

14.33 hrs.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now take up the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

I shall first place the Demands before the House.

DEMAND No. 61—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,32,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND No. 62—BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. Rs. 5,41,80,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Broadcasting.'"

DEMAND No. 63—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. Rs. 4,22,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1965, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.'"

DEMAND No. 130—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,93,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members wishing to move their cut motions may do so.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to encourage classical music and commentary on sports (3)].

Shri Onkar Lal Berwa (Kotah): I beg to move:

(i) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Procedure regarding giving of newsprint to the newspapers (4)].

(ii) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to improve the condition of Children Film Society (5)]

Dr. M. S. Aney: I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Use of Hindi regarding commentary on sports (6)]

Shri Onkar Lal Berwa: I beg to move:

(i) "That the Demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to instal a strong and powerful transmitter on the northern border of India (9)]

(ii) "That the Demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give A.I.R. programmes to National School of Drama, Delhi (10)]

(iii) "That the demand under the head 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reorient film censor policy (11)]

(iv) "That the demand under the head 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to give government advertisement to district newspapers (12)].

(v) "That the demand under the head 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Discrimination in allotting quota of paper and advertisements to newspapers (13)]

Shri Pottekkatt (Tellicherry): I beg to move:

(i) "That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Discrimination in the matter of giving advertisements to newspapers (14)]

(ii) "That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced to Re. 1"

[Denial of dearness, compensatory and house rent allowances and provident fund benefits to staff artists of the A.I.R. (15)].

Shri Sivamurthi Swamy (Koppal): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for preparing educational films on the use of small tractors and other machines by Japanese in their method of paddy cultivation (16)]

Shri Pottekkatt: I beg to move:

(i) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to instal a 50 k.w. transmitter in Calicut (17)]

(ii) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to introduce daily broadcasts from Kozhikode Radio to serve the people of the Union Territory of Laccadives (18)]

(iii) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the service conditions of staff artists in the A.I.R. (19)]

(iv) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide opportunities to the Opposition Parties to take part in the A.I.R. programmes (20)]

[Shri Pattekkati]

(v) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to publish tourist publications including guide books on Kerala (21)].

(vi) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide better amenities and suitable accommodation to the employees working in the language units of Akashvani Bhavan, New Delhi. (22)].

Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide a more powerful transmitter at Dharwar (23)].

Shri M. R. Masani (Rajkot): I beg to move:

(i) "That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure to establish by Act of Parliament an autonomous Corporation for the running and control of Broadcasting Services. (24)].

(ii) "That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to utilize the medium of television for the information, education and entertainment of the people without any expenditure of public funds. (25)]

श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी)

में प्रस्ताव करता हूँ :

(i) "कि 'प्रसारण, शीष के अन्तर्गत मांग को घटा कर १ रुपये कर दिया जाय ।

[आकाशवाणी द्वारा अंग्रेजी भाषा का अनावश्यक धार अत्यधिक प्रयोग । (२६)]

(ii) "कि 'प्रसारण' शीष के अन्तर्गत मांग में १०० रुपये की कटौती कर दी जाय ।

[आकाशवाणी कलाकारों का वेतन । (२७)]

(iii) "कि 'प्रसारण शीष के अन्तर्गत मांग में १०० रुपये की कटौती कर दी जाय ।

(iv) [आकाशवाणी के जरिये प्रतिरक्षा की भावना को जगाने में अक्षमता (२८)]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These Demands and the Cut Motions are now before the House.

Shri Pottekkatt: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I consider it a privilege to initiate this debate on the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. In these days of mass awareness, of people as a whole coming into their own, in the fields of culture and fine arts, this Ministry, with the powerful instruments of mass communication in their hands, is assuming a more and more dynamic role. Sir, if at all, the complaints of men like us is that the Ministry is not sufficiently aware of the potentialities of the great instruments in its hands, or that it is not acting up to it. It is as much routine-ridden, as much unimaginative as any other department of the Government. Probably, there is an inherent contradiction in the establishment or the authority taking over the role of the guardian of art and culture. I do not say that they should not. But unless high imagination is brought to bear, and policies executed with daring, this Ministry and its

adjuncts would also tend to become just carbon copies of the P.W.D. or the Finance Department.

Sir, rhetoric is not my aim. Take the role of the Ministry, or the AIR and the Information Bureau, following the Chinese aggression. It was the reaction of the bureaucracy. The mass upsurge in India was not reflected through these great media of publicity. An attempt was made to make the best of the existing machinery and existing personnel. And the result was that there was quantity, but not quality. And gradually people got frustrated and bored with these programmes. Were the very best intellectuals, the very best artistes, drawn to the AIR or other media of publicity? Jaded columnists, by and large dependable 'yes' men of the Government, were drawn to the studios. And the result was that the second-class copy that one sees in the newspapers was also put on the AIR!

The very same inhibitions are at the root of our current failure in making an impact on our neighbours in the Far East, South-East Asia and the Middle East. In the immediate post-freedom years, in the hey days of Panchsheel, we made a definite ideological impact on our neighbours. That impact has worn away dangerously. Not because our policies have gone wrong; not because we have become less non-aligned; but because we have become less secular. China has committed naked aggression. Pakistan is unleashing furies based on blatant communalism and fanaticism. And yet our neighbours are, by and large, lukewarm towards us. Why? Because we have failed in a dynamic projection of our national personality. The reason is this. We select second-rate men; still more second-rate officials control them. This is particularly so in the External Publicity Division. Edited, censored, touched up, all life, all vigour are taken out from our broadcast and external pub-

licity material. This anaemic stuff fails to move people. And the result is that the very best of our intention are misunderstood or not just carried across properly. Take the case of Pakistani propaganda and its continuous misleading effect on Western listeners. We have an excellent case to put across. First of all, it is a primitive idea—this mixing up of religion and nationality. Secondly, there is no discrimination against Muslims, here. I am coming from Kerala. The Muslims or Moplahs there are progressing in every direction; in trade and commerce, in agriculture, in the professions. Was this picture ever presented powerfully to the western people whose representatives are continuously baiting us in the Security Council? In this case, I particularly accuse the External Publicity men for lethargy and lack of imagination.

This lack of dynamism we have inherited from the British. An utterly colourless copy is a safe copy. "Put it on: I won't be questioned"—that is the attitude of even the highest official. And that clearly is not the way of handling national publicity of a sovereign State facing external aggression and systematic maligning by groups of external powers. And so, we have failed.

Let me now go into a little detail in the matter of A.I.R.'s handling of literary men. Literary men of average ability—let me admit, in some cases even men of slightly above average ability—are taken on contracts as staff artistes. The contracts of course are extended for years. Within six months or one year, this literary man's magic with words and ideas is almost exhausted. As a Government man his contacts with the great currents of life come to a standstill. Then he falls back on his wife and stereotyped dramas; and talks are manufactured almost as a routine. The programmes lose their dynamism and they become a concoction of shouts, cries and the usual melodrama. Instead, why not have a coun-

[Shri Pottekkatt]

nuous flow of fresh talents? Instead of long term contracts having a dehydrating effect, and turning out a tribe of Government literary men, why not pay decently and get first-rate men for, say, a few broadcasts?

You hear so much of our desire for national integration. Just an annual gathering or Kavi Sammelan is not the answer to the problem. It should be a continuous process, and not all done in an exhibitionist manner. Draw out a series of talks: you have distinguished men and women who could handle these. May I suggest a few talks, just to give an idea? "The rivers of Andhra Pradesh," the "festivals of Tamilnad," "the natural beauty of Kerala," "the temples of Mysore and Madras", "the festivals of these regions," "the agricultural practices and way of life of the farmers," the national wealth and potentialities of these various regions—relay all these talks in Hindi to the northern Indian regions. Relay similar talks from the north to the south. Have high school versions of these talks, linking every high school in India. Do it systematically by men who feel and react emotionally to subjects like these. Are any of our officials thinking on these lines? Their attitude is: *status quo* and leave us in peace. No. An institution like the AIR requires a continuous dynamic guidance.

All India Radio should have a "National Programme of Short Stories," a "National Programme of Biographies of Great Men and Women of India," and a "National Programme of Poems." These will certainly help towards national integration, as the national programmes of music and drama.

Thinking on these lines, never commit the mistake of thinking that an organisation like the AIR is a 100 per cent handmaid of the Government or the ruling party. That thought is at the back of quite a lot of thinking and planning behind the AIR. Let AIR reflect the great currents of

thought and movements in India. Barring outright sedition, open the gates of studies to all representatives of thoughts and opinions. In this respect, the most frigid and rigid radio system in the world is probably the AIR. Even the BBC is not so closed in mind and approach. Most of the Station Directors are haunted by this spectre—"does it go counter to the wishes of the ruling party"? Even news presentation is considerably inhibited by this line of thought. With this attitude, you strike at the very root of liberalism and dynamism. Let it reflect the reality of India and you will see how broadcasts become live in the real sense.

Coming once again to the emergency and the way we handle it, were there any real, emotionally touching broadcasts about the bravery and hardships of our jawans on the frontiers of the Himalayan heights? Were front-rank writers ever taken to the frontiers or battle lines? Journalists were taken all right—but journalists copy is primarily news copy. But a first-rate literary man sees it differently. Have you ever tried it? I doubt.

Now, let me invite your attention to some details. And that relates particularly to the News Division of the AIR. Certain news items are sent for clearance to the External Affairs Ministry and the Home Ministry. News fails to become news if it is announced late. Two, three, vital days are lost through this process. This arrangement caused near chaos during the Chinese invasion. Developments announced by the Peking Radio came through the AIR two or three days late. Do you realise the damage caused, particularly in the sphere of external listening? Gradually, a habit would be created: "tune into Peking for latest news." This is a disaster in the long term sense. Evolve a system by which this dangerous delay in announcing news is eliminated. Station a top-ranking

official in the News Services Division who should be authorised to take spot decisions. But do not delay news; it is as much dangerous for AIR as for newspapers.

May I also draw your attention to a point relating to one of the most important regional stations of the AIR? The Calcutta station of the AIR is an architectural horror. The building shuts out God's air and light. A broadcasting station should not be aesthetically so vulgar. It is not a godown: it is a centre of art and culture and the building should be worthy of it.

In this connection, I should also point out the very unsatisfactory and primitive nature of the extensions or "wings" in which the language units in the Akashvani Bhavan in New Delhi are housed. They are very old structures going back to the days of Sir Sultan Ahmed. Even two units are made to work in one small room here. This much of congestion ought to be avoided. The language units deserve better accommodation, better amenities and better treatment.

Now, let me go nearer to my State, Kerala. Kerala has today the weakest transmitters in the whole of India. The one at Trivandrum is 5 kw. and the other at Kozhikode, one kilowatt. Is it necessary to have a more glaring illustration of the neglectful attitude of the Centre towards Kerala? The radio stations in Kerala are not able to reach the four corners of Kerala, let alone hundreds of thousands of Malayalees living all over India and in many parts of the world. It is highly imperative that a 50 kw short wave transmitter is installed immediately in Kerala, and that too at Kozhikode. There is a particular reason for this. You know, Sir, the Laccadive Islands, which is a Union territory, are nearer to Calicut on the mainland. It is not only backward but it is cut off from the mainland for several months in a year, particularly during the rainy season.

There are no newspapers there, nor can they be sent. The only contact with the rest of the world is through radio. If a 50 kw. transmitter is installed at Kozhikode, good listening in the Laccadives could be ensured. This will also serve a very large number of Malayalees living in the big cities in India as well as the Malayalees living in the western gulf areas, the middle east Africa, Ceylon, Malaya and Indonesia, who have no access to any Malayalam programme of the AIR.

The external services of the AIR should also start broadcasting Malayalam programmes from Delhi. The Government may be interested to know that even the Singapore and Colombo radios show their solicitude for Malayalam by broadcasting programmes in this language. All this is no luxury, Sir. These are rights in modern days.

Now, I want to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the very genuine grievances of a section of employees in the AIR, the staff artistes, as they are called. I cannot understand why translators and announcers doing virtually the same work of sub-editors should be kept as staff artistes for years and years. There is absolutely no reason why they should not be made permanent Government servants. They are different from pure literary men who are also taken as staff artistes. In their cases other considerations might weigh. But translators and announcers need not be staff artistes. They have all the disadvantages of the Government service in the sense of discipline and restrictions, without the compensating advantages. Their emoluments are poor, their increments are not secure through any regulation or guarantees and after 20 or more years of service, they will have to retire with a small gratuity. They should not be discriminated against in comparison with sub-editors and others, with whom they are on par in the matter of work.

[Shri Pottekkatt]

Poets, authors and composers should be placed as a separate class in the AIR, on a permanent list to be called occasionally. Translators, news-readers, etc. should be taken as regular Government servants in the AIR.

Then a few words on the Advisory Committees of the AIR. These committees have to play an effective side-role. But generally these are becoming lifeless bodies, as these committees are constituted on the whims and fancies of the respective Station Directors. The Members are just "Yes" men under the control of these officials, who have patronage to offer. It is a kind of a close circle, on whom the Station Directors could depend upon. Since it is a picked body, it ceases to be an effective body. Moreover, only persons favourable to the ruling party are admitted into these committees. These committees should be broad-based and made more representative.

Even in the matter of assigning talks in the AIR, discriminations are evident. MLAs and MPs of the Opposition—who are also elected representatives of the people—are rarely given a chance to talk over the AIR. Why not give Members of Parliament greater participation in the programmes of talks over the AIR? Our friend here Vizzy, the Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram, gives pleasant commentaries on cricket test matches. There are among MPs—and particularly among non-Congress MPs—quite a number of people who have important and interesting things to say and a good voice in which to say it. Why keep them at arm's length and bring down broadcasting standards?

Now let me draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Government publicity. The Government publicity is lop-sided, English-oriented and wasteful. All the media units of the I&B Ministry focus their attention mainly on publicity in English, forgetting the fact that the majority of the Indian people do not understand the

English language and if the publicity is meant for the Indian people, it should be mainly done through the Indian languages. The Indian Language Units of the News Service Division are completely neglected and are staffed by comparatively junior people. There should be Editors and Assistant Editors in all Indian language units, as in the case of Hindi, and the newsreaders should not be expected to translate as is done now.

Instead of strengthening the language units, I find that the number of their editorial posts has been reduced, and the number of Deputy Directors of News has been raised from 1 to 5. It is ridiculous to know that they are finding it hard to find work for these new Deputy Directors.

In the Publications Divisions also, the Indian languages, except Hindi and Urdu, are absolutely neglected. They are relegated to the back benches. All the good publications are in English and Hindi only. Other Indian nationalities in the country are also entitled to read about the art, culture, architecture, scientific and technological developments, etc. of this country. Publications like *The Collected Speeches of Jawaharlal Nehru*, *Occasional Speeches and Writings of Dr. Radhakrishnan*, *Temple Architecture in North and South India*, etc. should be brought out in other Indian languages also.

Shri Ranga: What about the speeches of the leaders of the Opposition? They are not published at all.

Shri Pottekkatt: Magazines like *Ajkal* should also be published in other languages.

There are no Programme Journals of the AIR in Marathi, Kannada and Malayalam. These are the only languages in which there are no Programme Journals of the AIR. These also should be brought out.

While there are more than ten Editors in English in the Publications Division, it passes one's comprehension why there is not even an Editor in any Indian language, except perhaps in Hindi and Urdu. This is a deplorable situation.

Looking through the publicity materials issued by the PIB, the Publications Division and the DAVP, it is found that there is a lot of overlapping and superfluity. This can be well avoided if there is coordination at the top echelons of administration. I suggest that, the News Service Division of the AIR, the Press Information Bureau, the Publications Division and the DAVP be brought under one Director-General of Publicity and Information, and all the Indian language publicity units in the various divisions be brought under Chief Editors, each language having one Chief Editor, two Editors and three or four Assistant Editors. The publicity and publications in these languages should be also increased at least ten-fold.

