

Wednesday, 21st February, 1951



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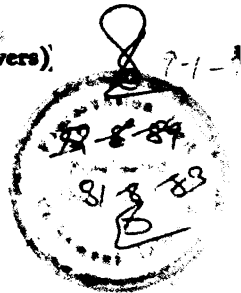
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# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME VI, 1951



(5th February to 31st March, 1951)

Third Session (Second Part)

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1951

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

1597

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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**

Wednesday, 21st February, 1951

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**HISTORY OF INDIA**

\*1599. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) how far the work of preparation of a comprehensive History of India from the ancient times to the present day has progressed; and

(b) when it is likely to be completed?

مستتر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(اے) غالباً آئریبل ممبر کا مطلب اس کتاب سے ہے جس کی تہائی کا کام انڈین ہسٹری کانگریس نے اچھے اور پر لیا ہے۔ امید کی جاتی ہے کہ اس برس کے اندر اس کے ۴ ٹکڑے پریس میں چلے جائیں گے۔ پوری ہسٹری بارہ ٹکڑوں میں بانٹی گئی ہے۔

(بی) ایڈیٹوریل بورڈ نے پورے کام کے لئے تین برس کی مدت تہدائی تھی۔ لیکن تھیک طور پر نہیں کہا جا سکتا کہ یہ کام کتنی مدت کے اندر پورا ہوگا۔

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[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): (a) Probably the hon. Member has in mind the history of India, preparation of which has been undertaken by the Indian History Congress. It is expected that four of the proposed twelve Volumes will be sent to the press during the current year.

(b) It is difficult to lay down any date for the completion of the work. The Editorial Board have, however, fixed a limit of three years.]

**Shri Hanumanthaiya:** Can the English version be read, Sir, because it is an important question and we did not follow the reply?

**Mr. Speaker:** I have resisted such requests till now. It is now more than two years that we are carrying on like this and in view of the Constitution having come into force now, it is better that such requests are not repeated.

श्री राज कंवर : क्या मैं माननीय शिक्षा मंत्री जी से यह दरयाफ्त कर सकता हूँ कि इस इतिहास के तैयार करने वाले बोर्ड आफ एडिटर्स में कौन कौन साहब हैं और वह कब से इस काम पर लगे हुए हैं ?

[Shri Raj Kanwar: May I know from the hon. Minister of Education the names of the gentlemen who are on the Editorial Board charged with the work of the preparation of this history and the date from which they have taken up this work.]

مولانا آزاد : بورڈ کے ممبروں کے نام میں ابھی نہیں بتلا سکتا۔ لیکن یہ کام انہوں نے 1947ء میں شروع کیا تھا۔

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give the names of the members of the Board at this time. But they had begun this work in 1947.]

श्री राज कंवर : क्या इन एडिटरान में से कोई होल टाइम एम्प्लॉई भी है ?

[Shri Raj Kanwar: Are any of the editors whole-time employees as well?]

मोलाना आज़ाद : मैं इस का जवाब नहीं दे सकता -

[Maulana Azad: I cannot give this information.]

श्री राज कंवर : इस इतिहास को कितनी जिल्दों में तैयार करने की तजवीज है और उस पर बिलआखिर कितना रुपया खर्च होगा ?

[Shri Raj Kanwar: In how many volumes is it proposed to compile this history, and what amount will be spent on it in the long run?]

मोलाना आज़ाद : मैं इसका जवाब नहीं दे सकता। मैंने अभी तक तैयार करने के लिए चार जिल्दों में तैयार करने का प्रस्ताव रखा है। खर्च कितना होगा, मैं नहीं जानता।

[Maulana Azad: I have just now stated that they want to publish it in twelve volumes, and out of these four are about to be sent to press. Government cannot tell the amount of expenditure that will be incurred on them. This work is concerned with the History Congress and not with the Government.]

श्री Hanumanthaiya: In what language is this history being written?

मोलाना आज़ाद : अंग्रेज़ी

[Maulana Azad: English.]

श्री सिधवा : मैं जनाब वजीर साहब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या नीदरलैंड्स गवर्नमेंट ने हिन्दुस्तान के इतिहास के बारे में कुछ डाकुमेंट्स भेजे हैं। अगर भेजे हैं तो वह कौन सी सदी के हैं। यह मेहरबानी करके बतायें ?

[Shri Sidhva: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the

Netherland's Government have sent some documents regarding the history of India. If so, then to what century do these documents belong?]

मोलाना आज़ाद : जहाँ तक मैं जानता हूँ, डाकुमेंट्स भेजे नहीं गये हैं। अगर भेजे होंगे तो वेहाँ से मैं नहीं जानता हूँ -

[Maulana Azad: So far as I understand nothing has been sent to this Government directly. This information can be had from the Indian History Congress, if any such documents have been sent to them.]

डा० राम सुभाग सिंह : क्या इस पुस्तक को हिन्दी में लिखने का कोई विचार है ?

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it proposed to publish this book in Hindi as well?]

मोलाना आज़ाद : मैंने अभी तक तैयार करने के लिए चार जिल्दों में तैयार करने का प्रस्ताव रखा है। खर्च कितना होगा, मैं नहीं जानता।

[Maulana Azad: The Congress has decided to prepare this book in English first and then afterwards it would be easy to translate it in the other languages of the country.]

#### RICKSHAWS

\*1600. Shri Raj Kanwar: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the names of cities and towns in Part C States in the country in which rickshaws pulled by human beings are being plied for hire or otherwise;

(b) whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps to put a stop to this practice; and

(c) if not, why not?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). Except in Delhi there are no hand-pulled rickshaws in any Part 'C' State. In Delhi State, such rickshaws are plied only in Old Delhi where their number was 300 in April, 1947. The Delhi Municipal Committee are taking steps to eliminate the entire number of hand-pulled rickshaws by the end of 1951-52, by gradually reducing their number, and have issued 105 licenses only during the current year.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** Is this practice in vogue in any hill station in any Part A or Part B State and if so what steps have Government taken to put down this evil practice which detracts from the dignity of human endeavour?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** As far as I know, rickshaws are plied in Simla, that is, in the Punjab. I do not know whether they are plied in any of the other hill stations. But I have got information as to where they are plied and what steps Government have taken to eliminate this practice and if the hon. Member likes I could furnish him full information.

**Shri Hanumanthaya:** Are arrangements being made to give employment to these people when this practice is abolished?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** It is difficult for Government always to guarantee employment, but speaking for Simla I may say that it is difficult today to get men to pull rickshaws. Rickshaws have themselves gone down greatly in number.

**Shri Kamath:** Is it a fact that so far as Delhi is concerned, several refugees who could not otherwise be rehabilitated by Government have taken to rickshaw pulling?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I could not say how many, but when they applied they were given preference in the matter of grant of licences.

#### TITLES

\*1601. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to place on the Table of the House, copies of the orders passed and the circulars issued to the various State Governments regarding the non-recognition of titles and other distinctions conferred by the former Government upon various people comprising both officials and non-officials in the country?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** I lay on the Table of the House a copy of the instructions issued on the subject. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 23.]

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** Is it a fact that the orders passed by Government regarding non-recognition of titles granted by the former Government do not apply to Rulers of former Indian States and if so, why has this distinction been maintained?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** It is true that an exception was made in favour of these Rulers as to the use in official documents of their titles because it had been agreed that a limited number

of titles belonging to the Order of the Star of India earned by them should be continued. Apart from this, they were as a class proud of the titles which they had obtained in the past and it was thought that nothing would be lost by recognising this sentiment of theirs. It is always good to deal softly in these matters.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** Is it a fact that the recipients of many of these titles granted by the former Government, particularly to officials, got them for outstanding services rendered in the administrative, municipal and social spheres and for other public activities?

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not think we can go into these details.

**Shri Raj Kanwar:** Is it a fact that the British Government as successors to the Moghul Government recognised the titles granted not only by the Moghul Emperors but also the titles granted by the Hindu and Muslim Rulers of the Indian States?

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

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** Yes.

**Shri Kamath:** What are the academic distinctions that Government propose to recognise or bestow, as distinct from titles?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** The distinction between academic distinctions and titles is recognised but there are certain academic distinctions like Mahamahopadhyaya, Shams-ul-ulema, Fazil-ul-ulema and Shafa-ul-ulema which had no political significance and which it was thought might be retained. But these were mostly 'titles' within the meaning of Article 18 and not just academic distinctions. Therefore, they were stopped. But other academic distinctions are maintained.

**Shri Kamath:** Have Government recognised Pandits and Shiromanis.....

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

#### IMPERIAL BANK

\*1602. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what were the powers that were vested in the Government of India as regards the Imperial Bank according to the Act of 1920 and which lapsed after 1934;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee has recommended the resumption of those powers by the Government; and

(c) if so whether Government have come to a decision on the matter?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) The powers which vested in the Government of India under the Imperial Bank of India Act, 1920, and which were allowed to lapse under the Amendment Act of 1934 were as follows:

(1) So long as the Bank did Government business under agreement with the Secretary of State, Government had the power to—

(i) issue instructions to the Bank in respect of any matter which, in their opinion, vitally affected the financial policy of Government or the safety of the Government balances;

(ii) ask, through the Government representative on the Board, for the postponement of any action, step or proceeding proposed to be taken by the Bank which would be detrimental to Government's financial policy; and

(iii) call for any information touching the affairs of the Bank and the production of any document of the Bank and require the publication of a statement of its assets and liabilities.

(2) Power to accord prior sanction to the proposals of the Bank to establish Local Head Offices and Local Boards at places other than Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

(3) Power of appointment of two Managing Governors after consideration of the recommendations of the Central Board of the Bank and to determine their period of office.

(4) Power to nominate up to four persons on the Central Board. This number was reduced to two under the Amendment Act.

(5) Power to give general or special instructions in regard to the discounting and buying of bills of exchange payable outside India.

(6) Power to accord sanction to proposals emanating from the shareholders of the Bank for increase in share capital.

(b) The Committee has recommended resumption of the following powers viz.,

(i) Appointment of Managing Director and Deputy Managing Director with the approval of the Central Government or in the alternative the appointment of a Chairman with the approval of the Central Government;

(ii) Power for the Government official representative on the Board to ask for a postponement of decisions on questions having a bearing on the national policy of Government and for the review of those already taken on such questions; and

(iii) Government nominated Directors to have seats on the Committee of the Central Board and to be entitled to participate and vote.

(c) The matter is still under consideration.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** When does Government expect to come to a decision?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** It should not take very long now. The recommendations of the Reserve Bank have been received and after we are free of the immediate occupations of this session, it would be possible for us to devote attention to this matter.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know what are the recommendations of the Reserve Bank?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I had not yet time to study that.

**Shri Munavalli:** Has the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee recommended that the Imperial Bank of India should be developed into a national institution? If so, what steps do Government intend to take in that direction?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I cannot do any better, Sir, than to refer to the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee. I think copies of that report have been circulated to hon. Members, or at least they are available in the Library. They were circulated to members of the Select Committee on the Reserve Bank Amendment Bill.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Do Government propose to place the recommendations of the Reserve Bank on the Table of the House?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Not till they have been examined, Sir. Then we will consider whether it is worthwhile placing them on the Table of the House.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I ask the hon. Minister if he would like to associate any hon. Members of this House who were members of the Select Committee with that consultative committee of the Reserve Bank of India which will consider the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I should be glad to associate Members who have taken an interest in this matter.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** May I know in what manner, apart from nominating some members on the Board of Directors, control of the Government of India is exercised on the Imperial Bank at present?



**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** At present the control exercised by Government is through the Reserve Bank, in common with control over other commercial banks. But in view of the importance of the Imperial Bank, the amenability of the Imperial Bank to the general advice of the Reserve Bank is very much more marked.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Will the non-official Committee which the Reserve Bank is convening, consider this question of reorganisation of the Imperial Bank also?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** It is not a committee. This question has already been considered by the Central Board of the Reserve Bank and when I say that Government have received the recommendations, I refer to the recommendations of the Central Board of the Reserve Bank. There is no special committee constituted by the Reserve Bank.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** The Reserve Bank is now constituting a committee to consider the recommendations of the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee. Will that committee also consider the question relating to the reorganisation of the Imperial Bank?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I think the hon. Member is referring to what I said yesterday.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Yes.

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I referred to a committee or conference convened by the Reserve Bank for considering the question of agricultural credit. That Conference has already met and I believe its recommendations are being formulated and forwarded to us. So, the obvious answer is that that committee will not be concerned with the future of the Imperial Bank.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** The hon. Minister stated in reply to a supplementary that the Reserve Bank exercises the same control over the Imperial Bank as on other commercial banks. Are we to understand that the Imperial Bank stands on the same footing as the commercial banks or has some peculiarities of its own?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** It has some special peculiarities which are part of the Act governing its operations. But they do not make any great difference to the general supervision of the Reserve Bank.

#### BHAKRA DAM

\*1603. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and

Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether negotiations have been conducted with some French Companies for their participation in the construction of Bhakra Dam; and

(b) if so, whether they have been finalized?

**The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa):** (a) Yes; the Punjab Government did carry on such negotiations.

(b) It has now been decided that the construction of Bhakra Dam and appurtenant works should be done departmentally.

**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** May I know, Sir, why it was found necessary to seek the services of foreign companies for this purpose?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** So far as I have been able to find out, when the Conference on the Bhakra Dam took place in the earlier years, the Government of Punjab felt that it was too large an undertaking for their own engineers. So, they proposed at this Conference where my hon. friend the Minister for Works, Mines and Power—as his Ministry was then called—presided, that it might be helpful if foreign engineers and contractors were invited. That is how negotiations were carried on with two French and one American company.

**Shri Shiva Rao:** Is my hon. friend aware of the very high tribute paid to Indian engineering achievements and skill by some of the foreign experts who recently attended the International Power Conference at Delhi?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I am so aware; and that is why at their meeting held on the 12th of February they decided finally that the work should be done departmentally.

**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Was any expenditure incurred in these negotiations?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** There must have been the usual expenditure on stamps.

**Shri Barman:** Are we to understand the hon. Minister's statement that the Bhakra Dam will be constructed departmentally, that no consultants from outside India will be engaged in the construction?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** We are inviting Mr. Harvey Slocum of America to help us in this and to give us a master plan.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know, Sir, how far the construction of the Bhakra Dam has progressed?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** A visit to the Exhibition will help my hon. friend

to understand the exact position; and I should be sorry if the tea I gave the other day has been wasted!

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know how far it has progressed according to the time schedule settled before.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I am sorry I do not know the full details, but we are hoping that the progress will be rapid now.

#### NEWSREEL CAMERAMAN, PATNA

\*1604. **Prof. S. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the places in India where Newsreel Cameramen are stationed; and

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to discontinue the post of Newsreel Cameraman at Patna?

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):** (a) Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Lucknow and Nagpur.

(b) The matter is under consideration in connection with economy proposals.

**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** May I know why in the list of places where Newsreel Cameramen are stationed, Patna does not find a place?

**Shri Diwakar:** Because under the economy proposals we are just now reconsidering the places where we should place these Newsreel Cameramen.

**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** May I know whether some important functions were served by the Newsreel Cameraman at Patna?

**Shri Diwakar:** There is no doubt as to that—when the Cameraman was there he was serving some important purpose. But even if at that particular place no Cameraman is stationed that area would be covered by some other Cameraman.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the policy of the Government in having Newsreel Cameramen?

**Shri Diwakar:** The policy is to cover as many big news events as possible.

**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** May I know the cost of establishment of such a post at Patna?

**Shri Diwakar:** For a single post?

**Prof. S. N. Mishra:** For this post at Patna. What was the cost of the establishment annually?

**Shri Diwakar:** I could not say for a single post.

#### PROPERTIES IN DEOLALI SOUTH

\*1605. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state how many properties under his control are located in Deolali South?

(b) How many of these have been handed over to Bombay Government?

(c) What was the condition of these properties?

(d) Was any auction made or were they sold by private sale?

(e) Were these properties fit for human habitation?

(f) If so, why were they pulled down?

**The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh):** (a) 17.

(b) 13, out of which 7 whole projects and a part of the 8th have been vacated and handed back.

(c) Fair.

(d) Yes, 3 projects and a part of the 4th were sold by public auction.

(e) Yes, but at considerable recurring cost.

(f) Since they were not required and the land had to be cleared for a new project.

**Shri Sidhva:** In reply to part (e) of my question the hon. Minister stated 'Yes', that is to say they are fit for human habitation. May I know whether these properties were meant for refugee rehabilitation and if so why they were demolished?

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** The hon. Member has most probably not followed my reply. These properties were not meant for refugee settlement, but they were given to the Bombay Government to tide over the difficulties temporarily. Now these properties have been handed back to us and therefore they are no longer required for the refugees.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know whether the Refugee Association there, comprising of the refugees who were residing in Deolali and Nasik, made a representation to Government to allow them to utilise these barracks which were fit for habitation; if so, what steps Government have taken; and whether while transferring them to the Bombay Government they made this condition that they should be available for refugee rehabilitation?

**Mr. Speaker:** He may put one question at a time.

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** Sir, I will reply to both the questions. I do not know whether any representations have been received from the Refugees' Association. We deal with the Bombay Government, and as soon as the Bombay Government say that these buildings are not required for refugees any longer they are handed back to us. These buildings have been handed back to us by the Bombay Government. Obviously they are no longer required for the refugees.

**Shri Sidhva:** May I know, Sir, whether a circular was issued to all the hon. Members by your Secretariat enclosing a copy of Defence Ministry's letter giving the whole history of these Deolali properties, in which the representation of the President of the Nasik District Displaced Persons Conference, South Deolali has been enclosed, whereas the hon. Minister has just now stated that no representation was made? May I know what is the position?

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** I said that I am not quite sure about the representation. But what I did want to make clear was this that we deal with the Bombay Government as far as this matter is concerned.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Is it not a fact that at present there are as many as 25,000 refugees in South Deolali camp in the quarters that were built by the Defence Ministry?

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** That may be true. I do not deny. There may be twenty or twenty-five thousand—I am not quite certain. But there are certain refugees in that camp still living there.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Have they not asked the Defence Minister, and through him the Members, that they ought to be allowed to continue to live in those camps, and is it not a fact that the hon. Minister said that they are required for Defence purposes?

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** As I stated in my reply to this question, this camp is not surplus to our requirements. But in order to help the Bombay Government to settle the refugees we temporarily gave this camp to them. Now the position is that as soon as the Bombay Government tell us that this camp is not required or a part of it is not required for the refugees they hand it back to us.

**Some Hon. Members rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** I think nothing useful can be added now. The matter rests entirely with the Bombay Government as the Defence Minister has stated.

**Shri Sidhva:** There are seventeen properties. Is it not correct that numbers 1, 2 and 10 are with the Defence Ministry? I want to know why they were pulled down and why they were not given for refugee rehabilitation.

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** The projects under items 1 and 2 have been disposed of by public auction.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know why they were disposed of.

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** Because they were not required and they were handed back to us.

**Mr. Speaker:** They were under the control of the Government of India.

**Sardar Baldev Singh:** This one is a temporary camp and as soon as it came back to us we demolished it in order to put up a new permanent structure.

#### EXPENDITURE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES

\*1606. **Shri Barman:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the revised recurring expenditure in 1950-51 for the Scientific and Industrial Research Institutes and National Laboratories managed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) the amount spent up till now for construction and equipment of each of such laboratories and Research Institutes; and

(c) the important researches made therein in the year 1950?

**The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa):** (a) Rs. 48.85 lakhs.

(b) A statement giving the desired information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 24.]

(c) A statement giving the more important research problems undertaken in these laboratories is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 25.]

**Shri Barman:** Is there any system obtaining in the Government Departments to register any of the important research results as patents?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I could not say that.

**Shri Barman:** What is the system that obtains in the Government in publicising those important research results which will do a lot of good to the general public, such as the research

results of the Food Technological Institute, Mysore?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is constantly publishing literature on the results of investigations.

**Shri Barman:** Is the hon. Minister in a position to state which important research results of the Food Technological Institute have been widely circulated to the public?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I fear I shall require notice of the question.

**Shri Kamath:** Has Government worked out any plan as to how many trained scientists and research workers will be needed to efficiently man these various Institutes and Laboratories?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** These plans are being made as our work progresses and new laboratories are being established.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Is it a fact that the Food Laboratories have evolved a kind of synthetic rice which is supposed to be very much cheaper than the present price of rice?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think this matter was dealt with already.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the approximate amount spent so far in requisitioning the services of foreign experts for these Research Institutes?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** This scarcely arises out of this question, and in any case I have not got that information in my hand.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** The hon. Minister has stated the amount so far spent. Has there been any contribution by the industrialists to the fund? If so, does that amount include their contribution or it is besides the contribution?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** A sum of Rs. 46,70,000 has been contributed by Industry and other private donors.

**Shri Poonacha:** May I know what is the amount spent for building construction and the amount spent for equipment?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Accounts of expenditure under the two heads have not been separately kept, so far as I know.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** The hon. Minister has not stated whether the figure previously given by him includes the amount contributed by the industrialists or exclusive of that. What amount was actually received from the industrialists?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** As regards expenditure, the funds are pooled together and the expenditure is incurred from the common till.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know what are the principal industrial fields in which these research laboratories are doing work in collaboration with the industries themselves?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** If the hon. Member will see the papers that I have laid on the Table of the House, he will find the names of the various laboratories that have been established. If the hon. Member wants to know whether the industrialists are actively co-operating in this work, I can only say that their co-operation is in the matter of the contributions that they have made.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### COMMUNIST PARTY

\*1607. **Shri B. K. Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any change in the activities of the Communist Party of India since his reply to the Short Notice Question asked by Shri B. L. Sondhi on the 11th August, 1950; and

(b) whether the situation in the badly affected areas has improved as a result of the policy pursued by the Government?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** (a) and (b). Judging from the recent statements of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of India, the activities of the Party continue to be governed by the same tactical principles laid down previously by the Committee, of which extracts were read to the House by my predecessor on the 11th August, 1950. Since then, there has been a gratifying degree of co-operation on the part of the villagers in putting down the menace, and the situation has definitely improved in my opinion.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know in what particular direction that improvement is perceptible, whether the activities that the communists were carrying on in the rural areas, the sabotage and other activities have improved?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** Their activities have not been as successful as before on account of the fact that the villagers too now oppose such activities. It is in that sense, I think, there has been an improvement and not an improvement in the tactics of the Communist Party.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know, Sir, what steps have the Government taken other than the punitive measures such as the application of the Preventive Detention Act for the improvement of the situation further? What I mean is that the hon. Minister stated the other day that there are certain reasons why the young men of our country are attracted to Communism...

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is entering into an argument. What information does he want?

**Shri B. K. Das:** I want to know that in view of the fact that the Government is aware that the young men are easily led into the trap of the Communists, what steps are the Government taking to meet them from the ideological point of view?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I do not think it need be answered.

**Shri Dwivedi:** May I know if the people in the areas in which the Communists are active, assist and co-operate with the Communists in the case of loot and arson?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** It is a question of balance of fear that the villagers have. When the fear is very great, they are compelled to act in one direction. When the fear is reduced by Government strength they are very willing to co-operate with the Government as against the Communists.

**Mr. Speaker:** These questions add nothing to the information. They certainly carry on an argument. Order, order. We will proceed to the next Question No. 1609.

**Hon. Members:** What about Question No. 1608?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is not present. He has given authority to somebody.

**Shri Sohan Lal:** I am authorized to put the Question.

**Mr. Speaker:** That will come at the end, after the whole list is exhausted.

#### RE-SHUFFLING OF PORTFOLIOS

\*1609. **Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the estimated amount which will be saved by the recent reshuffling of the portfolios of different Ministers?

(b) Are any further re-adjustments contemplated?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** (a) Roughly Rs. 7½ lakhs per annum.

(b) I am unable to answer the question at present.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** May I know whether this saving as indicated by the hon. Minister is on account of the reshuffling already done?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** The question was the estimated amount which will be saved by the recent reshuffling of the portfolios of different ministers and the answer to that question is "Roughly Rs. 7½ lakhs per annum." I do not understand the present question.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** May I know, Sir, whether any more reshuffling is to be done?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** I have said, Sir, I am unable to answer the question at present.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I ask the hon. Minister how many of the senior officers will be retrenched?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** As a result of the recent reshuffling 3 Secretaries, 1 Deputy Secretary, 2 Under Secretaries, 12 other Gazetted Officers, 105 Assistants and 57 clerks go out by the result and that gives us Rs. 7,86,720 per annum.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** Those who go away from one Ministry, are they being absorbed in any other Ministry?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** On questions of economy hon. Members take up a strong attitude and as soon as the economy is achieved, then re-absorption comes up. I think, we should keep them apart. I have constantly referred to the provisions made for retrenched people and I do not think I need repeat them.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** May I know to what extent these savings will be wiped out as a result of appointments of Deputy Ministers?

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

**Shri Dwivedi:** May I know if the savings so made will not be adversely affected by the addition of new Ministries?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. It is the same question. The hon. Minister need not reply to that. It is an argument.

