

**THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES**

**Official Report**

**Volume V, 1944**

*(14th to 21st November 1944)*

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**TWENTY-FIRST SESSION  
OF THE  
FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,  
1944**



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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The Honourable Sir ABDUR RAHIM, K.C.S.I.

*Deputy President :*

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*Panel of Chairmen :*

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Mr. K. C. NEOGY, M.L.A.

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*Assistants of the Secretary :*

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Khan Bahadur S. G. HASNAIN.

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Captain Haji Sardar NUR AHMAD KHAN, M.C., I.O.M., I.A.

*Committee on Petitions :*

Mr. AKHIL CHANDRA DATTA, M.L.A. (*Chairman*).

Nawabzada MUHAMMAD LIAQUAT ALI KHAN, M.L.A.

Mr. GOVIND V. DESHMUKH, M.L.A.

Mr. N. M. JOSHI, M.L.A.

Sardar SANT SINGH, M.L.A.

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 21st November, 1944

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

## STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### (a) ORAL ANSWERS

#### RESEARCH WORK FOR GOVERNMENT AT TATA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

**635. \*Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** Will the Honourable Member for Planning and Development please state:

(a) the various kinds of work that was sent by the Government for research to the Tata Research Institute at Bangalore since 1940;

(b) the work or works in respect of which research is completed;

(c) the work or works in respect of which research is discontinued by the order of the Government; and

(d) the work or works in respect of which work could not be completed because of lack of raw materials or chemicals?

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** Is the Honourable Member aware that he must have received notice of this question long ago and must have had sufficient time to collect the information by now?

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** It is not my Department which is handling it. I know for a fact that only a part of the information has been received.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** Can we have as much information as is available with the Honourable Member now?

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** No, Sir, it is very voluminous.

#### POLITICAL PRISONERS

**†636. \*Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) the latest available number of political prisoners held in different provinces;

(b) how many of them are convicts and how many detenus in different provinces;

(c) how many of them are held on account of the political unrest prevailing since October, 1939 and how many since August, 1942;

(d) how many have died in jails; how many had to be released on medical grounds since October, 1939;

(e) how many of them are at present in 'C' class, whether as detenus or as convicts and how many in 'B' and 'C' classes;

(f) whether it is not a fact that in some provinces, 'B' class detenus are not given any better food or clothing than the usual 'C' class convicts;

(g) whether it is not true that the six monthly review of the detenus detention orders are coming to result in the continuation of the detention for more than 75 per cent. of detenus; and

(h) what percentage of detenus were released at the second review made after the passage of the new amending ordinance, ordering such a half yearly review? (please give Provincewise figures).

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a), (b) and (c). I lay on the table a statement giving such information as is available.

(d) and (e). The Government of India have no detailed information and the labour involved in collecting it would not be justified in war time.

(f) The principle recommended to all Provinces is that class I detenus should get diet, clothing etc., at least as good as 'B' class convicts and class II

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

detenus should get distinctly better treatment than 'C' class convicts. I understand that practically all the Provinces have accepted this principle.

(g) No. From such calculations as I have been able to make from the figures supplied by the Provinces it appears that the percentage of releases during the first six months after the promulgation of Ordinance III was over 50.

(h) The Honourable Member is under a misapprehension. As I have explained before, the process of review is continuous and does not take place only at six monthly intervals.

*Statement.*

Provinces	Persons in detention in connection with Congress Movement	Persons in detention for other reasons	Persons undergoing imprisonment in connection with Congress Movement
<i>On the 1st October 1944</i>			
Madras . . . . .	286	24	709
Bombay . . . . .	272	29	483
Bengal . . . . .	54	1,237	252
United Provinces . . . . .	589	91	3,452
Punjab . . . . .	79	28	61
Bihar . . . . .	269	50	4,127
Central Provinces . . . . .	136	..	503
Assam . . . . .	162	..	159
North West Frontier Provinces . . . . .	42	16	28
Orissa . . . . .	129	..	466
Sind . . . . .	27	1,707	11
Coorg . . . . .	..	..	..
Delhi . . . . .	21	..	102
Ajmer-Merwara . . . . .	7	..	3
Baluchistan . . . . .	..	..	..
Total . . . . .	2,073	3,182	10,356

**PROPAGANDISTS EMPLOYED BY GOVERNMENT**

**637. \*Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) whether he is aware of the statement of Mr. D. G. Mulherkar, the Indian Employers' delegate to the International Conference in the press that about three hundred people are employed by the Government to do propaganda on their behalf;

(b) whether it is true; and, if so, how many propagandists are so employed and the money spent for that purpose?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Yes.

(b) It is not true.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Is it true that the Government have no propagandists at all in America?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The question was whether it is true and, if so, how many propagandists. My answer is that it is not true.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** May I know from the Honourable Member whether there are any propagandists on behalf of the Government of India in America?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** No propagandists, Sir.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** May I know what agency they have to disseminate Indian information in America?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** Publicity Officers.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** How many such officers are employed by the Department and how much money is spent on them?

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** The question asks as to how much money is spent. Will the Honourable Member kindly answer that part of the question?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** For propaganda purposes: *nil*.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Why have Government not thought fit to deny the allegations that are published in the press?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** I do not think I should go about denying every statement that is made in the press, because in that case the Department will have to be doubled.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Is it because that the press statements are substantially true?

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will the Honourable Member be pleased to lay on the table of the Library such extracts from the American press as would give us an indication about the nature of the publicity work undertaken by his Department?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** I cannot answer that offhand but if it is possible I shall try to comply with the request.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** The question has already been asked and the answer must already have been given.

**BAN ON WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS**

**638. \*Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society has been banned from publishing any pamphlets under the Defence of India Rules;

(b) whether the Society's publications are mainly religious and drawn from the Bible; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for the ban?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Yes.

(b) Mainly so.

(c) It was held that the Society's publications had implications other than religious. The question of the maintenance of the ban has been under the consideration of Government for some time. It has now been decided to remove it.

**INTERVIEWS OF MR. RAMANATHAN AND OTHERS WITH MR. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR IN TRICHINOPOLY JAIL**

**639. \*Pandit Nilakantha Das:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) when did Mr. Ramanathan, ex-Congress Minister of Madras return from Japan;

(b) if he interviewed Mr. Rajagopalachariar in Trichinopoly jail on his return from Japan and if that interview took place in the presence of the jail officers;

(c) if the Government is aware of the details of the conversation of the interview;

(d) if it is a fact that the then Advocate General and another advocate also interviewed Mr. Rajagopalachariar in prison;

(e) if the Government is aware that the jail officials were absent at that time and that the draft resolution to Sapru Conference in Delhi was sent through the Advocate General;

(f) if the Government is aware of the reports in the press including report of Mr. Jinnah that the resolution for Sapru Conference had been drafted by Mr. Rajagopalachariar;

(g) whether it is a fact that Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar, M.L.A., (Central) was keeping a diary of daily events while he was himself a prisoner in Trichinopoly jail;

(h) did the Government censure that diary at any time;

(i) if Government have found any extract in the diary referring to the incidents mentioned above; and

(j) if he will be pleased to place those relevant extracts before the House?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have no information.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Can't the Honourable Member ask for information from the questioner?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I do not think it necessary.

**DENIAL OF APPLICABILITY OF ARMY ACT AND ROYAL WARRANT PRIVILEGES TO INDIAN FORCES**

**640. \*Mr. Sami Vencatachelam Chetty:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if the attention of the Government has been drawn to the words "V.C.O.'s and I.O.Rs. are not governed by Royal Warrant and Army Act, but by I.A.A."; occurring in the letter No. 24262/17/2/94, dated 22nd June, 1943 of the Officer Incharge R. and A. Section (D. U.) 19th Hyderabad Regimental Centre, in which the applicability of the Army Act and Royal Warrant privileges have been denied to Indian Forces; and

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative the statutory authority of the Officer Incharge referred to in (a) or of any other higher executive or Audit Officer under whose instructions the applicability of the Army Act and Royal Warrant has been denied as stated in (a)?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) and (b). I have not seen the letter referred to by the Honourable Member. I am calling for it and will lay a reply on the table of the House in due course.

#### DISMISSALS OF VICEROY'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, ETC. ON ACTIVE SERVICE

**641. \*Mr. Sami Vencatachelam Chetty:** Will the War Secretary please state: if Government are aware that Viceroy's Commissioned Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers of His Majesty's Indian Forces on "Active Service" and of over 15 years service have been dismissed and discharged with ignominy by orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and General Officer Commanding without taking recourse to Court Martial proceedings and their Military Pensions, payable according to their length of service, had been stopped and forfeited in full and in some cases in part, without an express Warrant or order by a judicial body?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** The position is as follows:

Under Section 13 of the Indian Army Act, the Commander-in-Chief has powers to *dismiss* from service any person subject to the Indian Army Act other than an Indian Commissioned Officer. Pension Regulations for the Army in India, Part II, provide that when an individual subject to the Indian Army Act is *dismissed* under the provisions of that Act, he shall forfeit all claim to pension or gratuity in respect of previous service. He may however be granted a pension in full or in part purely as an act of grace.

Under Section 16 of the Indian Army Act, General Officers Commanding-in-Chief are empowered to discharge V.C.Os. and N.C.Os., but an individual who is *discharged* shall be granted any pension or gratuity to which he may be entitled. I am not aware whether the Commanding-in-Chief has exercised his powers under Section 13 in recent years without recourse to a Court Martial. I am making enquiries and will lay information on the table in due course.

#### CERTAIN UNAUTHORISED DEDUCTIONS FROM PENSIONS OF INDIAN PERSONNEL OF INDIAN FORCES

**642. \*Mr. Sami Vencatachelam Chetty:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if Government are aware that in the cases of Indian Personnel of His Majesty's Indian Forces, death and disablement pensions have commenced with effect from a date later than the date of casualty and deductions not authorised by Section 136 of the Army Act and Sections 50, 51, 52 A of the Indian Army Act have been made

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, the statutory authority introducing in the regulations for the Army in India the "deductions" referred to in (a);

(c) whether Government propose to appoint a special officer of some judicial experience to consider the grievances in this respect judicially; if not, why not?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) No, Sir. Pensions for death or disablement attributable to war service are paid from the date following that of the casualty.

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

#### CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS FOR DISCHARGE FROM SERVICE IN THE CASE OF INDIAN PERSONNEL OF INDIAN FORCES

**643. \*Mr. Sami Vencatachelam Chetty:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if it is a fact that in the Pension Regulations for the Army in India certain rules have been included which authorise "deductions" for discharges from the service of Indian Personnel on account of "service no longer required", irrespective of the fact whether the individuals are on "Active Service" or in ordinary peace conditions; if so;

(b) what the statutory authority for introducing the rules in (a) is and also steps which Government propose to take to redress the grievances of the persons affected thereby *viz*: as in (a)?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) No, Sir. The position is explained in rules 232 and 233 of Pensions Regulations Part II. I will arrange to place a copy of these two rules in the library of the House.

(b) Does not arise.

#### REFUSAL OF NON-EFFECTIVE PAY DURING WAR TO CERTAIN INDIAN PERSONNEL OF INDIAN FORCES

**644. \*Mr. Sami Vencatachalam Chetty:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if Government are aware that non-effective pay during the war, has been refused to Indian Personnel enrolled "for duration of war and 12 months thereafter" in forces raised on behalf of His Majesty under Section 313 (2) (b) of the Government of India Act, 1935, and that it has been refused even in such cases where the termination of the individual's contract was due to (i) services no longer required (ii) disability sustained on "Active Service" rendering the individual unfit for further Military Service (iii) deaths on "Active Service" which have been adjudicated non-judicially as not attributable to Military Service;

(b) if the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, the circumstances in which these stoppages referred to in (a) have continued during this long period of the war; and

(c) if the answer to (a) be in the negative, whether Government propose to devise some special judicial machinery which will exclude the existing non-judicial machinery to consider the significance of the "Duration of War and 12 months after" contract in (a) after the usage and practice prevailing in the United Kingdom or in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the War Injuries Insurance Act and Workmen's Compensation Act or War Pensions Act?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) and (b). Indian personnel enrolled for combatant service before and during this war are eligible under the same military rules for ordinary and disability pensions. Similarly, families of war-enlisted soldiers are eligible for family pensions in the same way as the families of those who were enlisted before the War.

(c) Does not arise in view of my reply to (a) and (b) above. I may, however, add that Government propose to set up independent Pensions Appeal Tribunals to whom appeals will lie against decisions relating to pensions cases.

#### COMMUNAL COMPOSITION IN HIGHER POSTS OF ALL-INDIA RADIO

**645. \*Sardar Sant Singh:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees in the All-India Radio receiving pays (i) above Rs. 1,000 p.m., (ii) between Rs. 600 and Rs. 1,000 p.m. and (iii) between Rs. 300 and Rs. 600 p.m. as employed (i) for the duration of War and (ii) otherwise;

(b) how many of these are (i) Hindus, (ii) Muslims and (iii) Sikhs in each category mentioned above, as employed for (i) the duration of War and (ii) otherwise; and

(c) whether the Government are aware that the Central Sikh Rights Secretariat has been established at New Delhi to co-operate with the Government in this direction?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the table of the House.

(c) The establishment of such a body has been brought to the notice of Government.

Statement showing the number of employees in All-India Radio receiving a pay of Rs. 300 p. m. and over and how many of these are Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, etc., as employed for the duration of the war and otherwise

Category of post	Number of persons receiving a pay above Rs. 1,000 p. m.				
	Hindus	Muslims	Sikhs	Others	Total
For the duration of War . . . . .	..	1	..	1	2
Others . . . . .	3	1	..	2	6
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>

  

Category of post	Number of persons receiving a pay between Rs. 600 and Rs. 1,000 p. m.				
	Hindus	Muslims	Sikhs	Others	Total
For the duration of War . . . . .	6	1	..	1	8
Others . . . . .	7	2	1	1	11
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>

  

Category of post	Number of persons receiving a pay between Rs. 300 and Rs. 600 p. m.				
	Hindus	Muslims	Sikhs	Others	Total
For the duration of War . . . . .	37	25	2	5	69
Others . . . . .	33	8	..	2	43
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>70</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>112</b>

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Have the Government recognised that Secretariat?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** It has been brought to the notice of the Government: that is all I can say.

#### LOWER ALLOWANCES OF RECIPIENTS OF VICTORIA AND MILITARY CROSSES OF THE LAST WAR

**646. \*Sardar Sant Singh:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if it is a fact that the recipients of Victoria Cross, Military Cross and other distinctions in the war have been granted allowances higher than those paid to similar recipients of the last wars; if so, what the reasons are for not increasing the similar allowances of the recipients of the first war;

(b) if the Government is aware that it has caused heart burning amongst the veterans of the last war?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Consequent on a revision of the decorations which may be awarded to V.C.Os., and I.O.Rs., for gallantry, a change in the system of allowances which accompany the awards was necessitated. The question of increasing the allowances which go with these decorations awarded prior to the revision is now under consideration.

#### RETRANSFER OF HINDI SECTION OF BUREAU OF PUBLIC INFORMATION TO DELHI

**647. \*Mr. Ramayan Prasad:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) the steps taken by his Department to call back the Hindi Section of the Bureau of Public Information to Delhi from Lahore where it had been sent in February, 1944, in the face of great opposition of the Hindi Press; and

(b) if it is not a fact that 90 per cent. of the Hindi Press is situated East of Delhi and material sent from Lahore to it is likely to be delayed generally from 12 hours to 24 hours?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) The transfer of the Hindi Section to Lahore was necessitated by the acute shortage of accommodation in Delhi on balance of priorities among various Departments of Government. It will be brought back to Delhi as soon as accommodation is forthcoming, and an adjustment of the aforesaid priorities permits this move. This matter is even now under consideration.

(b) My information is that 73 per cent. of the Hindi Newspapers on the Bureau's mailing list are issued from places east of Delhi. As regards the last part of the question, I would invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the reply given by me on the 23rd February, 1944, to part (b) of Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall's starred question No. 180 in the Legislative Assembly.

#### ALLOTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN DELHI CANTONMENT

†648. \***Bhai Parmanand**: Will the Honourable the Defence Member be pleased to state:

(a) if it is a fact that agricultural land in the Delhi Cantonment area instead of being put to auction was allotted to a few persons at a very low rent in 1940 without any regard for the persons from whom this land was acquired; and

(b) whether the Government are prepared to auction the agricultural land to the agriculturists who alone should be allowed to bid at the auction?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi**: The information has been called for and a reply will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

#### DIFFERENCE IN PAY AND ALLOWANCES OF BRITISH AND INDIAN EMERGENCY COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

649. \***Mr. Lalchand Navalrai**: Will the War Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) the difference in pay and allowances, excluding Indian Army Allowance, between a British Emergency Commissioned Officer, attached or posted to the Indian Army and that of an Indian Emergency Commissioned Officer;

(b) if it is a fact that a British married Captain with two children who is attached or posted to the Indian Army gets Rs. 835 (excluding his Indian Army Allowance), whereas an Indian married Captain with two children gets only Rs. 610; if so, why is this differentiation;

(c) if it is a fact that the consolidated pay of an Indian Emergency Commissioned Officer is based on that of his British service colleague, if so, why the consolidated pay of an Indian Major is only Rs. 765 whereas that of his British service colleague is Rs. 965; and

(d) whether Government propose to remove these invidious differences; if not, why not?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi**: (a) A statement showing the pay and allowances (excluding Indian Army Allowance in the case of British officers), admissible to British and Indian Emergency Commissioned Officers, is laid on the table.

(b) The reply to the first part of the question is in the negative. The pay and allowances of a married British Captain living with his family consisting of wife and two children amount to Rs. 765 p.m. exclusive of Indian Army allowance. The reason is that the rank pay of a British officer includes an overseas element and that the family allowances vary according to the size of the family.

(c) Yes, Sir, because of the overseas element included in the pay of the British officer.

(d) The matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

#### Statement

Rank	British Emergency Commissioned Officer				Indian Emergency Commissioned Officer	
	Single	Married living with family consisting of—			Single	Married. (irrespective of Number of children)
		Wife only.	Wife and one child.	Wife and two children.		
	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.
2/Lieut. . . . .	405	485	575	615	405	450
Lieut. . . . .	460	535	625	665	430	490
Captain . . . . .	590	655	725	765	500	610
Major . . . . .	965	1,015	1,055	1,095	765	850
Lieut.-Col. . . . .	1,300	1,325	1,365	1,405	1,090	1,145

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

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I request the Honourable Member, in view of the great discontent about these differences, to consider these questions, being an Indian himself, and remove this discontent and the differences because the children of one family and the children of the other are more or less on the same level?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I have already said that the matter is engaging the attention of the Government.

#### SUPERSESION OF CERTAIN INDIAN SENIOR OFFICERS OF INDIAN ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

**650. \*Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** (a) Will the War Secretary be pleased to state in reference to the answer given to starred question No. 107 asked on the 29th July, 1943 by Mr. G. V. Deshmukh whether the two Indian Senior Officers of Indian Army Medical Corps who did not then hold appointments commensurate with their seniority, but were holding special appointments from which they were not being spared, are still holding the same appointments?

(b) How long will they be made to hold appointments not commensurate with their seniority?

(c) Why have their claims been overlooked for no fault of theirs?

(d) Do Government propose to redress their grievance and make them hold appointments commensurate with their seniority? If not, why not?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) Of the two Indian Officers of the Indian Army Medical Corps referred to by the Honourable Member, one has since been promoted, but has now applied for reversion to work in his specialist capacity.

The other officer still holds the same appointment. He is in medical category "C", and declined last year an offer which would have led to further promotion if found satisfactory.

(b) It is not possible to say, for the reasons given in (a) above.

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

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know if the second officer also will be given an opportunity now to get that promotion? If he has not accepted it once, he may accept it now.

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I do not know. Last year he was asked whether he was willing to be treated as on probation prior to consideration for promotion to the rank of an administrative Colonel on the military side of the I.M.S. He declined the offer.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I ask the Honourable Member to make an attempt again to ask him and if he still refuses then it cannot be helped: otherwise the promotion should be given to him.

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I will consider that.

#### LITERARY ATTAINMENTS OF OFFICERS ON THE HINDUSTANI PROGRAMME SIDE OF ALL-INDIA RADIO

**†651. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:—

(a) how many of the present Station Directors, Directors of programmes, programme executive and other responsible officers on the Hindustani programme side are Hindi writers or scholars of repute; and how many of them are Urdu writers and scholars of repute?

(b) if it is a fact that (i) sometime ago a Board consisting of well known Urdu poets and authors was constituted for selecting *Ghazals* to be sung on radio in A. I. R. programmes;

(c) if a similar Board consisting of well known Hindi poets and authors has also been constituted for the selection of Hindi *Geets*; if not, why not;

(d) whether Government promise to constitute such a Board now; and

(e) how much money has been spent over the selection of Urdu *Ghazals* through the above Board; and how much money has been spent over the selection of Hindi *Geets*?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) The required information is not readily available. It is being collected, and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

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

(b) to (d). No such Boards have been set up so far. I may, however, explain that a scheme for the compilation of selections from the works of various poets, for the use of the Indian music staff of All-India Radio is under consideration. This scheme will cover not only *Ghazals* and *Geets*, but all other types of songs in both Urdu and Hindi, written by Urdu as well as Hindi poets. The scheme also contemplates a selection of songs suitable for broadcasting available in the other Indian languages in which A.I.R. broadcast music.

(e) As the scheme is not yet in operation, the question does not arise.

#### POETS WHOSE *GAZALS* AND *GEETS* HAVE BEEN SUNG ON RADIO

†652. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) the names of those living Urdu poets whose *Ghazals* and other poems have been sung on radio in the last six months; and

(b) the names of those living Hindi poets whose *Geets* or other poems have been sung on the radio during the same period?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The information asked for is not readily available and its collection would involve an amount of time and labour that would not be justifiable in war time.

#### AUTHORITY FOR DETERMINING ALL-INDIA RADIO'S POLICY TOWARDS HINDI

†653. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state who is responsible for determining All-India Radio's policy towards Hindi and whose advice is sought in matters relating to Hindi?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The All-India Radio have no special Hindi policy. The Government of India lay down the language policy which applies to all languages and is intended to secure the maximum intelligibility for All-India Radio broadcasts.

#### BAN ON CERTAIN HINDI WORDS FROM HINDUSTANI BULLETINS BROADCAST

†654. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state whether it is a fact that the Director-General, All-India Radio, has banned, through a circular, the use in Hindustani Bulletins broadcast from All-India Radio's Station of such simple words as *Deshbhakt*, *Sathi Mulk*, *Swagat*, *Jalghati*, *Thalghati*, *Kala Sagar*, *Hind Sagar*, etc.; if so, the reasons if any for banning these words?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** "*Desh Bhagat*" is still used if the person referred to is a Hindu. The other words were discontinued as it was represented to me that other alternatives were more widely intelligible. In this connection, I would, however, invite the attention of the Honourable Member to the reply given by me on 8th November 1944 to Mr. G. V. Deshmukh's starred question No. 170.

#### EDITOR OF *SARANG*

†655. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall: Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state who is the actual Editor of *Sarang* and what are his journalistic qualifications and experience; and if the *Sarang* is being printed in type how is it that its text is not illustrated like that of the *Indian Listener*?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The *Sarang* is actually edited by Mr. J. L. Birmani. He is the Sub-Editor in charge of *Sarang* and works under the guidance of Mr. S. N. Ghosh, who is the Editor of *Indian Listener*, *Awaz* and *Sarang*. Mr. Ghosh is an experienced journalist of several years' standing.

Mr. Birmani himself has worked for six years as Transliterator for *Sarang* during which period he also officiated as its Sub-Editor.

As regards the last part of the question, the sale price of *Indian Listener* is seven annas and that of *Sarang* is only five annas. The introduction of

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

illustrations in *Sarang* would mean a rise in its sale price which is not considered desirable. *Sarang* should be compared with *Awaz* as they are both sold at the same price. Neither of them can afford to carry illustrations.

**METHODS EMPLOYED IN THE MATTER OF CENSORING LETTERS IN THE POST**

**656. \*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if he is aware that two methods are employed in the matter of censoring letters in the post, one by cutting the envelopes and then closing them before delivery to the addressee, with a thin paper containing the words "opened by examiner", and the other, by opening the letters and refastening them; if so, what the exact principle is in this differentiation;

(b) if the Honourable Member is aware that letters treated in the latter manner are very clumsily gummed by the censors, inordinately delayed, and that when they reach the addressees, they have to be torn out of envelopes and very often get badly mutilated in the process; and

(c) if so, would Government order that the first system alone is followed in all cases, and letters are, as far as possible, cleanly cut open and neatly closed by censors after examination and sent to the addressees?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) All censorship is conducted in the open manner described in the first part of the question. The Post Office Act has, however, for many years conferred powers of secret interception, which is a different matter. These powers are exercised by the Government of India in very exceptional cases. Their whole object would be defeated if they were carried out in the "open" manner followed by the Censors.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it not a fact that letters for a large number of Members in this side of the House are being opened in a surreptitious manner by the postal authorities and by the police in such a manner that the Members concerned are not able to know whether they have been opened or not?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Very likely; but it is not done by the Government of India.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** The Honourable Member has said that such procedure is adopted in very exceptional cases: does he mean to say that all of us come under those very exceptional cases?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** We have only got one outstanding case and that is a very exceptional one.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Will the Honourable Member instruct those who open these letters that when they close them again they should take good care to close them in such a manner that we can extract the letter out of the envelope: they apply so much gum that it is impossible to open them again or to extract the contents.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Othettiar:** May I know whether Government open these letters at random or they have got a list of persons whose letters alone they open?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The Government of India have issued an order in the case of one individual only.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** In view of the fact that all my letters are opened—I have an example here . . . —(The Honourable Member showed an envelope.) in a surreptitious manner, may I know if I am that individual?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** He is a much more exceptional person than my Honourable friend.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** In view of the fact that my letters are opened invariably—and the fact is usually discovered by the manner of the gumming of those letters—will the Honourable Member kindly ask the authorities concerned to open them neatly and put on this sort of label (The Honourable Member showed another envelope)—as I have on this other letter of mine?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The Honourable Member may ask the U. P. Government in regard to that matter.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** With reference to the Honourable Member's reply to part (b) of the question, is he aware that sometimes in this surreptitious opening process, a book-post envelope is gummed up and made a closed letter—(The Honourable Member showed a third envelope)—with the result that I have to pay an anna and a half extra?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** That is for the War Department to say.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable Member, instead of foisting all the responsibility on the Postal Department which is really innocent in this matter, look into this himself?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Not the Postal Department—the War Department.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** They will wage war against you straight off—you try them!

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Who decides what letters should be opened?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Next question.

#### HEALTHS OF DR. GHOSH AND CERTAIN OTHER DETENUS

**657. \*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) the condition of the healths of Dr. Ghosh and Acharya Narendra Dev, Members of the Working Committee of the Indian National Congress, and give a short medical history of their cases since their incarceration; and

(b) under what medical treatment are they put at present, and whether they are entitled to have doctors and medicines of their own choice?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) I lay on the table a medical report on Dr. P. C. Ghosh. Acharya Narendra Deo is well. He has had some attacks of asthma and bronchitis but his health has progressively improved in this respect and he has had no attack since June 1944.

(b) They are in charge of a competent Indian Medical Service officer who can, and does frequently, call in medical and surgical experts for consultation when required. They are not allowed to have doctors and medicines of their own choice.

#### *Medical Report on Dr. P. C. Ghosh*

On 21st May 1944, Dr. P. C. Ghosh began to complain of abdominal pain and passage of blood. Examination demonstrated the presence of an internal haemorrhoid but as abdominal symptoms persisted, it was thought advisable to get a sigmoidoscopy of the lower bowel done in order to exclude the possibility of any accompanying serious condition being present. This examination was carried out by a surgical specialist and it was found that there was no condition present in the lower bowel other than the haemorrhoid. This was injected and there was no further bleeding.

