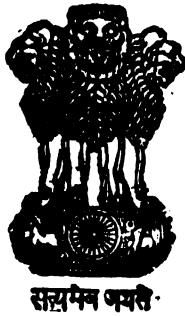


Monday, 18th February, 1952



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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME I, 1952

(6th February to 5th March, 1952)

Fifth Session

of

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1952



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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
Monday, 18th February, 1952.

*The House met at Half Past Nine of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
A.I.R., TRIVANDRUM

*100. **Shri Alexander:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any representations from the erstwhile State employes of the A.I.R., Trivandrum Station, and if so, what steps, if any, have been taken to redress their grievances; and

(b) whether it is a fact that, while new appointments are made on Central scales of pay, these employes are still drawing the old salaries and governed by the Travancore-Cochin Service Regulations and if so, what steps are being taken in the matter?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar):

(a) A few representations have been received; action is being taken for effecting equation of posts in former Part B States Stations with similar posts in All India Radio. Consideration of these individual representations will be possible after decisions on general points in this connection have been taken.

(b) Yes. The matter, as already stated, is under consideration.

Shri Alexander: May I know whether any proposals will be included in the next Budget?

Shri Diwakar: Yes.

CONTRIBUTORY PROVIDENT FUND

*101. **Shri Raj Kanwar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how far the combined scheme of Contributory Provident Fund-cum Pension-cum Insurance introduced in Uttar Pradesh some four years ago has been

adopted in regard to all Central Government employes?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The scheme that has been introduced by the Government of India is one of pension-cum-gratuity-cum family pension; and though it is different from the Uttar Pradesh Government Scheme of contributory provident fund-cum-pension-cum-insurance, it is designed to achieve the same object viz., that some provision is made for the payment of gratuities and pensions to the families of Government servants in the event of the death of the latter while in service. Under the Government of India's scheme death gratuities and pensions are admissible to families of Government servants, though the rates of ordinary retiring pensions allowed to the latter themselves have been slightly reduced. It is considered that the Government of India's scheme is simpler and more economical in operation; it also obviates the necessity of opening a separate fund and maintaining a separate account for each government servant.

Shri Raj Kanwar: Is there any proposal with Government to have a uniform scheme for all the States in India in regard to pension and gratuity?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No.

HINDI MAGAZINES

*102. **Shri Jagannath Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the names of Hindi magazines annually published by the Publications Division and the number of copies of each, printed and sold?

(b) What steps are being taken to improve the quality of Hindi of the "Ajkal" magazine and to extend its circulation among non-Hindi speaking people?

(c) What are the circulation, cost and sale proceeds of "Ajkal"?

(d) What is the present strength of Hindi staff in the Publications Division?

The Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Shri Diwakar): (a), (c) and (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. In reply to parts (a) and (c) figures relating to January, 1952 issues have been supplied as the hon. Member has not indicated the particular issues for which information is required. [Appendix I, annexure No. 16]

(b) In respect of all publications, including *Aj Kal*, efforts are constantly being made to use simple Hindi, with a view to attaining the widest possible intelligibility while preserving a decent literary standard. To extend its circulation among non-Hindi speaking people Hindi translations of features from regional languages and original texts of poems and folk songs of regional languages along with Hindi translations, are published. The magazine is also introduced to non-Hindi speaking people by running stalls in exhibitions and by issue of circulars to educational institutions, libraries, clubs, associations, etc. which are followed up by personal visits of representatives of the Division.

Shri Kamath: The statement, laid on the Table of the House shows that with regard to both these periodicals *Aj Kal* and *Bal Bharati* the number of copies for sale is less by about 1,000 than the number of copies printed. Is the House to understand that about 1,000 copies are supplied complimentary?

Shri Diwakar: I cannot say exactly whether it is 1,000 but we do send hundreds of complimentary copies.

Shri Kamath: The cost as shown in the statement excludes the cost of paper which is supplied by the Controller of Printing & Stationery. Does the Minister have any idea as to the actual cost of paper required for these two magazines?

Shri Diwakar: It is accounted for in that Department.

Mr. Speaker: The point is what is the actual cost to the Government. Whether his Department accounts for it or not, what is the total cost?

Shri Diwakar: The total cost is not computed in our Department.

Mr. Speaker: That may be, but his point is what is the total cost.

Shri Diwakar: For that I require notice.

Shri M. Naik: May I know whether the income derived from these magazines is commensurate with the expenditure incurred?

Shri Diwakar: On each magazine separately?

Shri M. Naik: No, all the magazines taken together.

Shri Diwakar: I should say it is not a commercial proposition and there is no profit in this matter. Whatever we get from the sale of these copies is not calculated from the point of view of profit.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know whether these magazines are printed in the Government of India Press or in private presses?

Shri Diwakar: These particular magazines, *Aj Kal* and *Bal Bharati* are both printed in the Government Press.

Khwaja Inait Ullah: May I know if these magazines are self-supporting?

Shri Diwakar: They are not.

Sardar B. S. Man: Is it a fact that the Hindi used in these publications is tending more and more to be Sanskritised than to be simplified so that it may reach the common man?

Shri Diwakar: I have already stated that we are trying our best to use what is called simple Hindi.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know what is the advertisement revenue of *Aj Kal*?

Shri Diwakar: I have not calculated it, but there is some advertisement revenue in the case of both these magazines.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know whether *Aj Kal* or *Bal Bharati* care more for advertisement than for literary stories and writings?

Shri Diwakar: It is not so.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if the advertisements are secured through any agency and, if so, what is the commission given to them?

Shri Diwakar: That is done according to a contract with certain advertising agents. If details are required I should like to have notice.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it not true that about two years ago there was a proposal that this Department itself will serve as the advertising agent of the Government and that it will itself secure Government advertisements and not through some advertising agencies?

Mr. Speaker: He is talking of Government advertisements or advertisements generally?

Shri A. C. Guha: There was a proposal before this Department that it will itself or the Consultant serve as advertising agent for the Government both for receiving and distributing Government advertisements.

Shri Diwakar: Well, some of the Government advertisements are given in these magazines.

Shri A. C. Guha: My question is whether there was a proposal that the Consultant will serve as the advertising agent of the Government who will cater all Government advertisements, and he will secure Government advertisements for these magazines instead of having to go through some advertising agents and paying them a remuneration of about Rs. 3 lakhs annually?

Shri Diwakar: I am not aware of the Publications Division being the advertising agent. There is what is called the Advertising Consultants office which is quite separate from the Publications Division.

Shri Gautam: Do the Government propose to keep a correct account of all the income and expenditure on these magazines including the cost of paper etc.?

Shri Diwakar: An absolutely correct account is kept.

Mr. Speaker: His point is whether Government will keep a consolidated account for all the departments.

Shri Diwakar: I will consider that.

Shri Deogirikar: May I know whether the aim of these magazines is cultural advancement or political propaganda?

Shri Diwakar: It is cultural advancement mainly. Incidentally, matter regarding constructive activities on the part of the Government are also published sometimes.

KONAR DAM

*98. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the area of paddy lands and houses that will be submerged as a result of the building of the Konar Dam (D.V.C.); and

(b) the number of houses built so far and paddy lands prepared for rehabilitation of affected persons?

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): (a) Area of paddy land—1115.88 acres. Number of houses—123.

(b) Nil.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the number of families and persons who are going to be affected by the submerging of this land?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The number of houses affected is 123 and we might safely multiply it by five, which means that about 600 to 700 persons* will be affected.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the question of compensation or rehabilitation of these persons has been considered by Government and a decision taken thereon?

Shri Sri Prakasa: Yes.

Shri Kamath: Has the problem arising out of the eviction of these tenants and other persons been tackled strictly on the basis of "land for land and house for house" as was promised by the hon. Minister two years ago when the Bill was moved?

Shri Sri Prakasa: That is so, but if any persons prefer to have cash payment, then we make cash payment. Otherwise, we always try to give land for land and house for house.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know the number of persons so far rehabilitated?

Shri Sri Prakasa: None.

Shri Shaikh Mohiuddin: What will be the average loss of paddy annually from these lands that have been submerging?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I think the paddy yield in Bihar per acre is 15 maunds.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): It is 10 maunds.

Shri Sri Prakasa: If notice is given, I shall find out and let the House know.

BASIC EDUCATION CENTRES

*99. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Training Centres opened during the year 1951 for Basic Education in the Centrally Administered Areas; and

(b) the approximate number of persons who are being trained?

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Basic Training Centres opened during 1951 in Centrally Administered Areas and the number of persons being trained.

Name of State	Number of new Training Centers opened during 1951 for Basic Education	Number of persons being trained
(1) Ajmer	Nil	Nil
(2) Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Nil	Does not arise.
(3) Bhopal	Nil	10 sent for training
(4) Bilaspur (Simla Hills)	Nil	Does not arise.
(5) Coorg	Nil	64
(6) Delhi	Nil	Does not arise.
(7) Himachal Pradesh	One	55
(8) Kutch	One	35
(9) Manipur	Nil	Nil
(10) Tripura	Nil	Nil
(11) Vindhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil

Shri S. N. Das: From the statement it appears that in a very large number of States, no training centres have been opened. Am I to understand that the Central Government do not want to open centres there, or do I understand that the question is under consideration?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I shall inform the Minister concerned.

Shri Amolakh Chand: May I know if in reply to a question an hon. Minister can say that he will inform the Minister concerned? What we want is information from the Minister.

Mr. Speaker: It is no use pursuing the question.

Shri Kamath: I have got an entirely different question to ask.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, he may put it.

Shri Kamath: Have centres been opened, as the statement shows, only in Himachal Pradesh and Kutch, because they are educationally the most backward among the States, or what else is the reason?

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. Speaker: The question list is over.

Short Notice Question and Answer

FOOD SITUATION IN MADRAS

Shrimati Durgabai: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) What is the present food situation in the Madras State with particular reference to the Andhra area?

(b) The quantity of rice ration given in that State?

(c) Whether any proposal has been considered by Government to permit persons in rationed areas to supplement their food by free purchases in non-rationed areas; if not, why not?

(d) Whether any suggestion has been made to Government to sell at half rate, foodgrains to the poor classes in the famine stricken districts of Andhra area?

(e) Whether a scheme is under contemplation to divert a percentage of the quota of rice allotted to U.P. and the Punjab (I) for a period of four months so as to make the same available to Madras State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. M. Munshi): (a) Following the partial failure of the North-East monsoon in Madras, the condition of the standing crops in some districts is not satisfactory. As a result, the food situation in the districts of Cuddapah, Chittoor, Guntur, Nellore, Kurnool, Bellary, Anantapur, Chingleput, North Arcot, South Arcot, Tiruchirappalli, and Coimbatore is difficult. The first named districts, it will be seen, are in the northern part of Madras. Of these, the districts where the difficulties are acute are Chittoor and Cuddapah. In the affected areas, relief works are in progress giving employment to the poorer sections.

The stock position of foodgrains in the Madras State is at present satisfactory. On 3-2-52, their total stocks of foodgrains amounted to 314,549 tons, of which 280,642 tons were in rice. On the corresponding date last year, their total stocks amounted only to 193,691 tons, of which 178,725 tons was rice. The improvement in the stock position is noteworthy. Last year's allotment of foodgrains by the Centre to the Madras Government was 6,88,800 tons.

In the de-rationed rural areas of Madras, Government have now 8639 Fair Price shops. The number of these shops in March, 1951 was only 850.

(b) The rice ration for the rice eaters in all the statutorily rationed areas of the State is 6 oz. The rice ration issued from relief quota shops in the deficit districts is 2 oz.; in the upland areas of the surplus districts 4 oz. and in surplus areas where there is intensive procurement, it is 8 oz.

(c) No such proposal has been received. Government cannot consider any such proposal because if rice is taken out of the unrationed areas less rice will be left for consumption in such areas. In Madras even in the derationed areas where there is generally no procurement, Government have been compelled to give a rice ration of two ounces.

(d) No.

(e) No rice is allotted to U.P. or the Punjab.

Shrimati Durgabai: Arising out of the answer to part (b), may I know whether the Government of Madras has made a request to the Central Government—(and this request has been received here)—that the rice content of the ration should be increased from 6 to 8 ounces; if so, may I know what decision has been taken on the request?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Government of Madras has not made any request so far, as suggested.

Shri B. Das: There is no Madras Government now.

Mr. Speaker: Order. order.

Shrimati Durgabai: Has information reached the hon. Minister that the situation in regard to water supply and cattle fodder has fast been deteriorating in the Ceded Districts, particularly Chittoor and Kurnool, and as a result five thousand cattle have simply been sold for their skin value?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have received no reports with regard to Kurnool dis-

trict, but I have got reports in regard to some other districts.

Shrimati Durgabai: Is it a fact that the Madras Government has requested the payment of a relief grant of Rs. 3 crores for the famine-stricken areas of the Ceded Districts, and if so, may I know what steps have been taken by Government to give effect to this request?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have no information that they have asked for Rs. 3 crores. Anyway it has not reached me.

Shri R. Velayudhan: May I know, whether the hon. the Food Minister saw a statement issued by the Food Minister of Madras that the food situation in Madras is bad and unsatisfactory, whereas the hon. Minister now says it is satisfactory?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. member is arguing.

Shri V. Gangaraju: May I know whether the Government of India has even helped any famine stricken area in other provinces?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Yes. Wherever help has been needed, it has been given.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know, whether it is a fact that a famine relief grant of Rs. 3 crores was given to Gujerat some time back?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I do not think so; it is not correct at all.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Minister mean to say that he is not sure about the figure or about help having been given?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No grant has been given so far as I remember.

Shri Bharati: The hon. Minister gave the stock position of rice in Madras on the 3rd February 1952 as 2,80,000 tons. The stock on the corresponding date of 1951 was only 178,000 tons. While the ration now is 6 oz. what was the rice content of ration last year?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I have not got the figures of last year. But from January to June the normal rations were reduced from 12 ozs. to 9 ozs. I am not sure what the rice content of the ration in Madras was last year.

Shri Bharati: I would like to know whether the ration was not much more when the rice position was worse?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I cannot say, because I have not got the figures here.

Shrimati Durgabai: May I know whether the hon. Minister has received any request from the famine stricken areas of the Ceded Districts that more gruel centres should be opened in the villages and also that fodder should be sold at concessional rates?

Shri K. M. Munshi: No such request has been made to the Government of India, so far as I know, but there are gruel centres already opened. For instance, in Chittoor there are 28 gruel centres in Cuddappah there are 17. More centres are proposed to be opened and money has been sanctioned by the Madras Government. There are gruel centres working in other districts as well.

Shri Kamath: Have any or all of these districts, Cuddappah, Kurnool, Anantpur, Bellary, Chingleput, North Arcot and South Arcot, have been declared famine areas and famine relief works opened accordingly to deal with the situation?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Relief works have been opened wherever it has been found needed; but no case has been made out for declaring them as famine areas.

Mr. Speaker: Is it not more or less a State matter to declare a particular area a famine stricken area?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is so.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is there any definite definition of the word "Gruel" and its food contents and is that definition strictly observed while distributing gruel?

Shri K. M. Munshi: There is a standard prescribed by the rules: I do not know what is exactly happening there, but there is a standard.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: May I know what difficulties, if any Government have, for allowing rationed population to supplement their food by getting it from adjoining non-rationed areas?

Shri K. M. Munshi: If from any non-rationed area, rice or any grain is allowed to come into a rationed area, the result will be that there will be much less quantity of rice in the non-rationed area and you will have to supply them again with something more.

Shri Bharati: May I know, whether the whole quantity of allotment from the Centre to the Madras State has

been made and whether there are any arrears?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Of the total quantity of 7 lakhs, 6 lakhs and 88 thousand has been allotted.

Shri Bharati: My question refers to rice alone?

Shri K. M. Munshi: I cannot say off-hand.

Shri Alexander: In view of the serious reports, does the hon. Minister propose to visit these areas?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri Kamath: What response, has the appeal made by the Prime Minister, and the Food Minister also, I believe, to the people of the Punjab and United Provinces recently to give up rice eating for the sake of their brethren in Madras State, evoked?

Shri K. M. Munshi: It is difficult to assess them in tons, but the impression prevalent is that States in North India are getting a large quantum of rice ration is not correct. For instance, in Bihar the maximum content of rice is 3 ozs; in Bombay it is 1.75 ozs; in Madhya Pradesh 5 ozs; in the U.P. 3 ozs. and in Hyderabad 2 ozs. So it is not correct to say that in any of the States the ration is of a large quantity.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION

NON-GAZETTED PENSIONERS

13. **Shri K. Vaidya:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the total number of non-Gazetted civil pensioners of the Central Government;

(b) how many of them have been granted temporary increase of pension;

(c) what is the total annual expenditure on account of this temporary increase; and

(d) what is the basis of this grant?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). The information asked for is not readily available and it is considered that the collection of these particulars will involve a disproportionate amount of time and labour,

(d) Certain temporary increases have been granted at the rates indicated below:

Rate of pension	Rate of increase
Not exceeding Rs. 20/- p. m.	Rs. 4/- p. m.
Rs. 21/- to Rs. 60/- p. m.	Rs. 5/- p. m.

Rate of pension	Rate of increase
Rs. 61/- to Rs. 100/- p. m.	Rs. 6/- p. m.
Rs. 101/- to Rs. 108/- p. m.	Such increase as will bring the total pen- sion to Rs. 106/- p.m.

The object of the grant of these increases was to afford some relief to pensioners in receipt of small pensions without causing an undue burden on the exchequer.

Monday, 18th February, 1952



PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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(5th February, 1952 to 29th February, 1952)

Fifth Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1952

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CORRIGENDA

to

the Parliamentary Debates (Part II—Other than Questions and Answers), Fifth Session, 1952

In Volume I,—

1. No. 2, dated the 6th February, 1952,—

(i) Col. 23, line 33 for "to provide for" read "further to amend", and in line 2 from bottom for "further to amend" read "to provide for".

2. No. 5, dated the 12th February, 1952,—

(i) Col. 309, for existing last line read "chancellories or in government, but"

(ii) Col. 362, line 31 for "Kamth" read "Kamath".

3. No. 6, dated the 13th February, 1952,—

(i) भाग ३९१, पंक्ति १५ में "एम जुनही" के स्थान पर "जुल्म नहीं" पढ़ें ।

(ii) भाग ३९२, पंक्ति २५ में "बतक" के स्थान पर "बक्त" पढ़ें ।

(iii) Col. 443, line 8 for "ony" read "only".

(iv) کالم ۳۷۲ آخری لائن کے شروع میں وہ ملی ہیں ان کے متعلق یہ پڑھیں —

(v) Col. 529, for existing last line read "excess of such moisture as may reasonably be expected, by watering the".

(vi) Col. 530, insert "both parties are protected. They pro—" as last line.

4. No. 8, dated the 15th February, 1952,—

(i) Col. 648, after line 7, insert "this demand has come before the House today, that".

(ii) Col. 658, line 32 for "OUTLAY" read "OUTSIDE".

(iii) Col. 659, line 6 from bottom for "Jagivan Ram" read "Jagjivan Ram"

(iv) Col. 676, last line for "liament" read "Parliament".

(v) Col. 686, line 16 from bottom for "Gapalaswami" read "Gopalaswami".

5. No. 9, dated the 18th February, 1952,—

(i) भाग ८०३, नीचे से पंक्ति ४ में "जचित राम" के स्थान पर "अचित राम" पढ़ें ।

6. No. 11, dated the 20th February, 1952,—

(i) भाग १००७, पंक्ति ९ को "की जरूरत है" पढ़ें ।

7. No. 14, dated the 23rd February, 1952,—

(i) Col. 1184, line 8 for "Jagivan Ram" read "Jagjivan Ram".

(ii) Col. 1191, for existing line 4 read "Clause 6 —Contributions and matters".

(iii) भाग १२२७, पंक्ति १० में "यस्य" के स्थान पर "सत्तम" पढ़ें ।

8. No. 15, dated the 25th February, 1952,—

(i) भाग १२५४, पंक्ति २४ में "रती" के स्थान पर "तीर" पढ़ें ।

9. No. 19, dated the 29th February, 1952,—

(i) Col. 1564, in the beginning of line 17 from bottom insert "voted".

(ii) Col. 1612, line 3 from bottom for "purpose" read "propose".

(iii) भाग १६२४, पंक्ति ५ में "सउन" के स्थान पर "उस ने" पढ़ें ।

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

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PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

Monday, 18th February, 1952.

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

11.10 A.M.

**MESSAGE FROM HER MAJESTY
QUEEN ELIZABETH, THE
QUEEN MOTHER**

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received the following message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. (The last message I received was from Her Majesty the Queen).

"I should be grateful if you would convey to the Parliament of India, and accept for yourself, my deep gratitude for the message of condolence on the death of His Majesty KING GEORGE VI.

The goodwill of the people of India was very precious to His Majesty, and the knowledge that their thoughts are with us has been a great support to all Members of the Royal Family.

I note and appreciate the adjournment of Parliament as a mark of respect".

**RESIGNATION OF MOULAVI
MAHAMMED HANEEF**

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the hon. Members that Moulavi Mahammed Haneef has resigned his seat in Parliament with effect from the 15th February, 1952.

400 P S D.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**DECLARATIONS OF EXEMPTION ISSUED
UNDER REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNERS
ACT, 1939**

The Minister of Home Affairs and Law (Dr. Katju): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Declarations of Exemption issued under the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, namely:

- (1) No. 1/47/51-FI., dated the 2nd August, 1951.
- (2) No. 1/50/51-FI., dated the 9th August, 1951.
- (3) No. 1/51/51-FI., dated the 7th November, 1951.
- (4) No. 1/51/51-FI., dated the 18th September, 1951.
- (5) No. 1/53/51-FI., dated the 22nd August, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (6) No. 1/54/51-FI., dated the 5th September, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (7) No. 1/56/51-FI., dated the 1st September, 1951.
- (8) No. 1/57/51-FI., dated the 5th September, 1951.
- (9) No. 1/61/51-FI., dated the 21st September, 1951.
- (10) No. 1/62/51-FI., dated the 4th October, 1951.
- (11) No. 1/63/51-FI., dated the 11th October, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (12) No. 1/66/51-FI., dated the 18th October, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (13) No. 1/67/51-FI., dated the 27th October, 1951.
- (14) No. 1/68/51-FI., dated the 2nd November, 1951.

[Dr. Katju]

- (15) No. 1/69/51-FI., dated the 6th November, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (16) No. 1/70/51-FI., dated the 12th November, 1951.
- (17) No. 1/72/51-FI., dated the 7th November, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (18) No. 1/75/51-FI., dated the 23rd November, 1951.
- (19) No. 1/76/51-FI., dated the 22nd November, 1951.—(2 Declarations).
- (20) No. 1/77/51-FI., dated the 29th November, 1951.
- (21) No. 1/79/51-FI., dated the 23rd November, 1951.
- (22) No. 1/80/51-FI., dated the 29th November, 1951.
- (23) No. 1/81/51-FI., dated the 29th November, 1951.
- (24) No. 1/82/51-FI., dated the 5th December, 1951.—(3 Declarations).
- (25) No. 1/83/51-FI., dated the 5th December, 1951.
- (26) No. 1/84/51-FI., dated the 17th December, 1951.—(12 Declarations).
- (27) No. 1/85/51-FI., dated the 29th December, 1951.
- (28) No. 1/86/51-FI., dated the 17th December, 1951.
- (29) No. 1/87/51-FI., dated the 17th December, 1951.
- (30) No. 1/88/51-FI., dated the 28th December, 1951.
- (31) No. 1/89/51-FI., dated the 28th December, 1951.
- (32) No. 1/90/51-FI., dated the 28th December, 1951.
- (33) No. 1/91/51-FI., dated the 1st January, 1952.
- (34) No. 1/2/52-FI., dated the 18th January, 1952.
- (35) No. 1/5/52-FI., dated the 21st January, 1952.
- (36) No. 1/6/52-FI., dated the 22nd January, 1952.—(15 Declarations).
- (37) No. 1/6/52-FI., dated the 25th January, 1952.

CONSTITUTION (REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES) ORDER No. II (FOURTH AMENDMENT) ORDER

Dr. Katju: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Constitution (Removal of Difficulties) Order No. II (Fourth Amendment) Order (Made by the President on the 30th January, 1952), under clause (2) of Article 392 of the Constitution.

CONSTITUTION (REMOVAL OF DIFFICULTIES) ORDER No. II (FIFTH AMENDMENT) ORDER

Dr. Katju: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Constitution (Removal of Difficulties) Order No. II (Fifth Amendment) Order, (Made by the President on the 13th February 1952), under clause (2) of Article 392 of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. P-263/52].

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Home Affairs and Law (Dr. Katju): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898".

The motion was adopted.

Dr. Katju: I introduce the Bill.

CONTROL OF SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Control of Shipping Act, 1947.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Control of Shipping Act, 1947."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I introduce the Bill.

CRIMINAL TRIBES LAWS (REPEAL) BILL

The Minister of State for Home Affairs (Shri Sidhva): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to pro-

vide for the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, and certain other laws corresponding thereto.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, and certain other laws corresponding thereto."

Shri Sidhva: I introduce the Bill.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1951-52—PUNJAB STATE

Mr. Speaker: The House will now proceed with the discussion on the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Punjab State for 1951-52, which was held over. The following motion was under discussion:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,76,400 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of Interest on Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes, Receipts from Multi-purpose River Schemes-Deduct-Working Expenses and Receipts from Electricity Schemes-Deduct-Working Expenses (other than Establishment)."

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Regarding Demand No. 11 relating to Electricity Schemes, the hon. Member opposite wished to have details about items 30 and 35 of Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 5,000 respectively, for the purchase of power from the Panipat Power House for refugee colonies. I was asked particularly whether provision for this expenditure could not have been made when the original budget proposals for the year were presented. My enquiries show that these amounts represent inter-departmental adjustments between two schemes. The Panipat Power House which is run by the Electricity Department and organized on a commercial basis supplies power to the refugee colonies at Sonapat and Panipat amongst other consumers. The supply of power in the case of the refugee colonies involves loss, and the subject of adjustment of this loss has been under the consideration of the Punjab Government during the course of the current financial year. The amounts now asked for represent debits to the refugee colony scheme, which is a rehabilitation venture, and there will be a corresponding credit in the revenues of the Electricity De-

partment for the Panipat Power House. Provision for these amounts could not be made when the budget was being framed as a decision to maintain separate accounts for the supply of electricity as between the two schemes was made by the Punjab Government during the course of the year.

During the course of debate on these items I was also asked for information regarding the number of refugees who are benefiting by this power, the number who applied for power from this source, and the approximate cost on supply to all refugees in the two colonies. I have been able to get the following information.

Number of electrical connections at the end of December 1951. (Information for a later date is not available so far):

Sonepat refugee colony ...	133
Panipat refugee colony ...	310

Then, as regards the number who applied for power connections I may inform the House that a reference to officers on the spot will be necessary for absolutely accurate information for which we have not had the time, but generally speaking there is no difficulty in giving the necessary connection at these colonies.

And then, as regards estimated expenditure for the supply of electricity to all houses in this area, for the Sonepat refugee colony it is Rs. 1,85,000 and for the Panipat refugee colony it is Rs. 5,40,000.

I was also asked for more details regarding items 36, 37 and 38 of Demand No. 11 against which the Supplementary Memorandum gives no particulars. All these items relate to the Kalka Electric Supply Company, a private organisation which was taken over by the Punjab Government in June 1951. The demand of Rs. 50 (item 36) and Rs. 9,100 (item 37) has been made to cover anticipated expenditure on temporary service connections and on the maintenance of the 11 K.V. line and distribution system. This item also includes special repairs to the distribution system which was in a deteriorated condition. The provision of Rs. 1,400 (item 38) represents depreciation charges but transferred to the Depreciation Reserve Fund under the usual rules.

Then there was some mention made of items of expenditure which had been dismissed as trivial with no explanation. I do not know if the hon. Member still requires an explanation of these trivial items.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh):
If you can.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Since he insists, I may say that enquiry about these has also been made and the position in regard to each item is as follows:

Item 8: Rs. 150. The demand of the sum of Rs. 150 is due to the fact that a new work, replacement of defective underground cable of the 11 K.V. line from Kartarpur to Hamrah estimated at.....

