

[Shri Ajit Kumar Saha]

faced in regard to allocations and supply of edible oil to West Bengal by the Central Government.

Minimum monthly requirement of edible oil for the State of West Bengal is 10,000 MT with additional 3000 MT for each of the two festival months in October and November. But, Sir, (the allocation by Government of India has always been inadequate and the quantum uncertain and varying from time to time. During the last oil year November 1981 to October 1982, total allocation was 73,189 MT of edible oil, when the requirement was that of 1,20,000 MT. The State Trading Corporation which is entrusted to deliver the allocated quantum, has always been found lacking in its job. The backlog for the last oil year has not yet been delivered though the oil year was extended upto 30-11-82.

Sir, due to inadequate and erratic supply by the STC the public distribution in the State is suffering.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government for allocation of 6000 MT crude oil and 4000 MT of refined edible oil per month and the oil should be delivered through the Calcutta Port.

I also demand the Minister concerned to make a statement in the House about the steps taken in this regard as early as possible.

12.24 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1983-84—GENERAL DISCUSSION

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We go to the next item—General Discussion on the Budget (General) for 1983-84. Shri Sunil Maitra will initiate the discussion.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA (Calcutta North East): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Finance Minister in his Budget Speech has very sombrely announced that the Budget is a potent instrument for achieving

national objectives and sustaining the pace of development through appropriate financial and fiscal policies. He also further says that Budget is not simply an exercise to raise resources and finance outlays. The sentiments expressed are laudable indeed. But, Sir, the Budget essentially reflects the economic policies of the Government or, if I am permitted to use the expression very often made by the predecessor of the distinguished Finance Minister Mr. Venkataraman, that the Budget does reflect the economic philosophy of the Government. But, since our society is not a compact homogenous entity, consisting of people having identity of interest, rather having conflict of interest, the economic policies enunciated in the budget are also bound to reflect the bias of those who are charged with the responsibility of framing the budget. Therefore, in the course of my deliberations, I will try to pinpoint this particular bias with which for the last 35 years most of these budgets have been framed by the Finance Ministers. But, before I actually go into this question, I would like to deal with the policy of framing the budget itself.

The fiscal year 1982-83 is not yet over. We started the year from 1st April 1982 and will complete it on the 31st March 1983. Last year the Finance Minister came before the House with proposals of taxation to the tune of a little more than Rs. 589 crores. Having placed before the House a budget containing demands for additional taxation to the extent of Rs. 589 crores, he asked us to discuss it, debate it. There were criticisms congratulations, long speeches and longer replies. Having done all that, during the fiscal year 1982-83, instead of remaining content with those tax proposals in the budget, he has gone in for fresher and fresher levies on the people of this country. If that is the position, we do not understand the basis for the budget proposals.

If we take last year's budget, though the fiscal year is not over, how much of additional levies have been imposed on the people after the budget proposals were presented? The Finance Minister came before the House three times with supple-

mentary grants amounting to Rs. 734 crores. But, without the approval of Parliament, without even the knowledge of Parliament, after having got the budget passed, in July 1982 you raised the issue price of wheat and then in October you raised the issue price of rice. The total income by way of raising the issue price of wheat and rice amounted to Rs. 300 crores, for which you did not think it necessary to take any parliamentary approval. Then, in December 1982 there was a hike in customs and excise duty, which imposed additional levies to the extent of Rs. 200 crores. For that also you did not go to Parliament and seek approval. In February 1983, to be precise, three days before the meeting of Parliament, you increased the price of petroleum products and it imposed an additional levy on the people to the extent of Rs. 800 crores. In February 1983, when the session was on, you increased the postal and tele-communication tariff, which imposed a levy of Rs. 70 crores. I see Shri Stephen gesticulating. Let me remind him that tele-communication is no more his child, though previously it was his child. I hope still it is not your child. The greatest victims of that in Calcutta are the telephone subscribers.

Only the other day you increased for the second time in the same year the price of coal. In May 1982 you raised it by Rs. 17.88 P. per tonne and the other day when this Session was on, again you raised it by Rs. 1.85 P. per tonne totalling Rs. 19.73 P. When Members asked again and again what will be the total incidence, no reply was forthcoming from the Ministry of Energy. Now, if your production target in 1982-83 of the coal was 137 million tonnes which you think that you would achieve, then the additional levy on the people would be Rs. 217 crores. That means, you presented last years proposals of taxation which amounted to Rs. 589 crores, for which you sought the approval of Parliament, and till date you have imposed additional levies on the people to the extent of Rs. 1,640 crores for which you never sought the approval of Parliament. Indeed, the sovereignty lies in the Parliament. Suddenly they are

reminded of the sovereignty of the Parliament when the Supreme Court gives a judgement and goes against them and when it is a question of raising Rs. 1,640 crores outside the budgetary grants, simply they no longer remember that they are the persons who are the loudest and most shrill in propounding the theory that sovereignty lies in Parliament and Parliament is sovereign.

The Finance Minister claims in his budget speech that the increase in the wholesale prices in the last week of January was 3 per cent, compared to the annual rate of inflation of 5.7 per cent at the same time last year. So, in order to arrive at that 3 per cent, the Finance Minister took some convenient figures. He took the figures for the last week of January 1982 and also the last week of January 1983, and having taken these two figures, he calculated and came to the conclusion that this year it is 3 per cent and last year it was 5.7 per cent. Therefore, he is satisfied. Now, the figures for February are available. On 20-2-1982 last year the index figure was 277.2. The figure as on 19-2-83—yours is the January figure and mine is the February figure—was 292.5 in respect of the wholesale price index. If you calculate, it comes to 5.52 per cent increase on a point to point basis. You have claimed that you brought down the inflation from 5.7 to 3 per cent. It is curious. But assuming for argument's sake that it was 3 per cent increase, may I make a reference to page 33 of your Economic Survey? Now, the wholesale price index has so many elements. It is composed of so many other elements amongst which there are certain items which are called indispensable necessities of daily life for the common man. So, you claim that it was a rise of 3 per cent. Well, from your wholesale price index, the figures we have taken pertain to the figures as on 15-1-83 and 27-3-83. Here also as per your own admission, the food-grains price index went up by 6.1 per cent and not 3 per cent, cereals by 8 per cent, pulses 10.9 per cent, eggs, fish and meat 18.6 per cent, edible oil 9 per cent. In other items which have not been termed as indispensable necessities of daily life, the

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index went down. The index registered a sharp increase in items which are absolute necessities in the daily life of the common man. You could depress the index to the extent of 3 per cent. So far as commodities of daily life are concerned, the realities are asserting themselves—6.1 per cent in the case of foodgrains and food articles, 9 per cent faradible oils, 18 per cent for fish, meat and other things. I, therefore, submit that the claim of containing the price rise is not tenable.

Could the Finance Minister let me know in what items of the wholesale price index the increase, in Railway Passenger fare or increase in the Season Ticket of the railway for daily commuters, has been reflected? Where does it go? You, just like that collected some figures and made a claim. Shouting at the top of your voice is not going to obliterate the realities. Those are more and more asserting themselves. These are the end products of the economic policy that you are pursuing!

I come to industrial production. You claimed, and rightly so, that crude petroleum production has gone up by 30.6 per cent, cement 10.2 per cent, feretilizers 9.6 per cent, power 7.2 per cent. So far as these figures go, your claim is correct. But how do you explain that? In spite of such a magnificent increase in production in the infra-structural industries, the rate of your industrial production has come down from 8.6 per cent to 4.5 per cent? You have conveniently forgotten or chose to forget one aspect i.e. 40 per cent of the total industrial production in this country is accounted for by the small scale sector. What is happening to the small scale sector, you do not know. It is because there is no mechanism. So far as the Government of India is concerned there is nothing to monitor to know what is happening in the small scale industrial sector. If your industrial production has gone down from 8.6 per cent to 4.5 per cent, that means, your small scale sector is being massacred. It is because this Government only represents the interests of the monopoly capitalists to which I will come later. They have only the

interests of the monopoly capitalists. That is why small scale sector is being massacred. Therefore, it is getting reflected in your declining industrial production from 8.6 per cent to 4.5 per cent.

What are the reasons for a drop in the industrial production? You attribute it to a serious drop in the production of textile cloth. Now, again I would refer to the publications published by your Reserve Bank of India in the Bulletin—August, 1982. Now, Sir, the textile cotton mill sector accounts for 5.34 points only out of 100 so far as the weightage is concerned. Now, assuming for a moment that 100 per cent textile mills are closed for one year, there would be a loss of 5.34 out of 100 in terms of weightage. Then, how do you explain the drop in the industrial production from 8.6 to 4.5 points? you cannot explain. 1970 as the base for 100, your index of industrial production says that your loss is to the extent of between 24 points and 25 points. So, with a loss of between 24 and 25 points and with a weightage of 5.34 out of 100 in cotton, you cannot explain as to why your industrial production has come down from 8.6 to 4.5. Therefore, the explanation that you are giving that the reason for decline in the industrial production is the strike in the Bombay Textile Mills is also equally spurious and so we do not accept it.

Now, I pass on quickly. He has made a claim of a spectacular profit of the public sector units. We ourselves, the Communist bloc, the Communist Members in Parliament are no less champions for the cause of public sector units than anybody else in the House. But how are you managing this sector? You have reported a very high rate of profit compared to last year in the public sector units. But is it because you are managing the affairs of the public sector efficiently (*Interruptions*) or because of the constant rise in the administered prices that it registered a profit? I will give one example. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA
(Dausa): Are you not for public sector?

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Yes, you better hand over the public sector to us. We will show you how to run the public sector.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Publicly, they support the public sector and privately support the private sector. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Just to illustrate my point, I will give you one example. After you came back to power in January, 1980, you raised the administered prices of petroleum and petroleum products. In answer to Unstarred Question No. 1179, dated 31st August, 1981, in Rajya Sabha the Minister concerned replied. The Minister concerned let the Rajya Sabha know that because of the increase in prices from 8th June, 1980, they were expecting additional resources to the extent of Rs. 2080 crores. Again, on 13th January, 1981, they raised the prices and they expected an additional yield to the tune of Rs. 1194 crores. Again, on 11th July, 1981, they increased the prices and they expected an additional yield of Rs. 1070 crores and, again, on 14th February, 1983, they raised the prices and they expected an additional yield of Rs. 800 crores. That means, in a short tenure of three years of their rule, only in the sphere of petroleum and petroleum products, they increased the prices which yielded Rs. 5144 crores. When we think that we are going with a beggar's bowl to the International Monetary Fund for a sum of 5000 crores, of course in dollars, then only can we understand the magnitude of what you are doing.

Here, they have the temerity to come to the House and demand, "You give me the credit. How efficiently am, I managing the public sector?" They are looting the people and only through this loot they are showing some artificial profit on public sector units. This is no way of managing the public sector.

Then, the Finance Minister in a bombastic declaration says:

"This Government is determined to plug avenues for tax evasion and avoid-

dance and to continue to fight against economic offences."

There cannot be a more untrue statement than this one.

Under the aegis of the Finance Ministry, an investigating cell was appointed to find out why Birlas, Singhanias and Tatas are contributing less and less taxes by way of wealth tax. What did the Investigating Cell find out? In 1957-58, the total assets of Birlas were calculated, not on the basis of market value but on the basis of book value, at Rs. 589.42 crores and in 1977-78, the figure went upto Rs. 1070.22 crores. It was more than hundred per cent increase in a matter of 20 years. In this period of 20 years, what happened to the personal wealth of Birlas? I am only picking up the Birla family by way of an illustration. Mr. M.P. Birla in the year 1957-58, had a personal wealth of Rs. 45.28 lakhs; Mr. B.M. Birla had a personal wealth of Rs. 58.67 lakhs and Mrs. Rukmani Birla had a personal wealth of Rs. 75.43 lakhs. What happened after 20 years? Assuming only 10 per cent yield on the personal wealth of Mr. M.P. Birla, Mr. B.M. Birla and Mrs. Rukmani Birla, what would have been their personal wealth in 1977-78? In the case of Mr M.P. Birla, it would have been Rs. 304.60 lakhs; in the case of Mr. B.M. Birla, it would have been Rs. 394.70 lakhs and in the case of Mrs. Rukmani Birla, it would have been Rs. 507.43 lakhs.

I am quoting from the document prepared by their own investigating cell. They found out that Shri B. M. Birla who was having a wealth of Rs. 45 lakhs in 1957-58 became poorer in 1977-78 when he had only a personal wealth of Rs. 11.65 lakhs!

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA (Bombay North): What happened to the rest?

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Shri M.P. Birla's wealth in 1957-58 was Rs. 58.67 lakhs. It came down to Rs. 16.85 lakhs.

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Mrs. Rukmani Devi Birla's wealth was Rs. 75.43 lakhs. It came down to Rs. 19.49 lakhs.

How did the vanishing trick occur? By transfer of wealth by these persons to trusts and companies there is no law for wealth tax for companies. Companies are not taxed for wealth tax purposes. They took advantage of it. By transfer of wealth to minors and ladies of the same family through gifts and by transfer of assets like shares to companies of their own houses.

Through this process, they decreased their personal wealth. They showed in the tax return that personal wealth had decreased. Therefore, the wealth tax payable by them also decreased and they have been paying diminishing wealth tax at diminishing rate.

In late 1960s, specially after their leader Shrimati Indira Gandhi became Prime Minister and in those hoary days of *Garibi Hatao* and when banks were being nationalised and privy purses were being confiscated, they also appointed one Committee to look into the question of amassing blackmoney. The name of the Committee was Direct Taxes Enquiry Committee chaired by no less a person than Justice K.N. Wanchoo. The Wanchoo Committee made certain recommendations specifically on the question of trusts. The Government accepted most of these recommendations and through Taxation Laws Amendment Act, 1976, these recommendations were brought into the statute book. Sections 11 and 13 of the Income-tax Act also were modified in the light of this enactment namely, Taxation Laws Amendment Act, 1976.

Section 11 of the Income-tax Act specifically says that a charitable trust can accumulate money only for a certain period but, when the money will be accumulated, it will have to be invested in Government securities or securities approved by the Government or Post Office Savings Bank or Cooperative Bank or

Scheduled banks. Prior to that, these trusts which were the appendages of these monopoly houses were being used by these Houses to channelise the funds for investment in their own concerns. In order to stop it, Section 11 of the Income-tax Act was amended. But then, while amending it, it said that it will be effective from 1.4.1976. Subsequently this date was further extended to 1.4.77. Then it was further extended to 1.4.1978 and then the colleague of Prof. Madhu Dandavate, the illustrious Mr. H. M. Patel came to power and through his good offices it was further extended up to 1.4.1981. When Mr. Venkataraman was sitting there, he extended it up to 1.4.1982 and last year Mr. Pranab Mukherjee perhaps forget to extend it with the result that from 2.4.1982 legally it is incumbent on the part of any Income-tax Officer to assess the wealth and levy taxes as per Section 11 of the Income-tax Act if there has been any investment other than specified in the law.

The other day I asked a question. The Minister of State for Finance was here. He said that Finance Minister has already proposed in the Budget proposals to extend the period further to November, 1983. What about the period between 2.4.1982 till 30th November, 1983?

I can also tell you that implementation of this particular provision of the law is being delayed deliberately as a calculated move and not being implemented right from 1.4.1977 till date and there is absolutely no reason to believe that it will be made effective immediately after November, 1983. In whose interests are they delaying the implementation of this particular piece of legislation? They know fully well that so far as direct taxes are concerned, the monopoly houses are not paying the taxes required. Therefore, in the interests of the monopoly houses you formulate policies to meet their interests! You enact the law in order to throw dust into the eyes of the people.

