

[Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri]

I think the House on some subsequent occasion should give its serious consideration to this administrative aspect also, because after all the regulation and control of the corporate sector of our economy also needs a proper integrated all-comprehensive organisation. Otherwise what I feel is that the work that was done over so many years by a competent body of officers who have been in charge of the administration of company law and have done excellent work, will be totally nullified.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now proceed to the next item of business.

14.34 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTIETH REPORT

Shri Hem Raj (Kangra): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Thirtieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th December, 1963."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Thirtieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 9th December, 1963."

The motion was adopted.

14.35 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION—contd.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now proceed with the further discussion of the following Resolution moved by Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah on the 29th November, 1963:—

"This House recommends that a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament, agricultural experts and progressive farmers be constituted to go into the causes of failure in agricultural sector and make recommendations for better co-ordinated efforts of official and non-official agencies in the agricultural front to increase the agricultural production so as to reach the desired targets."

The time allotted for this resolution is two hours out of which we have already taken one hour and twenty-five minutes. Thirty-five minutes are left.

Shri Sivamurthi Swamy may now continue his speech.

श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी (कोयल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पिछली बार मैं कह रहा था कि एग्रिकल्चर का जो डिपार्टमेंट है, इसका सम्बन्ध दूसरे डिपार्टमेंट्स से बिल्कुल नहीं है। दूसरे डिपार्टमेंट्स जिन का इस डिपार्टमेंट से ताल्लुक है, उन से यह अपना कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं रखता है, इन डिपार्टमेंट्स में कोई कोओर्डिनेशन नहीं है। यह बहाना किया जा सकता है कि एग्रिकल्चर स्टेट सब्जेक्ट है, इस वास्ते इस मामले में कोई बहुत ज्यादा सैंटर का हस्तक्षेप नहीं हो सकता है। मैं आपके सामने बहुत सी मिसालें पेश कर सकता हूँ जो कि केन्द्र से ताल्लुक रखती हैं और अगर केन्द्र ने सही नीति अपनाई होती तो खेती के काम को बढ़ावा मिल सकता था। ऊपर के लेवल पर एग्रिकल्चर के साथ जो हमदर्दी दिखाई देती है, कैबिनेट लेवल पर जो दिखाई देती है या मंत्री महोदय के लेवल पर जो दिखाई देती है, वह नीचे के लेवल पर बिल्कुल नहीं दिखाई देती है, वहाँ पर हालत इसके बिल्कुल उल्टी है। दिल्ली को आप छोड़ दीजिये। आप देखें कि दूसरे राज्यों में कितनी इरिगेशन फैसिलि-

टीज दी है, कितने कुएं तैयार हो गए हैं, कितने ट्यूब वॉल तैयार हो गए हैं। जहां पर ये तैयार हुए भी हैं वहां पर दूसरी कर्मियां रह गई हैं। कहीं कहीं पर तो बिजली ही नहीं पहुंचाई गई है। ऐसी सूरत में किस तरह से ट्यूबवॉल काम कर सकते हैं। अगर बावली, कुएं आदि खोद दिये गये लेकिन पानी खींचने के साधन मुहैया नहीं किये गये तो इससे क्या लाभ हो सकता है। आजकल लोग आसमान तक पहुंचने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, यह एटम का जमाना है, साइंस बहुत ज्यादा प्रगति कर चुकी है और इस जमाने में अगर हम पानी खेत को न दें, खेत तक पानी न पहुंचाये, तो किस तरह से हम आशा कर सकते हैं कि हमारी खाद्य समस्या हल हो। मैं इस समस्या के बारे में अधिक न कहते हुए श्री जे०सो० कुमारप्पा की जो किताब है "स्वराज फार दी मासिस", उस में से थोड़ा सा पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूं। उन्होंने उस में लिखा है :

"Nero Fiddles.