Mr. Speaker: What is the total amount of this?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Rs. 150, Sir. I asked him whether he was interested in having the details and he said 'Yes'.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need take time over this.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I myself thought so. But I have the explanation. If the hon. Member is satisfied that there is reasonable explanation he will not press for it.

Shri Kamath: The total of the trifling amounts is something worthy of notice.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Item 8 is Rs. 150, item 18 is Rs. 10 and item 22 is Rs. 120.

Mr. Speaker: That is all?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That is all, Sir. I have the explanation.

Mr. Speaker: I do not think we need take up more time.

Shri Kamath: Has the Minister got information about the total number of refugees in the Panipat refugee colony and the number who have so far benefited by the power connection given?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have given the number of connections given, but I have not got the total number here.

Mr. Speaker: Shall I put the cut motion of the hon. Member to the House?

Shri Kamath: It may be put, as the information is incomplete.

Panipat Refugee Colony and Power House

Mr. Speaker: He need not give reasons. The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,76,440, in respect of Electricity Scheme—Working Expenses (pages 31-43) be reduced by Rs. 100.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put the original demand (Demand No. 11) to the House.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,76,440 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Interest on Capital Outlay on Electricity Schemes, Receipts from Multi-purpose River Schemes-Deduct-working Expenses and Receipts from Electricity Schemes Deduct-Working Expenses (Other than Establishments)'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: The next Demand was No. 21. It runs thus:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of Education."

To that, there is a cut motion by Mr. Kamath.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I have to give some information. In regard to item 9 of this Demand relating to payment of arrears of stipends to backward caste sikh students, I enquired about the delay that occurred in dealing with the applications from both Hindu and Sikh students and I regret to inform the House that my enquiry revealed that there has been some avoidable delay in regard to the award of these stipends. Up to and including August 1950, stipends were being distributed on application to students who came within the approved list of castes. In September 1950, the Education Department who administers this subject made an enquiry from the Punjab Government whether certain castes included in the list, namely Ramdasis, Kabirpanthis, Mazhabis and Sikligars were eligible for stipends irrespective of whether they professed the Hindu or the Sikh religion, and pending receipt of information, the applications could not be proceeded with. The number of applications from those students was 979 and the number of applications from Hindu Harijans was 2063. All the applications from the Sikh backward castes students had to be kept

pending till receipt of this information. At the same time, about 200 applications from Hindu Harijan students had to be kept pending for lack of funds. Then, there was a further reference by the Education department and it appeared that the original letter making the enquiry could not be traced. So, the information was obtained and final orders passed at the end of August 1951. After that date, both the pending applications of the previous year and the new applications received during 1951-52 were dealt with. The applications from both the Hindus and Sikhs have been dealt with and stipends awarded. There are, however, at the present juncture, approximately 850 applications from Sikhs and 1050 applications from Hindus pending award for lack of funds which are being asked for in these Supplementary Demands. As soon as these funds are sanctioned, the applications that are pending will be dealt with.

Shri Kamath: The explanatory Memorandum to this Demand, under item 9 page 80 shows that the applications of students belonging to certain Sikh backward castes were held up. The statement of the hon. Minister which has just been made shows that the applications of both Hindus and Sikhs were held up. Which is correct? Is the statement in the Explanatory memorandum correct or the statement of the hon. Minister?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Both are correct.

Shri Kamath: How can both be correct?

Mr. Speaker: There is no necessary contradiction. He was referring to certain castes who belonged to both the Sikh and Hindu folds.

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): Both.

Shri Kamath: The memorandum refers to Sikh backward castes only. However out of those kept pending, how many applications have been disposed of since 1950 or 1951?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: If we deduct from 979 plus 2063, the 200 which was the number of applications from Hindu Harijan students, the rest were disposed. All the Sikh applications have been kept pending.

Shri Kamath: I do not wish to come in the way of stipends being granted to Harijans. I withdraw the cut motion.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wishes to have the leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion.

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: Now I shall put to the House the original motion.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10/- be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of Education."

The motion was adopted.

THE PUNJAB APPROPRIATION BILL

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1952.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1952."

The motion was adopted.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I introduce the Bill.

*THE PUNJAB BUDGET— GENERAL DISCUSSION. FIRST STAGE .

Mr. Speaker: Now, we will take up the general discussion on the Punjab Budget.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): It is a sorry fact that I have stood up to speak on the Punjab Budget without going through these three big volumes which have been presented to this House. It is my misfortune that I did not know that the Punjab Budget was going to be presented on the 14th and 15th. These books were circulated to the Members on those dates. I happened to be absent from the House on those dates. It is only this morning I got these books. I am extremely sorry that I may not be able to refer to any portions of these books while discussing the Punjab Budget. What after all is there in these figures and blue books? I know Punjab very well; I know the conditions of Punjab.

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and I think that any Budget which does not take note of the actual conditions in any province is as a matter of fact a meaningless Budget.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): Perhaps it does take note.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Therefore, with your permission and with the permission of the House, I wish to speak on the general situation in Punjab, with particular reference to Hissar and Gurgaon districts with whose conditions I am very familiar.

Lately, there appeared in the papers a statement showing the amounts invested in the various provinces in India in regard to industries, etc. The figures showed that Punjab is the most backward of all the provinces in India as regards industries. I would like to know how this Government proposes to make Punjab more industrially minded.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh (Bihar): The Army industry?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I will come to Army also very soon.

As regards the establishment of industries, the proposal to make Panipat an industrial town has not been carried out and I do not see in the near future any prospect of its being effectuated. There was a proposal to start so many industries; but our hopes have been belied. In regard to other towns, also, there is such a marked deterioration in the condition of the industries that I should say that Punjab has not flourished during the last four years as we had expected. When I consider this along with the condition of the refugees in the Punjab, I begin to think that perhaps frustration of hopes is our only share so far as industries are concerned. I have visited various centres of refugee rehabilitation in the Gurgaon district; I have visited Faridabad, about which we hear so much and on which Government has as a matter of fact spent a good amount of money. Rightly credit is taken by the Government that a new *basti* has been established. But, I must say that some people are flying away from that place, because they do not find any sources of livelihood there sufficient to meet their demands. The people there thought that a branch of the Bata factory and other factories will be established there. But, what do we find? The Bata factory has not yet been started. There is no gainful occupation to the people there. The Government has

spent such a large amount on the township. We had expected that some industries will be started there. But, the people there are not in a position to support themselves and are not satisfied because they do not get enough assistance in this regard.

Then, a few miles further off, in Palwal, another refugee camp, we find that the people are there in those very tents which were given to them four years ago, which are practically worn-out. In the summer, in the winter and in the rainy season they are not protected. It so happened that our Sister Shrimati Vijayalakshmi Pandit visited one of these camps and she was moved by the condition of these camps. I am sure the hon. Minister, Shri Tyagi will bear me out that when he saw the camp he was also moved very much and he promised to the people there that he would do something in the near future for their amelioration. He was rather surprised at the way in which the mud houses there were inhabited by these refugees. About six persons were put inside one room—it can hardly be called a living room, being only eight feet by twelve feet—and six persons were asked to inhabit it. These are conditions in which no human being should be allowed to live. But the condition of those who are still in the camp is much worse and our sister Shrimati Vijayalakshmi Pandit promised these people that she would bring the hon. Shri Jawaharlal Nehru to these camps within a month after the elections were over. I do not know whether she has been able to keep this promise.

Shri Tyagi: I may inform my hon. friend that since his visit to the camp the Minister for Rehabilitation has taken some practical steps to improve the condition of these refugee camps.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I know whether those wretched mud houses have been substituted by better houses?

Shri Tyagi: I think he is moving in that direction; but I do not know exactly to what extent he has proceeded.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This is the sort of thing we have been hearing for the past four years, but with what result? That is what I want to know. When we go to these places we cannot show our faces to these refugees. They come and tell you that people live in Palatial houses in Delhi and they live there in such mud

trovels, exposed to the burning sun, the torrential rain and the bitter cold of the winter. When they say that, you cannot give them solace be merely saying that some movement has begun in some direction. It should be possible for us to tell these people that so much has been done and so much more will be done in the near future.

That much about these mud houses. There are besides, a number of shops and these have no customers. In the whole of Palwal there is not a single shopkeeper who is happy for all of them feel that their income is dwindling. That is no wonder, for there are more shopkeepers than customers, and they cannot make both ends meet. And what I say about Palwal holds good with other places also. If hon. Members come to know the actual condition in which these people live, they will all be surprised. When we went round these areas in the course of our election work, we could see the great amount of dissatisfaction that exists in these places. In Gurgaon district there are less customers than shopkeepers in some places and the condition in which the people live cannot be contemplated with equanimity. Now the refugees have come to believe that there is nothing in store for them but frustration of their hopes. We heard lately of the unhappy suicide of a woman because she could not get any compensation. Waiting for four years she found she could not get any compensation and she was unable to find the means with which to live and she committed suicide. Now, this is not the condition only in Gurgaon. It is the same case in Hissar and in many other districts of the Punjab. May I humbly ask whether these cold figures can bring any solace to these people who have been suffering for so long? We want that some drastic steps should be taken by Government so that their condition may improve and improve quickly.

This problem of the refugees in India, as we all know, has two aspects. First of all there is the question of giving them gainful employment; and the second is provision of houses. As regards houses, I have said that mud houses have been provided at a cheap cost. That is what has happened in the Punjab and in these houses the people cannot live as they used to live in better houses. Just imagine, the son, his wife, his mother and father and sisters all having to live in one small room! How it is possible? Indeed, when you go to these people and see how they live, you are simply shocked beyond measure. In one of the meetings that

I attended I was moved a great deal when one of the refugees described to the audience the fallen condition of the refugees and added, "As a matter of fact, this Swaraj was being enjoyed by the people of Hindustan at our cost." In fact, sufficient heed is not being paid by the authorities to the claims of the refugees and to their demands. I would humbly beg of the authorities that they should not disregard the wishes of the refugees. They should go and study their problems and do something for them. The main problem, as I have already said, is one of giving them gainful occupation. Whereas Government gave out that they will establish industries there, they have not been able to do so and so the men are not able to earn a livelihood. In fact they find it very very difficult to make both ends meet. If you want to see that there is no dissatisfaction among the refugees and if you want to redeem your promises to them, one thing you can do is to ask the Planning Commission to take the trouble to go to these places and study the problem and find out a solution. Or you can appoint a commission to enquire into the condition of the refugees, find out how they are living and suggest remedies or steps to rectify the present defects. I must say, that if anyone goes and sees the way these people live, he will be greatly shocked. I am now speaking of these districts of the Punjab; but I travelled all over India and I can say that perhaps the condition of the refugees in West Bengal is even worse than that in the Punjab. But as I am now speaking on the Punjab Budget, I shall not expatiate on the sufferings of these refugees in Bengal.

Apart from this, what I found in Gurgaon and other districts where I moved about during these elections is that the local grievances are not attended to by the district authorities. The one lesson that I learned from my tours in Gurgaon district is that as a matter of fact, no real attempt is made by the authorities or by the representatives of the public to solve their local problems. And this is true of other districts also. Perhaps the problems are not properly represented to the authorities and the authorities also do not care about bringing about a solution of those problems. For instance, when we were enacting the Constitution we were told that so far as trade is concerned there will be free trade all over India, that there will be no restriction to the movement of goods or the free inter-course of trade between one State and another State. There was as we

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know Article 16 and that article was taken away—I am speaking from memory—and Article 274, I think, was introduced instead. But what did I find when I toured the Gurgaon district? From village Beewan you cannot take any merchandise to the neighbouring tract and if you want to take any, you must pay heavy customs duty. I want to submit that so far as India is concerned we want that one person should be able to go from one place to another, from one State to another State without any restriction; and not only that, he should be able to take things with him and no obstacles should be placed in his way.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): Did the hon. Member say that they had to pay customs duty?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Yes, that is what I was told. You cannot send anything from Beewan village to a village in Rajasthan. Previous to the attainment of Independence, the rule was that whenever a person went from British territory into Rajasthan or any other State, he had to pay something. These rules have not been entirely changed even now. And so if a person wants to take something from Gurgaon into a district in Rajasthan he has to pay some customs duty. That is what I am submitting.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Customs for what goods?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I will send for details. I will give full details. I promised them that, when the elections are over, I would go to them, find out the full details and submit them to Government. I found these conditions not only in Bima but also in other places, Buhhar etc. I was told that people have to pay such an amount of customs that the cost to them becomes very prohibitive. So they cannot have any trade with the neighbouring tracts. Previously, whenever anything was taken from the Hissar District to Bikaner, customs had to be paid. The amount has been reduced now but at the same time even now, it is paid. I think that the hon. the Finance Minister is feeling rather astounded at my statements. I felt the same way when I was told all these things in Bima. I asked them to send representations which I hope I will be able to send to the authorities concerned.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): This shows that the Punjab Administration is

not functioning properly in spite of the Governor's rule.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I will not go so far as that. My friend can draw his own conclusions about this, but this much is quite clear that the ordinary difficulties of the ordinary citizens are not being attended to in the Punjab, it must be so in Orissa also.

Shri B. Das: It is certainly an astounding thing.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The difficulties of the ordinary people are not being attended to either by Government or by us.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Does the hon. Member mean to say that these difficulties were represented to the Government of the Punjab but were not paid any attention to? Is it the hon. Member's point?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This is what the people told me. I was given to understand that as a matter of fact they made representations to the Deputy Commissioner of the district. They sent applications but they were not attended to. This is a fact. Anyhow, the matter will be soon brought to the notice of the hon. Minister and I hope he will be pleased to do something in the matter.

Then again, I find that in Gurgaon village jowar is being given to the people for eating. In the Gurgaon District we have never been habituated to jowar. It is well known that jowar was never eaten by the people of Gurgaon District. We take either wheat or bajra or even gram or barley. Barley is not given; jowar is given to the people.

Secondly, in the villages, when you give them something to eat, it is always in the shape of grain. The villagers do not take *atta*. What happened in the election days? I received communications from a friend in the Hissar District that he is going to lose the elections. I asked him why, and he said that Government was thrusting *atta* instead of the grains which people do not want to take, and that is why he is going to lose his elections. The village people take the grains, cleanse them and grind them and make *atta* for use. Because *atta* is being thrust on them, people do not take their rations. My submission is that you should know how the people are feeling and deal with them in the right fashion. You do not understand their difficulties. That is the real difficulty. It is im-

possible for these villagers to take *atta*.

Then again, one point which I would like to bring to the prominent notice of the authorities is that in these elections, the refugees as well as the people belonging to the scheduled castes have behaved splendidly. I say "splendidly" because I feel they have behaved as true nationals of India should behave. They have given their votes from the standpoint from which every true citizen of India should give his vote, and as a result of that, what is happening? In one place, the houses of a number of scheduled caste people were burnt down. In many places, they were not allowed to vote. In some places they were beaten. I was given to understand by some people that some people were beaten in Gurgaon district in Aurangabad village. I went there to find out the truth. People showed me their injuries. They were sent to the hospital. I went to the police station concerned and asked them to take steps against the offenders. I was informed that they had taken some steps. This was good so far as it went. At the same time, there are hundreds of people belonging to the scheduled castes, in some places some thousands and lakhs, who have been harassed in this manner. I say that a Government is no Government at all if they cannot give any protection to these people. Surely this is a matter in which the Punjab Government has to take steps to see that no harassment takes place. If these incidents are going to be repeated, I think we should say good-bye to free elections, and we cannot be proud that we have had free and fair elections. In the next elections, these people who have received this kind of treatment are not likely to vote in an independent manner.

Another matter which was a source of very great grievance was this. Many people of the Gurgaon District said, "The previous Government heaped all sorts of troubles on us, but we were never under such great troubles as we are now. We cannot take our grains from one place to another, even though the distance is not great." My humble submission is that this is a very real grievance of the people. This inter-district restriction on the movement of grains is a source of very great grievance to the people at large. When last time after the August session I went to my district, Hissar District, I found that people were not allowed to buy grains more than a maund at a time, more than a maund of bajra at a time.

Now, there are certain parts of Hissar District, the barren parts, where there were famine conditions. But so far as the *nahari* areas are concerned, their cotton crop was very good and many people became rich. One man said, "I have so much money in my house, but I cannot get any grains." His difficulty was that he could not get more than a maund at a time, even though he had ten or fifteen persons in his house. Foodgrains have got to be brought from a distance of 20 kosas and you can imagine what the cost of conveyance will be. The difficulty also was that this man could not do it everyday. He was saying that even though he had money in his house, he was starving. I sent a telegram to the Punjab Government, and the Punjab Government increased the quantity from one maund to five maunds. But even that is not sufficient. This grievance is very real. One day what happened was that my car broke down and would not move and I had to stay for the night in a village, which is on the road from Gurgaon to Delhi. I met the *lambardar* and *patwari* of the village. They did not know who I was. I did not disclose my identity so that I might know their real feelings. Otherwise they would not have told me the truth. The *patwari* said, "Is this your Government? Do you call it good Government? We cannot bring grain even from ten kosas away. We have got money but we cannot buy grains. What is this Government?" They do not understand the difficulty. My submission therefore is of a two-fold nature. If you want to keep these controls, make the people understand the reasons why these controls are necessary. If you do not, remove these inter-district restrictions. This grievance was repeated to me in hundreds of places.

I do not want to expatiate further on the controls, for I have already spoken on the general aspects of the matter. But the inter-district restriction on movement of grains should be taken away at once.

I do not want to take much time of the House on the general aspects of the refugee problem. However, I would mention that in one place in Gurgaon District, I found 150 families stationed. The place was situated on the main road from Delhi to Rewari. They had been living in the houses for four years and had paid rent to the Government to the extent of Rs. 6,000. All the same one day an order was passed allotting

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those houses to other people. I can understand the argument that they were not entitled to these houses and that others had a better claim. But what happened to the Prime Minister's assurance which was given when Mahatmaji was alive? He had said that no refugee would be turned out unless alternative accommodation was given. These people were not given alternative accommodation and yet they were asked to vacate. They took the matter to the high court but on a technical ground their petition was rejected. Ultimately they went to the Deputy Commissioner and told him that if he gave them alternative accommodation they would leave their present houses. But the alternative accommodation provided for them was only on paper; it did not exist at all. There were no houses available in the villages where accommodation was given to them. They said "Show us the houses and we will go there." The district authorities were so unimaginative that they did not inspect those places where these persons were to be located. One Naib Tahsildar just wanted to allot these houses to other people and so passed the orders. Where are these people to go unless the authorities acted with imagination and solicitude for these poor people? They will have to be on the streets. Even yesterday some of them came to me and narrated their miserable story. They said that they applied to the Deputy Commissioner but he refused to reconsider his orders. I did not know what to do and I could only place the matter before the Government. The present rulers of the Punjab State must look into the matter as if the territory was directly administered by them.

12 Noon

I will now come to the conditions in the Hissar District. As I submitted to the House three days ago the conditions are hopeless there. In 1938-39 and the previous famines the Government of the day took care to see that whenever there was scarcity famine works were opened for the people and care was also taken to see that their cattle was protected. According to the Budget papers, Demand 29 on page 543, item 54 I find that Rs. 40,000 are allotted for this purpose and the budget estimate is Rs. 3 lakhs. May I inform the Finance Minister that in 1938 when there was a famine the previous Punjab Government spent 2 crores for the amelioration of the condition of the people of that district? The people of Hissar

organised themselves into a Congress Famine Committee and transported 30,000 cows from Hissar to U.P. The U.P. Government helped us a great deal, because it was then our own government and thus we saved a great many cattle. At least 7,000 cattle were preserved and nourished by the Punjab Government itself. They had a camp in Hissar. But what is happening now? Lakhs of cattle have left Hissar or are dying there like flies. At that time I wrote a letter to the *Hindustan Times* where I described the process called "Baisakna". I gave them a true description of the process conveyed by the word. If any person saw cattle in that condition he will be moved to tears. When once a cattle lies down on the ground out of starvation it lies there for all time unable to stand and it meets a slow and painful death. This condition is today present in Hissar district. If you saw the pathetic eyes of the cattle appealing to you for sympathy you will be moved to tears. Hissar is famous for its cows, bullocks and cattle. People love them like children and when they see their cattle dying in this manner they cannot bear it. People come to *goshalas* and pay Rs. 10 plus another Rs. 2 so that they could have the last sight of green fodder being chewed by their cattle before they leave them for ever. They leave them there without charging anything for their cattle.

As regards the bulls they used to be allowed to roam anywhere they liked and have their fill. But today they are dying for want of fodder. The price of fodder is very high. What the Government has done is that if a person applies for a permit the Government give it and have reduced the freight. In previous years the railway freight was reduced for all people and without permit a person could bring the fodder to Hissar. That eliminated bribery among railway and district officials. That should have been done even now. Freight has been reduced so far as the Punjab is concerned but if the freight in U.P. is also reduced it will be a great relief to the people, because in some parts of U.P. fodder is cheaper than in the Punjab. Government should look into this. Unfortunately nobody has gone there to see how the people are faring. The Deputy Commissioner is a good fellow and a sympathetic man. But what can he do unless the Government gives him the money. He has taken

care to see that minor works relating to the Bhakra dam are opened for them. But the difficulty is that the people do not get payment for over a month. In some cases the sub-overseer would not measure their work for weeks and would go away from the place to his headquarters. That is how the people are living. For the sake of the election work all works have been stopped but hungry people are little interested as to who is elected and who is not. All the works were stopped because the officers had to work on the elections. The Government should at once open works so that people will be able to find work and have some means of livelihood.

In regard to cattle we took the trouble of transporting 30,000 cattle from the Punjab to U.P. so that they could be saved. If you relieve the plight of cattle in the Hissar district you will also relieve the condition of the people of Hissar and earn their gratitude. The Hissar people supply these cattle to all neighbouring districts as well as U.P. About twelve lakhs worth cattle are supplied every year to U.P. from Hissar alone. If our cattle are allowed to die, there will be such a great dearth of cattle that even if the rains set in you will not be able to make up the loss. When the famine of 1938-39 was over and there were rains we could not find bullocks for ploughing and in some places asses, and even human beings, were used as bullocks. This condition is too deplorable even to contemplate. I would beg of the hon. Home Minister or the Finance Minister, whoever is in charge of this part of the administration to kindly look into the matter and insist on the Punjab Government to arrange for the protection of those cattle at once because so far nothing has been done. This is the President's rule, and the Governor's rule and passing complaints on other periods I must say that they ought to have seen that Hissar was in the grip of a famine and they ought to have taken action but they refused to move. It was just like the old Government when they wanted to see people actually starving before they started relief work. I remember in 1936 or so a Government official carrying a salary of Rs. 3,500 or so was sent to Hissar to find out if there was famine and when he saw some girls wearing ornaments which is customary among married women to wear, he came back and reported that all was well. Similarly, now anybody with eyes to

see can find out for himself that conditions in Hissar are too deplorable. People are not getting food to eat and they cannot live for long under those conditions. Perhaps Government are waiting to see if there are some deaths when they will take some action. But my submission is that the time has come when the Government should move in the matter. It is no occasion for starting any enquiries—they should start relief work at once so that people may get some work. The trouble will last only for a few months because after all if there are timely rains then you will not be required to give any relief except the relief of tuccavi.

My humble submission is that here is the time when the Government should advance tuccavi loans for the protection of the cattle. Give them tuccavi loans for buying fodder so that for the next four months they may be able to protect their cattle. This is one thing to which special attention should be given. Then again some relief work in the shape of cotton-spinning etc. may be taken up. In the 1929-30 famine some of us as private people opened some relief centres where charkha spinning was provided and the officials of those times were so much pleased with the work that we did that in 1938-39 they themselves began relief work through the charkha and I understand about Rs. 2 lakhs were spent on that count alone. Therefore, I would beg of the Government to kindly open some relief work where charkha spinning of cotton and wool may be provided to ladies in their homes so that they may not be forced to go to other villages to work. So far as the question of fodder is concerned, there are some fodder centres opened already. In the headquarters places some fodder is available so that if big officials go round they will find fodder in stock at the major railway centres. But that is not enough. The best thing Government can do is to see that freights are lowered to such an extent that it is possible and worthwhile for every peasant and person interested to go and purchase fodder and bring it to Hissar for sale at cheap rates. If you keep the system of having to obtain a permit from the district official and then having to go to a railway official for a wagon, then all the relief that you will be giving will be relief either to the district official or to the railway official but there will be no relief to the poor peasant.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: How does one identify that a person is from Hissar if there is no permit or licence?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: After all, when the fodder is to be brought to Hissar, when the destination is Hissar, it is quite clear. Even if a person from outside brings fodder for selling it at Hissar at cheap rates Hissar will be benefited. There will be no difficulty as long as you know the destination.

Shri Tyagi: You also want Government to control the rates?

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: If you could kindly reduce the rates from Uttar Pradesh. In Uttar Pradesh there are some places where fodder is cheap. In the last famine in 1939 fodder was brought from far off places in Uttar Pradesh like Jhansi. The point is that Government may have to incur some more expenditure, but the people will be relieved only if they get cheaper fodder.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not know much about this without enquiry, but if a stranger goes and brings fodder at cheap rates he will keep all the profits.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This can be arranged very easily. After all if he brings the fodder there you can fix the rates of fodder so that even if a stranger goes and buys it in Uttar Pradesh—of course no stranger, I should say, is interested in bringing fodder to Hissar, but even if he is—you can fix the rates for sale and let him have his ordinary profit. I only want that you may reduce the freight rate from U.P. to Hissar so that cheap fodder may be brought to Hissar and people may be relieved.

But at the same time supply of cheap fodder is not the only aspect of the problem: people have no money to buy it with. Therefore, my submission to Government is that as in the days of the last famine Government should maintain some cows and bullocks. In the last famine Government gave subsidies to people to feed their bulls; it can be done now also. In those days Government opened many centres where people brought their cattle and fed them at Government cost. This can be done now also. All these matters are known to the Punjab Government, only the Government of India has to insist and take pity on the Hissar people and arrange to do the right thing. The

officials of the Punjab themselves know full well how a famine is to be met because Hissar is a district where after every four or five years there is a famine.

So far as feeding the people is concerned, I do not want that you should give doles to the people. I want that work should be given to them so that they may work and earn their livelihood. For instance, work can be given on the Bhakra canals which can be dug even now. Previously the way in which relief was given was that local *johars* were dug. There is another big question and that is with regard to supply of drinking water. During the last famine drinking water was not available and in some cases people had to bring it from eight miles distance; they had to go eight miles to and eight miles from so that the whole day was spent in the business of getting drinking water. There was scarcity even in the railway centres and water was brought there in railway wagons and people used to flock there and get a *matka* each for a family. In some places the wells which were already deep had dried up and no water was to be found. It is rain water alone that can give us the supply and when rain falls we have this difficulty.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair].

The difficulty is so much that someone suggested that it cannot be tackled at all. So far as it is possible to tackle it, I hope Government will make all efforts to see that the right thing is done. These famine conditions are there for several months. We wrote to the Government and I am glad to say that our representative from Hissar Mr. Achint Ram has taken the trouble to organise a Famine Committee there. He is taking all steps to see that some relief is brought. All the same, my humble submission is that unless the Government take it into their heads and consider that as a matter of fact the situation is one which calls for immediate relief, no relief will be brought. After all, what the Deputy Commissioner said was that he will arrange for relief works to be opened. But if relief works are opened, the amount of wages which a worker will get will be much less. This is another misfortune, according to our antiquated and outmoded Famine Code. If you declare a place famine-affected, then it becomes your duty to see that not a single person dies. He is allowed to remain alive and die a painful death in the end. If you apply the Famine Code, there will be much more difficulty. Even

today, in these works which the Deputy Commissioner has opened without declaring the place a famine-stricken area, I understand that the wages are 15 annas. If 15 annas are given, it is something. But if you declare the area to be famine-stricken, you will perhaps pay only six or seven annas, and at this wage I understand people will not be able to take advantage of these works. It is impossible for a person to have two meals within six or seven annas a day. Therefore, I suggest that you do not take recourse to the Famine Code. I am rather afraid of this Famine Code. As soon as it is applied, the trouble is enhanced rather than diminished. Either you scrap the present Famine Code and substitute another in its place, or if you want to bring relief, do not declare it as a famine-stricken area but declare it as a scarcity area. In the scarcity area, these works can be opened and you require them only for four or five months. If Providence is kind to us, we shall have plenty of rains and will not require relief after some time. Therefore, in the coming four or five months, if you declare it a scarcity area and take such action as is usually taken, you will be doing the right thing. But for God's sake, do not decrease the wages. Do not bring them down to five or six annas. We do not want the application of the Famine Code. We would rather be without it. If you give Re. 1 or Rs. 1/8/-, it will be all right. Otherwise, the trouble will be that in my asking for the declaration of this area to be famine-stricken, I may be doing a very great disservice to those people. (*Shri Tyagi*: Is Rs. 1/8/- the usual rate for agricultural labour?). It is about Rs. 1/8/- and if you give Rs. 1/8/-, people will be grateful to you. Even if you give *taccavi* loans, they will be able to pay back the loans when the harvests become good. We do not want any person to beg of you or to take any money without doing work. We want that you may be pleased to give them good wages. Even if you can give them a loan, you give the loan and take back the money afterwards when the harvests are plentiful. This is the condition of the villages and the cattle, and unless you give some relief on the lines indicated by me, they will not be able to live.

