

Division No. 24]

AYES

12.40 hrs

Abdul Rashid, Bakhshid
Abdul Wahid, Shri T.
Alagesan, Shri
Alva, Shri Joschim
Aney, Dr. M. S.
Bessa, Shri
Borooha, Shri P. C.
Chaturvedi, Shri S. N.
Chuni Lal, Shri
Dandekar, Shri N.
Das, Shri B. K.
Das, Shri N. T.
Deo, Shri P. K.
Deshmukh, Shri Shivaji Rao S.
Dighe, Shri
Dinesh, Singh Shri
Dixit, Shri G. N.
Dorai, Shri Kesinatha
Ganga Devi, Shrimati
Gowdh, Shri
Gupta, Shri Shiv Charan
Heda, Shri
Kedaria, Shri C. M.
Krishnamachari, Shri T. T.
Lalit Sen, Shri
Laskar, Shri N. R.
Mahadeva Prasad, Dr.
Majithia, Shri
Marandi, Shri

Maruthiah, Shri
Maurjya Dijn, Shri
Mathur, Shri Shiv Charan
Mehdi, Shri S.A.
Mehrotra, Shri Braj Bihari
Melkote, Dr.
Menai, Shri Gopal Datt
Mirza, Shri Bakar Ali
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
Mishra, Shri M. P.
Mohiuddin, Shri
More, Shri K. L.
Muthiah, Shri
Naik, Shri D. J.
Niranjan Lal, Shri
Paliwal, Shri
Pandey, Shri R. S.
Pant, Shri K. C.
Patil, Shri D. S.
Patnaik, Shri B. C.
Pattabhi Raman, Shri C. R.
Prabhakar, Shri Naval
Raj Bahadur, Shri
Raideo Singh, Shri
Raju, Dr. D. S.
Ram Sewak, Shri
Ramaswamy, Shri V. K.
Ramdhani, Das, Shri
Rampure, Shri M.

Rane, Shri
Ranga, Shri
Rao, Shri Krishnamoorthy
Rao, Shri Ramapathy
Reddier, Shri
Reddy, Shri Linga
Sadhu Ram, Shri
Saha, Dr. S. K.
Sahu, Shri Rameshwar
Samanta, Shri S. C.
Sharma, Shri A. P.
Sharma, Shri D.C.
Sheo Narain, Shri
Shinde, Shri
Shree Narayan Das, Shri
Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Snatak, Shri Naradeo
Subbaraman, Shri
Tiwary, Shri D.N.
Tiwary, Shri K. N.
Tiwary, Shri R. S.
Tula Ram, Shri
Tyagi, Shri
Upadhyaya, Shri Shiva Dutt
Vyas, Shri Radheyial
Wadiwa, Shri
Wanik, Shri Balkrishna
Yadava, Shri B. P.

NOES

Alvarez, Shri
Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Gupta, Shri Kashi Ram
Gupta, Shri Priya

Kamath, Shri H.V.
Kandappan, Shri
Kohar, Dr.
Misra, Shri U. M.
Mukerjee, Shri H. N.

Murmu, Shri
Pandey, Shri Sriroo
Sen, Dr. Ranen
Wartor, Shri
Yainik, Shri
Yashpal Singh, Shri

Mr. Speaker: The result of the
Division is: Ayes 85; Noes 16.

The motion was adopted.

12.41 hrs.

UNION TERRITORIES (DIRECT
ELECTION TO THE HOUSE OF
THE PEOPLE) BILL

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for direct election in certain Union Territories for filling the seats allotted to them in the House of the

People and for matters connected therewith be taken into consideration".

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of order, Sir. I am loth, I do not wish, to obstruct or delay the passage of this Bill. It is a very welcome measure, but I would have been happy if the Government had had more regard for the rules of procedure.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Kamath would remember that normally these points are raised after the motion has been...

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: The hon. Minister has moved the motion already.

Mr. Speaker: It is only after I place the motion before the House that normally these points are raised.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I thought that as soon as he had moved it, it would be in order for me to raise the point.

Mr. Speaker: That can be raised after the speech in connection with the motion has been made also. How long is the hon. Minister likely to take?

Shri Hathi: One hour has been allotted for this Bill, and I think I would take about 10 to 12 minutes and in any case not more than about 15 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: All right, Shri Kamath may raise his point now.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I would like to invite your attention to rule 69(1) of our Rules of Procedure. But before I read out that rule, may I point out that the last sentence in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill reads thus:

"The Bill seeks to provide that at the next general election and thereafter as and when necessary these seats shall be filled by direct election."

That is a very welcome thing, and we are quite happy....

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): What is the hon. Member's point?

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Why is my hon. friend impatient? The Speaker is there to conduct the business.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The hon. Member is taking too much time and he will take away my time thereby.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: My hon. friend had better learn some method of speaking.

We are happy that the three Union Territories which had so far been excluded from this privilege of direct election will also share along with the other Union Territories this privilege and honour of sending their representatives to the Lok Sabha by direct election. But the financial memorandum that is appended to this Bill, which refers to the extra expenditure that will be involved says in paragraph 2, rather baldly,—not boldly—that:

"It is not possible to give precise details of the expenditure but on a rough estimate it would be about Rs. 76,000."