Following a period of freedom from symptoms and improvement in the general condition, there was a recurrence in July 1944 of the abdominal symptoms associated with the passage of mucus. Laboratory examinations were negative, but proctoscopic examination indicated the probable cause of the passage of mucus and showed that it was not of any serious significance. The recurrence and persistence of the abdominal symptoms, however, made further investigation essential and it was decided that a barium enema examination should be carried out. This examination was made by a radiologist on 9th August, 1944. There was no abnormality of the bowel and no evidence of any malignant (cancerous) condition of the colon. Since that date there has been a general improvement in Dr. Ghosh's condition although there has been one further passage of blood which seemed to be haemorrhoidal in nature and all laboratory tests for dysentery were negative. He is very carefully dieted and during the last three months he has not lost any weight, an important contraindication in itself to the presence of malignancy or other serious condition. It is intended that a regime of anti-amoebic therapy should be tried.

He carries on his normal activities and has shown himself entirely satisfied with what is being done for him, having expressed his gratitude on a number of occasions. He has not made any specific request or suggestion in connection with his illness.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Is any privilege given to these gentlemen to have medical men of any other system beside the allopathic, or are they compelled to have only allopathic surgeons and physicians to treat them?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I would need notice of that question. As far as I know there has been no such demand.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Have they ever made any request or demand to Government that they should be allowed to be examined and treated by doctors of their own choice?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Yes. They are not allowed.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** My question is whether they have asked for the privilege of being examined and treated by doctors of their own choice?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** In one or two cases.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I ask whether the Government of India propose to release these members of the Working Committee so that Government need not have trouble about their doctors?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** It is no trouble.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** In one or two cases the Honourable Member says they did make a request for doctors other than allopathic. May I know what the reply of the Government was to that request.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim):** He did not say allopathic.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Even if they wanted other physicians of that same system, were they permitted to have them?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No; they are in charge of a competent doctor and he is responsible. If he wants a second opinion, he calls one in but he is responsible for doing this—not the patient.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Can we know the name of that doctor and his qualifications? Is he in constant residence with them? Is he also interned with them or not?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Yes, interned! I have forgotten his name for the moment. He is a Major in the I.M.S. He resides there.

**Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** In cases where the patient himself requires a particular treatment, is it not desirable for Government to agree with that proposal?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I think a patient who prescribes his own treatment is very unwise.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is it a fact that Dr. P. C. Ghosh himself has asked for such assistance?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Not that I am aware of.

#### RESTRICTIONS ON INTERVIEWS WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS WORKING COMMITTEE

658. \***Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if it is a fact that facilities have been recently afforded to Members of the Congress Working Committee to interview their relations; and if the gentlemen concerned have declined to avail themselves of the same; and

(b) what restrictions and conditions, if any, have been imposed for and at the interviews; and why?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I would invite attention to my reply to starred question No. 311 on November 13th.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** In view of the fact that in that reply, if I remember it aright, the Honourable Member said that the conditions and restrictions are the same as on ordinary security prisoners, may I know what exactly those restrictions and conditions are on these prisoners? The fact is the conditions and restrictions differ from province to province, and these gentlemen are confined in a particular way at a special place and under particular conditions.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The restrictions imposed at Ahmednagar are those applicable in the Bombay Presidency. I do not know the points in respect of which my Honourable friend is interested; but in view of a later question I may explain that visitors are not searched. Technically under the rules a prisoner is searched before and after a visit. We told the Bombay Government that in this case we saw no necessity for such a search. Five-

relatives are allowed at a time; the interview can last for one hour and may take place once a fortnight.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** May I know if Dr. Syed Mahmud was subjected to any humiliating restrictions in jail . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): That does not arise.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** The Honourable Member referred to my question on today's list and his answer practically covered that question. That is why I was provoked to put this supplementary question.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** There is no connection between the two questions at all.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** May I know, Sir, why the Members of the Congress Working Committee refused to avail themselves of these concessions? Is it because of the humiliating conditions imposed?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** This was the subject of a previous question. The reason they gave for refusing was that they were deprived of this concession so long that they did not want it now. That is the only reason they gave.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Is it a fact that they were forced to speak in a particular language and not in their own language or the language in which they wanted to speak?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Not at all. That is not a fact.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Are they allowed to sit side by side and talk to each other, as is the case in the Madras Presidency?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Probably, yes.

#### RE-PUBLICATION OF NATIONAL HERALD

**659. \*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if an application was received by Government from the Managing Director of the *National Herald* of Lucknow for permission to resume publication of the paper;

(b) have the Government of India actually granted the requisite permission and even allotted a quota of newsprint;

(c) if it is a fact that the communication conveying the news was stopped by the United Provinces Government who insisted on the reconsideration of the matter by the Government of India; who thereupon cancelled the previous permission;

(d) what exactly the considerations were that impelled Government to withhold permission finally;

(e) if it is a fact that the *National Herald* had suspended publication voluntarily in 1942, and that no orders were made against it by the Government of the United Provinces; and

(f) whether the Government will reconsider their decision in the matter?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** With your permission, I would reply to question Nos. 659 and 660 together.

The questions should have been addressed to Honourable the Industries and Civil Supplies Member.

#### PERMISSIONS TO NEWSPAPERS UNDER NEWSPAPER CONTROL ORDER

**†660. \*Mr. D. K. Lahiri Chaudhury:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) the number of newspapers not in existence or having suspended publication, before the Newspaper Control Order was promulgated, that have been allowed to start or re-appear after the said order;

(b) the number of papers who applied for the permission to start or re-appear; and to whom such permission was refused; and

(c) the reasons that led Government to decline to give permission in each case?

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 659.

**Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** Question No. 661.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Answers to questions 661 to 664 will be laid on the table, as these are in excess of the quota. The Honourable Member was not in the House when his other questions were called.

**PREPARATION OF ELECTORAL ROLLS OF THE CENTRAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**+661. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if arrangements have been made for the preparation of voters list for election to the Central Assembly; and

(b) if any representation has been made to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi, for this by the residents of Delhi Shahdara?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question should have been addressed to the Honourable the Law Member.

**PRICE OF VOTERS LIST PUBLISHED BY DELHI SHAHDARA MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE**

**+662. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if the voters list published by the Delhi Shahdara Municipal Committee in 4 volumes have been priced at Rs. 87 for 581 pages; and

(b) if the control over the price of the books is applicable to the voter's list?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question should have been addressed to the Honourable Member for Industries and Civil Supplies.

**MEMBERS OF CENTRAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY UNDER DETENTION**

**+663. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Members of the Central Assembly still under detention in different Provinces;

(b) if it is not a fact that all the Members of Central Assembly who have been detained in Bihar have been released except Babu Ram Narain Singh;

(c) if it is a fact that his case has been reviewed under the new ordinance and recommended by the Tribunal for release;

(d) if it is a fact that Babu Ram Narain Singh applied for maintenance of his family members; has the Government decided not to release him;

(e) if it is a fact that some persons in a better financial position than Babu Ram Narain Singh have been given allowance; and

(f) if the Government propose, in the interest of the just and uniform administration of the Defence of India Act and the Rules made thereunder in different Provinces, to call for periodical reports about the political detenus who are detained in Provinces and make a comparative review of their cases?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) and (b). In the time available it has been found impossible to obtain the required information.

(c) to (e). These matters are the concern of the Provincial Government.

(f) No.

**REPRESENTATION BY VIDYA RATAN, A DETENU OF DELHI SHAHDARA**

**+664. \*Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) if Vidya Ratan, a political detenu of Delhi Shahdara is under a restriction not to leave the limits of Delhi Shahdara;

(b) if he made any representation to the Chief Commissioner, Delhi that either he should be allowed to earn his livelihood or he should be given a maintenance allowance; and

(c) the decision of the Government on his representation?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) I understand that the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, who made the restrictive order has rejected the application. The person in question has resided in Shahdara for many years and his statement that he is unable to earn his livelihood there does not seem reasonable.

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†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

INEQUALITY IN EMOLUMENTS OF INDIAN AND EUROPEAN KING'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

665. \*Mr. Frank R. Anthony: Will the War Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) the total emoluments of a European King's Commissioned Officer, of non-Asiatic domicile of the following ranks:—(i) Lieutenant, (ii) Captain, (iii) Major;

(b) the total emoluments of an Indian King's Commissioned Officer in the same corresponding ranks;

(c) the additional allowances that are to be paid to European King's Commissioned Officers owing to the recent increases granted to them; and

(d) how far the authorities have proceeded in the matter of doing away with the present serious inequality in the emoluments as between Indian and European King's Commissioned Officers?

**Mr. G. M. Trivedi:** (a) and (b). I lay a statement on the table.

(c) I presume the Honourable Member refers to increases of pay recently sanctioned for British Armed Forces. The question of applying those increases to the Indian Armed Forces is under consideration by the Government of India.

(d) Indian and European King's Commissioned Officers draw exactly the same rates of pay and allowances.

*Statement*

*Total emoluments of a European K.C.O. and an Indian K.C.O.*

Rank	Single	Married living with family consisting of—			
		Wife only		Wife and one child	Wife and two children
		Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.
Lieut. . . . .		460	535	625	665
Captain . . . . .		590	655	725	765
Major . . . . .		965	1,015	1,055	1,095

*In addition, European and Indian K. C. Os. receive Indian Army Allowance as follows*

Rank	Regulars	E. C. Os.
	Rs. p.m.	Rs. p.m.
Lieut. . . . .	75	40
Captain . . . . .	100	50
Major . . . . .	200	100

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** With regard to part (d), apart from the overseas allowance, is it not a fact that the total emoluments of a European King's Commissioned Officer are very much more. So far as a Lieutenant is concerned, the total emoluments are about 150 more, a Captain about 250 more and a Major 350 more?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** If my Honourable friend is referring to Indian King's Commissioned officers, there is, as I have already stated, no difference between their pay and that of European King's Commissioned officers. If, on the other hand, he is thinking of Indian Commissioned officers, I would refer him to my answer to Mr. Lalchand Navalrai's question earlier this morning.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Is Lord Munster's visit going to lead to a further increase in the allowances of British soldiers?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** No, Sir.

**Sardar Sant Singh:** Can the Honourable Member give us some idea of the percentage between the salaries of Indian Commissioned officers and those of the King's Commissioned Officers?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I have placed several statements on this subject on the table of the House. The Honourable Member can work out those percentages. I am afraid I cannot work them out just now.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** We have been told that this matter is actively engaging the attention of the War Department. Unless we are embarked on

another 30 years' war, this disparity is not likely to be done away with before the War ends. May I know how long the consideration stage will last?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** The consideration stage will be over soon.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** The Honourable Member knows that Lord Munster has come here to look into the welfare of European troops. Will he also look into the conditions of the Indian troops?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I have already answered this question in the House a few days ago. I said that Lord Munster's visit was with the object of looking into the welfare arrangements of both British and Indian troops.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Is he actually doing that?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Frank R. Anthony:** May I know the exact nature of the additional allowances to be paid to Europeans in the ranks of Lieutenant, Captain and Major?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I am sorry I do not carry all that information in my head.

#### ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT JUDGMENT *RE* EXEMPTION OF INCOME-TAX ON MUNICIPAL TAXES PAID

**666. \*Shrimati K. Radha Bai Subbarayan:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) if he has seen the judgment of the Allahabad High Court on a reference by the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal in the case of Messrs. Gappumal Kanhaiyalal of Allahabad;

(b) if it is a fact that the High Court has ruled that the amounts paid as municipal taxes are exempt from income-tax;

(c) if it is a fact that the Income-tax Officers do not regard themselves bound by the judgment; and

(d) if the Government propose circularising Income-tax Officers on the subject?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, the amounts paid as house-tax and water-tax under the United Provinces Municipalities Act, 1916, have been held to be allowable deductions in computing the income from property under Section 9 of the Income-tax Act.

(c) and (d). In view of the conflicting decisions on this point pronounced by the Madras and Bombay High Courts on the one hand and the Allahabad High Court on the other, it is proposed to take the point in appeal to the Privy Council for an authoritative ruling.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** What will be the Government's procedure in this matter during the period that the appeal takes to be finally disposed of?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** As I understand the position, any assessee who objects to the disallowance can lodge an appeal and his claim will be kept alive during the pendency of this litigation.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Why should not this appeal be taken to the Federal Court instead of to the Privy Council?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** Because under the existing constitution, the appeal lies to the Privy Council, I understand.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Have the Government filed the appeal?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I am not sure exactly what stage it is but we do intend to appeal to the Privy Council.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Will it be necessary for the assessee to apply in each case in order to keep their claims pending? Is it not a fact that if this procedure is followed, the United Provinces Income-Tax Officers may be inundated with thousands of petitions in this behalf, as almost every assessee in a town is subject to a municipal tax? If the Honourable Member will be pleased to instruct the U. P. Income-tax officers to follow the decision of the Allahabad High Court, I think the procedure would be simplified.

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I shall look into the question of how these claims can be kept alive without the necessity of every assessee lodging a formal appeal.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Thank you.

## REVISION OF THE INCOME-TAX MANUAL

667. \***Shrimati K. Radha Bai Subbarayan:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

- (a) if the Income-tax manual now available is not out of date;
- (b) if he proposes to publish an up to date manual; and
- (c) when the public may expect the new manual to be available?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) No. The current edition, which was published in 1940, is being kept up-to-date by corrections which are issued periodically.

(b) Yes, arrangements are in hand to bring out a new edition.

(c) Every endeavour is being made to publish the new edition quickly but I am afraid that owing to pressure of other urgent work in the Press it will be some time before the new edition can be issued.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** The Honourable Member said that the 1940 Manual is being kept up to date by corrections. How is it possible for us to keep our own copies up to date?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I imagine that these correction slips must also be available in the shops or depots from which the publication itself can be obtained.

**Sir F. E. James:** Is my Honourable friend aware that these correction slips are available only in the issue of the official Gazette?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I shall see whether anything can be done about that; it may be extremely difficult.

**Mr. E. L. C. Gwilt:** Can the Honourable Member give us any indication as to when the Manual is likely to be ready?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I am afraid I cannot say.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** In view of the fact that there is no paper control on the Crown, will the Honourable Member expedite the publication of this Manual?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** There is a considerable measure of self-control.

## DETENTION OF MAULANA MUNIRUZZAMAN

†668. \***Qazi Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if it is or it is not a fact that Maulana Muniruzzaman, President of Jammul-ul-Ulma of the Province of Bengal, has been arrested under the orders of the Central Government;

(b) if it is or it is not a fact that the said gentleman is very weak and is of a very advanced age;

(c) under what offences he has been arrested and where he is detained;

(d) if he is to be prosecuted for some offence; if so, which, or he is to be detained without trial;

(e) whether in view of his advanced age and weak health the Government will consider the advisability of releasing him at an early date, if he is not to be prosecuted of any offence?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Yes.

(b) He is between 60 and 70 years of age and is suffering from a weak heart.

(c) He is detained in the Lahore Central Jail under Ordinance III of 1944.

(d) The whole matter is under consideration and I regret that I can give no further information with respect to it at present.

(e) If it is decided not to prosecute him, his case will be kept under review in the ordinary way.

## PAUCITY OF MUSLIMS IN DELHI RATIONING DEPARTMENT

†669. \***Qazi Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to furnish the following information in respect of Rationing Department Delhi Province:—

(a) if it is a fact that the representation of Muslim Community is very inadequate in different grades and is not in accordance with the Communal proportion fixed by Government. If so, why?

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

(b) Whether it is a fact that in the matter of filling up vacancies from lower to higher grades, the promotion of officers and other members of staff is made in almost all cases by selection and not by seniority and the principle enunciated by Government to fill in not less than 2/3 vacancies by seniority and 1/3 by selection according to merit is ignored and that in allowing promotions the claims of senior Muslims are ignored; and

(c) if it is a fact that a good number of posts have been filled in by persons who are not residents of Delhi Province but belong to the Province of the Punjab; if so, whether sufficient number of men, possessing the qualifications required for efficient discharge of the duties and responsibilities attached to the posts, held by outsiders, is not available among the *bona fide* residents of Delhi; if so, whether necessary steps were taken to secure the service of capable residents of Delhi and whether the reasons for employment of outsiders, were recorded in writing?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question should have been addressed to the Honourable Member for Food.

#### HIGHER PRICES OF RATIONED ARTICLES IN DELHI

†670. \***Qazi Muhammad Ahmad Kazmi:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state if it is a fact that the prices of rationed articles in Delhi are higher than those prevailing in other large cities like Calcutta etc.? If so, why?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question should have been addressed to the Honourable Member for Food.

#### SUPPLY OF DEFECTIVE STANDARD CLOTH BY CERTAIN MILLS

671. \***Mr. Amarendra Nath Chattopadhyaya:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) his attention has been drawn to a Press note issued by the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies on July 24, 1944, informing the public that the following Mills had been found to have supplied defective cloth:—

(i) The Birla Mills, Limited, Delhi; (ii) The Sutlej Cotton Mills, Okara; (iii) Jiyajee Rao Cotton Mills, Gwalior; (iv) Vizoyluxmi Cotton Mills, Cambay; (v) The Dayalbagh Spinning and Weaving Mills, Amritsar and (vi) The Rajnagar Mills, Ahmedabad; if so, the steps taken by the Government of India to stop such dealers from continuing supply of such defective standard cloth and if the manufacturers and dealers of such cloth were punished under Defence of India Rules; if so, the punishment administered; and if Government hauled these Mill Managers and Directors before any Government Tribunals; if so, when and where;

(b) the defects of the Standard Cloth manufactured by the above Mills; and to lay on the table the report of the investigation made in this connection, the profits made by the manufacturing mills out of this defective supply, the loss it entailed on poor consumers for whom this sort of Standard Cloth was manufactured;

(c) the explanation offered by the offending Mills; and assurances given for future supply; and

(d) if it is a fact that a rebate was demanded of the offending Mills; and if this rebate was decided by the Home Department or by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department; which of the Departments was competent or had the Departments decided jointly?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question should have been addressed to the Honourable Member for Industries and Civil Supplies.

#### DEALERS, SUPPLIERS, ETC., CONTRAVENING DEFENCE OF INDIA RULES.

672. \***Mr. Amarendra Nath Chattopadhyaya:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state if he be pleased to lay on the table the whole list of big and small dealers, suppliers, manufacturers who, having acted in

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

contravention of the Defence of India Rules, had been prosecuted and punished in open court of law during 1943 up to 31st October?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question should have been addressed to the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies.

**REALISATIONS FROM SALE OF NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES**

**673. \*Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount realised from the sale of National Savings Certificates provincewise;

(b) whether it is a fact that forcible deduction from the price of sugarcane to be paid to cultivators in Bihar and United Provinces was made last year; if so, the amount so deducted per every maund of sugarcane; and

(c) whether the same system of deductions will again be followed this year; and at what rate?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) I lay a statement on the table.

(b) Yes. In view of the fact that the price of Sugar Cane was increased by two annas, factories in United Provinces and Bihar were required to deduct out of the price two annas per maund of cane and to make payment to the Cane grower in respect of this deduction in the form of National Savings Stamps, National Savings Certificates or an account in the Defence Savings Bank as an anti-inflationary measure.

(c) Yes. The rate of deduction proposed in Bihar is the same as that of last year. In the case of United Provinces it is three annas per maund, except in some areas where it is two annas per maund.

*Statement showing Sales of National Savings Certificates in 1943-44 and in 1944-45 (up to September, 1944)*

(In thousands of Rupees.)

Provinces	Sales of National	Sales of National	Grand Total
	Saving Certificates (October 1943— March 1944)	Savings Certificates (April 1944— September 1944)	(October 1943— September 1944)
Bombay . . . . .	69,00	83,34	1,52,34
Bengal . . . . .	23,61	20,40	44,01
Punjab . . . . .	52,25	1,08,10	1,60,35
United Provinces . . . . .	47,97	32,58	80,55
Madras . . . . .	1,74,60	58,39	2,32,99
Sind . . . . .	18,31	26,10	44,41
Bihar . . . . .	2,44,04	52,53	2,96,57
C. P. & Berar . . . . .	1,33,61	9,43	1,43,04
Delhi . . . . .	8,20	43,30	51,50
N. W. F. Province . . . . .	7,72	6,29	14,01
Orissa . . . . .	8,63	8,15	16,78
Baluchistan . . . . .	6,78	2,85	9,63
Assam . . . . .	18,06	10,02	28,08
Ajmer-Merwara . . . . .	1,05	2,05	3,10
Coorg . . . . .	30	54	84
Indian States . . . . .	50,78	65,88	1,16,66
Total . . . . .	8,64,91	5,29,95	13,94,86

**Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait:** With regard to part (b) of the question, may I ask under what provision of law has this been done?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** The order is issued under sub-rule (8)(a) of Rule 20 of the United Provinces Sugar Factories Control Rules and similarly in the case of Bihar, I suppose.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Can the Honourable Member tell us whether the instructions emanated from the Honourable Member or his Department?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** Both the Central and the Provincial Governments have been co-operating in trying to increase to the maximum the immobilisation of surplus purchasing power.

**Sardar Sant Singh:** May I ask the Honourable Member if any commission is paid to those who are making an effort to get these National Savings Certificates sold?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** That does not arise in this particular case, because this is not a case where agents are selling the Certificates, but it is a case of deductions made by the factory which purchases the cane.

**Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait:** Can the Honourable Member tell me whether a separate account for this is kept and what is the amount so far collected under this head?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** A separate account is kept and the statement which I have laid on the table shows the amount in each province.

**Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha:** Is the Honourable Member aware that this deduction of two annas has become very unpopular with the agriculturists and it is going to affect the growing of sugarcane crop next year?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** My information does not bear that out.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** What are the reasons that have persuaded the Honourable Member and the Provincial Governments concerned to extract these two annas in the form of compulsory Savings Certificates when only two annas increment is being granted to the peasants concerned on their cane?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** My Honourable friend is a Professor of Economics and I do not think he requires any assistance from me to understand what are the reasons for a step of this kind.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Are we to understand that the Honourable Member has imposed any such condition upon all those officers to whom dearness allowance and war allowances are being given? Does he propose that in their case also every pie that is being given to them as an additional war allowance shall be taken away from them again as Savings Certificates?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** Government endeavour to intensify savings in the case of all classes of their servants.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is there any other class from whom 100 per cent. of the additional sum that is being given to them as a matter of war allowance is being taken away by the Government?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** It is not a question of 100 per cent. In the case of the increase which has recently, I believe, been sanctioned, the extent of the compulsory saving is restricted to this year's increase.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim):** Next question.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR  
EXTENSION OF GREATER PATNA**

**674. \*Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India has made any contribution towards the acquisition of lands for the extension of Greater Patna; if so, how much;

(b) whether the Government of India has issued or proposes to issue to Bihar Government instructions regarding the acquisition of lands for Greater Patna in view of the panic prevailing in the minds of Muslim and non-Muslim residents particularly of the Phulwari Area over forcible acquisition of religious buildings and old burial places; and

(c) whether Government will be pleased to issue instructions to Bihar Government to exercise caution in acquiring lands used for the maintenance of religious places and grave-yards and also in the acquisition of residential buildings of the inhabitants so as not to make the mosques and temples deserted for want of worshippers?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) No.

(b) and (c). No. The acquisition of land for provincial purposes is a matter within the executive authority of the Province.

**Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait:** Has my Honourable friend any information with regard to the acquisition of land in Greater Patna and particularly with regard to the Phulwari Area?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I regret to say I have not, because, strictly speaking, this question should have been addressed to another Department.

**FORCIBLE SEARCH OF DOCTOR SAYED MAHMUD BEFORE RELEASE.**

**675. \*Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether he has seen the news item in *Hindustan Times*, dated the 5th November, 1944, dealing with incidents which happened before the release of Doctor Sayed Mahmud;

(b) whether Doctor Sayed Mahmud was forcibly searched before his release;

(c) whether the search took place in spite of his protests;

(d) the reasons which necessitated the search;

(e) whether the refusal of the Members of the Congress Working Committee to avail themselves of the facilities for interviewing their relatives, was due to the forcible search of Doctor Mahmud; and

(f) whether Government is prepared to give an assurance that men of eminence and position will not be subjected to such forcible searches before their release?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). No.

(d), (e) and (f). Do not arise.

**CONVICTION OF MR. C. KRISHNA NAIR**

**676. \*Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether Mr. C. Krishna Nair, a Congress worker of Narela Gandhi Ashram (referred to at page 33 of the official publication "Congress Responsibility for Disturbances, 1942-43") was sentenced to two years rigorous imprisonment;

(b) what the charge against him was;

(c) whether he appealed to the Lahore High Court and with what result; and

(d) if Mr. Nair was acquitted, what amends Government propose to make for an accusation which stands unproved?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Yes.

(b) He was charged under clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of rule 35 of the Defence of India Rules with taking part in an attack on Gheora railway station.

(c) Yes: he was acquitted.

(d) Government do not propose to take any action in the matter: it is open to Mr. Nair to take any action to which he is entitled under the law.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Is it not a fact that the conviction of Mr. Krishna Nair was used as one of the reasons for proving that the Congressmen were taking part in sabotage and violent movements?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The statement that he was convicted was included in the official publication "Congress Responsibility for Disturbances".

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** May I know whether this publication was prepared before the gentleman in question was convicted by the trial court?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No.

**Sardar Sant Singh:** May I know from the Honourable Member if he is prepared to withdraw that statement from this official book after his acquittal from the High Court?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** If there is a demand for another edition, it will be corrected.

**Sardar Sant Singh:** What responsibility does the Government of India feel in the matter? Having put in an inaccurate fact in a book published by the Government of India, is it not the responsibility of the Government to withdraw it *ipso facto*?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The statement was made before his acquittal.

**Sardar Sant Singh:** But if the High Court found it to be incorrect, what is the responsibility of the Central Government in that respect? Are you bound by the ruling of the High Court or not?

(No answer.)

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Will the Honourable Member issue a correction slip?

(No answer.)

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Sir, I want an answer to this question. If the Income-tax Manual can be made up-to-date by a correction slip, surely we are also entitled to have this correction.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has heard the question and the Chair cannot compel him to reply.

#### CONTINUED POSSESSION OF GOVERNMENT OVER CERTAIN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

**677. \*Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) the reasons for keeping in their continued possession public institutions devoted to constructive and social activities, like the Gandhi Charitable Village Hospital, Badarpur, Delhi, Ram Tal Ashram, Mehrauli, Delhi and Gandhi Ashram, Narela, Delhi;

(b) if it is a fact that nothing incriminating was found at any of the above mentioned places at the time of search carried on by the Police prior to their seizure by the Government in August 1942;

(c) if Government are aware that their continued possession over the Gandhi Charitable Village Hospital, Badarpur has deprived hundreds of poor villagers living in the adjoining area of free medical help, which the hospital rendered to them; and

(d) if it is a fact that the Managing Committee of the Hospital which used to run it prior to its seizure by the Government as well as the residents of Badarpur and other adjoining areas have made repeated representations to the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, requesting to release the Hospital from their possession. If so, what action has been or is proposed to be taken to meet the wishes of the popular committee and the villagers?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) The institutions referred to are believed to have been used as centres of unlawful activity and even now there is no guarantee that, if restored, they would not be so used for the same purpose.

(b) Yes. No incriminating papers were found at any of these institutions.

(c) and (d). The Delhi administration has from the beginning shown its readiness to allow the medical work of the Badarpur institute to be continued under a suitable arrangement, and if the local residents have been deprived of any facilities, the blame rests on the Managing Committee. The District Board, it may be added, have recently decided to acquire the sites at Badarpur for a rural dispensary and have asked Government's assistance in this connection.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** May I know what is the basis for the information that these institutions were being used for subversive activities when nothing incriminating was found?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The Honourable Member is aware of the occurrences of two years ago.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Was any Member connected with this institution even prosecuted or convicted?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have no information.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** May I know if this hospital which was forcibly seized is now allowed to function?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The Delhi Administration has from the beginning shown its readiness to allow the medical work of the Institute to be continued under suitable arrangement. The District Board is putting up a dispensary there.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** Is this institution at present allowed to function? There may be many things in the minds of the Delhi Administration. Is this hospital allowed to render medical aid to the residents of the locality?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have answered that point.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** What is the answer? The answer was that some sort of thing is being considered.

**Sardar Sant Singh:** Is the Delhi Administration too weak to punish anybody who commits an offence under the ordinary law of the land and hence they are keeping this Institution in their continued possession in order to prevent the offence being committed?

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** May I know what is the suitable arrangement referred to by the Honourable Member under which the Institution will be allowed to continue medical work? What was the arrangement suggested to the hospital managing committee? Did they refuse to accede to that arrangement?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I want notice.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** How long do the Government propose to have this Institution in their possession? When do they propose to hand it over to the legitimate owners?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I can make no guess.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** What is the exact reason which makes the Honourable Member think that this Institution would be used for subversive activities if it is returned to those who are entitled to it?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The Honourable Member knows as well as I do, in fact more than I do about it.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** What sort of subversive activity is possible in an hospital which is rendering medical aid to the people?

