ministers and the Government would give up their point of view. I have full confidence that whenever an occasion comes when there is a clash between public interest and government interest they would be the first to hand in their resignations. Hence, I do not want to view any act of the Government with suspicion and when I have before me a proposal emanating from a Minister in whom I have full trust we must at least study it, and, as, Sir, you have been pleased to remark, it is our duty to view it independently and in the confidence that it would never be wrong. It will not turn out to be such a doubtful thing as to call for criticism for nothing.

With regard to this protection I wish to submit that I would have liked that whatever material there was about it should have come before this House. But, in this I do not find that the honourable Minister is in any way to blame. When the Tariff Board has submitted its report at such a time and it is of such a kind that it does not come before the Government in a complete form, I do not see how could the Minister manufacture a report and produce the same. Hence, I regret to say that until this complete report is placed before us we shall not be in a position to give a proper opinion on this point. Thus, I am surprised how, in the absence of this report before us, could Mr. Sidhva say that the honourable Minister should give a notice to all the industries today that this protection shall be abolished. When the honourable Minister too does not possess material to arrive at that conclusion how could he arrive at the conclusion that protection would be withdrawn with effect from the next year. How can this notice be given? I would respectfully submit that the time for giving such a notice would be when full data become available and we are in a position to decide whether protection would be allowed or not.

The question of protection is an extremely delicate question, especially in the case of an industry that has been enjoying protection over a number of

years. I fail to understand what sense there is in withdrawing such protection all of a sudden until we consider its full implications. If you withdraw this protection today what will become of those 50 lakhs of Kisans who supply sugarcane at the rate of one and half and two rupees. What will become of their economy? What will become of the economy of the Railways in view of what they earn today? I submit that an economy that has come to be formed in the course of a long period calls for a great deal of consideration. No immediate decision can be made on this point especially when we have already been allowing this protection for the last fifteen or sixteen years. By this I do not mean that whatever protection is given should continue for ever and be made perpetual. Not at all do I mean that. I feel that we should look at it purely from the view point whether this protection should be allowed on principle. We will in no case be prepared to allow this protection if the interest of the consumer suffers thereby. But it would serve no useful purpose to shower a few abuses on the industrialist just because there is mention of the industrialist herein. I am reminded of a story. A person went to a shop and wanted to ask for a penny worth of something. He demanded something for a pice from the shopkeeper. When he had handed over the pice and got the thing he started an argument with him, whereupon the shopkeeper even returned his pice to him. When he got back home he possessed both the thing purchased as well as the pice. But, in spite of this he remarked that the shopkeeper had fleeced him. In the matter that is before us today we have to see what price has been fixed by the Government. The Government has fixed the price of the sugar-cane; the Government has fixed the cess; the Government has fixed the limit of their profit; and the Government has fixed the minimum wages for the labour. I have just been told that there was a time when a labourer got four rupees a month in this industry. Today he gets 55 rupees. It is known to me personally that cane was sold at one and a half annas and two annas per maund. No protection had been granted then and this was the price. Today the price of cane has gone up to a rupee and a half and two rupees. If still you say this industry has made thirty crores of rupees this is beyond my comprehension. I fail to understand why the instance of Cuba is cited that the sugar from there is priced at Rs. 21. Rs. 21 are paid here as the price of sugar-cane. How could then sugar be produced here on the lines of Cuba and how could it be sold at that rate? I respectfully put it to you that since this is not possible on the basis of the present calculations we should not for that reason say good-bye to our sense of accounting.

It is true that we should go to Cuba and study the conditions existing there and to find out how they produce it at a lesser cost and why we too should not be able to produce it at the same cost. I am not able to understand that when the prices of sugar are fixed and those of some other items are also so fixed that the industry cannot interfere with them—which collectively amounts to Rs. 25 out of Rs. 28 how can we say that sugar should be produced here at a cost at which it is produced in Cuba. I do not at all mean that the owners of the industry should make large profits. If any one of them charges excessive profit you should at once take it off. You have full authority to reduce the same. A Bill was received just day before yesterday which contains a list, prepared by the Government, of a number of commodities which include sugar as well as tea. The Government would impose control in respect of these commodities. I would respectfully submit that the Government have also provided in that Bill that the industries would have to do whatever the Government might want them to do. When the Government is thus voluntarily taking upon itself the responsibility for research etc. and is fixing a cess for that I would respectfully ask that when the Government has all these things in its

[Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava]

hands what power is left in the hands of the industry to cause loss to the country? I would respectfully ask you to open your eyes and not to start looking at everything with a prejudice.

I wish to say one thing more by way of example. In the case of goods that are produced in the country we should keep in view their cost price and know at what cost those goods are produced. If the cost price is excessive necessity is felt of importing the goods from abroad. But the principle of self-sufficiency for a country for essential goods will have to be admitted. Before the War, the cost in Russia was much lower than ours and people there used to burn it with a view to maintain the price of grain. If we allow the import of cheap grain into our country, especially when our own production of grain will be enough, our cultivators will be ruined and our entire economy will be impaired.