Now, what about the cities? In the cities, there is nothing but frustration and disappointment. There is no work. The shop-keepers are sitting idle, with their hands folded. They are not doing any work. There is no trade. There is no industry. There is no life practically. You will recall

that when there was estrangement between Pakistan and India and we sent our forces there, the ordinary man was so terrified that he did not think of any sort of business at all. If you go to any of the cities now, you will find nothing but disappointment written on the main gates—nothing but frustration. Everybody is in a helpless position. I may, however, say that if you give relief to the villages and to the cattle, we shall be more than satisfied. Even if you do not give relief to the towns' people, we shall say, "All right, these four or five months we shall somehow put up with and look forward to better conditions when there will be relief". But immediate relief is necessary for the villages and cattle.

All the same, when you consider the condition of Punjab as a whole, you cannot escape the conclusion that Punjab is in a state of great suffering. To say the least, the old scenes in Punjab when Punjabis took better food and put on better clothes than the rest of India have gone. They have gone with the partition. Now Punjab is in a state of great suffering. The industries and handicrafts are in a hopeless condition. Nobody feels any hope that better days are ahead. You have to rehabilitate not only the refugees, but you have to rehabilitate the entire condition of Punjab if you mean business. In the coming four or five years, I hope the new era which we have promised to these people will come in, and things will become better. As far as budgeting is concerned, I measure the budget only in terms of human relations. If the people are better, if the labourer gets more, if a cultivator gets more, if all these people are more satisfied, then I can say that the budget that we are presenting is a good budget; otherwise, I for one have not been able to delve through these figures and understand them. I am sorry to say that conditions as they are now are most unsatisfactory and what is required is a sympathetic solution of the problems.

लाला अर्चित राम : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, आज जब पंजाब केबजट पर कुछ बहस करने का मामला मेरे दिमाग के अन्दर आया तो पहला सवाल मेरे दिल में यह पैदा हुआ कि आज बोलने का फायदा भी होगा या नहीं, क्योंकि जब मैं या और दोस्त बोलेंगे तो फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब कहेंगे कि अच्छी बात है, हम गवर्नर साहब को

[लाला अचित्त राम]

लिख देंगे और गवर्नर साहब कहेंगे कि जल्दी ही नयी मिनिस्ट्री आने वाली है वह कर लेगी। तो ऐसी हालत में दिल में ख्याल आया कि बोलने से और हाउस का बक्त खर्च करने से कुछ फ़ायदा भी होगा या नहीं, लेकिन तमाम सोच विचार के बाद और यह जानते हुए कि कोई फ़ायदा नहीं होगा, मैं ने यह फ़ैसला किया कि मुझे कुछ बोलना चाहिये। हमारे फ़ाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब बड़े हमदर्द हैं और मुझे उम्मीद है कि कम से कम जो उन की ताक़त में होगा वह कर देंगे, इस हौसले के साथ, और इस आशा के साथ मैं ने यह फ़ैसला किया कि मैं अपने ख्यालात का इज़हार कर दूँ और यह ठीक है कि गवर्नर साहब नई मिनिस्ट्री पर सब कुछ छोड़ देंगे, तो भी अगर वह चाहें तो कुछ बातें वह खुद भी कर सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं ने यह फ़ैसला किया कि मैं चन्द बातें आप की खिदमत में अर्ज कर दूँ।

सब से पहले मैं यह साफ़ कह दूँ कि मैं गवर्नरी (Governor) राज्य का कन्डमनेशन (condemnation) करने के लिए नहीं खड़ा हुआ हूँ और न यह कहने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ कि गवर्नर साहब बुरे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह जो पंजाब से मिनिस्ट्री हटी और प्रेसिडेंट (President) साहब का रूल (rule) रहा, इस से कम से कम और कुछ नहीं तो कांग्रेस को तो फ़ायदा हुआ और कांग्रेस बच गयी, जब उस से पंजाब के लोगों को कितना फ़ायदा हुआ, यह देखने की बात है। मसलन् पहले बात में ला एंड आर्डर (law and order) की लेता हूँ और कम से कम मुझे जो अनुभव हुआ है वह यह है कि ला एंड आर्डर की कंडीशन (condition) मेरे ख्याल में जिस इलाक़े में मेरा गांव है वहां

पहले से और बर्स (worse) हो गई है। आप पूछें कैसे? मैं आप को बतलाऊँ कि जब पार्टीशन (partition) हुआ तो चूँकि मेरा गांव बार्डर (border) पर है, लोगों ने मुझे कहा कि अब हालत अच्छी नहीं है, यहां पर सिक्योरिटी (security) नहीं है, हमें खतरा है, अपने जान माल की हिफ़ाजत के लिए हम क्या करें, क्या हम गांवों से शहरों को चले जायें? मैं ने उन से कहा आप हरगिज़ यहां से शहरों को मत जाइये। वह बार्डर इलाक़े थे और अमृतसर से बीस बीस मील दूरी पर हैं। मैं ने उन से कहा आप यहीं पर डटे रहिये, आप आज्ञाद हैं, हमें स्वराज्य मिल गया है, और वहां रह कर अगर जान भी चली जाय तो अच्छी बात है। मैं ने उन से यह बात कही। इसके बरअक्स कोई तकरीबन पन्द्रह बीस रोज़ हुए मुझे खबर पहुंची कि मेरे गांव के अन्दर डकैती हो गयी, वह गांव ऐसा है जहां मेरे होश के अन्दर कभी डकैती नहीं पड़ी, यहां तक कि अंग्रेजी राज्य में कभी डाका नहीं पड़ा था। पिछले चार साल जो वहां पर मिनिस्ट्री का राज्य रहा उस में भी ऐसी हालत नहीं हुई थी जितनी कि इन दिनों में वहां की हो गई है।

श्री (श्यामी) : इन दिनों में लोगों ने ज्यादा कमा लिया होगा।

लाला अचित्त राम : आप जब से फ़ाइनेंस मिनिस्टर हुए हैं, तब से शायद ज्यादा कमाया होया। खैर, मुझे इतिला मिली कि वहां पर ऐसा हाल हुआ कि वहां डाकू आये और उन्होंने पटवारी से कहा कि हम को फ़लां घर पर ले चलो, पटवारी ने कहा मैं नहीं जाऊंगा, उस पर डाकूओं ने उस के हाथ पैर बांध दिये और उस घर की तरफ़ गये।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : इन डाकूओं को

पकड़ कर इन लोगों के पास भेजना चाहिये था ।

लाला अर्चित राम : आप दखल देना चाहते हैं, आप बोलिये । तो खैर डाकू जबरदस्ती पटवारी को बांध कर वहां ले गये, उस घर में उस रोज शादी थी, औरतों ने अन्दर भाग कर दरवाजा बन्द कर लिया, डाकू ने कुंडा खोल बन्दूक चलाई और उस औरत के गोली लगी और वह मर गयी । जबरदस्ती दरवाजा खोला गया । यह शाम के ६ बजे की बात है । और ऐसे वक्तकी जब कि प्रेसीडेंट साहब का रूल है, आप का रूल है । दरवाजा खोला गया, औरतें बिल्कुल बेहोश हो गईं । उन को बुरी तरह से लूटा गया, किसी के जेवर उतारे गये, किसी को मारा गया, किसी को कुछ किया गया । यह मालूम हुआ कि करीब पचास हजार का नुकसान हुआ । डाकू लोग छत पर चढ़ गये, और चारों तरफ फायर करना शुरू कर दिया ताकि कोई पास भी न आ सके । मैं ने गवर्नर साहब को तार दिया कि ऐसी वारदात हुई है, क्या किया जाय । ऐसी बात तो कभी अंग्रेजी राज में भी नहीं हुई मेरे गांव के अन्दर, कम से कम जब से मुझ को होश है । इस के अलावा मैं ने एक तार डिप्टी कमिश्नर साहब को भी दिया जो अमृतसर में थे । मैं इन्तजार करता रहा कि अब तो प्रेसीडेंट साहब का रूल है, कम से कम मुझ को जवाब तो मिलेगा कि आपका तार मिला, और हम यह ऐक्शन (action) ले रहे हैं । एक दिन गुजरा, दो दिन गुजरे, तीन दिन, चार दिन, दस दिन गुजरे, लेकिन मुझ को कोई इत्तिला नहीं कि उस तार का क्या हुआ । बदकिस्मती से मैं पार्लियामेंट (Parliament) का मेम्बर हूँ, आप क्याल कीजिये कि जब मेरे पास जवाब नहीं आता तो और लोगों का क्या हाल होगा ? कहत के, रिलीफ (relief) के सिलसिले में

एक रिलीफ कमेटी (Relief Committee) बनी थी, गवर्नर साहब की । उस में मैं भी गया था । मैं ने उन से कहा कि मैं ने आप को एक तार दिया था डाके के मुतालिक । जवाब मिला हां, तार आया था लेकिन ऐसी तारों को acknowledge करना मुश्किल है, मैं ने डिप्टी कमिश्नर को वह तार भेज दिया था । अब मैं उन से क्या कहता । एक तरफ तो लोग तबाह हो गये और उन्होंने जवाब दिया कि डिप्टी कमिश्नर को भेज दिया है । कुछ समय पहिले लोगों ने मुझे कहा कि वहां हालात अच्छे नहीं हैं, security नहीं इस वास्ते वह वहां से जाना चाहते हैं । मैं ने कहा कि आप गांवों में ही रहो अब अपना राज है । मैं ने पर्सनली (personally) कहा कि तुम गांव में ठहरो, मैं वहां ठहरा और अब आप के यह अल्फाज उधर सारा गांव लुट गया । आज जब हिन्दुस्तान आजाद हो गया है तब यह हाल है । गवर्नर साहब कहते हैं कि तार आया था- जरूर उसे मैंने डिप्टी कमिश्नर के पास भेज दिया, ऐकनालेजमेंट करना मुश्किल था । आज ला एंड आर्डर की यह हालत है । मेरी आंखों के सामने एक और मामला है मकान खाली कराने का । डिप्टी साहब आर्डर देते हैं ए० एस० आई० (A.S.I.) को, ए० एस० आई० आर्डर देते हैं हेड कांस्टेबल (Head Constable) को, हेड कांस्टेबल आर्डर देता है कांस्टेबल (Constable) को । कांस्टेबल हुकम नहीं मानता है । तो आज कल आप के ला एण्ड आर्डर की यह हालत है । मेरा मतलब हागिज गवर्नर साहब के ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को कंडम करने का नहीं है, मुनासिब भी नहीं है । लेकिन फैक्ट (fact) यह है कि आये दिन डाके पढ़ रहे हैं, डकैट्स (dacoits) बढ़ रहे हैं । जब गवर्नर साहब से कहा गया तो वह एक्सप्लेनेशन (explanation) देते-

[लाला अचित राम]

हैं कि दरअसल मैं ने तो बहुत डाकों की उम्मीद की थी। लेकिन पड़े बहुत थोड़े हैं, चूंकि पुलिस एलेक्शन में लगी हुई थी इसलिए आई एक्सपेक्टेड मेनी डकबाय-टीज़ (I expected many dacoities) मुझे उन्होंने यह कंसोलेशन (consolation) दिया कि अच्छा हुआ कि सारा गांव नहीं लूटा गया और सिर्फ पचास हजार का ही नुकसान हुआ। मैं उन को बुरा नहीं कहता, उन्होंने अपने ख्याल में ठीक ही कहा। अगर बुरा कहना है तो प्रेसिडेंट साहब को कहो, वही मोहतरम तो हुकूमत करने वाले हैं, यह तो रहा ला एण्ड आर्डर के बारे में, अब मैं जरा थोड़ा बहुत रिहैबिलिटेशन (rehabilitation) के बारे में अर्ज करना चाहता हूं।

अभी चन्द दिन हुए यहां एलान किया गया था कि प्रैक्टिकली (practically) जो आदमी वेस्ट पाकिस्तान से आये हैं वह रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि यहां पर हर आये दिन अजीत प्रसाद साहब को यह इत्तिला दी जाती है कि तमाम आदमी रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये हैं और वही पार्लियामेंट में हम लोगों से कह दिया जाता है। लेकिन एक बात यह गवर्नमेंट अच्छी तरह से जानती है कि इस वक्त पच्चीस लाख के क़रीब आदमी देहात में गये और उन में से उन्नीस लाख आदमियों के पास अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग है। उन के नाम रजिस्ट्रों में दर्ज हो गये कि उन को बसा दिया गया, बहुत काफ़ी है। उन के रजिस्ट्रों की खाना-पूरी हो गई है, कह दिया गया कि दे आर सैटिस्फ़ाइड, दे आर रिहैबिलिटेड (they are satisfied, they are rehabilitated). यह नहीं कि उन की एकानमिक कंडिशन (economic condition) हो। कहते हैं कि उन को बसा दिया गया है, सब अच्छा कर दिया

गया है, एलान हो गया। चाहे कोई बीमार ही क्यों न पड़ा हो उन की तीमारदारी का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है लेकिन दे हैव बीन रिहैबिलिटेड। लेकिन यह कोई नहीं पूछता कि वह गुजर कैसे करते हैं। पच्चीस लाख तो गांवों के अन्दर गये और पच्चीस लाख शहरों के अन्दर। जब हमारे राज कुंवर साहब सवाल पूछते हैं तो कह दिया जाता है कि सब अच्छी तरह से बस गये हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के अखबारों में छाप दिया जाता है कि सब अच्छी तरह से हैं। दुनियां वाले यह समझते हैं कि पचास लाख आदमियों को भारत सरकार ने बहुत अच्छी तरह बसा दिया। पच्चीस लाख आदमियों को शहरों में बसाया गया लेकिन एक एक छोटी छोटी कोठरी में बीसियों आदमी रहते हैं और कह दिया जाता है कि उन को बसा दिया गया है, दे हैव बीन रिहैबिलिटेड। खैर बसे इस तरह से, उस के बाद कुछ काम करने के लिए वह क़र्जा मांगते हैं तो क़र्जे के लिए इतनी खुशामद करनी पड़ती है। आप के ही पड़ोस में फ़रीदाबाद है। वहां तक के आदमी हर रोज हमारे पास आते हैं, मेरे मकान पर आते हैं और शिकायत करते हैं कि क़र्जा नहीं मिलता है। मैं चिट्ठी लिखता हूं कि लोगों को क़र्जा दिया जाय तो कह दिया जाता है कि रुपया नहीं है। वह आते हैं और कहते हैं कि डिप्टी कमिश्नर के यहां से रुपया नहीं मिलता। डिप्टी कमिश्नर साहब रुपया मांगते हैं, रुपया आपके हाथ में है। आप कहते हैं कि रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये हैं। कंपेन्सेशन के बारे में यह बात कही गई है कि सन् १९५० में क्लेम्स ऐक्ट (Claims Act) बना, क्लेम्स वेरिफ़ाई (verify) हो रहे हैं और उस के बाद कंपेन्सेशन (Compensation) दिया जायेगा। जिस समय यह बिल पेश हुआ था तो दो साल की मियाद रखी गई थी सन् १९५० और

१९५१ की। मैं ने उस वक्त कहा था कि आप ने दो साल की मियाद क्यों रख दी, तो कहा गया कि दो साल यों ही रख दिया है, समय कम लगेगा। उस वक्त मोहन लाल सक्सेना साहब थे, उन्होंने कहा कि दो साल एहतियातन रख दिया गया है उस के अन्दर ही हम सारा काम खत्म कर लेंगे। मैं ने कहा कोई बात नहीं अगर काम जल्दी हो जाय। यह मार्च सन् १९५० में हुआ। मुझ को कहा गया कि बाई दि एंड आफ डिसेम्बर (by the end of December) सब काम हो जायगा। लेकिन एहतियातन दो साल का वक्त रक्खा जा रहा है। अब जरा आप गौर फरमाइये कि उन गरीब आदमियों की क्या हालत है जिन के लिए कहा गया कि वह रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये हैं। १९४७ गुजरा, १९४८ गुजरा, १९४९ गुजरा, सन् १९५० में ऐक्ट बनता है, सन् १९५० गुजरा, सन् १९५१ गुजर गया, १९५२ आ गया है, हमारे राज कुंवर जी ने सवाल किया कि क्लेम्स का क्या हाल है, तो जवाब दिया जाता है कि ढाई लाख के करीब क्लेम्स वेरिफाई हुए हैं, कुछ तो एलान होता है रिहैबिलिटेसन हो गया है। आप जानते हैं कि पचास लाख को रिहैबिलिटेड कर दिया गया। अभी तक पांच लाख क्लेम्स में से ढाई लाख का वेरिफिकेशन हुआ है। अगर इसी हिसाब से आप अन्दाजा कर लें, तो, आप सिम्पुल मैथिमेटिक्स (Simple Mathematics) तो लगा लेंगे, अगर ढाई लाख क्लेम्स इतने असें में बेरिफाई हुए तो बाकी ढाई लाख के कब होंगे। मियाद तो सिर्फ दो साल की रखी है और वह खत्म होने वाली है। आप समझ सकते हैं कि क्या बनने वाला है। जिन आदमियों को बसाया गया है उन के रहने के मकानों की यह हालत है कि जैसे कि मकानों में घूस रहती है। आप खुद जा कर देखिये, होशियारपुर के अन्दर जाइये, जलन्धर के

अन्दर देखिये। अभी मैं हिसार से आया हूँ। मुझे एक साहब ने दावत दी, मैं वहां खाना खाने के लिए गया, बेचारे रिफ्यूजी (refugee) थे। मैं वहां जा कर बैठा, उन के मकान इतने गन्दे थे कि मैं क्या बताऊँ। दो चूल्हे हैं, एक यहां पर दूसरा वहां पर। नाली कोई है नहीं जिससे गन्दा पानी बाहर निकल सके और कहते हैं कि रिहैबिलिटेसन हो गया है। यह हालत है रिहैबिलिटेसन की। कंपन्सेशन की हालत यह है। तमाम बातों को देख कर मैं कहूंगा यह कहना सच नहीं है कि पंजाब में यह आदमी रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बिल्कुल मुनासिब नहीं है। आप कह दीजिये कि हम नहीं कर सकते, लेकिन आखिर आप सच्चाई को क्यों छिपाते हैं।

अब मैं आप से तीसरी बात कहता हूँ रिलीफ के बारे में। अभी मेरे मुहतरिम बुजुर्ग बाबू ठाकुर दास जी ने हिसार के क्रहत के बारे में फरमाया है। जो वहां क्रहत के लिए रिलीफ कमिटी बनाई गयी है उस का मुझे प्रधान चुन लिया गया है। तो इस सिलसिले में इंटरैस्ट (interest) लेना मेरा फर्ज था और वैसे भी मेरा फर्ज था। आज पंजाब में गवर्नर के रूल को पांच छः महीने हो गये हैं। अभी परसों की बात है कि जब यहां बजट पेश होने वाला था, तो मेरे सामने यह सवाल था कि मैं यहां रहूँ या वहां जाऊँ? मैं ने फ़ैसला किया कि यहां तो कुछ होने वाला नहीं है, शायद वहां जाने से कुछ रुपया मिल जाय। तो मैं वहां गया और मेरी गवर्नर साहब से बात हुई। अब आप देखिये कि हिसार में क्रहत पड़ा हुआ है पर अब गवर्नर साहब वहां तशरीफ़ लाये हैं वहां की हालत को देखने के लिए। अब सोचिये कि अगर सही मानों में वहां प्रेडिक्ट्स रूल होना तो क्या वहां यह हालत होती? मैं पहले डिप्टी कमिश्नर

[लाला अर्चित राम]

से मिला और पूछा कि क्या हालत है । उन्होंने कहा कि गवर्नर साहब को मिलिये । मैं गवर्नर साहब से मिला । यह एक छोटी सी बात है, जैसा कि बाबू ठाकुर दास जी ने अभी फ़रमाया, वहाँ चारे की दिक्कत है । वहाँ गाय बैलों की हालत यह है कि उन को गोबर करने की मुश्किल है । बात यह है कि उन के पेट खाली हैं इसलिए गोबर भी नहीं हो रहा है । इस तरह की एक दो मिसाल नहीं है पर वहाँ ज्यादातर यही हाल है । पहले वह जिला जितना मवेशियों के लिए अच्छा था उतना ही आज खराब हो रहा है । अब चारा लाने का क्या हाल है । अब देखिये कामनसेंस (Common sense) की बात । चारा आ रहा है बाहर से, यू० पी० से और मध्य प्रदेश से । तो पहले तो यह दिक्कत है कि उस के लिए वैगन (wagons) कैसे मिल । अगर एक वैगन के लिए दस बीस रुपया पहले रिजर्वत न दी जाय तो वैगन नहीं मिलती । इस के लिए गवर्नर साहब ने फ़रमाया कि हां ऐसी हालत है । उन्होंने कहा कि मैं चिट्ठी लिखूंगा पर क्या बनेगा । गवर्नर सेज दैट ही डज नाट थिंक देयर विल बी ऐनी रिमेडी फ़ार इट । करप्शन इज सो रैम्पेंट एंड आन सो फ़र्म ए बेसिस (The Governor says that he does not think there will be any remedy for it. Corruption is so rampant and on so firm a basis) । तो वैगन नहीं मिल सकते क्योंकि रुपये नहीं दिये जाते । तो फिर चारा कैसे आवेगा । खैर जो चारा मध्य प्रदेश और यू० पी० से आता भी है, तो उस का क्या किया जाता है । वह चारा हिसार या भिवानी के स्टेशन तक लाया जाता है, वहाँ पर उस का महसूल पड़ जाता है । ऐसा कर के वह समझते हैं कि बी हैव इन अवर इयूटी । लेकिन यह बात खान के दिमाग में नहीं आती कि यह चारा

उस गरीब किसान के पास कैसे पहुंच सकता है जो कि बीस या तीस मील के फ़ासले पर रहता है । उस के पास पैसा नहीं है क्योंकि बारिश न होने से उस के पास काम नहीं है । तो वह अपने बैलों के लिए चारा कैसे ला सकता है । तो यह कोई प्रैक्टिकल चीज़ नहीं है । क्योंकि चारा स्टेशन से उड़ कर तो उस किसान के बैल के मुंह में नहीं पहुंच जायगा । किसान के पास कोई आमदनी नहीं है । वह कैसे उस चारे को भिवानी और हिसार से ले जा कर अपने बैल के मुंह में डाल सकता है । तो इस तकलीफ़ को कौन रियलाइज करे । इस को तो वही रियलाइज कर सकता है जिस को कि तकलीफ़ होती है । तो मैं ने गवर्नर साहब से कहा कि आप चारे का इस तरह इन्तिजाम कीजिये जैसे कि राशन का करते हैं । आप चारे के भी डिपो खुलवाइय । तो उन्होंने कहा कि इट विल बी बैरी कास्टली (It will be very costly) । प्रेसीडेंट साहब का यहां पर रूल है और तमाम जिले की गायें और बैल मर रहे हैं । लेकिन वह कहते हैं कि इट विल बी बैरी कास्टली । अगर इस हालत में किसान यह कहता है कि मैं इस गवर्नमेंट को आग लगा दूँ तो कोई ग़लत बात नहीं है । वह समझता है कि यह गवर्नमेंट मेरे लिए नहीं है । उस को चारा नहीं पहुंचता । इसलिए फिर चाहे वह हमारी ही गवर्नमेंट क्यों न हो उस को वह अच्छा नहीं कह सकता । व्हाट इज दैट टू हिम (what is that to him ?) । मैं ने गवर्नर साहब को कहा कि ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट ने कहत के वक्त हिसार में दो ढाई करोड़ रुपया खर्च किया था, आप क्या खर्च करेंगे, तो उन्होंने फ़रमाया, आई कांट गिव यू ऐनी अपर लिमिट, आई कांट गिव यू ऐनी लोअर लिमिट (I cannot give you any upper limit, I cannot give you any lower limit) ।

पंडित डाक्टर दास भागंब : चार महीने के बास्ते चालीस हजार रुपया दिया है ।

लाला अर्चित राम : मैं तो एक सिटीजन (citizen) था, मैं उन की बात समझ नहीं पाया और मैं डर गया कि यह कुछ देंगे भी या नहीं । तो मैं ने पूछा कि आप क्या करना चाहते हैं ? उन्होंने कहा, आई विल मीट दी नीड (I will meet the need) । मैं ने कहा शुक है ।

Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh):
The need will be met. Then what more is required?

लाला अर्चित राम : नीड तो आप की रोटी से भी पूरी हो सकती है, थोड़े से गुड़ से भी पूरी हो सकती है, पानी से भी हो सकती है और हवा करने से भी हो सकती है ।

तो मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि बिस इज दी ऐटीट्यूड (This is the attitude) । इस ऐटीट्यूड से लोगों की क्या संतोष हो सकता है । यह देखने की बात है ।

इस के अलावा मैं ने गवर्नर साहब से मिल कर कहा कि लोगों को काम दिया जाय क्योंकि उन की बहुत बुरी हालत है । मैं ने कहा कि उन से सड़कें बनवाई जायें । उन्होंने इस बात को नोट किया । फिर मैं डिप्टी कमिश्नर से मिला और मैं ने उन को बस सड़कें सजेस्ट (suggest) कीं और कहा कि उन लोगों को इन सड़कों पर काम दीजिये । अब डिप्टी कमिश्नर साहब दिल में डरते थे क्योंकि मुझे ना करना उन के लिए मुश्किल था । तो उन्होंने सड़कों में प्रायोरिटी (priority) रखी, प्रायोरिटी नम्बर १, प्रायोरिटी नम्बर २ वगैरह । तो उन दस सड़कों में से दो सड़कें प्रायोरिटी नम्बर १ में आ गईं । लेकिन उनके लिए मजबूरी थी कि उस काम के लिए रुपया कहां से आवे ।

खेर कुछ काम हो रहा है । आज जो लोग सड़क पर काम करते हैं उन को सबा रुपया मिलता है । लेकिन उन लोगों को आज १५ आना मिलता है और पांच आना कटौती हो जाता है । मैं ने पूछा तो डिप्टी कमिश्नर साहब ने बतलाया कि फ्रैमिन के पहले उन्होंने कहा था कि अगर उन से यह काम करवाया जाय तो वह इस को सस्ता करवा देंगे । तो मैं ने उन से कहा कि यह कटौती तो आप तब करते जब नहर आ जाती पर आज कल तो कहत पड़ रहा है, इस हालत में कटौती नहीं करनी चाहिये । तो उन्होंने कहा कि लैट दी कंट्रैक्टर डू दिस वर्क । मैं ने कहा कि आप खुद ही इस काम को कीजिये पर यह २५ परसेंट कटौती मत कीजिये । तो उन्होंने कहा कि मैं इस काम को करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हूँ । तो यह हालत है । यह शिकायत किस के पास की जाय मजबूरी है ।

फिर मैं ने गवर्नर साहब से कहा कि यहाँ पर इतने हैंडलूम (handloom) हैं । यह खाली पड़े हैं । अगर आप इन की यार्न दे दें तो लोग काम में लग जायेंगे । उन्होंने फरमाया कि यार्न की बड़ी मुश्किल है । उन्होंने बतलाया कि तमाम सूबे अपनी अपनी डिमांड को बहुत बढ़ा चढ़ा कर बताते हैं इस बास्ते मुश्किल हो जाती है । मैं ने उन से कहा कि आप इस के लिए कोशिश कीजिये कि इन लोगों को यार्न मिले तो जो खड्डियां यहां हैं उन में काम हो और और भी खड्डियां मंगाइये ताकि और लोग काम में लग सकें और कपड़ा तैयार कर सकें । वह लोग इस वक्त बेकार हैं । उन्होंने कहा कि खड्डियां तो बाद में आयेंगी पहले यार्न तो आवे तब खड्डियां चलें । लेकिन यार्न उन के बस में नहीं है । इसलिए मजबूरी है । मैं समझता हूँ कि यह मजबूरी आप हल कर सकते हैं ।

Mr. Chairman: May I ask the hon. Member whether it is necessary to describe in such great detail the proceedings of the Relief Committee meetings? I think the time can be more usefully spent on other aspects of the budget.