You enacted Sections 11 and 13 of the Income-tax Act. But it proved too hard for you. You also brought in Section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act and under

that Section, you arrogated to yourself the power to notify certain charitable trusts. And also you arrogated to yourself the power that out of these notified trusts you could exempt charitable trusts from the operation of the tax laws. But the notification should mention specific period. It may be one or two years or 50 years or any period. But period must be specified. Out of 700 and odd notified trusts, I put it to the House and to the Finance Minister that he has exempted more than 300 trusts belonging to the monopoly houses. They are exempted in perpetuity. You have not specified any time-limit. This is illegal. It is not permissible under law and when I raised this point, Mr. Venkataraman told me "You better go to a court of law." Somebody else should go to a court of law. But here we are not arguing in a court of law. We are arguing before the bar of public opinion. Was it ethical, correct, morally sound...

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howrah): This is their philosophy.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: ...that you should go on exempting trusts in perpetuity? The law says that you cannot exempt in perpetuity and that you must specify a period. The Hon. Finance Minister is the economic philosopher. His philosophy serves the interests of the monopoly capitalists and it adversely affects the interests of the people as a whole.

Then I will come to that portion of the speech....

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Wanchoo Committee recommended reduction of the tax. Less tax and full tax payment will be done. But actually the result has been just the opposite.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: The Finance Minister very emphatically says that the Government is going on with the scheme of import substitution perhaps to preempt us in our deliberations linking the Budget with the IMF.

Therefore, Sir, deliberately the word was used that Government was going on with this policy of import substitution.

13.00 hrs.

If you really go on with the policy of import substitution, then, why hail the liberalisation of imports? (Interruptions)

AN. HON. MEMBER: I think it is unparliamentary.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: It is 'hail'.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is hail.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: You liberalise the import policy with the result that today all sorts of people, every multi-national, are dumping their goods into this country. It is not that the Communists alone who are complaining about it. Even the Tatas, Birlas and whole of the industry are complaining about this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Even the Congress men are also complaining.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: Even, the Congress men are complaining about this policy of yours. Today, because of this dumping of goods etc., etc. the stockpile of goods is going on unchecked with the result that mills are closed down; lock-outs have been declared and thousands and thousands of workers are being thrown out of employment and they are being thrown on the streets.

The Finance Minister also claim that the trade deficit is likely to be lower in 1982-83. On what basis he makes this claim, I do not know. Personally I have checked up the figures. He does not have any basis to make this claim to his statement. The claim is not tenable.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Maitra, you have another twenty minutes. I think you will conclude your speech by 13.20 hours. Your party has been allotted one hour.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA: From April to October 1981, your trade deficit was Rs. 2,923 crores. But, between April and October, 1982, the deficit has been Rs.

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3,328 crores. How then does the Finance Minister claim that the trade deficit in the last seven months of this year has been less than what it was in the last year? He makes this claim that the trade deficit this year will be less than what it was in the last year. I think that this claim of his is not tenable and it is absolutely not substantiated. What is the condition of the trade? What are you apprehending? This is not a question of putting the Government in the dock. It is a question of sincerity of it.

Coming to the Economic Survey, I am giving you the comparative figures for 1980-81 and 1981-82 of your trade in these years with three countries—United States, Canada and the Group of countries under EEC. In 1980-81 your deficit in the balance of trade was to the extent of Rs. 2,171.50 crores. In 1981-82 it was Rs. 2,258.09 crores—this is your trade with USA, Canada and the EEC countries.

This year, as the trade goes on and as the figures do suggest, your trade deficit with these countries will be still more. How does the other side of the coin look like? When the Imperialist countries and capitalist countries do not accept your goods and commodities, it is the socialist countries which are taking more and more of our good and commodities. In 1980-81 we exported to the East European socialist countries goods worth Rs. 1,457 crores and in 1981-82 we exported goods worth Rs. 1,754 crores. We exported to these countries more than we imported from these countries with the result that in the balance of trade with the socialist countries ours is surplus. In the year 1980-81 the surplus was to the extent of Rs. 229 crores and it increased to Rs. 352 crores in 1981-82. Whereas in our trade with the Imperialist countries the deficit is widening more and more, in our trade with the socialist countries our surplus is accruing more and more. This being the position and in the background of the forecast of the IMF itself and of the World Bank itself that upto 1990 the situation in the Capitalist world will be worsening more and more our direction of trade with the socialist countries should be more and more.

Sir, today all sorts of things are being talked about and every attempt is being made to see to it that our trade with the socialist countries is sabotaged. Multinational corporations today are being welcomed in this country. All doors have been thrown open for the multinationals to come here with disastrous result for our industries. Hindustan Motors was founded in 1950s and in 1982-83 we are entering into a collaboration agreement with Suzuki of Japan for Maruti cars. What has happened to our research and development? In the last 30 years you claim to have progressed marvellously. You claim to have covered so much of ground in science and technology in everything but having founded a factory 30 years ago and having manufactured thousands of automobiles still today you do not know of the present day technology of automobile industry with the result you go to Suzuki to have their technological expertise. This is the situation. What are the policies being reflected in your budget? So far as industrialisation is concerned you are throwing open the doors to the multinationals at the cost of our own industry. So far as your fiscal policies are concerned you are dumping more and more load on the common man.

Sir, in this year's budget the Finance Minister has come out with total levy of Rs. 822 crores. I am not speaking of the concessions which you are giving. Through customs you will be getting Rs. 393 crores; through excise duty it will be Rs. 325 crores and through Corporation tax it will be Rs. 104 crores. Now just make a comparison as to how much of this amount is by way of direct taxes and how much by indirect taxes. Indirect taxes would be Rs. 718 crores out of this Rs. 822 crores and direct taxes which affect the monopolists and big capitalists would be to the extent of only Rs. 104 crores which comes to 12.6 per cent of the fresh levies and the rest of the 87.4 per cent will be through indirect taxes which means more load on the common man. This precisely is your economic philosophy. This is the economic philosophy with which you have been ruling this country for the last 35 years as a result of which

there is growing economic mess; secessionist forces and other forces are becoming active, taking advantage of the discontent of the people. They try to lead the people; they are taking the fullest advantage of the situation.

Sir, at any given point of time in history economy is the foundation-stone of any society. Any given country's political and social superstructure is built upon its economic foundation. If the economic foundation goes down and down the political and the social superstructure are bound to show cracks. What is happening in this country is that the actual and social superstructure is not only showing cracks but they are actually collapsing.

So, this has been the result of your 35 year's rule. You have been following economic policies which have brought millions and millions of our people to poverty, starvation and ignorance. A few hundreds, may be, a few thousands are rioting in luxury. This is your economic philosophy.

In the last session of Parliament, our Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi asked us: 'Where is your alternative?' She said that the Opposition does not have an alternative. Mr. Finance Minister will you give up your seat of power? Will you bring out radical land reforms? I know you will not abdicate power. Your policy has taken the country towards more and more deeper economic mess. You have no plans to bring about radical land reforms land reform. Land reform is the crux of the whole problem.

Until and unless you have drastic land reforms, no basic economic problem of the country can be solved.

Today in our country, four percent of the rural population is owning 40 per cent of the arable land; the result is, because of this the kisans are not having any purchasing capacity to purchase things. The prices of industrial products are rising day by day. They are not in a position to purchase them; the home market is not in a position to absorb them. In our home market out of 100 customers, 70 are

Kisans; they are not having any land therefore they do not have the purchasing capacity.

You should take away this 40 per cent of the arable land which is in the hands of money-lenders, jotedars and big landlords, and distribute them gratis to the landless agricultural labourers and poor kisans.

It is there in your 20 Point Programme enforced during the emergency and it is there in your revised 20 point programme now. But I know for certain that you are not going to implement it. During the past 35 years you did not do it. Even if you are in power for another 35 years, you will not do it.

This 4 per cent, of the rural population, these money lenders and big landlords from your political base in the country side and you do not want to attack this political base of yours. You have allowed them to increase their stranglehold on the rural economy of our country.

The first alternative is Land Reform. You will have to go in for drastic land reform. You have mentioned it in your 20 point programme of the emergency period and in the revised one also. You have to strengthen the public distribution system so as to function in an effective manner.

Sir, there are only two States in our country today which are having full-fledged public distribution system—one is Kerala and the other is West Bengal and the rest of the country is just left to its fate. Whatever little public distribution system is continuing now that was introduced when you people were voted out of power. But when you came to power afterwards, you changed the whole system and you are treading on that path. You will have to give up that path and strengthen your public distribution system. We have been demanding that you should identify 14 essential commodities of daily use which are most essential for the consumption of the poor people. You have to fix the prices for all the 14 items of commodities like rice, wheat, edible oil, soap, cloth and so on. For these commodities you have to fix the prices and make them available to the commonest of the common people, to

the poorest of the poor people throughout the country at the same price. For this purpose. If you have to give subsidies, give subsidies. If you can give subsidies to Tatas, Birlas and Singhanias by allowing them to evade taxes, can't you subsidise these 14 essential commodities which are most necessary for the consumption of the poorest of the poor of this country? It is a question of political will. Have you got the political will? You don't have. Because, the persons whose interests are being served are the landlords in the country-side, money-lenders in the country-side and the big monopoly houses in the urban areas.

Now, you are importing foodgrains. If it is a drought year, I can understand that; when the production is less, I can understand that. But, then, you are prepared to pay much more to the American farmers and you are not prepared to pay that much to your own farmers. Now, in regard to the procurement of foodgrains, you have to pay remunerative prices to the peasants, you have to pay higher price because prices of all essential inputs have gone up. Fertiliser, diesel, pumpsets and everything costs more. But you have not assured remunerative prices to the peasants for their produce, with the result that you are not in a position to procure their commodities to the extent you need and this again is creating a vicious circle. You are going in for import of more and more of foodgrains from the USA. Therefore, I would like to demand that you pay remunerative prices to the peasants for their commodities and then stop entry of multi-nationals in the field and practice self-reliance.

The Management of the BHEL and the Trade Union of the BHEL met in the city of Delhi, in this month, and passed a resolution and this resolution was forwarded to the Government. This is regarding the Chandrapur Thermal Station. For the thermal Station in Chandrapur, in Maharashtra, this Government is reported to have approached some multinational corporation for the supply of 500 megawatt units, although BHEL is capable of manufacturing 500 megawatt unit. Instead of giving the

order for the supply of these units to the BHEL, they are approaching the foreign multinational corporations. In the global tenders received by the Government for the supply of these units, the BHEL quotation was the lowest. But its quotation was not accepted. Now, whose interest is being served? It is in the interest of the multinational corporation because you have taken S 5 billion SDR loan and the condition attached by the IMF was to be fulfilled. Today you don't see that this giant organisation is capable of manufacturing such units. They have got manufacturing skill, talents, top-class engineers and you are bypassing them and you are giving your supply order to the multinational.

Then coming to imports, I would ask the Government to cut down its import drastically. Even in the industrialised countries, when the petrol crunch came, they went in for rationing of petrol. In this country, why are you not doing that? All sorts of imports you are making. Already they are dumping their goods and I need not repeat them. You stop these imports, and go in for more and more import substitution, which, in actual practice, you have given up because of the pressure of the I.M.F.

Lastly, you should stop incurring debt from the IMF on the conditions on which they are giving this loan. From 1984-85, the repayment of this loan will start in right earnest. It is five billion SDR. 48 per cent of this will be paid to India out of the coffers of the IMF and 52 per cent will be taken by the IMF as loan from Saudi Arabia and given to India at the interest rate of 15 per cent. IMF loan from its own coffers, that is 48 per cent of the total loan, would carry an interest of 7 per cent; on an average, the interests rate would be 11 per cent. Now, the loan will be repaid in ten instalments. In rupee terms, five billion SDR comes now to approximately Rs. 5800 crores. One instalment of repayment would amount to Rs. 589 crores towards principal, and Rs. 600 crores roughly towards interest at the rate of 11 per cent. In total, it would amount to Rs. 1180 crores. Today, our existing debt servicing apart from the IMF loan is

Rs. 1000 crores. That means, we will have to pay Rs. 2200 crores approximately from 1984-85 in dollars. Apart from this, there is the loan that the India's private sector has contracted from the private sector of the advanced industrial countries through the good offices of another window of the World Bank, that is, International Finance Commission. The *Statesman* from Calcutta has indicated that this loan comes to about Rs. 2300 crores at the rate of interest of 15 per cent. The interest would be more than Rs. 300 crores on this amount. By 1984-85, you have to have more than Rs. 2500 crores in terms of dollars in order to start repayment of the loan. From where are you Mr. Finance Minister, going to get this much foreign exchange? Today's newspapers carry a very small news item that the economics of the Arab world are in a crisis, and with the fall in the petroleum prices, their developmental activities are going to come to a standstill. If their developmental work unfortunately comes to a standstill, millions of Indian workers now working in those countries and who are sending valuable foreign exchange to this country will be thrown out of employment.

By 1984-85 what are you going to do? You cannot repay this loan. In your foreign trade, you are going on incurring wider and wider deficits; you will have to go again to the IMF. Or, are you proposing to go to the Commercial Banks? You have already given a hint that you want to go to them. You have said that you want to be a little cautious. But once the pressure comes from the International Monetary Fund, either you will go to them, or to the multinational banks of the world, City Bank of New York, Chase Manhattan Bank of American, and Bank of America, whose boss Clausen happens to be the chief of the World Bank. Again, when you go for loan to them, they will give you stiffer and stiffer terms.

Hypothetically speaking, if today you are exporting jute at Rs. 1200/- per tonne, you will be forced to export it at Rs. 800/- per tonne; if you are exporting tea today at Rs. 50/- kg., you will be forced to export it at Rs. 30/- kg. In the Non-Aligned Meet, Shrimati Indira

Gandhi was brave enough to say that the prices of our primary articles have collapsed. That is the language she has used. In fact those have not yet collapsed. It is going to collapse in 1984-85 and the whole country will see the fun of it. You are dragging this country along a very dangerous road; and nobody can foresee the end of this road. But it is an abyssal pit of darkness, crisis and collapse to which you are leading this country. This exactly is your economic philosophy. Therefore, you cannot complain that we do not have an alternative. From the Opposition, we have been suggesting you alternatives; for the last thirty years we have been shouting hoarse. You accept our alternative; that is the only alternative for survival of this country; there is no other alternative. For heaven's sake do not help in the process of the complete destruction of this country. After all, a country can never be destroyed except by natural calamities.

Now the people are becoming awake more and more. They are seeing through the game. Until yesterday you thought that at least there were pockets which were your citadels. Those citadels also have not only been impregnated, but they have been vanquished and abolished. They have been stormed by the people. Your citadels of Karnataka and Andhra have fallen and today you cannot claim that in the whole of India there is any citadel or a castle. Tomorrow you will have to say that in the whole of India there is not even one house which is prepared to harbour you. The people of this country will see to it.

Therefore, by expressing all these objections to the Budget proposals, and criticising your economic philosophy, I am restating that your philosophy of the Budget is to serve the interests of the multi-nationals, the monopoly capitalists, the landlords, the money lenders and the rural vested interests and the urban vested interests. So, Sir, I oppose the proposals of the Budget lock, stock and barrel and I shall go on opposing them outside also.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): Sir, I rise to support the Budget placed before

[Shri Y. S. Mahajan]

the House by the Hon. Finance Minister. I support it fully and absolutely.

