

# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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VOLUME VII, 1951

(2nd April to 16th May, 1951)

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Third Session (Second Part)

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1951

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## CORRIGENDA

In the Parliamentary Debates (Part I—Questions and Answers) Third Session of Parliament (Second Part), 1951,—

In Volume VII—

1. No. 1, dated the 2nd April, 1951,—

(i) कालम २७८२, पंक्ति ३, “हम” के स्थान पर “इस” पढ़ें ।

(ii) - کالم ۲۷۸۳ نہجے سے سطر ۸ میں ”بھی“ کے بجائے ”اسی“ پڑھیں۔

(iii) Col. 2807, line 30 for “Archaeological” read “archaeological” and line 5 from bottom for “Ttransport” read “Transport”.

2. No. 7, dated the 10th April, 1951,—

(i) कालम ३०३२, नीचे से पंक्ति ४ “बगैरह” के स्थान पर “बगैरह” पढ़ें ।

(ii) Col. 3055, lines 16 and 17 for the word “Consituation” read “Constitution”.

3. No. 8, dated the 11th April, 1951,—

कालम ३१२५, नीचे से पंक्ति ९ “यागिज्य” के स्थान पर “वाधिज्य” पढ़ें ।

4. No. 11, dated the 16th April, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3230, line 27 from bottom for “ment” read “meant”.

(ii) Col. 3244, line 23 insert “of” after the words “abolition of any”.

(iii) कालम ३२५१, नीचे से पंक्ति २ “श्री जागडे” के स्थान पर “श्री सापडे” पढ़ें ।

(iv) Col. 3254, line 14 for “yards” read “years”.

5. No. 12, dated the 17th April, 1951,—

Col. 3267, line 24 for “clerllago” read “clerkage”.

6. No. 13, dated the 18th April, 1951,—

(i) Cols. 3301 & 3302, lines 22 from bottom and 24 respectively for the words “statu- tary” and “statutory” read “statuary”.

(ii) Col. 3330, line 21 for “landing ” read “landed”.

(iii) Col. 3340, lines 16 and 18 for “manzas” read “mouzas”.

7. No. 15, dated the 20th April, 1951,—

Col. 3402, line 2 from bottom for “Cureh” read “Church”.

8. No. 16, dated the 21st April, 1951,—

Col. 3447, for the existing line 24 substitute “ship Scholarship ; and ”

9. No. 17, dated the 23rd April, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3478, line 27 from bottom for “so” read “of”.

(ii) Col. 3491, between lines 4 and 5 from bottom insert new line “and (iii) Raw materials during the period October 1950 to February”.

10. No. 19, dated the 25th April, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3548, for the existing line 20 from bottom substitute “satisfaction of Members. It is the”.

(ii) Col. 3556 for the existing line 1 from bottom substitute “Indian Rupee or Sterling ?” and for line 26 from bottom substitute “meet for the first session. Accord”

- کالم ۳۵۱۳ نہجے سے سطر ۱۱ و سطر ۲۶ کے بجائے ”د طور پر“ پڑھیں۔

11. No. 20, dated the 26th April, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3621, line 7 from bottom for the figures “1,420” read “41,420”.

(ii) Col. 3626, line 1 for “condeming” read “condemning”.

12. No. 22, dated the 28th April, 1951,—

Col. 3687, line 26 for “complete” read “compete”.

13. No. 26, dated the 3rd May 1951,—

Col. 3881 for the existing line 17 from bottom *substitute* "and Supply (Shri Gadgil):(a) 105".

14. No. 27, dated the 4th May, 1951,—

Col. 3925, line 25 from bottom for "fireman" read "firman".

15. No. 30, dated the 8th May 1951,—

(i) Col. 4041, for the existing line 15 from bottom *substitute* "(c) No, as none is considered neces-".

(ii) Col. 4042, line 31 *insert* "such" before the word "circums-".

16. No. 31, dated the 9th May, 1951,—

Col. 4087, line 21 for "Rama" read "Rana".

17. No. 32, dated the 10th May, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4124, line 20 from bottom for "member" read "number".

(ii) Col. 4129, line 21 for the words "having come" read "coming out of", lines 6 & 8 from bottom for the figure "1.4.51" read "15.4.51", and for "15.4.51" read "1.4.51" respectively.

- (iii) कालम ४१३३, पंक्ति १२ "नियम" के स्थान पर "नियंत्रणों" पढ़ें ।

18. No. 33, dated the 11th May, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4150, line 10 from bottom for "of" read "to".

(ii) Col. 4161, line 17 for the figure "85" read "185".

(iii) Col. 4162, line 24 for "in view of" read "in lieu of".

19. No. 36, dated the 15th May, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4270, line 30 for "pait-mixture" read "paint-mixture"

(ii) कालम ४२८८, पंक्ति २८, "\*२९५" के स्थान पर "२९५" पढ़ें ।

(iii) कालम ४२८९, नीचे से पंक्ति १९, "बद्य" के स्थान पर "लाद्य" पढ़ें ।

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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

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*The-Speaker*

The Honourable Shri G. V. Mavalankar.

*The Deputy-Speaker*

Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar.

*Panel of Chairmen*

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava.

Shrimati G. Durgabai.

Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka.

Sardar Hukam Singh.

Shri Manilal Chaturbhai Shah.

*Secretary*

Shri M. N. Kaul, Barrister-at-Law.

*Assistants of the Secretary*

Shri A. J. M. Atkinson.

Shri N. C. Nandi.

Shri D. N. Majumdar.

Shri C. V. Narayana Rao.

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## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

### *Members of the Cabinet*

- Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs—The Honourable Shri Jawaharlal Nehru.**  
**Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs and the States—The Honourable Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.**  
**Minister of Education—The Honourable Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.**  
**Minister Without Portfolio—The Honourable Shri C. Rajagopalachari.**  
**Minister of Defence—The Honourable Sardar Baldev Singh.**  
**Minister of Labour—The Honourable Shri Jagjivan Ram.**  
**Minister of Communications—The Honourable Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai.**  
**Minister of Health—The Honourable Rajkumari Amrit Kaur.**  
**Minister of Law—The Honourable Dr. B. R. Ambedkar.**  
**Minister of Works, Mines and Power—The Honourable Shri N. V. Gadgil.**  
**Minister of Transport and Railways—The Honourable Shri N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar.**  
**Minister of Industry and Supply—The Honourable Shri Hare Krishna Mahtab.**  
**Minister of Food and Agriculture—The Honourable Shri K. M. Munshi.**  
**Minister of Commerce—The Honourable Shri Sri Prakasa.**  
**Minister of Finance—The Honourable Shri Chintaman Dwarkanath Deshmukh.**

### *Ministers not in the Cabinet.*

- Minister for the purposes of agreement between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan of the 8th April, 1950—The Honourable Shri C. C. Biswas.**  
**Minister of State for Transport and Railways—The Honourable Shri K. Santhanam.**  
**Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting—The Honourable Shri R. R. Diwakar.**  
**Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs—The Honourable Shri Satyanarayan Sinha.**  
**Minister of State for Rehabilitation—The Honourable Shri Ajit Prasad Jain.**  
**Deputy Minister of Communications—Shri Khurshed Lal.**  
**Deputy Minister of External Affairs—Dr. B. V. Keekar.**  
**Deputy Minister of Commerce—Shri Dattatraya Parasahuram Karmarkar.**  
**Deputy Minister of Defence—Major General Himatsinghji.**  
**Deputy Minister of Works, Mines and Power—Shri S. N. Buragohain.**  
**Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture—Shri M. Thirumala Rao.**



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

2987

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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**

*Monday, 9th April, 1951.*

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

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**INDIAN SHIPPING COMPANIES**

\*2914. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether the Indian Shipping Companies have submitted to Government a three year plan for the expansion of their tonnage of India's coastal trade?

(b) Do those companies require financial assistance from Government for the execution of their plan?

(c) If so, what amount of money do they require, and on what conditions?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) The Government of India have not received from the Indian shipping companies any specific three year plan for expansion of Indian tonnage on the coast.

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

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the shipping companies approached the Government of India at any time during this year or the last year for a loan?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, Sir. Several of the shipping companies are approaching us from time to time.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Have Government given any loans to any of the Indian companies to purchase ships for the coastal trade?

**Shri Santhanam:** Except by offering to sell the ships manufactured at the Vizagapatam Yard under concessional rates, no loan has been given so far.

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**Shri A. C. Guha:** Have Government any plan of their own for development of Indian shipping?

**Shri Santhanam:** Yes, Sir. They are building three ships a year at the Vizag Yard which will be put into the coastal trade.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the total amount of concession given to the Vizagapatam Yard?

**Shri Santhanam:** I think it is about Rs. 22 lakhs per ship.

**Pandit Maltra:** May I know if the Government have intimated to the shipping companies that they will get financial as well as technical assistance in the event of their going forward with construction of ships?

**Shri Santhanam:** Each case is considered on its merits and if any Indian company is able to buy ships from anywhere and wants assistance, the case will be considered on its own merits.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Will the hon. Minister enlighten the House on the price charged per dead weight ton for the ships given to these companies and the British price per ton of dead weight for the ships?

**Shri Santhanam:** I have not got the price for every ton of dead weight, but the prices at which the Scindia ships are offered are the market prices at which they can be obtained—whether they be British or other ships.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Are Government aware that the Chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company Limited, Sir William Curry, had made suggestions to the Government of India for starting two British Indian Companies in which the B.I.S.N. would be prepared to accept a minor shareholding and for which they will provide experienced personnel and tonnage; if so, have Government considered this proposal and what is their reaction?

**Shri Santhanam:** This particular question has been replied to more than twice during this Session.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Government of India issue licences for coastal trade to British companies under any circumstances?

**Shri Santhanam:** As I have already explained, Government of India have decided to reserve coastal shipping for Indian companies and they have fixed August this year for the completion of their programme. Meanwhile, because there is not sufficient Indian shipping, British shipping to a certain extent has been licensed to carry on coastal trade and it is our hope that that may be replaced by August of this year.

#### ELECTRIC TRAINS

\*2915. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether any orders have been placed for additional new electric trains on the B.B. and C.I. suburban service?

(b) How many trains of the above Railway run on the suburban service?

(c) What is the average total number of passengers carried by this service per day?

(d) Has any demand been made for additional trains on this section?

(e) If so, what steps have Government taken in this respect?

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

(b) 229 on week days and 202 on Sundays.

(c) About four lakhs and a quarter.

(d) Yes.

(e) Among the steps taken are the following:

(i) Eight G. I. P. Railway Harbour Branch trains have been extended from Bandra to Andheri stations on the B. B. and C. I. Railway.

(ii) Provision has been made in the Budget for Electrification of the through tracks between Bandra and Borivli to provide faster trains on this section when the new stock on order arrives.

(iii) Provision has also been made for additional electric multiple unit suburban coaches for the B. B. and C. I. Railway in future years.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know what is the capacity of each suburban service train and how many passengers are carried in each train on an average?

**Shri Santhanam:** I have not got the figure for the absolute maximum capacity, but at present the capacity is filled to a high degree.

**Shri Sidhva:** Do I then take it that there is overcrowding?

**Shri Santhanam:** That is why we are trying to put in more trains and increase the number of services.

**Shri Sidhva:** What is the time taken to travel from Churchgate to Borivli?

**Shri Santhanam:** It can be found from the time-table!

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know the position on the G. I. P. Railway—have they indented for more units for the suburban service?

**Shri Santhanam:** We have ordered 64 units for the G. I. P. and 48 for the B. B. and C. I.

**Shri Sidhva:** When are these likely to arrive?

**Shri Santhanam:** By the end of this calendar year.

**Pandit Maltra:** Where have these orders been placed?

**Shri Santhanam:** In the U.K.

**Shri T. Husain:** Have Government any proposal to run electric trains round about Delhi; if not, why not?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This question is about Bombay.

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** But Bombay is connected with Delhi!

**An Hon. Member:** By telephone?

**Shri Kidwai:** By telephone and by train also.

**Shri Santhanam:** There are some vague proposals about having some electric trains round about Delhi, but they have not condensed into anything concrete yet.

**Shri Sonavane:** In view of the intense heat and sweating in Bombay, may I know how many of these electric trains are fitted with electric fans in the suburban service?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That does not arise from this question.

**Shri Sonavane:** The question is about electric trains and I am only asking about electric fans.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** How can any Minister know the details about fans and things like that?

**Shri Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What is the total mileage of the sub-urban service?

**Shri Santhanam:** All this is given in the Railway Board reports.

**Shri Kamath:** With a view to providing for the increasing passenger traffic in Bombay, is there any proposal before Government to have an underground system in Bombay as in Calcutta?

**Shri Santhanam:** I do not know whether there is an underground system in Calcutta.

**Shri Kamath:** I only said proposal.

**Shri Santhanam:** There is no such proposal for Bombay.

**Shri Kamath:** Why have Government chosen Calcutta for their underground activities?

**Shri Santhanam:** The hon. Member is a specialist in such activities.

**Shri Sidhva:** What is the total cost of the new units that are likely to arrive?

**Shri Santhanam:** Notice.

श्री भट्ट : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतायेंगे कि बंद्रा से बोरीवली तक को एलेक्ट्रिक सर्विस की चौबीस लाइन इस साल में बराबर शुरू हो जायगी ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether the fourth track of electric train service between Bandra and Borivli will begin to work regularly this year?]

**Shri Santhanam:** It will be begun this year. I do not know when it will be completed.

#### PRODUCTION OF FOOD CROP

\*2916. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any definite plan is followed for the production of food crop and cash crop viz. various kinds of cereals, cotton and jute in India?

(b) If so, what is the plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** (a) The integrated production programme formulated in 1950 set definite targets of additional production in respect of foodgrains, cotton and jute for 1950-51 and 1951-52 and indicated the measures necessary for achieving these targets.

(b) When the programme was formulated, the deficits to be made up by

the end of 1951-52 in order to achieve self-sufficiency in foodgrains, cotton and jute were estimated at 30.6 lakh tons, 11.0 lakh bales and 33.8 lakh bales (including jute substitutes) respectively. The targets of additional production over 1949-50 set for 1950-51 were 17.0 lakh tons, 6.0 lakh bales and 12.0 lakh bales respectively and it was intended that the balance of the deficits should be covered during 1951-52. Owing to adverse weather conditions, however, the results are not fully reflected in the overall production figures. The extra jute produced was about 2 lakh bales and the extra cotton between 3 and 4 lakh bales. The target for foodgrains however is expected to be achieved. The targets of additional production for 1951-52 for foodgrains, cotton and jute have been set at 14 lakh tons, 7 lakh bales and 13 lakh bales respectively.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know whether there is a definite plan for five years regarding cash crop and food crop, that is to say, whether during this period the acreage is likely to be diverted from one crop to another?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** With regard to cash crops Government have taken into consideration jute and cotton only. There are other cash crops like sugar cane, tobacco and others which are not strictly controlled by the Central Government.

**Shri Sidhva:** With regard to jute and cotton I want to know whether under the five year plan it is the idea to convert area under foodgrains to jute and cotton?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** There are certain areas in Bengal and Orissa which are converted into jute and compensation is being given for that.

**Shri Sidhva:** Am I to understand that there is no definite plan for jute, cotton and foodgrains in the five years' scheme and that they can be changed at any time from one crop to another?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** No, Sir. There is a definite plan and until the target is achieved this plan will go on; that is until we achieve the total requirements of 33 lakhs bales of jute; 12 lakhs bales of cotton and 34 lakhs tons of foodgrains.

**Shri Sidhva:** When is this expected to be achieved?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** We want to achieve it by the end of 1952.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** With regard to production of cereals have Government any plans for making certain adjustments between the prices of cereals and cash crops?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** We have not got any immediate plan.

**Pandit Maitra:** May I know from the hon. the Deputy Minister if he is in a position to tell us the exact amount of acreage that has been diverted from foodgrains to jute in Bengal.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I want notice of that question.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** May I know whether Government is contemplating the passing of any law to execute this plan; if not, how is Government going to execute the plan?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** The State Governments are co-operating fully in this matter and are left to deal with the matter as best as they can.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Will the hon. Minister enlighten the House as to the basis on which the increases are to be made—on the actual production of this year, or on the theoretical programme which they had set last year?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** My hon. friend knows how these assessments are made. There are several varieties of assessments: one is eye assessment; the other is crop-cutting experiment. It was only day before yesterday made clear by the hon. Minister how our eye assessments are not far wrong when actually verified with these crop cutting experiments. There is only 10 or 15 per cent. error. By these two methods we arrive at our figures and every effort is being made in all the provinces to see that organised crop cutting experiments are carried out by qualified statisticians.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have to point out to hon. Members that we had a full debate on this subject only two days back and still attempts are being made to convert the question hour into a debating hour.

**Shri Hussain Imam rose—**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member himself was a president of another Assembly.

#### COASTAL FREIGHT STRUCTURE

\*2917. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to refer to the answer given to my Starred Question No. 433 on the 28th November, 1950 and state whether the Director-General of Shipping has taken any steps "to even out all anomalies in the coastal freight structure" of the Indian Coastal Shipping?

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

Str. Representations received from time to time from shippers and other commercial bodies regarding freight rates in respect of specified commodities are looked into by the Director General of Shipping and, where he is satisfied that the freight rates complained of are unduly high, he takes up the matter with the Conference Lines. He has done so in many cases successfully. The question of the procedure for pursuing and settling the cases where an agreement with Conference Lines is not reached is under examination. In the case of coal, which is an important commodity, and of the Konkan passenger trade, Government appointed a Shipping Rates Advisory Board to investigate into and make recommendations as to suitable rates of freight and passenger fare. Investigations by Advisory Boards, however, take time and that method is, therefore, not appropriate for commodities which play but a small part in the economy of Indian shipping as a whole.

A new Indian Coastal Conference has just come into being and it is considered desirable to give it more time to consider the problems and secure by voluntary agreement re-adjustment of freight rates, wherever necessary.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know, Sir, whether any actual changes have been made in the freight rates after this question was answered on the 28th of November last?

**Shri Santhanam:** I do not think there has been any change since November last. But during 1949-50 there have been many changes due to the intervention of the Director-General of Shipping.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know, Sir, what is the present freight rate of sodium carbonate from Port Okha to Calcutta? That was specifically asked in my last question.

**Shri Santhanam:** If it had been specifically asked it would have been answered then.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What is the use of carrying over this question?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The freight rate of sodium carbonate from Okha to Calcutta was given as Rs. 38/2 then, which is almost same as the freight from U.K. to Calcutta. The hon. Minister then said that he would look into the matter and change the freight rate.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If the hon. Member considers this matter so important he could have put it as part (b) of the question, so that the hon. Minister would have come prepared.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether there is any difference between the rates of coastal trade carried by British shipping and Indian shipping?

**Shri Santhanam:** In regard to coastal trade I think there are agreed rates.

#### LAND RECLAMATION

\*2921. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the estimated acreage of land proposed to be reclaimed in the year 1951 by the Central Tractor Organisation?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** A total area of 2,39,500 acres is proposed to be reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organisation in 1951 in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Bharat and Bhopal.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, the amount proposed to be spent on these reclamation works?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I want notice of that question.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the land already reclaimed in different States of the country last year, or since 1947?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** For the three seasons ending with 1950 the Central Tractor Organisation reclaimed the following acreages in various States:

Uttar Pradesh—58,543 acres.  
 Madhya Pradesh—70,270 acres.  
 Madhya Bharat—16,535 acres.  
 Punjab—13,517 acres.  
 Bhopal—18,374 acres.

In all 1,77,239 acres.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the expenditure incurred on the reclamation work and the estimated value of the yield on the land?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I want notice of that question.

**Lala Achint Ram:** May I know how much acreage of land Government proposes to get reclaimed through displaced persons: how many displaced persons have been employed on it and what is the amount set apart?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I want notice of that question.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether it is a fact that the area that is being reclaimed by tractors in Uttar Pradesh is likely to be eroded: have Government received any report to that effect?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** No, Sir, I am not aware of any such report. The areas that have been reclaimed in the various States are being looked after by the States and allotted to persons for immediate cultivation.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether Government have taken any steps to formulate, from the right now, a land tenure policy in these reclaimed areas?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Land tenure is a State subject, Sir.

**Shri T. Husain:** Have Government any reclamation scheme for land in Chota Nagpur?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I want notice of that question.

**Shri T. Husain:** Have Government any special scheme for settlement of those whose lands have been, or will be, submerged by the Damodar Valley project, in Chota Nagpur?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Sir, the question may be addressed to another Department.

**Sardar B. S. Man:** May I know whether the reclamation of one million acres which has already been done by the C.T.O. for the last one year has been followed up by subsequent operations and the reclaimed land is under cultivation, or is it a fact that much of the reclaimed land has relapsed back?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** The State Governments are looking after this aspect of the question and I am not in a position to give him the exact position with regard to these things. If he puts down a question I shall try to get the information.

**Shri Dwivedi:** I want to know the causes why the Central Tractor Organisation refused to spare tractors for reclaiming land in Vindhya Pradesh as a result of which the sum of Rs. 5 lakhs which was granted for that purpose had to be surrendered to the Government and no land could be reclaimed in Vindhya Pradesh.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Sir, the hon. Member wants to verify the information. If he puts down the question I can point out the answer to him.

**Shri Dwivedi:** I want to know why they refused to spare tractors.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is not admitted that any refusal was made. He may put down a question "whether it was refused and, if so, what were the causes, etc.".

**Seth Govind Das:** In the current year how much land which is to be reclaimed is going to be reclaimed in each Province—Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and other Provinces?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Sir, just now I read it. If he wants me to repeat it I shall read it again.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members must be attentive when answers are read.

**Seth Govind Das:** He did not give figures for each State. He only mentioned the total. I want to know how much will be reclaimed in each State.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He read State after State. I shall call the next question.

**Shri Dwivedi:** Before you go to the next question I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the printed report in which it is stated that the tractors were not given by the Central Tractor Organisation.

**An Hon. Member:** He has not studied it.

**Shri Dwivedi:** If he has not studied the report it is not my fault.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let him put the question "whether the Central Tractor Organisation has been approached for that particular purpose and, if so, etc., etc.". There is a mode of putting the question. I am afraid the hon. Member has taken the hon. Minister by surprise.

**Shri Dwivedi:** It has been given in the report.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That may be. Everything contained in the report is not carried in the head of the hon. Minister.

#### STATE ENTERPRISES

\*2922. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of States be pleased to state whether the Ministry of States have appointed any Committee to go into the working of State enterprises in Part B States and if so, at what stage the enquiry is?

(b) Has it submitted an interim report and if so, what are its main findings?

**The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):** (a) I invite the attention of the hon. Member to my reply to Sri Sarwate's Starred Question No. 2435, dated 21st March, 1951.

(b) The question of publishing the main recommendations of Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai is under consideration in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

**Shri Alexander:** May I know whether an interim report in respect of the industries of any of the States has been submitted?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** By Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai?

**Shri Alexander:** Yes.

**Shri Gopalaswami:** He has submitted reports in respect of Hyderabad and Mysore. The report for Travancore-Cochin is expected shortly.

**Shri Sivan Pillay:** What were the points of reference to that Committee?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai was instructed to make an investigation, and the objects of the investigation were:

To enable the formulation of a co-ordinated policy and plan with regard to the management and development of the existing State-owned and State-aided industries in Hyderabad, Mysore and Travancore-Cochin, and in regard to the starting of new industries;

Secondly, to make available to the State Governments expert business advice as to the manner in which and the agency through which they should function in regard to such enterprises.

**Shri Sivan Pillay:** May I know whether any questionnaire was published in this matter?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I know Shri Kasturbhai made enquiries, but whether he issued any written questionnaire I do not exactly know.

**Shri Alexander:** May I know what were the main findings of the report submitted in regard to the industries of Hyderabad?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** There are quite a number of recommendations in the report. I have got here three pages of typed matter of that. If the hon. Member wishes to have the information I can supply it to him, if he would come over to me.

**Shri Alexander:** May I know how many of the industries or State enterprises are running at a loss and how many are running at a profit?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I think he must wait for the publication of the report.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** When will the report be published or laid on the Table of the House?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** We are consulting the State Governments on the

matter and a decision will be reached as soon as possible.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Sir, in view of the fact that in Hyderabad there is no legislature and this is the only legislature where they can voice their opinion. The Government normally consists in Democracy of the executive as well as the legislature, and one part being missing, there is no Democratic Government—may I know . . .

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This is with respect to all Part B States.

**Shri Gopalaswami:** Of the three States, two have got legislatures functioning. One of them has got yet no legislature.

**Shri M. L. Gupta:** May I know whether the Committee was appointed by the States Ministry or by the States themselves and whether the report now with the Minister will be laid on the Table of the House?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I think Shri Kasturbhai Lalbhai was asked to make this enquiry by the States Ministry on behalf of the States concerned.

**Shri Alexander:** May I know whether any wastage of funds has been suspected in any of these industries?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member will wait for the results of the report.

**Shri Sondhi:** Is it not a fact that the amount spent by the Committee has been paid by the Central Government?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** I believe so.

**Shri M. L. Gupta:** The hon. Minister stated that there are three pages of the recommendations which he said he would make available to the hon. Member, Mr. Alexander. May I request that this information may be placed on the Table of the House?

**Shri Gopalaswami:** Primarily the reports are submitted to the Governments of the States concerned. But if the hon. Members wish to have the information as to what the report contains, I shall consider the question of placing those reports on the Table of Parliament.

#### PILFERAGE OF STAMPS

\*2923. **Shri Alexander:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that stamps are being stolen from articles in Post Boxes in various parts of the country?

(b) How many such cases have been brought to the notice of Government since 1949 and how many of them are detected and the culprits punished?

(c) What are the precautions taken against this and how far have they proved effective?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes. Such complaints are received sometimes.

(b) 85 cases have been brought to the notice of Government since 1949. In 17 cases the culprits were successfully detected and punished.

(c) Town Inspectors and Inspectors of Post Offices and Overseers in rural areas have been specially asked to keep a strict watch over the clearance of letter boxes, post test letters and carry out surprise checks. The stocks of stamps with stamp vendors are also checked frequently. With a view to see that stamps removed from letters are not sold, all cases of complaint or suspicion are vigorously pursued and offenders are either prosecuted in court or dealt with departmentally. The number of such complaints has gone down.

**Shri Alexander:** May I know whether these culprits are postal employees or outsiders?

**Shri Kidwai:** Both.

**Pandit Maltra:** May I ask the hon. Minister if he is aware that besides this there is another form of malpractice which was widely prevalent, namely, effacement of postal stamps of high denominational stamps and whether that has been checked or stopped?

**Shri Kidwai:** We are aware somehow such stamps are being used.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Have the Government received any report that this sort of pilferage of postal stamps, particularly of high denominational stamps are taking place inside the Post Offices in respect of registered and insured packets etc.?

**Shri Kidwai:** That is true.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Have the Government taken any action to prosecute those officers who are involved in these cases?

**Shri Kidwai:** We are doing whatever is possible and our Special Police is also investigating a large number of cases.

**Shri Kamath:** In connection with this pilferage of stamps, does Government keep a close watch on the activities of the Philatelists' Association—Association of Stamp Collectors?

**Shri Kidwai:** I am thankful to the Philatelists' Association who first brought this to our notice.

**Shri Kamath:** Set a thief to catch a thief!

**Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan:** May I ask the hon. Minister whether his attention has been drawn to some stamps coming from abroad having been taken out before the letters reach the persons to whom the letters are addressed, evidently by some of the postal authorities, who are stamp collectors?

**Shri Kidwai:** Yes. Such complaints have also been received.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Since when has this pilferage of stamps been noticed to be increasing in the Department?

**Shri Kidwai:** I have mentioned the date in my reply.

#### "GROW MORE FISH" SCHEMES

\*2924. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount of money spent so far on the "Grow More Fish" schemes?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** Grants of Rs. 47 lakhs and loans for Rs. 19.53 lakhs have been sanctioned for the purpose.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know how much big fish and how much small fish have Government grown after they launched their "Grow More Fish" Campaign?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Shall I give you the various purposes for which it is being spent?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Yes.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** The schemes of the following nature are eligible for financial assistance from the "grow more fish" fund: Distribution of fingerlings and fish seed; purchase of indigenous fish craft and tackle; purchase of salt for curing and drying fish; staff employed for fisheries development schemes.

**Sardar B. S. Man:** Have the Government in any of their research organizations evolved a formula by which fish can be grown now?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Yes, Sir. Several research stations are making experiments with regard to growing and multiplying the quantity of fish.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members who do not take this delicacy need not put questions. They may reserve it for others.

**Shri Dwivedi:** May I know if in the *pushkarnis* of certain temples in Southern India, Government have compelled the *mahants* or the temple-owners to grow more fish there and against the religious sentiments of the people?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I am not particularly aware of such temples. Certain *pushkarnis* are so clear in their water that no fish can grow in them.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Do Government propose to start procurement, rationing and price control of fish as in case of foodgrains?

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

**Sardar Sochet Singh:** Will the Government consider the desirability of amalgamating both of these grow more campaigns into one of loaves and fishes?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. I think our time is very precious. I find that some hon. Members are putting questions of this sort merely for the sake of some humour. This is not right. Next question.

**Shri Chattopadhyay:** May I know whether this Department has placed any yarn at the disposal of the fishermen for preparing fishing nets?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Yes, Sir. This may remotely come under the item 'Development of increased production'.

**Shri Chattopadhyay:** In this matter of development of fish and fish culture, fishing net is a very important item and this Department has not placed any yarn at the disposal of the fishermen in the State of West Bengal.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I request hon. Members to listen to me when I read out the purposes. Item 2 is purchase of indigenous fishing craft and tackle.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

#### ACCIDENTS AT LEVEL CROSSINGS

\*2925. **Shri J. N. Hazarika:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many accidents took place during the last three years at the Level Crossings without gates on the Assam Railways?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** 14 during the three calendar years 1948, 1949 and 1950.

**Shri J. N. Hazarika:** May I know the number of accidents in A and B class crossings and also the number in C and D class? What is the number of



persons killed or injured and also the property destroyed and compensation paid in respect of each claim?

**Shri Santhanam:** There are 1,615 level crossings without gates on the Arcam Railways and the total number of accidents for these three years is

श्री भट्ट : इस में मनुष्यों की हानि कितनी हुई है और जानवरों की हानि कितनी हुई है ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** May I know the loss of human life and cattle involved in these accidents?]

**Shri Santhanam:** No. I thought as the number of accidents was small, no details would be necessary.

**Shri J. N. Hazarika:** May I know when the classification of crossings was last made and if it is too ancient, will it be revised soon?

**Shri Santhanam:** This matter is constantly under review and if there is any justification, if any place has grown up and it is necessary to man the level crossing, it will be done.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

#### LICENCE TO HIMALAYAN AIRWAYS

\*2926. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that licence to the Himalayan Airways has been renewed?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** Yes, Sir. Pending Government decision on the recommendations of the Air Transport Inquiry Committee, the period of validity of the provisional licence granted to Himalayan Aviation has been extended up to the 30th April, 1951.

**Sardar B. S. Man:** In view of the fact that the Himalayan Airways have co-operated with the Government and given excellent service, may I know when they will be given the term licence which will lead to still more improvements?

**Shri Kidwai:** The discussion on the Air Enquiry Committee Report will take place in this House on the 16th and then we may be able to say something definite about it.

#### PARCHED RICE

\*2927. **Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and

Agriculture be pleased to state whether there is any ban or control placed on the inter-State movements of parched rice?

(b) What are the prices per maund of parched rice in exporting and importing States?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** (a) and (b). A statement containing the information required is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXI, annexure No. 9.]

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** May I know if there is any procurement and levy of parched rice in any part of the country?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** Procurement is not done in parched rice.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** May I know what is the quantity of paddy annually diverted for the production of parched rice?

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** I want notice of the question.

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** May I ask one question, Sir?

**Shri Sondhi:** On a point of order, Sir, is the hon. Member entitled to ask a question when he is not in his seat?

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri:** May I mention, Sir, that this seat has been gifted to me by Shrimati Durgabai. May I know whether any step has been taken, along with the programme for 'grow more fish' to make fish-eating more popular in this part of the country?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** With or without rice? This question relates to rice. Next question.

#### MANUFACTURE OF GLIDERS

\*2928. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a technician named Mr. Antonius Raab manufactured one or two gliders in Baroda in the year 1948;

(b) whether he was in the service of the then Baroda Government;

(c) the cost of production of those gliders;

(d) whether he gave a demonstration of gliding in Baroda, in the presence of an officer of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation;

(e) what has happened to those gliders manufactured by Mr. Raab; and

(f) the cost of each glider imported into India during the year 1950?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes, Mr. Raab built two gliders at Baroda during 1947-1948. A third one was built there after he left.

(b) Yes.

(c) It is not possible to state the cost of production of the two gliders made by Mr. Raab. The facts are that the Baroda Industrial Research Section, set up for the manufacture of gliders, was in existence from September, 1947 till the end of October, 1949. The total recurring expenditure of the Section during that period was over Rs. 6 lakhs, out of which Rs. 5,77,000 was recurring expenditure. During that period the Section built three complete gliders.

(d) Yes.

(e) The two made by Mr. Raab were taken over by the Kala Bhawan Institute of Baroda under arrangements between the Institute and the Government of Baroda. The third glider is at the Civil Aviation Training Centre, Allahabad.

(f) I place on the Table a statement giving the information.

#### STATEMENT

Type of glider		Number imported	Cost per glider
(1) Primary glider	Eon	3	Rs. 4,950
(2) Baby intermediary glider	Eon	2	8,200
(3) Olympia sailplane		1	12,800
(4) Twin-seater glider	T-21 B Slingsby	2	14,500

**Shri Kamath:** With regard to cost of production referred to in part (c) of the question, do not the records of the then Baroda Government show the cost incurred upon the manufacture of gliders, or are those records missing?

**Shri Kidwai:** The records show that during the year that these three gliders were built, five lakhs and some thousands were spent. If all that is taken into account, the cost will be very heavy.

**Shri Kamath:** Do the records not show that Mr. Raab built those gliders from more or less scrap metal that was salvaged by him from the aeroplanes or bombers that were destroyed by the Anglo-Americans after the war?

**Shri Kidwai:** That may be true. The recurring cost has also to be taken into

consideration when you fix the cost of production of a particular glider.

**Shri Kamath:** Is there no information at all, as to the actual cost of materials involved in the manufacture of these gliders, in the books of the Baroda Government?

**Shri Kidwai:** We are not in a position to know what was their cost and how the cost was arrived at.

**Shri Kamath:** Do the Government propose to utilise the services of Mr. Raab again for this purpose?

**Shri Kidwai:** We have got our own factory and we are working successfully. The other day in reply to a question I stated that we have manufactured one glider, we are to complete another in a few days and a third is being planned.

**Shri Kamath:** At what cost is a glider built in our factory?

**Shri Kidwai:** I gave that information the other day. It was much lower than the cost at which it could be built by Mr. Raab.

**Shri Kamath:** Lower? Are you sure?

**Shri Kidwai:** Yes.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** What is the recurring expenditure of the new glider factory that is being run by the Government?

**Shri Kidwai:** The question relates to the Baroda factory. I have not got the Allahabad figures with me.

#### POSTAL SYSTEMS OF FORMER PRINCELY STATES

\*2929. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the postal systems in force in the former Princely States of Hyderabad, Gwalior and Travancore-Cochin have since been completely taken over and replaced by the Posts and Telegraphs Department of the Government of India; and

(b) if not, what is the exact position in regard to them?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** What is the present position with regard to the postal system in Jammu and Kashmir?

**Shri Kidwai:** The postal system in Jammu and Kashmir was always with the Government of India.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** At the time of taking over the postal systems, how was the balance of postal stationery such as envelopes, post-cards, postage stamps, etc., belonging to the system of the Rulers dealt with? Was it destroyed or utilised and exhausted?

**Shri Kidwai:** Is this question about Jammu and Kashmir?

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** About the other States.

**Shri Kidwai:** We took possession of the stationery that was being used in those post offices.

**Shri Dwivedi:** What is the number of persons retrenched in connection with the integration of the postal services?

**Shri Kidwai:** I do not think any personnel has been retrenched so far.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** May I know whether there was any reduction in the salary from Rs. 40 to Rs. 20 effected by the Government in the case of the non-departmental Anchal masters in the Travancore-Cochin State when it was integrated recently?

**Shri Kidwai:** In Travancore-Cochin, there were post offices established by the Government of India. There were post offices under the Anchal system. They were operating in the same area. The non-departmental Anchal system will be abolished so that there will be one single unit in the entire area.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** My question was whether the salary enjoyed by the Anchal masters till this time has been reduced from Rs. 40 to Rs. 20 when these Anchal post offices were integrated.

**Shri Kidwai:** The salaries will be brought to the level of the Government of India salary. If it was higher, then they will be paid higher salaries; if it was lower in some cases, they will be paid the lower scale.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** Has any date been fixed for the abolition of the Anchal system in Travancore-Cochin?

**Shri Kidwai:** From the 1st April, we have taken over the Anchal system under our own management.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** How long is it going to continue?

**Shri Kidwai:** I said that from the 1st of April, we have taken it over.

#### SPECIAL COMPLAINTS ORGANISATION

\*2930. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public complaints relating to corruption made to the Special Complaints Organisation during the years 1949-50 and 1950-51; and

(b) how many of these were, on enquiry, found true and how they were disposed of?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXI, annexure No. 10.]

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** What is the total number of complaints which were received by the Special Organisation? The Statement relates only to the complaints of corruption?

**Shri Kidwai:** The question was about corruption. Those figures are given. The other day, there was another question in reply to which the other figures were also supplied.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is nothing preventing the hon. Member putting this question also in writing. Why should such a supplementary be put? Nothing prevented the hon. Member from adding that also in the question.

**Shri T. Husain:** May I know if it is a fact that Government have stopped enquiry in some of these cases, and if so, in how many? What is the reason for stopping the enquiry in those cases?

**Shri Kidwai:** I am not aware of any case where the enquiry was stopped without completing it.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** How many complaints were personally looked into by the officer in charge of this organisation and how many inspections were carried out by him during this year?

**Shri Kidwai:** I have not got that information.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** How many of the cases that were sent to court ended in conviction? The statement does not furnish this information.

**Shri Kidwai:** The other day, there was a question in reply to which it was stated how many cases ended in conviction, how many were still pending and how many were acquitted.

**Shri Kamath:** What are the reasons for this Ministry alone having a Complaints Organisation and not the other Ministries also?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** How can the hon. Minister say that?