लाला अर्चित राम : मैं तो पहले ही नहीं बोलना चाहता था [क्योंकि मैं जानता था कि यहां कोई भी असर नहीं होगा। लेकिन अगर आप चाहती हैं तो मैं कुछ नहीं कहूंगा।

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member is at perfect liberty to speak on it. I am only suggesting whether it is necessary to describe in such great detail the proceedings of the Relief Committee which has met there. Instead, he can spend his time more usefully on other aspects of the budget.

लाला अर्चित राम : अब मैं एक और आस्पेक्ट (aspect) की तरफ ध्यान दिलाता हूँ। वह है करप्शन के बारे में। मैं अमृतसर गया और मैं ने वहां डिप्टी कमिश्नर से पूछा कि क्या कोई भी किसी भी कोर्ट से गैर पैसा दिये नक़ल ले सकता है। तो ही वाज ऐन आनेस्ट मैन। उस ने कहा कि बड़ा मुश्किल है। आज खुले तौर पर गवर्नर साहब जानते हैं कि करप्शन चल रहा है। डिप्टी कमिश्नर जानते हैं कि कोर्ट्स में करप्शन है लेकिन वह रोका नहीं जा रहा है।

लेकिन हम जानते हैं कि वह कुछ नहीं करते। यह खुली हुई बात है कि आप को किसी गांव के अन्दर इन्दराज कराना हो तो जब तक ५० रुपये पटवारी को न दें इन्दराज नहीं होता है। अब इसका इलाज कौन करे, मैं आप से पूछता हूँ। एक सिरे से दूसरे सिरे तक यह करप्शन चला हुआ है। अगर किसी को नहर का पानी लेना है तो इस वक़्त हालत यह है कि तमाम महकमा करप्ट है। जब तक आप सौ रुपये और दो सौ रुपये ऊपर नहीं दें आप को नहर का

पानी नहीं मिल सकता है। सब जगह कितना करप्शन है, कोर्ट के अन्दर आप जाइये, तो करप्शन है। नहर के अन्दर पानी के लिए जाइये तो करप्शन है। पटवारी के पास जाइये तो करप्शन है। जिस महकमे में जायं करप्शन है। आप का जो राशन डिपो है वहां क्या होता है कि वह एक मन के बजाय ३७ सेर ही वजन करेगा। तो मैं आप को करप्शन के बारे में यह कहता हूँ कि कितनी फ़ैली हुई है, आप यह ख्याल न कीजिये कि ऐन्नीथिंग इस आल राइट इन दी स्टेट आफ डेनमार्क (Everything is all right in the State of Denmark.)

श्री त्यागी : क्या मैं दरियापत कर सकता हूँ कि यह तमाम हालात थोड़े दिनों में गवर्नर रजीम में हुए हैं या पहले भी ऐसे ही थे ?

लाला अर्चित राम : मैं इसी बात की आप से तवक्को करता था और इसी वास्ते चाहता था कि स्पीच न करूं। मैं कहता हूँ कि जनाब इसी गवर्नर के रूल में वहां हर महकमे में यह हालत है। इसी गवर्नर के रूल में वहां पानी नहीं मिलता है। आप अब अपनी रिसपांसिबिलिटी (responsibility) को इस तरह टाल रहे हैं, इस में कोई ऐसी फ़िक्र की बात नहीं है।

श्री त्यागी : मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि नक़ल लेने में जो पैसे देने पड़ते हैं वह रिश्बतें अभी चल पड़ी हैं या पहले से हैं ?

लाला अर्चित राम : यह तो आप अच्छी तरह जानते हैं। जब आप इन बेंचों पर बैठते करते थे तो आप भी यही कहा करते थे और उधर से भी यही जवाब मिला करता था। दैट वाज़ नार्मल क्वेश्चन (That was normal question) और अब यही नार्मल आन्सर (normal answer) है।

श्री ए० पी० जैन : इन का तो इम्तहान हो चुका, आप का भी अब ऐसा ही इम्तहान होने वाला है ।

लाला अश्वित राम : बहुत मुबारक, मैं खुश होऊंगा । अब मैं एक दो बातों की तरफ और अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ । करप्शन के बारे में तो मैं कह चुका । अब कर्जों के बारे में जब हम यहाँ पर आ कर कहते हैं तो डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब रैडीली कह देते हैं कि कर्जा हम दे नहीं सकते, आप पहले वहाँ से गवर्न-मेंट से रिकमेंड कराकर लाइये । दो सौ चार सौ का कर्जा हम देने को तैयार हैं लेकिन वहाँ से रिकमेंड कराइये । वह ठीक कहते हैं । लेकिन वहाँ से चिट्ठी नहीं मिलती है । दो चार छः महीने गुजर जाते हैं और यह मजबूर हैं कि दे नहीं सकते । क्या करें, एक विक्रत नहीं है, कई विक्रतें हैं ।

अब मैं कुछ इंडस्ट्रीज (Industries) के मुतालिक दो एक प्वाइंट अर्ज करता हूँ । मेरे मुहतरिम बुजुर्ग ठाकुर दास जी ने फ़रमाया कि दर असल बेकारी बहुत है और इस को दूर करने के लिए और तो मसले होते रहेंगे लेकिन इस बात की बड़ी जरूरत है कि काटेज इंडस्ट्री (Cottage Industries) को एनकरेज (encourage) किया जाय । इस मामले में अभी तक ऐलानात के अलावा कुछ नहीं होता । मेरी एक छोटी सी तजवीज़ है कि जब तक पंजाब के अन्दर आप अलहदा डाइरेक्टोरेट फ़ार काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज (Directorate for Cottage Industries) नहीं बनावेंगे तब तक काम नहीं चलेगा । इसलिए मेरी गुजारिश यह है कि बड़े कारख़ाने तो आप खोल नहीं सकते क्योंकि गरीब देश है, इसलिए गरीबों के लिए छोटी छोटी इंडस्ट्रीज होनी चाहियें । इन इंडस्ट्रीज को फ़्लोट (float) करने के लिए अलहदा स्माल काटेज इंडस्ट्रीज

का डाइरेक्टोरेट आप खोलें तो बड़ी अच्छी बात होगी । जब तक हमारा विभाग गांधियन लाइन पर नहीं चलेया तब तक हालत ठीक नहीं होगी । बड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज वाले तो करोड़ों की बातें करते हैं और उन के विभाग में सैकड़ों और हजारों की बातें नहीं आ सकतीं । ऐसी छोटी बातें वे नहीं ले सकते । इसलिए आप को इस का अलहदा डाइरेक्टोरेट बनाना चाहिये ।

इसी तरह मैं एजुकेशन (education) की बात कहता हूँ । अभी हमारे मुहतरिम प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने फ़रमाया, कोई सर्कुलर (circular) निकाला, कि उन को अभी अनुभव हुआ कि जात पात बहुत चल रही है कि यह जाट है, वैश्य है, ब्राह्मण है । मेरे दिल में तो बात आई कि उनसे कहूँ कि पहले पहल आप इस जात पात को ख़त्म अपने से ही कीजिये । वह जो यहाँ नेहरू कहते हैं तो इस से नेहरू लोग समझते हैं कि हम रायल फ़ैमिली (Royal Family) के हैं । तो इस नेहरू को लगाना छोड़ दीजिये । लेकिन खैर अभी इस को छोड़िये । इस वक़्त सब से बड़ी बात यह है कि पंजाब के अन्दर यह जहर चलता कैसे है इस को सोचिये । वहाँ पर एक जाट कालेज है, एक वैश्य कालेज है, सनातन धर्म कालेज खुला हुआ है और इस तरह के कालेज खुले हुए हैं । इस तरह से तमाम प्राविन्स डिनामिनेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में बंटा हुआ है । जब हमारे बच्चे वहाँ पढ़ेंगे तो यह जात पात की भावना कैसे मिट सकती है । अब इलैक्शन के अन्दर आप ने देख लिया, कम से कम मैं ने अपने इलैक्शन में देखा कि जाट ने जाट को वोट दिया, वैश्य ने वैश्य को वोट दिया और ब्राह्मण ने ब्राह्मण को वोट दिया । जब ऐसे जात पात के नाम इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में हमारे बच्चे पढ़ रहे हैं तो फिर यह भावना कैसे मिट सकती है । हमारी

[लाला अचिंत राम]

कोशिश अभी तक नहीं है कि इनको खत्म किया जाय। कम से कम अब हम कोशिश करें तो कभी तो यह खत्म होंगे, दो चार साल में। अब तो यह बीमारी बढ़ रही है और इसलिए अब आप ऐसे इंस्टीट्यूशन्स चालू कीजिये, हिदायत जारी कीजिये कि यह डिनामिनेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स खत्म हों। जब तक देव समाज कालेज, सनातन कालेज, जाट कालेज, वैश्य कालेज में तमाम हमारे बच्चे पढ़ते रहेंगे तो कैसे यह जात पांत का भाव उन के दिल से मिटाया जा सकता है। कम से कम अब इस बारे में कोशिश कीजिये कि यह चीज खत्म हो जिस का अन्दाजा पंजाब में और तमाम हिन्दुस्तान में इलैक्शन में हम ने किया।

अब बेसिक ऐजुकेशन का तजुर्बा भी पंजाब में हो रहा है। मैं गुड़गांव वगैरह के सेंटर्स में गया। तो हैडमास्टर तो वहां थे। लेकिन सब से बड़ी बात इस बेसिक ऐजुकेशन में यह है कि इस के अन्दर स्पिंगिंग की बात हो, काटेज इंडस्ट्री की बात हो। लेकिन जब वहां स्टूडेंट्स ऐसे हों कि जिन के जिस्म पर कोई खर्च नहीं है, अध्यापक के जिस्म पर कोई खर्च नहीं है तो बेसिक ऐजुकेशन क्या होगी। मैं उन को देख कर हैरान था। मैं ने लड़कों से पूछा कि यहां पर किस वास्ते आये हो तो कहा कि नौकरी नहीं मिलती थी इसलिए हम आये हैं। उनके दिमाग में मजूज नौकरी तलाश करने की बात है, कोई खास जपबा नहीं है। इसलिए इस तरह आप तबज्जह दें और इस तरह की ऐजुकेशन दें कि जिस को वह स्टूडेंट्स (students) समझें ताकि गवर्नमेंट का रुपया भी मुनासिब तौर पर खर्च हो और जो स्टूडेंट्स पढ़ने आवें उन का भी बहुत वक़्त जाया न हो।

अब मैं मैडिकल [डिपार्टमेंट (Medical Department)] के मुताल्लिक कहता हूं। इस बारे में जितनी दिक्कत है वह आप जानते हैं कि यहां पर टी० बी० के कितने बीमार पड़े हैं, दस हजार लिस्ट पर हैं और उनके दाखिले के लिए कोई जगह नहीं है। ऐसी ही बात वहां पर पंजाब में है। आज कई बीमार टी० बी० के मर्ज से बीमार हैं और किसी को दाखिला लेना हो तो जिस तरह नौकरी तलाश करने में हालत होती है उसी तरह बीमार को एडमिट कराने में होती है। वह बूढ़ता है कि कौन सा मिनिस्टर उस का वाकिफ़ है। इस तरह उसे तलाश करनी पड़ती है। फिर भी वह जाता है तो उस को कहते हैं कि अच्छा दो महीने बाद दाखिल होगा। तो मैं समझता हूं कि मैडिकल कंडीशन जो है उस में मैडिकल डिपार्टमेंट को ऐसी कोशिश करना चाहिये कि गरीब आदमियों को आसानी से मदद मिल सके।

अब मैं कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता, इतना ही कह कर खत्म करता हूं और उम्मीद करता हूं कि आप इन बातों पर ध्यान देंगे। ५० रुपये एक मिनट बोलने पर खर्च होते हैं, इसलिए मैं नहीं जानता कि मैं कितनी देर बोला और कितना रुपया इसमें खर्च हुआ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Lala Achint Ram (Punjab): When I was thinking today over the advisability of expressing myself on the Punjab budget, the possibility that it might prove useless crossed my mind. It was so because I thought that when my friends or I point out anything, the hon. Finance Minister might promise to convey it to the Governor who in his turn might leave it to the new Ministry, the formation of which is not far off. Realizing fully well that taking up the valuable time of the House will not do any good, I have decided to take the floor. The hon. Minister

of Finance is very sympathetic towards us. I hope and trust he will do all that lies within his power. This hope has encouraged me to speak. It is true that if any modifications are to be carried out, the Governor might leave them to the new Ministry. Nevertheless, he can carry out certain things himself, so I have decided to make a few remarks.

At the very outset I may make it clear that I have not taken the floor in order to condemn the Governor's rule in the Punjab, nor have I stood up to say that the Governor is bad. I feel that the suspension of the Ministry in the Punjab and consequently the President's rule has resulted in at least one advantage—and that is the Congress has survived in that State.

But we have to see how far the people of the Punjab have benefited from the President's rule. Let us consider the law and order position, for example. My own experience has been that so far as the area in which my village is situated, is concerned, it has worsened. After the partition it so turned out that my village was on the border, almost 20 miles from Amritsar, and the inhabitants asked me whether they should migrate to cities in view of the fact that they had no security of life and property and that both of these were in danger. I advised them against migration to urban areas, saying that as we were free men, having got independence we should not leave these areas even if it meant loss of one's life. About 15 or 20 days back I received the information that a dacoity had been committed in my village. This was the first incident of its kind in living memory. Such a thing had not happened either under the British rule or during the last four years of ministerial rule. The situation has worsened very much these days.

Shri Tyagi: People may have earned a lot of money in this period.

Lala Achint Ram: Maybe, they have earned a lot of money since you became a Minister. Well, I received the information that the dacoits came to the village and asked the Patwari to lead them to a certain house. On his refusal to do so they tied his hands and feet and then made for the house concerned.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: The dacoits should have been arrested and then brought before these gentlemen.

Lala Achint Ram: Go ahead if you want to interrupt. As I was saying, the dacoits took the Patwari forcibly to that particular house, where a mar-

riage ceremony was to take place. The women bolted the door from inside. The dacoits broke open the door, shot and killed one woman. It happened at 6 P.M. and at a time when there was President's rule in the State. When the dacoits entered, many women fainted. The dacoits removed the ornaments of the women, robbed and beat them and maltreated them in various ways. The dacoits went to the roof of the house and fired in the air in order to scare away those who may have intended to come to the rescue. The loss as a result of the dacoity is estimated at about Rs. 50,000/-. I sent telegrams to the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar and the Governor, informing them of this incident, which, so far as I remember, never took place even under the British rule. I went on waiting for the acknowledgement of my telegram and any action being taken on that for ten days but to no avail. I am a member of this House, and if even I am not in a position to elicit a mere acknowledgement, what will be the response if an ordinary citizen sent such a telegram? The Governor appointed a Famine Relief Committee, a meeting of which I also attended. When I reminded the Governor about the telegram I had sent, he told me that it was difficult to acknowledge such telegrams and that he had forwarded the same to the Deputy Commissioner. What could I say in the face of this logic? Some people were robbed and all that was done was that the telegram was forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner. Some time back people had complained to me about lack of security and had wanted to migrate to other areas, but I had advised them against it. I personally appealed to them to stay in the village; I myself stayed there. A whole village was looted and that is the sympathy it evoked from the Governor. And this has happened in Free India. This is the law and order position in that State. I know of another case connected with getting a house vacated. The Deputy Commissioner issues orders to an A.S.I. who in turn orders the Head Constable through whom the order is transmitted to the Constable who does not carry out the same. This shows the real state of law and order in the Punjab. By this I do not wish to condemn the Governor's administration; it won't be proper. But the fact remains that dacoities are becoming more frequent and the number of dacoits is increasing. When this was brought to the notice of the Governor, he explained his position by

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saying that he had expected more dacoities, than had actually taken place, because of the pre-occupation of the Police with elections. He consoled me by saying that whole of the village was not looted and the loss amounted to only Rs. 50,000. I do not blame him; he may be right in his own way. It is the President who is to blame, if at all, because it is he on whose orders the administration of the State is being run. So much for the law and order position. Now I come to some aspects of rehabilitation.

A few days back it was claimed here that practically all the displaced persons from West Pakistan had been rehabilitated. I think that the hon. Minister of State for Rehabilitation, Shri Ajit Prasad Jain, is informed from time to time that all displaced persons have been rehabilitated and that information is passed on to us in this House. But the Government is fully aware of the fact that there are about 25 lac displaced persons in rural areas, of whom 19 lac have uneconomic holdings. The Government seems to think that only registering their names and filling in of the columns, can enable them to claim that the displaced persons have been rehabilitated or satisfied. They do not have an eye on the economic welfare of those whom they claim to have rehabilitated. A person may be without any means of combating his illness, but he is said to be "rehabilitated". Nobody cares to know how he is making his ends meet. Besides the two and a half million displaced persons who came to rural areas, and equal number came to urban areas. Whenever Shri Raj Kanwar asks a question on the floor of this House, he is told that all displaced persons have been rehabilitated, and the news is splashed across all the newspapers of the country. The world gets the impression that the Government of India have rehabilitated five million displaced persons. Two and a half million displaced persons are claimed to have been rehabilitated in urban areas, but the fact that a small room accommodates a score of people is overlooked. Then they have to go round with a begging bowl in their hands for loans to start something which may provide them with means of livelihood. People, even from Faridabad, only a little distance from here, come to us to complain that they do not get loans. When I write a letter to the authorities requesting loans to be given to the displaced persons, I get the reply that there is no money. The Deputy Commissioner has no money to distribute in the shape of loans, he asks you for

money and you tell us that all the displaced persons have been rehabilitated. About compensation it has been said that under the Claims Act, 1950, the claims are being verified, which will be followed by payments of compensation. When the bill was introduced in the House, a period of two years i.e., 1950 and 1951 was provided for the receiving and verification of claims. At that time I had objected to it and was told that though verification will take less time, two years' period had been stipulated as a precaution. The then Minister of State for Rehabilitation, Shri Mohan Lal Saksena, told us that all the work connected with claims would be finished within that period. I withdrew my objection on the assurance that the work was to be finished early. But that was in March 1950, and I was told that the work in question would be finished by the end of December of that year. Try to imagine the plight of the poor wretches who are being claimed to have been rehabilitated. The Act was passed three years after partition in 1950, and now in 1952, Shri Raj Kanwar is told in reply to his question that about two and a half lac claims have been verified and five million people have been rehabilitated. Only half of the total of half a million claims have been verified. If the work goes on at this rate, by simple arithmetic we may work out the time the rest would take. The period fixed for this work is nearing its end. We can imagine what is going to happen. Those who have been rehabilitated, have to live in houses which look as if they were inhabited by rats and vermin. Go to Hoshiarpur or Jullundur to see the plight; I have just returned from Hissar where a refugee gentleman invited me to dinner. His house was very filthy, with two ovens and without any drains to carry the dirty water. This is rehabilitation, as it is so loftily styled. Considering all these I am constrained to say that it is untrue that displaced persons have been rehabilitated in the Punjab; such a statement is not proper. Why do you not come clean and say that you cannot do it? Why hide the truth?

Now I shall try to place before you the third point concerning the relief work. My hon. friend Shri Thakur Das has just referred to the famine in Hissar. I have been elected the Chairman of the Famine Relief Committee formed there. As such and even otherwise it was my duty to interest myself in this matter. The Punjab has been under President's rule for the last five or six months. Only

day before yesterday when the Punjab Budget was to be presented here, I was in a fix to decide whether to remain here or leave for that place. I thought that nothing important is to happen here and if, on the contrary, I go there I may possibly get some money for relief work. So I went there and met the Governor. Now just imagine; Hissar is in grip of famine since long and the Governor has gone there to see things with his own eyes only now. Had there been the President's rule in its true sense could you ever think that such conditions would have been allowed to persist? First of all I saw the Deputy Commissioner and asked him about the situation prevailing there. He told me to see the Governor and this I did. That is a very small thing. As Babu Thakur Das has just now told you, there is scarcity of fodder in that area. The situation there is that cows and bullocks have nothing to empty their bowels because their stomach is already quite empty. It is not a stray case to which I am referring. This is, in fact, the general situation prevailing there. Formerly this district was famous for good cattle but now it is in distress to the same extent. Let me now tell you about the arrangements for the fodder supply. They lack even ordinary common sense. Fodder is being imported from outside—from U.P. or Madhya Pradesh. First of all there is difficulty in getting wagons. Until ten to twenty chips are tipped you cannot get any wagons. Even the Governor has admitted this fact. He said that he would write to the railway authorities but there is not much hope of improvement. The Governor says that he does not think there will be any remedy for it. Corruption is so rampant and on so firm a basis. So wagons cannot be procured as money cannot be tipped. Then how will fodder be imported? What happens even to the fodder which is being imported from U.P. and Madhya Pradesh? That fodder is brought only upto the railway stations of Hissar and Bhaiwani. Here the octroi levied on it unnecessarily adds to its cost. Only by doing so they think "we have done our duty." But this does not come to their mind how this fodder will reach a farmer who lives at a distance of twenty or thirty miles. The farmer has no money owing to the failure of rains; he has no work and consequently no income. In these circumstances how can he buy fodder for his bullocks? Hence it is not a practical solution, for the fodder cannot reach the mouth of the bullocks automatically. The farmer has no income at all. How can he bring fodder

from Bhiwani or Hissar and feed his bullocks. Only the man who himself feels the difficulty can well realize it. I asked the Governor to arrange for the distribution of the fodder on the basis of the food rationing and to open fodder depots. To this he replied "It will be very costly". It is the President who is ruling there and under his rule cows and bullocks of the whole district are dying like anything. But the Governor says "It will be very costly". If under these circumstances the farmer says "Damn this Government" then there is nothing wrong in his doing so. He thinks that the Government is not for him. Because he does not get the fodder so he cannot praise the Government even if it may be our own. What is that to him?

I pointed out to the Governor that during the last famine the British Government spent two or nearly two and a half crores of rupees in Hissar and asked him what he was going to spend. At this he remarked "I cannot give you any upper limit and I can't give any lower limit".

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Rupees forty thousand have been sanctioned for four months.

Lala Achint Ram: I was merely a citizen, I could not see through what he said. I wondered whether he would give something or not. I asked him what he wanted to do. He replied, "I will meet the need". At this I felt gratified.

Shri J. R. Kapur (Uttar Pradesh): If the need is met what more is required?

Lala Achint Ram: Your need can be met by meals, by a small quantity of *gur*, by water and even by air. What I mean to say is this that this is the attitude of the authorities. Can this attitude satisfy the people, is a question which we have to consider.

Besides this I asked the Governor to provide work for the people because they were in a very bad plight. I asked him also to get roads built by them and this he noted for consideration. After this I saw the Deputy Commissioner and suggested ten roads which should be built to provide work for these people. The Deputy Commissioner was somewhat hesitant in his mind for he could not say 'no' to *r.j.e.* So he fixed priorities for the roads, priority No. 1, priority No. 2 etc., etc. Out of these ten roads two have come under priority No. 1. But he too was helpless as he had no resources at his disposal. Anyway some work is going on. The people who work on these roads nowadays are paid rupee one and annas four per head. But actually they get annas fifteen only and a

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cut of annas five per head is levied on them. When I asked the Deputy Commissioner about it, he explained that in the early stages of the famine they offered to do this work on lower wages in case it was got done by them. At this I pointed out to him that he would have been justified in levying this cut, had the supply of canal water begun in this area. But as these are the days of famine so this cut should not be levied. To this he replied "Let the contractors do this work". I insisted that he should himself do this work but should not levy the 25 per cent. cut. Then he answered that he was not ready to do this work. Such is the hopeless condition prevailing there. We are helpless. Whom should we approach and complain?

Then I brought it to the notice of the Governor that so many handlooms were lying idle there. If yarn could be supplied to them, people would get employment. He replied that it was difficult for him to supply yarn. He told me that all the provinces were stating their demands after greatly exaggerating them which created that difficulty. I asked him again to try to get yarn so that the handlooms which were lying idle there, could be put to use. In case yarn becomes available more handlooms could be brought to give employment to the people and to get cloth prepared. People there are out of employment at this time. To this he replied, "Let yarn be available first, then handlooms will be required. They will be brought then". But to get yarn is not in his power. He is quite helpless in the matter. I think you can solve this difficulty.

Mr. Chairman: May I ask the hon. Member whether it is necessary to describe in such great detail the proceedings of the Relief Committee meetings? I think the time can be more usefully spent on other aspects of the budget.

Lala Achint Ram: I myself was not willing to speak for I knew it will have no effect here. But if you wish that I should not speak, I would not continue.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member is at perfect liberty to speak on it. I am only suggesting whether it is necessary to describe in such great detail the proceedings of the Relief Committee which has met there. Instead he can spend his time more usefully on other aspects of the budget.

Lala Achint Ram: I will now draw your attention to another aspect of the matter. That concerns corruption. I went to Amritsar and asked the

Deputy Commissioner whether anybody in any court could get a copy of the record without tipping. He was an honest man. So he said "It is very difficult". Today the Governor knows that corruption is rampant. The Deputy Commissioners are also aware of the fact that corruption is prevalent in courts but it is not being checked.

But we know they do not take any action. It is an open secret that no entries can be effected in the village records, without tipping Rs. 50/- to the Patwari. I put it to you as to who is to mend this state of affairs. Corruption is prevalent from top to bottom. At present the whole of the canal department is corrupt, and if one wants to have water from the canal, one cannot do so unless one pays Rs. one or two hundred. Corruption is rampant everywhere, go to the courts, it is there; approach the canal authorities for canal water you will find it there; go to the Patwari, it is there; you will find corruption in every department you may approach. What is after all going on at your Ration Depot? He gives us only 37 seers of rations in place of a maund. I tell you how much corruption there is, and you should not be complacent, and think that everything is all right in the state of Denmark.

Shri Tyagi: May I just enquire whether all these things have cropped up within this short space of time during the Governor's regime or they existed previously too?

Lala Achint Ram: I expected this very thing from you and for that reason I did not want to speak. I say, Sir, this is the condition in every department under the Governor's rule. Under this very Governor's rule, water is not available there. That is how you are now trying to shirk your responsibility, in fact, there is nothing to worry about it.

Shri Tyagi: What I mean to ask is, whether the practice of giving bribes for securing copies of the records is a new one or was it there even formerly.

Lala Achint Ram: You are well aware of it. When you used to sit on these benches, you used to say this very thing and received back this very retort. That was the normal question and now this is the normal answer.

The Minister of State for Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): He has been put to test; now you would also be tested likewise.

Lala Achint Ram: Welcome! I would be glad to take the test. Now I would

submit a point or two more. I have done with the subject of corruption. Now about the loans, when we raise this issue here, the hon. Deputy Minister readily says that they cannot grant the loan, unless it is recommended by the Government there, that they are ready to grant a loan, a loan of rupees two or four hundred, but a recommendation must be secured from there. He is right, but no recommendation is available at that end. In this way two, four or six months elapse, and they are helpless in the matter. There is no way out, for the difficulties are numerous and not one.

Now I would submit a point or two in respect of the industries. My hon. friend Shri Thakur Das has stated that unemployment is really widespread and for removing it the crying need is that the cottage industries should be encouraged. Nothing has been done in this regard except some pious declarations. I would make a small suggestion that the problem cannot be solved unless you set up a separate Directorate for Cottage Industries in Punjab. My submission, therefore, is that it is not possible for you to establish major industries as ours is a poor country, hence some small industries should be set up with a view to help the poor. It would be better if you can set up separately a small Directorate of Cottage Industries which may float these industries. Unless we begin to think on Gandhian line, our condition will not be ameliorated. The big industrialists think in terms of tens of millions, and they cannot think in terms of hundreds or thousands. They cannot care for these petty things. You should, therefore, establish a separate Directorate for this.