When people are dying of starvation on the pavements of Calcutta and the country is facing a famine, should this tobacco cultivation in the interests of the Tobacco Companies be the preoccupation of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research? A Government pledged to the welfare of the people should reclaim all such land for raising food crops. It should transfer the services of Sir Herbert Stewart and officers of his like to the Tobacco Companies and not waste the taxpayer's money in subsidizing British firms masquerading in India as '(India) Ltd.'. Almost the entire programme of work of this I.C.A.R. is of this nature. If it is not tobacco it is long-staple cotton or thick-rind sugar-cane for the mills or groundnuts for export. This is the secret of the so-called efficiency of the mills—misappropriation of the taxpayer's

money' through the public services. Such activities, especially in these critical times, remind one of Nero fiddling while Rome was burning."

इस तरह की और भी बहुत सी मिसालें पेश की जा सकती हैं। हर जगह में अब टोबैको एक्सटेंशन एग्रिकल्चर आफिसर्स मुकर्रर कर दिए गए हैं, काटन एक्सटेंशन एग्रिकल्चरल आफिसर्स मुकर्रर कर दिये गये हैं जो इन कैश क्रॉप्स की देखभाल करते हैं। मैं नहीं कहता हूं कि इन फसलों को उगाया न जाये। लेकिन इसको देखा जाये कि जहां पर अजनास पैदा होनी चाहिये थी वहां उसके स्थान पर कैश क्रॉप्स पैदा की जा रही है। जरूरत इस बात की थी कि खाद्यान्न ज्यादा उगाए जाते

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप खत्म कीजिये।

श्री शिवामूर्ति स्वामी : पांच मिनट और दे दीजिए।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : छः मिनट आप पहली बार ले चुके हैं और चार मिनट अब आपने ले लिये हैं। अब आप माफ करें।

An Hon. Member: The time may be extended.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think there is any justification for extending the time for this. We have had a Food debate, a Plan debate.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy (Kurnool): But if the House agrees?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are other important resolutions. We should not discuss the same thing over and over again. Members have had their chance.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I move a motion that the time be extended.

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli): I would request the hon. lady Member not to move a motion for extension of time.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: Let it be put to the House. I move that the time for this resolution be extended by one hour.

Shri Nambiar: Sir, this was discussed in the Private Members' Business Committee and it was agreed that the next resolution may be allowed to be moved, because it is an important resolution, about upgrading of Madras City to an 'A' class city. My difficulty is....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I feel there is no justification for extending the time. Shri Sivamurthi Swamy may please wind up his speech.

श्री शिवमूर्ति स्वामी : मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो सेंट्रल बजट है उस में एग्रिकल्चर का स्थान बहुत कम है। ग्रबर नेशन बिल्डिंग कामों के लिये तो उस का २४ फीसदी दिया गया है लेकिन एग्रिकल्चर को सिर्फ २ या ३ फीसदी दिया गया है। इतना कहते हुए मैं आप से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि अगर हम खाद्य के मामले को या शगर के मामले को हल करना चाहते हैं तो तमाम कारखानों को जो कि कोम्पारेटिव बेसिस पर चलते हैं या फार्मों को जो कोम्पारेटिव बेसिस पर चलते हैं जल्दी से जल्दी और लिबरल तरीके से एनकरजमेंट दिया जाय। एग्रिकल्चर का जो मसला है उस के बारे में एक कमेटी एन्वाइंट कर के उस में जो नुकायस हों उन की जांच की जाय और उन को ठीक किया जाये।

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav (Barabanki): There is a motion before the House re: extension of time. The House should take a decision on it.

मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Dr. Ram Subhag Singh.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barackpore): I wish to make a submission to you and to the other side (*Interruptions*). I do not know why Shri Patel gets up to interrupt whenever we speak. The submission I have to make is that in non-official

business, we should try to do things, as far as possible, on the basis of agreement. Now I do not say that the particular issue is not important. But I would request that this should not be made a convention, that a motion is moved for extension and then we all know what happens with the majority that the Congress Party possesses. Unless this be an issue which has not been sufficiently debated and cannot be debated again except under this discussion, I would request the Member not to press the motion for extension, because if the motion is put to vote, we know what happens with the Congress majority.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): I would also make a similar request. Although I agree that this Resolution is very important—personally I feel that it should have more time—at the same time, I must record my protest against the manner in which extension of time for non-official business is sought to be obtained. In this respect, we have created a bad precedent by voting for extension of time for a Bill thereby shutting out another Bill which dealt with disclosure of assets by Ministers. The Congress Party through its majority sought to shut out that Bill and prevent its even being moved in the House.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: That is the impression created whatever you may say.