**Shri Kidwai:** How does the hon. Member know that no other Ministry has got a Complaints Section?

**Shri Kamath:** So far as I know. The hon. Minister may enlighten the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister is not expected to answer for all the other Ministries. Next question.

#### HOLLERITH SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTINGS

\*2931. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether the Hollerith System of mechanised accounting introduced as an experimental measure, has proved successful?

(b) If so, what are the specific advantages?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** (a) It is still in an experimental stage and it is too early to form an opinion.

(b) The main advantages of this mechanised system of accounting are:

(i) the liability for error due to the human factor, inherent in the previous system of accounting, is eliminated;

(ii) an upto-date record of stock position and balance of stores is available all the time; and

(iii) there will be considerable economy due to reduction of staff in the long run.

**Shri S. N. Das:** What was the cost?

**Shri Kidwai:** I have not got the information here.

**Shri S. N. Das:** What is the extent of saving in terms of money, time and men required.

**Shri Kidwai:** I have said that it is still in an experimental stage. Our forms may also have to be changed in the light of the experience that we have gained. Therefore it is not yet possible to give an exact estimate.

**Shri S. N. Das:** When was this experiment started?

**Shri Kidwai:** Last year.

#### TRAMWAY SERVICE IN DELHI

\*2932. **Shri Sanjivayya:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government have any

proposal of taking over the Tramway service in Delhi?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** Yes. The tramways in Delhi were taken over by the Government of India and entrusted to the Delhi Road Transport Authority for operation on the 1st of April, 1951.

**Shri Dwivedi:** What is the reason that the tramway in Delhi has not at all improved, even though the Government has taken it over?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It was taken over only on the 1st of April, 1951.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** What is the amount of assets and liabilities that the taking over of the tramway brought to Government?

**Shri Santhanam:** The capital invested on the tramways roughly amounts to between Rs. 12 and 13 lakhs and the Delhi Road Transport Authority has secured 26 ramshackle trams and three trolley buses.

**श्री भट्ट :** क्या माननीय मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि किन शर्तों पर और किस एग्जिमेंट के आधार पर यह दिल्ली ट्रान्सपोर्ट माबोरिटी को हवाले कर दी गयी है ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** Will the hon. Minister please state the conditions and agreement under which it has been handed over to the Delhi Transport Authority?]

**Shri Santhanam:** This tramway was being run by the Delhi Central Electric Power Authority which has now been liquidated and the work taken over by the new Delhi Electric Board. Because this new Board is confining itself to electricity this tramway has been handed over to the Delhi Road Transport Authority set up by this Parliament.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He wants to know on what terms and conditions they were handed over.

**Shri Santhanam:** The assets and liabilities have been transferred from one public organisation to another.

**श्री भट्ट :** मैं यह और पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यह सवाल रेलवे फायनेंस कमेटी या स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के सामने रखा गया था ?

[**Shri Bhatt:** I also want to know whether this matter was placed before the Railway Finance Committee or the Standing Finance Committee?]

**Shri Santhanam:** This matter was under the Works, Mines and Power Ministry and they must have placed it before their Standing Committee.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He wants to know if even the matter of purchase or acquisition was placed before the Standing Finance Committee for Railways.

**Shri Santhanam:** It was run by one public authority set up by Parliament and it has been transferred to another public authority. The matter might have been reported either to the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power or the Standing Finance Committee.

**Shri Sidhva:** What was the profit that was made during the last three years by the Tramways Company?

**Shri Santhanam:** During 1948-49 the Company made a profit of Rs. 3 lakhs on a capital investment of Rs. 12 lakhs. During the year 1949-50 the profit came down to Rs. 87,000.

**Shri Kesava Rao:** Is there any proposal to extend the tramway service to New Delhi?

**Shri Santhanam:** I hope not.

**Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Is there going to be any organisation under which these two departments are to be put and what kind of organisation will that be? Or will it be under the D.T.S.?

**Shri Santhanam:** The Delhi Road Transport Authority has taken it over.

**Shri T. Husain:** Are Government aware that the Delhi tramway service is the worst tram service in the whole of India and if so, do they propose to improve the tramway service? If they propose to improve it when are they likely to do so?

**Shri Santhanam:** It is a kind of legacy of past history.

**Shri T. Husain:** I did not hear the answer, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member was absent-minded.

#### TRANSHIPMENT OF COAL AT MOKAMEH GHAT

\*2933. **Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the total quantities of coal transhipped at Mokameh Ghat of the Oudh Tirthut Railway during the years 1947-48, 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

(b) How many persons applied for wagons and how many of them got the wagons during the period?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) The quantity of coal transhipped at Mokameh Ghat during the years 1947-48 to 1950-51 (upto 27th March, 1951) was approximately as follows:

1947-48—3,49,269 tons (including 69,315 tons public coal).

1948-49—4,33,093 tons (including 1,12,821 tons public coal).

1949-50—3,83,188 tons (including 1,11,173 tons public coal).

1950-51 (up to 27-3-51)—3,54,962 tons (including 1,06,743 tons public coal).

(b) This information should be available with the Provincial Coal Controllers, who issue to consumers and consignees on application permits which form the basis of sanctions by the Coal Commissioner.

**Shri S. N. Das:** Of the quantity of coal transhipped at Mokameh Ghat what was the percentage on Government account and what was on private account?

**Shri Santhanam:** I gave the figures separately for public coal: the balance must be on private account.

**Shri S. N. Das:** Are Government aware of the great difficulty that the people of North Bihar have to experience on account of want of wagon supply?

**Shri Santhanam:** We know that transhipment difficulties are there. We are planning to build a bridge on the Ganges but that is taking time.

**Shri Syammandan Sahaya:** Are Government aware that large quantities of coal brought over to Mokameh on the broad gauge had to be dumped there and for a long time for want of wagons on the O. T. Railway with resultant loss both to the coal stock and also the people living on the other side of the Ganges?

**Shri Santhanam:** I do not know if what my hon. friend says is correct. But our plan is to have coal dumps so that the ferries waste no time. We have a dump at Banaras and possibly there is a dump at Mokameh. It is our plan to keep a stock, so that the ferry service might go on continuously.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

## STORES AND EQUIPMENT

\*2918. Prof. K. T. Shah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) The total cost and present value, as recorded in the Ministry's books, of the various kinds of stores, installations and equipment, maintained in the several departments under the control of the Ministry, as on 31st December, 1950; and

(b) the provision made for the proper storage and safe-keeping and maintenance of the Stores and Equipment?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). Some of the information required will be available from the statements contained in Volume II of the Railway Board's Administration Report. The latest report for 1949-50 has been placed in the Library of the House. The time, labour and cost involved in obtaining precise information asked for the period indicated in the question will be incommensurate with the result,

## STORES AND EQUIPMENT

\*2919. Prof. K. T. Shah: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost and present value, as recorded in the Ministry's books of the various kinds of stores, installations and equipment, maintained in the several departments under the control of the Ministry, as on 31st December, 1950; and

(b) the provision made for the proper storage and safe-keeping and maintenance of the Stores and Equipment?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) and (b). A statement showing the details asked for is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXI, annexure No. 11.]

## STORES, INSTALLATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

\*2920. Prof. K. T. Shah: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost and present value or capital cost as recorded in the Ministry's books, (i) of the various kinds of stores, installations and equipment, maintained under the Ministry, as on 31st December, 1950;

(ii) of the live-stock and animals for carriage of mails or personnel, or vehicles for that purpose, as on 31st December 1950;

(b) the total capital cost of the buildings, aerodromes and other structures provided and maintained by the Ministry, as on 31st December, 1950; and

(c) the provision, financial as well as otherwise, made for the proper storage and safe-keeping and maintenance of the Stores, Installations, and Equipment, as well as for the proper housing and care of the animals and vehicles, maintained by the Ministry, as on 31st December, 1950?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course. I may add that some information has been received from the various offices concerned but that it is incomplete and requires checking up.

## HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT FACTORY

\*2934. Shri Balmiki: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many Railway wagons have been supplied by the Hindustan Aircraft Factory at Bangalore, so far?

(b) What is the price of one wagon?

(c) On which lines are these wagons now being used and with what result?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): (a) No wagons have been built by the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore, but this firm is supplying fully furnished III Class steel passenger coaches, of which 133 have been delivered so far.

(b) The cost of a broad gauge III Class passenger coach varies according to the design and equipment provided and ranges from about Rs. one lakh to Rs. 1,30,000 in India. The final price for the coaches now being constructed at H.A.L. is still under negotiation.

(c) These coaches have been put into service on the following Railways and have so far proved satisfactory:

(1) G.I.P.—36.

(2) M. and S. M.—17.

(3) E. I.—47.

(4) E. P.—33.

Total—133.

## IMPORT OF DATES

\*2935. **Shri Krishnanand Rai:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what amount of Iranian dates were imported during the year 1950;

(b) out of the above, what amount has already been disposed of and which State was the greatest consumer of these dates;

(c) whether Government intend to import dates for supplementary food in 1951-52 and if so, what amount;

(d) whether it is a fact that States are reluctant to accept dates for food and if so, what States have already communicated their reluctance to the Government of India; and

(e) whether it is a fact that large amount of dates are lying in stock of State Governments for want of buyers?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):**

(a) 18,000 tons of dates have been purchased by the Government of India from Iraq for import during the financial year 1950-51. Upto-date information regarding import of dates by trade is not available.

(b) Entire quantity of dates imported has been allocated to various States and the largest quantity has been allocated to Bombay.

(c) No decision has been taken on this question.

(d) Allocations were made after enquiring the firm requirements of the States. Recently however, the Government of Madhya Pradesh came up with the request for cancellation of a part of their allotment as in this part of the country summer starts fairly early and the demand for dates comes to a stop during the summer season. These have since been re-allocated to other States.

(e) We have no information. As the quantity allotted to each State is small it is understood the entire quantity will be put into immediate consumption.

## RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

\*2936. **Saikh Mohiuddin:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of deaths which occurred by accident from running trains in Assam Railway during last six months and the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** During the six months September, 1950 to February, 1951, 51 deaths occurred,

of which 43 were of trespassers, one of suicide and three of passengers who fell or jumped out of running trains. Of the remaining four, two were of occupants of a road bus which collided with a train at a level crossing, one was of an escort of a loaded wagon on a goods train which parted due to breakage of couplings and the fourth of a railway servant in a trolley accident.

## INTENSIVE CULTIVATION OF JUTE

\*2937. **Saikh Mohiuddin:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what are the methods that the Central Jute Committee has adopted to make intensive cultivation of Jute so as to reach the fixed target as decided in the last conference held at Calcutta?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):**

The Central Jute Committee is not concerned with the increased jute production plan, which is being directly implemented by the Central Government. The Principal methods being adopted for encouraging intensive cultivation of jute include, supply of fertilisers and improved varieties of jute seeds, provision of better retting facilities, and plant protection measures

## IMPORT OF FOOD

\*2938. **Shri J. P. Srivastava:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how much food Government propose importing from foreign countries each year during the next five years?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** Government have not made any programme for the import of foodgrains in the years 1952 to 1956.

## CATTLE BREEDING FARM

\*2939. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have decided to close down the Cattle Breeding Farm at Jubbulpore and to instal one at Karnal instead?

(b) If so, what are the reasons and what will be the cost of transfer?

(c) What is the maintenance cost of the Farm at Jubbulpore and what is the likely cost at Karnal?

(d) How many animals are there at present in Jubbulpore Farm?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):**

(a) Yes; it has been decided to close

down the Cattle Breeding Research Station, Jubbulpore, but no new farm is being established instead at Karnal. The existing Agricultural Sub-station at Karnal is being reorganised and the animals available at the Jubbulpore Station as well as those at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, will be transferred to Karnal.

(b) Owing to financial stringency it was not possible to continue any longer the experiments which it was proposed to carry out at the Farm for evolving a general utility type of cattle. Hence the decision to close down the Station was taken. The cost of transferring the animals and equipment of the Station is estimated to be Rs. 22,000.

(c) The budget provision for the Jubbulpore Station for 1950-51 amounted to Rs. 3,00,000 as against Rs. 3,30,100 provided for the re-organised Karnal Farm for 1951-52.

(d) The number of animals at present in Jubbulpore is 63. 408 animals have already been transferred to Karnal.

#### IRRIGATION WORKS IN WEST BENGAL

\*2940. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number of tubewells sunk, wells constructed, tanks excavated or re-excavated, small irrigation channels or *khals* repaired or dug and small dams constructed in the State of West Bengal in the year 1950 for intensive cultivation?

(b) How much subsidy did the State of West Bengal receive from the Government of India in the same period for the above purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (**Shri Thirumala Rao**): (a) The West Bengal Government have no scheme either for construction of the tube-wells or surface wells. The number of tanks excavated or re-excavated up to November, 1950, is 62 and that of minor irrigation dams and channels is 60. Information on this subject up to 31st March, 1951, has been called for from West Bengal Government.

(b) The total subsidy sanctioned to the Government of West Bengal for the schemes of minor irrigation during 1950-51 is Rs. 41.01 lakhs.

#### MANUFACTURE OF SUGAR CUBES

\*2941. **Shri Kshudram Mahta:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the quantities of sugar allotted by Government in 1948, 1949 and 1950

separately to factories preparing sugar cubes;

(b) the quantities of sugar cubes prepared as against the allotments made; and

(c) the manufacturing cost per lb of sugar cubes from sugar?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (**Shri Thirumala Rao**): (a) and (b). A statement showing allotments of sugar quotas to factories for manufacture of cubes during the years 1949 and 1950 and the quantities of sugar cubes actually produced against these allotments is placed on the Table of the House. No allotments were made during 1948 and up to August, 1949 as there was no control over sugar during that period.

(c) It varies from factory to factory and is reported to range from As. -/9/6 to As. -/11/3 per lb.

#### STATEMENT

*Sugar quotas allotted to factories during the years 1949 and 1950 for the manufacture of sugar cubes and the quantities of sugar cubes actually prepared against those allotments.*

Name of the factory	Quota allotted		Qty. of cubes prepared	
	(Tons)		(Tons)	
	1949	1950	1949	1950
(1) Saraswati Sugar Mills, Abdullapur	—	120.0	—	118.16
(2) Upper Ganges Sugar Mills, Sechara.	—	172.5	—	161.92
(3) Kesar Sugar Works, Baheri	—	152.5	—	140.04
(4) Bihar Sugar Works, Pachrukhi	—	145.0	—	91.70
(5) Shadi Lal Sugar and General Mills Ltd., Mansurpur	—	60.0	—	41.06
(6) Daurala Sugar Works, Daurala	50	1090.0	77.178*	1081.51

\*A part of the confectionery quota was also used for cubes.

#### AERODROME IN ORISSA

\*2943. **Shri B. K. Paul:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether there is any proposal before Government to open Jnarsuguda



aerodrome in the State of Orissa and Jamshedpur in Bihar as regular Air Stations for carrying Passengers and mails?

(b) If so, when are they likely to be opened and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwal):** (a) and (b). The Air Transport Licensing Board has decided to grant a provisional licence to Bharat Airways to operate a scheduled air service on the Calcutta-Jamshedpur-Ranchi-Patna route and it is expected that the company will commence the service as soon as necessary facilities have been provided on the route. The question of a scheduled halt at Jharsuguda has been examined but in view of its poor traffic potential the proposal has been dropped.

#### FODDER AND SUBSIDIARY CATTLE FOOD

\*2944. **Shri Ganamukhi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scarcity of fodder; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to embark on a scheme of subsidiary cattle feed?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** (a) and (b). The hon. Member may kindly refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 969 asked by Shri Balmiki on the 18th December, 1950.

#### SURVEY OF RAILWAY LINE

\*2945. **Shri PulI Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Metre Gauge line connecting Khandwa on the B. B. and C. I. Railway and Hingoli on the N.S. Railway is finally surveyed?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in affirmative,

(i) in what year it was surveyed;

(ii) what is the mileage so surveyed; and

(iii) what is the total amount incurred for surveying the same?

(c) Are Government contemplating to lay the line and if so, when do they propose to take the work in hand?

(d) Are there any estimates of the same prepared and if so, what will be the approximate cost for the same?

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

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(b) (i) 1946-47.

(ii) 187.27 miles.

(iii) Rs. 6.34 lakhs.

(c) The proposed line lies partly in Madhya Pradesh and partly in Hyderabad. The two sections of the line were surveyed separately, the former by the B. B. and C. I. Railway and the latter by the Nizam's State Railway. As these two sections cannot be considered separately, the B. B. and C. I. Railway have been asked to submit an up-to-date appreciation of the entire project. At this stage the Government are not in a position to state if and when the line will be constructed.

(d) The line is estimated to cost over Rs. 650 lakhs.

#### JOWAR, COTTON AND SUGARCANE CULTIVATION IN BHOPAL

\*2946. **Thakur Lal Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how much wheat, Jowar and cotton was grown on land tractorized under the Grow More Food Scheme (in Bhopal)?

(b) How much money was granted to the sugar cane growers of Bhopal by the Government of India as (i) taccavi for the purchase of bullocks and (ii) for digging of wells in 1949 and 1950?

#### The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):

(a) The total area reclaimed by the Central Tractor Organisation in Bhopal from 1947-48 to 1949-50 was 18,509 acres. On the basis of the usual yardstick of production of about one-third of a ton per acre, the additional production of this area is estimated at about 6,170 tons. Separate figures for different crops are not available.

(b) The Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 2 lakhs to the Bhopal Administration during 1950-51, for advancing taccavi loans to cultivators under the Grow More Food Scheme, for the purchase of bullocks and for the provision of other production facilities. The Bhopal Administration have stated that sugarcane growers are eligible for these loans. Further information has been called for from the Administration and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

#### ADVISORY COUNCIL IN BHOPAL

\*2947. **Thakur Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state why has the Advisory Council not yet been constituted in Bhopal?

**The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami):** Under the Rules the Chief Commissioner is required to nominate five

members with the approval of the Central Government. He has not yet been able to finalize local consultations for this purpose.

#### CATTLE BREEDING CENTRES

\*2948. **Thakur Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how many Centres for the improvement of Cattle breeding are to be started by the Government of India in the year 1951-52 and in what States and if not, why not?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned under the Pilot Key Village Scheme seven Cattle Breeding Centres, one each in U.P., Delhi, Travancore-Cochin, Bombay (Gujerat), Orissa, Hyderabad and Saurashtra, which have as their technical programme the breeding of cattle by artificial insemination. Centres in U.P., Delhi and Travancore-Cochin were started in 1950-51 and the remaining four centres will be opened at the rate of two each year during 1951-52 and 1952-53.

#### PURCHASE OF PLOUGH:

\*2949. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the 1250 ploughs were ordered from Messrs Pasabhai Patel;

(b) the dates on which and the number of ploughs which were delivered to Government;

(c) how many of these were used and for what length of time;

(d) the total expenditure which was incurred on the purchase, transport and handling of these ploughs;

(e) how many of them are now being used and where;

(f) how many of them are rendered useless and how many have not yet been used at all;

(g) what is the financial loss involved; and

(h) whether there is any proposal to use them and if so, when and where?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):

(a) The 3rd October, 1946.

(b) The 1,250 implements were delivered in instalments, consisting of from 2 to 69 implements each, in the period February, 1948 to December, 1949.

(c) A total of 399 implements were used for periods ranging from a few days to about nine months during the last two reclamation seasons.

(d) Rs. 47,67,816.

(e) None of the implements is being used now.

(f) Information as to precisely how many of the implements are serviceable and how many unserviceable is not available, but most of them are in a serviceable condition. 851 of the implements have not been used at all. The main reason why these implements have not been used is that they were originally not purchased for *kans* reclamation. They are altogether too light for this purpose. The original idea of taking over the Disposals tractors was to rehabilitate them and sell them to the State Governments for breaking up and bringing under cultivation *banjar* lands. The Pasha-bhai implements were intended to make a matched or balanced set of implements which could undertake reclamation of such lands. Later, when 69 rehabilitated tractors had already been sold to the State Governments, it was decided that these tractors could be more usefully employed for reclamation of *kans* land and these Pasha-bhai implements then became surplus.

(g) and (h). The loss, if any, will depend upon how they are disposed of. Already a small number of the implements has been sold to some State Governments. The disposal of the rest will be taken up at the end of the present reclamation season. It is hoped that the State Governments will be interested in buying this equipment for the initial breaking up of fallow lands.

#### ASSOCIATED FARMS

186. **Shri Ganamukhi:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government have prepared a scheme for the establishment of associated farms throughout the country?

(b) If so, what are the main features of associated farms and the advantages thereof?

(c) Has any constitution of such Bodies been formed and circulated to the State Governments?

(d) What are the possibilities of development of Agriculture under the scheme and do Government propose to start experimental and demonstration plots and publicity measures to popularise the scheme?

• **The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** (a) Yes.

(b) Associated Farms are expected to be set up on the initiative of public institutions, which after securing the willing consent of the farmers in the neighbourhood will formally constitute

themselves into corporate bodies. The land of all the members will be pooled together and jointly cultivated. In order to induce the cultivators to join the farm, the liability for land revenue and rent will be taken by the farm and employment will be provided to the cultivators and members of their family as far as possible. It is proposed that the Central and State Governments should extend the same assistance to these farms as is extended to approved G.M.F. Schemes under the existing rules. The advantages of Associated Farms are that they will mobilize the experience and initiative of public institutions in introducing modern methods into agriculture and demonstrate in a practical manner the beneficial effects of large-scale farming.

(c) A tentative scheme for the establishment of Associated Farms has been circulated to the State Governments in December, 1950.

(d) The possibilities under this scheme depend on the response forthcoming from public institutions and from the farmers who will be approached by them for this co-operative effort. It does not seem necessary for Government to start experimental or demonstration plots for this purpose, but all these measures will be considered as the scheme develops and the practical needs become apparent.

#### FIRE IN CARGO SHIP

187. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a fire broke out in a cargo ship, berthed at Kidderpore Jetty, Calcutta, on the evening of 24th March, 1951; and

(b) if so, (i) the destination of the ship and the nationality to which the ship belongs; (ii) the particulars of the cargo, contained in the ship; (iii) the extent of damage done to the ship and to the cargo; and (iv) the causes of the fire?

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** (a) Yes, a fire broke out in S.S. "City of Philadelphia".

(b) (i) The destination of the vessel is U.S.A. and her nationality is British.

(ii) The cargo comprised mainly of bales of raw jute, bags of wool, cases of Mica scrap, bags of bones and some kyanite ore.

(iii) No material damage has been done to the Ship's hull nor has the vessel's sea worthiness been affected. Wood work such as spar-ceiling, hatch covers and also electrical circuits in the tween decks were burnt out.

The extent of damage to the cargo has not yet been assessed but it is estimated that about 400 tons of cargo comprising mainly of jute bales and some wool and bones has been damaged. Some of this cargo was damaged by the water discharged into the hold to put out the fire. This water damaged cargo has been dried and part of it reshipped.

(iv) The cause of the fire has not been definitely established as the preliminary enquiry into the accident has not yet been completed.

#### PETROL RATIONING

188. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that petrol rationing is still in force in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) how much longer Government propose to continue this rationing; and

(c) the reasons for mixing power alcohol with petrol when the oil companies have guaranteed to meet all demands in the country in full?

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

(b) The matter is under correspondence with the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c) To encourage the power alcohol industry which has been built up in the State of Uttar Pradesh at considerable cost.

#### LAC INDUSTRY IN SIAM

189. **Prof. K. T. Shah:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government of India sent any official from this country to study the lac industry in all its phases in Siam?

(b) If so, has any report been submitted or have recommendations been made for improving and extending that industry in India?

(c) What steps have been taken to give effect to those recommendations?

(d) Was any request made by the Siamese Government to permit a similar visit by a Siamese officer to India for the same purpose and if so, what action was taken by Government on that request?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** (a) The Government of India did not send any official but the Indian Lac Cess Committee deputed the Director, Indian Lac Research Institute, Namkum, to visit Siam and study the lac industry there. He was in Siam from the 1st to 23rd June, 1950.

(b) Yes. The Director, Indian Lac Research Institute, submitted a report to the Indian Lac Cess Committee at its meeting held in September, 1950. The report gives the present conditions of the production and manufacture of lac in Siam.

(c) The Indian Lac Cess Committee considered the report at their meeting held in September, 1950, and resolved that in order to augment the quantity of lac production in India, the Governments of the States where it might be possible to grow *Pithecolobium Saman* (rain trees) should be requested to plant that host wherever possible and to exploit it for purposes of lac cultivation. It was also resolved that the raising of this host and its exploitation be included in the Institute's programme for propaganda, and that experiments to see how exactly this tree responds to lac cultivation be undertaken. The State Governments have been addressed accordingly. This step has been taken because Siamese lac is mostly derived from the rain tree which grows quickly and yields larger quantities of lac as compared to Indian lac hosts and flourishes well along streams and rivers and in deltaic regions under high humidity conditions.

(d) The Siamese Government made a request in June 1950 for according necessary facilities to one of their officers of the Department of Science, Ministry of Industry, accompanied by a major share holder of the Siamese Shellac Co., Ltd., for studying modern methods of production of shellac at the Indian Lac Research Institute for five months. It was however not possible for the Institute to receive the officer in question at that time for training. He visited India later to examine the lac market at Calcutta and also visited the Institute in August, 1950 and again in November, 1950.

#### CONFERENCE OF FOOD OFFICIALS

190. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether a Conference of food officials from certain States was held on or about the 20th March, 1951 in Delhi to discuss urgent food situation in India?

(b) If so, what was the nature of the talks and what was the result?

(c) What is the firm commitment of imports of foodgrains?

(d) Has the process of procurement been tightened up with the object of getting greater quantity of food grains?

(e) What is the response of State Governments in this respect?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** (a) and (b). An informal Conference of Food Secretaries of selected States was held in New Delhi on the 21st March, 1951, to finalise allocations under the basic plan for April, 1951.

(c) The quantities of imported foodgrains purchased firm up to the end of March, 1951, for arrival in India during the current year were as under:

Rice—8,34,000.

Wheat and flour—17,65,000.

Milo—3,35,000.

Total: 29,40,000.

(d) and (e). The systems of procurement and distribution in different States have been examined in the light of the supply position and each State has adopted, in consultation with the Centre, a system of procurement which is best suited from the point of view of prevailing local conditions and the extent of Government commitments to supply foodgrains.

#### PURCHASE OF AIRCRAFTS

191. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether two aircrafts were purchased from Disposals in 1946-47?

(b) If so, at what price and what was the total cost of investment with spare-parts?

(c) What use is made of these aircrafts and how many times were they operated in the air?

(d) What was the cost of maintenance of these aircrafts?

(e) Are these aircrafts still in use?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** (a) to (d). Attention of the hon. Member is invited to the reply given to his Starred Question No. 1355 on the 9th April, 1948.

(e) Both the Aircrafts have been sold to the Hind Provincial Flying Club for a price of Rs. 16,000. They have not yet been rendered fit for a certificate of airworthiness.

#### PRACTICAL DAIRY FARMING

192. **Thakur Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is contemplated to train Post Graduate Students of Agriculture in Practical Dairy Farming in India in the near future?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** Practical training in dairying is imparted to students of Indian Dairy Diploma courses at the Indian Dairy

Research Institute, Bangalore and the Agricultural Institute, Allahabad.

Apart from this specialised training Government have no proposal to provide training in practical dairy farming to Post-graduate students of Agriculture.

#### SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION OF JUTE SEEDS

193. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether seeds were supplied to grow sufficient acreage of jute so as to bring the area under cultivation to its self-sufficiency in 1951?

(b) If so, what quantity of acreage has been actually under cultivation?

(c) What quantity of seeds was supplied and what was the kind of quality and price of seeds?

(d) Is it a fact that some officials who were in charge of the supply and distribution of seeds have been suspended and if so, what are the details?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) and (c). The required information is being collected from the jute growing States and will be placed on the Table of the House, on receipt.

(b) (During 1950-51):

Assam—2,92,000 acres.

Bihar—3,57,532 acres.

Orissa—1,10,162 acres.

West Bengal—6,50,900 acres.

Uttar Pradesh—23,850 acres.

Tripura—14,500 acres.

(d) Yes. As a departmental enquiry into the matter is under way, it will not be in the public interest to furnish such details at this stage.

#### SURPLUS STORES

194. Shri Sidhva: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any list was prepared of the large number of items in stock in the Workshop which are not wanted as stated by Mr. Kharegat in his report on tractors?

(b) If so, what is the number and value of these items?

(c) What do Government propose to do with the items which are not wanted?

(d) Who indented these articles and has any enquiry been instituted for fixing the responsibility?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao): (a) Provisional lists of spare parts for tractors and such other items as are not required by the Central Tractor Organisation have been prepared. These lists will be finalised at the end of the current reclamation season. At present, it is not possible to put any of the Central Tractor Organisation staff on the work of finalising the lists, as they are busy with the reclamation operations now in progress.

(b) The information will be available only after the lists are finalised.

(c) The surplus items will be made over to the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals for disposal in accordance with the usual procedure adopted in such cases.

(d) When in 1946 the Government of India decided to purchase a large number of tractors, vehicles and other equipment from American Army Surpluses, it was found that purchases had to be made as quickly as possible in order to ensure that the Government got the equipment in the quantities required. Together with the tractors and equipment a large quantity of spare parts was also purchased.

The purchases were made by weight and at a cheap price and since the stuff was lying in the remote areas of Assam, no meticulous sorting out of items was possible. There was also the danger that, if the Government of India did not take advantage of the offer of the spare parts by weight at such low prices, the parts would be purchased by somebody else, as they would have been worth their price even as scrap. In these circumstances, the Government decided to purchase the entire lot of certain makes of spare parts. Although this involved some risk of buying unwanted articles there was no alternative to this procedure in view of the need for speedy action and for ensuring that all essential spare parts were obtained. Considering the circumstances under which the purchases were made, the question of fixing on any individual the responsibility for taking over unwanted items does not arise. It is also hoped that the surplus items will fetch a reasonable amount on disposal.

#### REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE PARTS IN TRACTORS

195. Shri Sidhva: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the local agents of both Cietrac and the Allis-Chalmers were approached to replace defective parts

in tractors which were giving constant trouble, at their own cost, as recommended by Mr. Kharegat;

(b) what steps have been taken to improve the efficiency which has gone down to 38 per cent. only; and

(c) whether the actual recurring cost has been brought down from Rs. 52 to Rs. 28-8-0 as stated by Mr. Kharegat?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):  
 (a) Lists of defective parts so far observed in 'Cletrac' and 'Allis-Chalmers' tractors, in cases where the defects are attributable to faulty manufacture, have been forwarded to the Manufacturers or their Indian agents. The manufacturers of 'Allis-Chalmers' tractors have agreed to replace the parts free of charge, but the manufacturers of 'Cletrac' tractors have not so far communicated their decision. The matter is being pursued.

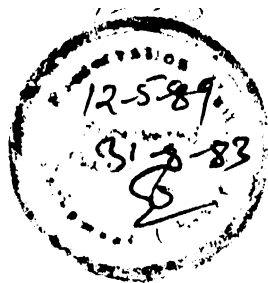
Further, in accordance with the terms of the contracts with them, both the manufacturers have deputed their service engineers to the various sites of operations, and they are assisting the Central Tractor Organisation in rectifying the defects.

(b) The percentage mentioned relates to the performance (as judged by Shri Kharegat) during the last reclamation season of the second-hand tractors taken over by the Central

Tractor Organisation from American Army Surpluses in 1946. These tractors were subject to frequent breakdowns owing to their dilapidated condition and also due to lack of the requisite spare parts. Further, the tractors had to remain idle for some time owing to the non-availability of suitable land. These old tractors were thoroughly overhauled at the end of the 1950 operational season. All possible steps have been taken to ensure that breakdowns of these old tractors on account of lack of spare parts are reduced to the minimum in the course of operations in the current season. Steps are also being taken to improve the organisational efficiency of the Central Tractor Organisation. All the recommendations made by Shri P. M. Kharegat in this regard have been examined very carefully, and such of the recommendations as are considered suitable are being implemented. It is hoped that the output of these tractors during the present season will show considerable improvement.

(c) Rs. 52 per acre was not the recurring cost. It is the total cost including both recurring and non-recurring expenditure, and applies only to the reclamation operations carried out with the help of the new tractors purchased out of the loan from the International Bank. According to the accounts prepared up to the 31st March, 1950, the recurring cost in respect of operations with the old tractors are not likely to exceed Rs. 28/8/- per acre.

Monday, 9th April, 1951



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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VOLUME X, 1951

(31st March, 1951 to 20th April, 1951)

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Third Session  
of the  
PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1950-51

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**THE**  
**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**  
(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)  
**OFFICIAL REPORT**

6334

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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**

Monday, 9th April, 1951

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

[Mr. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

(See Part I)

11-45 A.M.

**MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT**

**POLICE FIRING IN JHANSI**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have received notice of an adjournment motion from Mr. Dwivedi—I must rule it out of order—for discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely:

“Opening of fire by Police in Jhansi resulting in the death of at least four persons and injuries to about 60 persons upon a peaceful crowd gathered for commemorating Shri Chandra Shekhar Azad, a martyr in the cause of Indian Independence has caused countrywide discontent, the action of the police being an excess; and it is a matter of urgent public importance for the Central Government to see that States do not abuse powers given to them under the Constitution for the maintenance of law and order.”

This is absolutely out of order for the reason that this is a States subject.

**Shri Dwivedi (Vindhya Pradesh):** In that connection I would like to say...

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No. no. It is out of order.  
65 PSD

**CROSSING THE 38TH PARALLEL BY  
U. N. FORCES IN KOREA**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Then there is another adjournment motion and that is in the name of Mr. R. K. Sidhva and he wants it for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely:

“The U.N. Supreme Commander, General MacArthur's action in crossing the 38th Parallel, thus endangering the peace of the world.”

I think this is not at all necessary for the reason that the hon. Prime Minister has stated on many an occasion on the floor of this House that so far as India is concerned, she is not in favour of crossing the 38th Parallel. I do not think anything more need be said on this matter.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**

**AMENDMENTS TO DELHI MOTOR  
VEHICLES RULES, 1940**

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a copy of each of the following notifications issued by the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, amending the Delhi Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940.

- (1) No. F. 12(102)/50-MLT, dated the 18th December, 1950.
- (2) No. F. 12(77)/50-MLT, dated the 9th January, 1951.
- (3) No. F. 12(132)/50-MLT, dated the 15th January, 1951.
- (4) No. F. 12(152)/49-MLT, dated the 15th January, 1951.
- (5) No. F. 12(131)/50-MLT, dated the 25th January, 1951.
- (6) No. F. 12(122)/48-HPW/MLT, dated the 1st February, 1951.
- (7) No. F. 12(135)/50-MLT, dated the 7th February, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. P—152/51].

**AMENDMENTS TO COORG MOTOR  
VEHICLES RULES, 1940**

**Shri Santhanam :** I lay on the Table under sub-section (3) of section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, a copy of the notification issued by the Chief Commissioner, Coorg, No. F. Dis. No. 8-50, dated the 17th November, 1950, amending the Coorg Motor Vehicles Rules, 1940. [Placed in Library. See No. P-153/51].

**STATEMENT re JEEP CONTRACT**

**The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh):** In pursuance of the promise made on the 26th March, I lay on the table of the House an account of the "Jeep Contract."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** A copy of this statement has been placed on the table of the House by the Defence Minister and hon. Members desirous of taking part in the debate or even others who desire to see it can obtain copies from the Parliamentary Notice Office.

**Shri Hussain Imam (Bihar):** Does this statement contain replies to our questions?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker :** Yes.

**Statement**

In accordance with the assurance I gave to the House, I am glad to have this opportunity of placing before the House a full account of the "Jeep Contract". Early in January 1948, a review of certain of our essential stores was undertaken and it was found that our supplies of some of them were not sufficient. Included among these were jeeps. Towards the middle of the year, it became operationally necessary to remove these shortages as early as possible. Accordingly, enquiries were set afoot. In June 1948, we were informed by our High Commissioner in U.K. that an offer had been received for the supply of 2,000 re-conditioned jeeps. Supplies, it was stated, would commence immediately and completed within a very short period of time. This offer was accepted by the Defence Ministry and a contract was entered into by the High Commissioner with a British firm for the supply of 2,000 jeeps of war-time pattern warranted to be "new or re-conditioned as good as new" at £250 each, together with 10% spares

certified as adequate for normal three years usage at a price of £20,000. The vehicles and spares were to be shipped from European ports. The total value of the contract was thus £520,000. Supplies were to commence not later than six weeks of the date of the contract and deliveries completed not later than 150 days from that date.

I understand from the High Commissioner in U.K., who was here recently, that he had satisfied himself as to the credit-worthiness of the firm by obtaining the usual bank references, and that the firm was and still is on the list of suppliers to the U.K. Government. The terms of the payment under this contract were:

- (a) 65% on receipt of certificate from the inspecting firm as to the number of jeeps that were ready for delivery at site, reconditioned according to specifications, that is new or as good as new;
- (b) 20% on the production of bill of lading;
- (c) 15% within one month of the receipt of the jeeps at a port in India.

It was in accordance with condition (a) that 65% of the price was paid in August 1948 for 502 jeeps ready at site, on receipt of full inspection certificates in regard to some jeeps and other certificates in regard to the remaining jeeps. This was however made on the further assurance of inspection certificates being produced for each one of these 502 jeeps. The claim for the second 502 jeeps in November 1948 was held up because these certificates had not been produced. The firm stated that the delay in producing these certificates was due to the inspecting firm not having the necessary staff and therefore suggested that Lloyds should be entrusted with the inspection. This was agreed to and certain conditions for future inspection were laid down. These conditions included an inspection of 10% of the vehicles, selected at random, and the inspection of the certified job cards of the remaining jeeps to confirm that they had been brought up to serviceable condition. Lloyds produced inspection certificates, in accordance with the new procedure, in

respect of all the 2000 jeeps which were ready at site. On receipt of these documents, the bill that was held, namely for the second batch of 502 jeeps was paid on 13th December, 1948.

Early in 1949 the shipment of 155 jeeps commenced and on production of clean bills of lading in respect of these 155, a further sum, representing 20% of the price of these jeeps, was paid. This meant that in respect of these 155 a total of 85% of their price had been paid, leaving a balance of 15% to be paid on delivery in India. No further payment was subsequently made either on account of this 15% or on account of the 998 jeeps which were ready and inspected at site.

It is clear that the amounts paid from time to time had been paid not as an advance but as part payment for goods which had been inspected and were ready to be shipped.