**Sardar Sochet Singh:** May I know whether the break in the service of these retrenched employees, i.e., between the period they go out and the period they will be re-absorbed, will be condoned in the event of their being taken back?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** As I have already stated, difficulties certainly arise when we enforce economy. We cannot have it both ways.

Sardar Sochet Singh rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member assumes that they would be re-employed. Then only the question of break of service will arise.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** May I know whether it is a fact that many supernannuated men are still in office and if so, is it the intention of the Government to absorb some of these retrenched young men in their places?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think we are entering into an argument and making suggestions. The hon. Minister has already stated that the House cannot have it both ways.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** May I be allowed to put in a word of explanation. When I put that question to the hon. Minister, my objection was not that they ought to be re-absorbed. I was not anxious that they ought to be re-absorbed. But if they are sent away from one Department and taken in another, in the overall picture, there is no economy. I wanted to avoid that.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let us go to the next question.

#### ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

\*1613. **Shri T. N. Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether any special grants are given to the Aligarh Muslim University for the maintenance of its Engineering College?

(b) What is the number of engineers who have passed from this college?

مہسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(ا) کا جواب عاں ہے۔

(بی) سالہ ۱۹۴۹ء میں ۴۹

وڈیاڑتھوں نے انجینئرنگ ڈگری

ایگزامینیشن پاس کیا اور ۱۹۵۰

میں ۷۴ نے۔

**[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes.

(b) 49 students passed the Engineering Degree Examination in 1949 and 74 students in 1950 from the College of Engineering and Technology of the Aligarh Muslim University.]

آئی ڈی۔ این۔ سی: کیا میں یہ جان سکتا ہوں کہ جین لوگوں نے ڈگری انجینئرنگ پاس کیا ہے وہ ترقی میں لے لیے

گئے ہیں؟ اور اگر نہیں لیے گئے تو وہ کہاں ہیں ہندوستان میں یا باہر؟

**[Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know whether the persons who have passed their Degree Examinations have been employed. If not, then where they are, in India or abroad?]

مولانا آزاد: اس بارے میں

گورنمنٹ کوئی نہیں کہہ سکتی۔

**[Maulana Azad:** The Government cannot say anything in this respect.]

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** May I know what has been the amount of Special Grants to the Aligarh University?

مولانا آزاد: اس سال کالج

بائننگ کے لئے دو لاکھ اسی ہزار

روپیہ دیا گیا اور ضروری سامان کے

لئے ایک لاکھ چار ہزار روپیہ۔

ڈگرینگ خرچ کے لئے ہارن ہزار

روپیہ۔

**[Maulana Azad:** This year a sum of rupees two lakhs and eighty thousand has been granted to them for the college building, one lakh and four thousand for the necessary equipment and rupees fifty-two thousand towards recurring expenditure.]

آئی ڈی۔ این۔ سی: میں یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا یہ بات سچ ہے کہ یہاں کے گریجویٹس کو نوکری نہ ملنے کی وجہ سے وہ زیادہ تادیب میں پاکستان...

**[Shri T. N. Singh:** I would like to know whether it is a fact that a number of the graduates, for lack of employment, have migrated to Pakistan.....]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order; the hon. Member is not asking for information

آئی ڈیشنڈھو گپتا: کیا میں یہ دریافت کر سکتا ہوں کہ اعلیٰ سے پاس ہوا تالبا کا مہار جتنا ہی اچھا ہے جتنا دوسری یونیورسٹیوں میں ہے؟

**[Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** May I know whether the standard of education of the students who pass from Aligarh, is as high as that of other universities?]

مولانا آزاد : گورنمنٹ لیسا ہی

خیاں کرتی ہے -

[Maulana Asad: The Government thinks so.]

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

#### DOCUMENTARY FILMS

\*1615. Shri Dwivedi: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether as a result of Shri Deshmukh Economy plan and consequently the abolition of the Film Section, there shall be any effect on the production of the documentary films of India; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) It has been decided to retain the Films Division.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know how many documentary films in all have been prepared since 1947? What is the cost of their production with establishment charges?

Shri Diwakar: I do not think I have a list according to years. Last year, about 52 were to be had by us. Out of that number, some were to be bought from the open market. Thirty six have been prepared, if I am correct.

Shri Dwivedi: What is the cost of their production?

Shri Diwakar: I have not got the figures.

Shri Dwivedi: May I know whether any attempts were made by the Central Government and the State Governments to demonstrate these films in the rural areas?

Shri Diwakar: Certainly. The publicity vans number about 250 in the States. They use these films in the 16 mm.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: May I know whether any retrenchment is sought to be done in this Films section?

Shri Diwakar: Certainly.

Prof. S. N. Mishra: To what extent?

Shri Diwakar: I cannot give the exact figures.

Shri Kesava Rao: What are the languages in which these documentary films are made?

Shri Diwakar: Just now we are using five languages: English, Hindi, Bengali, Tamil and Telugu.

Shrimati Durgabai: What are the special considerations which weighed with the Government to retain the Films Division as against the recommendations of the Deshmukh Economy Report?

Shri Diwakar: They were proposals. The proposals were re-examined and it was found that this Films Division should be retained.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या हर एक फिल्म हर भाषा में बनती है या कुछ फिल्म किसी भाषा में और कुछ किसी भाषा में ?

[Seth Govind Das: Is every film produced in every language or is it that some films are produced in one language and some in the other?]

श्री दिवाकर : आम तौर पर पांचो भाषाओं में फिल्मों बनती हैं ।

[Shri Diwakar: Generally every film is produced in all the five languages.]

सेठ गोविन्द दास : हर एक फिल्म ।

[Seth Govind Das: Every film?]

श्री दिवाकर : आम तौर पर ।

[Shri Diwakar: Generally so.]

Shri Jnani Ram: Are the State Governments given these films free of cost for display in the rural areas?

Shri Diwakar: These are given free and shown free of charge.

Shri Dwivedi: Is it proposed to re-employ the retrenched persons?

Shri Diwakar: Yes, if any necessity arises.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

#### CLOSING DOWN OF A.I.R. STATIONS

\*1616. Shri Dwivedi: (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state if any A.I.R. station will be closed down as a result of the Economy drive?

(b) If so, will the staff and other employees of these stations be absorbed elsewhere?

(c) Will these stations be closed down permanently or only temporarily for so long as financial stringency continues in the country?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No, Sir.

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

**Shri Dwivedi:** What is the number of officers as compared to the subordinate staff personnel who are being retrenched as a result of this?

**Shri Diwakar:** I have not got the figures.

#### BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

\*1617. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the Balance of Payments of India with the rest of the world in the second half of the year 1950; and

(b) if it is a surplus, the reason for the same?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) The estimated balance of payment surplus on current account with the rest of the world for the second half of 1950, is of the order of Rs. 32 crores.

(b) The surplus is attributed to increased exports, due to a larger foreign demand for exports and a lower level of imports, due to unattractive prices and short supply of imported goods.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** May I know to what extent there has been an increase in the surplus with hard currency areas?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I am sorry, Sir, I have not got separate figures broken down by hard currency and soft currency areas for the entire period.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** May I know whether the surplus has been achieved more through curtailment of imports or through increase in exports?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I think both factors have been at work.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** What is the dominating factor?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Again, I have not got figures for both quarters. The returns are available only for the quarter ending September; for the second quarter, I have only an estimate. Therefore, I am not in a position to state now which of the factors has been relatively more important.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I know if this balance of payment includes what are called invisible exports and imports namely payments accruing on account of services, shipping, etc.?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. Balance of payment is shown against the following heads: Exports FOB and Imports CIF and that gives you the

trade balance. Then, there are the net invisibles which are the things mentioned by the hon. Member, and therefore, we get the balance on current account. Then, there is an item, errors and omissions which serves as a balancing item. The whole of that gives you the result of the current account. Then, there is the capital account which gives figures for movement in sterling balances, movement in other balances and the figure of net investment.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** What is the amount of payment accruing against India in regard to services performed by the United Kingdom, namely for pensions, service and other things?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Again, I have not got detailed figures making up this item. Pension payments are of the order of about 5 million pounds.

**Shri Kishorimohan Tripathi:** Is it a fact that the balance of payment on current account has been progressively decreasing during the latter part of the year 1950?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** That again involves a comparison between different quarters.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** In answer to a question, the hon. Minister stated that he did not have separate figures for hard currency and soft currency areas. Would he give us these figures at some future date, or lay them on the Table of the House?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** If a question is put, I shall be glad to give all the figures.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Separate figures for hard currency and soft currency areas?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Yes; whatever is asked for, will be given.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Does this balance include Government payments also or does it include only private mercantile accounts?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** All payments are included.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** May I know what is the item in the list of exports that has gone up most and what is the item in the list of exports that has received the greatest cut?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** That again involves an examination of all the details making up these totals, which details I have not got here.



## HINDU CODE BILL

\*1619. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state whether Government propose to move for the detailed consideration of the Hindu Code Bill during the current session of Parliament?

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Gadgil): The clause by clause consideration of the Hindu Code Bill was taken up on the 5th, 6th and 7th February, 1951.

**Shri Kamath:** May I ask a question, Sir?

**Mr. Speaker:** Let me know what the question is.

**Shri Kamath:** Has Government taken note of the time taken for the discussion over a single clause of the Bill and decided not to have piecemeal discussion of the Bill?

**Shri Gadgil:** Government have taken note of what happened in the House along with hon. Members of the House. No decision has yet been taken.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** May I ask a question, Sir?

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

**Shrimati Durgabai:** One question, Sir. We would like to know...

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not a matter of getting any information. I go to the next question.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** Sir, one more question. I would like to know...

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever it may be. We go to the next question.

INVESTMENTS IN POST OFFICE CASH CERTIFICATES AND DEFENCE SAVING CERTIFICATES

\*1625. **Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts invested in the Post Office Cash Certificates and Defence Savings Certificates in the years 1949 and 1950?

(b) the amounts invested in National Savings Certificates during the year 1950?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) There were no investments in these years in Post Office Cash Certificates or Defence Savings Certificates as the issue of both had been discontinued, the former in June 1947 and the latter in October 1943.

(b) The sale of National Savings Certificates in 1950 amounted to Rs. 24.73 crores.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Sir, has Government taken any steps for issuing National Savings Certificates in the rural areas?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Yes, Sir. Steps are being taken to popularise the sale of these National Savings Certificates in the rural areas.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Sir, what is the amount received in 1950 by the sale of these certificates in the rural areas?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** No breakdown of these figures is yet available.

**Shri Jnan Ram:** What is the amount withdrawn from these National Savings Certificates during this year?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** Does the hon. Member refer to the year 1950?

**Shri Jnan Ram:** Yes.

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The discharges in 1950 come to Rs. 6.92 crores.

**Shri M. V. Rama Rao:** May I know how this sum of Rs. 24.73 crores is invested by the Government?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** They are part of Government balances.

## LITERACY CAMPAIGN

\*1626. **Shri Rathnaswamy:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Dr. Frank C. Laubach is visiting India shortly to launch mass literacy campaign?

مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد) :

سوال کا جواب نہیں ہے -

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): No, Sir.]

श्रीश्यामनन्दन सहाय : मैं एक बात को सीक करता हूँ : इस सवाल का जवाब नहीं में है या इस सवाल का कोई जवाब ही नहीं है ?

[Shri Syammandan Sahaya: I seek one clarification: whether its answer is in negative or it has no answer at all?]

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

مولانا آزاد : لا جواب ہے -

[Maulana Azad: It is without reply.]

## INCOME-TAX IN RAJASTHAN

\*1627. **Shri Radhelal Vyas:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Rajasthan High Court has issued a

writ prohibiting the Government of India from realising Income Tax in Rajasthan prior to April, 1950?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps have been taken by Government in this direction?

(c) In the light of the above-mentioned writ, will Government issue similar directions and instructions for other Part B States viz., Madhya Bharat, Saurashtra, P.E.P.S.U. etc.?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) The Rajasthan High Court has accepted the petition filed by a certain individual and issued a writ to the Union of India directing it not to levy income-tax on the income of that individual which accrued, or arose or was received in Rajasthan excluding the area of the former co-venturing State of Bundi, prior to 1st April 1950.

(b) Government have taken steps for the purpose of filing an appeal against the decision of the High Court to the Supreme Court.

(c) In view of the action taken as stated in reply to part (b), Government do not propose to issue any directions and instructions in respect of other Part B States.

**Shri Radhelal Vyas:** May I know by what time the appeal will be preferred?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** The appeal has already been preferred.

**Kanwar Jaswant Singh:** In the meantime, will Government continue to levy the income-tax?

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I think the income-tax officers may be trusted to exercise a certain amount of discretion in the matter.

#### DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT SITES IN BIKANER

\*1623. **Shri Sidhva:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether any discovery of ancient sites has been made in Bikaner Division?

(b) If so, what are they and to what age do they belong?

(c) Is the discovery work still proceeding or has it been completed?

• مسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مولانا آزاد):

(ا) بھیکنر ڈویژن میں جو دیکھ

بھال ہال میں کی گئی ہے اس میں

۷۰ پرانی جگہوں سامنے آئی ہیں۔

(بی) ان کا زمانہ ۳۰۰۰ برس  
ہی۔ سی۔ سے لیکر ایک ہزار برس  
لے۔ تی۔ تک کا سمجھا گیا۔  
(سی) نومبر ۱۹۵۰ء سے دسمبر  
کے آخر تک جو مہینے دیکھ بھال کا  
کام چلا رہا تھا۔ اکتوبر میں اسے  
پھر ہاتھ لایا جائیگا۔

[**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) About 70 ancient sites have been discovered in the recent exploration in Bikaner Division.

(b) The sites range in date from the 3rd millennium B.C. to the first millennium A.D.

(c) The exploration party worked for two months, November and December, 1950. It is proposed to resume the work next October.]

• شی سیدھا: یہ खुदाई کا کام جاری رکھا جائیگا یا بند کیا جائیگا?

[**Shri Sidhva:** Will the excavation work be continued or will it be stopped?]

مولانا آزاد: میں نے ابھی آپ سے کہا کہ اکتوبر میں یہ کام پھر جاری کیا جائے گا۔ بات یہ ہے کہ ہمارے پاس اسٹاف محدود ہے۔ بہت سا کام ان کو کرنا پوتا ہے۔ آفس کا کام بھی کرنا پوتا ہے۔ فیلڈ ورکر بھی ہے۔ اس لئے ہم اس طریقہ سے کام تقسیم کرتے ہیں کہ ہر قسم کا کام اپنی اپنی جگہ ہوتا رہے۔ نومبر اور دسمبر میں بھیکنر کی دیکھ بھال ہوئی تھی۔ اب اکتوبر میں پھر یہ کام شروع کیا جائیگا۔

[**Maulana Azad:** I have just now told you that the work will be resumed in October again. The thing is that we have got a limited staff and they have to do a lot of work. They have to do office work along with the field work. Therefore we arrange in such a manner that every sort of work may

continue. The exploration work in Bikaner was started in November and December, and now this work would again be resumed in October.]

श्री सिधवा : इस में ज्वालजिस्ट से मदद आप को मिलती है ?

[Shri Sidhva: Do you get any assistance from the Geologists in this work?]

मौलाना आज़द : हाں جن کاموں میں ان کی مدد کی ضرورت ہوتی ہے ان سے مدد لی جاتی ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: Yes, their assistance is sought where it is required.]

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, may I know to which age and civilisation do these ancient sites belong?

Mr. Speaker: It is more for the scholars to decide that.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, the archaeologists must have come to some decision as to the date of the nature of the civilisation to which these belong. Do they belong to the Indus Valley civilisation or not?

مؤلانا آژاد : جو سائٹس وہاں

نظر آئی ہوں ان میں 15 چکھیں

ایسی ہیں جو معلوم ہوتی ہیں کہ ہریہ

اور موہن جوہارو کے وقت کی ہیں۔

کچھ چکھیں ایسی ہیں جہاں سے

اس طرح کے مٹی کے برتن نکلے

ہیں کہ خیال کیا جاتا ہے یہ پہلی

صدی آئے۔ تی۔ کے ہوں گے۔ بہر

حال ابھی ان کی دیکھ بہال کا کام

جاری ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: There are about fifteen such sites among the discovered ones which seem to belong to Mohenjodaro and Harappa period. There are some sites where such pottery has been found in respect of which it is thought that it belongs to the first century A.D. Anyway the exploration work is still in progress.]

کوار جاسوانت سنگھ : بیکانیر میں یہ

جگہ کس جگہ نیکلی ہے ?

[Kanwar Jaswant Singh: What is the location of the place where these sites have been found in Bikaner?]

آژاد : بھکانر میں ایک

جگہ ایسی ہے جہاں دریا سوک گیا

ہے وہیں یہ جگہیں نکلی ہیں۔

[Maulana Azad: There is a certain site in Bikaner where a river has dried up. This is the place where these sites have been found.]

ش्री कामत : क्या देहली और नई देहली के नजदीक खुदाई का काम शुरू करने की तजवीज है ?

[Shri Kamath: Is it proposed to start excavation work somewhere near Dehli and New Delhi?]

مؤلانا آژاد : ابھی کوئی ایسی اسکیم

گورنمنٹ کے سامنے نہیں آئی ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: No such scheme has come before the Government as yet.]

#### BROADCASTING STATION FOR GWALIOR OR INDORE

\*1629. Shri Ghule: (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether there is any scheme of installing a broadcasting station in Gwalior or Indore?

(b) If so, what is the probable date by which it would be installed?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### SCHEDULED CASTES SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

\*1630. Prof. Yashwant Rai: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the total amount spent on scholarships awarded by the Scheduled Castes Scholarship Board to candidates from Punjab during the year 1949-50?

میںسٹر آف ایجوکیشن (مؤلانا آژاد) :

₹ 7,11,000

[The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): Rs. 30,716.]

پروفیسر یاشوانت رائے : کُل تیلنے  
بیاچاریوں نے ۱۹۴۹-۵۰ میں

[Prof. Yashwant Rai: How many students did apply in a?]

مؤلانا آژاد : ۱۶۸ دیہاتوں کی

درخواستیں آئی تھیں جن میں سے

۵۳ ملظور کی گئیں اور ان کو اسکالرشپ دیا گیا۔

[Maulana Azad: Applications were received from 168 students. Out of them 53 were accepted and scholarships were granted to them.]

**Shrimati Velayudhan:** Sir, what is the total amount of the scholarships granted and what is the number of scholars who received them?

مولانا آزاد: میں نے ابھی کہا کہ ۵۳۔

[Maulana Azad: I have just now stated the number was 53.]

**Mr. Speaker:** The question-hour is over.

**Shri Sidhva:** No, Sir, there is one minute more.

**Mr. Speaker:** All right, next question, Mr. Kamath, 1631.

**Shri Kamath:** May I put question No. 1632?

**Mr. Speaker:** All right.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY,  
DELHI

\*1632. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government Housing Factory, Delhi, has stopped production for sale;

(b) whether test production is still being carried on; if so, why;

(c) why houses were advertised when the Mulgaonkar Committee was enquiring into the whole matter;

(d) the total expenditure, capital, working and the consulting firm's service charges, so far incurred;

(e) the number of houses built in England by the consulting firm following the same foam concrete process as has been adopted in the factory; and

(f) whether the consulting firm has refused to give a guarantee as regards the strength and life of the wall panels?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, with the object of overcoming the technical difficulties in the way of satisfactory production.

(c) Visitors were invited to the Factory and its Staff Colony in order to ascertain public reactions to the type of house then intended to be offered for sale.

(d) The following is the expenditure expected to be incurred up to the end of March, 1951.

Capital Expenditure.—Rs.	52.88 lakhs.
Working Expenditure.—Rs.	44.04 lakhs.

(The first figure includes charges paid to the consultants of £20,980 or Rs. 2,79,733).

(e) Attention is invited to my reply to Starred Question No. 499 dated the 12th December, 1949.

(f) The consultants have not given any guarantee regarding the panels.

Short Notice Question and Answer  
DISTURBED AREA IN ASSAM

**Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large area in Assam or Manipur has been declared "a disturbed area";

(b) if so, which area, and the grounds on which the notification has been made; and

(c) the measures that have been, or are being taken, to restore normalcy in that area?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** (a) and (b). In Assam one mauza in the District of Kamrup and in Manipur about a dozen villages near Imphal have been declared to be in a disturbed or dangerous state.

The reason for the issue of the declaration by the Assam Government was that the local inhabitants, under the influence of subversive organisations like the Revolutionary Communist Party of India, have been indulging in illegal acts such as forcible seizure of paddy, burning down the dwellings of persons who decline to assist them in their unlawful activities, assault on Government servants, etc. In Manipur the people living in the areas notified by Government have been committing a series of crimes under the leadership of Communists; these activities include some murders of Government officials and members of the public who were assisting Government, forcible rescue of arrested persons and 25 armed dacoities during the year 1950 for the purpose of augmenting Party funds.

(c) The persons responsible for the commission of subversive crimes are being rounded up and unlicensed arms found in their possession are being confiscated. Where adequate grounds exist, the arrested persons are being detained under the Preventive Detention Act. Additional Police have been quartered in the areas declared to be disturbed. Counter-propaganda is being carried on by Government.

**Shri Kamath:** On what date did the Assam Government inform the Centre that the situation in that particular area was getting out of hand and on what date was the notification issued?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** There was no question of the situation getting out of hand. The notification was issued by the Government of the State under section 15 of the Police Act of 1861 in order that collective fines may be imposed with due exemptions.

**Shri Kamath:** Was the Centre not consulted at all in this matter?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** Not under that Act. It is the State Government that operates. The Centre is no doubt kept informed from time to time. According to the latest information we know the exact situation as it now stands. The Act empowers the local Government to issue the declaration. There is no Maintenance of Public Order Act there. It was done under the Police Act of 1861.

**Shri Kamath:** Have reports reached Government that infiltration, in greater or smaller measures, of subversive non-Indian elements has been taking place in Assam or in Manipur either from the North or from the South?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** The present disturbed condition is not due to any infiltration of outsiders, but, as I said already, it is due to the activities of the various Communist Parties.

**Shri Kamath:** Is it a fact that in these areas which have been declared as disturbed there is considerable food scarcity?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** That is a different matter. The food scarcity is fairly general. These are terrorist activities. It is not a rising of the villagers on account of hunger. The hon. Member will be satisfied, for instance, if I tell him about the details of the arms that have been captured there by the police operations—184 pistols, 1 Bren gun, 2 machine guns, 300 carbines, 228 sub-machine guns, 5 rifles, 240 launcher grenades, 145 pistol magazines, 4 sets of stand instruments. These do not arise out of hunger.

**Shri Hanumanthaiya:** Are these Communists in this area receiving any assistance from Communists of Burma and China?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** I do not think I shall be able to give any answer to that in the public interest but it is well known that the Communist organisation is more or less international.

**Shri Munavalli:** How many officers and other persons have been killed in these activities?

331 PSD—

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** I can collect the figures, if they are very necessary. As I have already said, quite a number have been killed but the exact figures I would not be able to give straight off.

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar:** I wanted to know the total number of casualties such as persons murdered, houses burnt and the total loss of property with a view to know what the situation was.

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** The difficulty is to give the total numbers. But I have already indicated from the arms seized the nature of the transaction. If hon. Members are interested to know the exact figures, a separate question may be put and I shall collect the figures as they stand on a particular date and supply them.

**Shri Chaliha:** What was the quantity of arms recovered from the district of Sibsagar in Assam, where the operations took place first?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** I have given the figures of arms recovered in one operation in Kamrup but if notice is given I shall try to get the figures.

**Shri Jnani Ram:** What was the total number of arrests made during the disturbance?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** Between 16th and 17th February 60 Communists were arrested in Kamrup, seven in Nowgong and five in Golpara. On the 16th February the police recovered the arms I referred to.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** This question has been answered for ten minutes.

**Shri Kamath:** One last question, Sir. Have reports reached the Minister or the Government that recently maps have been circulating in China showing the Brahmaputra river as the Indo-Chinese boundary and, if so, has the Government protested to the Government of China in this matter?

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** Action has been taken in regard to the map that has been referred to and satisfactory explanation has been received from the other side.

**Shri Syamandan Sahaya:** How many officials were killed?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister said that he could not give the figure. Unfortunately while questions are being answered, many hon. Members are engaged in having consultations and conversations with the result that the same question is repeated over and over again.

**Shri Deshbandhu Gupta:** Sir, I want to know.....

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

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS  
DISPLACED HARIJANS

\*1608. **Shri Balmiki:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of Harijan bastees (colonies) where Harijan displaced persons have made unauthorised occupation?

(b) Is it a fact that coercion and physical force were used to eject them from their unauthorised constructions?

(c) If so, what steps do Government propose to take to provide alternative accommodation to them?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Presumably the information required is about Harijan bastees (colonies) in Delhi. The number of such colonies is seventeen.

