



सत्यमेव जयते

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

VOLUME XVI, 1951

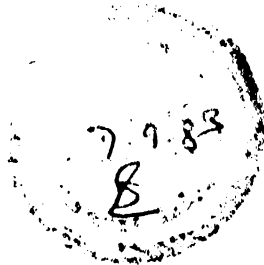
(24th September, 1951 to 16th October, 1951)

Fourth Session

of the

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA

1951



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CORRIGENDA

to

the Parliamentary Debates (Part II—Other than Questions and Answers),
Fourth Session 1951.

Volume XVI,—

1. No. 1, dated the 24th September, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3193, line 10 for "Act, 1151" read "Act, 1951"

2. No. 2, dated the 25th September, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3260, line 18 for "set" read "sat".

3. No. 3, dated the 26th September, 1951,—

(i) صحیحہ ۳۳۱۵ پہلی لائن میں "دے مونا آزاد" کی جگہ "دے مولانا آزاد" لکھی جائیں

(ii) भाग ३४१६, पंक्ति १३ में "सायलें" के स्थान पर "आगत" पढ़ें ।

4. No. 4, dated the 27th September, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3902, line 19 from bottom for "rent for occupation of houses" read
SHORT NOTICE QUESTION".

(ii) भाग ३४९०, पंक्ति १३ में "ट्रस प्रांक्मेटी" के स्थान पर "ग्रान्ट्स कमेटी" पढ़ें

5. No. 6, dated the 29th September, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3902, line 19 from bottom for "rent for occupation of houses" read
"damages for the occupation".

No. 7, dated the 1st October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 3952, line 16 omit "a".

7. No. 8, dated the 3rd October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4074, for existing line 19 read "it has been made out that pre-censor-";
after existing line 40 insert "permanent period to the hands of the"
and delete line 43.

8. No. 9, dated the 4th October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4153 last line, for "L.P.C." read "I.P.C."

(ii) Col. 4188, for existing line 18 from bottom read "cular case by that
experience and I".

9. No. 10, dated the 5th October, 1951,—

(i) भाग ४२८७, अन्तिम पंक्ति में "बेस्त्रियम" को "बेस्त्रियम" पढ़ें ।

(ii) Col. 4346, line 4 from bottom after "years" insert "ago".

10. No. 11, dated the 6th October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4418, line 26 for "stituted" read "substituted".

(ii) Col. 4460 after line 27 insert "ages etc."

(iii) Col. 4523, line 19 from bottom for "Cognizillibity" read "Cognizability"

(iv) Col. 4524, line 11 for "Cognizillbity" read "Cognizability".

No. 12, dated the 11th October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4694, for existing lines 7-9 read "given to Shri Achru Ram's case...
Shri Kamath: I am sorry it is a very ignorant imputation....."

(ii) Col. 4721 for existing line 35 read "number of tractors to be produced"

12. No. 13, dated the 12th October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4743 after line 5 insert "(No Questions—Part I not Published)" as 1 line.

(ii) Col. 4844 in line 32 for "Khwaja Inait Ullah: May I point" read "Shri Jhumjhumwala. I just want".

13. No. 14, dated the 15th October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 4913, line 13 from bottom for "(Sidhva)" read "(Shri Sidhva)".

(ii) भाग ४९५६, पंक्ति १२ में "पीछे" के स्थान पर "पीते" पढ़ें।

(iii) Col. 4984 for existing lines 10 and 11 from bottom read "A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as and for being".

14. No. 15, dated the 16th October, 1951,—

(i) Col. 5093, for existing line 34 read "for the industrial development of our country".

(ii) Col. 5128 in line 5 from bottom after "to" insert "give to".

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

3751

PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
Saturday, 29th September, 1951

The House met at Nine of the Clock.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(No Questions: Part I not published)

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

- I. SAMSDAD (COURT) OF VISHVA-BHARATI
II. INDIAN CENTRAL TOBACCO COMMITTEE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that upto the time fixed for receiving nominations for Samsad (Court) of Vishva-Bharati and the Indian Central Tobacco Committee, two nominations in the case of the first and one in the case of the second were received. As the number of candidates is equal to the number of vacancies in each of these Committees, I declare the following Members to be duly elected:

I. *Samsad (Court) of Vishva-Bharati.*—Shri Dev Kanta Borooah and Rev. Jerome D'Souza.

II. *Indian Central Tobacco Committee.*—Shri Shaik Galib.

PLANTATIONS LABOUR BILL

PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT
COMMITTEE

Shri Shiva Rao (Madras): I beg to present the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to provide for the welfare of labour, and to regulate the conditions of work, in plantations.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS FOR 1951-52—PUNJAB
STATE

DEMAND No. 1—AGRICULTURE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,14,800 be granted
358 PSD

3752

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 March, 1952, in respect of ‘Agriculture’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 2.—CIVIL WORKS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,38,020 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 March, 1952, in respect of ‘Civil Works’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND No. 3—ADVANCES NOT BEARING
INTEREST—ADVANCES REPAYABLE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 70,000 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 March, 1952, in respect of ‘Advances not bearing interest—Advances repayable’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS FOR 1951-52—RAILWAYS

DEMAND No. 2—AUDIT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 58,000 be granted

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Audit'."

Shri A. C. Guha (West Bengal): Sir, before they are moved, I would like to say something about the way the papers have been sent to us.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes, the hon. Member can do so, after the motions have been placed before the House.

DEMAND No. 4—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 49,30,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Administration'."

DEMAND No. 5—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,37,13,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Repairs and Maintenance'."

DEMAND No. 6—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—OPERATING STAFF

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,04,42,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operating Staff'."

DEMAND No. 8—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—OPERATION OTHER THAN STAFF AND FUEL

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 13,73,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working

Expenses—Operation other than Staff and Fuel'."

DEMAND No. 9—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 99,54,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Miscellaneous Expenses'."

DEMAND No. 9A—ORDINARY WORKING EXPENSES—LABOUR WELFARE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,52,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Labour Welfare'."

DEMAND No. 16—OPEN LINE WORKS—ADDITIONS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,21,25,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Open Line Works—Additions'."

DEMAND No. 17—OPEN LINE WORKS—REPLACEMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 28,75,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Open Line Works—Replacements'."

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopalaswami): I wish to apologise to the House for the lateness with which this information has been placed in the hands of hon. Members. As a matter of fact, it was expected that these Supplementary Demands might be taken up next week and we had to call a meeting of the Railway Standing Finance Committee which was fixed for yesterday and we could issue these things only after that Committee had met. We did circulate

as much information as was possible at the earliest possible moment. I hope the House will excuse this lateness.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The motions are now open for discussion. In this connection, I may say that in such cases of Supplementary Demands, the hon. Minister in charge may give the House some information as to what was the original budget provision and what grants were made from time to time and why the necessity for the Supplementary Demands has come.

Sardar Hukam Singh (Punjab): Sir, such information was more necessary in the case of the Supplementary Demands connected with the Punjab State, for we know almost nothing about the matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is over now; no hon. Member raised the point.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): The Punjab will have a full go during the Budget discussions next year.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would like it to be a convention for the hon. Minister concerned to give such information to the House, showing the necessity for the Supplementary Demands. No doubt some of these things are given in the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee. But some information in a general manner should be given here, for not only we in the House, but also others, the country at large, should know how the original amounts were exceeded. Some such introductory remarks may also be made by the hon. Minister.

Shri Gopaldaswami: I can give certain amount of information so far as the Supplementary Demands for Railways are concerned.

The main item of increased expenditure is attributable to the Rs. five increase in dearness allowance which was sanctioned a few weeks ago. This will benefit staff to the number of about six lakhs and 32 thousand. This was given effect to from the 1st June 1951. Its effect on this year's budget is therefore to the extent of only ten months. The total annual liability due to this increase in dearness allowance will work out at about Rs. 3.16 crores and the provision asked for this year is Rs. 3.16 crores which is only for ten months. If we have to take a full year into account, it will be Rs. 3.8 crores and that will of course be provided for in the next year's budget,

assuming that this Rs. five increase continues.

This increase has been necessitated by the fact that the prices have risen. There is also another item which has to be taken into account in estimating this increased expenditure and that is what is usually called the loss on grain shops. I know that certain hon. Members do not like this particular expression "loss on grain shops". It is really a subsidy given in favour of workers who have not opted for the cash allowance but continue under the grain shop concessions. They get certain commodities supplied to them from the grain shops at a price which was fixed. I think, somewhere about 1943 plus about 20 per cent, according to the Grainshop Committee report. They get the commodities at that price but the commodities themselves have to be bought at higher prices by the Railways and the difference between the two prices is given in the shape of a subsidy, which in the accounts now goes under the description of loss on grain shops.

Shri A. C. Guha: What would be the total amount of this year's loss on grain shops?

Shri Gopaldaswami: Ninety-eight lakhs is the additional provision.

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the total loss this year?

Shri Gopaldaswami: If you add about another two lakhs increase in regard to the grain shops on account of dearness allowance made to the employees the total will come to a crore additional provision.

As a matter of fact we hope to be able to cover the increase in cash dearness allowance by what we hope to realise by way of increased earnings in the current year, increase as compared with the budget estimates. That is expected to be of the order of four crores. The rest of the Supplementary Demands are under capital heads.....

Shri A. C. Guha: What is the increase in earnings?

Shri Gopaldaswami: About four crores.

Shri A. C. Guha: Which means that the supplementary budget will exceed the increase.

Shri Gopaldaswami: 3.16 plus .98 crores come to 4.14 crores. The increased expenditure is slightly more than what we hope to get by way of increased earnings.

[Shri Gopalaswami]

The rest of the Supplementary Demands fall under capital grants. First, there are a number of additional works under Open Line Works, which are estimated to be of the order of 4.21 crores and replacements come to 2.9 crores making a total of 4.5 crores. The main item under this is the acceleration of the construction of the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works which accounts for 94 lakhs. We are accelerating the work on this project in order to get it completed, if possible, before the end of the current financial year. That will enable us to dispense with a large portion of the construction staff before the end of the year, which will enable us to save something like Rs. six lakhs in the coming year, if we had to continue the staff after the 1st April 1952.

We propose to make an additional investment on the road services on the B.B. & C.I. in the Bombay State. That will amount to 23 lakhs. As hon. Members know we have a financial interest in the Bombay State Transport service and the management of that service, which is really under the control of the Bombay Government, propose to invest additional amounts in improving the equipment for the service. Because they themselves have not had all the funds necessary for the purpose they applied to us for an increase in the investment which we have already made in that service. We propose to put in 23 lakhs. Then 124 lakhs account for throw-forward expenditure from 1950-51 on account of multiple unit stock, which had been provided for the Bombay railway suburban service. These vehicles were expected last year but did not arrive. The amount provided for it had to be left unspent and as they arrive this year the amount has to be paid.

Then additional funds are required for track materials such as cast iron sleepers, steel sleepers, rails, and fastenings which account for 2.09 crores. All these items make the total of 4.50 crores.

That is about all that I have to say about the main items.

Shri Massey (West Bengal): I want to know what is meant by "offloading of items by workshops" under Demand No. 9. The Standing Finance Committee have approved an item which reads: "Offloading of items by workshops on some of the railways which

now have to be procured from the market through D.G. (S & D)".

Shri Gopalaswami: I cannot find it here.

Shri Massey: It is at page 6 of the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways, Demand No. 9.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is under Demands Nos. 16 and 17, page 6, vol. 28, part 3 of the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways, paragraph 2, item (2).

Shri Gopalaswami: I will get the information.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): On page 3 of the same report, regarding the Rs. 209 lakhs to which the hon. Minister referred, being additional funds required for track materials, steel sleepers, rails and fastenings, may I know whether this amount includes any stores also? We know the position of the stores according to the Stores Committee report. I therefore want to know if stores also are included in this and, if so, what is the amount for stores. Or, does this refer purely to sleepers?

The Minister of State for Transport and Railways (Shri Santhanam): It refers only to sleepers. There is nothing there about stores.

Shri Amolakh Chand (Uttar Pradesh): May I inquire of the hon. Minister if out of this Rs. ten lakhs they have made any arrangement for the installation of water taps in the Janta Expresses for bathing purposes?

Shri Santhanam: In all coaches there are water taps. It is not possible to arrange for a bath in a third-class or even in a second-class compartment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In some places, in South India particularly, there is no water available even for engines.

Shri Bharati (Madras): Not now, some time back.

Shri Santhanam: In the B.B. & C.I. sections also there has been great difficulty in supplying water for locomotives. In any case it is not a practical proposition to provide bathing facilities in third-class.

Shri Amolakh Chand: What I wanted to inquire was not about providing bathing facilities but whether

Government could put a pipe at a height, connected to the same tap, which may be used for bathing.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: An extra tap means extra water.

Shri Amolakh Chaud: But the water is already there.

Shri Santhanam: It will be exhausted before two stations are passed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members know the scope of discussion on Supplementary Demands: it is not a general one of policy, except in relation to items which were not before the House at the time the Budget was framed. Any new services which were started after the Budget, any excess amount spent, and anything by way of economy, these are the only three items on which discussion could proceed.

Shri Shiva Rao (Madras): What is the procedure you propose to follow, Sir? Are you going to put Demand by Demand to the House and invite discussion on each Demand as you go along?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are nine Demands and I find from the Order Paper that cut motions have been tabled only with respect to Demands Nos. 4 and 16, and even they are few. First I will allow discussion: whichever Member wants to emphasise a point let him do so. All the cut motions will be before the House and ultimately I shall put them to vote together. Discussion may proceed now; it will be restricted to new services, excess expenditure and matters of economy so far as the Budget expenditure of this year is concerned.

Shri Rathnaswamy (Madras): There is a cut motion of mine.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am advised that the cut motions are all out of order because they all relate to policy.

Shri Rathnaswamy: There is a cut motion of mine to Demand No. 9.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not find any here.

Shri Rathnaswamy: I sent notice this morning.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It will not be recognised.

Shri Santhanam: Before the hon. Member, Mr. Guha proceeds with his speech, may I, Sir, answer Mr. Massey's question? Offloading of workshops means that some of the articles manufactured in the workshops are being taken off and passed on to the industries. When they are manufactured in the workshops they go into the appropriate item of stores and expenses of the workshops, but when it is handed over to the industry you have to get into a separate contract for them and increased expenditure results. That is the meaning of "off-loading" from the workshops.

Shri A. C. Guha: The hon. Minister has practically forestalled me in the point which I first wanted to raise. Yet, I would like to refer to one other point, a thing which has almost become a practice. You may remember, Sir, that last year also a point was made about this: papers regarding the Supplementary Budget were supplied too late, and the Standing Finance Committee's report was printed even before the Committee met. This year also that has been the case, but the only care which the Ministry has taken is to omit the date-line from the printed book, but otherwise it is obvious, as it was last year, that the book was printed before the Standing Finance Committee for Railways met. As I said, this year they took care to omit the date-line but I think the hon. Minister of Railways will admit that this book was printed before the Standing Finance Committee meeting was held yesterday while we were sitting in this House.

Shri Gopalaswami: May I explain? I admit that the printing of practically the whole of it was ready but only a sentence or two had to be added after the Standing Finance Committee meeting. I do not think that there is anything very wrong in doing that. If the Standing Finance Committee had taken a different decision, no doubt we would not have circulated this thing as it was.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member a member of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways?

Shri A. C. Guha: No Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It was open to them to throw out the Demand, in which case the whole thing would be useless.

Shri Santhanam: When typed matter would have been substituted for the printed matter.

Shri A. C. Guha: My point is that the Treasury Bench should not take everything for granted; they simply take it that the Standing Finance Committee of the House would be too obliging and pass anything and everything.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is rather a strange allegation he is making. When they are sure of their ground, why should they not do so?

Shri A. C. Guha: Last year you may remember that this point was severely criticised in the House and now they have taken care to omit the date line. Anyhow, we received these papers only at seven o'clock this morning and within the time available I have looked through them.

The largest item amounting to Rs. four crores goes to increase in dearness allowance which the Government cannot avoid. Another Rs. four crores goes for capital expenditure. The capital expenditure for Chittaranjan Workshops is quite welcome, so that the whole construction side may be completed early and the recurring expenditure on the construction side may be reduced: It is a national concern of great importance. Thus, while I see that there is not much that can be taken exception to in these two big items, I have my misgivings about Rs. 23 lakhs shown as shares taken in the State Road Transport Corporation of Bombay. It is a state corporation and I do not know why the Central Government should take shares. The share has now been increased from 25 per cent. to 33½ per cent. What is the purpose of this corporation? Has any dividend been paid by it so far? When was it formed? No information has been provided in the papers on these points and I would like to have this information.

As regards the other items of capital expenditure, I do not find anything which would add to the amenities of third-class passengers or even intermediate-class passengers. Then I wish to point out that when we passed the Railway Budget in April last, it was expected that there would be a surplus of Rs. 21 crores—Rs. two crores from the general revenues and Rs. 19 crores from the increase in fares. What is now expected to be the position at the end of this year? I want the hon. Minister to give us an assurance that the surplus will not be reduced by any

Shri Sidhva: It is true that these papers were received at 12 o'clock last night.

Shri A. C. Guha: We received them only this morning.

Shri Sidhva: I am talking of myself. I have gone through the papers and do not find any items which are of a contentious nature. I would however like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one or two items.

As regards dearness allowance to which he made a reference, nearly Rs. four crores have been allotted for this item. Rs. 90 lakhs have been allotted for the grain shops. This indicates that Government are alert to protect the interests of staff who are drawing Rs. 300 and under. It is a disputable point whether this increase of Rs. five is sufficient or not in the face of the present increase in the cost of living, but I would impress on the public that without anybody's interference Government themselves have taken care to see that the railway staff—and not only the railway staff but their other staff—gets this dearness allowance. I congratulate the Government on that. The sum of Rs. ten crores earmarked for grain shops is not a very small item. The Railway staff must remember that only they are given this concession.

I had the good fortune to visit the Chittaranjan Factory two months ago. I must say that I was very much impressed. This factory is our national asset and I am not very much concerned whether the locomotives manufactured there will be cheaper than imported locomotives or not. What I am concerned with is to see that this factory is absolutely up to date and self-sufficient. We should not depend upon foreign countries for any parts that go into the manufacture of locomotives. If this dependence is not terminated, our purpose will not be served. When I visited this factory, I found that boiler tubes were not manufactured there and were not going to be manufactured there. On enquiry from the General Manager, we found that if these tubes were manufactured here, it would cost nearly Rs. ten or twelve crores more. We were also told that there are only a few such factories in the world namely in America, England, Russia and one or two other countries. Even if it is going to cost Rs. twelve crores, I feel that the manufacture of boiler tubes should be done in this factory. After all, it is a national industry and in an emergency we cannot afford to depend

on imports for these boilers. This matter should be considered and a report called for. These personal visits do give us an excellent idea of these things.

Another item to which I wish to draw attention is the Bombay suburban service. The hon. Minister also made a reference to it. I am glad that new electric trains have been imported and experiments are going on in the G.I.P. Railway and probably some more trains will be introduced in Bombay shortly, with the result that lakhs and lakhs of office going people and labourers will derive considerable benefit from this service. Unfortunately, from newspaper reports and letters I have received from members of the travelling public in Bombay recently, I find that due to the failure of the monsoon and shortage of water in the lakes, a portion of this service will be curtailed. I am also told that the old steam train service is likely to be introduced partially or wholly.

Shri Gopaldaswami: It is not so easy.

Shri Sidhva: Yes, it is not so easy. Therefore, I request that under no circumstances should the electric train service be curtailed. This Bombay suburban service is one of the finest services that we have in India. I had occasion to see the underground tube railways in England. While that service carries only 500 passengers at one time, our Bombay suburban service carries nearly 2,500 passengers and during peak hours there is a two to three minute service. So, it is one of the best services. Steps should be taken to see that it does not deteriorate and more and more electric trains are introduced. They are beneficial to office-going people both for Government and the commercial community and this benefit of easy travel should be provided to them.

I am glad that I got an opportunity to refer to this matter here. Otherwise, the notice period for questions is over. This is the best opportunity to ventilate the grievances of the travelling public. If there is going to be any curtailment in the electric train service, it should not fall on this suburban service.

Then, I come to the zonal system. Some of my hon. friends have tabled cut motions on this. I do not know what their intention is. But personally I would like to say that Government have taken a right step in introducing these zones. So far as the Southern

Zone is concerned, it has proved very successful and I am very glad to know from the newspapers that Government are taking steps to see that the zonal system in other areas will be implemented as fast as possible. This is a very great innovation that the hon. the Railway Minister has introduced and I am sure that it will effect not only economy but also greater administrative efficiency. Some hon. Members during the Budget Session severely criticised this system on account of the fact that it is likely to lead to reduction of staff. I can appreciate their view point. But when Government is out to improve efficiency of administration we have to overlook the question of retrenchment. Of course, every effort should be made to absorb the surplus staff in other departments.

I support the Demands that have been presented.

Shri Massey: In the few remarks that I propose to make, I wish to confine myself to the stores policy of the Railways.

At the last Budget session the hon. Minister made a statement in connection with the stores balances. I do not know whether other hon. Members have received a copy of the Report of the Railway Stores Enquiry Committee; apparently my copy has gone astray. One of the points I would refer to is the offloading of workshops. The hon. Minister said that these items would now be manufactured by industry. Many years ago—I do not know whether that practice obtains now—on the Railways the same procedure was adopted. Railway workshops are able to turn out articles much cheaper and much better than private industry, because they have an approved standard.

Shri Santhanam: May I explain to the hon. Member that these orders were for the surplus of certain items needed; not for abandonment of production in the Railway workshops. It is only to the extent of surplus stores necessary.

Shri Massey: If I am told that the Railway workshops are not prohibited from turning out these items and that orders will only be placed when Railway workshops cannot cope with the orders, it is another matter altogether. But my experience has been that people are kept idle, because orders are given to support certain particular industries; then retrenchment takes place. I would not like that to happen when our Railways are

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nationalised. It is very important that something should be done about this.

The other item is stores balance. I am not at all surprised that the stores balances are as bad as they are today. As far back as 1936 I was put on special duty in connection with the reorganisation of stores on a certain Railway. I am not a stores man, but I was put on that job. When we started on this job we organised a system whereby every district on the Railway would send their inspectors to meet once a month so that we could transfer material that was urgently required by districts when a shortage existed. From investigation we found that in many cases engines were held up for repairs and trains cancelled for want of engines, because certain items were not available in that particular district, other districts had a stock which would have lasted them for eight or ten months, or two years and in some cases unlimited stocks which could not be accounted for. A clean sweep was made and stocks were distributed and a large quantity reverted to the Stores Department.

I have not had the time to read the Shroff Committee's Report, but my experience is that the system by which we used to control stores balance and which brought down the stores balance considerably has now been discontinued. No interchange takes place between districts with the result that some districts hold stocks which they do not want while other districts are crying for stores which they cannot get. One of the suggestions of the Shroff Committee was that there should be an interchange of stores between Railways. But unless you first put your stores on each Railway in order, it will be impossible to have this interchange. Experience has also shown that the Stores Department on many Railways was not altogether efficient. The actual stores when it comes down to sheds or to Engineering Departments are taken out of the Stores Department. It has nothing to do with the Stores Department. The Locomotive Department or Engineering Department form a separate department from the Stores. Once the stores are issued from the Stores Department those people hang on to them. They do not know what stores they have got. It is impossible, therefore, for each Railway administration to interchange stores.

Very often stores are maintained by non-stores people, and while the actual

stock of a particular item may be 10,000 numbers the register balance might show nil. That has not happened once, but over and over again. If the system of stores maintenance has to be perfected, the entire system has to be reorganised. I will be glad if some action is taken on it. Practical experience has proved that one of the biggest flaws on our Railways is the system of stores management.

Pandit Kunzru (Uttar Pradesh): I am sure the House is very grateful to the hon. the Railway Minister for having seen to it that we got the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways only this morning. Perhaps we would have been in a better position to do credit to his Ministry for efficiency had we received them only after coming to this House. I hope, Sir, it is a matter that concerns the whole House that in a matter of this kind there should be so much delay in the supply of copies and I appeal to you to look into the matter and see that such things do not occur again.

I should like to refer only to one matter. I am tempted to do it by the remarks made by my hon. friend Shri Sidhva with regard to the zoning of the Railways. My view, I shall not say is opposite to that of his, but is in many respects different. We considered this question of the regrouping of Railways during the Budget session and at that time the hon. the Railway Minister told us that this experiment would be tried only in the Southern Zone. My hon. friend Mr. Sidhva says that this experiment has proved very successful. I do not know what the basis of his information is, but the House as a whole is not aware of it. I think it was made clear by my hon. friend Shri Gopaldaswami Ayyangar during the Railway Budget debate that no further action would be taken in the direction of regrouping. I am not certain of it, because I have had no opportunity of referring to the proceedings of the House. But in any case, as Government are not adhering to the schemes contained in the pamphlets which were circulated to hon. Members, I think it is not merely desirable but necessary that any changes made in respect of regrouping should be considered by this House before they are given effect to. The Railway Minister's proposals may be perfectly sound, but in view of the importance of the matter and the discussion that took place during the last session I think it is incumbent on Government not to take any further

action in this direction before placing their revised views before the House for its consideration.

Perhaps I may refer also to the report of the Shroff Committee which my hon. friend the Minister of State for Railways has been good enough to provide me with. When the Railway Enquiry Committee was doing its work we became aware of the fact that the stores with the Railways, generally speaking, were far in excess of their demands during any reasonable time. I am glad that the Government appointed the Shroff Committee to consider this matter. My hon. friend Mr. Massey dwelt on an aspect of this problem which requires the attention of the Ministry and the House. Twentyfive years ago the Rainy Committee reported such irregularities as have been mentioned by the hon. Member Mr. Massey. There is no doubt that the Engineering and the Locomotives Department, that is the running sheds and so on, once they have drawn their stores are not accountable to the Stores Department for their use, which means that the conditions which prevailed twentyfive years ago have not changed materially. It is necessary that this matter should be looked into. We should not grudge the supply of stores to the departments mentioned by me because they are of the utmost importance. The efficient running of the Railways depends on their proper working. But I trust that the Railway Ministry, who have shown their desire in no unmistakable terms to reduce the stores with the Railways and the capital locked up in them, will look into this matter also so that the maximum efficiency may be attained.

Shri Rathnaswamy: It is a long-standing demand of the people of Madras to extend the electric train service from Tambaram to Chingleput. The hon. Minister is well aware of the fact that the Madras City is overcrowded and the floating population of the city at present is to the tune of 18 lakhs. There is also a great housing problem that has arisen in Madras city, and all these considerations, I submit, should prevail upon the Government to extend the electric train service from Tambaram to Chingleput. I need not say that this will go a long way in helping the small traders and the small businessmen who have got to go frequently to Madras city in connection with their trade or business. Therefore, I should like to make a request to the hon. Minister to take

early steps to implement the promise given in this connection and see that facilities are afforded to the people of Madras city as well as to the people in the suburban areas.

I should also like to make a request to the hon. Minister as regards the extension of railway service from Tirunelveli to Cape Comorin via Nagercoil. It is hardly necessary for me to dilate much upon this question as it is well known that this Cape Comorin has become a centre of international attraction. Many people from foreign countries come and visit this place, but for want of railway facilities they are put to considerable inconvenience. Moreover if this railway connection is expedited it will also add to the facilities of the commercial community both in Tirunelveli and also of the people of Nagercoil and the areas in the Travancore-Cochin State.

Another matter to which I would like to draw the kind attention of the hon. Minister is about the very meagre and inadequate representation of Scheduled Castes in the various departments of the Railways. I put a question sometime back to the hon. Minister in regard to the representation of the Scheduled Castes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does any item relate to Scheduled Castes in this?

Shri Rathnaswamy: I should like to speak on 'Administration'.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: On a Supplementary Demand we are not discussing the whole policy.

Shri Rathnaswamy: Just a word I would like to say. To that question the hon. Minister has given a statement wherein it is shown that not even one member of the Scheduled Castes has been appointed for class I service, and I am sorry to find that even in respect of class II service there is very meagre representation of Scheduled Castes, although I find that a number of applications, for instance extending over 312 applications, for ticket collectors' appointments, have been submitted by the members of the Scheduled Castes. Even in respect of junior clerks and train conductors as many as 300 applications have been submitted by the members of the Scheduled Castes. Still it is deplorable to find that such meagre representation has been given to the Scheduled

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Castes in these services. I therefore respectfully submit to the hon. Minister to set up a Committee to enquire into the reasons why adequate representation to the Scheduled Castes has not been given in the various services in spite of the fact that an appreciable number of applications have been submitted to the Department. Another thing to which I should like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister is that if the Government insists upon a qualification like a degree for certain appointments for which I feel a degree is not necessary

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Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are not going into a general discussion of Scheduled Castes representation in the Railways. That is the general policy.

Shri Rathnaswamy: I will finish now, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member will kindly address himself to the Demands here.

Shri Rathnaswamy: That is the Demand of "Administration".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Everything will come under "Administration". This relates to additional expenditure so far as "Administration" is concerned. It does not mean that if Scheduled Castes people are appointed, there will be less expenditure.

Shri Rathnaswamy: I shall then turn my attention to the labour welfare question. It is very gratifying to find that the Government has come forward with a very great and laudable scheme for improving the condition of the labourers. It is all very well to have paper schemes but my only regret is that Government does not act quickly and sincerely enough to implement the schemes. This is what I invariably find in many aspects of our administration. I, therefore, respectfully submit to the hon. Minister to see that it is not enough to have paper schemes which are laudable but it all depends upon the sincerity and the speed with which Government would be in a position to push forward the implementation of these schemes.

A word about regrouping of Railways and I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Government for bringing into being

the regrouping of M.S.M., S.I. and Mysore Railways. I now find that in regard to the regrouping of other Railways, other than the Southern Railways, there is a lot of opposition, for instance, from the workers in the Nizam State Railway. One great difficulty experienced by the workers working in the various departments of the Railways is that workers working in Mysore, for instance may be asked to go to Madras and vice versa. I would only request the hon. Minister to see that as far as possible the people of Madras State may be transferred in that particular state and people working in other States like Mysore, if they happen to belong to Mysore, may be transferred in the Mysore State, which is their native place. It so happens that sometimes Madrasses are transferred to Mysore and the Mysoreans are transferred to other places in the M.S.M. Railway and this entails considerable inconvenience and hardship to the employees and I would beg of the hon. Minister to issue necessary instructions to the departmental heads to see that those employees are not put to hardship by this kind of transfer.

Shri Frank Anthony (Madhya Pradesh): I do not propose to make a sort of a duplicate of the Railway Budget speech, but it so happened that only yesterday the annual general meeting of the National Union of Railwaymen's Federation concluded, of which I have the privilege of being a President, and I therefore, take this opportunity of making a very few, brief observations, so far as they impinge on financial considerations in our Supplementary Demands, observations underlining the attention of my hon. friend, the Railway Minister for whose sympathy and consideration, I have always had an unlimited regard and respect.