155 jeeps were received in India during February/March 1949. On inspection, their condition was found unsatisfactory. Further shipments were stopped, until we could reach a satisfactory agreement about inspection before shipment. Discussions were then carried on between our High Commissioner in U.K. and the contracting firm in order to modify suitably the inspection clauses of the contract. The firm was agreeable to meet us even to the extent of accepting inspection by our own inspectors. Unfortunately it was not possible for us to spare the necessary number of technical men to undertake this task. Eventually it was agreed that inspection would be carried out by Lloyds in respect of every jeep and in accordance with detailed instructions to be prepared and furnished to the firm by our inspecting authorities.

All this discussion took considerable time. It showed clearly that a fulfilment of the original contract in a manner entirely satisfactory to the Defence Ministry would be difficult, chiefly because the contracting firm and the Defence Ministry were not agreed upon what the expression "reconditioned jeeps, as good as new" stood for. Our High Commissioner, therefore, explored the possibility of converting the

original contract into a contract for the supply either of spares for jeeps or for the supply of wholly new jeeps. In the end, he has succeeded in negotiating another contract with a new firm, under which the contractor (i) gives us a credit for the sum of £143,162 which was equal to the sum paid to the old contractor less the price of 155 jeeps including an estimated amount for bringing the 155 jeeps up to Class I standard, and (ii) supplies us 1007 new jeeps, at £395 each, plus £19 for crating. It may be mentioned that this new arrangement was settled in its broad outlines in July/August 1950 although the actual contract was not signed until early in March 1951. The delay was due to discussions incidental to settlement of important, though relatively minor, terms of the contract, such as the form of packing required etc. Under this new contract we have been promised deliveries at the rate of 68 a month, commencing three months from the date of the signing of the contract.

If the supplies against this new contract come forth in accordance with the contract, ultimately no loss will have been incurred under the old contract. (As a matter of interest, it may be stated that the price of a jeep which we shall be getting under this contract will be somewhat less than the Willys jeep assembled at Bombay, allowing for customs duties and freight etc.)

The foregoing is a plain account of the entire transaction as it took place between June 1948 and March 1951. I wish, however, to emphasise a few salient points. Our necessity for stores was urgent in 1948. The contract was concluded in what may be termed a "sellers' market", where if we wanted the goods, we had to purchase them according to sellers' conditions. Within the limitations imposed by these conditions, the High Commissioner entered into this contract in the belief that the stores required would be made available urgently. As soon as it became clear to the Defence Ministry that the jeeps arriving in India were not of the quality they had expected them to be, they took immediate steps in consultation with the



High Commissioner to stop further shipments, and thereafter all attempts were made by the High Commissioner and the Defence Ministry to carry on negotiations with the contractor, and later to enter into a new contract as described above.

It will have been clear also from the account which I have given above that it is not the business of the Defence Ministry to purchase stores. It merely decides what it wants and then places orders for its requirements on either the Director-General, Supply in India or the Director-General, India Stores Department in London. The Defence Ministry naturally indicates at the time of the placing of the order the precise specifications of each item of store it wants and the dates by which its supply is required. Once the order is placed, it becomes the responsibility of the D. G. Supply or the D.G.I.S.D. as the case may be, to take all necessary steps to procure the required stores. In doing so, they are governed by the general orders of Government which allow them a considerable measure of discretion for deviating from the general orders if the supplies required are of special importance or urgency, or if the circumstances of the market are of an exceptional or of an abnormal nature. In the last resort and particularly where the requirements are, as in this case, of an operational nature, the essential thing is the speedy procurement of the stores which are required.

Some remarks were also made during the discussions regarding orders for rifles and ammunition, which were also placed by the Ministry of Defence in June 1948. Contracts for the supply of these were entered into by the High Commissioner in July 1948. For a number of reasons, here, too, deliveries did not commence in accordance with the terms of the contract and it was finally decided in January 1949 after the cease-fire in Kashmir to terminate the contract. Our High Commissioner in U.K. was able to achieve this without having to pay any compensation.

**BALDEV SINGH,**  
Minister of Defence.

9-4-1951.

**ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES**  
**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND**  
**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have to inform the House that up to the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee, 15 nominations in the case of the first and 25 nominations in the case of the second were received. As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies in each of these Committees, I declare the following Members to be duly elected:

**I. Public Accounts Committee.—1.** Shri Bhaurao Sakharam Hiray, 2. Shri Ram Chandra Upadhyaya, 3. Prof. K. T. Shah, 4. Shri M. L. Dwivedi, 5. Shri Gokul Lal Asawa, 6. Shri K. C. Sharma, 7. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay, 8. Shri Tribhuan Narayan Singh, 9. Shri H. S. Rudrapaa, 10. Shri S. N. Das, 11. Shri B. N. Munavalli, 12. Shri T. H. Sonavane, 13. Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, 14. Shri B. Das and 15. Shri Murlidhar Vishvanath Ghule.

**II. Estimates Committee.—1.** Shri M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, 2. Shri Harihar Nath Shastri, 3. Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramaya, 4. Shri Ramnath Goenka, 5. Shri Raj Bahadur, 6. Shri Upendranath Barman, 7. Pandit Balkrishna Sharma, 8. Shrimati Renuka Ray, 9. Shri Arun Chandra Guha, 10. Shrimati G. Durgabai, 11. Shri B. Shiva Rao, 12. Shri Hari Vishnu Kapoor, 13. Sardar Hukam Singh, 14. Shri Jaspal Roy Kapoor, 15. Sardar Hukam Singh, 16. Shri Sarangdhar Das, 17. Shri V. C. Kesava Rao, 18. Shri R. K. Sidhva, 19. Prof. N. G. Ranga, 20. Shri Mohanlal Gautam, 21. Shri Bali Ram Bhagat, 22. Shri Sita Ram S. Jajoo, 23. Prof. Shibban Lal Saksena, 24. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava and 25. Shri Kala Venkata-rao.

**REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE**  
**(AMENDMENT) BILL.**

**The Minister of Law (Dr. Ambedkar):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950."

The motion was adopted.

**Dr. Ambedkar:** I introduce the Bill.

### COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND AND BONUS SCHEMES (AMENDMENT) BILL

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948."

The motion was adopted.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I introduce the Bill.

### CINEMATOGRAPH BILL

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to make provision for the certification of cinematograph films for exhibition and for regulating exhibitions by means of cinematographs.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to make provision for the certification of cinematograph films for exhibition and for regulating exhibitions by means of cinematographs."

The motion was adopted.

**Shri Diwakar:** I introduce the Bill.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

#### CATCHING THE SPEAKER'S EYE

श्री भट्ट : मैं एक जानकारी के लिए बात कहना चाहता हूँ।

[**Shri Bhatt (Bombay):** On a point of information].

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Before I allow Mr. Bhatt to say anything, I would like to inform the House that I have received a letter from Babu Ramnarayan Singh, apparently raising a question of the privileges of the House and stating that the Speaker is receiving lists from the Whip or Whips and is proceeding in accordance with the list of Members given in those lists and this prevents the exercise of independent judgment, though the practice in the House is for each hon.

Member who wants to speak to stand up and catch the eye of the Speaker. Well, so far as this matter of procedure is concerned, I would like to explain the position so that there may not be any misunderstanding on this point. I would refrain from reading further this letter inasmuch as the hon. Member casts aspersions on the Speaker in this matter which should not be done. But having regard to the standing of the hon. Member, I did not want to reject the letter altogether.

So far as the point raised is concerned, I would say that far from restricting the choice or the selection of proper Members by the Speaker, this enables the Speaker—if he has in advance a list—to choose the Members to speak so as to maintain the level of the debate. In this matter the Speaker is to-day following only the practice which has been followed in this House since the inception of the Legislative Assembly. I may even refer to the practice in the United Kingdom. I refer particularly to May's Parliamentary Practice where it is stated:

"It is now the practice for Members who wish to speak in a particular debate to submit their names in advance to the Speaker. This practice, while not fettering the discretion of the Speaker, affords to Members who avail themselves of it a proper opportunity of 'catching the Speaker's eye'; and to the Speaker a means of distributing the available time as equitably as possible between the various sections of opinion."

I am also not sure whether the hon. Member himself has not sent similar chits to the Speaker many a time. Well, this is the practice. The Speaker is not bound to follow the list handed over to him.

On two other occasions also this matter was raised in the House of Commons in one of which Mr. Churchill himself took part. Anyway, I do not want to take up more of the time of the House. I need only say that it was repeatedly held that far from interfering with the discretion of the Speaker, it enables the Speaker to choose the right sort of people to speak. Intending Members give notice in advance to the Speaker and he makes a list of the Members having regard to the time at his disposal. This does not prevent the Speaker from asking any other Member who stands up and wants to take part in the Debate to speak. The discretion

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

is always in the Speaker. It is only for the purpose of facilitating the debate and to keep it up to a high level. This does not mean that the Speaker is bound by any list. It only enables the Speaker to get on with the business fairly and equitably.

**Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh):** Sir, on a point of clarification. Rule 157 of the Rules of Procedure lays down that when a Member rises to speak, his name shall be called by the Speaker. But it has sometimes happened in this House that a Member who remains seated or occasionally even a Member who is absent in the House has been called upon by the Speaker, and when it was found that the Member was absent, his name was called the next time. This has happened several times.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I would submit to hon. Members that the Speaker need not give answers or decisions on hypothetical questions. The matter has not appeared before me today. Whoever is in the Chair is competent to decide that question when it arises before him, whether it is the Chairman, or the Deputy-Speaker or the Speaker. Therefore it is not right that I should address myself to any hypothetical questions on matters which do not appear before me.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : जैसा कि मैंने नोटिस दिया था, पहले कृपा करके मेरी बात सुन लीजिये, उस के बाद आप जो निर्णय देना चाहें, दें, और आपका फैसला जो होगा, वह मान्य होगा ।

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar): Sir, before you give your ruling on the matter, which I will gladly abide by, I request you to allow me to say my point regarding which I had given notice.]

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have already given my ruling. The entire argument is contained in the letter written to me by the hon. Member. I have given my considered ruling and I have also referred to the practices prevailing both in the British House of Commons and here. Therefore, no further speech is necessary on this matter.

#### HOURS OF SITTING

**Shri Kamath:** Has any communication been received from the Speaker

so far about his expected date of return to Delhi? I am asking this with regard to the hours of sitting of Parliament.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We shall consider this later.

**Shri Hussain Imam (Bihar):** Will the Leader of the House throw some light on the hours of sitting?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The matter was raised a few days ago by one of the hon. Members and it was then suggested that if we had only one sitting it would facilitate the work and also give an opportunity to Members to study in the time thus available. The hon. Speaker had on one occasion invited hon. Members for an informal talk on this and has adjourned that meeting to some other date. As he has been expected back I did not want to take up this question and come to any conclusion one way or another. Day before yesterday when this matter was raised again I said that today we might be in a position to know definitely when the hon. Speaker is coming. I also suggested that the opinion of the Leader of the House might also be taken in this regard. Now, we are not clear when the hon. Speaker will be able to come—if he is likely to come tomorrow or the day after, it is no good my trying to take a decision over the head of the Speaker. However, we would like to hear the opinion of the hon. Leader of the House. If there is a chance of the Speaker coming tomorrow I will leave the decision to him, otherwise I shall state to the House my decision in the matter.

**The Leader of the House (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** In this matter I believe I stated on a previous occasion that Government would be entirely in the hands of the hon. Speaker. So far as Government are concerned we should very much like one single session of the House. We felt that it would suit both the House and Government members better, but we wanted to suit the convenience of the Speaker too in the matter, so we left it to him. And as you just said, we convened a conference for that purpose—I regret to say I was not present at that conference (I was not in Delhi or some such thing), so I do not quite know what was decided at that conference or if any decision was taken.

**Shri Kamath:** Your views were conveyed to the Conference by the

**Chief Whip.** Therefore, I think it is due to the hon. Speaker that we may await his return before deciding upon anything.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I agree. That is the opinion of many of the hon. Members and also of myself. The Government's view will be communicated to the Speaker as soon as he returns. If, however, there is no chance of his returning shortly, I shall try to announce what course may be adopted.

12 Noon

**श्री भट्ट :** मैं एक बात स्पष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे पास जो संसद् का कार्यक्रम आया है, वह पांच मई तक का है, लेकिन कुछ अखबारों में यह कहा गया है कि संसद् का काम बीस मई तक चलेगा, इसलिये अगर आज इस का खुलासा हो सकता हो, तो किया जाय।

[**Shri Bhatt:** Sir, I want to have a point clarified. The Parliamentary programme that we have received shows that the session is upto 5th May, but some newspapers report that it would be extended till 20th May. I, therefore, want a clarification if there can be any.]

**श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू :** खुलासा इस का इतना ही हो सकता है कि जब तक खरूरी काम रहेगा उसवक्त तक संसद् चलेगी।

[**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** All that can be said is that Parliament will sit till the urgent work is disposed of.]

#### GENERAL BUDGET—LIST OF DEMANDS—contd.

##### SECOND STAGE

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Today we have two Ministries. Are we taking up the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting first or the Communications Ministry?

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Kidwai):** Communications.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Up to what time the hon. Minister proposes taking the Communications Ministry?

**Shri Kidwai:** Up to half-past three.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Then at 3.30 we will take up the other Ministry and go on till 5.30.

#### DEMAND NO. 4—MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,28,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of ‘Ministry of Communications.’”

#### DEMAND NO. 5—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,08,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of ‘Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department.’”

#### DEMAND NO. 6—METEOROLOGY

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,10,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of ‘Meteorology.’”

#### DEMAND NO. 7—OVERSEAS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 67,01,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of ‘Overseas Communications Service.’”

#### DEMAND NO. 8—AVIATION

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is—

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,91,69,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Aviation'."

DEMAND No. 93—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (NOT MET FROM REVENUE)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,31,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs (Not met from Revenue)'."

DEMAND No. 95—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL AVIATION

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,76,00,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Civil Aviation'."

**Shri Kidwai:** I would like to place certain facts before this House before it debates the Budget, because then the criticism will also be on what we propose to do. I want to tell the House in a few words what we have done in the last few years and what effect it has on our finances because I am going to make certain proposals that may require enhancements of certain rates which we are charging today.

Last year we reduced the charges on telegrams. The minimum charges were thirteen annas, we reduced them to twelve annas. The traffic in the year increased by two lakh more telegrams but our income fell by about Rs. eleven lakhs. Similarly, last year we reduced the trunk telephone charges for certain distances. The number of trunk calls went up by fifty lakhs, but our income went down by Rs. eight lakhs. Still, these two departments are running at a profit, and therefore the slight fall in income in spite of the rise in traffic can be ignored.

But the position of our postal services is quite different. There has been a persistent demand in the House for opening more and more

rural post offices. From the notices of the cut motions that have been received, it appears that that demand still persists, which is only natural. But I would like hon. Members to realise what we have done since 15th August, 1947 in this respect. Since August 15, 1947, we have opened 12,491 new post offices—11,376 rural and 1,115 urban ones. The percentage of increase in the last 3½ years has been 59 per cent. in the case of rural post offices and 29 per cent. in the case of urban post offices. On these new post offices we are today spending Rs. 41,40,000 per year. For this additional expenditure, we have not any corresponding additional income, because all that has happened is that deliveries in certain areas have been taken out of the jurisdiction of one post office and handed over to the other. In the meanwhile, traffic has gone up and we have had to employ additional staff for the post offices that were in existence on August 15, 1947. The expenditure on this additional staff comes to about Rs. one crore and 35 lakhs a year. Thus, we are spending about Rs. two crores a year and the result is that we have been suffering an increasing loss on the postal side. Hon. Members will find that in the next year's Budget the loss on the postal side is likely to be more than Rs. one crore and 35 lakhs.

If we want to rationalise our charges, we have to collect this money from somewhere and balance the loss on the postal side. We must so do it that the rates on telegrams and telephones and the postal side are rationalised and every Department is self-paying. There are friends who say that the postal side is a utility service which the Government should not hesitate to subsidise. That may be true, but in our present financial position, it is not possible to subsidise it. Therefore, we have to collect the money from persons and associations whom we serve. I have to get additional money and one way is to increase the price of the post card from nine ples to twelve ples. (*An Hon. Member:* No. no.) I was strongly in favour of it. Either you reduce the charges on your envelopes or you increase the charges on your post cards. You cannot have such a big margin between the two prices; otherwise, more and more people will take to the post card and on every post card today you are losing some money while envelopes and letter-cards are the only two articles which bring you income. When there is a balance between the post cards and the letters and the loss in the one is offset by the profit in the other, then

you can have a balanced account. But when the difference between the two prices is so much—nine ples for the post card and twenty-four ples for the envelope—more and more people write post cards and more and more is the loss in the income.

Similarly, today as the pay of the staff has been increased and there is dearness allowance, all our services on money orders, registered letters etc. have become losing propositions. I have got before me a statement which gives what we are spending on each item and what we are earning through it. On every registered letter we are estimated to spend Rs. 0-8-7 and our income is only Rs. 0-6-8. On every V.P.P. we are estimated to spend Rs. 0-13-11 and we earn only Rs. 0-6-8. On every insured letter we spend Rs. 1-4-7 and we earn only Rs. 1-1-1. On every post card we are spending Rs. 0-0-9-3, whereas we get only Rs. 0-0-9. The price of the card has now gone up still further on account of the opening of the new post offices, because that has not added any income, and therefore the price of the card will be now about Rs. 0-0-10. There are two alternatives before us. Either we may increase the price of the post card or we may increase the charges for other articles we handle. A proposal is under the consideration of my Department to enhance the rates on certain articles other than post cards and envelopes. I wanted the House to know this before the starting of the debate. I have also given the justification for this proposal.

**Shri Jaipal Singh (Bihar):** In view of the fact that there is to be a full-dress debate, as announced this morning by my hon. friend, on the 16th, much of what I would have liked to say today I would rather defer to that occasion. I have tabled three cut motions which I do not propose to move because I believe that my purpose will have been served by the opportunity you have given me.

I want to inform the House, and the country also, about the terrible situation to which civil aviation has been brought since independence. Again and again, on the floor of Parliament we have been denied information. I maintain that, whereas before independence we had an aviation record that may well have been the envy of other flying countries, since 1946 at any rate, we have progressively gone downhill. I do not say that only as a general charge or attack on our civil aviation management, but I would

like to give the House certain facts and figures to corroborate my statement. In 1946, this country had no aviation accident. What is the position now?

**Shri Kidwai:** No planes were flying then. How could there have been accidents?

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** For the last six months, between July and December 1950, if we look at the accident figures they are alarming. In these six months, there have been nine fatal accidents and as many as fifty-six persons have been killed. I do not for one moment suggest that there can be no accidents. Accidents occur in the best of organised countries. That, I accept. At the same time, I do maintain that a great number of these accidents could have been obviated had there been better direction and more competent inspection in our civil aviation organisation.

I have always admired my hon. friend for the bold stand he has taken in the matter of introducing experiments. Take, for example, one of his experiments—the night air mail service. It will come up for discussion on the 16th and I shall have more to say about it then, but I could not but admire my hon. friend for the courage he had shown in defying powerful groups and introducing it and seeing to it that the scheme was a success. For that, I do admire him. But then there are other experiments, I regret, where I cannot give him the same encomium. Since independence, we have had in the Civil Aviation Directorate non-technical direction at the top. And I maintain that to a large extent the deterioration in our standards, the increase in accidents, the low standard in the trainees have been largely due to the fact of an increase in laxity in our inspection and direction.

Only a few weeks ago I asked him whether there was a Director of Training and he said there was. When I asked the name of the Director of Training he told us he required notice. I know it for a fact that, unless he has made that appointment since I asked him that question, there is no Director of Training. Anyway I would ask my hon. friend whether he thinks that training can be of a regular type, can be co-ordinated, whether standards can be maintained either in training or discipline, if there is no Director of Training to look after this important affair. It is because of the absence of Director of Training—that post has not been filled—that flying chbps, scheduled services and everyone else

[Shri Jaipal Singh]

has taken unfair advantage of my hon. friend with the result that we have had so many anomalies and irregularities. I need hardly point out to the Assam air-lift. It was a scandal of the first magnitude and it took my friend many months to put things right. It was something like the jute scandal. After we lost nearly Rs. 83 crores, our Government woke up to the fact that something should be done to increase the export duty. Some such thing happened with regard to the Assam air-lift also. I know of one case where a pilot after flying for so many hours went off to sleep—hence an accident. The direction had been weak; it had been incompetent. I am prepared to prove it by facts and figures. (Shri Kidwai: I agree.) My hon. friend agrees and yet he does not take proper action.

We have heard a lot about cow slaughter. I maintain there has been a certain amount of man slaughter as far as civil aviation in this country is concerned. I do not deny that accidents do take place in spite of the best precautions. But most of these accidents, I maintain, could have been prevented, and they have been due to the negligence of my hon. friend's Department.

I am not for one moment suggesting that non-technical people cannot administer a Department. But it is strange that the increase in accidents should coincide with my hon. friend's experiment with non-technical men at the top direction of civil aviation. If the old high standards of discipline and safety had been maintained, I think, a great many lives might have been saved. I ask my hon. friend to tighten up things and I think he himself is very anxious that the old record had better be got back. But I think something definite has to happen before such things can be achieved.

There are many reasons—I have given only a few. Take, for example, the Civil Aviation Training Centre. My hon. friend has spent nearly the best part of one crore of rupees to establish it. For what?

Shri Kidwai: From where I got that money?

Shri Jaipal Singh: You got it from this House. But the question is Government should have a policy. My charge against my hon. friend is that he has broken his promise to the flying clubs.

Last year there was a conference of the flying clubs at which an assurance was given that there would be no *ab initio* training at the Civil Air Training Centre. Perhaps some Members would like to know what I mean by that. Government spends very nearly Rs. 16 lakhs in subsidising flying clubs, gliding clubs and the Aero Club of India.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): Do you want it to be reduced?

Shri Jaipal Singh: These clubs have all along, before this Civil Air Training Centre started, been doing their work and they have done it very well indeed. The Ministry's administration report itself admits it. At the present moment there are as many as 364 trainees at the various flying clubs. I need not give more figures. I would like my hon. friend to tell the House how many B pilots his Civil Aviation Centre has produced.

I do not want to deny the necessity of the Civil Aviation Training Centre. I do not object to it. I think it has a place. There is other work that could be done there. But I do think he has been most unwise in taking away, in undermining the work of these flying clubs. After all Government is spending nearly Rs. 16 lakhs in subsidising them. For what? Is it with a view that their work should be undermined? In any case, he told the conference of Flying Clubs which was presided over by his Deputy Minister that his original programme or assurance of not having *ab initio* training at the Civil Aviation Centre would be honoured. But he did not honour it. As a matter of fact all the flying clubs, as it were, boycotted the whole scheme of *ab initio* training and he had considerable difficulty. He had recruited very expensive staff, but he discovered that he could not get the trainees. However, that is another matter. There again, my submission to my hon. friend is that the Civil Aviation Training Centre has a place in the country; there are many other things it can do. But I would urge upon my hon. friend that he should not take away the work from the flying clubs, but that through the flying clubs he should achieve what has been achieved in the past.

At the present moment, the flying clubs are not regularly inspected. Now there are in certain flying clubs—I need not give their names; I am not arguing against them, I am fighting for them, as my hon. friend

knows—instructors who have no business to be instructors. This sort of anomaly, this dangerous situation, my hon. friend must prevent for the sake of not only flying, but because of the excellent record we have had in the past.

While I have given reasons for our downfall and our decline in our aviation record, I have certain remedies also to offer. At present our pilots, particularly B pilots, are examined by their own instructors. To my mind, that is a very, very dangerous thing.

**Shri Kidwai:** We are handing it over.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** I am not personally very enamoured of the standards that my hon. friend has been able to maintain at the C.A.T.C. First of all he has to tell me why so long as there are 28 or 30 B class pilots still unemployed, he is in such a mad rush to increase the number of unemployables. I maintain that my hon. friend should see to it that our standards are not in any way made to fall below what they have been in the past.

The Ministry of Defence has issued a directive that V.I.P.s may not be flown in certain aircraft. The country has a right to know when things have gone down like this, what are his remedies.

With these very few words, I would urge upon my hon. friend again to see to it very seriously that there is coordination in training, that high standards, instead of being relaxed, are maintained as they have been in the past—not the recent past, not since his experiment with non-technical direction has been brought in to being, but before them,—and he should also consider whether his department cannot cooperate with the Indian Air Force. I was thinking when I mentioned this as to whether the examinations could not be conducted particularly for the B trainees, by the Indian Air Force instructors. Because, after all, they are much better qualified than any personnel that my hon. friend can produce.

**Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya** (Uttar Pradesh): I must avail myself of this opportunity to content myself with a few observations in the short compass of ten minutes at my disposal. I am the President of the All-India Postal and R.M.S. Union and therefore in that capacity (**Shri Kidwai:**

Question) as also in my capacity as a Member of Parliament I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister certain essential facts relating to the Postal and R.M.S. Union.

Before I say certain things regarding the Postal and R.M.S. matters I would say that the dearness allowance given to the Postal and R.M.S. employees should be increased. Because, according to the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission the allowance should fluctuate according to the rise and fall in the cost of living index. And the cost of living index is about 500. As such the minimum amount of dearness allowance should be Rs. 80 as against Rs. 45.

Secondly, regarding the scale of pay, it is 60-125-170 today. It was fixed on the assumption that the cost of living index would remain between 160 and 175 for all the time. But the cost of living index has been persisting between 380 to 450 for the last several years, and this cost of living index has remained so according to the declaration of the hon. Minister of Labour made at Jhansi on the 23rd October, 1950, at a public meeting. The emoluments of employees in the public utility services should also be raised in the same order.

Further, I would ask that the recommendations of the Post and Telegraph Expert Committee should be given effect to *in toto*. Only one recommendation has been given effect to, and that is that there should be a day off a week. Nothing beyond that has been done. I would ask the hon. Minister to give effect to the recommendations of the Post and Telegraph Expert Committee which was appointed.

I would also ask him to consider favourably the question of extra duty allowance to the R. M. S. workers. Now the allowance is about eight annas for every three hours. This is a very meagre payment I should respectfully submit to the hon. Minister, and therefore he should see to it that it is increased, as the man gets for eight hours only an extra amount of eight annas.

I would also ask him that he should create posts of Assistant Accountants in the Post Offices and in the R.M.S. I would also ask him that he should see to it that the shortage of supervisory staff in the Kanpur R.M.S. and the Banaras R.M.S. is made up.



[Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya]

With regard to class IV employees I would ask the hon. Minister that he should provide as early as possible the same system of uniforms at the old rate. The class IV employees are getting only one set of uniforms a year instead of two to which they were entitled so long. And they are getting short sleeves and short trousers. They should not be given that, and they should be given the usual uniform as also at the old rate.

I would also ask him to bear the point in mind that the accommodation of the P. and T. staff is in a very bad condition because of the congestion in urban areas, as they have got to put in considerable hours of work. They get only Rs. seven or so as house rent. Houses should be built for them by the Government, at any rate out of the revenues of the Department itself.

I would also like to say that certain expenses can be eliminated. For example, the complaints organisation may well be abolished. The office of Labour Welfare Officer also can be abolished. These posts seem to be superfluous. I would also ask the hon. Minister to bear in mind that there are superfluous posts of Directors, which are six in number. They should be abolished.

I would also tell the hon. Minister that there are certain buildings which require immediate demolition or at any rate renovation—for instance, the R.M.S. rest-rooms at Howrah and Delhi. I would also invite his attention to the miserable condition of the R.M.S. offices on different Railways—specially on the B.B. and C.I. and O.T. Railways. Therefore I would ask him to give such facilities to the R.M.S. people by virtue of which they can work comfortably.

**Shri Kidwai:** Do not make too many requests!

**Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya:** I am not making too many requests. If I have got to do so I shall take a deputation to you.

With regard to the complaints organisation it has been definitely brought to my notice that there is no necessity for this complaints organisation which has been opened up recently.

At any rate, the opening of the P. and T. College at Saharanpur is, according to my information and knowledge, not necessary at all.

Now, with regard to Allahabad I have got one or two things to say. Though the hon. Minister comes from U. P. he has neglected Allahabad most. Because, with regard to Allahabad I can tell you that he has not given us any facilities of travelling by air. The Members of Parliament and several M.L.As. and M.L.Cs. find considerable difficulty to fly from Allahabad to Lucknow and Allahabad to Delhi and back.

I would also ask him to sympathetically consider the question of out-station allowances.

It has been brought to my notice that the R.M.S. men who work get an allowance only after six hours at the rate of twelve annas. After working for twenty-four hours he gets a paltry amount of twelve annas. This is a ridiculous amount, and I respectfully submit to the hon. Minister to rectify this matter very quickly and to see that the Postal and R.M.S. Departments work at full steam.

I would, however, draw the attention of the House to the fact that you have got in the Communications Minister a very sympathetic man. I had the opportunity of waiting on deputation, along with several Members, upon him and I found that he readily conceded some of the demands which were made to him. I hope he will continue to have the same sympathetic attitude all the time. At the same time I would like to tell the Postal and R.M.S. workers that they should bear in mind that in no circumstances they should indulge in the pastime of a strike. There should not be any attempt to sabotage our newly won independence. While all the courses of peaceful mediation are open to them in the way of good offices, mediation, negotiation etc., they should not undertake the perilous work of sabotaging our independence by undertaking a strike. I want to give this word of advice to the workers through this House that it would not be the way in which loyal servants of India should work, especially in this position when you are encompassed by difficulties and the State is in peril itself on account of shortage of finances. I, however, want to impress upon the Government with all the sincerity at my command that it is time enough for us to realize and for the Communications Minister to realize that these are public utility services and therefore he should not grudge any amount which is necessary in order to make the people enthusiastic and feel that they

should do their best to the Department so that the Department can work most efficiently. There cannot be any manner of doubt whatever that if this Department is to work as efficiently as possible the conditions under which they are working, as I know, must be improved immediately and unconditionally. And there cannot be any denying the fact that all of them are loyal workers. When I was a young man I knew that the post office was the most efficient department and honest department, and though I have become old I still retain that impression that it is the most honest and straightforward department. I therefore want the hon. Minister to look at the matter of the post offices and the R.M.S. with the utmost of consideration and sympathy so that the workers may feel rejuvenated by the encouraging stand which the nation may take.

It is an undeniable fact that the work which they are discharging is at enormous cost of their health and vitality itself. As I have told graphically the R.M.S. postmen, sorters and officials are working at a great disadvantage. There is no residential accommodation for them, no proper way of treatment for themselves and their wives and children. All these matters should receive the earnest and most favourable consideration of the hon. Minister.

I have nothing more to add except this that I hope the hon. Minister shall continue to retain the same kind of affection for the Department in order to add to the efficiency thereof. Otherwise the Department shall go down as a hungry man is an angry man. Therefore we want that all the men in this Department should be contented and loyal.

**Shri R. Velayudhan** (Travancore-Cochin): I would not have dared to speak on this Ministry but for the pressing demand from my State regarding the integration of the Anchal system with the Postal Department. I may state that the Anchal system in Travancore-Cochin State is one of the best mail carrying systems in India and it is run on a profitable basis. In fact most of the Anchal masters are educated people and we could see even school finals and graduates holding such posts there. With the integration effected in April 1950 with the postal system, the Government of India took up the entire administration but it could not take any decision with regard to their revised

scales of pay at that time. In other States where the integration was effected during the same period the scale of pay of this staff was brought on a par with the Indian Postal system.

**Shri Kidwai:** No, no.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** In Travancore-Cochin I think the pay has not been brought to the same scale and I understand that the Government of India is going to introduce the new pay scale system only from April onwards.....

**Shri Kidwai:** May I inform the hon. Member our Central scale of pay was introduced in no State in India except from April 1951.

**Shri R. Velayudhan:** If that has not been done, I request that as in the case of Railways which were integrated in 1950 itself and whose staff was paid on the Central scale of pay from the date of integration, the employees of the Anchal system should also be given the same pay from 1950, that is, since the date of integration onwards. This involves a matter of principle. When the integration took place in 1950, there is no meaning in saying: "We will pay only from April 1951." These poor people are not only doing extra work but they are undergoing extra loss now. Recently an injustice has been done to the Anchal masters of the Travancore-Cochin State. They are the non-departmental Anchal masters and their strength will be between 500 and 600. These non-departmental Anchal masters in the State were recruited by the Public Service Commission and they were taken as regular employees in the Anchal offices. There was absolutely no difference in their cadre, their qualifications for getting into service, their transfer, leave etc., in the Anchal Department as against Departmental Anchal masters of Government. According to the integration, from April 1951 onwards they are entitled only to a basic pay of Rs. ten just as in the case of extra-departmental post masters in the Central Service. In the Part A States the existing system is that the extra-departmental post masters will get a basic pay of Rs. ten plus an allowance of Rs. ten. But these post masters used to work only from two to four hours. If there was work exceeding four hours the department used to convert the extra departmental post office into a departmental post office where the post masters enjoy a higher salary. With the integration of the postal system and Anchal, the non-departmental Anchal masters have to do additional

[Shri R. Velayudhan]

work. More than that even though they were non-departmental Anchal masters the hours of work were just like the hours of work for the regular departmental Anchal masters in the State. Therefore my request to you is that these non-departmental Anchal masters should be brought into the same category as the departmental Anchal masters or post masters of the Union and they should be paid accordingly. Up to now the Government have not come to a decision with regard to the re-fixation of pay in the appropriate grade according to the duties performed and the responsibilities shouldered. I think a principle on the basis of this has not been evolved by the Ministry yet. My hope is that the hon. Minister will go into these details and without giving any trouble to the employees due to the integration will be able to find a solution satisfactory to them. I realize it is very difficult to evolve a uniform policy in this matter, because the educational qualifications of the postal staff in the case of Travancore-Cochin are higher than the post-masters in other States. Take the case of Rajasthan, Hyderabad or Saurashtra. There a non-departmental post master need be only an ordinary school teacher. He will go to the post office during the mailing time and work for two or 2½ hours and then go away. Therefore in the Travancore-Cochin State when the revised pay scales are fixed, the qualifications of the employees should also be taken into consideration, because I understand that there are graduates even who are employed as non-department Anchal masters. I feel therefore that to lower their scale of pay from Rs. 20 plus 20 to Rs. ten plus ten is a great injustice. The Ministry should rectify this wrong immediately.

Then I come to the recommendations of the Expert Committee which was appointed in 1949 by the Ministry. I understand that most of the important recommendations of this Committee which involve no cost have been implemented by the Ministry and I am very happy over it. But still there are certain important recommendations which remain to be implemented and the expenditure on this will not come to more than a crore and a quarter of rupees. Previously the income from the Postal Department was more than the income from the Telephone Department but now most of the income from the Postal Department is spent for the development plan of the

Telephone Department and that is why I think the Ministry could not implement the recommendations regarding extra duty, working hours, extra allowances etc. of the postal employees. The lot of the postal employees in the lower cadre is very pitiable and I think Government should take particular interest in seeing that these unfortunate people who work from dawn to dusk are given something extra according to the recommendations of this Expert Committee.