(No answer.)

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Sir, I cannot understand the insinuation of the Honourable Member that I knew more about certain things than he does. What exactly is the Honourable Member referring to? I should like him to clear the point.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** About congress politics.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie has been a very old friend of mine. I have known him for over 24 years and he has known me as well; here we are quits. I do not want to be nasty to him. If he thinks that I know anything about the supposed subversive activities of these Institutions even the names of which I hear for the first time in the course of this question, then I think it is up to him to put himself right with me. This is the least I expect of him.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I will admit that my Honourable friend is not one of the most dangerous members of the Congress.

**Mr. B. Das:** On a point of order. Can a Member of Government insinuate, as the Honourable the Home Member has done, that the congress Party knows about certain things regarding subversive activity more than the Government.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): He referred to the Congress policy, that the Congress members are likely to know more about it than the Government.

**Mr. B. Das:** Then why not bring charges against them on the floor of this House or in a court of law?

#### HEALTH OF DETENUS L. DESHBANDHU GUPTA AND L. ONKAR NATH.

**678. \*Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** (a) Is the Honourable the Home Member aware that at least two of the Delhi detenus lodged in the Central Jail, Lahore, *viz.*, L. Deshbandhu Gupta and L. Onkar Nath have for a long time been suffering from a number of ailments as a result of which their health has been badly shattered; and

(b) apart from the periodical review due under the detention and restrictions ordinance, will the Government consider the desirability of an early release on medical grounds of these and such others of the Delhi detenus who are not keeping good health at Ferozepore Camp Jail?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Lala Onkar Nath has been released. Lala Deshbandhu Gupta is suffering from peripheral neuritis for which he is being treated by physicians of his own choice.

(b) The health of a security prisoner is one of the considerations kept in mind in reviewing a case which, as I have explained before in this House, is continuous, and not undertaken at fixed intervals only.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** May I know when the case of Lala Deshbandhu Gupta was last reviewed?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The process is continuous.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** It is rather a vague answer. May I know the point of time at which his case was last reviewed?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The process is continuous.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Is the process continuing at the present moment?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** At this very movement, we are discussing it.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** May I know if there is any time limit to the continuation of this process?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No time limit.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** How long will this idiotic attitude of Home Department continue this process of review?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Is the Honourable Member considering the desirability of releasing Lala Deshbandhu Gupta?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Yes, we are continuously considering it.

#### RELEASED DELHI DETENUS.

679. **\*Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member please give the number of the Delhi detenus released since 1st September, 1943, and also state as to how many of them were subjected to restrictions of some sort or the other?

(b) Is it a fact that one of the restrictions usually imposed on most of the Delhi detenus released since 1st September, 1943, required them to report themselves at the police stations?

(c) Is it also a fact that among those who were subjected to this restriction are persons belonging to such respectable professions as, Medical, Journalism and Law, etc.?

(d) Will the Government of India advise the Delhi Administrations to adopt in future a policy of unconditional release as pursued in several other provinces, as also to withdraw all the existing restrictions?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Eighty-four former Delhi detenus have been released since the 1st September, 1943. Against five of these, orders have been passed excluding them from the Delhi Province, and 53 have been subject to restrictions of various kinds.

(b) In 29 of the cases mentioned, the orders include a direction to report at a police station.

(c) The persons mentioned in the reply to part (b) include two pleaders, one journalist and five practitioners of indigenous systems of medicine.

(d) The question of necessity of maintaining these orders is being taken up with the Delhi Administration.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum:** With reference to part (a) what is the nature of the restriction which has been imposed on these detenus who have been released?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have given all the information I have in answer to the question.

#### PAPER TONNAGE INVOLVED IN PRINTING COPIES OF *INDIAN INFORMATION*

680. **\*Mr. E. L. C. Gwilt:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the average print order in number of copies of "Indian Information" for the 104 consecutive issues up to and including that of the 30th of August 1944;

(b) the total tonnage of paper which these involve; and

(c) whether, in view of the fact that as so much of the matter appearing in "Indian Information" has already been published, though perhaps in an abridged form, in the Press, the volume of paper intended for use in the future in the printing of "Indian Information" might be made better use of in some other direction?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

(c) Government consider that good use is being made of the paper in the printing of the *Indian Information*. The *Indian Information* is a valuable reference record for the use of newspaper offices, libraries, persons, institutions, etc., whose role is to inform the public. To effect economy in paper, the size of the publication was reduced to one half from January 1944. I may add that *Indian Information* continues to be printed on super calendered paper purchased in India. It has been decided to print on maximum of newsprint, but arrangements have not yet been made for the import of newsprint of the right quality. I should also add that after this matter was discussed, I think last year, in this House, I went into the question as regards the necessity of continuing this paper and we found that we received a large number of appreciations of the *Indian Information* from different sources.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I know whether the Government of India propose to give free copies of this valuable paper to the Members of the Legislature so that they may have this as reference record?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** We shall be delighted to supply if a demand like this is made.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** We would like to have them.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** I make my demand on the floor of the House.

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The answer has been given on the floor of the House.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Is the Honourable Member aware that the *Indian Information* gives no information at all?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** Then, I take it there is no demand for this paper from the Members of the Legislature.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** We want it so that we can see how best to improve it.

**Mr. E. L. C. Gwilt:** Are there adequate supplies of this super-calendered paper available for propaganda in countries overseas? I appreciate the necessity for propaganda and I feel that the paper that is used for this can be better used for overseas propaganda?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** A large number of copies of *Indian Information* is also sent to countries overseas. We have gone into the question very deeply after this question was raised by Sir Frederick James last year and we have come to the conclusion that it is serving a very useful purpose in India and outside India.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** That is all the more reason why we should like to have copies of the *Indian Information*.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has already promised.

#### AUTHORISED AGENTS FOR SALE OF NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES IN GOVERNMENT OF INDIA OFFICES

†681. \***Khan Bahadur Mian Ghulam Kadir Muhammad Shahban:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) whether Government servants have also undertaken the task of authorised agents to sell National Savings Certificates in the Government of India Secretariat Offices in New Delhi; if so, will he please lay on the table a list showing the number of the Authorised Agents so appointed pertaining to the Departments of the Home, Finance, Commerce, Education, Health and Lands, Legislative, Legislative Assembly, External Affairs and Labour of the Government of India

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

and the amounts of the National Savings Certificates sold by each individual effort; and

(b) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to suitably reward those officials; if not, why?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) Yes. I lay on the table a statement as desired by the Honourable Member.

(b) Authorised Agents will be entitled to a commission of 2½ per cent on the face value of the National Savings Certificates sold by them.

*Statement showing the number of Government servants appointed as Authorised Agents pertaining to the Home, Finance, Commerce, Education, Health and Lands, Legislative, Legislative Assembly, External Affairs and Labour Departments of the Government of India and the amounts of National Savings Certificates sold by each of them.*

Name of Departments.	Number of Authorised Agents appointed.	Value of National Savings Certificates sold by each.
(1) Home Department . . . . .	1	
(2) Finance Department . . . . .	4	Nil.
(3) External Affairs Department . . . . .	3	The agents
(4) Labour Department . . . . .	1	have only
(5) Commerce Department . . . . .	Nil.	recently been
(6) Education, Health and Lands Department . . . . .	Nil.	appointed.
(7) Legislative Department . . . . .	Nil.	
(8) Legislative Assembly Department . . . . .	Nil.	
Total . . . . .	9	

#### WASTE OF BOATS SEIZED UNDER DENIAL POLICY IN BENGAL

†682. \***Mr. Akhil Chandra Datta:** Will the Honourable the Defence Member be pleased to state: if it is a fact:

(a) that a very large number of country boats snatched away from the fishermen under denial policy and requisitioned in 1942, were allowed to remain uncared for in "Daudkandi Boats Preservation Centre" in the district of Tippera;

(b) that the broken boats have recently been sold for Rs. 1,000 to a middleman who sold the same to Dhakeswari Cotton Mills for Rs. 6,000 to be used only as fuel;

(c) that a similar waste of boats has occurred in many other centres; and

(d) that this denial policy has been a cause of ruin to a very large population of fishermen who lost their only means of livelihood and are now absolutely stranded?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a), (b) and (c). Enquiries are being made from the Government of Bengal.

(d) The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the answer given to part (e) of Starred question No. 733 answered by me on 31st March 1944.

#### MUSLIM GAZETTED OFFICERS IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

†683. \***Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to an article published in the "Dawn" of the 25th October, 1944, regarding the percentage of Muslim officials in the Central Government;

(b) the total number of gazetted posts of (i) Secretaries, (ii) Joint Secretaries, (iii) Deputy Secretaries, (iv) Under Secretaries, (v) Assistant Secretaries, (vi) Additional Secretaries and (vii) Officers on Special Duty;

(c) how many Muslims are working in each of the categories mentioned in (b) above and what the percentage of Muslims therein is;

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

(d) how many Hindus and Europeans respectively are working in each of the above-mentioned categories; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government or proposed to be taken to make up the deficiency in the communal ratio, if any?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Government have seen the article referred to.

(b) to (d). A statement which gives substantially the information required by the Honourable Member is laid on the table.

(e) Appointments to the Secretariat posts of the categories referred to are made by selection and not on a communal basis. It is not proposed to alter that system.

*Statement showing the Communal distribution of the posts of Secretary, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Officers on special duty in the Departments of Government of India (Secretariat only) according to the Government of India Directory (July 1944).*

	Europeans Anglo- Indians	Hindus	Muslims	Others	Total.
Secretary . . . . .	9	5	2*	1	17
Additional Secretary . . . . .	4	..	..	1	5
Joint Secretary . . . . .	7	9	2	..	18
Deputy Secretary . . . . .	13	22	4	2	41
Under Secretary . . . . .	15	17	10	3	45
Assistant Secretary . . . . .	12	32	5	2	51
Officer on Special Duty † . . . . .	7	2	1	1	11
Total . . . . .	67	87	24	10	188

\* Including the Secretary, Legislative Assembly Department.

† Only Officers described as such have been included.

INDIAN TRADE PROFITS OF U. K. C. C.

**684. \*Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) the profits made by U. K. C. C. out of its trade with India; and

(b) whether they have been charged Income-tax, Super-tax and Excess Profits tax on the profits?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given by me to Starred question No. 320 asked by Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari on the 13th November 1944.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** But the figures of profits made by them were not stated.

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** In that answer I stated that the information is not available but that if and when it is furnished to the Income-Tax Department, its disclosure will be forbidden by the Income-Tax Act.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Apart from profits, have they been charged with income-tax at all?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I also mentioned on that occasion that the income-tax and excess profits assessments of the Corporation for the relevant years are in hand.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Have they shown any returns by which they are liable to excess profits tax?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I said the assessments are in hand. I cannot give any further information.

BAN ON ENTRY INTO INDIA OF INDIAN OPINION OF DURBAN

**685. \*Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if the Government of India have imposed any ban on the entry into India of "Indian Opinion" of Durban, edited by Mr. Manilal Gandhi;

- (b) if so, what the reasons for the ban are;
- (c) whether the South African Government has imposed any ban on the circulation of "Indian Opinion" in South Africa;
- (d) whether the Government of India consulted the High Commissioner for India in South Africa before banning this paper; and
- (e) whether the Government of India are aware of the deep dissatisfaction among Indians in India and South Africa at their arbitrary action against a paper of long standing which has tried to serve the Indian community in South Africa and keep this country informed of what is happening in Natal and other parts of the Union?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) No.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) I have no information but enquiries are being made.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) Government are not aware of this.

#### ACTIVITIES IN INDIA OF THE WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY

**686. \*Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

- (a) the general attitude of Government towards the activities in India of the Christian movement or body known as the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society or Jehovah's witnesses; for how many years approximately these activities have continued in India;
- (b) if it is a fact that there is at present a ban on the importation into, and publication in India of all books, pamphlets etc., of this organisation. If so, when the ban was first imposed and on what grounds;
- (c) if any scrutiny was held on behalf of Government, at any time before and after the said ban was imposed, into the individual publication, of this organisation for the purpose of finding out whether their contents were objectionable from any point of view; and
- (d) if it is a fact that the literature banned includes publications containing purely religious discourses?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) The general attitude of Government is now one of watchfulness.

- (b) It has now been decided to remove the ban.
- (c) Yes.
- (d) All the publications of the Society were banned.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** In part (a) of the question I wanted to know something about the activities of this organisation in India and how long these activities have continued. I am afraid no reply has been given to that.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The question was about the attitude of Government; it is one of watchfulness.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** But what are the activities like?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** If the Honourable Member wants information on that he may put down a question.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** With regard to Government's decision to lift the ban on this organisation, is it proposed to compensate it for the trouble and loss that has been caused to it by Government's action in the past?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No, Sir; the trouble was mutual.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Is it not a fact that members of this organisation have been sentenced to pay fines in different courts on the technical ground of possession of some of this proscribed literature on which the ban is now proposed to be lifted? And do Government propose to direct a refund of these amounts that have been paid as fines?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No, Sir.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Why not?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Because the Home Department never interferes with the judiciary.

## ACTIVITIES IN INDIA OF THE WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY.

687. **Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state;

(a) whether the organisation known as the Watch Tower Bible and Tract Society, or Jehovah's witnesses, has ever been known to be guilty in this country of any subversive activities;

(b) if it is a fact that five men and one lady were sentenced to imprisonment in different places in India for possessing books dealing with the Bible, and that several persons were ordered to leave their usual places of residence, and that in October last one of the Christian Workers after being imprisoned without any trial was later released and given 24 hours to leave Madras;

(c) if it is a fact while in July 1944, this organisation was permitted to import the authorised version of the Bible used by it in its work, a small consignment of the New Testament entitled *Diaglott*, giving word for word a translation of the Greek original into English and containing references to the other translations, was refused entry;

(d) if it is a fact that the "*Diaglott*" is merely a reprint of an old work by B. Wilson who never belonged to the Watch Tower Bible Society;

(e) if it is a fact that copies of this work were destroyed under the authority of Police of Bombay or Karachi;

(f) if it is a fact that one Mr. Skinner who is the representative of the organisation in India printed a leaflet last year containing only extracts from Bible texts and was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 for printing it?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Yes.

(b) I have not got complete details, but a small number of persons, including one lady, have been imprisoned for infringing the ban.

(c) The answer to both the parts is 'Yes'.

(d) *Diaglott* is a publication issued by the International Bible Students' Association whose literature is also prohibited by the order of 30th November, 1942.

(e) I have no information.

(f) Mr. Skinner was fined for printing the Society's literature in contravention of Government's order of 30th November, 1942.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Do Government admit that their previous order in regard to this matter was wrong?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No, Sir.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Then why are they withdrawing it now?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Because circumstances have changed.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** In what respects?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** In many respects.

## MAL-TREATMENT OF INFERIOR RAILWAY SERVANTS BY DELHI RAILWAY POLICE

†688. **Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if it is a fact that the Delhi Railway Police have been exercising third degree methods on the inferior Railway servants of the North Western Railway; if not, what the fact is;

(b) if it is a fact that on or about the 1st November, 1944, the Delhi Railway Police have exercised third degree methods on one Retiring Room bearer (Krishan) of Delhi junction station by having inflicted canes by a constable in the Police station; if not, what the fact is;

(c) if it is a fact that on or about the 5th November, 1944, the Delhi Railway Police have exercised third degree methods on waiting room's Aya (Martha) of Delhi junction station and who was released from those methods only after payment of rupees three as illegal gratification; if not, what the fact is; and

(d) what protection to Government Railway servants is provided for against the third degree methods of the Police force; if no protection has been provided, the reasons therefor?

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

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The Railway Police in Delhi are, as matter of administrative convenience, treated as part of the Punjab Police. The Punjab Government have been asked for the information required and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

#### RAID ON A GAMBLING DEN IN DELHI

†689. \***Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state the particulars of the raid on a gambling den in Delhi from where 82 persons were arrested before Diwali festival?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I am afraid that I can't as the case is still *sub judice*.

#### REMOVAL OF PROSTITUTES FROM GARSTIN BASTION ROAD, DELHI

†690. \***Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state the action taken to remove the residences of immoral women from the main thoroughfare (Garstin Bastion Road) connecting Old Delhi with New Delhi (from Lahori Gate to Ajmeri Gate); if no action has been taken the reasons therefor?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Certain areas in the jurisdiction of the Delhi Municipal Committee have been declared as prohibited areas under Article 152 of the Punjab Municipal Act 1911, but Garstin Bastion Road is not one of those. No measures have been, or are proposed to be taken to remove the residences of prostitutes therefrom.

#### MURDERS ON GARSTIN BASTION ROAD, DELHI

†691. \***Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state the number of murders committed either on the Garstin Bastion Road (from Lahori Gate to Ajmeri Gate), Delhi or by the residents of that Road during the preceding five years, and if it is a fact that to pass through that road after dusk is very unsafe due to the nature of the persons inhabiting that locality; if not, what the fact is?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Three: No.

#### SECURITY AND CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PRISONERS

692. \***Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if there are two classes of prisoners in Indian jails to-day, called security prisoners and civil disobedience movement prisoners;

(b) if so, what the difference in the status and treatment of them is;

(c) the categories of such prisoners in the Provincial jails who are directly under the Government of India;

(d) if there is any statutory obligation of the Government to make provisions for the families of persons under indefinite imprisonment without charge or trial;

(e) the allowances, if any, that are being given to the families of the various security and civil disobedience movement prisoners; and

(f) how many families are in receipt of such allowances?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) No.

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

(d) No.

(e) and (f). The principles which we have recommended and which have been adopted by most Provinces, are that allowances should be granted not only in cases of absolute necessity but also in cases where the detention has deprived the family of a legitimate source of income. Out of about 50 cases of persons detained by orders of the Central Government there are about fifteen cases where families are in receipt of allowances from Government. There is no fixed scale for these allowances which are determined after consideration of the circumstances of each case. So far as Chief Commissioners Provinces are concerned, the detailed information required is being collected and will be laid on the table in due course.

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

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** With reference to part (e), may I know what relief these families have in the provinces even though they come under the terms of the Honourable Member's answer and are entitled to allowances according to him but are being refused these allowances by the Provincial Governments.

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Presumably they have no relief; it is entirely an act of grace.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Can the Honourable Member interfere in such cases, if they are brought to his notice, and take the matter up with the Provincial Governments?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I am afraid: not.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** What is the maximum and minimum amounts paid by the Central Government to the families of the fifteen people detained under their orders?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have no information as to the actual amounts paid.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Is this payment absolutely a matter of grace? If so, is their indefinite detention also a matter of grace?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Yes.

#### INTERNMENT OF SHRIMATI SATYAVATI DEVI OF DELHI

693. **\*Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) if it is a fact that Shrimati Satyavati Devi of Delhi was released from jail on grounds of health and is now interned at the Sabbar Sanatorium in the Simla Hills;

(b) the restrictions now imposed upon her and the state of her health; and

(c) whether the Government are considering the desirability of releasing her or permitting her to come back to her home in Delhi?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Yes. She is interned under orders of the Punjab Government.

(b) So far as the Central Government is concerned, the only restriction imposed is that she should not return to Delhi Province without the permission of the Chief Commissioner. I have no information about her state of health.

(c) The question of releasing her from internment is for the Punjab Government to decide. The question of allowing her to return to Delhi does not arise so long as the internment order continues.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Is it not a fact that she was actually arrested in Delhi? Am I to understand that that arrest was at the instance of the Punjab Government and carried out by the Delhi authorities?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have no information on that.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Will the Honourable Member make inquiries because she belongs to Delhi and is thus under his protection?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** If the Honourable Member will put down a question as to what he wants to know, I will give him the answer.

**Mr. Sri Prakasa:** Does not this lady belong to Delhi and was she not actually arrested here? Am I to understand that that arrest was made at the instance of the Punjab Government?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I have no information at all; that was not the question asked.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Is any allowance being paid to this lady?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Again I have no information.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will Government consider the advisability of giving her a family allowance in view of the fact that she was a resident of Delhi and is now forced under orders of Government to live in the Punjab?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** If she comes under these principles we will consider it.

## (b) WRITTEN ANSWERS

## DETENTION OF DR. LOHIA

694. \*Mr. Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if it is a fact that Doctor Ram Manohar Lohia was arrested in Bombay in May, 1944, and is now kept at an unknown place and if his warrant were issued by the Government of India or the Government of Bombay;

(b) under what law he was arrested and why his place of confinement is kept a secret;

(c) if his father Mr. Hiralal Lohia, of 120, Coltar Street, Calcutta, has applied to Government for an interview with his only son; if so, what, if any, reply has been sent to him;

(d) why no interviews are permitted to Mr. Ram Manohar Lohia even with the members of his family; and

(e) what the category under which Doctor Lohia is classed in prison is, and what the class or division according to which he is treated as a prisoner is?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** I would refer the Honourable Member to my answers to starred questions Nos. 469, 476, and 482 on the 16th November.

## SEIZURE OF GRAM SEVA MANDAL AND KHADI ASHRAM OF HARMARA (AJMER).

695. \*Mr. Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if the Gram Seva Mandal and the Khadi Ashram of Harmara (Ajmer) were declared unlawful or their premises notified under the Criminal Law Amendment or any other Act;

(b) if so, when and by whom they were so notified;

(c) if it is a fact that the goods of the institution were seized and sold; if so, under what law the action was taken;

(d) if Government has received any representation regarding those proceedings and whether they have also been informed that goods of private individuals lying on the premises have been seized and sold along with the goods of the institutions;

(e) whether Government will enquire into the facts and if it is found that action has been taken by the authorities against the provisions of the law, whether Government will compensate these institutions for the losses suffered;

(f) did the police seize papers from the premises of these institutions belonging to Harijan Samiti, Mehtar Panchayat, Tonga Union, etc.; if so, why they did so and what they did with these papers;

(g) whether all these papers have been destroyed; and

(h) if the authorities received any representation from Mr. Balkrishna Garg, Secretary of the institutions, regarding these papers, and, if so, what reply was sent to him?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government are not aware that any goods of these alleged institutions were seized and sold.

(d) to (h). Government received a copy of a representation made by one Balkrishna Garg to the Chief Commissioner, Ajmer-Merwara. On Enquiry, Government were informed that the representation arose out of the action taken under sections 17 A and 17 B Criminal Law Amendment Act against the Khadi Vidyalaya, Harmara. As section 17 B provides a legal remedy for anyone aggrieved by such action, Government are not prepared to undertake any independent inquiry.

## LANGUAGE OF INCOME-TAX NOTICE (FORM B)

696. \*Mr. Sri Prakasa: Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) if his attention has been drawn to the language of Form B, a notice under Section 23(2) of the Income Tax Act, 1942, saying "In order that I may satisfy myself whether the return made by you.....is correct and complete, I hereby, require you to attend.....";

(b) if this language has his approval, and whether it does not suggest that the Income Tax Officer is already suspicious of the correctness of the return by the assessee;

(c) whether Government would consider the desirability of making the language less irksome; and

(d) if such notices are served on all Income Tax payees, including the highest officers of the State; and whether they are also required to attend the Income Tax Office, in person or by representation with the requisite evidence, as required in the notice? If not, will Government take steps to make the procedure similar for all income tax payees?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) I have seen the form of notice referred to by the Honourable Member.

(b) The form has my approval since it accords with the wording of section 23 (2) of the Act, as amended by the House in 1939. The reply to the latter part is in the negative.

(c) Government do not consider that the language in the existing form is irksome.

(d) No, but I have no reason to believe that such notices are not issued in all cases without discrimination where the provisions of section 23 (2) are attracted. The manner of compliance with the terms of the notice is in all cases left to the assessee. The last part of the question does not therefore arise.

#### EXPENDITURE ON RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMES OF BROADCASTING STATIONS

**697. \*Sardar Sant Singh:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state as to what amounts have been spent during the current financial year on religious programmes such as *Kathas*, *Naats*, *Shabads*, and speeches, etc., connected with (i) Hindus, (ii) Muslims, and (iii) Sikhs, by different broadcasting stations under him?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The All India Radio does not classify its accounts on communal lines and the collection of the information asked for would therefore involve an amount of time and labour that would not be justifiable in war time.

#### GOVERNMENT INFORMATION RE GANDHI-JINNAH TALKS

**698. \*Mr. Amarendra Nath Chattopadhyaya:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state if Government have got all information in detail about the Gandhi-Jinnah talks apart from what had appeared in the newspapers; if so, will the Honourable Member lay the same on the table?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** Government have no information apart from what has appeared in the newspapers.

#### RESTORATION OF OLD STANDARD TIME

**699. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please consider the desirability of reverting to the old standard timings as advancing of clock by one hour has caused a great inconvenience and hardship to the public in general and Indian Government employees in particular, as the position of war is now most favourable? If not, what are the reasons and whether, apart from official point of view, he would take into consideration the public views expressed in the past or call for the same now and then take the decision in the matter?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given to a similar question No. 464 put by Mr. Badri Dutt Pande on the 16th November, 1944. In arriving at their decision, Government took into account any inconvenience that might be caused to the public.

## ARRESTS OF CONGRESS COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN DELHI IN AUGUST, 1942

**700. \*Seth Sheodass Daga:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member please state if it is a fact that in Delhi on 9th and 10th August 1942, two Members of the All-India Congress Committee, four Members of the Provincial Congress Committee, Delhi, and about four ordinary members of the Congress were arrested under Defence of India Act, Rule 26 before the issue of the notification in the official Gazette, dated 11th August, 1942, declaring the Delhi Provincial Congress Committee to be an unlawful association?

(b) If the answer to (a) be in the affirmative, will he please state if before the time of the arrest any active support from the persons referred to in (a) to the All-India Congress Committee Resolution of 8th August, 1942, was recorded or was in existence?

(c) Is it a fact that some of the persons referred to in part (a) have now been released and various restrictions under sub-section (1) of Section (3) of the Restriction and Detention Ordinance, 1944, have been imposed on them?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) Two members of the All India Congress Committee, five members of the Delhi Provincial Congress Committee and six ordinary Congress men were arrested in Delhi on the 9th and 10th August 1942, on the basis of orders issued for their detention under Defence Rule 26.

(The notification to which the Honourable Member appears to refer—Delhi notification No. F. 6/4/42-S.B.—was issued on the 9th August, 1942, not the 11th August 1942.)

(b) The detention orders were made, on the basis of the past conduct of the persons concerned, with a view to preventing them from acting in a manner prejudicial to the public safety and the maintenance of public order.

(c) Yes.

## COMMUNAL PERCENTAGES FOR RECRUITMENT TO PROVINCIAL ACCOUNTANT GENERAL'S OFFICES

**701. \*Sardar Sant Singh:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) the percentage of representation fixed for different communities for purposes of recruitment in different Provincial Accountant General's offices;

(b) when these percentages were fixed and on what basis;

(c) will he please place a copy of the different orders on the subjects on the table of the House; and

(d) what special representation is fixed for the Sikhs in the Punjab where they predominate more than anywhere in India?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a), (b) and (c). The percentages fixed for the various communities in Audit and Accounts offices are given in the statements attached to the Auditor General's letters No. 581-NGE/608-33, dated the 18th April 1935 and No. 1276-NGE/368-43, dated the 10th July 1944, copies of which, together with the relevant extracts of the orders, are placed on the table of the House. These percentages have been fixed mainly with reference to the population of minority communities in each area and the recruitment rules of the Provincial Government concerned, but so as to retain for India as a whole the percentages prescribed under the Home Department Resolution of 1934. The reservations for members of the Scheduled Castes have effect from the 11th August 1943, and those for other communities from the 4th July 1934.

(d) Sikhs are included in the category "Other Minority Communities", and no special representation is fixed for them, except in the cadre of Divisional Accountants in the Punjab, in which 20 per cent. of the vacancies, which is the percentage fixed by the Government of the Punjab in respect of their Provincial Services, are reserved for Sikhs.

Copy of letter No. 1276-NGE/368-43, dated the 10th July, 1944, from the Auditor General of India, to all Accountants General and Comptrollers, the Director of Railway Accounts and the Director of Audit, Defence Services.