Now we have another Resolution seeking to declare Madras as an class 'A' city. Let not the impression go out that because it concerns the south, the majority in this House wants to prevent even the chance of that Resolution being moved here. I do not think we are creating good precedents by such conduct on our part. I would request you to prevail upon our friends opposite not to press that motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would also make an appeal to the House. We had a discussion on the food situation for 10 hours and we had a discussion on the Plan for 19 hours. Of course, I am bound by the decision of the House. So I have leave it to the House. But I thought there should be no extension of time. I appeal to the good sense of the House.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I would like to say one word. The Opposition Members were saying that we are being moved by the Ministers. That is not a correct statement. We are not moved by the Minister. We judge the issue on merits. (*Interruptions*).

Shri Rane (Buldana): The subject has already been discussed sufficiently more than once. I think there should be no extension of time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I leave it to the House.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: It should not be pressed.

An Hon. Member: The motion for extension should be withdrawn.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I bow to your ruling. I am not pressing that motion.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Dr. Ram Subhag Singh.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): I am glad that Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah has moved this Resolution which has enabled so many Members to express concern over the present level of agricultural production. I share their feelings and I assure them that we shall try our best to achieve a break-through in the present level of production.

I do not want to quote figures because they have already been quoted by so many hon. Members. During the past two years, agricultural production has been virtually stable, but

I must also point that the 1961-62 figure was a record one. During that year, we find the highest production. The level rose to 141.4 though during last year it slumped down to 136.4.

Now, I want to emphasise and stress one point that the total agricultural efforts have been extended during the past three years. Stress was laid by Shri Venkatasubbaiah and some other hon. Members—and now Shri Sivamurthi Swamy said the same thing—that the benefit of the research should reach farmers. I attach much importance to it. The ICAR and other committees will do their best to take the results of research to the agriculturists. I believe that unless and until technical knowledge is carried to the agriculturists, we will not be able to modernise our agriculture.

Agriculture is suffering from so many handicaps. The first is that we are having very small and uneconomic holdings. I do not mean that we should necessarily have large holdings because we shall have to care for our landless agriculturists also. Therefore, we should strike a balance between two aspects. First is the land hunger. Our population is very big and will go on increasing. Our area under cultivation is limited. It cannot increase. We can only increase production by adding fertilisers, providing irrigation facilities, better implements etc. In the same area where there was one crop, we can try to have two or three. By such intensive cultivation, we can increase production.

Then we can bring some more land under cultivation. For example, desert areas or land not yet brought under cultivation, can be tapped. If we provide irrigation facilities there, we can raise two or three crops. In that way, our acreage can be increased.

The other thing is that we have very low productivity. In many cases our production has gone down or is remaining stable. By providing maximum facilities to agriculturists we can increase production and also in creat-

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ing an atmosphere wherein he must feel that he is not worried about so many other responsibilities.

The biggest factor that comes in the way of increasing productivity is the power of investment of the agriculturist. Anybody who is in a position to invest something is able to grow better crops, and if one is unable to apply fertiliser and plough the field properly, naturally his yield is very low. So, this investment capacity must be created.

Our agriculturists are also having a very low level of technical advice. While we are having some tractors, it is not possible to have servicing centres everywhere. But there are many other things which come under technical advice, and there are institutional drawbacks.

But this resolution wants a committee consisting of Members of Parliament, agricultural experts and progressive farmers, to go into the causes of failure in the agricultural sector. As you said, Sir, the food debate was recently held for two days in this House, and for two days in the other House. The Mid-term Plan Appraisal Report was also discussed here, and all the Members who could be accommodated got an opportunity to express their views. Besides, we have the informal consultative committee for Members of Parliament. As for experts, they are there in the field, they are manning all our research institutes, educational institutions etc. They are also manning our agricultural department. As for progressive agriculturists, we are going to associate them at each level. The State Governments have been advised to associate them at the State level, and if possible, at the district and village level also. So, in the matter of constituting a committee as desired, I would like to be guided by the advice of the House, because our agriculture is suffering not because of lack of reports. We have more than two dozen reports, but we lack in the

implementation of the recommendations that have been made so far.