While the PIB has more than one Regional Offices in most of the States, Kerala, which has more than 32 dailies has got only one PIB office at Ernakulam and one Assistant Information Officer. This number should be increased at least to three; i.e. apart from the Ernakulam office, two more should be opened one at Trivandrum and the other at Kozhikode to effectively cater to the daily newspapers and AIR stations.

Talking of national integration, may I suggest one idea to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting? We are supposed to have fairly liberal funds for performances like this. But the question is, how well they are utilised. Now, why not bring out books on all the fourteen States of India and make them available in the different States? Not just Tourist's Guide Books, but books that would at once be readable and would give insight into the genius, greatness and special features of those States. They should be good enough and compre-

hensive enough to be made into textbooks for High Schools and even colleges. I will even suggest a few chapter-headings just to make it clear: "A short Historical Background", "Physical Features and Climate", "The Peoples or the various communities, farmers and others", "Crops and Farming Practices", "Industries", "Arts and Culture", "Festivals", "The Ways of Life", etc. Enlist the services of first-class writers and illustrate them with good photos. They will become excellent source material, not only for students but for all laymen, educationists and others.

Sir, may I now invite your attention to the senseless manner in which the films are censored, particularly the foreign films. Films are works of art. Cut it from the angle of an ascetic, and they cease to be works of art. *Brahmacharis* can remain at home. A kissing scene or an emotionally high-pitched scene will not bring down our society. But they would be very relevant in a film in the creative art sense. And this is India, the home of superb art as represented by the exquisite creations in Ajanta, Ellora, Konark and Khajuraho.

Now let me invite your attention to a particular incident that showed up the authorities in their most partisan colour. There was absolutely no reason to withdraw the documentary on the Great March in the Capital. It was a colossal show and the Film Unit of the Ministry showed their excellent news sense in giving it the importance it deserved. But the administrative action was wrong. And I am sorry to say even the Prime Minister went wrong in it. Events are events. If you do not like it, for that reason, they do not cease to be events of importance. Such totalitarian tendencies should be curbed in the beginning itself. They are against our traditions.

In this context, may I ask the hon. Minister what happened to the VOA

[Shri Pottekkatt]

deal? Incidentally, Sir, may I point out it was one of the queerest things to happen in a sovereign State.

Sir, let me close now, Despite all these criticisms, as a literary man and as a Member of Parliament, my services are always at the disposal of the Ministry.

15.00 hrs.

Shri M. R. Masani: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to support the two cut motions which I have moved, one to discuss the "failure to establish by Act of Parliament an autonomous Corporation for the running and control of Broadcasting Services" and the other to discuss the "need to utilise the medium of television for the information, education and entertainment of the people without any expenditure of public funds".

To start with the radio, this is nothing new that I am urging. My hon. friend's predecessor, Dr. Keskar, I believe as far back as 1952, assured the House that they would come forward with a Bill under which this change would be made. Twelve years have passed and this House is entitled to ask how much longer we are to wait before such a Bill is brought before this House. Even today, officials of the service are asked to sign a declaration saying that, as and when AIR is transformed into an autonomous statutory corporation, they will agree to the change in their conditions of service, and so on. So, I hope that it is not very long before we have this change. But, since there has been no sign of this change coming, I think it is important that the points that necessitate or warrant this change should be stressed before this House.

The only argument that I have heard against the establishment of a corporation is a financial one. The argument is that since All India Radio, owing to the small number of licences

in regard to radio sets in the country, is making a loss and Government have to subsidise broadcasting services, therefore, it would be premature to establish a corporation; So long as Government gives something to AIR, it should remain a departmentally run service.

Now, there are two fallacies in this argument. The first fallacy is that so long as something is subsidised you must control it departmentally. In England, His Majesty's or Her Majesty's Government subsidise every year the external or foreign services of the BBC. But that is not considered a reason for interfering in the running of this service. And our own Government here help many autonomous organisations, institutions and statutory corporations which are dependent on Government support and nobody argues that, therefore, they should not be run on autonomous lines.

The second fallacy is in regard to faulty arithmetic. Broadcasting does not make a loss in this country; it makes a profit. Take the last available year's figures, 1962-63. The expenditure of AIR was Rs. 5.70 crores and income from licence fee was Rs. 4.89 crores. With miscellaneous receipts, the income of AIR came to Rs. 4.93 crores. Therefore, it is argued that there is a loss of Rs. 76 lakhs. But there is an important item which is amazingly overlooked, and that is the customs duty recovered on radio sets imported to India, on which licence fee is being charged for listening to AIR. This income from customs duty on imported radio sets comes to Rs. 1.47 crores. Therefore, the total revenue to Government from broadcasting services comes to Rs. 6.40 crores, as against an expenditure of Rs. 5.70 crores, which means a profit of Rs. 67,16,000 odd. Therefore, this financial argument is lacking in substance.

There are two major reasons on the other hand, why this change is imperative and should be made. One is the

quality of the services. I do not want to be misunderstood, I think there are many good things about our radio service, but there is no doubt that in regard to response to public needs, public tastes, the flexibility and the spirit of service that should be there can never be there in a Government service. If I may just quote a recent survey made in one of the local newspapers, and this is representative of many things that have been said over the last few years, here is something from a newspaper of March 15, which I happen to have with me. The newspaper says:

"We are served with interminable talks on what Government proposes to do or what it wants us to do. When progress is reported it is in terms of figures and totals which can make sense, if it does, only to the tabulators of the Planning Commission."

It further says:

"Treatment apart, the choice of subjects often shows an appalling remoteness from the current context of the listeners' lives."

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Which is that newspaper?

Shri M. R. Masani: I am quoting from a newspaper of March 15.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Which paper?

Shri M. R. Masani: *The Statesman*.

"How many listeners in India feel that the situation in Angola (Wednesday's Focus) or China's treaty obligations under international law (talk in the National Programme by G. S. Pathak) is a problem in which they are vitally involved or even genuinely interested?"

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Quote the remarks about Pathak also.

Shri M. R. Masani: No, I will not read those remarks which are personal.

"...the occasion when Parliament can yield good listening material are sadly missed. I do not remember having heard any independent discussion of the Budget, although no programme would have evoked greater interest on the Budget eveing or over the next few days than discussions by both experts and laymen on what they thought of the Finance Minister's proposals."

"...Which brings me to my last point: the utter unreality of the rural programme."

One can go on quoting, but I think this is a fair sample of what the people feel. And I say it is no reflection on the AIR; it is a reflection on being a government department which has all the rigidities and lack of response that are inherent in Government departments.

The second objection is the more important one; and that is the objection of interference of a political nature or political influence. Here I would like to pay my tribute to the fact that, by and large, the officials who have over the last fifteen years and are today running the AIR have done so in a fair, honest and unbiassed manner. I think they have tried, by and large, individuals apart, to hold the scales even, not to get involved. But the same cannot be said, I am afraid, of all politicians who have been in office.

A particularly shocking example came to light only a few months ago in Orissa. Shri B. Patnayak, when he was the Chief Minister, himself volunteered to broadcast a talk on the food situation in Orissa sometime in May last year. When the script was submitted, the Programme Executive, I understand, objected to the talk on two grounds—one was that it lacked objectivity and the other that it involved needless political controversy. This objection was in regard to an

[Shri M. R. Masani]

attack made on Opposition parties in Orissa and these are the words of Shri Patnayak, which were quoted later in the press:

"I have of late noticed that some of our political colleagues belonging to the Opposition camps have started a tirade against the Government on the food front. I would like to ask them one question. Does villifying the Government with half truths or untruths serve the cause of the people? . . . I have to caution all that Government would come down with heavy hands on all those who choose to serve their own interests at the cost of the Nation."

Now, apart from the fact that this reference "to serve their own interests at the cost of the Nation" comes from the quarter it did, which is amusing, the fact remains that Shri Patnayak, the Chief Minister was clearly misusing his position. The Programme Executive after some hours of arguing was over-borne, he was intimidated by what may be called the revolutionary dynamism of Shri Patnayak, the new type of Commissar, and in the end, the talk was allowed to be broadcast. Well, newspapers in Orissa, the *Eastern Times* of 17th May and 1st June and the *Praja Tantra* which I understand are owned by Congressmen and not by the members of Opposition parties, drew attention to this lapse.

My hon. friend, Shri Surendranath Dwivedy, who is not here now, I understand, wrote to AIR and Government for permission to reply to Shri Patnayak. I think this House will agree that it would have been only fair if he had been given a chance to reply. At this stage, however, the non-controversial clause came into operation and Shri Dwivedy was not given permission to reply. Now, what happened? Was Shri Patnayak punished? Was he removed from service for intimidating a poor Junior Executive or for misusing authority? No, Sir. He was not punished.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra (Nominated—Jammu and Kashmir): He has been Kamarajed.

Shri M. R. Masani: But somebody else was punished, and that was the poor little Programme Executive. He was punished for yielding to the Chief Minister's pressure and not standing up to him. Now, this is not fair to the officials of a service like this, to be in a vulnerable position and find themselves unable to resist. If this had been an autonomous corporation like the BBC, such an incident could never have happened, and that is why it is important that this kind of abuse, even though it is occasional—I agree it is occasional; I do not think the members of the ruling party are using the radio in a totally biased sense—is put an end to at the earliest possible moment.

I was amused to hear from the Communist Benches a reference to AIR being the most rigid broadcasting system in the world. I wonder if my hon. friend has ever tried to write a letter to Radio Moscow, asking them not to be complete stooges of the dictatorship of the Communist Party?

There is no question of comparing All India Radio with Radio Moscow. All India Radio tries to do its job in a difficult situation where the conditions are not fairly laid down, while Moscow Radio is just a mouthpiece of a dictatorship. While I do not want to overstate the case, I do think that there are dangers which should be stopped.

Then there is the boredom of having to listen often to the statements and views of those in authority. They also are entitled to their point of view, but, if I may say so, it is often overdone. The other day I happened to look at one of these television programmes put out from Delhi. It is called a 'Current Affairs' talk. This was about four or five days ago. In about four to five minutes, I had to go through the process of seeing the

faces of at least five Cabinet Ministers—the Prime Minister, Shri Chavan, Shri Nanda, Shri Chagla and Shri Sadiq. I feel that a film which within five minutes has to drag in five Cabinet Ministers on a talk on current affairs certainly shows an amount of loading, and I do not blame people if they get bored with the same faces and the same voices.

It is only in the Communist countries—I think, there are very few exceptions outside the Communist world—where the radio service is a monopoly of the Government. Mostly in free and democratic countries there are two varieties of services. One is like America where broadcasting is commercialised, where different firms compete and there is no governmental organisation at all. On the other hand, there is a middle path which is followed by many other countries. Britain is one of them with the BBC. Japan has the NHK, an autonomous corporation like the BBC, France has RDF, and in Australia there are a statutory corporation and private companies competing on a radio. There are many models. I am not being rigid about this model or that, but I do hope that the hon. Minister will, during his tenure of office, bring before us and long a Bill which will set up an autonomous corporation under the general supervision of Government and Parliament.

Sometimes it is said that parliamentary control will be eliminated. That is not so. The BBC is discussed in Parliament every few weeks. Something or the other comes up on a matter of policy. Then, every few years there is a proper debate when the licence of the BBC expires and the character has to be reviewed. So, the House of Commons has not washed its hands of the BBC. It does try to influence the policy of the BBC; but it does not interfere with the administration of the BBC. This is important. I do hope that the hon. Minister will now move on to this next step forward in the development of broad-

casting in our country. If he does so, he will have the rare distinction of being the first Cabinet Minister who will have voluntarily parted with authority which is at present in his hands. It will be a great feather in his cap.

Now I come to television. This country is 85 per cent illiterate or thereabouts. In a country which is so little literate, audio-visual methods of communication and education are of the greatest value and importance. An illiterate man cannot read or write but he can see and hear. If you are going to carry information, education and amusement to our people, it is through the eye and the ear that we will be able to bring it quickest. Even for creating literacy, television is of the greatest importance. It is being used in the south of Italy and other countries to spread the knowledge of ABC and the three Rs.

Television today is a clean slate on which we can write as we will. It is being introduced even in the most backward and the smallest of countries of Asia and Africa. On a recent visit to the Far East, I saw it at work not only in Japan, where it is a major industry, but also in little Taiwan, the Republic of China, Hong Kong and even a backward country by our standards and a small country like Thailand. Today Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria, Ghana and Kenya either have television systems or are about to have them in the next few weeks or months. Why should a country like India lag behind?

In America, which of course is advanced, it is anticipated that by 1970 1½ per cent of the total expenditure on education in the United States will be used for audio-visual aids like television. In England there are two-way links being established between science and engineering laboratories of Cambridge, London and other universities.

In Morocco, an illiterate country like ours, important educational ex-

[Shri M. R. Masani]

periments on television are taking place. In each village radio and television programmes are being followed by inhabitants.

In Rhodesia, educational television started in September 1961.

In Taiwan it is two years old. They started with 50 sets two years ago; today there are 20,000 receivers in the northern part of the island alone. The cost of a television set in Taiwan is \$125 or between Rs. 500 and Rs. 600. I am told that in Egypt and other countries also the cost has been brought down to about Rs. 500. It is expensive for the poorest man but it is within the reach of our middle classes. In the villages and among the poorer people there can be community sets, institutional sets, reading room sets, school sets and so on. So, it is not a rich man's luxury; it is becoming a common man's need.

In the Report of the Ministry on page 24 there is half a page about what is sought to be done. I do not want to deprecate what is sought to be done. Something is being done in Delhi and they say that something should be done in Bombay at the cost of Rs. 40 lakhs. But why Bombay alone? It is my city and I will be glad if it comes there. But I do not think that it is a problem of Delhi and Bombay alone; it is a problem of our villages and of the whole country. I think this start of trying to pump public money into this is a false start. I think this is not the way we are going to get anywhere.

Then I will be told: 'How will you make it nationwide when we are such a poor country? We cannot afford it?' It is true, we cannot afford it. If we are going to use public revenues, my own party will be opposed to using the public money, the taxpayers's money, on television when undoubtedly there are higher priorities. But there is a way by which India can have television throughout

the country without a single rupee of the taxpayer being spent. That way has been tried elsewhere and has not been found wanting. That method is for time on television to be sold to those who have a message to convey or goods to sell. Such people will then pay by sponsoring programmes and by that payment they will maintain all the apparatus, the staff and the stations by which television is put across.

There are two objections that are raised to such television. One is that the programmes are cheap and vulgar and the other is that they are constantly interrupted by advertisements. This is not true as I shall proceed to show.

Let me mention how it works in Britain where I happen to have the privileges of being a personal friend from college days of the Director General of the Independent Television Authority, Sir Robert Fraser, who was with me in college when I was in London as a student. Through him I have come to keep in touch every two or three years with the progress that this institution is making. In Britain there are two television services, the BBC and the ITV or ITA. The BBC runs its own television and the Independent Television Authority has its own system. They compete and by competing they are creating a healthy climate where both sides improve.

The Independent Television Authority was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1954. The Authority is responsible for operating television services as a public service on a self-financing basis. It establishes stations, it selects and appoints programme companies who compete to sell programmes to ITV and ITV is able to choose between the programme companies judging them by the high standards of the programmes. These companies go to the manufacturer of goods or services and get these manufacturers to sponsor programmes pre-

pared by the programme company. The company that makes soap or radio sets is not allowed to put across its commercial advertisement. It is only allowed to sponsor a play, a story, a talk, a debate, a discussion, some feature of cultural or other value or a concert, and the company that advertises gets the value or prestige of having its name on that programme to show that such-and-such a company is enlightened enough to give this great pleasure or treat to the seeing public.