May I underline for his notice that today there is a strong feeling among Railwaymen generally that because either from some sense of false economy or from some other motive, the Railway Administration is committed to a policy of steadily reducing the recognized amenities to Railwaymen. I would make an appeal to the Railway Minister to consider what is now regarded as a legitimate grievance. I am not going to elaborate the point but at this Union meeting it was pointed unequivocally that if an assessment is made over the past three years, it will be found that there has been a progressive reduction in the matter of passes, in the matter of

P.T.Os and in the matter of concession ticket orders. These men feel that those reductions have been made, not essentially on the grounds of economy, but perhaps because the Railway Administration is unjustifiably beating a retreat before bogies raised by other sections of Government servants, because of this provision in our Constitution for equality of opportunity. It is believed that because of this, some departments of Government choose to argue that these concessions, privileges, call them what you like, infringe this fundamental provision in the Constitution but I would draw your attention to this point of view and it is a very real and substantial point of view of the Railwaymen and that is this: Whether you call them privileges or concessions, these so-called privileges and concessions have been there from time immemorial. It can be claimed and claimed without fear of contradiction that the passes, P.T.Os and concessions which have been progressively reduced are more and more restrictions and circumscribing factors. But all these form, so to speak, part of the expressed terms of the contract into which the Railwaymen have entered. I do say this that it does not cost the Railways anything; it is not only an inducement but a source of encouragement to your Railwaymen, who, the hon. Railway Minister himself admits, have done and continue to do an excellent job of work. I would ask if this is part of a policy or merely if it is the result of inadvertence. If it is, I would ask you to put this in reverse gear. Give to the Railwaymen what they were getting in the past. You cannot go back. The Railway Minister cannot go back on the position with regard to the passes. I think that was the result of the acceptance of the recommendations of the Pay Commission but only very recently for no obvious reason the concessions with regard to P.T.Os, concession ticket orders have been reduced. They have put this difference with regard to the amenity to travel higher class. This is another point which I wish to emphasize and this has just occurred to me. My hon. friend, Mr. Santhanam will appreciate this that because of revised conditions which have been imposed in respect of the issue of passes, people who were formerly entitled to second-class passes have now been, I say degraded advisedly, to third-class travelling and they get third-class passes. I say that it does not strain either the sense of liberality of the Railways or it does not in any way impinge on the efficiency of the Railways if these men

who have been permitted for years to travel second-class, if you degraded them to third-class travelling, if you permit their wives and their daughters to make use of their third-class passes to travel Inter by paying the difference.

Then, the next point is this. It does, I feel, affect the question of efficiency and through efficiency the question of expenditure. I do not want to take this opportunity of bringing it obtrusively but I just want to say about the general feeling which persists. There is a very strong feeling among all sections of Railwaymen that much can be done to improve by methods of selection and conditions governing your Selection Boards. I know that the Railway Administration will not accept my contention that the Railwaymen, by and large, are dissatisfied with the way in which the Selection Boards are working. I can only state the point of view of the Railwaymen. Since the Selection Boards have come to stay, I will make an earnest appeal to the Railway Administration to introduce conditions which will minimise hardships. After all, we are human beings and so long as we are human beings, we will be fallible and so long as we will be fallible, we will, in spite of our best efforts mentally and otherwise, sometimes succumb to considerations of favouritism. Therefore, the Railwaymen feel that the system which has been introduced on the B.N. Railway is the best system. A point system has been introduced there: so many points have been allotted for seniority, so many points for record, so many points for education and so many points for pure selection. The Railwaymen feel that that is the best formula that has been so far evolved and that that formula eliminates, as far as we could eliminate, opportunities for favouritism. I would appeal to my hon. friend the Minister to see that this system which has already been introduced on the B.N. Railway is introduced uniformly throughout all the Railways.

My next point is in respect of a very real and an urgent grievance. I have spoken to the hon. Minister about that. Today—I do not know whether the Administration is aware of this—there is a deep sense of grievance about the repercussions of the introduction of the fifty-four-hour week. I know the Administration will say that this fifty-four-hour week is of our own making, that the Railwaymen agitated for reduced hours of work

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and it is because of this agitation and persistent representations from this Union that the fifty-four-hour week was introduced. I stated that it is at the instance of the Railway workers that they were given reduced hours of working; I say that it is salutary and advisable to introduce a fifty-four-hour week. But, in the best regulated administration, however salutary the reforms may be, they lead to, and here it has led to certain anomalies and certain hardships. I would be in a position, if I wanted to take the time of the House, to give to this House the specific grievances and loss of emoluments incurred by senior drivers. I can say this categorically that the senior drivers, for instance, in the G.I.P. Railway.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When was this fifty-four-hour week introduced?

Shri Frank Anthony: Fairly recently.

Shri Santhanam: Two years ago.

Shri R. Velayudhan (Tranvancore-Cochin): Before the last Budget.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it is a point of policy, it ought to be discussed at the time of the Budget. If after the Budget was introduced and passed, new items of policy have been enunciated with respect to which there has been no opportunity to discuss except in a Supplementary Demand, the hon. Member can raise there. The hon. Member will kindly bear that in mind.

Shri Frank Anthony: I do not wish to labour this point. My impression is that the adverse effects of the fifty-four-hour week are just beginning to be felt. Representations have been made to me only within the last two months. I have had men coming *en masse* saying that they have been left no alternative but to offer their resignation to the Railway Administration. Does the Railway Administration want mass resignation of these Mail drivers? I do not believe that they want it. My hon. friend Mr. Santhanam gave me an assurance that it is a part of the implied policy of the Railways to see that the running staff particularly do not lose as a result of reforms. That is what I earnestly plead with the Railway Administration to do. These men were receiving certain average emoluments; as a result of the introduction of the fifty-four-hour week those emoluments have

been reduced to the extent of anything between Rs. 150 and 200 a month. I ask you to look into this matter and relieve this very real grievance. May I make one suggestion as to how it could be done? It has been suggested that if the Railways will modify the system of exactions which will make available to the senior drivers the emoluments which they were drawing before the introduction of this system, those modifications will lead immediately to the redress of a very difficult situation, a situation which has caused a very great deal of misunderstanding.

There is then this question of housing. I was going to refer to the question of indefinite periods of officiating. But, it is a sort of a problem which has become almost chronic and endemic in the Railways that the Railways still consider it fair to keep men officiating for periods ranging from one to 15 years. This is very peculiar to the Railways. Perhaps the Railways do this in order to get the service of the men without paying them what they would be normally paid in other departments of Government. I would ask the hon. Railway Minister to look into this matter. Where permanent vacancies exist, what is the point in insisting that men should officiate for periods of 11 and 15 years? This is an unheard of thing. It is something which civilised society does not permit; certainly not any normal Government working in our country.

With regard to the type of houses that are being built for class IV staff, it has been brought to my notice.....

Shri Gopalaswami: I do not want to interrupt the very interesting speech of my hon. friend Mr. Anthony. But, I think he is covering practically the whole ground that might be covered in a Budget speech.

Shri Frank Anthony: I am finishing in four minutes. I am only dealing with that question; I am not using this opportunity gratuitously.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I find on page 7 of the Memo. of the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways, a note for the Standing Finance Committee for Railways on the type of quarters being built for non-gazetted staff. If he wants to deal with that, there is no objection.

Shri Frank Anthony: As a lawyer, Sir, I have not completely abandoned my sense of relevancy.

It has been brought to my notice by Railwaymen that the Railways have, for some reason, changed their plans in respect of the type of quarters that they had intended to build for class IV staff. The Railwaymen in the Southern Railways have been particularly bitter and resentful about the new type of quarters. One of the Railwaymen in this Union of mine, moved a motion that instead of houses which the Railways had originally planned to build for class IV staff, they had now decided to build hovels for class IV staff. I asked him to qualify and soften his resolution. But, the content of it is there. I believe originally the Railways had planned a building which would give to Railwaymen livable conditions: two fairly decent rooms, a kitchen and a courtyard. Now, I believe the dimensions of both the rooms have been so reduced—I do not know what the reason is; may be, again, a false sense of economy—that a reasonably built man if he stretched both his arms, he could literally touch both the walls. I beg to tell the Railway Minister that this is false economy *par excellence* because it will create bitterness among the Railwaymen and ultimately after four years, it will be found that these quarters are not fit for human habitation. What is the reason for changing the original plan and the original dimensions of the houses which the Railways had intended to build for their class IV staff?

I do not wish, in any way, to create a wrong impression with regard to the re-grouping scheme. I had certain convictions with regard to this scheme. Quite frankly, no reasons have been adduced to make me change those convictions in any way. I admit that so far as the Southern Railways are concerned, re-grouping may be effective.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there any Demand relating to re-grouping?

Shri Frank Anthony: My friends have taken this opportunity to gratuitously give certificates to the Government. Mr. Sidhva has given certificate to the Government; My hon. friend Pandit Kunzru.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may take up another matter which is relevant. Let us not go into re-grouping now.

Shri Frank Anthony: In spite of my advice, the Railway Administration is committed to a policy of re-grouping.

I sincerely hope that, in the interests of the Railways themselves, regrouping will be a success. Nobody would like to see a radical scheme like this to come down in chaos and disorganisation. But I would plead once again with the Railway Administration to go slowly, very slowly with this scheme.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Why, why?

Shri Frank Anthony: I will explain.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not necessary. The whole matter is not relevant. Let the hon. Member not be diverted.

Shri Frank Anthony: My friends are goading me to answer.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's speech is very interesting. But this is not relevant at this stage.

Shri Frank Anthony: I am trying to keep it within reasonable limits, Sir.

I only wanted to make this observation. I do not want my friend Mr. Sidhva to enthuse over or be carried away by the seeming success of the scheme with regard to the Southern Railways. I have always maintained that the conditions in the Southern Railways are very different from the conditions which surround our railways in other zones. In the South we have contiguous areas, certain physical symmetry, a certain degree of homogeneity, and these conditions have probably helped to make regrouping a less difficult organisational task in the South. My own feeling is—and I have discussed the subject with senior railway officers and continue to discuss it with them, and they have very grave doubts—that if this arrangement is introduced with any degree of precipitancy, it may well create all kinds of insoluble difficulties. I would request the administration to consider this point.

And then I come to my last point and that is about an appeal I made last time to the sense of chivalry of the Railway Minister. I appealed to his sense of chivalry, but for some reason, may be because he is so busy with other problems, that appeal did not evoke a corresponding response. I had requested him to deal sympathetically with the appeal made by the women teachers in our Railway schools and to treat them on a par with nurses. These teachers.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid we are going into a general discussion.

Shri Frank Anthony: Sir, this is my last point and it is very important.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But the hon. Member will have another opportunity to deal with it. There is the discussion on the General Budget.

Shri Frank Anthony: Sir, just this last point. Interruption now will break the coherency of my speech. As I was saying, I made the appeal, but unfortunately I was not able to evoke a chivalrous response from the hon. Minister who represents an age that is passing, an age where we had the acme of chivalry. I am repeating that appeal in the hope that it will meet with greater response. I request that so far as these teachers are concerned, they may be given the travelling facilities. And there is also this point. I hope that in these Supplementary Demands provision is made for revision of scales of pay of teachers in the Railway schools in the Southern Zone. The Railway Board—I will not mention names—gave the assurance that scales of pay of teachers in the Southern Zone would be revised as they had been revised on the other Railways and the assurance was also given that this revision would take effect from October of last year. But unfortunately this pay revision has not been forthcoming. I would request the hon. Minister, in spite of his many pre-occupations, to see to the revision of pay of these teachers, these under-paid teachers to whom we entrust the moulding of the coming generation.

Shri Santhanam: Does the hon. Member refer to teachers in general in Railway schools or to the teachers in Anglo-Indian schools?

Shri Frank Anthony: To the Anglo-Indian schools.

Prof. Ranga (Madras): I wish to draw the special attention of the hon. Minister to two very important points that find place in the memorandum that was submitted to the Standing Finance Committee and as a result of which these Demands are now placed before the House. We are asked to give our sanction or our approval to a number of Demands which total to more than Rs. three crores for making an *ad hoc* additional allowance of Rs. five to each one of our Railway employees. This bespeaks of bad budgeting and also wrong policy for making Budgets. For a very long time we have been agitating in this House that with regard to this nationalised industry, the

workers engaged in it should be taken into partnership, as it were, by the Government when they make the Budget, and only then come to this House with their demands in regard to the expenditure side of it as also the income side of it. But unfortunately for us that request has not been granted and that policy has not been adopted at all by this Government. Last time during the Railway Budget they proposed increased rates of railway rates and freights as a result of which they were able to get huge additional income. They did not then say how much more they were going to give to their workers in order to satisfy some of their long-felt demands which had remained unsatisfied for a long time. They did not even suggest that they had already taken the workers into their confidence when making these proposals for increased rates and fares and had taken the tacit approval of the workers to these proposals for the enhancement so that they might not be faced with demands from the workers for increased allowances, increased salaries and other privileges. They raised the rates and fares in this *ad hoc* fashion because they wanted more money on account of labour and also because they wanted more money for the general revenues. But soon after they were faced with the demand from the workers and when they were face to face with these demands then suddenly their genius began to work and they thought of giving this Rs. five *ad hoc* allowance, in order to weaken the demands of the workers in various other directions. In that way they wanted to weaken the capacity of the workers to go on strike. But unfortunately the threat of strike is repeatedly given and the Government is not even now free from this threat. It is only kept pending. This is a wrong way of going about the job. They come forward now for this Rs. three crores. Like a great Nawab or Badshah they make a sort of *ad hoc* free grant of this amount, to this man and that man, to all and sundry, whether he deserves it or not. Even those who get Rs. 300 or Rs. 500 are going to get this additional rupees five.

Shri Santhanam: Only those drawing upto Rs. 250 get it.

Prof. Ranga: But why this rupees five? Why not Rs. 7-8 or rupees ten or rupees four? What is the criterion for paying this rupees five to each person? Who advised Government? Was it any workers' organisation that that decided on this amount of rupees five?

Shri Sidhva: Why not Rs. 20.

Prof. Ranga: Yes, why not, if the workers wanted that?

My point is, such things should be decided at the time they make their Budget. The demands and the grievances of the workers were within their knowledge even at that time. My hon. friend Shri Anthony and others have been telling them about these demands, including the last demand in connection with which Shri Anthony tried to appeal to the latent chivalry of the hon. Minister—the case of the women teachers. It was up to them to take all these things into consideration while framing their Budget. They should not come forward in this fashion with Supplementary Demands. What is more, this is not conducive to the efficient running of the Railways because it keeps the workers always in a state of ferment and discontent. They do not feel that when the rates and fares are raised and additional revenues are obtained by the Railways, whether they are going to benefit in any way, whether they will obtain any additional income. After all, how do you get this additional income for the Railways? It is because of the response of the consumers, the third-class passengers and others, the business people and the general public, and also from the cooperation of the Railwaymen, the workers employed in the Railways. You ask the consumers to pay more and more, and at the same time keep them subject to the threat of sabotage and inefficiency, and other such things that are creeping into the Railway Administration. That is why I do strongly feel that Government should give their serious consideration to the general principle that had been placed in this House for a very long time, from these benches to which my hon. friend belonged in those days, namely that workers should be taken into partnership in the management of the Railways. If ever they were to come forward with any such proposal they should also take care to see that the workers are satisfied with it and also become a party to a gentleman's agreement with the general public, namely that once a budget is passed during the course of the year they would not make fresh demands for increase in dearness allowance or enhancement of allowance or privileges, because they had already agreed at the time of making the budget to the proposals therein.....

Shri R. Velayudhan: Is there anywhere in the world a case where the workers share in the management of the Railways?

Prof. Ranga: If you go to England you will find things are very different from what they are here. Did he refer to England?

Shri R. Velayudhan: I am talking of anywhere in the world.

Prof. Ranga: I hope my hon. friend is not opposed to the demand I am making. It may be claimed by my hon. friends in charge of the Ministry that workers may go on making so many demands that for their satisfaction they might have to increase the rates and fares to such an extent that the traffic may not be able to bear it. But it should be possible for them to convince the workers and take them along with them in their stride. They should convince them that so much accommodation is given to their demands and also to the demands of the staff as a whole and that these together will make an additional demand for an increase in rates and fares. That would be accepted by the consumers or the travelling public and could also be reasonably placed before Parliament. Such a thing is feasible and I would like them to examine the practical ways of implementing this principle.

Secondly, what the Ministry says here makes very dangerous reading. It is stated here on page 6 in regard to their demand for additional expenditure of 46.65 lakhs on the G.I.P. Railway for the replacement of rails:

“The percentage of unserviceable sleepers is fairly high. The rails are badly crippled, and their ends are battered and hogged. The rails are also pitted and contain other surface flaws which cause fracture. The maximum speed on the section is 60 m.p.h. but on account of the condition of permanent way a speed restriction of 45 m.p.h. has been imposed.”

This means that the rails should have been removed a long time ago. This also gives a clue to the increasing number of railway accidents. I was coming from Madras a few days ago and I was told that there was a derailment. I made enquiries and they simply said that at some bridge one rail slipped. I do not know the technical side of it. In another case one rail simply broke or split or fractured. I do not know the technical name for it. Quite a number of such accidents are taking place. It is possible that there might not be any loss of life but it is certainly possible that they end in loss of property, loss of time to the

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running trains, loss of income to the Railways and trains are held up due to such accidents.

I would like to know how many other Railways are suffering from the same defect. It is a very serious defect. This has a great bearing on the life and security of the travelling public. Off and on whenever there is a railway accident and when the question is asked whether it was due to sabotage my hon. friend is ready to come up and say "Not quite so but enquiries are being made and the facts will be placed before the House later on". Evidently our rails are in a bad way. On this Railway they were supposed to have been in a bad way at the time of the last Budget and they have discovered it only now. They were hoping against hope that they may last a little longer. They say:

"It was originally proposed to defer this work to 1952-53 but in the interest of safety it is now considered essential that the work should be commenced during the current financial year and completed by December, 1952."

Every one knows in what a notorious condition the third and second class carriages are to be found today. Many of them have outlived their utility and yet they are kept on the line. Fortunately people do not die. So there is some excuse for delaying the replacement. But how can there be any delay in replacing the lines which have already outlived their utility or lifetime? They have themselves said:

"The existing rails between Miles 233.35 and 261.50 where relaying is proposed to be done are 65 years old and the extent of wear is 7 per cent."

Fortunately they did not say how long they were expected to last—50, 60 or 70 years. I am led to believe that they were allowed to last much longer than the life given to them and should have been replaced a long time ago. I would make this suggestion to my hon. friend that he should take the earliest opportunity to appoint someone highly responsible to examine the state of the rails on all our railways, to see whether they are in a healthy condition and if not how soon they should be replaced and what it would cost. They should then put forward their proposals for the acceptance of the House.

I would also like to lend my support to Mr. Anthony in his condemnation of the proposal of the Government to build these very small houses for the class IV staff. They proposed to spend Rs. 3,000 to 3,800 originally and now they propose to spend Rs. 3,150 with walls of hollow concrete blocks. I would like the House to imagine the kind of houses which can be built for Rs. 3,000.

Shri Santhanam: They are standard houses which Mr. Anthony approved.

Shri Frank Anthony: When?

Shri Santhanam: They are Mitra type houses for class IV quarters. He was complaining that these quarters were not built but inferior quarters were being built.

Prof. Ranga: I would leave it to my hon. friends to settle the matter between themselves. So far as I am concerned for Rs. 3,000 to 3,800 all that you can build nowadays is only a hovel.

Shri Santhanam: Has the hon. Member gone to Chittaranjan? Mr. Sidhva has gone there and seen in what kind of quarters our Railway employees are lodged. Let him not talk about things about which he does not know.

Prof. Ranga: Here is the latest evidence from Mr. Anthony hot from the oven. At the conference which he attended the Railway employees got up and said that these are hovels. As far as I can imagine I cannot possibly think of anything better than a hovel, which can be constructed for Rs. 3,000 these days. If these hovels are to the satisfaction of my hon. friend.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members ought not to create dissatisfaction where there is none.

Prof. Ranga: There has been no satisfaction as is evident. My hon. friend Mr. Anthony probably made a mistake in accepting the type but the sweetness of the pudding is in the eating of it. A house is built for Rs. 3,800 and the poor people are expected to live in it not for a few years but all their lifetime, as long as these houses are standing on all fours. So I cannot really understand the satisfaction that the hon. Minister has in regard to this matter. And what is more, because of the housing shortage employees of higher ranks are condemned to live in these houses of lower specifications with the result that even class A employees are expected to live in

them. You have got four classes of people as on the railway trains.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member is talking on a hypothetical proposition. The hon. Member must have a look at these types of houses.

Prof. Ranga: If you want me to read it out I will read it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is one thing to say on paper that nothing can be had for Rs. 3,000 or 4,000—quite another thing to go and see the types of houses built all over. With one breath hon. Members are saying that the dearness allowance has been given, with another breath they say that Rs. 3,000 is not enough, houses of Rs. 30,000 worth should be built for lower classes, and so on. We are oscillating between these two.

Prof. Ranga: First of all, I want to disabuse your mind of one impression which I am afraid has crept in. I was not opposed to the grant of dearness allowance to the Railway employees at all. I am in favour of it and I am certainly glad that it has been given. But the way in which they have done it is not right; it is not conducive either to efficiency or to contentment. They should have taken the workers into their confidence and told them at the beginning, "This is what we can afford, and if we make this concession to you we would have to enhance the rates and to this extent alone we can get the consumers to agree". If that had been done there would have been a better

Shri Sidhva: I doubt.

Prof. Ranga: My hon. friend, Mr. Sidhva is a standing example of eternal discontent, therefore there is nothing wrong in eternal discontent. We also may be wrong as my hon. friend happens to be oftentimes.

The only other point I want to make is this. My hon. friend, Mr. Gopalswami has given us some information about their partnership with the Bombay Government in running the road services there. He has agreed to make an additional contribution as a part of the Central Government's contribution. I have no objection to that. My hon. friend, Mr. Guha was asking whether it is yielding any profit. It is stated on page 3 of the report that it does yield a profit—five per cent. has been paid by the Corporation for 1949-50 and before that three per cent. in

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1948-49. Therefore, we do get a dividend from this money, and I have no objection to the extension of similar services in other States also provided the Central Government takes sufficient steps to see that there is no favouritism, that they assure as good road service to the public as the public is having at present—when there is plenty of competition—even if they cannot improve those conditions.

Shri Sidhva: On a point of information. Mr. Santhanam stated that this dearness allowance of rupees five would be given to staff drawing Rs. 250 and less per month. If you see page 2 of the report it is stated there that it would be given to staff drawing Rs. 300 and below. May I know which figure is correct?

Shri Santhanam: As regards the particular point raised by Mr. Sidhva, the rule is that all those who get Rs. 250 and less will get rupees five. But there are some marginal adjustments going up to Rs. 300 who may get rupees two or three. It is a question of marginal adjustment.

I greatly regret that Prof. Ranga should have ventured to speak without being quite aware of his facts. I think when he actually knows the facts he will greatly regret the wholly undesirable remarks that he made about these 'A' type houses which we are building at Rs. 3,000 to 3,800. The standard of this 'A' type, if it can be provided for all the workers in this country, would raise the level of the people considerably. I may inform him that the Bombay Government under their industrial housing scheme built quarters in many places some of which we have taken, but the Railway Board objected saying that those quarters were not of our type, that they contained less square feet than our own type. I would suggest to him to go and see some of these types. I assure him that because he hears of only Rs. 3,000 to 3,800 he should not condemn them. I wonder how many of his *kisans* whose staunch advocate he is can afford to build such houses at Rs. 3,000 or 3,800. Does he want that our gangmen and others should have houses which not only exceed whatever his average *kisan* can afford but something very much higher? After all, national economy has to be built on some reasonable basis; I do not think he was justified in making those remarks. But when Mr. Anant made his remarks, I thought he was saying that in certain cases because of an emergency some Railways, to a small extent, departed from this type

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and built some quarters on a temporary basis because they had to overtake the arrears and lodge the men. The emergency was so great, we had not the finances and the stores and so we allowed to a very, very small extent some temporary quarters, not of this type,.....

Prof. Ranga: That is exactly what had led me into making those remarks. My hon. friend had made those observations and I had drawn my conclusions from them.

Shri Santhanam: My hon. friend, Mr. Anthony also was not aware of what he was speaking about, and by taking the facts.....

Shri Frank Anthony: On a point of explanation, I think it is regrettable for a Minister to say I was not aware of what I was talking about—I probably know more than the Minister does. What I said was this, that particularly on the Southern Railways the departure from the original plan is leading to the building of hovels. I am not questioning the original plan. I say under the original plan houses were acceptable, but the departure that is being made has led to the building of hovels, particularly in the Southern Railways.

Shri Santhanam: No departure has been made. The standard 'Mitra A type' continues to be our class IV standard. In rare, exceptional cases we allowed them to build some *kutcha* one-room quarters.

Shri Frank Anthony: And where are these *kutcha*, temporary quarters being built? Is it not being done on the Southern Railways?

Shri Santhanam: Not at all. Generally, in the South the same types are built as in all other Railways—they are the standard types. Even in the South wherever standard types are built they are of this type. But probably some complaints might have come to him that owing to a shortage of quarters, in the same quarter two workers are lodged or a higher class staff are lodged in a lower class staff quarter. All that is a result of the difficulty of housing which we are trying to cope with by building nearly 10,000 quarters each year. The Railways constitute one sector of Indian economy in which house-building is progressing every day to a larger extent, but it is humanly impossible for us, owing to the overcrowding in

many of the towns, to provide quarters for all the staff. It is however our ambition and our effort to provide them increasingly and I may assure Mr. Anthony that we have not in any way reduced our type or standard.

Shri Frank Anthony: On a point of information, may I know how many of these inferior type of quarters have been built?

Shri Santhanam: I cannot off-hand give the number, but it is very small—probably one per cent. or two per cent.—not more than that. I was only trying to find some basis for his allegations, and I think that his complaint really is that in the same quarter there are two people and thus even the 'A' type quarter is reduced to a single room. In any case, I would suggest to him that he may also try to personally verify the facts before they are alleged in such an important place as Parliament.

Prof. Ranga spoke about track renewals. I find he has left the House, so I shall not elaborate that point. As a matter of fact, two French engineers went over the whole railway system and they certified that generally speaking our track is in as good a condition as it ought to be maintained. In a big system with nearly 34,000 route miles and more than 40,000 track miles there may be certain sections which may require replacement and our track renewal programme has to be intensified because during the war the track renewals were considerably slowed down. Therefore, there should be no surprise if in a particular place the engineer says that emergency repair is needed. It is not a fact that our track on the whole is being maintained in an unsatisfactory condition. The French engineers who went over our railway system gave it to us in writing that they found the track generally quite up to the standard of other countries.

Shri Sidhva: But these remarks in the report are damaging.

Shri Santhanam: In order to make a case for Supplementary Demands, one has to make out a special case. Otherwise, this should have been anticipated in the Budget. At that time, they did not quite realise it. The track inspection is going on every month and when any permanent way inspector or engineer finds a particular section unsatisfactory he brings it to our notice and we have to make a Supplementary Demand.

Mr. Guha and one or two others wanted an explanation about our investment in the Bombay Road Transport Corporation. For a long time we were very anxious to take as many shares as possible in the Road Transport Corporations because we thought that the Railways by having an influence in the Road Transport Corporations would be able to deal with the road-rail competition in a more effective manner. At that time, the State Corporations were very jealous of our influence and they were refusing to give us much share. Now the position has become the reverse. They are short of capital and they are coming to us and in many cases we are refusing to take more than 20 per cent. or 25 per cent. which is the normal share which has been laid down by our Standing Finance Committee.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know in how many States the Railway Board has made such investment?

Shri Santhanam: We have invested only in five State Road Transport Services. We have also made it a rule that we shall subscribe only to those services which run the transport on the basis of Road Transport Corporations for which we have made legal provision in this Parliament.

So far as the Bombay Road Transport Corporation is concerned, there is no doubt whatsoever that it is one of the best organised corporations and that it is rendering to the people of Bombay a service which they were never getting through private transport services. There is a great demand from all parts of Bombay that this State road transport service should be extended and that is why the State is anxious to expand it and they came to us for some increase in our share of the capital and we have agreed to take 33½ per cent. We got three per cent. dividend in 1948-49 and five per cent. in 1949-50 and we expect that this five per cent., which is the maximum dividend of the corporation, will be maintained so far as our capital is concerned.

Mr. Sidhva suggested that we should make the Chittaranjan Workshops completely self-sufficient. Certainly, that would be a fine thing if we can do it, but no locomotive factory in any part of the world can be cent per cent self-sufficient. We cannot make all the parts. Only we hope to make the Chittaranjan Factory as self-sufficient as most of the advanced locomotive factories in the world can be. He

particularly mentioned about boiler tubes. I have ascertained the position and I understand that if we set up a proper factory for boiler tubes, it will not only be for the consumption of the Chittaranjan Workshop. Chittaranjan Workshop will only consume a very small fraction of the production of such a factory. It will have to be done on a national scale for all other concerns put together and if the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is willing to promote such a factory, we shall be glad to take our due share in it. But till then, as most of the other locomotive factories in the world do, we shall have to get our boiler tubes from those who specialise in their manufacture. For boiler tube is a specialised manufacture which requires a great deal of capital and skill. I share with Mr. Sidhva his hope that in this country we may in due course establish a factory for boiler tubes and when such a proposal is forthcoming the Railways will be very glad to take their due part in it.

Mr. Massey made a point about the manufacture of spare parts in our workshops. I can assure him that it is our policy to manufacture as many parts as possible in our workshops and in fact we are arranging for a special examination of our workshop equipment to find out ways in which the manufacture of spare parts can be increased. Therefore, it is only to the extent that we cannot produce any spare parts in our factories that we propose to go in for the market.

About the suburban service to which Mr. Sidhva made a reference, I agree with him that it would be a great pity if owing to the failure of electric supply we have to reduce our suburban service. Even as it is, the suburban services are very crowded and only a few weeks ago we introduced increased suburban services with the new multiple stock which we got from abroad. But, unfortunately, Dr. Jivraj Mehta telephoned to me two days ago saying that the position in Bombay had become critical and that even Railway requirements would have to be cut down to some extent. I appealed to him with all the earnestness at my command that he should spare the suburban Railway which is awfully strained even now.

Shri Sidhva: It will upset the whole thing.

Shri Santhanam: That is what I told him. But he said that their position was so desperate that we too should help and we have instructed

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our General Manager of the G.I.P. to discuss the matter with him and see that if at all any curtailment is necessary the curtailment is kept to the absolute minimum extent. That is the utmost that I can do. I fully share with Mr. Sidhva the desire to maintain the suburban Railway as it is and even increase the services, but it is a matter of physical necessity before which there seems to be no alternative.

Shri Sidhva: May I know when the new thermal station in Kalyan which the Railways are starting will be completed?

Shri Santhanam: The power station is there. It is working and it is producing about 90 per cent. of the electricity which the Railways are consuming and we have programmed to increase it so that by some time next year the Railways will become self-sufficient so far as power supply is concerned.

Shri Massey: What are his views regarding the stores balances?

