

वना रहे हैं ? कलकत्ता में उन्ही लोगों की बड़ी बड़ी अट्टालिकार्ये हैं और दिल्ली में उन्होंने जमीन ले कर अच्छे अच्छे बागीचे बना रखे हैं, जहाँ ऐय्यागी के साधन जुटाये गये हैं । मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ की उन क सम्पत्तियों को एक्वायर कर के कलास थी और फोर एम्पलाईज के क्वार्टर बनाये जायें और गरीबों को जमीन दी जाये । बिड़ला की प्रापर्टी काम्पेन्सेशन देने के बाद एक्वायर की गई है । उन को काम्पेन्सेशन नहीं दिया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि उन्होंने देश की जनता को लूटा है उन के लिए सब से बड़ा काम्पेन्सेशन यही है कि उन को चौराहे पर खड़ा कर के गोली मारी जाती है ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

15.09 hrs.

MOTION RE: INCREASE IN PRICES OF FOODSTUFFS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we take up the motion on price rise by Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu. Shri B. K. Daschowdhury will continue his speech.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Bihar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, yesterday I referred to the fact that in 1960-61 the national income at the then prevailing price was Rs. 13,294 crores and the money supply was Rs. 2,889 crores. If we came down to the figure of the year 1970-71, we find that the national income at the price level of 1960-61 was Rs. 9505 crores and the money supply was Rs. 8,114 crores. These two figures are very important to determine the price index. Firstly, we find, out of these two figures, the average national income has increased from 1960-61 to 1970-71 by nearly 49 per cent while the money supply has been increased from Rs. 1889 crores to 8114 crores.

that, is, nearly 292 per cent. The money supply has increased to that extent. But correspondingly, the national income has increased by only 49 per cent.

Secondly, the money supply is more. That also gives rise to where the money is, with whom that money is. We find that money has not played its proper part. As a matter of fact, the money value has come down. We have this ratio. In 1960-61, in respect of the money supply, the national income was 1:4:7, i.e. 470 per cent and, in 1970-71, in respect of the money supply, the national income was only 1:2.4, i.e. 240 per cent. That also shows that the money value or the value of one rupee at the value of 1960-61 has come down to nearly 41 or 42 paise. That is the whole crux of the problem.

That also indicates that price increase has become so much and, at the same time, the agricultural production has gone so down that it has started creating social tension, unemployment problem and many other problems. We have to find out the solutions.

We know, the Finance Minister presents the Budget every year. But the Budget does not mean only the balance of accounts. That also reflects a total national policy of the Government. The social tension created by the price increase cannot be denied by anyone. Neither the Ministers can deny that. What is the impact of that? What is the policy that we have been pursuing. As I said yesterday, there are certain basic factors, no doubt. But still to what extent we have taken the corrective measures.

Some of the hon. Members have spoken about the deficit financing, inflationary pressures and things like that. Inflation or increased money supply by itself is not a cause. Nobody can deny that deficit financing is a medium of planned economic growth of a developing country. Agreeing to that, we find that plan-

[Shri B. K. Das Chowdhury] ned economic growth, as it was expected, has not materialised. That creates trouble.

In our march towards socialism, no doubt, we have taken this policy that monopolies must be curbed. But if we go down to our economic policies, what we find is that instead of monopolies being curbed, they are getting more and more profits at the cost of our public finance institutions. I would like to refer to this particular thing. 75 monopoly houses even today control more than 50 per cent of the assets of non-banking pvt. corporate sector. The various reports of Commissions have revealed that monopoly houses are not production-oriented but operated on the principle of maximum profit and minimum production....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There are six more speakers from the Congress Benches who want to participate in the debate. I have been requested by your party whip to give only five minutes each. So, you may kindly keep that in mind and bring round your conclusions.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I was told by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs that I will have ten minutes. Yesterday, I only 'just started....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have taken about five minutes now. You may be told any thing. But I am telling you what is before me.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: What I was saying was that even Commissions have come out with this fact. The reports of the Commissions have revealed that these monopoly houses are not production-oriented but their main intention is to maximise profits and minimise production. They are also creating artificial scarcity in the market which is a great cause for the rise in prices.

What is the policy that we are following? Government must take cer-

tain corrective steps to get rid of this social evil. Even today, the larger industrial houses are getting the lion's share of the loans from public finance institutions, like, the nationalised banks, L.I.C., I.D.B., etc. According to the reply of the hon. Finance Minister last year in Parliament, 20 larger business houses got over 50 per cent of the total advances made by the nationalised banks to the 75 business houses. So, even out of 75, 10 or 20 top big business houses were getting the maximum benefit.

According to another reply which the hon. Finance Minister laid in the House on the 26th March 1972, the amount outstanding against 73 business houses was Rs. 491 crores, and out of these, 20 larger houses owed Rs. 271 crores.

So also, in the case of Life Insurance Corporation, according to the Annual Report for 1971-72 of the Life Insurance Corporation, of the total of Rs. 248 crores advanced to the private sector, Rs. 94.46 crores were advanced to the top ten larger business houses i.e., about 38.09 per cent.

With such massive help from the public financial institutions, what are these monopoly houses doing? They have been doubling and tripling their income. According to an estimate or assessment made by the Reserve Bank of India, some 293 larger business houses have doubled their income in these three years, from 1968-69 to 1970-71, from Rs. 45 crores to Rs. 97 crores. As a matter of fact, they are not investing their increased income for the national growth and thereby to create the scope for more and more employment and to enhance the total production. On the other hand, what they are doing is that they are investing lesser and lesser amounts....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please finish.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I will just finish, Sir.

Even from a humble estimate, we find that in 1968-69 though the private sector, particularly the larger houses, invested nearly Rs. 97 crores, in 1970-71, their investment came down to Rs. 86 crores, and in 1971-72 they came down further to Rs. 77 crores. But at the same time, what is the total amount that they have taken as loans from public financial institutions? In 1968-69, it was Rs. 86 crores, and upto the last year, it went up to Rs. 162 crores. This has been so because no corrective policy has been taken to curb the monopolistic tendencies. The fiscal policy should be that, in the private sector, they should be more production-oriented which, in the final analysis, will create scope for more and more employment. But we find that the public financial institutions are giving more and more loans for big business houses which are only doubling and tripling their income and are not investing the increased income for national growth..

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I am concluding in half a minute. So the Government must come forward to stop this practice.

I have got a teleprinter message from the West Bengal Government. This is very important, Sir. No doubt, our Government and hon. Finance Minister have taken certain measures to have more and more distribution points, ration shops; they have increased the total quantity of food-grains for distribution; they have opened more ration shops. But, Sir, what has been going on? In this message it has been said that some of the vanaspathi manufacturers of Gujarat are purchasing in bulk quantities the mustard seeds from the market and they are manufacturing refined mustard oil. This refined mustard oil is being sold in the wholesale market.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no sign of your finishing.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I am concluding, Sir.

They are purchasing in bulk from the market these mustard seeds and manufacture refined mustard oil and a tin of 15.5 kg of this oil is being sold at a wholesale price of Rs. 108, that is, at the rate of more than Rs. 7 per kilogram, thereby creating an artificial scarcity in the market of mustered oil which is a popular edible oil in the eastern region. This is how these big manufacturers are creating scarcity of essential commodities and it is how prices of essential commodities go up and this tendency should be curbed by the Government. I request the hon Finance Minister and the Food Minister to give specific reply to this point and also the other points I have raised.

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhandhuka): The rate at which prices have been rising in recent weeks and months is indeed and ought to be a matter of very grave concern.

We express great anxiety at the inflationary tendencies in our economy, but, I have a feeling that we are not quite seized of the terrible consequences of inflation. If we did, then I doubt if this debate would have gone on in the way it has gone on.

Germany had that experience once, immediately after the First World War and when the value of German Mark kept going down, first slowly and then at a tremendously rapid pace so much so one had to have a suitcase to carry Marks in order to purchase a loaf of bread. We are fortunately still quite far from that stage but, let us at least realise that we are on the way to that stage. If we only look back and consider the gap of time between successive Pay Commissions and between successive grants of Dearness Allowance, we would see that the gap is getting narrower and that we are unable to call a halt to the steady rise in prices. We shall

[Shri H. M. Patel]

find the situation worsen at an unbelievably fast rate.

It would be most unwise to accept that it is almost impossible to stabilise prices in a developing economy. This kind of complacency must be firmly resisted. Stability of prices is indeed a necessity for sound development and, therefore, every effort must be made to achieve it. This by no means is an impossible task but calls for more selfdiscipline and many hard decisions and perhaps unpalatable decisions. We have been too long to be tolerant to inflation. As it is, the quantum of inflation that has already taken place, that is to say, the extent to which the value of rupee has gone down, has inflicted severe hardships on people whose incomes are fixed, in which I would include the pensioners whose lot is perhaps the most unenviable in such circumstances and generally of those unorganized sectors of people whose income does not rise as the prices go up. Even those who received dearness allowances which are designed to negate the effect of the price rise, even they had to suffer quite considerably because there is always invariably a time lag and whenever the time lag is not short, the hardship can be very considerable indeed.

I take it that there is not much doubt in anyone's mind that prices have risen very considerably in the past twelve months, but what is more important in considering this question from the policy point of view is to know that the prices have been steadily rising over the last several years with the result that to-day the total rise is of the order, not of a few per cent, but several hundred per cent.

Only a few days ago the Railway Minister submitted his budget and therein he pointed out that he was not able to make both sides of the balance-sheet meet.