It is true that in some countries the programme is interrupted occasionally to mention the name of the sponsor or the goods that he sells; but that also is regulated. In England, for instance, not more than six or seven minutes are allowed for commercial sponsorship in an hour's worth of a cultural programme. So, these evils are clipped.

The Act under which the ITA was created lays down that the standard of programmes shall be high, that there will be supervision and parliamentary interest in the programmes, and there are clauses in the Act which guarantee that the ITA will maintain high standards of programmes.

Similarly, it is obligatory that competition should be maintained. No one company can be given a monopoly and today there are half a dozen companies in England who are given the right to compete for time on ITV. By all these methods a very high standard has been maintained. Here is a book which if hon. Members will see, they will realise what an amount of high level cultural and artistic stuff is put across by ITV. This is the same model that is being followed in Malaya, Japan, Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya. None of these countries have felt that they are being corrupted by allowing programmes to be sponsored by those who are interested in doing so. This experience in England which has maintained a high standard is something which we may well emulate. The only thing is that we should

not be irrational enough to fear or suspect everything that makes a profit! The I.T.A. has made a very good profit. Let me show what it does for the revenues of Britain. The I.T.A. has made, since its creation, £26 million as income. It has spent on its services £10.5 million; it has paid £7½ million as tax to Government and on top of it it has given £1 million to the public exchequer as contribution, just as the Railways make a contribution to the general revenues. So, here is Britain, which has given its people the benefit of television without any cost to the public, paying taxes and giving a million pound contribution and on top of it paying for its services. What possible objection can there be to such a system? I believe that if we look at this dispassionately, there can be no possible objection.

I was very glad to see a few days ago in the *Hindustan Times* a report that the hon. Minister himself has said that—

"If India must have television in the near future, it will have to be sponsored on a commercial basis. The present shortage of foreign exchange precludes television programme being put on any other basis."

I think the hon. Minister has undoubtedly got the right end of the stick there. I wish him success in pursuing his enquiries and research in this matter and I do hope that he will leave a permanent legacy in this country.

Sir, if I may say so, he is the first Minister of this Ministry, since the late Sardar Patel ran this Ministry, who has got political influence and prestige behind him. I hope he will use that political influence and prestige and leave behind the monument of a television service on an independent autonomous and dignified basis.

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on rare occasions I agree with my hon. friend

[Shri Khadilkar]

Mr. Masani. On this occasion I do agree with some of his criticism and some of his suggestions. But at the same time I would like to utter a word of caution because he has pleaded for a commercialised television service in this country and I feel at the present stage of development, if we go after a type of television civilisation which reflects the high-speed life in the West, with all its consequences, it would not only be a waste but, perhaps, I am afraid it will have a deleterious effect on the morale of the people. Therefore, so far as his last suggestion is concerned, I do not endorse what he said, that is, our television service should be commercialised, and I have some reasons for it. This Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has a very dynamic role to play in this country.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta (Alwar): You do not endorse the praise of the hon. Minister?

Shri Khadilkar: Yes, I do. I am happy that the Chief Whip who has been mainly concerned with the Parliamentary Affairs has taken charge of this Ministry. He has maintained certain discipline, dignity and decorum of the House and now he has taken charge of, if I may say so, a new empire with about 12 or 13 departments. Let us see what dynamism he brings to all these departments and the Ministry concerned. Unfortunately, in this country, this is the only instrument or the only medium at the disposal of the Government which can reach the illiterate and the literate masses and explain the major objectives of our policy. Unfortunately, the other medium that is open now, that is, the newspaper industry has become a monopoly, and in this country, particularly when the newspaper industry has become a monopoly, it is the responsibility of this Ministry, in my opinion, to see that the masses are enlightened. It is not simply an instrument of recreation. It is an instrument of education,

enlightenment and of imparting scientific information to the illiterate masses and the peasantry that lives in villages so that they would come up and catch up with the modern technique. Here, I would like to quote a few sentences from a survey carried on in one of the reports by the Conservative Political Centre in London in 1960. They have emphasized the role of radio in the literate as well as the illiterate society which is trying to keep up the democratic superstructure. I will quote only a small portion of it:

"Broadcasting is the nation's greatest unifying communications force in peace or war. Without doubt radio is going to make an ever larger impact on the lives of people in the emergent countries. Among literate nations, its influence has proved enormous, among nations with a high proportion of illiteracy it will be greater still."

This survey has rightly pointed out that the responsibility or the role of this Ministry should be emphasized from this angle as to how with this instrument at your disposal you are helping the forces of integration and unity in this country, how you are repelling the propaganda of our enemy, and how you are educating the masses with the new technique in the understanding of the processes of democracies that we are following. If that is done, it will perhaps strengthen the basis of democracy. Therefore, as I said, it is a big role and the Minister has a big responsibility. So far, it was a sort of a subordinate Ministry and unfortunately it was not taken in that spirit that it has a big role to play because, as I said, the newspaper industry in this country is a monopoly. Even from the present report if we look at the pattern of ownership we can realise how it is being controlled. This is what the report says:

"130 dailies controlled by chain groups and multiple units claim

65.9 per cent of the total circulation of dailies in India. 9 big English dailies controlled by chain groups of multiple units claim 76.9 per cent of the total circulation of English dailies."

From these figures it is very clear how the whole apparatus of the press which is being controlled by the monopoly is being utilised.

15.28 hrs.

(SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair)

Some thought was given to this aspect of the emerging monopolies of the press when the Press Commission discussed this problem. I would like to quote something from the Press Commission's Report. This is a menace to our democratic growth, to our socialist objective because as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru recently pointed out while addressing the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the *National Herald* on September, 29, 1963:

"A few newspapers are dominated by capitalists who promote their own interests, which often place hurdles in the correct execution of Government programmes. Some of the newspapers are rich and have a large circulation. But making profits should not be the ultimate aim."

The same thing has more or less been observed by the Press Commission in their report. They have stated:

"It is, perhaps, inevitable that a paper that is owned by businessmen or industrialists, whether directly or through the control of joint-stock companies, should adopt editorial policies which advance directly or indirectly the interests of the business community as a whole, or the particular business interests or commitments of the proprietors."

With this observation, they have made a projection and they have made a suggestion. Unfortunately, the suggestion regarding the Press Council, made in 1954, is still being debated, or was perhaps debated upon in the other House, and it is yet to take shape, because the Bill that was introduced in all its aspects does not really meet the needs of the present situation. That is the criticism offered. But, as the Press Commission had observed:

"It shall be the responsibility of the Press Council to review at the end of five years all the consequences of newspaper ownership in the light of circumstances then existing...."

—nearly twelve years have passed since then—

"...including an examination of the effectiveness of the association of employees with the ownership. The inquiry will also cover the manner in which the Trust form of management or employee-ownership should be extended to other units of the Press."

Off and on, we refer to Gandhiji's teachings. I do not know what thought has been given to the trusteeship idea that was propounded by Gandhiji in all walks of life including industry. But this is a field where ownership and the editorial control could be separated, and there are some good examples in this regard. For, when this matter was raised, recently, a paper like *The Hindustan Times*, I was pleasantly surprised, had very favourably commented on it. Just before that, if I mistake not, a paper that was formerly owned by Britishers had a new Indo-British joint ownership, and to some extent, they have evolved a new system of trusteeship by inviting distinguished persons to insulate the editorial control from management and ownership. Some such thing deserves to be done. *The Hindustan Times* has spelt out what has been done, and I would

[Shri Khadilkar]

like to quote a small portion of what it has stated. It has stated that:

"If a change in newspaper ownership in today's conditions is not practical, new thinking could usefully turn to other methods of achieving the results mentioned by Mr. Nehru. In Great Britain, for instance, the separation of ownership and responsibility for editorial conduct has been adopted successfully in several newspapers. There is no reason why the pattern cannot be followed here by creating trusts charged with the special function of keeping an eye on editorial policy and insulating the editor and the editorial staff from the influence of the proprietors."

Therefore, I would urge that the new Minister who has recently taken charge of this Ministry may look into this matter and hasten and finalise this Bill regarding the Press Council and try to introduce the trust type of ownership and insulate ownership from editorial control.

I would now come to the aspect of the radio.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should try to conclude in two minutes.

Shri Khadilkar: I would request you to give me a little more time. I am the first speaker from my party, and, therefore, I would request you to give me a little more time.

Mr. Chairman: I was told that the Congress Party Members could get only fifteen minutes each.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Nominated—Jammu and Kashmir): You can deduct the extra time taken by him from the time that would be available to the other Members of the party.

Shri Khadilkar: I shall try and finish as early as possible.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister and the Chief Whip are the same.

Shri Khadilkar: There is another aspect which is very important. We have advanced criticism in this House regarding publicity, external as well as internal. On this aspect I would like to say something, because it is a matter of concern for all of us, and we have sometimes expressed our misgivings about how it is being handled at the present juncture.

For instance, there was no powerful transmitter to counteract Chinese propaganda. The transmission power of China—I am quoting from memory—is about 30,000 k.w. in all, whereas ours is hardly 16,000 k.w. or so, which is just about half of what China has. When we did not have the transmitter, and while we were trying to counteract the Chinese propaganda and introduce a new feature called 'India and the Dargon'—now, fortunately, it has been stopped—sometimes, one would wonder whether the propaganda was directed against China or against Indian advance. I have no time; otherwise, I could have pointed out the actual instances; those responsible should be dealt with properly. It is not a question now of who entered into the Voice of America deal; that was a shabby deal; it is good that it has been given up, because no self-respecting nation and no newly independent country in this part of the globe could allow some other nation's voice to beam out from its territory and try to influence our neighbours. On the contrary, there would be a big wall of prejudice raised against us if we had allowed that deal.

Dr. M. S. Aney: Who committed that first mistake?

Shri Khadilkar: I shall leave it to the hon. Minister to correct that mistake. I shall not take it up on myself. But when the propaganda is carried on, there is one thing which should

be borne in mind. If the officers responsible do not keep in mind the objectives for which the propaganda is directed, it is no use; it is not a question that we are at the present juncture having some differences with China and China is carrying on propaganda against us and it should be counteracted, but at the same time, attempts should be made to see that the counteracting will not have a boomerang effect on our domestic propaganda or propaganda among other nations, especially the newly independent countries of South Asia, Africa or the Arab world. That caution also should be kept in mind.

I would now like to say a word about the Press Trust of India. It has been pointed out by a former Director of News Services of AIR in one of his articles as follows:

"Attainment of independence, however, gave the broadcasts a precise direction. From that day onward they could reflect what India stood for . . . as the two main contending political ideologies began to dominate international politics, the task of giving the listener an accurate account of world developments became more difficult. All India Radio could obtain no assistance from any news sources of its own, for instance, from its own correspondents, there were none abroad."

We have suffered because AIR is not maintaining at the nerve-centres, at least at the important nerve-centres of the world, well-qualified correspondents, and, therefore, we were misled regarding the Congo, as indeed we are now misled regarding so many happenings in Africa. The Press Trust of India is linked with Reuters. Reuters news is coloured from the Commonwealth point of view. Therefore, for financial reasons, and for reasons of personnel, if there are shortages of personnel, I would make the suggestion that the Press Trust of India and All India Radio should jointly cater to the news that is to

be broadcast here; and at the same time, instead of getting news from just one source, namely the Commonwealth source why should we not have news from other sources also, as for instance, the Russian source, such as *The Tass* as well as some other sources from America so that with a little discernment and a little circumspection, we can evaluate the news that is available and give it back to the Indian people? That would be more in keeping with the necessity of the times and it will be more objective also. Some such mechanism has got to be worked out. Otherwise, we shall suffer not only inside but outside.

Recently, I happened to meet an important personality from East Africa and he said that they depended sometimes for news from India but they later on discovered that what was given to them was a concoction which had been dribbled out from the Reuters' news and therefore they were misled. These things should be avoided.

I would say just one word about our publicity, internal as well as external. The publicity for the Ministry of External Affairs within India was looked after by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, till 1958, on the same basis as that for the other Ministries of the Government of India. I do not know why the bifurcation took place. Now, what are its consequences? Obviously, there is no co-ordination. Our external politics is a projection of internal policy, and when we are trying to reach our own people, the only source from which it should emanate is All India Radio. So, they should have some sort of liaison with the External Affairs Ministry and try to get the news and should circulate it or give it on the air. That would be a better arrangement. But that co-ordination is completely lacking.

Regarding sending out delegations or delegations coming from the foreign press, recently a delegation from Nigeria came. I do not know

[Shri Khadilkar]

what the External Affairs Ministry thinks about it. But they had not the courtesy, unfortunately, to allow them or arrange for, an interview with the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. They were very eager to meet him. They made a complaint.

I do not know whether they had an interview with him later. They felt that the main Ministry concerned with the press, publicity and the radio is kept in the background and some bureaucrat in the External Affairs Ministry is supposed to give out the news which is many a time cut off from the reality of the situation.

I make this statement because recently in his book *The Flying Troika*, Shri K. P. S. Menon, formerly our distinguished Ambassador to Russia, has stated that our relations with our neighbours were bedevilled by the bureaucrats in the External Affairs Ministry. Taking this into account, it is for the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to assert in what form news should be given, how it should be co-ordinated. These essential things must be taken into consideration and the former position restored.

One word more.....

Mr. Chairman: In that case, time will correspondingly be cut from the time of Shri Inder J. Malhotra.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Then I would like to object. I am not prepared to have a deduction from my time.

Mr. Chairman: It is from the time allotted to the Congress Party Members.

Shri Khadilkar: The National programme conducted nowadays, on every Saturday, is degenerating. I have received complaints. One is a very genuine complaint. Well-known South Indian musicians are brought to Delhi paying all the allowances and other things and their programmes are broadcast alive. But Hindu-

stani musicians are discriminated against. Someone is sent and their music is recorded and played back here. So, it lacks the vitality and the living force behind it; it is just recorded music played in the name of the National Programme.

One word more and I conclude. I am sure the present Minister can exercise his authority. His empire is bulging out, as every Ministry is doing. It is sprawling. If there is stagnation, if there is soullessness, if there is purposelessness, if there are some flatterers and bureaucrats in his Ministry, he should crack the whip, which he has, and make that apparatus cleaner so that ultimately this Ministry will not only entertain and inform but will impart a new dynamism, a new social urge, to build up the machinery to fight the enemy, and have a new creative vision.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Inder J. Malhotra. Strictly 15 minutes.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: I will try to finish within that. We have just listened to two most interesting speeches in the House. Shri Masani during his speech pleaded for the creation of a new evil in this country, namely, commercialisation of television and the radio. On the other hand, Shri Khaldikar.....

An hon. Member: Khadilkar.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): A rose will smell as sweet by any other name!

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member need not be interrupted. He has only 15 minutes.

Shri Hem Barua: He has called him a rose.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Shri Khadilkar pleaded with the hon. Minister to try to free this country of the monopoly of newspapers.

Listening to the two speeches, I was thinking all the time what was the difference in our ways of thinking, what should be our approach to the whole problem of information and broadcasting. It is true beyond doubt that we cannot afford to introduce commercialisation of radio and television in this country. It is also true to a greater extent that we cannot afford to be ruled by the monopoly press in this country any longer. How are we going to, not totally finish, but at least, tone down the monopoly press in this country a little? Certainly one way is legislation, but we have seen for the last seven or eight years that attempts have been made with no practical results.