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Shri Santhanam: Hon. Members have got the Stores Committee Report and I may inform them that we had not left a single day between the receipt of the Report and our action thereon. We have set up a separate organisation in the Railway Board to carry out every single recommendation of the Stores Committee. Every item of each Railway is being scrutinised as to its adequacy and everything surplus is turned over to the other Railways where there may be shortage. If there is any considerable surplus, then we have made arrangements to sell those items even in the open market. Therefore, we are taking all possible steps to reduce the stores balance to the absolute minimum. It should, however, not be imagined from the Report of the Railway Stores Committee that there is a surplus in every item of stores. It will be a grievous mistake to make. There may be surplus in certain items; there may be just the quantity required in certain others; there may be deficiencies in vital items like spare parts of locomotives, etc. Therefore, our purchase of stores cannot be stopped simply because there are surplus quantities in certain items. We are taking all possible steps to reduce items to the quantities necessary and to dispose of the surplus in the most profitable manner.

Shri Massey: Items of stores are held not only by the Stores Department, but by other departments also. I take it care will be taken to bring them into one account.

Shri Santhanam: We are fully aware of the point made by Mr. Massey that the Stores organisation in each Railway was not all-comprehensive and therefore many stores were not brought into proper accounts. We are taking steps to bring all of them into proper account and to coordinate the accounts at the Centre so that there will not be any surplus stores which are not in the accounts of the Controller of Stores. We are trying to see that up-to-date information regarding stocks held in every individual unit are properly brought into account, at the central accounts of each Railway and the whole thing coordinated at the Railway Board level. We shall again examine the point made by Mr. Massey and see what more we should do in the matter.

Shri Massey: Accounts will have to be maintained of the stores balances of the entire Railway.

Shri Santhanam: That is exactly our objective.

Pandit Kunzru again reiterated his warning about regrouping. We gave an undertaking that we shall go stage by stage and see that every stage is put into working order before we proceed to the next stage. As the House knows, the Southern Zone was inaugurated in April and we have allowed full time to see that it is consolidated. So far as I know, no sort of complaint has reached us and the fact that the Supplementary Demands do not contain any item of supplementary expenditure on this account shows that so far as the financial aspect is concerned, this regrouping has not been a burden and the next Budget will show what economies we have been able to effect.

So far as the next stages are concerned, I can assure the House and Pandit Kunzru that we shall not take any hasty steps. But there are some steps which have to be taken. For instance, the next zone which will be considered by the Central Advisory Council for Railways will consist of those Railways which cannot continue by any standard whatsoever as separate entities. We are going to confine ourselves to amalgamating such smaller Railways into the existing bigger systems without dislocating the existing bigger systems. We are not going to establish any new headquarters or transfer staff. We are

trying to bring about reorganisation in a way which will not cause either undue capital expenditure or undue dislocation of staff and each of these proposals will be scrutinised by the Central Advisory Council for Railways. Only when we get its approval efforts will be made to implement them.

Pandit Kunzru: May I ask my hon. friend whether it is the intention of Government to give effect to any revised scheme for the regrouping of Railways before fully informing this House of the character of the new scheme?

Shri Santhanam: The general principles of the new scheme have been placed before the House. Each administrative detail cannot in the nature of things be discussed in this House. So far as regrouping is concerned, it will be based on the general principles which have been discussed here. Whether a particular small Railway should be amalgamated with this or that is only an administrative detail which I do not think this House can discuss at any stage. Of course, I shall be very glad to send our proposals to the hon. Member as well as any other Member of this House, besides the Members of the Central Advisory Council, who want to look at them and who want to send us their opinions. All their suggestions will be carefully considered by us.

I will not take much more time of the House, but I should like to say a word or two about my hon. friend Mr. Anthony's complaints. He is making the same complaint in the same form in almost every speech which he makes. About the reduction of passes, there has only been a reduction of the P.T.Os.

Shri Frank Anthony: That was what I meant.

Shri Santhanam: This reduction was brought about because of a measure taken by the Government of India as a whole. The Government of India abolished the system of P.T.Os. to their officers and it was considered very unpatriotic and undesirable that Railway servants alone should claim absolute immunity from all economies. Therefore, we reduced the P.T.Os. of Railway servants to half. We did not abolish the P.T.Os. as was done in the other Government departments. This is what Mr. Anthony is complaining about. If the P.T.O. is restored to other Government servants, the original number will be restored

there is an economy campaign on a national scale, I do not think even my hon. friend Mr. Anthony will claim that the Railway workers alone should be exempted from such a campaign. I do not think it is doing justice to the Railway workers themselves.

Then, he was complaining about the 54-hour week. I agree with him that so far as certain senior drivers are concerned this 54-hour week has affected them a little adversely. But this was an award which we were not in a position to vary at all. If steps are taken by Mr. Anthony in co-operation with other labour leaders to have the award revised then we are willing to consider. Government do not want to tamper with an award in a unilateral fashion, but if the demand comes from the workers and their associations, we shall see if we can take any steps to modify that award so that certain extra hours can be put in by these special drivers and their original earnings may be fully restored.

Shri Frank Anthony: There is no question of modifying the award. Will Government consider modifying the system of exactions so that working to the award they will not lose?

Shri Santhanam: If the hon. Member means that with less hours we must employ more drivers and pay them all the remuneration which was paid for their extra hours, somebody will have to pay. The rest of the Railway will have to pay. We have increased their basic pay; we have increased their running allowance. If it is his idea that the Railways should pay for hours which they do not work, then I think it is too much to ask of the Railway Administration.

Shri Frank Anthony: My hon. friend has not understood what I was trying to make. I do not want to waste the time of the House; I shall explain to him in the lobby.

Shri Santhanam: If it does not throw any additional expenditure on the Railways we shall consider them with the greatest sympathy.

Again he put in a plea for the lady school-masters. First he put in a plea for nurses. We thought there was some case. We agreed and gave them the higher class pass. Now he wants it for school-masters. Next he will come and ask it for lady booking clerks. (An Hon. Member: Lady booking clerks!) All right, women booking clerks. Not that I have no sympathy, but if we make such distinctions then

[Shri Santhanam]

administrations will become very reluctant to employ women. We cannot make distinctions. In England the question is whether they should not get equal pay for equal work. Here the question seems to be whether they should not get higher privileges for the same status and for the same work! Therefore, I do not think he should stretch the point to this length.

So far, all this debate has not been germane to the Supplementary Demands themselves. It was more or less in the nature of a general debate. The only justifiable complaint made was with reference to the time given. Pandit Kunzru knows very well the difficulty of bringing a Supplementary Budget for Railways at this time. We have to get the facts from all the Railways, place them before the Standing Finance Committee, and then with the approval of the Standing Finance Committee bring it before the House. It was our intention to give at least five or six days' time for the Members of Parliament to consider the Report of the Standing Finance Committee. But just day before yesterday we were told that we would have to move it here today, and the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee was summoned only yesterday. All this was due to the hurry of this process. Therefore, I must apologise to the House for the shortness of time. We shall make every endeavour to see that the meetings of the Committee are held in proper time and the report submitted. If there was a chance of a December session, probably we would not have cared to move these Supplementary Demands in this session. It was because there was likely to be no more session to consider the Budget grants that we had to do things in this hurry.

I hope that the House will vote the demands.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Sir, you promised to give me a chance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not make any promises in this House. I cannot make any promise.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. No more questions now. Enough has been answered. There has been sufficient debate on this. It is not as if every hon. Member can claim to speak. Eleven persons have spoken on this, including two Ministers.

The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Aiyar): Sir, the question may now be

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the question be now put."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as these cut motions are concerned they are all out of order. Every one raises a question of policy. I shall now put the Demands to the House.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 58,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Audit'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 49,30,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Administration'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,37,13,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Repairs and Maintenance'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,04,42,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operating Staff'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 13,73,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Operation other than Staff and Fuel'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 99,54,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Miscellaneous Expenses'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,52,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ordinary Working Expenses—Labour Welfare'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,21,25,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Open Line Works—Additions'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 28,75,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Open Line Works—Replacements'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All the Supplementary Demands in respect of the Railways are passed.

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APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS)
NO. 4 BILL

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): 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 India for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1952, for the

Mr. Deputy-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 India for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1952, for the purposes of railways."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Gopaldaswami: I introduce the Bill.

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DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY
GRANTS FOR 1951-52

DEMAND NO. 1—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE
AND INDUSTRY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

DEMAND NO. 2—INDUSTRIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 89,49,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Industries'."

DEMAND NO. 3—COMMERCIAL INTEL-
LIGENCE AND STATISTICS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Commercial Intelligence and Statistics'."

DEMAND NO. 5—INDIAN POSTS AND
TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,83,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course .

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department'."

DEMAND NO. 18—MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 77,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of External Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 19—TRIBAL AREAS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,30,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Tribal Areas'."

DEMAND NO. 20—EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 33,87,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'External Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 21—MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,25,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND NO. 23—UNION EXCISE DUTIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Union Excise Duties'."

DEMAND NO. 24—TAXES ON INCOME INCLUDING CORPORATION TAX

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,55,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax'."

DEMAND NO. 25—OPIUM

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Opium'."

DEMAND NO. 28—AUDIT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,50,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Audit'."

DEMAND NO. 29—JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 60,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Joint Stock Companies'."

DEMAND NO. 30—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,47,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments'."

DEMAND NO. 34—MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,25,40,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending

the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

DEMAND NO. 35—GRANTS-IN-AID TO STATES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,58,14,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Grants-in-aid to States'."

DEMAND NO. 37—RESETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,14,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Resettlement and Development'."

DEMAND NO. 38—PRE-PARTITION PAYMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 30,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Pre-partition Payments'."

DEMAND NO. 40—MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,77,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Food and Agriculture'."

DEMAND NO. 45—AGRICULTURE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 17,44,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Agriculture'."

DEMAND NO. 46—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,79,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Civil Veterinary Services'."

DEMAND NO. 47—INDIAN DAIRY DEPARTMENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Indian Dairy Department'."

DEMAND NO. 49—MEDICAL SERVICES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 95,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Medical Services'."

DEMAND NO. 53—POLICE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,79,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Police'."

DEMAND NO. 56—DELHI

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,72,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Delhi'."

DEMAND NO. 57—AJMER

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,34,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ajmer'."

**DEMAND No. 63—ADMINISTRATION OF
JUSTICE****Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

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

**DEMAND No. 70—MINISTRY OF
REHABILITATION****Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,82,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Rehabilitation'."

**DEMAND No. 71—EXPENDITURE ON
DISPLACED PERSONS****Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,00,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons'."

DEMAND No. 72—MINISTRY OF STATES**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of States'."

DEMAND No. 74—KUTCH**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,53,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Kutch'."

DEMAND No. 75—HIMACHAL PRADESH**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,73,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Himachal Pradesh'."

DEMAND No. 77—BHOPAL**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Bhopal'."

DEMAND No. 78—VINDHYA PRADESH**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 50,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Vindhya Pradesh'."

DEMAND No. 79—MANIPUR**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,27,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Manipur'."

DEMAND No. 80—TRIPURA**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,02,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Tripura'."

**DEMAND No. 81—RELATIONS WITH
STATES****Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,68,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Relations with States'."

DEMAND No. 88—SUPPLIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,32,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Supplies'."

DEMAND No. 91—STATIONERY AND PRINTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

DEMAND No. 98—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

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

DEMAND No. 103—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF GOVERNMENT TRADING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading'."

So far as the cut motions are concerned, the first one is to discuss the grant of subsidy to Scindia Steam Navigation Company and to discuss Enforcement Directorate. This is by Shri Ghule. Was any grant made to Scindia Steam Navigation Company?

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

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then it is all right. When was the Enforcement Directorate constituted?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): In 1948. The present proposal is to

continue it till December. That is how the Supplementary Demand arises.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So this cut motion is in order.

The next is by Mr. Bhagat on the same Demand, that is Demand No. 2, to discuss the grant of subsidy to the Scindia Navigation Company Limited. It is the same thing.

The next is with respect to Demand No. 5 in respect of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department to discuss the slackness in disposing of complaints. This is general slackness. How does it arise, particularly now on account of the Supplementary Demand? This cut motion is not in order.

The next cut motion on the same Demand No. 5 is by Mr. B. K. Pani to discuss general policy. As its name implies, it is general policy. Therefore, this cut motion is not in order.

Then the next cut motion on the same demand is by Mr. B. R. Bhagat to discuss the inadequacy of post offices in rural areas in Bihar. That is also a general question and therefore not in order.

The next cut motion is with respect to Demand No. 37 by Mr. B. R. Bhagat to discuss the Jute Development Schemes. Were they introduced only after the last Budget? The hon. Member is not in his seat. This is not allowed.

The next one is in respect of Demand No. 38 by Mr. Ghule regarding Pre-Partition Payments—Delay in the payment. Delay in payment of what?

Shri Ghule (Madhya Bharat): Of Rs. 30 lakhs which is to be paid to the Nagas according to this Demand.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: After this Demand is voted by the House the payment will be made.

Shri Ghule: But it pertains to the pre-partition period. That is why I want to know why there has been this delay of three years for disbursing this amount of Rs. 30 lakhs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: At the time of the Budget it might have been raised. It has not arisen after the Budget. We are only on this particular point. I am not allowing this.

The next one is by Mr. Ghule in respect of Demand No. 52 concerning

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

Police—Inefficiency. It is a general complaint. Therefore, this is not allowed.

The next one is in respect of Demand No. 56 by Mr. Ghule to discuss failure in checking child lifting. It was a recent occurrence. All right. I will allow this.

The next one is in respect of Demand No. 72 by Mr. Ghule to discuss the necessity of Secret Police. The institution has been there. The need is always felt. This is not allowed.

The next one is in respect of Demand No. 91 by Mr. Ghule to discuss the general shortage of printed forms required in connection with postal business. Nothing has arisen since the last Budget. This is not in order.

The next cut motion is in respect of Demand No. 98 by Mr. Sidhva to discuss the Government Housing Factory. That has been discussed a number of times.

The cut motions that are allowed are.....

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Rajagopalachari): I am talking about your observation about child lifting. It is an interesting subject no doubt, but it does not arise out of the Supplementary Demands at all. Questions have been put and I have answered and still we may carry on. These are specific items totally different from general expenditure.

Shri Alexander (Travancore-Cochin): I have given a cut motion on Demand No. 34—Miscellaneous.

Mr. Deputy Speaker: When?

Shri Alexander: This morning.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry it is too late.

The Minister of States, Transport and Railways (Shri Gopaldaswami): May I draw attention to one point, Sir? Shri Ghule has given notice of a cut motion on Demand No. 72. He wishes to discuss the necessity of Secret Police. Really, I think, the heading is "Secret Service Expenditure". I am afraid, it will not be possible for me to disclose any details which could be discussed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have disallowed that motion. The cut motions which I have allowed and which are in

order are on Demand No. 2 by Messrs. Ghule and Bhagat. They relate to the same matter, namely, Grant of subsidy to Scindia Steam Navigation Company. That is with respect to Vizagapatam.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The ships were built in April and they were paid for by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company at the then high cost and then they have asked for subsidy.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Subsidies have been made for some years.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Those are for ships built subsequently. Those are the ships purchased by the Company.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These cut motions on Demand No. 2 will be allowed.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): What about Demand No. 98? There is an item of rupees five lakhs to be discussed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have disallowed it.

Shri Sidhva: You will find in explanation (b) on page 63—Demand No. 98 of Supplementary Demands for Grants—the following:

"As the future programme of the Factory was uncertain and it was not possible to assess its requirements with any exactitude at the time of preparation of the budget for the current year, an *ad hoc* grant of Rs. one lakh was made for the year 1951-52. The expenditure now worked out upto the end of December, 1951, based on the experiments which the Factory has to carry out with the minimum staff and material comes to Rs. 7.62 lakhs (gross). A further grant of Rs. 6.62 lakhs under 'Gross Charge' is, therefore, necessary for the Factory to meet expenditure upto the end of December, 1951."

Therefore, the permission of this House is wanted for Rs. 6.62 lakhs.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They have put only a token amount of Rs. 500. I will allow discussion on this. As I said, child lifting cannot come as a subject matter for discussion. Therefore, the only cut motions are those which relate to Demands Nos. 2 and 98.

Shrimati Anamu Swaminadhan (Madras): There is a cut motion on Demand No. 49—Medical Services—and

I hope you will allow me to say a few words.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Discussion on all the Demands will be allowed.

Shri A. C. Guha (West Bengal): Will there be a general discussion?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no general discussion. What is the general discussion for? I shall, no doubt, ask the hon. Minister of Finance to explain as to how there is need for so much additional expenditure or Supplementary Grants so as to draw the pointed attention of the House to these items. I shall apply the guillotine at half past one.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Most of these items are self-explanatory. The total Supplementary estimates amount to Rs. 28.76 crores out of which 26.81 crores are voted and the balance Rs. 1.95 crores are for expenditure charged on the Consolidated Fund of India. The additional expenditure met out of Revenue is Rs. 27.60 crores and that met on Capital is Rs. 1.46 crores. The analysis of the Revenue Expenditure is as follows:

In the food subsidy, the original grant was Rs. 21.32 crores and now we are asking for Rs. 15.20 crores more because high imports at a higher cost have had to be met and the cost has been enhanced also by increased freight charges. We did not wish to raise the issue prices in the rationed areas by more than a very moderate amount and in one case we did not raise the issue price at all for the cheaper grains. Taking all that into account, we find that we must have Rs. 15.20 crores. The next big item is the relief and rehabilitation of distressed persons which requires no explanation. In view of the fresh exodus from East Bengal as well as certain arrear payments to new townships we are asking for Rs. four crores more and the original grant was Rs. 9.86 crores.

Then the third item is grants to States. The original grant was Rs. 15.42 crores and the Supplementary Grant is Rs. 2.58 crores. This is consequent on the finalization of the Revenue gap figures, that is to say, it is an adjustment of the sum which was provisionally paid. It is found on the finalization of accounts that additional sums are payable. A sum of about Rs. 50 lakhs out of this is the additional provision we are making for Scheduled Tribes, that is to say, we are raising the provision from Rs. one crore to one crore and 50 lakhs. Then

there is the Privy Purse to Rulers for which the original grant was Rs. 4.41 crores and the Supplementary Grant is Rs. 78 lakhs. This also is on account of adjustment in arrears. Then there is the pre-partition payment, that is that item of payment to the Nagas and against the original grant of Rs. 2.75 crores we are asking for a Supplementary Grant of Rs. 30 lakhs. The next big item is the subsidy to Scindia Steam Navigation Company which will be discussed in detail on the cut motions, so that on the rest on a grant of Rs. 146.63 crores, we are asking for Rs. 2.11 crores more, which is a very small percentage. So, altogether on a total provision of a little over Rs. 200 crores, we are asking for nearly Rs. 26 crores more and which has accounted for these six very large items. Then there is additional expenditure on Posts and Telegraphs. The original grant for it was Rs. 34.12 crores and the Supplementary Grant asked for is 1.83 crores. Much of this is due to the enhancement of the dearness allowance.

The Capital section does not require any great comment. The total is only 1.16 crores. Hon. Members will find in this compilation the necessary explanation.

Hon. Members will be anxious to know what sort of effect this is going to have on the Budget. I have had only the first quarter's figures and I think it is somewhat risky to base predictions on only one quarter's figures. As far as I can anticipate, we shall break even on the Revenue side. On the ways and means side, I am afraid, we shall exceed the original estimate. But, on the whole our closing balance will not be worse, and might probably be better than what we allowed for at Budget time. Even after excluding the special credit which we have taken for the estimated proceeds of the American wheat loan, I think we shall be a little better than what we estimated at Budget time. That is in spite of the deterioration on the expenditure side on ways and means, because of the actual opening balance exceeding the estimated opening balance by some Rs. 60 crores. I think you will recall, Sir, that when I introduced the Budget I said that the opening balance was likely to be Rs. 95.42 crores; actually, on account of some expenditure not having been incurred in the earlier period as well as some improvements in the revenue side or on the receipt side, on account of, I think, Treasury Bills bought by certain Governments, the actual opening balance was Rs. 157.38 crores. There was a very considerable improvement of nearly

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

Rs. 60 crores and as a result of that, even though we shall be spending more on the ways and means side, we hope to be able to close the year, if too many unfavourable factors do not intervene between now and the end of the year, with a closing balance, a little more than what we had anticipated. We should have, in addition, the proceeds of the American wheat loan. That is the sort of general picture to which the voting of Grants today would contribute. I do not think I need make any further statement.

Shrimati Ammu Swaminadhan: I would just like to say a few words with regard to Demand No. 49 which relates to the scheme of training auxiliary nurses.

The need for nurses in this country has been very great indeed and I feel that this new scheme which is proposed to be started in Madras will help to increase the number of nurses we have in this country today. The great advantages are these. The academic qualification of these trainees is less than what has been put down for the nurses' course previously. That is, they had to pass the Matriculation or the S.S.L.C. examination before they could take a course of nursing. The course itself was for four years. Because of four years' training and having to pass the S.S.L.C. examination before doing the course, it was found rather difficult for girls, who otherwise would have gone in for nursing, to go through this very long course. I feel that this auxiliary training will give them more chances to become nurses. The qualification is only up to the 7th class and the training is for two years. I am sure that this will be a very good second line of defence in the field of nursing. I congratulate the Mahila Sabha of Madras for starting this nursing centre which will be open to girls from different part of India. I feel that training only 12 girls to start with is rather a small number. But, I hope that the State Government as well as the Central Government will realise the necessity of getting more and more girls trained in this Auxiliary Nursing course and see that more and more such centres are opened all over India. I would like particularly to congratulate our Health Minister, the hon. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, for having thought about such a scheme, and the Nursing Council of India for having agreed to such a course for nursing in our country.

As far as the Mahila Sabha of Madras, which is going to start this nursing centre in the city of Madras, is concerned, I can say that already it

has done a great deal of pioneer work with regard to welfare of women not only of the Madras State, but also from different parts of the country. I, who have been connected with this institution from its very beginning, have found a great many girls from Gujerat and a certain number of girls even from North India come all the way down to Madras to take advantage of this centre. As far as financial matters are concerned, the organisers there have already collected about Rs. five lakhs and I am sure they will be able to collect much more whenever the necessity arises. I do not think the Government need have any fear about the financial stability of this organisation. I would very much like the Central Government to start such an institution themselves here in Delhi or perhaps in some other more central part of India. I hope the Central Government will consider the necessity of having more girls trained in Madras and give more funds to this institution. I am quite sure that the training will be done well and they will make a success of such training given. They are also having a certain number of beds for in-patients, which are absolutely necessary for the training course so that the students may be able to discharge their work.

I not only congratulate the Government for having done this; but I should like to ask the Governments of the different States not to delay in this matter of starting such centres. I hope the Central Government will give every facility for such training. With these words, Sir, I would like strongly to support this particular Demand No. 49 and I hope it will be passed by the House.

DEMAND NO. 2—INDUSTRIES

Subsidy to Scindia Steam Navigation Company and Enforcement Directorate.

Shri Ghule: Shall I speak on my cut motion.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

Shri Ghule: Or on all the Demands?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No. The hon. Member will speak on his cut motion, and try to conserve some time for speaking on the Demands.

Shri Ghule: I would like to speak on the other Demands also.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Oh yes; he will not have another opportunity. Let

him speak on the cut motion and make his observations with respect to other Demands also.

Shri Ghule: On other Demands also I should have an opportunity to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no second chance for any hon. Member. He may speak both on his cut motion as also on other Demands which have been placed before the House. No matter of policy could be entered into except new matters or new services which have been introduced after the last Budget session.

Shri Ghule: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 89,49,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

In this connection, I, and probably the House, would like to know what the definite policy of the Government in granting subsidy to the Scindia Steam Navigation Company is. It has been said in the note that in all countries such grants are being made because the companies are not self-supporting and in the national interests they have to be maintained. I would like to know what the programme is and in how many years Government envisage that ship-building would be self-supporting. At the same time, I would like to state that a definite policy should be laid down so that such Demands may not be made before the House rather abruptly.

As regards the second item to which I referred, namely, the item about the Enforcement Directorate, it is said that the sum demanded is up to the month of December. At the same time they say that the recommendations of the Estimates Committee were examined and it was found that no substantial economy would be achieved by entrusting the work that this Directorate is doing to the Central Enforcement Police. So I am unable to understand the position correctly. If it is the intention of the Government that this Directorate should continue this work and that it should not be given to the Enforcement Police, what is the reason for asking for a sum only up to December and not till the end of the year? This makes me think that the Government have not made up their mind as to what to do, whether this Directorate should be continued up to the end of the year or not. So I want to know the definite policy of the Government on this point.

The other thing I want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister and of the House is about the Posts and Telegraphs Department's Demand. Under this Demand amounts are asked for opening new post offices in villages, especially in Part B States. No definite list of such villages in which it is proposed to open these post offices has been given. I would like to know the number of post offices that are to be opened, especially in my State—Madhya Bharat.

Last year when the Supplementary Demands were discussed Dr. Deshmukh had said that he was not in favour of opening new post offices. Now looking at the efficiency and the way in which the Postal Department is functioning, I am also now converted to his view and I now feel that it would be better to concentrate on the task of improving the efficiency of existing post offices rather than trying to extend such inefficient post offices to more villages. I may give an example here. I wrote to the Deputy Minister—at that time it was Mr. Khurshed Lal who was in charge of the Department—on the 21st December 1950 about some villages in a district of Madhya Bharat which were not getting postal services. I will not go into the details of the correspondence which I had to carry on with the Department, but give the House only the salient points. Though my complaint was lodged as early as the 21st December 1950, up till today I have not received intimation as to whether that complaint was well-founded or ill-founded and whether anything was being done to remove the cause of the complaint. I was asked by the Post Master General, Nagpur for a list of the villages where postal services were not available and I sent him this information in February. Afterwards I got a letter from him saying that he did not receive that letter of mine.

[SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair]

This speaks much about the efficiency of his Department. He also said that he had sent me a reminder in the same connection and I did not get that reminder either. Then I complained to the ex-Minister, Shri Rafi Ahmad Kidwai about this matter. He sent his men to me and the Director-General directly wrote to me asking me for a list of the villages which did not have postal service. I sent it to him and also to the Post-Master General, in April. I have got the acknowledgements for those two letters from these officers. So, there is no doubt that that have received the letters. But up till now I have not received any reply from them.

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): How can the hon. Member receive their letters if there is no post-office?

Shri Ghule: It is not about the whole of India that I am complaining, but only about a particular district. If the hon. Minister means to say that all the post offices between Nagpur and Gwalior or between Delhi and Nagpur are of this standard of efficiency, then I can only say that I must congratulate the hon. Minister.

And so, this being the state of efficiency in the Department, I am inclined to come to the conclusion that it would be better to concentrate the attention on the improvement of the existing post offices rather than try to extend postal services into more villages.

And then there is one matter to which I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister of Home Affairs and that is connected with the Police Administration in Delhi. Cases of child lifting and trafficking in women are increasing in Delhi State and in the States in North India in general and we have been reading reports about them in the papers daily. In spite of these reports, and though the hon. Minister was asked questions on the floor of the House on this subject, no tangible improvement is being observed in this direction. My complaint is not about the crimes taking place in our country. Of course it is a very sad thing that such crimes should take place in our country—crimes like child lifting and the trafficking in women.

Shri M. V. Rama Rao (Mysore): What about stopping Sati in Gwalior?

Shri Ghule: That has to be stopped, but that is not the concern of the Centre.

Mr. Chairman: The Demand does not cover all these items that the hon. Member is now touching upon. So, he need not make such extensive remarks.

Shri Ghule: But, I think it was ruled that though the cut motions are not moved, the discussion can take place.

Shri Karmarkar: Observations may be restricted to the particular Demand and not be spread over the whole Home Ministry.

Shri Ghule: There is a Demand here under the head "Police" and I am just bringing to the notice of the hon. Minister.....

Mr. Chairman: At this rate the hon. Member can discuss everything between earth and heaven; but the time available is limited and so he may make general remarks only with regard to those matters covered by the Demand.

Shri Ghule: This is my last point and I shall not take more time. It is a very important matter to which I want to invite the attention of the Home Minister. This child lifting and trafficking in.....

Mr. Chairman: Personally I like such subjects to be discussed, but our personal likings should not be the governing factor.

Shri Ghule: I would refer to one incident. When these cases were going on I met a friend in Delhi and he referred to them and I told him that these rumours were false, because a day or two before I had read a statement of a responsible officer of the Delhi administration, either the Chief Commissioner or the Superintendent of Police, that all these rumours were false and had no foundation at all and that some mischief mongers were spreading the rumours. I had a dispute with my friend who is a resident of Delhi on this score that these were baseless rumours spread by mischief mongers. Thereafter, I put a question to the Home Minister and he, in reply, gave a number of cases of child lifting and the number of people who had been arrested in this connection. We are still getting reports of such cases. Then the Home Minister told the House what steps were being taken to prevent such crimes. So I am rather wonder-struck at the statement of a responsible officer of the Delhi administration who said publicly that these were only rumours and had no foundation at all. It is a very serious matter and the Delhi administration should take all steps, even very serious steps to stop such crimes.

I want to say a few words about the Demand under 'Stationery'. I am referring to it because it is a question which pertains to the ordinary man. You might be knowing that for the last one or two years when the common people go to post offices to get money order or other forms they are told that the forms are out of stock. This is not the case in a particular State but it is a general complaint and I have heard similar complaints from people belonging to other States also. When the postal authorities are asked about it they say that it is not in their hands and that the stationery department is responsible for the forms to be printed. So, I would urge those who are

responsible for this department to see that such necessary forms like money order and other forms are printed in sufficient quantity so that the demand of the public is met and their complaint in this regard removed.

Mr. Chairman: Cut motion moved:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 89,49,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

DEMAND NO. 98—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Government Housing Factory

Shri Sidhva: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Industrial Development' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The history of this factory is well known to the House and I will not take up the time of the House with it. Promises have been made on the floor of this House by the Minister of Health who was in charge of this factory that the reports of the two committees on this factory will be placed on the table of the House very soon. But I was very much surprised to find the other day that in reply to my question, the Minister of Works, Production and Supply, who is now in charge of the factory, said that the reports of Mulgaonkar and Bhatnagar Committees will not be placed on the Table in the public interest. We were definitely promised in the past by the Minister of Health and as far as I remember during the proceedings on the last Budget when the question was raised the Prime Minister himself promised to do so. At that time it was a little premature but there was the assurance that the reports would be placed. I want to know whether the Minister who is now in charge has changed the policy of the Government on his own initiative. When he says that it will not be placed in the public interest it means that we shall not get it at all. What is the public interest to which the hon. Minister has referred? In this matter we are very much interested and personally I have not condemned the factory, in the manner in which some friends have done, because they felt that the factory had been a blunder. I do not take that view. I do feel that serious mistakes have been made and the consultants and engineers have been responsible for those defects.

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But I do also feel that if the factory is properly reorganised and run it will produce the houses which were originally contemplated. But that does not mean that the House should not be supplied with the information to which it is legitimately entitled. We were promised about the reports and I would like to have a reply from the hon. Minister as to what has made Government change their view.

I would like to know what is the position of the factory today. We are asked to grant six lakhs for the short period when the factory has not been working. We were told that until the full panels were constructed and the proper prefab houses were produced, some kind of materials for traditional houses would be manufactured, so that a certain percentage of profit would be derived from the sale of those materials. I want to know whether they are producing any such materials and if any profit has been made and if so, why these six lakhs are demanded for June to December. We shall only be piling up the expenditure without any resultant benefit.