लाला अचित राम : बिाटी स्पीकर साहब, मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे शब्द मिनट आज के महकमे के ऊपर बोलने के लिये दिये हैं। शुरू होने से पहले ही आनरेबिल मिनिस्टर साहब ने अपनी तजवीजों का कुछ चिक्क किया और जो उस महकमे ने कारगुजारी की उस का भी चिक्क किया। हमें उन की मुश्किलों का एहसास है कि वह कितनी सख्त मुश्किलों में काम कर रहे हैं, एक्स-पैरिमेंट (experiment) कर रहे हैं। इन तमाम मुश्किलों के बावजूद उन्होंने जो काम किया है उस के लिए हमारे दिल के अन्दर उन की गहरी इज्जत है। खास तौर पर मैं दो चार बातों का चिक्क करता हूँ जिन के लिए मैं इस महकमे की तारीफ़ करता हूँ। जब मैं ने इन की रिपोर्ट पढ़ी और उस के अन्दर टैलीफोन फ़ैक्ट्री का भी चिक्क पढ़ा तो मुझे बड़ी भारी खुशी हुई। खुशी इस वास्ते भी हुई कि इस बजट इस साल उन्होंने २५ हजार के करीब टैलीफ़ोनों को लगाया और इस के अलावा बड़ी खुशी की बात यह थी कि १० फ़ी सदी टैलीफोन टूल्स (Telephone tools), टैलीफोन पार्ट्स (Telephone parts) उन्होंने, यहाँ बनाये। हमारे मुल्क की हालत यह है कि अब टैलीफोन के लिए १० फ़ी सदी पार्ट्स यहाँ बनाय जा रहे हैं और बाक़ी १० फ़ी सदी भी दो साल या डेढ़ साल में पूरे हो जायेंगे। यह मेरे

लिए बड़ी खुशी की बात है। जब मैं पब्लिक से इस के बारे में बात करता हूँ तो वह बहुत खुश होती है। खास कर उन्होंने जो एक टेस्ट रिसर्च इंस्टीट्यूट (Test Research Institute) कायम किया वह भी काबिले तारीफ़ है। अब एयर (Air) के बारे में हवाई जहाज़ के बारे में जयपाल सिंह जी ने नुक़ताचीनी की है। लेकिन यह बात साफ़ है कि इस साल हवाई जहाज़ से जितना सफ़र हुआ मसाफ़िरो ने जितना माइलेज (mileage) कवर (cover) किया, यह खुशी की बात है। एक और खास बात, जिस का पब्लिक के साथ तास्लुक़ है, वह यह है कि मिनिस्टर साहब ने कर्टसीवीक (courtesy Week) जारी किया। इस की बड़ी सस्त ज़रूरत थी और जितने मुलाज़िम थे उन को इस बात का एहसास कराया गया कि पब्लिक के साथ कर्टसी की कितनी ज़रूरत है। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि वह तीन चार बातें ऐसी हैं जो मिनिस्टर साहब ने बड़ी अच्छी कीं।

**Shri Kidwai :** Has it influenced you also, this courtesy?

लाला अशित राम : मैं अभी आता हूँ। ख़ैर, मेरे लिए तो कर्टसी न हो लेकिन आप की कर्टसी को तो मैं रीयलाइज़ (realise) करता हूँ।  
\*तो यह बातें पब्लिक के सामने आईं।

लेकिन इन के साथ ही साथ मैं चन्द बातें पब्लिक के नुक़ते ख़्याल से और जो स्टाफ़ (staff) है उस के नुक़ते ख़्याल से भी अज़ करना चाहता हूँ। पब्लिक के ख़्याल से तो मैं तारों के मुताल्लिक़ कहूंगा और इस का पहले भी मैंने ज़िक्र किया था कि पब्लिक के अन्दर इस बात का विश्वास ही उठ चुका है कि मामूली

टैलीग्राम कभी वक़्त पर पहुंच सकता है, कम से कम मेरे अन्दर नहीं है। यह मुझ को मालूम है कि इस वक़्त बहुत इम्प्रूवमेंट (improvement) हुआ है, और इस बात की मुझे बहुत खुशी है। लेकिन बेहतर है कि इस के लिए कान्फ़ीडेंस (confidence) पैदा कर और लोगों को यकीन दिलाया जाय कि हालत पहले की तरह अब नहीं है, अब दूसरी हालत है। मामूली टैलिग्राम की बात तो जाने दीजिये, मामूली टैलिग्राम की बात क्या है, मैं ने एक्सप्रेस टैलिग्राम (Express Telegram) यहां पर अजित प्रसाद जी जैन, हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब को भेजा, उन के दर्शन करने के लिए कहा था कि मैं सहारनपुर आऊंगा। इसके लिए मैं ने एक्सप्रेस टैलिग्राम भेजा था। लेकिन मैं वहां पहुंचा तो मालूम हुआ कि वह टैलिग्राम उन को नहीं मिला। तो यह हालत हुई एक्सप्रेस टैलिग्राम की।

श्री किडवाई : वह भूल भी सकते हैं।

लाला अशित राम : मैं समझता हूँ कि आप की ख़ूबी उन्होंने अभी हासिल नहीं की है, बाज़ बातों में, अभी वह नये हैं। मेरा ख़्याल है कि वह सच ही बोलते हैं और टैलिग्राम वहां बाद में पहुंचा, जब मैं चला गया उस के बाद पहुंचा। यहां से सहारनपुर कोई बहुत दूर नहीं है। तो कहने का मतलब यह है कि मामूली टैलिग्राम हो या दूसरी टैलिग्राम हो, जब तक पब्लिक को उस का फ़ायदा नहीं पहुंचता तब तक पब्लिक में विश्वास कैसे हो सकता है? यह एक छोटी सी बात है और उम्मीद है कि आप इसकी तरफ़ कोशिश करेंगे।

अब टैलिग्राम के बाद टैलीफ़ोन के बारे में अज़ करूंगा। यह पहले ही कह चुका हूँ कि आप ने टैलीफ़ोन की

[ लाला अर्चित राम ]

फैक्टरी खोली है यह बहुत ही अच्छा किया है। अब आप ने दिल्ली के अन्दर खास खास स्टेशनों पर यह इन्तज़ाम किया है कि १५ आने में १२ टैलीफोन काल (Telephone calls) हो सकती हैं। तो यह अच्छी बात है। लेकिन मेरी गुज़ारिश यह है कि १५ आने में आप १५ काल दें तो क्यादा अच्छा होगा। आप को घाटा नहीं रहेगा। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब बड़े होसले से तजुर्बा करते हैं। इसलिये वह इस साल यह तजुर्बा भी कर के देखें। मेरी समझ में आप की आमदनी कम नहीं होगी। अगर कम हो तो मैं फिर नहीं कहूंगा। मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि जहां करोड़ों रुपये का घाटा हो रहा है वहां पर यह भी देखें। तो यह टैलीफोन के बारे में और तार के बारे में है।

अब करप्शन (corruption) के बारे में मैंने पिछले साल भी अर्ज की थी और आप ने यह कहा है कि आप करप्शन के बहुत खिलाफ हैं और मैं समझता हूँ कि आप कोशिश भी करते हैं। लेकिन तमाम कोशिशों के बावजूद यह बात है कि करप्शन चल रहा है। सुपरिटेण्डेंट के अन्दर, स्टाफ के अन्दर यह चल रहा है और इस करप्शन से इस महकमे की बदनामी है। इस को जितनी जल्दी दूर किया जाय उतना ही अच्छा होगा।

श्री किबचाई : वह तो कहते हैं कमप्लेंट सैक्शन (Complaints Section) तोड़ दो।

लाला अर्चित राम : वह तो उन्होंने कहा, लेकिन जिस वजह से कहा यह आप समझिये कि क्यों कहा। वह तो चाहते हैं कि करप्शन का दूर किया

जाय। चाहे वह पब्लिक के लिए कमप्लेंट सैक्शन रखने से दूर हो चाहे न रखने से दूर हो, मक्सद यह है कि करप्शन दूर हो, यह मेरा मतलब है।

अब मैं चन्द उन बातों की तरफ आऊंगा जो कि आप के महकमे के स्टाफ की हैं, जो उनकी ग्रीवन्सेज (grievances) हैं, कुछ बातों का भट्टाचार्य जी ने जिक्र कर दिया है और मैं समझता हूँ कि उन बातों का जिक्र करने की ज़रूरत नहीं है। डीयरनेस अलाउंस (Dearness allowance) के बारे में जो कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है उस के बारे में आप ने जवाब दिया और कहा कि रुपये का मामला है इस वास्ते आप नहीं कर सकते। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि जिस तरीके से मंहगाई लगातार बढ़ रही है उस से यह मामला आसानी से चलने का नहीं है। अभी आल इंडिया पोस्टमैन लोअर स्टाफ यूनीयन (All India Postmen Lower Staff Union) का इजलास हुआ और वहां के सभापति ने आप को दावत दी और मैं बड़ा खुश होता अगर आप वहां तशरीफ़ ले जाते। आप को उन्होंने बुलाया और अगर आप वहां तशरीफ़ ले जाते तो अच्छा होता और वहां की फीलिंग (feeling) का आप तब ज्यादा एहसास करते। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि आप अभी नहीं करते, लेकिन तब ज्यादा एहसास होता कि किस तरह मंहगाई बढ़ रही है और लोगों को मामूली ज़रूरियात मुहय्या करने में कितनी मुश्किल हो रही है।

आप के लिए इस में दिक्कत ज़रूर है, लेकिन आप का यह कहना कि मैं क्या करूँ, फ़ायनेन्स डिपार्टमेंट (Finance Department) का काम है, यह कहना मैं समझता हूँ कि हालांकि ठीक भी हो

तो भी यह बात शोभा नहीं देती। तमाम गवर्नमेंट एक है, आप का भी उस में हिस्सा है।

**Shri Kidwai :** You want me to move a cut motion in Finance Minister's budget ?

• लाला अचिंत राम : ठीक है, वह कट मोशन ( cut motion ) तो हमें पेश करना है। आप लेकिन अन्दर से कोशिश करिये, उस का असर होगा। तो मैं एक बात आम तौर पर यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि मंहगाई इस वक़्त एक किस्म से हमारा हिस्सा बन गयी है। मंहगाई अलाउंस, एक साल से दो साल से नहीं, तीन साल, चार साल, पांच साल, दस साल से चल रहा है और अब तक मंहगाई है। अब उस का असर यह है कि वह डीयरनेस अलाउंस अलान्स ही रहता है, जो मुलाज़िम है वह उन की तनख्वाह का हिस्सा नहीं बनता। उस का हिस्सा नहीं होने से इस का असर पेंशन पर पड़ता है। इस वास्ते मैं आप से दरख्वास्त करूंगा कि आप ने जो मंहगाई का अलाउंस बढ़ाया, पे कमीशन (Pay Commission) की रिकमेंडेशन (recommendation) के मुताबिक़ जो डीयरनेस अलाउंस बढ़ाया, वह आप अब तनख्वाहों का हिस्सा बना दें ताकि वह तनख्वाहों का हिस्सा समझा जा सके। इस में आप को मदद करनी है। यह एक बड़ी माकूल बात है और इस में आप का कोई लम्बा बौड़ा खर्च भी नहीं पड़ता है। इसलिये इस चीज़ को आप बहुत ज़रूरी कर दें।

इस के अलावा अब अपील कोर्ट (appeal court) के बारे में, ट्रिब्यूनल (Tribunal) के बारे में कहना है। आप ने अभी परसों यह बात फ़रमाई कि जो पाटीज़

होती है वह अपना नामिनी (nominee) देती है। आप ने यह बात कही। मैं अर्ज कर दूँ कि इस वक़्त जितना भी स्टाफ़ है वर यह चाहता है कि यह अपील ट्रिब्यूनल होनी चाहिये। इस बात में कोई शक़त-फ़हमी हो तो मैं रफ़ा कर दूँ।

**श्री किंबर्ई :** कोई नहीं है।

लाला अचिंत राम : तो दरियाफ़्त करिये कि बात क्या है। यह होता है कि नामिनी जाता है, उस के अन्दर दिक़क़त यह है कि लोकल आदमी नामिनेट करे। उस से मुफ़िक़ल यह होती है कि वहाँ लोकल आदमी हो। इसलिये इस मामले को आप देखें, लोग चाहते हैं कि अपील ट्रिब्यूनल हो और वह काम करे। इस से आप को भी फ़ायदा होगा और स्टाफ़ में भी आप काफ़ी कानफिडेंस ला सकते हैं। यह कोई बड़ी बात नहीं है, इस वास्ते में कहता हूँ कि आप इस को रखिये।

इस के अलावा ट्रेनिंग स्कूल के बारे में कहना है। आप को पता है कि आप को जब लड़ाई के वक़्त में ज़रूरत पड़ी तो आप ने हजारों आदमियों को बतौर पोस्टमैन (Postman) के भरती किया। वह सरबिस के अन्दर कोई पांच साल से, कोई दल साल से, बारह साल से और कोई चौदह साल से लगे हुए हैं। आज अब उन के इम्तिहानात लिये जाते हैं। धीरे इम्तिहानात ले कर वह फ़ैल कर दिये जाते हैं। वहाँ कहते हैं कि यह ठकोसला है। मैं समझता हूँ कि आप यह कहेंगे कि आप पालियामेंट में कहते हैं कि एफ़ीशियन्सी (efficiency) हो, आप यहाँ जो एफ़ीशियन्सी पुकारते हैं एक तरफ़ जो यह कहते हैं, और दूसरी तरफ़ यह कहते हैं कि इम्तिहान न लो। मैं

[ लाला अचिंत राम ]

समझता हूँ कि इस वक्त हमारे गले बहुत सी पिछली मुसीबतें पड़ी हैं, कई अफसर हमारे गले पड़े हैं। उन में मैं यह नहीं कहता कि सब अफसर खराब हैं, बहुत से अच्छे भी हैं और उनकी तारीफ करनी चाहिये। लेकिन यह बात भी ठीक है कि सैकड़ों हजारों अफसर हमारे गले पड़े हैं, हम उन को अलहदा नहीं कर सकते, अपने मुआहिदों के मुताबिक। पिछली ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट के वक्त से यह हमारे गले पड़े हैं और उन को हम नहीं निकाल सकते। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यही बात इन आदमियों के साथ होनी चाहिये, इन को अलहदा नहीं करना चाहिये। इम्तहान के बारे में मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब को एलजबरा (Algebra) का कोई सवाल दिया जाय तो वह उस को नहीं कर सकेंगे। तो अब इन आदमियों का इम्तहान लेना ठीक नहीं है। जो काम वह करते हैं, उस काम को आप देखिये। आप कहेंगे कि वह एड्रेस (address) नहीं पढ़ सकते। तो उस के लिए आप ट्रेनिंग स्कूल खोलिये और उन की एफ्रीशियेन्सी बढ़ाइये। आप उन की एफ्रीशियेन्सी बढ़ा कर फिर देखिये कि वह कैसा काम करते हैं। मसलन एक आदमी जिस ने १०-१२ साल आप के मुहकमे में काम किया हो, उसे आप रखेंगे सही, लेकिन तन्स्वाह नहीं बेंगे, उस का जो प्रमोशन (promotion) हो, उस में कोई फर्क न पड़े। मैं कहता हूँ कि आप उसे प्रमोशन दीजिये, आजादी के लिये आप ने जो वायदा किया था, उन को निकालेंगे तो हैं नहीं। आप उस को ट्रेनिंग दीजिये, ताकि वह साथ रहे।

श्री किशवाई : आजादी के लिए किस ने मुआहिदा किया ?

लाला अचिंत राम : गवर्नमेंट ने किया, आप ने किया, जितनी बड़ी बड़ी तन्स्वाह लेने वाले हैं, तीन तीन हजार, उन को हम रखेंगे, निकालेंगे नहीं। वह बड़े अफसरान आज अक्सर बदसलूकी करते हैं, पबलिक से बिहेव (behave) करना नहीं जानते। उन को तो आप तीन हजार पाने वालों को निकाल नहीं सकते क्योंकि यह कहा जाता है कि दूसरे मुल्कों में उन की कद्र होती है क्योंकि आप वायदा कर चुके हैं, लेकिन गरीब और छोटे आदमियों को निकालते हैं। मेरी आप से यह दरख्वास्त है कि इन छोटे गरीब आदमियों पर मेहरबानी की जाय।

इस के अलावा एक बात और मैं आखिर में कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि मेरा जाती ख्याल है कि आप के मुहकमे में आनदी होल (on the whole) गलतियां भी हैं और साथ ही आप ने कोशिश भी की है कि इन को सुधारा जा सके, यह मेरा अपना ख्याल है। लेकिन साथ ही जैसा श्री जयपाल सिंह ने फरमाया था कि आप ट्रेनिंग के बारे में अपना वायदा पूरा नहीं कर सके।

एक दूसरी बात यह है कि इस वक्त जो पोस्टल स्टाफ (Postal Staff) है, उन का झगड़ा लग रहा है। सन् १९४६ में पोस्टल स्ट्राइक (Postal Strike) हुई थी और उस सिलसिले में पोस्टमैन गैरहाजिर रहे। आखिरकार आप ने मुआहिदा किया और एक फंसला हुआ और उस के बाद उन्होंने फिर अपना काम शुरू कर दिया।

श्री किशवाई : किस ने मुआहिदा किया ?

लाला अचिंत राम : अभी मैं अज्ञात कर रहा हूँ, और तसकिया कर लेते हैं। मैं भी बोलूँ और आप भी कहें, और मामला खत्म

हो जायेगा। मुआहिदा हुआ और उस की बजह से स्ट्राइक खत्म हुई और वह अपने काम पर वापिस गये और काम शुरू कर दिया। उस के बाद उन्होंने कहा कि इस पीरियड (period) की हमें तनख्वाह दीजिये। और आप ने जायज तौर पर उन से यह बात कही कि अगर हम स्ट्राइक पीरियड (Strike period) को तनख्वाह देते हैं, तो इस का मतलब यह हो जाता है कि स्ट्राइक को रेकगनाइज (recognise) कर लेते हैं, इसलिये हम नहीं दे सकते। हां यह ठीक है, कि आज जो काम कर रहे हैं, उन से हमारी हमदर्दी है, लेकिन हड़ताल के पीरियड की हम तनख्वाह नहीं दे सकते। अब श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण जो पोस्टमैन यूनियन के प्रेसीडेंट हैं उन के कहने के मुताबिक आप ने उन से वायदा किया कि हम स्ट्राइक पीरियड की तनख्वाह तो नहीं दे सकते, लेकिन हम एक फारमूला (formula) इबोल्व (evolve) करके ऐसा प्रबन्ध करेंगे जिस से उन को पैसा मिल जाय और चुनांचे उन्होंने अपना बयान रखा कि इस तरह से मुझे कहा है और आनरेबल मिनिस्टर ने कहा है कि वह काम हो जायेगा। चुनांचे बराबर उस के मुताल्लिक लिखा पढ़ी की और आज सामने यह बात आई है कि आप कहते हैं कि हम ने ऐसा कोई वायदा नहीं किया। आज यह चीज सामने आ गई है।

श्री किशवाई : मैं कुछ कह दूँ। जब आप ने सुना कि मैं ने उन से कोई वायदा किया है, तो आप न क्या प्रोटेस्ट (protest) किया कि उन से क्यों ऐसा वायदा किया गया जब आप ने हम से इंकार कर दिया था? ।

लाला अचिंत राम : मैंने यह बात नहीं कही कि मेरे से क्या कहा गया और उन से ऐसा वायदा किया गया। लेकिन

इतनी बात की शहादत तो मैं दे सकता हूँ कि आप कहते रहे कि कोई फारमूला निकालेंगे, इतना तो आप ने कहा। आप ने मुझ से जो कुछ कहा, मैं उस को सी फ्री सदी बाइंडिंग (binding) अपने पर नहीं समझता, १८ फ्री सदी तो समझता ही हूँ। श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण मैं समझता हूँ कि He is an honourable man and I cannot disbelieve him. पांच लाख, दस लाख रुपया हम को देना पड़ेगा, यह इतनी बड़ी बात नहीं है, जितनी बड़ी बात यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान की नेशनल गवनेमेंट के मिनिस्टर्स एक रिस्पॉन्सिबिल (responsible) आदमी श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण के साथ वायदा करते हैं और वायदा पूरा नहीं होता है और वह कह रहा है कि मेरे साथ वायदा खिलाफी हो रही है और इस बात पर आज पोस्टमैन यूनियन फ़ैसला कर रही है कि वह कुछ ऐक्शन (action) लें आप ने जो वायदा किया है, उस को पबलिक के सामने वाजय करें और अगर नहीं भी किया है, तो भी इन सुधारों को अमल में लाने की कोशिश करें जिन का मैंने जिक्र किया है, और इस तरह हम जनता को अपने साथ लाने में कामयाब होंगे।

(English translation of the above speech)

Lala Achint Ram (Punjab): Sir, I am thankful to you for having given some time to me to speak on the Ministry that we are going to discuss today. Before the debate started, the hon. Minister told us about his proposals and also about the achievements of his department. We very well realise the difficulties with which he is faced in doing the work of his department and in conducting experiments thereof. In spite of all these difficulties, the work that he has done has earned a deep admiration in our hearts for him. I refer here to a few things in particular, for which I am so much admiring this department. I felt very happy when I read their Report, specially when I read about the Telephone Factory. It was really a great pleasure to note that this year they have assembled about twenty-five thousand telephone sets and that they



[Lala Achint Ram]

have manufactured no less than ninety per cent. of the Telephone tools and telephone parts etc. Our country is now in a position to manufacture ninety per cent. of telephone parts and the remaining ten per cent. would also be manufactured within one and a half or two years. It is no doubt a matter of extreme delight and the people also feel happy when I tell them all these things. The Test Research Institute, that they have set up, deserves our praise in particular. Now, Shri Jaipal Singh has criticized the state of aviation in our country. But it is quite clear that there has been a noteworthy increase in air-travel this year, and the mileage covered by the passengers is simply heartening. Another matter, which is directly concerned with the public, is the introduction of 'Courtesy Week' by the hon. Minister. It was badly needed by the people and the employees were made to realise the necessity of showing courtesy to the public. So, I feel that these three or four things done by our hon. Minister are really praiseworthy.

**Shri Kidwai:** Has it influenced you also, this courtesy?

**Lala Achint Ram:** I am coming to it. Anyway, I may not have that courtsey but at least I do realise your courtsey.

So these things came before the people. But along with these observations, I want to submit a few things from the viewpoint of the people and the staff. From the people's point of view, I have to say something about telegrams. As I said on a previous occasion, people and at least I have lost all confidence that an ordinary telegram can reach its destination in time. I know and I am glad that there has been some improvement in this matter. But what is required is that confidence should be created in people and they should be reassured of the improved situation. Leave ordinary telegrams alone, I give you an instance of an express telegram that I sent to Shri Ajit Prasad Jain, our hon. Minister here. I wanted to inform him that I would be coming to Saharanpur to see him and for that purpose, I had sent him an express telegram. But when I reached there I learnt that he did not receive that telegram. Such is the fate of express telegrams.

**Shri Kidwai:** He can forget also.

**Lala Achint Ram:** I think he has not yet acquired this quality of the

hon. Minister. He is still new in certain matters. I am sure he speaks truth. The telegram reached very late, after I had left the place. Saharanpur is not very far off. So, what I mean to suggest is that unless people get any benefit from them, whether they are ordinary or express telegrams, they can have no confidence. It is a small matter and I hope it will be duly considered.

Now I take telephones. I have already said that the setting up of a telephone factory was a very good step. Provision has been made at certain important stations in Delhi to make twelve calls for fifteen annas. It is, no doubt, a very good thing but I submit that it would be better if they allow fifteen calls for fifteen annas. The Government will not be in a loss. We appreciate the boldness with which our hon. Minister conducts experiments. I therefore request him that this year he should introduce this experiment also. I think the income will not decrease; if it goes down, I will not ask it again. I wish to submit that when there is a loss of crores of rupees, let us undertake this experiment too. So, that was about telephones and telegrams.

Regarding corruption I had said something last year too and the hon. Minister had told that he was very much opposed to it. I feel that he does try to root out corruption. But in spite of all these efforts, corruption is still there. Superintendents and other staff are indulging in it which has led to a bad name for this department. The sooner it is removed, the better will it be.

**Shri Kidwai:** But they ask us to abolish the Complaints Sector..

**Lala Achint Ram:** They no doubt say so, but he should understand as to why they want such a thing. They want that corruption should be removed whether by abolishing the Complaints Section or retaining it. Their object is the removal of corruption and that is what I also demand.

Now I wish to make a reference to a few things that are concerned with the staff of the hon. Minister's Department, I mean their grievances. Some of them have been referred to by Shri Bhattacharya and I need not repeat them. Regarding dearness allowance about which the Committee has submitted its Report, he has said that it is a financial matter and hence he cannot do anything. But the way dearness is constantly increasing, I am afraid, there can be no easy-going. Recently there was

held a Conference of the All-India Postmen Lower Staff Union and its President had invited the hon. Minister. I would have been very much pleased had he gone there. They had invited him and he should have gone there to have a better realisation of their feelings. I do not suggest that he does not realise their feelings now but there he would have been in a better position to realise how dearness is increasing and how people are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain their daily requirements. Of course there are difficulties for the Government but I think it is hardly befitting, though it may be correct, to say that he is helpless and that it is the concern of the Finance Ministry. The Government is a joint responsibility and the hon. Minister is a part of it.

**Shri Kidwai:** You want me to move a cut motion in Finance Minister's Budget?

**Lala Achint Ram:** That is right, we are to move that cut motion but you should make efforts from within. It must have its effect. I also wish to point out in a general way that dearness has come to be a part of our life. Dearness allowance has been continuing, not for a year or two, but for about ten years and dearness is still there. But the dearness allowance still remains to be an allowance only and is not made a part of the employees' salaries, which in the long run affects their pensions. Therefore I would request you to now incorporate this dearness allowance, which has been increased according to the recommendations of the Pay Commission, in the salaries so that it may be treated as a part of the salaries. The hon. Minister must give his help in this matter. It is a reasonable demand which does not entail much expenditure too. Therefore it should be done without delay.

Now I have to say something about the Appellate Court or the Tribunal. Only day before yesterday the hon. Minister has said that the parties send their nominees. I may submit that the whole staff is in favour of such an Appellate Tribunal. I can remove misunderstandings about this matter, if there are any.

**Shri Kidwai:** There are none.

**Lala Achint Ram:** Then let me tell the whole thing. What happens is that a nominee is sent but there is a condition that only a local person can be nominated and hence a difficulty arises about a local person. So he

should look into the matter. People want that there should be an Appellate Tribunal and it should function. It will benefit the Government and they can bring confidence in the staff also. It is not a difficult thing and hence I urge upon him to continue it.

Now I want to make a reference to the training school. The House is aware that when there was a need for postmen during the War, they had recruited thousands of them and they have put in ten or twelve or fourteen years' service. They are now asked to sit for examinations and are declared unfit. The postmen think that it is all a stunt. I think it will be said that on the one hand we say in Parliament that there should be efficiency and on the other we want that there should be no examinations. But I wish to submit that we are encumbered with certain problems of the past and as such we are bound to retain many officers. I do not say that all officers are bad, many of them are good and deserve our praise. But this too is right that hundreds of these officers shall have to be kept by us and we cannot turn them out according to the promises given by us. They are an encumbrance on us since the time of the British Government and we cannot ask them to go. So, I feel that the same treatment should be given to these people and they must not be discharged. Regarding examination, I think if we ask our hon. Minister to solve a question of Algebra, he will not be able to do it. So, it is not proper to ask these people to sit for examination. Of course, the work they are entrusted with, should be seen and inspected. It might be said that they cannot read addresses, but for that the Government should start training schools so that their efficiency may increase. Then I hope, they can do their work in a much better way. It is not fair to withhold promotions and increments of a man who has, for example, put in ten or twelve years' service. I say that he must be given his promotions etc. He cannot be turned out in view of the promises made by us during the freedom struggle. He should be given some training so that he might do his job efficiently.

**Shri Kidwai:** Who had given this promise during the struggle for independence?

**Lala Achint Ram:** The Government had given it, you had given it that all those who are getting fat salaries, say three thousand rupees, will be retained and not turned out. These high officers are misbehaving with

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the people today. You cannot turn them out because you had promised to retain them and because it is said that they are held in esteem by other countries but the low paid and the poor are asked to go. I, therefore, request you to have mercy on these poor people.

In the end I would say that my personal opinion is that on the whole there are some laxities in your Department and you have no doubt made efforts to correct them. But at the same time, as Shri Jaipal Singh has pointed out, you could not honour your promise about the training.

Another point is about the problem of the postal staff. There was a postal strike in 1946 and postmen had remained absent in that connection. Ultimately you arrived at a settlement and they decided to resume their work.

**Shri Kidwai:** Who made a settlement?

**Lala Achint Ram:** I will just submit and we will have a compromise. Let both of us speak and we will decide the matter. So, there was an agreement, and the strike was called off and they resumed their duties. After that they demanded pay for the strike period. The Government very reasonably told them that if they paid their salaries for the strike period, it would mean that they had recognised the strike and hence that could not be done. The Government also said that they fully sympathised with what they were doing but they could not give them their pay for the strike period. Now, according to Shri Jaiprakash Narain, who is the President of the Postmen's Union, the hon. Minister had promised to him that although they could not give the pay for the strike period but they would somehow evolve a formula whereby it would be possible to give them that amount. So he issued a statement that the hon. Minister had told him such and such thing and their demand would be met. Therefore, there was a regular correspondence on the matter, but today we learn from the hon. Minister that he had not made any such promise.

**Shri Kidwai:** May I say a word? When you heard that I have made a promise to him, what protest did you make as to why such a word was given when we had refused to show the same courtesy to you?

**Lala Achint Ram:** I did not say that I was told some thing on the one hand while on the other such

promises were made to him. But this much I can testify that you had been saying that you would evolve a formula. Whatever you told me is ninety-eight per cent., if not hundred per cent. binding on me. I think Shri Jaiprakash Narain is an honourable man and I cannot disbelieve him. We may have to pay five or ten lakhs of rupees but that is not so important as compared to the fact that Ministers of the National Government of India make promises to a responsible person like Shri Jaiprakash Narain and then do not care to honour them. He is saying that the Government are not keeping up to their words and the Postmen's Union is thinking to take some action on this. I urge upon the hon. Minister to clarify his promises before the people and even if no promise has been made he should try to give effect to the improvements that I have referred to in my speech and then we will be able to win the confidence and co-operation of the people.

**Shri Venkataraman (Madras):** Sir, I do not know whether you would like me to commence now or after the House re-assembles after lunch.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Very well, it is one o'clock. The House stands adjourned to 2-30 P.M.

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

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

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA  
in the Chair]

**Shri Venkataraman:** It is no exaggeration to say that the Railways and the Post and Telegraphs of the Government of India are the most efficient departments in our country. We may have a number of suggestions to make with regard to improvement but we cannot deny that the Post and Telegraphs is one of the most efficient and well run departments and particularly some of the improvements that have been made during the last two years compare very favourably with the developments that have taken place elsewhere in the world.

[SARDAR HUKAM SINGH in the Chair].

The Minister can take credit for having introduced the night mail service. In fact the labour which is working in his department are grateful to him for the Sunday holiday which he has introduced. The new

suggestion of giving holiday homes to the workers in the P and T Department is again a striking experiment in labour welfare.

All the same we want to make one or two suggestions for the improvement of this very well run department. The elections are coming and in the elections we have to use the Posts and Telegraphs to a much larger extent than we have had to do before. Particularly with adult suffrage where it will not be possible for every candidate to reach the voter personally, the Postal Department is bound to play a very important and very predominant part in the canvassing. It is well known that in other countries, particularly in the U. K. every candidate is allowed to post one set of election literature to his constituents. And I make this suggestion on this Demand which, I hope, the hon. Minister will certainly give his utmost consideration to, namely, that in the forthcoming elections in this country every candidate be allowed to post one set of election literature to his constituents. The number of candidates are not likely to be many but the constituencies are of course far too large. But it is worth bearing the burden of this additional work, because it will be laying our democracy on a firm foundation. It will also be giving the candidate a chance to reach his voters, who would otherwise not be easily accessible.

I desire to draw the attention of the Minister to some of the small difficulties of the workers in the Posts and Telegraphs Department, which he can very well remove. He is well aware that the R.M.S. coaches were made as long as 50 years ago. I am not sure whether there has been any replacement of those coaches in recent times. I have myself seen some of them and they are worse than the old decrepit third class passenger coaches of a quarter of a century ago. The labour legislation of this country has advanced consistently with the advancement in other countries. We have passed Factory Acts to ensure a minimum of hygienic and healthy conditions of service. But there are no Factory Acts which govern the R.M.S. coaches. You do not have the same standard of cleanliness, ventilation, temperature and humidity which are enforced in factories by Acts and laws. In the R.M.S. coaches if they open the windows and doors, the letters would be blown off, which would cause much greater harm than the harm done to the workers. If you close them then the coach becomes just like one of the Black Holes of Calcutta of which we have all read. It is almost impossible for the worker to do his job for

eight to twelve hours inside such close carriages. I have seen some of the coaches or carriages in other countries. I found that they could be compared with the first class compartments of those railways. They have adequate facilities for washing, they have a wash basin, a water closet and they have a mirror. The seats are well upholstered and it is quite a pleasure, I should say, for any workman to do his work in the R.M.S. coaches in other countries. But in our country the coaches are so bad that they will certainly detract from the efficiency of the worker himself, if it is not improved and improved very quickly too.

In this connection I may also point out that these R.M.S. coaches are paid for by the P and T Department and it is an adjustment of money between the Postal and Railway Departments. So if this department is going to spend the money, I do not see why we should not spend a little more and get the proper coaches for the more efficient performance of their duties by the workers in those coaches.

I would like to draw attention to the very poor condition of the rest houses. My suggestion on this would be to combine the running rooms of the railway staff and the rest houses for the R.M.S. staff. The same rooms can be made use of by the staff of both departments. If they both spend money and improve the rooms for both the staff it would be more economical for both the departments and this will also improve the health and efficiency of the workers in both the departments. The running rooms are maintained by the railways and the rest houses are maintained by the P and T Department. But the rest houses of the P and T Department are, to say the least, in a miserable condition. There may be several reasons for this. For instance there may not be sufficient accommodation on the platforms or there may not be land near about railway stations available for the purpose. But when Government acquire land for purposes of the railway they should see that they acquire land for the P and T Department also so that running rooms and rest houses for both the Railway and P and T staff may be combined on such land and suitable residential accommodation for the workers of both departments might also be built on it.

Then there is another suggestion which has been considered but which has been dropped, I understand, for reasons of economy. That is about the bag cleaning plant. As you know, the bags which are used for carrying mails are subjected to very rough

[Shri Venkataraman]

treatment. They are thrown about on the platforms, where most of the people spit. They carry not only mails but they carry the contagion. Unless they are cleaned from time to time, they are likely to convey disease too along with the news and views of several persons. It is absolutely necessary therefore that we should have a bag cleaning plant, if not for maintaining hygienic conditions, at least for the purpose of increasing the life of the bags themselves. I find on page 16 of the brochure issued by this Department that this bag cleaning plant was considered but it had to be given up for reasons of economy. I wonder how much it would cost. Certainly, it cannot cost such a large amount as to make a great difference between having and not having it. I feel that we must make a distinction between economy true and economy false; between spending little and spending wisely. Any amount of money which we spend on this plant is certainly bound to yield very good results and I would urge upon the Department to utilise whatever monies they may have on the installation of this bag cleaning plant.

There is only one more grievance of the workers which I should like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister. At present, there is joint responsibility for any loss or theft that occurs in the transit of mails, insured covers, registered letters etc. Joint responsibility means that right from the moment the thing is delivered to the postman up till the time when it reaches the destination, all the people concerned are responsible for the loss of the article. It is beyond all jurisprudence to say that all the people who are concerned in the transaction should be held criminally responsible for the loss. If there is a loss, it should be the endeavour of the Department to find out who exactly is the person who has caused the loss and mulct him with the penalty rather than make all the people responsible for the loss. The present practice is causing great hardship and many representations have been made to Parliament and particularly to me. This hardship should be removed as early as possible.

I trust that these few suggestions which I have made will be considered by the hon. Minister and suitable action taken thereon.

श्री जांगड़े : सभापति महोदय, मैं इस संसद् का ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता

अभी माननीय संचरण मंत्री ने डाक और तार विभाग के बारे में कुछ सुझाव पेश किये हैं। उन का यह कहना है कि पोस्टकार्ड (Postcard) की कीमत कम हो गई है और लिफाफे की कीमत ज्यादा बढ़ गई है जिन के बीच में बहुत अन्तर है, और इस से या और भी अन्य कारणों से डाक और तार विभाग को घाटा हो रहा है। मैं इस के सम्बन्ध में अपने कुछ विचार पेश करना चाहता हूँ। मेरी यह राय है कि पोस्ट कार्ड की कीमत और नहीं बढ़ानी चाहिये बल्कि लिफाफों की कीमत कुछ घटा दी जाय ; छः पैसा कर दी जाय। मनी आर्डर (Money Order) के बारे में मेरा यह कहना है कि हर दस रुपये पर जो दो आने लगते हैं वह दस पैसा कर दिये जायें। रजिस्टर्ड लैटर (Registered Letter) के सम्बन्ध में यह राय है कि हमारे गावों में क्या होता है कि अदालती कार्य करने में या एक दूसरे के पास अपने विश्वासनीय पत्र भेजने में रजिस्ट्री पत्र भेजा जाता है और देहातों में रजिस्टर्ड पत्र का बहुत व्यवहार है। यदि रजिस्टर्ड लैटर पर ज्यादा कीमत आप लगते हैं तो इस का ग्रामीणों पर अधिक भार पड़ेगा। इसलिये मेरी राय है कि रजिस्टर्ड लैटर पर अधिक टिकट लगाने का प्रबन्ध न किया जाय बल्कि जो अभी साढ़े छः आने लगते हैं उतना ही रखा जाय जो इन्स्योर्ड लैटर (Insured Letter) हम भेजते हैं जिस में हम रुपया या और चीजें भी भेजा करते हैं वह बहुत कम कीमत में जाया करता है और अधिक से अधिक कीमत की चीजें भेज सकते हैं। तो अगर आप इन्स्योर्ड लैटर की दर ज्यादा बढ़ा लें तो इस में जनता को कोई असुविधा न होगी।

अब जो नगरों, या डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स (Districts) में, या किसी लोकल पोस्ट आफिस (Local post office) में या उस क्षेत्र

के अन्तर्गत जो कार्ड या लिफाफा भेजा जाता है उस पोस्टकार्ड और लिफाफा का दाम दो पैसा और एक आना है। उस को आप फिर तीन पैसा और दो आने कर दें जैसे दूसरे पोस्टकार्ड और लिफाफों की दरें हैं तो मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं होगी और न उसे उस से कोई विशेष असुविधा होगी।

देहातों में जो प्रयोगात्मक अर्थात् ऐक्स-पेरिमेंटल (Experimental) डाकघर खोले जा रहे हैं, उस के बारे में मैंने पिछले सत्र में राय दी थी कि और डाकखाने खोले जायें, लेकिन अब मैं इस नतीजे पर पहुंचा हूँ कि और अधिक डाकखाने देहातों में न खोले जायें। एक कारण तो यह है कि हमारा खर्च बहुत अधिक बढ़ गया है और दूसरा कारण यह है कि इस से डाकखानों की कार्य-कुशलता जाती रहेगी। हम देखते हैं कि तीन या चार मील के बीच में एक डाकखाना उतनी ही तेजी से काम कर सकता है जितनी तेजी से दो मील के अन्दर। इसीलिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यदि आप और डाकखाने खोलेंगे तो वह सुपरफ्लुअस (Superfluous) हों जायेंगे; वह केवल एक आराम की चीज़ हो जायगी, उस से जनता को कोई विशेष सुविधा नहीं होगी। अभी तक जितने डाकखाने खोले गये हैं हमारे देश में वह जनता के लिये काफ़ी हैं क्योंकि आज कल हमारे पास पैसे की कमी है आर्थिक कठिनाइयाँ हैं। हम अधिक डाकघर देहातों में खोलेंगे तो वह हमारे लिये लाभदायक न होगा। जितने डाकघर अभी खोले गये हैं उन के काम को पांच वर्षों तक देखा जाय कि उस में लाभ होता या नुकसान। अगर उस से यह पता चले कि और डाकखाने न होने से हमें नुकसान होता है तो आप उस को उस के बाद बढ़ा सकते हैं। ग्रामीण क्षेत्र अभी पिछड़े हुये हैं, लेकिन कुछ दिनों के बाद वह उन्नतिके रास्ते पर आ जायेंगे।

मैं पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट (Postal Department) को एक सलाह देना चाहता हूँ और वह है प्रोपेगन्डा वर्क (Propaganda work) के लिये। वह इस सम्बन्ध में है कि वह लोग जो देहात में रहते हैं पार्सल (Parcel) वगैरह आयुर्वेदिक या एलोपैथिक दवाओं के मंगते हैं; उस के लिये उन में प्रचार करने की आवश्यकता है। वह लोग गांवों से शहरों में जाते हैं और चीजें खरीदते हैं, अगर वह उन चीजों को पार्सल द्वारा या पैकेज (Package) के द्वारा मंगायें तो उन को शहर जाने की मेहनत बच जाती है और उन का खर्च भी कम हो जाता है और हमारा डाकघर भी अच्छा चलने लगेगा। इसलिये यदि यह प्रोपेगन्डा वर्क देहातों में डाक तार विभाग करे तो देहातों का बहुत ही फ़ायदा होगा। डाकघरों के बारे में मैंने अभी कहा कि देहातों में डाकखाने न खोले जायें। जितने खुल गये हैं उन को पांच वर्ष देखा जाय परन्तु इस के साथ ही मैं यह सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ कि एक डाकघर और दूसरे डाकघर के बीच में जो अन्तर पड़ता है एक डाकघर और एकाउन्ट्स आफ़िस के डाकखाने के बीच में जो गांव पड़ते हैं वहां लैटर बक्स (Letter boxes) और बढ़ा दिये जायें, मेरे कहने का यह मतलब नहीं कि मैसेन्जर (messenger) जो है उन को अपने युक्त गति से घूम फिर कर अलग जाना पड़े, बल्कि जिस रास्ते से वह बातें हैं उसी पर अगर लैटर बक्स बढ़ा दिये जायें तो हमारी जनता को और सुविधा होगी।

अब मैं कुछ अपने स्थान से सम्बन्धित चीजों पर आता हूँ। गत वर्ष मैंने शिकायत की थी; मुझे लुगी है कि डाक और तार विभाग बहुत शीघ्र उन शिकायतों पर जो

[ की जांगड़े ]-

हम करते हैं ध्यान देता हूँ और उन को दूर करने पर तत्पर रहता हूँ, और इस के लिये मैं इस विभाग को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। अब जो सिकायत मेरी है वह यह कि हमारे यहां बिलासपुर जो डिस्ट्रिक्ट (district) है ट्रान्स महानदी क्षेत्र (Trans-Mahanadi Area) है, वहां चिट्ठियां बहुत देर से पहुंचती हैं, आठ आठ, नौ नौ, दस दस दिन लग जाते हैं। यह भी होता है कि यदि एकाउन्ट्स आफिस (Accounts office) को दूसरे डाकघर को भेजने में अगर कुछ अन्तर पड़ जाता है, तो वितरण करने में एक दिन लग जाता है, फिर एक रोज चिट्ठी एकाउन्ट आफिस ले जाने में लगता है। इस बीच में उस डाकखाने में पत्र दो तीन दिन तक पड़े रहते हैं, चार पांच दिन आने जाने में लगते हैं। दूसरी स्थानीय सिकायत यह है कि चापा और ट्रान्स महानदी एरिया के बीच में जो डाक जाती है, वहाँ पर सड़क अच्छी नहीं है। वहाँ से पहुंचने में चार पांच छः रोज लग जाते हैं। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि जो एकाउन्ट आफिस चापा है वहाँ से डाक द्वारा ट्रान्स महानदी क्षेत्र को पहुंचा जाय करे।

माननीय मंत्री ने कहा कि टेलीग्राफ (Telegraph) और ट्रंक काल (Trunk call) के चार्ज (charges) उन्होंने कम कर दिये हैं। इस सिलसिले में मेरी यह राय है कि जो पहले चार्ज (charges) थे वही रहने दिये जाय।

हिन्दी टेलीग्राम्स (Telegrams) के सम्बन्ध में मुझे कुछ कहना है। मुझे खुशी है कि बहुत से तारघरों में हिन्दी के तार भेजे जाते हैं और उन के कारण हमें कुछ नुकसान भी हो सकता है। इतने पर भी माननीय मंत्री महोदय

ने हिन्दी को बढ़ावा देने के लिए हिन्दी में तार भेजने की व्यवस्था कर दी है। मेरी उन से प्रार्थना है कि हिन्दी में तार भेजने की सुविधा अभी और जितने तारघरों में हो सके बढ़ाई जाय। उदाहरण के लिए मध्य प्रदेश में नागपुर और शायद जबलपुर में यह सुविधा दी गई है पर हमारे यहां रायपुर और बिलासपुर में यह सुविधा नहीं है। जबलपुर और नागपुर के लोग अभी अंग्रेजी के ज्यादा अभ्यस्त हैं। रायपुर और बिलासपुर में आज भी बहुतेरे लोग हिन्दी का अंग्रेजी में तार देने के लिये और अंग्रेजी तार का हिन्दी में अनुवाद करवाते हैं। हमारे यहां के लोग हिन्दी के ज्यादा अभ्यस्त हैं; इसलिये अगर रायपुर और बिलासपुर में हिन्दी में तार भेजने की व्यवस्था कर दी जाय तो बहुत ही सुविधा होगी, और नागपुर जबलपुर की अपेक्षा अधिक लाभदायक सिद्ध होगी।

(English translation of the above speech)

**Shri Jangde (Madhya Pradesh):**  
Sir, I do not want to take much time of the House. The hon. Minister of Communications has just placed certain proposals regarding the Posts and Telegraphs Department. He says that the price of post card has been reduced and the price of envelope has increased and therefore, great disparity has been created between the prices of the two. Due to this and other reasons the Posts and Telegraphs Department is running at a loss. I want to say a few words regarding this. I think, the price of post card should not be further enhanced and instead the price of envelope should be reduced to six pice. As regards the money order fee it should be enhanced from the present two annas per ten rupees to two and a half annas. Generally, registered letters are used in the villages for sending legal documents or other reliable correspondence. If you increase the rates of registered letters, it will adversely affect the cultivators.