Sir, what am I to say of the criticism of it by a Member, who does not look at it with the correct perspective, who looks at the whole concept of economic policy of the government with a jaundiced eye, starts with false information and wrong premises and arrives inevitably at foolish conclusions. Sir, we have heard such stereotyped arguments before and they are not at all relevant.

May I say, Sir, how the Hon. Member has tried to mislead the House? Look at the current year. The fact which is most striking about the economic situation this year is that we have gone through a severe drought which was more widespread than this country has experienced during the recent history. Yet the Hon. Member has not mentioned it. Can we then expect any correct conclusions from his arguments?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Sunil Maitra himself has experienced the drought in West Bengal.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN: Sir, this drought has had the inevitable adverse effect of reducing the resources available and by the demand for certain important commodities. These difficulties were compounded by recessionary tendencies abroad and an uncertain international situation. The Balance of Payment position has been a cause of serious concern because of the oil imports, the demand for which has been rising all these years in spite of the tremendous rise in prices. Sir, in spite of this unbearable and pressing background, we have emerged without being much scathed, without any serious damage to our investment plans. The tempo of investment and plan effort has been maintained and the price stability has been achieved with a mix of appropriate monetary and financial policies. This has been no mean achievement.

Sir, the Hon. Member says that we have not achieved price stability. May I point out that the rise of about two and a half or three per cent in price level is not regarded as inflationary. Take the

opinion of any economist in the whole world. They all say the price can vary within a small margin without being described as inflationary or deflationary. Prices can never be rigid in any living society, because demands and preferences go on changing; supplies also change and they are balanced at different levels of prices. So, if the changes are within the limit of say three per cent either way, then prices can be described as stable.

The budget is the most serious exercise in monetary and financial matters which Government undertakes at the beginning of each financial year. In our case, it is something more than this. It is also an exercise in framing the Annual Plan. And since Planing is all-pervasive, it regulates investments and priorities not only in agriculture and industry, but also in all social matters and also fixes targets for achievement.

What has been the outcome this year? As a result of the serious drought, there is a set-back in agricultural production to the extent of 3 per cent. Industrial production has increased by 4-1/2 per cent, as a result of this the national income will go up by 2 per cent. I don't think this can be considered unsatisfactory, in view of the depressing background which we had during last year.

It must be noted that over the first three years of the 6th Plan, the average rate of growth comes to about 5 per cent, a fact which can be denied only by those who, ostrich-like, bury their heads in sand. As a result of the Budget proposals, the expenditure on development will increase from Rs. 11000 crores to Rs. 13,870 crores in 1983-84. This constitutes an increase of 26.1 per cent, coming on top of an increase of 27.6 per cent effected last year. Taken together, the total Plan of the Centre, the States and the Union Territories shows an increase of 21.5 per cent over last year.

The primary concern has been to provide maximum support to those projects and programmes which are of immediate benefit to the economy and especially to the weaker sections of the community. This can be seen from the fact that the

20-point programme which has the greatest immediate impact on the welfare of the people, will require an expenditure of about Rs. 10,000 crores. As usual, according to our policy, a higher priority has been given to agricultural development, especially to the two major programmes for oil-seeds development and dry land farming. Both are important elements in the 20-point programme.

An equally high priority has been given to irrigation and flood control, which account for more than Rs. 2400 crores. It is irrigation which revolutionizes agriculture, starts the process of high-yielding varieties of seeds, use of chemical fertilizers and growth in total product.

The Plan places considerable emphasis on development of energy which accounts for 36 per cent of the total Central Plan outlay. The programme taken up with the greatest urgency is the crash programme for providing drinking water facilities to all the problem villages. The outlay of the Central and the State Governments on this will amount to Rs. 519 crores.

I welcome especially the highly innovative measure of providing Rs. 300 crores to provide grants to the States for improving their performance in specified programmes of importance to the weaker sections of the people, and secondly to the State Electricity Boards for improving their efficiency of plant-load factor, a factor which had reached the maximum in 1975-76, and then gone down. Now it is slowly picking up.

The Budget is a saving—and investment-oriented one. To encourage savings, the Finance Minister has provided relief to the salaried tax-payer by increasing the standard deduction from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000; and secondly, by reducing the tax rate on the income slab from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000/-. Even after taking into account the increase in the surcharge, the burden on individuals and Hindu undivided families will be less than before. Thirdly, he has encouraged savings and investments by removing the ceiling of 30 per cent of gross total income in respect of savings in specified forms like life

insurances, provident funds, while retaining the absolute monetary ceilings and by including Savings Certificates VI and VII series in the media approved for this purpose. The exemption limit from tax of the aggregate investment income derived from specified long-term investments has been increased from Rs. 9,000 to Rs. 10,000.

The liberalisation of the scheme of tax incentives to non-resident Indians would be welcomed by them, as it would give them a higher yield on their investments and free them from a number of cumbersome relaxation procedures. Their demands for a simplified income tax, capital gains tax and wealth tax have been conceded, in effect.

Take the case of trade and industry. They have particularly welcomed proposals which have the effect of encouraging investments and production. The reduction in interest rates was very important and long overdue and should act as a shot in the arm for trade and industry. Industry will also welcome the increase in the general rate of depreciation in respect of plant and machinery from 10 per cent to 15 per cent and the concessions for write-off in respect of small items of plant and machinery upto a value of Rs. 5000 and the concession at 100 per cent depreciation of the cost of devices and systems for energy saving. Export industries have been given an impetus, a heartening boost, by the Finance Minister's scheme of relief. The original proposal, made last year, has now been simplified and rationalised.

Under this scheme, the tax concession will consist of a deduction in the computation of taxable income, of 5 per cent of the amount by which the export turnover of the accounting year exceeds the turnover of the preceding year. The scheme in this form is administratively simple and helpful to the exporters. There is no arbitrary qualifying amount for eligibility. The policy as regards customs duties has been changed only to help revenue collection but also to support the balance of payments and industrial expansion. The reduction in the rate of tax charged under

the interest-tax Act will encourage production and investment in both domestic as well as export industries.

These proposals will have the effect of increasing the available funds for modernisation and reinvestment. They will reduce costs through lower interest charges and make production for export more attractive.

It has been said the levies made by the Finance Minister along with deficit in the budget will lead to inflationary conditions. These are sweeping generalizations. It is difficult to predict the future behaviour of prices because prices depend on a number of factors. For instance, the price of this year will depend on the Rabi and Kharif crops during this calendar year. Secondly prices will depend in any year on the extent of deficit financing and credit creation by the banks, the price levels and the state of trade and industry abroad and the credit policy of the Reserve Bank of India. There are so many factors which determine the price level.

Critics insist that the deficit will result in a steep price rise. But this is not inevitable. The deposit can be taken care of, if the amount of money and credit is strictly regulated by the Finance Minister, as we did last year.

Secondly, the deficit in the balance, the deficit in the Budget, and even the increase in the levies can be taken care of, if the growth of national income matches. If the growth is about 4 to 5 per cent, then there is no fear that prices will rise.

Lastly, let us compare last year's experience with what is probable in future. Last year, there were pre-Budget levies of about Rs. 2,000 crores and there was a budget deficit of Rs. 1,935 crores. These factors along with severe drought should have caused a tremendous rise in prices, but this was avoided by a proper mix of monetary, fiscal and trade policies. Undertaking a certain amount of risk and confidence in managing the economy, particularly the demand factor and supply, is necessary before we can achieve the expected rate of growth.

There are two other points, but I will answer some of the points which the hon. Member has raised, later.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: After he comes, I think.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN: Now, coming to the family welfare programme, I say that this programme is very important and is of basic importance, which the hon. Member did not mention. We have made a provision of Rs. 336 crores. This movement achieved a great momentum by 1977. But due to some unfortunate circumstances the programme was diluted—was almost reduced to nothing—by the Government which followed in 1977. It is again picking up and we may look to the future with hope but I believe personally that the rate of progress in this field should be more rapid than we have achieved so far. I think we should follow a policy of strong incentives and disincentives to achieve progress which would be commensurate to the requirements of the situation.

Then, as regards inflation, I would like to mention one more point. The price-rise can be moderated, or can be avoided, if we change or if we implement our Plan schemes better, or if we increase the utilisation of past investments, and increase their productivity. This will enable us to reduce the cost of production. Secondly, we should see that our projects are implemented in time because they take longer time than we expect and so costs increase and the capital output ratio increase. This has been happening over the years and this has been one of the factors causing rise in prices.

Then the hon. Member on the other side talked about the importance of the economic base. He dilated on the Marxian economic interpretation of history. It is a partial truth. Can we say that we people in India believe that economic considerations determine everything, that they determine man's morality, his political outlook, that they determine a man's behaviour towards his neighbour or towards the members of his family? This partial truth has unfortunately captured the imagination of some people and is causing a lot of harm in the socio-economic policies

all the world over. We believe that history depends not on one factor, but on hundred and one factors. It is said, for instance, that the history of the world would have been different if Caesar had liked the nose of Cleopatra! He left Egypt because, though he thought that she was a very attractive woman, he did not like the shape of her nose! He left Egypt and went back to Rome. There are hundred and one threads on which hangs the future of mankind. Sometimes history is dependant on accidents, or personal predilections.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Marx had already modified his earlier theory.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN: Thank you very much for supporting me. But our hon. Members are still repeating it. What is to be said about it?

While talking about non-plan expenditure, people say that it should be curbed or not be allowed to grow. But we must bear in mind that non-plan expenditure includes expenditure on defence services. I must say that the increase proposed by the hon. Minister is the minimum under the geo-political circumstances of the country. As a nation, we believe in Panchsheel, in rejecting war as a method of settling international disputes. India has never embarked on aggression against any country in its long history. In fact, India has been the victim of aggression at least four times after achievement of its independence. This is a land of Budha and Gandhi. We believe in peace, the supreme goal of mankind, in disarmament and economic development. These great ideals of mankind or the whole human race were eloquently placed before the Non Aligned Conference by our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. We admire her courage, vision and anxiety for the whole world.

With these few words, I support the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister.

डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी वाजपेयी (सीतापुर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस बजट का

समर्थन करते हुए मैं यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि 35 वर्षों की आजादी के बाद आज हम इस स्थिति में आ गये हैं कि पुराने अनुभवों से लाभ उठा सकते हैं और जहाँ हमारी कमियाँ हैं, उनमें सुधार ला सकते हैं और भविष्य के लिये कोई रास्ता निकाल सकते हैं। इस वर्ष का बजट प्रस्तुत करते हुये वित्त मंत्री जी ने इन बातों पर विशेष ध्यान दिया है।

उधर से जो माननीय सदस्य, विरोधी दल के बोल रहे थे, उन्होंने कुछ ऐसा नक्शा प्रस्तुत किया जैसे कि भारत की जो अर्थ-व्यवस्था है, वह कुछ आगे बढ़ी ही नहीं है और एक निराशामय चित्र उन्होंने खींचने की कोशिश की। मैं तो यह समझती हूँ कि कभी-कभी तो इस सदन में ऐसा भी असवर आना चाहिये जबकि कुछ सच्चाई से भी बात करने की हम कोशिश करें। इस बार मैं ऐसा समझती थी कि कम से कम हमारे जो साम्यवादी दल के माननीय सदस्य हैं, वे यह कहेंगे कि वित्त मंत्री जी ने कुछ साहसिक कदम उठाये हैं। कारपोरेट सैक्टर के जो लाभ अभी तक थे और उन पर कोई रोक अभी तक नहीं लगी थी, उन लाभों पर कुछ रोक लगाने की कोशिश इस बजट में की गई है। ऐसे खर्च जिनके ऊपर रोक लगनी चाहिये थी, उन पर भी इस बजट में रोक लगाई गई है। यों तो हमारे देश में एक्सपेंडीचर टैक्स के रूप में टैक्स नहीं हैं लेकिन इस बार जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया गया है, उस में ऐसे कदम उठाये गये हैं कि एक्सपेंडीचर को, खर्च को अनुशासित किया जाए। इस सदन की पिछले वर्ष बी जो प्रोसीडिंग्स हैं, उन को अगर आप उठा कर देखेंगे, तो आप यह पाएंगे कि हमारी आलोचना, हमारी सरकार की एक खास आलोचना इस विषय पर होती रही है कि खर्च बहुत होते हैं।

[डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी वाजपेयी]

या ऐसे फिजूल खर्चों को रोकना चाहिए। वे पूँजीपति, या व्यवसायी घराने जो कि बहाने बना कर खर्च करते हैं, उनके ऊपर सरकार को रोक लगानी चाहिए। वे माननीय सदस्य यह भी कहते हैं यह सरकार उनसे मिली होती है।

इस तरह के भाव इस सदन में व्यक्त किये जाते रहे हैं और अक्सर सरकार पर यह आरोप लगाया जाता रहा है। जब इस बार माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी और हमारी सरकार की ओर को यह कहा गया कि हमने इस तरह एकस्पेंडीचर पर जो कि चाहे एडवरटाइमेंट या विज्ञापन के बहाने से या अतिथिगण पर खर्च के बहाने से दिखाये जाते हैं और इस तरह से टेक्स बचाने की कोशिश की जाती है, रोक लगाने की और एक विशेष रोक लगाने की कोशिश की है तब भी अगर यह कहा जाए कि बजट के द्वारा पूँजीपतियों की मदद की जा रही है तो मैं यह समझती हूँ कि इस तरह की बात को सोचा नहीं गया, या हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत गंभीरता से इस बात पर विचार नहीं किया।

उधर से यह कहा गया कि वित्त मंत्री जी यह कहते हैं कि कीमतें नहीं बढ़ी हैं और उसके लिए यहाँ आंकड़े प्रस्तुत किये गये जिससे कि यह दर्शाया जा सके कि कीमतें बढ़ी हैं। मैं यह मानती हूँ कि कीमतें कहीं कहीं पर बढ़ी हैं लेकिन मोटे तौर पर हम को यह देखना है कि कितनी कीमतें बढ़ी हैं। होलसेल और रिटेल, प्राइसिज को हमें तुलनात्मक दृष्टिकोण से देखना पड़ेगा। अगर दो या तीन प्रतिशत कीमतें कहीं कहीं घटती या बढ़ती हैं तो इसे कीमतें बढ़ना नहीं कहा जा सकता। कई वस्तुओं में घटी भी

हैं और कुछ वस्तुओं में थोड़ी सी बढ़ी है। इस से हम यह नहीं कह सकते कि हमारी सरकार इस देश में मुद्रास्फीति पर काबू पाने में असफल रही है। बल्कि मैं तो यह समझती थी कि इस बार यह कहा जायेगा कि इतनी कठिनाइयों के बावजूद जबकि देश में पिछले वर्ष भयंकर अकाल की स्थिति रही, हमारे देश के कई कोनों में साइक्लोन और भारी तूफान की वजह से हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था पर जरूर असर पड़ा, हम अपनी अर्थव्यवस्था को एक रास्ते पर ला सके। इसके लिए मैं इस सदन के माननीय सदस्यों से यह अपेक्षा करती थी कि वे इसके लिए सरकार को प्रोत्सा करेंगे।