We are told the Bhatnagar Committee has made a good report and we were also told that a foreign company has made a proposal, without putting our Government to any financial commitments, to take up and run the factory. In reply to a question of mine I was told that it was so and that the Government were considering the matter and that it was expected that if this factory was put in the hands of the Swiss firm the houses contemplated would be produced. But now we are asked to grant six lakhs and I would like to know what the position is. Nothing is mentioned in the report barring that this amount is required. On page 63 para. (b) it is said:

"As the future programme of the Factory was uncertain and it was not possible to assess its requirements with any exactitude at the time of preparation of the budget for the current year, an *ad hoc* grant of Rs. 1 lakh was made for the year 1951-52. The expenditure now worked out upto the end of December, 1951, based on the experiments which the factory has to carry out with the minimum staff and material comes to Rs. 7.62 lakhs (gross). A further grant of Rs. 6.62 lakhs under 'Gross Charge' is, therefore, necessary for the Factory to meet expenditure upto the end of December, 1951."

And then in the end they say that the additional requirements are 5.95 lakhs.

[Shri Sidhva]

Surely, some explanation is necessary; more than that on account of the uncertainty of the factory the amount is required. The House is entitled to know the future programme. So the question of this factory requires to be looked into.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Has the hon. Member seen the proceedings of the meeting of the Standing Finance Committee, which have been printed? On page 3 of the proceedings of the 17th, 18th and 19th September further details are given about this expenditure.

Shri Sidhva: If it is contemplated in that report that the factory is going to run satisfactorily I would like to be enlightened by the Minister and I am prepared to change my view. I want to know what is the position of the factory.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not intend to deal with the whole case which relates to another Ministry. I only wanted to point out that some information was available in the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee.

Shri Sidhva: I have not read this month's proceedings. Therefore, I would like to know some more details. I have not lost hopes about the factory. I am quite optimistic unlike some other hon. Members who are pessimistic, because they feel that a crore of rupees has been lost. I do not blame them. But having visited the factory myself many times I do feel that there is scope for improvement and we will not lose a crore of rupees if immediate steps are taken to see that the factory is handed over to an expert who knows his business. The factory was given to a person who knew nothing about 12 noon. prefab houses. We were also told that a claim was going to be filed against the previous consulting engineer. Has the amount been recovered from him? It is now nearly six months since the matter has been pending, and therefore, I want to know what has become of our claim. Have we put it in, are the contractors prepared to pay it and, if not, are we to go to court? I hope the hon. Minister would enlighten the House on these points.

Then, one or two points on this question of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company. I entirely agree that ship-building is a national enterprise which should be encouraged. Rs. 80 lakhs are going to be given to the Scindias for five ships. But I received a report from some other ship-builders that they too asked for a loan from Government

and they were refused. Some questions on this were also put in the House and the hon. Finance Minister stated that he would look into the matter. Today shipping is such a profitable business that some of the shippers make a profit of 50 per cent. Thanks to our food purchases and owing to the general demand for shipping throughout the world, everywhere there is a great demand for ships and ships are purchased from wherever possible in the world. I was told that another Indian company, which owns an equally big number of ships as Scindias, asked for a loan and they were refused. I want to know what the policy is: whether only Scindias will get assistance or others also who require subsidies for the purpose of ship-building will be entitled to loans.

Under Posts and Telegraphs, I find Rs. 19 lakhs are being asked for the supply of mail bags on account of the increased price of jute from Rs. 3/8/- to Rs. 7/8/-. I want to know whether that increase was considered at the time of the preparation of the General Budget, or whether this price increase has occurred after the General Budget necessitating this Supplementary Demand. I also want to know whether these bags are purchased after inviting tenders. It is stated here that it is "due to inadequate supply of bags in the previous years by the Harness and Saddlery Factory, Kanpur". May I know whether this is a contract given to this factory, whether the factory failed to give us the prescribed number of bags, and whether the amount will be recovered from the factory? We have now to pay Rs. 7/8/-. What was the contracted amount? Has the price exceeded the contracted amount on account of the increase in jute prices, and, if so, did the tender provide for such an increase?

Mr. Chairman: For his information to be completed, the hon. Member might have referred to the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee.

Shri Sidhva: I would like to have this information—if it is there in the proceedings of the Committee then I will accept it.

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): More than one reason have been ascribed for the increase.

Mr. Chairman: On all these matters, including the housing factory, the reasons for the Demands are given in the report of the Committee.

Shri Sidhva: The reasons are there but they are not satisfactory and therefore I must ask for information. As far as I am able to gather there is no such information available in the report. If the hon. Minister is in a position to supply information which is not there he may do so—if he is not in a position to do so that is his look-out.

I hope satisfactory answers will be forthcoming to the points which I have raised.

Mr. Chairman: Cut motion moved:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Industrial Development' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Shri Goenka (Madras): The total Demands before the House are for a sum of Rs. 28,75,00,000. It is true that a lot of explanation for these Demands is given in the report of the Standing Finance Committee but to get these Demands through this House in a perfunctory manner.....

Mr. Chairman: I would like to inform hon. Members that the Demands will be guillotined at half past one, but before that two hon. Ministers want to intervene and reply to some of the points made by hon. Members. Therefore, I would request hon. Members to be very brief.

Shri Goenka: I shall be very brief, but my main grievance is that sufficient time is not given to this House to consider the Demands for Grants amounting to Rs. 28 crores. It is true that the Standing Finance Committee has gone into these matters and has made certain recommendations, but after reading its report one does not get all the answers one requires. And all that happens in this House is that at 11-15 this motion is taken up and it is going to be put to vote at 1-30. This motion concerns as many as about twenty Departments of the Government of India, some of the Demands are for new grants like the subsidy of Rs. 80 lakhs to the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and others are such as will raise a fundamental issue. It is very unfair to this House that sufficient time should not be given. No doubt these Demands have been examined by the Standing Finance Committee and various other Committees, yet this House is the final authority to pass these Demands and full time must be given to it to consider them in full

detail and to get answers from the hon. Finance Minister. Since I have no time at my disposal, I will not go into the general issue. The Deputy-Speaker has already ruled that very few minutes will be given to each speaker and that the matter will be closed at one o'clock, but I think it is unfair to the House. However, since it is the ruling of the Chair, I submit.....

Mr. Chairman: I think it was at the request of hon. Members that it was agreed that the time should be short.

Shri A. C. Guha: No agreement—only it was stated that the guillotine will be applied at 1-30.

Shri Goenka: Let me beg your indulgence to say that there was no agreement of the House to this procedure, but that the Deputy-Speaker told the House that the matter would be closed at one o'clock and guillotine would be applied and voting on grants done at 1-30.

I will take only one case, namely the Demand for Rs. 80 lakhs for subsidy to the Scindia Steam Navigation Company. It is an original Demand coming before the House for the first time; it did not find a place in the General Budget. This Demand appears to be of the nature of a recurring Demand which will come before the House year after year. Two years back, when the Scindias told the Government that it was uneconomical for them to run the Vizagapatam yard and they would like the Government to place orders for ships or give them a subsidy for the purpose of carrying on the yard, at that time, if I remember aright, there was a report of some French engineers who were consulted by the Government which stated that if an additional two or three crores were invested in the yard and if continuous orders were placed for ships, also if the berths were increased from three to five, then it will become an economical proposition and will not be a losing proposition. That was the report which was placed by the then Minister of Industries before the Standing Committee of the Ministry of Industries. The Standing Committee went into the matter and suggested to the Government that a scheme should be prepared by which this Vizagapatam yard should be taken over either by the Government, or by Government-cum-Scindias. Scindias may continue to be the managing agents, and a further capital of about three or four crores—I do not remember the exact figure—should be invested in it. If Rs. three or four crores were provided—it is a matter of detail

[Shri Goenka]

how much money was to be provided—and if two more berths were put in and if continuous orders were placed with this yard, it was felt that there would be no loss and this yard would be able to compete with the other ship manufacturing centres of the world. That proposition was not accepted. Government placed orders with the Scindia Steam Navigation Company at prices which were 60 or 70 per cent. more than the prices that obtained in foreign countries for the same ships. The order was placed at Rs. 70 lakhs whereas the price in foreign countries at that time was only Rs. 40 or 45 lakhs per ship. Those ships were taken over by Government and sold at a premium and we are now called upon to grant a subsidy of Rs. 80 lakhs to this Company to build five ships a year.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: No, these ships have already been built. This is the first lot of ships built and taken over by the Scindias and that too before the second order was placed.

Shri Goenka: Am I to understand that this subsidy is to meet the losses incurred on the ships already ordered from the Scindia Steam Navigation Company?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Before independence the Scindias' Vizagapatam Shipbuilding Yard built these ships. They were taken over by the Scindia Steam Navigation Company at a very high price. In their operation they find that they are suffering a loss. Therefore, some time in the middle of 1949 they said that they were entitled to a subsidy as they were encouraged by political leaders who were then outside Government to go on with the building on the shipbuilding side.

Shri Goenka: I want to know the position subsequent to 1949. Did not the Government of India place orders with the Scindia Steam Navigation Company at prices which were 60 or 70 per cent. higher than the prices in other parts of the world? What will be the future of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company's Vizagapatam Yard? It is not a question of giving a lump sum subsidy of Rs. 80 lakhs and our responsibility coming to an end. It is a question of what we are going to do with the Vizagapatam Yard. That is the point which this House should discuss threadbare. It is no use your coming for a Supplementary Grant of Rs. one crore and a recurring expenditure of a similar amount. The question is one of putting this Yard on an economical basis or closing it down and starting a yard in another part of the

country where the work can be done on an economical basis. Is the Vizagapatam Yard an economical proposition? Can it be one? If it can be, then what is the intention of the Government of India? Why have they not taken steps much earlier to put this Yard on an economical basis by spending two or three crores at one stretch rather than make them liable for a recurring expenditure of a crore every year? This one crore a year is a large sum which the Government of India can ill-afford to pay. I am not an expert, but the report of the French experts that was placed before us had come to the conclusion that the Vizagapatam Yard can be run satisfactorily if a few more crores were spent as capital expenditure. Let me put it this way. Here is a company started by the Scindias. According to the Finance Minister, it was started because political leaders induced them to start such a venture. Is it because the Scindia Steam Navigation Company started this venture at the suggestion of the political leaders that we are paying this subsidy of Rs. 80 lakhs and shall continue to pay it as long as this Company goes on making losses? After all, if a company finds that it can get money from some place and a place like the Government of India year in and year out, there is no reason why it should run economically. After all, it knows that there is somebody to foot the bill. Here is an instance in which a private enterprise starts a venture; the venture becomes unsuccessful; and the company asks the Government of India to carry the baby. I am not at all against a shipbuilding venture in India. I would like to encourage it in all respects. But I would like the company which floated this yard to cooperate with the Government of India. I say this because when the proposition was put before it in 1949, it refused to take shares. It said, "If the Government of India want, let them take over this yard. We will not take shares for the value of the yard in any new concern which may be floated in which the Government of India will also be one of the major shareholders". At that time, it was suggested that a valuation of the yard should be made and shares for that amount should be given to the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and if any further capital needed to be put in, the Government of India will take shares to that extent and this venture would run as a joint venture of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and the Government of India. I speak subject to correction but the Company refused that offer. Why? This is a very important issue and when you ring the bell, Madam,.....

Mr. Chairman: But my trouble is that there are other hon. Members also who want to speak.

Shri Goenka: Then I say it is very unfair and unjust to this House that these Demands should be pushed through and hurried through in the manner in which they are being done. Full consideration has not been given to these Demands and the House is being hustled and rushed into accepting them without discussing them. Here is a matter in which a recurring expenditure of several crores is involved. It has not been fully discussed. If we are not given an opportunity to discuss the very many aspects of the question and get explanations from the Ministers concerned, then it is rather unfair. This Demand of Rs. 80 lakhs requires further consideration and investigation and full particulars should be placed before us and until those particulars are furnished, this Demand should not be passed by this House. There are very many other Demands on which I would like to say a few words but since the bell is ringing, I cannot do any justice. There is a Demand of Rs. 12 crores for food subsidies. We would like to discuss the whole aspect of subsidies to provinces; the price factor in regard to foodgrains and very many other matters. But there is no time. All that I can say is that it is very unfair that we should be rushed into passing these Demands.

Shri Santhanam: Probably, it may be useful for the House if I were to deal with this cut motion on the Demand for Rs. 80 lakhs, because some other Members might also make the same mistakes as the previous Members have done.

Shri Shiva Rao (Madras): Before Mr. Santhanam speaks, may I suggest for your consideration that Mr. Goenka is perfectly right in protesting against the manner in which the House is being hustled into passing these Demands? Including the Railway Demands, the total comes to Rs. 38 crores. Therefore, I suggest that the House may meet again this afternoon, or let the final decision be taken on Monday.

Shri Sarwate (Madhya Bharat): I would like to raise a constitutional issue regarding certain matters now submitted for the vote of the House.

Mr. Chairman: Before the hon. Member makes that point, I would like to deal with the time factor. I have absolutely no objection if Government are willing to give the afternoon also. I find that four or five hon. Ministers

are to reply to the points raised by hon. Members. So, there will be very little time left for hon. Members. It is now a matter for the Government to decide.

Shri Tyagi: I thought it was the wish of the House that we do not meet in the afternoon. If the House so likes, I do not think on this side we can have any objection. We are in the hands of the House.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): Some committees are to meet in the afternoon and if the House were to sit, those committees will not be able to finish their work.

Mr. Chairman: The position is very difficult. On the one side hon. Members complain that the Demands are rushed through; on the other they do not want to sit in the afternoon.

Shri A. C. Guha: Let the matter be taken up on Monday.

Mr. Chairman: Government are willing to agree to a sitting in the afternoon also. Those hon. Members who have committees to attend can join the House after the work of the committees.

Shri Goenka: What is the objection to continuing this debate on Monday. After all this is a very important matter, which involves an expenditure of Rs. 28 crores to the exchequer. You want to rush it without giving us an opportunity to put forth our views.

Shri Rajagopalachari: What is wanted by Mr. Goenka is further time and we, on behalf of Government, are willing to sit in the afternoon. I do not want the programme on Monday to be disturbed.

Mr. Chairman: So, I would like to state to the House that the Demands will then be put and guillotined at six P.M. this evening. The House will meet after lunch at 3-30.

Shri Karmarkar: I have another suggestion to make. The whole scope of the Supplementary Demands is open for the consideration of the House. I would suggest for the consideration of the House a course suggested by the hon. the Deputy-Speaker. We have two specific subjects on which we are considering the case. One is the Directorate of Special Police Establishment; the other is subsidy to Scindia Steam Navigation Company. This the Deputy-Speaker widened by the addition of general discussion. I would say that for harmony of discussion let us

[Shri Karmarkar]

take up these two items one by one and hon. Members may make their comments, to which my hon. colleagues will reply.

Shri Goenka: Am I to understand that Members who want to speak on other Demands will be prevented from doing so?

Mr. Chairman: The point has been made clear that not only those Members who have given notices of cut motions, but others also will be allowed to take part in the general discussion. There is no difficulty with regard to that. The time has been extended up to six P.M.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The Delhi Premises (Requisition and Eviction) Amendment Bill has also been put down for today. It will take only half an hour and if you are inclined to agree, we may take it up after six P.M. This is one of the most important Bills on the agenda.

Mr. Chairman: There will be no difficulty about that. The Demands will be guillotined at six P.M. We can take that Bill up after that and sit for half an hour.

Shri Ramaswami Naidu (Madras): Even if the House were to sit in the afternoon the whole time will be taken away by four or five Ministers. So, Members who want to speak on Demands either for or against will not have any time left.

Mr. Chairman: Are Members only anxious to speak and not get some kind of reply or assurance from the hon. Ministers?

Shri Goenka: But how are we to get a reply unless we speak? After all we must have time to speak to get a reply. If only the Ministers speak, then Members will not have any time.

Mr. Chairman: What I said was that one particular Member should not take all the time.

Shri Ramaswami Naidu: Hon. Ministers should also be treated as Members.

Shri Tyagi: Of course, they are.

Shri Santhanam: I am not going to speak even for fifteen minutes.

Mr. Chairman: I think the hon. Minister can reply some time later.

Shri Santhanam: I find that all the remarks about this particular item are

being made on account of a misunderstanding. I think a few minutes devoted to explanation will be helpful to the House.

So far as this particular item of Rs. 80 lakhs is concerned, I want to say to the House what it is not. It is not a subsidy to the ship building yard. It is not a recurring subsidy, as my hon. friend Mr. Goenka seems to be afraid of. The ship building yard no doubt had a chequered career. The foundation of it was laid by the present President of India in 1941. At that time all our leaders encouraged the Scindias to build a ship building yard, as it was a matter of paramount national importance. This yard started operations in 1946. By 1949 it had built five ships which had been taken over by the Scindias. At that time the company found that it could not carry on. Therefore, when it came to the sixth ship it came to the Government of India and said that it was not able to carry on the ship building yard unless the Government of India came to its assistance. The Government of India wanted to have some time to consider the future of the yard and therefore placed an order for three ships. That does not come in this Rs. 80 lakhs. It placed an order for three ships at the prevailing prices of Rs. 180 lakhs. A further order for three more ships has been placed with them recently. The future of this yard is being considered by my hon. friend Mr. Gadgil's Ministry, in consultation with the Finance Ministry and I expect some decision will be taken in a short time—in a week or two.

The amount of Rs. 80 lakhs is the subsidy which it is proposed to give to the Scindias for the first five ships built between 1946-49 and which the company took for its own fleet.

Shri Goenka: Will my hon. friend tell us on what grounds they came to this decision. This is the first time that we are hearing of this grant.

Shri Santhanam: I would ask my hon. friend to refer to pages 22 to 24 of the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee held on the 17th, 18th and 19th September 1951. It will be found that a sub-committee was appointed on the 17th which recommended this subsidy. There the whole case is given. When the first five ships were built the prices of steel had gone up and labour conditions and other conditions had deteriorated considerably. As a result of it the cost at the ship building yard was much greater than the comparative cost of

a British ship building yard. The Scindia Company said that not only had they suffered in building the ship building yard but on each of these ships, without calculating the interest on the Rs. four crores capital, they had incurred a capital loss, and they estimated the total loss at Rs. 120 lakhs. They appealed to the Government of India that the Scindia Steamship Company as a shipping company might carry on their trade on the same conditions as other shipping companies in India who were buying ships abroad, and they wanted a differential subsidy of Rs. 120 lakhs.

This was considered by the Standing Committee of Transport (other than Roads) and they approved of the principle of subsidy subject to further examination regarding costs. Then it came to the Standing Finance Committee. At the time it came to the Standing Finance Committee the prices of ships had risen and it was on the new basis of increased prices for ships that they calculated that the present margin was only Rs. 80 lakhs, and therefore the Standing Finance Committee finally recommended a subsidy of Rs. 80 lakhs. So far as the ships are concerned this is the only, and the final, grant which is to be made.

As the manner in which the Government of India should conduct or cooperate or take over the ship building yard, that is a separate issue. As a matter of fact in the Budget itself the cost of ships which had to be ordered was considered and what was provided was discussed and voted upon.

This matter has been under discussion from 1949 and it was after very careful consideration by all the Ministries concerned that we came to the conclusion that this Rs. 80 lakhs subsidy is a reasonable subsidy and that without it the conditions of operation of the Scindia Steamship Company will be very difficult. In order to enable an Indian shipping company, which had been fighting against vested interests, which had carried our shipping to the various shores when foreign vested interests were powerful in this country and in this Government, to function we have come to this decision. This matter has been considered in detail and I suggest that this should not be mixed up with the future of the ship building yard which is a separate issue, and this matter must be considered on its merits.

So far as the principle of subsidy is concerned, in every country in the world it has been accepted. But the

Government of India, both in the Ministries of Transport and Finance, have not accepted any general principle of giving subsidy for the ships, because our financial condition is not such that we could accept that principle. Therefore, this has been treated as an exceptional case, and this is a case which is fully deserving on merits. In order not to take up more time I would suggest that hon. Members should read pages 22, 23 and 24 and also page 78 of the proceedings of the Standing Finance Committee for fuller information. I hope the House will agree to this grant without any further objection.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one line on page 23:

"This proposal is made not only to help the Scindias who are in some considerable financial difficulty but also to assist them in paying their share, i.e., Rs. 52 lakhs for the further capital of Rs. 2 crores for the Eastern Shipping Corporation which it is proposed to call up for the immediate expansion programme of the Corporation."

That means that the Government accepted the responsibility of paying a certain portion of Scindias' share to the Eastern Shipping Corporation also.

Shri Santhanam: That is not the case. According to the articles of association of the Eastern Shipping Corporation, Scindias have to pay a certain amount of capital, and Scindias said that they were in difficulties and if they got this subsidy it would be easier for them to pay. Therefore, what we said was that one condition of paying the subsidy was that this should not be spent away for other purposes and that part of it should go to the capital. That is all. The paying of capital has nothing to do with the subsidy. Even without the subsidy they would have to pay that. But they are in difficulties and when once they get the money we said that the money should first be utilised for paying their share of the capital of the Eastern Shipping Corporation.

Shri Goenka: One question I would like to ask of my hon. friend Mr. Santhanam. Was any assurance given by the Government of India at any time between 1946 and 1949 that a subsidy would be paid to the Scindia Steam Navigation Company? Secondly, I would like to enquire from him when did the first demand for subsidy come from the Scindia Steam Navigation Company. Because, so far as I am aware, in the Industries Committee all

[Shri Goenka]

that we discussed from 1947 to 1949, when I was there, was in regard to the future of the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and no question was raised during those three years, when I was on the Standing Committee of the Ministry, about any subsidy demanded for the ships built between 1946 and 1949. I would, therefore, like to know when these assurances were given and how this matter came up.

Shri Santhanam: I do not think any assurance was given before, because the Government of India would not give any assurance without examining all the circumstances. The first memorandum was submitted in July 1949 to the Commerce Ministry. It has taken all these two years for having it properly examined and coming to a decision.

Shri Goenka: All that I can say is that it is a very wrong thing for the Government of India to do, that losses incurred by a company should be reimbursed by the Government of India after five years. I mean this is a new thing which I have not heard of.

Shri Ramaswamy Naidu: Is it not correct to say that this is not a question of charity but making good the promises that were made on behalf of the Government and the then political leaders, as also making good the loss of the company which otherwise would not have suffered this loss? Is it not also a fact that Scindias are now only the transporting agents and the shipping too is being taken by the East India Shipping Corporation?

Shri Santhanam: The East India Shipping Corporation is a purely shipping company. It has nothing to do with the manufacture of ships. So far as the other things are concerned, it is a question of moral obligation; there was no question of legal or any other kind of obligation on the part of the Government.

Shri Sidhva: Is it not a national industry in which Government should really take interest for keeping the industry going?

Shri A. C. Guha: Was there any proposal before Government to take over the whole shipping yard and, if so, may I know what were the terms given and whether Scindias have refused to accept those terms?

Shri Santhanam: There is no question of taking over the shipping company.

Shri A. C. Guha: I mean the shipping yard.

Shri Santhanam: I have already stated that the matter is under the active consideration of the Finance and the Works, Production and Supply Ministries and that a decision will be taken in a week or two.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it true that about two years ago some terms were given to them and that Scindias refused to accept those terms?

Shri Santhanam: Negotiations have been going on for the last two years.

Shri Goenka: I would only like to submit that when a grant of this nature, of Rs. 80 lakhs, comes before the House the Ministry must place all the facts as to what they have done in the past, what they are doing at the present and what they intend to do in the future. Without putting the whole facts before the House, the past, present and future, it is very wrong that a Supplementary Grant should be put in here by the backdoor.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: May I intervene at this stage as the hon. Member is exciting himself for nothing. So far as the subsidy is concerned, we have explained our reasons and it is for the House to decide whether they will approve of it on the merits or not. We also added that while the negotiations for the final disposal of the ship building yard were going on, we felt that it was necessary to keep it going. If the Yard was not kept going, it was no use carrying on the negotiations about the taking over. A lot of trained workmen who were working there would be thrown out of work which would bring about a different sociological problem. We gave an order for three ships and we have repeated that order now. It is true that in the beginning certain proposals were made, but it is not axiomatic that as soon as a proposal is made, it should be accepted. Indeed the delay has probably improved our chances of getting better term. In the beginning they asked for a certain sum. We did not see why we should pay all that sum in taking it over. Then there was the question of what additional capital would be required to keep this yard going. At one time the estimate was high, high in the sense that we were already fully over-extended with our other schemes of capital expenditure and we were not in a position to undertake this additional liability. Then at one stage the French experts were called; they went over the yard and they made certain recommendations.

Even as the result of their recommendations, we found that the taking over of the yard would cost us more than what our available surplus resources could permit. Finally by a process of attrition, if I may so call it, we have now reduced the total estimate and as far as I can judge, the thing has become manageable. Then at frequent intervals we have to consult the Planning Commission in the matter because this thing has to fit in with the Plan which has been brought out. Therefore, to say that we are refusing to place any facts before the House is to make an unjust charge. It is only when the negotiations are completed and Government have taken a final decision that we shall be able to say: We propose to do so much; we propose to pay Scindia so much on such and such an item; we propose to put in additional capital for such a term of years and we expect that we should be able to rehabilitate the yard or to expand its activity in such a definite manner. All these things we cannot give out today. By and large, that is the position. Therefore, we are not hiding anything from the House.

लाला अर्चित राम : मैं डिमाण्ड नम्बर ७० और ७१ के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहूंगा।

यह आप को ख्याल होगा कि हम लोग जो रिफ्यूजी (Refugee) हैं वह तो हमेशा रुपये की मांग करते रहते हैं। तो अब जब कि रुपया मंजूर हो रहा है तो हमें क्या ऐतराज होना चाहिये। यह बात बिल्कुल ठीक है। यह जो डिमाण्ड है यह ऐडवाइजरी कमेटी (Advisory Committee) के सामने आ चुकी है और हमारी उस के साथ सहमति है। लेकिन चन्द एक डिमांडों के मुतालिक मेरे दिल में शक गुजरता है कि यह जो रुपया है वह रिहैबिलिटेशन (Rehabilitation) के लिए खर्च हो रहा है या कोई डिहैबिलिटेशन (Dehabilitation) के लिए खर्च हो रहा है। यह किस काम के लिए खर्च हो रहा है। अभी मैं ने अर्ज किया कि तीन चार जगहें हैं। इन में से एक ऐसी जगह है जो योल कैम्प है उस में रिफ्यूजीज रहते हैं। उन के ऊपर ३३ लाख रुपया ११ महीने में खर्च किया गया है। ग्यारह महीने से वह

रह रहे हैं और उन के ऊपर ३३ लाख रुपया खर्च किया गया है। इसी तरह दिल्ली के जो स्क्वैटर्स (Squatters) हैं उन के ऊपर १० लाख रुपया खर्च किया गया है। इस के अलावा कुछ डियरनेस अलाउन्स (dearness allowance) के लिए खर्च किया गया है और कुछ एक करोड़ रुपया जो पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से आदमी आये हैं उन के ऊपर खर्च किया गया है। यह इस तरह से आइटम्स (items) हैं। इन के मुतालिक मैं कुछ कहूंगा। मसलन् अब जो यह १० लाख रुपया जो रखा है यह दिल्ली के अन्दर स्क्वैटर्स के लिए खर्च किया गया है। यह इन के रहने के ऊपर खर्च किया गया है या इन की भलाई के लिए खर्च किया गया है, इस में मुझे कुछ शक है। मुझे कुछ शक है कि आया यह इन के रिहैबिलिटेशन पर खर्च हो रहा है या इन के अपरूटिंग (uprooting) पर खर्च हो रहा है। यहां दिल्ली के अन्दर जो स्क्वैटर्स हैं वह यहां पर चार साल से बैठे हैं। अभी आप लोग जब एक सीट पर यहां पार्लियामेंट में बैठते हैं तो आप को इस सीट से मोह हो जाता है। तो फिर जो आदमी चार साल से वहां पर बैठे हुए हैं और वहां पर रह रहे हैं, उन्होंने न जाने किस तरह वहां अपना गुजारा किया है, किस तरह से उन्होंने अपने ग्राहक बनाये हैं, किस तरह वह अपनी रोटी कमाते हैं, पांच, छः, सात रुपये रोज कमाते हैं। अब आप उन को हुकम देते हैं कि तुम्हारा रिहैबिलिटेशन हो रहा है। जो स्क्वैटर्स हैं उन को वहां से मालवीय नगर, कालका जी भेजने का हुकम दिया जाता है। वहां पर जो बह ४-६ रुपये रोज कमाते हैं वहां से उखाड़ कर उन को भेजा जा रहा है। वहां जाने पर उन को भकान मिलता है, दूकान बगैरह तो हैं नहीं। कर्जा भी उन को मिलता है, सी, बी सी, चार सी रुपया कर्ज मिलता है, लेकिन

[लाला अचिंत राम]

उस से काम कहां चल सकता है। वह कहते हैं हम ने जो अपने आप को रिहैबिलिटेड किया था, विदाउट दी हैल्प आफ़ दी गवर्नमेंट, तो अब गवर्नमेंट का क्या मतलब है कि हम को यहां से उखाड़ कर फेंक देती है। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि स्क्वैटर्स पर जो रुपया खर्च हो रहा है और उन के लिए जो बस्तियां बन रही हैं और बनी हैं वह अच्छी बस्तियां बनी हैं, लेकिन वह कुछ ऐसी बस्तियां हैं जहां कि वह रिहैबिलिटेड होने के बजाय अपरूट हो रहे हैं।

जब हम इस के लिए मिनिस्टर साहब से कहते हैं तो वह जवाब देते हैं कि हम क्या करें, गवर्नमेंट की मजबूरी है। हकीकत में वहां पर जाने से उन का अपरूटिंग हो रहा है, इस को वह महसूस करते हैं, लेकिन वह करें क्या, चांदनी चौक में तो जगह उन के लिए नहीं बन सकती है। और इस के लिए हम ने एडवाइज़री कमेटी में एक प्रस्ताव पास किया कि न्यू देहली कमेटी के पास या दिल्ली इम्प्रूवमेण्ट ट्रस्ट के पास या नोटी-फाईंड एरिया के पास जितनी जमीन है वह सब की सब रिहैबिलिटेशन डिपार्टमेंट के सुपुर्द कर दी जाय ताकि वहां पर वह मकानात बना सके और इन लोगों को दूर दूर जगह पर भेजने की ज़रूरत न पड़े। अब रिजोल्यूशन तो हम ने पास कर दिया है और मंजूर भी हो गया, और यूनेनीमसली (unanimously) मंजूर हो गया। अब मुश्किल की बात यह है कि वह कहते हैं कि जो कुछ हम ने सलाह की थी वह ठीक थी लेकिन अब उस के लिए म्याऊं कौन करे। कौन जा कर इस के लिए कहे ? इधर यहां दिल्ली इम्प्रूवमेंट ट्रस्ट की जमीनें गैर रिपयूजीबल के लिए नीलाम हो रही हैं। रिजोल्यूशन तो हम ने पास कर दिया लेकिन अब प्राइम

मिनिस्टर साहब के पास जा कर कौन कहे, कैबिनेट के पास जा कर कौन उस को समझाये। इस के लिए वह मजबूर हैं, म्याऊं कौन करे ? अम्बेडकर साहब ने कहा हम प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब से बात करेंगे। लेकिन बात करे कौन ? जो कोई मिनिस्टर काम करने आये वह आये और अपना काम कर के चले गये। अपना अपना काम सब ने चालू किया। लेकिन यह काम जो सब की जिम्मेदारी का काम है इस को कौन निभाये ? प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को फुरसत नहीं है। उन के साथ बात कौन करे ? इस लिए नतीजा क्या होता है कि यह रुपया जो खर्च होता है वह वहां मालवीयनगर और कालका जी में मकान बनाने पर खर्च होता है। लेकिन वहां जा कर यह लोग रोटी कहां से खायें ? वह हम से आ कर कहते हैं कि हम यहां कैसे अपना गुज़ारा करें, यहां कहां से रोटी कमायें, तो हमारे पास इस का कोई जवाब नहीं है। इस लिये मैं कहता हूँ कि इन के लिए या तो आप ऐसी जगह मकान बनाइये जहां कि रह कर ये लोग रोटी कमा सकें, या फिर इन के लिए कृपा कर के वहां मकान न बनाइये। चाहे और जगह दुमंजिले मकान बना डालिये। नहीं तो इन को वहां इतनी दूर भेज कर मुसीबत में अपने हाथ से न डालिये। इसलिए मेरी यह दरखास्त है कि अब तो आप कोशिश कीजिये कि आप प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब से बातचीत करिये, आप चाहें तो आप के साथ हम चल कर बोलेंगे, आप कम बोलिये, हम ज्यादा बोलेंगे या फिर इन के लिए अच्छी जगह मकान बनाइये जहां कि यह लोग रोटी कमा सकें।

अब जो दूसरी रकम है वह ३३ लाख रुपये की योल कैम्प के बारे में है। ग्यारह महीने में यह ३३ लाख रुपये खर्च हुए हैं। यह कोई ज्यादा रुपया नहीं है, मैं समझता हूँ कि ठीक ही है। लेकिन यह खर्च क्यों हुआ है ?