Why does he say that this is not possible? Because, he said, he had to

pay for his coal, for his steel, for cement, where the prices have risen. The prices have risen three times more than what they were in 1950-51. But he has not dared to increase the freight or the fares to anything like the same extent. He has raised the fares and freights only to the extent of 70 to 80 per cent. But then, who stopped him from raising fares and freights so as to cope with increased cost of whatever inputs that he had to have? It is not surprising that despite operational and other efficiencies the Railways have found it difficult to avoid being in the 'red'.

Why does the Government not make up its mind to take the hard decisions that it is necessary to take and see that steps are taken to adopt policies which would result first in halting the price rise and then in bringing them down? Why for instance the Railways find it difficult to raise their fares and freights commensurate with the increased payments which they have to make? However unpopular when wages and salaries have trebled how can fares and freights be kept down to the low level that they have been kept down? However unpopular it may be, when wages and salaries have trebled, how can fares and freights be kept down? It would also have considerable effect on stemming inflation. Amongst the hard decisions which Government must face up to is to recognise that it is only by increasing production in all directions that the price spiral can be halted. Yet, what are the concrete measures which are adopted in this direction for increasing production? In 1960-61 the national income was estimated to be 13,294 crores. At 1960-61 prices the national income grew to 19,500 crores in 1971-72. In 1960-61 the money supply stood at 2889 crores and in 1971-72 the corresponding figure was 3114 crores. The money supply has outstripped the national product. This is the major cause for the inflationary pressures that have manifested themselves latterly in a very marked manner. So, one of the first hard decisions will have to be to restrict money

supply, that is to say, to reduce deficit financing, and yet, as we saw in the budget that was presented a few days ago, the deficit financing will be—whatever they may claim,—of the order of Rs. 600 crores. If this is not done carefully we might precipitate the very trouble we are anxious to avoid.

There have got to be a series of hard decisions. There will have to be genuine economy drive. Wages and salaries will have to be frozen. There is no proposal in the budget suggesting any measure of economy in non-developmental expenditure. Wages and salaries have not only to be frozen, but they should be linked very directly with production. Everything that is necessary will have to be done to maximise production. This will involve an end to drift in decision-taking.

Has Government realised the enormous cost of administrative inefficiency resulting from delays in taking decisions on vital matters? Take for instance the question of harnessing the waters of the river Narmada. Year after year its waters are running wastefully into the sea? Those Narmada waters are almost equal to the waters of three rivers Ravi, Beas and Sutlej. The waters of these three rivers have made it possible for Haryana, Punjab and parts of Rajasthan to bring about the green revolution. What is the difficulty in the way of taking a decision which would result in something like 70 lakh acres of land being brought under cultivation which is drought-prone. These areas will be cultivated if this is done. It would solve the problem not only of food but it would give us increased production which is what is wanted whenever you have to pump a great deal of money into the economy. In the same way there is the question of the Farakha Dam. The canal which was to take off from that Dam, a twenty mile and odd long canal which if it had been constructed now would have greatly eased the problem

which the port of Calcutta is faced with. But the decisions for one reason or another are not taken on merit.

I will conclude with these words: Price stability is so vital to the health of the country's economy that it must be tackled in an integrated way and with a sense of urgency. Piecemeal handling will be little avail. The Budget introduced a week ago shows no sign of the Finance Minister being seized of this problem.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA (Balasore): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, coming almost at the fag end of this important discussion before I begin my speech I would like to ask one question to the prime mover of this Resolution, Mr. Bosu, that during the entire rule of West Bengal by United Front government when Mr. Jyoti Basu was the Home Minister how many racketeers and blackmarketeers were taken into custody under D.I.R. and how many of them were penalised.

The Congress Party during the historic Bombay Session took certain definite view in the Economic Resolution which reads like this—I want to pinpoint on the forward market trading in India—the Resolution said:

“Forward trading of all agricultural produce should be immediately banned.”

With all the pious intentions that we had we have not been able to check illegal forward trading in our country. The reason is we have got to bring certain changes in the administrative set-up. The bureaucrats who are at the helm of the affairs have to realise what is the good of the country and what is bad for the country.

Sir, I as an individual was very much in the picture and took up this matter with Lt. Governor. I met and had a talk with him about the illegal trade in Delhi. Sir, the Lt. Governor was very much criticised yesterday by many Hon. Members. It is he who took a bold step and disconnected

[Shri Shyam Sunder Mohatatra]
more than 200 telephone lines in Delhi of persons who are connected with illegal trade, particularly in the coronation building in Delhi. As a result thereof the groundnut oil which was being sold at Rs. 54.00/- per ton on 28th November, 1972 came down within one week to Rs. 5,000/- per ton because the Administration was very strict and the Lt. Governor took a decisive step without caring for the pros and cons of the action. The illegal traders are still having a sway in the market. Unless the Government is very much vigilant it will not be possible to check the illegal trade which is responsible for price rise in our country.

Sir, Prof. Dantwala, in his report submitted in Feb., 1966 very much spoke on this subject when he pinpointed that the government should be very strong to check the illegal trade in our country. Sections 21 and 22 of Forward Contract Regulation Act, 1952 have to be reviewed by the government and unless government is very strong to check the illegal trade and arrest the illegal traders under D.I.R., I am sure, this illegal trade will never be checked in our country and price rise will never be checked. It is a question of attitude. We have got to frame an attitude in our minds that persons who are responsible for bringing such a calamity and such a disaster to our social and economic system have to be punished and declared as social criminals.

I remember that in my student days when we were leading the political movement, the police used to arrest us and handcuff us and even tie ropes around our waists and they used to parade us on the streets. Can we not take a decision that at least as exemplary punishment, one illegal trader has to be paraded on the streets of Delhi? I am sure that our Government are alive to the fact. The Minister in the West Bengal Government has in his unequivocal utterance said that come what may, he would take as drastic action as possible against the illegal traders, and it was done by

him in some places.

I have already drawn the attention of the Finance Minister to at least the aspect of this subject, that is, illegal forward trading which is responsible for price rise in our country, and I hope he will certainly do something to change the regulations and improve the administration so that illegal trade would be curbed entirely in the country.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai): Since we discussed this problem in November last the, prices have continued their upward swing. In November, it was 211.1, in December, it was 211.3, and in January, it was 213. Now, it appears that the price rise would have reached for the year as a whole a level of 14 per cent, and it could be said that the price year will rise during the current financing have gone up to less than 15 per cent or so, indeed an unprecedented rise in prices probably after Independence.

It is extremely disturbing to note that the post-seasonal decline after kharif has not taken place, which makes the prospect rather grim. Now, it seems to me that the other blade of the scissors will begin to work. The pressure was first on food prices. Then, it got transmitted to industrial raw materials which also showed a very inordinate increase, and now the pressure would be transmitted from industrial raw materials to manufactures.

So, my submission is that the other blade of the scissors will begin to work, and indeed it would be an extremely disturbing situation for us when the prices of both manufactures and agricultural prices would continue to be at a very high level.

It seems to me that it is extremely naive or fondly optimistic to suggest that as a result of the budget proposals, the price rise would be only of the order of 0.4 per cent or so. It beats me completely how an expert like the Economic Adviser to the Government of India could have suggested that the price rise would be only of this order.

It is not that prices have not been brought down in certain things, maybe, not because of the efforts of the Government of India. But in some States, the prices of certain things have been brought down by the deliberate policy of the Government, and the credit for this goes to the State from which my hon. friend the Finance Minister comes. The price of liquor has been brought down by 30 to 35 per cent by reducing the sales tax and excise duty, while correspondingly the prices of food materials and other essential goods had gone up by 30 to 35 per cent. This is indeed a great achievement of which my hon. friend the Finance Minister can be proud.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): If I may add, bringing down of liquor prices has also brought down the prices of smuggled goods. Watches are cheaper now a days.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: All right.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I never knew he is your *alter ego*.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: No, no.

So you have got inverted socialism in practice in this country; whisky flows like water, probably even freer than water in some parts of Maharashtra where people go without water for 24 hours or so. It is really a situation of which the Finance Minister must be ashamed.

We are all committed to the directive principles of state policy and we have been talking about them so much. But food is being made dearer and liquor is being made cheaper. After all, liquor is certainly an article of luxury consumption, and who benefits by the prices being brought down? Surely a 12 per cent sales tax on whisky is not much higher than on many articles of necessary consumption.

Naturally, one would ask what is the reason for the present high

prices. This point has been made by so many hon. members, but I would rather highlight it in my own way. The main reason for the present alarming increase in prices is the hyper-inflation that has been at work during the period of the New Economics inaugurated by the hon. Prime Minister and her Finance Minister—that is, during the period 1969—73. During the four years, money supply increased by 56 per cent, national income increased by 15 per cent, that is, the ratio between the increase in national income and money supply is 1 is to 4. If we take the last two years, money supply increased by 26 per cent and national income increased by 3 per cent; so it is 1 is to 8. Thus the rate of inflation has been increasing at a terrific pace.

Another main reason for this seems to me the not-so-much productive use to which resources are being put. During 1972-73, revenue receipts exceeded the budget estimates by Rs. 138 crores; market borrowings exceeded the budget estimates by Rs. 263 crores and small savings by Rs. 70 crores. In other words, the additional draft on household savings was of the order of Rs. 471 crores. Shall we not ask the hon'ble Finance Minister to what use these resources have been put, and if they had been put to productive use, what impact have they made on the price situation?