मैं यह समझती हूँ कि हमें अगर अपनी अर्थव्यवस्था को आगे बढ़ाना है, अगर कीमतों को कम करना है तो हमें अपने उत्पादन को आगे बढ़ाना होगा। उत्पादन को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए इस बजट में वे उपाय किये गये हैं या नहीं किये गये हैं, हमें इस पर ध्यान देना है। अगर वे उपाय किये गये हैं तो मैं समझती हूँ कि यह बजट डवलपमेंट, उद्योग और उत्पादन को बढ़ाने वाला बजट है। इस में कई ऐसी चीजें आई हैं, कई ऐसे उपाय किये गये हैं जिनके कारण उत्पादन बढ़ाने वाला यह बजट है।

मेरी दृष्टि में हमारे देश में आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि हमारे देश में जिनका बहुमत है वे हमारे किसान भाई हैं। किसानों की हालत सुधारने और कृषि की तरक्की के ऊपर हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था की तरक्की काफ़ी निर्भर करती है और इस बात के इस बजट में किसानों की तरक्की, किसानों की हालत सुधारने के लिए काफ़ी उपाय किये गये हैं। उनकी हालत को सुधारने

के लिए प्राथमिकता दी गयी है। 1983-84 वर्ष के बजट में कृषि को आगे बढ़ाने के लिए जो प्रोग्राम रखा गया है, मुझे खुशी है कि उसके लिए 19 प्रतिशत अधिक रकम रखी गयी है पिछले वर्ष के बजट में इस तरह के कामों के लिए रखी गयी राशि से। इससे कृषि की उन्नति होगी। इसके अलावा 125 करोड़ रुपया उन स्टेट्स के लिए स्पेशल इंसेंटिव के रूप में रखा गया है जो कृषि के मामले में अच्छा काम करेंगी। उनको अलग से ग्रांट दी गई है। यह बहुत अच्छा कार्यक्रम है। इससे कृषि के क्षेत्र में तरक्की होगी। बीस सूत्री कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत इंटीग्रेटेड रुरल डेवलपमेंट प्रोग्राम के लिए भी ज्यादा रकम रखी गई है और इसके लिए मैं विशेष रूप से वित्त मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहती हूं कि जो लोग देहाती इलाकों की आर्थिक, सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक उन्नति के लिए पैसा लगाना चाहते हैं उनको इनकम टैक्स में छूट दी गई है। प्राइम मिनिस्टर फण्ड के जरिए भी इसको प्रोत्साहन देने की व्यवस्था की गई है। यह कोई किसी एक व्यक्ति को छूट नहीं दी गई है, बल्कि पूरे समाज की तरक्की के लिए यह किया गया है। इसके जरिये व्यक्तिगत चीजों को हम सामाजिक रूप देने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं।

अभी तक एग्रीकल्चर सैक्टर में इनकम टैक्स, बैलथ टैक्स में छूट थी अब साथ ही साथ स्टेट ड्यूटीज में भी छूट दे दी गई है। इस घोषणा का मैं स्वागत करती हूं। इससे कृषि की उन्नति के रास्ते खुलेंगे और किसानों को बहुत फायदा होगा। माजिनल किसान और साधारण किसान को इससे बहुत फायदा होगा। इसके अलावा कृषि के काम में आने वाले इन-पुट्स, जिनका असर अनाज की कीमतों पर पड़ता है, फर्टीलाइजर, पानी, बिजली

का पैसा किसान को देना पड़ता है। इस बात को ध्यान में रखते कैलशियम, अमोनियम नाइट्रेट आदि जो फर्टीलाइजर थे, इनको एक्साइज ड्यूटी में छूट दी गई है और सब्सिडी को भी बढ़ाया गया है।

14. hrs.

एग्रीकल्चरल इनपुट्स की बात मैं कर रही थी। सिचाई सुविधाओं को बढ़ाने के लिए पावर जेनरेशन को ज्यादा बढ़ाया गया है और इस कार्यक्रम को बीस सूत्री कार्यक्रम में जोड़ दिया गया है। थर्मल पावर स्टेशनों की कैपेसिटी को ज्यादा बढ़ाने की कोशिश की जा रही है। करीब-करीब 45 से 47 तक शायद इससे ज्यादा ही आगे बढ़ेंगे हैं। इससे यह पता चलता है कि जो भविष्य के लिए देश की आर्थिक व्यवस्था हम बनाने जा रहे हैं और पिछले वर्षों में जो हमारा इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर बिगड़ गया था, सरकार ने आने के बाद उसको ठीक किया। इस वर्ष भी सही दिशा में अपनी आर्थिक व्यवस्था को ला रहे हैं। हमारे कुछ माननीय सदस्यों को जो इसको नहीं देख पा रहे हैं उनको ऐसा लगता है कि हम आर्थिक व्यवस्था को बिल्कुल ही बिगाड़ रहे हैं या उसको खत्म करने पर लगे हुए हैं। मैं सदन का ध्यान विशेष रूप से एक बात की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं। प्राइमरी-कोऑपरेटिव्स, ग्रायल सीइस, वैंजोटेबल्स आदि ऐसी चीजें हैं जिनका ग्रामीण जीवन पर असर पड़ने वाला है। इसका असर साधारण मनुष्यों के जीवन पर भी पड़ता है। हम कहते हैं कि सब्जी अण्डा, तेल, एडोबल आयल मंहंगे हैं इसलिए ये चीजें कामन मैन को ठीक दाम पर मिलनी चाहिए। साथ ही साथ इस बात की भी आवश्यकता है कि हम लोगों को मकान सही कीमत पर

[डा० राजेन्द्र कुमारी वाजपेयी]

दे सकें। इस बजट में हाउस बिल्डिंग प्रोग्राम को भी इसेन्टिव देने के लिए विशेष प्रावधान किया गया है और इसमें छूट भी दी गई है। सरकार ने बजट बनाते समय इस बात का ध्यान रखा है कि यह भारत के साधारण लोगों का बजट हो जिससे उन्हें रिलीफ मिल सके।

14.02 hrs

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi in the Chair]

जो लेवो शुगर है उसको हम फेअर प्राइस शाप्स से निश्चित कीमत पर बेचते हैं और साधारण जनता उसको निश्चित कीमत पर खरीदती है। सरकार ने पिछले वर्ष जो चीनी दी है उससे चीनी की कीमत भी कम हुई है। सरकार ने केरोसीन तेल के लिए 70 प्रतिशत भाव नीचे रखा जिससे कि और 30 प्रतिशत अगर रहेगा तो थोड़ी सी कीमत बढ़ेगी लेकिन यह जो 70 प्रतिशत है यह देश के साधारण, गरीब और गांव के लोगों के लिए है जो मिट्टी के तेल से लालटेन जलाते हैं। यह कहना गलत है कि मिट्टी के तेल की कीमत को सरकार ने बढ़ाया है। सवाल इस बात का है कि हम डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन को और अच्छा बनाएं। मुझे आशा है कि सरकार की ओर से इस बात पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जायेगा क्योंकि यह भी 20 प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम का एक हिस्सा है।

हमारे छोटे और बड़े उद्योगों की जो नीति है वह आज की नहीं है। यह नीति हम लोगों ने आवादी के बाद से ही निर्धारित की थी। आज हम मिक्सड इकानामी की बात करते हैं और पब्लिक तथा प्राइवेट सेक्टर दोनों को लेकर चलते हैं। हमारी नीति साफ है कि बड़े-बड़े

उद्योगों के साथ स्माल स्केल इन्डस्ट्रीज को बढ़ावा मिलना चाहिए। उसके लिए हमारी निश्चित नीति है और इस बार जो बजट आया है उसमें भी यह दिया हुआ है।

उनके लिये विशेष छूट भी दी गई है और वह टी 5 से चले इसके लिये उपाय भी किये गये हैं। मैं ऐसा मानती हूँ कि लोगों को स्माल स्केल इन्डस्ट्रीज के बारे में कुछ गलतफहमियाँ हैं जो साढ़े 7 लाख से 5 लाख लिमिट की गई है इससे उनको नुकसान होगा। लेकिन उसके साथ साथ जो 25 लाख तक लिमिट को बढ़ाकर के फर्क किया गया है उससे ज्यादा फायदा होने वाला है। तो हमारी नीति को तोड़ मरोड़ कर जनता के बीच में रखने से कोई लाभ नहीं होने वाला है।

दूसरी महत्वपूर्ण चीज यह है कि पहली बार इस बजट में रखा गया है और कहा गया है कि हमारे उद्योग केवल बड़े बड़े शहरों में न रहें क्योंकि पहले ही बड़े शहरों में प्रदूषण की समस्या है, गन्दगी है तथा अन्य प्रकार की समस्याएँ हैं, इसलिये उद्योगों को गाँवों की तरफ ले जाना है और उसके लिये प्रयास करना है। बम्बई, कलकत्ता से दूर ले जायें छोटे छोटे जिलों में जिससे लोगों को रोजगार मिले और बड़े शहरों की तरफ लोग न आयें। हमारा प्रदेश कृषि प्रधान और पिछड़ा है जहाँ उद्योगों की काफी कमी है और बहुत से जिलों में लोगों को कृषि से भी इतनी आमदनी नहीं होती है जिससे अपना जीवन यापन कर सकें। इसलिये उनके ज्यादा काम के जरिये मिलने चाहिये। अब हमने यह कोशिश की है बैंक तो 5 पंचायत के बीच में अगली पंचवर्षीय योजना तक

पहुँच जायें, किसान समझने लगे हैं कि बक द्वारा कैसे काम होना चाहिये, तो हमारी यह कोशिश है कि उद्योगों को भी गांवों तक ले जायें ताकि पिछड़े हुए इलाकों में ही लोगों को रोजगार उपलब्ध हो और यह शहरों की तरफ न भागें। उत्तर प्रदेश में 45 से 55 प्रतिशत तक लोग पबर्टी लाइन के नीचे हैं। ऐसे जिलों में उद्योग ले जाने की आवश्यकता है। अगर बड़े शहरों में ही उद्योग रहते हैं तो आल राउन्ड तरक्की नहीं हो सकती है। इसलिये जो यह योजना है कि पिछड़े हुए इलाकों और ग्रामीण अंचलों में उद्योगों को ले जायेंगे इसके लिये सरकार बधाई की पत्र है और मुझे आशा है कि इसको पूरी तरह से लागू किया जायेगा और किसी बात से प्रभावित नहीं होंगे, बल्कि यही बात सामने रहेगी कि गांवों में जो बेरोजगारी फैला हुई है उसको दूर किया जाय।

अगर बड़े उद्योग लगाये जाते हैं तो इसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि छोटे उद्योग खत्म हो जायेंगे। बल्कि और ज्यादा छोटे और ऐसिलियरी उद्योग खुलेंगे। मुझे आशा है कि कोऑर्डिनेटेड तरीके से औद्योगीकरण का बहुत बड़ा लाभ लोगों को होने जा रहा है।

जो टैक्स का स्ट्रक्चर सामने आया है डायरेक्ट और इन्डायरेक्ट, जिसके बारे में मार्कसिस्ट पार्टी के माननीय सदस्य बता रहे थे कि आई० एम० एफ० का बड़ा प्रभाव है, और आखिर में जो उन्होंने कहा उससे ऐसा लगता था कि वह अपनी पार्टी की पालिट ब्यूरो की क्लास से उठ कर आये थे और घिसीपिटी बातें ही कह रहे थे। आज भारत बहुत आगे बढ़ चुका है, और यह कहना कि हमने ऐसी आर्थिक व्यवस्था बना दी है। जिससे देश टुकड़े टुकड़े हो जायेगा,

पोलिटिकली देश को एक नहीं रख पा रहे हैं..... और गरीबी के कगार में हमारा पूरा देश बँटा जा रहा है, यह जो उन्होंने आखिर में बात कही, उससे ऐसा लगा कि यह देश में एक बड़ी निराशा का वातावरण फैलाना चाहते हैं लेकिन मैं माननीय सदस्य से बड़े अदब के साथ यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि हमारा देश एक सुनियोजित योजना के अन्तर्गत आगे बढ़ता जा रहा है और आगे बढ़ता चला जायेगा। उन्हें निराश होने की आवश्यकता नहीं है क्योंकि हमारी आर्थिक व्यवस्था सही रास्ते पर चल रही है। इस सही रेल और सही रास्ते पर चलते हुए हमने जिस समाजवादी व्यवस्था की कल्पना भारत में की है, उस पर हम आगे बढ़ते जायेंगे।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करना चाहती हूँ।

SHRI G. L. DOGRA (Jammu): Sir, I am very grateful to you for permitting me to speak on the General Discussion on the Budget.

I congratulate both the Finance Minister and the Government. In spite of the fact that there are unprecedented natural calamities—drought, cyclone etc.—and the difficult conditions that we are experiencing—our sea has been disturbed, rather it has become a base for foreign powers and the Himalaya no longer is our sentinel. We have to spend huge amounts on defence, but still Finance Minister has presented a very good Budget. We have to incur a heavy expenditure on the Army, on the military preparedness and on our Defence. But inspite of that, the Government has been able to maintain and step up production in those areas which are not hard hit. The Finance Minister has taken pains to take the House into confidence that in spite of these tragedies which the nation is facing, he has indicated what we

[Shri G. L. Dogra]

have been able to achieve—achieve a lot!

I am very sorry that Shri Maitra who is a friend of mine delivered a speech, partly a speech which he should have delivered last year and partly a speech which he probably delivered on the basis of notes for the Public Accounts Committee of which he is a Member and I am also a Member. Those issues came to our notice not because somebody from the Opposition raised it but because of the study conducted by the Government agencies, the study conducted by the Auditor General. All those points that he raised have almost been settled.

Probably, he was talking about the monopoly houses; he was talking about no-tax liability; he was talking about charitable trusts; and he was talking about the exemption of trusts for perpetuity. These things came to the notice of the Public Accounts Committee, as I put it, on the basis of a study conducted by the Auditor General and on the basis of examination, amendments in the exemption orders have been issued and this perpetual character has been withdrawn. Not only that. Our Finance Minister, in the present Budget, has taken steps to see that the money which the trusts are holding is either put in the Government treasury or invested in a manner that the money cannot be taken out of misused by those people who have created the trust. We have seen it and we still ignore it. I think, Mr. Maitra's criticism was something between "unfair" and "malicious" I do not know what to call it. He was saying that nothing has been done. He should not have stated it here. It is unfair for a Member of Parliament to say a thing in regard to which he knows that steps have been taken to solve that problem.

So far as wealth-tax and income tax are concerned, it is true that the big industrial houses are taking advantage of various exemptions. It was on the basis of study of the Parliamentary Committee, that is, the Public Accounts Committee. The Finance Minister has taken steps that at least 30 per cent of their profits are subjected to

tax. So far as close companies or other companies are concerned, he has also taken steps that their wealth is also taxed, maybe at 2 per cent. He has taken these steps after making a study. The mind of the Finance Minister is open. I think if he can he will go further. To say that no steps have been taken in very unfair. The hon. Member, Shri Maitra, should have said that we brought it to the notice of the Government; the Government favourably reacted to it and the Government proceeded on the proper lines. They have started doing things which should have been done.

It is a fact that most of our resources are invested either in big industries or in agriculture. So far as big industries are concerned, the Finance Minister has moved and, I think, he will continue to make a study and see that, if he can move further, he will do so. I have no doubt about it.