Therefore, in my opinion, the registration rates should not be enhanced and they should remain at six and a half annas as at present. We pay very little amount for sending insured letters in which we enclose money or other more valuable articles. Therefore, if you increase the charge for insured letters, it will make no difference to the public.

I have no objection and I think it will not result in any inconvenience to the public if you enhance the rates of the local delivery post card and envelope to three pice and two annas from two pice and one anna respectively as at present.

During the last session I had stated that experimental post offices should be opened in the villages but now I have come to the conclusion that no more such post offices should be opened. One reason is that our expenditure has enormously increased and secondly, the efficiency of the post offices will deteriorate. We find that one post office can work as efficiently within a radius of four miles as it can within the radius of two or three miles. Therefore, if you open any new post offices, they will be simply superfluous, a thing of luxury and the people will not derive any benefit out of them. The post offices which have been opened so far in our country are sufficient to meet our requirements because we are short of money and are passing through an economic crisis. It will not be profitable for us to open new post offices in the villages. We should wait and judge the work of the post offices at least for five years and ascertain whether they run at profit or loss. If we find that we are suffering a loss by not opening new post offices, we will open them. Our villages are backward at present but they will make progress after some time. I want to advise the Postal Department to do certain amount of propaganda as well. People living in villages get Ayurvedic and allopathic medicines from the cities and there is need of doing propaganda among them. They go to the cities and purchase such articles. If they order those things by V.P.P., they will be saved from the trouble of going to the cities and will have to spend less and at the same time our post offices will also begin to run at a profit. Therefore, if the Posts and Telegraphs Department does this propaganda work in the villages, the villagers will be benefited by it. I have just said that new post offices should not be opened in villages. We should watch those post offices, which have already been opened, for at least five

years. But at the same time I want to put one suggestion. The number of letter boxes in the villages which fall between the area of one post office and the accounts post office should be increased. I do not mean to say that messengers should go from one place to another after covering long distances. What I mean to say is that if the number of letter boxes on the best of the messengers is increased it will greatly benefit the public.

Now, I come to some thing regarding my own place. The complaints which I lodged last year have all been removed. I am pleased to observe and I congratulate the Department on the way it listens to our complaints and tries to remove them as early as possible. This time I have to make a complaint regarding the distribution of letters in our district of Bilaspur—Trans-Mahanadi Area. It takes 8 to 10 days for a letter to reach there. It takes some time to send a letter from one accounts office to another post office. It takes one day in distribution and another in taking it to an accounts office. During this period the post remains for two or three days in the post office and it takes four to five days to finish the routine transaction. The second complaint is that the road between Chapa and Trans-Mahanadi Area is not good and therefore it takes five to six days for letters to reach there. Therefore, I suggest that some arrangements should be made for carrying the post from Chapa Accounts Office to the Trans-Mahanadi Area.

The hon. Minister has stated that he has reduced the charges for telegrams and trunk calls. I am of the opinion that there should be no change in these charges and the previous ones should be allowed to continue.

I have to say something regarding Hindi telegrams. I am glad to note that the Hindi telegrams can be despatched from the various telegraph offices and I do not mind if we have to incur some loss on this account. Even taking this fact into consideration, the hon. Minister in order to give encouragement to Hindi made arrangements for despatching telegrams in Hindi. I want to request him that this facility of sending telegrams in Hindi should be extended to other telegraph offices as well. For example, in our Madhya Pradesh this facility of sending telegrams in Hindi is available only in Nagour and perhaps in Jubbulpur as well but it is not available in Rajpur and Maspur. Residents of Jubbulpur and Nagpur



[Shri Jangde]

are still habituated to writing telegrams in English while the people of Raipur and Bilaspur have to get the matter of their telegrams translated into English from Hindi and *vice versa*. Our people are more accustomed to use Hindi. Therefore, if this facility of sending the telegrams in Hindi is introduced in Raipur and Bilaspur as well, people will be greatly benefited by it and the scheme will also prove more profitable than it is at Nagpur and Jubbulpur.

श्री झुले : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले साल जब ३० लाख रुपये की रकम बजट में गांवों में डाक खाने खोलने के सिलसिले में मांग के रूप में पेश की गई थी उस वक्त इस हाउस के सदस्यों की तरफ से गवर्नमेंट के इस मूव (move) का जो स्वागत किया गया था उस की मैं याद करता हूँ, लेकिन जब इस साल की रिपोर्टों में मैं यह देखता हूँ कि वह पूरी रकम खर्च नहीं की जा सकी इसलिये कि फ़ाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट की तरफ से खर्चों में कमी करने को कहा गया था, तो मुझे उन गांव वालों के लिये दुःख होता है। और यह दुःख उन इलाकों के लिए मुझे और भी ज्यादा होता है जो पहली अप्रैल १९५० के पेशतर जनरल पोस्टल सिस्टम (General Postal System) में मर्ज (merge) नहीं हो पाये थे। भाप को, अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मालूम होगा कि इस देश में पांच या छः रियासतें ऐसी थीं कि जिन के पोस्टल सिस्टम बाक्री के पोस्टल सिस्टम से अलग थे और यह जो गांवों में चार या साढ़े चार हजार पोस्ट आफिस खोलने की स्कीम तैयार की गई उस में उन रियासतों के दो हजार या दो हजार से ऊपर की आबादी के गांव शामिल नहीं किये गये थे। वह स्कीम हालांकि सन् १९५० और ५१ में काम

में आई और उस समय इन रियासतों का सारा कारोबार जनरल पोस्टल सिस्टम के मातहत हो गया था फिर भी वहां के गांव जिन की आबादी दो हजार या दो हजार से ज्यादा थी उन को इस पोस्ट आफिस खोलने के सिलसिले में नहीं लिया गया। तो मैं आनरेबुल मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस और आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो पांच छः रियासतें जिन के पोस्टल सिस्टम स्वतंत्र थे और जिन में पोस्ट आफिस खोलने का ध्यान नहीं रखा गया था उन का शुमार अब उन ८०० पोस्ट आफिसेज खोलने के सिलसिले में किया जाय जिन को खोलने का इरादा गवर्नमेंट का आगामी वर्ष में है जैसा कि रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है।

दूसरी बात मैं आप के सामने यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि जिस प्रकार यह पांच छः रियासतें जिन के पोस्टल सिस्टम अलग थे नये पोस्ट आफिस खोलने के फ़ायदे से वंचित रहीं उसी प्रकार इन रियासतों का जो पोस्टल स्टाफ़ वा वह भी कुछ कमनसीव साबित हुआ है। और वह इसलिये कि जब इन रियासतों के रेलवे वाले सेंट्रल सिस्टम (Central system) में अबजॉर्ब (absorb) किये गये तो उन को वही मंहगाई भत्ता मिलने लगा गो कि तमाम हिन्दुस्तान में और रेलवे वालों को मिलता है, लेकिन इन पांच छः रियासतों के जो पोस्टल कार्यकर्ता हैं उन को अभी तक यह मंहगाई भत्ता नहीं मिल रहा है ऐसा मेरा ह्याल है। आगामी वर्ष में भी उन को यह मिलेगा या नहीं यह भी उन कागज़ात से स्पष्ट नहीं होता है जो कि मैं ने देखे हैं। तीना चार महीने पहले जो स हाउस का

अधिवेशन हुआ था उस में मरहूम डिप्टी मिनिस्टर श्री खुर्द लाल ने एक सवाल के जबाब में बतलाया था कि इस यामले की जांच करने के लिए एक कमेटी बनाई गई है और वह जल्दी ही अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश कर देगी और आगामी वर्ष से, यानी इस वर्ष से जो कि अब शुरू हो रही है, इस स्टाफ को भी वह भत्ता मिलने लगेगा जो कि और अहलकारों को मिलता है। लेकिन मुझे जो कागजात मिले उन से मुझे यह स्पष्ट नहीं हो रहा है कि दरअसल यह बात मंजूर की गई है या नहीं। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह प्रार्थना करूंगा कि जब वह अपना उत्तर दें तो इस विषय पर भी प्रकाश डालें।

तीसरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि हम ने जो यह पोस्ट आफिस बोले हैं यह सारा काम अक्सर्टेसिव (extensive) रहा है, इस में क्वालिटी (quality) पर हमारा ध्यान कुछ कम रहा है। चिट्ठी और तारों का बटवारा जितना संतोष-जनक कुछ साल पहले हुआ करता था उतना संतोषजनक पिछले दो तीन साल से नहीं हो रहा है ऐसा मेरा ख्याल है। हालांकि सरकार ने जो फिगर्स (figures) पेश किये हैं और उन का जो कमप्लेंट विभाग (complaints office) है उस की रिपोर्ट देखने से मालूम होता है कि गत वर्ष के मुकाबले में कम शिकायतें आईं और उन का डिस्पोजल (disposal) भी जितना होना चाहिये उतना हुआ है। फिर भी प्रत्यक्ष व्यवहार से मुझे यह बात नहीं मालूम होती है। इस का कारण यह हो सकता है कि उन्होंने वही कमप्लेंट्स बताई हैं जो कि उन के यहां दर्ज हुई हैं और जो कमप्लेंट्स दर्ज नहीं हुईं

हैं उन का उन को पता भी क्या हो सकता है और इस में उन का कुसूर भी नहीं है। लेकिन मैं आप के सामने असलियत लाना चाहता हूँ और इसीलिये मैं कहता हूँ कि चिट्ठियों का बटवारा जितना संतोषजनक पहले हुआ करता था वैसा अब नहीं होता। इतना कह कर मैं इस विषय को खतम करता हूँ क्योंकि यह एक ऐसा मामला है जिस पर मेरी विभाग से खतकिताबत चल रही है। इसीलिये मैं समझता हूँ कि यह आउट आफ एटिकेट (out of etiquette) होगा यदि मैं इस पर अधिक समय हूँ।

चौथी बात मैं आप के सामने यह रखना चाहता हूँ कि आप ने खो स्टेट्स १ अप्रैल, १९५१ से अपने सिस्टम में मर्ज की हैं उन में पहले अपनी स्वतंत्र टैलीफोन की व्यवस्था थी।

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should address the Chair.

श्री धुले : I am sorry, Sir, if I have not addressed the Chair.

तो चेयरमैन साहब मैं आप से यह कह रहा था जिन स्टेट्स को १ अप्रैल, १९५१ से सेंट्रल सिस्टम में दर्ज किया जा रहा है उन में से कुछ तो स्वतंत्र टैलीफोन थे और मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में यह बात लाना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य भारत में शिवपुरी और ग्वालियर के दरमियान ६० या ७० मील का ऐसा टुकड़ा है जहां पहले स्वतंत्र टैलीफोन था। अब मर्ज होने के बाद नये टैलीफोन सिस्टम के तार आदि लग चुके हैं और जो पुराने तार थे वह बेकार पड़े हैं। मेरा माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह निवेदन है कि इस ६० या ७० मील के टुकड़े को किसी और जगह ऐक्सटेंड (extend) कर दिया जाय जहां कि

[ श्री घुले ]

इस की जरूरत हो और इस का फायदा और जगह पहुंच सके।

मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने टेलीफोन सिस्टम के रिहैबिलिटेशन (Rehabilitation) के सिलसिले में जिन ७५ मुकामात को चुना है उन में ग्वालियर का भी नाम है। इसलिये ग्वालियर के टेलीफोन के सम्बन्ध में जो शिकायतें होंगी वह अब दूर हो जायंगी। लेकिन मध्यभारत में ऐसे बहुत से मुकामात हैं जो कि इन ७५ नामों में मौजूद नहीं हैं और जहां पर टेलीफोन की बहुत शिकायतें हैं और इन में उज्जैन की ओर मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान खास तौर से दिलाना चाहता हूँ। उस की आबादी डेढ़ से दो लाख तक हो गई है लेकिन वहां केवल लोकल टेलीफोन सिस्टम है। वह सिर्फ इन्दौर से कनेक्टेड (connected) है, बाहर से कनेक्टेड नहीं है।

3 P. M.

नय कनेक्शन नहीं दिये जाते हैं। इस दृष्टि से लोगों को बाहर से सम्पर्क क्रायम करने में बड़ी तकलीफ होती है। इसी प्रकार से बहुत से ऐसे मुकामात हमारे मध्य भारत में हैं जहां दर असल टेलीग्राफ आफिस आवश्यक हैं, जहां बड़ी बड़ी मंडियां हैं। और मंडी होने की वजह से जहां सैकड़ों की तादाद में तारों का आदान प्रदान व्यापार के सिलसिले में, भावों के बारे में हुआ करता है। लेकिन आज वहां तार घर नहीं हैं। ऐसे बड़े बड़े मुकामात जहां बड़ी बड़ी मंडियां भी हैं उन में मैं गुजालपुर और खाखरीद का नाम लेना चाहता हूँ। ये नई मंडियां हैं और इन की तरफ में

माननीय मंत्री जी का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। फिर यहां क्या होता है कि तार जब रेलवे के आफिस में आते हैं तो उन को ले जाने वाला कोई नौकर नहीं है। हर किसी आदमी को दो आने चार आने दे कर ऐसे ही रवाना कर दिया जाता है। वह कोई तनस्वाहदार आदमी न होने की वजह से तार पहुंचने में देर हुआ करती है।

इसी तरह कई जगह टेलीग्राफ आफिस की मंजूरी दो दो साल से हो चुकी है, लेकिन वहां अभी तक काम चालू नहीं हुआ है और इमारत नहीं बनी है। ऐसे मुकामों में जावद की और आप का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। जावद ऐसा मुकाम है जहां सेंट्रल टेलीग्राफ आफिस खोलने का आर्डर दो साल से हो चुका है। लेकिन वह कार्यरूप में परिणित नहीं हुआ है। फिर हिन्दी में काम करने की जो पद्धति आप ने जारी की है इसलिये दर असल आप को बहुत हार्दिक धन्यवाद है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह पद्धति जहां जहां भी जितनी भी प्रचलित हो सके जारी की जाय। और इस पर अगर हिन्दी के तार जानने वालों को कुछ कन्सेशन भी दिये जा सकते हैं तो वह कन्सेशन दिये जाय और यह पद्धति जारी रखी जाय।

एक बात जो मैं आप के माननीय मंत्री महोदय के ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ वह यह है कि एफ़ीशियेंसी (efficiency) बढ़ाने की गरज़ से या और काम में सुधार करने की गरज़ से आज हमारे यहां यह भावना बन गई है कि केवल तनस्वाह बढ़ाने से ही एफ़ीशियेंसी बन सकती है। यह भावना नहीं है कि एफ़ीशियेंसी तनस्वाह के ऊपर

ही निर्भर नहीं है। इस को हमारे जो मुखिया इस के डिपार्टमेंटल हेड (Departmental Head) हैं, उन को महसूस करना चाहिये और उन की इस काम में आगे आना चाहिये। पोस्ट आफिस हो या रेलवे हो, जहाँ कहीं हमारे जो कर्मचारी हैं उन की इज्जत समाज में बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है। जब तक हम इन लोगों की इज्जत समाज में नहीं बढ़ावेंगे और जब तक इन के काम के लिए यह भावना पैदा नहीं करेंगे कि दर असल जो काम वह कर रहे हैं वह देश के लिये बहुत जरूरी काम है, यह काम बड़ी देश भक्ति का काम है और देश भक्ति केवल व्याख्यान देने में ही नहीं है, जब तक यह भावना देश में एक पैदा नहीं करेंगे तब तक एकीशियेसी में सुधार होना बड़ा मुश्किल है। हमारे कार्यकर्ताओं की दृष्टि से हमें दर असल देश में एक परिवर्तन लाना आवश्यक है और एक क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन की आवश्यकता है। मेरे ख्याल से यह परिवर्तन आ जाय तो देश की बहुत सी समस्याएँ हल हो सकती हैं। ग्री मोर फूड (Grow More Food) की समस्या हल हो सकती है अगर किसानों की तरफ देखने का दृष्टिकोण बदल जाय। इसी तरह हमारे कर्मचारियों की ओर जो दृष्टिकोण है उस को बदलें तो सारी समस्याएँ हल हो सकती हैं। इस के लिए हमारे डिपार्टमेंट के जो मुखिया हैं उन को इस ओर प्रयत्न करना चाहिये जिस से हमारे कार्यकर्ताओं को विश्वास हो कि वह इस देश का एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कार्य कर रहे हैं और बाक्री जो देश में काम करने वाले नहीं हैं वह भी यह समझे कि जो काम कर्मचारीगण कर रहे हैं वह देश का बड़ा भारी काम कर

रहे हैं और उन की इज्जत करनी चाहिये। इस से देश का कल्याण होगा और बहुत सारी समस्याएँ हल हो सकेंगी।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri Ghule (Madhya Bharat): Sir, last year when a grant of Rs. 30 lakhs was sought for in connection with the opening of post offices in the villages, this House, I remember, had welcomed the move of the Government. But when I find from the reports of this year that the whole of that amount could not be utilized on account of the Finance Department's instructions for an economy drive, I feel sorry for those villagers, and even more for those sectors which could not be merged with the General Postal System before 1st April, 1950. Sir, you will be aware that the postal systems of five or six States of this country were different from the rest of the postal system and those villages of these States, which had a population of two thousand or more, were not included in that scheme envisaging the opening of four or four and a half thousand post offices in the villages. Although the implementation of this scheme took place in 1950 and 1951 and by that time all the postal business had come under the general postal system, nevertheless the villages of these States having two thousand or more population were excluded from the purpose of opening the post offices. I want to submit to the hon. Minister that these five or six States the postal systems of which were independent and attention was not formerly given to them for opening of post offices, should now be included in the scheme that Government envisages for opening 800 post offices next year.

Secondly, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that just as these five or six States whose postal system was separate have remained deprived of the benefit of new post offices, in the same way the postal staff of these States has proved to be unfortunate. That so, because when the railway employees of these States were absorbed in the Central Railway System, they came to be treated at par with the other railway employees of India in regard to payment of dearness allowance. But the postal employees of these five or six States, I think, are still not getting that dearness allowance and it is not clear from the papers I have seen whether they will get it even next year. In the last Session of this House held three or four months back, the hon. Deputy

[Shri Ghule]

Minister late Shri Khurshed Lal in answer to a question had said that a committee had been constituted for making enquiry in the matter and it would soon submit its report, and from the next year, that is, this year which is beginning now, this staff will also be getting the same allowance as is given to the other employees. But it is not clear from the papers that I have received whether this has really been accepted or not. I request the hon. Minister that in his reply he should also throw light on this matter.

Thirdly, I want to say that the work of opening of these post offices has all been on an extensive scale and comparatively little heed has been given to the quality. The distribution of letters and telegrams is not so satisfactory today as it used to be a few years back. That is my impression. Although the figures given by the Government and the report of their complaints department go to show that the number of complaints received this year was less than that of the previous years, nevertheless, in actual practice I do not find it to be so. The reason for that may be that he has given the figures of only those complaints that had been recorded with them while they do not know anything about the unrecorded complaints, and of course they are not to be blamed for that. But I want to bring facts before you and that is the reason why I say that the distribution of letters is not as satisfactory today as it used to be before. I finish this topic here for this is a matter over which I am in correspondence with the Department. As such I think it would be out of etiquette if I take more time on this.

Fourthly, I want to bring to your notice that the States you have merged in your system since the 1st April, 1951 had their own independent telephone systems before.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member should address the Chair.

**Shri Ghule:** I am sorry, Sir, if I have not addressed the Chair.

Sir, I was saying that some of the States merged in the Central System since 1st April, 1951 had independent telephone systems and I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that there is a portion 60 or 70 miles long between Shivpuri and Gwalior in Madhya Bharat where there was formerly an independent telephone system. Now after the merger, new wires and other accessories of the new telephone system have been fitted and

the old wires are lying useless. It is my request to the hon. Minister that this telegraph line of 60 or 70 miles should be extended at some other place where it is needed and which can take benefit of it.

I thank the hon. Minister that Gwalior has been included in the list of those 75 places that have been selected in connection with rehabilitation of the telephone system. Now the complaints against the Gwalior telephones would be met. But there are a number of places in Madhya Bharat where there are many complaints regarding telephones and the names of these places have not been listed among these 75. Of these places, I would particularly invite the attention of the hon. Minister to Ujjain. The population of this place has reached 1½ lakhs. But there is only the local telephone system. It is connected with Indore only and not with any

3 P.M. other outside place. No new concessions are given. For this reason people have to experience great difficulty in making outside contacts. Similarly, there are many other places in Madhya Bharat which are big trade centres and where the telegraph system is urgently needed. Due to their being trade centres, hundreds of telegrams are daily exchanged in connection with trade and market rates, but there are no telegraph offices. Among the big places which are also big trading centres, I would like to mention Shujalpur and Khachrod. These are big mandis and I should like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards them. What happens there is that when telegrams are received in the railway office they are despatched through some person who is hired for the purpose on payment of a few annas since there is no regular employee for delivering them. In absence of any regularly paid man these telegrams are delivered late.

Then, sanctions have been received since two years for establishing telegraph offices at many places. But work has not started there as yet and the buildings have not been constructed. Of such places, I would draw your attention towards Jawad. Jawad is a place where orders were received two years back to open a central telegraph office. But their implementation has not taken place.

The Government really deserve hearty congratulations for starting the method of sending telegrams in Hindi. I wish that this system should be extended wherever possible and if any concessions could be given to the

Hindi telegraph staff, they should be given to them and the system be continued.

One thing that I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister is that a mentality has found home here that an increase in pay is essential for the increase in efficiency or for bringing about an improvement in other directions. It is not realised that efficiency is not dependent upon pay only. Our departmental heads must realise this fact and should come forward. Whether in post-offices or in railways, the need is to enhance the reputation of our employees in the eyes of the public. Unless we enhance their reputation in the society and create a spirit in them that the work they are doing is a work of great importance to the country, any increase in efficiency is difficult to achieve. But this requires a spirit of patriotism and patriotism does not consist in delivering speeches only. From the point of view of our workers we really need to bring about a change, a revolutionary change, in the country. If such a change comes, I am sure many problems of the country can be solved. The problem of Grow More Food can be solved if the attitude towards peasants is changed. So all our problems can be solved if we change our attitude towards the employees. For this the heads of the various departments should make efforts to that end so that the employees may really feel that they are doing a great duty to the country and the rest of us may also realize that the work these employees are doing, is a duty to the country and they should therefore be esteemed. This will bring benefit to the country and many of our problems will be solved.

डा. गोपीनाथ सिंह : श्रीमान जी, इस मिनिस्ट्री पर बोलते हुए मुझ आलोचना कम करनी है और अपने सुझाव माननीय रफी साहब की खिदमत में ज्यादा पेश करने हैं। माननीय रफी साहब को मैं करीब ३० वर्षों से जानता हूँ और इस अरसे में उन का जो ब्यक्तिरव मैं ने समझा है उस से मैं इस नतीजे पर पहुंचा हूँ कि उन के कुश्मनों में भी आप तलाश करें तो किसी को इस बात की शिकायत नहीं होगी कि उन के अखलाक में, उन के सौजन्य में, या अपने काम और जिम्मेदारी को ठीक से अंजाम देने की काबिलियत में किसी किसम की कमी है।

65 P.S.D.

इस बजह से उन के महकमे के इन्तजाम के बारे में नुकताचीनी की गुंजायश कम है। लेकिन मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि जहां पर कोई त्रुटि दिखाई पड़े वह त्रुटि दूर हो और जनता को उन के महकमे से जो सहूलियतें मिलती हैं, सुविधाएँ मिलती हैं, वह बढ़ जाय।

पहली बात जो मैं आप के जरिये से उन की खिदमत में पेश करना चाहता हूँ, वह यह है कि सेविण्ड बैंक और पोस्टल इन्वोर्सेस को ज्यादा लोकप्रिय कर दिया जाय। उन को जनता के ज्यादा इस्तेमाल के काबिल कर दिया जाय। हाउस को याद होगा कि बजट पर बोलते हुए मैं ने इस बात पर जोर दिया था कि राष्ट्रीयकरण का काम शुरू कर दिया जाय। आप जानते हैं कि गवर्नमेंट को हर स्कीम के चलाने के लिये ज्यादा से ज्यादा रुपये की जरूरत पड़ती है। आक्सिडेंट बैंक्स और इन्वोर्सेस करते क्या हैं? वे पबलिक से रुपये बसूल करते हैं और उस को रोजगार और उद्योग में ज्यादा मुनाफे के लिये इस्तेमाल करते हैं। अगर आप सेविण्ड बैंक और इन्वोर्सेस का काम जो डाक का कहकमा करता है उस को पबलिक के लिये ज्यादा खोल दें तो मैं समझता हूँ कि आप उस काम की शुरूआत अभी से कर देंगे। आप यह भी जानते हैं कि प्राइवेट बैंक काफी फ्लैक-बुए हैं और काफी ऐसे बैंक इस मुल्क में मौजूद हैं जिन की हालत नाजुक है। इसलिये भी इस बात की जरूरत है कि सेविण्ड बैंक में आप ने जो क्विड्राल्स (Withdrawals) और डिपॉजिट्स (Deposits) की लिमिट्स (limits) लगा रखी हैं उन को आप ज्यादा बढ़ा दें, इन को आप कुंशादा कर दें ताकि जनता ज्यादा से ज्यादा फायदा उठा सके। अभी पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट में बैंक (cheque) का तरीका

[ बाबू गोपीनाथ सिंह ]

नहीं है और करेंट अकाउंट (Current Account) का सिस्टम (System) नहीं है। और जो सेविंग बैंक की डिपॉजिट की लिमिट है उस हद तक पहुंच जाने के बाद फिर उस में कोई रुपया जमा नहीं कर सकता। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि आप इन फंडों को हटा दें और सेविंग बैंक को पबलिक के लिये ज्यादा से ज्यादा उस तौर से इस्तेमाल करने दें, जिस तरीके से इस मुल्क के दूसरे बैंक आप इस्तेमाल करते हैं। मैं यह जानता हूँ कि जब आप इस तरफ गौर करेंगे तो जो आप के मुल्क में पूंजीपति हैं, बैस्टेड इंटेरेस्ट्स (vested interests) हैं, वह आप का विरोध करेंगे। लेकिन उन के विरोध के बावजूद भी मैं जानता हूँ कि रफ़ी साहब में यह हिम्मत है कि वह इस जरूरी काम को पूरा कर सकते हैं। आखिरकार यह जनता की बर्नमेंट है और जनता की जरूरियात को पूरा करना आप का कर्तव्य है। मैं समझता हूँ कि रफ़ी साहब से ज्यादा जनता का सेवक इस मुल्क में मुश्किल से मिलेगा। ऐसी स्थिति में मैं उन से यह क़बी उम्मीद रखता हूँ कि वह इस जरूरत को ज़ज्द से ज़ल्द पूरा करेंगे।

दूसरी बात जिस की ओर मैं माननीय मन्त्री महोदय का ध्यान आकषित करना चाहता हूँ, वह यह है कि टेलीग्राफ, टेलीफ़ोन और पोस्टल फ़ीस लिटीब देहाती इलाके में ज्यादा फ़ैलाई जाय। आपने बहुत से डाकखाने जोले हैं, और बहुत से आप डाकखाने जा रहे हैं, सही है, लेकिन फिर भी थोड़े से खर्च से आप ज्यादा फायदा उठा सकते हैं। आप जानते हैं कि कैनाल डिपार्टमेंट (Canal Deptt.) और रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट में टेलीफ़ोन और तार चलते हैं, वामों में वायरलेस (Wireless) लगायें

जा रहे हैं “... और दूसरें स्थान भी पहाड़ी इलाकों में ऐसे हैं...” जहाँ पर वायरलेस सेट्स (Wireless Sets) से काम किया जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर इन को आप अपनी मिनिस्ट्री में ले लें, अपने इन्तज़ाम में ले लें, तो इस से जनता को काफी फ़ायदा पहुंचेगा। आखिरकार जो आदमी रेल का टिकट बेचता है, मैं समझता हूँ कि वह आप के डाकखाने का पोस्टकार्ड और टिकट भी बेच सकता है। इसी तरह से आप मुनासिब चार्ज लेकर वानों में लगे हुए टेलीफ़ोनों के प्रयोग का अख्तियार दें। अर्थात् अगर पबलिक का कोई आदमी जरूरत के वक्त वहाँ से टेलीफ़ोन करना चाहे, तो दाम उस से वसूल कर लिये जाय और उस को टेलीफ़ोन द्वारा अपना सन्देश भेजने की मुनासिब सहूलियत दी जाय।

इसके अलावा मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में जो हवाई जहाज की कम्पनियाँ काम करती हैं, उन का भी राष्ट्रीयकरण आप प्रारम्भ कर दें। मैं यह जानता हूँ कि इस मामले की बहस इसी हफ़्ते में किमी दिन होने वाली है, लेकिन मैं उस रोज़ दिल्ली में न रहूँगा।

**श्री किशवाई :** अफ़सोस है! तारीख नहीं बदला सकते हैं।

**बाबू गोपीनाथ सिंह :** इस वक्त मैं इतना ही अर्ज़ करना चाहूँ कि आप हवाई जहाज चलाने वाली कम्पनियों को सरकारी इमदाद देते हैं, उन्हें सबसिडी (subsidy) देते हैं और वह उन की जायदाद हो जाती है और आगे चरु कर दस साल में, या पांच साल में या सी साल के अर्से में जब भी कभी उन हवाई जहाजों की कम्पनियों को नेशनलाइज़ (nationalise) करेंगे, तो आप को मुआविज़ा देना पड़ेगा, कम्पैनेशन

(compensation) देना पड़ेगा। तो मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि इस बात की नौबत बागे न आये। आप जानते भी नहीं हैं कि वह जब इस काम को खत्म करेंगे, मुनाफ़े से खत्म करेंगे, या घाटे के साथ खत्म करेंगे। आप को यह भी याद होगा कि एक ज़माना था जब कि हिन्दुस्तान का ब्राडकास्टिंग सिस्टम (Broadcasting system) एक प्राइवेट कम्पनी के प्रबन्ध में था। वह कम्पनी कुछ दिनों के बाद फ़ेल हो गयी, और तब गवर्नमेंट न उस को टेक ओवर (take over) किया और बाद को गवर्नमेंट को इसे नये सिरे से अपने ढंग पर चलाना पड़ा। जो बात पहले तजुबों में आ चुकी है, उस से दूसरे मुहकमों की प्रगति में हमें फ़ायदा उठाना चाहिये। अतएव मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि ऐयरवेज का नेशनलाइज़ेशन आप अभी से शुरू कर दें।

चूँकि वक्त मेरे पास कम है, इसलिये मैं एक बात और अर्ज करके बैठ जाना चाहता हूँ। हिन्दी के टेलीग्रामस् का जो आप ने सिस्टम निकाला है, वह सराहनीय तो है ही। आप ने उस का रेट अंग्रेज़ी टेलीग्राम के बराबर कर दिया है और मैं मानता हूँ कि आप ने पहले की हालत में कुछ तरक्की ज़रूर की है; लेकिन, हिन्दी के तार जितने लोकप्रिय होने चाहिये, उतने नहीं हो सके। आप को मालम है कि अंग्रेज़ी के टेलीग्रामस् कितने ज़माने से चले आ रहे हैं और लोगों की यह आदत हो गई है कि मुस्तसर में, संक्षेप में, अपनी बात, अपना मतलब रख सकें। और फिर अंग्रेज़ी में उन के लिये कुछ टेलीग्राफ़ कोड की किताबें भी हैं जिन से लोग कोड का ऐबीवियेशनस् (abbreviation) इस्तेमाल करके शब्दों में ज़्यादा

बातें कह सकते हैं। हिन्दी में अभी आप का कोई कोड नहीं है और अगर है, तो मुझे उस की इतिला नहीं है। और चूँकि अभी तक हिन्दी में कोई कोड ऐबीवियेशनस् (code abbreviation) का सिस्टम नहीं है जिस से लोगों की संक्षेप में लिखने की आदत बन सके, इसलिये आप हिन्दी के तारों के रेटस् (rates) को घटा दें। अगर मेरे पास समय होता तो मैं आप के महकमे के जो मुलाज़मीन हैं, उन की कुछ शिकायतें भी आपकी ख़िदमत में पेश करता, लेकिन मैं सदर साहब के हुकम की अबहेलना नहीं कर सकता और इसलिए उस के बारे में मैं आप की ख़िदमत में एक खत लिख दूंगा।

(English translation of the above speech)

Babu Gopinath Singh (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, speaking about this Ministry I have very little to criticise but have to make many suggestions for action before hon. Rafi Saheb. I know hon. Rafi Saheb for the last 30 years. During this period from whatever I have understood about his personality I have come to the conclusion that even his enemies would not find any defect in his character, in his gentleness, in his ability to accomplish the duties assigned to him and in the discharge of his responsibilities. Therefore there is little chance of his Ministry being criticized. But I wish all defects, if any, should be removed and the facilities, which his Ministry is providing should be increased.

The first thing I like to convey to him through you, is that the Departments of Savings Bank and Postal Insurance should be made more popular. They should be made more useful for the public. The House may be remembering that speaking on the budget I had emphasized the point that the nationalisation should better be begun now. You know that every scheme, if the Government want to carry out it, requires a large amount of money. After all, what these Bankers and Insurers do? They collect money from the public and invest it in business and industries for making more profit. If you were to extend the facilities of the Savings Bank and Postal Insurance and make them more serviceable than before then I think



[Babu Gopinath Singh.]

this would be the actual beginning of the proposed work. You know, many private Banks of this country have failed and many other are in troubled waters. For this reason also the present limits of withdrawals and deposits should be enhanced so that the public may take the greatest possible advantage. There is no cheque system or current account system in the post offices. In Savings Banks also public cannot deposit any more money after reaching a certain limit fixed for दस-साली संचयन बैंक के लिए निम्नलिखित शर्तों में बाधाएं हटायी जाननी चाहिए और जनता को ऐसे बैंकों का उपयोग करने में पूर्ण स्वतंत्रता दी जाननी चाहिए। I know that the capitalists and other persons having vested interests will raise a storm of opposition. But I know that hon. Rafi Saheb in spite of this kind of opposition has enough courage and grit to accomplish this necessary thing. After all this is the Government of the people and it is their duty to cater to the necessities of the people. I think we cannot find a greater servant of the people than hon. Rafi Saheb. Therefore I hope he will fulfil this necessity in a short time.