Then we have got also the pattern of production which has been emphasised umpteen times in this More House—that it is not helpful to the common man. Growth industries in the consumer goods sector are those which cater not to the desperate needs of the bottom 40 or 50 per cent but to the fancies and foibles of the 10 per cent or less. The Minister of Foreign Trade told the Rajya Sabha the other day that the production of fine cloth had increased by 40 per cent in two years, between 1969 and 1971, while the output of coarse cloth had remained almost static, if it had not declined. There has also been a furious spate of production of luxury goods

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after the liberalisation of licences. The production pattern being such, we cannot expect that there would be any help to the common man in the sense that the depreciation of his money would not be allowed to take place beyond a point.

Now, what are the prospects for the future? The prospects of prices coming down or being kept under control also do not seem very promising. One is sorry that the Government is not frank or candid about it. May I make a serious complaint? I said on the last occasion that it was my fear that the physical buffer stock available with Government was not of the order of 9.5 million tonnes. That seems to have been confirmed by the *Economic Survey*. What was the release from government stocks during 1972-73? It was only of the order of 4 million tonnes or so.

If we had got a physical stock of 9.5 million tonnes, what stood in the way of Government releasing the entire stock so that the people were not put to the distress of the kind with which they were confronted?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): You said 4 million tonnes only. Will you quote the page?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: In the table, at the end—"change in the Government stock."

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Which page you are referring to?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I will give you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You can pass it on later. You should have flagged this and immediately given it. Any way, it does not matter. After you sit down, you can pass that on to him.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Yes, Sir. *Interruptions* Everything is on my finger-tips. I do not go by

books while speaking. I will give it later. It takes time when you go on referring to books.

Now, what is the prospect? The main thing on which one would like to pin one's hope is the food stock that would be available with the Government. The procurment expected may be of the order of not more than seven million tonnes or eight million tonnes at the most. Two million tonnes from the kharif crop; and then wheat cannot be expected to yield more than five million tonnes or so. So, it is seven million tonnes in all. And then, the import would be of the order of two million tonnes. Therefore, the total in this way that would be available to the Government, besides the net production that would be available domestically would be of the order of nine million tonnes or so.

What has been our experience in the past? Out of nine years, during seven years we had to use 11 per cent of our net production and in the two critical years we had to use 18 to 19 per cent of our domestic production. If I base my calculations on the basis of the critical years, and then the requirement would be of the order of 17 million to 18 million tonnes, because 15 million tonnes will have to be made available domestically and then two million tonnes import. Therefore, the total deficit in respect of food would be of the order of nine million tonnes or so on the present reckoning. How are we going to make up for it? Since the time does not permit me to go into the detailed calculations of it, I am stopping short at that.

We also know the circumstances in which the Government may not be able to arrange for imports on an inadequate scale to augment domestic availability. Therefore one does not quite see how Government will be able to ensure or sustain even the present inadequate supply to the distribution system.

Then, another reason because of which I think that the prospect seems

to be rather difficult is that there has been a lag in investment in some of the crucial fields like power, steel, fertilisers, petroleum and cement, and this is bound to be felt more and more as we go along, and this may prove to be bleakest aspect of the situation from a longer term point of view.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member's time is up.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Just two or three minutes more. In a subject like this, it becomes difficult to make meaningful remarks in such a short time.

Then, it has also been emphasised by many hon. Members that the deficit financing as postulated in the new budget may not be of the order of only Rs. 85 crores or so. It might be in the region of Rs. 400 crores or so. This is my feeling. May I say that the hon. Finance Minister, when he had told us earlier in 1972 that the net Reserve Bank credit to the Government was being kept at a lower level, he was wrong? We had pointed out at that time that the net Reserve Bank credit to the Government was going to be of a higher order and that has been amply confirmed in the *Economic Survey* again, in that whereas it was Rs. 448 crores in the year 1971-72, it would be of the order of Rs. 480 crores in the year 1972-73. The hon. Finance Minister had claimed earlier that the net Reserve Bank credit to the Government would be of a lower order and he was making efforts in that direction. He has been proved to be wrong. The reasons why hon. members have stressed that the deficit financing would be of a higher order have naturally been, (a) that the Pay Commission's recommendations would require resources of the order of Rs. 200 crores or so; (b) the food subsidy may not be contained at Rs. 130 crores; it may go up to even Rs. 200 crores and (c) the budget does not make any provision for the take-over or if it does, it makes inadequate provision for the take-over of the foodgrains trade. The two budgets—

Railway Budget and General Budget—will further feed the flame of inflation.

One point which has been ignored is that there would be an international factor at work which will augment the price rise. Since our rupee has been devalued to the extent of 19.5 per cent with reference to the Special Drawing Rights standard, and there has been an increase in the customs duties, this is going to increase the price of imports. This international factor would be at work in increasing the prices.

Outlay on agriculture and industry—the productive fields—is also going to be of a lower order, which will affect the production adversely.

The situation in our country is extremely complex and solution of the price problem will have to be of a very balanced nature. Broadly, we have an amalgam of three problems in our country. First we have a highly unacceptable increase rate in prices. Secondly, we have an economy that is almost at the level of near stagnation. Thirdly, we have a situation of high unemployment. It may well be that if we take recourse to one remedy for alleviation of one problem that may have an adverse impact on the solution of the other problems. So the policy has to be such as to give a very balanced result.

Finally, the crucial questions for future are: (a) Will unproductive Government spending increase at a substantially lower rate than 12 per cent? (b) Will the rate of increase in money supply be brought down to at least 7 to 8 per cent? (c) Will deficit financing be substantially less than Rs. 350 to 400 crores?

If in the United States there can be a Pay Board and a Prices Commission, if in the U.K. there can be a Prices Commission, there is no reason why we should not have a Prices Commission in our country. Since we have been talking about rise in prices of essential commodities and we have

seen almost an orgy of nationalisation, may I ask, why are we not nationalising the production of vanaspati and sugar, if we want to keep their prices at the level that would help the common man?

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA (Bahraich): Sir, the hon. mover suffers from an in-built phobia and political obsession. While he has tried to highlight the abnormal situation caused by the abnormal rise in food prices and other essential commodities, he has not cared to enlighten the House in this grave situation as to the measures that should be adopted to meet this emergent situation. Poverty and price situation have to be fought not on party considerations but as a national problem. In spite of the break-through in agriculture and the consequent green revolution, agriculture in India is still a gamble in rains. The limited question in this debate is whether the government policies are responsible for the continuance of the price rise in this country, or whether the government have taken all possible and practical measures to meet the situation and the blame or fault lies somewhere else. My submission is that this House should recall the situation which was prevailing in the year 1971. There was a bumper rabi crop and the wheat production was so high that the prices went down and wheat became so cheap that concern was expressed in this House that Government should extend price support so that the cultivators may not suffer. At that time also the monopolists, the hoarders and the inflation were there. Still, not only was there no price rise but actually there was a lowering of prices in foodgrains. But now the prices have risen suddenly. Why is it so? The reason is that the basic and main cause for the rise in price in the present context of things is the serious shortage in rainfall because of which major parts of the country are in the grip of serious drought.

How have the government tried to meet the situation? Large supplies of foodgrains have been rushed from the surplus areas to the deficit areas. A large number of **relief works** have been opened and a large number of people have been employed.

In this context, it is worthwhile examining the policy of deficit financing, which has been attacked from many quarters. Deficit financing is certainly not very much desirable and it is not financially sound. But there are emergent situations where it has to be resorted. For example, even when there is plenty of foodgrains, if a person does not possess sufficient purchasing power, he could not have access to the food articles available in plenty. Therefore, in order to provide money supply to these person who are not in possession of money, deficit financing has to be resorted to.

So, my submission is that the government have adopted all possible measures to meet the situation and this resolution, which refers to the distress and the alarming situation on account of the rise in prices is a wholly misconceived resolution. The House should really feel grateful to the government and feel relieved for the measures adopted by them to meet the situation.

Coming to hoarders and blackmarketeers, no such people have been arrested in Tamil Nadu, even though a non-Congress Government is functioning there which has equal right to proceed against them. So, it is no use making alliance with anti-social forces and criticise the Government. In Lucknow when it was announced that the Government is going to take over the whoesale trade in foodgrains, all the opposition parties, the BKD, the Swatantra, Congress (O) and even CPM demonstrated against it and organised a bandh because they wanted to defeat the policy of the Government.

With these words, I oppose the Resolution.

16 hrs.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on an issue of price which is of great importance to our people and to the poorer sections of our society we cannot afford, as our friends on the Opposition would like to make out, to make out a question which has a black side and a white side. The life, in general, is neither purely black nor purely white but there are various shades of grey.

I can understand your anxiety to heed to the voice of Opposition in a democratic set-up and, particularly, of the Opposition which has been decimated without any hard feeling about it. But always the voice of the Opposition need not necessarily be the voice of wisdom.

Economics is, particularly, a field of expertise. The pure ideological considerations of right and wrong and ideological acceptabilities will not yield results. I would, therefore, try to submitted that one of the first things that we will have to take care of is the maximum utilisation of the built-in capacity in this country of either industrial production or agricultural production, irrespective of the sector in which it is situated, irrespective of the hands in which it is situated. It does not serve, as far as I understand the basic tenets or socialism, to compromise one's conscience of basic beliefs in case we say that there should be a higher productivity in this country, whether it is steel or fertiliser, oil or oilseeds, whatever it is.

In this connection, I would like to bring to your notice the facts of the rise in production costs. In the case of sugar, in 1968-69, it cost us Rs. 12,000 to create a production capacity of 1 tonne whereas in 1972-73, it is going to cost us Rs. 25,000. In the case of another basic essential item like cement, in 1968-69, it cost us Rs. 250 to create a production capacity of 1 tonne of cement whereas, in 1972-73, it is going to cost us exactly double

of that, i.e., Rs. 500 per tonne. In respect of fertiliser, the rise has not been that much. But it has jumped from Rs. 2900 per tonne to Rs. 3400 per tonne.