SUBJECT:—Reservation of vacancies for Scheduled Castes

I have the honour to state that under paragraph 4(2) of the Government of India, Home Department Resolution No. 23/5/42-Ests. (S), dated the 11th August, 1943 the Auditor General has with the concurrence of the Government of India, fixed the percentages shown in the annexed statement for recruitment of Scheduled Caste candidates to the non-gazetted establishment of the Audit and Accounts offices in which recruitment is made by local areas.

2. As recruitment of staff in your department is made centrally, 8½ per cent. of the vacancies for direct recruitment should be reserved for Scheduled Caste candidates in your department.

Statement of percentages fixed for Scheduled Castes in Audit and Accounts offices under the Auditor General.

Province	Percentage fixed for Scheduled Castes	Province	Percentage fixed for Scheduled Castes
Delhi*	8½	Bombay	4½
Punjab	4½	Central Provinces	12½
United Provinces	12½	Assam	4½
Bihar	8½	Orissa	10
Bengal	8½	Sind	2½
Madras	10	North West Frontier Province.	2½

\*Note.—For this purpose the offices of the Auditor General, the Accountant General Posts and Telegraphs and the Director of Railway Accounts should be considered to be located in Delhi Province.

Copy of letter No. 581-NGE/603-33, dated 18th April, 1935, from the Auditor General of India, to all Civil Accountants General, etc.

SUBJECT: Reservation of vacancies for Muslims and other minor communities

I have the honour to state that under Rule 8 of the Government of India, Home Department, Resolution No. F. 14/17-B/33, dated the 4th July, 1934, the Auditor General has, with the concurrence of the Government of India fixed the percentages shown in the annexed statement for recruitment of Muslims and other minor communities in the non-gazetted establishment of the Audit and Account Offices in which recruitment is made by local areas. The Depressed and Backward classes do not fall under the category of "Other minorities" and members of those classes should be recruited against the quota of Hindus (Christian aboriginals should be treated as Indian Christian and no reservation for non-Christian aboriginals has been considered necessary till the local Government find it necessary to make any rules regarding the representation of such people in the Provincial services.)

( ) To Accountant General, Bombay and Orissa only.

(The recruitment in the Postal Accounts Offices is made on a local basis and it is not therefore necessary to secure the total all-India percentages in those offices taken separately from other offices of the Audit Department. You should adopt the percentages now fixed for the local areas in which your offices are situated. This disposes of your letter No. E 2585/A-10-34, dated the 12th March 1935.)

( ) To Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs only.

2. If and when any material change in the percentages now prescribed becomes necessary in view of any rules issued by the local Government or due to other circumstances the matter should be referred to the Auditor General for his orders.

3. These percentages should be observed by you strictly in respect of all vacancies filled up after the 4th July 1934, irrespective of the dates from which such vacancies existed and irrespective of the position as regards recruitment of members of the minor communities which existed in your office/your office and your subordinate offices prior to that date. Further subsidiary instructions on certain points of detail will be issued shortly by the Government of India.

\*For the Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs and Director of Railway Accounts only.

4. The Government servants who were employed in an officiating or temporary capacity before the issue of the Government of India Resolution of 4th July 1934 may after confirmation be allowed to resume their original position in the gradation list above their juniors, if any, who may have to be confirmed earlier under the operation of these orders.

(This disposes of your D. O. to Mr. Badenoch, No. T/1100, dated the 28th February, 1935.)

( ) To Accountant General, Central Provinces only.

*Statement of percentages fixed for minor communities in Audit and Accounts Offices  
under the Auditor General in India*

Province	Percentages fixed for Muslims	Percentages fixed for other minor communities
Delhi . . . . .	33 1/3	8 1/3
Bengal . . . . .	40	8 1/3*
Assam . . . . .	33	8 1/3
Bihar . . . . .	10	8 1/3
Central Provinces . . . . .	5	5
United Provinces . . . . .	15	8 1/3
Sind . . . . .	50	8 1/3
Bombay . . . . .	8 1/3	8 1/3
Madras . . . . .	8 1/3	8 1/3
Punjab . . . . .	40	10
North West Frontier Province . . . . .	60	10†
	<hr/> 25·39	<hr/> 8·16

\* Including Budhists.

† Vide this office letter No. T1215-NGE/68-35, dated the 16th September 1935.

*Extract from the Government of India, Home Department, Resolution No. F. 14/17-B/33-Establishments, dated the 4th July, 1934, regarding communal representation in service.*

Section IV—Rules for services recruited locally

8. In the case of all services to which recruitment is made by local areas and not on an all-India basis, e.g., subordinate posts in the Railways, Posts and Telegraphs Department, Customs Service, Income-tax Department, etc., the general rules prescribed above will apply subject to the following modifications:—

(1) the total reservation for India as a whole of 25 per cent. for Muslims and of 8½ per cent. for other minorities will be obtained by fixing a percentage for each Railway or local area or circle having regard to the population ratio of Muslims and other minority communities in the area and the rules for recruitment adopted by the local Government of the area concerned;

(2) in the case of the Railways and Posts and Telegraphs Department and Customs Service in which the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European community is at present principally employed, special provisions described in the next paragraph are required in order to give effect to the policy stated in paragraph 2 above.

**INADEQUATE REPRESENTATION OF SIKHS IN INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING DEPARTMENT**

**702. \*Sardar Sant Singh:** (a) With reference to the answer to starred question No. 169 given on the 23rd February, 1944, will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state the basis on which 11 Muslims out of 33 appointments were appointed in the Technical Assistant and Programme Assistant's grades; if so, how does he justify giving more than 25 per cent. of the appointments to the Muslims?

(b) Will he please state the number of Sikh applicants who applied for each of these appointments, the number of candidates called for interview and the number of the successful candidates who have since been appointed?

(c) Is the Honourable Member aware that the representation given to Sikhs in his own Department and particularly in the All India Radio is inadequate and all appointments reserved for other minorities are either filled up by members of the minority communities other than the Sikhs or the Muslims? If not, will he please place a statement showing the appointments of Sikhs made so far in the A. I. R. carrying a pay more than Rs. 100

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) The "33 appointments" referred to by the Honourable Member related to the posts of Programme Assistant only, and out of these 11 were of Muslims. The appointments were made on the basis of merit. It is open to the minority communities to obtain on grounds of merit more than the percentage of vacancies reserved for them. In regard

to the appointments made in the cadre of Technical Assistants, the Honourable Member will observe from the reply given by me, to which he has referred, that the number of Muslims and non-Muslims appointed were 10 and 86 respectively.

(b) For the posts of Programme Assistant, 23 Sikhs applied; one was called for interview and was selected. 18 Sikhs applied for the posts of Technical Assistant, 7 were called for interview and 2 were appointed.

(c) The Sikhs are very well represented in the Information and Broadcasting Department Secretariat, as about 7 per cent. of the posts are held by them. In All India Radio there are 30 Sikhs out of a total of 980 posts. I may explain that, under the Communal Representation Rules, no separate reservation is made for Sikhs out of the percentage of 8½ reserved for "Other minority communities". A list giving the information asked for in the last part of this part of the question is laid on the table of the House.

*List of Sikhs employed in All India Radio on posts carrying a pay over Rs. 100 p. m.*

1. Mr. A. C. Ramchandani, Assistant Chief Engineer.
2. Mr. Hatindar Singh, Assistant News Editor.
3. Mr. Iqbal Singh, Programme Executive.
4. Mr. T. S. Khosle, Programme Assistant.
5. Mr. K. S. Duggal, Programme Assistant.
6. Mr. Joginder Singh, Technical Assistant.
7. Mr. Ramnik Singh, Technical Assistant.
8. Mr. Harbans Singh, Stenographer
9. Mr. Iwar Singh, Stenographer
10. Mr. G. S. Bhatia, Assistant.

#### ANGLO-INDIANS, ETC. IN THE W. A. C. (I.)

**703. \*Mr. Frank B. Anthony:** (a) Will the War Secretary be pleased to state the present number of Anglo-Indians, Domiciled Europeans and Europeans employed in the W. A. C. (I.)?

(b) How many senior Commanders are drawn, from the Anglo-Indian, Domiciled European and European communities respectively?

(c) Is it a fact that the Commandants of the four Recruit Training Schools are Europeans?

(d) Is it a fact that Junior Civil Assistants from overseas are now holding appointments which should normally be held by personnel of the W. A. C. (I.)?

(e) Is it a fact that these Junior Civil Assistants are also replacing permanent civilian women employees and are being given a much higher basic wage? If so, why?

(f) Is the War Secretary aware of the increasing tendency to import personnel to fill appointments which should be given to members of the W. A. C. (I.)? If so, why?

(g) Is it a fact that a large number of members of the W. A. A. F. are being brought out to India? Will these persons compete with the Air Force Wing of the W. A. C. (I.) personnel for appointments in India?

(h) Is it not a fact that the imported personnel who are doing the work hitherto done by members of the W. A. C. (I.) are getting a much higher basic pay than the W. A. C. (I.) personnel? If so, why?

(i) Whether Government will consider paying the same basic wage to the member of the W. A. C. (I.) as is at present being given to A. T. S. personnel and Junior Civil Assistants?

(j) How many civilian women employees, who have been holding responsible posts for years, have been replaced by the imported personnel? If the latter are performing the same duties as the former, what was the necessity or reason for importing these women Civilian Assistants and giving them higher pay?

**Mr. O. M. Trivedi:** (a) British—2,230, Indian—3,252, Anglo-Indian—3,937.

(b) British—49, Indian—1, Anglo-Indian—1.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. Eight Junior Civil Assistants from the War Office are replacing male Staff Officers who are thus released for combatant duties. Their

wages are higher than those of our permanent civilian women employees, but their duties are quite different.

(f) It is true that it is becoming necessary to import members of the British Women's Services because neither officers nor other ranks of the W.A.C.(I) are available in sufficient numbers to fill the appointments open to them.

(g) As regards the first part, a contingent of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force has arrived in India for service in South East Asia. As regards the second part, there is no separate Air Force Wing of the W.A.C.(I) although a number of W.A.C.(I) personnel are employed with the Air Forces. The W.A.A.F.'s will not compete with W.A.C.(I) for the reasons given in reply to part (f) above.

(h) and (i). Imported personnel are not doing work hitherto done by the W.A.C.(I). The rates of pay of the British Women's Services were fixed in the U.K. by His Majesty's Government. The rates of pay of the W.A.C.(I) are based on the pay of the Auxiliary Territorial Service in the U.K. The whole question of the pay of Women's Services in Defence Headquarters, India is under consideration by Government.

(j) No civilian woman employee has been replaced by imported personnel. The second part of the question does not, therefore arise.

#### PENSION OF DAFTRIES IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS, ETC.

**704. \*Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) if it is a fact that Daftries in the offices of the Director-General, Post and Telegraphs, the Auditor General and other attached offices are entitled to half pension not exceeding Rs. 20 per mensem;

(b) if it is also a fact that peons of the offices of the Director-General, Post and Telegraphs, the Auditor General and other local offices whose maximum scale of pay is Rs. 16 are entitled to half pension not exceeding Rs. 8, per mensem;

(c) if it is a fact that the maximum scale of pay admissible to peons in the offices of the Accountant-General, Central Revenues, the Deputy Accountant General, Posts and Telegraphs and the Chief Controller of Supply Accounts etc. is Rs. 16 per mensem, and they earn half pension not exceeding Rs. 8 according to the pension rules applicable to them; if so, what the reason is for treating the daftries in these offices whose maximum pay varies from Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 differently with the result that they are only entitled to a pension not exceeding Rs. 8 per mensem irrespective of their maximum pay; and

(d) if Government to take immediate steps to issue orders entitling the daftries of the above mentioned offices to half pension not exceeding Rs. 20 per mensem, as in the case of other offices where such pension is admissible?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a), (b), (c) and (d). The attention of the Honourable Member is drawn to the reply given by me to Starred Question No. 192 on the 25th February 1943. There has been no change in the position.

#### MAHATMA GANDHI'S STATEMENT RE MASS CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

**705. \*Shrimati K. Radha Bai Subbarayan:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) if he has seen the public statement of Mahatma Gandhi to the effect that mass civil disobedience is now out of question; and

(b) if he has also seen copies of the letters written by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Indian National Congress, to the former Viceroy, Lord Linlithgow, and now published in the Press by Doctor Sayed Mahmud, denying the various charges on behalf of the Members of the Working Committee and himself, made by the Government in their pamphlet on Congress responsibility for the 1942 incidents?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) The reference is presumably to Mr. Gandhi's "Hints for workers on the constructive programme." In it he wrote

“Just as military training is necessary for armed revolt training in the constructive effort is equally necessary for civil resistance” and later “It would be different if there was mass civil disobedience. But that is out of the question for the time being at any rate”.

(b) Yes.

#### DETENTION OF MR. JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN

**706. \*Shrimati K. Radha Bai Subbarayan:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) the law under which Sri Jai Prakash Narayan was arrested and is detained in prison;

(b) the place of his confinement and the facilities, if any, given to him for correspondence, interviews, books, if any, and newspapers provided to him;

(c) if he is a prisoner of the Government of India or of the Provincial Government and if of the latter then of which Provincial Government;

(d) if he is to be brought to trial; if so, under what charges;

(e) if any counsel has been engaged for him by Government and if he has been given the right and the necessary facilities to engage his own counsel; and

(f) if, in case the counsel has been given or engaged, every opportunity is afforded to him to interview his counsel and give all instructions as necessary?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) He was arrested under Defence of India Rule 129 and is detained under Ordinance III of 1944.

(c) He is a prisoner of the Government of India.

(b), (d), (e) and (f). I would refer the Honourable Member to my answers to starred questions Nos. 198 on the 8th November and 468 and 475 on the 16th November.

#### RE-ORGANIZATION OF OFFICERS' CADRE OF CANTONMENTS AND LANDS SECTION OF DEFENCE DEPARTMENT

**707. \*Mr. N. M. Joshi:** Will the Honourable the Defence Member be pleased to state:

(a) if the Government of India have under consideration a scheme for the re-organisation of the officers' cadre of the Cantonments and Lands Section of the Defence Department; if so, what it is;

(b) the position and prospects they propose to give to the present executive officers; and

(c) whether the present executive officers have asked for improvement in their salaries and prospects; if so, what Government propose to do to satisfy their demands?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) and (b). Yes. A scheme for the amalgamation of the Lands Branch of the Cantonments Department and the Cantonment Executive Officers Service and the revision of pay of Executive Officers was under consideration for some time. It was eventually decided that as we do not know what the post-war conditions affecting Cantonment Services are likely to be, a wholesale re-organisation of the Department, which such a scheme would entail, and a corresponding revision of the pay of Executive Officers cannot be undertaken during the war. For the period of the War however the pay of Grade II Executive Officers, *i.e.* the most junior officers of the cadre, has been revised from Rs. 150—5—200 E.B. —5—250 to Rs. 200—10—250, their pay being fixed in the latter scale with reference to the departmental service already rendered by them.

(c) Yes. Government has received representations from certain officers to this effect. It must however be borne in mind that owing to war conditions most of these officers are officiating in higher paid appointments than they normally would have, and for the reasons I have already stated it is not at present possible to do more than we have done.

#### COMMUNAL PROPORTIONS IN THE ARMY

**708. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** (a) Will the War Secretary please state the proportion of different communities in the Army (commissioned, non-commissioned, combatant and non-combatant, respectively) as it stood on the 1st of September 1944?

(b) What is the rough percentage of different communities in the Artillery, Infantry, Engineers, Signals, Motor Transport, Supply, Medical and Ordnance?

(c) What total percentage each community form in the combatant and non-combatant ranks?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** The information required by the Honourable Member is not readily available. I will endeavour to collect such information as can be obtained without undue expenditure of time and labour and will lay it on the table if there are no security objections to such information being divulged.

#### POLITICAL PRISONERS AND DETENUS IN JAILS OUTSIDE THEIR PROVINCE

**709. \*Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any political prisoners and detenus who are being kept in jails of provinces other than their own; if so (i) how many they are, (ii) what provinces they belong to; and (iii) in what provinces and in what numbers they are being kept;

(b) the political parties to which they belong generally;

(c) whether their cases (if they are detenus) are also liable to be reviewed once in six months;

(d) if the reply to (c) is in the affirmative, whether such reviews are being made by Central Government and with what results during the last year;

(e) if Government are aware that their health is being affected by reason of their being kept in provinces other than their own; and

(f) whether Government will be pleased to consider the advisability of re-transferring these detenus and other prisoners to their own provinces?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** (a) and (b). I regret that it is impossible to give detailed information but as far as I am aware there is no large body of Prisoners or detenus belonging to one Province and detained in another. As regards persons detained under the orders or at the instance of the Central Government there are a few cases in which detenus have been transferred from their own Provinces for security reasons. (I am not prepared to give further details for the same reasons). There is also the case of the Members of the Congress Working Committee and the position in Delhi Province has already been explained in my reply to starred question No. 104 on 3rd November, 1944. I have no further details.

(c) Yes, of course, but, as I have explained before, the process of review is continuous and does not take place only at six monthly intervals.

(d) The Central Government reviews the cases of those detained by them. The number released in the last year was about 10.

(e) and (f). If there is any reason to believe that a Security Prisoner's health is suffering by being kept in a Province other than his own, his transfer to his own Province is, and will be, considered.

#### INDIAN STUDENTS STRANDED IN ENGLAND OWING TO NON-AVAILABILITY OF PASSAGE FACILITIES

**710. \*Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Will the Honourable the Defence Member be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a Reuter's message from London, dated August 26, 1944, that a large number of Indian students who completed their studies long ago are unable to return to India owing to non-availability of passage facilities;

(b) whether he is aware that a large number of these students have qualified as first-class engineers and technicians and that their return to India now would assist the war effort as well as the plans for post-war development;

(c) whether he would take any steps to urge the British Ministry of Transport to grant the students priority in allotment of passages; and

(d) whether the High Commissioner has been in communication with Government in this matter?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is aware that there are some who have qualifications which would undoubtedly be useful.

(c) Yes. Priorities are in fact allotted to Indian students, but the number is still very restricted owing to paucity of passenger accommodation.

(d) Government is in regular correspondence with both the Secretary of State and the High Commissioner on this subject, and everything possible is being done to expedite the return of Indian students and Indian nationals generally to this country.

#### DISSATISFACTION OVER PROCEDURE OF ASSESSING ARECA NUT CESS

711. \*Prof. N. G. Ranga: Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state if he is aware that:

(a) the Malabar Areca nut producers and dealers are discontented with the procedure adopted by Government in assessing the Areca nut cess and in collecting it;

(b) the objections he has to lower the cess in proportion to the normal price of the nuts;

(c) if he is aware that usually 25 per cent. of the stock gets spoiled during the process of preservation and if so, whether he is prepared to reduce the incidence of the cess to a corresponding degree or not;

(d) the objections he has to impose the cess in proportion to the weight of the kernel of the nut, that is, excluding the husk;

(e) if he is prepared to collect the cess from the wholesale dealers, and, if not, why not; and

(f) if he is prepared to order a departmental enquiry into the above matter and other grievances of the producers concerned as stated in their printed representation?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** The question presumably relates to the levy of excise duty on arecanuts. If this is so, an enquiry of the kind suggested by the Honourable Member was set on foot some time ago and the material gathered by the enquiring officers is now being studied.

#### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

##### IMPORT AND SALE OF GOLD

104. Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar: Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) whether Government have imported gold since the beginning of 1944 and sold to the people of this country;

(b) how many million ounces have been so sold;

(c) at what price it was purchased and where?

(d) at what price it has been sold to the people of this country; and

(e) whether any profit has been made on these sales and to whom this profit has gone?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) Government have not imported or sold gold but sales have been made by the Reserve Bank of India on behalf of His Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States of America.

(b) I am not prepared to disclose the quantities sold.

(c) Government have no information as to where and at what price this gold was purchased by His Majesty's Government and the Government of the United States of America.

(d) It was sold from time to time at the prevailing market price.

(e) I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to the reply I gave to Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari's starred question No. 191 on the 8th November 1944.

## CONCLUSIONS OF BRETTON WOODS CONFERENCE

**105. Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

- (a) the result of the Brettonwood Conference;
- (b) the conclusions of the Conference with reference to India; and
- (c) whether the conclusions of the Conference concerning India, are subject to the vote of the House?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a), (b) and (c). I would invite the Honourable Members attention to my reply to Starred Question No. 79 asked by Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad on the 3rd November, 1944.

## CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, ETC., OF CIVILIAN GAZETTED OFFICERS, INDIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

**106. Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the War Secretary please state the conditions of service, warrant of precedence, scales of pay, order of promotion, status, etc., of the Civilian Gazetted Officers, Indian Army Ordnance Corps?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I am collecting the information and will lay it on the table in due course.

## TREATMENT METED OUT TO CIVILIAN GAZETTED OFFICERS, INDIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

**†107. Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the War Secretary please state whether it is a fact that the Civilian Gazetted Officers, Indian Army Ordnance Corps, from time to time, complained to their Officers Commanding and also to the Inspecting Officers against the treatment given to them by the Military Commissioned Officers, if not, what the true fact is; and if the reply be in the affirmative the steps taken by the Central Government against the behaviour of Military Commissioned Officers; and if no steps have been taken the reasons therefor?

## REMOVALS OF CIVILIAN GAZETTED OFFICERS, INDIAN ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

**†108. Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the War Secretary please state the number of the Civilian Gazetted Officers, Indian Army Ordnance Corps, removed from the Corps after being confirmed and during probationary period respectively and the periods served in probation?

## CONFERENCES WITH ACCREDITED PRESS CORRESPONDENTS

**109. Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

- (a) the particulars of conferences and meetings held during the preceding six months between the officers of the Central Government and the Accredited Press Correspondents awarded category (A);
- (b) the number of these attended by each Accredited Press Correspondents awarded category (A);
- (c) the particulars of the subject matter supplied to the Accredited Press Correspondents awarded category (A); and
- (d) the newspapers in which the subject matter supplied to them was published; if not published, the reasons therefor?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Twenty-five Press Conferences were held during the preceding six months i.e. May to October 1944. The purpose for which these Press Conferences were held was fully explained at each of these Conferences and it would not be possible to give details of their proceedings now.

†For answer to this question, see answer to question No. 105.

(b) No record is kept of the number of correspondents who attended these Conferences.

(c) and (d). Government do not feel that the labour involved in the collection of the information asked for would be justified in war time.

#### REQUEST FOR TRIAL OF STAFF OF SHAHDARA (DELHI) SAHARANPUR LIGHT RAILWAY

**110. Mr. Badri Dutt Pande:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if it is a fact that the United Provinces Government has requested the Central Government for the trial of the staff of the Shahdara (Delhi) Saharanpur Light Railway by the Special Tribunal, War Department; if not, what the fact is;

(b) if it is a fact that the Central Government is now arranging for their trial; if not, what the fact is; and

(c) if it is a fact that they are detained under the Defence of India Act Rules since November, 1943, in Meerut District Jail; if not, what the fact is?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) The United Provinces Government did at one stage suggest the trial of the accused in the Shahdara (Delhi) Saharanpur Light Railway case by Special Tribunal. This suggestion was later withdrawn.

First part of (b), No, Sir.

Second part of (b) and (c). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given on the 3rd instant to unstarred question No. 28.

#### CONSTITUTION OF SPECIAL POLICE ESTABLISHMENT AND THE SPECIAL TRIBUNAL BY WAR DEPARTMENT

**111. Mr. Badri Dutt Pande:** Will the War Secretary please state:

(a) if it is a fact that the Special Police Establishment has been constituted by the War Department; if not, what the fact is; and

(b) if it is a fact that the Special Tribunal has been constituted by the War Department; if not, what the fact is?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) and (b). The Special Police Establishment and the Special Tribunals have been constituted by the Central Government in the War Department under Ordinance Nos. XXII and XXIX of 1943.

#### COLLECTION OF WAR FUND FROM RAILWAY SERVANTS BY DELHI RAILWAY POLICE

**112. Mr. Badri Dutt Pande:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state if it is a fact that the officials of the Government Railway Police, Delhi Sub-Division have been instructed by the Central Government to collect from Railway servants funds towards Viceroy's War Fund; if not, what the fact is?

**The Honourable Sir Francis Mudie:** No such instructions have been issued by the Central Government.

#### CONDITIONS GOVERNING GRANT OF OLD SCALE OF PAY

**113. Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) the conditions governing the grant of old scale of pay to a Government servant;

(b) if it can be given to a Government servant who does not hold any permanent appointment anywhere under the Government; if so, what conditions such a case should fulfil for the grant of old scale of pay, etc.;

(c) if a Government servant removed from service and re-employed or re-appointed after 15th July, 1934, is entitled to old scales of pay when his removal is not due to economy campaign; and

(d) if the answer to this question is also applicable to Railway servants holding civil posts under the Crown; if not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) and (b). Old scales of pay are admissible to all Government servants, whether permanent or temporary, who have been in continuous Government service since 15th July 1931 and who received no warning at the time of appointment that they would be given the new rates of pay.

(c) No.

(d) Railway employees are in the same position in this matter as other Government servants.

#### EXTENSION OF CERTAIN RELIEF TO RAILWAY SERVANTS AND STAFF OF DELHI MUNICIPALITY

**114. Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state whether Finance Department Memoranda No. F.2(52)W/44 and No. F-44(8)W/44, dated the 25th September, 1944, and 21st July, 1944, respectively and Home Department Memorandum No. 196/43-Public (e), dated the 16th May, 1944 regarding the grant of relief to Government servants are made applicable to (i) Railway servants and (ii) staff of Delhi Municipality, both Gazetted and Non-Gazetted; if not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** None of the concessions applies to the staff of the Delhi Municipality, who are not under the administrative control of Government. The orders of the 25th September 1944 granting war allowance have been extended to Railway servants. The orders of the 21st July 1944 regarding conveyance allowance have also been extended to certain Railway servants in Delhi; but the orders of the 16th May 1944 granting a concession in respect of journeys performed for the purpose of leave for rest and recreation have not been extended to Railway servants, as these are already eligible for free passes and other travelling concessions.

#### ANNUAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND STAFF OF CHAKRATA CANTONMENT BOARD

**115. Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the Honourable the Defence Member be pleased to lay a statement on the table showing the Annual Income and Expenditure of the Chakrata Cantonment Board for the past two years, along with a list of staff employed by that Board, their designation and monthly pay?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** The information has been called for and a reply will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

#### CERTAIN EXPENDITURE FROM CHAKRATA CANTONMENT FUND

**116. Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the Honourable the Defence Member be pleased to lay on the table the amounts spent from the Cantonment fund of the Chakrata Cantonment Board during the last two years on the following heads:—

- (i) Maintenance of roads in Sadar Bazar area of the Chakrata Cantonment,
- (ii) Sanitation,
- (iii) Education,
- (iv) Constructions and repairs of public drains in Sadar Bazar Area?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** The information is being collected and a reply will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE

Information promised in reply to starred question No. 6, asked by Sardar Mangal Singh on the 7th February, 1944

INDIAN EVACUEES EMPLOYED BY GOVERNMENT OR GIVEN MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCE

Statement showing the number of Evacuees employed by Government (Up to the end of January, 1944)

Names of the Provincial Governments and the Departments of the Government of India	Name of the country from which evacuated	Particulars of the evacuees employed
<i>Provincial Governments</i>		<i>Indians</i>
Madras . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	17,710
Bombay . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	59
Bengal . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	684
		Up to March, 1944.
The United Provinces . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	2,103
The Punjab . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	64
Bihar . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	56
		Up to March, 1944.
The C. P. & Berar . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	12
Assam . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	38
The N.-W. F. P. . . . .	Burma . . . . .	5
Orissa . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	15
Sind . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	9
Coorg . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
Delhi . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	14
Ajmer-Merwara . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
Baluchistan . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
	Total . . . . .	20,763
<i>Departments of the Government of India</i>		
1. Office of the National Defence Council . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
2. Secretariat of the Governor General (Public) . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
3. Secretariat of the Governor General (Reforms) . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
4. Home Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	8
5. Department of I. & B. . . . .	Burma . . . . .	11
6. E. A. Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	Nil
7. Political Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	17
8. Finance Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	148
		Up to March, 1944.
9. Legislative Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	2
10. Commerce Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	7
11. Department of Industries and Civil Supplies . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	70
12. Department of Food . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	16
13. Department of Labour . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	816
14. E., H. and L. Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	25
15. Commonwealth Relations Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	35
16. Legislative Assembly Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	1
17. War Transport Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	117
		Up to March, 1944.
18. Post and Air Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	137
19. Railway Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	393
20. War Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	107
		Up to April, 1944.
21. Defence Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	2
22. Supply Department . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	581
		Up to March, 1944.
23. Military Finance . . . . .	Burma . . . . .	43
		Up to March, 1944.
	Total . . . . .	2,537
Under Provincial Governments . . . . .		20,763
In the Departments of the Government of India . . . . .		2,537
	GRAND TOTAL . . . . .	23,300

*Statement showing the number of Indian Evacuees who are being given Maintenance Allowance by Government*

Province or State	Number of Indians receiving assistance
1. Madras . . . . .	37,867
2. Bombay . . . . .	4,967
3. Bengal . . . . .	51,000
4. United Provinces . . . . .	4,000
5. Punjab . . . . .	537
6. Bihar . . . . .	95
7. Central Provinces . . . . .	157
8. Assam . . . . .	74
9. North-West Frontier Province . . . . .	138
10. Orissa . . . . .	7,111
11. Sind . . . . .	97
12. Ajmer-Merwara . . . . .	23
13. Baluchistan . . . . .	Nil
14. Delhi . . . . .	45
15. Coorg . . . . .	Nil
16. Assam States (Manipur) . . . . .	488
17. Baroda . . . . .	2
18. Central India States . . . . .	..
19. Cochin . . . . .	..
20. Deccan and Kolhapur . . . . .	Nil
21. Eastern States . . . . .	Nil
22. Gwalior . . . . .	Nil
23. Hyderabad . . . . .	4
24. Kashmir . . . . .	Nil
25. Madras States (Pudukkotah) . . . . .	6
26. Mysore . . . . .	2,411
27. Punjab States . . . . .	Nil
28. Punjab Hill States . . . . .	..
29. Rajputana . . . . .	2
30. Travancore . . . . .	..
31. Western India States . . . . .	17
32. French India . . . . .	..
<b>Total</b> . . . . .	<b>1,09,041</b> or <b>1,10,000</b> roundly.

