

Notifications giving effect to all the above proposals are being issued and these will come into effect immediately. Copies of these Notifications are being laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No, LT-1265/71].

It is also proposed to levy a surcharge of 2.5 per cent on income-tax payable by all companies, including foreign companies. The new surcharge will be applicable with reference to current incomes which will fall due for assessment in the assessment year 1972-73. It will not be possible to collect the new levy through the existing scheme of advance tax payments in the Income-tax Act. It will, therefore, be necessary to sponsor a Bill to achieve the object. The Bill will, *inter alia*, provide that an amount equal to 2.5 per cent of the advance tax otherwise payable for the financial year 1971-72 should be paid before 15-3-1972. Credit in respect of the surcharge thus collected will be allowed against the income-tax liability for the assessment year 1972-73. The yield from this measure in a full year will be of the order of Rs. 10 crores out of which Rs. 7.5 crores is expected to be realised this year. I am bringing forward a separate bill to give effect to these proposals.

The combined revenue effect of all the measures proposed will be Rs. 135 crores in a full year of which Rs. 60 crores will be under Customs and Rs. 65 crores under Central Excise. In the remainder of the current fiscal year, the yield will be roughly Rs. 40 crores.

Honourable Members, I am sure, would agree that the measures I have proposed will strengthen the economy in meeting the present challenge. The heroism and valour of our men in the Army, Navy and the Air Force and in other para-military forces demand a similar dedication on the part of all of us to contribute our utmost to the defence effort. Sir, it is in that endeavour that I have claimed the indulgence of this Honourable House to make this statement.*

10 52 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. ADDITIONAL INTERIM RELIEF TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : The ques-

tion of granting additional relief to the Central Government employees in the context of the twelve monthly average of the consumer price index having reached 228, has been considered by Government in consultation with the Third Pay Commission. The Commission have after due consideration recommended the grant of further interim relief, which should be treated *sri geneuis* as before, at the following rates to the Central Government employees with effect from 1st October, 1971 :—

Pay range	Additional interim relief per month,
Rs,	Rs.
Below 85	7
85 — 209	8
210 — 499	10
500 — 1250 (subject to suitable marginal adjustments)	15

The Commission have also observed that the above relief takes into account the increases in cost of living index upto the twelve monthly average of 228

Government have decided to accept the recommendations of the Pay Commission. Additional expenditure involved is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 37 crores for a full year while for the current year it will be about Rs. 15.45 crores.

I am laying on the Table of the House copies of the Second Interim Report in English. The Hindi version of the Report which is not yet ready, will be laid on the Table of the House separately early. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1266/71]

I seek the indulgence of the House in this regard.

In the context of the present Emergency an offer has been made on behalf of the staff by the members of the Standing

[Shri Yeswantrao Chavan]

Committee of the Staff Side in the National Council set up under the Joint Consultative Machinery Scheme, that the amounts payable on account of additional interim relief for the months of October and November 1971 may be credited to the provident fund accounts of the employees. Such of the employees who do not have provident fund accounts at present will invest the amounts under the National Savings Scheme Government have greatly appreciated this gesture on the part of the staff and have accepted the offer. Suitable steps are being taken to give effect to this arrangement. A number of employees' organisations have also volunteered to contribute one day's salary every month towards National Defence Fund during the present Emergency. The members of the Standing Committee of the Staff Side of the National Council have accordingly suggested that the Payment of Wages Act may be suitably amended to enable recovery of such contributions to the National Defence Fund by deduction from the salaries. Government welcome the spirit in which this suggestion has been made by the Staff Side and have accepted it. Appropriate action is being taken to put it into effect. I am sure that the other categories of employees who are not covered by the J.C.M. Scheme will also rise to the occasion and extend their full cooperation in the implementation of these arrangements for them also.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : Something is worrying our mind. We would like the Government to make a statement on the mischief and the design of President Nixon. It is a very important matter.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : I want a clarification about the statement made by the hon. Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : This item is coming in the Rajya Sabha and he has to lay the statement there. He is going there.

SHRI A.P. SHARMA (Buxar) : The employees have decided to make a contribution of a day's wages which will not be too much for them to sacrifice of the country. I hope that other friends who are not covered by the JCM, as the hon. Minister said, will follow suit.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will you kindly ask the Government to make a statement ?