With the rise in prices and the rise in production costs, unless some care is taken, our productivity will get affected and that, in turn, will affect our total price level in the country however much we may try to hold on price line. In respect of agricultural economics, I may point out that it is not like an industrial economics. As it is today, there would be no production if we were to take the cost of production, the cost of the tractor, the cost of living etc, if all these things are taken into account, 50 per cent of our Indian agriculturists will close shop if they were to prepare a balance sheet, whether it is pulses or cereals or milk. It is a matter of livelihood. An Indian farmer is producing something where there is no assurance of return for him and no minimum wages for him. Under these circumstances, if we think in terms of a crash programme of increasing production, it does not work.

Another valid point that I want to make is that we have brought about drought conditions in this country. While we have been very much concerned about the green revolution, what is it that we have done in regard to dry farming?

The hon. Minister for Agriculture was saying yesterday about the proportion of forests to be maintained in this country. In my district, 85 per cent of the district is covered by forest. What we want, and what we mean by afforestation, is a dispersed forest policy in the whole country—not that there would be dry areas in this country without a fig or leaf, and there would be areas like the West Coast and other parts which have got nearly hundred per cent of the land under forest.

[Shri B. V. Naik]

Only one more point, Sir, and this is about our policy in regard to fisheries. This is one area in our production which will have a tremendous leap of protein content in food and will help us in bringing down the prices.

Therefore, I request that the pricing policy may be based on the basis of expertise and knowledge of economic and not on the considerations of black and white or on purely ideological grounds.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): I listened to the speech of the Mover of this motion and the other hon. members of the Opposition, but I was greatly disappointed not only over the negative content of the speeches but also over the serious lack of concern for the rise in prices. Instead of concern, I could feel in their speeches a sense of sadistic pleasure. I feel that the Opposition has only gained sadistic pleasure because they have tried to put the entire blame upon the Government and have not tried to put before the House constructive suggestion to this national problem.

I will not go into aspects like money supply or the non-development costs which we had to incur in the last two years, because they have already been dealt with. Since my time is very short, I will deal only with one or two points.

My first submission to the hon. Finance Minister is this. We are talking of greater production in this country, we are also talking of increased wages. We know that wages have increased. In fact, a suggestion came from an hon. Member belonging to Swatantra that there should be a wage freeze. But we know that, in the present political situation, it is neither desirable nor proper. But my grievance is that while we talk about enhancement of wages, we never try

to link it with increased production. We do notice in this country today that increased wages have hardly anything to do with increased production. The production relatively is going down every day. Also there is no effort to bring down cost of production. We have noticed that those who speak of low cost of production, many of them are members of concerns which give a large amount of perquisites. Let us touch our own hearts and find how many MPs are Directors or persons in authority over different industrial concerns without doing any productive work. After all, unless we bring down the cost of production in this country, we cannot bring down prices, and after some time have increased wages for the labourers. If we look to the Western countries, we will find that whenever wages do rise, it is not necessarily passed on to the consumer. In Western and other developed countries, whenever there is an increase in wages, the effect is not passed on to the consumer, but they try to reduce the cost of production by research and other experimentation. May I ask the private entrepreneurs in this country, what percentage of their profits do they spend for their own concern to bring down the cost of production? Unless both in the public sector and in the private sector concerted efforts are made to pump a percentage of the profits into the industry itself for the purpose of research and experimentation to bring down the cost of production. I think, a certain amount of disparity in the matter of price will always remain. Therefore, my first submission will be that there should be a concerted effort to bring down the cost of production.

The second thing to which I would draw the attention of this House is that so far we have tried to measure the success or otherwise of our projects or plans only in terms of money spent. We say that because a particular amount has been spent on the

project or on the plan, the plan has been a success but I think the proper thing would be to try to measure it also in terms of the physical targets achieved. After all, you will realise that particularly, when there is an inflationary trend, the mere spending of money does not really show the progress that we have achieved in the implementation or success of the project. Sir, the time has come when we should try to judge a project or plan not only on the basis of the money that we have spent but on the basis of the physical targets achieved.

My third submission would be: a number of Members of the Opposition including Mr. S. M. Mishra have said that the railway budget and the general budget are inflationary in character. Sir, such a type of speeches always lead to inflation because it creates an atmosphere in which, under one pretext or the other, the businessman tries to pass on the burden to the consumer even though he has no burden to bear. We have seen to-day that even though the budgetary proposals have not affected many essential commodities, the prices have tended to increase. Therefore, what I am submitting before the House is: Let us not really try to give an impression to the country that because of these budgetary proposals the prices of all essential commodities will rise. After all the common man does not know what commodities have been taxed, and let us not give a handle to the business community or the industrialists to increase the price on the basis of some imaginary burdens. I feel that the Government has a genuine duty in this respect to take all measures to see that imaginary burdens of the industrialists are not passed on to the consumer.

The last point I am insisting is that instead of merely granting drought relief or flood relief, the time has come to-day to have a comprehen-

sive planning to fight drought and flood, whatever be the cost.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Please give me only three minutes. He has agreed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Who has agreed? I am to give time. The hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): I think it was a very interesting, debate that we have had since yesterday afternoon, interesting in the sense that very aggressive arguments were made from the Opposition side and equally convincing and aggressive arguments were made on this side also...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Convincing for you, not for us.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: My main argument is going to be that there is no necessity of having any aggressiveness or defensiveness as far as the basic phenomenon of price rise is concerned, because it is an accepted fact.

As Mr. Stephen has put it aptly, to prove that the prices have risen or are rising is an exercise in futility...

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Because we have such a Government, therefore, it is an exercise in futility.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: It is an accepted fact and we have not tried to conceal any of the facts about the food production, the industrial production, stock position the import position, the balance of payments position all the detailed statistics are appended here with this important, precise, straightforward document which is placed before this hon. House, called "The Economic Survey." It has dealt in detail with

[Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan]

the problem of price rise, the reasons for it and certain solutions for it.

This is not a Party issue. Most of the Members said, that it is not a Party issue and I do make a plea to this House not to treat it as a Party issue. I am sure my hon. friend, Mr. Jyotirmoy Bose also may not perhaps like to treat it as a Party issue.

This is a national problem. If we have to solve a national problem, we will have to find a national solution for it.

Our main emphasis will have to be as many hon Members from this side said and as Shri Sham Babu has pointed out, on offering some constructive suggestions. Our whole approach, as has been rightly pointed out, will have to be constructive in this matter.

What is the most effective way of fighting this phenomenon?

Sir, while trying to find out or analyse the causes of the price rise, we do make certain mention of the historical facts. Some people might get angry about it. They may ask; Why do you mention all this? Price rise in any economy is not purely an economic phenomenon but it is a socio-economic phenomenon. We must not forget this thing. Therefore, when certain economic situation develops in any economy, in any country, one must look to its social aspect also. The question of monopolists, for example, was raised. I have no objection about it. It is a very relevant point that was raised. We can consider the role played by monopolists in regard to the price rise or in the economy as a whole. When we try to analyse the socio-economic phenomenon of price rise in this country, we have to recall the history of the last two years. It would not be just to find some sort of an alibi

to conceal one's weaknesses. If certain things have got to be done, the country has to do them. We do it. We are a big country, a big nation. We are a big country, a big nation. We have to help a friendly, sovereign country, Bangla Desh. It was the call of history and we had to respond to it and we did it.

Some hon. Members said that I had indicated that there will be some sort of trouble, but I had not mentioned the drought and other things. I myself concede this position. I had anticipated some trouble, but even then, I could not anticipate the severe drought that this country had to face last year. The fact is, that there has been a drought. When there is a certain measure of deficit financing from 1971-72 and also in 1972-73, it has got its own accumulated effects and so there is a price rise.

Now, what exactly do we propose to do about it? Some hon. Members tried to point a very pessimistic picture about it. If I say something, they may say that I am trying project an optimistic picture. I am trying to look at this problem realistically and I am trying to strike a balance which is as realistic as possible.

Let us come to the ultimate aim which we have in view. Economically speaking, to meet the socio-economic problem of price rise in this country, we will have some sort of basic strategy. What are the components of this basic strategy? The components of this basic strategy are threefold. There is going to be a mixture of these three very important factors, the effective management of the total demand in this country. This is one aspect of it. Secondly, we will have to see that production in this country, both in Agriculture and in the industrial sector, looks up sufficiently. The third is the question of management of the distributive system. These are the three basic components.

of any strategy that will have to be deployed to fight the problem of price rise.

We are going to discuss the Budget and I will have occasion to deal with many points during that discussion. But one thing I would like to mention is that we have tried to keep the deficit financing at its lowest this year. Some Members tried to make out that the figure that we have given is somewhat unrealistic. Some Members went to the extent of saying that deficit financing is to the tune of Rs. 1600 crores.

AN HON. MEMBER: Only a Congress Member said Rs. 1600 crores.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Whether on that side or this side somebody did mention that figure.

Some hon. Members tried to take into account Rs. 421 crores which I had mentioned in my Budget speech, that is, the overdraft with the Reserve Bank which we had to take to be nationally on our books.

Sir, some hon. Members and also Shyam Babu made a mention that certain public loans which we raised were also a sort of deficit financing.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I have not said that.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I did not say you said that. There is a tendency because some hon. Members who are very competent people at least known to be competent people outside, have tried to include it in the deficit financing. But I would like to plead with this hon. House that a public loan, for Plan performance and for production activities as a loan, is not deficit financing. As a matter of fact, it is an effective way of seeing that money supply is limited and mopped up for productive

activities and the Plan performance as such. Therefore, this cannot be treated as a deficit financing.