I have a very small suggestion to make, and although the senior Minister is not here, I hope Lala Shamnathji will convey my suggestion to him. We have seen during the last few years that the monopoly of the bigger newspapers has been growing; compared to that, the small newspapers have not been coming up, the reason being that their resources are meagre. A newspaper that starts publication with small resources has to live from day to day on its earnings, but we find that while on the one hand Government say that they want to tone down the monopoly of the press, they have not been encouraging the small newspapers. The Government of India is one of the biggest advertisers in this country. A very cumbersome procedure has been laid down for the small newspaper to get itself on the list to be able to get Government advertisements. The first condition is that it should be published regularly for six months. If a newspaper can survive the first six months of its publication, I can say without fear of contradiction that it need not depend upon Government advertisements. I know that such conditions do not exist in this country. So, I would earnestly appeal to the hon.

Minister that he should kindly look into this thing and see that certain incentives are created and more facilities are given to the small newspapers.

Shri Bade (Khargone): The second condition is that it must be a Congressman.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: No, that is not necessary. I would say first preference may be given to the Jana Sangh papers. I have got no grudge on that account.

Now, I would come for a minute to the Minister himself. He is the most charming man of this House. Certainly after his taking over this portfolio, the efficiency and the working of this Ministry, to some extent, has apparently improved, and his charming personality may be one of the reasons. In the consultative committee meetings also I have seen that Members come out thoroughly satisfied. In other committee meetings also, I have seen more satisfaction expressed. Certainly, while I give the credit to the hon. Minister, I would also like to give the credit to the people who work under him.

Many a time criticism has been made that during the emergency period, this Ministry did not function or did not come up to the standards, it should have, to meet the crisis. Firstly, an emergency, as the word itself indicates, is an emergency. For a person who has been living for years under his normal routine of life—Shri Nath Pai is smiling—it certainly takes a little time to get adjusted to the emergency crisis. If in certain spheres the Ministry did not come up to the standards and efficiency expected of it in the emergency, in my opinion one of the main reasons was that the personnel we had or we are still having did not have the required thorough training in their sphere of work. I will quote an example how recruitments

[Shri Inder J. Malhotra]

are made to the various departments of this Ministry and what qualifications are laid down. The minimum qualification is a graduate with six months or 1-2 years of experience of work in some information organisation or journalistic experience. I do not object to these. But after an officer is selected by the UPSC and an offer of appointment is given by the Ministry—whatever media he is appointed to,—be it the All India Radio or the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity or the Press Information Bureau—he should be given specific and particular training to make him fit to do his job as thoroughly as somebody else who had got that kind of training could do. As far as I can remember, I have been putting forward this suggestion, not before this hon. Minister but on the floor of this House, for the last two years. To my utter unfortunate dissatisfaction nothing much has been done in this regard. I hope that certain steps would be taken this time.

Another thing very closely linked with this programme is the creation of information cadre in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I say it was a good idea. This has been in existence for the last 2-3 years. I suggest to the hon. Minister that he should ask somebody in the Ministry to assess how far the transfers from one media unit to another media unit of the officers have helped in improving the quality and the quantity of the work. I have a little doubt in my mind that if an officer who has been working in the All India Radio for the last ten years is transferred one fine morning to the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity and is asked to write an advertisement, I would not blame that officer. He would certainly have great difficulty to get adjusted to that kind of work. The creation of an information cadre is a good idea. But let us see, whatever deficiencies are there,

to make it more practical and see that our officers would be able to work more efficiently and such deficiencies should be removed.

Let me congratulate the hon. Minister, again, for reviving—I believe it has been revived—the programme of today in Parliament. We have been pleading during the last 3-4 sessions for better coverage of parliamentary proceedings. This was one of the demands we had made. Mr. Masani has suggested and to some extent I would also suggest that the AIR programmes connected with the work of Parliament should be made more interesting, more informative so that people could draw more advantage from these programmes. Group discussions by Members of various Parties could also be one such programme.

I would now refer to the radio stations working in the border areas—Jammu and Srinagar. Srinagar should be made stronger. It is a very important station. It is mainly to cater, on the one hand, to the Kashmiri population in the border areas, rather, the whole of Kashmir to counteract the Pakistani propaganda, and on the other hand, beam out the programmes in the Ladakh area to counteract the Chinese propaganda. I would suggest that some more programmes especially in Ladakhi language should be introduced at the Srinagar station and the Srinagar station should be made more strong so that it could cover a wider area.

Now, regarding the working of the All India Radio again, I would say that at one time the suggestion was made, and as Shri Masani also pointed out, why not give some time for the broadcast of commercial advertisements from this radio as Radio Ceylon has been doing. My only objection to this point is that being a Government department, either you have it 100 per cent Government department, or, you turn it over to Shri Masani's hand and make it a commercial thing.

Then you can have a broadcast of advertisements from All India Radio also.

Mr. Chairman, I have strictly gone by your orders and I am finishing one minute before time. In the end, I would very earnestly appeal to the hon. Minister that this House and this country have got great hopes in him not only as far as the improvement of the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is concerned, but otherwise also. I certainly hope that he would give all his mind and heart to this Ministry and see that its working is improved.

Shri Hem Barua: Mr. Chairman, year in and year out I have been speaking on the Demands of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and it is possibly because of this that a friend of mine said, "Why is it that you are interested so much in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting? Don't you think she is insipid and uninspiring?" Whatever that might be, this is one of the most neglected Ministries under the Government's dispensation. There is no doubt about it.

Here was a Minister who was appointed—Shri Satya Narayan Sinha—a man of vision and ideas; he was hanging for five months and it is only a few days back that he has been confirmed. Now, can you think of a Minister having to face the budget session of Parliament without a Secretary or a Joint Secretary? I have pointed out these facts only because, as my friend has described it, it is an insipid and uninspiring department of Government. My own contention is that this is one of the most neglected Ministries under this Government of India.

Whatever that might be, this Ministry does not have—I hope Shri Satya Narayan Sinha would excuse me if I say so—any independent existence of

its own. It does not have the freedom of action; freedom of thought; it hangs on to the tail-ends of certain other Ministries, and without their co-operation this Ministry cannot stand. For instance, in order to implement its educational programmes, it has to depend on the co-operation of the Education Ministry. In order to put up an exhibition like the "Nation Prepares", it cannot put it up unless and until the Defence Ministry offers its co-operation. Thirdly, for its functioning, for its development and for its improvement, it has to depend on the Finance Ministry. So far as the publicity by this Ministry in South-East Asia is concerned, it was so poor because we do not have strong transmitters and it is only because of the new Minister, Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, who is politically powerful and influential, that it has been possible to go out for more strong and powerful transmitters from Czechoslovakia and some other countries, I suppose. My contention is that it has to depend on different Ministries. I have already pointed out three Ministries. The fourth is, for the terms of service, the conditions of service of its employees, it has to depend on the Home Ministry.

16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]:

Fifthly, for its external publicity, it cannot move an inch without the blessings of the External Affairs Ministry. These are the five Ministries under whose protection this Ministry functions. Let me say that Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha's Ministry is like Draupadi of the epic *Mahabharata* has at least five husbands.

Whatever that may be, from the report, it is evident that the Films Division has tried to do good work during the emergency. But I would say certain other things. It is on the capacity to stimulate the sinews of res-

[Shri Hem Barua]

ponses to abnormal situations that the success of an instrument lies. There is an exodus of the unfortunate victims of communal frenzy in East Pakistan to Garo Hills. They are coming in thousands, battered, tattered, maimed by Pakistani bullets. It is a tragic drama that is being unfolded in the jungle areas of Garo Hills. You will find boys and girls with crosses hanging on their breasts moving about and loitering about. They present a sad spectacle. So many wives have lost their husbands; so many parents have lost their children and so many children have lost their parents.

What did we expect? We expected the Films Division to move to those hill areas and take pictures of these people. If TV cameramen from France and Germany can come and operate there and take pictures there for world publicity, why is it that our Films Division did not move to the hills for this purpose? I do not understand.

This is how we miss our opportunities. On the top of it, Gen. Ayub Khan has been carrying on a vitriolic propaganda. He says there has been an exodus because of the fact that India is encouraging these people to migrate into that country. At this particular moment, we expected that our publicity would have stood up to the occasion and exposed to the world what is happening in Pakistan. In Pakistan, my information is they are exhibiting a picture extensively even in the remotest villages. What does that picture show? That picture has depicted a lurid image of India and even children are shown in the picture with a map of India hanging on the wall shooting at that map.

I do not want our publicity media to degenerate to that depth, because I do not want the mind of our young children to be corrupted and vitiated

like that. But at the same time, what pains me is this. Our camera did not move into the Garo Hills at this critical hour to capture the faces of these people. The tragic drama is being unfolded there. May I say, a moment missed is an opportunity lost? And the tragic failure of our Government is this that we lack in vigilance; we lack in alertness and that is why we have been slipping constantly and regularly on the banana peel of Chinese and Pakistani diplomacy.

Now I have to say something about the PIB also. Why is it that the PIB did not organise press parties immediately the exodus took place, to go to the Garo Hills and give wide publicity, both internal and external, to his tragic drama? We expected that from them. It is because of the PTI that we came to know of this tragic exodus, exodus of these masses of uprooted humanity into the Garo Hills. What was the PIB doing? That is why I say that the PIB, apart from dishing out some copies of insipid and uninspiring speeches of some Deputy Ministers to the press, has a bigger function to discharge. I do not accuse the PIB, or the Films Division or the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for all this. I accuse the External Affairs Ministry. It was the job of the External Affairs Ministry to give a kick on the pants of Shri Satya Narayan Sinha to mobilise, to gear up the machinery, and I am sure Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, a man of vision and ideas, would have immediately responded to this.

But my own objection is this. If a Conservative paper like the *London Observer* could carry in headlines the misfortunes of these people migrating from Pakistan to Assam because of daily firings why is it that this news was blacked out from our press? Why was not sufficient publicity given to this very fact? People never understood it and possibly this would have been a slap on the face of the General Ayub Khan who has been carrying on propaganda . . .

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrackpore): Shri Mehr Chand Khanna went there.

Shri Hem Barua: He went there very late and that is why we have to pay the price for being late. We are always late. They precede us in publicity, in diplomacy, in so many other things.

I must say a few words about the All India Radio also. So far as the All India Radio is concerned, it is a fact, and I have said like that last year also, that when the emergency came it was confronted with a very extreme situation. For so long it was broadcasting for the entertainment of the people and peace-time education of the people. It had to gear up its machinery to another item, to prepare the country, to prepare the nation to face the aggression. We understand these difficulties, no doubt. But, in spite of the fact that it was circumscribed, in spite of the fact that it was lacking in experience, it tried to do the job well.

In this connection, I must congratulate all those boys and girls working in the All India Radio, on whose services, on whose contributions the infra-structure or the supra-structure of the whole institution depends or stands. Here I must congratulate also the boys and girls working in the Gauhati station of the All India Radio. I was taken aback when I found that at a time when the Chinese were coming down the NEFA Hills and they were about to approach the Tezpur plains, when Tezpur was being evacuated and there was panic in Gauhati, the staff of the Gauhati station stayed on and the broadcasts went on. The people did not run away, did not leave the station, although they knew very well, those employees of the Gauhati station knew very well, that when an enemy gets into our territory the first thing it does is to catch hold of the broadcasting instrument. Therefore, I must say, though belatedly, that I was taken aback when I heard

all these things, and so I must congratulate them.

Coming to External publicity, which is poor in a sense, the Report says that in the matter of external publicity the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting counteracts or issues counters to Chinese and Pakistani propaganda in consultation with the External Affairs Ministry. That is what it says here. That shows that this Ministry does not have the power to decide a thing. It does not have decision; it does not have direction. Every time that it has to broadcast or put out a news it has to run to the External Affairs Ministry and everybody knows that the bureaucrats of the External Affairs Ministry are very slow to move.

And who does not know that just as there cannot be the drama *Hamlet* without a Hamlet in it, there can be no External Affairs Ministry in India without the Hamlet of modern Indian politics in it, without Shri Nehru in it? It is a long-drawn process of AIR running to the External Affairs Ministry people, they consulting the hon. Prime Minister, and it takes a lot of time. What happens? When we serve the news, it is always stale news whereas China and Pakistan give always hot news. About the fall of Bomdila we came to know of it through other channels, not through our channels. There is a deadlock created. That is why I feel that like any other division or unit of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry AIR should be given the autonomy or the Independence to function within the framework of a broad policy; or else—last time also I said like that and this time also I want to repeat it—convert the All India Radio into a corporation like the BBC.

Shri Baid: It is now like Draupadi and the Pandavas.

Shri Hem Barua: I must say that the All India Radio tries to be non-partisan. This time I was listening to the cricket commentaries on the

[Shri Hem Barua]

test matches; that is the only thing I did regularly this time and I found that they had drafted the services of an important hon. Member of this House, Vizzy. He is not here. He did the thing commendably well, I liked it. I would say that this time there has been much improvement.

So long it has tried to function on a non-partisan basis, but I would say that because of the enemies all round, this instrument of publicity should try to function now on a partisan basis because, as you know, there is nothing unfair in love and war. We must be able to combat this propaganda carried on by our enemy countries which is vitriolic in a sense.

You might say that I am making an unethical suggestion but I make it knowing China and Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever comes from the hon. Member, I will not call unethical.

Shri Hem Barua: Then I can make it. China and Pakistan, because they want to reach a wider audience and all that are indulging in a sort of piracy of the frequencies, that they are allowed to use by the International Telecommunication Institution. They are indulging in that sort of piracy. You might say that it is unethical of them; but I would say that we should also try to do that because it is war and the choice before us today is between national existence and national extinction.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Survival.

Shri Hem Barua: Survival. National existence and national extinction.

Mr. Speaker: Those who intend indulging in such things do not talk about them.

Shri Hem Barua: That might be true; but I would finish it in a sentence.

Shri Bade: Man of action.

Shri Hem Barua: I only hope and trust.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: He has to speak.

Shri Hem Barua:that Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, instead of being a little Buddha would try to be a pirate also in this matter.

Now what happens? During the Question Hour I asked about a secret transmitter operating from somewhere in Assam and the hon. Minister said that he did not have the information about the secret transmitter. *The Dawn* of Karachi has come out with a news item. The newspaper, the *Dawn* of Karachi, says that such a secret transmitter operates from somewhere in Assam and the Indian Minister knows about it. And this is operated by the Naga National Council, the hostile Nagas. That is the information given to us from Karachi. I think, the hon. Minister does not know about it or did not know about it—whatever that might be. My information is that this secret transmitter operating from somewhere in Assam does not belong to the Naga National Conference. It belongs to the Pakistani agents organised successfully by the Pakistan Assistant High Commissioner's office in Shillong. It has done a lot of things. That office in Shillong has done a lot of things. We wanted that office to be removed when they removed our office at Rajshahi. But unfortunately enough the Prime Minister did not respond to that.

Now, I want to say a word about these staff artistes. So many Members have spoken about these staff artistes. Really it is a very pitiable spectacle to see these staff artistes. They—9,000 people—make substantial contribution to the making of this medium of Information and Broadcasting Ministry. They have to depend entirely on the mercy of their bosses.

There is a tendency and that might tend, I would say, to dangerous mal-practices also. I do not want to say there are mal-practices. But there is a tendency like that. All the staff artistes, for the renewal of their contracts, have to run to their bosses.

I have been telling this even in the lobbies to his predecessors, other Ministers and the pet argument that they give is that their existence depends on their voice quality. That is the pet argument. But the hon. Minister should also know that there are people who work at the desk and their existence does not depend on their voice, the quality of their voice and all that.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Your voice has stayed as good as it was.

Shri Hem Barua: I hope my voice stays like that.