To say that all our programmes are good and at the same time that the implementation is bad, is not good. At the time we undertake a programme, we must try to create suitable machinery to implement it. There lies the root of the failure. No programme should be undertaken if we are not in a position simultaneously to implement it. That should be borne in mind by everybody who talks about agriculture.

It is not the business of the Agriculture Ministry alone. This work is handled firstly by about 70 million farmer families, secondly by so many departments like the Irrigation Department, Agriculture Department, Community Development Department etc., and to some extent by the Planning Commission. The entire extension is implementing it at the block and village levels. All these things should be borne in mind.

From 1947 to 1963 agricultural production has increased, there is no doubt about it, but our necessity is much more, and I want it should go on multiplying because our standard of living is low today, and unless and until we increase our standard of living, we will not be able to educate our children properly. Without education, if you want to keep agriculture at the level at which it was in the medieval period, that is no sign of progress. Many people want jets and Boeings for transport, but no tractors, bulldozers and fertilisers for agricultural purposes. There are so many hackneyed ideas going on simultaneously in the country, that I want to disabuse the minds of the critics.

Many people say that the Agriculture Ministry people do not have a heart. I want to compare it with the heart of everybody here, because you must have a total picture in your mind when you talk about agriculture. A school teacher, for instance, says that

agricultural production has fallen, but what is his contribution? If you are sitting here in the Chair and talking about the availability of milk, poultry or agricultural produce or horticulture, and hate to do any work in that field, how does it help? That should be avoided. So, all these people who talk must go into the field and set an example to others that they also are working in the field.

Shri Nambiar: I have a milch cow at home, poultry farming, everything.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Shri Nambiar also wants to fish always in troubled waters!

I was referring to the total efforts that have been expanded recently. Shri Venkatasubbaiah wanted to know the total irrigation potential that is not being utilised. Everybody knows from the mid-term Plan Appraisal that it comes to 4 to 5 million acres. So is the case with agricultural machinery, manufacture of tractors etc. If we can utilise this irrigation potential, immediately to that extent our agricultural production can be increased. Similarly, the target of fertiliser utilisation was about one million tons in terms of nitrogen, but is going to be only about 8 lakh tons by the end of the Plan period. Even today, we are short of tractors, but this programme is being increased.

Last year we created a seed corporation for providing seeds of different types, and particularly hybrid maize. Our effort was to create a board for handling this agricultural machinery programme. About the distribution of fertiliser, now there is no complaint about that. The complaint may be that the credit is not available. So, we are not able to take full advantage of fertilisers, but the demand is much more than the availability.

Coming to the inadequate utilisation of irrigation potential, the DVC canals, for instance, were supposed to irrigate about one million acres, and Shri Venkatasubbaiah or any Member

is welcome to find out the causes of non-utilisation not only the irrigation potential of DVC but so many others. I do not want to take shelter under the plea that it is not being utilised, but let us all combine and see that it is utilised. For such purposes some committees were also set up.

15 hrs.

The first committee during the Second Plan period was the Food-grains Enquiry Committee, presided over by Shri Asoka Mehta in 1957. It gave certain recommendations. Later on the Ford Foundation team gave some recommendations and afterwards the package programme was introduced. Then the agricultural administration committee was set up in 1958 to report on agricultural administration and agricultural production. I may say that you can have results in proportion to the facility that you are providing to the agriculturist, to the agricultural administrators or officers. This committee recommended that there should be an All India Agricultural Service. It was processed and it is now under consideration and I hope it would come into existence as soon as possible. I want to include animal husbandry and veterinary people also in this because they should not be neglected. We are having all-India Service for everything except agriculture. Facilities, remuneration and respectability that you provide to the other services should also be given to the agricultural workers; otherwise you cannot expect more results from them alone. Still it goes to the credit of the agriculturists and agricultural officers that agricultural production has gone from 5 crore tons in 1950-51 to 7.9 crores tons now; jute production has increased from 20 lakh bales in 1950-52 to 60 lakh bales now; cotton production has gone from 20 lakh bales to 50 lakh bales. Wherever there is achievement there is no notice of it; the lack of achievement is exaggerated. Everybody talks about their facilities. For instance, we talk about our own facilities. What about the