Now, hon. Shyam Babu said and some others also—I had also mentioned—it is quite possible that we will be required to spend more. There will be demand on account of the Pay Commission Report which will certainly have to be taken into account. May be there is an element of food subsidy. That problem is also there. But I do not want to take a pessimistic view about that. I say so because I see some basic good trends in the economy today. I am not making any prophecy today that prices are going to jump down tomorrow. For that we will have to adopt certain long-term programmes.

Let us come back to food production. Shyam Babu showed certain figures. I would like to tell him that the distribution through the distribution system last year was to the tune of 10.5 m. tons.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: My submission is that it was 'national' like that of the operation of stock brokers who operate on stocks markets.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: At the end of 1972 according to the figures to which he made a reference we had a stock of 3.4 M. tons. Now, Shyam Babu's argument is that this is also a rather bogus figure.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I said this is the only change represented in your stock position, so that that was the release which was made.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I would like to tell the hon. House that we began 1973 with this stock of 3.4 m. tons. But, as you know, there is off-take continuously. In 1972 itself there was distribution of 10.5 m. tons. Even last month, that is, in February I think the off-take was 7.5 lakh tons. If

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we look to these figures my own hunch is

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Kindly explain why is there change in the order of stock by 4 m. tons. This was the only change made in your stock position. This was the only release.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: The point is we are expecting 2 m. tons. Now, it is not that the whole of it is coming. It has just started coming in. It becomes at the rate of about a couple of lakhs of tonnes every month. My hon. friend forgets that we had made certain procurement in the case of the kharif crop..

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: That also might have been available.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: The kharif crop procurement also is very important. Let him not forget that this is a very important season that we are going through, and the procurement of the kharif is still going on. I would like to tell the House that it is not merely a prophecy but it is a fact that whatever the bad period we had in agricultural production as a whole last year because there was complete drought in mostly the coarse-grain-producing areas which were rain-fad areas, the rabi crop this year, particularly the wheat crop is going to be a record crop. It is going to be an important factor that we have to remember.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Does he mean to suggest that it is going to be higher than the peak that had been reached in the past, namely 23 million tonnes or so? Never. In UP it is very bad in many areas because of lack of water.

SHRI PJLOO MODY: And fertiliser also.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We are talking about our assessment of the future.

SHRI B. N. REDDY (Niryalgunda): When he was referring to the second crop, was he referring to dry crop or to the wet crop also? For, yesterday, I had raised the question that in the entire Nalgonda district, due to power shortage and stoppage of power, the second crop is in the danger of completely withering away. That is the position in the entire Nalgonda district and generally in the Telengana area. What has the hon. Minister to say in regard to this?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I know that the problem which my hon. friend is raising about Warangal district is a problem about the rice crop. He is talking about rise crop in the Andhra area, but I am talking about the wheat crop in the rabi area.

My own assessment is, and an assessment based on very definite data, that this year's rabi crop is certainly going to be more than that of last year. My hon. friend may ask me a pertinent question in this regard, but I would like to tell him that we certainly heed the cooperation of the State Governments in this matter because this additional production must get reflected in procurement.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: In Andhra, the Opposition is creating a lot of trouble in procurement.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Why does my hon. friend disturb the line of my argument?

I was saying that there was going to be additional production of the rabi crop this year.

SHRI B. N. REDDY, Rabi crop production cannot alter the entire position in regard to agricultural production.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I never said that. I am making only a limited point about our stock position as a result of the rabi crop and rabi

procurement. As far as the stock position is concerned, we are in a comfortable position as far as 1973-74 is concerned. This is one important factor. Besides, we are going to complete the import of two million tonnes of milo.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA :
What does he expect to be the food stock in 1973-74 which is seeking to build.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur):
Let the prices come down. We are concerned more with that rather than with Shri Shyamnandan Mishra's argument in regard to the stock position.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN :
The hon. Member wants me to give figures about how much we are going to have. I am sure that if our calculations go correct, it may not be less than what we had last year under any circumstances. I am taking the worst possible assessment into consideration.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
Then, the trouble would be worse.

SHRI VIRENDRA AGARWAL (Moradabad): Then, it would not be a satisfactory position, because we would not move forward.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN :
We all know and it is an accepted fact that the major factor in pushing the prices further up is the prices of the foodgrains. This is a fact of life, whether we like it or not. This is where we want some cooperation.

The hon. Member asked whether monopolists were playing their hands in this or not. I am at one with them when I say that it is not my own view only but it is the view of this Government and it is the view of this party that we want to do

away with the monopolists, just as they also want. They merely want to talk about it, but we are gradually doing it.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
By screwing more and more money out of them, he is certainly weakening them. He is screwing more and more money for his party purposes.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He is saying 'gradually' because it is a little bit every year.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN :
I did not interrupt the hon. Member when he was speaking. Now, let me be allowed to have my say.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You have convinced us after releasing Mr. Modi?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN :
If you just look to the last year's non-plan expenditures, which was very essential, you will realise that it was mainly due to the step we took in regard to Indian Copper, non-coking coal and general insurance. We have to make provision for the payment for nationalisation. If this is not doing away with monopolies, what else is it?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
What about sick mills?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Let me just a counter question. As against that, has not the Cabinet of the Government expanded to 60?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN :
We have taken a very important step of fighting monopolies in this country by taking over the non-coking coal mines. I am told people who share your views go and defend the monopolists in the courts—that is what I am told. You will call it unfair because you are making a sort of obsession with it that we are for monopolists. We are not for monopolists.

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We are a party committed to bring about democratic socialism in this country. One of the essential features of democratic socialism in this country is the removal of monopolists in the economy—I have no doubt about it. Also removal of monopolists cannot be alone merely by sitting here. It has to be a process. The process has started. You are disturbed because we have started that process and are implementing it. That is why you are perturbed about it.

This year also, one of the most important parts of the strategy of tackling the price rise is the distribution system. Now we have decided to take over the entire wheat wholesale trade. If this is not removing monopoly, what else is it? We propose to follow it up by taking over the rice distribution wholesale trade. I know shri Jyotirmoy Bosu is not against it, but a large number of parties sitting opposite are (*Interruptions*). On the one side, they are crying hoarse that we had not made an attempt to steady prices. My hon. friend and economic writer, Shri Agarwal, made a very eloquent speech about what we are failing to do, what we are not doing. But his party has made it a national plank to say: do not take over the wholesale trade. Who are the friends of monopolists—we or they?

SHRI PILOO MODY: You.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We are not your friends.

So as far as the distribution system is concerned, we have taken this step so far as foodgrains are concerned. Take the question of sugar, for example—look, Shri Vajpayee has entered the House; just to prove my criticism in person he is here.

The point is that the sugar policy was discussed and criticised. There is

70 per cent levy sugar and 30 per cent free sugar. One has to understand why this had to be done. One has to understand the agricultural situation in this country, the sugar production in this country.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What about the hidden production of 15 per cent? Recovery figures are manipulated.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I will take your help in this matter to find out.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I will help you.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I will certainly take your help because you seem to know more about it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I do know.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I concede that. The point is, as far as sugar is concerned, we have completely taken over the distribution of levy sugar. We are going to distribute it in the fair price shops. I do not want to give the figures again. We have already given them; what was the figure last year in the fair price shops and this year. There is quite a substantial rise in the fair price shops. Somebody yesterday asked me, what is the percentage of fair price shops in the rural areas and in the urban areas. Normally, the percentage is 60 to 40; mostly the important towns and the industrial towns....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Defunct.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: It is not true: it cannot be. When we say that we are distributing seven and a half lakhs a month, you cannot say that it is defunct. There are the statistics which we have to accept.

But let us not forget that through the fair price shops, the grain that is distributed is distributed at the issue price of Rs. 78 per quintal. This distribution is taking place amongst those people who are the most vulnerable people, the weak people, who need to be supported in this matter. Whatever the figures shown in the wholesale index numbers, this distribution at this price level is something that has to be taken note of while criticising the price situation.

The second important factor is the production of wage goods; that is, those goods which go into the consumption of the large number of people. Food sugar textiles edible oils some of the important. I would also like to tell the House that 1972-73 has certainly indicated that we showing improvement on the industrial front commodities. In 1972 there was an increase of seven per cent. May be it has been affected in the last couple of weeks because of the shortage of power, etc., but even then, the average will not be very substantially effected.

I do not want to be pessimistic or a prophet of gloom and say that the next season is going to be bad and there is going to be drought again, or power again and so on. But the difficulty today is, once there is shortage of power, the entire economy of our country gets affected; it not only affects agriculture but it affects the power supply and therefore it affects the industry also. I am not a prophet of doom; I certainly hope that if there is a God, He will be kind to us. (*Interruption*) I am sure about it. I am not going to the Gods for that, but if there is a God for you, possibly he might help us also.

AN HON. MEMBER: There is no God for them.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I do not say they have no God. They have got their own Gods; not that they do not have. (*Interruption*) My point is this. I am not talking in a

sort of superstitious manner. Even taking into consideration the cycles of weather and Nature in this country, I have no doubt that 1973-74 is going to be the best year possible for the agriculturists.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:
Let us hope so.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
Take it down; Mr. Bosu.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU; I have.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
So, as far as the next year is concerned, let us not create this sort of feeling that there will be scarcity, or that prices are going to rise. Therefore, the point that the Prime Minister made the other day is certainly very relevant to this matter, namely, some of the people are determined to weaken the will of the nation. (*Interruption*). As leaders of the Opposition I can understand your desire.

SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM
(Coimbatore): But do you strengthen the will of the people by illusions?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
I can very well understand your legitimate desire to weaken us. There are people who can enjoy wishful thinking. What purpose is going to be served by weakening the will of the people? Those who have got the interests of the nation at heart will try to give some suggestions. There are parties here who believe in certain ways of political and economic thinking. I expected some very useful suggestions from them which I could accept. We do need your help in this country. I would appeal to the opposition leaders. For cooperation in solving this national problem.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Will you accept the amendments that will be moved by us to the budget proposals? (Interruptions).

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: We are prepared to cooperate with you provided you own the thorough economic mismanagement of the country.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: This is a very interesting condition of giving cooperation!

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: If you don't own your own mistakes, how are you going to correct them? (Interruptions).

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I do not want to make it a more lengthy or unnecessarily political speech because I am absolutely non-political, absolutely objective and realistic in this matter. Though I am a party man, I have tried to be non-partisan and non-political in the treatment of this subject. If we get the cooperation of the opposition leaders, well and good. But we will certainly have the cooperation of the people of this country and march ahead with success.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, I feel sorry for poor Mr. Chavan who had the task of making a mole of a mountain. He still feels that a solution has to be found out. May I ask him, when do you propose to do that? Mere lip service in blaming the monopolists only misleads the people. It is a complete surrender of your Government in the hands of monopolists, which has caused this disaster for all of us. Pious wishes or basic strategies—we have heard about it for long. One wonders whether with this class character you really want to implement them.

You talk about the distribution system. What did you do? The Food

Corporation of India had handed over stocks to the traders and dealers in North Bihar and U.P. Instead of releasing them to the market, they had hoarded it and allowed the prices to rise. That is your class character.

You have been talking about productive deficit financing. But what did you do in actual application? You unproductive and non-plan expenditure has gone up fantastically. Your police expenditure which was Rs. 3 crores in 1950-51 went up to Rs. 25.70 crores in 1963-64 and in 1973-74 it has touched Rs. 124.37 crores! Although you have been shown some mercies by the I.M.F., your debt services come to Rs. 834 crores this year. Your administrative service expenses was Rs. 77.37 crores in 1963-64. In 1973-74, according to the budget estimates—God knows what you have in your pocket about supplementary demands and budgets—it is Rs. 279.44 crores. What you have uttered is untruth. You say something and do something quite different.

They talk about procurement. I advise Shri Chavan to read an article written by Dr. Asok Mitra, former Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Commission and also an Economic Adviser to the Government of India. It appeared in *The Times of India* only three days ago. I do not want to take the time of the House by quoting it. In that article he has criticised your procurement policy as pro-jotdar oriented. You do not want to follow the policies of the Congress Party in the rural areas. So, your procurement will be next to nothing.

Then you talk about the scare of scarcity spread by interested parties. Here I would say "heal thyself". What did you do? I hope this paper, the *Economic and Political Weekly* is not telling a lie. When the Chief Ministers were assembled here to consider the question of the take over of the foodgrains trade in the middle of August Shri F. A. Ahmed very

nicely forecast that there will be a shortfall of 15 million tonnes. How best have you helped the black-marketeers and hoarders? As the newspaper has correctly stated, when you have such Ministers in the government, why do you require black-marketeers? So, I would tell the Finance Minister "heal thyself" before dealing with people like us

Here I would like to quote what Shri Chavan stated on the 13th November 1972, only three months ago. I know that he did not want to mislead the people. But he was pressurized to do it and he had no other alternative. This is the reply which he gave to the debate raised on the floor of the House:

"In fact there are already indications of a decline in cereal prices over the last fortnight. The coming of the new crop into the market would help to maintain the trend."

Since November 1972 there has been a great decline and we are thankful to him for the decline he has brought in!

I have got here a letter from the Consumers' Council of India, which is a sponsored body of the Planning Commission if I am right. It gives the market survey of 25 big cities for four years, namely, 1970-1971, 1972 and 1973. In the case of Moongh it was Rs. 1.40, Rs. 1.95, Rs. 2.40 and Rs. 2.95 for those four years. In the case of washed Moongh it was Rs. 1.50, Rs. 2.00, Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 3.50. It is a real *garibi hatao*. In the case of Basumati rice it is Rs. 1.50, Rs. 1.75, Rs. 2.10 and Rs. 3.00

SHRI PILOO MODY: He is not interested in these prices. You quote the price of gold.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Atta is a very basic item. In the case of that the prices were Rs. 0.90, Rs. 0.95,

Re. 1.00 and Rs. 1.50. In Calcutta the price is Rs. 2.25 and it is usually mixed with soap stone. Then I come to maida, a Modi's venture, Rs. 1 crore scandal in Haryana. While the procurement cost was Rs. 80, the sale price was Rs. 400 per quintal. He is roaming on the streets, hosting Ministers and Governors in reception parties. In the case of maida the price for those four years was Rs. 1.20, Rs. 1.25, Rs. 1.50 and Rs. 4.00. Shri Chavan, you are really a prophet. Then I come to coal, though you may be using very expensive electric ovens. In the case of coal, the figures were Rs. 5.00, Rs. 5.00, Rs. 7.00 and Rs. 10. But you cannot get that at that price. In the case of kerosene it is Rs. 0.61, Rs. 0.65, Rs. 0.70 and Re. 1.00. Then I come to Dalda, industry which contributes to political parties and has dialogue with the burra sahebs sitting in the chambers.

Coming to Dalda, in 1970, the price of a 2-kilo tin was Rs. 10.85; in 1971, it was Rs. 12.30; in 1972, it was Rs. 13.58; in 1973, it is Rs. 14.30—a meagre rise of about 50 per cent in three years. It may not touch you.

Some of your friends and my friends have blamed the growth in population as responsible for the price rise. I want to ask Mr. Subramaniam, a knowledgeable-looking person: What is meant by planning? He has dabbled in planning for a long time. When you do planning, do you consider all women will remain sterile, all men will remain sterile? Will you not consider some population growth? What is the planning that you have in mind? Let us hear from Mr. Subramaniam, a knowledgeable-looking person on that.

Here are the figures of *per capita* income and of annual growth rate of population of some countries. We are finding ourselves at the bottom of the world with *per capita* income of 73 dollars. These are the figures: Pakistan—121 dollars; Thailand—137; Ceylon—132; U.A.R.—136; Ghana—

[Shri Joytirmoy Bosu]

198. With the annual growth rate of population that they have their *per capita* income has not dwindled. These are the figures: Pakistan—2.1 per cent; Thailand—3.1 per cent; Ceylon—2.4 per cent; U.A.R.—2.5 per cent; Ghana—2.7 per cent and India—2.5 per cent.

Then, this article says:

"But a reference to the above table will show that so far as the annual growth rate of population is concerned, other countries which have a similar or even a higher growth rate have larger *per capita* income."

So, don't talk about growth in population as responsible for the price rise.

You talk about your public sector. There is a saying—you must be knowing it—that the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. That is the fountain-head of corruption and mismanagement. You bought Balmer Lawrie shares of the value of Rs. 64 at Rs. 95 in order to help your patron Goenka, thereby draining Rs. 67 lakhs of people's money. You should be ashamed of saying all that. You are conniving with these rouges and rascals and defrauding the public exchequer. The private sector people are allowed to take the public sector for a ride. Who are the Directors and policy-makers I want to ask. Who is sabotaging it?

What compensation you gave to the owners of Banks? Was it not manipulated? Was not the legislation made to offend the fundamental rights, disturbing the provisions of the Ordinance? How did you do it? How much was spent? You go into the records. I brought it before the House that a lot of money flowed as a result of which the compensation was almost doubled.

What about general insurance? What about Management commissions of Rs. 32 lakhs? Don't you

know that 400 jeeps were given by Mr. B. K. Shah for 1971 elections? What was the reward given? You are trying to take us for a ride. Do you think we know nothing about it?

Monopolies grow because you connive with them and protect them. The growth of monopolies is such that they have increased their wealth through black money. In 1966, the Birlas had a total of Rs. 457.84 crores and, in 1970, it was Rs. 629.6 crores; Bangur—Rs. 104.31 crores in 1966 and Rs. 156.7 crores in 1970; Mafatlal—Rs. 92.70 crores in 1966 and Rs. 115.7 crores and Thapar—Rs. 104.31 crores in 1966 and Rs. 115.7 crores in 1970. The source is: The Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 443 dated 22.8.

What did Shrimati Indira Gandhi the author of Garibi Hatao say to the FICCI on 25-3-72? What was said there? I quote:

"Your address for one thing had many new ideas. It was a forward-looking address and, I think, that this year we start on a more cheerful note of cooperation....."

—the love-call like that of Mr. Nixon—

"...and what I hope is a sounder basis for a fruitful dialogue on the direction in which our economy should move."

What a wonderful collaboration. Mr. Socialist? Mr. Chavan? For once you thought about socialism, but you are in the evil company today; you cannot touch it.

"Your statement that the members of your Federation are in accord with the socio-economic objectives "to which Government policies are directed. Who is the idiot in this House who will believe that the monopolists want fruitful socio-economic objective to which Government policies are directed? Who will believe that? It is the biggest lie, it is the biggest bluff, which is sold very

freely in the market. This is the only commodity which is very cheaply available; there is plenty of that and no rations here!

"Also your recognition of the wider responsibilities of business which transcend the earning of profit to which I have often drawn attention."

Mr. S. K. Modi must have been sitting next to the Prime Minister, having a good mouthful chicken or whatever it is, I do not know.