Today this sugar industry is such that lakhs of our country men earn their living through it. It is easy to say that sugar is a useless commodity for our country. Those people who say that we should eat *gur* and that we should not eat sugar because it affects health are the very people, I may say, who do not eat *gur*. But, if this be correct it does not mean that the Government should nationalise the sugar industry. If sugar is something that we ought not to use why not close this industry? Let those machines be dismantled and discarded so that they might not spread disease in the country. But, it must not be said that this industry should be nationalized because in that case the same white sugar will be produced which is described as a harmful commodity. If, however, this is not the question then it is a different matter. I am of the view that if India's good demands that *gur* must be consumed here, if it is the better thing we must take hold action. We must close the sugar industry for ever. If, however, this is not the case I am not prepared to concede that just because some people have an aversion for the very name 'industrialist' hence the industry itself must be closed by virtue of which lakhs of cultivators and other persons make their living.

I know that the help which the Government of Java gave to their sugar industry by way of protection exceeded the help which Government gives here in addition to the duty. In Java sugar factories have their own farms; there are separate canals for them; they produce their own sugar-cane. Their arrangements were also different from ours. There was a factory in which juice alone was prepared and from there it was sent to other places, where the other processes were done on a mass scale. In this way the cost involved in Java etc. was low. We should reduce our cost by all possible means but if you reduce the price of sugar-cane to such an extent that the cultivator does not get proper profit it would not be right. The cultivators and the factory-owners must have a reasonable profit. You should fix the minimum rate for grain and the same time fix the minimum profit to that there may not be an undue burden on the consumer. But my friend, Mr. Saksena, has just told us that there are several factories which do not get reasonable profit. If this is so it will have to be seen whether or not the protection is sufficient. Should not the Government attend to those who cannot stand on their own legs? What is the reason for these industries not flourishing? Until protection was granted to the sugar industry I know that these very persons who are opposed to the continuance of protection used to say, "This Government wants sugar from Mauritius and Java to be imported here and to under-sell. This is why it wants to help those people by not granting protection to the sugar industry here." Now that by God's grace our own industry has got established is it

not our duty to develop it properly and to maintain it in the interests of the country and of the consumers. I do not want that the industries should derive undue advantage but it is beyond my comprehension that just because an idea prevails with regard to the industries that they indulge in profiteering we should act according to the saying, "To cut one's nose to spite another face". We have to look to the interests of all our consumers. We should integrate the interests of the consumers, the cultivators and all others and then see whether or not this production should be maintained. Unless that is done it will not do just to view a question from a certain angle and to say that protection should be discontinued because industrialists are deriving a profit of thirty crores—which could in no way be accounted for. I am not prepared to concede this even for a minute.

Hence, I would submit very respectfully that this question should not be viewed with the assumption that the factory owners have looted us. You must not lose patience. Let them not make excessive profit but you should not kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. You must never do this if you have to maintain the national industries of the country. If no protection is due do not give any,—I have no objection,—but if protection is due there is no reason why we should withhold it. We should solve this question cool headedly on merits, and not on the basis of a prejudice against the factory-owners.

Srjnt Bohini Kumar Chaudhuri (Assam: General): It is only two minutes more for the clock to strike five. May I speak, Sir?

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Yes, the honourable Member may begin his speech now and continue it to-morrow.

Srjnt Bohini Kumar Chaudhuri: Sir, almost all the speeches that have been delivered on the floor of this House to-day were devoted to sugar. I do not blame honourable Members for having done that, because of all the beloved things of this world, animate and inanimate, there cannot be anything else more beloved than sugar itself. There is nothing more sweet than sugar itself (*An Honourable Member:* "Honey".) There is sweetness in many things. There is sweetness in movement. There is sweetness in a smile. There is sweetness in speech. There is sweetness in the fragrance of flowers. But all that sweetness is transient. That sweetness goes off in course of time; but that sweetness of sugar cannot disappear. You like sugar when you are a baby. You like it when you are a grown-up boy. You continue to like even when you are an old man; even when unfortunately the doctor asks you not to take it. If you are put under the strictest restrictions by your doctor, you have only to go to the bazaar and buy some lozenges and then share it with your grand-children, then nobody can find fault with you. That after all being the position of sugar, Sir, it is only natural that the House should be interested in having long discourses on this subject. I should be ungrateful to that noble product of human labour, if I did not say a word in its favour, a word in favour of its protection. Whatever you like whatever you adore, whatever you cherish, you want to protect, you will not expose it to danger. I, taking a rather quick view of the matter, think there is every justification for the request for protection of sugar.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: The honourable Member may kindly continue his sweet speech to-morrow.

The Assembly then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Friday the 25th March, 1949.