Now, I come to another thing. There is a proposal for having a Central Information Service and the Government wants to give effect to it by directly recruiting from the I.A.S. cadre. I say, this is a specialised job and a specialised service. Therefore, people working in this service and who have got experience should get an opportunity rather than those people directly coming from the universities because they are I.A.S. officers.

Then, there is another thing—and I feel it very seriously—and that is that the All-India Radio should have a Language Unit, rather, I would say, Language Service, if not in other languages, at least in Hindi. What happens today is, you translate statements or speeches from English into Hindi and the translations tend to become stilted. All the translations are like that and it is very difficult to produce good translators all the world over. That is the problem today. The translations naturally become staccato and stilted. Therefore, why not have an independent

unit like that, an independent Language Service for the All India Radio? Thank you, Sir, for the opportunity given to me.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी (हमीरपुर) :

अध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना मंत्रालय एक ऐसा मंत्रालय है जिसके कामों के सम्बन्ध में यह कहा जा सकता है कि बहुत कम नुकता-चीनी की गंजाइश है। इसके कामों में साधारणतः देखा गया है कि सभी स्थानों पर प्रगति हुई है। जहाँ जहाँ कुछ कमजोरियाँ हैं, उनको सुधारने के लिये भी गंजाइश है। इसके सम्बन्ध में विशेष बातों को मैं पीछे कहूँगा। पहले मैं आकाशवाणी को लेता हूँ।

यह बात सच है कि आकाशवाणी ने परिस्थितियों के अनुकूल अपने को ढाला है, उचित बनाया है। जब हमारे देश पर संकट आया तो उसका इसने डट कर मुकाबला किया और परिस्थितियों के अनुकूल उसने अपने प्रसारण बढ़ाये। लेकिन आकाशवाणी में एक कठिनाई यह है कि उसका तंत्र जो है वह एक मखमल के समान है। इस मखमल में तेल लगा नीति का जो परिवर्तनशील है। जब मंत्री अच्छा आ जाता है तो बन्दर ऊपर चढ़ जाता है और जब मंत्री कुछ नीचे गिरता है तो वह बन्दर भी नीचे गिरता है, फुट भर की उन्नति होती है तो सबा फुट का गिराव हो जाता है। नतीजा यह है कि आकाशवाणी की भाषा नीति में भी अभी तक स्थायित्व नहीं आ पाया है।

डा० मा० श्री अग्ने : बन्दर कहाँ है ?

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : नीचे चला जाता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि अब जो मंत्री आये हैं वे स्थिर नीति वाले हैं और उनके पास कैबिनेट का स्तर है। वे इस दिशा में उचित रीति से काम कर सकते हैं।

मेरा खयाल है कि यदि भारत सरकार एक शरीर है तो प्रधान मंत्री उसके मस्तिष्क

[श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी]

हैं, प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय उसके भुजदंड हैं और सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय उस की जिह्वा, उसके कान और आंखें हैं। यदि हम अपने नेत्र खुले हुए रखें या हम अपने कर्ण रधों को ठीक तरह से चलायें और जिह्वा का प्रयोग सही तरीके से करें और वह मस्तिष्क की वाणी बोलें, जो मस्तिष्क बोलता है उसे हम जगत विख्यात कर दें, मन की बात संसार तक पहुंचा सकें, तो मैं समझता हूं कि आकाशवाणी का यंत्र वास्तविक रूप से, और यह सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय यंत्र वास्तविक रूप से आगे बढ़ सकेगा।

मैं देखता हूं कि जितनी हमारी विदेशी सूचनायें हैं वे संकुचित हैं। विदेशी सूचना, मुझे आश्चर्य है, हमारे मंत्री महोदय के पास इस समय नहीं है। मैं मुझाव देता हूं प्रधान मंत्री महोदय को कि विदेशी सूचना कार्यालय भी हमारे मंत्री महोदय के पास आना चाहिये ताकि उसमें तारतम्य हो सके और उचित रीति से देश की और विदेश की हमारी नीति का प्रतिपादन और प्रसारण हो सके। आकाशवाणी का यंत्र भां ऊंचा और बड़ा शक्तिशाली होना चाहिये ताकि अपनी नीति को हम प्रतिपादित ही न कर सकें बल्कि आज जो गलतफहमियां भारत के सम्बन्ध में देश और विदेश में फैली हुई हैं, विशेषकर चीन और भारत के अगड़े के सम्बन्ध में और पाकिस्तान और हिन्दुस्तान के अगड़े के सम्बन्ध में, हम उनका निराकरण कर सकें। आज हम इस योग्य नहीं हैं और पब्लिशिटी का आकाशवाणी का यंत्र इस काम को पूरा नहीं कर पा रहा है। जब मैं बाहर गया तो देखा कि चाहे जापान हो चाहे चीन हो, चाहे हांगकांग हो, यहां तक थाईलैंड में भी, हमारे रेडियो को आवाज नहीं सुन पड़ती। इसलिये आवश्यकता है कि यहां ट्रांसमीटर शक्तिशाली लगाये जायें जो कि इस काम को कर सकें। उस वक्त भी मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि इस मलखम्म का जो मर्कस

आकाशवाणी का यंत्र कर रहा है उस को आप आगे बढ़ायें ताकि भाषा की नीति को और अपने प्रसारण की नीति को हम नीचे गिरने की नौबत न आने दें।

फिल्म इंडस्ट्री एक उद्योग है। इसमें जिस प्रकार से कृष्ण भगवान के सोलह हजार रानियां थीं और आठ पटरानियां थीं उसी प्रकार से इस मंत्रालय के जितने छाविगूह हैं वे सब रानियां हैं और जो निर्माता सस्थायें हैं फिल्म बनाने वाले उद्योगपतियों की वे पटरानियां हैं। फिल्म उद्योग जो है वह राधिका है। हम लोगों ने कृष्ण बनाया है श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह को। लेकिन इस कन्हैया ने अपनी राधिका को एक दूसरे श्याम के सुपुत्र कर दिया।

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : वह कलयुगी कन्हैया हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस मारे ड्रामे में माननीय सदस्य ने कौन सा जगह ले रखी है।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं तो दर्शक हूं और देख रहा हूं कि यह राधिका जो है वह एक दूसरे नकली श्याम के साथ अठखेलियां कर रही है और जो निहित स्वार्थ उद्योग में हैं वे लोग इसमें कंट्रांलिंग हाथ रखते हैं, आधिपत्य रखते हैं। इसलिये इसमें उन्नति नहीं होती। यह आवश्यक है कि हमारा फिल्म उद्योग इस प्रकार से पुनर्जीवित किया जाये कि इसमें हमारे देश की सांस्कृतिक और भाषा सम्बन्धी नीति का दिदर्शन हो और जो अश्लील चित्रावलिां और अश्लील कहानियां आती हैं उनको दूर किया जाये और राष्ट्र शिक्षित हो। हमारे फिल्म का रूप और फिल्म उद्योग जो कि हमको भाषा आदि सिखाता है, ऐसे पैराये पर रक्खा जाये कि इसमें अधिकार जो हो वह मंत्री जी का हो और वे उसको उठायें। इसमें आमूल परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है।

फिल्ड पब्लिसिटी अर्थात् क्षेत्रीय प्रचार का जो काम है वह अत्यन्त ढीला है। पब्लिसिटी की दिशा में बहुत कुछ काम किया गया है, और मैं उसकी तारोफ करता हूँ जो कि आज तक किया गया है, लेकिन हमारा देश विशाल है। इतने बड़े और विशाल देश में जो हमारा जन-जागृति का कार्य है, जैसा कि श्री खाडिलकर ने कहा विज्ञान की प्रगति हमारी सरकार की रीति जाति की प्रगति और दिन प्रति दिन के कार्यों का मूल्यांकन हम अपनी जनता तक पहुंचा सकें, इसलिये हमारा क्षेत्रीय प्रचार और क्षेत्रीय फिल्म प्रदर्शन का कार्य ऊंचा उठाना चाहिये, और इसमें फिल्म डिर्वीजन को सहयोग देना चाहिये ताकि जनजागरण का, आजकल की वस्तुस्थिति का परिचय जनता जनार्दन को कराया जा सके।

प्रेस इन्फार्मेशन ब्यूरो एक ऐसा विभाग है जिसके सम्बन्ध में बहुत कहने की गुंजाइश है। अभी तक हमारे मंत्रालय का जो रुख रहा वह यह रहा कि इस देश की भाषा अंग्रेजी ही है, और सब काम अंग्रेजी के माध्यम से होना चाहिये, जिसके कारण देश भर में हमारे मंत्रालय की बातें और हमारी सरकार की बातें जनता जनार्दन तक नहीं पहुंच पाती यदि आप इस पुस्तक को देखें तो प्रकाशनों की जो संख्या है वह अंग्रेजी की बहुत ज्यादा और दूसरी भाषाओं की बहुत कम है। मैं दावे से कह सकता हूँ कि इस देश में अंग्रेजी जानने वाले विद्वानों की संख्या २ प्रतिशत से ज्यादा नहीं है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : विद्वान इतने भी नहीं हैं।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : अंग्रेजी समझने वालों की संख्या २ प्रतिशत से ज्यादा नहीं है। यहां की दूसरी भाषाओं के जानने वाले ४४ करोड़ नागरिक हैं। उस में से अगर इस २ फी सदी को काट दिया जाये, तो बाकी लोगों की जानकारी बढ़ाने के लिये तथा

ज्ञातव्य देने के लिये आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि हम अपना सारा काम अपनी भाषाओं के माध्यम से करें और अंग्रेजी से केवल अनुवाद मात्र हुआ करे। जैसा कि कई सदस्यों ने विचार व्यक्त किया है सन् १९६५ से हमारे देश की मुख्य भाषा राजभाषा हिन्दी होगी और अंग्रेजी उसकी सहकारी भाषा बनी रहेगी। मैं चाहता हूँ कि अभी से ऐसे कदम उठाये जायें कि देश भर में हिन्दी के माध्यम के द्वारा यह कार्य सुचारू रूप से चलने लगे।

हमें कुछ आंकड़े दिये गये थे उनमें बतलाया गया था कि प्रेस इन्फार्मेशन ब्यूरो में हिन्दी विभाग के सोलह कर्मचारी हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि सोलह वर्ष पूर्व भी इतने ही कर्मचारी थे। इसमें कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है। उर्दू विभाग में चार इन्फार्मेशन आफिसर्स हैं और हिन्दी में केवल एक जब कि अंग्रेजी में पन्द्रह बीस सूचनाधिकारी मुकरंर हैं। जब कि हिन्दी का इतना बड़ा काम हमारे देश में हो रहा है, हर काम हिन्दी के माध्यम से हो रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं तो आपको बधाई दूंगा कि आपकी लोक-सभा में हिन्दी के काम में बहुत उत्थित हो रही है, और अगले सत्र से हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में आप साथ-साथ अनुवाद दिलाया करेंगे। अगर इस काम में सूचना मंत्रालय पिछड़ा बना रहे, अपनी भाषा सम्बन्धी नीति के सम्बन्ध में, तो यह बड़ा असन्तोषजनक होगा। दुःखदायी होगा। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि सूचना मंत्री इस प्रतिवेदन पर तो ध्यान दें, जिसके लिये वे बधाई के पात्र हैं, साथ ही साथ कोशिश करें कि सन् १९६५ तक हिन्दी के माध्यम के द्वारा काम करने होने में प्रगति हो सके, और जो चीफ पब्लिसिटी आफिसर रखे हुए हैं वे केवल अंग्रेजी के न हों, दूसरी भाषाओं के भी हों, खास तौर से हिन्दी के तो अवश्य हों और उनको उचित स्थान मिल सके। उनके साथ न्याय होना चाहिये।

[श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी]

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं लम्बी चौड़ी बात तो नहीं कहना चाहता, इतना ही कह कर समाप्त कर दूंगा कि इस सम्बन्ध में भी हिन्दी की नीति रीति को फिर से रिव्यू एण्ड करेने की, उसमें बहुत ज्यादा परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है, स्टाफ को बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है ताकि काम मुचारू रूप से किया जा सके। इस वक्त जो स्टाफ है वह उतना काम नहीं कर सकता जितना उसके मन्थे पर रक्खा गया है। स्टाफ को बढ़ाना चाहिये, उसकी पदोन्नति करनी चाहिये ताकि हिन्दी में काम हो सके और अनुवाद मात्र अंग्रेजी का हो। समाचारों का अनुवाद मात्र अंग्रेजी से न हो बल्कि मौलिक रूप से देश के सामने समाचार आ सकें।

अखबारी दुनिया के बारे में मैं मंत्रालय को कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त एकाधिकार बहुत फैल गया है। एकाधिकार की एक बड़ी विचित्रता यह है कि वह व्यापारिक ढंग से चलाया जा रहा है। उदाहरण के लिये "हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" के मौलिक दो अखबार चलाते हैं, एक तो "हिन्दुस्तान" हिन्दी का और दूसरा "हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" अंग्रेजी का। अंग्रेजी वाला अंग्रेजी की बात कहता है और हिन्दी वाला हिन्दी की बात कहता है और दोनों में बड़ा विरोधाभास है। मतलब यह है कि हिन्दी के पाठक तो हिन्दी की बात पढ़ेंगे तो उसकी बिक्री बढ़ेगी और अंग्रेजी वाले अंग्रेजी की बात पढ़ेंगे तो उसकी बिक्री बढ़ेगी। उनका लक्ष्य ऐसा कामना है। इस देश की भाषा नीति क्या है, इससे उन्हें कोई मतलब नहीं है, कोई गरज नहीं। इस प्रकार के अखबारों से आज देश का काम नहीं चल सकता। तो आज जिन के जितने अखबार हैं, एकाधिकार वाले हिन्दुस्तान के जितने अखबार हैं उनको मूचना दे दी जानी चाहिये कि एक अखबार वाला दूसरा संस्करण इस देश में वही व्यक्ति नहीं चल सकता। अखबार चाहे अंग्रेजी का हो या हिन्दी का हो वह अलग अलग होना चाहिये। यह नहीं कि

"हिन्दुस्तान" अखबार हो या 'नवभारत टाइम्स' अखबार हो या दूसरे जितने भी अखबार हों, वे अंग्रेजी के अनुवाद मात्र हों। हम यह नहीं चाहते। हम चाहते हैं कि मौलिक रूप से हिन्दी में अखबार निकाले जायें ताकि लोग अपनी भाषाओं में समाचारों को पढ़ सकें और समझ सकें कि देश में क्या हो रहा है, अनुवाद के माध्यम के द्वारा नहीं।

कागज के सम्बन्ध में मैं कहंगा कि कागज की नीति का पुनर्निरीक्षण करने की आवश्यकता है। जो लोग आज जानी आंकड़े देकर अखबारी कागज ले लेते हैं ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये। हां जो अखबार की जरूरत का कागज है वह उसको ठीक ठीक समय पर पूरा पूरा मिल जाये, इसमें कटौती का जो प्रस्ताव है वह नहीं की जानी चाहिये। अखबार ही एक ऐसी चीज है जिसके माध्यम से जनता तक पहुंचा जा सकता है। अगर अखबारों के कागज की कटौती की जाएगी तो इसका मतलब यह होगा कि उनका सर्कुलेशन कम हो जाएगा। इसलिए मेरा निवेदन है कि आप यह कटौती न करें।

मैं एक और बात की तरफ आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। आकाशवाणी के केन्द्रों को स्थापित करने के सम्बन्ध में अभी तक जो नीति रही है वह पक्षपात की नीति रही है। उदाहरण के लिए अनेक भाषायी और सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्रों की अवहेलना की जा रही है, जैसेकि बुंदेलखंड। जब केसकर साहब मंत्री थे तो उन्होंने बतलाया था कि हमारी नीति यह है कि दो सौ मील से कम फासले पर हम दूसरा रेडियो केन्द्र स्थापित नहीं करते। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि लखनऊ से ४५ मील के फासले पर बानपुर में एक केन्द्र स्थापित कर दिया गया है। जबकि बुंदेलखंड में, जोकि इतना बड़ा क्षेत्र है, जहाँ