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facilities given to the agriculturist? Have we improved the total facilities available to an ordinary agriculturist like me, having ten acres or two acres? Have we reduced his burden? If not what is the sense in expecting more from him? For instance, take our own Suratgarh farm. The desert area has been transformed into a beautiful farm. May be, the results are not up to our expectation. But it has changed the face of the soil. There has been some investment, irrigation facilities, fertiliser application, good administration, some machines and trained agriculturists. Are we in a position today to provide that much facility to all our agricultural areas? We must proceed in that direction. If you keep the farmer half starved or under conditions wherefrom he could not get out, I do not think he will be in a position to improve yields or understand the knowledge of our research laboratories which Mr. Swami and Mr. Venkatasubbaiah and Mr. Ranga and others spoke about. I will throw another challenge to Mr. Ranga because he has been in the field of peasants movement for a long time. Peasants have not yet been organised and everybody wants to exploit them. Even Mr. Masani has said that they are not in a proper condition? What has he done all through his life to improve their condition? Something concrete could be done to improve their condition by consolidation of holdings. They can say that they are not Chief Ministers and so they cannot get the fields consolidated; they can advance so many other arguments. The main thing is to remove their burdens, avoidance of further fragmentation and then consolidation of holdings. Apart from these three conditions, there are so many other conditions also. We are going into this matter constantly. Last year we approached the State Governments to constitute a Cabinet Sub-Committee. At the Secretaries level, there is a Secretaries Sub-committee with a view to rope in all the agencies that work in the field of agriculture. After that there was a Ministers' Conference to

consider this work—conference of State Ministers of Community Development and State Agriculture Ministers. That Conference set up a working group to go into inter-departmental and institutional co-ordination. The State Governments are now studying and implementing the report of that working group. Recently an agricultural production board was created by the National Development Council and it consists of Ministers of community development, of irrigation, of planning, and then people connected with the Food and Agriculture Ministry and then planning member for Agriculture.

Shri Nambiar: Except Members of Parliament.

Shri Sheo Narain (Bansi): How many kisans are there?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Mr. Sheo Narain is a peasant from Cuba and he is a very active peasant. All those people who are there claim such representative capacity as my esteemed friend Mr. Sheo Narain; they are in no way less qualified to be on that committee. Many people from this side and even Mr. Nambiar who is a very good friend of mine say: what about Members of Parliament? Are we not Members of Parliament? Today you are there and tomorrow I can be there. We are as good Members of Parliament as you are... (*Interruptions*). Shri Sheo Narain referred to farmers. There are some very good farmers on the panel of agriculturists—more than 20; I do not exactly remember the figure. But that committee consists of over two dozen members from different States; it is a committee of progressive farmers. When I talk about the State, district or blocs, progressive farmers, there are farmers there and if Mr. Sheo Narain has any idea to offer, we shall be happy to accept and implement his idea. I want to reduce the number of committees and as I pointed out we are suffering not because of the lesser number of committees or lesser number of

reports but because of suitable agencies to implement those reports in a co-ordinated way. Now with the constitution of the Agricultural Production Board and the Inter-departmental Committee report, there is going to be more and more co-ordination and very effective co-ordination at each level. Therefore, I think that my hon. friend Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah should not press this resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does Shri Venkatasubbaiah withdraw his resolution? He has no time now for a speech.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): In five minutes, I shall say a few words and then withdraw the resolution.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Two or three minutes.