Similarly, I want to refer to the issue of education. Just now our hon. Prime Minister has stated, he has issued a circular to the effect that he has felt that the caste considerations are very much prevalent in our society—that one is a Jat, a Vaish or a Brahmin. It just struck me that I should ask him to do away with this caste distinction himself first of all. He is known as Nehru, which makes all the Nehrus feel that they belong to the Royal family. You should therefore, give up affixing this surname 'Nehru'. Well, let us leave this for the time being. The most important thing at present is that we should ponder as to how this poison manifests itself in the Punjab. There they have got a Jat College, a Vaish College, a Sanatan Dharma College and other colleges on these lines. In this way the whole of the Province is divided by such denominational institutions. When our

children receive education in them, the caste feeling cannot be abolished. Now you have seen that in these elections the Jat voted for the Jat, the Vaish voted for the Vaish and the Brahmin for the Brahmin. When our children are receiving their education in the institutions named after the castes, how can this caste feeling be rooted out? We have not yet made any endeavours to abolish these things. If we begin our efforts now, these things would some day come to an end, say, in two or four years. At present this evil is on the increase, and, therefore, you should now issue necessary instructions to abolish these denominational institutions.

If your children continue to study in the Dev Samaj College, Sanatan College, Jat College or Vaish College, how can this feeling of caste consciousness be rooted out from their minds? At least now we should make an effort to end this evil which we have experienced during the elections in the Punjab and in the whole of India.

Now, we are also making experiments about basic education in the Punjab. I visited the centre at Gurgaon. The Headmaster was there. The most important thing about this basic education is that it includes spinning and cottage industries. But when the students or the teachers there do not put on khaddar, how can basic education be successful? I was astonished to see this fact. When I asked the students as to why they had gone there, the reply was that they had gone there as they were unemployed. They only think in terms of seeking employment, they lack the true spirit. You should, therefore, devote your attention to this and impart such a type of education which the students may be able to grasp, so that the Government funds may be properly spent, and the time of the students may not be wasted.

Now I come to the Medical Department. You are aware of the difficulties in this respect. You know the number of the T.B. patients—ten thousand are on the waiting list and there are no beds for them. Similar is the condition in the Punjab. Today a number of people are suffering from T. B. and if any one seeks admission in a hospital he has to face so much difficulty as if he was searching for a job. He has to find out which of the Ministers is acquainted with him. He has to make an approach in this manner. Still he is told that he would be admitted after two months. So I think that in the

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prevalent conditions, the Medical Department should make an effort to see that the poor people are able to get medical relief easily.

I do not want to say anything more; I think this will suffice and I hope that you would look into these matters. Every minute of the speech costs Rs. 50 to the exchequer, and I do not know how much I have spoken and what has been the cost thereof.

श्री ए० पी० जैन : श्रीमती, दुर्भाग्य से जिस समय यहां पर तकरीरें हो रही थीं मैं मौजूद नहीं था फिर भी मेरे साथियों ने उन बातों के सम्बन्ध में कि जो यहां पर कही इंगं कुछ नोट दिये हैं, और जन्हीं के आधार पर मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ।

ठाकुरदास जी ने शिकायत की कि पलवल और गूड़गांव में शरणार्थी बहुत तकलीफ में हैं और उनका इन्तज़ाम ठीक नहीं है। उन्होंने पलवल के बारे में यह कहा कि फटे हुए डेरे हैं जिन में वह रह रहे हैं। यह बात मेरे इल्म से बाहर नहीं है और मझे इस बात का दुख है कि पलवल में पुरुषार्थियों को चार साल तक रों में रहना पड़ा। लेकिन इस साल हम ने उन के लिए मकान बनाने के वास्ते इन्तज़ाम कर दिया है। रुपया पंजाब गवर्नमेंट को दे दिया गया है और मेरी आखिरी खबर यह है कि वहां पर बहुत सारे मकान बन गये हैं और जो लोग तम्बुओं के अन्दर रहते थे उन में से अधिक को मकानों के अन्दर भेज दिया गया है। सौ मकान और बन रहे हैं कि जो ३१ मार्च तक यानी इसी फ़ाइनेंशियल ईयर के अंदर तैयार हो जायेंगे और पलवल में जितने पुरुषार्थी हैं उन सब को मकान मिल जायेंगे।

आप ने दूसरी बात यह कही कि कैम्प के अन्दर छोटी छोटी दस्तकारियों के लिए कोई इन्तज़ाम नहीं है। मैं नहीं समझता कि कौन से कैम्प की तरफ आप का इशारा है, जहां तक मामूली कैम्पों का सवाल है,

वह तो भारत के पूर्वी हिस्से को छोड़ कर बाकी सब भागों में वे बन्द कर दिये गये हैं। कुछ जगह ऐसी हैं कि जो पहिले कैम्प थे लेकिन अब वे कैम्प नहीं रहे मगर फिर भी पुरुषार्थी वहां पर रह रहे हैं, उन को केवल पुरुषार्थियों के रहने की बस्ती कहा जा सकता है। लोग वहाँ पर रहते हैं और बाहर कमाई करते हैं। ऐसी जगहों में हम ने कितनी ही जगह वर्कस् सेन्टर्स कायम किये हैं और वहां पर काम भी हो रहा है। मैं यह जरूरी नहीं समझता कि हर एक बस्ती के अन्दर वर्कस् सेन्टर की जरूरत है, क्योंकि यहां पर रहने वाले अन्य नागरिकों की तरह से अपना रोजगार करते हैं। फिर भी मैं इस मामले को देखूंगा और अगर कहीं पर वर्कस् सेन्टर की जरूरत होगी तो हम उन को बढ़ायेंगे, क्योंकि हम यह जरूर चाहते हैं कि जिन लोगों के पास कोई काम न हो, उन को काम करने को अवसर मिलना चाहिये, या जिन के पास नाकाफ़ी काम हो, उन को भी काफ़ी काम मिलना चाहिये।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : उन्होंने चर्खे के बारे में कहा था। हर एक फ़ैमली में चर्खा देने के बारे में कहा था।

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वह तो फ़ैमली के बारे में कहा था, वह तो दूसरी बात है। आप ने एक दूसरी बात यह कही कि तीरा में डेढ़ सौ आदमी ऐसे थे जो चार साल से मकानों में रह रहे थे, उन को उन मकानों में से हटाया गया और बदले में दूसरे मकान नहीं दिये गये। इस मिनिस्टरी की यह पालिसी है कि किसी आदमी को पुराने बसे हुए में से उस वक़्त तक मकान से न हटाया जाय, जब तक उस को दूसरा मकान रहने के लिए न दे दिया जाय। पंजाब में ऐसा ही हुआ। शुरू शुरू में बहुत से लोग कि जो मजदूरी बग़ैर रह करते थे उन को मकानों के अन्दर आबाद कर

दिया गया, लेकिन जब पंजाब में क्वासी परमानेण्ट सेटिलमेंट के आधार पर काम हुआ, तो वहां पर एक दिक्कत यह पैदा हुई कि जिन को जमीन दी गयी थी बहैसियत एलौटी के उन को मकान की भी जरूरत थी, चुनांचे वह लोग जो एलौटी, नहीं थे और जिन्होंने मकानों पर कब्जा किया हुआ था उनको वहां से हटाना जरूरी हो गया। हर शरस जो खेती करता है, उस को एक मकान की जरूरत पड़ती है उस स्थान में जहां वह कास्त करता है। चुनांचे पंजाब में हम को कितने ही आदमियों को जिन को हम ने पहले मकानों के अन्दर आबाद कर दिया था, क्वासी परमानेण्ट बन्दोबस्त के होने पर हटाना पड़ा। उस समय हम ने पंजाब गवर्नमेंट को आदेश दिया था कि किसी को उस वक़्त तक न हटाया जाय जब तक कि उस को दूसरा मकान न दे दिया जाय। जब मैं पंजाब में गया हुआ था कुछ जगहों की वाबत मेरे पास शिकायतें आईं और मैं ने उन शिकायतों को दूर किया। पंडित ठाकुर दास जी से बातचीत करने पर मालूम हुआ कि किसी नायब तहसीलदार ने मकान दिये हैं, लेकिन वह ऐसे मकान हैं जिनका शायद वजूद ही नहीं है। मैं इस वक़्त इस हालत में नहीं कि यह कह सकूँ कि यह शिकायत कहां तक ठीक है, लेकिन मैं उन को यक़ीन दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि मैं इस शिकायत को देखूंगा और इस को दूर करने की कोशिश करूंगा।

लाला अचित राम जी ने क्लेम्स के बारे में कहा कि पांच लाख क्लेम्स हैं उन में से केवल ढाई लाख क्लेम्स के बारे में फ़ैसला दे दिया गया है, जहां तक आंकड़ों का संबंध है यह करीब करीब सही हैं, अब जो मैं ने आखिरी बार देखा तो मुझे मालूम हुआ कि ढाई लाख क्लेम्स से ज्यादा क्लेम्स का फ़ैसला हो चुका है। उस की जो मौजूदा प्रोग्रेस है वह काफी उम्मीद से भरी है, दो दिन पहले

जो मैं ने देखा तो पाया कि अब कुल एक लाख ८७ हजार क्लेम्स बाक़ी बच जाते हैं, बाक़ी जो क्लेम्स हैं उन पर इस वक़्त तक फ़ैसला हो चुका है और उन में से भी ग़ालिबन १२, १३ हजार में से पांच, छः हजार क्लेम्स का फ़ैसला हो गया होगा। कुल एक लाख अस्सी हजार के क्लेम्स आज की तारीख में बाक़ी रह जाते हैं जिन में ६०-७० हजार क्लेम्स जमीनों के हैं और दो ढाई हजार क्लेम्स कारखानों के होंगे। कारखानों और जमीनों के क्लेम्स का फ़ैसला अलहदा हो रहा है, उस के लिए एक दूसरा सेक्शन है। चुनांचे जो क्लेम्स बाक़ी हैं, उन की तादाद एक लाख बीस हजार और एक लाख पन्द्रह हजार के बीच में होगी। इन क्लेम्स में हिस्सेदारों की तादाद ज्यादा है और उन के फ़ैसले में बनिस्बत पहले क्लेम्स के कुछ वक़्त ज्यादा लगेगा। लेकिन जहां तक तादाद का ताल्लुक है, एक बहुत बड़ी तादाद में क्लेम्स का फ़ैसला हो गया है और अगर यह मान लिया जाय कि ढाई और पौने तीन लाख क्लेम्स का फ़ैसला हो चुका है तो उस के मुताबिक़ एक लाख पन्द्रह हजार या एक लाख बीस हजार क्लेम्स कुल फ़ैसले के लिए बाक़ी बच रहते हैं, क्योंकि जो जमीनों और कारखानों के क्लेम्स हैं वह उस के साथ साथ चल रहे हैं और हालांकि जिस रफ़्तार के साथ हम ने क्लेम्स का फ़ैसला किया है उस से हम मुतमयन नहीं हैं, ताहम वह काफी तसल्लीबख़श रही, यां तो जो काम भी किया जाता है, उस में कुछ न कुछ तरक्की की गूजायश रहती ही है और कमी भी किसी चीज़ के लिए यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि उस से बेहतर चीज़ नहीं हो सकती। हम ने इस काम को बढ़ाने के लिए २७०, २७५ क्लेम्स अफ़सर मुकरर किये हैं और वह अपनी अपनी जगह पर काम कर रहे हैं। और मेरी समझ में तो क्लेम्स का काम जिस

[श्री ए० पी० जैन]

रफ्तार के साथ चल रहा है वह कम से कम मेरी तबक़को को पूरा कर रहा है। यह मामला एक बहुत दिक्कततलब और नाजूक मामला था, क्योंकि इस में कोई शक्य यह नहीं कह सकता कि हर एक क्लेम बिल्कुल लाजिमी तौर से सही और ठीक होगा। आमतौर से क्लेम्स के तय होने का जो तरीका रहा है और जिस तरीके से महकमे ने काम किया है, उस में कम से कम शिकायतें पैदा हुई हैं। आप ने फ़रीदाबाद के बारे में भी कहा था कि वहां पर क़र्ज़ नहीं दिया जा रहा है, मैं समझता हूँ कि आप की इत्तिला ग़लत है। फ़रीदाबाद में रोज़गार देने का तरीका हम ने दूसरी ही शकल में क़ायम किया था। वहां हालत यह है कि कुछ तो निजी कारख़ाने लग रहे हैं जिन में से भट्टे के कारख़ाने क़ाबिले जिक्र हैं और वहां पर इन लोगों को रोज़गार मिलता है। शुरू शुरू में उन को अनफ़रादी हैसियत से थोड़ा सा क़र्ज़ दिया था, उस के बाद में वहां पर जो दस्तकारियां लगाई जा रही हैं, वह सहयोग समितियों के जरिये लगाई जा रही हैं और अभी हाल में फ़रीदाबाद डेवलपमेंट बोर्ड ने इस बात की दर-इयास्त की थी कि मामूली मेंटेनेन्स के लिए इन सहकारी समितियों को क़ायम करने के लिए कुछ रुपया दिया जाय जिस से नई नई दस्तकारियां लगाई जा सकें। उन्होंने पन्द्रह लाख रुपये की मांग की थी, वह पन्द्रह लाख रुपया हम मंज़ूर ही नहीं कर चुके हैं बल्कि उन को दे भी चुके हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सरकारी सहायता से फ़रीदाबाद में जो कारोबार की दिक्कत है, वह दूर हो जायगी। अब फ़रीदाबाद में सूरत यह है कि काफ़ी तादाद में वहां पर मकान बने हुए हैं, तामीर का काम वहां पर ख़त्म हो गया है। अब वहां पर दिक्कत

यह है कि हज़ार या बारह सौ ऐसे लोग हैं, ठीक तादाद में नहीं बतला सकता, लेकिन कुछ परिवार ऐसे हैं जिन के बारे में ख़तरा पैदा हुआ है कि उन के लिये जो दस्तकारियां लगाई जायंगी उन के लगाने में जितना वक़्त दरकार होगा और जितनों को उन में लगाया जा सकेगा वह सन्तोष के लायक न होगा। इसी लिये जब मेरे पास फ़रीदाबाद डेवलपमेंट बोर्ड की यह तज़रीब आई कि हम वहां पर फ़रीदाबाद में कुछ और मकान बनायें तो मैं ने उस सिफ़ारिश को मुनासिब नहीं समझा, क्योंकि हर एक परिवार को जो फ़रीदाबाद में बसता है, उस के लिए रोज़गार का प्रबन्ध करने में दिक्कत पैदा होती है। अगर फ़र्ज कीजिये कि हम वहां पर ५०० मकान और बनायें तो वहां पर ५०० परिवार जो नये बसाये जायेंगे, उन के लिए रोज़गार पैदा करना होगा। चूंकि हम ने वहां पर और ज़रादा मकानों के बनाने की बात पसन्द नहीं की। हम ने वहां पर थोड़े से मकान बनवाने की इजाज़त दी थी जो अब तक क़रीब क़रीब बन गये हैं और इन में मैं ने एक ही शर्त रक्खी है कि उन में ख़ाली उन्हीं लोगों को आबाद किया जायगा जो दिल्ली के अन्दर रहते हैं, और यहां पर रोज़गार करते हैं और अपने परिवारों को वहां पर रखना चाहते हैं।

और वहां के रोज़गार की दिक्कत को हल करने के लिये मैं ने एक दूसरी स्कीम बनाई क्योंकि यह लोग तामीर के काम में अहिर हो गये थे। ज़रा फ़रीदाबाद में जा कर देखिये कि उन्होंने वहां पर कितना अच्छा और शानदार फ़रीदाबाद बनाया है। चूंकि दिल्ली के अन्दर जो तामीर का काम हो रहा है उस के लिये मैं ने यह तय किया कि पन्चीस या तीस लाख तक के ठेके मैं उन को दूंगा जो कि फ़रीदाबाद में रहने वाले हैं ताकि जब तक उन को फ़रीदाबाद में

रोज़गार न मिले उस वक़्त तक वह रोज़ी कमा सकें। चार लाख के ठेके में ने उन को दे दिये और मैं ने खुद वहाँ जा कर देखा, कालका जी में यह लोग काम कर रहे हैं, ज्यों ज्यों यह लोग तरक्की करते रहेंगे त्यों त्यों मैं उन को पच्चीस और तीस लाख तक के ठेके दूंगा ताकि वह लोग और अधिक कमा कर और अपने परिवार को भेज सकें और उन की दिक्कतें हल हो सकें। यही नहीं, अब यह सवाल पैदा हुआ कि जब लोग आयेंगे तो कहां रहेंगे। जहां हम उन को इस तरह का रिलीफ़ देते हैं तामीरी का काम करवा कर वहां हम ने सोचा कि उन के ठहरने का भी इन्तज़ाम करना चाहिये। सफ़ाई का, नहाने धोने का भी कुछ इन्तज़ाम होना चाहिये, बिना मुआवज़े के और बिना कुछ लियं हुए। आप खुद जा कर देखिये कि वे किस तरह से वहां आसानिया पाते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि मैं ने इस समस्या को एक मुनासिब तरीके से एक इन्सानियत के और ह्यू-मैनिटैरियन कंसिडरेशन का ख्याल रखते हुए तय करने की कोशिश की और कम से कम जो कुछ मेरे दिमाग में आ सकता था वह मैं ने किया। और अगर कोई और शकल निकल सकती हो तो उस के लिये हम कोशिश कर सकते हैं। मैं इस ऐवान को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि जहां पच्चीस तीस हजार आदमी आबाद हैं उन के लिये हम काम देने और काम करने की कोशिश करते हैं। इस के लिये दिक्कतें और कमी पैदा हो जाती हैं। हम उन कमियों को इस तरह से हल करने का कोशिश करते हैं, और वह इस तरीके से जिस में उन कमियों और दिक्कतों में कोई इज़ाफ़ा न हो, बढ़ोतरी न हो।

अभी यह कहा गया कि रिहैबिलिटेशन के मानी यह नहीं है कि उन को छोटे छोटे कामों के अन्दर डाल दिया जाय। मैं ने हमेशा माना है और अब भी मानता हूँ कि

रिहैबिलिटेशन (rehabilitation) के मानी यह है कि उन को माकूल जगह दी जाय, रोज़गार दिया जाय, उन की काबिलियत के मुताबिक जैसा वह काम कर सकते हों उन को वैसा रोज़गार दिया जाय। लेकिन हर वक़्त यह मुमकिन नहीं हो सकता। कोशिश रहती है

लाला अर्चित राम : लेकिन यह कहना कि बड़े रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये हैं और आराम से हैं इस का ग़ुज़त असर पड़ता है।

श्री ए० पी० जैन : मैं यह अर्ज़ करना चाहता हूँ कि किसी ने मुझे ग़ुज़त समझा तो मेरे दोस्त ने समझा और मेरे दोस्त . . .

लाला अर्चित राम : ठीक भी मैं ने समझा।

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अगर मेरे दोस्त इस तरह से दखल देते रहे तो कैसे काम चल सकता है? पच्चीसों सवाल मुझ से पूछे गये कि कितने आदमी रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये, मैं ने हमेशा उस का जवाब दिया कि मेरी राय है कि यह कहना कि कितने रिहैबिलिटेड हुए और कितने नहीं बहुत मुश्किल है क्योंकि अब्बल तो यह कि रिहैबिलिटेशन क्या है इस का मयार कायम करने में कि किस हद तक छोटे आदमी की रिकवरी (recovery) हो जाय और उस को रिहैबिलिटेड किया जाय यह दुरवार होता है। चुनांचे मैं ने इस बयान में यह कहा था कि इतने आदमियों को मकानों में रखवा, ज़मीन अगर मिल सकी, दिलायी। मैं ने हमेशा यह कहने से इन्कार किया कि इतनी तादाद में लोग रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये। मैं ने किस तरह से स्कीम को खलाया और कितने आदमियों ने फ़ायदा उठाया यह सब को मालूम है। मैं अपने दोस्त से यह भी बतलाना

[श्री ए० पी० जैन]

चाहता हूँ कि असल में रुपये से कभी आदमी रिहैबिलिटेड नहीं होता। हाल ही की एक मिसाल है, एक साहब पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये थे उन को बहतर हज़ार रुपया दिया गया। उन्होंने न बर सब रुपया खर्च कर दिया, दूसरे ऐसे लोग हैं जिन्हें एक एक दो दो हज़ार का कर्ज दिया गया। उन्होंने ने उस का ठीक इस्तेमाल किया, रोज़गार किया और अपनी पूंजी को बराबर बढ़ाते चले जा रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह एक और दो हज़ार वाले एक दर्जे तक रिहैबिलिटेड हो गये, लेकिन यह बहतर हज़ार वाला रिहैबिलिटेड नहीं हुआ क्योंकि उस ने उस रकम को दूसरे तरीकों से खराब किया। तो न रुपयों से अन्दाज़ा हो सकता है, न रोज़गार के देने से हो सकता है बल्कि उस से हो सकता है, कि किस हद तक आदमी अपनी जड़ों को फेंकता है, कितनी ज़मीन के अन्दर अपने को घेरता है और वहाँ पर मजबूत बनता है। जहाँ यह रिहैबिलिटेड का सवाल है उस का सही अन्दाज़ा करना बहुत मुश्किल है।

बाबु रामनारायण सिंह (बिहार) : मैं एक बात जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितने आदमियों को रहने के लिये घर दिये गये और कितने आदमियों को रोज़गार दिया गया, कितने आदमियों को कर्जा दिया गया, क्या इस का हिसाब गवर्नमेन्ट के पास है ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : हर महीने गवर्नमेन्ट की तरफ से एक बुलेटिन निकलता है उस की एक कापी मैं आप के पास भेज दूंगा, उस में सब कुछ मौजूद है, और सारा हिसाब आप उस में पा जायेंगे।

अभी एक बात यह कही गई कि गांव के अन्दर जितने आदमी भेजे गये उन के पास

अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग (uneconomic-holding) है। इशारा रहा है पंजाब की तरफ। कई मरतबे मैंने उस उसूल का जिस पर कि पंजाब में जमीन को दिया गया जिक्र किया है इस ऐवान के अन्दर। जमीन जो है जहाँ तक उस के एरिया का सवाल है वह एक महदूद चीज़ है, बढ़ नहीं सकती, खिच नहीं सकती कम भी नहीं हो सकती है, हां अगर वह न इस्तेमाल की जाय तो कम हो जाती है। लेकिन बढ़ नहीं सकती है, चुनावे पंजाब में जमीन बांटने का आधार यह रक्वा गया है कि जिस के पास पश्चिमी पंजाब में दस एकड़ जमीन थी उस को उस की तीन चौथाई जमीन दी गई थी।

लाला अर्चित राम : जिन की जमीन घटी उन का क्या कसूर ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अगर यहाँ पर जमीन नहीं है तो इन में ईश्वर का कसूर है क्योंकि समाज तो कोई जमीन बनाता नहीं, इन्सान भी नहीं बनाता है। जमीन जितनी थी दी गई। मेरी ताकत नहीं है कि जमीन बना लूँ। यहाँ पर जो थी उस में से उन को उन की जमीन का तीन चौथाई दिया गया और उन में से ज़ादा आदमियों के पास पंजाब में अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग थी, और वही यहाँ पर भी है। यह अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग भी उन का कसूर नहीं था और यहाँ पर जो भी बनने वाले हैं, जो कि दिन ब दिन यहाँ पर पैदा होने हैं, बढ़ते हैं और मरने हैं उन का भी कोई कसूर नहीं था क्योंकि यहाँ पर भी ८० फ्री सदी होल्डिंग हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर अनएकानमिक है। चुनावे एकानमिक और अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग का सवाल जो है वह रिहैबिलिटेड की

प्राब्लेम नहीं है। वह तो मुल्क की प्राब्लेम है, मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस को हल किया जाय लेकिन इस पर बार बार जोर देने से कि उन के पास अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग है लोग कभी रिहैबिलिटेड नहीं हो सकते। अगर हम इस को तय कर सकते हैं तो मेरी राय में दो तरीके हो सकते हैं। पंजाब में इस का बड़ा शोर था उस हालत में कुछ नहीं हो सकता। मैं तो अपने दोस्त अचिंत राम जी से कहना चाहता हूँ कि मेरी और और लोगों की राय यह थी कि भले ही थोड़े से आदमियों को ज़मीन दो लेकिन जिस को भी दो एकानमिक होल्डिंग दो। लेकिन यह नहीं हो सका जो मुआवज़े के बारे में बार बार अचिंत राम साहब जोर देते हैं कि चार पांच एकड़ ज़मीन मिल जाय, तो हम ने पंजाब में यह किया, चुनांचे हम ने क्वासी परमानेन्ट (quasi permanent) रिहैबिलिटेशन के तूरह पर रखवा। वहाँ हम ने एक भी आदमी को एकानमिक होल्डिंग नहीं दी। चूँकि बीकानेर में ज़मीन थी वहाँ हम ने कम से कम आठ एकड़ ज़मीन दी है और ज्यादा से ज्यादा बत्तीस एकड़। ३२ एकड़ ख़्याल किया जाता है कि अनएकानमिक होल्डिंग नहीं है। लेकिन पंजाब में जो तरीके अस्तित्कार किये गये वह वहाँ जो पुरुषार्थी आये उन की राय से किये गये। जो कुछ किया गया उन की रज़ामन्दी से किया गया, पंजाबियों की रज़ामन्दी से किया गया। इस क्वासी परमानेन्ट सेटलमेन्ट के आधार पर दूसरा कोई तरीका नहीं हो सकता था। पश्चिमी पंजाब के अन्दर भी ७०, ८० फी सदी होल्डिंग अनएकानमिक थी। वही लोग यहाँ पर अनएकानमिक रखे गये।

बहरहाल यह मेरी ताकत के बाहर है।

यह तो मुल्क का सवाल है और मुल्क में ही

यह सवाल तय होगा। जो कुछ मेरी इमकान में था, जो कुछ कोशिश हम में हो सकती थी वह की गई।

(English translation of the above speech)

Shri A. P. Jain: Madam, unfortunately I was not present here when the speeches were made; but my colleagues passed on some notes to me regarding the things that were talked over, on the basis of which I want to submit something now.

While making a complaint Pandit Thakur Das said that the refugees rehabilitated in Palwal and Gurgaon were in much trouble, and no satisfactory arrangements were made for them. He further said that the refugees in Palwal resided in torn out tents. This is within my knowledge and I am so sorry that they—the refugees at Palwal—had to live in tents for four years. But this year we have made arrangements for their accommodation; have given money to the Punjab Government, and the latest information I have is that all the houses are complete now; most of them who lived in tents have been habituated in those houses. One hundred houses more are under construction which will be complete during this financial year i.e., up to 31st March, and thus the refugees living in Palwal tents will get houses to live in.

Another thing the hon. Member said was that there was no arrangement of small handicrafts in those camps. I cannot understand which camps he refers to, because, so far as the question of ordinary camps goes, those have been closed in all parts of India excepting the eastern portion. There are some places which were camps previously; now they cease to be camps although refugees are still residing there. Those can only be called refugee colonies where they live; but they have to earn their livelihood outside. At such places we have established works centres where the work is still going on. I do not think it to be necessary to provide a work centre in every colony because the refugees, like other people, earn their own livelihood. I shall, however, look to this matter, and also, if need be, we shall establish more work centres since we earnestly desire to provide work for those who are without it, and provide some more for those who have no sufficient work to do.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: All he said about was that one Charkha

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh]

(Spinning-wheel) per family be distributed.