(b) and (c). Harijan families have been evicted only from one colony in New Delhi from unauthorised mud-huts constructed on Municipal lands where the Municipal Committee wanted to construct new quarters for their sweeper employees. Alternative accommodation at Shahdara was offered to the persons concerned, but they refused to accept it. Subsequently, some of the evictees were given accommodation in huts constructed by the Displaced Harijans Rehabilitation Board and some in huts belonging to the New Delhi Municipal Committee.

SLUM CLEARANCE

\*1610. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how many schemes of slum clearance are in hand in Delhi; and

(b) how much Government have spent on it in the last three years?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Five.

(b) Rs. 24.80 lakhs.

RESERVE POOL OF ELECTRICAL  
GENERATING PLANTS

\*1611. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Pool of Electrical Generating Plants at Harduaganj has been wound up or is still functioning;

(b) the reasons why the Pool was established and the date of establishment; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred up till now for the Pool and the amount recovered so far?

**The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa):** (a) The Reserve Pool of Electrical Generating Plant at Harduaganj was wound up on the 31st December, 1949; but its accounts are in the course of finalisation.

(b) The Pool was established in May, 1942, primarily with a view to meeting the difficult supply position of electrical generating plant during the War. It had, however, to be continued even after the War to procure additional quantities of plant and equipment to meet the emergent demands from State Governments and others in connection with the 'Grow More Food Campaign'; Construction power for development schemes and river valley projects; etc.

(c) The total expenditure incurred and the amount recovered, including debits and credits likely to be adjusted in the accounts for the financial year 1950-51 are as follows:

Expenditure.—Rs. 215.42 lakhs.  
Recoveries.—Rs. 215.87 lakhs.

RADIO ENGINEERS

\*1612. **Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is scarcity of Radio Engineers and Broadcasting Technicians in India;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the scarcity; and

(c) the institutions in Part C States in India, where Radio Engineering is taught as a separate subject?

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):** (a) Yes.

(b) Various steps providing facilities for students in this subject have been taken by Government, details regarding which have been laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 26].

(c) Nil.

EDUCATIONAL ADVISER

\*1618. **Shri P. Y. Deshpande:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Educational Adviser has been appointed in 1950; and

(b) whether this appointment was made without any reference to the Union Public Service Commission?

**The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

## REVENUES FROM INCOME-TAX

\*1620. **Dr. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the actual revenues realized from (i) Income Tax; (ii) Customs; and (iii) Excise during the first eight months for each of the years 1948-49, 1949-50 and 1950-51?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The actual revenues realized for the periods in question are:

- (i) Income-tax.  
1948-49.—Rs. 72.59 lakhs.  
1949-50.—Rs. 74.97 lakhs.  
1950-51.—Rs. 81.05 lakhs.
- (ii) Customs.  
1948-49.—Rs. 76.24 lakhs.  
1949-50.—Rs. 91.98 lakhs.  
1950-51.—Rs. 84.54 lakhs.
- (iii) Excise.  
1948-49.—Rs. 34.25 lakhs.  
1949-50.—Rs. 44.82 lakhs.  
1950-51.—Rs. 49.16 lakhs.

## CIVIL LIST OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

\*1621. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether the complete Civil List of the Central Government has now been published?

(b) Will it be published regularly and if so, at what intervals?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) No.

(b) Arrangements have been made with the Messrs. Associated Advertisers and Printers Limited of Bombay for a half-yearly publication and it is hoped that the first issue will be out in April this year.

## 'ADVANCED' CASTES

\*1622. **Dr. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the basis on which certain castes are styled as 'advanced' in the next Census?

(b) Have Government received any complaints and protests against the classification?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): (a) It is presumed that the hon. Member is referring to the list of "Non-backward Classes" drawn up in certain states for the 1951 census. In past censuses, extensive enquiries used to be made into community distinctions based on Castes, tribes and races. For the 1951 Census, the Government of India decided to limit the scope of such enquiries to the minimum necessary for carrying out certain Constitutional obligations. These relate to Scheduled Castes and

Scheduled Tribes; to other Backward Classes which are to come within the purview of a Backward Classes Commission to be appointed by the President and also to Anglo Indians. Statutory lists are available for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, but not for other backward classes. As regards the latter State Governments were consulted. In some States lists of Backward Classes have been prepared; in others it has been found more convenient to prepare lists of non-backward classes and to treat all the rest as backward. These lists are necessarily provisional as no precise or permanent definition of backward classes is possible. They are being utilised by the Census to provide the basic material for the Backward Classes Commission.

(b) A few representations have been received.

## BHAKRA SCHEME

\*1623. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state what amount of money has so far been spent on the Bhakra Scheme in the Punjab (1)?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): The expenditure to the end of March, 1950 was Rs. 13.25 crores; to the end of 1950-51, it is likely to be Rs. 23.22 crores.

## ARMY PERSONNEL (MISSING)

\*1624. **Shri D. S. Seth:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of army personnel reported still missing in the Jammu and Kashmir operations since the Cease-fire;

(b) the efforts so far made to trace their whereabouts; and

(c) whether the authorities concerned have been duly advised to send relief or pay money to the members of the missing personnel's families?

The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh): (a) 28.

(b) All the 28 are presumed to be "dead" without prejudice to further efforts to trace them. In order to facilitate further efforts to trace them, the next of kin have been requested to furnish particulars which will be helpful in this connection.

(c) The accounts of all the 28 have been finally settled and steps taken for the grant of family pension.

**POPULARISING HINDI FROM CUTTACK  
A.I.R. STATION**

\*1633. **Shri Jagannath Das:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what steps have so far been taken or are proposed to be taken in 1951 by the All-India Radio to popularise Hindi from the Cuttack Radio Station?

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):** The Cuttack Station of All India Radio daily relays two Hindi news bulletins, broadcasts Hindi lessons on five days in a week, and in addition gives an appreciable number of Hindi items in its musical programmes.

**PRESS CORRESPONDENTS**

\*1634. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the present number of Indian and foreign press correspondents accredited with the Government of India?

(b) What is the policy for accreditation of a press correspondent at the headquarters of the Government of India?

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):** (a) 78 and 18 respectively

(b) Copies of the Rules for Accreditation of Press correspondents are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 27.]

**ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES**

\*1635. **Shri Oraon:** (a) Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what was the total population of the tribal aboriginal communities of India according to the census of 1941, State-wise?

(b) What was the number of these people in India after the division of the country?

(c) What is the estimated population of the tribal communities of India State-wise, in 1950?

(d) How many tribes have been left and are not Scheduled?

(e) Have Government held any enquiry before ascertaining the number of tribes who have been scheduled by the President?

(f) Have Government any intention to enquire the conditions of the unscheduled tribal communities of India including those of the Part C States and make them scheduled, in order to give them the opportunities provided by the Constitution?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** (a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the "Census of India, 1941—Tables, Vol. I-Part I" which is a published document.

(b) 248 lakhs.

(c) No estimate has been made except of tribes scheduled as such under Article 341(1) of the Constitution.

(d) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to communities treated as 'tribes' in the 1941 Census and have not been scheduled under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. It is not possible to arrive at this number as the total number of communities treated as 'tribes' in the 1941 census is not available.

(e) The Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 was issued after consultation with States as provided in Article 342(1) of the Constitution.

(f) Article 340 of the Constitution provides for the appointment of a Backward Classes Commission to investigate the conditions of all socially and educationally backward classes throughout the country, including Part C States and make such recommendations as they think proper. The recommendation, if any, of the Commission for scheduling of any unscheduled tribe will be duly considered by the Government.

**T. A. TO MINISTERS**

\*1636. **Shri M. P. Mishra:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay on the Table of the House a statement giving the travelling allowances drawn by different Ministers of the Government of India including the Ministers of State and the Deputy Ministers during the year 1950-51 (up to 31st January, 1951)?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** I lay on the Table of the House a statement containing information up to 18th February 1951. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 28.]

**A. I. R. STATION AT SIMLA**

\*1637. **Giani G. S. Musafir:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open a new station of the A. I. R. at Simla; and

(b) if so, when?

**The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.



## ASSISTANTS (PROMOTION)

193. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the number of Assistants promoted as (i) Superintendents; (ii) Assistant Secretaries; (iii) Under Secretaries; and (iv) Deputy Secretaries or officer of corresponding rank in the Ministries of the Government of India since the 15th August, 1947?

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 29.]

## ASSAULT BY MILITARY PERSONNEL

194. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the answer given to my starred question

No. 651 asked on the 5th December, 1950, regarding assault by military personnel in Jubbulpore and to state:

(a) whether the Summary of Evidence against the army officer concerned has been completed; and

(b) if so, with what result?

**The Minister of Defence (Sardar Baldev Singh):** (a) Yes.

(b) Although a *prima facie* case was NOT disclosed in the Summary of Evidence, it has been decided to try the officer by a General Court Martial on the grounds that such a step is necessary to place the full facts of the case on record.

The General Court Martial commenced on the 12th February, 1951.

Wednesday, 21st February, 1951

Volume VIII

No. 1-20



# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

OFFICIAL REPORT

Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers

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

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**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA**

Wednesday, 21st February, 1951

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

(See Part I)

11-54 A.M.

**PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE**

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE NOTIFICATION No. 658-I(2)/44 DATED 23RD DECEMBER 1950 ISSUED UNDER SECTION 2C OF THE INSURANCE ACT, 1938

**The Minister of Finance** (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Sir, I lay on the table a copy of the Ministry of Commerce Notification No. 658-I(2)/44, dated the 23rd December, 1950, in accordance with sub-section (2) of Section 2C of the Insurance Act, 1938. [Placed in Library. See No. P-138/51].

**SUPREME COURT ADVOCATES  
(PRACTICE IN HIGH COURTS)  
BILL**

**The Minister of Works, Production and Supply** (Shri Gadgil): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise advocates of the Supreme Court to practise as of right in any High Court.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise advocates of the Supreme Court to practise as of right in any High Court."

*The motion was adopted.*

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

333 P.S.D.

**DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY  
GRANTS FOR 1950-51**

**Shri Kamath** (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, before we proceed, may I make a request to you? You will notice that numerous cut motions have been received on the various Supplementary Demands for Grants. As originally scheduled we were to have discussed these Demands yesterday and today, that is two full days. Now it appears that we will have only the whole of today and the afternoon of tomorrow. As they stand, therefore, some Demands which are important in public interest may not be reached if we follow the order in which they appear in this book. For instance, there is one Demand for a Supplementary Grant in respect of the Government Housing Factory on which three cut motions have been received. It is the only item in both the lists in respect of which there are three or four cut motions, but it is at the bottom of the list. If the serial order is followed this may not be reached till the end of even tomorrow. I would therefore request you, Sir, in the public interest that these three or four cut motions with respect to the single item, the Government Housing Factory, may be given some time for discussion, either today or tomorrow but adequate time for discussion, and they may not be completely missed at the end of discussion even tomorrow.

**Shri Hussain Imam** (Bihar): May I submit, Sir, that in the old Central Assembly the practice was for the Parties to select certain heads for discussion and then those items received detailed consideration, and afterwards the time left was utilised for the *seriatim* discussion of the other Demands. If we could adopt some system on those lines either by your choice or by the choice of the House, so that certain heads which are more important are taken first and

[Shri Hussain Imam]

the others come afterwards, that would facilitate matters.

**Mr. Speaker:** In fact, taking advantage of what Mr. Kamath has stated, I want to clarify the position. I myself felt last year that the discussion about the Grants and the cut motions was not as satisfactory as it should have been, and therefore I have already suggested, a few days back to the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs to see if it is possible to have an agreement between Members by an informal meeting to that they may select certain Demands in respect of which they want to have a discussion, and further also select the cut motions. If there could be an agreement of that type, certainly I will go by that agreement. That will not only facilitate discussion but will further enable the Government as also the hon. Ministers to know exactly what the House is going to discuss and to be ready with the replies to it. The hon. Minister told me that he would do it when the General Demands and the general discussion came up. It will require some time, therefore, the matter was not taken up by him just at the time of the Supplementary Demands. That is how the position stands. But if even during the time at our disposal the hon. Members could come to an agreement as to which Demands should be taken up and which cut motions should be taken up, I shall certainly be glad to give effect to that agreement. But in the absence of an agreement I think I must go by the order of priority.

**Shri Frank Anthony** (Madhya Pradesh): There is one difficulty I feel it would be a good thing if an agreement could be arrived at, but I see, looking at rule 133(5), that it appears to be mandatory. Rule 133(5) says:

"When several motions relating to the same demand are offered, they shall be discussed in the order in which the heads to which they relate, appear in the Budget."

**Mr. Speaker:** We shall see about the rule. I think with the consent of the House the rule can be relaxed. We are bound by the rules but the rules are intended for better facilities for discussion and business. If any rule comes in the way of that then, with the consent of the House, I will relax it, not otherwise. That is why I want agreement.

12 Noon.

**Shri Kamath:** May I remind you, Sir, that during the last session in November-December the Supplementary Demand in respect of the Ministry of External Affairs was taken out of order at the suggestion of some Members of the House? I think the Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair at that time. So here also there is a precedent.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not know all the circumstances of that. Perhaps there may have been an agreement. (*Interruption*). I might also make a further suggestion. There was the practice followed during the time of the Central Assembly when it was functioning prior to 15th August, 1947; and that was not to attempt to discuss every Demand each year but to select certain Demands in a particular year and finish up the entire administration in about three or four years. That would give Members a better scope of discussion and also of study.

So at present we go according to the order, though meanwhile, as I have said, the hon. Members can try and see if they can come to an agreement.

#### DEMAND NO. 11.—MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 77,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1951, in respect of 'Ministry of Home Affairs'."

On this Demand there are cut motions of Shri Jnani Ram, Shri Balmiki, Shri Kodanda Ramiah, Shri Rathnaswamy and Shrimati Ray. I am afraid all these seem to be out of order. Hon. Members will note the scope of discussion on Supplementary Demands. The discussion is restricted to the matter of the specific Demand. The question of general policy in that matter is not open to discussion for the very good reason that that policy must have been discussed threadbare when the original Budget sanction was given. That is the chief reason why questions of policy cannot be raised. For the same reason questions regarding matters not covered by the Supplementary Demand also cannot be raised or discussed. The exception to this would be only in cases where a new

item is coming in in respect of which there was no vote of the House at the Budget time, and comes in for the first time for discussion in the House. Barring that exception other matters of policy or matters not covered by the Supplementary Demand will not come up for discussion. It will be a mistake to suppose that because the Supplementary Demand comes in, therefore the entire administration in respect of that Department is open to criticism and discussion. If this is borne in mind, hon. Members will realise as to why I say that these five cut motions are out of order.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I wish to raise this point of order, Sir. This is exactly the point I sought to raise yesterday when I was not allowed to argue it. Where a question of policy is concerned, if it has been discussed during the General Budget it cannot be re-discussed at the time of the Supplementary Demand, but where a matter of policy is raised for the first time appropriately in respect of a Supplementary Demand, it can be discussed. When it is raised for the first time and it arises out of a Supplementary Demand, a matter of policy can be discussed. It is not sufficient to say that it may be discussed at the General Budget which is to be placed before the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member will see that the Supplementary Demands are coming in in respect of what the House has already voted. These Demands do not relate to what is coming up for the next year. That is the distinction.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** My point is that even if a matter be a matter of policy, if it is raised for the first time on a Supplementary Demand, it can be discussed.

**Mr. Speaker:** Perhaps he means actual discussion, that is to say, it is possible that a particular Demand may have come under the guillotine and the House may not have actually discussed it. Does he mean that?

**Shri M. A. Ayyangar (Madras):** No, Sir. Yesterday, the hon. Member wanted to refer to the policy regarding the re-grouping of Railways. On this particular subject, there is not a single Supplementary Demand nor is there even a token Demand nor did this form part of the Demands that were granted during the previous Budget Session. Later on, it will be open to the Standing Finance Committee to enter into this new policy and then a token Demand will be placed before the House. At the present moment, there is neither a

token Demand nor was this item included in the previous Demand. Under the circumstances, this is a new thing which is in the mind of Government and it ought not to be raked up here. I submit that it is not open to the hon. Member to raise this matter here, because there is no Demand in respect of it nor does any portion of the Supplementary Demand relate to it.

**Mr. Speaker:** That clears the position.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh):** May I seek an elucidation? You have been pleased to direct that so far as a matter of policy is concerned, if the policy has been already discussed during the last Budget Session it should not be re-opened. But supposing there has been a change in the policy of Government and the change is a substantial one, could not that matter be discussed to this limited extent of the material change in the policy? I am not referring to this particular item, but there are some subjects where there has been considerable change in the policy of Government since the time we voted the Demand during the last Budget Session.

**Mr. Speaker:** This question is very hypothetical at this stage. All the same, I may say that I am not inclined to agree with this view, for the simple reason that attempts will always be made to discuss a policy under the ground or under the guise of there having been a change in the policy of Government.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Only genuine change.

**Mr. Speaker:** Who is to decide whether there has been such a change?

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Of course, the Chair.

**Mr. Speaker:** That means that every matter must be discussed first. I think the better course in the interests of full and fruitful discussion in the House would be to bring only such matters as are in the Supplementary Demand to the pointed attention of Government and restrict the discussion to them.

Now, I should like to find out from the several hon. Members who have given notice of the cut motions what they have to say in regard to their motions being in order in view of my ruling.

**Shri Jnani Ram (Bihar):** Sir, with due respect to your ruling I submit

[Shri Jnani Ram]

that while we cannot discuss the general policy we may go into any specific grievance or action and bring it to the notice of the House and discuss it on the Supplementary Demand.

**The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi):** On a point of order, Sir. Cut motions are given with a view to give the Minister an inkling as to what matters are going to be discussed and therefore Ministers come prepared with only those points which are specifically referred to. Specific points can be raised only with regard to the sum demanded. In this cut motion that my hon. friend wants to move, he says that he wants to discuss 'census'. Now, this Demand does not pertain to census at all and therefore I submit that it can never be relevant.

**Mr. Speaker:** All these cut motions are in respect of this Demand but before I rule them out I must call the hon. Member concerned and ask him to show how he can discuss the matter he wants to discuss after the ruling I have given. I must find out how he thinks he comes under the permissible limit.

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari):** May I with your permission say a word? The point is whether a totally new matter for which an example was given, viz. the census, which has not been discussed before should be shut out. Now, Sir, I submit that two conditions have to be fulfilled before such a cut motion can be taken up. One is that it should be relevant to the Demand made and the other is that it should not result in a superfluous discussion of a matter which has already been discussed. Here, since there is no Demand in regard to the census, the hon. Member should wait till a general discussion arises in the next Budget.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is true.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray (West Bengal):** I do not want to move my cut motion as such, but I would like to point out to you that as there have been certain changes and the Estimates Committee report on the administrative machinery is before Government.....

**Mr. Speaker:** She is repeating the same point urged by Mr. Kapoor. It is no use going into repetitions.

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** You can do it on the Budget.

**Mr. Speaker:** I would then put this Demand to the House.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Just one point, Sir. In the first page of the Standing Finance Committee report, there is mention about this Demand. The remarks are merely two lines—"The Committee approved of the proposal"—and nothing more. This seems rather very strange.

**Shri Tyagi:** Because it was fool-proof.

**Mr. Speaker:** Now, I put the Demand to the House.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 77,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1951 in respect of 'Ministry of Home Affairs'."

*The motion was adopted.*

DEMAND NO. 13.—MINISTRY OF LAW

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion is:—

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,53,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1951, in respect of 'Ministry of Law'."

*Electoral Rolls*

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,53,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Law' be reduced by Rs. 100."

I have moved this cut motion in order to draw the attention of Government and the House to what I feel is a rather unsatisfactory manner in which electoral rolls are being prepared in certain of the States.

I presume that it is Government's intention that if all the millions of voters cannot be brought on the electoral rolls, at least as many as possible will be brought on the rolls. I think it is common knowledge and it is accepted that tens of thousands, perhaps millions, of eligible voters today have been omitted from the electoral rolls. Because of this Government has quite rightly given permission, or extended the time for filing objections and claims by people whose names have been wrong-

ly omitted from the electoral rolls. These objections, or claims, have to be submitted through printed forms which are in a set form—and that is my grievance. What is the point of extending the time for filing claims or objections, what is the point in having set printed forms on which these objections are to be submitted, if Government does not ensure that there is a sufficient number of objection forms?

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

I will give to the Minister,—who is deputising for the Law Minister—just one example. I do not think the gentleman concerned will object to my using his name. He is Major Bernard, a member of the Madhya Pradesh Legislature. He took the trouble of scrutinising the electoral rolls for Jabulpore in respect of his particular constituency. He found that in Jabulpore there were at least three hundred qualified Anglo-Indians whose names had been omitted from the electoral rolls. So, he did the next best thing; he addressed the local authorities to send him three hundred claim forms. The local authorities promptly replied and told him that they could only send him seventy forms, as they did not have sufficient number of forms. Being a member of the Legislature, he went further. He addressed the Chief Minister. He sent two reminders to the Chief Minister. And I regret to say, Sir, that the Chief Minister—acting like some of our Ministers today—who seemed to think that replying to letters is an objectionable foreign habit, did not have the courtesy to reply to this member of the Legislature, with the result that in spite of the fact that this member of the Legislature went out of his way to scrutinise the register, addressed the local election officers, addressed the Chief Minister, he secured no redress. When this is the position with regard to a member of the Legislature, I want to ask the Minister and Government, what is the position likely to be—it can be better imagined than described—of humble, ignorant people, who are eligible voters and who seek to have their names brought on to the electoral roll.

Another serious obstacle is the peculiar, queer, ununderstandable language in which these objection forms have been printed. I might mention that (I am not making a grievance of it) my own name was omitted from the electoral rolls of my home town of Jabulpore. I therefore went through

The Minister of Works, Production and Supply (*Shri Gadgil*): I hope the

omission stands and that the hon. Member will no more be here to trouble us!

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I, therefore, took the trouble of getting a claim form from the New Delhi authorities with the intention of filling it in and submitting it to the Jabulpore authorities. And let me assure the hon. Minister that the form was as much used to me as if it had been printed in Russian! I do not claim to be a master of the Hindi language, but I have sufficient knowledge to conduct successfully murder cases in Hindi. But when I got these forms I did not understand the head or tail of it. I will seek your permission, Sir, just to read two or three sentences and I am wondering whether hon. Minister who is not by any means semi-illiterate, nor by any means an ignorant voter who constitute the majority of persons in the electoral rolls, will be able to tell this House whether he can understand remotely this fantastic language which is now passing as the new Hindi language in New India.

This is how this form starts:

“लोकमत निर्वाचक नामावली की तैयारी”  
‘तैयारी’ I understand. Then  
“निर्वाचक नामावली में प्रवेशार्थ दावा।”  
Again “निर्वाचक एकक संसदीय लोकसभाई  
निर्वाचन क्षेत्र”। Then “कालम २ के वर्णन  
की पुष्टि के हेतु प्रमाण”।

[*Lokmat nirvachak namavali ki tyari, Tyari, I understand. Then nirvachak namavali men pravesharth dava. Again nirvachak ekak Sansdiya Loksabhai nirvachak kshetr. Then column 2 ke varnan ki pushtti ke hetu praman*].

**An Hon. Member:** This is simple Hindi.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** May be for you.

I may tell the hon. Minister that I took the trouble, in my attempt to fill this form, of getting the help of two of my Hindu clerks—not only are they Hindu clerks, they are Hindi-speaking Hindu clerks: not only Hindi-speaking Hindu clerks, but educated Hindi-speaking Hindu clerks—one has passed the Intermediate and the other one has passed the Matriculation.

**Shri Rajagopalachari:** The words read out by Mr. Anthony are very easily understood in South India.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The difficulty, I am afraid, arises from the pronunciation, not from the language. Words

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

like *namavali* and *nirvachak* are well-known and easily understood ones. There is no use criticising the language: one must learn Hindi which has become our official language.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I am not criticising the language: what I am saying is that all kinds of unfamiliar and I still submit fantastic words are brought in—words which make a Northern India Hindi-speaking Hindu an illiterate. What is the purpose of the objection forms being printed in this way? Is it Government's intention to discourage, or even make it impossible for literate Hindi-speaking Hindus to file objection forms?

My hon. friends say that I should learn Hindi. Let me tell them that I have earned more through my knowledge of Hindi than those who are now beginning to learn it will ever do. But my objection is this. On the one hand we assume all kinds of poses. We are not only a democracy, but we are a secular democracy working for the interests of India's ignorant and illiterate masses, and the first thing we do is to circulate and publicise a form which makes it impossible not only for the ignorant and the illiterate to file an objection form, but the literate Hindi-speaking to file this form.

And what I regret is this and though hon. Members may not agree with me, I say this that the kind of language which is being used in this form, which is being used in all manner of forms, is indicative of the increasing intolerance, the increasing communal fanaticism which has inspired the language policies throughout the country today.