साक गीतों की परम्परा रही है, जहाँ मैथिली-धारण और तुलसी दास जैसे महाकाव्यों के रचयिता हुए हैं, और जो क्षेत्र कवि कला का केन्द्र रहा है, कोई केन्द्र नहीं स्थापित किया गया। मैं चाहता था कि मंत्री महोदय इस और विशेष रूप से ध्यान दें।

हिन्दी भाषा की चार मुख्य डाइलेक्ट्स हैं, खड़ी बोली, अवधी, भोजपुरी और बुंदेलखंडी। क्या कारण है कि तीन डाइलेक्ट्स की उन्नति की तो कोशिश की जा रही है, लेकिन बुंदेलखंडी की ओर अवहेलना का दृष्टिकोण अपनाया जा रहा है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि बुंदेलखंड की जनता भी यह मांग है कि एक रेडियो केन्द्र बुंदेलखंड में स्थापित किया जाय जिस में वहाँ का कवरेज हो सके और वहाँ की संस्कृति और परम्पराओं को अपना स्थान मिल सके।

डा० म० श्री अग्ने (नागपुर) : आपने मैथिली का नाम नहीं लिया।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : दूधगी बात में टेलीप्रिन्टर के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। आपने स्थान स्थान पर टेलीप्रिन्टर लगा रखे हैं। यद्यपि यह काम पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ विभाग का है, लेकिन मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसका सूचना से बड़ा सम्बन्ध है। आपके समाचार टेलीप्रिन्टर द्वारा जाते हैं। बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र में दस पन्द्रह दिनक पत्र निकलते हैं लेकिन वहाँ पर कोई टेलीप्रिन्टर नहीं लगाया गया है। मेरा निवेदन है कि मंत्री महोदय पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ विभाग से मिल कर इस दिशा में आवश्यक कदम उठाने की कृपा करें।

जैसाकि अभी अन्य मित्रों ने भी कहा, आप अपने समाचार प्रेस ट्रस्ट आफ इंडिया से लेते हैं। यह संस्था केवल अंग्रेजी में समाचार देती है। कोई हिन्दी या अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं का समाचार देने वाली इस प्रकार की संस्था नहीं है। आवश्यकता इस बात की

है कि प्रेस ट्रस्ट आफ इंडिया की तरह की ही हिन्दी तथा अन्य देशी भाषाओं की संस्थाएँ भी स्थापित की जायँ और आकाशवाणी के सम्वाददाता ऐसे पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रों में भी नियुक्त किए जायँ जैसे बुंदेलखंड है जिससे कि वहाँ की खबरें भी आ सकें। ऐसा ही नहीं होना चाहिए कि दिल्ली में मंत्रियों के चरित्र चित्रण पर तो अधिक ध्यान दिया जाय और पिछड़े हुए इलाकों की तरफ ध्यान न दिया जाय जोकि हर समय आप के काम आते हैं। लड़ाई होती है तो इन क्षेत्रों के लोग देश की रक्षा के लिये हमेशा सामने आते हैं। बुंदेलखंड आल्हा ऊदल जैसे वीरों का देश है। यहाँ पर आकाशवाणी का सम्वाददाता नियुक्त होना चाहिए जिससे यहाँ की खबरों का कवरेज हो सके।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप को बधाई देता हूँ और मंत्री महोदय को और उनके समस्त विभागीय अधिकारियों को बधाई देता हूँ कि उनका काम सराहने योग्य रहा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने का "आप को बधाई देता हूँ"। यह रिकार्ड दुरुस्त होना चाहिए।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : आपने मुझे समय दिया इसलिए आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

Shrimati Renuka Barkataki (Barketa): I must join the hon. Members who have welcome the new Minister in charge of this portfolio and wished him well.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has had to carry a very extraordinary and heavy responsibility ever since the emergency was declared. Even in normal times, this Ministry has a decisive role to play in the dissemination of information and the moulding of informed public opinion. The media of mass communication are the sinews of democracy, and this Ministry is the guar-

[Shrimati Renuka Barkataki]

dian of these media. They have to be protected from insidious influences and interests that seek to stifle democracy and exploit freedom to end freedom. When an infant democracy is subjected to aggression by its enemies, the media of communication have also to serve as a weapon of defence and diplomacy, and an active instrument for securing the sympathy and support of other nations. I am glad that the Ministry has made an earnest effort to serve all these demands that have been made on it during the year.

Sir, the report says that the activities of the AIR during the year were characterised by two dominant features, firstly, the expeditious implementation of the development plan to extend the range of broadcasting over a larger part of the country and, secondly, the harnessing of all available resources to meet the situation created by the Chinese aggression.

I must congratulate the Ministry on the progress made in the implementation of the medium-wave plan which with the installation of the 63 additional transmitters will bring 74 per cent of the population and 61 per cent of the total area of the country within the listening range of the medium wave programme. I am glad that the power of the existing transmitters at Kurseong, Gauhati and Srinagar have been materially enhanced to meet the requirements of the situation on the border. I have no experience about the Srinagar station; but so far as Gauhati and Kurseong is concerned, I cannot say that the power of transmitters are adequate to counteract Chinese propaganda in the north-east frontier area. I have myself tried to tune to Gauhati and Kurseong stations from Ziro, Pasighat. Along, Daporijo and other places in the NEFA on a powerful transistor set. I tried to tune Gauhati station from Tuting too which is a few miles on this side of MacMoran Line. But these stations

were feeble, incoherent and inaudible. The stations at Kohima and Imphal are also feeble and inadequate. In view of the imperative need to counteract the Chinese propaganda on our frontiers, I urge that powerful transmitters be installed at Gauhati, Kohima and Imphal, and Kurseong.

As for the programmes of the AIR, I have to pay a tribute to the officers, artistes and the producers of the AIR who did their best to rise to the occasion during the worst days of the Emergency. However, one item of the programme, 'Topic for Today' did seem positively monotonous; and I am glad that, of late, even this programme is showing signs of improvement.

I must also draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that the efficiency of the production staff is being considerably hampered by the widespread frustration that has resulted from whimsical appointments and the deep sense of insecurity that is being felt by the staff working on the basis of contract appointments.

The community listening scheme is commendable and it is gratifying that thousands of receiving sets have been distributed at subsidized rates to panchayats, blocks, etc. But I am afraid that more than half of these sets are lying idle and constantly in disrepair. I would, therefore, urge that the Ministry should lay down strict rules to ensure that the projects, panchayats or other organisations to whom the sets are given free or at subsidized rates do not let them go out of commission by neglecting necessary and timely repairs.

I shall refer to the field publicity wing now. It is heartening to note that 19 field publicity units were posted in border areas to meet the immediate demands of the Emergency. Of these, 11 were posted in Assam and in the NEFA. During my visit to NEFA after the fall of Bomdila, I met some of the young officers who

were working in the field publicity units in these areas where there are very few motorable roads and where they have to carry the heavy equipments publicity on their back. I think we should be able to provide them with light and modern equipment so that they can carry them with ease to any point on the hills.

Another problem which the field units have to face in the hill areas is to keep regular contact with the headquarters to get instructions from the headquarters as well as to convey information to the headquarters for outside publicity. I would like to request the Ministry to utilise the wireless or microwave communication equipment to keep contact with the officers.

The report of the Ministry says that field officers carry on propaganda to counteract the hostile Chinese and Pakistani propaganda and for the purpose, special talking points and guidance material are given to the officers to brief them on important matters. One of the subjects was about the NEFA reverses enquiry report. When I visited NEFA and some parts of Assam, I learnt how these poor officers were heckled by the public on this issue. Naturally, the people are eager to know what happened, what action the Government have taken on the NEFA reverses report, whether an enquiry was conducted who were the persons guilty and whether any punishment was given to them and so on. They asked these officers what happened to the General who was in charge of the operations in the Kameng division. The field publicity officers had to improvise their answers to these questions on the basis of the information they had got from the local newspapers, because the guidance materials did not give them any information about this. They had to admit that the General had resigned and had been appointed in some shipping firm on a fabulous salary. This information neither reassured the people nor assuaged their feelings.

Then I should like to say a few words about the exhibition, "The Nation Prepares", to which reference was made by Shri Hem Barua. I saw one of these exhibitions at Delhi and another at Gauhati. The quality of the exhibits at Gauhati was so different that I could not believe that this was one of the projects of our Government to boost the morale and arouse public enthusiasm. On making an enquiry, I was told that the exhibits could not be brought to Gauhati in time. I do not know whether such exhibitions are organised in a similar slipshod way at other places too. I hope the Government will remember that poor quality of exhibits will hamper our cause by dampening our morale.

I must congratulate the Ministry for its quick decision to transfer the PIB's normal pattern of work into a broad-based publicity effort in the context of emergency. I must say a few words about the regional office of the Press Information Bureau at Gauhati. That office is housed in a very dilapidated building; the staff is not adequate and the teleprinter line is mostly out of order. The importance of this office at Gauhati, which is supposed to be or is described as the capital of the forward areas in this sector, cannot be over-emphasised. The Government must take proper and prompt action to improve the efficiency of that office.

It is heartening to know from the report of the Press Registrar that the increase in the circulation of periodicals and dailies is nearly double since 1961, but the Government has to be more vigilant and careful to check the growth of yellow journalism, especially of small papers thriving on sex, slander and crime.

As far as the distribution of newsprint is concerned, I must say that the Ministry is not very fair to the small but very effective papers in the border areas. As a result of this, the small newspapers in the border areas have to persist in buying newsprint at

[Shrimati Renuka Barkataki]

blackmarket prices and this in turn makes the newspapers very costly to the local readers.

I must now refer to the efforts that the Ministry is making to counteract the propaganda that China, Pakistan and the Naga hostiles are carrying on both within our frontiers and in the international sphere. I cannot say that our efforts are adequate and sufficiently effective. It is common knowledge—in fact it was pointed out by many Members of this House—that there are so many unlocated transmitters operating within our borders, in violation of the law of the land and international conventions. They are carrying on a vicious campaign against our country and our Government. The powerful transmitters of the Peking Radio and the powerful transmitters in Dacca and Chitagong area beaming their broadcasts at the people of our border areas, especially the tribal population. Hostile Nagas too are reported to be operating their own transmitting units. Nor is the radio the only propaganda medium that China and Pakistan are employing. Pakistan is using illegal infiltrants and so-called religious divines who are sent out to the vulnerable areas. China is holding out sweet and tempting promises of milk and honey, utilising young tribals whom they have indoctrinated and mis-leading people by false accounts of prosperity on the other side of the border. To combat all these, we have to intensify and diversify our internal and external propaganda. The cynical and lying propaganda of China must be exposed. We do not need to resort to the kind of lies or vicious and vituperative propaganda that she or Pakistan carries on. The truth about Pakistan's atrocities, persecution, genocide and cynical disregard of human values is damaging enough. For lack of time, I don't want to quote the harrowing tales I have heard and the heart-rending sights I have seen when I visited the refugee camps in Garo Hills. To put

up these facts before the bar of world opinion is to expose Pakistan in its true colours. We must orient our publicity in this direction. We have a strong and unassailable case. Let it not go by default.

With these words, I support the Demands of the Ministry.

Shri Karni Singhji (Bikaner): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting plays a vital role in building up a country like ours, with such an immense amount of illiteracy. It is a matter of very great pleasure that at long last we have a Minister like the hon. Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha, who has been known as a go-getter and who has fortunately no fads as well. With his coming, in as Minister of Information and Broadcasting, a breath of fresh air has come into the Ministry.

It is a well-known thing that in a country, particularly where there is so much illiteracy, the audio-visual media are regarded as perhaps one of the best ways of inculcating education into the minds of those who are uneducated. It is because of this that this Ministry is of such vital importance to our country.

The radio facilities in our country and the networks are indeed praiseworthy and over the many years, we have seen that AIR have opened many stations all over the country in an attempt to reach all the remote areas.

I would, however, like briefly to mention something about the 1000KW stations that we wish to put up in our country to counter the hateful and poisonous propaganda of China and Pakistan, against our country. I should not get entangled into the controversy as to from which country we must get the transmitter. But the most important thing at this stage is that when Pakistan and China are pushing through their powerful pro-

paganda against our country not only towards India, but towards the other neighbouring satellite countries, we today are unable to meet their propaganda or to put out any counter-propaganda on our part. I have no doubt that the Ministers are trying their best to get a 1000 KW or even a larger transmitter. But I would say that the important factor right now is time. We have wasted a lot of time in this and every single day that is wasted means so many other people in other countries will swing over to the propaganda of China and Pakistan against us. I would urge upon the Minister that we should now lose no time and must get a transmitter that can cover a wide area not only of the Far-East, but also China and parts of the Middle-East. If we can achieve that, say, within the next six months, I am quite sure that our propaganda machinery would be geared up to full strength.

Last year I have made out a case for making the All India Radio into a corporation. The same thing was today very ably suggested by Shri Masani and I would like to lend my support to this. The All India Radio has today become a gigantic organisation and I think we could have a corporation and make it an independent body.

For any Ministry as dynamic as that of Information and Broadcasting, you need not only a Minister, not only a Deputy Minister but the entire hierarchy of people who genuinely believe in the mission they are propagating. In this case, we have a dynamic Minister. I hope that all those under him would give him the full support that he needs so that this Ministry can be made the most powerful instrument to get rid of uneducation.

In our country, people listen to radios for two purposes—to imbibe knowledge and also for a certain amount of recreation. In an over-taxed country like ours, where a citizen is oppressed from all sides, he

very often switches on to the Vividh Bharati programme so that he may be able to relax himself. Since a year now I have been approaching the Government and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with the request that the Vividh Bharati programme should be made a round-the-clock programme. India is an immense country and there must be millions of people who work at all times of the day and night. There must be thousands and thousands of people who must be travelling in trucks on the roadways. For them a round-the-clock programme of Vividh Bharati would not only be entertainment but would also help the bus and lorry drivers to keep awake and be away from hazards. It has been an accepted fact now that a large number of accidents take place on the roads during night when people suffer from road hypnosis. If only they can tune to radio, it will keep them awake and a number of accidents could be averted.

Many friends have paid tribute to our colleague, the Maharaja of Vijayanagaram, who is indeed a well-known figure in cricket. He has become extremely popular as a commentator for cricket. I sincerely hope that cricket politics will not come in the way of this fine man doing his job as a commentator.

This Ministry has over the many years given a great deal of emphasis to sports, not only on the radio commentaries but also on the movie newsreels. I would like to add that some more items of sport like shooting and golf could receive greater coverage by this Ministry, because these are some of the important items on the sports agenda.

Last year I had spoken at length about television. Our country today needs television more badly than most others, as I mentioned then, because of our illiteracy. India is a huge country with immense tasks before it and the only way that you can reach the millions of its people is through rural television and, as far as television is concerned, we are sadly lack-

[Shri Karni Singhji]

ing. I was in Egypt a year and a half back and I found they had three channels there. In Cairo City alone three channels are operating. Singapore had two and Japan had five. In India we still have a baby transmitter in Delhi. I admit that as far as the picture and voice are concerned, the Indian transmitter is excellent, but we are not reaching a sufficient number of people.

I have suggested this last year,—I also repeat it again this year—that if we are unable to put television transmitters in the country, then we should certainly examine the question of sponsored programmes. The hon. Minister has an open mind on this subject and right now the most important thing is the question of time. If we are going to lose two or three years merely thinking whether we should go in for sponsored programmes or not, valuable time will be lost, as also valuable opportunities to people who want to imbibe greater knowledge.