Shri A. P. Jain: That was said about famine, which is a different thing altogether. Another thing he said was that in Taura one hundred and fifty persons, who had been residing in the houses for the last four years, had been removed from there without having been provided with any alternative accommodation. The policy of this Ministry is that an established family should not be deprived of their already occupied accommodation unless some other provision is made for them. Likewise happened in the Punjab, where most of the refugees doing labour etc., were first rehabilitated in the houses; but when work on the basis of quasi-permanent settlement started in the Punjab, an obstacle cropped up that those of them who had been allotted land, needed as allottees houses also. However, those who were not allottees and had possession of the houses with permission, had to be removed therefrom because a cultivator needed a house in the area he had his farm in. Nevertheless, the refugees who had been rehabilitated previously in the houses had got to be removed as we needed the houses for the allottees under quasi-permanent settlement. We also sent instructions to the Punjab Government that no people should be removed from their places until they were allotted some other accommodation. While on my visit to the Punjab I got some complaints from some places which I removed. I had a talk with Pandit Thakur Das, and I came to know that some *Naib Tehsildar* had allotted the houses, which had no existence, perhaps. At present I am not in a position to say as to how far the complaint is correct, but I would assure him that I shall look to it and try to remove it.

While speaking on claims Lala Achint Ram said that out of five lakh claims decision had so far been given regarding two and a half lakhs only. This is almost correct so far as the figures go, although I found that till recently over two and a half lakhs of claims had been decided. Its progress at present is very encouraging as only two days back I found that one lakh and 87 thousand claims all told were yet to be decided. The rest have been decided, and even from the remaining lot about five or six thousand claims out of about twelve or thirteen thousand must have been decided. To this date one lakh and eighty thousand claims, remain now, out of which sixty or seventy thousand

are Land Claims, and two or two-and-a-half thousand must be factory claims. Claims—of factory and land—are treated separately by a different section meant for it. The remaining claims, however, must be between 1,20,000 and 1,15,000 in number. These claims cover a larger number of partners, and, as such, it will take comparatively more time to decide them.

But, so far as the number goes, a large number of claims has been decided; and if it is supposed that claims between 2,50,000 and 3,00,000 in number have been decided, then it follows that 1,15,000 to 1,20,000 claims are yet to be decided, because the claims regarding land and factories are being dealt with alongside. Our progress has been considerably satisfactory, although we are not convinced of the speed with which we decide the claims. Whatever work is done, in fact, leaves a room for further progress and at times it is said that a better one could be possible. We have appointed 270 to 275 Claims Officers who are carrying on the work at their places. I understand that they are working at a good speed, at least, to my expectations. It was a serious and obstructive job inasmuch as none could say that each claim was definitely correct and appropriate. Generally speaking, the method of deciding the claims, and the procedure of the concerned department has, at least, given rise to some complaints. The hon. Member while referring to Faridabad said that no loans were given there. I believe his information is incorrect. At Faridabad we provided employment in a different manner. There we have some private factories through which people earn their livelihood. In this connection furnaces are worth mentioning.

In the beginning they were individually given some smaller loans; but now the handicrafts, too, are being started by Co-operative Societies. Only recently the Faridabad Development Board had made a request that some money be given for ordinary maintenance of these Co-operative Societies, so that fresh handicrafts could be installed. They made a demand for 15 lakhs of rupees, which we not only sanctioned but also paid out to them. I understand, the hindrance in the means of their livelihood will disappear with this Governmental subsidy. The present position at Faridabad is that houses have been built in a considerable number and construction work is over. Now with respect to about 1,000 or 1,200—I can't be exact—persons a question arises regarding the time required for the installation

of handicrafts and the number of people to be employed therein. It will not be to their entire satisfaction, it is feared. So, when I got the suggestion from the Faridabad Development Board that we need build some more houses at Faridabad, I did not think it to be proper, because in that case we would be confronted with the question of providing employment for each such family. Supposing, we build 500 houses more there, then, in that case, we shall have to provide employment for these 500 families. And it is, therefore, we did not like the idea of building some more houses there. We had permitted the construction of a small number of houses which are almost complete now, and I laid down the condition that those people only would be rehabilitated in such houses who resided in Delhi, earn their livelihood there, but wanted to establish there with their families. Even for removing the difficulty regarding their employment I made another scheme as these people were well versed in the art of house-building. Just go and look at the people at Faridabad. You will see how beautiful and grandiose a place they have made of it now. About the constructional work carried out in Delhi I have, however, decided that the contracts to the tune of twenty-five to thirty lakhs of rupees shall be given to those who live in Faridabad, so that their livelihood is maintained till they find some other alternative in Faridabad itself. I gave them contracts to the extent of 4 lakhs, and I myself saw them working at Kalkaji. The more they go on making progress, they shall have contracts worth 25 to 30 lakhs, so that they have some more work to do and are able to solve their difficulties by earning more for their families. Not only this much. The question arises as to where they should be accommodated when they come to Delhi. While we give them a relief by providing the work of building construction, I think, we should make arrangements for their accommodation also. Sanitation, bath and other things for them without any compensation or payment from their side should also be looked to. You can look for yourself how they get facilities there. I believe, I have tried to solve this problem in a proper way, with due humanitarian consideration. I did all that could strike best to my mind. We can, in fact, make an attempt for some better course, if possible. Here I may submit to the House that we are making efforts for the employment and upkeep of twenty-five to thirty thousand people settled there now. It is but natural that obstacles and discrepancies do arise. We

shall try to solve those as well in a way that no further troubles or defects are given rise to.

Some hon. Members just said that rehabilitation did not mean simply providing small trades or works to the refugees. I have always been of the view and I still hold that rehabilitation means giving proper place to live, and providing adequate employment, suiting the capability of the persons concerned. But such a thing is not always possible. Of course, we try.....

Lala Achint Ram: But to say that they have been rehabilitated and are quite comfortable gives wrong impression.

Shri A. P. Jain: I want to submit that it is my hon. friend who has misunderstood me and that it is also my hon. friend.....

Lala Achint Ram: ...who has understood him correctly.

Shri A. P. Jain: If my hon. friend continues interrupting like this, it will be difficult for me to go on. I was asked several questions as to how many persons have been rehabilitated and I always replied that it was very difficult to say how many persons have and have not been rehabilitated, because it is not an easy job to determine a standard to know as to how far a poor man should recover from his losses and how much should he be compensated so that he can be called a rehabilitated person. The determination of this standard is the main difficulty. Therefore my statement was that so many persons were provided with houses and so many were given lands wherever they were available. I never said that so many persons were rehabilitated. Everybody knows how the scheme was implemented and how many persons were benefited by that. I might also tell my hon. friend that as a matter of fact money can never rehabilitate a person. I can give you a recent example. A gentleman who came from West Pakistan was granted a loan of seventy-two thousand rupees. He spent all that money while there were persons who were given only one or two thousand rupees. These people made a proper use of their money, started some trade and now they have been gradually increasing their capital and thus earning a good income. I think these persons who got only a thousand rupees have rehabilitated themselves to a certain extent and the man who was given seventy-two thousand rupees was not rehabilitated because he wasted the money in different ways. So, neither money nor mere employment can give any idea

[Shri A. P. Jain]

about rehabilitation. We have to see how a person settles himself, how he strengthens the roots of his economic life and how he makes himself independent and secure. To get a correct idea of this real rehabilitation is very difficult.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: May I know whether the Government has any record as to how many persons were provided with accommodation, employment and how many were granted loans?

Shri A. P. Jain: A bulletin is issued by the Government every month. I will send a copy to the hon. Member. It contains all information.

Now, some hon. Members said that the persons sent to the villages were allotted uneconomic holdings. He meant that such a thing had happened in Punjab. On many occasions I have stated here the basis on which land was allotted in Punjab. Land, so far as its area is concerned, is a limited thing. It cannot be increased or decreased in area. Of course, if it is not made use of, its value goes down, but certainly the area of land cannot be increased. Therefore, the basis of allotment in Punjab has been that a person holding not more than ten acres of land in West Punjab was given three-fourth of that land here.

Lala Achint Ram: What is the fault of those people who are getting less land here?

Shri A. P. Jain: If sufficient land is not available here, the fault lies with the Almighty because land cannot be created by society or by a human being. All available land was allotted. It is beyond my power to create more land. Three-fourths of the land which they had in West Punjab was given to them out of the total available land here and a large number of people in Punjab had uneconomic holdings and the same thing is here. It was not their fault that they had uneconomic holdings, nor the people of this part of the country are to be blamed because even here in India eighty per cent. of the holdings are uneconomic. Therefore, this problem of economic and uneconomic holdings is not one of rehabilitation alone but of the country as a whole. I want that this should be solved but if one is only to say again and again that they have uneconomic holdings, it would not help in their rehabilitation. There can be two ways to solve this problem. There was a good deal of talk about it in Punjab, but nothing can be done in such circumstances. I would like to

inform my hon. friend Lala Achint Ram that it was my opinion and the opinion of others also that howsoever small a number of people might be able to get land but they must get economic holdings. But the suggestion of Lala Achint Ram, which he emphasized again and again, that four to five acres of land should be given as compensation could not be put into practice. So we allotted land in Punjab on the basis of quasi-permanent rehabilitation. We did not give economic holding to anybody there. As land was available in Bikaner, we gave eight acres to thirty-two acres of land. Thirty-two acres of land, I believe, is not an uneconomic holding. But refugees in Punjab were consulted in connection with the methods adopted there. Whatever was done was in accordance with the wishes of the Punjabis. There was no other way on the basis of quasi-permanent settlement except that. In West Punjab also 70 to 80 per cent. holdings were uneconomic. Those very people got uneconomic holdings here. This is beyond my power. It is a problem of the country which can only be solved on the basis of the country as a whole. But I must say that everything that was within our powers and that we could do was done.

The House then adjourned for Lunch till Quarter to Three of the Clock.

The House re-assembled after Lunch at a Quarter to Three of the Clock.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair.]

Sardar Hukam Singh (Punjab): I have also decided to participate in this discussion, though I feel like my hon. friend who spoke first, it is a make shift arrangement only for a temporary period till a representative legislature holds its session and takes up the problems earnestly. Till then we have to agree that things might be carried on as they are and we have to authorise the Government as at present constituted to continue to incur expenditure as it comes up. But I think certain remarks in this connection are necessary and I would like to offer them.

We are all agreed that Punjab has suffered the most during Partition. The whole economy of the Province has been shaken and it has not been able to recover from that tragedy so far. The best portions of the old Punjab have gone for ever, at any rate for the present, and the standard of living for the people has been lowered to a very great extent. I would like to read an extract from the White Paper as to how the

administration of this Province has been carried on so far. On page 35, in conclusion it is said:

"The estimated amount outstanding as loans, from the Centre, taken by the Punjab, since Partition, is Rs. 59,62 lakhs on 1st April, 1952. This is no small figure for a State with an annual revenue of Rs. 16 to 17 crores, and this figure is likely to go on increasing till the main Projects, particularly Bhakra-Nangal, start bringing a return. The State has already had to resort to the expedient of paying interest on the Bhakra-Nangal and Ferozapore Canal loans from the Capital Account, thus putting itself in the position of borrowing to pay interest, and paying interest on interest."

The position as it stands is not a happy one. We cannot say that the State is carrying on satisfactorily. The nominal surplus that has been shown is a manipulation of figures: otherwise it cannot be called a surplus budget.

My first submission is that the Central Government should see that this unhappy state, which has suffered the most among all the states of the Union, is aided by subsidies and grants and that they should not continue simply advancing loans, because that State would not be able to recover from the distress from which it is suffering at present.

Then I take this scheme of grow more food, for which there is a provision of 63 lakhs for the next year. Of course there is an increase of 10 lakhs which is a welcome feature. It will be remembered that the old Punjab was the granary of the whole India and I can assure this House that even now it can serve the same purpose, provided this grow more food scheme is handled more tactfully and in a practical manner. Even now the Punjab can grow enough food and spare for other Provinces but there should be greater aid under this scheme, which we have taken in hand. Particular attention should be given to consolidation of holdings and the sinking of percolation wells, because so far we have not diverted our attention in that direction. Other irrigation methods have been tried but the small holder or tiller wants ready remedy such as irrigation by well. Last year it was taken in hand but not on an extensive scale.

Then *taccavi* or subsidies should be given to the real grower of food and not to landlords who utilise them for other purposes. These *taccavi* loans

or subsidies should be given rather in kind than in cash. If cash is given it is usually spent for other purposes than the purpose for which it is meant.

Then the next thing I would request is that easy loans for development be made available to the real grower because it is seldom that he gets the aid; he is the real producer and not other persons who may hold or own the land. So far I can say that this 'Grow-more-food' campaign has existed more in propaganda in the air than in practical working and production in the soil.

The second question I want to take up is this expenditure on the capital at Chandigarh. I am afraid this is an experiment which this State could ill afford. It is remarked here that we have advanced very far now. I am sure my remarks will not be taken seriously and I know that Government is determined to go on with the work. It is also added here that the Planning Commission has approved of it. My fears are that this experiment would not prove successful and huge sums of money would be wasted as we have done in some other schemes as well.

Connected with this new capital, closely connected with it is the present headquarters at Simla. It is put down at page 23, to make a case for Chandigarh, that—

"Apart from this, however, the location of the Capital at Simla involves the people of the State, who have business with Government, in continuous discomfort, and expense. Government itself tends to be regarded as aloof and out of touch with the people. It has been found in practice that, whenever there is any administrative matter of complexity or controversy being put through, it becomes necessary for Government personnel, at the highest level, to move down to the plains, which, in turn, further diffuses concentration of Government effort and personnel. The location of a large number of senior and superior staff at Simla also involves considerable and continuous increased expenditure."

The conclusion is that the administrative capital is very essential. But it has been stressed and urged here many a time that it was a necessity—not to remain at Simla but to move down to the plains. It was a luxury which this emaciated and truncated State could not afford at any time. But it was taken up and that luxury was enjoyed by certain people who perhaps thought they

[Sardar Hukam Singh]

would be better in a cooler climate; they now need that atmosphere, they have adapted themselves to such a temperature that they are loath to come down to Amritsar, Jullundur or Ludhiana. Even now they have found out a new place much nearer the hills so that the heat of Punjab might not scorch them. I submit with all humility that this has also upset the economy of the present Punjab. If Pakistan could keep its capital for its Punjab at Lahore only fifteen or sixteen miles away from the border, there was no justification why we should be more afraid of their invasions and run away from the border. If we had kept our headquarters at Amritsar, Jullundur or anywhere else nearby, certainly even rehabilitation would have been much easier. People have spent crores of rupees in making use of the rehabilitation benefits which our hon. Minister was talking of this morning. If these expenses are added together you will be shocked to learn that the gains that these people have got perhaps do not even amount to the expenses that they have had to incur. It is said that because of the international strain last year we have had to incur certain expenditure which we hope better relations with Pakistan this time would not oblige us to incur. I should also hope to see it but what is the real cause which creates this panic? If the Government had sat near the border people would not have had the necessity to run away from the border when relations were strained. Now they look up to Delhi so that whenever relations become strained everybody runs towards Delhi, every trader looks up to Delhi and runs this way. Nobody is prepared to invest any money in those districts of Ferozepore, Gurdaspur and Amritsar. Now when it is intended that the administrative capital should be at Chandigarh I assure you, Madam, that it would not prove successful. The economy of the State would not be restored if this mistake is not rectified by taking the headquarters nearer the border where Government can sit and work seriously and create confidence in the people that it is there to defend the people.

I now come to the third point, rehabilitation. I cannot minimise what has already been done. I do appreciate the efforts of the Government, but really speaking if the problem is taken as a whole I am sorry I have to remark that it is not what ought to have been done, what was desired; much has not been done, much remains to be done. My

friend made a remark that the holdings are uneconomic. Certainly that is not an ordinary thing. They have not been rehabilitated and so they cannot stick to those uneconomic holdings and we have to find out ways of how we can give them additional land. This matter should not be thrown away simply by saying that the land cannot be extended, that it is not rubber which can be stretched. I say that the land is already there. I am told eighty lakh acres of land are awaiting development just now. Why not assure these displaced persons who have been ruined and give them the preference? The country has got its freedom and Punjab has suffered; I should say Punjab had to pay the price. Why should it be that one portion—whether it be Punjab or Bengal—must bear the whole burden when the whole country enjoys the fruits of that freedom which we all value so much? We cannot get anything out of Pakistan by our negotiations and through these treaties. We are not prepared to pay out of our own pockets, we are not prepared to tax our citizens. Then what is the remedy? Should these poor people alone be brought under distress? Should we say that because 80 per cent. of the holdings in the country are uneconomic and we should change them, therefore this method of socialism should be applied first of all to these poor displaced persons because they were displaced from their hearths and homes? Is it the proper time when such an experiment should be applied to them? And if it is a wholesome measure, if the country can advance by that method then I suggest that the way in which it can be easily done and in which rehabilitation also can take place more easily is that it should be acted upon in other areas as well. We have provided a good amount for the Bhakra Dam here. We should concentrate on that, instead of taking up all the schemes which we cannot complete at one time. This is the most profitable one. It can be completed in a shorter period of time. It is sure to bring us more profits and irrigate vast lands. It would supply water to areas where owners have holdings of several hundreds of acres. It was decided as between the States of Punjab, P.E.P.S.U. and Rajasthan that in areas where irrigation will be done as a result of this scheme a betterment fee should be charged in kind or according to the practice hitherto prevailing in Punjab. When we find these big landlords to whom we shall provide water are left unaffected, then we are made to think about it. Their lands have now

become more valuable. An acre worth Rs. 100 before is now worth Rs. 1,000. Would we not be justified in getting lands from them in place of the present proposal, namely, that we should get cash from these landlords? If we get lands from them—and we have already decided to charge a betterment fee from them for the water—then there would be sufficient land available for distribution to displaced persons. If we have our minds on this, then the displaced persons could be rehabilitated very easily. The rural rehabilitation problem would be solved and the other problem of socialisation would also be very much appreciated and people will feel that it has been enforced in other areas as well and to other persons as well and not merely to displaced persons.

One more point and that is in relation to the Governor's rule in Punjab. When it was decided upon in this House, I welcomed it. I thought it was being done to remove a Ministry which was unpopular: which was corrupt. Therefore, I was the first to welcome the Governor's rule. But now, I find that it has not proved a boon to Punjab. My hon. friend here remarked that whether it has brought good to the masses or not, it has certainly saved the Congress. I certainly agree with him that Governor's rule has saved the Congress, and this automatically implies that it has drowned the other parties. How it has done that, I need not go into here. (An Hon. Member: By suppressing other parties.) He quoted the Governor himself. He said that when he brought a dacoity to his notice, the Governor was surprised that there had been this dacoity. He feared that because the police was engaged elsewhere perhaps there was a greater number of dacoities and the conclusion to which we come is that if the police is not there the dacoities are less. If that is so, it would be better if the police were removed from that province. Perhaps, their presence is responsible for these dacoities and for this lack of law and order about which my hon. friend was complaining. Therefore, he found an easy solution which he suggested to the Governor and he quoted the Governor himself. I can only add that the recent elections have been won. The Congress has won them, so far as the counting of votes is concerned, but the Congress has not won the confidence of the people. All parties in India still repose their faith in the

ballot box and still hold the same method to be the best saviour of democracy, but only an impartial Commission can find out what has been done in Punjab and only such a Commission can assure the country of the things that have happened there. I cannot go into those details here. The inviolability of the paper seal has been proved to be fraudulent. There was no sanctity about it. I have got that seal intact and I can prove that without damaging the seal the box could be opened. In spite of the decision that the Electoral Officer of the Punjab has taken recently, if a ballot box is brought here I can open it without injuring the paper seal. We are advised that the defeated candidates or parties should go to the election tribunals, but my position is that if in fact this House is convinced that there was no sanctity about this seal and it could be opened, and if it is also convinced that there have been cases of such malpractices and irregularities, then we should not stop here and wait for the results of those election petitions. That would be a wastage of the money of this country. I think it is only proper that a Commission should be appointed. The whole thing should be gone into. The allegations should be sifted and enquired into and if it is true that there was such a tampering of the boxes and other malpractices indulged in, then elections should be ordered *de novo* at least in that unhappy province where the Governors rule is prevalent.

मिस्टर चेयरमैन : आप बोलना चाहते हैं ?

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : जी, हाँ ।

मिस्टर चेयरमैन : तो बोलिये ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : पंजाब का बजट यहाँ पर उपस्थित हुआ है। पंजाब के कुछ सदस्य लोग वहाँ की स्थिति के बारे में बोले हैं। उन लोगों के कहने के उत्तर में हमारे जैन जी भी कुछ बोल गये। जब यह सब सुनता हूँ तो कभी कुछ शान्ति भी मालूम होती है, कुछ कष्ट भी होता है, लेकिन कभी कुछ हंसी भी आती है। एक बात है

[बाबू रामनारायण सिंह]

मझे हसी आई । जब हमारे भाई लाला अचित राम जी बोल रहे थे कि जिस डिपार्ट-मेन्ट में देखो वहाँ भ्रष्टाचार है, वहीं घूस-खोरी है, तो हमारे भाई जो पहले हमारे साथ यहाँ बैठते थे और हम से भी गरम गरम बातें करते थे

श्री नजीरुद्दीन अहमद : कौन थं ?

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : भाई त्यागी जी । तो उस समय उनका प्रश्न होता है कि यह जो घूसखोरी है, क्या गवर्नर्स रूल होने के बाद से जारी है या पहले से ही आती है । अब इस का उत्तर क्या हो सकता है, इन्होंने किस अभिप्राय से ऐसा प्रश्न किया समझ में नहीं आता ।

श्री त्यागी : मेरा अभिप्राय यह था कि गवर्नर के आने से ऐसा नहीं हुआ, और गवर्नर की वजह से ऐसा नहीं हुआ, बल्कि पहले से था । मुमकिन है कि तरकीब न हुई हो ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : बहुत ठीक, मैंने खुद यही समझा था कि उनके दिल में ऐसी बात थी कि भ्रष्टाचार थोड़ा बहुत पहले से ही चला आता है । घूसखोरी पहले से ही चली आती है, जिस के लिये वह जवाब-देह नहीं है और जिस को दूर करने का उन का काम नहीं है ।

श्री त्यागी : यह मेरा मतलब नहीं है ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : तो फिर और क्या हासिलता है ? और कि चाहे आज आरम्भ हुआ हो या पहले आरम्भ हुआ हो इस से क्या होता है ? अचित राम जी कह रहे थे कि एक किसान पर बोल उठा कि हम को इस तरह का कष्ट है तो फिर इस सरकार में आग क्यों न लगे ।

ऐसा उन्होंने न कहा । तो मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर पहले से भी ऐसा है और उस को दूर करने की सरकार में ताकत नहीं है तो ऐसी सरकार को रखने से क्या लाभ । तब तो जैसा एक भाई पहले भी बोले कि पुलिस की जरूरत नहीं है, वही ठीक है । इस के बारे में देश के हर व्यक्ति को सोचना है । आप लोग जो ट्रैजरी बैंक के लोग कहलाते हैं, मंत्री भी बने हुए हैं, उन से और खास कर के मैं तो भाई देशमुख जी साहब से कहता हूँ, जिन के हाथ में सारे देश की दौलत है, कि भाई जो तर्ज पहले से अंग्रेजों के समय से चला आता है अगर वही तर्ज ज्यों का त्यों रहे, घूसखोरी बन्द न हो, दण्ड जितनी तरह के कष्ट हैं उन में कमी न हो, जो बातें अंग्रेजी काल में थीं वही ज्यों की त्यों जारी रहें, तब इस सरकार की क्या जरूरत है ?

श्री नजीरुद्दीन अहमद : खारिज कर दो ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : मेरे दिल में तो कभी कभी ऐसा मालूम होता है कि जैसी सरकार है, अच्छा हो कि, ऐसी सरकार न रहे । लोग क्यादा से क्यादा यह कहेंगे कि बहुत नहीं तो कुछ थोड़ी बहुत तो शान्ति रहती है । लेकिन मैं कहता हूँ कि यह शान्ति शान्ति नहीं है । जिस वक्त दुनिया में या इस देश में किसी समाज को जब सरकार मान लिया जाता है, और सरकार मान लेना बहुत बड़ी बात है, तो उसके माने होते हैं कि हम सब कुछ उस को समर्पित कर देते हैं, अपना सर्वस्व उस को समर्पित कर देते हैं, अपनी जान हम उसको समर्पित कर देते हैं, अपना धन उसको समर्पित कर देते हैं, अपना सब कुछ सरकार को

समर्पित कर देने हैं और हमारे पास कुछ नहीं रह जाता। तो जब तक कि सरकार ईमानदार और मजबूत सरकार नहीं होगी तब तक हमारी जान, हमारा धन कैसे रक्षित रह सकता है? यहां तो सरकार का माने बुझना चाहिये कि सरकार का कर्तव्य क्या है? चुपचाप सरकार बनी रहे, करना धरना कुछ नहीं। अब देशमुख जी साहब बजट पेश करते हैं। इस में क्या है? इधर आमद है, इधर खर्च है, जिस के माने हैं कि सरकार सरकार के लिये है, सरकार समाज के लिये नहीं और किसी गरीब के लिये नहीं और जो भाई निर्वासित हो कर आये हैं उन के लिये नहीं। सरकार सरकार के लिये है, सरकार नेहरू जी के लिये है, देशमुख जी के लिये है, या जो सरकारी काम करते हैं उन के लिये है। भाई सरकार इस काम के लिये नहीं है। देशमुख साहब बहुत चतुर अर्थमन्त्री हैं। इन के हाथ में हिसाब किताब है। यह बहुत से उपाय बतलाते हैं कि कैसे देश में धन पैदा हो, कैसे टैक्स लगे, और कैसे सरकार की आमदनी बढ़े। यह तो बहुत अच्छी बात है। लेकिन सब से पहले इस को देखना होगा कि सरकार का खर्च कैसे कम हो। हम को तो यह मालूम है और जिस वक्त महावीर न्यागी जी इसी संसद भवन में इधर थे तो उन को मालूम था कि जिस वक्त अंग्रेजों का राज्य था तो हम लोग हमेशा जो इस तरह का खर्च है, उस के लिये अंग्रेजी सरकार को लुटेरी सरकार कहा करते थे। और वही खर्च आज देश में ज्यों का त्यों है या देशमुख साहब कहें कि उस खर्च में कमी हुई है?

सरदार हुक्म सिंह : जगदा है।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : जगदा खर्च हो गया है। तब मैं नेहरू जी से पूछता हूँ कि जिस कार्य के लिये मैं अंग्रेजों को लुटेरा कहना था उस कार्य के लिये आप को क्या कहूँ।

आप को लुटेरा कहें कि सीधा भला आदमी कहें? भला आदमी कोई होता तो काहे को इतना खर्च करता? तो उस तरह के काम के लिये जब हम उन लोगों को कोसते थे, और वही काम ज्यों का त्यों जारी है तो इस के बारे में आप को सोचना होगा।

मिस्टर चेंबरलैन : आप ने बजट पढ़ा ?

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : सभानेनी महोदया, यह जो आप का प्रश्न है, बिल्कुल अनुचित प्रश्न है। यह प्रश्न करने का आप को हक नहीं है। मैं जो कह रहा हूँ आप उस को सुन लें, अनुचित कहता हूँ तो रोकिये। इस के माने यह नहीं है कि आप कुर्सी पर बैठ कर जो चाहें बोल दें। यह आप का अधिकार नहीं है। यह आप को मालूम होना चाहिये !

मिस्टर चेंबरलैन : मैं आपसे पूछना चाहती हूँ कि खर्च क्यों बढ़ गया, यह आपने बजट से जान लिया ?

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : मैं तो कहता हूँ कि जिस किसी मेम्बर के सामने, चाहे आपके सामने या किसी के सामने, कांदा गये होंगे तो थोड़ा बहुत आने भी देना होगा। और जिस बजट के बारे में आप कहती हैं उसके लिए मैं तो कहता हूँ कि यह तो बजट पढ़ने के लायक है भी नहीं। बजट में, जैसे मैं ने पहले कहा, आमद है और खर्च है, जिसके माने, जैसा मैं ने अभी कहा था, कि बजट क्या है कि लूटी और वांटो। जनता से लूटी और जितने लोग सरकारी काम करने वाले हों, आपस में वांट लो। इसके अलावा, आप कहिये तो इस बजट में क्या है? जितने करोड़ की आमदनी है उस में से कितने करोड़ हमारे देश के लिये रचनात्मक कार्य के लिए हैं ?

श्री सी० डी० देशमुख : यह पंजाब बजट की बात हो रही है या भारत बजट की बात हो रही है ?