*Information promised in reply to parts (b) and (c) of unstarred question No. 88, asked by Mr. K. C. Neogy on the 1st March, 1944*

**BICYCLES IMPORTED INTO INDIA**

(b) The desired information is furnished below :

	£	s.	d.	Rs.	a.	p.
I.—Average ex-factory price of British bicycles for sale in U. K. . . . .	4	9	0	59	5	4
II.—Average f.o.b. price of similar bicycles for export to India . . . . .	4	7	0	58	0	0

NOTE.—The small difference between the prices indicated against items I and II above is mainly due to cheaper fittings on cycles meant for export to India.

(c) The Government of India are satisfied that no element of dumping is involved in the importation of bicycles into India and the question of protecting the local manufacturer does not therefore arise.

*Information promised in reply to part (i) of unstarred question No. 89 asked by Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta on the 2nd March, 1944.*

**MEMORIAL SUBMITTED BY THE GUJRAT TOBACCO MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION,  
NADIAD**

The reduction in the acreage under tobacco cultivation during 1943-44 as compared with the acreage in 1942-43 is estimated at about 18 per cent.

The causes of this reduction have been explained in the reply to part (h) of the question.

*Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 126 asked by Hajee Choudhury Muhammad Ismail Khan on the 13th March, 1944*

NON-PAYMENT OF OFFICIATING ALLOWANCE TO CERTAIN SPECIAL TICKET EXAMINERS ON NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Special Ticket Examiners on the North Western Railway, who had elected the scales of pay of the old Travelling Ticket Examiners, were considered by the Administration to be ineligible for officiating pay when employed against higher posts outside the sanctioned cadre of such old Travelling Ticket Examiners. The matter has been reconsidered and it has been decided to permit the grant of officiating pay in such cases.

*Information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 524 and 525 asked by Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani on the 20th March, 1944*

ALLEGED BRIBE TO INCOME-TAX OFFICER, GAYA

*Question No. 524.*—(a) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative, to the second part in the negative, and to the third part, in the affirmative.

(b) The answer to the first two parts of the question is in the affirmative and to the last part in the negative.

(c) Mr. Lal was assured by the Commissioner of Income-tax that no criminal action would be taken against him for bribing the Income-tax Officer. This was under no particular law or rule, but with a view to detect corruption, if any existed in the Department. As regards the last part of the question, Government have seen the judgment mentioned, but consider that the circumstances of that case were quite different.

(d) The answer to the first part is in the negative. As regards the second part, action under section 34 of the Income-tax Act had become barred. The answer to the third part is that the assurance given by the Commissioner of Income-tax was taken to cover all the offences admitted to have been committed by him. The last part of the question does not arise.

ALLEGED BRIBE TO INCOME-TAX OFFICER, GAYA

*Question No. 525.*—(a) The bribe is alleged to have been paid in consideration of the Income-tax Officer admitting certain obsolescence expenditure. In view of Section 54 I. T. Act, the particulars regarding the claim in the Income-tax return and the final assessment cannot be revealed. An appeal was filed but was not entertained as it was time-barred.

(b) The answer to the first part is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, this would be a matter for legal inference and Government cannot make a definite statement one way or the other. The answer to the third part of the question is that the Commissioner has forwarded to Government copies of Mr. Gurusharan Lal's statements.

(c) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative and to the second part in the negative.

(d) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As regards the second part, although the letter was placed on the file relating to the departmental enquiry, it was not treated as evidence in the case against the Income-tax Officer.

(e) No.

(f) No.

(g) No. Government do not consider such enquiry necessary.

(h) No. Government do not consider that there was any lapse on Mr. Mukerjee's part as suggested.

(i) Mr. Mukerjee's letter was dated at Dhanbad on 12th November, 1941 and must have been received by the Commissioner a day or two later. As regards the second part of the question, I would invite the Honourable Member's attention to my reply to the second part of clause (d) of his question. Mr. Mukerjee was presumably not examined as a witness in regard to his letter as it was not treated as evidence.

*Information promised in reply to part (a) of starred question No. 557, asked by Mr. Piare Lal Kureel on the 21st March, 1944*  
**SCHEDULED CASTES STAFF OF THE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT**  
*Statement showing the communal representation including that of the Scheduled Castes in the gazetted and non-gazetted staff of the Supply Department as it stood on 1st March, 1944*

Serial No.	Name of Organization	Gazetted Staff			Non-gazetted Staff			Remarks	Total					
		Hindus	Muslims	Sche- duled Castes	O. M. C.	Total	Hindus			Muslims	Sche- duled Castes	O. M. C.	Total	
1	Main Secretariat	14	9	..	4	27	Excludes seven Europeans.	173	71	1	16	261		
2	Directorate General, Munitions Production.	136	10		36	182	Excludes 361 Europeans.	8,212	1,382	88	1,278	10,980	Excludes 459 Europeans.	
3	Directorate General, Supply (including Directorate General, Disposals).	172	46	3	20	241	Excludes 136 Europeans.	2,614	1,339	92	453	4,498	Excludes 539 Europeans.	
4	Directorate General, Shipbuilding and Repairs.	6	..	..	5	11	Excludes 46 Europeans.	91	9		58	158		
5	Directorate General, Aircraft.	2	3		3	8	Excludes 18 Europeans and R. A. F. Officers.	148	42	1	16	207	Excludes 5 Europeans.	
6	Chief Administrative Officer (Purchase).	133	50	1	20	204	Excludes 16 Europeans.	1,790	638	12	194	2,634		
7	Electrical Commissioner with the Government of India.	12	..	..	1	13	Excludes 11 Europeans.	98	12	..	11	121		
8	Iron and Steel Controller	26	1	1	10	38	Excludes 12 Europeans.	501	10	29	38	578		
9	All Controllers of Supplies	23	5		12	40	Excludes two Europeans and one Armenian.	596	153	15	74	838		
<b>Total</b>		<b>524</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>764</b>		<b>14,223</b>	<b>3,656</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>2,138</b>	<b>20,255</b>		
<i>Abstract</i>														
		<b>Hindus</b>			<b>Muslims</b>			<b>Scheduled Castes</b>			<b>Other Minority Communities.</b>		<b>Total</b>	
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage	
Gazetted		524	68.6	124	16.2	5	0.7	111	14.6	764				
Non-gazetted		14,223	70.2	3,656	18.0	238	1.2	2,138	10.6	20,255				

NOTE.—The details on account of Ordnance Factories Staff included in S. No. 2 are as on 31st March, 1944 and not 1st March, 1944.

*Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 167 asked by Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali on the 23rd March, 1944.*

**NON-PAYMENT OF RANK-PAY TO CERTAIN PERSONNEL AT TRANSPORTATION TRAINING CENTRE, JULLUNDUR CANTONMENT.**

*Question No. 167.*—(a) and (b). There was some misunderstanding on the part of eight men regarding their trade pay.

Six of these men were enrolled as Hammerman, a category which was subsequently abolished, and they were given six months in which to qualify for remustering to another trade. This they failed to do and were discharged. They all received trade pay as hammer men up to the date of their discharge.

Another man was employed on the wrong rates of trade pay as he submitted a wrong Last Pay Certificate. When the error was discovered he was unwilling to continue to serve on the correct rates of pay, so it was decided that he should be discharged and paid on the promised rates of pay up to the date of his discharge.

The case of the eighth man is still the subject of correspondence.

*Information promised in reply to starred questions Nos. 617 and 619 Parts (b) and (c) asked by Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali on the 24th March, 1944*

**MUSLIMS AS CAMP CLERKS IN THE OFFICE OF POSTMASTER GENERAL, U. P.**

*Question No. 617.*—(a) Yes. Eligible Muslim candidates were not available when the appointments were made.

(b) There is no separate cadre of stenographers in circle offices. Clerks employed there as stenographers continue to be borne on the clerical cadre. The Home Department orders regarding distribution of posts among the different communities at the time of recruitment do not, therefore, apply to appointment of stenographers in circle offices. The Director General, Posts & Telegraphs has, however, issued instructions to all Heads of Circles pointing out to them the necessity for avoiding preponderance of any one class or community in the group of clerks who are employed as stenographers.

**APPOINTMENTS TO POSTS CARRYING ALLOWANCES IN CIRCLE POST OFFICES IN U. P.**

*Question No. 619.*—(b) The Postmaster General has been instructed to keep the directive in view in making future appointments.

(c) There is a permanent vacancy to which a Muslim is being appointed.

*Information promised in the reply to part (a) of Starred Question No. 64, asked by Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait on behalf of Seth Yusuf Abdoola Haroon on the 3rd November, 1944*

**APPLICATIONS FOR SCHEDULE VII LEASES UNDER CANTONMENT LAND ADMINISTRATION RULES.**

*Statement showing by Cantonments the number of applications received during the years 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944, for the grant of leases in Schedule VII of the Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937, and the number of applications rejected.*

Name of the Cantonment	Number of applications received	Year in which received	Number of applications rejected
Abbotabad .	1	1941	..
Allahabad .	1	1938	..
Ambala .	1	1939	.. 1
Amritsar .	1	1938	..
	2	1939	..
Barrackpore .	2	1941	..
Cawnpore .	1	1943	..
Chakrata .	1	1940	..
Jhelum .	1	1938	..
Karachi .	1	1940	.. 1
	10	1941	.. 10
	9	1942	.. 2
	9	1944	.. 9

Name of Cantonment	Number of applications received.	Year in which received	Number of applications rejected
Lahore	11	1938	1
	5	1939	2
	1	1940	1
	2	1941	1
	2	1942	2
	1	1943	..
	2	1944	1
	1	1940	..
	1	1939	..
	2	1938	..
Lucknow	1	1940	..
Meerut	1	1939	..
Multan	2	1938	..
Peshawar	1	1938	1
Poona	1	1939	1
Rawalpindi	2	1938	1
	1	1939	1
	5	1940	5
	3	1941	2
	2	1942	..
	3	1938	..
Sialkot	3	1938	..
Total	86		42

Information in respect of the other Cantonments is—*Nil*.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 76 asked by Sardar Sant Singh on the 3rd November, 1944*

#### MURDERS AND OUTRAGES IN CALCUTTA ON INDIANS BY AMERICANS AND AMERICAN NEGROES.

- (a) (i) 1942—*Nil*.  
1943—*Nil*.  
1944—3 Murderous assaults including 2 on Sikh motor drivers.  
(ii) 1942—1.  
1943-1944—*Nil*.  
(iii) No damage was done to the property of the hotels.  
(b) No.  
(c) Does not arise.  
(d) Twice in 1944—once for four or five days and a second time for three days.  
(e) Where the evidence justified it the accused were put on trial before an American Court Martial. Such proceedings are open to the public and the decision is given in open court.

*Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 57, asked by Mr. G. Rangiah Naidu, on the 14th November, 1944.*

#### PROHIBITION OF MOVEMENT OF SODA ASH AND FULLER'S EARTH ON CERTAIN SECTIONS OF RAILWAYS.

It is not a fact that the movement of soda ash for a distance beyond two hundred miles to stations on the East Indian Railway from stations on the S. S. L. Rly. and from stations on the N. W. Rly. is prohibited.

The fact is that all movements of soda ash except those authorised by the RCRP Lahore are restricted from stations on the S. S. L. Rly. and N. W. Rly. to any station on the E. I. Rly. An exception to this order has been made in the case of imported soda ash consigned by Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., (India) (who are the sole importers) from Karachi to stations on the E. I. Rly. lying in the United Provinces. This restriction was imposed in order to eliminate uneconomical cross movements of soda ash from North West India and from Calcutta.

Fuller's earth is included in a list of articles whose movement is prohibited except under the authority of the RCRP Lahore over a distance exceeding two hundred miles when booked from stations on the N. W. Rly. This restricts the movement from stations on the N. W. Rly. to stations on the E. I. Rly. which are more than two hundred miles apart. This restriction has been imposed in pursuance of the general policy of limiting the distance of movement of such commodities which, or suitable substitutes for which, are obtainable locally.

Supplies of Fuller's earth are available on the E. I. Rly.

## SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER.

### ADJUDICATION INTO GRIEVANCES OF BOMBAY POSTMEN AND INFERIOR SERVANTS.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** Will the Secretary for Posts and Air be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Bombay Postmen and Inferior Servants in the Department  
12 Noon have given notice asking for adjudication into their grievances;

(b) whether Government of India propose to take any steps to remove their grievances; and

(c) whether Government of India is prepared to grant adjudication; if not, why not?

**Mr. W. H. Shoobert:** (a) The fact is not as stated. The Bombay Postmen's Union and the Bombay Post Office Lower Grade Staff Union have addressed the Postmaster-General, Bombay, asking for certain reliefs and giving notice under section 15 of the Trade Disputes Act.

(b) The matter is already under consideration.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (a).

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know from the Honourable Member if the Karachi staff have also complained and whether their case is under consideration?

**Mr. W. H. Shoobert:** I do not know whether the question arises, but I have heard nothing from Karachi.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** The Honourable Member will hear it soon.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I ask whether Government is aware that the Bombay postmen and inferior servants are likely to go on strike if no relief is given in time?

**Mr. W. H. Shoobert:** The notice which we received under section 15 of the Trade Disputes Act—and I am not in a position to say whether that notice is valid or not—indicated that the postmen and lower grade staff contemplated a strike after 15 days if certain of their demands were not considered or met.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I ask therefore why Government say that the question for adjudication does not arise? If they have given notice under the Trade Disputes Act and are asking for grant of adjudication, Government must take action.

**Mr. W. H. Shoobert:** Because, what may appear to some other Members an anomaly, (although notice has been given under the Trade Disputes Act), a trade dispute does not exist.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I know, Sir, what is the meaning of the Honourable Member when he says that a trade dispute does not exist because the postmen and lower grade staff have a grievance against Government? They have made certain demands which Government are not granting.

**Mr. W. H. Shoobert:** May I suggest that the Honourable Member, in order to save a little time, might take legal opinion on the point which he has raised.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** I have taken part in the discussion of that Bill when it was passed in this House and I know the law very well, and I think that there is no need for me to get legal opinion. I therefore want to know from the Government of India what action they propose to take, and when.

**Mr. W. H. Shoobert:** I have informed the Honourable Member, Sir, that the matter is already under consideration. If he would like some expansion of that reply, I may also inform him that the principle of arranging for sales of foodgrains at concession rates to the P. & T. staff wherever practicable has been accepted by Government.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** May I know . . . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order.

### ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE FOOD DEPARTMENT

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I have to inform the Assembly that up to 5 p.m. on Monday, the 20th November, 1944, the time fixed for receiving nominations for the Standing Committee for the Food Department, only one nomination was received. As there is only one vacancy I declare Shams-ul-Ulema Kamaluddin Ahmad to be duly elected.

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF STATE -

**Secretary of the Assembly:** The following message has been received from the Council of State :

"I am directed to inform you that the Council of State at its meeting held on the 20th November, 1944, agreed without any amendment to the following Bills which were passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meetings held on the 13th and the 15th November, 1944, namely :

1. A Bill temporarily to amend the Indian Patents and Designs Act, 1911.
2. A Bill further to amend the Coffee Market Expansion Act, 1942.
3. A Bill further to amend the Delhi Joint Water and Sewage Board Act, 1926.
4. A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Government securities issued by the Central Government and to the management by the Reserve Bank of India of the public debt of the Central Government."

RESOLUTION *RE* CONSTITUTION OF THE PERMANENT FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The House will now proceed with the further consideration of the motion moved by Mr. Tyson.

**Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall** (Bhagalpur, Purnea and the Sonthal Parganas: Non-Muhammadian): I sent a notice yesterday for moving a motion of no confidence against the President to which I have received a reply from the Secretary telling me that under the Legislative Rule 24(a) I have to seek the consent of the Member in charge and of the President. I find from the Rules . . . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order. The Honourable Member cannot discuss my ruling. I have given my ruling. The Honourable Member must accept it.

**Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** I do not want to discuss that question. I want to say . . . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member cannot discuss that matter at all now.

**Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall:** I want to find out who is the Member concerned with the conduct of the President?

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): It is the Leader of the House whose consent has to be obtained.

**Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam** (Surma Valley *cum* Shillong: Non-Muhammadian): Sir, I was telling the House that if Government does not implement the recommendations made by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization we stand to gain nothing. Sir, this Organization seeks to make people of all lands free from want and for this reason they are willing to raise the standard of living of the people of our country also. It has become almost a slogan to speak of planning and raising the standard of life. Even the industrialists of England have begun to say that the political development of India can wait but the agricultural and industrial development cannot wait any longer. Sir, the industrialists of other countries have also realised that the standard of life of the people of backward countries of Asia and Africa should, in their own interest, be raised.

The Honourable the Mover of the motion has requested us to contribute our quota to the Fund of the Organization. We are glad to do it because the recommendation says that the Governments and authorities here represented immediately undertake the task of increasing the food resources and improving the diets of their people in accordance with the principles and objectives outlined in the findings of the Conference and declare to their respective peoples and to other Governments and authorities here represented their intention of so doing. Because the Government is required by this recommendation to declare to their people what steps they will be taking to raise the nutritional value of our diet and to raise the standard of life of our people, I am willing to support the motion moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Tyson. Sir, I cannot understand the principle by which the United States of America have been asked to contribute 25 per cent. and India has been required to pay 4.25 per cent. It is such a good organization and we expect very good results to follow from such a world-wide organization and India should be willing to contribute more. If the principle

was known I would have requested my countrymen to pay more to the fund so that we could gain more in the future.

There is another point to which I wish to draw the attention of this House. A section of the Members of United Nations organisation thinks that this organisation should be deferred because of the technically qualified personnel not being available during war time. But I think that we should agree to the opinions expressed by the interim Commission that the work of this organisation should be started as soon as possible. After the cessation of hostilities a time will come when there will be a fluidity of conditions and people will be more favourable to the acceptance of sound and thorough measures for meeting the problems of agricultural improvement.

Though I believe in utility of this organisation, I do not believe in the statement made by the organisation that the freedom from want of food cannot be achieved by one country without the co-operation of the other. It may be true for the rest of the world but it is not true for India. India is a country full of vast resources and it can be made easily self-sufficient if the Government of India is efficient enough to carry out the measures. It is because of lack of imagination and efficiency of the Central Government that such a vast country like India has not been developed to its full limit. We are tired of tall talks and broken pledges of Britishers. Still we are willing to contribute to this fund in the hope that this Government will implement the recommendations and abide by the policy suggested by the United Nations organisation. It is a good sign that this organisation intends to look for rural uplift. This organisation wishes to help agriculturists by supporting them financially in their agricultural pursuit. The United Nations organisation and the Government of India are both wrong in emphasising too much the utility of the co-operative credit societies. In the whole of India, save and except in the Punjab, the co-operative credit society movement has been a complete failure. So the Organisation and the Government of India should look to other methods of financing the agriculturists. I think Joint Stock Agricultural Banks should be established for this purpose. I do not want to go into details but I say that the co-operative credit societies have not been successful because they are based on the theory vicarious atonement.

There is a suggestion for inter-provincial migration. So there has been a cry that vast lands are lying fallow in Assam and that other people from outside should go and settle there. There are 54,000 square miles in Assam of which more than 60 p. c. of the area is under the hills, only about 20,000 sq. miles are cultivable and they are necessary for the indigenous people and tribal hillmen and backward peoples. I think this Government should have other schemes, excluding Assam, for the migration of people from over-populated areas. If the emigrants think that Assam will give them a good scope, they will be completely disillusioned though a false cry has been raised by the Muslim Leaguers in Assam.

I quite agree with the suggestion of this organization that the first step towards the solution of the food problem must not wait till after the solution of all other problems. This organisation also intends to secure for agriculturist the stimulus of additional purchasing power by the development of industry. Here I must draw the attention of the Central Government to the development of cottage industries in different provinces.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has one minute more.

**Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Whenever these questions come before the Central Government they say that these are provincial subjects. What I want is a direction and a move from the Central Government for co-ordinating all these activities. If the Central Government is strong enough to push the programme and carry it out I do not think any Provincial Government will stand in the way because the measures that will be undertaken will be for the good of the people.

With these words I support the amendment to the motion, moved by my Honourable friend Mr. K. C. Neogy.

**Mr. B. Das** (Orissa Division: Non-Muhammadan): I tried to listen carefully to the Honourable Mr. Tyson and what I gathered from his speech was this. All quiet on the Indian Front. India's position in the international front is splendid. India's Agent-General in America is in full accord with President Roosevelt and hob-nobbing with Cordell Hull. India has done very well. India has got the Four Freedoms of the World as defined by President Roosevelt. From him I understand that India wants nothing else but "freedom from want" and that international intervention will bring it about.

Talking of international organisations, war time confabulations have brought two such. One was the UNRRA which was discussed by the Honourable the Commerce Member towards close of the last Session and the other the present one on Agriculture and Food. This last one is an inspiration from President Roosevelt and we have to consider whether it will not meet the same fate as the League of Nations, another international organisation, which was brought into existence by another democratic President of America, President Woodrow Wilson. It was the Machiavellian diplomacy of the European powers that killed the League of Nations and poor President Wilson, ailing in body and soul, died broken-hearted. We have yet to see whether President Roosevelt will succeed in his ambitious idea. The Government ought to have been considerate enough to tell us how many international organisations are to come into existence during war time, because during the last Great War there were no such schemes except the post-war one, the League of Nations which is now dead but for its associated organisation, the International Labour Organisation, which is functioning partially. We have to remember that after the war there will be a few post-war international schemes and organisations. What would be the commitments of India, both financial and economic, now and hereafter? It is better that either the Honourable the Commerce Member or the Leader of the House should take us into his confidence as to the plans which are being hatched, be it in White House or be it in Whitehall. We should know our future commitments and our future status in those international organisations.

The Honourable the Commerce Member regretted the absence of the Congress Party last time when another international organisation, the UNRRA, was being discussed in this House; he felt that our absence on that occasion when international co-operation was being discussed might be misunderstood. But it should be remembered that we recorded a silent vote. Our experience of international co-operation is of longer standing than the Honourable the Commerce Member's. Our experience of the last twenty years is very disappointing in regard to these international organisations. Yet our silent vote was wrongly mis-interpreted by the Honourable the Commerce Member and he tried to have a dig at us in our absence.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque** (Member for Commerce and Industries and Civil Supplies): This is the first time I hear of a 'silent vote'.

**Mr. B. Das:** If we had been here you would have been voted down and that is why I say that we recorded our silent vote by our absence. It does not mean that we approved of every thing that the Honourable the Commerce Member said or what Mr. Tyson said yesterday. I think my Honourable friend the Commerce Member should not have put such a question when he knows that we are followers of Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest humanitarian of the day. If these international schemes are only humanitarian schemes meant to alleviate the distress of humanity, the Honourable Member ought not to have questioned our *bona fides*. Let me here assure the United States of America that we are always willing to examine any international schemes that may come from the White House but we have to examine them critically to see whether they will not upset our trade, industry and agriculture by competition, by cartels and by subsidies, the last of which the U.S.A. has already introduced as regards its cotton exports.

Sir, I also take this opportunity to offer the sincere regret of the Indian people to America and to President Roosevelt and his Indian Ambassador Mr. Phillips. I offer the apology of the Congress Party and the people of India to

President Roosevelt, to his Ambassador Mr. Phillips and to the American people for the uncalled for insult to the Ambassador by this subordinate Government of India.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member must not go into all that. It has nothing to do with the subject under discussion.

**Mr. B. Das:** Sir, we feel that India has not been given an international status in the UNRRA, since no Indian has been taken in its Executive Council. What will be India's fate in the case of this international organisation on Food and Agriculture? Will the Government of India insist that an Indian should be appointed to the Executive Committee? Why should China have a member in it and why should not India have one? Where is India's equality of status when we are all the time ruled in every small detail by Messrs. Churchill, Amery & Company? How is the Government of India independent? How is Sir G. S. Bajpai, India's Agent-General in the U.S.A., independent? Did he take his orders from Mr. Richard Law and Lord Halifax in all matters pertaining to India and her international status?

Sir, I referred to competition, cartels and subsidies. At the time of the Hot Springs Conference last year, from the little bits of news that came out in the press I developed a suspicion that this was another way of American system of cartels to restrict Indian production. Two days ago I saw a special cable in the National Call to the effect that America has given a subsidy for cotton export. Even the Manchester Guardian wrote:

"It can hardly fail to produce reactions in India and this is considered to be specially regrettable, because Indian cotton-growing industry has been greatly disturbed by the loss of its export trade with Japan."

I do not know what the Government of India have since done, since America has given a subsidy for the export of cotton. What this organisation on Food and Agriculture is aiming at is what the League of Nations attempted. The League of Nations attempted to grow more food, to remove deficiency diseases and to have better public health. It did nothing except to have a few conferences where Indian representatives conducted themselves as bond-slaves of the British Delegation. India achieved nothing in the League of Nations and the League of Nations also achieved nothing. The American mind is very shrewd and business-like and we have to examine whether this international organisation which is the product of the American brain will not try to introduce restrictions in the production of agricultural produces. As a result of the League of Nations, there has been restrictions of production of rubber, tea and coffee. Who knows what the capitalists in America will have to say now? Who knows whether the cotton kings and wheat kings of America will not do the same one day in the matter of cotton and wheat also? Of course, Britain will tacitly agree with what America may say and in consequence India's growth of food stuffs may be reduced in order to benefit the American producers.

My Honourable friend Mr. Tyson said that we have to accept this constitution and if any improvement has to be made it can be done by our representative later. India, in her present war-time involvement and, partly through her war efforts also, has gone through an unprecedented famine in Bengal, Orissa, Assam and other parts of the country, and the collaring by the British Government of India's liquid assets, the sterling balances, which has also been taken away from the people in the name of war efforts at very low costs by controlled purchases—one thousand million sterling has been collared from us and it should be really worth two thousand million sterling; and in our extreme poverty we do not know if England will ever return the money to us after the war or if England will keep it herself. So it is much better that we do not commit ourselves to heavy expenses. We can only give a token subscription. I hope my Honourable friend, Mr. Tyson, will see that our representative puts that point before the Council, and gets the amount reduced.

One other point to which I wish to draw the attention both of Mr. Tyson and of the Honourable the Commerce Member is this: that the literature on these international organisations and the conferences in England and elsewhere, whether it is Whitehall or White House,—very little of this literature is to be found

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in our library. We find no report by the Agent General, nor do we find the instructions that were issued by the Commerce Member or the Member for Agriculture or by the Government of India as a whole. There is nothing secret about these matters and why is it that we Members are kept in the dark and the country is kept in the dark? This is an aspect of the matter which the Honourable Member will, I hope, redress, and in future we must have better literature available in the library and also to the public.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has one minute more.