**Some Hon. Members:** No, no.

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

I would like to urge upon the hon. Member to find out what ought to be the limit and the scope of this discussion. Are we going to enter into a discussion as to what Hindi ought to be, and how Hindi has to be written.

If the hon. Member does not know the Hindi language it is no good quarrelling with the language. He must go to some person who knows it. Every man who knows English may not understand Shakespeare. Under these circumstances, there is no point in finding out some argument for hitting the Government, or hitting other people, and bringing in communal discord out of the way. This is not the forum for that.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I am only going to take two minutes more, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I find that the hon. Member loses no opportunity to criticise someone or the other. I am afraid this opportunity should not be utilised for ventilating other grievances which may be well-founded or ill-founded.

So far as the communal aspect of it is concerned, it is absolutely out of order and out of place. How does communalism arise here?

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I am not introducing communalism.

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

**Shri Frank Anthony:** But I regret whenever I bring in anything which is distasteful to Government, however true it may be, there is such a spate of intolerance in the House that they do not allow me even to complete my argument. I repudiate the suggestion, even though it may come from the Chair, that I am gratuitously bringing in communalism.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have no hesitation in saying—the hon. Member is a little too harsh in his remarks—I have no hesitation in saying that communal questions ought not to have been brought in here. It is absolutely irrelevant.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I am not introducing communalism. It was on the other hand the gratuitous inference that I am bringing in irrelevant matter in order to criticize the Government.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I rule it as irrelevant—that it is on account of communal differences, that it will accentuate them and so on. This is a matter which ought not to have been referred to. It is unnecessarily provocative in this House and tries to create difference between Member and Member and sect and sect and so on, and it is not conducive to the best interests of the society at large.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I do not question your ability to know what is in the best interests of the country. But may I humbly submit that I am not also oblivious of what, according to my standards, ought to be in the best interests of the country? And if the Chair and the House feel that people are not supposed to put forward their point of view, then with your permission I will withdraw from the House if this House is going to make a travesty of democracy and if people are not going to be permitted to express their point of view.



**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. I have been noticing that the hon. Member is going far out of the way. It is never the intention of the Chair to shut out proper and legitimate criticism. But the Chair is always bound to say that particular matters which are said on the floor of the House are not relevant, and if the hon. Member thinks that he is not prepared to obey the Chair with respect to that ruling it is open to him to do as he likes.

**Shri M. L. Gupta (Hyderabad):** Sir, I protest against the word "mob" or "mobocracy" used by the hon. Member.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I am afraid my friend did not hear me, I did not say these words.

Still we will eliminate all allegations of communalism. All I can say is that these words used here, whether they are intended or not, are calculated deliberately to prevent people from coming on to the electoral rolls. Why are these forms drawn up in this way? What does article 351 of the Constitution say? Article 351, like so many of the other articles of our Constitution, solemnly professes that it shall be the duty of the Government so to develop Hindi that it shall be the medium of expression of all the elements that represent the composite culture of India. Is this the language that represents the composite culture of India? Is this the kind of language, the language which deliberately excludes words known to the commonest Hindu, Bap and Walidiyat? All I can say before I resume my seat is that this kind of language, is being deliberately inspired by language fanatics in such a way that this provision, this solemn provision—and we have got into the habit of professing things solemnly while we violate them—that this article 351, like so many other things, is one of the still-born mockeries of our Constitution.

I will end on this. I am not blaming my hon. friend the hon. Minister. He has not got anything to do with this. If the Ministers at the Centre were administering this it would be different and very much better. But unfortunately it is not a unitary form of Government. All I can ask him to do is at least to see that enough objection forms are made available. When a man writes to the local authority why should he be told "We have got only seventy forms and not three hundred", thereby deliberately excluding the qualified people from coming on the rolls. I do not think I can say anything more because I regretfully

note that people who formulate the policies are much too powerful to accept any advice from people like the hon. Minister who is going to reply to me.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Cut motion moved:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,53,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Law' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Shri Hussain Imam:** I should like to add my voice in the matter of the language. Not that I decline to accept the language which is used. But I do claim that India being one country and as this is being financed by the Centre, it was the duty of the Centre to make out a form which would be understandable in all parts and not only in the South as is claimed by the hon. the Home Minister. Many of my friends of North India are unable.....

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab):** It is quite understandable in the North also. It is not particularly understandable in the South.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** It should be an easy language. It is not a literary piece that is put in. It is a form that people should understand. If easy language is used it would not be harmful to any one.

I would particularly invite the attention of Government to the form which the hon. Member showed. It is a big form. That means that paper is being wasted. For filing a claim a paper of smaller size would be enough. There are fourteen questions in the census form and the paper is only of this much size (8"×6"). Why should public money be wasted thus? The form is printed bigger even than foolscap size, merely for filing a claim. This means there is nobody to look after economy; and that the economy campaign of the Centre is confined to the Finance Department and applies nowhere else.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Should it not be as big as the electoral roll itself? Are not all the various columns to find a place?

**Shri Hussain Imam:** I was referring to the census which is a more descriptive business than the registration of a man's particulars about his name, parentage and residence only. If you can have the census form smaller than this piece of paper (octavo size), why should you have this form more than three times that size? It is sheer waste of public money.

[Shri Hussain Imam]

I have also come to know of different kinds of paper on which electoral rolls are printed. Some are very heavy, some are light paper; in some places they are using printing paper, in some places newsprint is used. All these show lack of superintendence on the part of the Centre to see that public money is not wasted. We want centralisation in all these respects.

At least where the Centre's money is spent, the Centre must see that centralised purchase is made. There is scope for waste in printing being given to the presses without the supply of paper. The result of this is that prices charged are much higher in some places than in others. I would ask the Law Ministry to call for particulars from each of the States and find out what is the printing rate per page. He will find that there is enormous difference not only between State and State but in the same State between town and town. Is this the manner in which public money is being guarded by the Centre? And it is not a small sum. We have budgeted for a crore and a quarter on the preparation of this electoral roll. Are we exercising any care in this? It is very well to say that we have handed over this power to the States. The State gives the power to the district officers.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Does he contend that it should be only one kind of paper?

**Shri Hussain Imam:** I am contending that as in the case of government printing there should be a centralised purchase. If the Printing and Stationery Department of the Centre can purchase paper of the value of more than Rs. 2½ crores per year, the Centre could have quite easily bought paper for Rs. 25 lakhs and handed them over to the States to be printed in each district.

**Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh):** This is over and above the ordinary requirements.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** I am referring to the fact that this excess has been caused due to absence of superintendence and control over the expenditure, by the Centre. And that is the reason why, not only in this one place but in thousands of places, you will find that this theory of delegation of power from the Centre to the Provinces and from the Provinces to the District goes on and on, leading to waste of public money. I therefore invite the particular attention of Government to this and I hope at least

in future this kind of mistake may not be committed. When the whole thing is done from the Centre we should have one set form, one set size, one set of printing rules. At least a maximum and minimum should be fixed and not in this way where the rate of one District is different from another, and there is no co-relation at all. I challenge Government if they collect information they will see that my charges are correct and they are wrong.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya (Bihar):** I want to take this opportunity of drawing the attention of Government to an important matter in connection with the preparation of electoral rolls. This is with regard to the registration of the names of women in some parts of this Union. When the draft electoral rolls were prepared it was not insisted that the names of ladies be written in them and they were styled either as "wife of so and so" or "daughter of so and so" and likewise. It has perhaps now been decided, I do not know by whom, whether by the Election Commissioner himself or under directions from Government, that the names of the ladies must be entered in the final electoral roll (in the case of every individual name) and if the names are by any chance not secured, then the existing entries as wife or daughter will be deleted.

In the Province of Bihar of which I have some information, I can say that if it is insisted that the names must be recorded, then more than 50 per cent. of the voters among ladies will be debarred. I am not trying to dispute the decision to enter names. Perhaps there is a good deal of force in this decision. As you know and I suppose Members of this House know, it will take some time before we reach the stage which we desire with regard to the preparation of electoral rolls. There are other deficiencies also, for instance, a large number of people have not been enrolled and those defects will be there for a time. Considering however the vast number of people to be enrolled, I think, howsoever desirable, it will not be proper to insist on the names being recorded in the case of ladies failing which to expunge the entries. I would like to draw the attention of Government to this matter and would like them to consider it carefully, as it really debars a very large number of women from taking part in our next elections.

**Shri Sidhva:** I desire to bring one or two points to the notice of the hon.

Minister as regards the Bombay electoral rolls. First of all, they were all printed in Hindi. Objections were received and names which were not there were also added and it was completed. But at the instance of Civil authorities, the Government of India decided to publish the rolls in English and this list will not be subject to any objections to be called from the voters. What I want to point out is that a complication may arise. If in the Hindi list, which is complete, a certain name is there and supposing in the English list that name is omitted due to oversight, what would happen? I want to know which list will be taken as the official list. If the Hindi list is going to be official list, then let it be made clear and I have no objection. But if the English list is held to be the official list, then the objections must be received as was done in the case of the Hindi list.

My second point is this. Article 81 of the Constitution reads as follows:

"(1) (a) Subject to the provisions of clause (2) and of articles 82 and 331, the House of the People shall consist of not more than five hundred members....."

"(b) For the purpose of sub-clause (a), the States shall be divided, grouped or formed into territorial constituencies."

and article 82 of the Constitution runs as follows:

"Notwithstanding anything in clause (1) of article 81, Parliament may by law provide for the representation in the House of the People of any State specified in Part C of the First Schedule or of any territories comprised within the territory of India but not included within any State on a basis or in a manner other than that provided in that clause."

My point is that the All India Cantonments Association have made a representation to the Census Commissioner that cantonments come within the jurisdiction of the Union and this Parliament and not within the States as defined under article 82. If in any case any particular part is omitted, if it is not included within any State, then Parliament should frame a law accordingly. That was the object when the Constitution was made. My point is that there are ten lakhs of people residing in cantonments in the various parts of India and they would be coming under the general electoral roll and they will have no voice as far as the State Legislature is concerned, because the cantonments are within

the purview of the Centre. This matter was discussed by the Cantonments Committee and they have decided that out of 104 cantonments only 12 cantonments can be merged with the adjoining civil authorities. On the basis of this the Association have made a representation that they should be given two seats out of the 500 seats. The Delimitation Committee have already fixed up 498 of this. There are two seats available and Parliament may kindly consider giving the seats to them. Otherwise, they will go without any kind of representation in this House of the People. Mr. Anthony was clamouring here and his community has been given special representation of two seats under article 331. The House was very generous in doing this because we have done away with all special representations. I always advocated the removal of this but Mr. Anthony by his vociferous claims has been successful in getting two seats. That apart, I contend that it would be fair and just to provide two seats for this Cantonment Association.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray:** It is not my intention to speak on this motion except for some remarks that were made just now by the hon. Mr. Syamnandan Sahaya. He has pointed out that in some parts there may be hardship to women because they cannot give their names. I want to say, Sir—I think I am expressing the opinion of those women who were and are very anxious that women should take advantage of their rights as equal citizens to utilize their vote—that we do not want that certain privileges should be given, which are not necessary. We are very glad that Government and the Election Commissioner have taken the decision that if women cannot come forward and give their names, it is better—however unfortunate—that such women who are not allowed to have an entity of their own, who are not allowed to be actually citizens in the full sense of the word, but only can give their names as wives and daughters, are left out for the time being. It is necessary that if women have to come forward and utilize their vote and to be citizens in equal measure with all others then they must be in a position to give their names, and if there are women left out, however sorrowful we may feel about it, because they cannot give their names, because in this country conditions still obtain where a woman cannot give her name but only can go by the name of her husband or as a daughter, then, it is better that until conditions change her name is left out.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** I am sure that many in the House, even a majority of us, are feeling unhappy that under the garb of a cut motion today, opportunity should have been taken to reopen virtually the question of language of the States. I do not know whether there was the slightest justification for my hon. friend Mr. Anthony to have raked up this question. Since he has, I would certainly like to draw his attention to the relevant article in the Constitution, and if he cares to read that patiently, impartially and with an open mind on the subject, he will at once come to the conclusion that the language which has been used in the forms which he had in his hand while making his remarks, is just the language which has been prescribed by the Constitution.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is it necessary to rake up that question again as the hon. Member himself says that Mr. Anthony raked up the question? He need not rake up that question again.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** I am only trying to soothe his feelings.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let that chapter be over. Hon. Members and the House are not sitting in judgment over the question of language. Incidentally he made a remark that he is not able to understand the language. That is all what he meant.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** I will not take more than a couple of minutes, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No, no. I do not think that it is right to enter into a discussion now and try to justify before the House and before the country that Hindi is the official language. It is clearly well known.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** I was only submitting that the form which he had in his hand has been printed and published in the language of the State itself. So, there should be no reasonable justification to have any grievance on that score. I suppose that the form has been printed and published in his State Madhya Pradesh. The language of the State is certainly Hindi and that is just the language which has been used in that particular form. Then, again, I think, if anybody has any grievance, it is the other residents rather than my hon. friend. The other residents of the State have a justifiable grievance on the score that many words are used therein which are of English origin. According to the Constitution, primarily we should draw from Sanskrit for the formation of our words. No mention of English has

been made in the Schedule of the Constitution. When I got the form from him for a couple of minutes, I was surprised to find therein a number of words which are absolutely of English origin. I am sure many citizens of the State would find it very difficult to understand this form. They have put in the word 'column'. I wonder whether many of the people understand what 'column' is, whether it means a pen or a tree, etc. I can appreciate the anxiety of the State Government of Madhya Pradesh to use some such words so that...

**Shri Frank Anthony:** On a point of explanation, Sir, this form was not from Madhya Pradesh; I got it from Delhi.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** The English form?

**Shri Frank Anthony:** The Hindi form too I got from Delhi.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Even then my objection stands. Even in the State of Delhi, I am sure the people in the rural areas, who form the overwhelming majority, do not understand the word 'column'. I can quite appreciate the anxiety of the various State Governments that in this matter they should not be so puritanic and that they should not be very particular about using Hindi and Hindi language alone, drawn primarily from Sanskrit as envisaged in the Constitution, and that they should have for the convenience of those who understand English, some expressions which may be understood by them. Far from being in a language which is not easily understood by people generally, this form is printed in a language which could be understood by the majority of people; the convenience of the residents of the country has obviously been taken into consideration.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This being an electoral matter, a number of Members seem to be interested.

**Shri Gadgil:** I have no objection even if they take up the whole day.

**Shri Bharati (Madras):** I am not going into the vexed question of language though I have got my own views and have a lot to say to my hon. friends.

There is very great force in what Mr. Hussain Imam said on the floor of the House and I would very much request the hon. Finance Minister to read out the figures for the expenditure relating thereto for the various States. It will be a valuable revelation.

That is what I want to submit to this House. As the hon. Prime Minister once observed in connection with the Engineering Exhibition that Madras has fared well, with a certain amount of justifiable pride, I am glad to say that Madras seems to be doing very well in this matter also. So far as this expenditure relates to the preparation and printing of electoral rolls, it depends upon the total population and the number of voters. Madras, with a population of 55 millions, has demanded 12 lakhs whereas other States, for example, West Bengal with a population of less than one half of Madras, has required about 40 lakhs (*Inter-ruption*) and Uttar Pradesh with an almost equal population, 40 lakhs. Whereas the expenditure of West Bengal should have been less than one half, that is, five lakhs, it has required 40 lakhs! We tried to get some more information from the States as to why there should be such a great disparity between State and State; we have not been successful. I would therefore request the hon. Finance Minister to read out the figures for the respective States for the self-same item of preparation and printing of electoral rolls. There is very great force in what Mr. Hussain Imam has said, and I would request the hon. Finance Minister to exercise his good offices and influence to examine the question with a great amount of caution and to see there is no wastage of public money in this respect though it is only a share of the expenditure that is borne by the Central Government.

**Shri Budrappa (Mysore):** I want to ascertain from the hon. Minister, in view of the statement attached to this Demand, when the work of the Delimitation Committees that have been set up by the Speaker, is going to be finalised, and whether any date is fixed to place this delimitation of Constituencies before Parliament so that approval may be obtained before the Budget Session is over. Also I want to know whether any time limit has been placed for finalising the electoral rolls so that the elections may be arranged at least within this year, as promised by the Election Commissioner. From what I have been able to find, the time for the filling of claims has been extended from March 15th. Therefore, there will be no finality if we go on extending the time. What happens is, even the assurance given by the Election Commissioner to the effect that they are going to have elections this year, they may not be able to fulfil. There is also an apprehension in the mind of the public that Government is—of course, it may be for good reason—postponing the elections in order to keep on in power.

Therefore, I want a categorical statement from the hon. Minister as to whether they are going to fix a time limit both for placing the report on the delimitation of constituencies for the approval of this House, and also for finalising the voters' lists, so that the elections may be held during this year. I would like to bring to the notice of the House the repercussions that this postponement of elections has on the public. These elections have been postponed for a third time. Once they promised to hold the elections in January-February, 1951. Again, they were postponed to April-May; then, again, they have been postponed to November or December. My submission is that in most of the States there are no legislatures; in even some of the Part B States, as for example in Hyderabad, there is no legislature and people have no voice in the administration. In some of the Part B States, there are no legislatures worth the name and serious agitation is going on even among Congress Party members. Therefore, to set right all these things it would be advisable for Government to hold the elections early. Also in view of the war clouds hanging all around us, it is necessary to hold the elections as early as possible. Whatever President Truman or Marshal Stalin may say, war is going to come and as soon as it does come Government will not be in a position to hold any elections. Therefore, for all these reasons, it is very necessary to hold the elections soon. This would relieve the mis-apprehensions in the minds of the public and also those belonging to parties other than the Congress who are making use of the postponement of the elections as a lever to undermine the prestige of Government and of the Congress. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to make a categorical statement that we are going to have the elections at least by the end of this year.

**Shri A. C. Guha (West Bengal):** I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to one particular fact connected with the electoral rolls. These rolls are open to scrutiny and revision; but there have been many complaints from all the States that proper facilities are not given to the persons who come to see the rolls and to suggest revisions. Even the educated and politically-conscious people of the towns feel these difficulties, and I do not know how much more will be the difficulty experienced by people of the villages. I would request Government and the hon. Minister to see that all the necessary facilities are given to the people to scrutinise and revise the electoral rolls.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : मैं ज्यादा ज़बान के सवाल पर नहीं बोलूंगी। मैं हिन्दी बोल रही हूँ और यू० पी० की रहने वाली हूँ, लेकिन मैं यह साफ़ कर देना चाहती हूँ कि जो फार्म (form) भाई ऐन्थनी ने पेश किया है और जो हालत पेश की है वही हालत हमारी भी है। यह बात नहीं है कि मैं हिन्दी नहीं जानती हूँ। मैं लिटरेरी (literary) हिन्दी खूब अच्छी तरह से जानती हूँ और किन्तु, परन्तु, विषय, वगैरह खूब अच्छी तरह से समझती हूँ। लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि जब हम ने हिन्दी को नेशनल लैंग्वेज (National Language) कहा और राष्ट्रभाषा कहा तो हम ने मासेज़ (masses) की हिन्दी के लिए कहा था। हमें ऐसी हिन्दी बोलनी है कि अगर हम बम्बई जायें तो, 'बोलता है' 'कहता है', इसी तरह बोलें-और मद्रास जायें तो वंसी ही उल्टी सीधी बोलें जैसी कि वहाँ समझी जा सकती है। यही मासेज़ की हिन्दी होती है। लेकिन जब हम कोई लेख लिखें, कोई आर्टिकल (article) लिखें या कोई मजमून लिखें तो उस में हम लिटरेरी हिन्दी लिखें। तो इस तरह हिन्दी के दो हिस्से हैं, और एक हिन्दी ही क्या उर्दू, अंग्रेज़ी या कोई भी ज़बान हो दो हिस्से होते हैं, एक हिस्सा लिटरेरी होता है और दूसरा तमाम मासेज़ के समझने का होता है। तो मैं यह आशा करूंगी कि इस का ज़रूर ख्याल रखा जायेगा कि जो फार्म छपें उन में ऐसी भाषा और ज़बान आवे कि जिस को मामूली से मामूली अनपढ़ आदमी समझ सके। ऐसी भाषा उस में न हो कि जिस को समझने के लिए हमें डिक्शनरी (Dictionary)

ले कर बैठना पड़े। इसलिये मेरी आप से यह दरहवास्त है कि मेहरबानी कर के इस पर विचार करें। मैं जानती हूँ कि मद्रास की भाषाओं में जैसे तामिल, तेलुगू और केनारीज़ सब में संस्कृत के शब्द हैं। मैं वहाँ रह चुकी हूँ। वहाँ के लोग जब हमारे यू० पी० में हमारी भाषा सीखने आते हैं तो उन की लड़कियाँ जो हिन्दी सीखती हैं वह हम से ज्यादा अच्छी और तेज़ हिन्दी बोलती हैं। लेकिन फर्क यह होता है कि हम जो हिन्दी बोलते हैं वह हमारी ज़बान होती है और वह किताबी हिन्दी बोलने लगती है। मैं चाहती हूँ कि हम संस्कृत भी जानें। लेकिन मामूली आदमी ऐसी ज़बान नहीं समझ सकते जिस में संस्कृत के शब्द आवें, या जिस में कनारीज़ के शब्द आवें, या उस में उर्दू के वह लफ्ज़ आवें जिन को वह नहीं जानते हैं। इसलिये मैं चाहती हूँ कि ज़बान सरल और आसान होनी चाहिये।

इस के बाद एक और विषय आ गया है जिस पर मुझे बोलना ज़रूरी हो गया और वह विषय इलेक्टोरल रोल (Electoral Rolls) का है। मैं ने भी देखा कि इलेक्टोरल रोल में बदकिस्मती से हमारे यहाँ की जो औरतें हैं उन के नाम नहीं हैं, कहीं तो उन के पतियों के नाम हैं और कहीं उन के पिता के नाम हैं, उन के खुद के नाम नहीं हैं। इस पर मैं बहुत दिनों से ग़ौर कर रही हूँ और इसी नतीजे पर पहुँची हूँ जैसा कि मेरी बहिन रेणुका रे ने कहा है कि इस में कोई शक नहीं कि वह ज़माना आना है जब कि औरतें अपना नाम स्वयं लिखायेंगी, वह सिर्फ़ रेणुका रहेगी, पति या पिता का नाम उन के पीछे नहीं लगा रहेगा। एक ज़माना

यहां ऐसा था कि जब औरतों के नाम केवल रहते थे, और पतियों के नाम उन के साथ नहीं होते थे। आज भी हमारे यहां की पुराने जमाने की औरतों के साथ उन के पतियों के नाम नहीं हैं। उन की अपनी इंडीविजुएलिटी (Individuality) है। लेकिन मैं चाहती हूँ जैसा कि इधर से मेरे एक भाई ने दरख्वास्त की है कि हम उन औरतों को भी ले लें जिन के नाम पति के नाम या पिता के नाम से दिये गये हैं। मैं समझती हूँ कि हम को इन दोनों बातों के बीच से कोई कम्प्रोमाइज़ (Compromise) निकालना होगा। वजह यह है कि मैं सोचती हूँ कि अगर ऐसा न किया गया तो भारत की इतनी सारी स्त्रियाँ बिना वोट रह जायेंगी। यह पहला कदम है जो हम उठा रहे हैं, और इसी तरह हम हलके हलके आगे जायेंगे। अभी औरतें बर्द-किस्मती से पुरुषों की हुकूमत में हैं। और इन स्त्रियों को शिक्षा भी नहीं मिली है। चाहती हूँ कि वह वोट जरूर दें और ऐसा कोई तरीका निकाला जाये कि जिसमें वह दोनों बातें ठीक हो जायें। मैं चाहती हूँ कि तमाम औरतें वोटर हो कर आँवें और उन के वोट से स्त्रियाँ पुरुष दोनों चुने जायें।

श्यादा न कह कर मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि जो इलेक्टोरल रोल्स हैं वह कायदे से बनाये जायें और उन में ऐसी ज़बान न हो जो कि हम समझ न सकें और दूसरी यह कि स्त्रियों के नाम रखने के लिए कोई तरीका सोचा जाये और कोई ऐसा तरीका निकाला जाये कि वह वोटर बनी रहें।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shrimati Uma Nehru (Uttar Pradesh): I will not speak too much on the language question. I am speaking in Hindi and am a resident of U.P. But, I want to state it clearly that the form which has been presented by Shri Anthony and the situation as described by him is just the same as we are experiencing it. This is not the thing that I am not acquainted with Hindi. I am very well acquainted with literary Hindi and am quite familiar with the words 'Kintu', 'Parantu', 'Visnaya' etc. But when we accepted Hindi as our national language we meant it to be a language of the masses. We have to speak Hindi in such a manner that if we go to Bombay or Madras we should be able to talk in a form which is understandable by those people, howsoever incorrect it might be. But when we have to write any article or prepare any draft, we should use literary Hindi. Therefore, there are two forms of Hindi and not only of Hindi but Urdu, English or any other language has two forms—one is literary and the other is meant for the masses. Therefore, I hope that in future it will be taken into consideration that the forms are printed in such a language that they are easily understandable even by the most uneducated person. The language used should not be such that we may have to consult dictionary to understand it. Therefore, I submit, that it should be considered. I know that the languages spoken in Madras, like Tamil, Telugu and Kannada contain many Sanskrit words. I have lived there. When these people come to U.P. for learning our language, their daughters learn Hindi so well that they speak it fluently and correctly. But the difference is that the type of Hindi which we speak, is our language while they begin to speak Hindi of the books. I want that we should learn Sanskrit as well. But the common man cannot understand that language in which words of Sanskrit, Kannada or Urdu have been used. Therefore, I want that the language should be easily understandable.