The second point, towards which I want to draw the hon. Minister's attention, is that Telegraph, Telephone and Postal facilities should be provided to a larger extent in rural areas. I know many Post Offices have been opened and more are going to be opened, yet I like to submit that you can get maximum advantage with least expenditure.

The Telephone and Telegraphic facilities are available to the Canal and Railway Departments. Wireless has been fitted in police outposts and the wireless sets are being used in Police Stations and many hill areas. I think your Ministry can undertake to run them, and that would certainly be advantageous to the public. The man who sells the Railway tickets can certainly sell post cards and stamps of your Postal Department. In the same way you may extend the facility of using the telephones installed in the Police Stations to those persons of the public who pay due charges. In other words, if anybody from the public wants to send an urgent message through the telephone installed in police outpost he may be allowed to do so provided he pays for it.

In addition to it I like to submit that the work of nationalization of the Airways functioning in the country should better be begun now. I know

that the House is going to discuss this subject sometimes this week, but I will not be present in Delhi on that date.

**Shri Kidwai:** I am sorry. Date cannot be changed.

**Babu Gopinath Singh:** This time I like to submit only this much that some sort of official aid is given to these Airways, and the subsidy given to them becomes their own property. After five years, ten years or suppose after hundred years, whenever you will nationalize them, you will have to pay them compensation. I think that such a thing must not happen in future. You can have no idea whether they would wind up their work with profit or with deficit. You perhaps remember that there was a time when the Broadcasting system of India was under the management of a private company. That company failed after some time the Government had to take over the system and later on had to run it anew on their own lines. In view of the experience gained we should try to develop the department. Therefore I would like to submit that the task of nationalisation of the Airways should be begun forthwith.

As the time at my disposal is short, I would like to state one thing more and then resume my seat. The system of Hindi Telegrams introduced by you is quite appreciable. The rates of these telegrams have been fixed as those of English ones. Certainly you have made some progress in this direction still Hindi Telegrams are not so popular as they should have been. You are well aware that since long we have been sending telegrams in English and people have become accustomed to put their messages briefly. Moreover, there are some books of Telegraphic Code in English, and with the help of them code abbreviation are used and lengthy matters are said in a few words. In Hindi you have no such code, and if there is any Hindi Code I am not aware of that. As no system of code abbreviations has so far been introduced in Hindi, naturally it will take time for the people to develop the habit of writing messages in brief. Therefore you should reduce the rates of Hindi telegrams. Had I some more time I would have placed before you some complaints lodged against the employees of your department. But I cannot go against the order of the Chairman. Therefore regarding this matter I will write you a letter later on.

**Shri Kidwai:** I shall try to finish my remarks within fifteen minutes, that is by 3.30, the time allotted for the discussion of these Demands. First, I would like to deal with the points raised by my hon. friend, Mr. Jaipal Singh. I thought civil aviation would be discussed on the 16th, and therefore I had not touched that important point in my opening remarks. Mr. Jaipal Singh is the President of the Delhi Flying Club. He is jealous of the rights of the Club, and he resents any other institution than a flying club taking up the training of pilots. He has complained that we have wasted crores of rupees on our Flying School at Allahabad. I do not know where he got the figures from, but I would invite him to visit the Allahabad Flying Centre, look into the books and find out if we are spending more money on the training of a B licence pilot than the flying club are doing. I have been supplied some figures which show that while the flying clubs are spending between Rs. 75 and, perhaps, Rs. 175 per hour's flying, in the Flying School the expenses amount to less than Rs. 90.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** On a point of information. May I know which club spent Rs. 175 per hour?

**Shri Kidwai:** I think the hon. Member knows what is being spent in the Delhi Flying Club. I need not say more. I do not say that the Delhi Flying Club is spending Rs. 175, but it is much more than what we are spending in the Flying School.

About the quality of the training, all the operating companies prefer trainees of our School and they take the trainees of flying clubs only when they cannot get any trainees of the Flying School. I think that should be sufficient testimony.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** May I just point out to my hon. friend that all the senior instructors at this marvellous school of his were trained at the Delhi Flying Club? Can he deny that?

**Shri Kidwai:** But will the hon. Member deny that all those who were professors in the Universities were first, instructed in primary schools? Will he deny that?

I have listened with attention to the different suggestions made by the hon. Members of this House for the improvement in the working of the Posts and Telegraphs Department. I am thankful to them for the suggestions and I will try to see that action is taken on the lines suggested. There has not been much criticism about the

working of the Posts and Telegraphs Department. I agree with an hon. Member from Madhya Bharat that the working has not reached the efficiency which the Department claimed a few years ago. We are taking every step to reach that efficiency. I hope in a few years' time, we will be able to reach that objective. I also agree with him that most of the rural post offices opened were in Part A States and very few have been opened in Part B States. Eight hundred post offices are to be opened next year. The amount has been provided for opening post offices only in places where the State Governments want us to open post offices. It is not to fulfil the programme that we had originally intended of opening a post office in every village with a population of 2,000 or more. Last year we undertook it and in Part A States only about 1,000 such villages remain. Otherwise all the 16,000 or 17,000 villages with a population of 2,000 or more have got the post offices. Now with the raising of certain charges, we are going to have more money. I have no doubt that we will be in a position not only to carry on that programme in giving post offices in the 1,000 remaining villages, but also, to open offices in what are known as Part B and C States where this programme had not yet been carried out.

**Shri Biswanath Das (Orissa):** Is it by additional taxation, by enhancing the fees?

**Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh):** May I know why this proposal for an increase in postal rates was not announced by the Finance Minister in his Budget speech?

**Shri Kidwai:** This does not require sanction under the Finance Bill. This is being done in the middle of the year.

**Shri Kamath:** Any time you like?

**Shri Kidwai:** So far as telephones are concerned, we gave new telephones last year. The new telephones were more than 15,000 and I hope next year the number will exceed this. Telegram offices and public call offices have also been opened; new exchanges have been opened and that programme will be vigorously pursued.

**Shri Chattopadhyay (West Bengal):** May I request the hon. Minister not to change the rates of post cards and letters at least?

**Shri Kidwai:** That assurance has already been given.

**The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi):** What about bearing letters? Most of the letters are bearing these days, that is, without stamps.

**Mr. Chairman:** I would request hon. Members not to interrupt.

**Shri Kidwai:** I may also inform the House that last year certain concessions were given about local letters and local postcards. Now that we have introduced this 1½ anna letter, the local letter will be cancelled. Local postcards will be continued. I may also point out that we have received certain complaints about the abuse of these local letters, especially in the Calcutta area, where most of the areas are urban areas. There the people write letters outside that area but give the letters to passengers to post it within the area and thus save half of the postage charge. Therefore, we have decided that we should discontinue the local letters; we have introduced 1½ anna letter. The post card will continue for local delivery. Therefore this cancellation of the local letters will not be much of a hardship.

Last year also we declared an area in Rajasthan as a local area because the postage charges there were much lower than ours. Therefore, I thought they should be given that concession for one year. That year has expired and from 1st of June that will be cancelled. The Anchal system is a very cheap system and the employees there get a very low pay and very low charges are levied for the post cards and the letters. I propose to charge the low rates on post card, that is declare that area for one year more as a local area. Therefore this post card of six pies will serve for correspondence within the state. That concession will be continued for one year.

An hon. Member has suggested that the money order fees may be raised by charging 2½ annas for every ten rupees. What we are considering is lower than what has been suggested. We are also raising the stationery charges of the registered envelopes. We charge today six pies for that envelope while the cost of manufacture of that envelope is now 1½ annas. Therefore we propose to charge the full rates. People are free to use their own stationery as they are doing now and avoid this charge. I have nothing more to say.

**Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya:** What about the demands of the P. and T. employees? May I request the hon. Minister to say a few words about it?

**Shri Kidwai:** I am sorry I forgot the hon. Member. I think the hon. Member knows that his presidentship has been questioned. Therefore I cannot reply.

**Prof. Bhattacharya rose—**

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. May I request the hon. Member kindly to resume his seat?

**Shri Ghule:** What about the dearness allowance of Postal servants who have been just merged in the general system from Part B States?

**Shri Kidwai:** All of them will get the new scale of pay and dearness allowance as in the Centre from 1st of April last.

**Prof. Bhattacharya rose—**

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member knows that it is not necessary for the hon. Minister to reply to everything and if he is not prepared to reply to a certain question, that cannot be helped. He has also stated that his status is questioned and he need not reopen that controversy.

**Prof. K. K. Bhattacharya:** It is a slur upon an hon. Member of Parliament when the hon. Minister makes a false statement regarding his status, which has been definitely ascertained and communicated to the hon. Minister of Communications. He is in doubt about it and therefore for him to repudiate my status is to repudiate something which is substantial, and therefore, he should really make the position clear. Moreover the Secretary of the Postal R.M.S. Union had written to him yesterday making the position quite clear.

**Shri Kidwai:** I did not get that letter.

**Mr. Chairman:** I request the hon. Member to resume his seat. This condition cannot be allowed to continue. Both are hon. Members of this House and we respect them. There is no question of doubting the veracity of the hon. Member's statement. There might be some misunderstanding or misapprehension.

I shall now proceed to put the Demands to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the

31st day of March, 1952, in respect of Demands Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 93 and 95 under the control of the Ministry of Communications."

The motion was adopted.

[As directed by Mr. Chairman the motions for demands for grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below.—Ed. of P.P.]

#### DEMAND No. 4—MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,28,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Communications'."

#### DEMAND No. 5—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,08,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department'."

#### DEMAND No. 6—METEOROLOGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 78,10,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Meteorology'."

#### DEMAND No. 7—OVERSEAS COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 67,01,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Overseas Communications Service'."

#### DEMAND No. 8—AVIATION.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,91,69,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Aviation'."

#### DEMAND No. 93—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (NOT MET FROM REVENUE).

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,31,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs (Not met from Revenue)'."

#### DEMAND No. 95—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL AVIATION.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,76,00,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Civil Aviation'."

Mr. Chairman: We will now take up the Demands relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

#### DEMAND No. 59—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING.

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 74,20,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

#### DEMAND No. 60—BROADCASTING

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,76,48,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Broadcasting'."

#### DEMAND No. 107—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING.

Mr. Chairman: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 54,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Broadcasting'."

Shri Indra Vidyavachaspati.

Shri Kamath: On a point of order, Sir.—this point was also raised in the morning—under Rule 157 of the Rules

[Shri Kamath]

of Procedure, it is clear and explicit that only when a Member rises to speak, his name shall be called by the Speaker. Just now, it has happened that an absent Member has been called by the Chair. It was brought to the notice of the Chair this morning and the Deputy-Speaker observed that when an instance like that happened, it might be brought to his notice. It has happened now. This point of procedure has to be cleared once and for all. I submit that Rule 157 must be strictly observed and enforced in this House. Otherwise, it will give rise to all sorts of difficulties in the future.

**The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** I entirely associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

**Shri S. C. Samanta: (West Bengal):** Sir, the other day, when Shrimati Durgabal was in the Chair, I raised the point that Mr. Rathnaswamy was not in the House and he was called. She said, "Why did you not point that out at that time?" Just now, I also point out that such a thing has happened.

**Shri Deogirikar: (Bombay):** We are told by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, in its report that the A.I.R. net-work now consists of 21 Broadcasting stations in India. I congratulate the hon. Minister on this achievement. He is doing excellent work and deserves our compliments. We are now in a position to hear radio broadcasts from 21 stations if we mean to do so and if we have the means to do so. There are pressing demands from many more places for many more radio stations, but we are not able to cater to their needs as we are short of funds. I cannot say that either the eight-year plan which is now completed or the next phase of installation of medium wave transmitters would be capable of meeting all the demands. One station after another was added on to our A.I.R. after the merger and now we are in the midst of motley of stations. It is just like the formation of the provinces by the British in the old days. They formed the provinces one after another as they went on conquering the territories and did not think of homogeneity or other factors. I cannot say that having too many stations is a thing to be proud of unless it is well organised.

We have a variety of stations now. Some are main stations; some are sub-stations; some are auxiliary stations; some are pilot stations. Then, again we have got stations from where the

radio broadcasts in the same language are forced on the listeners. There are stringent criticisms that the programme is not well-planned, that it is hackneyed and that it is dull. If such criticisms are heard every now and then, it becomes our duty to go to the root of the question and examine it. Our radio listeners have the foreign broadcasts before them for comparison and hence the criticism. We have rural, industrial and school broadcasts as well. There are 3421 rural, 222 industrial and 1285 school receivers. The idea of such receivers is praiseworthy. But, looking to the results, one is not very happy about it. I was called to attend one of the broadcast programmes in the rural area. The attendance was tolerably good, but it was inattentive and the broadcast went over their heads. I was sorry for the whole show. We do want rural broadcasting; but we must seriously take up to them. In the whole of our country, there are seven lakh villages. The number of receivers in the rural areas is only 3421. That means that out of 200 villages, only one village has got a receiver. If proper attempts are made, I think it is not impossible to induce the villagers to instal more radios. Now, that the Department has recommended cheap radio sets for the villages. I am sure it will be possible to have more radio receivers in the villages. I suggest that the Central Government and the State Governments should give some grants for these rural receivers. But, I would suggest one thing also: do not try to urbanise the rural population by your broadcasts.

We are now importing radio sets by thousands and sending crores of rupees every year to foreign countries. In the year 1946-47, for instance, we imported 1,07,111 radio sets worth Rs. 1,69,61,790. I have not got the latest figures. The imports must have increased at least by double, now. As radio-mindedness is increasing day by day, it becomes necessary to devise some means by which we can save this drain of our money to foreign countries; for the Machine Tools Factory, Government has undertaken a scheme for 3.87 crores; for the Dry Core Telephone cables, we have a scheme for one crore; for the Indian Telephone industries, we have a scheme and for penicillin and sulpha drugs, we have a scheme for 3.5 crores. These schemes are undertaken with a view to stop foreign imports. Radio sets have become a necessity. They are not only a means of amusement, but they are meant for propaganda and other purposes also. In times of crisis, we cannot expect any foreign imports into

our country. Why not have a factory of our own for manufacturing radio and wireless sets? I am not competent to give you the estimates for the capital required for erecting such a factory. Let the experts do it. If we succeed in erecting such a factory, we will not only be able to sell radio sets at cheaper rates, but we will be able to save the crores of rupees that we are sending to foreign countries every year. In case the Government does not think it possible to start such a factory on their own initiative, let them do it in collaboration with industrialists, foreign or our own. But, under any conditions, do not leave this to private enterprise. I could not find such a scheme in the Colombo Plan. Let us incorporate it in that Plan if we possibly can. I do not know what the Planning Commission has done. Therefore, I am not able to say whether such a scheme has been recommended by the Planning Commission or not. If we want to connect the villages with the State or the Central Government, we must have as many radio receivers as possible. This can only be done if we have these sets. The urban population may be fastidious and may choose the costlier sets. But, for the rural population, cheap, durable and distinct sets would be a boon.

I am not divulging a secret when I say that five transmitters of 50 K.W. each are lying idle in Bombay. On page 795, Volume II, of the book of Demands, you have asked for a sum of Rs. 3,50,000 for operation and maintenance. A major portion of this sum is obviously for the maintenance of these five transmitters. We are told that the Government has no money to instal them. For the last two or three years, we are incurring this expenditure. Is it not a waste of public money? I request the Finance Minister to sanction forthwith sufficient sums to instal these transmitters. I wonder how this question was not seriously taken notice of by the Government till now. When these transmitters are rotting in Bombay, we have a demand for Rs. 22,25,000 for the next year and 34,75,000 during the current year for the equipment of three new 100 K.W. transmitters. The order for these might have been an old one. I do not grudge the grant. But, we are purchasing motor cars, and grudging the petrol. That is not sound policy. I again request the Government not to allow these transmitters to rot when they come to India.

I have requested the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting many times to open a Radio station in Poona out of these transmitters which are

lying idle. I was even satisfied with one K.W. transmitter. Poona seems to be the only place that has been left out of consideration. We have got two Universities, ten colleges, one lakh students; we have a Military academy and Poona is the seat of Government in the monsoons. We have also the National Chemical Laboratory. I would therefore request Government not to allow the talent and learning of the place to go without being utilised and taken advantage of.

In order to have an organised plan, in order to do away with the complaints that exist at present, in order to have more rural receivers and in order to consider feasibility or otherwise of erecting our own factories, I would suggest that a committee should be appointed to go over the whole question. That seems to be the only way out. Even in England where broadcasting organisation is reputed to be the best in the world, they appointed a committee twenty months back and their report was out on the 17th January, 1951. The Committee was appointed by the Lord President and the Post Master General. Lord Beveridge was its chairman and the object of the committee was "to study the working of the B.B.C." and so on. I suggest that such a committee should be appointed in India also.

As for the Information Section, let me say that I have nothing but grave disappointment. I do not think there is any country in the world worth a name which has neglected its publication work as badly as we have done. You have stopped the *Indian Information*, the *Bharat Samachar* and *Markazittelaq* last year. The *Foreign Review* has been stopped this year, as a measure of economy. We have too few publications and even from them we have stopped a few. This, I am afraid, is false economy or wrong economy. We should have as many publications as we possibly can have. You have got to educate the people, you have to inform them and make them democratically minded. The U.S.A. the U.K. and the U.S.S.R. are spending lot of money and flooding this country with their publications. Should we not also spread knowledge about ourselves outside? Is it not necessary that what the Centre does here should be made known throughout our own country so that there may not be misunderstandings and prejudices against the Government? These things, I am sure, will disappear if you have a proper publication machinery here. The States have their own publications. I think it is not only unwise but even suicidal to effect economy in this field.

[Shri Diogirikar]

There are newspapers in our land and I know many of them are rendering service in this direction and good service too. But they have not got enough material at their command, and this material can only be supplied by your publications. Moreover, Indian papers are not rich. I know many of them are in a precarious financial position. It has been said that newspapers constitute the fourth estate of the realm. But in our land this estate is almost in a tottering condition and many newspapers are on the verge of collapse. They are the only lot free from black marketing if not from black-mailing. The time has come when the Government should institute an enquiry as regards their working condition and the working conditions of the sub-editors, editors and correspondents and other workers connected with newspapers also. There are very few newspapers with sufficient finance—a few capitalist papers—but the others are very precariously placed as far as finances go. They are short of newsprint. I think the P.T.I. and the U.P. should be sufficiently financed on condition that the present service charges are reduced by half. I would like to make another suggestion. Newspapers should be permitted to draw freely from the Indian broadcast as well. This will to some extent, give relief to the newspapers.

There are a few more suggestions I would like to make at the end. At present two Ministries control the publications. The Press Section, I think, should be taken away from the Works, Production and Supply Ministry and entrusted to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. My second suggestion is that the sales section of the Government should be thoroughly recast. I have received many complaints from friends that in spite of repeated requests they are not getting any literature from the Government. I feel that unless we recast this department entirely, you will not be able to give proper service to the people.

I trust these and the other suggestions that I have made will receive the prompt attention of the Government and Government will take suitable action upon them.

**श्रीमती कमला चौधरी:** जनाब चेरमैन साहब, मैं आप के द्वारा मंत्री महोदय के समक्ष पहले उन के पब्लिकेशन (Publications) के बारे में अपने विचार रखना चाहती हूँ। जहाँ तक मुझ मालूम है

कुछ अखबार, विश्व दर्शन, हिन्दी आजकल, उर्दू आजकल, मार्च आफ इंडिया (March of India) और एक बच्चों का अखबार बाल भारती यह मासिक अखबार हैं जोकि गवर्नमेंट (Government) के इस विभाग से प्रकाशित होते हैं। लेकिन मेरा यह ख्याल है कि सिर्फ विश्व दर्शन ही इस तरह का मासिक पत्र है जो कि हम को विदेशों के बारे में जानकारी कराता है, और मैं यह दावे से कह सकती हूँ कि हिन्दी में उस के मुकाबले का कोई दूसरा पत्र इस प्रकार का नहीं निकलता है जो हमें विदेशों की जानकारी कराये। विदेशों की घटनायें और वहाँ के समाचार तो हमें अन्य समाचारपत्रों से मिल जाते हैं लेकिन विदेशों की संस्कृति, वहाँ की सभ्यता, वहाँ के संगीत, कला आदि और वहाँ के रहन सहन से हमारा हिन्दी समाज, हमारी वह जनता जिस की हिन्दी भाषा है, अनभिज्ञ रह जाती है। मैं समझती हूँ कि यह पत्र इस चीज़ की पूर्ति कर रहा है और उस से हमें दूसरे देशों के बारे में प्रयाप्त ज्ञान मिल सकता है। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय को इस के लिए धन्यवाद देती हूँ। माननीय मंत्री ने एक मीटिंग (meeting) बुलाई थी, मैं उसमें - उपस्थित नहीं हो सकी, लेकिन सुना है कि उन का विचार है कि इस पत्र को बन्द न किया जाय लेकिन इस को सीमित कर दिया जाय। मैं उन से निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि यह एक बहुत उचित और बहुत उपयोगी कार्य गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से हो रहा है। इस अखबार को ज्यों का त्यों रहने देना चाहिये। इस में बहुत सी ऐसी बातें होती हैं जिन की जानकारी और समाचारपत्रों में नहीं मिल सकती हैं। यह

अखबार एक आवश्यक प्रति कर रहा है। साथ ही मैं दो पत्रों का और जिक्र करना चाहती हूँ, हिन्दी आजकल और उर्दू आजकल। यह सही है कि इनमें हमारी सरकार का कुछ बहुत ज्यादा रुपया खर्च नहीं होता है, लेकिन फिर भी मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से अर्ज करना चाहती हूँ कि उन पर जो इस समय रुपया खर्च हो रहा है वह बिल्कुल व्यर्थ है। साथ ही मैं यह भी कह दूँ कि मैं इस हक में नहीं हूँ कि यह दोनों पत्र बन्द कर दिये जायें, बल्कि मैं तो चाहती हूँ कि इस सरकार को अधिक से अधिक साहित्य निकाल कर जनता को शिक्षित करना चाहिये। मेरा जो ऐतराज है वह महँज यह है कि इन पत्रों को बहुत गौर से देखने के बाद भी मैं ने यह नहीं जान पाया कि इन की क्या नीति है। मुझे तो इन की कोई नीति नहीं मालूम होती। इन अखबारों को हाथ में लेने पर पाठकों के ऊपर यह प्रभाव होता है कि यह लिटरेरी (literary) अखबार हैं। अगर यह साहित्यिक मैगजीन (magazine) या मासिक पत्र है और हमारी सरकार इन को साहित्यिक पत्र बनाना चाहती है तो मैं यह निवेदन करूँगी कि जरूरत इस बात की है कि सरकार इनमें इतना उच्च कोटि का साहित्य हम को दे कि जिस कोटि का हिन्दी में या उर्दू में कोई अखबार न हो। मैं निहायत अदब से कहना चाहती हूँ कि हिन्दी और उर्दू भाषा में भी अनेक ऐसे मासिक पत्र प्रकाशित होते हैं जिन की तुलना यदि इन अखबारों से की जाय तो वे इन से श्रेष्ठ हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री से कहना चाहती हूँ कि जरूरत इस बात की है कि इन दोनों पत्रों के लिए एक मंत्रिमंडल हो स्वाहा वह इस हाउस के मेम्बरों

(Members of the House) को ले कर बनाया जाय या उस में अन्य व्यक्ति और कुछ कार्यकर्ता भी हों, मैं उस के विस्तार में नहीं जाना चाहती, लेकिन आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि वह मंत्रिमंडल अपनी एक नीति बनावे और बैठ कर यह सोचे कि इन पत्रों को निकालने में गवर्नमेंट का क्या मकसद है। अगर गवर्नमेंट सचमुच में इनको एक लिटरेरी पत्र बना कर हम को अच्छा साहित्य देना चाहती है तो मुझे बड़ी खुशी होगी, लेकिन वह इस कोटि के हों कि सचमुच जनता को यह मालूम हो कि सरकार यह जो पत्र निकाल रही है यह उच्च कोटि के साहित्यिक पत्र हैं और अगर ऐसा नहीं है सरकार किसी अन्य मकसद से इन को निकालना चाहती है, अपने विज्ञापन के लिए या अपनी नीति की जानकारी लोगों को कराने के लिए तो उस तरह की एक नीति बना लेनी चाहिये। मुझे यह एक बहुत जरूरी बात मालूम होती है। इस के बिना मुझे इन पत्रों पर जो खर्च किया जाता है वह व्यर्थ मालूम होता है। ऐसा भी मुझे मालूम हुआ है कि हमारे अर्थ मंत्री महोदय यह चाहते हैं कि विश्व दर्शन की और हिन्दी आजकल को एक साथ मिला दिया जाय। मेरे विचार से यह कोई उचित बात न होगी क्योंकि इस का परिणाम यह हो जायगा कि विश्व दर्शन का विस्तार कम हो जायगा और दोनों पत्रों की एक खिचड़ी सी बन जायगी। मैं इस को ठीक नहीं समझती। मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय के सामने अपनी यह राय रखना चाहती हूँ कि विश्व दर्शन जैसा निकल रहा है वैसा ही निकलना चाहिये और इन दोनों अखबारों के सम्बन्ध में



[ श्रीमती कमला चौधरी ]

मेरा यह विचार नहीं है कि इन को बन्द कर दिया जाय लेकिन उन की कोई नीति बना कर उन की प्रगति की जाय और उन का विकास किया जाय ।

एक मासिक पत्र बाल भारती के नाम से पब्लिकेशन विभाग से प्रकाशित होता है । मैं उसे बहुत गौर से देखती हूँ और मुझे वह बच्चों के लिए एक अच्छा अखबार मालूम पड़ता है । उस के विषय में मैं ने अपनी राय वहाँ के डायरेक्टर (Director) के पास भेजी थी कि मुझे ऐसा मालूम होता है कि जो साहित्य बाल भारती में दिया जाता है वह इस कोटि का है कि जिस को एक पढ़ा लिखा बालक जो कि नवीं या दसवीं कक्षा की लियाकत रखने वाला हो अच्छी तरह समझ सकता है । मैं समझती हूँ कि उस को चार विभागों में बांटना चाहिये और बच्चों के लिए उसे अधिक उपयोगी बनाने के लिए सरल और बच्चों के मनोविज्ञान को उपयुक्त साहित्य दे कर उस को और अच्छा बनाया जाय । इस तरह का लिटरेचर (literature) तो उस में मिल जाता है जिस से हमारे छोटे बच्चों को यह मालूम हो जाय कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट क्या करने जा रही है, मुल्क को किस तरह बनाना चाहती है, किस तरह पति करना चाहती है कुछ ऐसी झलक उस में मिलती है । लेकिन स्पष्ट चीज नहीं मिलती जो बच्चों के ज्ञान वर्धन के लिये जरूरी है । मैं चाहती हूँ कि आज सरकार को यह सोचने की जरूरत है कि हमारा यह देश बहुत अधिक्षित है, यहाँ की अधिकांश जनता बह है जो कि पढ़ी लिखी नहीं है । हमारे आगे आने वाली जो पीढ़ियाँ हैं,

जिन के ऊपर भविष्य निर्भर है, उन बच्चों की तालीम के लिए अगर इस तरह के वह और भी पत्र निकाले तो वह उपयोगी होंगे और जरूरी हैं ।

साथ ही मैं यह भी महसूस करती हूँ कि सरकार को प्रौढ़ शिक्षा की ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिये । प्रौढ़ शिक्षा, प्रौढ़ शिक्षा की आवाज तो हम बहुत सुनते हैं लेकिन हमारी सरकार ने मैं समझती हूँ कि इस तरफ कोई कदम नहीं उठाया है । जहाँ तक मैं समझती हूँ विज्ञापन करने का, अपनी बात को जनता के कानों तक पहुँचाने का सरकार के पास ब्रॉडकास्टिंग और पब्लिकेशन (Broadcasting and Publications) से बड़ा और साधन नहीं हो सकता ।

तो मैं यह समझती हूँ कि इस तरफ हमारे वित्त मंत्री महोदय कमी न कर के खुले दिल से जनता को शिक्षित करने के साधन निकालेंगे । आल इंडिया रेडियो के सम्बन्ध में मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय को बधाई देना चाहती हूँ । मैं देखती हूँ कि लोग अब इतने मायूस नहीं हैं और शायद जनता में भी इतनी मायूसी नहीं है । हमें प्रगति के लक्षण दिखाई देते हैं । लेकिन साथ ही मुझे यह भी कहना है, बल्कि यह कहने के लिये मजबूर हूँ कि जितना विकास हमारा होना चाहिये था उसका अंश मात्र भी हमें अभी दिखाई नहीं देता । आ० आल इंडिया रेडियो या जो स्टेशन प्रान्तों में काम कर रहे हैं वह इतना बड़ा काम कर सकते हैं और इस से पहले कर गये होते जो बहुत ही आवश्यक था । मैं समझती हूँ कि आज हमारे सामने यह एक समस्या बनी हुई है कि हमारे चुनाव आने वाले हैं उस में जो वोटर्स हम को राय देंगे वह अधिक्षित हैं और वह सब अब तक शिक्षित हो जाने या कम से कम इतना

अक्षर ज्ञान उन को हो जाता कि वह अपने हस्ताक्षर कर सकते ।

मैं समझती हूँ कि हस्ताक्षर कराना रेडियो से सम्बन्धित नहीं है, लेकिन किस तरह का विधान आपने बनाया और आगामी चुनाव किस तरह से होने वाले हैं और सरकार की क्या नीति होने वाली है, यह बातें आल इंडिया रेडियो के जरिये से एक एक के कान में पहुंच सकती थीं। इसी तरह से और भी बहुत से सवाल हैं। समय का मुझे ध्यान है इसलिये मैं उन के विस्तार में नहीं जाऊंगी, संक्षेप में ही कहना चाहती हूँ। आज चारों तरफ से इस संसद् के माननीय सदस्यों के कानों में वह आवाज आ रही होगी, और हमारे मंत्रियों के भी कानों में वह आवाज आ रही है कि चारों तरफ एक बेचैनी है, मुल्क में एक परेशानी है और लोगों ने ओ एक आशा बना रखी थी, लोगों के दिलों में जो एक कल्पना थी कि जब हमारी सरकार आ जायगी तो हमारी संस्कृति, हमारी सभ्यता, हमारी शिक्षा के लिये वह बहुत कुछ करेगी आज वह नहीं हो रहा है, एक निराशा है। मैं बहुत आदर से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहूंगी कि आप को अपनी एक स्पष्ट नीति बनानी चाहिये। मैं ने बहुषा यहां के सदस्यों से, इस हाउस के सदस्यों को भी इस तरह की शिकायत करते सुना है कि आल इंडिया रेडियो की जो भाषा इस दिल्ली में बैठ कर हम सुनते हैं उस में कुछ बनावट है, कुछ नकलीपन है, और कुछ लोग इस तरह की शिकायत भी करते हैं कि वह समझ के बाहर की चीज है। जहां तक मैं ने समझा तो मुझे दो कारण इस के नजर आते हैं। एक तो यह कि हम बहुत दिनों से एक विदेशी भाषा के गुलाम हैं। भले ही आज हमारा मुल्क आजाद हो गया हो, हमें

आजादी मिल गयी हो, लेकिन हम भाषा की गुलामी अभी नहीं छोड़ सके हैं। इसलिये उस से अपरिचित होने के कारण उस को नहीं समझ पाते हैं। दूसरा कारण एक मुझे यह भी नजर आता है, मैं इस सम्बन्ध में एक उदाहरण देना चाहती हूँ। मसलन हमने एक पेड़ लगाया हो। उस में हमें बड़े अच्छे अच्छे फल फूल दूर से दिखाई देते हैं, उसकी शाखें और पत्ते भी हरे भरे दिखाई देते हैं। मगर उसका फल जो दिखने में अच्छा नजर आता है, उस में मिठास कम है, या स्वाद खराब हो गया हो और खट्टा हो तो उस को ठीक करने के लिये सोचने की जरूरत होगी कि क्या कारण है इस खराबी का वहां कितना पानी देने की जरूरत है, उसमें किस तरह की मिट्टी डालने की जरूरत है, किस तरह की खाद देने की जरूरत है। मैं समझती हूँ कि इसी तरह भाषा का विषय है। जो भाषा का मूल आधार है, बुनियाद है, उस को हमें समझना पड़ेगा। एक उदाहरण मैं और दूँ जिस से मैं अपनी बात की स्पष्ट कर सकूँ कि जैसे किसी चीज का हम ट्रांसलेशन (Translation) करें। अगर इंग्लिश की एक कविता रख दी जाय और उस को अच्छी से अच्छी हिन्दी ज़बान में ट्रांसलेट कर दें तो भी अनुवाद हमेशा अनुवाद ही रहेगा। इसी तरह से यह रेडियो की अनुवाद की भाषा, बनावट की भाषा हमारे यहां चल रही है और उस का कारण मैं यह समझती हूँ कि पहले इंग्लिश में सोचा जाता है और फिर उस का अनुवाद कर के हिन्दी रूप में हमारे सामने रखा जाता है। वहां पर जरूरत इस बात की है कि जो नीति बनाता है, जो पूरे विभाग का अधिकारी है, कार्यक्रम बना कर रेडियो के द्वारा प्रसारित करता है वह हिन्दी का कोई विद्वान होना चाहिये। मैं जानती हूँ रेडियो विभाग हिन्दी के

[श्री मती कमला चौधरी]

एक नहीं अनेक विद्वान मौजूद हैं, मैं इस के लिये मंत्री महोदय की बहुत कृतज्ञ हूँ। मैं यह शिकायत नहीं करूंगी कि उन्होंने हिन्दी की उपेक्षा की है, उन्होंने हिन्दी के विद्वानों को अधिक से अधिक लाने की चेष्टा की है। लेकिन जिस स्थान पर हिन्दी का विद्वान होना चाहिये वहाँ नहीं है जो सारे कार्यक्रम पर कंट्रोल करे, नीति बना कर रखे कि किस तरह की भाषा हम दें, वह अपनी भाषा के जानने वाला होना चाहिये इस बात की कमी मालूम होती है।

अब थोड़ा सा मैं सूचना चित्रों के सम्बन्ध में कहना चाहती हूँ। मुझे स्मरण है कि हमारे वित्त मंत्री महोदय का कुछ ऐसा विचार है कि न्यूज़रील (Newsreels) जो गवर्नमेंट बनाती है उस के ऊपर अधिक खर्च होता है। वह समाप्त किया जाये मुझे, ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि यह एक बहुत उपयोगी कार्य है और जो सूचना चित्र हम देखते हैं उन से जनता के ज्ञान की वृद्धि हो रही है, जनता को उन के द्वारा बहुत सी ज़रूरी जानकारी हो रही है। मुझे यह भी मालूम है कि उन चित्रों पर सरकार का कुछ बहुत अधिक धन भी खर्च नहीं होता। मेरा तो यह ख्याल है कि अधिक धन खर्च हो तब भी सरकार को इस काम को चालू रखना चाहिये और इस से अधिक प्रगति करने की ज़रूरत है, क्योंकि यह सभी जानते हैं कि यह वह ज़माना है कि हमारे यहाँ की जनता पढ़ी लिखी भी और जो अनपढ़ है वह भी जहाँ सिनेमा (Cinema) देखने के साधन मौजूद हैं, सब सिनेमा में जाते हैं और देखते हैं आज हमारा समाज भी इस तरह का है कि जनता के मनोरंजन के लिये या मनोविनोद के लिए इस के अलावा और कोई ज़रिया भी हमें दिखाई नहीं देता।

मैं यह समझती हूँ कि अगर इन चित्रों में सुधार हो जाय तो फिर शायद इस चीज़ की ज़रूरत न रहे कि सरकार अपनी तरफ से चित्र बना कर अपना विज्ञापन करे और सम्भव है ज़रूरत रहे भी।

4 P. M.

क्योंकि सिनेमा कम्पनियाँ जो चित्र बनावेंगी, वह साफ़ ज़ाहिर है उस में गवर्नमेंट की नीति पर प्रकाश डालना उनका मक़सद नहीं होगा और सामाजिक चीज़ें ही उन के सामने होंगी। आज तो बदकिस्मती से वह भी नहीं हो रहा है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहती हूँ कि इस तरफ़ भी ध्यान देना की ज़रूरत है। आज जिस तरह की तस्वीरें हमारे सामने आती हैं और हमारे बच्चे बूढ़े बड़े सभी उन को देखते हैं, उन से इतना ख़राब परिणाम हमारी सोसायटी पर हो रहा है कि अगर मैं यह कहूँ कि जनता की मनो-वृत्ति बजाय कुछ ऊँची उठने के दूषित होती जा रही है तो शायद अनुचित नहीं होगा। सरकार उस के ऊपर एक सेंसर (Censor) बिठाती है। लेकिन वह कैसा सेंसर है कि जब एक तस्वीर बन कर तैयार हो जाती है, जब उस के ऊपर लाखों रुपये खर्च हो जाते हैं तब सेंसर उस के ऊपर अपनी सम्मति देता है। उस का परिणाम क्या होता है कि कम्पनी जो लाखों रुपये खर्च कर चुकी है वह हर तरह से कोशिश करती है कि उस को चलाया जाय उस को ख़राब नहीं किया जा सकता था मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहूँगी कि यह तो एक बिल्कुल उस तरह की बात है कि जैसे कोई मर जाता है तो किसी कारण उस का पोस्ट-मार्टम

(Post-Mortem) किया जाता है। वह तो मर ही गया, उस पोस्ट-मार्टम से कोई लाभ नहीं होने का। तो जो संसार हमारी गवर्नमेंट का है, वह इस तरह का है कि लाश का पोस्ट-मार्टम आता है। कितनी ही घटनायें में बता सकती हूँ कि ऐसी ऐसी ख़राब फिल्म आती हैं और शहर में चलती हैं जिन्हें चलने के बाद हम लोगों को अधिकारियों का ध्यान दिलाना पड़ता है कि यह बहुत दूषित पिक्चर हैं बहुत ख़राब हैं, जिस से लोगों के ऊपर ख़राब परिणाम हो रहा है, तब उस को रोका गया बस सिर्फ़ एक मिनट और लूगी। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगी कि आज अगर हमारी सरकार चाहे तो इस दिशा में बहुत बड़ा परिवर्तन कर सकती है और सचमुच आज यदि सरकार चाहे तो समाज की तरक्की के लिये समाज की प्रगति के लिये और समाज की मनोवृत्ति को ऊंचा उठाने के लिये जिस तरह की तस्वीरों की ज़रूरत है उस तरह की तस्वीरें हमारे सामने आ सकती हैं।

मैं कुछ और निवेदन करना चाहती थी, लेकिन समय नहीं है। अगर मंत्री महोदय आज्ञा देंगे तो मैं अपने विचार इस विषय में उन को लिख कर भेज दूंगी। यह अधिक समय लेने के लिये बन्ववाद।

(English translation of the above speech).