**Mr. B. Das:** Sir, I am not opposing the participation of India in this international Organisation; but I have given this warning to the Government of India, who have of course no separate status, and who must take their orders from Churchills and Amerys, that instead of taking their orders from these Churchills and Amerys and other diehards in England, they must see that India's future is not committed, that India's production does not get reduced and that those three powerful nations, the United States of America, Great Britain and Russia do not give subsidies to their agricultural produce in a way that will restrict production in India.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, while I listened to my Honourable friend Mr. Tyson yesterday, I was somewhat surprised at his modesty, because he might easily have claimed that through this innocent looking Resolution he was seeking to extend the application of the Atlantic Charter to India. My Honourable friend has not cared to distribute among us the report of the Indian delegation to the Hot Springs Conference, but I managed to secure one of the very few copies that are available in the library, and I find that the Bajpai delegation stated in that report that due to the historical and the geographical setting of the Hot Springs Conference, the Conference tried to fit their recommendations into the frame work of the Atlantic Charter. Now, the Atlantic Charter is a very well-known document of eight clauses, and I find that clause 6 has a direct bearing upon the movement that we are now discussing. Clause 6 adopts as the ideal for the post-war world freedom from fear and want. Now, in the documents that the Honourable Member has placed at our disposal, some of which read like fairy tales to us, particularly those who come from the Eastern provinces, we find that this particular clause of the Atlantic Charter has been sought to be given an extended application by way of amplification of the objects underlying it. I want to make it quite clear that we have no objection to that part of the activity of this Organisation. But incidentally we find that another article of the Atlantic Charter, though not quite directly germane to the object of this particular Organisation, has also been sought to be given effect to. I am referring to article 4 of that joint declaration, which assures to the nations access on equal terms to the trade and to the raw materials of the world which are needed for their economic prosperity. The House definitely understands that this item is not quite within the compass of the limited scope of the particular Organisation that we are now discussing; but we find that in the Final Act, under the head national security and achievement of an economy of abundance, the conference has made certain recommendations which go beyond the limited sphere of food and agriculture, and raise questions of tariff policies and of giving access to raw materials of the world to the different countries on an equal footing, raw materials not exclusively of the agricultural variety. Explaining the intrusion of this somewhat irrelevant matter within the scope of the work of the conference, the Bajpai delegation say in their report that though the conference had no desire to travel outside the allotted scope of its activities they had to relate their recommendations to other cognate fields of economic activity.

Now, when we remember the history of this clause in the Atlantic Charter, when we remember particularly the great hold which the international co-operationist school of America has upon the moulding of post-war policies in this

matter, we cannot but feel somewhat alarmed at the possibility of India's unexplored resources, particularly in the mineral field, being exploited by the other nations of the world.

Sir, the resolutions which are embodied in the Final Act Nos. XXIII and XXIV talk of development of uneconomic industries, the imposition of barriers to international trade, which they condemn, and they also predicate equality of access to materials and markets and again the promotion of the uninterrupted development and most advantageous use of agricultural and other material resources for the establishment of an equitable balance between agriculture and industry in the interest of all. I should like to tell the Honourable Member in charge that he should make it definitely clear, on behalf of India, that in giving our assent to the constitution of this Organisation we definitely make it clear that questions like tariff policy, or accessibility of the different countries in the world to our raw materials, must be kept outside the compass of the deliberations of this body. It is on that understanding that we should like to give our assent to the present proposal.

Let us now consider some of the recommendations to which my Honourable friend did not unfortunately make a reference. My Honourable friend tried to make out that this Organisation is concerned merely with a long term policy of agricultural development and improvement of dietary conditions. I was rather disappointed that my Honourable friend did not even make mention of the immediate objects which the conference laid down for the serious consideration of the people that were represented on it. Honourable Members will find, at pages 45 and 48, certain recommendations which are of an immediate character. Take page 45 for instance. 'Improvement of National Diets'—this is the heading of one of the resolutions, and the conference makes the recommendation that Governments and authorities here represented *immediately* undertake the task of increasing the food resources and improving the diets of their people in accordance with the principles and objectives outlined in the findings of the conference. Then again, Diets of vulnerable groups are mentioned in the next recommendation. Then again a reference is made to malnutrition and disease, and thereafter we have a resolution specifically on Deficiency Diseases. The recommendation is in these terms:

"That the several governments and authorities here represented undertake immediately to ascertain the prevalence of specific deficiency diseases among their respective peoples; to deal with them by suitable dietary and therapeutic measures; to take appropriate steps to prevent their recurrence."

Dealing with these recommendations, we find that the Indian Delegation made it clear that India was not in a position to carry them out. They said that even the attainment of intermediate standards would be a formidable task for countries like China and India where, however, the formulation of such standards may be a useful guide to those engaged in production.

Now, Sir, these recommendations were definitely addressed to the Governments of the different countries represented at the conference, and the Indian Delegation said, "Well, let us pass them on to the cultivators. If the conference expects the standard of nutrition to be improved in the dietary of the people, let us ask the cultivators to go in for a larger cultivation of nutritive food". That is what the report of Indian Delegation amounts to. I should like to hear from my Honourable friend what the attitude of the Government of India in this matter is, and whether this attitude of the Indian Delegation was inspired by the Government of India.

As we have the spectacle of valuable recommendations having already been rejected by the Indian Delegation, we have another curious spectacle and that is this, that even where the Indian Delegation definitely laid down the ideal standards of the dietary for Indians, the Government of India have repudiated the Indian Delegation.

Now, in the report of the Bajpai Delegation, Honourable Members will find a note which the Delegation submitted to the conference dealing with the question of dietary, deficiency and so on. Certain calculations were given there, evidently worked out by such a high authority on the question as Dr. Aykroyd and also

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Sir Phiroze Kharegat. Certain standards were laid down by them as the target to be aimed at, and this is what I find in the first report on the Progress of Reconstruction Planning issued by the Government of India in March last:

"The conclusions of the Indian Delegation to the Hot Springs Conference do not represent the considered views of the Government of India on the question of what targets in respect of nutrition should be accepted."

So we are in this position that we are merely asked to be a party to the setting up of this Organisation, though we see that certain very valuable recommendation made by it has been already repudiated by the Indian Delegation in the name of India. In regard to what the Indian Delegation has said in the name of India, as regards the standards of dietary that should be adopted by India, the Government of India have repudiated the Delegation. I should like to know whether the Government of India have any serious intention of carrying out the recommendations of this body. That is why I propose in my amendment that the Government should agree, here and now, to give effect to the recommendations of this important body in regard to all questions of important principle, subject of course to the approval of the Legislature. Sir, I am perfectly aware that the recommendations that have been made by this body, and that may be made in future, have no binding effect upon the countries that may participate in the conference; but then, as the Chairman of the Conference stated, each Government will be entirely free to act according to the will of its own people constitutionally expressed. It is for the purpose of giving expression to that condition that I have ventured to move this amendment, and I desire that the Government would give an assurance on the floor of this House that they are prepared to carry out the more important recommendations of this body, and that whatever action they may decide to take upon these recommendations, they will do so after consulting, and in accordance with, the wishes of the Legislature.

**Mr. R. R. Gupta** (Cities of the United Provinces: Non-Muhammadan Urban):

Mr. President, I know that I am voicing the feelings of this side of the House when I say that we the non-official Members of this House, will always be found helping the Government and supporting the Government in every measure which they bring forward before this House and which aims at increasing the International co-operation with India. But unfortunately when the Members on this side of the House want to increase our co-operation in International fields, the Government by its actions makes it difficult for us to support such measures enthusiastically and compels us to hesitate in according our sanction and support to such measures. In the last Session, so far as I remember, the House agreed to participate in the U.N.R.R.A. scheme and the Honourable Member who is sitting here gave us a sort of understanding that he will take the House into his confidence while selecting the representative of India to represent this country in the U.N.R.R.A. Conference. But I came to know from the Press that Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai represented our country in the last Conference. It is still not known to us what happened to the request of the House and their desire expressed at that time that whenever any such measure is being discussed, India will be included in the list of the beneficiaries under the U.N.R.R.A. scheme. The fact is that I find that in any Conferences convened for the co-operation of various countries on International lines, somehow or other Government has been persistently trying to exclude this House. I do not know why it is so. It may be due either to the fact that the Government has come to realise that this House is not representative enough to be allowed importance in any International field or because the Government is finding that they are suffering one defeat after another in this House and therefore they want to belittle the position of this House in the eyes of other countries. Otherwise, there is no reason why in so many Conferences which have been held recently and in which India has participated the representation and advice of this House should have been ignored in the way in which it has been done. So far as I remember, of late more than half a dozen Conferences were convened, and I do not think in any of those Conferences the representation of this House was secured in any

effective manner. Lately, in the Conference held at Bretton Woods only the Honourable the Finance Member represented this country. I am glad he tried his best to secure interest for India but his attempt failed. So far as I remember, the reason why he failed was that the Governments of other countries realised that the representation of India will mean another seat for the British Government because India has always been represented by a Government which is responsible to British Government and the representation of this country is secured on the advice of the Secretary of State rather than on the advice of the Central Legislature in this country. Is it not in the interests of the British Government as well as in the interests of the Government of India that the Indian representative commands the confidence and support of the Indian people also? If India gets another extra seat on these International Conferences, I do not think the interests of Great Britain will be jeopardised in any way. Of course, it will mean one thing only, namely, that in that case India will secure such status in the eyes of the International people that it will be supposed to have a sort of Dominion status. I feel that it is in the interests of the Government itself that in all these International Conferences where India is to be represented, they should consult the Assembly or at least its leaders while nominating the representatives of this country. Such a process will have another advantage. My experience is that up till now whatever is being done in those Conferences, India does not get full advantage of those schemes for the simple reason that the Government is not interested that this country should participate in those Conferences for good of people of this country. Our Government does not want to take advantage of expert advice and the various schemes prepared by these Conferences because, if they do so, they have to tackle the welfare problems of India more seriously than what they have been doing hitherto. Therefore, I submit that the Government must assure us that they will secure the support of this House in selecting the representatives of India for such Conferences. Also, as Mr. Neogy's amendment demands, they should keep the House fully informed about the actions which the Government may decide to take in support of the decisions of these Conferences. So far as I am personally concerned, I feel that in this particular field it will be very difficult for India to take any advantage for the simple reason that agriculture in all the countries varies in its characteristics and in its method of production and also its effects on the people. In almost all other countries, except a few Asiatic countries, agriculture is not that sort of back-war profession as it is in India. In other countries, mechanised methods are adopted for increasing the productive capacity of the earth, whereas in India the agriculture is still carried on on the same old primitive basis. Small holdings are scattered all over India. The method of production is still by means of manual labour. Therefore, it is nothing but natural that while other countries are in a position to sell their agricultural products cheaper, our problem is to secure higher prices for our producers. This one example is enough. My point is that in several respects the method of procurement, production and distribution differs from place to place. But we can still derive one advantage, namely, that we will have expert knowledge. Our representatives who go to these Conferences will know the methods adopted by other countries in making the agricultural occupation more scientific, more humane and more productive and in securing the required quantity of food for their people. But, Sir, that advantage can be utilised for the benefit of this country only if the representative who represents India is a man who can grasp the knowledge and is in a position to force the Government here in India to utilise that knowledge. I submit, Sir, with the type of official members who have been representing this country at these conferences, we cannot get that advantage at all. With these words, I support the amendment moved by Mr. Neogy.

1 P.M.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum** (North-West Frontier Province: General): Sir, I rise to support the motion for the acceptance of the Constitution of the permanent Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations. At the same time, I wish to state certain things. The first question which I am going to touch

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will be addressed to this international organisation itself, and I hope that some method will be adopted by the Government whereby certain suggestions made from this side of the House would be conveyed to this international organisation. The other remarks which I am going to address will be directed to the Government of India. Sir, we are not isolationists and there is no desire in this country that we should cut ourselves away from international co-operation with other countries with a view to promote the welfare of humanity. At the same time, we suggest that there should be some method for this international organisation to look into and examine the credentials of governments which apply for membership of such committees. I would like this international organisation for Food and Agriculture to examine the credentials of the Government of India before the Government of India is admitted to the membership of this organisation. They must look at the past record of the Government of India as to what they have done for the development of agriculture in this country. They must see the facts of the situation as they are in this country. What is the situation here in this country? We have famines which have been recurring from time to time. We have a sort of chronic malnutrition, and day after day we read reports in newspapers that very large number of destitutes swarm into Calcutta from the outlying villages of Bengal and die on the pavements of the premier city of the Indian Empire. This is a scandalous state of affairs indeed. If we look at the other achievements of the Government of India, we find that the condition of the rural population is really very appalling indeed. There is absolute illiteracy, and no satisfactory arrangements have been made for educating the rural masses, for teaching them how to develop the science of agriculture, how to produce more out of the soil, how to employ better methods in order to raise more of such products from the soil on which they entirely depend for their livelihood.

Then, Sir, if we are to look at the arrangements which have been made for medical relief of this agricultural population, we find that the arrangements are really of the most primitive type, and that at the present time, there are hundreds and thousands of people in the country-side, in the rural areas, engaged in the production of food—which is an absolute vital necessary for the existence of our people, who are literally dying out of sheer absence of requisite medical aid. There are not enough hospitals scattered over the rural areas, medicine is not available for the protection of these people. Then, if we further examine the situation, we find that millions and millions of agricultural labourers and tenants in this country,—in spite of the fact that the Government of India claim to sit in terms of equality with the representatives of other advanced nations, millions and millions of agricultural labourers and tenants in this country are no better than serfs, and there are millions of people who cannot get one square meal a day.

Then, Sir, while the Government of India has been very solicitous to bring before us Laws and to promulgate Ordinances as to how much should be charged for the tailoring of a suit, how much should be charged for a coat and so on, what is their record in overhauling and modernising the system of land tenure in this country? While you take ample care to the minutest detail as to how much should be charged for this item or for that item in matters trivial, in the case of the most important industry in this country, namely agriculture, you have allowed the system of landlordism to grow and develop unchecked, and you have allowed a certain class of people to play with food—on which the masses depend for their very existence. What have you done in this respect? Great experiments have been tried in western countries and vast improvements made by enlightened governments of other countries to check the rapacity of the landlords, but the Government of India, which has got a soft corner for such people out of political considerations, because they happen to be the most conservative element in this country, because they always stand out with the Government of India against those who fight for freedom, purely for political considerations, the Government of India have allowed these people to remain in their old position, to acquire more power,

and has thereby permitted a limited class of selfish people to play with the lives of the masses.

Another thing about which I wish to warn the Government is this: that while we are prepared to co-operate with the other nations in the matter of exchange of scientific knowledge in the matter of the improvement of production, better production, more intensive agriculture, and all the rest of it, at the same time our bitter experience has been that it has become the fashion amongst western countries to look upon India as a country which will go on producing raw materials at a very cheap rate,—for feeding the industrial plants of the west, so that these people can manufacture and with the aid of a spineless Government here dump their goods into this country and kill our industries,—the welfare of which we all have at heart. Great care must be taken. Even now when the war is on, and when the price of agricultural products is soaring high in other countries, the Government of India has allowed foreign governments to buy cheap in our markets and has sacrificed the interests of our kisans, the primary producers of agricultural products. Sir, we must make our position clear, that in a fast changing world, in a world where communications are liable to be cut off at any moment, our object is very clear one. We stand for self sufficiency in the matter of food for our nation, we stand for self sufficiency in the matter of industrialisation for our nation; we want to use all the surplus produce from the land for setting up industries in this country, so that we do not have to be mere hewers of wood and drawers of water that we are. This is the intention of the western countries. We are willing to co-operate with other countries in the world, as far as improvement of agriculture is concerned, but at the same time, we must make it clear that we want to establish vital industries in this country. At the same time, it is our aim that the benefits from these industries should not go to certain enterprising but selfish individuals. These industries should be so developed and owned that the benefit should go to the people of this country. This is the object we aim at. Therefore we are not going to permit the Government of India to co-operate on terms which will make it possible for outside people to take our raw produce so that the industrialists of the United Nations, the industrialists in Great Britain and other advanced countries of the west flourish at our expense. I said at the outset that we are not isolationists. But we have been warned by the manner in which we have been treated in other international gatherings. We have found that the Government of India has been absolutely helpless to look after the interests of our people.

Sir, we are supposed to be at war out of our own free will,—at least that is what is given out to the world,—against the Fascist powers; and we are considered to be one of the United Nations who are fighting for democracy. But we know that while we are supposed to be fighting for democracy, while we are invited to international gatherings where interesting lectures are delivered about the world being made safe for democracy, what is the kind of democracy that we have in this country? Here we have an autocratic Government, irresponsible to the people, defeated day in and day out, and yet it is in office and we are helpless. If we rebel we are called rebels; if we defeat them by constitutional methods they are allowed to carry on merrily. Similarly India was let down in the matter of the Atlantic Charter, and now we are told that we must co-operate with this international conference because this conference will mean freedom from hunger. But I want to make sure, and I want the Government of India to make sure, that this freedom from hunger will not be restricted to the western nations, that it will really mean freedom from want and freedom from hunger for the toiling millions of this country. We were asked to join the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Organisation,—a very high-sounding name,—and probably we will soon be asked to make a very big contribution towards the budget of that organisation. But while that organisation is so anxious and solicitous to see that the people of the countries in Europe which have been overrun by the Fascist powers are fed properly and reinstated in their old condition, may I ask what these united nations were doing when behind the firing line millions of my countrymen

[Mr. Abdul Qaiyum.]

died in Bengal through sheer starvation, and food could not be taken to them because of the incapacity and utter bankruptcy of statesmanship which was shown by the Government in power in this country. Sir, I want to make sure that freedom from hunger will really mean freedom from hunger for the people of India and not only for the chosen Anglo-Saxon race in England and the United States, because that is the sort of idea which these people have when they talk of freedom from hunger. We want freedom from hunger not to share the fate of our fight for democracy, which means democracy for the west and slavery and serfdom for the 400 million people of this country. Sir, the Government of India will probably come forward with a demand that we should make a contribution to this organisation as well. I know we are told that we must accept the constitution as it is, that we cannot amend it and we must take it or leave it; we understand all that perfectly well. But if the Government of India were a Government responsible to the people, we would have waived our objection and would not have demanded that whatever amount we have to subscribe to the budget of this international organisation should be subject to the vote of the Legislature. But constituted as it is, we demand from the Government of India that for whatever contributions we have to make to this international organisation for food and agricultural products, the Government of India must come before this House and demand a vote of approval, before they begin to squander our money on international organisations. We will then be in a position to judge whether this organisation is doing something really good and useful, and that by contributing something we will have better production, more area under crops, more fertilisers and that people will be absolutely free from hunger.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member has one minute more.

**Mr. Abdul Qaiyum**: I am finishing, Sir.

Sir, with these warnings and with the request that the criticism and observations made by the Opposition should be conveyed to this organisation and that the international organisation should be particularly asked to examine the credentials of this Government, whether it is a civilised Government and can therefore be entitled to sit in terms of equality with other nations, I support the motion.

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

The Assembly re-assembled after Lunch at Half Past Two of the Clock, Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan (One of the Panel of Chairmen) in the Chair.

**Pandit Nilakantha Das** (Orissa Division: Non-Muhammadan): Sir, the Honourable the Mover of the motion gave us a very rosy picture of what happened in the Conference at Hot Springs. He has given the information that our Agent General represented India at the Conference and India was one of the 44 or 45 nations. It is very gratifying to hear all that on the floor of this House, particularly so in the case of India because it satisfies the vanity of our people who are dependent and who somehow want to become independent and be counted as one of the nations of the world. But, I think, after my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, has picked the bubble, my Honourable friend Mr. Tyson must look back and think what undertaking he should give in order to convince the Honourable Members like Mr. Neogy.

Sir, I must confess that I have no access to any other report, such as, the report of the Agent-General, Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, except this report given to us. When I read this Report I suspected that there was some fly in the ointment. It is only natural that I first referred to the portion relating to percentage of contribution to this Organization. I found that 25 per cent. of the contribution will go to the United States of America, 15 per cent. to England. Next comes Russia—with its vast agricultural area from Moscow to Samarkand and from Kiev to Vladivostok and with its population of 17 crores—only 8 per cent. Then comes China, which has to feed 44 crores.—

only 6 per cent. India comes next and its share is 4.25 per cent. and yet it is perhaps the only agricultural country in the British Empire with such vast agricultural lands and its teeming population. One would naturally ask the question, what is behind this scheme? It is generally known and apprehended that these countries—England and the United States of America—want to capture markets like India in the post-war period. In so far as this Organization is concerned, America has some claim to be called an agricultural country, but what claim has England to be counted as one of the agricultural countries? What do they produce except perhaps manufacturing some pearl barley and Vitamin tablets, and such other things? Or, is it a charity to the world or to Empire countries? Why should England pay 15 per cent.? If there was anything real in the Conference, India, China and Russia, should have been asked to pay perhaps more than half. Therefore, I say, what is it, if not to exploit, as my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy has said, countries like India and to capture our markets and raw materials? There is certainly something behind it. Anyone would suspect that. I think the entire Organization should be ours. England should have a very insignificant place in it. The House has a right to get from the Honourable Member a definite statement and undertaking that India will join the Organization only for the good of its own people. We want this because we suspect that there is something behind this move. Perhaps, say, there will come a programme for co-operative farming, and thus a necessity will be created for thousands of tractors of which India has none. They will be offered to us, and all this is besides our raw materials to be exploited as my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, has said. Then again, say, artificial fertilizers, which India does not produce and for which India possesses no machinery, may be recommended and these may be readily exported from England because food production must go on. There may be many things on those lines that England may, in the post-war period, produce and sell such products to this country. So, the undertaking should be definite and it should be given on the floor of this House that there is no such idea behind this organization, and if we are to accept any such idea or proposal involving exploitation ever comes up, India will be entitled to revolt and cease to remain a member. This is the economic aspect of the question.

There is another aspect—the constitutional aspect—and the Government of India must go into it carefully. Government is going to get our recommendation to accept the Constitution of this Organization. What will be the good if it proves to be only a pamphleteering organization, a 'tract' society—like the Christian Tract Society of Madras—so far as India is concerned? Some tracts will come; some instructions will come and some expert advice that will be issued from the Central Organisation. They will probably be translated into all the Vernaculars and sent out from Delhi so that the agriculturists in provinces may read. What else can it be if a Centre has to struggle with so many autonomous Provinces? You must here again give us a definite statement and undertaking that this present arrangement of Centre and Provinces must change so far at least as agriculture is concerned. But if it remains, that is, if provinces remain autonomous in their activity, as they are now, then before coming here, the Government of India must have been assured of entire provincial support. But as in the case of the Hindu Succession, so in the case of this food production, we are beginning at the wrong end. How can you put this food scheme into operation? There is your land system. Can you do anything here in the Centre with regard to the land system? There is the flood problem. But the rivers are not only provincial, but inter-provincial. Then there is also the standard consumption for all people of India. Here in India, Orissa with its 13 ounces of consumption of foodgrains per head per day is a surplus province and Bengal with 19 ounces foodgrain consumption is a deficit province; and there are the Central Provinces whose consumption is 30 ounces per head per day. How can you equalize? How can you come to an equitable standard for all? You cannot do it here in the Centre. Though you have taken advantage of some amendment in the Constitution Act in solving Food problem, still Orissa is there with its 13 ounces and the Central Provinces with their 30 ounces. Yet in solving the food problem try how.

[Pandit Nilakantha Das.]

on account of the war time emergency, you have made provinces agree to your direction and control, only temporarily though it be, by some statutory provision. We should like to know whether there will be any such statutory provision on a permanent basis in the case of food production and agriculture. This question you will have to answer, for this is a subject which is provincial. In such questions you cannot do anything without statutory powers of direction and control in the provincial field. I shall give you an instance.

The Government of India is out to provide for the Grow More Food campaign. Crores are being spent on it. What is being done? If we ask questions here, in reply we are given some statistics, of lakhs of acres more under cultivation. But the high price is there. It has gone up by 300 per cent. and you know that every cultivator under these conditions will scratch and plough even the sandy river beds and grazing slopes of hills. If you calculate all this and tell us that there is a great increase, we are really helpless. But the fact is not as you say. I know how these things are working in the provinces. I speak from experience. The money is simply squandered, and wasted. In one case the seed was to be distributed. The workers of course had been appointed. However fine paddy for seed, made into rice, was sold in the market and the profits were divided between the cultivator and the worker. This is what is being done everywhere. It is not a rare case in my province. If this be the arrangement, then what is the good of asking us to accept this? Shall we only read pamphlets in our vernacular? What else shall we do with this acceptance? I request the Honourable Member, therefore, to give us an undertaking. Either the Provinces should be by statute made to agree to the control and direction of the Centre in matters relating to agriculture or that the Government will be more unitary in the next constitution than it has been.

**Mr. Chairman** (Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan): The Honourable Member's time is up.

**Pandit Nilakantha Das:** So I wish to make these two points—one the economic and the other the constitutional. But I know the whole House is going to support the motion as it is here and now and I cannot oppose it.

**Mr. Chairman** (Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan): Mr. Joshi.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** (Nominated Non-Official): Mr. Chairman, I have great pleasure in supporting the Resolution that this House approves of the constitution of the permanent food and agricultural organisation of the United Nations. I feel sure that India, both as a member of the International world and in its own interest should join this international organisation. It is a wrong thing for us to create or build up a wall around us and believe that we have nothing to do with the outside world. Although we may like to remain enclosed within our walls, the world is not going to allow us to do that. They will break through the wall and if we will not co-operate with the world they will secure our co-operation by force. I will appeal, both in the interests of the good of the world as well as in our own interest that we should join this organisation.

The object of this organisation is to secure international co-operation in the matter of production, consumption and distribution of food. I feel that India is likely to gain a great deal if it co-operates with this organisation. We have been discussing the problems of food in all its aspects in this Session, and it is clear to us that we have to make a great deal of progress both as regards the production of food as well as its distribution. We are quite willing to consume whatever we produce but our system of production is faulty: we are not producing half as much from our land as other people are producing. Our distribution of food is also faulty as we have seen for the last two years. I therefore feel that we shall gain a great deal if we join this organisation and we shall also help the people in other parts of the world. It is necessary, even in our own interest, if our work is to be done efficiently, if our agriculture is to prosper, that we should join in this experiment of pooling together the knowledge of all countries on the subject of agriculture. Similarly, we should

do everything to co-operate with the other parts of the world in securing the efficiency of production, distribution and consumption in agriculture.

Sir, I agree with my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, that the Government of India should not join merely formally this organisation, send delegations there, and afterwards not give effect to the recommendations and resolutions and decisions of these bodies. Sir, I have taken some part in some of the international conference (labour conferences) and my experience is that our delegations go to these conferences and when they come home and the decisions are considered, generally they plead that India is a backward country and the decisions cannot be given effect to. My suggestion to the Government of India is that henceforth they should give up this inferiority complex and give up telling not only us here but the international world that India is a backward country and India cannot give effect to the decisions of these international bodies. India may have been a backward country but India is not willing to be a backward country. Therefore I would like the Government of India to come to a decision that India is no longer to be a backward country and if Indian delegations going to foreign countries should hereafter feel that they belong to a backward country and therefore the international conference decisions cannot be accepted by India, I am sure this House will not approve of Government's action, because we are not willing to remain a backward country, whatever may be the view of the Government of India. Let us therefore join this organisation but let us also make up our mind that we shall co-operate with the world by giving effect to the decisions of these conferences. Whatever may have been our deficiencies in the past, we are not willing to allow these deficiencies to remain any longer.