Then, there is another subject on which it is essential for me to speak. It is about electoral rolls. I have seen the electoral rolls but unfortunately there are no names of our womenfolk. There are the names of their husbands or fathers but not of their own. I have been thinking it over for a long time and I have come to the conclusion, as has been said by my sister Renuka Ray, that a time will certainly come when our women will get their own names registered, they will simply remain Renuka and the names of their husbands and fathers will not be

[Shrimati Uma Nehru]

appended. There was a time when women used to be addressed by their own names and not by the names of their husbands. The names of the women in the past were not associated in any way with the names of their husbands. They had their own individuality. But I want, as has been said by one of my friends from that side, that we should also include those women who have been mentioned by the names of their husbands or fathers. I think we have to bring about a compromise between the two things. The reason is that if we do not do like that a large number of women in India will be deprived of their right to vote. This is our first step and we will proceed gradually. Unfortunately, at present women have to obey the orders of men. There are no arrangements for the education of our womenfolk. I want that they should vote and some such compromise should be brought about so that both the things may be achieved. Therefore, I want that all women should come forward as voters and should elect both men and women by their votes.

I do not want to say anything more except that electoral rolls should be properly prepared and the language used therein should not be such that we may not be able to understand it. Moreover we should find out a way to enumerate women and should see that they continue to remain voters.

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

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

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Before the House commences its business I might inform the House that I have received a request from a number of hon. Members to allow two hours for the discussion of Demand No. 98 (Capital Outlay on Industrial Development) either this afternoon or tomorrow, so that the House can discuss the cut motions regarding the Government housing factory. Hon. Members will take this into account and limit their speeches.

**Shri Satish Chandra (Uttar Pradesh):** This subject of the housing factory has been discussed so many times and at such length that it may not be proper to allot two hours for its discussion during the brief period allotted for the supplementary demands.

**The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** I had a talk with Mr. Kamath and other hon. Members who have

given cut motions on this subject and it has been agreed that not more than one hour will be set apart for it. Mr. Satish Chandra is perfectly right that we should not take more than one hour for this purpose.

**Shri Sidhva:** It is not correct to say that the subject has been discussed threadbare. Even today there was a question on the subject at the fag end of the question hour and supplementary questions could not be put. There are many reports about the condition of the factory. We know that a Committee has been appointed. The requisition you have received is correct. We must have two hours to discuss the subject tomorrow from 2-30 to 4-30 P.M.

**Shri Goenka (Madras):** I think you ought to give two hours for the discussion of this housing factory....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Whatever time is given for it is taken away from the discussion of the rest of the demands.

**Shri Goenka:** About 70 or 80 lakhs of the taxpayer's money has been spent....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** 92 lakhs.

**Shri Goenka:** We can go into the details later. Apart from that.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It has been agreed that one hour will be allotted to it.

**Shri Goenka:** It will not do: you cannot do justice to the subject.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let us proceed and see if in the meantime any agreement will be arrived at.

**Shri Ghule (Madhya Bharat):** Much has been said about the names of women included in the electoral lists and whether the right to vote to women should be given when their names are there or whether rights should be given only when they are entered as wives or daughters of somebody. Much has been said about the economy which is being exercised in preparing these electoral lists. My hon. friend Shri Bharati has rightly pointed out the disproportionateness which is seen in the expenses incurred by the various States in preparing the lists. But what I want to point out to the hon. Minister concerned is the incompleteness of the lists which have already been prepared. So many names have been excluded from the lists that I am very doubtful as to what percentage of the adult population which ought to have been included in the lists has been included.



The other point I want to draw attention to is this. Where the residents were not there in their houses you would find such entries like

‘कोयला रा हुआ रखा ह, सुनार की बुकानह’, [filled with coal, shop of goldsmith]. Such entries are to be found in my part. It seems from this that there was no supervision, no proofreading, no man to see what lists were given to the press and what was printed. It might be said that the lists have already been prepared, sufficient time was given to lodge objections or claims and nothing could be done now. What I want to point out is that if we are going before the country with this material, putting this sample of our efficiency before the country, how are we going to create confidence in the masses and work our democracy or conduct our elections. This is the first list and it will be the basis of other lists which will be prepared subsequently for further elections. If this list is so incomplete and inefficiently prepared I do not see how we are going to manage affairs in the coming elections. If proper steps are taken I think it would be possible for us to conduct the elections properly. The time for objections and claims was enhanced and sufficient time was given in view of the postponement of the elections. In view of the postponement of the elections and the seven or eight months we have had it should have been possible for the authorities to make the lists complete but from facts as they are it seems that there was nobody to control the affairs, that there was nobody to look after the lists and that they had been entrusted to persons who did not realise what great responsibilities were vested in them. That is why I want to bring this fact to the notice of the hon. Minister.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I agree with the other hon. Members that the electoral rolls as have been prepared are very defective and full of inaccuracies. It is almost impossible for the average voter to get the entries corrected. If a small percentage of entries were incorrect it would have been possible for the voters to apply on the prescribed forms, to go to the electoral offices and get the entries corrected. But when 95 per cent. of the entries be wrong, due to careless and hasty preparation of the rolls, it is difficult to correct them by ordinary process. Full names of persons do not appear—generally half the names are entered; even if the name be correct the house number may be wrong, or if the house number is correct, then the father's name is wrong.....

**Shri Gadgil:** All sorts of permutations.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** A son may be shown as the wife of the father! I am speaking from personal experience about my city that these are very common mistakes that occur in the electoral rolls. I do not know if any

care has been exercised in the preparation of these rolls. When the elections were put off for a year it should have been possible for Government to get the rolls scrutinised from door to door instead of asking voters to file a very large number of claims or objections. I agree with the friends who have preceded me that the prescribed forms of application for correction and inclusion of entries are too large, complicated and technical. The size of the form is double-foolscap. The voter has to fill the qualifying date, the qualifying period and several other such entries. These are entries which could have been very well printed. For instance, the entry relating to the qualifying date is common to all the voters all over the country and could have been printed. There are many complicated entries which it is impossible for the average voter to fill in.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** What about the language?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** As far as the language is concerned, I entirely disagree with my friend, Mr. Frank Anthony. If *namavali* and *nirvachan* are words to which he objects, I think he objects to the Hindi language being the national language of this country, he objects to the provisions of the Constitution. If from *nam* he cannot even by commonsense—even if he does not know Hindi—deduce the word *namavali*.....

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Thirumala Rao):** But *nam* has two connotations: one is name and the other is *namam*.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I think Mr. Frank Anthony has not even a remote idea of *namam*. *Nirvachan* again is such a common word that I was astonished when a revered leader from Uttar Pradesh whom I respect so much, Shrimati Uma Nehru, got up and remarked that the language used is not the language of the common man. Sir, she has been brought up in the Persian atmosphere, with the Persian language more or less as her mother tongue. I think she will not disclaim me. She is a Persian scholar herself. But, if she says that *Nirvachan* and *namavali* are words which are not commonly understood by the politically-conscious common man in India today. I really wonder if she in her old age has lost contact with the masses.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं खड़ी नहीं होती, लेकिन मुझे खड़ा होना पड़ा क्योंकि मेरी चर्चा की गई है। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि मैं इनकी बुझा हूँ, लेकिन मैं आप को यह भी बता दूँ कि यहाँ जो व्याप्त नामावली वगैरह का जिक्र करते हैं चर्चा करते हैं, तो उस के सम्बन्ध में मेरा कहने का मतलब यह है कि

ऐसे हों जो आसाम वाले भी समझें, जो सिक्ख भी समझें, जो पंजाबी भी समझें, जो पारसी भी समझें, जोर जिन को ईसाई भी समझें। हमारे देश में जितनी भी जातियां हैं वे सब उनको समझ सकें। इसीलिए मैं ने कहा था कि वह शब्द रखें जायें जो सरल और सुन्दर हिन्दी के हों। अगर वह सरल और सुन्दर हिन्दी को मानते हैं तो मुझे कुछ नहीं कहना है।

[Shrimati Uma Nehru: Sir, I would not have stood up, but I had to stand up as some reference has been made about me. There is no doubt about it that I am older than him. But, with reference to *Namavati* etc. which was discussed here, I submitted that words should be such as may be easily understood by Assamese, Sikhs, Punjabis, Parsis and Christians. All the communities inhabiting our country should be able to understand them. Therefore, I had suggested that the words to be used should be simple and of chaste Hindi. If he is in favour of simple and chaste Hindi, I have nothing to say.]

Shri Satish Chandra: I do not think there is a more commonly used Hindi equivalent for election. She might like to call it *intakhab*, or Mr. Frank Anthony might like to use the word election. But many more persons in the country might like to put *nirvachan*. I am quite sure that the word *nirvachan* is understood in India by a larger number of persons. I am not referring to the Hindi-speaking areas only. Even taking the country as a whole, taking the South, taking Bengal or Maharashtra, Assam or Orissa and considering the language of those areas also, I would say that the word *nirvachan* is more common.

Shri Sidhva: No, *chunav* is more common.

Shri Satish Chandra: As I have said already, I have great respect for Shrimati Uma Nehru, but I submit that in this matter her approach and her appreciation of the problem is not quite correct.

Shri Hussain Imam: Have these forms been printed in Hindi throughout India or in local languages for the various regions?

Shri Satish Chandra: Well, my name itself was entered wrongly in the electoral rolls and I filled in an English form in order to get it corrected in the electoral rolls. So there are English forms available for the use of Mr. Frank Anthony and therefore the question of language should not have been raised by him at all.

Pandit Kunzru (Uttar Pradesh): I should like to say a few words in support of what was said by the hon.

Member, Shrimati Uma Nehru, I should not have said anything at all but for the remarks made by the last speaker, I think that the complaint made by the hon. Member, Mr. Frank Anthony.....

Shri J. R. Kapoor: On a point of order, Sir, and of personal privilege, I was prevented from discussing this question absolutely and I had thought that no other Member would be allowed to discuss it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wanted to refer to various articles to say that this is the language of India.

Pandit Kunzru: I think the complaint made by the hon. Member Shri Frank Anthony, about the language of the electoral forms is justified. I do not think that I am wholly ignorant of Hindi, yet I agree with Shrimati Uma Nehru that the language could easily have been such as to be understood by the masses. If Hindi has been adopted as the official language of India it is not because Sanskrit words can be understood by people in Bombay or Madras or Bengal but because it is the language of millions of people in Northern India.

Shri Rajagopalachari: In Northern India? In all India.

Pandit Kunzru: Well, it is not the language of the masses all over India. It is the language of the masses in U. P., in Bihar, in a good portion of the Punjab, in Rajputana, and in part of Madhya Pradesh, but surely it is not the language of the masses either in Orissa or in Assam or in Bombay or in Madras. And but for the fact that millions of people in the States mentioned by me earlier speak this language. Hindi would have had no claim to be chosen as the official language of India. We should bear this in mind. We should realise that electoral roll forms are not a literary production. They are something that should be popularly understood. People who write books in Hindi or Urdu or English have the right to resort to the literary form of the language that they use, but in a matter like that which we are discussing I think it is desirable to make the language as easy as possible. Our preferences for literary expressions ought not to prevent us from realising that what we may regard as a very desirable form of Hindi may not be easily intelligible to others. I think therefore that even now it is not too late for Government to make every effort to change the language of the Hindi forms so that they may be more easily understood by men of all classes.

श्रीमती कमला चौधरी : मैं इस समय कोई भाषण नहीं करना चाहती हूँ। मैं तो केवल संसद् के माननीय सदस्यों का ध्यान विधान में जो भविकार बोट का दिया गया है उस पर आक्रुष्ट करना चाहती हूँ। इस में जहाँ

तक मैंने समझा है, कोई शर्त नहीं है सिवाय इस के कि एक आयु मुकर्रर कर दी गई है हर एक स्त्री के लिए, हर एक पुरुष के लिए और उस आयु का जो भी नागरिक है, वह वोट दे सकता है और जिस को कि बालिग मताधिकार कहा जाता है। तो जब विधान में हम ने एक ऐसी बड़ी बात की है जो कि मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारे विधान की सब से अधिक श्रेष्ठता है। यह एक नई चीज है कि उस मुल्क में जहाँ कि अभी भी बहुत बड़ी तादाद में इस तरह के पुरुष तथा नारियों हैं जो कि शिक्षित नहीं हैं, उनको हमने विधान के मौलिक अधिकारों में बालिग मताधिकार दिया है। विधान में यह भी शर्त नहीं है कि उनको हस्ताक्षर करना आना चाहिये। ऐसा क्यों हुआ ? जहाँ तक मैं समझती हूँ नारी जाति की परिस्थिति हमारे मुल्क में थी, उस के कारण जो हमारे समाज सुधारक हुए और जिन में प्रमुख नाम महात्मा गांधी का आता है, उन्होंने देश की परिस्थिति को समझा और शताब्दियों से परदे में बन्द नारी को सामाजिक, आर्थिक और मानसिक अधिकार देने चाहिये, ऐसा उन्होंने महसूस किया और स्त्रियों को परदे से बाहर निकाल कर राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में खड़ा किया और समाज में स्त्री जाति को एक स्थान दिलाया। उस का प्रभाव यह हुआ कि विधान में हम लोग विवश हुए कि नारियों को भी पुरुषों की भांति मताधिकार का अधिकार दें। तो जब हम विधान में इस तरह का एक नियम बना चुके, तो इस समय जब कि चुनाव होने वाले हैं और हमारे इलेक्टोरल रोल (Electoral Rolls) बन रहे हैं, तो हमारी सरकार को पूरी तरह से इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिये कि कोई भी स्त्री अपना मत देने से वंचित न रह जाये, 333 P.S.D.

भले ही वह परदे में बन्द हो और भले ही उसको घर से बाहर आने की स्वतंत्रता न हो, लेकिन सरकार को यह देखना चाहिये कि वह अपने वोट देने के अधिकार से वंचित न रह जाये। अब यह सोचना है कि जो नामावलि बनाई गई है, उसमें बहुत सी ऐसी बातें हैं जिन पर कि आज हम लोग और कर रहे हैं, कि आया स्त्री का नाम होना चाहिये या पति का नाम होना चाहिये या पिता का नाम होना चाहिये। जहाँ तक मैं समझती हूँ मेरी राय में यह जरूरी है कि उस स्त्री का नाम नामों की सूची में हो। वोटर के नाम की एक महत्ता होती है, नाम से व्यक्तित्व बनता है। मैं नहीं चाहती कि आज के जमाने में जब विधान में बालिग मताधिकार दे दिया गया है कोई भी स्त्री अपने उस अधिकार से, अपने नाम की महत्ता से वंचित रह जाये।

सरकार को इस दिशा में सोचने की जरूरत है, या तो इस के लिये कुछ समय निकाल कर गवर्नमेंट को इस तरह से कोशिश करना चाहिये कि इसमें आवश्यक तबदीलियाँ कर दी जायें, और मैं यह चाहूंगी कि किसी तरह से जिस प्रकार से संभव हो, ऐसा प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये जिस से कोई भी स्त्री अपना वोट देने से वंचित न रहे। सरकार को यह कोशिश पहले ही करनी चाहिये थी कि स्त्रियों में काम करने के लिए इस तरह की कमेटियाँ बनाई जातीं, और सरकार ऐसी कमेटियों पर धन व्यय करती जिस से जो नारियाँ आज परदे में रहती हैं, उन के सही सही नाम, पते व ठिकाने लिखे जाते।

मैं समझती हूँ कि जैसे माननीय सदस्यों को स्मरण होगा कि राजस्थान का जिक्र करते हुए हमारी बहिन दुर्गाबाई ने ला मेम्बर (Minister of Law) से एक प्रश्न किया था जिस का उन्होंने जवाब उपहास कर

[ श्रीमती कमला चौधरी ]

के इस तरह दिया कि कोई अपने को कहेगी "अनारवाली" उस की जानकारी कैसे होगी। मैं कहना चाहूंगी कि आज के युग में इस तरह का उपहास स्त्रियों के प्रति करना गवर्नमेंट के मंत्रियों को शोभा नहीं देता और उन के लिए उचित नहीं मालूम देता। गवर्नमेंट को पूरी कोशिश अभी भी इस चीज की करनी चाहिये कि जिस प्रकार भी हो सके, स्त्रियों के भारी तादाद में वोट पड़ें। जहां तक मैं समझती हूं और विशेषज्ञों की भी राय है कि हमारे यहां की जो पापुलेशन (population) है, जो जनसंख्या है, उस में शायद पचास प्रति शत नारियों के वोट होंगे और यह पचास फ्री सदी की संख्या किसी तरह से बंचित कर दी जाये। यह मैं कभी नहीं चाहती और मेरी आनरेबुल ला मेम्बर से यही प्रार्थना है कि इस दिशा में आप ज़रूर ध्यान दें और इस के लिये आवश्यक प्रवन्ध करें और यह केवल मज़ाक में उड़ा देने वाली चीज नहीं है।

जहां तक फ़ार्मों की भाषा का सम्बन्ध है जिस पर अभी माननीय सदस्या श्रीमती उमा नेहरू ने अभी अपने विचार प्रकट किये थे, और भाई सतीश चन्द्र जी ने भी, तो मैं अपने भाई के विचार का समर्थन करूंगी। हमारे यहां जितने भी प्रान्त हैं, यह जो इलेक्शन (Election) होगा, वह सिर्फ़ उत्तर प्रदेश तक ही सीमित न होगा, और अधिक संख्या हमारे देश में उस वर्ग की है जिन की कि भाषा संस्कृत के आधार पर है और यह ठीक है कि उस भारी संख्या की जनता में इन्तज़ाब को समझने वाले बहुत कम होंगे और निर्वाचन समझने वाले लोगों की संख्या काफी होगी। नामावलि हर एक आदमी जानता है कि नाम के क्या मानी हैं और जो संस्कृत पढ़े हैं या जो संस्कृत नहीं पढ़े हैं वह भी जानते हैं कि अबली एक समूह

को कहते हैं, जहाँ पर नामों को जमा करना है उसे नामावलि कहते हैं। जहाँ तक भाषा का ताल्लुक है, मुझे इस में कोई एतराज नहीं है, जो भाषा चुनाव के फ़ार्मों में है, बहुत अच्छी है। मैं फिर एक बार माननीय ला मेम्बर से इस बात की प्रार्थना करूंगी और इस संसद के मेम्बरों से भी प्रार्थना करूंगी कि जो विधान में हम ने नारी को बालिग मताधिकार दिया है, उस की रक्षा करना हमारा सब का और गवर्नमेंट का काम है और जिस प्रकार भी हो सके उस की रक्षा होनी चाहिये। अगर पचास फ्री सदी वोट इस देश में नारियों के हों तो वह पचास फ्री सदी वोट उन को डालने का अवसर मिलना चाहिये और उस के लिये सरकार को भरसक प्रयत्न करना चाहिये।

[English translation of the above speech]

**Shrimati Kamala Chaudhri** (Uttar Pradesh): I am not going to deliver any speech. I only wish to divert the attention of the hon. Members of Parliament to the right to vote as provided in our Constitution. As far as I can understand, no specific qualifications have been laid down in the Constitution for becoming a voter, except that he or she should have attained a particular age. Every citizen—man or woman—who has attained that particular age is entitled to vote. Such a system is known as adult franchise. The introduction of adult franchise is an important step and I think it is the greatest highlight of the Constitution itself. In a country like ours where there are still a large number of illiterate men and women, provision of adult franchise in the Fundamental Rights of the Constitution is indeed a novel act. The Constitution does not even make it obligatory for the voter that they must know to sign their names. What is the reason? I think that the condition of women prevailing in our country led to the appearance of many social reformers among whom Mahatma Gandhi was prominent. He understood the situation of the country and felt that social, economic and moral rights should be given to women who had been confined within the four walls of their homes for centuries past. He

did not only get the women out of their homes and put them in the political field, but also got for them a proper place in the society. Consequently, we had to recognise in the Constitution that like men women were also entitled to cast their votes. Now, when our Constitution provides for such a right being given to women, it is high time that the Government should see to it that no woman is deprived of her right to vote. It becomes all the more imperative in view of the fact that the elections are near at hand and the electoral rolls are already being prepared. The Government should make it a point that a woman should not be deprived of her right to vote even if she may be shut up behind the veil or she may not have the liberty of coming out of the home. Now coming to the electoral rolls, we find that there are certain points which are being considered by us, such as, whether or not it should contain the name of the woman concerned or the name of her husband or father. I am of the opinion that the electoral rolls should contain the name of the woman concerned. The name has its own significance and it also reveals one's individuality. I do not wish any woman to be deprived of her right or of the importance of her name especially under the present circumstances, when adult franchise has already been introduced under the Constitution.

It is imperative that the Government should make some considerations in this direction and should get necessary modifications done. I would like all possible arrangements to be made so that no woman is deprived of her right to cast her vote. The Government in this connection should have already appointed some committees to work among women and should have spent some money on them and thus the correct names and addresses of such women as are confined within the four walls of their homes should have been recorded. The hon. Members may be aware that while referring to Rajasthan the hon. Shrimati Durgabai Irad put a question to the hon. Minister of Law to which he had jokingly replied that someone would call herself 'Anarnali'. How would she be known then? I would like to submit that it is not becoming on the part of the Ministers of this Government to subject women to such ridicules. Further, it does not also seem proper for them. The Government should try their best to make it possible that women may cast their votes in large numbers. As far as I understand, and as far as the experts on this subject think, fifty per cent. of the total votes will be of women. I do never wish that these fifty per

cent. voters may in any way be deprived of their right to cast their votes. It is my submission to the hon. Minister of Law that he should pay early attention to this important issue and have necessary arrangements made. It is not merely a matter that can easily be laughed away.

As far as the language of the forms is concerned, I entirely agree with Shri Satish Chandra, who has expressed his ideas on this subject and with Shrimati Uma Nehru. The coming elections will not be confined to Uttar Pradesh only. Most of the provinces of our country have their language based on Sanskrit. It is true that the word *Nirvachan* is understood in India by a large number of persons and the word *Intakhab* by a comparatively smaller number. Take the case of *Namavali*. Everybody knows what is meant by *nam*. Sanskrit knowing persons as well as those who do not know Sanskrit understand that the word *Avali* means a group. So they can easily make out that *Namavali* is a collection of names. So far as the language is concerned, I have no objection to the present language of the electoral forms which, I suppose, is quite good. I would once again request the hon. Members of Parliament that it is our duty as also of the Government to safeguard the women's right to vote on the basis of adult franchise as laid down in the Constitution. It must be safeguarded at any cost. In this country, fifty per cent. voters are women. These women voters should, therefore, get ample opportunity to cast their votes and every possible step should be taken to fulfil this object.

**Shri Gadgil:** There has been a very interesting discussion in which three lady Members and twice as many male Members have participated. It is very difficult for me to answer each one of the points raised by hon. Members in detail, but I shall try my best to do as much justice as I can.

The first point raised by my hon. friend Mr. Frank Anthony was about delay.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** On a point of explanation, Sir, I did not say anything about delay.

**Shri Gadgil:** The House is aware that the qualifying date was extended with the result that the date for entertaining applications as regards claims and objections had to be extended.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** I said nothing about it.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Others said anyhow.

**Shri Gadgil:** That is how I understood him. Then my hon. friend raised the question about the language and in particular about the forms and the language used in them. He tried his best to show that the language was one which could not be easily understood by people at large. On this point, the Government of India are bound down by the provisions in the Constitution. This form is not something which occurs every day in the life of a person. If there is something which requires the use of a technical phrase and if there are not in existence suitable words to express the proper sense in the Hindi language as it is today, then there is a direction in article 351 of the Constitution which says:

"It shall be the duty of the Union to promote the spread of the Hindi language, to develop it so that it may serve as a medium of expression for all the elements of the composite culture of India and to secure its enrichment by assimilating without interfering with its genius, the forms, style and expressions in Hindustani and in the other languages of India specified in the Eighth Schedule, and by drawing, wherever necessary or desirable, for its vocabulary, primarily on Sanskrit and secondarily on other languages"

3 P.M.

My hon. friend himself stated that words like *Dava* and 'column' have been used. That clearly shows that the form is the result of a composite culture. Words from all the languages find a place. The difficulty of Hindi should at any rate not present itself to my hon. friend Mr. Anthony who hails from Jubbulpore and, as he himself said, had argued cases in Hindustani. The difficulty should have been felt by men coming from the South and from an interjection which I heard they understood words like *nirvachan* and *namaval* very well.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Their forms are not in Hindi; they are in Tamil and Telugu.