क्या वजह है कि यह लोग वहां पर बैठे हुए हैं और गवर्नमेंट का खर्च हो रहा है। गवर्नमेंट आफ इण्डिया ने इस बात का फ्रैसला किया है कि यह आदमी जो योल कैम्प में है वह काश्मीर के और जम्मू के उन हिस्सों से आये हैं जहां पर कि पाकिस्तान का कब्जा है, इसलिए इन आदमियों को वापस काश्मीर भेजा जायगा, जम्मू भेजा जायगा। अब वह आदमी कहते हैं कि हम जाने को तैयार हैं, लेकिन जायें कहां ? मकान नहीं मिलता, जमीन नहीं मिलती, बड़ी मुसीबत की बात है। माननीय मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हम क्या करें। उन के तो कई मालिक हैं। बाज़ औरत होती है जिस का एक मालिक होता है, लेकिन इन के तो कई मालिक हैं। एक तो रिहैबीलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री है, दूसरी एक स्टेट्स मिनिस्ट्री है और फिर एक अब्दुल्ला साहब की गवर्नमेंट है। वह क्या करें, बड़ी मुसीबत में फंसे हुए हैं। इसलिए कहते हैं कि रोटी तो मैं दिये जाता हूं, अगर कोई और जगह नहीं कुछ होता है तो रोटी खाये जाओ। इस तरह यह ३३ लाख रुपया खर्च कर दिया गया है। अब सवाल यह है कि अगर इन को जमीन वहां जम्मू में नहीं मिलती तो हिन्दुस्तान में दो। तो मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि कहां से दूँ। जमीन तो बहुत सी रिक्लेम (Reclaim) हो रही है, लेकिन वह कहते हैं एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री के पास जाओ। फिर हम एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री से दरखवास्त करते हैं कि आप ने इतनी लाखों एकड़ जमीन को रिक्लेम किया है और रिक्लेम करने का प्लान बनाया है, उस में कुछ जमीन रिफ्यूजीज को दे दीजिये ताकि वह गुजारा कर सकें। हम उन से कहते हैं कि आप वह जमीन रिहैबीलिटेशन डिपार्टमेंट के सुपर्ब कर दीजिये। वह कुछ जवाब नहीं देते। न तो कहते हैं हां देते हैं और न ही कहते हैं कि नहीं देते हैं और इस तरह इन गरीब रिफ्यूजीज पर

३३ लाख रुपये का खर्च हुआ है। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब भी बहुत मुसीबत में फंसे हुए हैं, अब्दुल्ला साहब भी मुसीबत में हैं, वह वहां उन को मकान और जमीन दे नहीं सकते। अभी मैंने सवाल किया कि वह तो हिन्दुस्तान के सिटीजन (Citizen) हैं, उन को वोट का हक दो। तो कहा कि वहां कांस्टीट्यूएंट असेम्बली (Constituents Assembly) बन रही है, गवर्नमेंट आफ इण्डिया का फ्रैसला है कि वह वहां पर जायें और वही जा कर रहें। लेकिन वह जायें कहां, वहां कहां रहें। अब यह मामला बहुत दूर चला गया है। ख्याल कीजिये कि इस देश के अन्दर गवर्नमेंट आफ इण्डिया फ्रैसला करती है कि उन को वोट का हक नहीं मिल सकता। अब मिनिस्टर साहब इन के लिए कहते हैं कि तुम रोटी खाये जाओ, रूखी सूखी मिस्सी रोटी लिए जाओ और खाये जाओ, लेकिन इन से हमदर्दी कौन करे। पहले तो यह स्टेट मिनिस्टर ठहरे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि जमीन कहां से ला कर दें, जमीन एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री दे। आप कहते हैं ग्रो मोर फूड (Grow More Food) कामयाब नहीं होती। हम जानते हैं कि जहां दूसरी जगह तीन आदमी काम करते हैं वहां रिफ्यूजी को जमीन मिले तो वह अकेला काम कर सकता है और आप की ग्रो मोर फूड को आसानी से कामयाब बना सकता है। लेकिन मुझे मालूम नहीं कि कहां जाया जाय। किस के पास, मेहरबानी कर के बताइये, जायें जो इस मामले को हल कर दे। मंत्री जी तो इस के हक में हैं, लेकिन अब इन की मदद के लिए कौन आये? अब यह सवाल कैबिनेट के सामने है। अब इस के मुताल्लिक में नहीं जानता किस से कहा जाय। मैं तो अब इस पार्लियामेंट से कहता हूं कि आप ही मालिक बन कर इस का हल निकालिये।

[लाला अचिंत राम]

तीसरी एक छोटी सी बात है, लेकिन वह भी अर्ज कर देता हूं। मैं देख रहा हूं कि रात दिन मंत्री जी काम में दबे हुए हैं, उन को फुरसत नहीं मिलती। एक बिल आता है, फिर दूसरा बिल आता है, फिर कई मामले उन के सामने पेश होते हैं, वह काफ़ी कोशिश करते हैं, उन के सिर पर बहुत काम है। इसलिए जब बेचारे रिफ्यूजीज उन के पास जाते हैं तो वह कहते हैं, मुझे फुरसत नहीं है, आप एडवाइजर (Advisor) साहब के पास जाइये। जब वह एडवाइजर साहब के पास जाते हैं तो वहां भी उन को जवाब मिलता है कि फुरसत नहीं है। मिनिस्टर साहब क्या करें, काम तो करना चाहते हैं लेकिन २४ के २८ घंटे तो नहीं हो सकते। वह बहुत मसरूफ़ हैं। इसी तरह एडवाइजर साहब भी बहुत मसरूफ़ होते हैं। फिर रिफ्यूजीज आ कर हमारे पास कहते हैं कि किस के पास जायं। मिनिस्टर साहब मसरूफ़ हैं, एडवाइजर साहब भी मसरूफ़ हैं। किस के पास जा कर अपनी मुसीबत कहें, कहां जायं, रिहैबीलिटेशन हो रहा है या डिहैबीलिटेशन हो रहा है। उन के अन्दर गुस्से का कैम्पेन (Campaign) चल रहा है। आप को मैं बताऊं कि मेरे पास एक आदमी पूर्व बंगाल के आये। वह ट्रिपल एम. ए. थे। उन्होंने मुझे कहा कि मैं ने इंटरव्यू के लिए एक दरखास्त भेजी। एक चिट्ठी भेजी, फिर दूसरी भेजी और फिर तीसरी भेजी। लेकिन कोई जवाब नहीं आता, अब क्या करें, किस के पास जायें और किस से बातें करें। मैं जानता हूं कि मिनिस्टर साहब बहुत काम कर रहे हैं।

मैं दो तीन मिनट और लूंगा। इस के लिए मैं कहता हूं कि यह अच्छा होता कि आप ने वहां जो प्रावीजन किया था कि डिप्यरनेस

अलाउंस दिया गया और कुछ तनख्वाहें बढ़ाई गईं तो एक और एडवाइजर का प्रावीजन किया होता। एक तो यह मिनिस्टर हैं, इन का काम बहुत बढ़ गया। फिर जो एक एडवाइजर हैं वह उन का काम नहीं कर सकते हैं। तो एक और एडवाइजर आफ्फ़ मूकरर कर दें जिस से कि वह इन बेचारों से बात कर सकें और इन की मुसीबत को सुन सकें।

अब जो एक करोड़ रुपया रखा है इस के लिए मैं कहता हूं कि यह कम नहीं है, जो पूर्व बंगाल से आदमी आये हैं। अब यह आदमी आज १९५१ के अन्दर तशरीफ़ ला रहे हैं और इस के लिए इन्तज़ाम किया गया। यह आदमी तो बराबर आ रहे हैं, १९४७ में आये, १९४८ में आये, १९४९ में आये, १९५० में आये और आज १९५१ के अन्दर आ रहे हैं। अब मैं यह सोचता हूं कि यह क्यों आये, इस के लिए इन का क्या गुनाह है, तो मेरे दिल में यह आवाज़ आती है कि इनका इस में कोई गुनाह नहीं है। उन को बतलाया जाता है कि कोई फ़िक्र नहीं है, अब इन्तज़ाम हो रहा है, उन के मुताल्लिक़ अब पालिसी का फ़ैसला हो रहा है, धीरज धरिये, वह छे महीने ठहरे, साल ठहरे, दो साल ठहरे, तीन साल ठहरे, चार साल ठहरे। लेकिन अब चार साल के बाद अब आप की जानिब से कहा जाता है, जोर से कहा जाता है कि वहां पाकिस्तान में माइनारिटीज (Minorities) सेफ़ (safe) नहीं है, उन की सिक्थोरिटी (security) नहीं है और हमारे केसकर साहब भी कहते हैं कि वहां सिक्थोरिटी नहीं है और जब एक मिनिस्टर साहब ऐसा कहते हैं कि वहां पर सिक्थोरिटी नहीं है। आप यह समझ सकते हैं कि वहां पर तो उन को बसाने का फिर से सवाल ही नहीं है और वह चार वर्ष इस सबब और

उम्मीद से मारे गये कि वहां उन का कोई फिर से रिहैबिलिटेशन हो सके ।

मैं इन डिमांड्स पर और ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ, सिर्फ़ इतनी बात अर्ज करता हूँ कि इन तमाम मामलात के मुताल्लिक हमारे माननीय मंत्री जी विचारें और कोई उस का हल निकालें । अब हमारे मंत्री जी अगर हेल्पलेस (helpless) हैं तो फिर पार्लियामेंट कोई उस का हल निकाले और कोई पालिसी का फ़ैसला हो और तय किया जाय कि लोगों को कैसे बसाया जाय । अब मसलन जो देहली इम्प्रूवमेंट ट्रस्ट डिपार्टमेंट है, वह यह फ़ैसला कर दे कि हम एक इंच ज़मीन भी बिना रिफ्यूजीज़ को प्रिफ़ेन्स (preference) दिये हुए नहीं बेचेंगे, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि रिफ्यूजीज़ के रिहैबिलिटेशन का मसला आसानी से हल हो जायगा । लेकिन कौन ऐसी बात कहे, किसी की इतनी ज़रूरत है कि ऐसी बात कहे, कोई सुनने वाला नहीं है, सब को अपनी अपनी फ़िक्र पड़ी है । प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब हमारे वैसे ही बहुत मशगूल हैं, उन के पास और बड़े बड़े अहम सवाल हल करने को हैं, मिनिस्टर हैं, वह भी बहुत मशगूल रहते हैं और कभी काम से खाली नहीं रहते । खैर, मैं अस्त में मंत्री जी की खिदमत में यह अर्ज करूंगा कि जहां तक मेरी सहायता का सवाल है, मैं हमेशा उन की खिदमत में हाज़िर हूँ और मेरी उन से यही अर्ज है कि जाने से पहले इन रिफ्यूजीज़ को बसाने का काम कर जाइये, उन को रिहैबिलिटेट कर जाइये मेरी आप से यही प्रार्थना है ।

(English translation of the above speech)

Lala Achint Ram (Punjab): I would speak on Demands Nos. 70 and 71.

You very well know, Sir, that we refugees are always requiring money. So, why should there be any objection from our part when money is being sanctioned by the House. This is right. This demand has come up before the Advisory Committee and we are in agreement with it. But I have a doubt about a few demands as to whether this money is being spent on the rehabilitation or debilitation of refugees. For what purpose is it being spent? As I submitted just now there are three or four places and one of them is Yeol Camp where refugees are living. A sum of thirty-three lakhs of rupees has been spent on these refugees in eleven months. Similarly ten lakh rupees have been spent on the squatters of Delhi. In addition, some amount has been spent on dearness allowance and about one crore rupees on people who have come from East Pakistan. These are some of the items. I would like to say something about this expenditure. For example, a sum of ten lakh rupees, that is being provided here, has been spent on the squatters of Delhi. Now I doubt if this amount has been spent on providing accommodation and rehabilitating the refugees or on uprooting them. These squatters are in Delhi for the past four years. Now, when you sit for some continuous period on your seat here in this House, you naturally develop a sort of affection for that place. Therefore, these persons who are residing there for the last four years and who have somehow managed to establish small businesses of their own in these localities and are now feeding their families by earning five or six rupees a day, naturally do not want to leave their places. You now say to them, "you are going to be rehabilitated", and passing orders to that effect. The squatters are being sent to Malaviyanagar and Kalkaji. They are being evicted from these places where they somehow or other earn four to ten rupees a day. They of course get houses in those areas but there are no shops. They also get loans of two hundred or four hundred rupees but this amount does not help them long. These refugees say, "we rehabilitated ourselves without the help of the Government and now the Government proposes to uproot us from these areas." Therefore though it is right that money is being spent on the squatters and that the colonies being constructed for them are good colonies yet I feel they are such localities where the refugees in reality are being uprooted in place of being rehabilitated.

When we represent their case to the hon. Minister, he says, "We are helpless what can we do?" In fact he also

[Lala Achint Ram]

feels that the refugees are being uprooted in this way. But he says there is no help. No new construction can possibly be made for them in Chandni Chowk. There you are perfectly right. For that we passed a resolution in the Advisory Committee that all vacant land lying with the New Delhi Municipal Committee or the Delhi Improvement Trust or the Notified Area Committee should be handed over to the Ministry of Rehabilitation so that the latter might erect houses on those areas and there might not be any necessity of sending them to distant places. The resolution was passed and accepted unanimously. Now the difficulty is that they do say that our advice and our suggestions were very good but then who should bell the cat? Who should come forward and get the scheme approved? The lands belonging to Delhi Improvement Trust are being auctioned to non-refugees. We passed the resolution but the problem was how to approach the hon. Prime Minister or the Cabinet and make them understand the whole position. They are unable to do this. Dr. Ambedkar offered himself to approach the Prime Minister. But who was to discuss the whole thing? Many Ministers came, did their job and went away. Everybody was interested with his own work. But who was to take upon himself this important work which demanded responsibility of one and all. The hon. Prime Minister has no time. Who can talk to him? The result, therefore, is that money is being spent on constructing houses in localities as distant as Malaviyanagar and Kalkaji. The problem there is how to earn a living. They come to us and ask what should they do to manage for their bread. We have no reply. Therefore I say that you should either construct houses at those places where they may earn their bread or should stop building houses in such areas. You may construct double-storeyed house at other places but do not make them suffer these terrible difficulties by sending them so far. I therefore request you that in the first instance you talk to the hon. Prime Minister; if you wish we can accompany you and talk to him. You may speak less and we will discuss with him in details or if you cannot do this, construct houses for them at places where they may earn their living.

Now the other sum of thirty-three lakhs is about the Yeol Camp. These thirty three lakh rupees have been spent in eleven months. This is not a big amount and I think it is quite reasonable. But why has this sum been spent? What is the reason that these people are continuing to live

there and the Government spending money on them? The Government of India have decided that since these people, who are living in Yeol Camp, have come from those areas of Jammu and Kashmir which are under Pakistan's possession, they would be sent back to Kashmir and Jammu. Now these people say that they are prepared to go back but the question is where to go? They do not get any houses and lands. Such is the unhappy lot of these people. The hon. Minister pleads his inability to do anything in the matter. As a matter of fact these people have many masters. Mostly women who have only one husband or master but these people have a number of masters. There is Rehabilitation Ministry, there is States Ministry and then there is Sheikh Abdullah's Government. Thus they are in a very miserable condition and do not know what to do. Therefore he says that he is prepared to manage for their bread and they would be provided with food so long as no other arrangements are made for them anywhere. Thus these thirty-three lakh rupees have been spent. Now if these people are not given lands in Jammu, they should be provided land in India. To this the hon. Minister replies that he has no land to give. Lands are being reclaimed but he asks us to approach the Ministry of Agriculture for getting them. Then we approached the Ministry of Agriculture and requested them to allot some plots to the refugees out of the lacs of acres of land which are being reclaimed by them or about the reclamation of which they have prepared huge plans. We requested them to allot some land to the Ministry of Rehabilitation. But they do not give any reply to any of our requests. Neither they express their willingness to give those land nor their inability to do so. It was in this way that a sum of 33 lakhs of rupees has been spent on these poor refugees. Our hon. Minister is very much perplexed and so is Sheikh Abdullah. They cannot be provided with houses and lands there. The other day I asked the Government that since they were citizens of India they should be given the right of voting. The reply which I got is that a Constituent Assembly is being formed there and that it is the decision of the Government of India that these people should go back to their places and live there. But where should they go and live? This matter has now gone far. Just imagine what a pity it is that the Government of this country decides that these people would not be given right of voting. The hon. Minister is willing to provide them with food—whatever type of food it may

be—but there is no one to assist the hon. Minister in his task. In the first place he is a Minister of State. Secondly he is unable to give them land. Land can only be given by the Ministry of Agriculture. You say that the 'Grow More Food' Campaign is not successful. We know and we can say that in places where three persons do a certain work, only one refugee can finish the work provided he is given land, and thus he can make your grow more food scheme a success. But I do not know where to go and whom to approach. Please let us know whom should we approach and request to solve our problem. The hon. Minister is in its favour but there is no one to help him. This question is now before the Cabinet. I do not know where should I go to get this matter settled. I only ask this Parliament that it should be the final authority and find out a solution of the problem.

The third thing is not very important but I would like to submit it also. I find that the hon. Minister is busy day and night. He has to introduce Bills one after the other, then there are other official matters which he has to dispose of. In short, he is overworked. Therefore when refugees go to him, he tells them that he is very busy and they should go to the Adviser. When they go to the Adviser, they are given the same reply. What can the hon. Minister do? He is ready to work but he cannot increase the number of hours in a day. He is awfully busy and so is the Adviser. So, the refugees come and ask us as to where they should go to get their problems solved. The Minister is busy and the Adviser is also busy. Where should they go? One cannot understand whether it is the rehabilitation of refugees or their debilitation. There is a campaign of anger going on among the refugees. I might tell you that a gentleman from East Bengal came to me. He was a triple M.A. He told me that he had sent an application for an interview. There was no reply. So he sent reminder but that too was not replied. He sent a second reminder and then a third one but there was no reply. He asked me what should he do and where should he go? I know the hon. Minister is working very hard for them.

I will take two or three minutes more. Regarding the above matter I would like to submit that it would have been much better had alongwith the provision, which you made for dearness allowance and increase in salaries, a provision for an additional Adviser should also been made. The hon. Minister is overworked and then one Adviser cannot do the whole work.

Hence one more Adviser should be appointed who might listen to what these poor people would like to say.

The sum of one crore rupees that has been provided is not insufficient. People are coming from East Bengal even today in 1951 and arrangements have been made for them. These people have been coming all along. They came in 1947, in 1948, in 1949, in 1950 and today in 1951 also. When I think why these people are coming and whether there is any fault of theirs in coming over here, I feel that they are not to be blamed for this. They are quite innocent. Now, they are told that they should not worry, the whole thing would be managed and that a definite policy is going to be formulated for them. They are asked to keep patience. They waited for six months, for a year, for two years and for four years. But now after four years it is said from your side, from the house top, that minorities are not safe in Pakistan. Our hon. Minister Shri Kesar also says that there is no security. When no less a person than a Minister says that there is no security, you can easily realise that the question of rehabilitating the refugees there does not arise. Thus these four years have been wasted in the hope that they would be rehabilitated there.

I do not want to speak more on these demands. I would only submit that our hon. Minister should give full consideration to all these problems and find out a suitable solution. If the hon. Minister is helpless, let Parliament solve the difficulty and decide a definite policy as to how these people should be rehabilitated. For example, if the Delhi Improvement Trust declares that it would not sell a single inch of land without first giving preference to the refugees, it would go a long way in solving the rehabilitation problem. But who can suggest this? Who is so bold as to utter these things? There is no one to hear their woes. Everybody is busy with his own self. Our hon. Prime Minister is very busy, he has many other important matters to look after. Other Ministers are also busy and never find time for other work. Anyway, in the end, I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that so far as my assistance is concerned I am always at his disposal and hence I want to suggest to him that before going out of office he should see that the refugees are properly rehabilitated. That is all I want to submit.

Shri Shiva Rao: First of all, may I know, Madam, how long we propose to sit now?

Mr. Chairman: We will rise at once.

Shri Shiva Rao: There are only a few points which I would like to raise. The first is with regard to Demand No. 23, Union Excise Duties. The Demand is for ten lakhs, for carrying out fencing operations over a distance of 21 miles as part of the scheme to revive the land customs border near Pondicherry and Karaikal. This cordon was in existence during the war, and I think it was very helpful in bringing extra revenue to the Government. It is proposed to revive it. But, since this is a revenue bearing department, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister why he has not asked for the whole amount of 34 lakhs in order that the fencing work could be undertaken over the entire distance of 71 miles. I would also like to know whether there is before him any scheme for establishing a protective service along the sea coast. Because, I think it was the Government of India's experience during the war that a great deal of smuggling took place by sea. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister or his Minister of State whether the scheme in all its stages includes any measures for the establishment of a cordon along the sea coast.

Coming to Demand No. 24, Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax, the demand is for eleven lakhs and odd. The explanation is that at present there are 152 crores of Income-tax in arrears and it is therefore proposed, as part of the drive for the clearance of arrears, to appoint an additional temporary staff of ten Assistant Commissioners, 60 Income-tax Officers, etc. The estimate of the Finance Minister is that an additional revenue of not less than seven crores is expected as a result of the work of this additional staff. That is a very small proportion of the total arrears of 152 crores. I would suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to be more vigorous in building up the Income-tax Department, so that these arrears may be collected as soon as possible.

I P. M.

Mr. Chairman: May I know whether the hon. Member will take some more time?

Shri Shiva Rao: I want another ten minutes.

Mr. Chairman: The House is adjourned to 3-30 P.M.

Shri Sonavane (Bombay): Last time it was decided that we do not sit in the afternoon.

Mr. Chairman: It has now been decided to sit.

The House then adjourned till Half Past Three of the Clock.

The House re-assembled at Thirty-five Minutes Past Three of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Shri Shiva Rao: When the House rose for lunch, I was on the point of observing that having regard to the large arrears which still remain to be collected—as this volume before us points out, in spite of the best efforts of the Income-tax Department, the arrears both in regard to assessment cases and for collection have been increasing and on the 1st April 1951 the arrears amounted to nearly 5,40,000 assessments and Rs. 152 crores in demand—it seems to me that what the Finance Minister has called the drive for clearance of arrears is much too mild. He anticipates that as a result of the expansion of the Department this year, he may get an additional revenue of not less than Rs. seven crores.

Shri Sidhva: A good start is made.

Shri Shiva Rao: I do not know whether the hon. Minister is waiting to see the result of the new technique which has been adopted by his junior colleague the Minister of State who is going round the country trying to collect income-tax arrears in the same spirit as he once put it, as a bee collects honey from flowers. The reference to income-tax assesseees, no doubt, is very flattering, but I do not know whether they feel stung in the new process he has adopted. Nevertheless, I would like to suggest to the hon. Finance Minister that he should not be so modest in his expectations, nor so modest in his demands for the expansion of the Department. I would like to see the Income-tax Department developed very much on the lines of what is popularly known as Somerset House which is attached to the British Treasury, and I would like to see our Income-tax Department show the same efficiency, the same vigour and may I add, the same spirit of independence, independence even of the Ministry of Finance, as Somerset House displays in London.

I come to another Demand under External Affairs. The total demand under External Affairs is Rs. 33 lakhs and one of the items relates to an additional Rs. eight lakhs. I think, as contribution to the United Nations Organisation. In this connection I would like to ask the Prime Minister, what

has happened to the proposal which has been before the External Affairs Ministry for the last two or three years for strengthening the publicity organisation, particularly in the United States of America and the Headquarters of the United Nations. The point has been made on the floor of the House on previous occasions and therefore it is not necessary for me to repeat it; but I think it is generally recognised that our publicity arrangements abroad are woefully inadequate and I was hoping to see in the Supplementary estimates some items for strengthening our publicity abroad.

Lastly, I would like to invite the attention of the Finance Minister to Demand No. 30 under Miscellaneous Departments. This is a Demand for the Central Water and Power Commission. With regard to this Demand, I would like to ask the Finance Minister whether it would not be possible for him, either by himself or in cooperation with the Ministry of Natural Resources, to examine the constitution and powers of this important organisation. I think the time has come to ascertain how the personnel for this organisation is recruited, whether it is really on an all-India basis, and whether there are any technical difficulties at the present moment which stand in the way of drawing on all engineering talent wherever it may be found in the country. I believe if the rules could be liberalised in certain directions, it would be possible to have a much larger number of Indian technical personnel employed in the various schemes under the Ministry of Natural Resources. Some of us who belong to the Estimates Committee recently visited the Damodar Valley Corporation, and I must confess we came back greatly disturbed by what we saw, or perhaps I should say, by what we failed to see. It was in sharp contrast to the enormous progress made by the Bhakra-Nangal project. There have been questions on the floor of the House recently about difficulties which have arisen in regard to the Hirakud project. Therefore, I suggest to the Finance Minister to look into the matter more carefully.

At the time of the discussion of the Budget I had suggested that in the Ministry of Natural Resources there should be a competent board of consultants entirely Indian in personnel; and I would like to throw out another suggestion in this connection—that this new organisation, the Central Water Power Commission, should contain Indian engineers with different backgrounds: some with experience of dam construction, others with knowledge of

irrigation schemes and still others with knowledge of hydro-electric schemes. At the present moment I am afraid this organisation does not contain even one member with direct dam construction experience, and for that reason I would like the Finance Minister to look into the matter more carefully.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am very grateful to Mr. Ghule and Mr. Sidhva for focussing the attention of the House to certain problems pertaining to the postal department. I cannot of course say that the remarks which they showered are wholly complimentary. Nevertheless, to the extent they have thought about the problems I am grateful to them.

Mr. Ghule has expressed the opinion that perhaps we are sacrificing efficiency for the sake of opening more and more post offices and that we should not care as much for opening post offices as we should for securing efficiency. I am sure that Mr. Ghule will appreciate that with the rise of social consciousness in our people, they are bound to ask for more and more post offices and that demand on the part of our rural folk can hardly be ignored. The particular demand pertaining to the opening of new post offices relates to the fulfilment of our programme, namely that all villages in the country with a population of 2,000 or a group or cluster of villages within a radius of two miles with that much population should possess a post office of its own. I can say with confidence that it will be a matter of great satisfaction and pride for our country and it will be an admirable achievement on the part of the present Government if within the space of four years of the attaining of freedom we are able to secure for every village in the country with a population of 2,000 and over a post office of its own. Therefore, this grant will enable us to fulfil that programme. Day in and day out we are getting requests from villages all over the country that post offices should be opened in each one of them. There are only 900 of them now with a population of 2,000 and above which do not possess post offices. Several M.P.s. also have been kind enough to convey to me occasionally their demands that such and such village should be provided with a post office. Therefore, I think Mr. Ghule will agree with me that we should go ahead. Of course we do take care of efficiency and we are as much zealous about it as we should be.

As an instance of what he termed "inefficiency", stated that a complaint which he made some months ago to

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

the then Deputy Minister Mr. Khurshed Lal, my predecessor, regarding his own home district of Rajgarh.....

Shri Ghule: I am not much in the habit of putting forward claims of my own place.

Shri Raj Bahadur: Very good. The whole country is ours and I would like Mr. Ghule to give me a complaint about Travancore-Cochin. His main complaint seems to be about the opening of more post offices in Rajgarh district and extension of facilities in "no-dak areas". At present certain villages have "no-dak arrangements". We are trying to eliminate such villages. There have been 35 villages in the district of Rajgarh in Madhya Bharat and we have eliminated them all during this year. There is no "no-dak village" in that district now.

With regard to his complaint I may point out that since he made it as many as about 12 communications were addressed to him including a few from Mr. Khurshed Lal himself and the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs. Besides this, two officers went and waited on him to find out what he wanted and requested him to give a list of villages which he wanted to be served more efficiently. I am sure if each one of the complaints coming to us receive that much consideration in our country there will be no occasion for any complaints at all.

Shri Ghule: May I inform the hon. Minister that I have not received a single communication to the effect that there are now no "no-dak villages" left in Rajgarh district.

Shri Raj Bahadur: May I respectfully point out to my friend that ever since I assumed office he never talked to me about it; otherwise I should have informed him about it.

Shri Ghule: That is a fact.

Shri Raj Bahadur: He sprung a surprise upon me this morning and for the first time he told me about it. The last letter to the Ministry was one which was received prior to my being sworn in. I may plead with Mr. Ghule that he be good enough to bestow a little attention on me whenever such a complaint arises. We bestowed as much attention as possible in the circumstances on his complaint.

He complained about the non-availability of money order forms. That point will be dealt with by my

colleague the Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply.

Mr. Sidhva made a point about mail bags that the Harness and Saddlery Factory was unable to carry out their part of the contract. As has been mentioned in the notes appended to the Supplementary Demand, the company was not able to carry out its part of the contract because of the paucity or shortage of the basic material out of which the bags are manufactured. We are running short of jute and on that account the company could not do it. Therefore, there was no liability which could be saddled on that company on account of the non-performance of the contract.

Shri Sidhva: The rates have gone up from Rs. 3/8/- to Rs. 7/8/- and why? What is the position now and do they want more?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The prices of canvas bags have shot up after we formulated our Budget proposals and Parliament accepted them.