As far as the Films Division is concerned, being a photographer myself, I would like to congratulate all those concerned on the wonderful piece of work they are doing in producing first-rate movie films, news reels etc.

The photography is first-rate and I think that the message that they try to convey is something we all Indians can well be proud of and the hon. Minister can well be congratulated for it. But I would like to suggest that in view of the foreign exchange problem that we have in this country—having been in this House for three terms I know that we are likely to live with the foreign exchange problem perhaps for the rest of our lives—it is essential that the people of India are given an opportunity to see the other parts of the world through the medium of the movie films. For that I would request the hon. Minister that we should have short films changed every week along with the

news reel showing the different parts of the world, how those people are trying to advance their countries, how they work and showing the progress in all fields. If these films could be produced either by our Indian cameramen or alternatively imported from abroad, it would help our people having a better idea of the rest of the world which they are deprived of visiting because of the foreign exchange problem.

I would also like to suggest that we should also start a series known as "See your Country" or "Know your Country" series. We have something of the sort at the moment, but it is not intensive enough. I would like that the Government should have, say, one movie film every week, that is, 52 in all, which would cover most of our country and which would help also a number of people in our country, who wish to travel but who do not have the means at their disposal, to get to know their own country, the beautiful places, the cities, the lakes and everything else of interest.

As far as India is concerned, it is equally important for us to produce short movie reels about our own country, about our industrialisation, about our river valley projects, and send these shorts out to other countries so that people can get a better idea of what we are trying to do and what we have achieved in the short while that we have been a free country.

This is the Olympic year and there would be millions of people from all over the world who would be lucky enough to go and see the Olympics at Tokyo. Unfortunately, again because of the foreign exchange restrictions millions of Indians who would have liked to go and see the Olympics themselves would be deprived of that pleasure. I hope that the Ministry will depute a team of cameramen from India who can go and produce a movie film called, "India at the

Tokyo Olympics"—say, an hour length film—which could be shown all over the country so that what people will miss seeing by themselves they can certainly see by the medium of this movie.

Then I would like to say very briefly a few words about the publications and the Publications Section of our Ministry under question. We have a number of magazines that come out, like, the *Kurukshetra*, *Yojana* and a large number of others. Some of them are good, but what I regard as the yardstick of a good magazine is whether anybody will pick up a *Yojana* or a *Kurukshetra* in spite of other better magazines being on the stalls. That is the yardstick. Unfortunately, the get-up of our magazines is not good enough and although many of these are doled out free to people, not many will read them. I hope that the Publications Division will spend a little more time on a better get-up of these magazines.

As far as the Press Information Bureau is concerned, which is functioning, I believe, now for 25 years, I understand that even today they do not have even a single foreign language cell. I believe that as far as languages like Chinese or the languages of the Far Eastern or the Middle Eastern countries are concerned, we in India today have to depend on translations from the *London Times* or the BBC. I do not know whether it is the correct position; but if it is so, I would very strongly request the hon. Minister that we should have these language cells, research cells, so that our own boys and girls in India can learn these languages and be able to translate them without our having to depend on foreign news agencies of other countries.

I should briefly mention about the Central Information Service which, I believe, has just now been put into operation. While it is on the same

lines as the IAS or the IPS, the men of this Service are very low paid; the pay scales are most unattractive. I would like the hon. Minister to reconsider this question and make the pay scales attractive so that we can get better people for this specialist service.

As far as external publicity is concerned, I would like to make an observation here. As regards internal publicity the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting do an adequate job; but as far as the external publicity is concerned, which, I believe, is handled by the Ministry of External Affairs, I do feel that a certain amount of dovetailing is necessary between the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and the Ministry of External Affairs. I have had the occasion to travel a great deal abroad and the more I travel the more I feel that people outside do not really know what is happening in our country. I was in San Francisco a couple of years ago and I went to an Indian restaurant and all I saw there was a peculiar picture and I asked an Indian there "Why don't you have something about our river valley projects or our steel plant?" He said, "we are not being fed by anybody." Then, again I was in Italy a few years ago. I was told by my guide that the impression the Italians had about India was of a country full of hungry people, with beggars all over the streets, snake charmers, maharajas and elephants and what not. Surely, that is not the picture we want to convey to the rest of the world. We want to convey to them a picture of how we are trying to battle with our poverty problem, with our education problem and how we are trying to create a fuller life for the millions of Indian people. What we really need, as far as the external publicity is concerned, is a psychological approach, something that the foreign mind can absorb. That is important. For that, I think, we need a psychological approach from our Ministry so that

[Shri Karni Singhji]

these shorts, these news-reels, whatever they are, can be absorbed by them.

17.00 hrs.

While on this subject, I would like to say that I had an occasion to see an Indian film called "The Householder". This film was shown by our Ambassador in America to a few invited guests and I think, it was one of the finest Indian movie films that I have seen and I believe it was received very well in the United States. I would like the Ministry to see that those films that go out of our country, that portray the Indian life, the Indian way of living are hand-picked films which show the best in our country so that we can get a greater understanding from other nations.

Before I conclude, I shall once more repeat what I said last year. One of the biggest problems that our country is facing is over-population. This is one field in which the Information and Broadcasting Ministry can do a lot. It is through the medium of your newsreels and your propoganda that you can convey to the millions of people in our country that in the present context it is not correct for any citizen to have more than three children. That should be the optimum size of a family. I would very strongly request the Minister to see that every newsreel, every week, carries at least a one minute programme on family planning trying to convey to the masses the need to restrict their families so that we can have a fuller life for our people, a higher standard of living for our nation.

Now that broadcasting and all these things have been going on for a long time, I think, it is about time that we have a reviewing commission like they have in Great Britain consisting of Members of Parliament and noted journalists who could review the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and submit their report to the nation so that better suggestions can come out of it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should not take up any more time and I thank you for the time you gave me. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister on the fact that he has such a broad-minded approach to problems in the country, that he is a man who is completely free from fads, and I am sure that I will be joining all those here in wishing him the best of luck in the new Ministry and in helping to build a new great India.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया (फर्रुखाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे एक दोस्त अभी रूस से लौट कर आए हैं और उन्होंने मुझे बताया है कि रूसी कह रहे हैं प्रावदा में इजबेस्तिया नहीं है और इजबेस्तिया में प्रावदा नहीं है। रूस के ये दो अखबार हैं। प्रावदा माने सच और इजबेस्तिया माने समाचार। रूस के लिए जितनी यह बात सही है हिन्दुस्तान के लिए उससे ज्यादा सही है। यहाँ सच में समाचार नहीं है और समाचार में सच नहीं है। एक उद हरण में आकाशवाणी से आपको देता हूँ जिस का सिर्फ आधे घंटे का कार्यक्रम मुझे जंचता है। जब कभी कोई मीरा अपने सब सांवरिया के साथ नाचती है या कोई कबीर अपनी चादरिया को जतन से अढ़ करके रख देता है तो मुझ जैसा पुराना आदमी इस सच्चाई पर थोड़ी देर के लिए खूश हो लेता है लेकिन इस सच में भी ताकत नहीं रह गई है देश को बदलने की, नए रास्ते पर ले जाने की। इसके अलावा जिस तरह का समाचारों में हमें सच मिलता है वह बिल्कुल साफ है। अखबारों को देखते हुए मालूम होता है कि जैसे हिन्दुस्तान की दुनिया में बड़ी इज्जत है। बड़ा मुंह और छोटा हाथ। आज जितना दुनिया वाले हम पर हंस रहे हैं शायद ही और किसी देश पर उतना हंस रहे हों। जो सही समाचार हैं वे हमारे पास भाते नहीं हैं। काश्मीर के मामले में सुरक्षा परिषद् में ऐसा लगा यहाँ के अखबारों को देख कर जैसे हमने फतह कर ली। लेकिन

इधर दस दिन में मालूम हो रहा है कि नहीं, वह फनह नहीं थी, वह तो हार थी। इस तरह के समाचारों से क्या मिलेगा। बहुत तरक्की हो रही थी देश में, लेकिन गुब्बारा जितना उड़ा था दस पन्द्रह बरस तक, तीन आने की मुई ने उसको पिचका कर छोड़ दिया। इस तरह के समाचारों से कोई भी देश को लाभ होने वाला नहीं है। सच्चे समाचार होने चाहिये।

गरीब देश में समाचारों का सब से बड़ा स्रोत सरकार हुआ करती है और सरकार का सब से बड़ा मकसद होता है किसी तरह से गद्दी पर बैठे रहना चाहे सच बोल कर या झूठ बोल कर। पहली रुलाह तो मैं यह देना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ तक हो सके सच की तरफ भी समाचारों में ध्यान दिया जाये। अगर सरकार न दे सके तो जनता दे।

अखबारों का जो हल है उसको भी आप देख लें। श्री गोयनका या उनके जैसे लोगों के लिए तो मैं कानून बना दूँ कि या तो वे अखबारों के मालिक रहें या मिलों के मालिक, दोनों के मालिक एक साथ न रहें।

तबीयत तो आती है कि इसके बारे में मैं और कुछ कहता। लेकिन सरकार इस लायक नहीं है कि आज गोयनका जी के अखबारों को सरकार को सौंप दिया जाय। इसलिए मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहूँगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में अखबारों के मालिकों को, मिलों, चाहे वे चीनी की मिलें हों या जूटपाट की हों, उनको रखने का अख्तियार नहीं रहना चाहिये। दरअसल यह मामला बड़ा लंबा जाता है। छोटी मोटी चीज को करने से यह नहीं होगा। शायद मंत्री महोदय के बस का नहीं है, हमारे में से किसी के बस का नहीं है क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान का सच बिगड़ चुका है। मेरी हमेशा यही तबीयत होती है कि इस सच पर कुछ बोलूँ, छोटी मोटी तफ्सील की बातों पर नहीं। लेकिन क्या किया जाय। पिछले हजार

डेढ़ हजार बरस से जो चित्र हमारे सामने वह तो गज, ग्राह, विष्णु का है। कोई विष्णु आ कर हमें बचा दे। हम खाली उसकी पूजा कर लें, उसकी आरती उतार लें। हमारे सामने चित्र है जहांगीरी घंटे का, हम बजा दें और कोई जा कर हमें न्याय दिला दे। जब हमारा यह हाल है, जब हम नाम, जप, आरती, पूजा, पाठ, यज्ञ इत्यादि से ही तरक्की करना चाहते हैं तो कहां से सच होगा, कहां से लगन होगी, कहां से पुष्पार्थ होगा। जब तक सूचना और प्रसारण विभाग इस मामले से नहीं लड़ता, जब तक वह हिन्दुस्तान की जनता को ऐसी जहनियत नहीं देता कि पूजा, पाठ, यज्ञ से कुछ नहीं होगा, तब तक क्या हो सकता है। शायद मैं ऐसे लोगों को यह सलाह दे रहा हूँ जो खुद इस रोग में मुबतला हैं। लेकिन क्या करूँ इस वक्त देश इस रोग से बड़ा बिगड़ा हुआ है। मैं एक मिसाल देता हूँ और सकार भी कर देना चाहता हूँ। पिछली बार जब मैंने वैज्ञानिकों के बारे में कहा था कि वैज्ञानिक खोज ठीक तरह से नहीं हो पाती तो मैंने कहा था कि वैज्ञानिक तब अच्छा हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा होगा जब वह मनुष्य के दिमाग और पुष्पार्थ पर विश्वास करेगा, न कि जप के ऊपर। साथ साथ यह भी मैंने कहा था कि यदि वह एक अच्छी बीबी ढूंढ ले जिस का बाप अस्तरदार हो तो वह अधिक तरक्की कर सकता है बनिस्बत वैज्ञानिक खोज करने के। उस वक्त लोगों ने समझा मैं किसी एक खास वैज्ञानिक के लिए कह रहा हूँ। ऐसा मेरा मतलब नहीं था। हमारे देश में तबीयत हमेशा यही रहती है कि तरक्की कुछ ऐसे ढंग से कर लो, चापत्सी से, जप से, शब्द से, कीर्तन से, नाम से वगैरह। जब तक मंत्री महोदय इस चीज से नहीं लड़ेंगे हिन्दुस्तान में सूचना और प्रसारण का कोई काम हो नहीं सकता है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : पूजा तो सब से बड़ा कर्त्तव्य है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : आप उन को कह दीजियेगा क्योंकि वह ज्यादा पूजा और कम पुरुषार्थ पढ़ने से करते हैं क्योंकि आप की सलाह वह इस मामले में ज्यादा मान सकते हैं और उन में पुरुषार्थ थोड़ा बहुत अगर बचा होगा तो वह भी खत्म हो जायगा। मेरी बात को पक्की तरह से मैं आशा करता हूँ वह समझ गए होंगे।

एक और सलाह मैं दे दूँ। आकाशवाणी के सब लोगों को तो मैं जानता नहीं, एक औरत को जानता हूँ बहुत बरसों से। वह बड़ी तेजो हैं, बड़ी मेहनती हैं, बड़ी बुद्धिमान हैं। अगर वह थोड़ी चापलूस भी होतीं तो शायद आज आकाशवाणी की सब से बड़ी भरू र हतीं अभी वह कोई छोटी हैं सातवें, आठवें या नवें नम्बर पर होंगी। इस बात का बहुत ध्यान रखना है कि लोगों को चूँकि चापलूसी के जरिये तरक्की दे दिया जाया करती है, इसलिए हमारे बहुत से विभाग अच्छे नहीं हो पाते हैं, फिर चाहे वह आकाशवाणी हो, चाहे शिक्षा मंत्रालय हो चाहे और कोई मंत्रालय हो। इस बात को बढ़ाने के पहले मैं कुछ छोटी छोटी तफसीलों की बात बता देता हूँ। हो सके तो मंत्री महोदय को एक आकाशवाणी का विश्वविद्यालय खोलना चाहिये। आकाशवाणी के जरिये घंटे, दो घंटे, तीन घंटे रोज का कार्यक्रम चले जिस से सुनने वालों को करीब करीब वही शिक्षा मिल जाये, बल्कि कुछ अच्छी हो, जैसेकि किसी को बी० ए० और एम० ए० में मिला करती है और यह सम्भव हो सकता है। लेकिन मैं एक चेतावनी दे देना चाहता हूँ कि अगर यह अंग्रेजी में किया गया तो कूड़ा और ज्यादा इकट्ठा हो जायेगा। इसलिये मेहरबानी कर के मेरी बात को तुम बिल्कुल मुला देना अगर इस को अंग्रेजी में करना चाहो। यह काम तो केवल देशी भाषाओं में हो सकता है। आकाशवाणी का एक विश्व-विद्यालय।

इसी के साथ साथ मैं एक और भी सलाह देना चाहूँगा आकाशवाणी के या दूसरे मंत्रालयों के अन्दर काम करने वाले नौकरों के बारे में। जो मातृ भाषा के माध्यमों से काम करते हैं उन की तन्खवाहें करीब करीब आधी हैं, बल्कि और भी कम पड़ जाती हैं अंग्रेजी के माध्यम से काम करने वालों की अपेक्षा। यह कोई तरीका नहीं है हिन्दुस्तान में अच्छी भाषा नीति चलने का और जब मैं नौकरों की बात करता हूँ तो जो अस्थायी नौकर हैं, जिन को यह लोग स्टाफ आर्टिस्ट्स कहते हैं, उन की बड़ी बेवसी की हालत है। अगर आप उस पर ध्यान दें तो जरूर कुछ न कुछ तब्दीली आ सकती है। यह बात होनी चाहिये क्योंकि जो लोग स्थायी नौकर हैं उन की तुलना में उन की हालत बड़ी खराब है।