After all this pious talking, December 1972, for the corporate sector, has shown a record profit. And what about your Budget this year, 1973-74? Do you know the number of parties that went on in Calcutta, Delhi, Madras and Bombay for jubilation? Do you know how you have allowed the corporate sector and the high income group to grow? You have told them, 'I will let you grow because you have looked after us'. It is a mutual give-and-take. you cannot be ungrateful to them.

Mr. Das Munshi talked about some leftist lawyers defending coal mine owners or something like that. I give a specific case. There was a Car Price Commission in order to stop people from demanding more price for the car. Do you know who was the barrister for Birlas before the Car Price Commission? Another great socialist, dominating in West Bengal, Mr. Siddharth Shankar Ray. You can find it in the document. And the slogan in Vidhan Nagar was:

(Quoted in Bengali).

I do not know if you understand Bengali. It means, 'In Vidhan Nagar, we shall crash monopolists and capitalism'. And we are seeing what it is!

Let us talk about the joint sector. Where is Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam, the great confident of Tatas today? (Interruptions). I am asking

Mr. Chavan, what is this joint sector? What happened to your Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 in which category steel comes? You want to shun monopolism, you want to destroy monopolist character. They had a licence for 2 million tonnes, and you have already agreed to make it ultimately to six million tonnes. And you are stealing money from the people, at the back of Parliament. You have allowed Rs. 50 lakhs as cost, remuneration, for project for the so-called joint sector. Not a penny has come from Tatas. People have to pay for the joint sector. How much? Rs. 50 lakhs. You have never told the House that you were allowing the Tatas. (Interruption.) According to your Industrial Policy Resolution, steel must be in the public sector. But you have allowed them to grow by 300 per cent and borne the cost of the project—Rs. 50 lakhs!

What about sugar nationalisation, Mr. Chavan? Did not they resolve in the U.P. Assembly? Did not the Government tell you that sugar should be nationalised? But how can it be nationalised? I think, Mr. Dikshit would not tell a lie... (Interruption.) Because Bahujis must handle money. It is not a small sum. It is not a big money, a small sum of only Rs. 8.6 crores. People know about it by now
17 hrs.

I want to know—what have you done with the wide-spread forward trading? It is going as strong as before. You cannot do it because they pay your Party money, they patronise your Party men. What dialogue you want to have with the Opposition?

I am asking you: why this burden of indirect taxes? If you are serious about reduction in price levels, I ask you, why your indirect taxes have jumped every year. From 1966 onwards it has gone up. In 1971-72 it was Rs. 174.35 and in 1973-74 it is Rs. 273.75 crores, of which the central excise alone account for Rs. 117.57 crores. You talk about reduction

[Shri Joytirmoy Bosu]
in prices. How can you do it?

You talk about deficit financing. In 1972-73 it was Rs. 271 crores. This year the estimate was Rs. 550 crores. This amount does not include Rs. 421 crores paid by the Central Government on account of overdrafts of States. Hence, the deficit financing as per the revised estimates comes to Rs. 971 crores in 1972-73. You want to reduce prices? What are your try to tell us?

Then, about black money. In regard to the price rise, the role of black money everybody knows. It is playing havoc. What will you do? The Wanchoo Committee recommended.... (Interruptions.).

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA (Gurdaspur): On a point of order, Sir. Are we to maintain the dignity of the House or let it go to the winds? There should be some sense in what he is talking.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is a matter of opinion.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): I want to raise a point of order on two grounds:—

One is that there is a time limit for a discussion on this Resolution. The time limit is 4 hours. It is long past.... (Interruptions.) Therefore, within that particular time—of course, you have got the discretion to extend the time, but that is a different matter.

No. 2—The speech he is now making is under Rule 358(3) which says:

“A member who has moved a motion may speak again by way of reply....”

It is not a regular first-hand speech that is expected. He has got to reply to the points raised here. His right is limited to the right of reply. He

is making a fresh speech, a speech longer than the speech he made originally, making fresh points and making all sorts of allegations. My submission is that in content, the speech must be directed to be limited to the points raised.

Thirdly, the speech has got to be restricted to the ambit of the time that has been prescribed by the Business Advisory Committee and which has been accepted by this House and that is four hours and now four hours have been exceeded. Therefore, now the question has got to be put to the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: In the first place, if we can always confine... (Interruptions.) Mr. Banerjee, whenever a Member speaks, the Chair has to listen and whenever the Chair gets up, the Members don't have the patience to listen to him.

If we can always confine ourselves to the time limit that we decide, nobody will be happier than the person sitting in this Chair. But, that is easier said than done.

Secondly, about repetition I am not quite sure....

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: I said 'reply'.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am not quite sure whether he is repeating or not.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Not a word.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I would request him now to conclude.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I will conclude in five minutes

I was talking about black money which contributes not a little extent towards price rise. Let us see what the Government's attitude was. They had appointed a Committee headed

by a former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India, Mr. Wanchoo. They had made a recommendation on the 12th November 1970 strongly recommending demonetisation and had it been done, the prices would have been controlled substantially. This Government did not disclose that. They never touched it. They never allowed anybody to see it. Now I come to the point made by Shri Bibhutj Mishra and Shri Mirdho. They shed crocodile tears for the kisans. Why is it that even after 25 years of your rule in this country the total quantum of irrigated land, which you say is 25 per cent, is not even 20 per cent, according to us? You must give us an answer for that. Now, tell us this. For the drought-prone areas the allotted money for 1970-71 was Rs. 1385.18 lakhs. What is it that you have spent? Half of it. Rs. 577.04 lakhs. In the year 1971-72, while the allotted money was 3051.60 lakhs, you have spent Rs. 2403.00 lakhs. You owe us an explanation for that. You say you are trying to fight drought and you are trying to get sympathy from the House. Why is it that the money that was earmarked for drought-prone areas was not spent? We know you have the nationalised sector. We know you have the bank loan and we know where it goes too. I am reading out something to show your sympathy for the kisans. Dr. D. P. Singh, Vice-chancellor of G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology says:

"Farmers were being supplied with uncertified unprocessed and sub-standard seeds much below the prescribed limit of purity of 97 per cent".

Then again, he says:

"Last year, sub-standard seeds worth about Rs. 20 crores were sold by cooperatives and other organisations in U.P."

So, how kind are you indeed to the kisans! How kind is this Government!

What about your land ceilings, what about your land reform programme, one of the biggest jokes of recent times, as is the case with the urban property ceiling? We are going to put up with that too. What is it that they are going to do now? They are subjugating this country politically again to the Yankees.

Now, about the food imports. They compared themselves with USSR and China. Don't you know Mr. Chavan, their deals are done absolutely on commercial scale and here it is done with political strings tied to it. You have been loudly talking about the C.I.A. Now it is transformed into a love-call from India for Mr Nixon. I say, we know you....

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Just a minute for interrupting you. You are making a completely wrong statement. We are purchasing completely on commercial basis. We pay cash and then we purchase.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I ask you, Mr. Chavan. You have been criticising CIA vigorously. When you sent Mr. Bahej and Mr. Nehru to Washington why did you stop talking about the CIA? Why was Prime Minister compelled to withdraw her statement on Viet Nam in Nepal itself before coming to Delhi. Don't think that we are idiots of India. I only say, Sir, the test of the pudding is in the eating. You are a completely feudal monopolist. You will ruin this country. I think Mr. Mohapatra is here. He talked about the number of persons we arrested in West Bengal. But, for his information I would like to point out this. In the United Front Government when Mr. Jyoti Bosu was the Home Minister we arrested 237 hoarders, blackmarketeers and profiteers. But, as soon as Congress-sponsored PDF Government led by Profulla Ghosh came into existence they were released within 3 days, all of them were released. One Aggarwal, the dal tycoon was garlanded. We know

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]
all these things. We know the very recent case of Mr. S.K. Modi. Mr. Chavan, you believe in tainted money. You cannot survive without tainted money. Price rise cannot be checked by you. We know it. You cannot check it because your political character is against that. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House is alarmed and distressed at the continuous increase in prices of foodstuffs and other essential commodities and the Government's failure to arrest the same."

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 9

17.11 hours

AYES

Agarwal, Shri Virendra
Baladhandaydayutham, Shri K.
Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinesh
Bhattacharyya, Shri Jagadish
Bhattacharyya, Shri S. P.
Bosu, Shri Jyotirmoy
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
Chavda, Shri K. S.
Das, Shri R. P.
Godfrey, Shrimati M.
Halder, Shri Krishna Chandra
Jharkhande Rai, Shri
Kachwai, Shri Hukam Chand
Kiruttinan, Shri Tha
Krishnan, Shri E. R.
Madhukar, Shri K. M.
Maran, Shri Murasoli

Mavalankar, Shri P. G.
Mishra, Shri Shyamnandan
Mohamamd Ismail, Shri
Mohanty, Shri Surendra
Mukherjee, Shri Saroj
Muthuswamy, Shri M.
Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarain
Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai
Roy, Dr. Saradish
Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar
Saha, Shri Gadadhar
Sen, Dr. Ranen
Sen, Shri Robin
Singh, Shri D. N.