Shri Sidhva: Am I to understand that no contract was made?

Shri Raj Bahadur: We had placed orders on them.

Shri Sidhva: The rate has gone up from Rs. 3/8/- to Rs. 7/8/-. I want to know whether an actual contract was made and if so, at what rate. Was that an open contract?

Shri Raj Bahadur: According to the order we placed the rate agreed to was Rs. 3/8/-. After that the prices shot up and we had to revise the rates and they are not now available for less than Rs. 7/8/- per bag.

Shri Sidhva: If the rate was accepted they are bound to supply at that rate. That is my point, unless there was some other condition.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have explained that sufficiently.

Thakur Krishna Singh (Uttar Pradesh): I want to ask one question regarding the first point which he mentioned relating to the scheme of opening post offices in every village with a population of 2,000 and over or in a cluster of villages. In the hill tracts there are no such villages for miles and miles and you will not have a population of 2,000 in a group of near about villages either. The result has been that only two post offices have been proposed to be opened in Tehri

Garhwal having an area of 5,000 square miles and population of five lakhs in a period of two years. I would like to be clear on the point whether this policy will be followed in the hilly tracts also?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Such hilly tracts present a problem of their own. The Department will bear in mind the difficulties experienced in those areas and try their level best to serve them as well as we can.

Shri Ghule: What is the programme for new post offices so far as Part B States are concerned?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The programme, as a matter of fact, is a joint one. I have just given the exact figures with regard new post offices opened.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is any difference made in this matter between Part A and Part B States?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No, Sir. So far as Part B States are concerned, we are going to open 400 new post offices.

My friend also inquired about the position of Madhya Bharat under this particular scheme. He will be pleased to know that in Madhya Bharat there are now no villages with a population of 2,000 and above which have no post offices. All those villages have already been granted post offices.

Shri Ghule: About this question of opening post offices in villages with a population of 2,000 and above, I had written to the Post Master General in the month of February but I have had no reply.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not aware of that, but my information is that no such village has been left out.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister need not expect that all letters need be directly addressed to him. Whatever is addressed to his subordinates should be enough.

श्री जांगड़े: मैं जानकारी चाहता हूँ। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने अभी यह कहा कि उन ग्रामों में जिन की जन संख्या दो हजार या दो हजार से अधिक है डाकखाने खोले गये हैं या खोले जा रहे हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जिन ग्राम सभूतों की जन-संख्या दो हजार या दो हजार से ज्यादा है

क्या उन में डाक खाने खोले गये हैं, खास कर छत्तीसगढ़ डिवीजन में जिस की जन-संख्या ८० लाख है उस में कितने डाक खाने खोले गये हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर: जिन ग्राम समूहों की जन संख्या दो हजार से ज्यादा है वह सब इस स्कीम के अन्दर आ जाते हैं और ऐसे सब ग्राम समूहों को जो दो मील के दायरे के अन्दर हैं एक गांव समझ कर पोस्ट आफिस खोले जाते हैं।

श्री जांगड़े: सेंट्रल सर्किल (central circle) के पोस्ट मास्टर जनरल से मैं मिला था। उन्होंने बतलाया कि जिन गांवों की जन संख्या दो हजार या उस से ज्यादा है उन में डाक खाने खोले गये हैं लेकिन दो मील के अन्दर जिन ग्रामों समूहों की जन संख्या दो हजार से अधिक है उन में अभी डाक खाने नहीं खोले गये हैं। क्या यह सच है ?

श्री राज बहादुर: अगर विशेष रूप से इस के लिए सवाल रखा जायगा तो मैं उस का उत्तर दे सकूंगा।

[**Shri Jangde (Madhya Pradesh):** Sir, I want an information. The hon. Minister just said that post offices have been opened or are being opened in villages having a population of 2,000 or more. I want to know whether post offices have also been opened in the groups of villages whose population is 2,000 or more, specially the number of such post offices opened in the villages of Chhattisgarh Division the population of which is 80 lakhs.

Shri Raj Bahadur: This scheme covers all villages within an area of two miles if that comprises a population of 2,000 or more, such groups being considered as one unit for the purpose of opening a post office.

Shri Jangde: I met the Post Master General of the Central Circle. He told me that post offices had been opened in individual villages whose population

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was 2,000 or more, but that they were not opened in groups of villages comprising a population of 2,000 or more within the radius of two miles. I want to know if that is a fact.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I would be able to give an answer if a separate question is put.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as these individual cases are concerned, it is better for hon. Members to write to the Minister. Why should they take them up when a Supplementary Demand comes up before the House.

Thakur Krishna Singh: Government have been prepared to incur a maximum loss of Rs. 500 on new post offices.....

Shri Raj Bahadur: No, Sir. It is Rs. 750.

Thakur Krishna Singh: I stand corrected. In the case of those areas which have recently come into the Union, which had no post offices before and which are extremely backward, do Government propose to increase that amount to about Rs. 1,000 so far as those areas are concerned?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is no such proposal under consideration at the present moment, but I may submit that the question of opening post offices in about 400 villages with a population of 2,000 and above in the Part B States is already under consideration. We shall open post offices there and thereby we shall liquidate the entire number of such villages which have at present no post offices. The question, therefore, does not arise.

The Deputy Minister of Works, Production and Supply (Shri Buragohain): My hon. friend, Mr. Ghule raised the question of shortages of P. & T. forms. It is little realised that there are about 4,000 different posts and telegraphs forms and it is just possible that in certain localities certain varieties of forms may be in short supply. This really might give an erroneous impression that the shortages probably are very general, but that is far from being the truth. Minor temporary shortages, in fact, were reported from Delhi and from the Bombay Circle and steps were accordingly taken and supplies rushed to these two places from Allgarh and from other places, namely the Nasik Press, and from the small unit of press in Bhopal. I might inform my hon. friend that for Bombay during

the past few weeks 100 bags a day of these forms have been despatched and only on last Tuesday a wagon load has been sent there. I hope all these steps that have been taken will ease the situation.

Then, Mr. Sidhva has moved a cut motion regarding the Government Housing Factory and he has made certain points about it. His first complaint was that the two reports regarding the Housing Factory have not been placed on the Table of the House. In answer to a recent question in this House, my hon. colleague, the Minister said that he was not prepared to place those reports on the Table of the House. The position is this. We are now in the process of negotiation with the British consultants and we want to terminate the arrangements that we had with them so that benefit might accrue to the Government. Secondly, the Cabinet recently decided that half of this factory should be utilised as a pure Government concern to manufacture asbestos sheets, and the other half should be jointly run with a private concern for the production of prefab houses and now we are in negotiation with a private party. If all these materials are placed on the Table of the House, it might prejudice the course of negotiations that are now in hand. It is for that reason that the reports are for the time being withheld. At the appropriate time they will be published and placed in the hands of hon. Members.

Another point that my friend made was about the present position of this factory. In answer to a question, asked perhaps by my hon. friend himself, it was stated that the decision of the Cabinet was to run half the factory, as I have already stated, as a purely Government concern and half of it as a tie-up with the private party. Now the staff has been drastically cut down and a skeleton staff only is maintained to carry out experimental work till the end of December—upto which period the expenditure now asked for refers to—so that we might gain sufficient experience to run the factory both in a tie-up with the private party and also as a separate Government concern.

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not want to refer to the subsidy of Rs. 80 lakhs to the Scindia Steam Navigation Company—much has been said in the morning on that—yet I must say that Government should definitely state what their policy is about that ship yard. As far as I have been able to gather during our inquiry in the Estimates Committee, some terms were

offered to the Scindias by the Government of India for acquiring that shipyard and the Scindias refused those terms. We also gathered the impression that because Scindias did not accept the Government terms, Government had either to accept the position of the Company to close down the yard or to make an annual subsidy. Nobody would suggest that the yard should be closed. It should be maintained and run as of urgent national necessity. But instead of giving a subsidy every year, it is better that it may be acquired by Government and put on an economical basis. As far as we were able to gather, if Rs. three or four crores more were invested, the whole thing would become economical. The production capacity is to be increased by about 60 per cent. to make it a business proposal.

4 P.M.

The Ganga Transport Board is a new item to which the Central Government is making a contribution of Rs. two lakhs. Bengal, Bihar, Assam and U.P. would each contribute Rs. one lakh. Ganges is one of the navigable rivers, but for some years past its navigability is decreasing and I support this proposal for a Transport Board to maintain its navigability. Since Assam is also contributing, I think the Brahmaputra river should also be brought within the orbit of this Board.

In this connection, I want to point out that the terms and conditions under which the two inland companies—foreign concerns—are operating in Bengal, Assam and Bihar, that is, from Patna up to Gauhati, are not quite satisfactory. There have been some allegations that they have taken some of their inland steamships to Pakistan waters and the whole system is running somewhat to the detriment of Indian interests and to subserve more the interests of the neighbouring country. Government should take up the question of revising the terms and conditions under which these companies have been allowed to operate.

A contribution of Rs. one lakhs is provided for the Colombo Plan exhibition. The amount involved is not much, but what is the idea of Government in having this exhibition? How will this Colombo Plan be co-ordinated with our Five-Year Plan? How far would India benefit by getting into joint plans with other countries? Recently, we read in the papers that Australia has made some contribution. Would India also have to make some contribution to South East Asian countries? I want information on these points.

Against the Enforcement Directorate an amount of Rs. five lakhs and 75 thousand is provided. The Estimates Committee recommended that this Directorate might be abolished and the task might be entrusted to the Special Police Establishment. This Enforcement Directorate has not got police powers and naturally it does not get the necessary co-operation from State Governments. It was originally meant to deal with enforcement of textile control orders and now it has to deal with some other control orders also. I think it would have been better had the Special Police Establishment been authorised to carry on this work also—as I do not know how the Government will remove the difficulties in the officers of this body not having police powers and not having the requisite co-operation of the state police force.

In this report figures are given of cases investigated and prosecuted. Out of 1075 cases investigated, only 295 were taken up for prosecution. This means less than 30 per cent. Out of the 295 cases prosecuted, only 128 cases resulted in conviction. So, out of 1075 cases there have been convictions in only 128 cases. What has been done about the other person in respect of whom the prosecutions have failed? Or, was the prosecution not started at all? It is said that departmental action has been taken in 132 cases: but since most of them are businessmen, quota-holders or wholesale dealers, we do not know what departmental action is referred to. Have they been debarred from getting licences? Again, four millowners have been convicted but we do not know what subsequent action has been taken by Government. What departmental action has been taken, or what has been the sentence awarded by the court? These points need to be explained.

About rupees four crores have been provided here for displaced persons. Of this, Rs. one crore is for new displaced persons from East Bengal, that is, those who have come during this year. Only the day before yesterday the Chief Minister of West Bengal stated in his Assembly that the number of those who have come during the last three or four months is 73,600, that is, roughly 75,000. If Government think that by rupees one crore they can rehabilitate these 75,000 people, then they are working under some misapprehension and are not aware of the magnitude of the task. The total number of displaced persons from East Bengal can be estimated to be about 45 lakhs or more, because those who

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came before 1950 would be about 18 lakhs and from January 1950 to the end of 1950 the number would be about 25 lakhs and if you add the present 75,000 the total would come to about 44 or 45 lakhs. Last year Government sanctioned Rs. ten crores for the 25 lakhs refugees who came during that year. I hope that Government will see that some more money is given for the rehabilitation of the displaced persons from East Bengal and also see that the money is properly spent and measures for rehabilitation are taken up.

I think Government should by now have come to realise that it is not possible for minorities to stay in East Bengal. Only two or three days ago our Deputy Minister for External Affairs has stated that the conditions in East Bengal are far from satisfactory and the East Bengal minorities are getting unfair and discriminating treatment. A similar statement has been made by the Chief Minister in the West Bengal Assembly. Government should make up its mind as to what its attitude would be about East Bengal Hindus. Are they ready to take over the entire Hindu population of one crore and 25 lakhs, or would they allow the minorities to be exterminated?

In this connection, I would like to know what has been the result of the Sri Prakasa Enquiry Committee about the rehabilitation of East Bengal Displaced Persons in Assam. Some time back I put a question about that enquiry when I was told that the report had not yet been submitted and so no definite reply could be given. I would now like to know what has been the recommendation of the Committee and what action Government propose to take in the matter of rehabilitating East Bengal refugees in the adjoining provinces. I do not in this connection refer to Orissa, because the attitude there has been somewhat more sympathetic than in the other neighbouring provinces.

The biggest item in the Supplementary Demand is under foodgrains. It is about Rs. 15 crores. I am rather surprised to see that out of this Rs. 15 crores 25 lakhs near about Rs. 13 crores is for subsidy for the distribution of milo. Milo is not a very popular cereal and I do not understand why Government should spend this amount of Rs. 13 crores in addition to the money they have already spent in the purchase of that grain. I think there must be something wrong in the whole

thing and I hope Government will make proper enquiries about it.

Shri B. Das (Orissa): People of Madras want it.

Shri A. C. Guha: They do not want milo; they want rice.

An Hon. Member: Bengal also.

Shri A. C. Guha: Bengal will not take milo.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: May I have a general idea as to how long each hon. Minister will take to reply?

Shri Karmarkar: I will take about ten minutes.

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Munshi): I expect to take about ten minutes.

Shri Tyagi: Ten minutes would do for me.

The Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri Sri Prakasa): About five minutes.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I must also put in a claim for some time.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I will take about 3½ minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Ministers will take an hour among themselves. I shall call upon hon. Ministers one after another at five o'clock.

Shri B. Das: I do not wish to speak on any specific grant that we are going to pass. I felt happy that the hon. the Finance Minister had given us a short review of the finances of our country. In years past it was our experience that these Supplementary Demands were brought up after nine or ten months with the result that we never knew anything about the financial working of the Government of India during that period. I should congratulate the hon. Mr. Deshmukh for having introduced the healthy practice of coming before the House at short intervals, and reviewing the financial position, though this time the period has been slightly less—only six months after the closing year.

It pleases me to find that the Government of India's balances at the end of March stood at Rs. 60 crores more. It must certainly have pleased the hon. the Finance Minister to find Rs. 60 crores in his hands. I hope it will not be like the Rs. 500 crores balance of Mr. Liaquat Ali in 1946

which vanished away and nobody got any scent of it.

Shri R. Velayudhan (Travancore-Cochin): Liaquat Ali also vanished.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: This is actually in the chest.

Shri B. Das: Then it pleases me as much as it does you.

But the very fact that there is a surplus shows that there is a tendency to under-estimate the revenues on the part of the Finance Ministry. This year my hon. friend the Finance Minister ended with a happy smile that everything would balance out. Unfortunately I had no occasion to speak on the Finance Bill. But I do perceive a tendency to under-estimate the receipts and in 1951-52, I am sure my hon. friend will find a greater surplus than he anticipated or spoke of in his Budget speeches.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Perhaps the hon. Member was not present when an explanation was given of this Rs. 60 crores. It was largely due to under-spending in the sense that it was not spent before the D-day, but many claims were left to be met after the D-day.

Shri B. Das: But at the same time the hon. Minister will recognise that our revenues are going up.

I would have been very pleased if the hon. the Finance Minister had reviewed the working of his Budget in every Ministry during the last six months. The Ministries want this House to sanction something like Rs. 29 crores both in capital and revenue expenditure. Has any Ministry shown any tendency of surrendering any money? So far as food was concerned, I do recognise that the situation was very bad and if the hon. Food Minister had asked for an extra Rs. 13 or 14 crores that was a justifiable demand. But what is the justification for the other Rs. 16 crores. Is it going to be a permanent increase in our expenditure, or is it due to extraordinary circumstances.

Somehow an impression is left in my mind that except the Finance Ministry there is no other Ministry which is at all interested in economy of Government expenditure. I recently had occasion to preside over meetings of the Public Accounts Committee and I got an impression that the Ministries were not at all alive to the necessity of economising and surrendering their

amounts. At times they do not surrender at all. It just comes out after the audit of the Auditor-General. There is something wrong which must be tightened up.

I feel always alarmed when I read in the papers that some foreign country, particularly U.K., wants India's dollar pool to accumulate. My friend Mr. Arun Chandra Guha just now got nettled with the Colombo Plan. The Government of India have caught a new malady since we attained independence. It is Commonwealth-phobia. It attends every Commonwealth Relations Committee which does not work for the good of India. The British Chancellor of Exchequer wants to tread on our sterling balances and our dollar pools. Why should England go on spending our sterling balances? Why should we not draw on it and spend it for better conditions and prosperity in India? That is a point which always agitates me, and I think our Government will be wise if instead of adding to the sterling balances in U.K. it draws more on it. As for the U.K. Chancellor's hope that India will accumulate more and more in the dollar pool so that England may survive and will not have the last gasp in the trade with U.S.A., this is a very wrong principle. India should not truck with U.K. in the matter of dollar pool at all. We have got no help out of it. Every time we are handicapped so that England prospers.

My friend Mr. Arun Chandra Guha referred to the shipping subsidy. I do not say it was a subsidy to any particular company. It was on account of the earnest desire of the Government of India to build up shipping in India properly. In other Committees I have come to know something more of it. My friend Mr. Arun Chandra said just now that the opinion was that if we invest a sum of Rs. four crores, then ship-building will be at its best. If that be so, I entirely support that opinion and that idea so that India can be proud of its ship-building industry and need not buy junks from U.S.A. and U.K.—broken ships that were used in the last war and which were being purchased, not by the Government alone, but by our shipping companies—which may land us in a difficulty later. Let us give up that.

In the morning I was alarmed when friends in the House were almost fighting as if forty or eighty lakhs of rupees have been given as subsidy to the Scindia shipping company. It is not a subsidy to any company, but subsidy for building of these ships. As

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far as I know, the cost of building has gone up according to the Government of India experts as well as according to the company's experts. I do not speak for the company. But no country will remain independent today if it has not got its own ship-building industry and if it does not expand its coastal shipping and external shipping. That is a matter which we must consider from the national standpoint and not think of a particular company getting a lakh or two by some means. But as far as I understood, that company has not paid any dividend for the last two or three years. This is my impression of the success of the Scindia business at present! But I strongly support any advance that the Government of India gives for the ship-building trade. By that the Government of India will ensure the freedom of India for many years.

Shri J. N. Hazarika (Assam): I welcome the Supplementary Budget. But I am surprised to see that not a single pice has been demanded for education.

Under the head "Ministry of Food and Agriculture"—Demand No. 40—it is said "More expenditure on contingencies due to increase in work on account of more import of foodgrains from foreign countries". In spite of all this expenditure and the efforts that the Government are making, yet the food situation in some parts of the country is not satisfactory. Particularly in my part of the country, that is Assam, the food position is very very acute. The Food Minister was kind enough to visit Assam before last flood occurred. At that time the food situation was not so acute as we are now feeling it. You will not believe me if I say that about sixty per cent. of the population of the villages have no paddy granaries of their own now and they are depending upon the neighbouring people, who have fortunately granaries of their own, and upon the supply from the Government. If the food situation is to improve in Assam, the Government must increase the number of cheap foodgrains shops. But what has been given in the grain shops so far provided in the rural areas is that only four seers of rice or wheat is given to each person for a month. Do you think that a person can live on one seer of rice or wheat for a week?

The areas which have been affected by flood are suffering so much from the shortage of food that they lived on wild roots and vegetables. You cannot imagine that people can live on wild roots and vegetables. I myself found it very difficult to believe when people

described to me how people lived during the time of flood. They lived on wild roots, vegetables and plantain trees. The middle of the plantain trees was cooked and taken as food, especially in the districts of Lakhimpur and Sibsagar where the people were affected by floods in the Brahmaputra and its tributaries.

At the same time I wish to say that our procurement is not satisfactory there. It is an irony of fate that the people who have got food in their granaries do not like to part with their food at lower rates even to their own friends and their own neighbours. They like to sell their paddy at the market rate. They do not like to give it at a lower rate to their neighbours. This is the position with regard to food in the States. At the same time our Government says that they cannot send more food than what they are giving now. We are glad that the Government have contracted an agreement with the American Government, but at the same time, they should not forget that rice is important for most of the people of this Country. Rice is the main food for the people of Assam and you will be angry if I said that their hunger is not removed by this milo and wheat. Millions of people have said that unless we give them rice, it is not possible for them to live. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to increase the rice quota to the Government of Assam. It may be wheat or it may be rice, or it may be both, but in certain places now grams are supplied to the citizens. The schoolboys and girls had to live in their hostels on grams at one time. They got rice for only one time in the morning or in the evening. At one time they had to take grams or some other things which are not acceptable. I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister here and the House that we should not discontinue to import rice from those countries where it is available and at least supply to those areas like Assam, Bengal and Madras as much rice as possible.

Then I come to Demand No. 38 where the Pre-partition payments have been dealt with. Under this Demand, it is said that Rs. 30 lakhs has been or will be paid to the Nagas as war-time compensation. At the same time, they must not forget those other people who suffered during war-time. Manipuri people also suffered as much as the Nagas did. I think the Government have received representations from some Manipuri people. Not only the Manipuris, but there are some other

people also in the Abhor Hills and Mishmi Hills and the Tirap Frontier areas which have now been transferred to the Lakhimpur district, there are also people who suffered from war-time damages. Our Government and the military people do not believe that all the people suffered like that. It is not our Military officers who fought the Japs there but the Americans with their jeeps and tanks. There were other regiments there but they were not ours. But it is due to that that our people suffered there. Our Government should not therefore say that the compensation claims are not based on true facts. I would like to request the Government to recognize this fact and settle the matter as early as possible. It is no use keeping the matter pending for years to come. Is it Government's intention, I ask, not to pay it until the next War comes again?

Then, there is Demand No. 35—Grants-in-aid to States. I welcome that there is an increase of Rs. 50 lakhs over the original estimate of one crore in the last Budget. But this Rs. one crore 50 lakhs means only 25 per cent. of the total Budget provisions of our country. This Grants-in-aid includes the grant made under article 275(1) of the Constitution which provides the grants for the development of the Scheduled Tribes in various parts of the country. We wonder how the Government will create situations in order to develop these people in ten years' time as provided in the Constitution. Only this amount has been provided for the uplift of these millions of tribal people in this Budget. Moreover, in this connection, I would draw the attention of the House to the reply which has been furnished by the hon. Home Minister. Of course, it is in respect of Assam:

"Rs. 24 lakhs exclusive of the special grant of Rs. 10 lakhs for the Naga Hills District has been made to the Government of Assam. What portion of this amount should be spent on the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes of the Plains-District, has been left to the discretion of the State Government."

This is the stage of affairs, which I do not like. They should be frank and allot the grants according to the demands made by the State Government. I know definite schemes were prepared by the Government of Assam separately for the Plains tribes, which are not autonomous tribes nor tribes in the tribal areas, and also schemes were prepared for the autonomous areas as well as the tribal areas in Part B, where our Constitution more

or less does not apply. In spite of this fact, our Government has given a grant of only Rs. 24 lakhs despite the Government of Assam's clear request. Ever since I came here to this House, the Central Government have not provided for the schemes that they submitted, for the past two years. I was connected with the scheme which was prepared by the Government of Assam but the Central Government took the view that the schemes were not sound, they were not good and they were bad etc. They did not provide money in time and the Government of Assam could not fulfil their promise of carrying out the schemes, due to the delay which had occurred here and in not paying the amounts in time. They were going on blaming the Government of Assam in respect of the autonomous areas. Last time there was a scheme which was financed by the Central Government very late and as a result of that the Government of Assam could not carry out the works and the money lapsed. I suggest that this state of affairs should not be allowed to continue. If you want to do good to these poor folks, the Provincial Governments should be asked to prepare sound schemes for the Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes including Scheduled Castes and sufficient money should be paid to them for their fulfilment. It seems that in spite of the provisions in the Constitution the Government is static in this respect; it is not working as a dynamic force for the development of the backward elements in the country.

Then I come to another point under External Affairs. I am grateful to the Prime Minister that he has provided Rs. 50,000 for the relief and rehabilitation of the Nagas who had suffered from the Head Hunters and also Rs. 80,000 for the sufferers in the frontier districts like Abhor and Mishmi Hills, who suffered from flood. I had occasion to see at least certain portions of these districts. The tribal people there suffered most during the earthquake as well as during the floods. Considered from this point of view, a sum of Rs. 80,000 is not adequate for their relief. I take this opportunity to say in this House that the condition of the people whose areas have been assimilated with the Lakhimpur district for purposes of civil administration is more precarious. Before the assimilation of certain areas of the plains of Abhor and Mishmi hills in the Lakhimpur district, the flood-affected people there came to the other areas, that is, areas not transferred. As a result of the transfer, neither have they got relief and rehabilitation grants from the Central

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Government, nor have they got any aid from the Government of Assam. Many of them are homeless. They have left their hearths and homes and are living in jungles, without any relief, care and attention from Government.

I would request the respective Ministries, including Home and Finance, to consider the points that I have raised.

ठाकुर कृष्ण सिंह : पहले तो मैं प्राथम मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान अपने संबन्धन की तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूँ जिस में यह लिखा हुआ है कि प्रेसीडेंट (President) एक कमीशन मुकर्रर करेगा जो बैकवर्ड ऐरियाज़ (Backward areas) की तहकीकात करेगा और यह बतलायेगा कि बैकवर्ड क्लासेज़ कहाँ कहाँ हैं, कौन कौन बैकवर्ड ऐरियाज़ हैं और उन के लिए क्या क्या करना चाहिये, और उन की अवस्था और दिक्कतों को दूर करने के लिए क्या क्या बातें हम को करनी चाहियें, शासन की कौन कौन सी बातें करनी चाहियें। उस के लिए अभी तक कोई कमीशन नहीं मुकर्रर हुआ है। हम टकटकी लगाये हुए थे कि शायद इन सप्लीमेंटरी ग्रांट्स (Supplementary grants) में उस कमीशन की मुकर्ररी के बाबत तज़क़िरा होगा, और पिछले बजट सेशन में मैं ने इस सम्बन्ध में कहा भी था, लेकिन अभी तक उन के वास्ते कमीशन मुकर्रर नहीं हुआ है, मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह जल्द मुकर्रर होना चाहिये। इस के लिए सारे जो बैकवर्ड क्लास और पिछड़ी हुई जातियों के लोग हैं, वह टकटकी लगाये हुए इस बात की बात जोह रहे हैं कि कब यह कमीशन मुकर्रर होगा। और कब हमारे उत्थान के लिए गवर्नमेंट आगे क़दम बढ़ायेगी। लेकिन मुझे आज यह देख कर अफ़सोस हुआ कि सप्लीमेंटरी ग्रांट्स जो तैयार की गई हैं, उन में भी इस कमीशन के बारे में कोई ज़िक्र

नहीं है, खर्च के बारे में कोई ज़िक्र नहीं है। मैं फिर से प्रार्थना करूंगा अपने प्राथम मिनिस्टर साहब और गवर्नमेंट से कि वह इस कमीशन को जिस का विधान में ज़िक्र है, जल्दी ही मुकर्रर करें, ताकि उस के जरिये बैकवर्ड जातियों की कुछ भलाई हो सके और जो हम ने लोगों से यह कह रखा है कि हम सब के साथ सोशियल (social) ऐकोनामिक (Economic) और पोलिटिकल जस्टिस (Political justice) करना चाहते हैं, सब का लेवल (level) ऊपर उठाना चाहते हैं, वह तब ही हो सकता है जब आप उन के बारे में पूरी जानकारी हासिल करें कि इन पिछड़ी हुई जातियों की क्या दशा है और किस तरह हम उन की उन्नति कर सकते हैं। सप्लीमेंटरी ग्रांट्स में तरह तरह के खर्च रोके गये हैं, खैर खर्च ठीक हैं, आप उन को रखिये, लेकिन उस सम्बन्ध में एक बात मैं जरूर कहूंगा कि आर्थिक नियंत्रण जब तक आप नहीं करेंगे, तब तक आप खर्चा चाहे कितना ही रखिये, आप का काम सफलतापूर्वक नहीं हो सकता है। मैंने यह अक्सर देखा है कि जहाँ पर दस रुपये का खर्च होता है, वहाँ पर गवर्नमेंट के कामों में तीस रुपये खर्च होते हैं। अभी हीराकुंड डाम के बारे में जो रिपोर्ट आई है उस से मालूम होगा कि वहाँ के चीफ़ इंजीनियर को बुला लिया गया है, वहाँ पर जो खर्चा किया गया है, उस के लिए फ़ाईनेंसियल सैंक्शन (Financial Sanction) नहीं ली गई थी। वह खर्चा किया गया जिस के लिए कोई प्रायर सैंक्शन (Prior Sanction) उन के पास नहीं थी। ऐस ऐस कार्य और जगह भी हो रहे हैं दूसरे डिपार्टमेंट्स में भी हो रहे हैं। नेशनल डिफ़ेंस एकेडेमी देहरादून में एक अयेज़ अफ़सर था, उसके खिलाफ़ एक आर्टिस्ट (artist) ने यह बतलाया कि

वह साहब वहां पर बड़ा अन्धाधुन्ध खर्च कर रहा है, वहां खर्चों बहुत बढ़ा हुआ है और बतलाया कि एक लकड़ी का टुकड़ा जो पांच आने में मिल सकता है, उस के लिए एक रुपया खर्च किया जाता है और दूसरी बातें उस अफसर के खिलाफ उस आर्टिस्ट ने बतलाईं। उस का नतीजा यह हुआ कि एक डिपार्टमेंटल इन्वॉयरी बँठी और आर्टिस्ट जिस ने वह शिकायत की थी, वह वहां से अलग कर दिया गया और खर्चों वैसे के वैसे ही रहे। मेरा कहने का मतलब यह है कि आर्थिक नियंत्रण जब तक आप नहीं करेंगे, सब तक आप चाहे खर्चों कितना ही रखिये, आप उस खर्चों से उस काम को सफलतापूर्वक पूरा नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि जितना काम आप ने अपने हाथ में लिया है, अगर उस में उचित आर्थिक नियंत्रण हो, तो आप उस काम को कम खर्चों में कर सकेंगे और दूसरे ज्यादा अच्छे अच्छे कामों में बचत से खर्चों को कम कर सकते हैं।

और बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह यह है कि डाकखानों के बारे में हमारे डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि जो हिली ऐरियाज़ (hilly areas) हैं और जहां दो हजार की आबादी नहीं हो सकती है और जहां पर दो, तीन मील के मांवां में दो हजार की आबादी नहीं हो सकती है वहां के लिए हम जरूर विचार करेंगे। लेकिन इस जवाब से कि वह इस पर विचार करेंगे, कोई भला नहीं होता। यह प्रश्न आज का नहीं है, बल्कि यह हमारे डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब के सामने और कम्युनिकेशन्स मिनिस्टर साहब के सामने बहुत दिनों से है कि इन हिली ऐरियाज़ में जहां कि पहले से कोई डाकखाने नहीं थे, या बहुत कम डाकखाने थे, कोई खर्चा गवर्नमेंट ने वहां के लिए डाकखानों पर नहीं किया था कोई नुकसान नहीं उठाया था कि वहां के लिए हमें क्या करना चाहिये

और क्या नीति अस्तित्पार करनी चाहिये। मेरी गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना यही है कि इन ऐरियाज़ के लिए जो ७५० रुपये का नुकसान रखा हुआ है, उस की जगह कम से कम एक हजार रुपये का नुकसान गवर्नमेंट को बर्दाश्त करने के लिए तैयार होना चाहिये। यह जो दो हजार की आबादी वाली अड़चन या दो, तीन मील में जहां गांव हों, उस में दो हजार की आबादी हो, इस के बारे में मेरी अर्ज यह है कि जब तक गवर्नमेंट ज्यादा नुकसान उठाने के लिए तैयार नहीं होती इन इलाकों के लिए दूसरी नीति नहीं तय करती वहां डाकखाने नहीं खुल सकते हैं। मैं आप को बतलाता हूँ कि दो साल में वहां पर दो डाकखाने खोलने का प्रपोज़ल (Proposal) हुआ था, लेकिन अभी तक वह दो डाकखाने नहीं खुले। यह आज तक की हालत है। हिन्दुस्तान में स्वराज्य हो गया, अपने देश में अपना राज्य हो गया, लेकिन हमारे यहां जो दो डाकखानों के खोलने का प्रपोज़ल था, वह अभी तक पूरा नहीं हुआ। अन्त में मैं सरकार से यही प्रार्थना करूंगा कि ऐसे केसेज़ के लिए और ऐसी जगहों के लिए जहां पर आबादी का जो क्राइटीरियन (Criterion) रक्खा गया है वह पूरा नहीं हो सकता है, वहां पर डाकखानों के खोलने की इजाज़त और सुविधा दी जाय।

(English translation of the above speech)

Thakur Krishna Singh: First of all, I would draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to our Constitution which provides for the appointment of a commission by the President to make enquiries about the backward areas and find out the places where backward classes live, and make recommendations to improve their lot. However, the commission has not yet been appointed. I had referred to this matter in the last Budget Session also and we were expecting a provision with regard to that in these supplementary grants, but only to find the things otherwise. I want that no delay should be made in the setting up of

[Thakur Krishna Singh]

that commission. The people of the backward classes are eagerly looking forward to the appointment of such a commission through which the Government would take steps to improve their conditions. But I feel sorry to find that no mention has been made about the expenses regarding that commission in the supplementary grants that have been prepared. I would once again urge upon the hon. Prime Minister and the Government to appoint the Commission that has been envisaged in the Constitution, so that some good might be done to the backward classes. We have promised social, economic and political justice to the people and wish to raise their general level. But that can only be possible after we have acquired full knowledge about the conditions of the backward classes and evolved methods for improving their conditions.