So far as agriculture is concerned, the Government have put in a lot of resources, a lot of inputs, in agriculture. I do not want an agriculturist to be taxed. But at the same time, so far as saving is concerned, some resources must be generated by agricultural sector also. Agriculture is not fulfilling its responsibility. Agriculture is making fantastic demands on the economy. Agriculture in this country which is a very large country, which is largely an agricultural country and its backward areas are also agricultural, is not absorbing the bulk of population as it used to absorb, so far as employment is concerned. Today, agriculture has been mechanised. The people who are living in the villages do not find employment. From tilling to harvesting, all processes are mechanised in big farms. The people have to rush to some other places to find employment.

Under our social welfare programmes and 20-point economic programmes, the whole burden is shifted to the Centre. Everybody makes criticism against the Centre. All those who are possessing big farms—the bulk of the land, I think, has been created by nature for all the human beings—say. 'You do not provide house

sites to the weaker sections." Is it possible for the Centre or is it possible for us to fritter away all the resources in purchasing the land and market value. The market value has reached sky-high. It is possible to purchase some land at cheap price and give it to the landless people who have no house sites. It should be done. But it is the duty of the State Governments to purchase the land at a price at which they can do and at a price which is a certain multiple of land revenue, and the people, who are deprived of their employment in their villages should at least be given house sites. Therefore, the Centre and the State Government should have the power to acquire the land for providing houses to those people who have no houses to live in. But the State Governments are not definitely doing it because mostly the ministries are named by landlords. In our State, we made a law to give a dwelling place to a person who has no house site for acquiring land by paying 15 times the land revenue payable on that land. It is true that for small and marginal farmers, we were not purchasing the land. This is the way you can give house-sites to the deserving people.

But the agricultural sector is not fulfilling its responsibilities towards the nation.

I am an agriculturist. I come from an agricultural family. Though personally I belong to the profession of law. My family has land. I therefore know about the agriculture sector.

There were land reforms in our State. But they did not render the landlord poorer. They are also not exploiting the poor people. They are engaged in useful professions. Land reforms may not be possible now. But I must say that we must be able to make the agriculturist save something. It has been mentioned in the speech of the Finance Minister that certain steps were taken to make realisation from the tax on land but failed. These steps failed because it is the State Government who has to help the Central Government and the people who are at the helm of affairs in the States, who are running those States, they themselves are land-

lords and they do not want to pay anything. That is why the efforts of the Finance Minister failed. The State has to pay a lot to purchase the land and when the question of taxation comes, it yields nothing at all. After all, somebody must take the responsibility for that. Somebody will have to go into it.

I only say that so far as compulsory saving is concerned, it should apply to the agriculture sector also. Other things should be gone into properly by a Study team. The Study team should not consist of landlords and landlords' sons but the people who do not come from agrarian families. It is not possible for the industry, howsoever you may develop it, to absorb the whole of the population of India.

There is no doubt that some concessions have been given to the small scale industry. I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to the small scale industry, particularly that in the backward areas, and request him to reconsider whether it is possible to give some more concessions.

You have raised in Item 68 the level of turnover to Rs. 40 lakhs from Rs. 30 lakhs but exemption is up to Rs. 30 lakhs.

So far as Explanations contained in the Budget proposals are concerned, I find that exemption is only up to Rs. 30 lakhs. We have to see whether that will serve the purpose. In my opinion it is necessary to go further.

But it is the small-scale industry, not the agriculture sector, which can absorb the people.

It is the small scale industry which can carry the development to the backward areas.

It is the small scale industry which will give hope to the unemployed graduates and other unemployed persons whether educated or uneducated.

It is the small scale industry which can give employment even to uneducated and

[Shri. G. L. Dogra]

semi-educated people if those units are established in rural areas.

It is small-scale industry which only can stop the influx of the population to the cities from the villages. So this is another point which I wanted to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister. I welcome the dual price system. I wish it is carried further. Now, Sir, the Food Corporation gives foodgrains firstly to all those flour mills which grind flour for commercial purposes and to that extent, the public distribution system which is meant for the poor people suffers sometimes. It is not the responsibility of the State to give wheat to the mills which grind the flour for commercial purposes. What do they do? They prepare suji, maida and other things and sell them separately and make huge profits. How are we bound to give it to them? This is one thing which should be avoided. As far as Food Corporation is concerned, it should supply either wheat or atta through the public distribution system to the people at large and particularly to the poor people and people living below the poverty line. Sometimes we say we have not enough of stocks. These mills should be asked to go to the open market. If we want to help the grower and hold the price line, it is not Mr Maitra's formula which is right. He says you pay more outside and you pay less here. He should know the mechanism of determining the prices. Either his ignorance of the economic principle, or desire to instigate the farmers has made him to say this. Otherwise, if you want to help the grower, these mills which purchase for commercial purposes should be asked to go to the market and let them pay a higher price and get the foodgrains because they sell their foodstuffs in the free market at any price they like. These points should be studied. To me it appears rational and it will reduce the liability of our government so far as our responsibility of wheat is concerned.

Then recently dual price system has been announced for kerosene. It is a welcome thing. It was announced by the Minister-in-charge that we give kerosene

oil to the ration-card holders at a lower price and others will get at a higher price. That is a good thing. But I am told that the consumption of last year for every State is being repeated as quota. The result is that there was a mixture of supply of both types. Unless we are able to sell freely high price kerosene to people who are not domestic consumers and who are not ration-card holders, there may be shortage and people who need it for commercial purposes, the people who need it for making money and people who need for black-marketing, will be able to get against the ration-cards of the poor people and they will collude with the distributors and will store kerosene and indulge in black-marketing.

Therefore, I request that let the price be high. We should have something for the open market separately. Whatever be meant for the ration cards, that should be distributed through public distribution system. The kerosene oil meant for the poor should be distributed through the public distribution system. But, wherever that is not existing, it should be distributed through the cooperative societies and through such other organisations which are set up by Government.

Sir, I am not recounting all that has been said by the Finance Minister in his speech because it is an excellent attempt made by him to revive our economy. I say that it is an excellent attempt to strengthen our production system. It is an excellent attempt to help the poor people. But, my request to him is that we should pay a little more attention to the common man. So far as income-tax is concerned, he has made an attempt to help the Government servant in so far as his personal income-tax is concerned. You go on raising the rate of tax even upto income of Rs. 60,000 per annum. For the slab of Rs. 25,000 to 30,000 the income-tax rate has been raised by one per cent, that is from 34 per cent to 35 per cent which is harsh. I say that the middle-class is a very important class. To save the economy is another thing and to save the people from the pressure of economy is a different thing. To me, the middle class is a very important class.

If we pressurise those who are honest or who want to be honest, we throw them on wrong path. For those who want to be honest, how can you expect them to be so if you make their lives miserable. The parallel economy continues to operate, whatever be the amount of rates of tax that you may have, it is not possible for you to fight parallel economy unless you bring down the rates. We must help people in the middle income group. You have been giving concessions after concessions to the big industries and to agriculture. But, so far as these small persons, the middle-class persons are concerned, something more liberal should be done.

I would now like to draw your attention to some more things pertaining to my State.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dogra, you have already taken twenty minutes.

SHRI G. L. DOGRA: I will just finish. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to the problems which we are facing in our State. Government is facing the rehabilitation problems of refugees from Pakistan — from Pakistan held area of the State and such refugees have been rehabilitated anywhere else. So far as my State is concerned, they are in a very sad plight. There are refugees of 1947, of 1965 and also of 1971. It is true that their problems are created by the State Government by passing a law which is now before the Supreme Court. But, at the same time, these poor people are living starvation life. So, something will have to be done and some more attention will have to be paid. There was a Parliamentary Committee which made certain recommendations. I do not know whether these could be implemented now or later. We may be told to await for the decision on this Bill which is before the Supreme Court. Somebody will have to go into it. Uncertainty creates some disorder. I say that the Congress government has been helping them. Congress (I) will continue to help them. But, at the same time, we also have to make it clear that their case is under the active and sympathetic consideration of the Central Government and either immediately or

some time later, something is going to be done. Otherwise, it would be very difficult to face these people. The State Government is not rehabilitating them. They deserve our sympathy and they deserve our help. Something should be done for them.

My other point is about drinking water supply. The Finance Minister also has laid stress on drinking water supply. Something more should be done in this regard in every State in those areas for providing cheaper to the people wherever it is possible.

Sir, so far as generation of electricity is concerned more stress should be laid on it and I would request the hon. Finance Minister to see to it that so far as hydro generation projects are concerned which are under construction more attention should be paid to them because the water that we are losing will not come back.

Sir, there is a great potential for generation of hydro power in my State and also in Himachal Pradesh. We are short of electricity and the resources are lying unutilised. So, immediate attention should be paid to it. Since you want me to conclude I will conclude with these words that I support the budget. I again congratulate the Finance Minister for making a very useful attempt and since Mr. Maitra has come back, I say again that his speech was somewhere between being unfair and malicious. I would not like to call it malicious but I would call it unfair.

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central): Sir, I rise to submit a few of my view points on the budget for the year 1983-84.

The whole country was eagerly expecting the hon. Finance Minister to present a very intelligent and beneficial budget so that the country may be lifted out of the morass of despondency and declining economic activities brought about by an accumulation of past neglect and failure of policies. The whole country was looking up to the hon. Finance Minister to provide a comprehensive budget which is functionally sound but the hon. Finance Minister—

■Dr. A. Kalanidhi]

though he worked very hard on the budget—produced a budget which does not bear much credit to his hard work. Instead of the budget being a lofty and attractive document giving solace and succour to the masses, it has turned out to be a tame and humdrum affair.

The budget for the year 1983-84 take pride that it is production-oriented and that it does not affect the common man by its excluding the goods of the common consumption from the tax net. This is but a mirage. The ways by which the hon. Finance Minister has imposed levies to net Rs. 716 crores of additional revenue and his resort to Rs. 1555 crores of deficit financing completely belie the objective.

The levy on cement has been raised from Rs. 130 to Rs. 205 per tonne. This is expected to yield Rs. 182 crores. It may sound as a very laudable proposal that cement used for big buildings is taxed and that it falls on richer groups but it has very horrendous implications. It will initiate a slump in the building trade and the consequent unemployment for un-specialised labour that is usually employed in this trade. Beside, it prevents the middle-class from having any lurking ambition to construct or own a house. It will push up the cost of housing in urban areas and also the urban rents. I would have appreciated the hon. Finance Minister, if he had avoided the levy and encouraged by his policies, additional production in the cement industry, so that they may add to their capacities and check the amounting scarcity of the product.

The import duty on Viscose Staple Fibre has been raised. So also the levy on Polyester filament yarn.

The hon. Finance Minister is working on a false impression that these Viscose Yarn and Polyester yarn products are used by the higher income groups. At a time when cotton textiles are costly, the man-made fibres are the only resource available to the common man to clothe himself. The man-made fibre textiles have

come into common usage. If the hon. Finance Minister has got in his heart the real interest of the common man, he would have avoided the levy and made the man-made fibre products cheaper. In a Budget of mammoth proportions as this year's budget, the paltry collection of Rs. 14.6 crores from this man-made fibre is unwarranted.

I cannot even appreciate the hon. Finance Minister in his Income-tax proposals.

He has made a big claim that for the first slab, Rs. 15,001 to Rs. 20,000 the tax will be 25 per cent instead of 30 per cent. The ceiling on standard deductions has been raised from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 6000.

As a consequence there will be some relief to income earners in the first slab. The relief is very meagre. The relief is not very high. It ranges from Rs. 49 to Rs. 244. For this hard pressed group there should have been a generous relief. Why not the hon. Finance Minister save the group of the first slab by making a bold decision to raise the exemption limit to Rs. 20,000?

After all, the Budget is not mainly dependent upon income-tax. Income-tax fetches only a negligible 2 per cent of the total tax revenue. What is lost by way of relief for the first slab may be easily made good by suitable readjustments in subsequent slabs.

The gimmicks which the hon. Finance Minister has introduced in the Budget, viz., the tax-exemption of excise duty on pressure cookers and kerosene stoves are not going to give any relief to the common man. Perhaps they may cater to the peculiar interests which produce and market these products. While you have removed the excise duty on kerosene stove, you have increased the kerosene price before the Budget. This is just like 'pinching the baby and rocking the cradle'.

The provision for higher baggage allowance in the Budget is only catering to the vociferous groups. What does this

baggage contain?—Soaps, Scents, Cigarette-lighters, Sony Casette Tapes, Textile bits, collapsible umbrellas and electronic nick-nacks. The Arabian visitors bring the baggage containing these items and offer them for sale at the super-bazaar. I want to tell the hon. Finance Minister that the Super Bazaar is the smugglers' den.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Here or markets all over India?

DR. A. KALANIDHI: All over India.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Pollachi): Particularly in Tamil Nadu.

DR. A. KALANIDHI: If the Finance Minister is aware of it, I am quite happy. Goods are sold at fancy prices. Illegal profits are earned. Incidentally it vitiates the morals and outlook of the people who have a craze for things which are foreign.

I ask the Finance Minister why he has given the go-by to the Congress ideology of 'Swadeshi'?

However, the Budget has got some saving graces. It has reduced the Bank Rate. Perhaps it may give incentives to industries. Wealth tax on closely held companies is a welcome measure. It will have an effect of checking quite an amount of evasion. The hon. Finance Minister has also decided to give up the Estate Duty on agricultural lands. But I wonder how the States are going to substitute for this Estate Duty by legislating individually on this subject. It may lead to quite an amount of inequities.

I wish to impress upon the Hon Finance Minister that the Budget has not taken into account the need of the hour. The country is passing through a stressful period due to failure of monsoons and acute energy scarcities. The industrialists are facing recessionary trends. Has this Budget faced these trends directly and tried to solve the problems created by these trends?

Sir, this Budget is a prosaic, conventional exercise.

The Budget has made some pious provisions for the Department of Science and Technology, for Research Programmes, for Energy Development, and for the establishment of 75,000 Family Size Bio-gas Units. This is merely a surface scratch. You have not included the Medical Science under the Science and Technology Department. Medical Science and Technology should be included in the Department of Science and Technology and it should be taken over by the Hon'ble Prime Minister herself so that more concentration could be given on the latest development of equipments and drugs. Sir, I am feeling happy that the Finance Minister has not taxed the drugs since he knows taxing the drugs is taxing the patients.

Sir, in the drought stricken areas of Tamilnadu and the South, there is acute scarcity of food materials and a virtual breakdown of the Distribution System and official machinery. The Budget should have squarely tackled these problems. Unfortunately the Budget is closing its eyes on these problems. It will allow the problem to assume vast dimensions, which will engulf the areas already seething with discontent and disharmony.

Now, the total revenue receipt is Rs. 20,010 crores, while the revenue disbursement is Rs. 22,418 crores. The revenue deficit is Rs. 1793 crores. On Capital Account there is a surplus of Rs. 238 crores which leaves an overall deficit of Rs. 1,555 crores. This amount is massive inflation. Compared to the previous years' deficits the amount is phenomenally high. In 1982-83, the actual deficit was Rs. 293 crores. Even with smaller deficits in 1979-80, the general rise in price level was 20 per cent, in 1980-81 it was 16.7 per cent, in 1981-82, it was 10 per cent I fear that with the drought and falling productivity, there will be a steep rise in prices, bordering upon run-away inflation. The Hon. Finance Minister has not held out any assurance that the inflation will be curbed and that the price level will be kept under check.