श्री नज़ीरुद्दीन अहमद : सब बराबर हैं ।

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : इन्होंने बहुत बढ़िया प्रश्न किया । इनके प्रश्न से मुझे आशा होती है कि जिस तरह पंजाब का बजट है उस के बाद जो भारत का बजट पेश करेंगे वह ज्यादा अच्छा पेश करेंगे । इस के लिए मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूँ । आप उसमें दिखला दीजिये कि कितने रुपये आप देश के लिए खर्च करते हैं और कितने देश से लेते हैं और कितने रुपये आप सरकारी कर्मचारियों में बांटते हैं । यह सब आप उस में दिखला दीजियेगा ।

खैर, तो मैं फिर कहता हूँ कि जितने कार्य हो रहे हैं उन के अन्दर खर्च तो आपको कम करना होगा और करना चाहिये । यह आप का कर्तव्य है । मुझे बार बार कहना होता है, क्यों कि विषय कठिन है । देशमुख जी, आप तो उस सभा में नहीं थे, हमारे भाई सत्यनारायण जी जरूर होंगे, त्यागी जी होंगे, कि कराची में हम लोगों ने पास किया था कि जब अंग्रेज चले जावेंगे और हम लोग स्वतन्त्र होंगे तो हम लोगों का जो राज्य का प्रबन्ध होगा उसमें सबसे बड़ा वेतन ५०० रुपये होगा । यह हमीं लोगों का पास किया हुआ है । नेहरू जी का भी पास किया हुआ है । लेकिन आज वह प्रस्ताव कहाँ गया ? कभी कभी तो कहते हैं कि यह तो कांग्रेस की गवर्नमेंट है, गांधियन प्रिंसिपल पर यह सरकार चलती है । ऐसी ऐसी बात लोग कहते हैं । तो भला आप कहिये कि यह जो इ तना वेतन रखा हुआ है, यह क्यों ? पंजाब के बजट में आपने क्या कर दिया है ? जो आप यह पूछते हैं कि पंजाब के बजट की

बात करता हूँ या भारत के बजट की, तो जैसे भारत के बजट में लूट होगी वैसी ही यहां बात कर रहे हो । तो खैर, आप माफ़ करेंगे । इसके बारे में मैं आप से अर्ज करूंगा । आप मेरे भाई हैं । मैं आप से यह अर्ज करूंगा कि जो जो हम लोगों के कमिटमेंट हो चुके हैं कांग्रेस के सामने, देश के सामने और दुनिया के सामने, उनके बारे में आपको अपने विचार बतलाने होंगे ।

अभी हिसार जिले में दुर्भिक्ष की बात आई, और हमारे भाई ठाकुर दास जी ने बड़े सुन्दर शब्दों में कहा कि जब अंग्रेज काल में दुर्भिक्ष पड़ता था तो वह लोग इस बात की कोशिश करते थे कि लोगों को रोजगार मिले और उनको खाना मिले वगैरह वगैरह । उसी के साथ उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि उस समये लोग घर घर चरखे का प्रचार करते थे । हमारे भाई त्यागी जी तो खास तौर से यह प्रचार करते थे । हमारे त्यागी जी बड़े बहादुर हैं । पर जब से हमारी कांग्रेस की सरकार आई तो हम लोग जिनका काम चरखे का प्रचार करना था, और हमारे भाई त्यागी जी तो गले में ढोल डाल कर चरखे का प्रचार करते थे, तब से आप लोगों ने चरखे के सम्बन्ध में कौनसा काम किया है ? और आज जब दुर्भिक्ष हो रहा है तो यह क्यों नहीं किया जाता ? वह जो हमारे अर्थमन्त्री हैं वह तो इस विषय में हम से ज्यादा जानते होंगे, कि अगर सारे देश में या पंजाब में ही घर घर चरखा चलने लगे मिलों के बदले या उन के साथ साथ ही, और लोग बेकार न रहें तो इसका क्या असर पड़ेगा । अगर सारे देश में नहीं अकेले पंजाब ही में घर घर चरखा चलने लग जाय तो सब को रोजगार मिल जाय और काफ़ी कपड़ा भी हो जाय तो इसका हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति पर भी बहुत अच्छा असर पड़ेगा । इस तरह अगर एक प्रान्त में भी कपड़े का

व्यवसाय हो जाय तो कपड़े का इतना हल्ला न रहे। उसी के साथ साथ आप यह भी जानते हैं कि अगर हमारे देश में एक चीज भी पूरी हो जाय तो उसके दाम में तो फर्क पड़ेगा ही, दूसरी चीजों के दाम पर भी असर पड़ेगा। तो इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि आप यह जानते तो सब कुछ हैं लेकिन करते कुछ नहीं। मुझे उम्मीद है कि पंजाब में जहां जहां अकाल पड़ा है अगर वहां चरखा चलाया जाय तो बहुत नफ़ा होगा। इससे कम से कम फ्री ब्यवित पांच पांच सात सात रुपया महीना आमदनी होगी। इसका हमारी अर्थ व्यवस्था पर बहुत अच्छा असर पड़ेगा।

बन्नी लोगों ने कहा कि फ़ीरोज़पुर ज़िले में जहां तहां बहुत डकैतियां हो रही हैं। हमारे गवर्नर साहब ने कैसा सुन्दर उत्तर दिया। मुझे मालूम होता है कि इससे आपको भी लज्जा होती होगी। उनको संतोष है इस बास्ते कि ज्यादा डकैतियां क्यों नहीं हुईं। मुझे ऐसी ऐसी बातें सुनकर बहुत बुरा मालूम पड़ता है।

यहां सरदार हुक्मसिंह जी ने कहा कि पंजाब में जो इलेक्शन हुए हैं उन में इतनी बुराइयां हुई हैं, ऐसा ऐसा भ्रष्टाचार हुआ है, जिसका बह वर्णन तो नहीं करना चाहते थे, लेकिन जिस के बारे में उन्होंने कहा कि कमीशन बिठाया जाय। आज मैं ने एक पत्र में पढ़ा कि इसी तरह का एक प्रस्ताव कुछ लोगों ने बिहार में भी पास किया है। यह तो खुशी की बात है पंजाबियों के लिए कि पंजाब में गवर्नर्स कूल की वजह से कांग्रेस की जान बच गई। आज मैं कांग्रेस से अलग हूँ लेकिन यह याद रखना चाहिये कि आज हिन्दुस्तान में जितना और कोई कांग्रेस का हित चाहता है उतना मैं भी चाहता हूँ। कांग्रेस का हित इसी में है कि न्याय का प्रचार हो और सारे देश का हित हो। मैं आपसे

पूछता हूँ कि यह जो कांग्रेस की जान बची तो क्या यह कोई गौरव की चीज है। अगर इसके जरिये समाज का हित हो, समाज के सुख में वृद्धि हो, समाज की उन्नति हो, समाज का दुःख दूर हो तब तो सही है, और नहीं तो क्या कांग्रेस की जान बची? जब कांग्रेस के लोगों के हाथ में राज जायगा तो वहां भी बटवारा होने लगेगा, तो उससे क्या लाभ होगा? इसमें क्या कांग्रेस की जान बची और क्या हित हुआ? गौरव तभी होगा जब कि इसके जरिये पंजाब के लोग यह समझें कि कांग्रेस वाले आये हैं अब हमारा दुःख दूर होगा और हम को कोई कष्ट नहीं होगा और हम पर कोई अन्याय नहीं कर पायेगा। यदि कांग्रेस की जान बचने की वजह से, कांग्रेस के चुनाव में आ जाने की वजह से या कांग्रेस की सरकार बन जाने की वजह से गरीब से गरीब और दूर से दूर वाले व्यक्ति में यह विश्वास हो कि अब हमारे प्रति कोई अन्याय नहीं कर सकेगा, हमारा दुःख दूर होगा, हम पर कष्ट नहीं आयेगा, तो वही कांग्रेस की जान बचने का गौरव होगा। अगर यह नहीं होता है और कांग्रेस वाले आपस में लड़ने लगते हैं और लूटपाट करने लगते हैं तो याद रखिये कि इससे न कांग्रेस का यश होगा और न किसी को सुख मिलेगा।

एक बात मैं और कहना चाहता हूँ समा-
नेत्री जी। मैं आप का अधिक समय नहीं
लूंगा। आप अधीर न हों। एक बात यह जान
लेनी चाहिये। कांग्रेस के नेताओं को चाहे
बह पंडित जवाहरलाल जी ही क्यों न हों,
कि जैसा जवाहरलाल जी ने कम्युनिलिज़म
के खिलाफ बहुत कुछ कहा है, उसी तरह
आप कांग्रेस को भी एक कास्ट न बना लें।
यहां तो पहले ही बहुत सी जातियां बनी
हुई हैं और जितनी जातियां हैं उतनी ही

[बाबू रामनारायण सिंह]

पार्टीबन्धियां हैं। तो यह बात जान लेनी चाहिये कि यदि देश का भला आप चाहते हैं तो केवल कांग्रेस कांग्रेस ही मत भजो बल्कि जितने लोग देश में हैं सब को मिला लो, जितनी देश में शक्तियां हैं उन सब का संग्रह करो और मिल जुल कर ऐसा उपाय करो कि देश का भला हो। जब तक सारी शक्तियां नहीं मिलेंगी और जब तक देश के सारे लोग पारम्परिक सहयोग नहीं करेंगे तब तक देश का कल्याण नहीं है और किसी पार्टी का और खासकर कांग्रेस पार्टी का अभ्युदय हो गया इस से देश की भलाई होने वाली नहीं है। तो मैं सबसे अर्ब करूंगा, सारे देश से अर्ब करूंगा, कि सब लोग और नेहरू जी यह प्रयत्न करें कि सब का पारस्परिक सहयोग हो। इसी में सारे समाज का कल्याण है।

(English translation of the above speech)

Mr. Chairman: You want to speak?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Yes, Madam.

Mr. Chairman: You may speak.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: The Punjab Budget has been presented here and some of the Members from Punjab have spoken about the conditions obtaining there. Shri Jain has also said something in reply. When I listen to all these speeches, sometimes I feel a little satisfied, at other times I feel pained, but sometimes I am amused also. I was very much amused by one thing. When my friend Lala Achint Ram was saying that corruption and bribery prevailed in every department, our friend, who used to sit among us and talk to us very enthusiastically...

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad (West Bengal): Who was he?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: He is my friend Tyagi. Well, he countered this with the question whether this bribery began after the Governor's rule or existed before that also. Now what is the answer to this

question? I cannot say what is the implication of his question.

Shri Tyagi: What I meant was that it did not prevail after the Governor's rule or because of the Governor's rule, but that it existed before that also. However, it may be that things have not since improved.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Very good. I myself felt that he also believed that corruption and bribery was a legacy left by the previous regime, for which he was not responsible and to remove which was not his job.

Shri Tyagi: This is not what I meant.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Then what else can it mean? It does not make any difference whether it existed before or not. Shri Achint Ram said that at one place a *kisan* had stated that if Government could not relieve their hardships, it had better be set fire to (scrapped). That is why I ask: If corruption is to continue as before and Government cannot remove it what is the good of having such a Government? In that case, just as an hon. Member said, there is no need for maintaining a police force. Everybody in the country has to consider this thing. I would ask the gentlemen, who now occupy the Treasury Benches, or have become Ministers and Particularly I would ask Shri Dashmukh, who controls the entire wealth of the country, that if the traditions that existed during the British regime are to be maintained as before, if bribery is not checked, if the sufferings of the people are not alleviated and if all the things which existed under British rule are to continue, then what is the use of having this Government?

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad: Then end this Government.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: I sometimes feel that it would be better if such a Government did not exist. People would say that there is at least some law and order under this Government. But I say that this order is no order. When a body is accepted as the Government in the world or say in this country, and it is a big thing, it means that we surrender and entrust our all to it. We surrender our lives, our property, our all to this Government and we keep nothing

for ourselves. Unless that Government is honest and strong, how can it protect our life and property? Government here means the duty the Government has to perform. If the Government goes on idly, without doing any work, what is the good of it? Shri Deshmukh has presented the Budget. What does it contain? On the one hand, there is income and on the other, there is expenditure. This means that Government exists for its own sake, and not for the sake of the society, or for poor people or for the people who have been displaced. Government is meant for the Government itself, for Shri Nehru, for Shri Deshmukh or for the Government servants. No, Sir, Government is not meant for this purpose. Shri Deshmukh is a very clever Finance Minister. He is in charge of income and expenditure. He suggests ways and means to increase the wealth of the country and he suggests what taxes should be imposed. That is a very good thing. But the foremost thing he has to see to is how to reduce the expenditure of the Government. We remember and Shri Tyagi, also remembers that when he was on this side of the House, we used to call the British Government a robber Government because of its huge expenditure. That expenditure continues exactly as it was before. If this is not so, let Shri Deshmukh declare that a reduction has been effected in it.

Sardar Hukam Singh: It has increased.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Yes, the expenditure has increased. I ask Shri Nehru whether the epithet which we applied to the British should also be applied to him? Should we call him a robber or a good and honest man? A good man would not have incurred so much expenditure. You have to consider whether you are not guilty of doing the same thing, for which we criticized the British.

Mr. Chairman: Have you read the Budget?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Madam Chairman, this question of yours is highly improper. You have no right to ask such a question. You have only to listen to what I say. If I say anything which is improper, you can check me. But this does not mean that you can speak anything you want to from the Chair. You have no such right and you ought to know it.

Mr. Chairman: I wanted to ask whether you have known from the Budget as to why the expenditure has increased?

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: Every Member, to whom papers have been circulated, must have read something about the Budget. And I would say that the Budget you speak of is not worth reading. As I said before, it contains income on the one hand and expenditure on the other, which means that Budget is nothing but robbing and distributing. Rob the people and distribute the money among the people who work for the Government. What else is there in the Budget? How much of the income of the Government is spent for constructive purposes?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Is he speaking about the Punjab Budget or the Central Budget?

Shri Naziruddin Ahmad: Both are alike.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: He has put a nice question. It encourages me to believe that the India Budget, he would present after the Punjab Budget, would be much better. I congratulate him for that. In it he should indicate as to how much money he takes from the country, how much he spends for the country and how much is distributed among Government servants.

In any case, you must reduce the expenditure. This is your duty. I have to repeat it again and again, because it is a very important matter. I may tell Shri Deshmukh that at Karachi, in a meeting, which he perhaps did not attend, but which was attended by Shri Satyanarayan and Shri Tyagi, we passed a resolution to the effect that after the departure of the British, when we are free, no Government official, or person in the administration, shall be paid a salary higher than Rs. 500. Shri Nehru was a party to this resolution, but has it been given effect to? It is sometimes claimed that the present Government is a Congress Government based on Gandhian principles, but how do such huge salaries fit in with these principles?

Is there any special feature in the Punjab Budget, which makes it different from the Central Budget? The Punjab Budget also has the same

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh]

kind of loot which is contained in the Central Budget.

You would excuse for the diversion. But I would appeal to you to explain your views in regard to our commitments before the Congress, the country and the world.

Mention has been made of the Hissar famine and my friend Shri Thakur Das beautifully expressed the fact that during the British regime, whenever there was a famine, they (the British) tried to provide livelihood and food for the people. He also said that at that time the use of *Charkha* was encouraged in every home. Our friend, Shri Tyagi specially did propaganda in its favour. He is a very courageous man. He used to propagate the use of *Charkha* by beat of a drum round his neck. But ever since this Congress Government came into being, what have you done in connection with the *Charkha* movement? Why is it not started again at this time of famine? Our Finance Minister will be in a better position to appreciate what effect will it have on the economy of the country, if *Charkha* is plied in every home in the country or in the Punjab side by side with the mills or otherwise and if people no longer remain idle. Even if *Charkha* begins to ply in every home of the Punjab, everybody would find livelihood and there would be plenty of cloth. It would have a very beneficial effect on the economic condition of the people. Even if one province establishes this cloth industry, there would not be so much clamouring for cloth. You also know that if our country becomes self-sufficient in the production of one commodity, not only will it bring down its price, but it will affect the prices of other commodities also. You, of course, know all these things, but you do not take any steps. I am sure if *Charkha* plying is started in the Punjab, wherever there is famine, it would be very beneficial. It would yield an income of at least five to seven rupees per month per person, and it will have a very good effect on our economy.

It has been said that many dacoities are being committed in Ferozepur District. The Governor has given a fine answer. I am afraid you will also be ashamed of it. He is satisfied because the number of dacoities has not been higher than that. I feel very much ashamed to hear such things.

Sardar Hukam Singh has demanded that a Commission be formed to

enquire into the alleged irregularities in the Punjab elections, though he has not cited any instance in this connection. I read in a newspaper today that some people in Bihar have also passed a similar resolution. The Punjabis should be grateful because the Congress has been saved there due to the Governor's rule. Today I am not a Member of Congress, but I may tell you that I am second to none in wishing well of the Congress. The good of the Congress lies in the fact that justice should be done and the interests of the country should be looked after. I ask whether this survival of the Congress is a matter of pride? It would be so only if this leads to the betterment of society and mitigates the sufferings of the people. Otherwise not. What is the good of it, if with the passing of Government into the hands of Congressmen, the partition is repeated there? Congress rule will be a matter of pride only when the people of Punjab come to believe that their difficulties will be removed and there will be no injustice to them. It will be a matter of pride only if the people in the remotest of villages and the poorest of the poor come to believe that there will no longer be any injustice to them and that their difficulties and troubles would be removed. If this does not happen, and if Congressmen begin to quarrel among themselves for prestige and power, neither the prestige of the Congress will be enhanced nor will the people be happy.

Madam Chairman, I would like to say one thing more without taking much of your time. I would like to impress upon you that the Congress leaders including Pandit Jawaharlal himself, who has said so much against communalism, should not convert the Congress into a caste. Already there are many castes here, and there are as many party factions as there are castes. Therefore remember that, if you have the good of the country at your heart, you should not merely sing the praises of the Congress, but you should win over and consolidate all the forces in the country and make united efforts to strengthen it. Until all the forces unite and all the people co-operate with each other, the country would not prosper. It would not benefit by the victorious emergence of the Congress party over any other party. I would, therefore, appeal to everybody in the country and to Pandit Nehru that efforts should be made for mutual co-operation. In this lies the welfare of society.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: In addition to being Finance Minister I am still a representative of the Punjab and therefore I listened with particular interest to the observations that fell from the half a dozen friends that have spoken so far! At the outset I would deprecate one tendency in the speeches and that was to criticize the Governor's own utterances. It is rather difficult for the Governor to defend himself. That is to say I draw distinction between what the Governor said in private talk and what orders were passed.

Lala Achint Ram: It was not a private talk; it was an interview.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I mean an interview but an interview where things are not committed to paper. It is somewhat difficult in the time at my disposal to deal with it.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह: आप उनको डिफेंड कीजिये ।

[Babu Ramnarayan Singh: You defend him.]

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: And I do not think it was really necessary to point the argument which the hon. Member had in view. The argument was that judging from the instances that had come to his notice there was deterioration in the law and order. Well, even if the Governor said what he is alleged to have said, it simply meant that judging from the trend of events he thought that there would be greater incidence of acts of violence and, therefore, although it was a matter to be taken care of and he had put it in train he was relieved to find that reports of this kind were not too frequent. I think that is all that he intended to say.

Lala Achint Ram: Will it give any satisfaction to the man who is injured?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It may be that at this time the police were engaged elsewhere.

Lala Achint Ram: Incidents. There were incidents: not one.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The incident that was referred to by the hon. Member was one.

Lala Achint Ram: I referred to the other dacoity also.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That was not referred to by the hon. Member. I have not got it here.

Lala Achint Ram: I did refer to that.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I think many of these matters can be dealt with without any personal reference to the Governor.

The next point that I was coming to was Rehabilitation. I was under the impression that the reply that was given by my hon. colleague was generally satisfactory to hon. Members. In spite of this, a point was made by Sardar Hukam Singh that much remains to be done. Well, in a general sense it is true that much remains to be done for displaced population. But, much remains to be done for the country. The point made on our side was that the question of uneconomic holdings is a general question for the country and however keen our sympathy may be for the displaced population, they could not expect that the solution would be found in their particular case of a difficulty that has plagued us from the economic point of view for many years.

A suggestion was made in this respect that betterment levies which are levied from large landholders could be distributed among the displaced persons. That simply means that instead of meeting the capital cost of the Bhakra-Nangal Project out of such betterment fees, the money should be distributed to private persons.

Sardar Hukam Singh: I did not say that. I have been misunderstood. I did not say that cash should be distributed among the displaced persons. I said that the land should be distributed.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The suggestion was that instead of getting cash, you recover land. Either you recover cash or you recover land. If you recover cash, you can buy land. The significant portion of the suggestion is that this land, which is equivalent to cash, may be distributed among the displaced population. In the ordinary course, such land, even if it was land or cash, would go to the State and it would be used for reducing the capital cost of the Bhakra-Nangal Project to the State. Therefore, in essence the proposal is that several crores be recovered in the shape of land and utilised not for the State and not for lightening the burden on posterity in Punjab, but by distribution to the displaced persons. There, again, I say that that is a somewhat impatient desire to be fully rehabilitated even when the problem is a problem that is common to the rest of the country.

Sardar Hukam Singh: For a Punjab, it should be acceptable.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Even a Punjabi should be quite alive to a sense of justice.

Sardar Hukam Singh: You represent the Punjab; therefore, I expect that.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry; I regard my responsibility as a representative of the Punjab in a way which would be more in accord with my responsibility to the rest of the country.

Sardar Hukam Singh: You are not a displaced person.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): He is a Punjabi by adoption, not by birth.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am greatly concerned about the development of scarcity conditions in certain districts, particularly Hissar, Rohtak and Gurgaon. From the enquiries I have made during the interval, I am informed that the Punjab Government have been in intimate contact with the way in which scarcity is developing since the failure of the last Kharif crop. While that Government has not considered it necessary so far formally to declare either scarcity or famine conditions, necessary preliminary action in the way of both positive help and to ensure that the further needs are met as and when necessary, has been taken.

The first difficulty that appeared in these areas, a difficulty to which reference has been made, was in regard to fodder for animals. With a view to relieve shortage, Government introduced a system of importing fodder at concession railway freight. By this means importers are permitted to bring fodder into these areas from surplus stations both within and outside the Punjab State. It is true that this concession can only be operated on the basis of certificates issued by the Deputy-Commissioners. As I suspected, the object of this restriction is to ensure some degree of control in the actual distribution of this fodder to owners of needy cattle and to prevent a dissipation of the concession into profiteering. The Punjab Government has appointed a whole-time Fodder Adviser to deal with fodder problems, particularly with reference to making available supplies from surplus stations. The price of fodder following these concessions has come down, I am informed, from Rs. 7 to 8 a maund to Rs. 4 or 4-8-0 a maund. A point was made that sometimes the fodder is at the railway stations many miles

away. I can only undertake to transmit the complaint to the Fodder Adviser in order to see whether he could not devise some remedy for making fodder available from a closer distance to the poor cultivators who need it for their cattle. A sum of Rs. 2,39,540 appears in the Supplementary Demands now before Parliament—it has been passed—for fodder concessions during the current year. A further sum of Rs. 200,000 has also been provided for the same reason in 1952-53. I mention these figures because the hon. Member who complained has not apparently been able to read all the contents of the Budget.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: In these books that I have, Rs. 40,000 has been set apart.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am coming to that. That is not for fodder.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Fodder famine.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: For fodder *takkavi* and also advances to those in need of it, a sum of Rs. 2,41,000 has been provided in the Budget for 1952-53. I shall come to Rs. 40,000. With regard to providing work for those in need of it, action has also been taken. This has not so far taken the form of opening relief works exclusively for famine purposes, but to expedite the starting of work on various schemes already contemplated for the affected areas. The construction of the Loharu Road, and Ambala-Hissar Road has been started under the supervision of the Public Works Department. Earth work in connection with the Bhakra main canal and its branches in the Hissar district as also the Grow More Food works schemes have been taken up in advance of the normally contemplated date, and are now operated through village labour co-operative societies organised by the Deputy-Commissioner. In this way, an opportunity for labour has been provided to those in need of it. An attempt has also been made to dispense with the normal contract systems so as to ensure that the villagers most in need of work are actually given an opportunity of taking it up.

There were two complaints made in respect of this. One was that the rate was too low and the other was that Bills were not passed for months together by the Overseer. I am sorry, I have no information in regard to these complaints, and I can only forward them to the Governor for investigation. With regard to the rate,

It is quite possible that if the work is done through the village labour co-operative societies, it is part of the sacrifice of the district, so to say, for the canal system to receive low wages. Indeed, this is part of a scheme which has been recommended by the Planning Commission to the Punjab Government and I believe it is going to be recommended in due course, to other States. The idea is that the same amount of money provided for in the budget could be made to go twice as far, if the villagers would voluntarily and spontaneously give of their labour. That method has been tried with great success in small pockets and in small areas where there are favourable conditions like good leadership and enthusiasm on the part of the people, and it has been calculated that....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I respectfully point out that this may be tried in favourable circumstances where there is no famine and we will have no objection. It is indeed a good thing for people to give their labour voluntarily. But in times of famine the idea should be to pay them a bit more so that they may be able to live.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am not justifying it. I am only saying that before the indications of the famine became quite clear the Planning Commission had circulated this and their calculation was that if such labour is furnished, then the canals in the Hissar district would cost Rs. 4½ crores instead of Rs. 6 crores. A new feature is because of this general reduction in the cost of the canal and the total cost of the Bhakra project, they would have to pay smaller sums by way of irrigation dues in the future. Whether any adjustment is needed now is a matter, as I said, on which I cannot throw any light because I do not know in the first place, whether the hon. Member's figures are correct or whether they are up-to-date and whether any change has been made. I imagine that it would be necessary to remember that what is paid to a man ought to be able to enable him to hold body and soul together and it is that principle on which the Famine Code has been drawn up. If the hon. Member says that the Famine Code ought to be revised, I agree that it ought to be revised if this principle is not applied properly in practice. All these works are called test works because you are bound to take the very minimum level at which this object can be attained. What that level should be is a matter for investigation in

the light of the prevailing circumstances. It is not right to assume that the rate that is paid should be equivalent to the market rate because then these works cease to be test works. That is the point that I want to make. I am not justifying any rate, 6 as. or 8 as. because I do not know the conditions under which it is paid and I do not know if a man can or cannot live on 6 as. in the circumstances prevailing to-day in the Punjab.

Then mention has been made of the advisability of opening cotton and wool spinning and weaving centres, especially to help women who are unable to take advantage of ordinary labour facilities. I am glad to be able to say that a scheme for this purpose is already under the consideration of the Punjab Government and will be put into operation shortly. But whether it will attain the blissful end that Babu Ramnarayan Singh contemplates is more than I can say. He expects every man and every home in the Punjab should have a *Charkha* and each family ought to be earning Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 per month. And if this were to be spread in the rest of India I doubt whether enough cotton would be available both for the handspun cloth and for what is turned out in the mills. In other words, the problem has been excessively simplified by the hon. Member. However, that is not a very practical point because no effort of government can ensure the consummation that he has in view. As I have said, in general Government is in full sympathy with this proposal for the use of cotton and wool spinning and weaving and the establishing of centres for that purpose should spread, and any practical scheme that is put forward by anybody will receive assistance even from the Finance Minister on a general all-India scale, not in connection with the Punjab particularly.

Then mention was also made of the meagre budget provision under the head "Famine". This provision does not correctly indicate the extent to which government has already taken action or proposes to take action. It is, I understand, customary in the Punjab, for urgent needs, because the extent of the amount cannot easily be assessed in advance, to be met as occasion demands, from the Punjab Contingency Fund and such withdrawals from the fund are subsequently put to the Legislature for approval. Therefore, the hon. Member is not in a position to criticise what is going to be provided for the relief of famine.

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

With regard to industries, it has been stated that these are generally in a poor way in the Punjab. The conditions in that State have, I am free to admit, been very greatly handicapped by the effect of the partition and its proximity to the border. Government are conscious of the need for improvement and have, at the moment, under consideration the establishment of an Industrial Finance Corporation for the State, in accordance with the law which this Parliament passed in the last session. But hon. Members will understand that the decision with regard to the setting up of such a corporation must await the re-establishment of the usual popular government. With regard to the industries for the displaced population, I think sufficient has been said by my colleague.