Various expenditures have been provided in the supplementary grants. Well, these expenditures are all right and may be included in the grants, but I would emphasize one thing in this connection—that whatever amount of expenditure may be granted, things cannot go well unless there is some financial control over the work. I have often observed in the work of the Government that actual expenditure usually far exceeds the expenditure usually incurred. The recent report on the Hirakud Dam Project shows that the Chief Engineer there has been called back for he had incurred expenditure without obtaining prior financial sanction. Such things are also happening elsewhere, in other departments also. In the National Academy, Dehra Dun, allegations were made by an artist against a British officer that he was making reckless expenditure over things so much so that a rupee was being spent on a piece of wood that could be had for five annas only. The artist made several other such allegations against that officer. But the result was that the artist was turned out after a departmental enquiry was held and the expenses remained as they were. What I mean to say is that unless you put a financial control, you cannot bring about the desired results, whatever the expenditure you may incur. So I think that if there is financial control over the projects that the Government have undertaken, they could be completed at a comparatively less cost and the money thus saved might well be spent on other projects.

Then, the hon. Deputy Minister said that the Government would consider the matter of opening new post offices

in the hilly tracts where the group of villages within an area of two or three miles might not make a population of 2,000 persons. But the reply that 'we would consider' does no good. It is not a new question. The question of formulating a policy regarding the opening of post offices in these hilly areas, where there were no post offices or were only a very small number of them and where the Government have incurred no expenditure or borne no loss, is pending for long before the hon. Minister and Deputy Minister of Communications. My request to the Government is that the provision for bearing a loss of Rs. 750 is not sufficient, and it should be increased to Rs. 1,000. So far as the matter of opening them at places the population of which is less than 2,000, or where the population of villages within two or three miles is 2,000, is concerned, I have to submit that Post Offices cannot be opened in those areas unless the Government are prepared to bear more loss and adopt another policy. Sir, I may submit that there was a proposal to open two post offices there in two years' time, but they have not yet been opened. Such is the condition today when the country is free and we have independence that even the proposal of opening two post offices at these places could not be implemented. I would therefore urge the Government that in cases where the criterion of population cannot be fulfilled permission and facilities should be given to open new post offices.

Shri Alexander: I want to bring home to this House and the Finance Minister the destitute state of our State Travancore-Cochin in the matter of grant of subsidy. I am thankful to the hon. Finance Minister for providing under two heads under Demand No. 34, Rs. 75 lakhs under one head and Rs. 64 lakhs under another head. But, I want to impress upon this House and the Finance Minister that ours was a State that lost heavily on account of financial integration. Our State, being a maritime State, mainly depended for its revenues on customs duties. At the time of the financial integration, the Krishnamachari report definitely stated that we would be getting 75 per cent. of the loss on food-stuffs as a subsidy in consideration of our agreeing to abolish land customs. According to article 306 of our Constitution, we need not have abolished our land customs. Just like Saurashtra and some other States, we could have abolished them only gradually. They proposed that if we agreed to abolish land customs commencing from the date of the formation of Travancore-

Cochin, they would be prepared to give us 75 per cent. of the loss on food-stuffs. Now, unfortunately, they seem to depend upon a word in the Krishnamachari report, page 14, that we will be given 75 per cent. of the loss as subsidy like other provinces. Now they say that because they are not giving the subsidy to the provinces, we too will not have it. But, they have not read the remaining portion in the report in which it is stated that this subsidy promised for Travancore-Cochin is intended for cushioning up the loss that they have suffered on these land customs. They seem to have forgotten that portion. It is definitely stated in the report:

".....the latter being the percentage applicable to Provinces. Such an increase in the amount of food subsidies would mean, in effect, that the Travancore-Cochin Union would be provided with additional resources, on a gradually diminishing scale over a period of years, so that they might develop alternative sources of revenue over the same period to cover the loss on account of abolition of land customs."

The Food Minister himself admitted that our State is 83 per cent. deficit and according to the figures, our issue price per measure of food is perhaps the highest in the whole of India. Between the neighbouring State there is a difference of three annas per measure on the issue price; and even then it seems that the Central Government insists on our Government to raise the issue price of rice. That would be too hard. And is it because that State is the best dollar earning State in the whole Union? Even though our area is only 75 per cent. of the total area of the Union, we have earned for the Union about 20 per cent. of all its dollar earnings. As much as seven crores we have earned as duty on pepper alone for the Centre. We would not urge the Government to give us the subsidy if the Central Government is prepared to give us a share of the duty that is collected on pepper alone one of our monopoly products. The same is being done in the case of jute for the jute producing areas. Why not apply that same rule to us also? Is it because we come from the farthest end of the Indian Union where the three oceans meet? Can it be that our cry from that far off point gets drowned by the roar of those three oceans? Or is it because there are more fortunate States intervening between us and Delhi that our cry which is only a far off cry of a small State gets drowned by the cries of the

other bigger States? Whatever it be, we stand perfectly on our rights and the suggestions that I have made are quite legitimate and proper.

Another thing that I want to impress upon the House is that a third of the area of our State is backwater or waterlogged and another third is forest land and in the remaining one-third we live and produce all the things that earn so much of dollars for the Union, such as rubber, pepper, cardamom, ginger and other things. If we earn all this money for the Union why not feed us at a reasonable price so that we may work more and give the Union more dollars? Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister and the Food Minister to reopen this food subsidy question which they seem to have closed in the last meeting between our Ministers and the Food and Finance Ministers when our Ministers were here two months ago. We, the Members from Travancore-Cochin were also with them. Otherwise it would be too hard on the State. I might also bring to the notice of House that we fought one of the greatest tyrants of our times to be with you in the Union. I mean no less a person than Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, the originator of Free Travancore.

Shri R. Velayudhan: Can the hon. Member refer to Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar as "tyrant" when the latter is not even in the House?

Shri Alexander: Anyway, that is my opinion. Therefore, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to give his sympathetic attention to our claim and agree to reopen the question and grant us more subsidy.

I would like to bring another point here. The total loss that we incur on food sale is about Rs. five crores and recently the State is being allotted fine rice and if we take that fine rice, the total loss that we would be incurring would be about Rs. seven crores. The House would do well to remember that our total revenue is only Rs. 14 crores. So it would be appreciated that it would be impossible for us to suffer such a loss. Even if Government were to give us 75 per cent. of the loss, the remaining 25 per cent. would have to be met by us, and that would be too much for us as that would amount to about Rs. 2.5 crores. I would not depend on any interpretation of the Krishnamachari Report. I am depending on the good-sense of the Finance Minister and of the Food Minister to re-open the issue and grant us more subsidy.

Shri T. N. Singh (Uttar Pradesh): I would at the very beginning refer to the views expressed by the Finance Minister that there is—and it has been accepted by the Ministry—great need for economy. And wherever any excess expenditure is demanded, it becomes the duty of the House to scrutinise the demand and analyse the necessity, for such expenditure. Only last March this House urged the need for insisting on more and more economy and protested against additional expenditure if that could be avoided.

I am not one of those who say that we should not incur any additional expenditure at all, for any reason whatsoever. But there are certain things or directions in which I do feel there is a need for vigilant check. For instance, two or three of the principal items in all these Supplementary Demands refer to certain business undertakings, or State trading or State enterprises. I do think that the grant which is now being asked for, for the maintenance or for the purchase of certain ships by the Scindia Steam Ship Company is one such. If the ships had been imported they would have been cheaper and for constructing these ships in India additional expenditure has been incurred and that extra cost to the company is being met by Government. Only this morning we discussed the Railway Supplementary Demands. I would say that this sort of subsidy for excess cost incurred on production of goods here has been made the order of the day as in the case of the Talco.

Therefore, I say that in all these payments, we should come to a rational understanding of the position. How long are we going to make these payments? What shall be the basis for these payments? These points must be analysed right now so that proper check may be exercised. Otherwise any time a company can come and say, "Look here, this thing has cost us more for such and such reasons, and so please reimburse us to this extent". Therefore, it is very essential for the Government to make a proper analysis of this aspect of the problem. I regret very much that this thing should be brought here in the shape of a Supplementary Demand as I find that this requires a proper analysis and a proper understanding of the basic factors for making such subsidies.

I welcome the proposals to develop the Ganga Water Transport. This system of transport was flourishing

once but was neglected. Perhaps because the Transport Minister also happens to be the Railway Minister, he has a softer corner for the Railways. I am glad that something is being done to develop this transport system. At the same time I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether this method of incurring a little expenditure now and a little more later, is not tinkering with a big problem, and is there not a real danger of what little money is being spent now being considered as wasted on a subsequent day? When undertaking such schemes, special attention should be paid to see that whatever is being spent now does not become a waste later on, but is fully used and found fully useful even later on. Otherwise it might be discovered later that this money was just thrown away because we had no systematised or fully thought out programme before us. I do not deny the necessity of this Demand but at the same time I question the manner in which it is being done.

5. P. M.

Thirdly, I would refer to the deep-sea fishing scheme. In the past you had a ship which operated for some time and later it was discovered that we must have some other ship. The steamer that was converted for fishing purposes was too costly from the point of view of running expenses. So you scrapped that and bought two ships and in addition you have two motor boats. Unfortunately I had not fuller information before and so I hope you will permit me to speak on this point as well, though I am a member of the Standing Advisory Committee for Food and Agriculture. Those two ships which you have, you are discovering, or you are bound to discover very soon, are also costlier to manipulate and operate. Similarly, the two motor launches have been found to be too small for the purpose and the outturn from them is going to be less. This is my feeling from the information that I have gathered. I wish we had not gone in for this experiment at this stage and especially through Supplementary Grants.

The last point I want to mention is with regard to the disposal estimates. We have gone into the disposals question time and again. We are faced with disposal articles from time to time. During the Budget discussion last year it was suggested that by the end of the year we would have finished with the disposal goods and no provision need be made. We find that there are outstanding and more disposals are coming in and we go on

with the whole procedure over again. It means keeping or maintaining a full-fledged department by the Government continuously, because we have not made up our mind as to what is the position in regard to disposals, how long it is going to continue, what we want to be declared as disposal and what should be sold and what not. There must be some time limit for this. There is a lot of wastage in storage. What is sold as disposal sometimes is repurchased. It is time that a proper examination in fuller detail is carried out and you should decide what you are going to do in the future.

Shri Tyagi: I am grateful to Mr. Shiva Rao for the very realistic view he has taken about the importance of the revenue-earning departments—Incometax and Customs Departments. I am sure he has voiced the unanimous view of the House when he said that these departments should be strengthened and expanded. I am also sure that my senior colleague Shri Rajagopalachari has now heard these views. For the Finance Ministry he is the sanctioning authority for the expenditure involved.

It is true that the work of the Incometax Department has largely increased. A few statistics which our Ministry has given in this memorandum will enlighten you about it. We had only four lakhs of assessments in 1948. In 1949 it rose to 5,28,000, in 1950 to 6,35,000 and in 1951 to 8,26,000. Again our investigation branch has been working and trying to rope in other assessees. Our average is about 6,000 assessees per month. In this way the Incometax Department is really growing and we have not been sleeping about it. The Ministry has been making the best efforts to increase the personnel within these few years, since 1947, about 300 officers have already been either enrolled from outside by way of direct recruitment or have been promoted from the subordinate ranks according to their ability and I may tell the House that the department every year is practically squeezed of all talents from the subordinate ranks. There has also been recruitment from outside. I may here tell the House that 100 or more recruits or probationers were recently recruited by the U.P.S.C. I must say that the department today feels rich with these full-blooded young men who are very inspiring and patriotic. I had occasion to address them recently while I was on tour to Calcutta. I told them that they should deem themselves as members of a large family

of the revenue department, with my hon. friend Shri Deshmukh as the father of the family and I as their uncle. I assure you that their reaction was quite good.

As I have already said, there were so many more incomes to be assessed. Over and above this 46,000 were arrears of assessment in March 1951. I must say that the income-tax officers right from the members of the Board of Revenue down to the inspectors have been put to a great strain during these years. They have worked in their offices till late at night and have rendered a good account of themselves. For the last few months they have participated in the big drive for disclosures and realisation of arrears. They have been put to great strain and I take opportunity of this occasion to send through this House my gratefulness and thanks to those officers who have worked more than what was expected of them.

Thus the work in the department has really increased. Mr. Shiva Rao has just said that expansion was not keeping pace with increase of work. I confess it is true but the difficulty is that we cannot really enrol an officer and put him to assessment work at once. He has to undergo two years training and without that training there is great risk of losing revenue on account of defective assessments. So it takes two years for a recruit to be trained and I hope next year we shall get more men from the U.P.S.C. and I again want to bring to the notice of the Home Minister to see that he gives us more recruits next year. For the last two years we have been having quite a good harvest of them and I hope next year it will be better still.

Mr. Shiva Rao has also mentioned something about the disproportion of the income we expect out of the increased staff this year. He mentioned that we are expecting only Rs. seven crores additional income. This has no relation with either the new disclosures or with the realisation of the Rs. 152 crores arrears. Here again I may clarify one point. Rs. 152 crores is the total arrears for realisation but all this is not realisable. For the information of the House I might give a break-up of Rs. 152 crores which are outstanding as arrears. Rs. 40 crores out of it is held for double taxation relief. Although it is in arrears it has to be realised. Rs. ten crores are due from assessees who have left India and have left no assets behind. Rs. ten crores again is unrealisable. This brings the

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amount to Rs. 50 crores. Then there are some companies which have gone into liquidation and our demand against them is Rs. three crores which also is unrealisable. Then, there are irrevocable demands amounting to Rs. 17 crores, and payments deferred by agreement are Rs. nine crores. Doubtful of recovery Rs. 12 crores and amounts readily realisable Rs. 35 crores. In all, about Rs. 35 crores are readily realisable. The rest has to be accounted for. The present amount under discussion, that is, Rs. seven crores, which my hon. friend, Mr. Shiva Rao has mentioned, has nothing to do with these arrears. These Rs. seven crores are expected to come out of the new assesseees that are coming into our registers and from the incomes in arrears which will be assessed now. Therefore, it was mentioned that this income will come through the additional staff we have engaged because they will do the additional work.

About customs also, I must honestly confess that I have really, as your Minister, failed to deliver the goods. I have not made any progress over what the position was at the beginning of the year. The situation on the coasts is very critical. Between Ceylon and India there is a regular gang which, as I have mentioned in this memorandum, has been operating in the sea and smuggling quite a lot of valuable articles. It has been reported that this gang of smugglers is well organised and includes some of the well-trained ex-sailors who are in possession of some high speed launches manned by ex-naval personnel and equipped with rifles and automatic weapons.

The Minister of Education (Maulana Azad): What about Pondicherry?

Shri Tyagi: About Pondicherry too, there are some well organised gangs and they give us some times pitched battles. Our young boys who are working on the borders, both land and sea, are really working very hard and with full enthusiasm. My difficulty is that they are not fully equipped either with arms or with equipment, for instance, launches. While these gangs of smugglers are using fast-moving launches all over the coast, near Ceylon, Pondicherry, near Karaikal, near Kutch and in the river areas of West Bengal, our boys look poor with small country boats, and it becomes very difficult to apprehend these

smugglers. Now a proposal has been put forward; we are going in for eleven new launches equipped with wireless apparatus; some jeeps also have been sanctioned.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Jeeps for use on sea?

Shri Tyagi: Launches for sea and jeeps for the land. All efforts will be made and from the manner in which the House is sympathising with these two Demands, I hope next year we shall give a better account.

Shri Rajagopalachari: I must congratulate Mr. Tyagi, if I may do so, for the extraordinary example he has set in accommodation and aptitude after transfer from the opposition to the constructive and appreciative side of the House. I am very glad that a young gentleman—comparatively—like him is able so soon to see the difficulties of administration and appreciate things and the need for more staff. If I am in office I shall sanction all the applications for fresh staff that he may make.

Shri B. Das: We belong to the same party—the Government and we are of the same party.

Shri Rajagopalachari: He was a member of the party, but he was very much in opposition all the time.

Before I leave Mr. Tyagi, I may say he has a great advantage over other Departments. His Ministry makes money, other Ministries spend money, so that when he asks for additional staff he can say, "I have produced so much money in return", but the others have not that advantage. I hope he will not take too much advantage of this particular vantage and that on the background of his own position to show results and profits arising out of additional staff, he will not make it more difficult for other Ministries to get sanction for additional staff: they cannot produce rupees, annas and pies out of additional staff, he can—that is the one difference.

I apologise for having spent the time in an affectionate and personal manner in this way. I did so for several reasons into which I need not go now. It particularly pleased me to see how well Mr. Tyagi has been working and I may be given the liberty to express myself on that point, being an old man and rather detached in these matters. I hope the other young gentlemen who

are in training to take the place of the front-benchers here will take his example and work as hard and as genuinely and convince everyone of their simplicity of character and genuineness as he undoubtedly does.

As regards the Supplementary Demands, out of respect for what you said at the outset, I must briefly refer to major items and say why, so far as my Ministry is concerned, these Supplementary Demands have been put forward. Regarding grants-in-aid to States, we had a provision in the Budget for one crore. Out of this so much as Rs. 84 lakhs has to be given away to Assam for the constitutional obligation which the Centre has to make up a certain deficit and also for welfare work for Scheduled Tribes and for development of Scheduled Areas. The Assam State takes away Rs. 84 lakhs out of the one crore, so that Rs. 16 lakhs are left to meet the demands of all the other States for welfare schemes for Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Areas. So, we had to ask and we were able to get sanction from the Standing Finance Committee and from the Finance Ministry for Rs. 50 lakhs. We have put that before the House. With this Rs. 66 lakhs—composed of the Rs. 16 lakhs remaining over and the Rs. 50 lakhs—we can provide up to a ceiling, with respect to various States, as follows. The House should be interested to note that we will give for the development of Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes of—

Madras—Rs. 4 lakhs.
West Bengal—Rs. 2 lakhs.
Madhya Pradesh—Rs. 12 lakhs.
Bihar—Rs. 15 lakhs.
Orissa—Rs. 20 lakhs.
Punjab—Rs. 0.75 lakh.
Hyderabad—Rs. 2 lakhs.
Rajasthan—Rs. 5 lakhs.
Madhya Bharat—Rs. 4 lakhs.
Total—Rs. 64.75 lakhs.

That is the ceiling up to which, after examining the various plans which have come from the States, grants will be given, and that is why I am making this request to the House.

As regards the 'Police' Supplementary Demand, it is necessitated by the inter-State long-distance wireless communication which it has been found

necessary to instal. This scheme was sanctioned in the year 1949 but for various reasons, mainly because they were not able to get the equipment and the materials during these years, the Budget provisions already made in previous years were not spent and therefore this year it is repeated. It is really an old sanctioned scheme and an old sanctioned amount which we are asking. This year we have every prospect of getting the necessary stores from abroad. The all-India police wireless scheme is absolutely essential for the security of the country, especially as it has now been found so easy to sabotage other means of communication. The States do have an imperfectly working inter-State wireless now, but it is not satisfactory and breaks down often. Therefore, it has been found that a scheme is necessary which could be controlled and worked from Delhi. This relates to the main amount. The other amount relates to the payment which is to be made for expenditure in Hyderabad already incurred by the State. We have to pay our agency there for police service rendered to the mint which has now become a Government of India mint.

Regarding Delhi, the largest portion of the Supplementary Demand is covered by expenditure incurred for extra dearness allowance scales which have been imposed in the middle of the year and also for expenditure specially in the Education Department.

So also in the case of Ajmer the extra demand is intended for meeting expenditure incurred by reason of higher pay to teachers and other specially in the Education Department.

Maulana Azad: Particularly education of refugees.

Shri Rajagopalachari: Yes, particularly refugee education. The money spent on dearness allowance, increased scale of pay etc. has been well spent.

I now come to the scare about kidnapping to which a reference was made by Mr. Ghule. In the course of his speech, he referred to a point made by me in April denying the grounds for the scare. In this connection, I must say that we must not be misled by the mere number of cases. The scare in April had to be met and when it was examined there was certainly nothing then to justify the sudden scare at the time which resulted not only in aggravating the fear but in lynching of innocent people on the roads. Nearly all the reports received during this period were investigated

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and found to be untrue and in fact had to be contradicted publicly in order to assuage the tension.

Taking the general question, I might mention that this is not a new offence. In 1948 the number of missing cases reported in Delhi was 37. In 1949 the number was 60. In 1950 the number was 57. This is an average which seems to run fairly at one level. The missing children include children up to sixteen years of age. The procedure in the past was that whenever a missing case was reported, unless there was a definite allegation of kidnapping or unless subsequent investigation showed kidnapping, it was simply put in the general register as 'missing children' without being put down as a kidnapping case. Recently this year we have, on account of the scare and other reasons, found it necessary to issue strict instructions, so that more verification takes place and more cases are recorded in the register of kidnapping cases. Statistics sometimes may mislead us. If you take more trouble in any administration, sometimes you get a disadvantage in the statistical results. More cases are recorded and registered now and that explains the increase. In view of what has been happening, we have given strict instructions that if after three days they are not able to verify they must register them as kidnapping cases and give the call to other Departments.

In June 1951 two girls were lifted in Delhi and as a result of investigation the criminals were traced in Alwar State and the accused and the children were brought to Delhi. On interrogation of the accused persons, a series of recovery of lifted children followed. The exact position as reported was as follows: Thirty three children were recovered and thirty six persons were arrested and the accused were subjected to proceedings. Out of the thirty three children, eighteen belonged to Delhi, one to Jaipur and one to another State. The remaining children are still to be identified. Regarding the identified children, nine were kidnapped in 1949 or earlier; twelve in 1950; and twelve in 1951. The parents of thirteen children have not yet been located. It is not possible to say how many of them belong to Delhi. I must say with regret that this kind of offence is fairly common in these parts. This gang had really been operating elsewhere in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. They changed their venue of operations to Delhi, I suppose because they found a largely increased population here and more people available

here as victims. Full action is now being taken in regard to this matter. I may inform hon. Members that a special staff has been organised to prevent recurrence of such offences. The thana police have been asked to go round from 6 P.M. to 11 P.M., that is, very nearly till midnight, so as to keep a strict watch in the lanes and by-lanes. The staff consists of one Sub-Inspector; one Asst. Sub-Inspector; two Head Constables; and twelve foot constables. This is the special staff, but intensive patrolling by the usual police during the period of the day that I mentioned is being carried on. Every single missing report is investigated and reported and the special staff pursues the clues when obtained. The *modus operandi* of the gang was seen to be offering of sweets containing *bhang* to the children when they were by themselves and then taking them away when they were unconscious. Parents have been instructed, but it is always difficult to instruct parents in this matter without creating unnecessary scare. All that can be done has been done. The population of Delhi has largely increased and there is a certain amount of sexual lure which is catered to by these criminal gangs. Recently, I noticed that cases have been detected where bad houses were being run by some of these criminals. I would ask hon. Members to take it from me that every effort will be made and this kind of criminality will be put an end to. But nothing can be done quickly unless we operate with confidence and with full public support and that is being done now. There will be no difference of opinion in this matter and everything that is possible will be done, but we must also learn not to keep jewellery on the bodies of children. That is the greatest attraction and many children are being carried away for the mere purpose of theft. Girls are being carried away as a regular part of a bigger traffic. It is a very wide traffic which we must put down and try to put down as soon as possible.

I shall not take up any more time of the House on this issue, but I hope that people will not think that there is any ground for a great scare. As I said, every year there are about fifty to hundred cases, all these five or six years. It has been going on all the time and there is nothing new about it. The particular scare that arose in Delhi grew suddenly. There is always a basis for the scare—one or two real cases occur and then everybody gets frightened about it and a lot of false rumours and alarms get started round the one or two real cases.

There is nothing more to say. I hope that following the manner in which Mr. Tyagi put the case, additional necessary expenditure will be liberally agreed to by the House for all the Ministries, and that we shall trust one another.

Shri Ghule: Where are the children, whose parents are not traceable, being kept at the present moment?

Shri Rajagopalachari: They are looked after properly by the police.

Shri J. N. Hazarika: Is there any truth in the report that human flesh was sold in the hotels and meals were prepared out of human flesh?

Shri Rajagopalachari: What is the question, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know in connection with the scare that prevailed during April last whether it is a fact that children were lifted for the purpose of selling human flesh in hotels.

Shri Rajagopalachari: That is wrong. I may say that this story of human flesh for eating is baseless. The motive is the allurements of girls. This is a very old offence in India.

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

Shri K. M. Munshi: Reference has been made, so far as the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is concerned, mainly to the increased subsidy on imported food grains and it was asked as to what were the heads under which the subsidy was required.

Hon. Members will remember that we were acting on two principles: first that a central subsidy would be given to certain urban and deficit areas, particularly where industrial workers congregate; second that as an export duty was levied on jute when the Government of India entered into a barter transaction for buying food against jute that export duty was given by way of subsidy. That explains the item of Rs. 21 crores 32 lakhs which was sanctioned last year. Later on the landed cost of large quantities of food which we imported increased on account of the extraordinary circumstances prevailing. For instance pool wheat prices which were fixed at Rs. 16/6 rose to Rs. 17/15, Rs. 22/11 which was the price of coarse rice increased to Rs. 23/6 and the price of milo increased from Rs. 12 to Rs. 14/4. The

question arose as to how to keep the prices down within the limits of the poorest people in the community. It was decided that so far as milo was concerned, it was the poor man's food and therefore its price was kept at the same level of Rs. 12. That accounts for the figure of Rs. 11 crores 79 lakhs which is asked for now as part of Rs. 15 crores.

Then with regard to the subsidised areas, where the prices were kept down upto a particular limit, naturally on account of higher landed cost, prices had to be increased. But in order to give them relief Rs. 85 lakhs were given as extra subsidy to highly urbanised industrial areas and highly deficit areas.

The next question was about the small item of Rs. 12 lakhs on imported dates. Dates were imported, as the House knows, and in certain places where there was a great deal of scarcity, dates which were fairly cheap were sold even at a much cheaper rate. This involved a subsidisation by the Centre to the extent of Rs. 12 lakhs.

On the American loan wheat the freight from America to India rose in America for natural reasons and a much higher freight had to be given. In order to keep the prices down a sum of rupees one crore and 19 lakhs had to be paid on this account and that is part of this grant.

That accounts for everything except Travancore-Cochin in respect of which certain things have been mentioned. The original grant was about Rs. one crore 50 lakhs. That was the subsidy given to Travancore-Cochin in the last Budget. Then they came into difficulties and Rs. 75 lakhs more were given. Later on they were in further difficulties and another Rs. 64 lakhs were given. So the total amount came to Rs. 75 lakhs plus Rs. 64 lakhs, or Rs. one crore 39 lakhs, which is part of this Supplementary Demand. That is the position with regard to Travancore-Cochin.

I have already explained more than once to the House why Travancore-Cochin has suffered, or is in difficulties. There is no doubt that Travancore-Cochin is the most favoured of the States, because it has now got Rs. 225 lakhs plus Rs. 64 lakhs, that is rupees two crores and 89 lakhs of subsidy.

Shri Iyyanuni (Travancore-Cochin): On a point of information. May I know whether it is not a fact that the

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quantum of ration in Travancore-Cochin is only 4½ ounces, whereas in other parts of the country it is, six, eight or even ten ounces?

Shri K. M. Munshi: Four and a half ounces of rice, if you please. The whole matter, the hon. Member himself knows, was considered at a conference and we asked the Travancore-Cochin Government again and again to make certain changes in its system, but they will not do it.

Shri Alexander: Is the hon. Minister aware that there is little distinction between urban and rural areas in Travancore-Cochin and the system of rationing only in urban areas is not possible there?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The Travancore-Cochin Government, after due consultation were given several advices: all these advices they have chosen to disregard. The Central Government has done its best by giving them this amount. Nothing further can possibly be given in the light of the circumstances as well as the money at the disposal of the Central Government.

Shri R. Velayudhan: What were the advices?

Shri K. M. Munshi: The advice first of all given was that their distribution system was faulty. I have told the House again and again in reply to the hon. Member's question and I do not propose to take up the time of the House on that.

The second thing was that we asked them to raise the price of rice which they would not.

Shri Alexander: On a point of information, Sir. Is it not a fact that the issue price of rice in Travancore-Cochin is very much higher than the prices prevailing in Madras? Is it just on your part to raise it still further?

Shri K. M. Munshi: That is the statement made; first, it is not admitted. Secondly, the hon. Member must know that outside the subsidised areas we do not propose to give any subsidy. The Government of India is already paying a subsidy of Rs. 49 crores for the whole country. People have to pay more if the landed cost of the imported grain is high. Otherwise the State must pay the subsidy. The Centre cannot bear more than Rs. 49 crores. But Travancore-Cochin cannot keep its prices low and insist upon the Centre

maintaining them at that level. If every State demanded that I do not know what will happen. Therefore, the Travancore-Cochin Government have to make up its mind either to raise the price of rice as the whole country has done or to suffer whatever loss it suffers by disregarding the advice of the Centre. Rs. 289 lakhs is a very large subsidy which the Centre is paying and Travancore-Cochin can have no reason to complain against the Centre.