[Dr. A. Kalanidhi]

Sir, Tamilnadu is sliding down in all economic aspects. For the last fifteen years, no industry worth the name has been started in Tamil Nadu under Plan Projects. Tamil Nadu does not lack in infra-structure and intelligent manpower. It has got high literacy also. Only the Centre is not wisely harnessing all these facilities for the general good of the country and for the particular progress of Tamil Nadu. We are entirely at a loss to understand the interference of the political leanings in economic decisions. Economic decisions should be impartial and should be arrived at in a dispassionate way. I shall restrict myself by saying that the Hon. Finance Minister should avoid the clouding of his mind by political ideologies at a time when important decisions should be arrived at for the development of the regions.

On this occasion, I should however thank the Hon'ble Finance Minister as well as the Hon'ble Railway Minister and the Hon'ble Prime Minister for including the Rapid Transit System for Madras in the current year. The transport system in Madras is breaking at the seams. I request the hon. Finance Minister not to falter in his steps in the execution of the Rapid Transit System with all due speed.

Sir, while framing the Fifth Five Year Plan, the Chief Ministers of the States were called to give their consent and my Party Leader, Dr. Kalaigina M. Karunanidhi who was the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu did not give his consent or approval as it did not contain the Salem Steel Plant. Subsequently, after a couple of days, the present Prime Minister who was the then Prime Minister immediately announced the inclusion of Salem Steel Plant in the Sixth Five Plan. But unfortunately the Government had changed and that Government was lethargic in getting this Project implemented. I have no words to describe about the present State Government of Tamil Nadu except to say that they are well known for lethargy and laziness. The Steel Plant has been reduced to a Steel Re-rolling

Mill, due to the inefficiency of the successor Government of Tamil Nadu

Sir, Tamilnadu is totally neglected. You can verify it from the list which I submit in this House.

But leave alone the politics, on behalf of DMK, I would request the Finance Minister to kindly go through the following list of schemes being delayed in Tamil Nadu.

Sethusamudram Canal Project

Pamban Bridge Project

Karur-Dindigul-Tuticorin Broadgauge Railway line

Petro-chemical complex at Madras

Kalpakkam Atomic Power Project

Broadgauge Electric Railway line from Madras beach to Tambaram

Ganga-Cauvery link Canal

Early settlement of Cauvery water dispute

Expansion of Telecommunication Workshop of Railways at Poddanur

Colour Photo Film Industry, Ooty.

BEL Unit for Defence oriented equipment's at Avadi. Apart from these projects, there are many more projects and schemes including the off-shore drilling projects in Tamil Nadu.

To the people in Delhi, Madras is far off. The problems of Madras are not acutely felt in Delhi as problems of Chandigarh and Gauhati. But when the actual misery bursts out either by way of breakdown of drinking water supply, civil supplies machinery or the transport system or the supply of energy, the people of the metropolis will not be taking things lying down. In Madras, the people are getting water once in ten days, and we are paying Rs. 120/- per 12000 litres of water. Our ladies stand in the queues for hours together to get rice. They stand in queues from early 1.00 a.m. to 4 a.m. to get one bucket of water. That is the situation.

As I said, we have said on many occasions that the suppressed minds always bursts forth. This budget should have contained proposals to alleviate misery wherever it is felt.

Finally, I request the Finance Minister not to be carried away by his pipe-dreams, that he has presented a very sound, attractive, useful, popular budget. He must ponder over the implications of the budget and judge whether his proposals can rectify things in a situation which is tense with educated unemployment, high prices and lack of productivity. I only request him to take stock of the budget at least in the middle of the year and rectify its drawbacks in a proper way. A mid-term appraisal is necessary and I request him to accept this proposal.

With these words, I congratulate the Finance Minister for the merits in his budget; I have also offered an honest criticism as a friend in a sincere way, wherever I noticed certain defects.

श्री सिरधारी लाल व्यास (भीलवाड़ा) :
सभापति महोदय, माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय ने जो बजट प्रस्तुत किया है उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ और निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो कन्सेप्शन्स उन्होंने दिये हैं उनके सम्बन्ध में चन्द सुझाव मेरे हैं, वह मैं आप के सामने रखता हूँ।

मेरा एक सुझाव यह है कि मने पिछली दफा भी कहा था कि जो पैसा मजदूरों से लिया जाता है वह चाहे प्रे.वी.डेंट फंड के नाम से हो या ई.0.एस.0.आई.0 के नाम से उसको पूँजीपति लोग अपने पास जमा कर लेते हैं जबकि कायदा यह है कि जितना मजदूरों से कांटा है उतना ही अपना शेयर मिलायें और उसको जमा करायें। मगर ऐसा न कर के दो, तीन साल तक लाखों रु० की तादाद में वह पैसा जमा नहीं करते हैं। और जब सरकार की तरफ से नोटिस मिलता है कि इतना पैसा बंकाया है उसके बाद भी जमा नहीं कराते हैं और उनके खिलाफ कोई कानूनी कार्यवाही नहीं होती है। उनका जो प्रोसी-क्यूशन होना चाहिये, गबन का केस लगना

चाहिये वह कुछ नहीं होता है। इस प्रकार का जो पैसा मजदूरों का अपने पास पूँजीपति रख लेते हैं इसके सम्बन्ध में आपने कार्यवाही करने को बजट प्रोजेक्त्स में कहा है। मेरी माँग है कि वह पैसा उनके पास न रह कर सरकारी खजाने में जमा हो। मजदूर का पैसा अपने पास रख लेते हैं और खुद का जो हिस्सा बराबर का होता है उसके सम्बन्ध में कोई व्यौरा नहीं है इसलिये कानूनी कार्यवाही तो बड़े लोगों के खिलाफ नहीं होती है, न उनका प्रोसीक्यूशन होता है, मगर इस प्रकार का डिडकट किया हुआ पैसा अगर सरकार के खजाने में आये... उसके जरिये से इस प्रकार के लोगों या मजदूरों को फायदा मिल सके तो निश्चित तरीके से आपको कदम उठाने चाहियें।

आपने एक तीसरा कदम बहुत अच्छा उठाया है जिसके लिये मैं आपको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। बड़े-बड़े पूँजीपतियों के बारे में आपने अच्छा कदम उठाया है, इसके बारे में आप ने कहा है कि— expenditure particularly on travelling, advertisement and the like,

इन पर जो खर्चा किया जाता है, उसको आपने बन्द किया और उस पर टैक्स लगाया। आपने कहा कि इसका एक्सपेंडीचर घटना चाहिये, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो मोनोपली हाउसेज हैं या दूसरे पब्लिक सैक्टर के लोग हैं खासतौर से जो बड़े-बड़े अधिकारी हैं, वह कितना पैसा गैस्ट हाउसेज, एंटरटेनमेंट, एडवर्टाइजमेंट और अन्य प्रकार के खर्चों पर करते हैं इस तरफ ध्यान देना चाहिये। वे लोग मनचाहे तरीके से पैसा बर्बाद करते हैं। इस पर रोक लगाने की व्यवस्था की आवश्यकता है। वे लोग फर्जी आंकड़े प्रस्तुत करके इस देश का बहुत सारा पैसा इस्तेमाल करते हैं। फारेन में चाहे जो खर्चा करें वह सारा इंडस्ट्री और पब्लिक सैक्टर या प्राइवेट सैक्टर के नाम पर करते हैं। इस पर नितान्त रूप से ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है और इस तरीके से बहुत सा पैसा बचाया जा सकता है। इस पर आपने कदम उठाया है,

[श्री शिरधारी लाल व्यास]

लेकिन और सख्ती से आपको कदम उठाना चाहिये।

एक निवेदन मैं यह करना चाहता हूँ कि आपने इन कुलक्स पर बड़ी कृपा कर दी है। पिछली बार भी आपने इन पर से वैल्यू टैक्स खत्म कर दिया था और इस बार एस्टेट ड्यूटी टैक्स और समाप्त कर दिया है। क्या आप इन लोगों को, जिनके पास हजारों बीघा जमीन है, बिल्कुल छूट देना चाहते हैं? क्या उन पर कोई टैक्स नहीं लगेगा? आज करोड़ों रुपये की आमदनी इनके पास है। यह राजे-महाराजे, और बड़े-बड़े पूंजीपति लोग हैं जिनके पास इतना धन है कि कुछ कहा नहीं जा सकता। उस काले धन को आप किस तरह से निकालना चाहते हैं? एक तरफ काला धन आप समाप्त करना चाहते हैं और दूसरी तरफ इन बड़े-बड़े लैंडलार्ड्स को, कुलक्स को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। आपके पास चाहे थोड़ा ही पैसा आता हो, आपने कहा है कि इसमें इतना थोड़ा पैसा आता है कि हमारा खर्चा भी उससे पूरा नहीं हो सकता। मगर मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब समाजवादी व्यवस्था में आप विश्वास करते हैं तो इसमें चाहे 2 करोड़ आये, 10 या 12 करोड़ आये, जो भी आयेगा वह हमारे काम करने वाले मजदूरों और वर्कर्स पर खर्च हो सकता है। इससे क्या नुकसान हो सकता है? इसलिये इसका छोड़ना उचित नहीं है।

मैंने पिछली बार भी कहा था कि आपने जो इन पर वैल्यू टैक्स छोड़ा, वह ठीक कदम नहीं था और अब जो एस्टेट ड्यूटी छोड़ी है यह भी ठीक कदम नहीं है। इन लोगों के गलत कारनामों से जो काला धन इन्होंने जोड़ा है अगर आप उसको समाप्त करना चाहते हैं तो निश्चित तरीके से इनसे सख्ती के साथ टैक्स वसूल किया जाना चाहिये।

इसके अलावा आपने जो और बहुत-सारी छूटें दी हैं, उनका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। आपने

ऐसे कदम उठाये हैं, जिससे हमारे देश की आर्थिक स्थिति मजबूत बनेगी और हम स्वाभिमानी होकर आगे बढ़ सकेंगे। जो आपने इस बारे में प्रयत्न किया है, उसके लिये मैं आपको विशेष तौर से मुबारकबाद देना चाहता हूँ।

15.00 hrs.

अभी हमारे कम्युनिस्ट भाई लैंड-रिफार्म के बारे में कह रहे थे कि कांग्रेस ने इस बारे में कुछ नहीं किया। मैं कहता हूँ कि यह लैंड रिफार्म कांग्रेस की ही देन है। उनकी उस समय पैदाइश भी नहीं हुई थी, जब कांग्रेस ने लैंड रिफार्म का काम अपने हाथ में उठाया था। इस काम में कमी हो सकती है, मगर इसका जितना श्रेय कांग्रेस को मिलना चाहिये वह किसी और को नहीं मिल सकता है। हमने इस कदम को उठाया है और ज्यादा मजबूती से इसे आगे बढ़ाने के लिये हमको काम करना चाहिये मार्क्सिस्ट कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी की जो सरकार वेस्ट बंगाल में है उसकी हालत आप वहां पर जाकर देख सकते हैं कि किस तरह से उन्होंने छोटे-छोटे काश्तकारों के साथ अन्याय किया है। कांग्रेस सरकार ने जो भी लैंड रिफार्म किए हैं वह प्रशंसनीय हैं लेकिन उसमें अभी भी जो कमियां हैं उनको दूर किया जाना चाहिए। आज भी जो बड़े-बड़े लोग जमीनें लेकर बैठे हुए हैं, उनके खिलाफ सख्त कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए, वरना हमारी प्रधान मंत्री, श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी की जो मंशा है, वह पूरी नहीं होगी। इसीलिए हमारे कम्युनिस्ट भाइयों को यह कहने का मौका मिलता है कि बड़े-बड़े राजे-महाराजे दस-दस, बीस-बीस हजार बीघे जमीन गलत नामों से लेकर बैठे हुए हैं। ऐसी जमीनों की निश्चित रूप से सरकार को अपने कब्जे में लेना चाहिए। लैंड सीलिंग का कानून जब सख्ती के साथ लागू होगा तभी लाखों-करोड़ों गरीब लोगों को जमीनें देकर उनकी रोजी-रोटी की व्यवस्था सरकार कर सकेगी और आज 40 परसेंट लोग

जो पावर्टी लाइन से नीचे हैं वह आगे बढ़ सकेंगे। हमारी प्रधान मंत्री, श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी के बीस-सूत्री कार्यक्रम का यह एक प्रमुख अंग है इसलिए इसको निश्चित तौर से कामयाब बनाना होगा।

5.02 hrs.

SHRI N. R. SHEJWALKAR in the Chair]

लैण्ड रिफार्म्स के साथ-साथ गरीब आदमियों की आर्थिक स्थिति को मजबूत बनाने के लिए बैंकों तथा अन्य प्रकार से जो सहायता देने की बात है, वह सहायता भी ठीक प्रकार से उनके पास तक पहुंचती है या नहीं—इसकी ओर भी समुचित ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। आज गरीब लोगों को बैंकों के जरिए से 33 परसेन्ट सब्सीडी तथा छोटे किसानों को 25 परसेन्ट सब्सीडी दी जाती है, लेकिन वास्तव में यह सब्सीडी उन लोगों तक नहीं पहुंच पाती है। ऐसी हालत में हमारी प्रधान मन्त्री का जो गरीबों को ऊपर उठाने का आर्थिक कार्यक्रम है वह कामयाब नहीं हो पायेगा। आज आई० आर० डी० पी० तथा अन्य जितने भी इस प्रकार के कार्यक्रम हैं उनके अन्तर्गत मिलने वाली सब्सीडी के मामले में अधिकारीगण गड़बड़ी कर रहे हैं। एक काश्तकार को अगर 5 हजार रुपये मिलते हैं और उसमें आप दो ढाई हजार की सब्सीडी दें और बैंक अधिकारी, विकास अधिकारी वगैरह मिलकर आपस में उस सब्सीडी को बांट लें और वह सब्सीडी उस व्यक्ति तक न पहुंच सके तो इसका क्या असर होगा। हमारी प्रधान मन्त्री श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी के कार्यक्रम निश्चित तरीके से बहुत ही सुन्दर हैं लेकिन जब सही रूप से उनको लागू करने के लिए उचित कदम

उठाए जायेंगे तभी वह कामयाब हो सकते हैं। आज एन० आर० ई० पी० के अन्तर्गत करोड़ों लोगों को सरकार रोजगार देना चाहती है, जिनके पास आज कोई धन्या नहीं है, लेकिन आज इसका दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। बंगाल में एन० आर० ई० पी० का दुरुपयोग किया गया है पार्टी हित में। वित्त मंत्री जी को देखना चाहिए कि एम्पलाइमेन्ट देने के लिए जो पैसा लगाया जा रहा है, उसका दुरुपयोग तो नहीं किया जा रहा है। अगर पोलिटिकल पार्टीज करोड़ों रुपया खा जायें और आप कोई कार्यवाही न करें, यहां पार्लियामेन्ट में भी सवाल उठाया जाए फिर भी आप कार्यवाही न करें, तो निश्चित रूप से यह आपकी ढिलाई है। कुछ पोलिटिकल पार्टीज ने एन० आर० ई० पी० को नाकामयाब करने की कोशिश की है और वह सरकार का पैसा खा गई है। (व्यवधान) अब मैं अपनी बात भी मंत्री महोदय के सामने रखना चाहता हूं। समय कम है, कहीं सभापति महोदय घंटी न बजा दें।

सभापति महोदय : आपको ठीक ध्यान आ गया।

श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास : अब मैं पीने के पानी के सम्बन्ध में वित्त मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूं। आपने कार्यक्रम तो बहुत अच्छा हाथ में लिया है। देश में दो लाख 40 हजार गांवों में पीने के पानी की आवश्यकता है और इस डिकेड में दिलाने की बात कही है। कभी आपने गौर किया है कि इन गांवों में स्वच्छ पीने का पानी उपलब्ध कराने के लिए 15 हजार करोड़ रुपये की आवश्यकता है। आपने जो बजट में प्रावधान किया है, तो क्या आप छठी और सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना

[श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास]

में 15 हजार करोड़ रुपए की राशि उपलब्ध करा सकेंगे? मैं समझता हूँ कि जिस प्रकार का प्रावधान आपने किया है, उससे यह पूर्ति नहीं हो पाएगी। आप मेरे ही राज्य को लीजिए। राजस्थान में पीने के पानी की बहुत कमी है। 35 हजार गांवों में से 24 हजार ऐसे गांव हैं, जहां इस प्रकार की समस्या है। दस-दस और बारह-बारह मील की दूरी से पानी लाना पड़ता है। कड़वे पानी से कुबड़ निकल आता है, हड्डियां निकल आती हैं, कभी कभी तो जान से हाथ धोना पड़ता है। परिवार में कम से कम एक आदमी इसी काम के लिए रहता है; जिसको रोज पानी लाने के लिए काम करना पड़ता है। ऐसी हालत में यदि उन गांवों में पान का पानो उपलब्ध करायेंगे और पैसा कम देंगे, तो यह समस्या हल होने वाली नहीं है हमारे देश की प्रधान मंत्री, श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी, की नीयत है कि निश्चित तरीके से जल्दी से जल्दी लोगों को पीने का पानी उपलब्ध कराया जाए। इस लिए आपको विशेष रूप से तबज्जह देनी चाहिए। पैसा होते हुए भी फिजूलखर्ची में नहीं जाना चाहिए। पैसे का दुरुपयोग नहीं होना चाहिए। यदि एक पैसे का दुरुपयोग होता है तो देश के जो टैक्स-पेयर हैं, उनको बहुत बड़ा नुकसान होता है। कई स्थानों पर पीने के पानी के संबंध में भयंकर घोटाले हो रहे हैं। इसके संबंध में विधान सभा में भी सवाल उठे हैं। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जहां पर इस प्रकार की गड़बड़ हुई है, जहां पैसे का दुरुपयोग हुआ है, वहां पर आप को तबज्जह देनी चाहिए और उसके खिलाफ आपको एक्शन लेना चाहिए।

मैं डिस्ट्रीब्यूटिंग एजेंसी के संबंध में भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। आपने कहा है कि कई आर्टिकल्स डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन के लिए रखे हैं, मगर डिस्ट्रीब्यूटिंग एजेंसी व्यवस्थित नहीं हो पाई है। आपने बहुत सी दुकानें खोली हैं, और हजारों और दुकानें खोली हैं, मगर उसके बावजूद भी कुछ स्टेट्स में ठीक प्रकार से काम हो रहा है और कई स्टेटों में ठीक प्रकार से काम नहीं हो रहा है। जहां पर काम ठीक प्रकार से नहीं हो रहा है, वहां की खामियों को दूर करने के लिए आपको तबज्जह देनी चाहिए। जब तक आप को-ओपरेटिव सोसाइटीज को वायबल युनिट नहीं बनायेंगे, तब तक डिस्ट्रीब्यूटिंग एजेंसी ठीक प्रकार से काम नहीं कर पायेंगी। इसलिए आपकी जो मंशा है और हमारे देश की प्रधान मंत्री जी की जो मंशा है कि गरीब से गरीब आदमी को आवश्यक सामग्री पहुंचाई जाए, वह व्यवस्था ठीक प्रकार से नहीं हो पाएगी इसलिए मैं बराबर दो-तीन साल से कह रहा हूँ कि को-ओपरेटिव सोसाइटीज बनाकर के डिस्ट्रीब्यूटिंग एजेंसी को स्थापित किया जाए और उसके जरिए एसेंशियल आर्टिकल्स को सप्लाई किया जाए। इस प्रकार जब आप निश्चित तरीके से काम करेंगे, तब जाकर वह व्यवस्था माकूल तरीके से हो सकती है।

अब मैं कुछ शब्द कैरोसीन आयल के संबंध में कहना चाहता हूँ। आप ने इस के बटवारे को दो भागों में विभक्त किया है—आप की डिस्ट्रीब्यूटिंग एजेंसी की मार्फत कंज्यूमर को 1 रुपये 93 पैसे में मिलेगा तथा बाजार में खुले रूप से 3 रुपये कुछ पैसे में मिलेगा मैं जानना चाहता हूँ—इस का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन आप किस प्रकार से करेंगे? जब तक इस का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन ठीक प्रकार से नहीं

होगा, तब तक हमारी गरीब जनता को इस का फायदा नहीं पहुंच सकेगा। इस लिये मेरा निवेदन है कि आप जो कोआपरेटिव सोसाइटीज इन्स्टीट्यूटिंग एजेंसीज के रूप में बना रहे हैं उन्हीं के जरिये इस को बांटा जाना चाहिये। दूसरे प्रकार का कैरोसीन खुले बाजार में मिले, हमें इस पर कोई आपत्ति नहीं है, लेकिन सस्ते कैरोसीन के दुरुपयोग की सम्भावना है, इस के लिये आप को विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये।

सीमेंट के संबंध में मेरा निवेदन है कि इस पर आप ने जो लेवी लगाई है, वह पहले ही बहुत मंहगी है तथा इस लेवी के लगाये जाने से और ज्यादा मंहगी हो गई है। जो सीमेंट आज हमारे कार्शकारों को कुएं बनाने के लिये, नालियां और घरे बनाने के लिये, मकान बनाने के लिये चाहिये, अगर सीमेंट इतना मंहगा कर दिया जायेगा तो वे किस प्रकार से अपनी व्यवस्था को चला सकेंगे। इस संबंध में विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

बिजली के संबंध में आप ने बजट में काफी पैसा रखा है, इस में दो रायें नहीं है तथा इस के लिये मैं आप को धन्यवाद भी देता हूं। लेकिन जहां तक हमारे राजस्थान का संबंध है, वहां बिजली की उपलब्धि के लिये क्या नये प्रयोजन आप ने बनाये हैं, क्या नये तौर-तरीके आप ने रखे हैं—इस का बजट में कोई प्रावधान नहीं है। राजस्थान में लिगनाइट का बहुत बड़ा भण्डार है—मेरा निवेदन है कि वहां पर लिगनाइट-बैस्ड-थर्मल-पावर-प्लांट स्थापित होना चाहिये। इस संबंध में आप ने बजट में एक पैसे का भी प्रावधान नहीं किया है। हम कहते हैं कि हम 6ठी पंच वर्षीय योजना के

अंत तक ज्यादा से ज्यादा बिजली दे कर तमाम इण्डस्ट्रीज को चालू कर देंगे—हमारे यहां तो यह स्थिति है कि आज सभी कारखाने बंद पड़े हैं। एग्री-कल्चर को मुश्किल से दो-तीन घंटे बिजली मिलती है। हमारा एटामिक प्लांट साल भर से बंद पड़ा है। कोटा में जो थर्मल प्लांट दिया है वह भी चालू नहीं हुआ है। जैसा मैंने अभी कहा था वहां लिगनाइट पर बैस्ड थर्मल-प्लांट लगा कर बिजली जेनरेट की जा सकती है—इस के लिये आप ने कोई तवज्जह नहीं दी है। इस लिये मैं आप का ध्यान इस तरफ आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं ताकि राजस्थान को ठीक तरह से बिजली मिले और वह आर्थिक तौर से सम्पन्न हो सके।

पब्लिक सैक्टर के क्षेत्र में राजस्थान बिलकुल पिछड़ा हुआ है। राजस्थान के अंदर आप ने केवल 2 परसेंट पैसा आज तक इन्वेस्ट किया है जिस की वजह से राजस्थान पिछड़ कर रह गया है। हमारे यहां बहुत सारे माइनिंग रिसोर्सेज हैं, सब प्रकार के खनिज पदार्थ वहां पर निकलते हैं, लेकिन इस के बावजूद भी भारत सरकार का ध्यान इस तरफ नहीं है। जिक का सब से बड़ा भण्डार हमारे यहां “रामपुर आगूध” में निकला है। हम चाहते हैं कि वहां पर “सुपर जिक स्मेल्टर प्लांट” स्थापित किया जाय, लेकिन इस के लिये भी कोई प्रावधान बजट में नहीं किया गया है। इस प्लांट के

[श्री गिरधारी लाल व्यास]

लगाने पर लगभग 300 करोड़ रुपये का खर्च आयेगा, लेकिन उस के मुकाबले में 100 करोड़ रुपये का जिक्र हम बाहर से मंगाते हैं, उस की बचत हो सकेगी साथ ही 100 करोड़ रु. का जिक्र हम विदेशों को एक्सपोर्ट भी कर सकेंगे। ऐसा बायबल यूनिट वहां पर स्थापित हो सकता है, लेकिन आप की तरफ से कोई विशेष ध्यान इस तरफ नहीं दिया गया है। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप यह व्यवस्था जल्द से जल्द करें।

आप ने फर्टिलाइजर के लिये "गैस बेस्ड-प्लांट" सर्वाई माधोपुर में दिया है, लेकिन उस के लिये कितने रुपये का प्रावधान किया गया है, इस के लिये बजट में कोई उल्लेख नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूं कि यह प्लांट जल्द से जल्द स्थापित होना चाहिये। इस के साथ-साथ हम राक-फास्फेट पर बेस्ड तथा पायराएट-यर-बैस्ड फर्टिलाइजर प्लांट्स की मांग बहुत दिनों से कर रहे हैं। अगर ये दोनों प्लांट्स भी वहां लग जाय तो हम बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर फर्टिलाइजर का उत्पादन कर सकते हैं इस लिये मेरा अनुरोध है कि आप इन दोनों प्लांट्स को वहां पर जल्द से जल्द लगाने की व्यवस्था करें जिस से राजस्थान फर्टिलाइजर के मामले में आगे बढ़ सके। इसी तरीके से मैं सीमेंट के बारे में निवेदन करना चाहता हूं। सीमेंट बनाने के लिए जो पत्थरों की जरूरत होती है, वे हमारे राजस्थान में बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में पाये जाते हैं और उनसे वहां पर बहुत सी फैक्टरियां स्थापित हो सकती हैं। इतनी बड़ी तादाद में वहां पर ऐसा पत्थर मिलता है। कोटा से चित्तोड़ एक रेलवे लाइन इसी वजह से निकाली है मगर इसमें किसी प्रकार का प्रावधान नहीं किया है कि सीमेंट की कितनी

फैक्टरियां स्थापित होंगी। पब्लिक सेक्टर में कितनी होंगी और प्राइवेट सेक्टर में कितनी होंगी और उनके जरिये से हमारे देश में जो सीमेंट की आवश्यकता है, उसकी पूर्ति किस प्रकार कर सकते हैं। इसी के साथ-साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि कोआपरेटिव बेसिस पर राजस्थान के अन्दर 10-12 टैक्सटाइल की मिलें लगाई जा सकती हैं और उसके संबंध में लिखा भी है कि बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर काटन का उपयोग करके वहां पर यार्न पैदा किया जा सकता है और इस तरह से जितनी भी कपड़े की आवश्यकता है, उसकी पूर्ति कोआपरेटिव बेसिस पर हैन्डलूम्स से हम कर सकते हैं। इसके लिए धनराशि के प्रावधान की आवश्यकता है और इस संबंध में कार्यक्रम चलाकर और कुछ पैसे का प्रावधान करके आप वहां पर टैक्सटाइल की मिलें, सीमेंट की-फैक्टरियां, फर्टिलाइजर प्लांट, जिक्र स्मेल्टर प्लांट, माइका और पेपर का कारखाना लगा सकते हैं क्योंकि वहां पर माइका भी बहुत बड़ी तादाद में निकलता है। इस प्रकार से राजस्थान जो एक पिछड़ा हुआ प्रान्त है, खनिज पदार्थों के बहुत बड़े भंडार होते हुए भी जो बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है, उसकी अर्थ-व्यवस्था को आप मजबूत बना सकते हैं। अगर आप उसको मजबूत बनाना चाहते हैं, अगर आप उस प्रान्त को आगे बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, तो निश्चित तरीके से जो सुझाव मैंने दिये हैं, उनको आप स्वीकार कीजिए और इन बजट प्रोजेक्ट्स में उनके लिए धन की व्यवस्था कीजिए।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं, जो बजट प्रोजेक्ट्स रखे हैं, उनका स्वागत करता हूं और मुझे उम्मीद है कि जो मुद्दे मैंने आपके सामने रखे हैं, उन पर विचार करके निश्चित तरीके से कोई न कोई निर्णय आप लेंगे।

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT (Ahmedabad): I rise to make my submission on the present Budget. I am particularly glad and thankful that the hon. Finance Minister is present in the House.

Presenting his Budget to the House, in the very first or second paragraph he referred to the failure of monsoon last year. He said that it had affected the agriculturists and industrialists. He went on to say that it had affected the balance of payment position. I have decided only to talk today and compare the facts and figures with that of his distinguished predecessor rather than with any other Finance Minister.

What is the loss in the agricultural products in the last year compared to the previous one? According to the Economic Survey, presented to us, the loss in the agricultural products was only 3 per cent. In 1979-80 the agricultural position and the drought position was known to be the worst when the hon. Finance Minister presented his Budget on 18 June, 1980. The agricultural production was 116 million tonnes compared to 131 million tonnes in the year 1978-79. The Finance Minister has proposed his taxes and said that all this is required largely because of the vagaries of monsoon. I would like to know: did his predecessor do the same thing? When the foodgrain production was less by about 15 million tonnes and the economy was shattering, Mr. Venkataraman, the then Finance Minister, presented a Budget to this House which did not carry any taxation, but was a Budget known for reliefs and concessions. If the justification given by the hon. Finance Minister today about the monsoon failure and vagaries of monsoon is correct, viz. that only 3 per cent shortfall in the agricultural products is responsible for economic failure, then I think, when Mr. Venkataraman presented the Budget, the entire economy ought to have been collapsed. But he did not do so, nor did he justify so. Therefore, it gives corroboration to one popular feeling in the country that here is a Government which whenever there is a success in economy, takes the pride for the Government but when there is

a failure, passes the bucket to the Nature. It is every popularly said that it is Indra Raja who failed but Indira Ji who succeeded. I respectfully submit that I did not expect from the hon. Finance Minister to give a substantial corroboration to this popular belief. Our entire economy has not suffered because of the set-back in the agricultural production or the drought conditions though they are there and nobody denies in an agricultural country that agriculture has its own place and its own impact on the economy.

Let us come to some of his proposals, some of his claims and some of his justifications whether these are born out at all looking to the market. He was good enough to give to the housewives a little concession and to say that he has given concessions on some of the items like kerosene stoves and cookers and, I should say in his own typical way, he very rightly believed that the steam will be off from the kitchen if not elsewhere. I would request the hon. Finance Minister, because both of us come from the State of Gujarat, to please find out from the State of Gujarat and its *de facto* capital Ahmedabad what the riots are today for? Why there are all the disturbances in the city of Ahmedabad today?

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: (Robertsganj): Because you have gone there. It is your creation, I know it.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BORAT: Sir, the evidence appears to be so flattering, that one would be tempted to plead guilty but it is not so.