**Shri Gadgil:** But no Tamil or Telugu Member has protested against it. So I take them as all right.

In this—may I say battle of tongues—two speeches were delivered here, one by Mrs. Nehru and another by Dr. Kunzru. I generally agree with their main argument. But in such matters you cannot use the language of the masses. If you were to lay it down that a judge must use language

which must be understood by the man in the street there would be no proper judgments at all. Such words like 'equity' and '*res judicata*' will perforce have to find a place there. So far as the main argument of both the speakers is concerned, I agree that in developing our national language, namely Hindi, all these factors must be taken into consideration. Nobody has made a claim on behalf of Hindi that it is a perfect language. But the development of a language largely depends upon the life of the community and the experience gathered and accumulated by it from time to time.

I do not know why some people object to Hindi, particularly when some Sanskrit words are used. In fact, I had half a mind to start speaking in Sanskrit; but the difficulty would have been that probably I myself would not have been able to understand it. Therefore, I thought I should use the language which has been provided by the Constitution at least for the next fifteen years during which time the language (Hindi) which has been recognised would have so much advanced that everyone of us would be able to express ourselves satisfactorily in it.

Another point which was made by one of the speakers was about the enrolment of women. This problem seems to be peculiar to some of the North Indian provinces. So far as Bombay is concerned, and I understand, even so far as provinces down south are concerned, no woman feels ashamed or embarrassed to give her name. The embarrassment only comes when the husband's name has to be given. I am speaking from experience. If the electoral roll is to be prepared properly, and if every adult member, whether male or female has to be brought on the roll, there should be some certainty as to the identity of the person to be established before the Election Officer when that particular person goes to vote. Suppose the name is mere X and somebody goes and says: 'I am the wife of X', who is to ascertain it? Any number will go and say that they are the wives of X. If you want to make any provision, the most important thing that is expected is certainty: if a thing means this, it must mean this everywhere.

**The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** If some man goes and says that he is the husband of so and so?

**Shri Gadgil:** That will be still worse. I agree with the lady Members that the object of the Constitution is that every adult must have a vote and must

be duly registered. Of course Government is doing its best. But our experience is that in all matters of social progress prejudice dies very hard and there are some people who think it to be a high watermark of scholarship and statesmanship to nurse that prejudice. That is a position which has to be met fairly and squarely. If in spite of every effort we are not able to bring ten per cent. or 15 per cent. of the women voters on the list, this is not a matter for which we must feel so sorry. After all we have taken a big step. From 15 per cent of the population, franchise has been extended to 60, or at least 50 per cent. of the population. There are of course some people who are terribly afraid of the consequences of an election based on adult franchise. So, even if the number is less, it is not a matter of sorrow. All the same, I can assure the House that every effort will be made to bring on the electoral roll, the name of every woman. But as I said, there must be certainty—the elector must be identified.

**Shrimati Durgabai (Madras):** Why do you want to decrease the number of woman voters?

**Shri Gadgil:** I hope I have not disturbed the hornet's nest.

Now, Sir, my hon. friend Mr. Sidhva has very cleverly raised an issue on behalf of the All-India Cantonments Association. He referred to article 82. It is not relevant at all. People in the Cantonments are included in the States. But his anxiety seems to be that the voters in the cantonment area should get special representation. Now sectarian or special representation is against all democratic principles. If an exception has been made in the case of the Anglo-Indian community or in favour of the Scheduled Tribes for a period of ten years, it had got to be done. But you cannot extend the exception so as to make it a complete rule. If Mr. Sidhva can be elected by a general constituency, there is no reason why there should be a special constituency for the cantonment areas. Then we might as well have to agree to the merchants having special representation, and women having separate representation.

**Shrimati Durgabai:** We never asked for any separate representation.

**Shri Gadgil:** I am only trying to show the absurdity of Mr. Sidhva's argument. That way the whole Constitution will be disintegrated and it will be anything but democracy.

**Shri Sidhva:** The hon. Minister has not understood my point.

**Shri Gadgil:** I have completely understood it.

A point was made about the expenditure involved in preparing and publishing these electoral rolls. I may inform the House that this matter was thoroughly gone into by the Standing Finance Committee and the Committee decided that there should be further scrutiny into this. The House has certainly to bear in mind that this is a huge experiment in a country having more than 30 crores of population with about 17 crores having franchise. Imagine the work that will be necessary to print and publish these electoral rolls and supplying them to the candidates. I do not know whether there will be enough presses in this country to meet the demand—apart from the scarcity of paper. All the same, I assure the hon. House that every effort will be made in that direction.

Another point was made that the elections have been postponed from time to time and some definite and categorical assurance was demanded. All I can say is that at the beginning of this session the President in his speech has clearly stated that the election will take place towards November—December of 1951. Nothing has happened up till now to modify that statement. More than that it is not possible for me to say.

One of the speakers said that the electoral roll contained 98 per cent. of irregularities and only two per cent. was in order. I honestly feel the position is the other way about. There might be a margin of error, say, five or at the most ten per cent. But when things are undertaken on a huge scale.....

**Shri Satish Chandra:** May I request that the electoral rolls at Bareilly might be examined by the hon. Minister. He will then know the actual position.

**Shri Gadgil:** Because he comes from Bareilly he seems to think that obviously things are not done properly! But Bareilly is not India. The other alternative is we try to see that there is not a single mistake in every single constituency throughout the country. But I think we will not be able to have that perfection at all. Not even in the most advanced countries has the electoral roll been so complete. If on every day somebody attains majority and if the name has to be brought on the roll it will be an absurdity and there will be no election. Let us be practical men and try to be as perfect as possible. If we become completely perfect we become gods and not human beings!

Subject to that we are doing our best, and whatever criticism has been

[Shri Gadgil]

directed in this House, all that will be forwarded to the Election Commission.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** There is one main point. What about the shortage or non-availability of objection forms? They are not being supplied. That was my main objection.

**Shri Gadgil:** Well, this will be brought to the notice of the appropriate authorities.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I shall now first put the cut motion to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 15,53,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Law' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

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

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,53,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1951, in respect of 'Ministry of Law'."

The motion was adopted.

**DEMAND No. 15—MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

**Shri T. N. Singh (Uttar Pradesh):** We might take up Demand Nos. 15 and 51 together because both relate to Agriculture.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Demand No. 15 relates to Sugar and to Locusts. It has nothing in common with Demand No. 51 which deals with the appointment of Food Commissioners. They are entirely different subjects.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Then we will proceed one after the other.

Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 75,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1951, in respect of 'Ministry of Agriculture'."

There are a number of cut motions. I would like to know who want to move cut motions.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Sir, I do not want to move my cut motion. But I

will like to get an opportunity to speak on the demand under discussion.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** I am not formally moving my cut motion.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is out of order.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The Demand relates to the appointment of Sugar Enquiry Committee and the target Committee on Sugar. For about two years now, the sugar muddle has been going on and yet, there are hardly any signs of improvement. Though every effort has been made on behalf of Government to encourage increased production, the attempts so far made have not proved successful. When it was decided a few months ago to import one lakh tons of sugar from foreign countries, I believe the decision was taken after mature consideration by Government. I think the decision was taken when Government felt that there was no other way out to meet the acute crisis prevailing in the country. During those unfortunate days when we were facing acute currency shortage and were not in a position to spend much out of our limited foreign exchange resources, I wished that Government could explore the possibility of increasing Sugar production through village industry in our own country. Sugar is being manufactured in India from ancient times. When no other country in the world knew how to manufacture sugar, how to produce it, it was being exported from India. It was being manufactured by an indigenous process in our villages and towns. But Government neglected this village industry with the help of which the sugar shortage might have been relieved to a large extent. Its production has been gradually declining since the setting up of large-scale vacuum-pan sugar factories.

In this connection I wish to quote the figures of production of *khandsari* sugar during the last few years. In 1932-33, according to the Report of the Indian Tariff Board on the Continuance of Protection to the Sugar Industry, Volume I, published in 1950, India produced 2,75,000 tons of *khandsari* sugar. In the year 1933-34, after the protection was granted to large-scale factories, the production came down to two lakh tons. In 1942-43 it further came down to 1,95,870 tons; in the succeeding year to 1,37,330 tons; in 1944-45 to 1,14,700 tons; in 1945-46 to 1,06,800 tons. In 1946-47 it was 94,000 tons and in 1947-48 it was 75,000 tons. So from 1932-33 to 1947-48, the latest year about which figures are available, the production of *khandsari* sugar has come down from 2,75,000 tons to 75,000 tons. Two lakh



tons of production has been lost. The Tariff Board has recommended in its report that in order to solve the shortage of sugar, this industry needs every encouragement and with that end in view, they have recommended that 'khandsari sugar should be exempted from payment of excise duty and that such technical assistance as is necessary should be given to encourage its production in efficient units and on economic lines'.

The same report at another place says that encouragement should be given to this village industry which holds a position somewhat analogous to the hand-loom weaving industry. Now, in the light of these recommendations and considering the shortage that we are facing today, I will like to examine what Government have done during the last few years to seek a solution of our sugar problem, by giving encouragement to this industry, where production has gone down by two lakh tons. According to the Sugar and Gur Control Order, 1950 'sugar' is defined as any form of sugar which contains more than 90 per cent. of sucrose including *Khandsari* sugar. In the definition of 'Gur' are included *Rab*, *jaggery* and *Gur* etc. In certain parts of the country, especially in Rajasthan, Gujerat and Saurashtra and certain parts of U. P. *khandsari* sugar is definitely preferred even today to crystal sugar, and the consumer has always been willing to pay a higher price for it. However, in recent times the ceiling price fixed by Government for *Khandsari* Sugar is based not so much on the cost of production as on the whims and fancies of certain officers who may be dealing with *Khandsari* sugar.

I would quote again from the report of the Indian Tariff Board. According to the calculations of Indian Tariff Board, when the sugar cane price was Re. 0-14-9 per maund, the manufacturing cost of *Khandsari* sugar came to Rs. 18-2-3. From the figures given at another place in the same report on page 135, it can be seen that when the cost of cane was Rs. 0-14-6 in 1945-46, the cost of production for crystal sugar in large-scale vacuum-pan factories came to Rs. 16-4-0. So with almost the same cane price, the ex-factory price of crystal sugar as calculated by the Indian Tariff Board came to Rs. 18-4-0 per maund, which includes ten per cent. profit also, as against Rs. 18-2-3 for *Khandsari* sugar without profit. If a ten per cent. margin is made for profit, it will come to about Rs. 20 as against the crystal price of Rs. 16-4-0. The price of *Khandsari* sugar according to

the Tariff Board's calculations was therefore 25 per cent. higher than crystal sugar. But let us now examine the prices fixed by Government for the current season. The cane price this year has been fixed at Rs. 1-12-0 per maund. The ex-factory price of crystal sugar has been fixed at Rs. 30-8-0 per maund for West U. P. factories and Rs. 32 per maund for factories in East U. P. The ceiling price for *Khandsari* sugar has however been fixed at Rs. 29 per maund only. At that price, it is impossible to manufacture any *Khandsari* sugar. When certain representatives of the *Khandsari* industry represented their genuine grievance to the hon. Minister and his officials, they were told that crystal sugar being a better product, they could not expect a higher price for *Khandsari* sugar as compared to the crystal sugar. On the basis of this argument, their comprehensive statement and detailed calculations regarding the cost of production were summarily rejected. It is possible that there may have been some exaggeration or manipulation of figures in calculating the cost of production by the representatives of the industry. But Government could surely have taken the trouble of examining their figures in the light of the recommendations and calculations of an expert body like the Indian Tariff Board, whose report was submitted only last year to Government.

According to the Tariff Board's recommendation, the price of crystal sugar should have been fixed at Rs. 24-12-0 per maund only for the year 1950-51, if the corresponding basic cane price was accepted as Re 1-10-0 per maund. Calculating on the basis of the cane price now allowed by Government in the current season, that is Rs. 1-12-0 per maund, the price of crystal sugar should not have been fixed at more than Rs. 26-0-0 according to the Indian Tariff Board's recommendations. Instead of Rs. 26-0-0 as the ex-factory price of the crystal, Government have allowed Rs. 30-8-0 and Rs. 32 per maund to factories in West and East U. P. respectively. The manufacturing cost of *Khandsari* sugar excluding the profit margin would come at least to Rs. 35 or Rs. 37 per maund on the basis of the Tariff Board's calculations. To this cost must be added not only a margin of profit for the manufacturer, but also all other incidental expenses up to the consuming stage in order to fix a reasonable ceiling price. The ceiling price for crystal sugar in U. P. is Rs. 34-6-0 per maund, which works out to Re. 0-13-9 per seer in the State which produces the largest quantity of sugar. Apart from this, a free market has been allowed side by side with controlled distribution for the sale of crystal sugar.

[Shri Satish Chandra]

The rate of the crystal sugar in the free market fluctuates between Rs. 50/- to Rs. 55/- per maund. All these concessions have not been extended to small-scale cottage industry for the products of which the ceiling price of Rs. 29-0-0 per maund has been fixed. It is impossible for this industry to survive for long if the policy is not revised at once. This industry is concentrated in the Rohilkhand Division of Uttar Pradesh, and long before the advent of vacuum-pan sugar factories, it was not only supplying white sugar to the entire country, but was also exporting some of it to our neighbouring countries. As a result of the present policy it is dying out, and every honest man has been turned into a dishonest man by force of circumstances, by the intransigence of the authorities to whom the matter has been repeatedly represented both at the official and the Ministerial level. They have not appreciated the genuine hardships of a useful small-scale industry. The issue is very simple: whether we want to encourage our village industries or not; whether we want to encourage our cottage and small-scale industries or not; whether we believe only in large scale production; whether we depend on imports rather than give assistance and encouragement to village industries in order to augment production if that is possible. I could quite appreciate the arguments that were hurled back on persons who made repeated and forceful representations if we had no definite ideology. But in view of our definite stand about the development of cottage industries, which we have been reiterating now and then, I fail to understand the present attitude of the hon. Minister and the officers concerned. According to which economic principles is it expected that the cost of production in a cottage industry at a particular place should be lower than the cost of production in large scale units? That argument is not advanced when the question of the handloom industry ever comes up for discussion. Handloom cloth costs more than the mill cloth. Government knows that fact; everybody knows it; but still encouragement is given to the handloom industry. But, in this case, the argument advanced on behalf of Government is just the opposite. I have little doubt that if due encouragement is given to the *Khandsari* sugar industry, the production level could again go up to 275,000 tons from the recent low level of 75,000 tons, and there would be no need to import one lakh tons of sugar, no necessity to go with a beggin' bowl to far off countries and to be dictated by those countries in respect of prices, terms and conditions etc. The encouragement to *Khandsari* industry will not produce any adverse effect

on the production of large-scale factories. The surplus cane, instead of being converted into *gur* is converted into *khandsari* sugar in those areas in which it is concentrated. I would like to read a few sentences from a resolution of the Nasik Congress regarding our basic policy:

"In all schemes for increasing the production of wealth in the country, it is essential that the vast man-power in the villages should be progressively utilised. Employment should be given to the millions who have no land to cultivate, or whose holdings are so small as to leave much time at their disposal for other gainful employment. This should lead to the general adoption of a policy of encouraging and organizing home industries..... The Congress advises that *khadi* and other home industries should be given the benefit of scientific research in the fullest measure. With improved technique and co-ordination with large-scale industries, the disadvantage of village industries in respect of quality and prices as compared with the products of large-scale industry will greatly diminish."

I can also quote sentences from the resolution of the A.I.C.C. held at Ahmedabad recently. It is hardly necessary to do so in view of our well-known policy in this matter. I think there is something wrong at some point which makes this difference between our well-defined and well-considered basic policy, and its translation into actual practice. I request Government to give proper encouragement to this industry.

The total collection of excise duty at the rate of eight annas per cwt. from *khandsari* sugar is two lakhs of rupees out of 6,52,00,000 that is being collected on account of sugar excise. The sum of 6,50,00,000 is collected from big factories and only Rs. two lakhs are collected from this industry. This amount is collected from innumerable small units as against the bigger collection from a few hundred large sugar factories. There is no separate account I believe, to determine how much is spent in collecting the smaller amount from the *khandsari* industry. I hope the expenditure for the collection of entire sugar duty comes under one head. Probably, the entire amount, if not more, collected from *khandsari* sugar is spent on collection. This sum of two lakhs of rupees is collected from hundreds and thousands of small factories. I should like to ventilate on the floor of this House that this leads

to corruption. Several complicated forms and long registers are expected to be maintained by these small producers. Their number runs into eight or nine. I had them with me; I have passed them on to the Minister of State for Finance a few days back so that he may see for himself those large complicated forms of a technical nature which are expected to be filled every day, every week, by these small manufacturers of *khandsari* sugar. They are exactly the same forms and the same registers as have to be filled in or maintained by the large sugar factories. The Tariff Board recommended more than a year ago that *khandsari* sugar should be exempted altogether from the payment of excise duty.

I would only request Government to look into these matters, to give due consideration to them and then come to some conclusions which may prove beneficial to the industry, which may keep the industry going, and which may also reduce the shortage of sugar in the country to some extent.

**Shri Jhunjunwala (Bihar):** Mr. Satish Chandra has raised a very important point which, I am sorry to say, Government have failed to consider and to adopt a particular policy. Mr. Satish Chandra says that no impetus is being given to *khandsari* sugar and that the production of *khandsari* sugar has come down from two lakh tons to...

**Shri Satish Chandra:** 2,75,000 tons.

**Shri Jhunjunwala:** From 2,75,000 tons to 75,000 tons. One of the points which he has urged, and which has specially to be considered by the Agriculture Ministry is that it is only the surplus sugar cane that is being consumed by the *khandsari* manufacturers. I do not think that Mr. Satish Chandra is right there. It is not only the surplus cane, but cane which could otherwise go to the mills that is being taken away by the *khandsari* manufacturers, and thereby, the total outturn of sugar is reduced. If we manufacture sugar by the *khandsari* process, the sucrose content in the sugar cane being the same, say 13 per cent, we shall get only eight per cent of sugar.....

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Five.

**Shri Jhunjunwala:** At times, it is five or six per cent, as my hon. friend Mr. Jaspal Roy Kapoor says. If it is worked in an efficient way, it can come up to eight per cent while in the mills you get eleven per cent. Now, the policy of Government is vacillating, as to whether they want to produce *khandsari* sugar, or whether they

want to produce crystal white sugar as is produced in the mills by Vacuum-Pan system. I do not want to say whether *khandsari* sugar should be produced or not. It has got its own advantages; *gur* has got its own advantages. They say that there are vitamins in *gur* and in *khandsari* sugar which are not to be found in white sugar. That is a different question. The point raised by my hon. friend Shri Satish Chandra is that because of the impetus not being given to the production of *khandsari* sugar, the production of white sugar has gone down. That I say is quite fallacious and wrong. The production is less because of the competition from the *khandsari* sugar manufacturers. Government should therefore decide once and for all what is it that we should produce, whether *khandsari* sugar or more of white sugar. If the cane crop is the same and if we concentrate our attention on producing more of white sugar, then we can give more sugar to the people. But as I have already said, first of all we have to decide, Government has to decide what it is that we want to produce, what sort of sugar it is that we want to produce.

So far as the cost of production is concerned, my hon. friend has already said that the cost of production of *khandsari* sugar is Rs. 20 while the cost for crystal white sugar is Rs. 16. In addition, as I have said, the latter gives higher extraction, not less than 35 to 40 per cent.

**Shri Goenka:** What is the percentage you gave?

**Shri Jhunjunwala:** 35 to 40 per cent. in white sugar as compared with *khandsari* sugar.

**Shri Goenka:** You do not know your figures.

**Shri Jhunjunwala:** You do not know them; I know them all right.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** What is the percentage of extraction?

**Shri Jhunjunwala:** As I have already said at the very beginning if there is 13 per cent. of sucrose in the cane, by the vacuum-pan process in the mill, you get eleven per cent. and in *khandsari* sugar you get only about eight per cent.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** That means less.

**Shri Jhunjunwala:** Yes, that is what I have said.

[Shri Jhunjhunwala]

When the Sugar Target Committee was appointed, we thought they would give us some guidance and that Government would adopt some uniform policy as to what they want to do. There was also the Tariff Board's Enquiry Committee and they also went into the question at great length and came to so many conclusions. But one of the most important questions which I have been putting to the Agriculture Minister from time to time is what is the policy of Government as regards the production of sugar, whether they want to rationalise the sugar industry on an all-India basis or on a provincial basis. And I have not yet got a satisfactory answer. If we compare the sucrose content of the north Indian sugar cane with that of the south Indian sugar cane, we find the former is less by about 30 to 35 per cent. Therefore, it has been suggested again and again why we should have any sugar industry in the U.P. or Bihar as we can get cheaper and more economic sugar by shifting our industry from north India to south India. Similarly there is another view that it is more economical when considered from all points of view rationalising this industry on an all India basis that it is improved in U.P. and Bihar.

Shri Hussain Imam: And increase the food trouble in the South?

Shri Jhunjhunwala: But then comes the other question as to what is the alternative crop that we can produce in north India? If sugar cane is not to be produced in north India, and if we are to concentrate the cane cultivation in the South, what other crop are we to raise in north India? We must have a lucrative crop in north India. The sugar content of the cane produced in north India may be less as compared to that in south India, but are we to shift the industry to the south? What other crop is to be raised in north India? These are important questions which are being raised and Government have not come to any conclusion on them. Of course, the Sugar Target Committee was appointed. But instead of going into these questions it simply discussed the sugar muddle of last July, and even on that question, we do not know what were the findings or recommendations of this committee. Barring the appointment of these committees, we do not know what action Government have taken in order to stop further muddling in this matter.

In one place we find sugar being sold at Rs. two or Rs. 2/8 per seer and in some other place there is free market for sugar, and in yet another place

there is no free market for sugar. In one place there is sufficient sugar available in the black-market and in another place there is free market of sugar. When we put any question to the Agriculture Minister here he says that he is not aware of these inconsistencies. Government does not even know whether in Delhi there is a free market for sugar or not. They do not know that sugar is being sold in the free market here.

Shri Hussain Imam: At what rate?

Shri Jhunjhunwala: I do not know, the hon. Member must know. It is probably selling at Rs. 1/8/- or Rs. two per seer, in fact, at whatever rate they like.

Shri Hussain Imam: Then it becomes black market.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: There is no question of black market in sugar when there is a free market for it.

These are the things which I wanted to be brought to the notice of the House and I hope they will take them into consideration and come to a particular decision as to what policy Government should adopt. If Government declare this policy and adopt that particular policy and give the right guidance to the people, then there will be no necessity to import any sugar from outside and we shall save a lot of our foreign exchange.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA in the Chair]

Shri Ghule: I associate myself with what my hon. friend Shri Satish Chandra said about the control of *khandsari* sugar. In my province the sucrose content of the cane is less than what it is in the U.P. and to produce *khandsari* sugar we have to import persons from the U.P. Therefore the cost price of the *khandsari* sugar is much higher in our place than in the U.P. Therefore the control price of Rs. 29 per maund which has been fixed is really very unreal. The result is that people are going on with their business by selling *khandsari* sugar at Rs. 55 or 60 per maund, though on paper it is shown as being sold at controlled prices. In this connection I want to bring to the notice of the Finance Minister one point. By these dealings we are losing a lot of sales tax which could have been secured if the real prices had been entered in their account books. To some extent we are also losing income-tax in so far as the prices shown in the books are less than actually sold at. As the previous speaker said our Government seems to be bent on ousting honest businessmen and honest men from all business..

**An. Hon. Member:** Even from this House.

**Shri Ghule:** Not from this House. As in the case of the controlled price of gram Government seems to be content with the present position. Government know full well that powhere in the country, even in those provinces where gram is surplus, it is being sold at the controlled price of Rs. 13 per maund. Government know well that it is being sold at Rs. 17 or Rs. 13 per maund. The result is that those who are honest are barred from purchasing or dealing in gram. Those who are accustomed to black-marketing, giving bribes to the police and accustomed to other malpractices are going on with the business. So far as I know honest persons are barred from business in *khandsari* sugar. I have gone into the accounts of one of my friends, a very honest man, who deals in it. I know him personally. He put to me his real difficulty. The controlled price being Rs. 29 per maund he is unable to carry on his business.

Cottage industry should be given encouragement. I am not referring to sugarcane which is produced in the mill area. I am raising the point about the sugarcane which is grown far from the mill area but which cannot be used otherwise. It cannot go to the mills. If that sugarcane is barred from being manufactured into *khandsari* sugar, I do not know what good Government is going to achieve.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** This supplementary demand under head No. 15 is to cover expenditure, among other things, on two sugar committees—one is the Sugar Enquiry Committee and the other is the Target Committee on Sugar. I would like enlightenment from the Minister as to which particular Sugar Enquiry Committee is referred to here. One Sugar Enquiry Committee was appointed very long ago to inquire into what is now popularly known as the sugar muddle...