MR. SPEAKER : May I request you to wait for some time ? Let the formal business be over.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I am raising this issue ..

MR. SPEAKER : You can send it to the Minister for further elucidation. There is nothing before me. I have got no notice. You cannot raise anything so abruptly.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I have already written to you. Actually President Nixon has threatened our country, and our Prime Minister replied to it yesterday at the mammoth rally, but this House wants to discuss any threat coming from the American imperialists, and we would like you to allow us,

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta North-East) : When Parliament is in session, threats to this country, even if they are made by the head of the mightiest military State in the world, should not go unchallenged. This kind of news is appearing in the papers, and Government is also, surely, having its reaction, but Government should take advantage of the presence of Parliament by having it discussed, so that its hands can be fortified in giving the kind of reply which tricky Nixon deserves for the kind of action which he has started. This kind of thing going on makes Parliament a mockery if we cannot discuss it. Therefore, we want Parliament to discuss it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Let the Government be directed to make a statement. It is a very important matter.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You have not allowed me to finish.

MR. SPEAKER : But I have not yet allowed you to speak.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I seek your permission.

11 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER : When you get up without permission and others also do so, the result is, all of you speak simultaneously and it is very difficult for me to listen.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : We are now well-acquainted with Mr Nixon's designs. He is trying to bring treaty organisations and involve them as far as the Indo-Pak conflict and the Bangla Desh liberation movement is concerned. Would you be so kind to ask the Government to make a statement in this House ? The Prime Minister has said something about it elsewhere but that does not involve this House. She should make a statement before the House, so that we may discuss it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Either the Prime Minister or the External Affairs Minister or the Defence Minister should make a statement. (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : I have not given you permission. Those members who did not give notice should not rise.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It is said :

"The United States considers the thrust of Indian troops virtually occupying East Pakistan, as an attack on the very existence of a member State of the UN".

We can give a fitting reply to this. (*Interruptions*).

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) : अध्यक्ष जी, यह बड़े महत्व का मामला है, इसमें नोटिस का सवाल नहीं है। इसमें केवल अमरीका का ही सवाल नहीं है बल्कि चीन भी पदों के पीछे है। हम चाहेंगे कि सरकार इसके बारे में इस सदन को और देश को विश्वास में ले। पहले सरकार की ओर से एक व्योरे का वक्तव्य आना चाहिए और फिर अगर आप आवश्यक समझें तो चर्चा की इजाजत दे सकते हैं लेकिन यूनाइटेड नेशंस में जय हो रहा है वह हम जानना चाहेंगे।

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begu-sarai) : After all, this House has been sitting for a certain purpose during this emergency. If the House is not taken into confidence about international reactions and threats, how are we going to advise the Government properly in this matter and what is the use of our continuing in session ?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD (Bhagalpur) : It is a question of judgment, whether we should take note of the imperialist Nixon's undemocratic utterances. We feel we should ignore them, rather than take note of them in this House. That is also an attitude to be taken into account.

SOME HON. MEMBERS :—

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister of Food and Agriculture will make a statement now.

SIIRI S. A. SHAMIM (Srinagar) : Have you decided about the request of the members for a discussion ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am not to decide it. I will convey it.

11.06 hrs.

STATEMENT RE SUGAR POLICY

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : As the House is aware, the sharp rise in sugar prices in recent weeks has caused widespread concern. The Government feel that there is hardly any justification for this rise. On the 1st October, 1971 there was an opening stock of 14.0 lakh tonnes, which together with an estimated production of 33 to 34 lakh tonnes during the current season, will make a total of 47 to 48 lakh tonnes of sugar available to meet the requirement of about 40.0 lakh tonnes for internal consumption. Discussions were, therefore, held with the representatives of the industry, both in the joint stock and the co-operative sectors. It was emphasised that in the current situation there was an imperative need to hold the sugar price line, and at the same time to ensure payment of higher sugarcane price to the growers than the minimum fixed by the Government, so that the sugar production which had declined since 1969-70 might pick up again in 1972-73.

I am happy to announce that the sugar industry has been quick to appreciate the seriousness of the situation and the need to pay higher sugarcane price to the growers than the minimum fixed by Government, It has also agreed to make 60% of the monthly