I request the hon. Minister to kindly look at least some of the cartoons on his Budget. Mr. Venkataraman brought a budget. I am not holding brief for anybody nor am I against anybody but I am only trying to compare, because if I find fault in anyone else, he will find fault with me. So, I am only trying to say that this is his own predecessor.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I do not want to interrupt you but you should take care that you very little time with you.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: Sir, I hope I will be given time on this item.

He made the stove cheaper, according to him, but kerosene is costly. What are we going to do with the stoves when kerosene is not available? Very seriously I would like to put it to him, what is the impact of his proposals. The hon. Finance Minister said in his Budget Speech that the prices of the tyres of two wheeler automobiles will go down because the tariff has been reduced from 60 per cent to 25 per cent. I would request him to look into *The Economic Times* dated 2nd of March 1983. *The Economic Times* made a survey going into the market and interrogated the people and no less than a person like the Chairman of the Automobiles Tyres Manufacturers' Association, Mr. Narayanan has said that the so-called tariff of 60 per cent said to be levied is an eye-wash. Submitting to the pressures of the consumers' Associations and Unions, the tariff was never charged at more than 25 per cent to which the hon. Finance Minister has reduced it now. So, according to the Chairman of the Tyre Manufacturers Association, 60 per cent was never being charged and that you have only legalised what in fact was the actual practice. Yet; if he claims that the tariff has been reduced from 60 to 25 per cent, I would request him to look into this matter and explain how is it that, when he claims that the tariff has been reduced from 60 to 25 per cent, the Association says "no, it is not the practice, but the practice has been otherwise"? This shows there is something wrong about the proposals that you have brought forward and for which you have sought justification from this hon. House.

Similarly, the same day survey in *The Economic Times* brings out a very important aspect. While the hon. Finance Minister has told us that he has found out a discipline to plug the loop holes whereby the companies not paying taxes will be brought under the discipline of paying taxes, *The Economic Times*, which has surveyed the market, has a very important revelation to make.

It says that companies belonging to the Tatas, like TISCO and TELCO will not be paying any additional tax at the end of 1983 as a result of the budget and that, in fact, TISCO which has earmarked Rs. 30 crores for paying tax for 1981-82, will not be required to pay anything additional. So, because of your restructuring the taxation, or so-called taxation, they are not going to pay anything more. *The Economic Times* has made a survey of another three companies. The survey says that TELCO, Reliance and Larsen and Toubro will not pay anything extra. It may be jugglery of figures, or it may be taxation planning made very cleverly by the companies, but I would request him to look into this survey, according to which ever-expanding mills like Century of Birlas, and companies of big houses of this country are not going to pay you anything. So, I want to know from where you are going to get the money.

We have developed a practice, this Government has developed a practice, particularly from 1980, to levy taxes outside the frame of the budget. I plead guilty to it, because in 1980 I was on that side and I was a party to it. But let me say there is a difference between the two.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: None is hearing you; none is believing you.

SHRI MANGANBHAI BAROT: I now note that there are some people here who are deaf.

Anyway, the justification given by the then Finance Minister for taxing items and materials like petroleum was—at least he was fair enough to tell this House—that from nearly Rs. 3,000 crores of imports we are now required to spend on the same items something like Rs. 5,000 crores and, therefore, for those commodities which have become costly, he has to seek resources from outside the budget. But what is the position now? In fact, according to the reply given by the Petroleum Minister, Rs. 600 crores have been saved because of exploration of oil and non-import of those items. So, if you are going to cut down your im-

ports, would you tell this hon. House the justification for taxing the same items outside the budget proposals and raising revenue therefrom without the sanction of this House?

If we go by the figures, you have collected Rs. 2,100 crores from outside the budget. The Railway Minister came with additional taxation of Rs. 500 crores, and the Communications Minister with Rs. 70 crores. And with my little experience in the Finance Ministry I can tell you that it is clever at least in one thing. It always under-estimates its estimated income from the Budget. The incomes are under-estimated and expenditures are over-estimated. Therefore, when the Railway Minister thinks and tells this House that it is Rs. 479 crores, it will be not less than Rs. 600 crores. When the Communications Minister says that it is Rs. 70 crores, it will not be less than Rs. 100 crores. My humble submission is that the total tax or the revenue collected by this Government outside the scope of the Budget is nearly Rs. 2,500 crores. And there comes this estimate of Rs. 716 crores. Even there my estimate is that it will be a thousand crores of rupees.

I want to tell the hon. Finance Minister that the customary practice is that the next day of the presentation of the Budget the senior officers of the Finance Ministry explain the impact of the budget on various things or items in the market. For the reasons best known, this time it was not done on the next day, it was postponed for another day. But then they said that it will not have any impact on the market or on the commodities. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister: If the larger companies of Birlas and Tatas, Reliance, Larsen and Toubro are not going to pay, would you kindly tell this honourable House where this amount of Rs. 3000 crores is going to come from? You have raised Rs. 3.50 P. in the price of cement, you have raised the price of coal, you have already withdrawn the facilities of the reliefs in auxiliary duties on some commodities and other items. To whom it is going to be ultimately passed on? No less than a paper like *The Times*

of India says that the revenue by increasing the price of cement is not to come from the companies, but ultimately it will be recovered from the consumers. If the cement is going to be costly, if the raw materials and chemicals are going to be costly, if the coal is going to be costly, if all the facilities are going to be withdrawn, will you kindly tell this House from where these Rs. 3000 crores are going to be recovered unless the amount is recovered from the ordinary consumers? This is what they justify? I would like to tell the Finance Minister one thing. I looked a little carefully into estimates of expenditure. I do not understand why this is so. I can understand our friends sitting on the Treasury Benches clapping while presented the Budget. But when he came to the IRDP part of it, the Finance Minister emphasised the fact that under the IRDP, they are going to cover 3 million families this year and my friends, I should say with a note of sadness, out of ignorance clapped on this. Thus, the Finance Minister does not know that 3 million families is the yearly estimate, an average provided in the IRDP. You have estimated, from October 1980 to 1985, for five years—with all the hope that the Government will continue for all the five years—and Rs. 1500 crores will be spent by the Centre and the States and Rs. 3,000 crores will come as assistance from the banks by way of loans. It is a provision that every year out of the five years 3 million families will be benefited by IRD Programme. I would like to tell the hon. Finance Minister what has happened and how much is spent. I say so, and I think I have reason to say so because when I had the privilege of assisting this programme....

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: You have not. It is because of you that this IRD Programme has failed, due to your non-cooperation. You were in charge of banking....

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't interrupt him. Are you not going to speak on that?

(Interruptions)

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: If the Government and the hon. Member only hope that in passing on this blame to me they can be exonerated, I am prepared to take the blame. But I will tell you that they are going to be exonerated. I would like to give you some figures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have already taken twenty minutes. Please conclude.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: I shall make one point and then finish. In I.R.D.P. what have you done so far? By the end of three years, the central release has been Rs. 264.31 crores. Central and State—combined assistance—has been Rs. 597.82 crores. (*Interruptions*). The very fact that the Finance Minister does not find it palatable, makes my point. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): It may be otherwise.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: I am sure the hon. State Minister will reply.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FINANCE (SHRI PAT-TABH RAMA RAO): You are making my position easy.

SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT: I am always at your assistance. I would like to say that the Central and States collectively are required to spend Rs. 1,500 crores by 1985. What have you done? You have spent only Rs. 597.82 crores and the banks which are required to give loans of Rs. 3,000 crores by five years' time have so far been able to distribute only Rs. 538.50 crores. It shows you are lagging far behind in your programme. You are not going to cover up deficit within the next two years. Kindly instruct your Members not to clap you when you say that 2 million families will be covered under the programme because in fact it is not going to be covered.

I hope I am only reminding the Government about its own programme—that 20 Point Programme—under which you have said that you will spend Rs. 3,000 crores and Rs. 1,500 crores respectively. This is the meagre amount that you have spent and yet you cheer the Finance Minister! I am sorry for your ignorance.

This Government takes price and always claims something about the balance of payment position. And every time while asking for anything from this House gives us a picture that this is what is required to be paid by way of new taxes. But no efforts are made to improve our exports. We do spend on our exports. I would like to tell the Commerce Minister through the Finance Minister, where they stand. Shri Palkhiwala, a jurist and an economist, has given a comparative picture of where we were on exports some years before and where we are today. He says:

"In 1955, India's exports (\$ 1,280 million) were larger than those of South Korea (\$ 18 million), Hong Kong (\$ 444 million), Indonesia (\$ 94 million), and Singapore (\$ 1,101 million). In sharp contrast by 1981 the exports of these countries were substantially higher than those of India: Singapore's exports were worth \$ 21 billion, Taiwan's \$ 25 billion, Indonesia's \$ 22.3 billion, South Korea's \$ 21 billion, as compared to India's 7.3 billion."

We are less than Singapore, South Korea, Indonesia. Their figures are three to four times more than our country. I do not think any one will differ with me on this matter which requires serious pondering over it.

Let us examine it where we were before. India's share has dropped from 2.2 per cent of world exports in 1950 to 0.4 per cent in 1981. India ranked 16th in 1950, 21st in 1960, 31st in 1970 and by 1981 its rank dropped to 46th. Today in the large communities of the world, as an exporting country, we have fallen down from 16th position to 46th position. The figures are here to satisfy anybody. The position is alarming. This would show that the Government should concentrate on one or two points by which it can improve its position.

I want to tell lastly two things. I want to say to the hon. Finance Minister about a gold mine which can be opened and about which he has made a reference in the speech regarding remittances from the overseas Indians. I welcome. Despite all my differences, I welcome the conces-

sions given to the overseas Indians. But let me tell him that the remittances from the overseas Indians are not coming enough. They are not coming because we are failing in the implementation of these things. We have given 2 per cent rate of interest higher than that of the local rate of interest. This time, we have given one per cent more. But whereas in actual practice, we are not utilising best of these and it is where we are lacking. I would like to tell the Finance Minister that I had the privilege of accompanying him in Toronto, Canada when he went for the IMF loan. The representatives of the overseas Indians came to see him. They offered a scheme of Rs. 2,000 crores in foreign exchange if he can only permit the housing schemes in India for overseas Indians. It was a scheme which was initially to be started in the State of Gujarat. But the Chief Minister of Gujarat would not like it as it was proposed and he knows more than anybody else that Rs. 2,000 crores in foreign exchange cannot be brought to India because of the adamant attitude of the Chief Minister of Gujarat. It is for him to decide whether he wants Rs. 2,000 crores in foreign exchange or he wants somebody's ego to prevail upon him.

Secondly, I would like to ask him where is he losing revenue? Speaking from that side last year. I told this hon. House and requested him that it was in 1980 that the Finance Minister brought the proposal about plugging loopholes in Section 80-J of Income tax Act. Sir, the matter had been heard in the Supreme Court but the decision has not yet come. Similarly, matters involving hundreds of crores of rupees are just lying under the stay orders from the various High Courts and the Supreme Court and I requested him to take this item and he would be good enough to remember that I said it in the last Budget debate and I said it in the meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Finance Ministry. And I am only requesting him today that he be good enough to look into the legal position and take care of only one small simple thing, namely, that the budget proposals are at least cleared within a reasonable time from the courts of law

from the stay orders. I would like the hon. Finance Minister to take note of this. As a lawyer, I am telling you. I am telling you from my little experience in the courts of law that you can collect Rs. 2,000 crores within another six months if you only get disposed of all the legal matters wherein your budget proposals are stayed by the court orders. But unfortunately our concrete and practical suggestions go unheard. I would like to know from him what happened to 80-J proposed in this house on 18th June, 1980 and which was heard by the Supreme Court? Why the matter was not decided so far? Why the crux of the matter is not decided by various High Courts?

Sir, let me tell the Hon. House once again. Last year, he brought a proposal to levy duty on the newspaper print material. This was discussed here. He brought the proposal on 27th February. The House began its discussion on 4th of March or so. Before the House could finalize its discussion, a stay order was obtained by someone concerned. We today in 1983 just do not know what is the legal position in respect of the taxes that he is proposing. What is the good of his bringing in the budget proposals under which he cannot recover the dues therefrom simply because of the failure of the legal machinery? I told him last time and I would like to tell him that this is not a matter purely of the Finance Ministry. This is a matter wherein they may need to bring in an amendment in the Constitution and they should see that the revenue proposals brought into the budget are not stayed for years together. The Finance Minister should not simply go on taxing the items without recovering the dues therefrom.

Lastly, I would conclude by saying that the present Finance Minister is the youngest Finance Minister of the country and a lot of pragmatic things are expected of him. But let me tell him, with great respect, that he has disappointed many people like me by bringing the rural funds into the Prime Minister's name. He has used the words that it is to pre-

[Shri Maganbhai Barot]

vent abuse and misuse. I would like to know what was the misuse so far. I would like to ask, from a little experience that I have got as a lawyer, what was the misuse of the Income-tax provisions, such as, 35 CC and other such provisions. What required the name of the Prime Minister to be joined? Let me tell him that for the companies which are not permitted to make contribution to political parties, a different avenue has been opened, an illegal avenue has been opened, in the name of giving aid and joining the Prime Minister's name. That is one of the most objectionable things.

I respectfully submit one thing. We can understand a relief fund in the name of the Prime Minister. But bringing a rural fund in the name of the Prime Minister means that the companies that want to save the taxes will be now contributing directly into that fund and ruling political parties will be taking advantage of that. But bringing in this amendment, if the hon. Finance Minister has served the cause of anyone, I would say that he has served the cause of political parties and done a disservice to the nation and to the democracy. Therefore, I condemn it.

With these words, I have done.

खाद्य और नागरिक पूति मंत्रालय
के राज्य मंत्री (श्री भगवत झा अजाद) :
सभापति महोदय, इनके बारे में यह है :

मंत्री के पावन पद की यह शान, नहीं दीखता
दोष कहीं शासन में भूतपूर्व मंत्री की यह
पहचान, कहता है सरकार बहुत पापी है ।

श्री मगनभाई बरोट : मैं इतना हो
कहना चाहता हूँ अजाद साहब से, बहुत
अदब के साथ कि सरकार में जो कुछ
भी खराबी आई है वह मेरे जाने के बाद
आई है ।

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: They should not object to it. It is a quarrel between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law.

SHRI MAGANBHAIR BAROT: I know.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Home Minister to make a statement on Assam.

15.50 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ASSAM

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.C. SETHI): On a motion from the Chair by you, Sir, this House had unanimously adopted a resolution on 23rd February, 1983. Through this resolution an appeal was issued to the people of Assam to strengthen the feelings of mutual cooperation and brotherhood and find a solution to the complicated problem and help the administration in restoring peace. I had informed this House further of the situation through a statement on 3rd March, 1983, in respect of recent incidents of violence.

Sir, it has been our earnest endeavour to see that the resolution continues to guide our deliberations and actions. It will continue to guide us in future also. It will hasten the process of restoring peace and normalcy, if all concerned with the welfare of the people of Assam govern their conduct and actions in the spirit of the above resolution.

Assam has been passing through automatic experience since 1979. The democratic functioning of the institutions and Government have been systematically subverted. Efforts continue to be made in this direction. This House will have to consider whether any group of people can be allowed to deny the people of a State, the right to be governed by its own elected representatives. It will have to ponder whether any group of self-appointed persons should become the Judge, Jury and the Prosecutor to decide as to who should or should not stay in the State? It will have to decide whether Government should accept a position that in a State various minorities and ethnic groups should subsist at the mercy of parochial groups. Sir, it will have to pronounce