**Shri Sidhva:** A year ago exactly.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** Yes, and I do not think that that is the Committee which is referred to here, because all anticipated expenditure on that Committee must have been envisaged at the time of the last budget and provision must have been made there. The other Sugar Enquiry Committee, which is given that dignified name, is the one-man Committee, which was appointed to inquire into the question whether abnormally high prices had been paid for the sugar to be imported. I would like to know definitely from the Minister if this is the Committee.

What I am surprised at is to see for the first time that another committee was also appointed called the Target Committee on Sugar. We have heard it or seen it appear for the first time. We do not know when this Committee was appointed, who are the members and what were the terms of reference of that Committee. I tried to make enquiries from very high quarters (I need not mention the quarter specifically) as to what this committee was and up to this time I have not been told what it was. I do not know whether it was ever appointed or is intended to be appointed. But in any case what necessity was there or now exists for the appointment of a committee to tell the Ministry what the target of sugar production in the country should be. Is it that Government even up to this date have not made up their mind as to what the target should be? Is it such a difficult and complicated question as required the appointment of a committee to go into the matter and tell Government what the target should be? If this is the way in which the sugar problem is going to be tackled by the Ministry I wonder whether it will be tackled at all successfully at any time. The problem being tackled by the Ministry in such an inefficient—if I may use the word with all respect to the Minister in charge—manner it is no wonder that neither the problem has been tackled so far nor am I sure it will be tackled by them successfully in the near future.

**Shri Sidhva:** Rs. 71,000 are provided for this Target Committee.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** That is exactly my point. There are other items also such as the Sugar Enquiry Committee, the Locust Committee, etc...

**Shri Sidhva:** It is mentioned here as Rs. 92,000 for the Sugar Enquiry Committee, Rs. 71,000 for the Target Committee and Rs. 21,000 for the last one on Locust.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** My point is we know very well what the sugar requirement of the country is. We know also what the crushing capacity of the mills is. To answer therefore the question as to what should be the target a committee need not be appointed. The policy which the Central Government has been adopting with regard to the solution of this question has been one of absolute indecisiveness and vacillation. They went from control to decontrol, then from decontrol to re-control, then from recontrol to half or semi-control. Added to this are the various statements issued from time to time, one being different from the previous statement, the subsequent statement being in conflict with the previous one.

[Shri J. R. Kapoor]

All these have been leading to confusion in the sugar world raising doubts and difficulties in the minds of all concerned. That has been the unfortunate fate of this very important industry in the country. Not only has the policy of Government been indecisive and vacillating, there has been practically no co-operation and co-ordination between the Central Government and the State Government concerned. These two authorities seem to be carrying on almost a tug-of-war. I do remember how pathetically my hon. friend, Mr. Munshi, some time ago pleaded his impotence in dealing with these questions when the State Governments do not fully and effectively co-operate with him. That being the position, no wonder the sugar production has been gradually going down—from 12 lakh tons in 1943-44 to only a little over nine lakh tons in the last year. It is an irony of fate, the tragedy of the situation, that though we have the capacity to produce more sugar, though we have the resources to produce more, yet we are not having sufficient sugar to meet our requirements. I am reminded of the old saying, "Water, water everywhere—not a drop to drink". May I say, "Sugarcane to the right, sugarcane to the left, sugarcane everywhere, sugarcane crushing capacity everywhere, but we are short of sugar". This state of affairs is entirely due to the fact that the policy which Government have been pursuing to solve this problem is entirely wrong. May I just quote here a few admitted facts to bring home to Government and to the hon. Minister the fact that if he changes his policy he can very easily have not only what we require for our home consumption but he can also have more which could easily be exported to Pakistan and other neighbouring countries. I particularly refer to Pakistan because as the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry told us the other day, negotiations are going on to have a trade agreement with Pakistan. Pakistan needs our sugar very badly and if a trade agreement is successfully concluded we could certainly easily, and to our great advantage and profit, export sugar to Pakistan. But that is possible only if we have the necessary surplus. The total quantity required for our home consumption is about 12 lakh tons per year and the milling capacity in the country is about 14 or 15 lakh tons—let us take the lower figure of 14 lakh tons. But the production in the country today is only in the vicinity of ten lakh tons.

Mr. Chairman: May I just remind the hon. Member of the remarks which

fell from the hon. Speaker this morning? We are not here to discuss the entire sugar policy. Only the specific points involved in the Supplementary Demand are to be discussed.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: That was exactly my point, Sir. The question is: what should be the target and how to achieve it? The Government have already appointed a committee to find out what the target should be and how to achieve it. I submit the target is already well-known to Government. I am now suggesting what steps they should take to achieve that target. That is the very object of the committee which they have appointed or propose to appoint.

Mr. Chairman: The reference to export to Pakistan is certainly irrelevant.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: Well, Sir, I am never enamoured of referring to Pakistan and I shall not speak of Pakistan hereafter.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Hereafter?

Shri J. R. Kapoor: For the purpose of this debate. All that I was submitting was that our target should be in keeping with the milling capacity in the country which is about 14 or 15 lakh tons. Now the question is how that target should be achieved.

An Hon. Member: The committee will point it out.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: I can point it out—and that too gratis. I and my hon. friends here would be prepared to point out what it is. Thereby you will save a lot of money. Well, our production is nine lakh tons, our milling capacity is 14 or 15 lakh tons, and our requirements are 12 lakh tons. Now, in order to produce sugar you require sugarcane. That is all that you require and certainly we have enough of it.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Is it necessary for the hon. Member to go on mentioning the most elementary things? For instance, that sugarcane is required for producing sugar.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: Is it necessary for the hon. Minister to interrupt me when I am putting inconvenient things?

Mr. Chairman: There is no question of inconvenient things. The complaint made just now is certainly justified. We are now dealing with a specific Demand and not with the general policy. I would therefore request the hon. Member to be kindly relevant and not to speak on the general policy and general things which everybody knows.

Shri J. R. Kapoor: I will try to be relevant according to the best of my

judgment, but of course I will subordinate my judgment to your superior wisdom. All that I was submitting was what steps should be taken to reach the target which Government want to find out. I will not pursue this point very much longer but would only submit that as we have ample sugarcane at our disposal and have sufficient milling capacity, we can very easily produce sugar to meet our requirements of 12 lakh tons and even more. The question that arises is what steps should be taken to draw sugarcane to the factories so that the target could be achieved. Government have taken various steps in this direction during the last few months one of which is that they asked the various factories to co-operate with Government and to start crushing sugarcane by the 15th of November or the 26th of November—15th was the date fixed for factories in Western U.P. and 26th was the date for factories in Eastern U.P. and Bihar. I submit that Government should have known from past experience that such a step was not likely to yield better results and was not likely to get more sugar. Last year this experiment had been tried with no increase in production and it could not possibly increase this year. Now the simple reason is that at that particular period of the year the sugarcane is not ripe and its sugar content is very low. If that very sugarcane were allowed to ripen and crushed a little later the sugar produced would have been much more. Government promised a bonus of Rs. 2-6-0 per maund to those factories which responded to the call of the Central Government. That, I submit, was a wrong policy. It would mean a heavy cost to Government without any benefit to the nation at all. But it appears that at a later stage Government came to the conclusion that it was not a right policy and that that step was not going to yield any good results. And we were happy to find that on 1st December the hon. Food Minister made a statement on the floor of this House envisaging therein the various steps that he proposed to take. To enumerate briefly, the steps mentioned were firstly that the cane price was increased from Rs. 1-10-0 to Rs. 1-12-0. The second was that the sugar price was increased correspondingly to Rs. 29-12-0. The third was that as soon as factories produced more than 107 per cent. of the basic year quota, they would be permitted to sell in the open market any quantity above 107 per cent. The fourth was that Government also fixed prices of *gur* and *khandsari*. A lot has been said about the fixation of *khandsari* price. It was done without taking into consideration all the relevant factors. It should not have been difficult for the hon. Minister to have

calculated what would be a reasonable price for *khandsari*. According to one of the notes circulated some time ago, we were told that the recovery so far as *khandsari* is concerned is nearly five per cent. of the sugar cane. Calculated on the basis of five per cent. recovery the price of *khandsari* should have been fixed at 20 multiplied by Rs. 1-12-0, that is Rs. 35. That was not done. The obvious result is that *khandsari* is being sold in the open market at the rate of Rs. 55 and 60. I shall not labour this point because it has already been very elaborately dealt with by my hon. friend Shri Satish Chandra. I am only referring to this to show that the Food Ministry does not seriously apply its mind to the pros and cons of a problem and does things in a most haphazard and arbitrary manner. This statement, however, was not very unsatisfactory, but then it has not been possible for Government to implement the policy enunciated therein. Neither the *gur* prices nor the *khandsari* prices have been kept down to the level of the control price. Many of the mills are not getting sugar cane and my information is that it is apprehended that some of them might close down soon.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** May I tell the hon. Member that this is not so in the *khandsari* area. *Khandsari* industry is concentrated in a few districts and my hon. friend is not aware of the conditions in those districts. In Rohilkund Division no mill is going to be closed down for lack of sugar cane.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** I had thought that my hon. friend Mr. Satish Chandra would be obliged to me for the sympathy that I had shown to his cause, but I find that persons interested in *khandsari* do not know what gratitude is.

Now, in the statement issued on the 3rd February by the Ministry of Agriculture we find a considerable departure from the policy enunciated in the statement made on 1st December. Whereas in the first one it was categorically promised that all factories who produced more than 107 per cent. of the basic year's quota would be permitted to sell the extra production in the open market, in the second statement the position was very much changed, and it was said that no mill would be permitted to sell this extra production until and unless Government gave permission. Had they stopped there, it would not have been so bad, but they went further and said that they would not permit the sale of the extra production until and unless they were convinced that ten lakh tons of sugar had been produced by all the mills taken together. I appreciate

[Shri J. R. Kapoor]

the anxiety of the Ministry to be reasonably certain about this target but the question is what policy should be adopted in order to have the extra production. It is no use the Ministry being over-cautious, for over-caution may lead to a contrary result. For mills not being sure that they will be permitted to sell extra produce in the open market will not risk extra expenditure by paying higher price of sugar cane to attract the same to the mills to produce extra quantity. I do not know who are the wise advisers of the hon. Mr. Munshi who instead of tendering correct advice advise him in a manner which may land him in difficulties and make the whole scheme a failure.

One other important thing is that those mills which readily cooperated with Government and responded to their call and started crushing by the 15th November have been placed absolutely on the same level as other mills which refused to co-operate with Government. Originally, these mills were given a bonus of Rs. 2-6-0 per maund and now this concession has been withdrawn. This withdrawal of the concession once granted is a very serious matter. This sort of changing statements, changing policies and changing assurances is leading to the very regrettable result that people have begun to lose faith in the assurances which Government give from time to time. I would request the hon. Minister to take a serious note of it. I am not for filling the coffers of the millowners, but then I am anxious that the reputation of this Government should not suffer. I would have very much wished that this concession should have been continued and adjusted in some other manner. However, there it is.

Now, the statement issued on 3rd February appears to me to be a funny one. The statement begins with the words "On a careful consideration of all the aspects of the case." Now this is a frank admission and implies that the previous statement made and the steps taken as a result of it were not done after careful and due consideration. That is exactly my grievance. Government ought to be a little more careful in making their statements and deciding their policies. Anyhow, better late than never.

What follows in this preamble is this. Certain mills which started crushing on the 15th or 26th of November, as the case may be, will be allowed to have as their basic year for the purpose of selling their extra production in the open market, either the last year, or the previous one, as it may serve their purpose. But then in

the very following paragraph 2(b) we find that the same concession, if concession at all it is, is being extended to all other mills, provided, of course, they have exceeded 107 per cent. of their previous two years' average production. But, then, the funniest part of it is—I would request the hon. Mr. Munshi to consider whether this is what he really intended to be conveyed by it—that it is said that immediately after 107 per cent. of the previous two years' average is reached not only that extra production over and above 107 per cent. of the average is permitted to be sold in the open market, but whatever extra they produce over and above 107 per cent. of anyone of the two years can be sold in the open market.

Supposing there is a mill which started crushing after the 15th of November and its average production during the past two years is one lakh tons. After it reaches 1,07,000 tons whatever it produces over and above 107 per cent of any of the 2 years' production can be sold in the open market. Supposing in one year the mill had produced 75,000 tons and in another year, it had produced 125 tons, the average is one lakh tons. Now immediately the mill has reached a target of 1,07,000 tons, not only is it permitted to sell the extra quantity, but also, whatever it has produced over and above 75,000 tons. Now, this is likely to lead to a great deal of corruption, because by simply adding one more ton to the production after 107 per cent. of the two years average the mill will get the benefit of putting in the open market any quantity produced over and above 107 per cent of either of the two years production.

Now, that is the sort of thing that is going on in this Ministry. This is the careless and haphazard way—I speak with all due respect to the great wisdom of the hon. Mr. Munshi—in which things are going on in his Ministry. People simply laugh at it. They say our people in the Ministry do not know their own mind; do not know how properly to word their statements and do not know what they really mean with the result that there is utter confusion.

May, I with your permission, Sir, suggest a few things which if acted upon are likely to increase sugar production considerably. It is now too late for me to say that control on sugar should be lifted. As a matter of fact we were happy on the 1st of December to know that in due course these controls would be removed. I am one of those who congratulated the hon. Minister on his statement. Let them stick to the statement of 1st December,



not only because a statement once made must be stuck to, but also because that was a very wise statement. It was not the subsequent statement that was taken "after due consideration" but it was the first one, in consultation with many of us. But then, Mr. Munshi thinks he has better advisers elsewhere. Therefore, within a month of making that statement, he thought he should bid good-bye to the advice which we had given and which he so wisely accepted. So, let him stick to the statement of 1st December. Let the mills which have produced more than 107 per cent. of their basic year's quota be allowed to put their extra production in the open and free market. This will give them an encouragement to increase their production. If we do not let them do so, the mills are not sure whether ultimately they will be permitted by Government to sell their extra production in the free market. Therefore, they will hardly have any impetus to incur extra expenditure. It would be in the best interests of the industry and of the nation at large.

I may make a suggestion in the case of all mills. They may be permitted to sell five per cent. of their production hereafter. Let whatever they have produced till now not be touched. But let a small quantity, say five per cent. of what they produce hereafter be allowed to be sold in the open market, so that immediately we shall have a good quantity of sugar available in the open market. Prices will immediately come down and factories will put in their best efforts to increase their production. By adopting this course, Government is not likely to run any undue risk. They want ten lakh tons for rationing purposes. I submit that it is not necessary for them to have that much quantity when they are going to permit sugar to be sold in the open market. Let the rationing continue to be confined only to the direct consumers. I would like to emphasise on the word "direct consumers". Let everybody who consumes sugar directly have his quota from the ration shops. The sugar required for commercial purposes should not be issued from ration shops. Why should you issue to the Coca-Cola people a huge quantity of sugar from the ration stock at your reduced price? Let the Coca-Cola firm, and the other manufacturers of syrup and similar manufactures, have their requirements from the open market. Let the necessary quantity which is required by the direct consumer be given to him at this control price of Rs. 32 or Rs. 33, whatever it may be. So far as the rest of the consumers, like commercial undertakings, are concerned, let them

go to the open market, and purchase the sugar there. If you reduce your commitment in this manner you require only nine lakhs, or even less than that, for your rationing purposes. I for one do not see for a moment why you should ration out ten lakhs. In that case you can keep in reserve a lakh, or a lakh and a half tons and as soon as sugar prices are high, you can release them. This will have the effect of bringing down the prices. This is my humble suggestion to solve the problem. If these suggestions are accepted I for one have no doubt in my mind that sugar production will considerably go up. You would have had 11 or 12 lakh tons, possibly more. Even 14 lakh tons you would have had if these suggestions had been adopted earlier, and the whole thing had been decontrolled—sugar, *khandsari*, *gur*—and nobody would have had any grievance, neither any hon. Member to my left or right, nor anybody outside. I hope next year at least the policy of decontrol will be adopted. But so far as the present is concerned, let us proceed on these lines and achieve satisfactory results

**Shri Hussain Imam:** I was rather struck at the trend of the debate. I thought we were perhaps discussing the sugar muddle of 1949. In our discussion on the Supplementary Budget we should have confined ourselves more to the items which have been given and not so much to the matter of general policy. But I feel I have my full sympathy with the demand of Mr. Satish Chandra that the excise duty on *khandsari* should be removed and the price of *khandsari* should be increased.

While on that subject I am rather surprised at the meagre information which is supplied to us on these subjects. A question was put by my hon. friend Mr. Jaspat Roy Kapoor, as to which of the Committees we were referring to in the Standing Finance Committee's Report. In the Standing Finance Committee's Proceedings, on page 22, Appendix A, we find that the salary of the officer appointed for the Sugar Enquiry Committee from 18-5-50 to 31-12-50 at the rate of Rs. 2,708-5-0 is so much. Now, I take it that the reference is to the sugar muddle Enquiry Committee, because on that date the question of higher prices paid for sugar had not cropped up in the House. But it is rather surprising that an appointment which was made on 18-5-50 should come up for confirmation to this House in the month of February 1951. It shows a great throw-back from the old days with which you, Sir, are well conversant, when it was sufficient for the Departments to take the sanction of the

[Shri Hussain Imam]  
 Finance Department as apart from the Standing Finance Committee. I find there is a reference in the Standing Finance Committee's Proceedings to the observations of the Standing Committee of the Ministry. On page 20, item 4, I find the question "Has the proposal been considered by the Standing Committee of the Ministry? If so, with what result?" And the reference here is "Yes, extracts printed with the memorandum on Demand No. 85-Ajmer-J-Veterinary (item 13)." It is beyond human ingenuity to find out what the Department means by this. It is some kind of cabalistic writing the meaning of which cannot be understood by ordinary mortals. It seems that Government have absolutely gone back from its character to the good old days, or the bad old days if you like. The Ministry does not put this to the Standing Committee of the Legislature to get its sanction for the expenditure and it does not come to the Ministry of Finance and to the Standing Finance Committee. All this is done on the 6th and 7th of February. A meeting is held and expenditure incurred as far back as 18th May 1950 is to be sanctioned now. The hon. the Transport Minister pointed out yesterday that because of the fact that he prepared his supplementary budget in August he could not bring forward the supplementary demands to the December session. But where is the excuse of the Food Ministry in regard to an appointment made as far back as 18th May? They say "We thought that we would be able to recoup this money from the savings". As a matter of fact, how visionary those considerations were is also shown by the Ministry itself. I refer again to page 20. It is stated:

"This Ministry initially proposed a provision of Rs. 7,36,200 under the head allowances, honoraria etc., in Demand No. 15—Ministry of Agriculture. This amount was reduced to Rs. 5,93,100 to give effect to the overall cut of 10 per cent. imposed by the Finance Ministry over the 1949-50 budget. It was expected that this reduction would be met by reappropriation of the savings which might accrue from the abolition of certain posts in the Ministry."

After having made an overall cut of ten per cent. it was rather idle of them to believe that they would be able to find money for other expenses also. Apart from that, on a matter of procedure, whenever a new appointment is to be made it must be submitted to the Standing Committee of the Department, and it must come to the Standing Finance Committee for

its sanction at the next meeting after the meeting of the Standing Committee. Are we going back to the old days and disregarding the House and all the instruments created by the House by means of a subterfuge and excuse that we would make it up from the savings? Even if there are savings they must come back to the legislature, and no expenditure should be incurred without the concurrence at least, if not the sanction, of the Standing Committee of the Department. To get the matter away from the Standing Committee of the Food Department was in my estimate a very high-handed action, and not to bring it to the Standing Finance Committee was, again, something which is not very laudable.

An hon. Member on this side who comes from Madhya Bharat suggested to the hon. the Finance Minister that if he allows the control to be removed he would be able to reap more profits in the shape of sales tax. I thought it was an invitation to him to share in the black-market profits which I am certain the Finance Minister would not accept.

We have not had any word on another item in regard to sugar, namely, the imported sugar which was supposed to come to the tune of a lakh tons and on which we had some discussion during the last session also.

**Shri Goenka:** To make Diwali sweeter.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** And which did not make it sweeter. It came so late and the Bombay people were so angry...

**Shri Goenka:** It has not yet come.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** That is what I am saying. The Bombay people were angry that Mr. Munshi who comes from that place should have been so inconsiderate of the Bombay people. I am referring to the extra charge on that account, because I understood that the price at which we had purchased were higher than the indigenous prices and as such there is bound to be some loss. If any quantity has come—no matter whether you can make it good from the reappropriation or not—there must be the administrative sanction of the Finance Ministry and it must come up before the Standing Finance Committee for its sanction for reappropriation. I personally think that as far as the troubles of sugar are concerned, it is not the fault of Government alone. We ourselves on this side of the House are as much responsible for the fall in sugar production as Government members. I sug-

gest that Government in its wisdom and without outside pressure had decided to restrict the making of *gur* in areas preserved for mills. Licensing of *Kohlu* had to be stopped on pressure, and as such they had to give it up. You have the choice of either having the cake or eating it. We decide to have the cake and still we wish to fill up our stomach. It is a rather difficult job. If you want to have sugar available and it pays them more to manufacture *gur* out of it, they will necessarily manufacture *gur*. If the mills want to manufacture sugar, they would have to pay higher prices. We want to have a lower price. We want the economy of the country should not be disturbed and any increase in sugar price is bound to have a repercussion on the productivity of rice. The suggestion was made that Madras should produce sugar-cane. I have some knowledge of Madras. There are vast areas there which produce two crops of rice, which is unheard of in Northern India. There are certain areas in the State of Madras where even a third crop of rice is not unknown. I was passing through Madras at the end of January and I found quite good fields of paddy in which they have only recently transplanted, while in our parts all the rice has been cut and winnowing was going on. While here winnowing is finished, there, they are restarting new plantation of rice. As it is, Madras is already short of food. If this industry is transferred from the north to south, the result will be that there will be greater want of food and the troubles of the Madras State would be increased. No doubt, they will have more money in their pockets, but their troubles will be much greater and in order to keep the economy at an even keel, it is necessary that sugar-cane prices must be kept at a lower level. If you allow them to go too high, the result will be under-production of rice. This sugar-cane is grown on the same soil on which we grow rice. If we increase the production of one the production of the other is bound to fall and you have the historical example of this by our action in reducing our off-take of raw jute from Pakistan, we have made Eastern Pakistan self-sufficient in the matter of rice. Today they do not stand in need of any rice from Western Pakistan. They are self-sufficient themselves because they have grown less jute and more rice. Things are inter-changeable and you cannot have anything from the vacuum. If you want to have one thing more, you must sacrifice something else. That is why I like the idea of the Food Ministry of having an integrated plan where-by every item of our requirements is given a due place and not an undue preference. Here in the matter of sugar, my own position is that we

cannot have increased production with control in prices. If you want to have increased production, you must de-control irrespective of what the result will be. The result will be bad and there will be a turn-over from the rice production to sugar-cane production but that will avoid the trouble of under-production of sugar. I do not think Government will be prepared at the cost of reduced foodgrains production to increase the production of sugar. Therefore the only course open at the moment is to see that there is just sufficient production for our requirements.

On this subject, I should like the hon. Food Minister to enlighten us on the report of the Committee which was appointed to inquire into the sugar muddle. As it is it is nearly a year and half since this muddle started. I think it was in July or August 1949 that we had the sugar muddle. The Committee was promised in the Budget session of 1950 and now we are discussing the Budget of 1951-52 and still we had not got any findings. What was the fault? The inquiry was into the condition of the industry for a month and half, that is July—August. For up to June everything was going on beautifully. We were supposed to have more sugar; canvassing was going on for getting export permits for sugar and all of a sudden, things turned out that we are short of sugar. The price rose up. The Railway people joined hands—I am making this rather sweeping remark—the Railway people joined them in giving more wagons than were allotted for these things. For enquiring into the conditions of manufacture an officer has been in service from May to December, for a period of seven months and he is a very high officer whose integrity no one can doubt...

**The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam):** On a point of order, Sir. When the hon. Member knows that an inquiry has been ordered and the report is to come before the House, is the hon. Member entitled to make such sweeping allegations which I hereby repudiate.

**Mr. Chairman:** I myself was going to object to that. He was going into the general policy, during which the hon. Member himself deprecated where he started.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** The last thing that I wish to say on this subject is that the Ministry should have thrown some light. Mr. Santhanam has assumed that we are going to discuss that report and that report is going to come before us. We have not had any promises from the Ministry of Food. If

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he is speaking on behalf of the Food Ministry, I will take it as...