NOES

Achal Singh, Shri
Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed
Ahmed, Shri F. A.
Alagesan, Shri O. V.
Anand Singh, Shri
Ankineedu, Shri Maganti
Appalanaidu, Shri
Awdhesh Chandra Singh, Shri
Azad, Shri Bhagwat Jha
Bahuguna, Shri H. N.
Banamali Babu, Shri
Banerji, Shrimati Mukul
Barman, Shri R. N.
Barua, Shri Bedabrata
Basappa Shri K.
Basumatari, Shri, D
Bhagat, Shri B. R.
Bhuvarahan, Shri G.
Bist, Shri Narendra Singh
Chakleshwar Singh, Shri
Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal
Chandrika Prasad, Shri
Chaturvedi, Shri Rohan Lal
Chaudhary, Shri Nitiraj Singh

Chavan, Shri D. R.	Kakoti, Shri Robin
Chavan, Shri Yeshwantrao	Kamakshaiyah, Shri D
Chawla, Shri Amar Nath	Kamala Prasad, Shri
Chhotey Lal, Shri	Kamble, Shri T. D.
Daga, Shri M. C.	Kamla Kumari, Kumari
Dalip Singh, Shri	Kapur, Shri Sat Pal
Darbara Singh, Shri	Karan Singh, Dr.
Das, Shri Anadi Charan	Kaul, Shrimati Sheila
Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.	Kedar Nath Singh, Shri
Deshmukh, Shri Shivaji Rao S.	Kinder Lal, Shri
Dhamankar, Shri	Kisku, Shri A. K.
Dharamgaj Singh, Shri	Krishnan, Shri G. Y.
Dharia Shri, Mohan	Lakkappa, Shri K.
Dhusia, Shri Anant Prasad	Lakshmikanthamma, Shrimati T.
Dinesh Singh, Shri	Lutfal Haque, Shri
Dixit, Shri G. C.	Mahajan, Shri Vikram
Doda, Shri Hiralal	Mahajan, Shri Y. S.
Dumada, Shri L. K.	Mahata, Shri Debendra Nath
Dwivedi, Shri Nageshwar	Mahishi Dr. Sarojini
Engti, Shri Biren	Majhi, Shri Gajadhar
Ganesh, Shri K. R.	Majhi, Shri Kumar
Gangadeb, Shri P.	Mallikarjun, Shri
Gautam, Shri C. D.	Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain
Gavit, Shri T. H.	Mandal, Shri Yamuna Prasad
Ghosh Shri P. K.	Maurya, Shri B. P.
Gill, Shri Mohinder Singh	Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
Gogoi, Shri Tarun	Mishra, Shri Jagannath
Gohain, Shri C. C.	Mishra Shri L. N.
Gokhale, Shri H. R.	Mishra, Shri S. N.
Gomango, Shri Giridhar	Mohammad Tahir, Shri
Gopal, Shri K.	Mohammad Yusuf, Shri
Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra	Mohapatra, Shri Shyam Sunder
Gotkhinde, Shri Annasaheb	Mohsin, Shri F. H.
Govind Das, Dr.	Muhammed Khuda Bukhsh, Shri
Hansda, Shri Subodh	Murthy, Shri B. S.
Hari Kishore Singh, Shri	Nahata, Shri Amrit
Jadeja, Shri D. P.	Naik, Shri B. V.
Jitendra Prasad, Shri	Negi, Shri Pratap Singh
Joshi, Shri Popatlal M.	Oraon, Shri Tuna
Joshi, Shrimati Subhadra	Pahadia, Shri Jagannath
Kadannappalli, Shri Ramachandran	Painuli, Shri Paripoornanand
Kailas, Dr.	Pandey, Shri Krishna Chandra
Kakodkar Shri Purushottam	Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
	*Pandey, Shri Sarjoo

Pandey, Shri Sudhakar	Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Pandey, Shri Tarakeshwar	Sadhu Ram, Shri
Panigrahi, Shri Chintamani	Saini, Shri Mulki Raj
Pant, Shri K. C.	Sanghi, Shri N. K.
Paokai Haokip, Shri	Sankata, Prasad, Dr.
Parashar, Prof. Narain Chand	Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar
Pratap Singh, Shri	Sathe, Shri Vasant
Paswan, Shri Ram Bhagat	Satish Chandra, Shri
Patil, Shri E. V. Vikhe	Savitri Shyam, Shrimati
Patil, Shri T. A.	Sayeed, Shri P. M.
Patnaik, Shri Banamali	Sethi, Shri Arjun
Patnaik Shri J. B.	Shailani, Shri Chandra
Pradhani, Shri K.	Shambhu Nath, Shri
Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.	Shankaranand, Shri B.
Rai, Shrimati Sahodrabai	Sharma, Shri A. P.
Raj Bahadur, Shri	Sharma, Dr. H. P.
Ram, Shri Tulmohan	Sharma, Shri Madhoram
Ram Dhan, Shri	Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore
Ram Prakash, Shri	Sharma, Shri R. N.
Ram Sewak, Ch.	Shastri, Shri Raja Ram
Ram Surat Prasad, Shri	Shastri, Shri Sheopujan
Ramshekhar Prasad Singh, Shri	Sher Singh, Prof.
Rana, Shri M. B.	Shinde, Shri Annasaheb P.
Rao, Shri Jagannath	Shukla, Shri B. R.
Rao, Shri K. Narayana	Siddheshwar Prasad, Shri
Rao, Shri M. S. Sanjeevi	Sinha, Shri Dharam Bir
Rao, Shri P. Ankineedu Prasada	Sinha, Shri Nawal Kishore
Rao, Shri Pattabhi Rama	Stephen, Shri C. M.
Rathia, Shri Umed Singh	Subramaniam, Shri C.
Raut, Shri Bhola	Surendra Pal Singh, Shri
Ravi, Shri Vayalar	Suryanarayana, Shri K.
Reddy, Shri K. Ramakrishna	Tarodekar, Shri V. D.
Reddy, Shri M. Ram Gopal	Tayyab, Hussain Shri
Reddy, Shri P. Ganga	Tiwari, Shri Chandra Bhal Mani
Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das	Tiwary, Shri D. N.
Rohatgi, Shrimati Sushila	Tiwary, Shri K. N.

Tombi Singh, Shri N.
 Tula Ram, Shri
 Tulsiram, Shri V.
 Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P.
 Venkatswamy, Shri G.
 Verma, Shri Balgovind
 Verma, Shri Ramsingh Bhai
 Verma, Shri Sukhdeo Prasad
 Vikal, Shri Ram Chandra
 Virbhadra Singh, Shri
 Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
 Yadav, Shri R. P.
 Yadav, Shri D. P.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The result* of the Division is: Ayes: 32; Noes: 196.

The motion was negatived

RAILWAY BUDGET 1973-74—
 GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We shall now take up further discussion on the Railway Budget. Shri Mohamad Ismail may continue his speech.

श्री मोहम्मद इसमाइल (बैरकपुर) :
 आज यह तीसरा दिन है जब मुझे इस पर बोलने का मौका मिला है ।

17.15 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair].

रेलवे बजट पर तीन दिन मुझे थोड़ा थोड़ा बोलना पड़ा । आज उसका तीसरा दिन है। लोग भूल भी गए होंगे और मंत्री महोदय भी भूल गए होंगे कि मैं क्या बोला । जो बजट में उन्होंने रेल का किराया बढ़ाया है मैं उसका विरोधी हूँ और इसके विरोध में मैंने तमाम बातें कही थीं । थर्ड क्लास का जो किराया उन्होंने बढ़ाया है । इसके साथ साथ जनरल बजट पेश किया गया उस में भी जो

टैक्स बढ़ाया गया उसके खिलाफ भी मैं बोला था । कारण यह था कि जो बड़े बड़े मोनोपोलिस्ट्स, मोनोपोली हाउसिस और धनी लोग हैं उनको जनरल बजट में बढ़ाया गया है और रेलवे बजट में थर्ड क्लास पैसेंजर्स पर तमाम बोझ लाद दिया गया है । मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि 5 किलोमीटर के लिए किराया नहीं बढ़ेगा । तो थर्ड क्लास का किराया जो बढ़ा है वह पंद्रह किलोमीटर तक नहीं लगेगा और बाकी उससे आगे देना पड़ेगा । पांच रुपये का जो मंथली टिकट है इस में नहीं बढ़ाया है उससे ऊपर जितने हैं उस में देना पड़ेगा । सदन के आधे सदस्य तो चले गये हैं जिन को इसकी कोई परवाह नहीं है । जो बचे हैं उन से मैं पूछता हूँ कि इस पांच रुपये के मानी यह है कि तमाम आफिसिस में जाने वाले हिन्दुस्तान भर के लोग चाहे वह बम्बई, कानपुर, कलकत्ता या दिल्ली हो, इन तमाम जगहों में काम करने वाले लोगों पर यह टैक्स बढ़ाया गया है । उन गरीबों पर यह बढ़ा हुआ किराया जा कर पड़ेगा । इसलिए मैं इसका विरोध करता हूँ ।

मंत्री महोदय ने उस दिन यह दलील दी थी कि वर्कर्स की तनख्वाह बढ़ानी पड़ती है और पड़ेगी, इसलिए किराया बढ़ाया गया है और यही नहीं बल्कि कमिश्नर साहब जो हैं रेलवे के, वह बाहर भी यही कह रहे हैं, यही प्रापोगंडा कर रहे हैं और कांग्रेस के नेता लोग भी अपनी मीटिंग में यही कहते हैं मेरा कहना है कि वर्क लोड 1950-51 में कितना था उसको देखें । ट्रेन दस लाख मीट्रिक टन किलोमीटर जो चलती थी और आदमी जहां उसमें 3144 काम करते थे, अब 1971-72 में वह काम हो कर 2828 हो गए हैं । वर्क लोड बढ़ा है काम बढ़ा है, ट्रेन की स्पीड बढ़ी है, आमदनी बढ़ी है और वर्कर जहां तीन हजार थे वहां दो हजार हो गए । इसका

*The following Members also recorded their votes:—

Ayes: Sarvashri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Sarjoo Pandey;

Noes: Sarvashri Jagjivan Ram, Swaran Singh, Arvind Netam, Dharam-dhar Das and Probadh Chandra