**Shrimati Kamla Chaudhuri** (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I would like to express my impressions about the Government publications and would like to put them before the hon. Minister through you. So far as I know some monthly magazines of the Government such as 'Vishwa Darshan', Hindi 'Ajkal', Urdu 'Ajkal', 'March of India' and a magazine for children 'Bal Bharati' are being published by this department. But I

think that the 'Vishwa Darshan' alone is a magazine of such calibre which gives us information about the foreign countries; and I can claim that no other magazine of this kind and standard which gives us information about the foreign countries is being published in Hindi. We do receive information about the happenings and the developments that take place in the foreign countries from time to time through the other newspapers, but our Hindi knowing community does not remain well informed about the culture, the civilization, art, music and the way of living of the foreign countries. I am of the opinion that this magazine makes up this deficiency and we can have sufficient knowledge about the foreign countries through it. I thank the hon. Minister for bringing it out. The hon. Minister had convened a meeting which, unfortunately, I could not attend; but I have heard that he himself was not in favour of closing it down, but liked to restrict its number of pages. I would like to request him that this is a very useful and good work which is being done by the Government. This magazine should be kept as it is. It contains much information of the type which we cannot have from any other newspaper. This magazine is filling up a very important gap. Along with it I want to make a mention of the other two magazines viz., the Hindi 'Ajkal' and the Urdu 'Ajkal'. It is true that our Government have not to spend much on them. But in spite of that I would like to submit before the hon. Minister that whatever is being spent on them at this time, it is all useless. At the same time I may tell you that I am not in favour of closing them down but I want that the Government should publish more and more literature in order to educate the public. My only objection is that after studying carefully both of these magazines I could not know as to what policy they hold. I do not see that they follow any particular policy. The impression that these magazines create in the reader's mind is that they are only literary magazines. If they are literary magazines or monthly journals and our Government want to make them literary papers, I would like to submit that the need of the hour is that the Government should give us literature of such a high standard which possibly no other magazine of Hindi or of Urdu may give us. With due humility, Sir, I beg to submit that there are several monthly magazines in Hindi and Urdu which would prove far better than these magazines in comparison. I would like to tell the hon. Minister that the need of the hour is that an advisory board should be established

[Shrimati Kamla Chaudhuri]

for both these magazines. It may consist of some hon. Members of the House or of other persons and workers too. I do not want to go in details in this connection. But it is needed that such an advisory board should formulate a policy of their own and consider the aims of the Government in publishing these magazines. If the Government really want to give us sound literature by making them good literary magazines, it would be indeed a matter of pleasure for me, but the thing is that they should come up to such a standard that the people may, in fact, know that the magazines published by the Government are literary magazines of high standard. If it does not aim at that and the Government want to publish them with some other purpose, say for their own publicity or advertisement, then a policy to that very effect should be formulated. It seems a very essential thing to me. Anything other than this with respect to these magazines, is only a waste of money to my mind. I have also come to know that our hon. Minister of Finance is of the opinion that the 'Vishwa Darshan' and the Hindi 'A'jkal' should be amalgamated into one. I do not think it would be proper, because it would only lead to restricting the number of pages of the 'Vishwa Darshan' and would be a mess of both these works. I do not think it is good. I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that the 'Vishwa Darshan' should be published in the manner in which it is being published at this time, and with regard to the other two I do not think that they should be closed down; but as against that some definite policy should be formulated with respect to them and that they should be developed and their standard improved. There is another monthly named 'Bal Bharti' which is being published by the Publications Division. I look into it with due interest and it seems to me that it is a nice paper for children. I have submitted my opinion on this subject to the Director of Publications Division saying that the literature of 'Bal Bharti' seems to me of a standard which a student of ninth or tenth class who can read and write well, can follow without any difficulty. I am of the opinion that this magazine should be divided into four sections and in this manner should be made more useful, more easy and better understood by providing suitable material regarding child psychology. Some literature of the type by which our small children know about the activities of our Government, the model on which they want to fashion their country and the manner in which they want to lead her in the path of progress, is, no doubt,

found there. A bird's eye view of all these things is no doubt found there. But all these things do not give a clear picture of the whole situation, which is essential for widening the knowledge of the children. I feel that the need of the day is that the Government should think over the problem that a majority of the population of this country of ours is uneducated, most of the people are illiterate. If the Government would publish some more magazines of this kind for educating the coming generations, on whom the future of this country depends, it would not only be useful but, in fact, it is essential too.

At the same time I feel that the Government should pay due attention towards the question of adult education. We hear a lot about the adult education but I understand that the Government have not taken any positive step in this direction. So far as my knowledge goes there can be no more effective agency than the Broadcasting and the Publications Division with the Government by which they can propagate their ideas and publicise their doings.

I therefore think that our Minister of Finance will not make a cut in the demand of this Ministry and will help develop the means to educate the masses. I want to congratulate the hon. Minister for the efficient work of the All India Radio. I suppose, we as well as the people are not so much disappointed now. We find signs of progress even. But I have also to say and I am compelled to say that we find that we have made no such progress as we should have done. The All India Radio and its other stations functioning in the states, can play such an important part and they could have done so earlier. I know today we are facing a problem of the illiterate voters who will vote in the coming election. These voters could have been made literate by now or at least they could have learnt the three R's or at least they could have been able to sign their names.

I know that the signing of the names has nothing to do with the activities of the All India Radio. But through broadcasts everybody could have easily known about our Constitution, how the coming election will be held and what policy our Government is pursuing. All this could have been made known through the All India Radio. Similarly there are many other such questions. I am aware of the time limit, therefore I will not go into the details, and will express my views briefly. The hon. Members of the Parliament as well as

our hon. Ministers are certainly aware of the growing restlessness in the country. The people had cherished hopes and dreams that when a National Government will be installed, they will adopt sufficient measures to develop their culture, civilization and education. All those hopes have been frustrated. I would most humbly submit that the hon. Minister should have a clear cut policy. I have very often heard the hon. Members of this House saying that the language adopted by the Delhi Station of All India Radio is artificial and unnatural, and some hon. members also say that it is not easily understandable. - As far as I could understand there are two reasons for it. One of the reasons is that we have long been under the spell of a foreign language, although our country is independent now but so far we have not been able to come out of the spell of that language. As we are not accustomed to the use of this language so we are unable to understand it. The other reason which I understand is—in this connection I would like to give an example—supposing we have planted a tree, from a distance the tree seems to be laden with beautiful flowers, its branches and leaves appear to be green, although the fruits which the tree bears are nice to look, yet they are not sweet, tasteless and sour. Therefore to set the matters right we will have to think over the reasons of its bad taste. We will have to look as to how much water and the kind of soil and manure is needed for its better development. I think similar is the case of the language. We have got to understand the fundamental principles. I would like to cite another example to clear my point. Suppose we translate a piece of English poetry into nice and chaste Hindi, even then the real sense and the beauty of expression will not be conveyed in the translated version. Similar is the case with the language adopted by the All India Radio, which is an artificial and unnatural language. I think the reason for this artificiality in language is due to the fact that originally the matter is prepared in English and then it is translated into Hindi and broadcast. It is necessary that the policy makers and the officers-in-charge of the whole Department who prepare programmes for broadcasting through the Radio Stations, must be eminent scholars of Hindi. I know that many Hindi scholars are associated with the Hindi Section of the All India Radio and I am very grateful to the hon. Minister for this arrangement. I will not complain that he neglected Hindi, he has tried to have as many Hindi scholars in his department as possible. But none of these Hindi scholars are

holding any posts of responsibility so that they could control the entire programme and make the policy as to what kind of language should be used for the Radio programmes. He should have thorough knowledge of Hindi language. This shortcoming is quite obvious.

Now I want to say something about the documentary films. I remember once our hon. Minister of Finance had observed that the Government is spending a lot of money on the newsreels, and this department should be wound up. But I consider it to be one of the most useful work; and the documentary films and newsreels which are exhibited are definitely of great informative value and develop the knowledge of people. I also know that the Government do not have to spend more on these newsreels. I am of the opinion that even if such schemes cost more to the Government the Government should continue to produce these documentary films and newsreels, and further progress should be made in this scheme because we all know that these days the educated as well as uneducated people go to see cinema films, where facilities for cinema shows and exhibition of films exist. The present structure of our society is such that there is no source of recreation other than cinema shows. I think if the trend of the present films is improved, perhaps there may not be any necessity for the Government to produce its own documentary films for exhibition, and it is also probable that the need to produce them may still remain. Because it is obvious that it is not the 4 P.M. object of the cinema companies to give publicity to the policy of the Government in the pictures produced by them, as their object is to produce social pictures. Unfortunately even that too is not being done today. I want that the hon. Minister should pay attention to this matter. People of all the age groups, children, young and old alike see these films, as a result of that our society is adversely affected, and it would not be improper on my part to say that instead of raising moral standard of the people they are leading them to degeneration. The Government have set up a Censor Board for reviewing the films and pictures. But this Censor Board gives its approval only when huge amounts have been spent on production of a film and when it is ready to be released. The result of this is that the companies which have spent enormous sums of money on the production of the films do their best to get the approval of the Board for their release because the pictures cannot be put to waste. I

[Shrimati Kamla Chaudhuri]

would like to point out that this case is like one of the Post mortem. The post mortem serves no purpose after a man is dead. So the function of the Censor Board set up by the Government is like that of post mortem of a dead body. I can cite several cases where obscene films are exhibited in the cities and we have to draw the attention of the authorities to such obscene pictures and the exhibition of such films had to be banned as they affected the morals of the public. I will take a minute more. I would submit to the hon. Minister that if our Government are willing they can bring about vast changes in film industry and if the Government take initiative and produce good pictures with a view to development and progress and raise the moral standard of our society. Such pictures can surely be produced.

I wanted to say something more, but I have no time. If the hon. Minister thinks it proper I will send him my suggestions in writing. I thank you, Sir, for giving me extra time.

**Shri Amolakh Chand** (Uttar Pradesh): I am grateful to you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Information and Broadcasting Ministry with which I have the honour to be associated for a few years. At the outset I would congratulate the hon. Minister—who is himself a journalist—and his officers for their active co-operation with the Press and for producing good films as also opening more Radio stations. It goes without saying that the responsibility of an Information Ministry is superb, and I have only to suggest that if the hon. Finance Minister gives his helping hand in the matter this country would make a name even in publicity. I would like to point out that it is but necessary that the Minister of Information should be either a Cabinet Minister or a Minister who deals independently with the policies of the country. As hon. Members are aware, in all the other countries the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is either with the Prime Minister or with a Minister who has a hand in formulating important policies. To put it very mildly, it is necessary that for the proper functioning of an Information Ministry the person in charge must be able to maintain a close liaison between the public and the Government. The function of this Ministry is to keep the people informed of the activities of the Government and keep the Government informed of people's reactions to the policies of Government. If any

Information Ministry is not able to keep the Government and the people informed of their mutual activities, I would submit that that Government cannot exist for long. There is another difficulty which we find about the Ministries of Information not only at the Centre but in the States, namely, the people for whose benefit the money of the taxpayer is spent, are not kept informed of the Governmental activities. Various schemes and plans for the benefit of the people come as a surprise to them and as an accomplished fact, when it is too late to make any useful suggestions.

A point on publicity which I would like to impress upon hon. Members is that in 1948, to my mind, a wrong step was taken in bifurcating the External Publicity section away from the Information Ministry. External publicity is meant mainly to help the Government in making the country known abroad. If there is a bifurcation of external publicity from internal publicity, it is very likely that the salient points on which the Government is deliberating may not be publicised in foreign countries.

Having said this, I would like to make a few observations and suggestions. Other hon. Members have already made suggestions regarding the All-India Radio and the Films Division. The Films Division, as I said at the outset, has done useful work. Hon. Members here might be aware that the documentaries produced by the Films Division as also the newsreels, are very popular in both the rural and the urban areas. I had an occasion some time ago to visit some of the rural and urban areas and everyone I met praised these films and asked why the Government was thinking of closing down the Films Division. I myself had an occasion to see the working of the Films Division very closely. I find that the documentaries produced by the Division, like *Rajasthan*, *Mewar*, *Malaria*, *Kashmir*, were praised even in the *Film India* magazine which had taken a particular fancy to criticise the Films Division. Persons in the know of reality will bear me out when I say that these documentaries have definitely served to popularise the Government in the rural areas particularly. In U.P. we are running 35 film units and the daily attendance at these shows is between 700 and 1000 every evening. Therefore, I would request that instead of the decision to close the Films Division, Government should produce in the place of the reduced number of 36 documentaries and 36 news-reels at least 60 each.

So, instead of the number being reduced from 52 to 36, it should be increased to 60.

I shall give you an instance of the utility of the Films Division. The Indian Council of World Affairs held a Pacific Relations Conference in Lucknow and delegates from various countries numbering about 150 visited Lucknow. They wanted to know what India was historically and culturally. If the Films Division had produced such documentaries, at least those delegates would have had the advantage of seeing them.

Now, a word about the way in which the Film Censor Boards are working. At the outset, I may say that I have no liking for films. But when I had occasion to work on the U.P. Film Advisory Committee and had to see various pre-views I came to the conclusion that the celluloid on which these films are produced is a criminal waste. I would like the hon. Minister to lay down a definite policy that only pictures that do not tend towards immorality would be permitted. This policy should also be publicly announced.

As regards the A.I.R. Advisory Committees, I would like to suggest that the Advisory Committees in some stations are not functioning properly for the simple reason that persons who are put on them are not well acquainted with the regional languages. If the hon. Minister so desires, I can give him instances.

Then the remuneration which artistes are getting deserves consideration. The artistes should also get provident fund.

On the A.I.R. we are spending Rs. one crore and 26 lakhs, against a revenue from radio licence fees of only about Rs. 75 lakhs. I would like to suggest that a licence fee of only Rs. five may be levied for local sets. By doing so, you will be giving an opportunity to people to hear the local broadcasts and take full advantage of the A.I.R. programmes. This would also make the A.I.R. self-sufficient.

Another matter which I also raised during question-time is that some film producers have taken it into their heads to approach the A.I.R. and get their films popularised through it by playing the songs. The hon. Minister in reply to my question said that he had no information to this effect. What I would like to suggest is that the A.I.R. is paying Rs. two lakhs to

the gramophone companies every year for popularising their records. Similarly, either these film records are banned or if they are to continue, they may continue only on payment. This would add to the revenues of the A.I.R.

Lastly, I know that the relations between the Press and the Ministry have been very cordial and the Government of India did get sufficient help from the A.I.N.E.C. As we all know, a parallel Working Journalists' Federation has been established and working journalists are taking part in it. I would request the hon. Minister to give his helping hand to this institution also.

**Shrimati Durgabai (Madras):** Is the licence fee of rupees five that the hon. Member suggested for local sets in addition to the usual fee of Rs. 15?

**Shri Amolakh Chand:** At present, we have three types of licences: the commercial and dealers' licence; the community listening licence; the ordinary licence (of Rs. 15). By owning the last type of licence, one can hear all stations of the world including India. But there are local sets, which particularly in U.P. the Government is producing at Rs. 60 to 80 a set. I suggest that for these local sets which cannot receive other stations, only a licence fee of Rs. five may be prescribed. People who are interested only in local items of the A.I.R. broadcasts can listen to them at a cost of Rs. five per year.

श्री को० को० व्यास : सब से पहले मैं आप को इस बात के लिये धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे भाषण देने का मौका दिया। यद्यपि इस हाउस (House) में यह मेरा पहला भाषण है, तो भी मैं अपनी बात को बहुत कम शब्दों में व्यक्त करूँगा, ताकि जो दूसरे व्यक्ति हैं, उन्हें अपना विचार रखने का मौका मिले।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मानी हुई बात है कि जनता और सरकार के बीच सम्पर्क स्थापित करने का गुस्तर नार इस विभाग पर है। लेकिन यह दुःख की बात है कि आज हिन्दुस्तान में जो



[ श्री-के० के० [ध्यास ]

बाम भाषा है, उस की उपेक्षा इस विभाग के द्वारा हो रही है। मेरा यह कहना नहीं है कि इस विभाग ने हिन्दी भाषा की ओर कोई विशेष ध्यान नहीं दिया है। मेरे सामने पिछले वर्ष की इस विषय की एक रिपोर्ट है। मैं ने देखा है कि माननीय दिवाकर जी के मंत्रित्व में इस विभाग ने प्रगति की है और हिन्दुस्तानी पत्रों को काफी स्थान मिला है। लेकिन उस के साथ ही मैं यह समझता हूँ कि अभी भी उस ओर काफी प्रगति करने का अवसर है और उसे प्रगति करने का और मौका दिया जाना चाहिये। मिसाल के तौर पर मैं कुछ बातें आप के सामने पेश करना चाहता हूँ और वह यह हैं कि हिन्दी की काफी उपेक्षा की जा रही है। पहली बात तो यह है कि गवर्नमेंट की जो महत्वपूर्ण रिपोर्टें होती हैं वह हिन्दुस्तानी पत्रों को नहीं भी जातीं। इस का परिणाम यह होता है कि अंग्रेजी पत्रों में जिन के पास वैसे ही काफी मैटीरियल (material) होता है वह छप नतीं पातीं और जो हिन्दुस्तानी पत्र जनता के बीच में जाते हैं उन से भी वह महलूम रह जाती है। दूसरी बात यह है कि मामूली से मामूली अंग्रेजी पत्र के प्रतिनिधियों को भी सम्बन्ध कर लिया जाता है परन्तु जो दूसरे महत्वपूर्ण पत्र हैं वह रह जाते हैं। उस सम्बन्ध में जहां तक मुझे मालूम हुआ है, केन्द्रीय परामर्श दायी समिति ने दस हजार के सरक्यूलेशन (Circulation) वाले पत्रों को मान्यता देने की सिफारिश की है और उनी के अनुसार शायद सरकार कार्य भी कर रही है लेकिन मैं कहूंगा, यह सरासर अनुचित है। आल-इंडिया एडिटर्स कान्फ्रेंस (All-India Edi-

tors' Conference) ने जो सरकार द्वारा मान्य है भी इसका विरोध किया है। आज न्यूजप्रिंट (News print) की कमी है और यह बात सब लोग महसूस करेंगे कि स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के बाद काफी पत्र निकले हैं जो कि जनता तक पहुंच रहे हैं इसलिये सरकार को इस तरफ विशेष तौर से ध्यान देना चाहिये।

इस वक्त एक खास बात मुझे याद आ रही है कि इस प्रश्न के उत्तर में कि यहां पर सूचनाधिकारियों की संख्या क्या है, यह बतलाया गया था कि सूचनाधिकारियों की संख्या इस प्रकार है: ८ अंग्रेजी, ३ उर्दू, ३ हिन्दी, और १, १ गुजराती, तामिल आदि भाषाओं का। मेरा ख्याल है कि सरकारी सूचनाधिकारियों को भी इस में शरीक कर लिया गया है। अंग्रेजी के १ इन्फारमेशन अफसर (Information Officer), ४ डिप्टी प्रिन्सिपल इन्फारमेशन अफसर (Deputy Principal Information Officers), ३ इन्फारमेशन अफसर (Information Officers) कलकत्ता, मद्रास, और बम्बई में हैं और ८ यहां हैं। इन के अतिरिक्त रक्षा विभाग में एक आर्म्ड फोर्स इन्फारमेशन अफसर (Armed Forces Information Officer) और दो इन्फारमेशन अफसर (Information Officer) हैं। हिन्दी का सूचना अफसर केवल एक है और दो सहायक अफसर। इस तरह के सहकारी अफसर अंग्रेजी में ५ हैं, लेकिन उन को गिनती में नहीं किया गया है। इसलिये मेरा विचार है कि स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के बाद भी वही स्थिति कायम है। यही नहीं,

हिन्दी के अनुवादकों में भी पचास प्रतिशत की कमी की गई है वहाँ ४ हिन्दी अनुवादक थे, उस में से केवल दो हिन्दी अनुवादक रखे जा रहे हैं, जब कि उर्दू या अन्य भाषाओं के सम्बन्ध में इस तरह की कमी नहीं सुनी जानी है।

तीसरी बात यह है कि हिन्दी पत्रों को विज्ञापन में और अधिक प्रगति होनी चाहिये। चौथी बात यह है कि हिन्दी पत्रों में क्या निकलता है, यह गवर्नमेंट को पता नहीं लगता है। जहाँ तक मुझे जानकारी है अफसरों के पास अंग्रेजी अखबारों की कटिंग (Cuttings) पेश होती हैं, और उन पर गौर होता है। बाज़ बाज़ दफ़ा हिन्दी पत्रों में कई महत्वपूर्ण बातें निकल जाती हैं, लेकिन कुछ पता नहीं लगता कि उन के बारे में गवर्नमेंट क्या सोच रही है और क्या कर रही है। जहाँ तक मुझे मालूम है गवर्नमेंट हिन्दी पत्रों की ओर बिल्कुल उपेक्षा की दृष्टि से देखती है।

मुझे पता चला है कि प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब (Prime Minister) के सामने हिन्दी पत्रों के सम्पादकीय नोट्स (Notes) पेश होते हैं और वह उन्हें सरसरी तौर पर देख लेते हैं। लेकिन गवर्नमेंट के और और विभागों में इतना भी ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता। समापति महोदय, मैं आशा करता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट हिन्दी पत्रों की इस प्रकार से उपेक्षा नहीं करेगी और उन के विचारों पर भी अमल करेगी। यही हाल हिन्दी के प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध में है। अभी इस वर्ष में हिन्दी का प्रकाशन हुआ है और प्रगति हुई है, लेकिन हिन्दी में और भी ज्यादा से ज्यादा साहित्य छपना चाहिये और उसे ज़रूरत तक पहुँचना चाहिये।

अब मैं ब्राडकास्टिंग (Broadcasting) पर आता हूँ। रेडियो के प्रसारणों की सफलता श्रोताओं का ध्यान खींचने और बनाये रखने की योग्यता से ही नापी जा सकती है। मनोविनोद के लिये हो या शिक्षा के लिए, दोनों तरह के प्रोग्राम (Programme) इसी तरह से नापे जा सकते हैं। पिछले दिनों आल-इंडिया रेडियो (All-India Radio) से जो भाषण हुए, इस में सभी भाषण गम्भीर और विचारपूर्ण थे। फिर भी उन्हें सफल नहीं कहा जा सकता, क्योंकि बोलने का ढंग आकर्षक नहीं था। अच्छा स्वर, रोचक शैली और सरल भाषा, यह तो आवश्यक है ही, पर सब से आवश्यक बात यह है कि बोलने का ढंग सहज, स्वाभाविक और चित्ताकर्षक हो। मुझे यह जानकारी मिली है कि दिल्ली रेडियो स्टेशन के हिन्दी विभाग ने इस सम्बन्ध में काफी प्रगति की है और उस की सराहना की जानी चाहिये। यही बात संगीत के सम्बन्ध में भी कही जा सकती है।

आप को और हाउस (House) को क्याल होना कि साहब मंत्री ने एक भाषण दिया था जिस में उन्होंने मालबा की, वहाँ की संस्था की और वहाँ के संगीत की प्रशंसा की थी। जिन लोगों ने इन्फारमेशन अफसर की रिपोर्ट देखी है वह जानते हैं कि ब्राडकास्टिंग मिनिस्टर साहब ने चारों तरफ रेडियो स्टेशन कायम करने की कोशिश की है। लेकिन वह हिस्सा, जो कि सारे देश का एक चौथाई हिस्सा माना जाता है मेरा मतलब विन्धय प्रदेश, राजस्थान और मध्य भारत से है, वहाँ आज तक उस ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया

[ श्री के० के० व्यास ]

हैं जब कि वहां रेडियो स्टेशन काम करने चाहिये । इसलिये मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ आकषित करना चाहता हूँ, और यह अपील करता हूँ कि वह इस ओर जल्दी ही कोई कदम उठाये । मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कह कर समाप्त करूँगा क्योंकि अब इस हाउस का ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता ।

(English translation of the above speech)

**Shri K. K. Vyasa (Madhya Bharat):** First of all I thank you, Sir, for having given me an opportunity to speak. Although, it is the first time I am speaking here; yet, I would like to express myself in the least possible words so that other hon. Members may also get opportunity to express their views before the House.

It is an admitted fact that the heavy burden of establishing contact between the people and the Government lies on this Department. It is indeed a matter of regret that the common language of India should have been ignored by this Department. I do not mean that this Department has not paid any attention to Hindi language. I have before me last year's report in this connection. I know that this Department has progressed under the Ministership of the hon. Shri Diwakar and Hindi newspapers have also been given a proper place among others. But I am of the view that there is more scope for its further development and as such more opportunities should have been given to it. As, for example, I wish to place certain facts before the House by which it will be clear that Hindi is being ignored. In the first place, the important reports of the Government are not given to the Hindustani newspapers with the result that the English newspapers, which already have more than enough material cannot print them. Thus these reports do not find place in those Hindustani newspapers also which have a wide circulation among the masses. Secondly, although contact is established with the representatives of even the ordinary English newspapers, many other important Hindustani papers are completely ignored. So far as I could know in this respect, the central Advisory Committee has recommended to recognise for this purpose such

newspapers alone as have got the minimum circulation of 10,000, and probably the Government are also acting upon that recommendation. But to my mind it is anything but proper. The All-India Editors' Conference, which has been recognised by the Government, has also objected to it. At present newsprint is scarce. Everyone would like the Government to pay their special attention to these newspapers whose number has considerably increased with the advent of freedom.

At this I am reminded of a particular thing. In reply to a question as to what was the number of the Information Officers here, the number was stated to be as follows: 8 for English, 3 for Urdu, 3 for Hindi and one each for other languages like Gujrati and Tamil etc. I think probably Government Information Officers have also been included in it. This cadre consists of one Information Officer, four Deputy Principal Information Officers, three Information Officers for English at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay and eight are here. Apart from these, one Armed Forces Information Officer and two Information Officers are in the Defence Department. For Hindi there are only one Information Officer and two Assistant Information Officers. Thus there are five Assistant Information Officers for English who have not been accounted for. I, therefore, understand that the situation has not changed with the achievement of Independence. Not only this, the strength of Hindi Translators has been decreased by 50 per cent. There were formerly four Hindi Translators in the said Department; now only two are being retained while no such reduction is contemplated in case of Urdu or any other language Translators.

The third point is that more progress should be made with regard to the advertisement appearing in the Hindi newspapers. Fourthly, the Government are totally unaware of the contents of the Hindi newspapers. So far as I know the cuttings of English newspapers alone are submitted to the Officers and considered by them. Some times very important items are published in the Hindi newspapers but it is not known as to what the Government do and consider about those things. To the best of my knowledge Government are treating the Hindi newspapers with utmost indifference.

I have come to know that the editorial notes of the Hindi newspapers are

put before the Hon. Prime Minister and he just throws a cursory glance over them. But the various other departments of the Government do not even care to do so much. I hope the Government will not ignore these newspapers but will also act upon their views. Same is the case with Hindi publications. During this year there has been progress in Hindi publications; but more literature in Hindi should be published and made available to the people.

Now, I come to Radio Broadcasting. The success of Radio broadcasts is judged by the extent to which they attract and hold the attention of the listeners. The success of every kind of programme—be it recreational or educational—is judged by this very standard. Though all the speeches broadcast in the past by the all-India Radio were serious and thoughtful; yet they cannot be said to be successful because of delivery being not good. Good voice, interesting style and simple language are not the only qualities required for a good speech; it is also essential that the manner of speaking should be effortless, natural and appealing. I have come to know that the Hindi Department of the All-India Radio has made considerable progress in this respect and as such it deserves all praises. The same is true with regard to music.

Sir, you and this House may be aware of the fact that the hon. Minister of Food had delivered a speech in the course of which he had spoken very highly of Malwa, its institutions and the music thereof. Those who have gone through the report of the Information Officer know that the hon. Minister of Broadcasting has made efforts to open new broadcasting stations all around. But what constitutes about one fourth portion of the whole country—I mean the area comprising of Vindhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Madhya Bharat—has so far not been given any attention despite an urgent necessity of opening new broadcasting stations in that zone. I, therefore, wish to draw the hon. Minister's attention to these facts so that he may take positive steps to that effect. I do not want to take more time of the House and so I close.

**Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan** (Madras): I would just like to say a few words with regard only to the Broadcasting Section of the Ministry of I and B and I speak as a layman, who is one of the listeners in this country of our broadcasting.

I do congratulate the hon. Minister for the very impressive and excellent report he has placed before us. But, may I say, facts and figures are all very well on paper. They do make very impressive reading. But in spite of this impressive reading of the document they have put out, I find that as far as listeners are concerned, India has a very low percentage. It is very difficult to understand why this is so, and I would like to ask the hon. Minister why broadcasting is really so ineffective in this country. With India's population we should have lakhs and lakhs of radio sets, but I find that the number of radio sets in this country, compared to other countries, is pathetically low. I understand in European countries and America they have about one set for three or four of the population, while in India it is only one set for every seven or eight hundred. What is the reason for this I would very much like to know. I do not think it is really because of the economic factor, because I understand there are more motor cars in our country than radio sets. I feel that the reason there are so few radio sets is because people have not become really interested in listening to the radio, and that is due perhaps to the programmes not being interesting enough for everybody. It may be that people who are interested in culture, and are cultured, or those interested in music, or those who are interested in certain very highly technical subjects which are being broadcast might find them interesting. But, we want everybody in this country to get interested in broadcasting. And this is what I feel the Ministry has failed to do.

I know we got the A.I.R. as a legacy from our former Government and there always was a certain amount of prejudice because everyone felt that they were not able to say what they wanted to say, because it was a Government-controlled machinery. But today the Government is our own Government. So everyone should become interested and utilise this very useful machinery of radio. I do feel that something must be done about this. The programmes can be made more attractive.

We were told some time back that even the publication, the *Indian Listener* is not a self-sufficient concern. Surely, the *Indian Listener* which must be subscribed by many people should be able to pave its own way. While going through the *Listener* the other day I was surprised to find that the timings have been changed like the Railway time-table, instead of saying 9.30 p.m., as they used to say,

**[Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan]**

they now say 21.30 and it reads as 21.30. One is left to calculate for oneself. I do not quite understand why this change was found necessary. Surely a time-table itself is puzzling enough for us; why add the *Indian Listener* also to it. I am afraid I have absolutely failed to understand the reason for this.

With regard to increasing the number of radio sets, a real drive should be made and if we can double the number of radio sets that we have in India today I am sure Broadcasting will become a self-sufficient department and the Ministry need not go to the Finance Ministry for more funds, nor will it be necessary to impose economy cuts. Because, the All-India Radio should be self-sufficient unit, and it will become so if we take a little more trouble. I feel that in a country like ours, where there are so many uneducated and illiterate people, broadcasting has a tremendous role to play. If we have programmes which are enjoyed and made use of by the people in the rural areas, that in itself will have a very good educative value. I feel that this is not done. To quote another country, I understand that Soviet Russia has over seven lakhs of community receiving sets installed on collective farms and other nooks and corners of the country. We may not be able to introduce the same number of sets in this country, but I feel it is time this Ministry thought a little more about our rural areas and gave up thinking of the urban areas so much. The urban area people have all kinds of facilities like newspapers—there are more of educated people there who read newspapers etc.—and they have all kinds of other facilities like schools, adult education classes, night classes and so on, while in rural areas if we really want our people to advance the best way would be to install more radio sets in rural areas. I am sure they will be used if the programmes are attractive enough.

I feel that the Centre also should give a direction to the Provincial Governments to take up this particular question of a real drive for making people interested in radio programmes. I feel today, when we are going to face a general election very soon, the radio will have a great value in educating our people, in telling them about the responsibility they have to take up and making them conscious of such responsibility. I am not in the least meaning that the radio should be used for election purposes,

but the Government should educate the people as to what exactly the elections mean and how the people of this country must use their rights and responsibilities.

I know that you are looking at the time and I have also not got very much more to say. But you may kindly give me two minutes more to enable me to finish. I do not think I have taken much time of the House. I want to point out that on the one side we hear that the broadcasting system is extending, and on the other side we see that it is contracting. I do not know the reason for this. Every time when questions are put about this they say it is due to economy drive. I feel that this economy drive, in respect of this very great national utility service, will in the long run not be good for this country at all. I hope the Finance Minister also will consider this question and give a little more money for Broadcasting till it becomes self-sufficient.

There was a question about joining of different stations together, and it has come to my notice particularly in regard to the Trivandrum and Calicut stations. Only recently these two stations were opened as two separate stations and now I understand that they are going to be amalgamated together and become more or less one station as far as broadcasting is concerned. I have seen in the newspapers and I have also read the speeches by people in both those areas, and I know that there is a great deal of dissatisfaction among the public there—I mean responsible people of Calicut. They feel that this is not the thing they had hoped for. Instead of expanding the Calicut station they are now going to make it even smaller, which I think is a very great pity. I think the Ministry itself must have received many reports about this matter and about the agitation that is taking place in Calicut today over this matter. If it is necessary to join these two stations together I feel that it was wrong of the Ministry to have opened two stations. They could have explained then and there that on account of reasons of economy they were not able to have two stations and that it was enough to have one station which would give very good reception in both places, all over Kerala and other places also, and then opened only one such station. Now you have opened two individual stations, and after ten months or so you are saying that you are going to have only one station. These are small things which make people dissatisfied.

I wish the hon. Minister will consider all these things, and when they proceed about expanding they will really explain, or if they cannot expand they will keep quiet about it and not say they are going to expand.