मातृ भाषा के जो अखबार हैं, इसी रपट से पता चलेगा कि पूरे हिन्दुस्तान भर के सभी अखबार जो हैं उन को २१ लाख रुपये के विज्ञापन मिले हैं, सब अखबारों को मातृ-भाषाओं के, और केवल अंग्रेजी के अखबारों को ३० लाख ६० के विज्ञापन मिले हैं। इस पर मैं क्या कहूँ। अगर इस पर मैं कोई कड़े शब्द बोलता हूँ तो लंग मुझ पर नाराज होते हैं, हालाँकि इस माँके पर तबियत होती है कि सचमुच कुछ कड़े शब्द बोले जायें। इसी तरह से अगर मैं एक बात मंत्री महोदय को बतलाऊँ तो उन के प्रदेश से मेरे पास एक खत आया। बड़ा भावपूर्ण खत था। उस खत के लिखने वाले ने मुझ से कहा कि "माननीय सत्य नारायण सिंह को बतला देना कि बिहार में और मैं समझता हूँ कि पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के बहुत से सुबों में अभी भी कन्याओं की हत्याएँ हुआ करती हैं। कन्या हत्या। बहुत से ऐसे कुटुम्ब हैं, बहुत सी ऐसी जातियाँ हैं जो कि कन्याएँ पैदा हो जाने पर इतने दुखी होते हैं कि कन्याओं की हत्या कर देना ही बेहतर समझते हैं।" अगर कन्याओं की हत्याएँ होती रहती हैं तो मैं नहीं समझता कि इस देश में कहां से न्याय और

कहाँ से इन्साफ पनप सकता है। यह मैं इसलिये कह रहा हूँ कि आकाशवाणी और सूचना मंत्रालय के अखबार केवल बिहार में नहीं बल्कि दूसरे सूबों में भी चलते हैं। यह तो खत लिखने वाले ने मुझ से कहा था कि माननीय सत्य नारायण जी को सुना देना। इस आकाशवाणी के जरिये और जहाँ तक मैं जानता हूँ सूचना मंत्रालय की तरफ से ऐसा कोई रोचक और रसिक प्रोग्राम प्रसारित नहीं किया जाता जिस से यह दुगुण और बुरी आदतें दूर हों। खाली यह कहो कि सत्य बोलो, तो कोई नहीं सुनेगा, खाली कहो कि मिलावट मत करो, कोई नहीं सुनेगा, खाली कहो कि दबा दबा कर, चबा चबा कर खाओ, कोई नहीं सुनेगा, खाली यह कहो कि खाते बक्त मुंह मत खोलो, कोई नहीं सुनेगा। लेकिन अगर यह सब चीजें आप रोचक बना दें और हिन्दुस्तान की जनता की आदतों को बदलने की कोशिश करें तो सम्भव है कि अपना देश भी कुछ सभ्य बने।

सभ्य बनने की बात जब की जाती है तो कुछ थोड़ा सा सभ्यता के बारे में भी मुझे जरूर कहना है क्योंकि सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय का तो इस से बहुत ज्यादा सम्बन्ध होना चाहिये। सभ्यता क्या है। क्या सभ्यता यह है कि शांति रखते हुए लोग अपनी बातों को कहने आयें, जुलूस बनायें और पचास घंटे बाद आप उन को गिरफ्तार करें, और ऐसे गिरफ्तार करें कि जिस में जमानत भी उन को न मिले। क्या सभ्यता इस बात में है कि कोई सदस्य संसद् का, जैसे कि बागड़ी जी, आ कर यहाँ पनाह लें। आखिर इस दिल्ली में एक जहांपनाह हुआ करता था। यह पनाह की जगह है, लेकिन बजाय इस के कि माननीय मंत्री उन को इस सदन में जो पचास कमरे हैं उन में कहीं पड़े रहने दें, उन को एक पेड़ के नीचे रखें। क्या यह सभ्यता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह आप मुझ से कह रहे हैं क्योंकि यह उन का काम नहीं है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यह सही है, लेकिन आप जानते हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं पार्लियामेंट हाउस को रेजिडेंशल क्वार्टर नहीं बना सकता।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : आखिर आप ने उन्हें बाहर रखने के लिये तो नहीं कहा होगा। यह बातें तो मेरी समझ में नहीं आती कि

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस में अगर सभ्यता नहीं है तो मेरा कुसूर है, और मैं इस पार्लियामेंट हाउस को रेजिडेंशल हाउस तो नहीं बना सकता। इस से इस मंत्रालय का कोई मतलब नहीं है। अगर आप इन्फार्मेशन ऐंड ब्राड-कार्टिंग मिनिसट्री को मेरे हक देना चाहते हैं तो आप मुझ को मेरे हकों से महरूम करते हैं।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मुझे आप कहने की इजाजत दें। आखिर आप इन सब चीजों को सलाह ले कर किया करते हैं। आप एक जनतन्त्र के अध्यक्ष हैं। मैं आप को एक उदाहरण देता हूँ। ठीक ऐसा ही मामला था

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप देना चाहेंगे तो भी मैं नहीं देने दूंगा।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : सलाह तो दी थी उन्होंने। अगर सभ्य सलाह दी होती तो मामला अच्छा होता। एक सभ्य मंत्री से हम उम्मीद कर सकते हैं कि वह सभ्य सलाह दें। खैर इस मिसाल को आप छोड़ दीजिये। मुसद्दिक का मामला मैं आप को बतला देता हूँ। मुसद्दिक ईरान के प्रधान मंत्री थे। उन्होंने ईरान की संसद् में पनाह ली थी तब तो किसी ने यह सवाल नहीं उठाया कि क्या उसे घर बना दिया जाये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर माननीय सदस्य मेरे साथ बहस करना चाहते हैं तो मेरे पास आ कर कर सकते हैं। इस के साथ मिनिस्टर साहब का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं क्या करूँ, अध्यक्ष महोदय। खैर, मैं इस बात को छोड़ता हूँ, लेकिन आप अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि हम लोगों का भी इस से सम्बन्ध रहता है। खैर, मैं इस बात को छोड़ देता हूँ।

सभ्यता की यहाँ बड़ी चर्चा हुआ करती है। क्या सभ्यता सिर्फ़ इसी बात में है कि कोई परदेशी काम हमारे ऊपर हमला करे, हमारी जर्मन को हड़प ले और उस काम का मंत्री अगर हमारा हवा का इस्तेमाल करे तो चुनचाप उस को इस बात की इजाजत दे दी जाये। क्या इसी का सभ्यता कहते हैं। तब तो इस के यह मतलब होंगे कि सभ्यता का मतलब है कि जो अपने से दुर्बल हो उस के ऊपर तो झपेटा मारो, और जो अपने से सबल हों उस के सामने झुक जाओ। आकाशवाणी और समाचार बंगलहा का या सूचना या जितना भी मंत्रालय है वह अगर इसी सभ्यता का फीजाता रह गया तो हिन्दुस्तान में अब तक जो रंग रहा है वह सदा सर्वदा के लिये जारी रहेगा। सभ्यता का मतलब है कि अपने से सबल के सामने झड़ जाओ, डट जाओ, उस का मुकाबला करो, चाहे कुछ देर के लिये हार जाना पड़े, मार खाना पड़े, और जो अपने से दुर्बल हों उस के सामने झुक जाओ। यह सभ्यता अगर हिन्दुस्तान का सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय आगे के लिये सिखाये तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा।

मैं ने यहाँ एक बार जिक्र किया था औरतों, मर्दों और बच्चों की बात का जिस को मैं पूरी नहीं कर पाया था। एक ऐसे दायरे में चला गया था जिस का वर्तमान राजनीति से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है, इस स्थायी पन्द्रह सौ वर्ष वाली राजनीति का। हमारे देश में औरतें जितना मार खाती हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय, वह आप जानते हैं। ऐसा क्यों होता है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप कैसे जानते हैं ?

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं कैसे जानता हूँ। क्योंकि आप की बीवियों को मैं देख चुका हूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप का क्या अपना अनुभव है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का वक्त जा रहा है ?

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं क्या करूँ, अध्यक्ष महोदय, उन लोगों को यह पता चल गया है कि अगर वे सब के सब रोक टोक करें तो उनका वक्त भी आप मेरे वक्त के साथ गिन लिया करते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो उन को ठीक पता चल गया, लेकिन आप को भी यह पता होना चाहिये।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : असल में पहले तो मुझे बहुत गुस्सा आता था इस बात पर। आठ, दस वर्ष तक गुस्सा आता रहा। मैं इस मसले को समझ नहीं पाया था। लेकिन जब मैं ने इस मसले पर बहुत सोचा तो पता चला कि हिन्दुस्तान का मर्द बेवसी की हालत में अपने मालिक और अफसर की तू तड़ाक और टोकरो का मुकाबला नहीं कर पाता, पलटाकर जवाब नहीं दे पाता, अन्दर अन्दर उस के दिल में बात पकती रहती है और जब शाम को घर लौटता है तो दिन भर की खिंश और गुस्से की जलन अपने घर की औरतों के ऊपर निकाला करता है। इसी तरह से औरतों को भी गुस्सा आता है तब वह कहां पर अपने गुस्से को निकालती हैं। बच्चों पर।

एक माननीय सदस्य : लेकिन अब औरत दबती नहीं है।

दूसरे माननीय सदस्य : इस का सूचना प्रसारण मंत्रालय से क्या सम्बन्ध है ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : बच्चों पर । कई बार तो मेरे मन में आता है कि सब राजनीति को छोड़ कर मैं हिन्दुस्तान में केवल बच्चों की एक पार्टी बनाऊँ ताकि वे विद्रोह करें, और विद्रोह करें अपने मां बाप के सामने कि अत्याचार उन के ऊपर थपड़ क्यों लग जाता करते हैं । जब तब अत्याचार थपड़ लगते रहे और यह सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय उससे सम्बन्ध में कुछ नहीं करेगा, जब देश के भद्र अपना गुस्ता अपने सामने वाले बड़े के खिलाफ नहीं गिनाल पाते और अज्ञानों पर गिनालते हैं और जब देश की दुर्बल अज्ञानों अपने बच्चों पर गुस्ता गिनालती हैं, तो ऐसे देश पर चैन जैसा कोई भी बलवान देश अपना गुस्ता गिनालेगा, क्योंकि अत्याचार और जुल्म का एक चक्कर है और इस चक्कर को तोड़ना है । इस चक्कर को तोड़ने के लिये माननीय सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री कोई लम्बी योजना बनायें ताकि ये अत्याचार के कड़े जो हमारे दिमागों में घुस गए हैं, निकल सकें । लेकिन ऐसा करने के लिये उनकी पहले अपने दिमाग से और अपने मंत्रालय के दिमाग से भी कड़ियों को निकालना होगा ताकि वह सम्य बन सकें । जब वह खुद सम्य बनेंगे तो हिन्दुस्तान को सम्यता सिखा सकेंगे । जो खुद असम्य है वह दूसरों को क्या सम्यता सिखाएगा ।

श्री अ० सि० सहगल (जंजीर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने जो अपनी डिमांड्स पेश की हैं उन पर मैं अपने विचार रखना चाहता हूँ ।

यह बड़े दुःख की बात है कि हम अभी तक अपने आल इंडिया रेडियो के राष्ट्रीय महत्व को पूर्ण तरह समझ नहीं पाए हैं । रेडियो किस प्रकार देश के लिये उपयोगी हो रहा है और इस के कर्मचारी किस प्रकार की सेवा कर रहे हैं, इस और हमें

ध्यान देना चाहिये । देश की अधिकांश जनता देहात में रहती है । इस विशाल आवादी तथा हम पुस्तकों, अखबारों आदि के द्वारा नहीं पहुँच सकते । लेकिन रेडियो द्वारा हम इस जनता को अपने विचार पहुँचा सकते हैं । इसी से आप रेडियो, की राष्ट्रीय उपयोगिता का अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं । इसका देहाती कार्यक्रम अत्यन्त लोक प्रिय हो रहा है ।

आज आल इंडिया रेडियो ३३ मुख्य स्टेशनों से ११ प्रादेशिक भाषाओं और ४८ डाइलेक्ट्स में प्रसारण करता है जिसमें कुल मिला कर प्रति दिन ३० घंटा समय दिया जाता है । रेडियो के देहाती कार्यक्रमों की रक्षणा की मशाल जला कर हम आज उन लोगों तक जान पहुँचा सकते हैं जो सदियों से अज्ञान में पड़े हुए हैं । रेडियो द्वारा देहात के लोगों को खेती बाड़ी की जानकारी दी जाती है, और संसार की अन्य खबरों से उनकी परिचित कराया जाता है, और उनको आवश्यक ज्ञान और सूचना इस माध्यम द्वारा पहुँचायी जाती है । इन चीजों के अलावा हमारा रेडियो देहात के लोगों के लिये मनोरंजन प्रदान करता है । आज जो गांवों में राष्ट्रीय चेतना और जागरूकता हो रही है, उसका अधिकांश श्रेय आल इंडिया रेडियो को ही है । यह कहा जाता न होगा कि आज रेडियो देहात की कोटि कोटि जनता के लिये एक सांस्कृतिक और सामाजिक चीज बन गया है । रेडियो का प्रचार-प्रसारण का एक मात्र विधायक है । मैं अब आन का ध्यान रिपोर्ट के संका २० की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूँ जिसमें रूल फोरम के बारे में यह कहा गया है :

“This experiment in husbanding the material and moral resources of the countryside is being watched with interest by other broadcasting organisations of the world.”

इसी पता लगता है कि यह विभाग इस दिशा में कितना उपयोगी काम कर रहा है । आज

[श्री प्र० सि० सहगल]

इस विभाग के कर्ता धर्ता माननीय श्री साय नायणजी हैं और इस सफलता का सहाय्य अगर इनके माये और आल इंडिया रेडियो के डाइरेक्टर श्री बी०पी० भट्ट के माये बांधा जाय तो उचित हो होगा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर । किसी आफिशियल का नाम नहीं लिया जा सकता ।

श्री प्र० सि० सहगल : मैं वापस लेता हूँ ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो नुक्ताचीनी करनी हो वह भी मिनिस्टर के बाखलाफ कीजिए और अगर कुछ हफ में कहना हो तो भी मिनिस्टर के ही हक में कहिए ।

श्री प्र० सि० सहगल : इधर कुछ वर्षों से रेडियो के देहाती प्रोग्राम के साथ साथ रूरल फोरम ने जो सहायता प्राप्त की है, उसकी मिसाल संसार के दूसरे देशों में नहीं मिलती है । इन रूरल फोरमों की संख्या देश भर में आठ हजार तक पहुँच चुकी है ।

यह किसानों का अपना प्रोग्राम है जिसमें खेती बाड़ी की और दूसरी हर तरह की जानकारी दी जाती है । साथ ही साथ इसमें बैठ कर किसान अपनी खेती बाड़ी की समस्याओं को हल करते हैं । यह कार्यक्रम गांवों का एक भंग हो गया है और इससे किसानों को खेती बाड़ी के मामले में बड़ी सहायता मिलती है । इस तरह रेडियो द्वारा इन रूरल फोरमों से देश में सच्चे लोकतन्त्र को स्थापना होती है । नौजवान किसान इसमें बैठते हैं और शामिल होते हैं । भारत के अलावा पन्जाब, दक्षिणी कोरिया आदि देशों के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलनों में इसकी बड़ी सराहना हुई है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : कोरम नहीं है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : एक आवाज आयी कि कोरम नहीं है । अब आप अपना भावण बल जारी रखें ।

17.28 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 18, 1964/Phalguna 28, 1885 (Saka).