**Shri Santhanam:** The hon. Member's making such a sweeping allegation is not justified.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** But he presumed that there will be a discussion on the subject, therefore, I was not in order in discussing the matter of supply of sugar wagons while on this subject. I just repeat the point that there has been no promise from the Food Ministry that they are going to give us a day to discuss this topic.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi):** There is none because the report is not yet published. As soon as it is published, it will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Shri Hussain Imam:** Therefore, Mr. Santhanam was wrong in his assumption.

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** The first point made was with regard to Sugar Inquiry Committee. That report was sent to Government by the Committee, say, in the first or second week of January and it is still in circulation between the Ministers concerned. As soon as it is received from circulation, it will surely be published and placed on the Table of the House and it will be then open for any Member in the Budget or anywhere to go into it.

As regards the sugar Inquiry Committee, no separate inquiry committee was appointed but the same gentleman who held the first inquiry was asked to look into the question raised in the House about the higher price. He has made his report and the report is before the Government as a whole and when that report is either accepted or otherwise, it will be duly made known to the House.

Then, as regards the Target Committee which has been referred to, I think there is an error. No Target Committee has been put up so far. A Panel Committee or a Target Committee, because this term is used indiscriminately, is likely to be put up later on as part of the Central Advisory Committee on Industries. Some part of the expenditure is included in this, in order to meet the expenses of that Panel Committee, if at all it comes into existence. That is the position. The Target Committee of 1945, under the late Department of Planning and Development is gone for ever. This is an entirely different thing which may be put up or which may not be put up. Therefore, this expenditure is put in here only as a contingent expenditure.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** May I know what are the functions of the Target Committee and what will be the terms of reference if at all it is established?

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** I doubt very much, looking at the present conditions, whether it would be worth while to put up a Panel or Target Committee. What was suggested by the Advisory Committee on Industries, was that a Panel or Target Committee should be put up, the object being among other things, to plan for a large number of factories, rationalisation, and various other things. At the present time, as the House knows very well, we are finding it difficult even to produce ten lakh tons. To talk of 14, 15 and 16 lakhs, and rationalisation, is a very difficult matter. No new capital is forthcoming; imported machinery has gone up very much in value. I do not think, as at present advised, that that is a practical proposition.

**Shri J. R. Kapoor:** What is the total production so far, and the comparative production during the same period last year?

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** I am now talking of the proposed Target Committee which was referred to in the Demand. This is one of those brilliant ideas which are supposed to bring us a good amount of sugar without any debate here; but fortunately, that is not a practical proposition.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** On a point of information, are not the present plants capable of producing 14 or 15 lakh tons?

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** I am coming to that. I have said in the House more than once that the present plants, if they are permitted to work by certain interests who are very vocal in this House, would produce 14 lakhs. The sugar question of India, if I may speak frankly, is not a question of India, but is a question of Western U.P. The bulk of the industry is situated in the western U.P. There, the *gur* interests are very powerful. As we had reason to find last time when we met in regard to sugar policy, it is a very vocal and a very powerful interest, and therefore it resists every attempt to control *gur*. The whole question, therefore, is of rationalisation as my hon. friend Mr. Jhunjhunwala put it. That means transporting some of the factories to the more fertile areas of the south. I had a discussion, I am quite free to tell you, with the Sugar Association whether any of them are willing to transfer their plants from their present site to any other site and possibly some Government would be quite willing to

give them concessions. Not even a single gentleman has come forward to seek assistance to transfer, because, after all, a mill to be transferred from U.P. to Madras would cost about 15 lakhs.

**Shri Goenka:** The U.P. Government also refuses permission to transfer.

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** If the U.P. Government refuses permission, then, it would be a question for the Supreme Court to decide.

**Shri Jhuajhunjwala:** My point is whether Government has come to any conclusion whether it is more economical to have the sugar industry anywhere in the south?

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** As far as I am concerned, I am convinced that unless the sugar industry is transferred to more fertile areas, or, in the western U.P., a farm is set apart for each factory, which will produce the sugar cane necessary for working it up, there is going to be no solution of the problem. It is for the Members who represent Western U.P. to make up their mind to help the country in this sugar problem. It is not in the hands of Government at all. Last time, we tried to substitute another method, namely the licensing of *kolhus*. That failed because Western U.P. was up in arms. Then, we tried the controlling of prices and free market in order to encourage further production. Even then, hon. Members will realise that in Western U.P., for 15 days this industry was more or less crippled on account of a strike which strike however failed. Today, the results of the policy which has been referred to, have been good for the reason that black-market prices of sugar have come down and that policy has been generally well received. The production during the months from 1st November 1950, to 7th February 1951 is 6,22,000 tons as against 5,34,000 tons last year. There is a distinct improvement in that connection. There is also the question of further prices which have been referred to. I know that, of late, there has been a tendency on the part of *gur* to rise higher in Western U.P. All comes back to U.P. But, the U.P. Government, I am glad to say, have been now and then, taking stringent measures and *gur* prices have been kept slightly round about the controlled prices. I know, as a matter of fact, that popular opinion or rather the vested interests in the Western U.P. are doing their utmost to see that sugar cane does not go to the mills. That is a thing over which Government has no control. This is really encouraged not merely by the

*gur* manufacturers, or *khandsari* manufacturers, but is encouraged even by other Members of the public. There is a general idea that we should support the *gur* manufacturers in their attempts to deprive the mills of sugar cane. These are the realities of the situation. We are doing the best that we can.

Then, with regard to the complaint made by my hon. friend Mr. Jaspat Roy Kapoor, averages have been fixed and so far, very few factories have reached the average. As soon as I find that they have reached that, we are going to take steps to see that the extra sugar is released in order that that may be brought into the free market. That is under consideration. We realise that that would enable them to buy sugar cane at higher prices. That is under contemplation. If any of the sugar mills have reached the target, that is the average of the last two years, then, certainly, it is a case for consideration. So far, nothing has been done.

With regard to my hon. friend Mr. Satish Chandra, his argument has been answered by my hon. friend Mr. Jhuajhunjwala. His case is that this is a cottage industry. It has been called a cottage industry. But, no cultivator is really concerned. As far as information at the disposal of Government goes, the manufacturer of *khandsari* takes away the *rab* from the cultivator. It is the small capitalist and the small trader who produces *khandsari* sugar. It is not as if, if *khandsari* sugar is allowed to be produced in a larger quantity, the total quantity of sugar in the country will be increased. As has been pointed out, it will immediately encroach upon the sugar cane which now goes to the mills and it will be one of the factors which will prevent sugar from being produced in the quantity that we want. Therefore, that kind of argument, I am sorry to say, is difficult to maintain, except by a gentleman coming from the area in which *khandsari* sugar is very popular.

Then, the question of prices was discussed. We had not arbitrarily fixed the price for *khandsari*. As a matter of fact, considerable thought was given to it when it was fixed. It was found, not in one way, but again and again, that the price of Rs. 29 fixed for *khandsari* is, looking at the price of sugar cane and the price of *gur*, the appropriate price.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** How is it calculated?

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** Just have a little patience. Last time, *gur* prices went

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up to Rs. 35 and *khandsari* went up to Rs. 50 or 60. To get Rs. 29 would be unpalatable to everybody.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** It is Rs. 60 even today.

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** I appreciate my friend's enthusiasm over this point; but he will hold it in level control. The first thing I will just mention for the information of the House is that when the Joint Control Board of the Governments of U.P. and Bihar met, first, they fixed the *khandsari* prices at Rs. 28 per maund as against Rs. 19 per maund for *gur* and Rs. 31 for factory sugar.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Under uncontrolled conditions, *khandsari* sugar prices have always been lower than the price for crystal sugar. Again, on the basis of the price of sugar cane, scientifically worked out, the price of *khandsari* sugar works out to Rs. 27 and no more. Even on the price of *gur* and the price of *rah* Rs. 14-8—the price for *khandsari* works out to Rs. 29 and that is the proper economic price. Of course the *khandsari* makers want higher and higher prices. Everybody wants higher prices these days. But we have to keep it under control. I know the prices went up in U.P. But as soon as the Government of U.P. took stringent measures, the prices came down. As soon as action was taken the price came down to Rs. 30 or Rs. 35 from Rs. 50 or Rs. 60. It is not as if the price of *khandsari* is not an economic price. It is an indication that if we have proper control of.....

**Mr. Speaker:** How long is the hon. Minister likely to continue?

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** I have some more points.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think he may finish this point that he is on, so that we may take up the other business.

5 P.M.

**Shri K. M. Munshi:** So it is not as if the higher or what is called the black market price is the economic price of *khandsari* and so far as that point is concerned, there is no substance in it.

The argument that you must encourage *khandsari* is really to say that you must encourage *khandsari* and stop sugar import. That is the substance of that argument.

## FINANCIAL SET-UP OF DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION

**Mr. Speaker:** We will now have the half-an-hour discussion on the Financial set-up of the Damodar Valley Corporation.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat (Bihar):** Sir, I am very thankful to you for the time given to discuss this subject, because it is a discussion which arises out of a very important point with regard to a State enterprise—the Damodar Valley Corporation. Recently the manner in which the finances of this Corporation are being handled has come up for strong criticism in the country, and it is of great importance in the economic set-up of the country that a river valley project which is to play a very great role in the economic life of the country should be carefully investigated and all points regarding the financial set-up should be examined.

In this brief discussion I have to raise only three points. The first of them is as regards the way in which the finances are being handled at present and the relation of the Financial Adviser attached to the Corporation, to the D.V.C. itself. The finances of the Corporation are provided by the Central Government, the Government of Bengal and the Government of Bihar, and the Corporation is free to incur all expenditure. But in incurring expenditure the Corporation is supposed to be guided by the advice of the Financial Adviser who is responsible not only for the advice given with regard to the expenditure, but also for the revenues. It is his responsibility to prepare the budget and the annual financial statements, and he is also responsible for the accounting and the internal audit of the Corporation. So he has a very important function. But the strange thing about it is that he is not an independent officer but is an officer subordinate to the Corporation. This, as the Auditor-General of India has reported, raises a very vital issue because the Financial Adviser being subordinate to the Corporation there is great difficulty in the financial control being exercised over the Corporation.

The second point is about the estimates made towards the different projects of the Corporation. If we go into the history of this Corporation, since 1948, we find that there has been practically no estimate made. For better control and supervision of the Corporation it was decided in 1948 to set up an Advisory Committee of the three participating Governments, the Central Government and the Govern-

ments of Bengal and Bihar who are contributing funds to the D.V.C. In the Advisory Committee the question of preparing estimates was raised but strangely enough the Corporation was reluctant to provide any estimate. It was decided in the Advisory Committee meeting of the 9th May 1949 that a comprehensive estimate should be submitted by the Corporation and they also agreed to prepare target estimates for various dams and the thermal power station. But it is surprising that till the end of 1949 no estimate was submitted by the Corporation. This matter was again taken up in the Advisory Committee meeting which was held in January 1950 and pressure was brought upon the Corporation about the feasibility of submitting an estimate. The Corporation it seems reluctantly submitted a partial estimate as regards only two dams and the thermal power station. That estimate was taken up at the meeting of the Advisory Committee in April 1950 and to quote the report of the Advisory Committee:

"It found that the material supplied by the Damodar Valley Corporation was quite inadequate to come to any decision."

Again the Corporation was asked to give a fuller and a comprehensive estimate. But strangely enough the Corporation again delayed the matter. After pressure was brought to bear upon them they submitted their estimates in November 1950. The report of the Committee has yet to come.

These two points which I have raised involve fundamental issues as regards the finances of the Corporation, because up till now the Government have made funds available to the Corporation to the extent of 11.94 crores and the progress of work has been very slow.

The third and the last point is that the progress has been discussed at various Advisory Committee meetings and there it was pointed out by the Corporation that the progress was slow due to the shortage of hard currency and the deepening economic crisis. This point was examined by the Advisory Committee and they came to the conclusion that, "the Corporation had so far always been very well supplied with funds," and "that it was quite unfair to put the blame on the shortage of hard currency or the deepening economic crisis." So this excuse of shortage of funds and hence the slow progress is also quite unjustified and unfair.

Before I conclude I must say that the contracts for work are at very unreasonable rates. The Advisory Committee also expressed its opinion about them. There is absolutely no schedule of rates. These are matters which are of very great import which I must bring to the notice of this House and for the consideration of Government. Government should make a thorough enquiry or investigation into the work of the Corporation, because we have placed very high hopes in these projects and they are the only mainstay in making the country self-sufficient in food and agriculture and they are going to play a very vital role in the industrialisation and economic set-up of the country.

**The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa):** Sir, perhaps it will enable the House to understand the problem better and more fully if I gave a short background of the whole question. As far back as 1942 there were heavy floods in the Damodar River and the problem of flood control in Bengal then came to the forefront. Enquiries and investigations continued till 1946 when an Administrator was appointed to study the various aspects of the scheme then roughly proposed, and in 1948 the Damodar Valley Corporation was established by an Act of the Legislature to develop the Valley in general with special emphasis on flood control, generation of electricity, and irrigation.

So far as flood control was concerned, the Government of India and the Government of Bengal were equally interested and decided to share the expenditure equally. The Government of India, however, gave their target figure at Rs. seven crores; and they were not prepared to pay more after that figure was reached. The interest on this sum, however, was payable when the Corporation was in a position to pay it.

So far as the generation of electricity was concerned, all the three participating Governments were equally interested; and the Centre was to bear one-third of the expenditure, Bihar another one-third, and Bengal the remaining one-third. The fact, however, is that the States of Bengal and Bihar really do not pay anything themselves. They take loans from us and pay to the Corporation in turn.

So far as irrigation was concerned, Bihar and Bengal share the expenditure in proportion to the water that is

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allocated to them. The capital expenditure on any construction inside their respective territories specifically meant for their benefit, was chargeable entirely to the State concerned.

Then, in accordance with this scheme estimates are prepared every year by the Corporation after which the Financial Adviser scrutinises the figures and sends back the estimates with his comments to the Corporation, which finally passes these estimates and sends them to the three participating Governments. The budget is finalised on the acceptance of these estimates by the three Governments.

There is no question of repayment of the monies that have been paid to the Damodar Valley Corporation. The States, however, will pay to the Centre when they are able to do so. In other words, the States are to pay back the monies they take from the Centre and pay in their turn to the Corporation.

The initial assessment of probable cost of the entire project as made in 1945 by Voodoun naturally bears no relation to current costs. We are, however, insisting on the Damodar Valley Corporation producing project estimates before undertaking any new work.

No straight computation of overhead charges can be made in the case of a Corporation which executes work of great magnitude through agencies employed on varying terms. We are, however, investigating the matter and are trying to keep the overhead charges to the lowest levels possible. It is true, as my hon. friend just now complained, that we have no proper schedules of rates, but I can assure the House that efforts are being made to prepare proper schedules in conformity with the usual rules of the Public Works Department. I agree with my hon. friend that the position of the Financial Adviser is embarrassing. That position has been defined by an Act of this Legislature; and the fact is that though he is appointed by the Government of India, he is really subordinate to the Damodar Valley Corporation. I can therefore quite appreciate that his position cannot be very enviable.

I may say that it is not difficult—in fact it is quite easy—to find defects in the whole scheme and its working. The problem, however, is to find a practical solution that would be acceptable to all the three participating Governments, and at the same time achieve the object that we have in view,

namely, the early completion of the Damodar Valley Project at a cost which the participating Governments can afford. We are having a meeting of the representatives of the three Governments on March 3 next when we shall carefully consider the whole question; and I am hoping that we might be able to come to some practical decisions so that the defects rightly pointed out by my hon. friend opposite may be met. I can assure the House that I shall keep it constantly informed of developments and take it in my fullest confidence.

**Shri Shiva Rao (Madras):** Sir, I am sure the House is grateful to the hon. Minister for the reassuring statement he has just made, but I would like to invite his attention to certain aspects of this scheme about the future of which we are all of us so much concerned. The hon. Minister referred to the manner in which the first estimates have been prepared. I would like him to satisfy himself that these estimates are actually scrutinised by the authorities of the Damodar Valley Corporation and are not merely passed on from the foreign engineering firms which have been entrusted with the execution and designing of these schemes to the Central Government. The question is of the utmost importance, because although it is true that the original estimates which were framed in 1945 have been altered beyond recognition partly for reasons which were beyond the control of the Damodar Valley Corporation, there are also features which seem to me to be unsatisfactory. I have with me here two Volumes of the Ramapadasagar Dam. There is another Volume which I did not bring to the House. This is the project estimate of this enormous project which would cost Rs. 130 crores if it were undertaken at the present moment. The preparation of these estimates and designs cost no less than Rs. 60 lakhs, but I am assured by experts who are responsible for the preparation of this scheme that, because of this preliminary preparation of estimates, at any time this project may be undertaken the variation in cost will be no more than five per cent. It is because in the case of the Damodar Valley Corporation no such preliminary estimate on that elaborate scale was prepared that we are having these wide variations in cost. The hon. Minister did not tell the House what, at the present moment, is the revised estimate for the whole of that undertaking. The original estimate was Rs. 55 crores. I would invite the attention of the House to one or two sentences from the report of the Auditor on the latest Administra-



tion. Report of the Damodar Valley Corporation. The Auditor said: "Some of the projects might prove too uneconomical and may have to be dropped." And again, "Work should be taken up on every project only if, in spite of the additional cost, the project is economical." I hope that the hon. Minister either today or at a later stage in this session will be in a position to give an assurance to the House that these remarks of the Auditor will receive the attention of Government.

There are various other points to which I drew the attention of the House last week. The Auditor has had several criticisms to make; some of them are of a very serious character. He pointed out various defects in the contracts given to certain firms. For instance, there are disputes on such points as to who will pay for the clearance of the jungles, who is to bear the sales tax and who is responsible for the loss of substantial quantities of cement due to deterioration on account of premature purchase. The House has not been told what is the extent of the loss. The Auditor has also pointed out that there is no periodical checking up of the stores.

The hon. Minister referred to overhead charges. According to the Auditor, accepting standards which are normal for other undertakings of a similar character at the present moment, overheads are estimated at not less than 61 per cent. I can concede that as further progress is made, the proportion will go down. Nevertheless, it seems to be an inescapable conclusion that the whole scheme is over-staffed at the present moment.

Finally, I would like to ask the hon. Minister what is the extent and the nature of the control that he proposes to exercise under section 48 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act. No directives have ever been issued under section 48—even on matters of policy—in the last two or three years. I hope the hon. Minister in charge will see to it that henceforth at least the responsibility of the authorities of the Corporation in the first instance, to himself, and ultimately to the House is made effective at every stage, and the authorities of the Corporation are made to recognise that responsibility.

**Shri B. K. Das (West Bengal):** As has been pointed out by the hon. Minister and by the hon. Member Shri Bhagat, Government is insisting on the project estimates. May I know what are the reasons that have been given by the D.V.C. for their not submitting the estimates so far?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister will reply in the end.

**Shri T. N. Singh (Uttar Pradesh):** In addition to the points raised by the previous two speakers, I want to know, Sir, as to whether any effort will be made to correlate the estimates of the projects that are being taken up in various stages with a view to finding out whether the execution of one of the smaller projects now will not inevitably commit the Government and the Corporation to further projects which will follow and which ultimately may not be economical, as the Auditor's report has pointed out. So, it is not only a particular project that may be in the process of execution, but the fact that other projects that will follow, may result in the undertaking proving uneconomical, kept in view.

**Shri Jaant Ram (Bihar):** May I know how many times the plans and estimates of the Konar Dam have been revised or re-examined and what has been the increase in the cost of the project as a result thereof?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Bihar):** May I know whether the proceedings of the meetings of the Damodar Valley Corporation Board are regularly sent to the Governments concerned—the Government of India, the Bihar Government and the West Bengal Government?

**Dr. M. M. Das (West Bengal):** May I know whether there has been any instance in which the opinion of the Financial Adviser was not listened to by the Corporation; secondly, whether the Damodar Valley Corporation is the only solitary instance in which the estimated cost of the project has been doubled or increased; thirdly, whether a convention was established by which all the contracts that the Damodar Valley Corporation was going to sign or agree to were to be sent to the Central Ministry and whether the Damodar Valley Corporation has adhered to that convention or broken it.

**Shri S. C. Samanta (West Bengal):** In reply to a supplementary question on the 8th February last the hon. Minister said that he is going through the Audit Report of the Damodar Valley Corporation. In that respect may I know whether he has gone through the Report? If he has gone through it, will he be kind enough to explain what are the uneconomic projects referred to in the Report? If he is not able to do so now, I hope he will supply the information during the Budget session.

**Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh):** The immediate object of this project was to have irrigation so that our food problem may be met to a certain extent. I want to know why the irrigation work has not yet been started and whether any plans and estimates have been made. I would like to know why, at a cost of Rs. 16 crores that we have spent so far, the thermal station has been put first and irrigation has been put behind. I want to know the reason why irrigation work has not started, whether estimates have been prepared and what is the cause of the delay.

**Shrimati Durgabai (Madras):** Part of my question has been covered by Mr. Sidhva. Yet I would like to know this. Flood control and irrigation were said to be the main and immediate objects of the scheme. But first priority was given to the thermal power station as a result of which the construction of dams like Panchet and Maithon was slowed down and the estimates were revised. Every time an estimate was revised it went up by 25 to 50 per cent. I have got the Report of the Board of Consultants with me and it says, in paragraph 56, that "the best of estimates made at this time would need to have from 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. added for contingencies". If that is so I would like to know whether the participant Governments were consulted when first priority was given to the thermal power station and whether their approval was taken.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** Regarding the questions of my hon. friend Mr. Shiva Rao I can only say that the estimates will be very carefully looked into, and I shall be sorry if they have not been so looked into in the past. So far as the original estimate of Rs. 55 crores was concerned, I am given to understand that it was more or less a sort of guess work. But now when estimates are being carefully looked into, there is a fear that they might go on to Rs. 110 crores. I can assure my hon. friend and the House that the Auditor's remarks will receive all the consideration that they deserve.

Regarding overhead charges to which my hon. friend Mr. Shiva Rao referred, the Auditor's Report itself computes it at different percentages ranging from 61 to 11. When experts themselves are disagreeing as regards the exact proportion of expenditure, a layman like myself might be excused at least for the moment. But as a man of ordinary commonsense, I do intend to go into these figures and find out how it is that the Audit Report itself is computing the rate of overhead charges

at different figures from 61 to 11 per cent. If it is only 11 per cent. I hope the House will agree that it is not exorbitant.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** They were under different assumptions.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** So far as the control under the law is concerned, I do propose to exercise it effectively and I shall be bringing this particular section of the law to the notice of the D.V.C. when I meet them on the 3rd March.

Mr. Das asked why the D.V.C. estimates were not made in all their details in the past. I fear I cannot answer that question in any manner that will bring satisfaction to the House, because I myself am not satisfied. But I shall see to it that estimates in the proper form are made in the future. I may also assure my hon. friend, Mr. T. N. Singh that care will be taken to make further works ultimately economical.

So far as the Financial Adviser is concerned, I have already said that his position is rather embarrassing. I cannot say if in any particular his opinion was not accepted by the Corporation; but I can understand that that might have been so because none of us really likes auditors and financial advisers; and very often we want to go against their opinions; and the members of the Corporation being also human, they might have also tried to checkmate their Financial Adviser. I intend to see that the Adviser is really made more effective; and I might also warn the House that in case he is not able to be effective, I shall ask the House to change the law itself, so that he may be effective.

Mr. Das also asked why the expenses are double of the estimates. As ordinary house-holders, he and I both know that when we build a house, we always think that we should be able to build it within our means and at the end we find that the house has really cost very much more than we had thought.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I ask whether the D.V.C. is the only solitary project where the cost has been doubled so much or whether this has happened in other projects also?

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I was just going to say that that is the experience of every one of us. It is not only in the case of D.V.C. but all of us know that we always spend much more in the end than we estimate in the beginning when we undertake building operations.

My hon. friend, Shrimati Durgabai wanted to know why flood control and irrigation were not given prominence that they should have been given and Mr. Sidhva wanted to know why thermal station was given preference. I fear I am not an expert and I would not be able to answer the question to their satisfaction. But it seems that though the original plan was to help in irrigation and in controlling floods, as a matter of fact other matters came later to be regarded as of greater importance. So far as the thermal station is concerned, I understand that even if the whole plan were to be given up, this would be valuable in itself and therefore they thought that should be taken up first. As hon. Members know, very often it does happen that in the course of our speeches also, we go on to side issues and these become even more important than the original subject.

**Shrimati Renuka Ray (West Bengal):** It is a very important question because the idea of flood control.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member has no right to put any question.

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** My hon. friend the Finance Minister who knows about the matter more than I do, informs me that when we got a loan from the International Bank, which we gave to the Damodar Valley Corporation, it was stipulated that the thermal station will be provided for out of those funds.

**Shri B. K. Das:** The decision was first taken.....

**Mr. Speaker:** In view of the time that we have taken.....

**Shri Sri Prakasa:** I think, Sir, I have answered all the points that have been raised, and I hope the House will be satisfied.

*The House then adjourned till a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 22nd February, 1951.*