Shri Sri Prakasa: I was fearing that my Ministry will go unnoticed in the course of the debate today; and I am very thankful to Mr. Shiva Rao who is always a very vigilant friend, for having raised the matter. I am only demanding a very small sum of Rs. 72,000 when nearly Rs. 36 crores are being distributed. This too, as the House will see, is in the nature of mere adjustment of accounts, a change of Budget heads, and there is really no extra expenditure involved.

Mr. Shiva Rao spoke about the constitution of the Central Water and Power Commission and he is frankly dissatisfied with that constitution. He specially mentioned the fact that young engineers have very little chance when old engineers seem to have all their own way. I should like to assure Mr. Shiva Rao that I am as much interested in young engineers as he himself is, and it will be my endeavour to see that these capable young men get every chance in our organisation.

Mr. Shiva Rao also referred to the Damodar Valley Corporation and was very discontented with the progress that was made there. He specially referred to Panchet Hill and Maithan dams. As my hon. friend knows, Panchet Hill and Maithan dams are not the whole of the scheme. There are also Tilaya, Konar and Bokaro. I am thankful to him and other colleagues who have kindly visited these places to see things for themselves. Surely they would have seen that even though there is nothing yet being done at the two places, namely Panchet Hill and Maithan, in Tilaya, Konar and Bokaro much progress has been made.

I should like to thank Mr Shiva Rao for having put in a good word for Nangal-Bhakra, because there a great deal of work has already been done. As regards D.V.C., I should like to assure the House that now we have additional grants at our disposal and we expect to take the work at Panchet Hill and Maithan also before very long.

There have been various difficulties, but a technical committee has now completed the examination of the various schemes and the Finance Minister has very kindly offered four more crores of good money to us. Therefore, we should have no reason to complain about the progress of the work there in future.

I should like to say here that I have had a great deal of co-operation from the Corporation itself since I have come into office. I know there were many complaints when I came that there was not much co-ordination of work between the Centre and the Corporation. That is not so now, even if it was so before, and I hope that the work will now proceed in a satisfactory manner with mutual goodwill and mutual assistance.

As regards HiraKud I have had occasion recently to answer many questions in Parliament. There have been many shortcomings. There have also been many complaints. We are now establishing a Control Board; and a Committee is also going into the complaints that have reached us. Mr. Shiva Rao is quite correct when he says that enquiries, if they are made at all, should be made by disinterested people and not by those who had been associated with the project itself. I am happy to assure the House that that is our view also, and that we are getting persons in the Enquiry Committee that have had nothing to do with the project in the past.

Shri Shiva Rao: May I ask one question of the hon. Minister? Will he look into the rules of recruitment for this Commission and see whether they are not too rigid, so rigid in fact that they prevent competent young Indian engineers, who are as good as any foreign experts, to be brought into commission in the various schemes?

Shri Sri Prakasa: I shall certainly look into those rules and see if any changes are possible so that if there is any obstruction in the way of young and capable engineers, they may be removed.

Shri B. Das: They may not be all Punjabis for HiraKud! I want the hon. Minister to tell the House the names of the members of the Expert Committee that he is appointing to go into the HiraKud investigation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has he got the names of the members whom he proposes to appoint?

Shri Sri Prakasa: The personnel is under discussion. We shall have an Accountant-General and we shall have an engineer, and both these gentlemen will be such as have had nothing to do with the project in the past.

Shri B. Das: I hope the engineer will not come from West Pakistan or East Punjab!

Shri Sri Prakasa: I cannot give his complexion yet because I do not know who he is going to be. I depend upon the Finance Minister finding the best person for me. I hope that all the criticisms will be properly met and that things will proceed satisfactorily in the future.

Shri Karmarkar: I have only a few observations to make by way of reply to the comment that has been made about that part of Demand No. 2 relating to the Central Enforcement Directorate. The first point that was made by my friend Mr. Ghule was that the brief note given at page 3 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants was not exactly consistent. The first sentence says for instance that in accordance with the recommendations of the Estimates Committee we decided to omit even a provision for this Directorate in this year's Budget. The second observation made is that "the recommendation of the Estimates Committee that the work of this organisation should be transferred to the Special Police Establishment under the Ministry of Home Affairs was subsequently examined and it was found that no special advantage would be gained or economy in expenditure effected by such transfer". There is one thing unsaid in this, and it is this, that the reason why we did not even make a demand at the time of the Budget was not because we thought that the Directorate was not useful. We respectfully differ on that point from the observation of the Estimates Committee. We thought, in accordance with the recommendation of the Estimates Committee, we could as well transfer this function, which is an important function and which in our opinion was, and is, necessary for the purpose of enforcing the provisions regarding textile control and iron and steel control, to the Home Ministry. But in the course of our negotiations with the Home Ministry we found that the Home Ministry found itself impossible to undertake this additional work because they were already busy with the reorganisation work which made it impossible for them with the existing personnel at their disposal to deal with this work also. Therefore

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we thought of continuing this organisation. Originally we had asked for provision for this organisation till the end of the financial year, but the Ministry of Finance advised us to limit our demand up to December. The work, as there was before the Estimates Committee, was for the first three months of 1950. This organisation, as you know, has been in existence for two years now and the cumulative result of the work of this organisation has been as follows:

Total number of cases examined—1,151.

Cases found false—294.

Cases found true—857.

Cases in which convictions were accorded—156.

Cases under trial—124.

Departmental action taken—359.

Cases under enquiry—166.

Cases getting ready for trial—9.

These are the results obtained by keeping this Directorate. As it is often impossible to make a clear distinction between the two spheres of activity, the Central and State organisations have occasionally operated in one another's sphere. The Central Directorate has caught and prosecuted a number of important black market wholesale dealers, specially in areas where the State enforcement staff were otherwise occupied, while the State organisations have occasionally taken action in cases of inter-State smuggling etc. As far as information goes, however, no State organisation has yet dealt with a textile mill for black-marketing. As a general rule the Central Directorate has confined its activities to producing units and to important wholesale dealers while the State authorities have dealt with the retailers and with minor contraventions such as breaches of licensing conditions, etc. In the circumstances we think that it is necessary to have this organisation. But as to what extent its activities should continue, what should be its personnel will necessarily be taken into consideration. Now this Demand is limited up till the end of December 1951. The specific object of limiting the demand to December 1951 being that as between our Ministry and the Ministry of Finance, we should consider the matter in detail, further examine the whole case in view of our past experience and if it is

necessary to keep it in an attenuated form, to attenuate it and if it is necessary to keep it in its full-fledged form or in a form with a better personnel, to come before the House for a demand of that kind. The House will definitely appreciate that we have been erring on the side of safety in asking the House to make a grant only till December 1951 and when we come before the House again for any further grant, if at all we do come, I am sure, we shall give a very full justification.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I shall deal with only three points. The first is about the Colombo Exhibition. Mr. Guha looked like touching upon it and ran full tilt into the whole of the Colombo Plan, as far as I could understand. I expect he has no difficulty in regard to the exhibition itself. I take it that he agrees readily that an exhibition of this kind which has been initiated by another Government is a sort of exhibition where we should take part and participate. That would give us an opportunity of giving some idea to other nations of what we are attempting to achieve here in this country.....

Shri A. C. Guha: Will private parties be allowed to send their exhibits?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They will have to bear their own expenditure. The privilege is entirely their own.

Now, as regards the Colombo Plan and its relation to our Plan, it is too big an issue to be dealt with in 3½ minutes, but I can assure him that on the whole we stand to benefit from participation in the Colombo Plan and I think that was the anxiety of the hon. Member. So far as the technical assistance is concerned, I think we receive more than we would be called upon to give in the nature of things. Again, some of the other Commonwealth countries are richer in technical talent than we are but we have expressed our readiness to assist other nations in Eastern and South East Asia if we have surplus talent and I believe one or two people are already working in some of the associated countries.

Now as regards financial assistance I had occasion to give the figures in reply to a question. I think I said that we received the equivalent of about Rs. 12 or 13 crores or a promise of this sum from two nations, Canada and Australia, and that is for the first year. What they may be pleased to extend to us in the way of assistance in future years, one cannot say, and

one cannot properly speculate upon but as against this, we are not called upon to extend any monetary assistance to any other nation. I have no doubt that as our own development progresses and our prosperity increases, we may find ourselves in the position, to lend a helping hand to some weaker country. That should not be ruled out today but at the start we certainly are receiving a great deal more benefit than we are called upon to give. I think that will satisfy him in regard to the question of the Colombo Plan.

Now, I shall deal with the very helpful speech which was made by Shri B. Das, who, I am aware, is the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and whose remarks, therefore, carry a great deal of weight, apart from his own experience. I am afraid I cannot plead guilty to the charge that we deliberately under-estimate revenue and over-estimate expenditure, although in the nature of things one must expect the Finance Ministry to be conservative in its estimates of revenue and the spending Ministries somewhat liberal in their estimates of the money that they would be able to spend, and sometimes these two things widen, if the two conditions are uncertain, as they have been over the last 18 months and even so, I do not think that in that event we shall be proved to have been unduly conservative in estimating revenue. It is true that so far the figures have certainly been better than we have anticipated but one never knows. The House is aware of the difficulties which we had to encounter in regard to the export duty. Even now, occasionally there is an agitation for bringing down the export duty from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 80, which was the duty before devaluation. I mean these lone voices are raised in spite of the publication of our decision about three or four weeks ago and as I say, we must always be prepared for a change of circumstances which might compel us to modify our duties, not necessarily in jute, but I am speaking generally in regard to export duties. It is a very unsatisfactory source of revenue and indeed according to some theorists, one ought not to spend anything out of this except on non-recurrent items, that is to say, it is a kind of revenue which should be regarded as a windfall and need not be based on our ordinary expenditure side of our Budget. I wish that the Ministries with which I have to deal with in the Centre would have that ecstasy of self-abnegation that would make them surrender part of their allotments in the middle of the year; such a happy accident has not happened so far, but

I have no doubt that they will take to heart the remarks made by Mr. B. Das and if they find that there is justification of their not using their allotments, they may come to me voluntarily and offer it as a sacrifice on the altar of financial propriety. I must add that when we embarked upon our economy campaign last year, many Ministries volunteered very large savings. I do not like to name the Ministries but here my hon. friends in charge of Information and Broadcasting and Food and Agriculture were very good and we need not have to struggle or argue with them and on the whole, I have very pleasant recollections of the co-operation that they extended...

Shri Sidhva: You are already in excess.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: By the abolition of various posts, it may be that they were realized and they were in excess, but our Ministries are in the habit of regarding as essential and almost everything is included in the Budget.

Shri Sidhva: I am glad that they have changed their attitude.

Shri Diwakar: I submit, Sir, there was no question of excess of officers, but services rendered by my Ministry had to be cut down.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: For the time being in the interests of economy.

I am afraid Mr. B. Das is under some misunderstanding in regard to the Sterling Balances. If he will cast his mind back, he will see that the sum has come down from 1,500 to 600. Now that undoubtedly includes some transferred to Pakistan; that was inevitable; then he will recall that some of it was used up for consolidating our pensionary liabilities; then we bought a good deal of stores with part of it and in the last three years we have used up—barring last year, I should say—and have drawn quite a considerable portion of the Sterling Balances. It was a somewhat unusual combination of circumstances which led to accumulation of our Sterling Balances instead of drawing them down, but that was no fault of the U.K. Government, and in the last two or three months, they have drawn them down by as much as 34 million Pounds, if my memory does not play me false. So I do not think he need have any undue anxiety on the score of the utilization of Sterling Balances. Indeed when

[Shri C. D. Deshmukh]

I had my preliminary talks with the Chancellor of the Exchequer everyone thought that we were running too fast and would be withdrawing the whole thing before the end of our planning period and that we should leave for currency reserves. (*Interruption*).

There is only one last remark before I close.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Das was saying that the Sterling Balances have been drawn up a little too quickly.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They have not been drawn upon, I say.

Shri B. Das: I said that U.K. may go bankrupt and you may not get anything, if you go on accumulating.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am only disabusing him of that impression. In regard to the Dollar Pool I think that an accounting operation will show that we have drawn more from the Pool than contributed to it from the year 1947. During the war the condition was different but taking an account of our contributions and our withdrawals from the year 1947, you will find that we have drawn more from the Pool than we have contributed to it. That is bound to happen. These things get ironed out over a long period. There again, I do not think there is any need for anxiety.

6 P.M.

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not think that was the position in 1950-51. I think we drew less during these two years.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am taking the four years together.

One last point, Sir. I should like to pay a tribute to the Standing Finance Committee. I could not wish for a better associates. In the matter of scrutinising expenditure, they have shown extraordinary understanding, together with very rigorous scrutiny, and they have shown powers of discrimination between the unimportant and the important, like that of the proverbial swan which can discriminate between milk and water.

Shri Ghule: I beg leave to withdraw my cut motion.

Shri Sidhva: I also beg leave to withdraw my cut motion.

The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the separate sums not exceeding the sums shown in the third column of the order paper be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of corresponding demands entered in the second column thereof."

The motion was adopted.

[*The motions for Demands for Supplementary Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below.—Ed. of P.P.*]

DEMAND NO. 1—MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

DEMAND NO. 2—INDUSTRIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 89,49,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Industries'."

DEMAND NO. 3—COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STATISTICS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Commercial Intelligence and Statistics'."

DEMAND NO. 5—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,83,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department'."

**DEMAND NO. 18—MINISTRY OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 77,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of External Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 19—TRIBAL AREAS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,30,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Tribal Areas'."

DEMAND NO. 20—EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 33,87,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'External Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 21—MINISTRY OF FINANCE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,25,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND NO. 23—UNION EXCISE DUTIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Union Excise Duties'."

**DEMAND NO. 24—TAXES ON INCOME
INCLUDING CORPORATION TAX**

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,55,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Taxes on Income including Corporation Tax'."

DEMAND NO. 25—OPIUM

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,00,000, be granted

to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Opium'."

DEMAND NO. 28—AUDIT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,50,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Audit'."

**DEMAND NO. 29—JOINT STOCK
COMPANIES**

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 80,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Joint Stock Companies'."

**DEMAND NO. 30—MISCELLANEOUS
DEPARTMENTS**

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,47,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments'."

DEMAND NO. 34—MISCELLANEOUS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,25,40,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Miscellaneous'."

**DEMAND NO. 35—GRANTS-IN-AID TO
STATES**

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,58,14,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Grants-in-aid to States'."

**DEMAND NO. 37—RESETTLEMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT**

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,14,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year end-

ing the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Resettlement and Development'."

DEMAND No. 38—PRE-PARTITION PAYMENTS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 30,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Pre-partition Payments'."

DEMAND No. 40—MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,77,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Food and Agriculture'."

DEMAND No. 45—AGRICULTURE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 17,44,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Agriculture'."

DEMAND No. 46—CIVIL VETERINARY SERVICES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,79,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Civil Veterinary Services'."

DEMAND No. 47—INDIAN DAIRY DEPARTMENT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Indian Dairy Department'."

DEMAND No. 49—MEDICAL SERVICES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 95,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course

of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Medical Services'."

DEMAND No. 53—POLICE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,79,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Police'."

DEMAND No. 56—DELHI

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,72,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Delhi'."

DEMAND No. 57—AJMER

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,34,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ajmer'."

DEMAND No. 63—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

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

DEMAND No. 70—MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,82,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of Rehabilitation'."

DEMAND No. 71—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,00,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons'."

DEMAND No. 72—MINISTRY OF STATES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Ministry of States'."

DEMAND No. 74—KUTCH

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,53,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Kutch'."

DEMAND No. 75—HIMACHAL PRADESH

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,73,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Himachal Pradesh'."

DEMAND No. 77—BHOPAL

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,87,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Bhopal'."

DEMAND No. 78—VINDHYA PRADESH

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 50,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Vindhya Pradesh'."

DEMAND No. 79—MANIPUR

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,27,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Manipur'."

DEMAND No. 80—TRIPURA

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,02,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Tripura'."

DEMAND No. 81—RELATIONS WITH STATES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,68,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Relations with States'."

DEMAND No. 88—SUPPLIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,32,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Supplies'."

DEMAND No. 91—STATIONERY AND PRINTING

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,00,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

DEMAND No. 98—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

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

DEMAND No. 103—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF GOVERNMENT TRADING

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1952, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading'."

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 31st day of March, 1952.

Mr. Deputy-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.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) 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 India for the service of the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1952.

Shri Sidhva (Madhya Pradesh): What is this second motion about?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The first one was with regard to Demands for Punjab which were passed in the morning. This second relates to the General Supplementary Grants.

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 India 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.

DELHI PREMISES (REQUISITION AND EVICTION) AMENDMENT BILL

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

"That the Bill further to amend the Delhi Premises (Requisition and Eviction) Act, 1947, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

This Bill was introduced in the month of August 1950 and was referred to a Select Committee on the 1st December 1950. Although on the face of it, the Bill was a very small and innocent Bill, such a controversy was raised on the floor of the House that the Government agreed to a reference to a Select Committee. This Bill really affected the refugees here in Delhi. The main problem was one of rehabilitating a population of two lakhs. The Select Committee then decided that there should be a sub-committee consisting of certain Members and officials from the local Administration to go into the whole question and make certain recommendations to the Select Committee for the solution of this problem, although it was possible to say that it was not strictly speaking relevant to the clauses of the Bill. The sub-committee had several meetings and after seven months' deliberation, it arrived at certain agreed conclusions. Those conclusions are embodied in the report of the Select Committee which is now before the House.

[*SHRIMATI DURGABAI in the Chair*]

Certain conclusions which were agreed, obviously, could not be incorporated in the provisions of the Bill. Therefore, it was decided that an assurance on the floor of the House should be given in terms of the recommendations made by the Select Committee. The Select Committee, as the House will find, had to deal with unauthorised occupation of land belonging to the Improvement Trust, belonging to the Government, belonging to the Delhi local Administration and also land belonging to private persons who had taken that from the Improvement Trust, under various schemes of the Improvement Trust. The problem was fairly big. Along with this, there was the problem of recovering first arrears of rent for occupation of houses of Government buildings, secondly arrears of rent for occupation of houses built by the Rehabilitation Ministry and leased out to various displaced persons. It was very difficult for the Government to go to the court for the recovery of these things. It was therefore decided that we should adopt the same procedure which is available under the Land Revenue Code for the realisation of arrears of land revenue. But, giving further consideration to this question, it was decided that it should be limited only to two remedies open under the provisions of the Land Revenue Code and those recommendations are embodied in the Select Committee's Report.

As regards the realisation of arrears, the Select Committee decided that some concessions should be shown. The Government have agreed that where there are arrears, they should be realised in instalments extending from 12 to 24 according to the circumstances of each case. That, the Government has accepted. Government, of its own accord, wrote off arrears up to July 1948. The Select Committee recommends that arrears up to 31st August 1949 should be written off. This is a matter of some consequence, although I have every sympathy for this recommendation. I promised in the Select Committee that I will take up the matter with the hon. Finance Minister. I have discussed this with him and he is also sympathetic. But, without going further into it, it would not be possible to give an assurance in the terms in which the recommendation of the Select Committee has been couched. All I can say at this stage is that the whole thing will be considered very sympathetically; at any rate, in hard cases, certainly relief will be given.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Punjab): May I know whether the assurance extends only to hard cases in spite of promise of sympathetically considering the whole question?

Shri Gadgil: It is made up of two parts: there will be over-all sympathetic consideration. At any rate, the minimum that is possible is that in hard cases relief will be given. I think the House, knowing full well the financial position would not expect me to go beyond this. It is safer to trust in what I have said and, as I have already promised, I will be the advocate of the refugees when I plead the case before the hon. Finance Minister.

As regards the other question of evicting the persons who have unauthorisedly occupied the lands which I have mentioned a few minutes ago, the Select Committee have very rightly divided that problem into several stages. The first is, those who have erected any constructions before the 15th August, 1950 will be given alternative accommodation and the further assurance that I give is that the alternative accommodation will be, as far as possible, near the place where they have now been doing some business, and we will make our best efforts for that. If for one reason or other that is not found possible, then the other thing is certainly possible,

namely that they will be given alternative accommodation as suggested in the Report of the Select Committee. Certain people have built constructions on land belonging to the Improvement Trust. Improvement Trust is charged with the responsibility of having a well ordered plan for the city of Delhi and also a plan for the clearance of slums which are there for ages. Yet what we in the Select Committee have agreed, and to which I am a party, is that as far as possible, we will modify the plans of the Improvement Trust in such a manner that the task of destroying the constructions should be reduced to the minimum. And in order to facilitate the work of this character, it has been decided that there should be constituted a committee and the composition of the committee is given in the Report of the Select Committee. There will also be the drawing up of sector-wise plans. The idea behind it is that there will be a plan for each sector where the refugees have occupied unauthorisedly, and they will be asked to go from one place to another in a systematic manner. They will be given alternative accommodation, either built or a plot of land, when their houses are destroyed and they will also be given an *ex gratia* payment according to the principles of rehabilitation.

Then those constructions which have come into existence after the 15th of August 1950 and before the 1st January, 1951, for them we have provided that three months notice will be given to them and they will be permitted to take away the materials, but we have undertaken no obligation to give them alternative accommodation.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I enquire whether it would not be better to give the assurance in those very words which the Select Committee has used? Since assurances are given in these words here, it is desirable that.....

An Hon. Member: We have to finish by 6-30 P.M.

Shri Gadgil: I thought it is my duty, as it has always been the duty of the Minister in charge of the Bill, to explain what the Select Committee have done. If it is the desire of the House, I can say that on behalf of the Government I give assurances on all these points in the terms in which the Select Committee Report is embodied, except about the writing-off of arrears about which I have said separately. I hope

[Shri Gadgil]

that in the light of what I have said, the House will be pleased to accept my motion.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Delhi Premises (Requisition and Eviction) Act, 1947, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration."

I suppose hon. Members are anxious to pass the Bill by 6-30 P.M. today. In any case, I would like to adjourn the House at 6-30 P.M.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: So far as this Bill is concerned every possible effort should be made to finish it by 6-30. In case it is not finished due to circumstances beyond our control I would request the House to postpone it to the next day, as it will not take more than fifteen minutes or the House may sit till 6-45 today. That I feel is a contingency which is not likely to materialise.

When the Bill was introduced it was said that it was a small thing which could be finished the same day. But we found that there were so many considerations connected with it that ultimately it has taken more than 13 months for the House to take it up and pass the Bill.

As the House is aware, many persons who came from the West Punjab in circumstances which are well known, found some lands lying vacant and the authorities were also sympathetic. In many cases, the Deputy Commissioner and other officers permitted these people to build houses on the vacant lands. When people did not find accommodation in the city they began to build houses. They even got electric and water connections from the Government. They built the houses at great sacrifice selling even their ornaments and all the members of the family combined to provide themselves shelters. It appears that a census of the persons who will come under the protection of the Bill has been taken through the efforts of our leader Dr. Tek Chand. According to that it seems that at least 3,000 persons or more will be protected under the assurances given by the Minister. At least 2,000 of those persons have already given an undertaking that they will pay the price of the lands, which will be computed according to the method given in the assurance. It means that it will bring 30 lakhs or more to the Government.

It was an auspicious day when our Prime Minister laid down a formula for the refugees that so far as the displacements of the refugees are concerned alternative accommodation will be provided to every refugee. That formula is now being implemented. Every refugee now gets some protection or shelter if he is turned out of his house. In accordance with that formula the Government is committed to providing alternative accommodation. But we have found one thing that this alternative accommodation has been interpreted rather narrowly by certain authorities. We thought that it meant accommodation which is equivalent to the accommodation from which the person has been turned out. At the same time we found that in certain cases the spirit of Mr. Gadgil did not permeate to the officials. Whereas he went on making statements in the House and sticking to the assurances given here the subordinates of this Government were very keen on performing what they considered to be their duty. In many cases houses were demolished; and though every day assurances were given to us in the Select Committee that no action would be taken against those who built their houses before August 1950 yet notices have been issued from courts, people have been turned out and their houses demolished. I know of such cases. In some cases they were taken seven or eight miles from here in the dead of night and left there and we were told that they were given alternative accommodation. I do not want this to be repeated. The case of the refugees is like that of a patient who has to be operated upon for necessity only. They have to be treated with great sympathy. But a whole army of police go to a place, take out the belongings of the refugees and begin to demolish their houses. I want an assurance on this matter that so far as the demolition of houses is concerned, first of all, all the notices etc. will be recalled, and secondly that when a house has to be demolished then it will be done rather sympathetically so that the people may feel that they are our fellow countrymen; if they are not treated with that sympathy, all that you do will not be appreciated.

Now I come to a very important part of these assurances that I want. I want that a committee be appointed to inquire into the cases of these houses which have already been built and in which the price of land has not been paid. The committee should finish its work within seven days—it may sit from the 6th October and conclude its work by the 13th; otherwise

the whole thing will be useless as Shri Gadgil will go to Maharashtra and other Members will go to their places and there will be nobody in the committee. The committee can do the whole inquiry within seven days, and about 3,000 owners of these houses can be confirmed in their possession. These people will have the satisfaction that they have got what they wanted and they will be ready to pay the price of land etc.

As regards the committee on rehabilitation, I am not satisfied with its constitution; instead of two, I wanted that four members on behalf of refugees should be taken, but that was not agreed to. I am not making any sort of grievance about that. I hope that the right spirit is there still and the refugees will be benefited and Government will get the satisfaction of having settled this problem in a satisfactory way.

I only wish that the very spirit in which these assurances have been given should permeate all the doings and proceedings of these committees. I have to thank the hon. Minister for his statesmanship; when the Bill was referred to the Select Committee he said that it was a challenge to his statesmanship. I am glad he accepted that challenge and I hope in that spirit he will perform all that we expect of him.

Shri Gadgil: I am grateful to my hon. friend, Pandit Bhargava. I want to repeat that the assurances given in the Select Committee—which are embodied in its Report—will be carried out to the letter and spirit except in the matter of what I have said about writing off of rent.

As regards the appointment of committees, it will follow soon. Every effort will be made in the right direction. I do not think I have ever said anything which I have never meant—therefore, whatever I say will be carried out. As regards the officers, I can assure him on their behalf that this being the policy of the Government, they are bound to, and they will, implement it.

Lala Achint Ram (Punjab): We have faith in you, but the officers do not carry out the policy. That is our grievance.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Delhi Premises (Requisition and Eviction) Act, 1947, as report-

ed by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 1 to 4 were added to the Bill.

The Title and the Enacting formula were added to the Bill.

Shri Gadgil: I beg to move:

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

“That the Bill, as amended, be passed.”

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: I submit, that this is a very unusual kind of Bill. In the ordinary course, people in Delhi do not secure evictions in the manner in which Government is asking us to do by passing this Bill. So far as rent is concerned, no landlord has been able to realise it in the manner in which Government wants us to enable it to do by passing this Bill. But we have agreed willingly and readily to do all this. We are giving extraordinary powers to the Government and after hearing the assurances and the spirit in which those assurances have been given, I am quite clear in my mind that the Bill will be worked in the right spirit and nothing but comfort will come to the refugees, and nothing but satisfaction and credit will come to the Government. But in the very same breath I want to add that the spirit in which the Select Committee worked should be followed by the officials who are subordinates of this Ministry and they should work the Bill in the same spirit, so that later on we shall be able to congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill and getting it passed in this House.

लाला अचिंत राम : मैं इस समय और कुछ कहना नहीं चाहता। मुझे तजुर्बा हुआ है कि गाडगिल साहब ने अपनी पूरी हमदर्दी से इस बिल को इस हद तक लाने की कोशिश की है। और मैं उनका बहुत मशकूर हूँ। लेकिन एक बात मैं उन के गोश गुजार करना चाहता हूँ कि जब भी आप रिफ्यूजीज के साथ डील (deal) करें तो यह समझें कि अब तक रिफ्यूजीज को कोई मदद नहीं दी गई है। मैं समझता हूँ कि जिन रिफ्यूजीज

[लाला अचिंत राम]

ने यह मकानात बनाये हैं उनसे यह कहना कि तुम अनौथोराइज्ड (unauthorised) हो यह मुनासिब नहीं है। जब उन्होंने मकान बनाये उस वक्त वह ज़मीन खाली पड़ी थी। उस वक्त गवर्नमेंट ने उन को मकान बनाने में एनकरेज (encourage) किया और आज आप यह चाहते हैं कि उन के मकान गिराये जायें। फ़र्ज़ कीजिये कि किसी रिफ्यूजी ने अपने मकान में दो हजार रुपया खर्च किया है तो उस को अब पांच सौ या एक हजार देना ठीक नहीं है। गवर्नमेंट ने उन की कोई मदद नहीं की है और बड़ी मुश्किल से उन्होंने एक एक पैसा जमा कर के, रिश्तेदारों से ले कर के और क़र्ज़ा ले कर के मकान बनाये। उस वक्त से अब ज़मीनों की कीमतें भी बढ़ गई हैं। आप नें अपनी तरफ़ से उन के लिए कुछ नहीं किया है। ऐसी सूरत में अगर आप उन के दो हजार में से एक पैसा भी कम करेंगे आप पाप करेंगे। जो आप उन को दें वह पूरा हो। जो उन्होंने खर्च किया है उस से कम न हो। तभी वह महसूस करेंगे कि गवर्नमेंट अगर हमें कुछ दे नहीं रही है तो कम से कम जो हम ने इनवेस्ट (invest) किया था वह तो दे रही है। अभी जैसा पण्डित जी ने कहा कि हम चार मेम्बर चाहते थे मगर गाडगिल साहब दो से ज्यादा नहीं रखना चाहते थे। मैं तो कहता हूँ कि आप दो भी न रखें। आप अकेले ही काम करें। जिस स्पिरिट से आप ने यह काम किया है उस पर हम को भरोसा है।

(English translation of the above speech)

Lala Achint Ram: I do not want to say much at the present time. My

experience is that Shri Gadgil has tried his best to bring this Bill to its present form with all his sympathy and for that I am grateful to him. But I would like to submit one thing to him and it is that whenever he may deal with the refugees he should know that they have not been given any help so far. I think it is not proper to tell those refugees, who have constructed these houses, that they are unauthorised occupants. The land was vacant when they built the houses. At that time the Government encouraged them in constructing houses and today you want that the houses should be demolished. Suppose a refugee has spent two thousand rupees on the construction of his house. Now, it is not fair if you pay him only five hundred or a thousand rupees for that house. The Government have not helped them in any way. With great difficulties they collected some money by saving every pice they could spare, by begging from the relatives and borrowing from others. The price of land has also gone up since then. You have not done anything for the refugees from your side. Under the circumstances, it would be a great sin on your part if you deduct a single pie out of two thousand rupees that you should pay. You should give what is fair. It should not be less than what they have spent. Then only they would feel that if the Government are not giving them anything they are at least paying them the same amount which they had invested. As our Panditji said just now, we wanted four members but the hon. Shri Gadgil did not want more than two. I would say that even these two may not be kept. You may do the work by yourself. The spirit with which you have done your work has given us perfect confidence in you.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

The House then adjourned till Nine of the Clock on Monday, the 1st October, 1951.