گھائی جی - ایس - مسافر : سبھا

پڑھی جی ! خیر بحث مضمون پر مجھے اپنی سب باتیں کہنے کا ٹائم (time) تو نہیں ہے - میں آپ کی وساطت سے صرف دو باتیں اپنے مانگنے ملتی جی سے کہوں گا - ایک بات وہ ہے جس کا سہولت ایڈمنسٹریشن (Adminis tration) سے ہے اور دوسری بات زبان یعنی لہنگو پروج سے سہولت ہے - میں اس بات میں خوشی محسوس کرتا ہوں کہ مانگنے ملتی نے اپنے محکمہ کی ترقی کے لئے کافی کوشش کی ہے اور ریڈیو اسٹیشن بھی بڑھائے ہیں اور بڑی مصلحت سے کام کیا ہے - وہ اس کے بیوکھ بھی ہیں - بہت اچھے ودوان ہیں - لٹریچر (literature) سے ان کی دلچسپی ہے اس لئے یہی وہ اس معاملہ میں زیادہ جوش کے ساتھ کام کرتے ہیں - اس بات کی ہمیں بڑی خوشی ہے - اعداد و شمار سے بھی معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ ریڈیو اسٹیشن (radio stations) جو سلکھیا ہے وہ پارٹیشن (partition) کے بعد بڑھائی گئی ہے - یونائیٹڈ (united) ہندوستان میں نو ریڈیو اسٹیشن تھے - جن میں سے تین پاکستان میں رہ گئے - چھ ادھر تھے مہرا خیال ہے کہ چار کے قریب ریڈیو اسٹیشن رہائوں کے بھی ہندوستان کو ملے ہیں - دو جھنڈ آباد

میں تھے ایک بڑی مہر اور ایک ٹرانسمیٹر میں ٹرانسمیٹر میں تھا - ان کے علاوہ 11 کی تعداد بڑھائی گئی ہے - جو پارٹیشن کے بعد یعنی پچھلے سالوں میں مختلف جگہوں پر قائم کئے گئے ہیں یہ ایک بہت بڑی مہر پورن بات ہے - اور تعریف کی بات ہے - مگر اس میں ایک بات ضرور میں گوشگزار کرنا چاہتا ہوں - کہ محض ریڈیو اسٹیشن کھولنے سے ہی کام نہیں چل سکتا - جو تعداد بڑھائی گئی ہے 11 اسٹیشنوں کی اس میں سے صرف ایک ریڈیو اسٹیشن ہے جو پانچ کھلووات (kilowatts) کا ہے باقی سب ایک ایک کھلووات کے اسٹیشن ہیں - ایک کھلووات کے اسٹیشن کے متعلق مجھے اپنے پنجاب کا تجربہ ہے کہ وہ کوئی بہت فائدہ مند ثابت نہیں ہو سکتا - یعنی ایک کھلووات کا اسٹیشن بیس - پچھس یا زیادہ سے زیادہ تیس مہل تک اپنی آواز پہنچا سکتا ہے - اور اس سارے سرکل (circle) میں کچھ تھوڑا سا اہر یا ہے جسے کور (cover) کر سکتا ہے - جالندھر اس وقت پنجاب میں ایک بڑی اہم جگہ ہے - پنجاب ایک بارٹر پراونس (border province) ہونے کی وجہ سے پھر کشمیر تک کی تمام حالات کو دیکھتے ہوئے اگر اس کو دیکھا جائے تو جالندھر ریڈیو اسٹیشن کو مضبوط کرنا بڑا ضروری ہے - میں صرف جالندھر یا پنجاب کے متعلق

[گیانی جی - ایس - مسافر]  
 ہی نہیں کہتا بلکہ جنرل بات کہتا  
 ہوں - کہ ایک گیالووات ریڈیو کے  
 اسٹیشن پر تقریباً ساڑھے چار لاکھ روپیہ  
 سالانہ خرچ ہوتا ہے - اگر وہی پانچ  
 گیالووات یا زیادہ گیالووات کا ٹرانسمیٹر  
 (transmitter) لگایا جائے تو سالانہ  
 خرچ میں بہت فرق نہیں پڑتا گا -  
 ٹرانسمیٹر کی قیمت کے علاوہ جو روٹین  
 (routine) خرچ ہے اس میں صرف  
 ایک لاکھ زیادہ خرچ آتا ہے - تو اگر  
 انکی پاور (power) بڑھا دی جائے تو  
 وہ خرچ اس خرچ کے مقابلہ میں زیادہ  
 یوزفل (useful) ثابت ہو سکتا ہے -  
 چالندہ کو زیادہ پاورفل کرنے کے لئے  
 امرتسر میں ایک ایڈیٹری اسٹیشن  
 (auxiliary station) بنایا گیا ہے -  
 یہ اچھی بات ہے لیکن اس پر جتنا  
 خرچ کیا گیا ہے اس کی بجائے چالندہ  
 کا اسٹیشن زیادہ پاورفل (powerful)  
 کو دیا جائے تو وہ زیادہ یوزفل ہو سکتا  
 ہے - اس لئے خرچ کے نقطہ خیال سے  
 کئی زیادہ خرچ نہیں ہلنا - خاص  
 طور پر جو بارڈر کے پراونس میں ان  
 کی پور بڑھا دینا ضروری ہے - مجھے  
 اس بات کی خوشی ہے کہ آج منسٹری  
 کے پاس یا سرکار کے پاس دس گیالووات  
 کے دو ٹرانسمیٹر تھے - ان میں سے ایک  
 تو شلانگ میں لگایا گیا ہے - یہ اچھی  
 بات ہے کہیں کہ وہ سرحد کا پراونس  
 ہے - وہاں اس کی ضرورت تھی - مگر  
 دوسرا دس گیالووات کا جو ٹرانسمیٹر

ہ وہ ناگپور میں لگانے کا خیال کیا  
 جا رہا ہے مجھے یہ سمجھ میں  
 نہیں آتا کہ ایسا کیوں کیا جا رہا  
 ہے - میں کوئی اس وجہ سے نہیں  
 کہتا کہ مجھے جیلوسی (jealousy) ہے  
 نہ ہی میرا یہ خیال ہے کہ ناگپور  
 اسٹیشن کو پاورفل نہ بنایا جائے میں  
 تو ایک سیدھی سادی سی بات کوتا  
 ہوں کہ پرائیٹی (priority) پہلے ان  
 جگہوں کو مامی چاہئے جن کو اس  
 کی زیادہ ضرورت ہو - جو سرحد کی  
 پراونس میں میرا مطلب ان سے ہے -  
 ناگپور سے پہلے جلددر کو ضرورت تھی  
 جیسا پہلے خیال بھی کیا گیا تھا -  
 پچھلے دنوں جب آریبل منسٹر  
 صاحب جلددر میں تھے تو وہاں  
 اتفاق سے میں بھی موجود تھا - ان  
 کو پتہ ہے کہ وہاں کتنی سخت ضرورت  
 ہے کہ سارے پنجاب پراونس کو کشمیر  
 تک کور کرنے کے لئے ایک پاورفل  
 اسٹیشن ہو -

پنجاب کے متعلق ایک بڑی  
 تکلیف یہ ہے کہ وہاں جب تک ان کا  
 ایڈا اسٹیشن پاورفل نہ ہو وہ اپنی زبان  
 میں خبروں کو اپنے لوگوں تک نہیں  
 پہنچا سکتے - لوگوں کو ان کی اپنی  
 اس زبان میں خبریں نہیں پہنچا  
 سکتے جس زبان کی ان لوگوں کو پورے  
 طور پر سمجھ ہو - پنجاب ایک ایسا  
 پراونس ہے جس کے متعلق یہ تو کہا  
 جاتا ہے کہ وہ ہندی اسپیکنگ

(Hindi speaking province)

پروانسی نہیں ہے مگر اس کے کچھ حصوں میں جو زبان بولی جاتی ہے وہ خالص پنجابی ہی نہیں ہے۔ وہ حصہ ہے ہریانہ پرانت - یعنی گورگاولوں روہتک وغیرہ اصلاح جہاں ہندی نا بولی بولی جاتی ہے۔ سارے پنجاب اور کشمیر تک ادھر ادھر کے جو علاقے ہیں ان کو کور (cover) کرنے کے لئے اور ان لوگوں تک ان کے سمجھ آنے والی بولی میں خبریں پہنچانے کے لئے یہ ہوا ضروری ہے کہ جلدھر کا جو اسٹیشن ہے اس کو اتنا پاورفل بلایا جائے تاکہ وہاں سے ایسی زبان میں براڈکاسٹ ہو جو کہیں تو خالص پنجابی ہو اور دوسری کچھ ایسی ہندی ہو جو آسان ہندی ہو جسے عام لوگ سمجھ سکیں میں نے شائد پہلے بھی کسی موقع پر کہا تھا کہ ایک بڑے فرجی افسر نے جو مدراسی تھا مجھے کہا کہ ہمارے جوان بجائے آل انڈیا ریڈیو نے پاکستان کے ریڈیو کو سلفاً زیادہ اچھا سمجھتے ہیں کیوں کہ اپنے ریڈیو کی زبان ان کی سمجھ میں نہیں آتی۔ اسکے علاوہ پاکستان سے جو مذاقہ براڈکاسٹ ہوتے ہیں اس میں وہ ہمارے ساتھ مذاق کرتے ہیں۔ وہ کہتے ہیں کہ یہ پاکستان کا ریڈیو اسٹیشن ہے۔ یہاں جو زبان بولی جاتی ہے وہ سب سمجھ سکیں گے۔ یہ ریڈیو ہندوستان کا نہیں ہے جس کی زبان کو صرف بولنے والا ہی سمجھ سکتا ہے۔ ایک بات

میں ماننا ہوں، یہ تھک ہے کہ پہلے تو بہت سخت ہندی بولی جاتی تھی اب کچھ آسان ہے لیکن پھر بھی دہای ریڈیو سے یا دوسرے ریڈیو سٹیشنوں سے جو ہندی بولی جاتی ہے وہ عام پنجابی لوگوں کو تو چھوڑتے پنجاب میں ہریانہ پرانت کی طرف کے جو لوگ ہیں وہ بھی ایسی سخت ہندی کو نہیں سمجھ سکتے حالانکہ وہ ہندی جانتے ہیں۔ اس لئے جیسا ابھی میں نے کہا کہ زیادہ باتیں کہلے کیلئے وقت مہرے پاس نہیں ہے۔ مگر یہ بات ضرور میں بڑے زور کے ساتھ مانگتا ہوں کہ جی کی خدمت میں عرض کروں گا کہ وہ جو جلدھر کا اسٹیشن ہے اس کو ضرور پاورفل بنائیں۔ اس وقت ان کے پاس پچاس کھلووات کے تین ٹرانسمیٹر ہیں ایسا صوبہ پتہ چلا تھا۔ وہ عرصہ تک یہاں ڈھائی سال سے ان کے پاس پڑے ہیں اور بغیر کہیں لگائے پڑے ہوئے ہیں۔ اس سے ان کا نقصان بھی ہوا ہے کیوں کہ زیادہ دیر بیکار رکھنے سے ریڈیو ٹرانسمیٹر کا والو خراب ہو جاتا ہے۔ اسکی بھی معیاد ہوتی ہے۔ ہو سکتا ہے وہ کچھ بیکار بھی ہو گئے ہوں پچاس کھلووات کے ۴ ٹرانسمیٹر تو ان میں سے ایک کلکتہ میں لگا دیا گیا ہے۔ اس لئے میں مانگتا ہوں کہ جی کی سہرا میں عرض کروں گا کہ بجائے اس کے کہ وہ بیکار پڑے ہوں جتنی جلدی ہو سکے پچاس



[گہانی جی - ایس - مسنفر]

کیلووات کا ایک ٹرانسمیٹر چلندھر میں لگا دیا جائے تاکہ وہ سارا صوبہ پنجاب اور کشمیر یہاں تک کہ پاکستان تک کی حدود نو دور کر سکے - جس میں پاکستان کے لوگوں کے اندر بھی یہ اتبیکشن (attraction) ہو کہ وہ ہمارے ریڈیو کو سلیں - بجائے اس کے کہ ہمارے جوان پاکستان کا ریڈیو سلیں وہ پاکستانی ہلدوستان کا ریڈیو سلیں -

ایک بات میں صرف دو مدت میں عرض کرنا چاہتا ہوں وہ ہے ہندی ایڈوائزی کمیٹی (Advisory committee) کے متعلق - ہندی کی اُنتی کے لئے ایک ایڈوائزی کمیٹی بنائی گئی ہے جس کے چہرہ من مانڈیہ مدتری خود ہیں - مجھے یہ دیکھ کر بڑی خوشی ہے کہ اس کمیٹی میں صرف ہندی اسپیکنگ پراونسز کے لوگ ہی نہیں رکھے گئے بلکہ نان ہندی اسپیکنگ پراونسز کے لوگ بھی رکھے گئے ہیں - ان کے رکھنے کا مطلب صرف یہ ہو سکتا ہے ہندی ایک راشٹر بھاشا ہے اس زبان کو ایک عالمگیر زبان بنایا جائے جس میں ۶۰ نان ہندی اسپیکنگ پراونسز والے لوگ ہیں ہندی کے متعلق اپنا دستیکون پیش کریں تاکہ راشٹر بھاشا آسانی اور سمجھ آنے والی بن سکے - تو میں مانڈیہ مدتری جی کی سہوا

میں عرض کروں گا کہ پنجاب بھی ہندی اسپیکنگ پراونس نہیں ہے اور یہ بھی تھیک ہے کہ پنجاب کے ایک حصہ میں ہندی کی طرح کی زبان بولی جاتی ہے جو اپنے قسم کی ایک ہی زبان ہے ہندی کے متعلق پنجاب کا دستیکون بالکل علیحدہ ہے - اس لئے اس ایڈوائزی کمیٹی میں پنجاب کا آدمی بھی لینا چاہئے - یہ میں کسی صوبائی تنظیم کی وجہ سے نہیں کہتا - مگر میں ایک صحیح بات کہتا ہوں اور وہ یہی اس لئے کہتا ہوں کہ یہ ہندی ہی کے فائدہ کے لئے ہے کہ اس ایڈوائزی کمیٹی میں راشٹر بھاشا کے متعلق پنجاب کا دستیکون بھی پیش ہونا چاہئے - پنجاب میں کس قسم کی ہندی پرچلت ہو سکتی ہے یہ جاننے کے لئے اس کا بھی نمائندہ اس کمیٹی میں داخل ہونا ضروری ہے -

میں اس بات کے ساتھ اپنی ویلٹی ختم کرتا ہوں - اور مانڈیہ مدتری جی کی سہوا میں دوبارہ یہ عرض کرتا ہوں کہ ہندی کی جو ایڈوائزی کمیٹی ہے اس میں پنجابی کا دستیکون بھی پیش کرنے کے لئے پنجاب کا پرتی تدھی ضرور شامل کرنا چاہئے - ان الفاظ نے مانڈیہ میں اپنی ویلٹی کو دھراتا ہوا اور امید کرتا ہوں کہ مانڈیہ مدتری ضرور ہماری ان تجویزوں کے اوپر ہور کرنے کی کوشش کریں گے -

(English translation of the above speech).

Giani G. S. Musafir (Punjab): Sir, the time given to me is not sufficient to state all that I may have wished to say on the subject under discussion. I would, therefore, submit one or two things only to the hon. Minister through you. One of them concerns the administration in general while the other is on the subject of languages. I feel a pleasure to note that hon. Minister has made strenuous efforts to effect an overall improvement in his Ministry and that he has increased the number of radio stations. Personally he is a capable and learned man and has had to do much with literature for which reason too he is enthusiastic in this particular work. We are simply pleased with this achievement of his. Facts and figures also prove that the increase in the number of radio stations has been made only in the post partition period. There were nine such stations in all in the whole of the united India, three out of which have now been left in Pakistan while six of them are still on this side of the country; and so far my information goes, four out of the total number happened to be located in areas known formerly as the Indian States. Two of these four were in Hyderabad, one in Baroda while the remaining one was at Trivindrum in Travancore. To this number now as many as eleven more stations have been added. These eleven stations have been located at different places in the post-partition period. It is a very significant matter and deserves to be commended. I, however, must add that the mere opening of new stations will not do. Out of these eleven stations there is only one with a transmitting capacity of five kilowatts. The rest are all one kilowatt stations. Regarding one such station functioning in the Punjab. I have the personal knowledge that a station of that type does not prove much useful. I mean to say that a station with the one kilowatt transmitting capacity is futile for broadcasting purposes in as much as it cannot transmit beyond a radius of twenty or thirty miles and that it can function in only a limited area. Take for instance the case of the Jullundur Station. Looked from the viewpoints of the Punjab's position as a border state and the general situation in Kashmir, Jullundur is a very important centre in the Punjab. But I do not say so in the case of the Punjab alone. I say it in general. A one kilowatt transmitting station requires an expenditure of four and a half lacs of

rupees. But it will entail not very appreciable increase in that expenditure, should a five or six kilowatt transmitting station be set up instead thereof. Apart from the difference in price of the transmitters, the increase in the routine expenditure will also be not more than a lac of rupees. Should, therefore, the power of the transmitting stations be increased, the expenditure so incurred will prove more useful in comparison to the expenditure that is being incurred at present. An auxiliary transmitting station has been set up at Amritsar to strengthen the Jullundur station. But had the expenditure incurred on that auxiliary station been utilized in increasing the transmitting capacity of the Jullundur station, it would have served a more useful purpose. From expenditure viewpoint, therefore, it does not result in any substantial increase in the expenditure. In particular it is very necessary that the power of the transmitting stations located in the border states is increased. It is a matter of satisfaction to me to note that one of the two ten kilowatt transmitters available with the Government is going to be installed at Shillong. It is a good thing, because the state concerned is a border one and their need is justified. The other transmitter is, however, proposed to be installed at Nagpur. I am unable to see why it is so decided. I do not say it out of any jealousy nor it is my contention that Nagpur should not have a powerful station. I wish only to state a simple and straight proposition. Priority in these things should have been given to places where the need is genuine. I am thereby referring to the border states. As was settled before, Jullundur should have been given priority over Nagpur. Some time back when the hon. Minister had visited Jullundur, I also happened to be there. He is aware of the urgent need of a more powerful station there which may cover the whole area covering the entire Punjab and Kashmir.

A major difficulty experienced in the case of the Punjab is that till they have their own powerful station, they are unable to broadcast to their people news and other programmes in their own language which they understand fully. About the Punjab it may be said that it is not a Hindi speaking province but the language actually spoken there is not pure Punjabi even. In the part called Haryana Prant, comprising of Gurgaon and Rohtak, the spoken language is very much akin to Hindi. In order, therefore, to cover the needs of all areas extending upto Kashmir and

[Giani G. S. Musafir]

its surroundings, it is necessary that the Jullundur Station be made so powerful as to have arrangements for broadcasting programmes written in Punjabi and simple Hindi which may be understandable to the people at large in those areas. Probably on some previous occasion I had quoted a high Madrasi officer remarking that our soldiers like to listen to programmes broadcast from Pakistan more than those broadcast from the A.I.R. stations. It was so because they do not understand the language of the A.I.R. The humorous items broadcast from Pakistan Radio also contain references to our language. In the course of these broadcasts they say that it is Radio Pakistan whose language is understood by all, it is not A.I.R. whose language is understood only by the speaker himself. It is correct to a large extent. A little bit of improvement is required to be effected in this respect. In the beginning a very difficult type of Hindi used to be broadcast. It is comparatively simpler now. Still broadcasts from the Delhi Station and some other stations of the A.I.R. continue to be couched in such difficult Hindi words that leave aside the Punjabis in general, even the Haryana Prant people, who profess to know the language, are unable to understand it. I am not left with much time, but I must emphasise upon the hon. Minister to make the Jullundur station more powerful. At the time they are reported to possess four fifty kilowatt transmitters which, I some time back came to know, have been in their possession for the last two and a half years and have not been installed anywhere. They have suffered some loss also on this account because the valve of a radio transmitter becomes out of order and cannot function if not put to use for long. It is just possible they may have already gone out of order. One of these has, no doubt, already been installed in Calcutta. I will, therefore, request the hon. Minister to install one fifty kilowatts transmitter in Jullundur rather than to allow them to become useless, and thus cover the entire area upto the Punjab and Kashmir and even Pakistan. It should be so done as to provide an attraction even to the Pakistanis and make it possible for them to understand our language. Our army men should be induced to listen to our own radio programmes instead of the Pak Radio items.

I will take a further couple of minutes on the subject of the Hindi Advisory Committee. An Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of the

hon. Minister himself has been set up for the propagation of Hindi. It gives me pleasure to note that the personnel of the Committee is not restricted to the Hindi speaking areas alone and that it includes persons from the non-Hindi speaking areas as well. It can show only one thing— it is that Hindi is really our National Language. The language should be made a universal one and to that end the co-operation of the people from non-Hindi speaking areas should be sought by giving them representation on the Committee to represent their viewpoint, so that Hindi may easily be evolved into such a type of national language which is at once easy and understandable to all. As such I will like to point out to the hon. Minister that the Punjab too is a non-Hindi speaking state. It is equally correct to say that in one part of that State a language is spoken which is very much akin to Hindi in form. The Punjab holds a quite different outlook on the issue of Hindi and, as such, a representative from the Punjab should also be taken on this Committee. I do not suggest it out of any narrow provincial considerations. But I am stating a fact and that too because I consider it to be in the interests of Hindi itself if Punjab's viewpoint with regard to the national language is also obtained. It is necessary to take a representative from the Punjab in order to know as to what type of Hindi can be popular with the people in the Punjab.

I close after re-emphasizing the inclusion of a representative of the Punjab in the Advisory Committee on Hindi so that the Punjab's viewpoint may also be before them. I hope the hon. Minister will accept this suggestion.

Shri S. N. Sinha (Bihar): My friend, Mr. Deogirikar in the course of his speech has expressed disappointment with the activities of the Information Section of this Ministry. I entirely share his feeling. I feel, and the hon. Members of this House are also aware that there is a growing volume of misinformed criticism of the Government. The reasons are quite clear. Full information of the policy of the Government, the reasons for adopting such a policy, the activities of the Government and their achievements are not sufficiently publicised. Government has to keep the people informed of their activities so that they may not be misled by misinformed criticism. This particular responsibility is that of the Press Information Bureau. The Press Information Bureau is responsible for the publicity

through the Press. It issues press releases periodically. From the reports submitted to us by this Ministry, we find that during the year under review about 8,000 such releases were issued by this Bureau. I am curious to know, and I would like the hon. Minister to inform us as to what percentage of the material supplied through these press releases have actually found publication in the newspapers.

We are aware that on account of shortage of newsprint, there is very little space available in the newspapers. In order to take the fullest advantage of the available space, the Bureau has to see that the Statements and other matters which have to be published are published in a condensed form, instead of wordy statements, as is the case at present. We find that these releases contain statements of hon. Ministers or Government communique. In view of the difficulty about newsprint and space in papers, I suggest that the Bureau should concentrate on publishing the statements containing policy announcements or other important announcements in the releases instead of statements made by hon. Ministers at formal meetings or at informal functions. Unfortunately, we find that routine methods are even now followed in these days of developed methods of publicity. These should have been given a go-by long ago. Then, again we find that out of the 8,000 press releases, only 120 special feature articles have been published. This shows that no special attention has been paid to this side of propaganda or publicity. I beg to submit to the hon. Minister that more and more attention should be paid to this aspect so as to publicise our special achievements through special feature articles or illustrated articles which would make our publicity work more effective.

Secondly, as has been already pointed out, due to shortage of newsprint, we find it difficult to get enough space in the Newspapers for the insertion of our press statements. Therefore, it is necessary that the Bureau should introduce a weekly feature in which the important activities of the week may be spot-lighted. These weekly releases may find space in the Sunday editions of the newspapers which have got comparatively more space.

It may be remembered that Government have lauched upon a number of development projects and schemes. They have taken up many river valley projects. There is a lot of criticism that the Government

have been extravagant in this regard and that sufficient progress has not been made. I would request the hon. Minister to take note of this fact. I would suggest that the press bulletins should concern themselves in publicising the actual achievements and not what the Government aspires to achieve. So far, we have only been giving out what we intend to achieve and what our aspirations are, but not what our actual achievements are. I think we can profitably send our Information Officers to the areas where these projects are going on. They can see things for themselves, take advantage of that and issue special feature articles, which may also be illustrated.

I would request the hon. Minister to pay more and more attention to the language newspapers. It is well known that in the smaller towns and in the rural areas, only language newspapers are read and our press releases should find place in these papers rather than in the English papers.

Now, I come to the Publication Division. Mrs. Kamala Chaudhuri said that these publications, like *Ajkal March of Time*, should continue. Personally, I feel that we are having a spate of such journals and magazines issued on a commercial basis by private enterprise. It is no use entering into competition with the private entrepreneurs. It would be much better to confine our activities to special types of articles spot-lighting our own achievements instead of entering into competition with persons who are bringing out such magazines on professional basis. Moreover our publications should be so priced as to be within the means of a common man's purse.

I would now like to take the point taken by Mrs. Swaminadhan. She said that we must have more radio sets and that if we have more radio sets, this department is likely to become self-sufficient on account of more revenue that we would get from the licence fees. My hon. friend Mr. Deogirikar has also dealt with this subject and he has drawn the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that we have got only 3421 community sets in the rural areas which serve about ten lakhs of people. I would impress upon the hon. Minister to see that these community sets are produced at a cheaper cost so that the State Governments may purchase them and distribute them in larger number in larger area so that more people could be served.

[Shri S. N. Sinha]

Then, I come to the point which my hon. friend Mr. Amolakh Chand raised, that this is a very important department. It appears to me that this department has not been given the importance and the attention that it deserves. Actually speaking, the Information Ministry has to be posted with the activities of the different Ministries so that they may be able to call out all the important things and issue press releases or get them published in the newspapers. I would urge upon the Government to give this Ministry the necessary status.

Before I conclude, I would like to make one more suggestion to the hon. Minister. This department is a special type of department. It should not be run on a purely administrative basis. On the other hand, I would suggest to the Minister to constitute himself along with his Ministry as a sort of a body of advisers to be able to guide a body of experts who are actually working in the various branches in the Ministry. It would be much better to associate a panel of top-ranking journalists to give advice to the Ministry as to how this department could be well and efficiently run.

**Shri Kesava Rao (Madras):** I want to make a few observations on the working of this department. The Information Ministry is supposed to be the most important Ministry because the publicity of the entire administration and the working of the Government depends upon the work of this department. But, I am sorry to see that in the Demands, the amount allotted to this Ministry is only 2½ crores. If we want this Ministry to work properly, this amount is too small. I do not know whether external publicity comes under this Ministry or not. Today, our external publicity is not properly organised. Even in 1948, the hon. Prime Minister, in answer to a question, said that external publicity is in the initial stage and the Government are taking every step to strengthen and organise this. Even today, this publicity section is in the same position in which it was in 1947.

5 P.M.

I want to say only a few words and they concern the broadcasting section of the Vijayawada station. I have got documents in my possession and probably the hon. Minister also has got copies of these documents, which show how this station is working to day. The House is aware how this Vijayawada station was established. It was a long desire of the Andhras to have

that station and with great difficulty we were able to get a station in that place. But now I am sorry to say that the station is in charge of a man who does not know Telugu, does not know the culture of the Andhras also. Recently there was a conference of the *Andhra Gana Kala Parishad* and those responsible for this conference wanted some co-operation from the All India Radio Director. But I am sorry to say that that Director never cared to give an interview or to speak to them or discuss about the programmes.

Another document that I came across shows that the Telugu programmes in this station come after 9-30 in the night. From 9-30 p.m. to 10 p.m. or 10-15 p.m. is the Telugu programme at this Station. This station, we know, is intended to develop Telugu culture and Telugu or Carnatic music. But I am sorry to say practically Carnatic music is being neglected. To-day the artistes who take part in this station are drawn from non-Andhras. For the past several months I have been observing the programmes of this station and I could not find even a single Andhra artiste singing from this station or taking part in any Telugu programme. It is at night at about ten o'clock when people go to bed that the Telugu programme is given.

Another thing about the *Andhra Gana Kala Parishad*. The persons connected with it wanted some Telugu programmes and the Director in a press interview is reported to have said that are very few Andhra artistes. To-day, if we are to speak of the Andhra language or the Telugu language and Telugu or Carnatic music, we can say that there are many great musicians in this language, like Sangitaratnakara Dwaram Venkataswami Naidu and others. Actually Carnatic music is supposed to have had its origin in Telugu. That being the position, when the members of the *Gana Kala Parishad* went to the Director they were kept two furlongs away from the office of the Director and the peon was asked to close the gate. After standing there for an hour the people wanted an interview with the Station Director and at that time an officer came to reply to the members of the *Gana Kala Parishad*. He asked them, "What is this *Parishad*? What is there is going to be a conference? How does it matter to us if it is a provincial organisation? Is this radio station intended for you alone? You cannot see the director. He cannot be at the back and call of every Tom, Dick and Harry. If you are gentlemen, you would not have

been called here without fixing up an appointment. The Director cannot see you and he will not see you. I refuse to tell you whether the Director is in the office or not." These were the words used by an officer of the station and this is the fate of the Telugu or Carnataka music in the Vijayawada station. I think a representation has been made to the hon. Minister in charge of Broadcasting with a request to look into the whole matter. I hope steps will be taken to see that the Andhra culture and Carnatic music for which this station was started are really developed in this station.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair].

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):**

In the first place, I thank the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate and who after surveying the activities of this Ministry have offered some valuable suggestions along with some criticism, part of it justifiable and part of it completely unjustifiable. To take the last speaker first, I would like to say that it is not possible for me to accept the sweeping allegations and criticisms offered by the hon. Member. I know something of the quarrel that started in Vijayawada in connection with the *Gana Parishad* at Rajmahendry. I have the papers with me and I am investigating the matter. But as regards the negligence of Carnatic music or Telugu talent, I do not think that Vijayawada Station is catering to any other talent and any other music than Carnatic music and Telugu talent. The station is predominantly meant for it and it is doing its job. As regards the station director, it is an administrative post and we do not restrict those posts to people coming either from that region or knowing that particular language. They are liable to be transferred from station to station. It is an all-India service and we cannot restrict it to persons knowing one particular language. It is the same case in many other stations. For instance at Dharwar it is a Marathi man who is manning that station. But if the programme assistants or the programme executives who are responsible for the programmes are people who do not know the language or do not know the culture of the place, I think that would be a justifiable criticism.

Now, as regards the *Gana Parishad* itself, recordings were taken and it was covered, but unfortunately the programme that had been conceived by the organisers could not come off and could not rise to the height and

standard which it was intended to do. But that might be an unfortunate circumstance.

Naturally enough, hon. Members have stressed that the Information and Broadcasting Ministry should work more actively and expand its activities much more in all its different branches. I am one of those who feel that this should be so. But we have at the same time to cut the coat according to the cloth available. We must stretch our legs to the extent of our bed. These are very homely proverbs which every one of us knows, and therefore this Department or this Ministry must also share and take the responsibility of seeing that much is done, little is spent and great achievements are before the country. There is a small story of a demand for a good cow which should not eat much, never kick, never complain, but at the same time give not only enough milk, but also good milk to boot. So, that is what is demanded of this Ministry. But I promise you that whatever can be done under the circumstances, is being done and will be done, and thanks to the officers and the people who are manning the Ministry, they have risen to the occasion and in spite of very severe cuts, I think, we shall be able to give a very good account of ourselves, at the end of the year just as we have done during the last year. I thank the hon. Members who have paid us compliments.

I would like to take up the different activities which this Ministry is charged with. Most of the Members naturally confined their remarks more to the All India Radio. The A.I.R. is really the biggest activity that is taken up by this Ministry. I should like to say that it is not restricted or confined to publicity alone but it also gives information, education and it is also responsible for the development of culture, because it has to bring to the mike and broadcast the best talent in drama, poetry and music, both vocal and instrumental. The criticisms that were levelled at this particular activity of the Ministry were not quite correct or to the point.

One of the criticisms was that the stations have been multiplied, their number has gone up but there are not yet enough stations and also the stations that are there are not working up to the standard. There is no gainsaying the fact that India requires many more stations and it requires broadcasting in many more languages. We are just now in the home services

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catering only to 14 Indian languages plus English and also to some of the dialects which belong to some of these languages. If we dip into the general plan of development, we will see that the A.I.R. intends to cater to 76 languages which are spoken by more than two lakh people each. That is the target. We do not know when we shall be able to reach it. All the same, attempts are being made to reach the whole of India, to cater to every region and to see that broadcasts are given in as many languages as possible.

As regards the standard of the programmes, I should say that it is a plant of slow growth. It is not very easy to bring talent of a particular type to the mike for the remuneration that we offer today. For instance, some of the best talents keep away from the A.I.R. because they are not paid enough. It is not possible for the A.I.R. to go out of its way and pay as much as is demanded. Therefore we have often times to cajole, try to persuade the best talent saying that it is not for remuneration or money that the A.I.R. is inviting an artist but in order that the public may take advantage of the A.I.R. And I must say that some of the artists do respond to this kind of appeal to them.

As regards programmes I should like to say that there are Programme Advisory Committees attached to every A.I.R. stations and representatives of culture, education, women as well as people who know the rural side, and all such people are included in these Advisory Committees. I think progressively we have been able to improve the standards of our programmes. Merely the number of sets is not the test for saying whether the programmes have improved or not. We have unfortunately started very late in radio broadcasting. We cannot compare ourselves either with England or America. The countryside in our land is unelectrified and therefore it is very difficult for people to buy sets and use them. (An Hon. Member: What about battery sets?) These are the difficulties in the way but even so we are adding 10,000 sets per month. We started in August 1947 with only 2,05,263 sets. Today we have 5,44,250 sets and the increase is at the rate of 10,000 sets per month. As regards battery sets they are unfortunately a little costly and it is very difficult for people to buy them. The people's buying power has also to be taken into consideration. If all these things are considered I think we are progressing. Very recently we have set a target of one million radio sets to be reached within two years. I must say that the manufacturers as

well as the dealers and the assembling plants are co-operating with us in this matter. We shall be able to reach the target if all goes well with this plan.....

Shri Sidhva: May I inform my hon. friend that Switzerland with a population of 20 million people has one million radio sets?

Shri Diwakar: I know all that and therefore I said that there is no comparison.

There was a suggestion as regards the 50 k.w. transmitters and other equipments that are lying unused. It is true that for sometime this equipment has been lying with us and we have not been able to utilise it. I need not repeat that financial stringency has come in the way of our going ahead with the development which we planned and laid down. Very recently the Standing Advisory Committee of this Ministry decided that we should take up that question and that instead of importing any new ten k.w. transmitters we should try to instal these 50 k.w. transmitters and thus use them rather than allow them to deteriorate.

So far as Rajasthan and other areas are concerned, all those parts of India which were formerly called Indian States are going to be covered in the next plan and naturally all these areas will be taken into consideration.

As regards a stronger plant at Jullunder it was long ago decided that our frontiers, should be treated with some priority in this matter. But unfortunately, because last year the site for the capital in Punjab had not been fixed, we could not come to a decision as regards the place as to where to instal this ten k.w. transmitter. That is why during the last year we had to plan for installing one in Assam which is also a frontier province and another in Nagpur for want of a decision as regards Jullunder. In the next plan we are taking up this question and I am sure we will give priority to these frontier regions.

Now I would take up the question of the Publications Division. On the floor of this House many a time questions have been asked as to whether certain publications or the Publications Division as a whole is self-supporting or not. Is it bringing enough money or not? Really speaking, if we want publicity it is not always that publicity will pay its way. I think we should be very clear in our minds in this matter, because returns on publicity are not visible but are rather invisible. In this connection, I would read out

one or two sentences from what the *Economist* dated January 27, 1951, wrote when the publicity department of the Government of Britain was being considered. It wrote:

"Invariably when cuts are called for, the pruner's eye lights on the Government's information services. They are the butt of so much uninformed criticism that they are a prime target partly out of native distaste for publicity but largely because they show so little visible return for their cost."

I think these are remarks which are worth considering by us. As regards the A.I.R. and its being self-supporting, I have no doubt that if enough time is given it will be self-supporting. Even now, so far as the current expenses are concerned I have looked into the matter and find that our current expenses are met by the licensing fees plus the import duties on radio sets and spares plus what we get from the publications. The capital outlay no doubt is Government's and the revenues have not so far been adequate enough to finance it.

As regards the Publications Division, I may point out that there are three or four things which have to be taken into consideration before we think that it should be a paying concern. Many a time we publish things which we want to publish, not because people should buy. Another thing is the free mailing list of the Division which is a formidable one. We have to supply free copies, and if supposing we issue about 3000 copies and out of them about 400 have to be given free then I do not think it would be a commercial proposition, even if the book is a popular one. The third thing is that we price these publications as low as possible—we do not price them high as other publishers do. And even so, I should point out that the revenues from the Publications Division this year would be Rs. 4.5 lakhs whereas the revenues last year were only Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Some of the publications have sold very well, especially *India—a Pictorial Survey*, of which about ten thousand copies were sold in ten month's time, and *India in Maps* of which ten thousand copies were sold out in three months. I need not go into more details. Now, that being so, we should always look at the Publications Division and publicity work from these points of view.

As regards the journals, Hindi as well as the English ones, the *March of India* is published specially for

foreign publicity and therefore we spend much money on the kind of paper, on the type of writing and so on, and naturally we could not expect that it should be a paying proposition. All the magazines that have been started were started at a time when there was nobody else in the particular field and we have now contracted our field of activities according to circumstances, and today we have only the *Aj kal* a Hindi magazine, then *Bal Bharati*, which is mainly for children, and this *March of India* and one or two others. But let me say that *Bal Bharati* has gone up in circulation; it is about 11,500 today whereas it was only 6,000 last year. And *Aj kal* has gone up from 4,000 to 7,400. So, the figures this year are more encouraging and I think if we try a little more and allow some time, they may be self-supporting in due course. If we look at the Publications Division from this point of view, I do not think there should be any disappointment about it. Give some time to it, and it will acquit itself quite well.

As the time at my disposal is very short, I will now proceed to the Films Division. I am glad hon. Members have appreciated the retention of the Films Division. Many hon. Members have spoken very highly of its activities. Today I do not think we have any other medium by which we can approach the rural masses who live in the remotest villages. Today the documentaries that we produce and our newsreels are shown in 3,000 cinemas 800 of them being rural mobile cinemas which go from place to place. In addition, 250 publicity vans of the different States also take advantage of these films and at a modest calculation it is computed that about fifty crores see these films and newsreels every year. Therefore, I was glad that hon. Members appreciated the retention of the Films Division. Though its activities would be restricted, still I think its retention itself is something to congratulate upon.

As regards the suggestions made regarding the Film Censor Board, I know there is a very strong feeling in this House that the feature films that are produced in India today, from the production point of view, are of a very low standard. There is one view that feature films should have pure entertainment as their objective, whereas there is also the other view which was reflected in one of the resolutions which got the ballot but did not get a chance of being discussed here, which said that for the next ten years all films from outside should be banned and only educational films



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should be produced in India. Both are extremes. Now, this particular industry is such a big one in India that its production is next only to that in the United States of America. It has developed during the last few years to very great proportions. It is a very potent instrument of conveying ideas to the public, and therefore it is but natural that hon. Members should feel that things should improve, that it should be an influence for the good along with giving entertainment. Very recently film censorship has been centralised. A central Film Censor Board has come into existence and they are addressing themselves to this question, but we must remember that in other countries, say, in U.S.A. or in England, the film industry controls itself. They have their own standards and no film is allowed to go out for exhibition unless that particular standard is reached. Of course, they are following their own standards—we cannot say those standards are good for us—but unless that happens it may require a lot of time before a mere censoring authority can bring things to that high standard which we all wish to attain. Very recently the Film Enquiry Committee which was appointed about a year or more ago has submitted its report on all the aspects of the film industry in India and that report is being considered by the Government. That being so, I do not think I should go into that matter further. The Committee have certainly given much thought to the subject and have collected evidence from all over the country. Their views and opinions are incorporated in their report to Government and, as I said, we are considering it.

Then, I come to the language policy. About this, I may say that the recent Hindi Advisory Committee that has been appointed by the Ministry is looking into the matter and in their very first meeting they unanimously came to the conclusion that maximum of intelligibility should be the test of the language used in the A.I.R. The A.I.R. is not there as an Academy for laying down the law for any particular type of language or for developing any particular school of thought. Keeping before us article 351 of the Constitution for general guidance, we are developing that type of language which will be easily understood not only by the Hindi speaking people but also by the non-Hindi speaking people, because after all if the Hindi language is to become the *lingua franca* it is not only for the Hindi speaking areas but for the whole of

India. I would certainly remember what my Punjabi friend said that Punjab also has a particular point of view in looking at Hindi.

I cannot close without thanking the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference, which has been closely working with this Ministry, especially during the difficult days of Indo-Pakistan tension. All of you remember that they have established a kind of Joint Press Committee of the A.I.N.E.C. and P.N.E.C. They are not only cooperating but they are trying their best to see that this kind of tension is ameliorated or brought down to a far lower degree than that of explosion.

With these few remarks, I commend to the House the Demands that have been placed before the House.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu (Madras): May I ask the hon. Minister to give us some information about an important aspect of the A.I.R., namely, the installation of community sets. What help are they giving this year for installing more sets and for reducing the cost of maintenance of existing ones?

Shri Diwakar: This matter is for the State Governments. The Central Government is not installing these community sets, but it is the State Governments that are doing it. We are urging them to spare more money and effort for this purpose.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of Demands Nos. 59, 60 and 107 under the control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting."

The motion was adopted.

[As directed by Mr. Deputy-Speaker the motions for demands for grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below:—Ed. of P.P.]

DEMAND NO. 59—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 74,20,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of pay-

ment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

**DEMAND No. 60—BROADCASTING**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,76,48,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Broadcasting'."

**DEMAND No. 107—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 54,82,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Broadcasting'."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Before the House adjourns, I would like to read a letter that has been written to me for being read out to the House by the hon. Mr. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai. This is what he says:

"In Parliament today I questioned the right of Prof. K. K.

65 P.S.D.

Bhattacharya to speak in the name of the All-India Postal and R.M.S. Union. Prof. Bhattacharya has just shown me a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Union. He claims to have sent me the original intimating me about the election of Prof. Bhattacharya as its President. I had not seen this letter when I was speaking in the House. I am sorry and I will be thankful if the House is informed of my mistake. I regret it very much."

**Shri Kamath:** Why could not the Minister himself make this statement?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Minister wanted to make reparations before the day was over. Both the practices are allowed: I may do it or the Minister may do it. I am glad that the Minister, as soon as it came to his notice, hastened with the statement to the House.

**Prof. Bhattacharya rose—**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No speech is permitted now.

*The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 10th April 1951.*