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav: I beg of you that I must be given an opportunity.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not now. Shri Venkatasubbaiah.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: I am highly thankful to the Minister for having given a clear exposition of agriculture and agricultural production and the related problems in this country. Even in my earlier speech while moving the resolution I had said that I wanted to highlight certain defects that are found in the agricultural production activities. I listened to the Minister attentively, and I am glad to find that he spoke with great feeling. I know, and I have also heard, that he is as good a farmer as anyone of us. I entirely agree with him. The only point that I would like to suggest is, the entire agricultural department both at the Centre and in the States, or rather the edifice, has not been built on strong foundations. I wanted to tell the hon. Minister and this House that there should be a thorough orientation of the entire Ministry and the departments concerned.

Very recently it has been said that the Irrigation and Power Ministry has been put in overall charge of this Ministry. I would like to know whether, after that decision, any real integration or co-ordination has taken place so far. Very recently, the Agricultural Ministers met here. I also raised the question regarding lessening the rates of electricity so far as supply of electricity to the farmers is concerned. The conference was held in August. Yesterday, I asked a question about it and the Parliamentary Secretary replied that he is getting replies from the State Governments. It has taken nearly four to five months for a decision to be taken. This is my first point.

I would only read some of the impressions that have been given by our Prime Minister and also by the Minister of Planning, Shri Nanda. I shall quote first what our Prime Minister has said:

"... it appears to me that agriculture is often considered a routine job which not the brightest of the Ministers can take charge of. Agriculture is more important by itself than the Chief Ministers. Whoever does it, it must be done by a man with a sense of mission, with a sense of devotion to the work, with energy and enthusiasm and some ideas. That is not the impression that we now get. It is looked upon more as a routine job."

That is the expression made by the Prime Minister on agriculture.

Then, I shall just quote what Shri Nanda said on agriculture. Just now, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture has been telling us that the community development, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Ministry of Irrigation and Power are the three agencies through which we try to increase the food production. About community development and village production plans, I would just read

[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

the impressions that have been expressed by Shri Nanda. Shri Nanda said:

"I am sorry to say that in spite of elaborate discussion we had seven months ago, there is pronounced resistance to take up concrete action in the villages. We have been talking of village production plans, which have only now caught the fancy of people at all levels. What has been the result? In every State, where the village production plan has been taken up, an elaborate *pro forma* has been drawn up which the Village Level Worker has to fill up for every single family—a task beyond the capacity of any human being. I asked our experts in the C.D. Ministry and in the Food and Agriculture Ministry to prepare a village production plan. I have asked a top level man to get into one single village near Delhi and work out a plan which that village can take up and which can be adopted as a model in other villages. At last a Committee has been set up to prepare a production plan for a village near Delhi. I want you to consider what this means. For the past three years we have been asking every V.L.W. to prepare village production plans, and the only thing we have done is to draw up *pro formas*."

I am very happy that the Minister has come out with the assurance that he is going to streamline the entire administration and also see that production goes up. I am very happy to hear that he has applied himself to this work, as he always does when any work is entrusted to him. I hope that under his stewardship agricultural production will increase. I am one of those people who want to see that agricultural production should go up in this country, and that there should not be any criticism in Parliament or outside that agriculture has

suffered at the hands of Dr. Ram Subhag Singh and at the hands of the Government.

With these words, I beg leave to withdraw the resolution.

*The Resolution was, by leave,
withdrawn.*

15.16 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: UPGRADING OF
MADRAS CITY

Shri Manoharan (Madras South): I beg to move the following Resolution:

"That this House calls upon the Government to upgrade Madras as an "A" class city."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the resolution which I have moved in this House is backed by everybody and everybody agrees in this House with the justness and legitimacy of it. For the past so many years the demand has been persistently made, attracting the attention of the Government to consider this legitimate demand of the Central Government employees of Madras city. Unfortunately, the Government of India—I do not know whether it is lethargic or indifferent—has shelved this matter into cold storage.

15.17 hrs.

[SHRI THIRUMALA RAO in the Chair]

I am now very happy to state that the right man has come as Finance Minister and he has understood the legitimacy of the demand, and he would be able to appreciate the justness of the cause. Believing thoroughly on the *bona fides* of the Finance Minister, I have moved this resolution, hoping that this will be definitely considered and the justness of the