

with the assurance that the Minister has now given that there will be no victimisation?

Shri Dasappa: I think this question has been already discussed with him and he has been told that there was an honourable agreement on the part of these labourers that they would work for 48 hours without demanding anything during the emergency at any rate. There are a number of workshops in the railways where prior to this agreement, the hours of work were less than 48. Therefore, reopening the question like this with regard to one workshop would lead to a terrible complication and I do not think my hon. friend would be justified in trying to make Lilluah an exception to the general rule.

Shri Namblar: May I seek a clarification?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No; you have put a question and you have got the answer. Shri Daji. He is not here. No more questions.

Shri Mohammad Elias (Howrah): It is in my constituency. I know all the details of what has happened there. May I put a question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He cannot. He is not a signatory.

Shri Mohammad Elias: I was dealing with the situation; that is why I could not put my signature. In the past, such opportunities have been given to ask questions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Will he kindly sit down? I cannot make an exception.

17.32 hrs.

MOTION RE: REPORT ON MID-TERM APPRAISAL OF THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN—Contd.

Shri P. C. Borooah (Sibsagar): Sir, at this fag end of the fourth day of the debate on the mid-term appraisal report, I am afraid I will cover some of the points already covered by many of the speakers today. After hearing so many speakers, particularly our

Finance Minister, I am sorry that I have to traverse some of the ground which has already been covered. But there is no way out and I hope you will excuse me for that.

I am also not one of those who want to say that the Planning Commission has done nothing and that the Plan should be scrapped. It was amply explained by our hon. Finance Minister and some hon. Members that it is actually a national plan. Is it not a fact this Plan was discussed threadbare by this House and after that this House gave the green signal to the Government to go ahead with it?

Shri Yashpal Singh: There is no quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let some hon. Members have the opportunity to speak.

Shri P. C. Borooah: It is a national Plan and it is our Plan, whatever may be the vices and virtues in this Plan. The report has given us a chance to suggest as to how to improve things. Our criticism should be such that we offer some suggestions by which the plan can be implemented successfully and the Plan targets may be achieved. So, our criticism should be constructive. It does not mean that we should be hiding the deficiencies and the deficits that the Plan has suffered from. They should be discussed and they should be remedied.

I am sorry, I will have to refer again to some of the shortfalls of this Plan, which have already been mentioned by a few of my hon. friends. It is true that while our population is fast increasing the expansion of the economy is slowing down. After thirteen years of planning, mass poverty has still persisted in this country, and it is in the same state as it was in the beginning. The rate of growth of national income has not been commensurate with our needs and objectives; it has fallen short of our expectation by over 50 per cent. The per capita income according to 1948-49 prices in 1960-61

[Shri P. C. Borooah]

was Rs. 293.4 as against Rs. 292.7 of 1960-61. So, there is a decline in per capita income also.

Agricultural production has also declined, which had to be made up by import of foodgrains. The import of foodgrains was 3.58 million tons in 1962 as against 3.44 million tons in 1961. Being an agricultural country, it is very unfortunate that up till now we have not been able to become self-contained even in our food production. During the last 11 years the imports of foodgrains alone cost this country over Rs. 1,400 crores. The average rate of increase in production in 1961 was only 7 per cent, as compared to 10 to 11 per cent during the last two years of the second Plan. The production of agriculture-based industries has also declined. The production of sugar has declined as a result of the cut imposed by Government with a view to securing balance between supply and demand.

The total foreign aid available in the Third Plan up to December 1962 was of the order of Rs. 2,196 crores.

Shri Baid: Are you speaking to the empty benches?

Shri P. C. Borooah: It is almost like that.

श्री कछबाय (देवास) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछले सेशन में यह तय हुआ था कि अगर पांच बजे के बाद कोरम न हो, तो हाउस उठ सकता है।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right. Let the hon. Member continue his speech tomorrow.

श्री प० सा० बाबूयाल (गंगानगर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कल बोलने के लिए मेरा नाम लिख लीजिये।

श्री कछबाय : मेरा नाम भी लिख लीजिये।

श्री स० मो० बनर्जी (कानपुर) : मेरा नाम भी लिख लीजिये।

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TWENTY-SECOND REPORT

Shri Rane (Buldana): Sir, I beg to present the twenty-second report of the Business Advisory Committee.

17.40 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 11th December, 1963/Agrahayana 20, 1885 (Saka).