I am glad, Sir, that the Constitution provides for the setting up of regional organisations and regional conferences also. The world is a big world and although I am in favour of Indian delegations taking part in international conferences, I have no doubt that there are special problems which must be considered regionally, because all these problems do not arise in the same way in all parts of the world. Therefore I feel that the Government of India should promote through their own delegations the establishment of regional organisations and regional conferences. Many times in the Labour Conferences we have found that our delegations did not take part and did not feel interested in some of the subjects, because they felt that some of the problems discussed did not affect our conditions in Asia. Sir, personally, I feel there are very few subjects which are not common to all parts of the world but I also admit that there are some subjects, in which the Asiatic countries can have a special conference and discuss their special problems. I therefore suggest to the Government of India that they should, in order that India should get the utmost advantage out of this organisation, try to secure the establishment of regional organisations and also from now on work to see that these regional conferences are held, whether the war ends or not early. Last year's International Labour Conference has decided to hold a Regional Labour Conference and I am perfectly in agreement with that idea. The Government of India also should see from now on that such regional conferences are held and also a regional organisation established. I also suggest to the Government of India, on the analogy of the International Labour Organisation, that they should see that an office of that organisation is established in India. We have an office of the International Labour Organisation in New Delhi and I have no doubt that that office is doing a very useful work in spreading the knowledge of the International Labour Organisation among the people of this country. So I also suggest to the Government of India that they should take steps to see that this international organisation sets up an office in India.

When I spoke last time on this subject, the UNRRA organisation, I suggested to the Government of India that they should from now on be vigilant and see that India's representatives are appointed on the staff of these organisations. If the Government of India, as usual, is late, all the important posts will be filled in by the nationals of other countries. To my great regret, Sir, when the International Labour Organisation was started and also when the League of Nations was started, our Government was found sleeping. For

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several years they made no effort at all to see that Indians were appointed on both the staff of the League of Nations and the International Labour Organisation. I do not want the Government of India to be sleeping now. When I made enquiries at that time as to why Indians were not appointed in important posts, I was told that all the posts were filled and whatever posts were to be filled were small and unimportant posts. I do not want that to happen again. If India is going to join this organisation from the very beginning I would like the Government of India to see that Indians get important posts in this organisation.

One word more. When I spoke last time I also spoke about the delegations and while I am speaking on this matter, I would like my colleagues in this Assembly not to misunderstand me. I had suggested last time that the personnel of these delegations should be entirely Indian and let me make it quite clear that I am not speaking this from a racial point of view. I am not anti-British but I have found by experience that when an Indian delegation includes Europeans a misunderstanding is created in the minds of the representatives of other countries. They feel that although there may be one Britisher, that Britisher is appointed there to dominate the whole delegation. That is the misunderstanding that is created in the minds of other nationals. I therefore suggest to the Government of India that when they appoint delegations, such delegations should entirely consist of Indians and not give any justification for the representatives of other countries to misunderstand us.

These are the suggestions which I wanted to make on this subject and I hope the Government of India will take note of them. I feel that if my suggestions are accepted by the Government of India and if we take part in this organisation whole-heartedly, India will gain a great deal by joining this organisation. Sir, I support the Resolution that we do approve of the constitution and regulations of this organisation.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga** (Guntur *cum* Nellore: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support this motion subject to the amendment that I have suggested. I am glad to learn that my amendment is acceptable to the Government also.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** Which amendment?

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** The amendment which was moved yesterday: to the effect that this House trusts that this body will work in the interests of peasants no less than those of the consumers. The Congress Party extends its support to this motion not without any misgivings. It is because the Indian National Congress and all patriots in this country are anxious not to be isolated from the rest of the world and also are anxious to be in the centre of all international gatherings and international discussions that we are willing to accord our support to this motion. But, at the same time, we cannot be blind to certain facts. When the Bretton Woods Conference was held and the World Monetary Organisation was brought into existence, India was denied her rightful place on the Executive Committee mostly because India happened to be a member of this blessed British Empire. And we have had bitter experience of our part in the League of Nations as well as the International Labour Conference. It was not possible for India to pull her full weight in those organisations because of the subject condition in which she finds herself. Where is the guarantee that when this world food and agricultural organisation is brought into existence, India will be accorded the place she deserves because of her production, because of her numbers and of her ability also to consume food that is produced in India as well as in the rest of the world? Especially so long as this Government continues, we feel that there can be no guarantee whatever for India achieving her rightful place in this organisation.

Then, if we look into the history or the genesis of this conference—the Hot Springs Conference—and its organisation and its proposed constitution, you will find it was not conceived primarily in the interests of the producers. My

honourable friend Mr. Joshi was so very keen that this organisation should really be as much interested in the consumers as in the producers . . . . .

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** Not only for producers, but for all.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** But when my Honourable friend was supporting the International Labour Office, he did not make much of an attempt to come to this House and say that the International Labour Office should work not only in the interests of labour but also in the interests of the employers . . . .

**Mr. N. M. Joshi:** It is for labour.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Yes; quite right; I want an organisation like this, not for any other interests in this world but for the sake of the producers to start with. If this organisation, as we find it today, was not conceived of primarily or solely in the interests of the producers, I charge this Government of India for its failure in having brought into existence a world organisation which will be solely interested in the welfare of the producers. It is the fault of this Government that it has not taken any initiative in regard to this international question. It was because President Roosevelt thought of the food needs of his people and Mr. Churchill agreed with him, and also because he also thought of the food needs of his people in England, that this Hot Springs Conference was convened. It was up to the Government of India which can really claim to have biggest research organisation so far as agriculture is concerned in all these so-called colonial countries—the African countries and this country and China—although I am not satisfied with the effort they have so far made; it was the duty of this Government to have taken the initiative and convened a conference of all those who were interested in agriculture and in agricultural production and to have tried to bring into existence a world organisation of agricultural producers. But this Government has failed.

I am not sorry that anyhow it has gone to the Hot Springs Conference. We must go into these international conferences for this reason, not so much because we hope to gain as great a place as we deserve, but because we must be there in order to see what game the others are up to. We know that so far as this conference was concerned it was not convened in the interests of producers; it was convened in the interests of the consumers. Let not my friends begin to feel that they were thinking of the consumers in this country, that these people, Churchill and Roosevelt, were thinking of the hundreds of millions of consumers of India or of China. No. They were thinking of the consumers in the industrial countries of the west—America and the European countries; and they know very well that their people were not in a position to produce as much and as many agricultural products as are needed for the maintenance of their industrial system: they want cotton, they want rayon; they want jute and so many other things also which are essential for the continuation, and for the prosperity of their industrial system in those countries. They want to assure themselves of cheaper supplies of these commodities; they have been getting cheaper supplies of all these things. The terms of trade have always gone against these agricultural countries when compared with industrial countries. Industrial countries have been able to monopolise and dominate the world markets and dictate what prices should be paid for their industrial goods by the agricultural peoples, and what low prices should be paid to the produce of these agricultural countries. They want to continue this exploitation even after the war. They know that as a matter of fact most of these agricultural countries have grown out of the stage of debtor countries and have now almost become creditor countries. India has become a creditor country to England; so is the case with Argentina, Brazil, Mexico; and therefore they are afraid that once the war is over these newly begotten creditor countries in the agricultural parts of the world may be able to combine among themselves and begin to dictate their own terms of trade and begin to have their own commodity pools and decide what prices should be paid for their commodities as opposed to the prices that are being charged for industrial goods. Therefore it was in the interests of the western powers that this conference was conceived of and they

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wanted to have this organisation in order to prevent any sort of development on the part of all these agricultural peoples and agricultural countries and their agricultural producers to demand that decent and reasonable prices should be paid for their commodities in exchange for their industrial commodities. It is in the interests of this country to see that this sort of game of the western countries is not allowed, is not permitted.

We know that we will be a party to this conference. We were a party to this conference and we will be a party to this constitution, but at the same time let us remember that we cannot commit ourselves to this we cannot agree—we cannot go the whole way with my Honourable friends, Mr. Neogy and Mr. Joshi, when they say that the most important recommendations of this conference should necessarily be accepted by the Government of India. We hope that very soon this Government may be replaced by a more agreeable and a more acceptable and a more representative Government, and we want that Government to be able to stand up for the rights of our agricultural producers. We do not want to tie them down by their hands and feet and say "Look here; whatever may be decided upon in that conference you must agree to accept and ratify their recommendations." Beware; that conference was not conceived in our interests and that organisation is not likely to work for the interests of the producers only.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** I have said that these recommendations may be approved by the Legislature: that is what my amendment says.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** I see your point, but I cannot agree and for this reason. When we get a responsible Government here, there is no need for us to tell that responsible Government that they should consult the Legislature. It is bound to consult its Legislature and it will consult its Legislature. It will not be like this Government going about in a shameless manner without coming to this Legislature, doing everything stealthily, doing things somewhat in this fashion—sleeping all along and somebody wakes up all of a sudden and writes something to the effect that under such and such regulation or sub-clause of a regulation or under the Defence of India Act something must be done, and things like that. That is why I say that that amendment need not be accepted.

Then I come to the other point. My Honourable friend Mr. Joshi was suggesting that regional conferences should be organised. I agree with him. I would go further and suggest that this Government should take immediate initiative and immediate action to convene a conference of these agricultural producers' countries and bringing into existence a definite organisation to work for the benefit of all these agricultural peoples as apart from this sort of cosmopolitan organisation that is going to be brought into existence. This will not hearten or satisfy our agriculturists; we know it is intended solely for the benefit of the industrial countries, and we want a separate organisation for them. The sooner the Government of India acts in this direction the better it will be for the people of this country as well as for itself.

Then, Sir, there is the question of delegation. My Honourable friend Mr. Joshi wants Indian personnel. I quite agree but does it go far enough. It may be Indian personnel but what are the instructions to be given to it. This Government sent Sir G. S. Bajpai to Ceylon and Burma and what sort of an agreement did he bring us? My Honourable friend was saying that we should be very happy to have a distinguished Indian of this kind as the Chairman. We want our Indian personnel to go out with a clear instrument of instructions as to what particular class of people are to be served, in what manner they are to be served and to what extent the Government of India is prepared to back their activities in the Conference. Therefore the most important thing is the instrument of instructions and in regard to that I suggest to this Government of India that whenever these conferences are going to be held, the Government of India should come to this Legislature in advance of their Session and consult

this Legislature as to the instrument of instructions that ought to be given to their delegation.

**Mr. H. A. Sathar H. Essak Sait** (West Coast and Nilgiris: Muhammadan): It is not in your amendment.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** If I put all that in my amendment, I do not know whether my Honourable friend will be willing to support it.

We know that industrial countries put a sort of veneer of their love of science, progress and advancement, whenever they think of doing anything for their own interests. They were framing the Atlantic Charter, while they were really thinking of getting access to all the raw materials in all these Colonial countries without any sort of hindrance at the end of the war. Are we going to place ourselves at the disposal of these eagles and wolves of the West? Are we going to allow our raw produce to be taken away at prices which are below world's price parity? Are we going to allow this to be done, as has happened in the case of jute? Certainly not. We must insist on examining every proposal that comes from the West with special care. What did they do in regard to cotton? Lancashire wanted cotton. They wanted India to grow cotton so that Lancashire may be benefited, and American cotton may be got by England on their own terms. Therefore Lancashire sent down some experts at that time. There is no cotton grown in England and so they brought some experts from America and they made certain experiments in India. That was nearly 90 years ago. They failed. During the last war the Central Cotton Committee was appointed. Later on the permanent committee came to be established as a permanent body. In whose interest? In the interest of Lancashire, because Lancashire was in need of long staple cotton.

**Mr. Chairman** (Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan): The Honourable Member has one minute more.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** Therefore they appear as great lovers of science. For whose benefit? For the benefit of the West. They want better nutrition for the Western people, more food for the Western people, full employment for the Western people and they also want for their own people the scientific organisation of agriculture, co-operative cultivation, better agricultural production and so on, all for the sake of getting cheaper and cheaper supply of our agricultural raw produce. I have no objection to our country taking the fullest advantage of science, so that our own people may have more to eat, more efficient production, better prices for their produce and decent wages for our agricultural workers. Our aim should be to do all we can to better the lot of our 380 millions of people. It is not mere selfishness or parochialism to think in these terms. These 380 millions of people can form a world problem. Nobody need be ashamed if he thinks in terms of these 380 millions of people. Therefore I associate myself and my Party with this motion subject to that amendment and subject also to the fears and reservations I have expressed and also to what was said by Mr. B. Das and Mr. Abdul Qaiyum.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai** (Sind: Non-Muhammadan Rural): I must assure the Chair that I had no intention of speaking on this Resolution but I rose to speak on account of the reasons which I am going to give you. I was given to understand that this is one of the international *tamashas* which achieve nothing. On the other side, many Members got up to speak and they said 'we accept the constitution'. On one side we have precedents where these international organisations have done us harm. I was therefore wondering why most of these Members accept this constitution. When I went into the reasons, I found that what they said was this: What shall we get from this unless and until we have our own Government,—not a Government which will only act under the orders of the British Government? They were thinking of these famines and other things and saying that this Government has not given us any help.

As regards the first point, take the question of the League of Nations which was started to avoid all wars. It is an organisation to which some of the representatives of India were also sent. What happened? The League has gone

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phat. At the Treaty of Versailles, Germany got disappointed and dissatisfied and it left the League of Nations. Then other nations left until the League was nowhere. Such an international organisation did not bring any good. Rather the good is that these wars have come up. These countries are not being deterred by other nations; on the contrary; all these other nations get into it. The British Government also wants to get us into it. The result of such a war is what everybody knows. What horrible misfortunes we have been suffering on account of this war. We have no food and there is rationing and we know its effects. Then, we know what ravages the famine did in Bengal and how have the people died there. If the other nations can do any good to India and with that object this Constitution is going to be accepted, may I ask what have they done in the present situation of this country? Have any nations come forward to say that as India is suffering from famine, they will come forward and help us? No. When they have shown no sympathy with us, how are we going to accept this constitution? Our present Government is, of course, under the orders of the British Government and is not independent at all. They themselves say that their masters are the British people and the British Government. That being the case, if any international organisation decides to take certain steps for the welfare of agriculture or industry, what will the British Government think? Whatever the British Government has done for us up to this time, we all know. And they cannot do anything for us because their interests are at stake. Will they give up all this exploitation? Of course, it is the Divine hand that has made them undergo all these misfortunes on account of this war, but they still wish to exploit India. Have we got the least independence in joining an international organisation? None. Therefore, it is better that we should not join any such organisation. But they have not given us any hope there either. Professor Ranga was very eloquent in saying that we are going to get independence and we are going to get our national Government. First of all, you have to bring out these people from the jail.

**Prof. N. G. Ranga:** You will also help us to get them out.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** You will get them on the day of resurrection. Therefore, I submit that if the majority is for the acceptance of such an international organisation, they will succeed and our opinion may also go with them. After all, the majority can consider these things better than the minority. At any rate, we must have some safeguards. And what are the safeguards that you are going to have under this constitution? We have seen that the habit of this Government is to bring Resolutions such as, the present situation in India be considered or the food situation in India be considered. Now, what is the present Resolution? I heard the Honourable Mover of this motion say that he did not care whether this House accepts this constitution or not.

**Mr. J. D. Tyson** (Secretary, Department of Education, Health and Lands): Sir, I should like to make it perfectly clear that that was not the intention of my remark.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Then, what did the Honourable Member say?

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** I said that we cannot from this House alter the constitution. We can approve the constitution and join the Organisation. But if we do not like the constitution, then all we can do is to stay out. That is what I said.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Anyway, it is quite plain that we have got to say that a certain constitution that was made at the Hot Springs Conference should be accepted or not accepted by this House. Now, were we a party to that conference? If we were, were we represented there in a democratic manner? No. It is again the British Government that was there and they will be the first person to accept this Resolution. After all is said and done, I can only say this that it is nothing but international fund that is going on in this House. Considering both sides, I have come to the conclusion that, after all, we have

suffered very much at the hands of the British Government and their subordinate Government here. Let us try them once more. If they can change their mentality and get up and say: "We are, after all, the representatives of the people of India and we will become now stronger than what we have been in the past, and we will make it clear to the British Government that they can no more trifle with the people of India",—if they get that courage, they can do a lot for this country.

Then, Sir, we have got two amendments to this Resolution. One is by Prof. Ranga and the other by Mr. Neogy. They say that whatever this international organisation does, their recommendations should be subject to the vote of this House. We agree with these amendments.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman** (Patna and Chota Nagpur *cum* Orissa: Muhammadan): Sir, I support the Resolution in principle, but I would like to draw the attention of the House to the particular amendment which has been moved by my Honourable friend Mr. Neogy and which is the real crux of the whole question. Without that amendment, practically we do not acquire that status which will enable us to be a party to the organisation which is there and for which this Resolution has been moved. I need not read the amendment but I would read the Conference's Chairman's recommendation which says:

"We are telling our respective Governments that they should be entirely free to use their will through their own people as constitutionally expressed."

For the working of this Resolution this is absolutely necessary.

The other point which I have to bring out is this: what is this Conference? It came into existence after the Atlantic Charter and the impression was given that this international organisation was to implement the important clauses of that Charter. We find clauses 4 and 6 are definitely included, and the fifth clause is only incidentally mentioned. I need not read at length these clauses because they were very ably dealt with by Mr. Neogy. I do not want to weary the House by repeating the same. The most significant omission is the omission of clause 3 of that Charter to which no reference has been made in the conference and no indication was given whether it was proposed to implement that clause or not. Clause 3 of the Atlantic Charter says: they respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them. This is definite and clear in its own significance. This very clause gives us encouragement to say that we have every right to demand self-Government on the lines of Pakistan, as the Muslim League has been demanding. It is the will of the people of a country, it is the right of the population inhabiting that part of the country to choose their own form of Government, to have sovereign rights in their own territory. In my opinion, this is a necessary inference to that clause and this should have been implemented by including it in the Resolution of this Conference and of this Organisation which has been brought into existence. That is one of the most important points which I wish to bring to the notice of the House.

The other point is not particularly relevant to the subject matter of the Resolution now under discussion, but this point is certainly relevant so far as it serves as a warning to the Government.

**Mr. Chairman** (Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan): The point should be relevant to the subject under discussion, otherwise it cannot be referred to.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman**: It is relevant in this sense. This is an international organisation. We, Muslims, feel that somehow or other the Government always avoided nominating or selecting or electing for the matter of that, any Muslim representative to the international organisations. Even to the Economic delegation that was sent to Bretton Woods, no Muslim was included. In the other international organisations and conferences—Labour and others—the same thing happened. No Muslim was sent. Probably there is a sinister motive behind this wanton disregard of Muslim feeling. I think it is probably

[Mr. Muhammad Nauman.]

to give the impression at the international conferences and to other people in the world that India has not got sufficient number of capable Muslims who could represent this county from amongst the Muslim nation, whom I have the privilege to represent in this House.

**Babu Baijnath Bajoria** (Marwari Association: Indian Commerce): The Honourable Member's name is certainly in the waiting list.

**Mr. Muhammad Nauman:** I am glad that my Honourable friend assures me that my name is in the waiting list. I may have been there all right, but instead of being in the waiting list, I want the thing to come about. This is the only point which I want to impress on the Government. As I said, there is not much to talk about on the principle underlying this Resolution. My Honourable friends have dealt with the subject exhaustively and I do not want to traverse the same ground. Once again, I wish to warn the Government that in selecting the personnel of the international delegations, there should be no deliberate attempt to exclude Muslims as the Government have been doing in the past. My opinion is that clause 3 of the Atlantic Charter is quite significant and it should have been implemented in the decisions of the Conference. This clause gives to the Muslims the right to claim Pakistan and achieve it,—the right to choose our own form of Government.

**An Honourable Member:** The question be now put.

**Mr. Chairman** (Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan): The question is: "That the question be now put."

The Assembly divided:

AYES—40

Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab Sir.  
Ambedkar, The Honourable Dr. B. R.  
Azizul Huque, The Honourable Sir M.  
Benthall, The Honourable Sir Edward.  
Bhagchand Soni, Rai Bahadur Sir Seth.  
Caroe, Sir Olaf.  
Chatterjee, Lt.-Col. Dr. J. C.  
Daga, Seth Sunder Lall.  
Dalal, Dr. Sir Ratanji Dinshaw.  
Dalpat Singh, Sardar Bahadur Captain.  
Griffiths, Mr. P. J.  
Gwilt, Mr. E. L. C.  
Haidar, Khan Bahadur Shamsuddin.  
Ismail Alikhan, Kunwer Hajee.  
James, Sir F. E.  
Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sir.  
Joshi, Mr. D.  
Kamaluddin Ahmad, Shams-ul-Ulema.  
Khare, The Honourable Dr. N. B.  
Krishnamoorthy, Mr. E. S. A.  
Kushal Pal Singh, Raja Bahadur.

Lawson, Mr. C. P.  
Miller, Mr. C. C.  
Muazzam Sahib Bahadur, Mr. Muhammad.  
Mudaliar, The Honourable Dewan Bahadur  
Sir A. Ramaswami.  
Mudie, The Honourable Sir Francis.  
Piare Lall Kureel, Mr.  
Raisman, The Honourable Sir Jeremy.  
Richardson, Sir Henry.  
Roy, The Honourable Sir Asoka.  
Shoobert, Mr. W. H.  
Spence, Sir George.  
Srivastava, The Honourable Sir Jwala  
Prasad.  
Stokes, Mr. H. G.  
Sultan Ahmed, The Honourable Sir.  
Thakur Singh, Capt.  
Trivedi, Mr. C. M.  
Tyson, Mr. J. D.  
Vaidyanathan, Mr. L. S.  
Zahid Hussain, Mr.

NOES—40

Abdul Qaiyum, Mr.  
Abdullah, Mr. H. M.  
Azhar Ali, Mr. Muhammad.  
Bajoria, Babu Baijnath.  
Banerjee, Dr. P. N.  
Chaliha, Mr. Kuladhar,  
Chattopadhyaya, Mr. Amarendra Nath.  
Chettiar, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam.  
Chetty, Mr. Sami Venkatchelam.  
Chunder, Mr. N. C.  
Daga, Seth Sheodass.  
Dam, Mr. Ananga Mohan.  
Das, Mr. B.  
Das, Pandit Nilakantha.  
Deshmukh, Mr. Govind V.  
Essak Sait, Mr. H. A. Sathar H.  
Fazl-i-Haq, Piracha, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.  
Gauri Shankar Singh, Mr.  
Gupta, Mr. K. S.  
Gupta, Mr. R. B.

Hegde, Sri K. B. Jinaraja,  
Hosmani, Mr. S. K.  
Joshi, Mr. N. M.  
Kailash Bihari Lall, Mr.  
Krishnamachari, Mr. T. T.  
Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.  
Lakhichand, Mr. Rajmal.  
Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.  
Maitra, Pandit Lakshmi Kanta.  
Misra, Pandit Shambhudayal.  
Nauman, Mr. Muhammad.  
Neogy, Mr. K. C.  
Ranga, Prof. N. G.  
Sham Lal, Lala.  
Siddique Ali Khan, Nawab.  
Sinha, Mr. Satya Narayan.  
Sri Prakasa, Mr.  
Srivastava, Mr. Hari Sharan.  
Subbarayan, Shrimati K. Radha Bai.  
Zafar Ali Khan, Maulana.

**Mr. Chairman** (Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan): As there is a tie the Chair has to give its vote. I vote for the Noes.

The motion is negatived.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh** (Nagpur Division: Non-Muhammadian): Sir, I think we have to make up our mind as to whether we will join or not join. We must remember that if we join this organisation we cannot get out of membership for four years; and so if we join we must do it with our eyes open. There is one thing which might influence some people to vote for joining it, and that is that India is a deficit country where we are suffering from famine and scarcity, and by joining this we shall get some relief. But we must at the same time remember what this organisation wants us to do. Will the organisation help us or does it want every country to help itself? From the papers we will find that in every way, whether it is a case of nutrition of the citizens of a particular country or whether it is supplying credit to any country to help the agriculturists or to improve co-operation among agriculturists, the country itself has to do it. On page 51, with regard to long-term production policy, preamble 3 says that in order to secure this result producers should receive a fair return for their products,—as my friend Prof. Ranga wanted. And preamble 5 says that it is desirable to formulate a body of principles which are applicable to agricultural policy in appropriate form to all countries. But who is to do this? Even as regards subsidiary industries the burden is on each and every country to help its own countrymen. For instance, on page 59 you find a recommendation that the Governments and authorities there represented accept the responsibility of making it possible, so far as it is within their power, for each person in their respective countries to have an adequate diet and improve his diet in the direction of obtaining the physiological requirements of health, etc. So it is the particular country which has to look after the nutrition and sustenance of its citizens and the organisation will not help. Similarly in the case of supplying credits for the purpose of developing industries suitable to the area, it is that particular country which has to do it. The recommendation in regard to that says that areas which have a large agricultural population in relation to their agricultural resources should develop industries suitable to the area. Again there the responsibility is of the member country. So, Sir, what particular advantage do we derive for the money we will pay by being a member of this Organization?

**Mr. J. D. Tyson**: Will the Honourable Member tell the House how any other country can develop India's industries?

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh**: I am merely saying that we are going to pay an amount and so what return shall we get? I have not yet said anything as to whether we should or we should not join this Organization. I have said that we must make up our mind about it. The problem before us is to join or not to join this Organization and so let us consider the circumstances as they are before us. What is it that would induce any person to join this Organization? There may be some persons who may say that we are a deficit province and it is quite probable that other countries may help. But the primary responsibility has been thrown on the member countries to develop their own agriculture, to find out co-operative credit, marketing facilities, to develop subsidiary industries, and everything. So some persons may be under the misapprehension that by being a member of this Organization we will be able to get some succour or help from other members. That is my point. Then what is it that is going to prompt us to join this organization, if we are not going to get any help? My Honourable friend Mr. Ranga has moved an amendment that in the interest of producers, no less than in the interest of consumers, the Organization should exert itself. It will be found, if my Honourable friends were to go through the Constitution—the constitution says that it is in the interest of producers as well as consumers, they say 'we shall have to restrict profits,' and they say, 'we shall do away with the policy of monopoly of consumers or producers', and so on—it will be found that we are not by this amendment getting anything new.

[Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh.]

Then, does it mean that we should not join this? I am inclined to say, join this movement, and I suppose the Honourable the Mover of the motion will be glad to know that I recommend that India should join.

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** Very glad indeed!

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** There are reasons why I am recommending that we should join; there are two reasons: First of all, we are brought up in traditions which make us consider that the whole universe is one family. So if that sentiment is going to promote the welfare of other countries who are going to be a part of this family, I would not mind it. That is one consideration. The other consideration is what my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, has suggested in his amendment. Let the world know what our attitude is. The sole purpose of this amendment is that the Government of India should know what it has to do and it should also place this view before the Organization, not that this view is going to make any difference so far as any amendment in the Constitution is concerned because the Constitution cannot be changed unless there is a majority of 2/3rd. If you were to go through the list of member countries, you will come across not more than ten—as a matter of fact it is less than 10—nations which are what one may call the coloured races, or non-European countries, non-American countries. Therefore, so far as the question of carrying out a modification of any Convention or deciding any proposal is concerned, the majority will be always on the other side and not on our side. But, all the same, as I have said, I am prepared to support Mr. Neogy's amendment and I do not see any reason why Government should oppose this amendment we understand each other. It is not in our power to modify the Constitution when we join it, nor do we emphasise that Government is in a position to do it. But let there be this understanding between us that although the Constitution may not be modified, this Assembly will be in a position to review the work of this Organization. Otherwise we bind ourselves for four years to pay a particular sum without getting an opportunity to review the work which will be done by this Organization. If we did that, we would be entering this Organization blindfold. Government should give us an opportunity to criticize what is going on in this Organization, to review the work of those who would be administering this body and our own representative on it. It is for these objects that we are moving this amendment and I do not see any reason why Government should oppose it unless it be that they wish to be irresponsible in this matter as has been pointed out by the speakers who have preceded me. When other subjects which are administered by Government and for which reports are drawn up are placed before this House for discussion and light is thrown by persons who are administering those portfolios, I do not see what reasonable objection there can be to do the same in this case also. Sir, I hope this amendment will be accepted by the Honourable Member, Mr. Tyson.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee** (Calcutta Suburbs: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Mr. Chairman, for a long time past I have been a believer as much in internationalism as in nationalism. When the League of Nations held its first meeting in Geneva in 1921 I went there to attend this meeting as a visitor. Not that I did not know what the limitations were under which the League would work nor was I satisfied with the composition of the League of Nations, but I felt interested in that institution because I thought that the progress and well-being of mankind depended on international co-operation and collaboration. Sir, we all know for what reasons the League of Nations failed to perform its duties properly and satisfactorily. I am sorry that the League has failed, but I am still hoping that there will be another world organization better constituted, more fairly representative and with functions much more enlarged which will take the place of the dying institution—the League of Nations. If I am interested in a political organization of an international character, I am as much interested in an economic organization of the world and I am glad that my Honourable friend, Mr. Tyson, has placed before us this Resolution today.