Then there is the question of the restriction of movement and purchase of foodgrains in some areas. I understand that these restrictions have been operating in order to ensure maximum procurement of foodgrains. I also understand that besides the day to day responsibility for feeding the whole population of rationed towns, the Punjab Government also undertakes the feeding of all non-producers and under-producers in rural areas when grain is not available from village sources. It has not been possible for me to look, at the time at my disposal, into the question of how far the particular restriction was fully justified in this background or not. But I think it will be conceded that if the procurement is to be put through successfully, some degree of control in the free purchase, storage and sale of foodgrains is inescapable, so that the only point that remains is whether one maund is the proper limit or whether it should be raised, having regard to the distance from which grain is to be procured and so on. These are matters which can be agitated from time to time and I have no doubt that the record of this discussion will be available to the new Punjab Government in order to enable it to review the whole situation.

I think, that I have covered, generally, the points that were made in the speeches of the hon. Members. There was the point about customs duties. But the position is that under the integration agreement, the States in Rajasthan are allowed to charge octroi—not customs—to the extent of the customs levied by them previously, and this will last for five years after the commencement of the Constitution. Well, some time has already elapsed, and so that is the explanation.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: And so am I to understand that nothing can be done in this matter?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No, it is part of the Integration Agreement. It is part of the financial settlement between the Part B States and the Centre.

A great deal has been said about the elections and the way they were conducted. The allegations are of such a vague character that I find it very difficult to deal with them. I doubt whether this is a matter which arises in connection with the budget for the current year. It was undoubtedly relevant as part of the discussion on the President's Address, but I do not believe there is any provision for electoral expenses in the budget.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: What about the law and order problem, the problem of the protection of minorities, of the scheduled castes, etc.?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Law and order as related to the conduct of elections, is a special subject. Anyway, I confess, that I am not in a position to say how far these allegations are correct, and my business would be to say that they are incorrect.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: On what basis?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The onus of proof rests on those who make the allegations, not on those who deny them.

Shri Tyagi: Those who are successful in the elections know it better.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Therefore I have said it.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The point that has been made is that it is not worth while driving people to the Tribunals.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: That is a different matter.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This is a matter on which the House advisedly decided to have Tribunals. Obviously this is a very unsuitable subject for discussing in the House, a House in which Members have special interests. Just as there are special interests for criticising the Government, there may be interests who want to defend the Government.

Shri Kamath: Vested interests.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is found by the Tribunals that there is some truth in allegations of this kind, I

should imagine myself that any Government which cares for public opinion will consider those allegations seriously.

Shri R. Velayudhan (Travancore-Cochin): Not this Government.

Shri Kamath: The May Government—Government which will be formed next May.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: There was a point in Sardar Hukam Singh's speech about the Punjab being made the granary of India and enough money not being spent there. There again, it is a case of the Punjab representatives taking a parochial view and not an all-India view. The complaint of the South is—I do not belong either to the South or the North—that too much is being spent on the North, North including North-West, North-East and the North proper, and the East also, Orissa. I just want to give some figures about the sinking of these tube wells. Each tube well costs about Rs. 40,000 and irrigates about 400 acres. If you have a thousand wells, you have to spend about Rs. 4 crores and these wells would irrigate about 400,000 acres, from which you might get about 125,000 tons of grains, so that in order to make any impression at all on the food situation, you would want to indulge in a vast deal of expenditure, and in view of our commitments already on some of the major river valley schemes, it is not possible to spare the amounts that are necessary, even if the objective were to be agreed to that Punjab should be made the granary of India. As a matter of fact there are many other parts of the country which would also claim to be made a granary.

Shri Kamath: Madhya Pradesh.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Madhya Pradesh, very nice area. It should also be made the granary of India because it grows rice. Moreover, we were looking to the Punjab for being the supplier of medium staple cotton, because we expect that when Bhakra Nangal is completed, with the turning of all non-perennial irrigation into perennial irrigation, Punjab would grow all the medium staple cotton that we want for the country, and I think that would bring much more wealth to the Punjab than the sinking of tube wells.

Then, there was some reference to the capital. I understand that the matter is more or less decided. I will certainly take notice of what has been said here now, because the matter keeps on coming up again and again. Local administrations decide

on these schemes and whenever they consider necessary, they come up to the Centrs for some sort of assistance in implementing these schemes and that gives me an opportunity for reviewing the whole issue, and I undertake to put these arguments before them, the argument advanced by Sardar Hukam Singh to ascertain whether the people of the Punjab really are satisfied that they do want a new capital at Chandigarh.

4 P.M.

There is one last point and that is about the ethical basis of the budget. The hon. Member used very hard words and after he was questioned both by you, and myself, we elicited the information that what he was referring to was the scales of pay. This is a sort of hardy annual which keeps on coming again and again. This resolution was passed, I think, before 1937, when the first Congress Governments came into power.

Shri Kamath: 1931.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: In 1931. When the Congress Governments came into power in 1937, they came to the conclusion that the resolution was not practicable. This was found even at that time in 1931, when prices were falling, when the value of money was very high, when the world was in the throes of a depression. Five hundred rupees those days could buy a lot. A man who had five hundred rupees those days was somebody in the world. Today he is nobody.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: This amount is ridiculous.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Even then, they had to pay about Rs. 1000 to the Ministers. They were given allowances, were allowed motor cars, bungalows in the hill station, bungalows in the headquarters, servants, furniture and so on. We calculated that the total emoluments on a comparable scale amounted to three times that was then taken.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: May I ask one question? How do millions in the country live on a smaller monthly income than Rs. 500?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is always the case. We are now referring to the emoluments of Ministers, and I do not think there is any country in the world which has that kind of equality, not even the U. S. S. R., who started the theory of equality but who have never been able to achieve it. I think that the ideas that we have are somewhat difficult of being brought into operation.

Shri Kamath: Utopian!

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not like to use the words which my hon. friend used. He used words which were almost unparliamentary. They bordered on that. I really feel, that in present conditions it is not possible to fix the scales of pay at the level or anywhere near the level which the hon. Member has in mind.

Babu Ramnarayan Singh: We can increase the pay in that proportion.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It comes to about Rs. 2,000.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It comes to Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 2,200. It should also be remembered that the rate of income-tax is very much higher now than what it was when that resolution was passed.

Shri Kamath: You must reduce the salary or allowance of M. Ps. as well.

लाला अचिंत राम : अभी फाइनेंस
मिनिस्टर साहब ने मेरे रिमार्क्स के बारे में
ज़िक्र किया है। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि
मेरे दिमाग में यह खयाल था कि गवर्नर
साहब की हालत जब मिनिस्ट्री थी उस वक़्त
थी वह अब नहीं है। पहले वह गवर्नर साहब थे
अब प्रेजिडेन्ट्स कूल हैं। गवर्नर साहब महज़
उनके एजेंट हैं। अब वह दर्बार करते हैं,
क्रेडेन्शल्स लेते हैं, स्पीचेज़ देते हैं, अब लोग
किसके पास जायें ?

He is the man whom we can see and talk to. If I have violated any constitutional proprieties I feel very sorry. Personally I feel very grateful for all that has been done but I was putting forth the point of view of the public.

[**Lala Achint Ram:** Just now the Finance Minister has referred to my remarks. I was thinking in my mind, the Governor is not today in the position in which he was when the ministry functioned. Formerly he was the Governor of the State, but now that State is under the President's Rule and the Governor is merely his agent. Now he holds *Darbar*, accepts credentials, delivers speeches. Whom should the people approach for the solutions of their difficulties?

He is the man whom we can see and talk to. If I have violated any constitutional proprieties I feel very sorry. Personally I feel very grateful for all that has been done but I was putting forth the point of view of the public.]

Mr. Chairman: There is no motion before the House and there is nothing to be put to the House.

Shri Kamath: What about the cut motions to the Demands of the Punjab Budget?

Mr. Chairman: This is only a general discussion.

COAL MINES (CONSERVATION AND SAFETY) BILL—*concl'd.*

Mr. Chairman: There is no amendment to clause 2.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 4.—(*Establishment of Board*)

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): I beg to move:

In page 2, line 23, after "the pleasure of the Central Government" insert "for any period not exceeding five years and shall be eligible for re-appointment."

Shri A. C. Guha (West Bengal): As the hon. Minister has incorporated practically the purpose of my amendment in his own, I do not want to move mine.

Shri Kamath (Madhya Pradesh): Did Mr. Guha give his amendment earlier or the Minister?

Shri A. C. Guha: I gave my amendment earlier. Though the Minister's wording is different from mine, I have accepted his amendment and I do not want to move mine, as his language seems technically more correct.

Mr. Chairman: In any case the Minister's amendment appears earlier than the hon. Member's.

The question is:

In page 2, line 23, after "the pleasure of the Central Government" insert "for any period not exceeding five years and shall be eligible for re-appointment."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 4, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 4, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 to 7 were added to the Bill.

Clause 8.—(*Imposition of excise duties*)

Dr. M. M. Das (West Bengal): I have tabled a large number of

amendments but after due consideration I move only one, No. 14:

In page 4, omit lines 19 to 21.

Shri Nasiruddin Ahmad (West Bengal): On a point of order, these amendments are like correction slips. The usual form is that such and such words be omitted. Instead of that the proposal is: "Omit lines so and so to line so." It is difficult to follow the purpose of the amendment and the hon. Member should make it clear as to what he wants.

Dr. M. M. Das: In the notice I gave for this amendment I mentioned the words which are proposed by me to be omitted.

The amendment proposes to omit:

"the despatch of the coking coal is made under the orders of the Board, although it was not specifically indented for by such person."

Shri Kamath: How will the clause read after being amended as proposed by you?

Dr. M. M. Das: I want the omission of this clause. According to the provisions of the Bill only two categories of consumers will be entitled to use metallurgical coal without payment of any additional duty. These categories are those who really need metallurgical coal to carry on their industries and secondly, those fortunate ones who will be very kindly permitted by the Coal Board and they will be supplied by the coal Board with metallurgical coal, although they do not require it for their purposes. This clause which my amendment seeks to omit gives the Coal Board the power to supply metallurgical coal to a person without payment of any additional duty although that person may not require metallurgical coal for his purpose.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA
in the Chair].

This provision is neither fair nor justified. I am afraid that this clause, if not omitted, will give the Coal Board an opportunity to bestow their patronage upon persons they may like. Moreover the power of the Coal Board will lead to an indiscriminate use of metallurgical coal and defeat the purpose of preventing waste which this Bill seeks to do. I hope the hon. Minister will accept my amendment.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 4, omit lines 19 to 21.

Shri Buragohain: I am afraid I cannot accept this amendment because it suggests the deletion of the whole sub-clause (b). The purpose of putting this in is, as I said in my opening speech, that at present still about a million tons of coal are consumed for non-essential purposes and we cannot possibly suddenly stop that—it can be done only gradually. Even about such use of metallurgical coal the Committee suggested that it should be spread over a number of years and at every stage only a certain percentage of reductions will be effected. In view of these difficulties we cannot accept this amendment.

Dr. M. M. Das: I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. He said just now that the reduction in the indiscriminate use of metallurgical coal will be effected in a number of years. Is there any provision in the Bill which will execute this purpose?

Shri Buragohain: The Coal Board will control the whole thing and will effect this reduction by stages after taking into consideration all factors.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4, omit lines 19 to 21.

The motion was negatived.

Amendment made:

In page 4, after line 24, insert:

"(3) All notifications issued under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be, before Parliament."

—[Shri Buragohain]

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 9.—(Imposition of customs duty)

Dr. M. M. Das: I beg to move:

In page 4,—

(i) in line 28, omit "or brought"; and

(ii) in lines 28 and 29, omit "from any place outside India".

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 4,—

(i) in line 28, omit "or brought"; and

(ii) in lines 28 and 29, omit "from any place outside India".

Shri Buragohain: I am prepared to accept this amendment, Sir.

Shri A. C. Guha: I would like to point out one difficulty. The word "imported" may mean from any country outside India, but here "India" has been defined in clause 3(g) in a limited sense. You may remember that it was pointed out during our discussion earlier that coal might be brought from Jammu & Kashmir and "import" will not cover that contingency and that therefore the definition of India in clause 3(g) has been put as follows:

"India" means the territory of India excluding the State of Jammu and Kashmir'.

Dr. M. M. Das: I do not understand what my hon. friend, Mr. Guha says. If he thinks Jammu and Kashmir State is outside India then the term "import" would serve the purpose.

Shri A. C. Guha: But the technical term "import" would not cover bringing anything from Jammu and Kashmir. Mr. Karmarkar would be able to say something on this point. Coal coming to India from Jammu and Kashmir would not be considered as "imported" coal.

Dr. M. M. Das: But "India" means all the territories within India excepting Jammu and Kashmir, that is so far as this Bill is concerned Jammu and Kashmir are not parts of India. Therefore, the word "import" is quite suitable here.

Shri Buragohain: In view of what has been said by my friend, Mr. Guha we prefer to leave the wording as it is and oppose the amendment.

Shri A. C. Guha: I think Mr. Karmarkar will say something on this.

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): The hon. Member's point is accepted.

Shri A. C. Guha: It is not whether my point is accepted or not—we would like to have his opinion.

Mr. Chairman: How can he compel the hon. Member to express his opinion? Any way he has indicated his opinion.

Shri A. C. Guha: I am simply asking for his opinion.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4,—

(i) in line 28, omit "or brought" and

(ii) in lines 28 and 29, omit "from any place outside India".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is: "That clause 9 stand part of of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9, was added to the Bill.

Clause 10, was added to the Bill.

Clause 11.—(Proceeds of excise duties)

Shri A. C. Guha: I beg to move:

In page 4, lines 36 and 37, for "Payment to the Coal Board of a sum equal to net proceeds of excise duties" substitute "Payment to the Coal Board".

My idea, as I pointed out on the last day, is that it should not be made a statutory obligation of the Government to hand over every pie to the Board. The fund collected as excise under the provisions of this Act will form part of the Consolidated Fund of India and the collections should go to that Fund. Government should have the discretion to use either themselves or through some other machinery a portion of the funds exactly for the purpose for which the cess is being collected. Our past experience shows that the funds were handed over to the autonomous bodies and there was no control either of the Parliament or of the Government. There was also no audit. When I pointed this out, the Finance Minister gave me the assurance that they would revise this position and they would make provision whereby the fund collected will be part of the Consolidated Fund of India. That is why I want that it should not be statutorily obligatory on the part of Government to hand over the entire amount to the Board.

I beg to move my second amendment:

In page 4, line 38, for "equivalent to" substitute "not exceeding".

It is up to the Government to decide how much money should be given to the Board. Government may find some other agency which may use a portion of the fund for the purpose for which the cess will be collected. Therefore, I do not want it to be made obligatory on Government to hand over the entire fund to the Board. This is the purpose of my two amendments

and I hope the hon. Minister will accept them.

Shri Nasiruddin Ahmad: I have a difficulty with regard to this clause. It has been printed in very heavy type. I want to know whether any particular emphasis is meant.

Mr. Chairman: It is the printer's devil who is responsible.

Shri Buragohain: The first amendment of Mr. Guha is not strictly necessary. Still, I am prepared to accept both of them.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4, lines 36 and 37, for "Payment to the Coal Board of a sum equal to net proceeds of excise duties" substitute "Payment to the Coal Board".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 4, line 38, for "equivalent to" substitute "not exceeding".

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 11, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 12.—(Money received by Board etc.)

Shri A. C. Guha: I am not moving my amendment. I am glad to see that my purpose has been served by the Government amendment which is put in more technical language. My purpose was that the whole fund should be audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and should be treated as part of the Consolidated Fund of India.

Dr. M. M. Das: I beg to move:

In page 5, lines 23 and 24, for "at prescribed intervals by the auditors appointed in this behalf by the Central Government" substitute:

"by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, who shall submit the report to the President and the President shall cause it to be laid before each House of Parliament."

My amendment is self-explanatory. I hope the hon. Minister will accept it.

Shri Buragohain: I beg to move my amendment which is No. 29.

Mr. Chairman: I think I will first place Dr. Das's amendment before the House.

Dr. M. M. Das: If my amendment falls through, may I know whether my hon. friend's amendment which means the same thing will be permitted to be moved in this House.

Mr. Chairman: That question does not arise now. I shall find out the position from the hon. Minister.

Shri Buragohain: In view of the fact that I have practically taken everything from my hon. friend's amendment, I would request him to withdraw his.

Dr. M. M. Das: The hon. Minister is going upon his words, as I found on a previous occasion. I want to stick to my amendment. I am not going to withdraw it.

Mr. Chairman: Then I shall place Dr. Das's amendment before the House. Amendment moved:

In page 5, lines 23 and 24, for "at prescribed intervals by the auditors appointed in this behalf by the Central Government" substitute:

"by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, who shall submit the report to the President and the President shall cause it to be laid before each House of Parliament."

Shri Buragohain: I will move mine.

Mr. Chairman: Yes. Both the amendments deal with the same subject and are almost identical. Both may be placed before the House and the House may choose.

Shri J. R. Kapoor (Uttar Pradesh): Perhaps, the more appropriate course would be to put the Deputy Minister's amendment as an amendment to Dr. Das's amendment.

Mr. Chairman: That is not done. The hon. Minister may move his amendment.

Shri Buragohain: I beg to move:

In page 5, lines 23 and 24, for "at prescribed intervals by the auditors appointed in this behalf by the Central Government" substitute:

"by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at such times and in such manner as he deems fit and the report of the Comptrol-

[Shri Buragohain]

ler and Auditor-General of India shall be laid, as soon as may be, before Parliament."

Dr. M. M. Das: May I ask your ruling as to whether both these amendments can be placed before the House together?

Mr. Chairman: They will be discussed together, if anyone wants to speak on them. But they will be voted upon separately.

Shri Kamath: And Dr. Das's will be put first.

Mr. Chairman: It is for me to decide.

Shri Kamath: I only want to know on a point of information which one will be placed before the House first for vote.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now place the Deputy Minister's amendment before the House. Amendment moved:

In page 5, lines 23 and 24, for "at prescribed intervals by the auditors appointed in this behalf by the Central Government" substitute:

"by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at such times and in such manner as he deems fit and the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India shall be laid, as soon as may be, before Parliament."

Shri J. R. Kapoor: I would like to ask you, Sir, whether it would be proper in a legislation like this to bring in the name of the President. My hon. friend Dr. Das's amendment says that the report shall be submitted by the Auditor-General to the President who shall cause it to be laid before each House of Parliament. I do not know how far it would be proper to lay it down in a piece of legislation that such and such a thing shall be the duty of the President.

Mr. Chairman: There are many articles in the Constitution which enjoin that duty on the President; I do not think there is anything objectionable in it.

Dr. M. M. Das: I have taken the wording of the amendment verbatim from the relevant article of the Constitution.

Mr. Chairman: I have now to decide the order in which these amendments are to be put to the House.

My attention has been drawn to rule No. 86 which reads as under:

"Amendments of which notice has been given shall, as far as practicable, be arranged in the list of amendments, issued from time to time, in the order in which they may be called. In arranging amendments raising the same question at the same point of a clause, precedence may be given to an amendment moved by the Member in charge of the Bill. Subject as aforesaid, amendments may be arranged in the order in which notice of them is received."

Dr. M. M. Das: I would like to know whether it is mentioned in the rule that if the amendment of a Member in charge of a Bill comes later, even then he will be given precedence.

Mr. Chairman: That is what exactly is meant by the word "precedence". Discretion is of course given to the Chair, but it has to be used in the spirit in which the rule has been made. Therefore, I rule that the amendment of the hon. the Mover of the Bill may be put to the House first.

The question is:

In page 5, lines 23 and 24 for "at prescribed intervals by the auditors appointed in this behalf by the Central Government" substitute:

"by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at such times and in such manner as he deems fit and the report of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India shall be laid, as soon as may be, before Parliament."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The other amendment is now barred.

The question is:

"That clause 12, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 13 to 16 were added to the Bill.

Clause 17.—(Power to make rules)

Shri A. C. Guba: I beg to move:

In page 7, for lines 21 and 22, substitute:

"(e) determination of the fund to be handed over to the Board out of the excise proceeds".

In view of the changes made in clause 11 this amendment becomes very necessary. I hope the hon. Minister will accept it.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 7, for lines 21 and 22, substitute:

"(e) determination of the fund to be handed over to the Board out of the excise proceeds".

Shri Buragohain: I am afraid I cannot accept this amendment. It is difficult to "determine a fund". I do not know what exactly he means by it. It is certainly possible to determine the net proceeds of a fund and provision has been made to that effect in clause 11.

Mr. Chairman: I would bring to the notice of the hon. Member that when a change has been accepted in clause 11 and the word "equivalent" has been substituted by "not exceeding" the question arises whether it will be useful to determine the net proceeds for any other purpose except for payment to the Coal Board.

Shri A. C. Guha: As far as I remember, in our formal discussions, this amendment was acceptable to Government. This is merely a consequential change and I think the hon. Minister will re-examine the possibility of accepting this.

Shri Buragohain: I am afraid this is not a consequential change. Here we are discussing about the rule making powers of Government. The rule making powers will provide for the determination of net proceeds.

Shri A. C. Guha: If the hon. Minister is not inclined to accept it, I withdraw it.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Dr. M. M. Das: I beg to move:

In page 7, lines 27 and 28, omit "the intervals within which, and the manner in which, such accounts may be audited".

In view of the acceptance of the amendment (No. 29) of the hon. Minister this amendment of mine is a consequential one.

Shri A. C. Guha: Now that the Comptroller and Auditor-General has been authorised to audit the fund, he will do it according to the rules framed by him. I do not think Government will prescribe the intervals at which the Comptroller will audit the funds. That is for the Comptroller and Auditor-General to do.

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Shri Buragohain: We accept this amendment. These words may be omitted because the matter may be left to the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 7, lines 27 and 28, omit "the intervals within which, and the manner in which, such accounts may be audited".

The motion was adopted.

Shri A. C. Guha: I beg to move.

In page 7, after line 35, insert:

"(i-i) recruitment of officers and staff to be appointed by and under the Board;"

The purpose is that Government should frame the rules for the recruitment of officers to be employed by the Board. So long the practice was that the Board was making the appointments according to its own discretion and there was practically no control by the Government over these appointments. A similar provision has been made in the Industries Development Board also and I think Government should adopt this principle that for all autonomous bodies the Government should have some control over the appointments so that there may not be free play for nepotism in these Boards and autonomous bodies. As far as I recollect the hon. Minister was agreeable to accepting it and I hope he will now do so.

Mr. Chairman: Amendment moved:

In page 7, after line 35, insert:

"(i-i) recruitment of officers and staff to be appointed by and under the Board;"

Shri Buragohain: We can accept this amendment with this minor change that the words "and under" may be dropped from it, so that it will read "recruitment of officers and staff to be appointed by the Board". "Appointed by the Board" should be enough.

Shri A. C. Guha: I have no objection, Sir.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

In page 7, after line 35, insert:

"(i-i) recruitment of officers and staff to be appointed by the Board;"

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That clause 17, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 17, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clauses 18 and 19 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Title, and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Buragohain: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Dr. M. M. Das: Though this Bill appears to me to be a very important and useful measure—so much so that one feels that it should have been passed long before—on a closer examination it reveals many lacunae, defects and drawbacks which render this measure almost incapable of achieving its purpose. Scientific investigations have proved beyond doubt that the amount of metallurgical coal in the coalmines of India are very limited and unless steps are taken by Government to dig out this metallurgical coal from the mines to the greatest possible extent and to prevent indiscriminate use of this coal for purposes other than metallurgical the time will come—it may be fifty or sixty years hence—when no metallurgical coal will be available in this country. Therefore, conservation of coal, especially metallurgical coal, becomes an imperative necessity. From a coal mine in which stowing or filling the vacant space is not resorted to, only fifteen to twenty per cent. of coal is taken out. The remaining eighty per cent. or more is left behind in the coal mines and becomes lost for ever. This is certainly a colossal loss of the coal wealth of our country. Hence stowing has to be done compulsorily, at least in these mines which produce metallurgical coal. The process of stowing involves expenditure and in order to meet this expenditure a cess has to be imposed. All these purposes have been served by the provisions incorporated in this Bill.

But this is only one side of the picture. The total annual production of coal in this country is about 34 million tons. Out of this 34 million tons 14 million tons is the production of metallurgical coal. Out of this 14 million tons of metallurgical coal that is produced annu-

ally in this country, only 4 million tons are used for metallurgical purposes. The rest, namely 10 million tons of metallurgical coal, is wasted. By waste I mean that it is used for purposes other than metallurgical for which this superior grade of coal (of which we have practically no reserve) is not necessary. In this Bill there is no provision to prevent this huge wastage of 10 million tons of metallurgical coal in our country. Expensive processes like blending and washing which will improve the quality of the inferior grades of coal and making them suitable for metallurgical purposes have been provided for in this Bill. But our Government has very conveniently forgotten to incorporate in this Bill any provision which may even in a future date prevent the waste—I mean the indiscriminate use—of this metallurgical coal in this country. Viewed from this angle, this Bill is nothing but a deep hoax designed to hoodwink the legislature and the people of this country.

There is another point to which I beg to draw the attention of this House. This Bill provides for three statutory bodies namely the Coal Board, the Advisory Committee and the Enquiry Committee. Out of these bodies, the Coal Board is the most important, being entrusted with the duty of the execution of the provisions of this Bill. But, nothing has been said about the composition and other details regarding this Board. All that the Bill says is that there shall be a Coal Board consisting of a Chairman and such other Members not exceeding six appointed by the Government and that the Members of the Committee including the Chairman shall hold office during the pleasure of the Government. The other matters regarding the qualifications, the mode of appointment, term of office, remuneration, etc. have been proposed in this Bill to be entrusted into the hands of the Government under the rule-making power. The case of the other two bodies, the Advisory Committee and the Enquiry Committee is just the same. The composition of these bodies, the Advisory Committee and the Enquiry Committee also has been proposed to be entrusted into the hands of the Government under the rule-making power. I do not see any justification for this; nor do I approve of it. The power to make subordinate legislation by Government under the rule-making power granted by the legislature—

is a very important one. It is my considered opinion that this power of the Government should be reduced to the minimum possible. After all, the Central Government does not always mean the Prime Minister of India or the hon. Minister in charge or his Secretary. In most of the cases, the opinion of an ordinary official sitting in the Central Secretariat becomes the opinion of the Central Government. Therefore, this House should be particularly cautious and careful about the powers that are delegated to the Government under the rule making powers. The Coal Mines Safety Stowing Act of 1939 which this Bill seeks to replace has also provisions for two statutory bodies, whose functions are more or less identical with the corresponding bodies provided in this Bill. The Coal Mines Safety Stowing Act was passed in the year 1939 during the British regime. But, even then, when the executive was far more powerful than the legislature, the Government did not ask for such sweeping powers, so far as the composition of these statutory bodies are concerned. We find in that Act of 1939 the details of composition of this Board and the Enquiry Committee, etc. are given. It is really amazing how the Government dares to come before this House with a proposal like this. I must submit that this lust for power on the part of the Government is not at all a very healthy one.

I thank you, Sir, for this opportunity given to me.

Shri A. C. Guha: One word, Sir. I am very thankful that the hon. Minister has accepted the position that this fund will form part of the consolidated Fund of India and will

be auditable by the Auditor-General. I have nothing more to say except this. The excise duty has been raised from three annas to one rupee in the course of one year. I hope Government will use this power with caution so that the goose that lays the golden egg may not be killed.

Shri Buragohain: Much of what my hon. friend Dr. Das said does not seem to be relevant at this stage because the whole Bill was before the House and it has also been accepted at an earlier stage and now only minor amendments have been passed. At this stage, I think he should not have made reference to all this which he has done. There is only one more point which he made about which I should like to say a word or two. Regarding the draft rules, it is the intention of the Government that the draft rules will be circulated to elicit public opinion, particularly the opinion of the interests affected, and only after consulting the various interests, will the rules be finalised by the Government. Besides, provision has also been made that these rules when they are finalised will be laid on the Table of the House. With these words, Sir, I commend the motion for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The House will now adjourn till 9.30 tomorrow.

The House then adjourned till Half Past Nine of the Clock on Tuesday, the 19th February, 1952.