Now, Sir, what is the ultimate aim of this Organisation? The ultimate aim is to secure freedom from want for all the peoples of the world and as a step towards that end to secure freedom from hunger. Now it is a lamentable fact that while some people enjoy more food than is necessary or good for them, there are others who get very little food and there are millions who starve and die. In this country what has been our recent experience? Our recent experience has been that for want of food millions of people died.

4 P.M.

Sir, what are the immediate objects of this body? The immediate objects of this body are to help the production of more food and better food and to provide for nutrition, to provide for agricultural credit; and the means adopted by them are publicity and research. All these are desirable objects and methods.

But when we come to the question of representation, I am sorry to have to say that I am not of the same opinion as my Honourable friend, the Mover of this motion. Sir, what is India's representation? India is represented by nominees of the Government on this international body. These nominees of the Government are expected to be the representatives of the people. But in reality are they the real representatives of the people? I must say that they are not and as has already been pointed out, the Indian delegation did not act as properly as they ought to have done. Therefore, Sir, I suggest that when Indian representatives are selected they should be selected after consultation with the Indian Legislature and as regards the views to be expressed by them before the meetings of this body, the conference or the executive committee, they should express the views of the Legislature and not the views of the Government of India or of the British Government.

Then again, Sir, what will become of those recommendations which are made by these international organisations? Their recommendations have, as has been pointed out before, been repudiated. Should that be done in future, those recommendations should be placed before the Legislature in order that the Legislature may give their sanction, may vary and alter and, if necessary, reject the recommendations. Sir, I am one of those who think that in the absence of full self-government in this country, the Legislature represents the people of the country and it is one of the recommendations of this body that these recommendations have to be carried out according to the wishes of the peoples concerned. Therefore, every recommendation, every decision, of this international body should be placed before this Legislature and sanction of this Legislature should be obtained.

Then again, Sir, I find that we are to be represented in the conference but it is not made clear whether India is to be represented on the Executive Committee of the body. It is the Executive Committee of this body that will sit very frequently and will be responsible for carrying on the work of the Organisation. Therefore, Sir, it is desirable that India should be represented, and let us hope the Government of India will insist on India being represented, on the Executive Committee of this Organisation.

Now coming to the question of contribution, my Honourable friend, the Mover of this motion, pointed out that for the present we have to pay only Rs. 3 lakhs. I do not consider that to be a very large sum but I should like to point out in this connection that the initial contribution by India to the funds of this Association is larger than that of any of the Dominions of the British Empire and is only slightly more than half of the contribution made by Russia, which is a very large country and whose population is also large. Now, India is a poor country and it should be remembered that India's contribution should not be a heavy one in future.

Sir, I have discussed some of the important points which have been raised in the course of the debate and I will end by saying that it is necessary that the two amendments which have been moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogy, and by my Honourable friend, Prof. Ranga, should be accepted by this House. I need not say much about Mr. Neogy's amendment. That

[Dr. P. N. Banerjea.] amendment speaks for itself. He asks that before the recommendations of the sessions of the International Organization are given effect to, this House should be consulted, and not only consulted but that this House should have the power to alter the recommendations or decisions, and if necessary to reject them. Prof. Ranga's amendment is a harmless one. He wants to secure the interests of the producers. Now, when we say that we want to safeguard the interests of the people of India, of course it implies that the interests of the producers as well as of the consumers will be secured. Therefore, the Government should have no hesitation in accepting this amendment.

Therefore, I suggest that the Honourable the Mover of this Resolution will get the wholehearted support of this House if he agrees to accept the two amendments which have been moved. If he does, he will be acting in concert with the opinion of this House which I think is very necessary in order that an organisation like this may prove a success.

[At this stage, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) resumed the Chair.]

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** Sir, it is gratifying to find that in no quarter of the House is there any disposition to take the view that India should not accept this constitution and join the proposed Organisation. I entirely agree, if I may say so, with my friend, Mr. Joshi, and with Mr. Chaliha, when they said that we cannot remain out of these international organisations. I think that is absolutely true, Sir, both for the moment and also looking to the future. I think there has been a strong recognition of that in every quarter of the House. India must join organisations of this kind and try to secure that her views on matters of international importance shall be heard and shall prevail. I gathered that Mr. B. Das was not opposed to joining the organisation but he was sceptical whether any good might come out of it. I feel tempted to remind Mr. Das that it is not the sceptics and the cynics who have advanced the progress of the world but rather the idealists. He also suggested, and the suggestion has been backed by Mr. Gupta and by the Leader of the Congress Nationalist Party, that India should "insist" (that is the word which the Leader of the Congress Nationalist Party used) on having representation on the Executive Committee of this body. It is very desirable that India should have such representation, not only for India's sake but in order that India's agricultural conditions, which represent a very important aspect of the agricultural conditions of Asia and of the world, should be considered by that body. I believe that India has much to contribute to that body. But, Sir, how can we *insist*? As I mentioned yesterday, we cannot make it a condition of our joining the organisation, because the procedure under the constitution is that the Executive Committee will be elected by the Conference, the Governing Body. We shall have on the Conference the same voting power as any other member-nation: no more, no less,—one vote. We must try to get representation by the exercise of our vote and by influencing our friends in the Conference but it is not possible for us to insist. As I say, if we were to make it a condition of joining, that would be tantamount to refusing to join the organisation.

Similarly, as regards our financial liability, Mr. B. Das said we should only give a token subscription. I think, however, that he appreciated that this can only be done, not as a condition of our joining but by our representative persuading the other member-nations in the Conference to agree to cut down our contribution at the time they are making their budget.

The Deputy Leader of the Congress Party, (I am sorry he is not in his seat as I wanted to reply to certain points he sought to make)—the Deputy Leader, I feel tempted to say, reminds me rather of one of those big guns on a railway mounting which is trundled out of its tunnel to do its work. It makes a big bang and then goes back into its tunnel! As I have said, I am sorry he is not here, because he made an important point this morning when he said that before the House could agree to advise acceptance of the constitution, it should be told that whatever contribution India would have to make should be made

on the authority and with the vote of the Legislature. I am happy to say—and I hope it will be passed on to him—that that is our proposal. I am perfectly willing to give the assurance that this contribution will be “voted” expenditure which will come up in the Budget or it may have to come up sometimes as a Supplementary Grant but in any case it will be placed before this House.

In this connection I should mention that the nations that took part in the Hot Springs Conference were asked to make some small advance towards the Interim Commission's expenses, to keep them going. I do not wish to hide anything from the House. Along with other countries, who have done the same, the Government of India have made a small advance—I think it is \$5,000 or Rs. 15,000. And this, under Article XXV of the Constitution will be deducted or set off against our contribution under the first Budget of the organisation.

Then, Sir, my friend Mr. Abdul Qaiyum made a somewhat novel suggestion that when the Government of India notified their acceptance of the constitution, they should express doubts to the Organisation about their own credentials for membership and invite inspection. That, Sir, is a very interesting suggestion but one with which I do not think he will expect me here and now to promise compliance!

The finance side has also been referred to by Pandit Nilakantha Das and Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam and both seemed to want that India should pay more to the organisation than the 4.25 per cent which it is suggested she should pay in the first year. I think the suggestion was—why should America want to pay 25 per cent and England about 10 per cent—if my memory serves me correctly—and India only 4.25 per cent? There must be some ulterior motive behind this, it is said. Well, Sir, I can tell these Honourable Members that the first assessment of contributions by the proposed member-nations was made very largely on the basis of ability to pay. There are many nations represented on the Conference which until very recently were under German occupation and some are even yet under German occupation, and ability to bear the burden was the principal criterion in arriving at these figures. There were others, of course, but that was the principal factor and as illustration of this I may instance the case of France which, ordinarily, is regarded as a wealthy nation but which has been assessed at 5.69 per cent. I am afraid that Dr. Banerjea is misinformed when he says—taking the line that India is paying too much—that India was paying more than any of the Dominions; I find that Canada has been assessed at 5.6 per cent. In any case voting power is not proportionate to the contribution paid and even if we were going to pay 25 per cent as the United States are prepared to do and as perhaps Pandit Nilakantha Das would like to see us do, it might remove his suspicions but it would not give us any more voting power in the organisation. I do not think either that there is any attack intended in the constitution or in the proceedings of the Conference at Hot Springs on our raw materials,—in regard to minerals especially; we shall certainly be vigilant about that; we are in fact contemplating to suggest that questions of international trade, like more of currency, should be discussed at a separate international conference.

Mr. Neogy is disappointed that I did not refer yesterday to the short term possibilities of this Organisation. I can assure him that I did not overlook these. There is much to be done and the sooner a start is made the better. We regard our own “Grow More Food” campaign as a move in the right direction for bettering nutrition; but actually what I said yesterday was directed only to differentiating this Organisation from the organisation which we call UNRRA, and I believe that what I said was something like this—“I should like to emphasise that the problem before the conference was not the organisation of war time relief or immediate post-war relief. That is the work of another organisation.”

[Mr. J. D. Tyson.]

That was my point. This is not a *war relief* organisation. I am perfectly aware that we can take up the improvement of nutrition from now and that even during the war, if we receive recommendations from this body in that field, we can pursue them. Equally, I think, he was unfair to Government when he suggested that we had repudiated the attitude of our delegation in the matter of nutrition . . . .

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Standards of nutritional food.

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** He quoted a passage from the First Report on the Progress of Reconstruction Planning. That passage was as follows:

"The conclusions of the Indian delegation to the Hot Springs Conference do not represent the considered views of the Government of India on the question of what targets in respect of nutrition should be accepted. They, however, afford a basis for further discussion."

But in the same paragraph from which my Honourable friend read, the authors of this pamphlet said this:

"The first and foremost aim must be to provide adequate nutrition for India's growing population."

And our attitude will also appear from the instructions that we gave to the delegation before they went to America, which I quote from their own report:

"As regards foodstuffs, we were to explain that although the standard of living in India was low, and a large part of the population suffered from faulty nutrition, the remedy lay in increased production and more scientific distribution which could be dealt with by India herself; all that she might need to import from outside would be certain types of machinery and chemical fertilizers."

What the delegation gave the conference, in their note, was certain figures of the nutritional requirements of India as a whole, drawn up some years ago by Dr. Aykroyd; and I want to make it perfectly clear that their figures were drawn up for the population as a whole, for the whole population, at the time he was computing, of 350 millions. This could not in any case be true for the whole of India, because you do not get the same kind of diet eaten in all the different parts of India; and actually at the moment our nutritionists are busy working out tables on a regional basis. These will be much more informative and much more useful when we get them; but in any case I may say that the Second Report on Reconstruction Planning—the second of the series to which Mr. Neogy has referred, under the heading "16—Food" gives a table of nutritional requirements, put forward as "a rough idea" of the all India targets of production, which is identical or rather is entirely based upon Dr. Aykroyd's figures put forward by Dr. Aykroyd and the Indian delegation at Hot Springs. There is no question therefore of our repudiating these figures or going back on our delegation. We admit that there is malnutrition, and under-nutrition; but the degree of it and what is the optimum diet for any particular area and whether the figures quoted by the delegation are sufficiently high are matters on which we do not wish to be committed to figures drawn up by Dr. Aykroyd some years ago for India as a whole. I am afraid, my friend Mr. Neogy cannot therefore found on this a plea that Government must undertake to implement all the important recommendations of the Organisation, subject to the approval of the Legislature, as he has suggested in his amendment now before the House. No Government, I would submit, can put itself in the position that it undertakes in advance to accept all the administrative recommendations of an outside body, a body on which it has one vote in perhaps 45, subject only to the agreement of the Legislature. We may get recommendations addressed to a whole group of nations which may be only very partially practicable or suitable to the conditions in India. We may have—and this is an important point—to consult provinces about these recommendations: we are almost certain to have to consult them on almost every recommendation that comes, because the greater part of the matters that will be covered by this Organisation lie in the provincial field . . . .

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** May I interrupt the Honourable Member? The Honourable Member will find that in my amendment I have taken care to confine the action to the Central Government: that is to say, let the Central Government set an example in the areas which are under the Central Government's own authority. I did not mention the Provincial Governments at all.

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** No; we cannot say in advance that we are going to accept all recommendations merely after consulting the Central Legislature: my point is that we have to consult the Provincial Governments as well.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Why?

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** I had thought that my friend's amendment meant something very different; and I may say that it will be our policy to keep the Legislature informed of developments in connection with this Organisation and to try to carry the Legislature along with us. When there are recommendations involving legislation, we shall certainly have to carry the Legislature with us, and when we come to the Legislature for funds we shall certainly have to carry them with us . . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member's time is up.

**Mr. J. D. Tyson:** May I just finish? I could not possibly accept my friend's amendment now that he has explained it as he has done; and I am glad to find that in this Professor Ranga agrees with me. I had some more points to reply to but if my time is up I must sit down. I should only like to say that I am prepared from this side of the House to accept Prof. Ranga's amendment; but I cannot possibly accept Mr. Neogy's amendment in the light of the explanation that he has vouchsafed to the House.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim). I shall put first Mr. Neogy's amendment. The question is:

"That at the end of the Resolution, the following be added:  
'on the understanding that the Central Government will implement the recommendations of the said Organization in regard to all important questions of policy, subject to the approval of the Legislature.'"

The Assembly divided:

AYES—46

Abdul Ghani, Maulvi Muhammad.  
Abdul Qaiyum, Mr.  
Abdullah, Mr. H. M.  
Azhar Ali, Mr. Muhammad.  
Banerjea, Dr. P. N.  
Chaliha, Mr. Kuladhar.  
Chattopadhyaya, Mr. Amarendra Nath.  
Chettiar, Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam.  
Chetty, Mr. Sami Vencatachelam.  
Chunder, Mr. N. C.  
Daga, Seth Sheodass.  
Dam, Mr. Ananga Mohan.  
Das, Mr. B.  
Das, Pandit Nilakantha.  
Desai, Mr. Bhulabhai J.  
Deshmukh, Mr. Govind V.  
Essak Sait, Mr. H. A. Sathar H.  
Fazl-i-Haq Piracha, Khan Bahadur Shaikh.  
Gauri Shankar Singh, Mr.  
Gupta, Mr. K. S.  
Gupta, Mr. R. R.  
Hans Raj, Raizada.  
Hegde, Sri K. B. Jinaraja.

Hosmani, Mr. S. K.  
Joshi, Mr. N. M.  
Kailash Bihari Lall, Mr.  
Krishnamachari, Mr. T. T.  
Lahiri Chaudhury, Mr. D. K.  
Lakhichand, Mr. Rajmal.  
Lalchand Navalrai, Mr.  
Liaquat Ali Khan, Nawabzada Muhammad.  
Maitra, Pandit Lakshmi Kanta.  
Mangal Singh, Sardar.  
Misra, Pandit Shambhudayal.  
Nauman, Mr. Muhammad.  
Neogy, Mr. K. C.  
Ranga, Prof. N. G.  
Sant Singh, Sardar.  
Sham Lal, Lala.  
Siddique Ali Khan, Nawab.  
Sinha, Mr. Satya Narayan.  
Sri Prakasa, Mr.  
Srivastava, Mr. Hari Sharan. Prasad.  
Subbarayan, Shrimati K. Radha Bai.  
Yusuf Abdoola Haroon, Seth.  
Zafar Ali Khan, Maulana.

Ahmad Nawaz Khan, Major Nawab Sir.  
 Ambedkar, The Honourable Dr. B. R.  
 Anthony, Mr. Frank R.  
 Azizul Huque, The Honourable Sir. M.  
 Bajoria, Babu Baijnath.  
 Benthall, The Honourable Sir Edward.  
 Bhagchand Soni, Rai Bahadur Sir Seth.  
 Caroe, Sir Olaf.  
 Chatterjee, Lt.-Col. Dr. J. C.  
 Daga, Seth Sunder Lall.  
 Dalal, Dr. Sir Ratanji Dinshaw.  
 Dalpat Singh, Sardar Bahadur Captain.  
 Ghiasuddin, Mr. M.  
 Griffiths, Mr. P. J.  
 Gwilt, Mr. E. L. C.  
 Haidar, Khan Bahadur Shamsuddin.  
 Imam, Mr. Saiyid Haidar.  
 Imaiel Alikhan, Kunwer Hajee.  
 Jawahar Singh, Sardar Bahadur Sardar Sir.  
 Joshi, Mr. D. S.  
 Kamaluddin Ahmad, Shams-ul-Ulema.  
 Khare, The Honourable Dr. N. B.  
 Krishnamoorthy, Mr. E. S. A.

Kushal Pal Singh, Raja Bahadur.  
 Lawson, Mr. C. P.  
 Miller, Mr. C. C.  
 Muazzam Sahib Bahadur, Mr. Muhammad.  
 Mudaliar, The Honourable Dewan Bahadur  
 Sir A. Ramaswami.  
 Mudie, The Honourable Sir Francis.  
 Piare Lall Kureel, Mr.  
 Raisman, The Honourable Sir Jeremy.  
 Richardson, Sir Henry.  
 Roy, The Honourable Sir Asoka.  
 Shahban, Khan Bahadur Mian Ghulam  
 Kadir Muhammad.  
 Shoobert, Mr. W. H.  
 Spence, Sir George.  
 Srivastava, The Honourable Sir Jwala  
 Prasad.  
 Stokes, Mr. H. G.  
 Sultan Ahmed, The Honourable Sir.  
 Thakur Singh, Capt.  
 Trivedi, Mr. C. M.  
 Tyson, Mr. J. D.  
 Vaidyanathan, Mr. L. S.  
 Zahid Husain, Mr.

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I shall now put to the House the amendment of Mr. Ranga. The question is:

“That at the end of the Resolution, the following be added:  
 ‘and trusts that the said Organisation will work for the promotion of the interests of agricultural producers no less than of consumers.’”

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

“That this Assembly recommends to the Governor General in Council to accept the Constitution of the permanent Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations on the understanding that the Central Government will implement the recommendations of the said Organisation in regard to all important questions of policy, subject to the approval of the Legislature and trusts that the said Organisation will work for the promotion of the interests of agricultural producers no less than of consumers.”

The motion was adopted.

## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman** (Finance Member): Sir, I move:

“That the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Accounts of 1942-43 be taken into consideration.”

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Motion moved:

“That the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Accounts of 1942-43 be taken into consideration.”

**Prof. N. G. Ranga** (Guntur *cum* Nellore: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, the Honourable Member has not made any speech. It has been the custom in this House that the Finance Member when he makes such an important motion as this gives an idea to the House as to the attitude of the Government in regard to the Public Accounts Committee Report.

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman**: Sir, the custom has invariably been to the contrary as far as I am aware. The motion is simply that the report be taken into consideration.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar** (Salem and Coimbatore *cum* North Arcot: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Sir, I move the amendment that stands in my name. It runs thus:

"That after the words 'taken into consideration' the following be added: 'and having considered it, the House is of opinion that as grave irregularities have been observed in expenditure of large amounts in war publicity and other matters, steps should be taken immediately to put down these irregularities.'"

Sir, if one goes through this report one will be struck with the colossally bad way in which our finances are managed now. Pages after pages the Committee have taken the pains to point out how large sums of money have been spent, in many cases without any account and in many cases without any vouchers. The Committee has pointed out that even when gross irregularities have been pointed out, no steps have been taken to mend them. I wish to refer to a few of the bigger irregularities.

I first refer to the expenses on war publicity. On page 5 the Committee says:

"There are two substantial items of expenditure with the state of the accounts of which we are far from satisfied."

The first relates to the grant made to provinces for expenditure on war publicity with regard to which the Audit has been having the greatest difficulty in getting its requirements satisfied. The Committee continues to say on page 39:

"The Auditor General has stated that he has been having the greatest difficulty in obtaining satisfactory accounts of this expenditure from the provinces and of exercising proper audit control. He had found difficulty in getting vouchers for expenditure and had often in relaxation of the normal audit requirements to accept certificates of disbursements instead."

This is only one example, and the amount involved in this expenditure is by no means small; it runs to crores of rupees.

Now, I would refer to the second matter to which the Report of the Public Accounts Committee refers on pages 5 and 43. On page 43 it is said:

"The Auditor General explained that the amount shown in the accounts was by no means the entire sum expended on the Denial policy and similar measures. Large amounts had been held under suspense by him pending audit prior to their acceptance as a liability of the Central Government. He was not at all satisfied at the state of the accounts of the expenditure on these measures and feared that it would be impossible ever to get the requirements of Audit satisfied. The Government of Bengal who had acted as agents of the Central Government in this matter had, at his instance, deputed a special officer to investigate these accounts and his report had disclosed a most deplorable state of affairs."

The aggregate amount there at one time was of the order of 3 crores.

Then, I would refer to the matter of stores. It is referred to on page 12 of the report. In this case also the amount concerned is in terms of crores. They say:

"Our review last year of the ills of the stores organisation revealed it to be in a parlous state. We were then warned that conditions in 1942-43 were even worse than in the previous year. This fear was well-founded and the whole system of stores accounting appears to have fallen, for reasons which we cannot but appreciate and which are not peculiar to India, to a disturbingly low level of efficiency."

And they go on in the next paragraph:

"We have come across certain cases in the Audit Report the facts of which, as stated therein, lead *prima facie* to the conclusion that there has, in certain Stores Depots, been a deliberate falsification of the accounts."

They have thus shown that the accounts in the stores in many respects have been deliberately falsified. False accounts have been given and they suggested once that somebody may go into that affair and re-audit it and represent it. But they found the situation so bad that no re-writing could be done and they recommended that things may be begun afresh next year. I would like to know from the Government what steps they have taken against the officers concerned for this falsification of accounts for which the report says there is absolute proof. As far as we know, no steps have been taken at all in this matter and this House should take serious note of matters like

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this. Even if in cases like the falsification of accounts the Government do not take any steps to mend matters, I do not know what this Government is doing. I heard in a speech by one of the Advisers in the Madras Government, while talking about the self-government and good government, that they were trying to give a good government though not self-government. Is this the good government they are giving? Judged by the canons of any standard of efficiency and financial principles, this Government cannot justify such a state of affairs. I would like to know what steps have been taken to mend this state of affairs. And not only that, we are yet to know what steps they have taken against the officers concerned in order to bring them to book.

Now, Sir, I come to the malpractices in railways. On page 20 the Committee says:

"They desired to draw attention to the fact that they had had to record on a previous occasion also (in the Report on the Accounts for 1940-41) their opinion 'that the punishments inflicted in a number of cases seem to have been lenient in view of the grave nature of the charges proved against the officers concerned in departmental enquiries'."

The Railway Member in answer to questions in this House has said many times that if bribery has to be checked, it should be checked on both sides, on the side of the givers and takers. We agree. But what steps has he taken to see that people do not succumb to temptations too easily, even to see that temptations are not invited by people. Here is the report of the Public Accounts Committee which says that financial irregularities and corruption have been shown to them, but no steps have been taken. If steps were at all taken, they proved too lenient. They go on to say that it is difficult enough even to check malpractices. We know that there are malpractices in several Departments and it is difficult to catch the receiver as well as the giver. But even if such malpractices are brought to the notice of the officers concerned, no proper action is taken against them. That is the state of affairs. How does this Government propose to remedy this state of affairs? They say, that when the proof has been established, there is no reason why punishments fitting the crime should not be awarded. I would point out to this House that in many cases, especially after going through this report, where malpractices have been rampant, where there have been falsification of accounts, where corruption was practised, no proper steps were taken.

I now come to another interesting instance. A Garrison Engineer placed some orders for local purchase of iron bedsteads for cots. You find this in page 51 of the Public Accounts Committee report. Instead of placing an order through the Supply Department or the Ordnance officer of the Station as required under Government instructions, the bedsteads were supplied at Rs. 41 which the Supply Department would have supplied at Rs. 19-4-0. We know, Sir, the Supply Department themselves usually pay at a high rate, much above the ordinary market rate. It is most surprising to see that the Garrison Engineer outbeats even the Supply Department in paying high price. I do not know whether this happens in many other Departments also.

**An Honourable Member:** Is it black market or white market?

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar:** They are all white. What I see is that though the Supply Department, in spite of its usual extravagant habit, could have supplied the same bedstead at Rs. 19-4-0 each, this gentleman gets it at Rs. 41 each. What are we to say about this transaction? The loss to the Government on this transaction amounted to nearly a lakh of rupees. To whose pocket has this lakh gone? It is certainly a loss to the finances of the country. Have the Government enquired into the facts to find whether it was a *bona fide* purchase. Did the Government enquire whether the Garrison Engineer invited tenders, or whether he went to a few shops or whether he knew the ruling market price of the articles he was purchasing. How can he pay Rs. 41 for an article which even the Supply Department could get for Rs. 19-4-0. On the face of it there is something wrong

about it. Any man with common sense will say, here is something fishy, money has been misused, it has gone into the pocket of some one. What steps have been taken?

**Mr. N. M. Joshi** (Nominated Non-Official): What does the Public Accounts Committee say?

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar**: I read from the report of the Committee:

"It was explained that the Garrison Engineer's orders were to purchase the bedsteads by a certain date without regard to the procedure followed in purchasing them and that the bedsteads actually purchased were of higher specification than those supplied by the Supply Department."

It was however not known why a higher specification was necessary in this particular case. Evidently the latitude that was allowed to the Garrison Engineer was made good use of by him. There are many such instances, and this is only a matter of small amount.

I now come to the Labour Department presided over by my Honourable friend Dr. Ambedkar. My Honourable friend is always very sensitive. It is not rarely that he has the pleasure of losing his temper in this House even when legitimate questions are put to him. The matter I am going to refer to relates to the same topic on which a question was put recently. Para 90 of the Report says:

"It was explained that the sub-head C-6(3) (3)—Labour propaganda represented an amount of Rs. 13,000 a month paid on behalf of the Labour Department to Mr. M. N. Roy with the object of keeping up the morale of labour."

I thought it was Rs. 13,000 per year. Now, I see I was mistaken. There is a limit for everything, but here every decent limit is exceeded. I do not know how far Mr. Roy succeeded in his object of keeping up the morale of labour.

**An Honourable Member**: Demoralise Labour.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar**: Yes, this was to demoralise labour. In their hurry to pay, the Department did not even care to conform to the ordinary accounting rules. The Labour Department wanted to reward their favourites, and in these days of inflation, perhaps the cost of reward also had to be increased. The Report further says:

"The Committee were informed that this was another head with regard to the accounts of which the audit had been having considerable difficulty. An Accountant from the office of the Accountant General, Central Revenues, had now been sent to Mr. Roy in order to help him to prepare the accounts. The Committee trusted that it would be possible to straighten this matter at an early date."

I trust everything is to be cooked up, and the matter put straight.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari** (Tanjore *cum* Trichinopoly: Non-Muhammadan Rural): It is a dog's tail, it will never be straightened.

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar**: While on this point, I would like to refer the House to the denial made by the President of the Indian Trade Union Congress that no money was ever received. Evidently the quarrel is about the person who should receive the money.

**Mr. N. M. Joshi**: Did the Honourable Member say Trade Union Congress?

**Mr. T. S. Avinashilingam Chettiar**: I am sorry. Sir, I am wrong. It was the Indian Labour Federation. I am sorry if I have offended Mr. Joshi. I made a mistake. This Labour Federation was paid Rs. 13,000 per month and for one year it works out to Rs. 1,56,000. They have taken care to see that the amount was paid to the organisation, but they have not taken care to see that it has been spent for the purpose for which it was meant, namely keeping up the morale of labour. What steps did the Government take to see that the money was properly spent? Did they apply the principles laid down by the Auditor General in the matter of spending of money. No accounts are available. What is worse is that money has not been spent properly. These are some of the instances where money was misused. There

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must be hundreds of other instances in this labyrinth of Government of India. Budget spending 300 crores of rupees where you can see such colossal waste of public money. The Government must make themselves responsible to set things right.

Now, Sir, I come to another department, the department of my Honourable friend Dr. Khare. That is given on pages 5 and 52 and refers to the money spent on the evacuees. Sir, we have the food problem in this country and we are not able to feed the hungry children of this country; but this Government of India welcome with open arms everybody who comes from outside the country.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): It is now 5 o'clock. The Assembly is adjourned *sine die*.

The Assembly then adjourned *sine die*.