Sub-rule (1) of rule 69 contains a mandatory provision, that:

"A Bill involving expenditure.. shall also give an estimate of the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved in case the Bill is passed into law."

Judging by the Statement of Objects and Reasons, Government are well aware, are conscious of the fact that there will be recurring expenditure because they have used the words 'and thereafter as and when necessary'; that means, not merely at the next general election but as and when necessary thereafter. Only a lump sum of Rs. 76,000 has been mentioned in the financial memorandum. But there is no indication as to whether it is recurring or non-recurring expenditure that would be involved from the Consolidated Fund of India.

May I, therefore, seek a ruling on this point whether it is not obligatory in view of this rule of procedure, on the part of Government to give in such cases, a rough or approximate estimate if they cannot give a precise one, of the recurring and non-recurring expenditure that would be involved from the Consolidated Fund of India in case this Bill is passed into

law? I would request you to decide this point of order before the Bill is taken up for consideration.

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. Minister to say anything?

Shri Hathi: I think that it is a very simple matter, that when the financial memorandum mentions that there shall be an estimated expenditure of Rs. 76,000, it means that this will have to be incurred as and when the elections occur. This expenditure is going to be incurred at the next general elections. But clause 6 of the Bill provides that the sitting Members will continue to represent these areas till the next general election. After that, elections will be there, and they would involve an expenditure of Rs. 76,000. I do not think that there is any point of order whatsoever.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is not clear from the financial memorandum whether it would be recurring or non-recurring.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I do not think that this point has been referred to in the Representation of the People Act. I think there is no provision made there for recurring and non-recurring expenditure. I think the whole thing is lumped together there.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: But our rules of procedure provide like that.

Mr. Speaker: The rule as it stands does require that the recurring and the non-recurring expenditure ought to be given separately. In the financial memorandum attached to this Bill Government say that so far as they can visualise about the next elections which are near at hand—as regards the others, they cannot just at present say, what the amount will be; and even in respect of the next general elections near at hand they probably feel that they cannot give

the figures correctly but they can only give a rough figure that might include both—the total expenditure would be about Rs. 76,000. Normally, the point made out by Shri Kamath would be right, that Government should give the expenditure under both the heads. But failure to do so does not throw out the Bill altogether. During the debate also, Government may mention some figure or may give some assessment or give some 'mete-rough' as it is called and probably that would be better....

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: If I have heard the hon. Minister aright, he said that at every election, after the next general elections also the sum involved would be Rs. 76,000. Was that what he meant?

Mr. Speaker: He cannot say that generally.

Shri Hathi: I have given a rough estimate. I cannot say it generally.

12.48 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

This is a small Bill providing for direct election to the House of the People in the Union Territories of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. Under article 81 of the Constitution, 25 seats in the Lok Sabha have been set apart for the Union Territories. Out of these, one seat each has been allotted to the Union Territories of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli. At present, these seats are filled by nomination by the President under section 4 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. Provision had been made for nomination to the

[Shri Hathi]

seats allotted for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands merely because there were insuperable difficulties in introducing the elective system owing mainly to difficulties of transport and communications in the islands themselves. Now, communications have been improved, and we are trying to extend them. Moreover there was a demand from the people, which was a legitimate demand, that there should be an elected representative rather than a nominated one. That demand was justified. As the means of communications have improved to a very great extent, there will not be difficulties in having elections throughout the islands.

So far as Dadra and Nagar Haveli is concerned, even in 1961, when the Bill in connection therewith was being discussed here, hon. Members criticised and demanded that there should be direct election and not nomination. At that time, however, the time at our disposal was very short, because the elections were to take place in 1962 and delimitation had to be made. The late Prime Minister then promised that this would only be a temporary measure and that by the next general election, a Bill would be brought forward. This Bill is, in a way, in fulfilment of that assurance.

The proposals contained in the Bill, the operational clauses, are in clauses 3 to 6. Clause 3 provides that in these Union Territories, there shall be direct election to the House of the People and for that purpose each Union Territory shall constitute one parliamentary constituency as in Delhi which has no State Assembly.

Clause 4 is concerned with amending the Representation of the People Act, 1950. Sub-clause (a) seeks to delete the provision for nomination from that Act so far as these Territories are concerned so that it will be by direct election. Sub-clauses (b)

and (c) seek to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1950. It is about the preparation of rolls for the parliamentary constituencies. As in the case of Delhi, here also each constituency will be a parliamentary constituency. There will not be any need for State Assemblies. There will be only one representative for the whole area.

Clause 5 is also a similar amendment.

Clause 6 provides that the present sitting Member in the Lok Sabha of each Union Territory shall continue to represent that Territory till the dissolution of this House. But if in the meanwhile, a vacancy occurs, it shall be filled by nomination by the President and that person shall represent the Territory in the House of the People until its dissolution. It only envisages that the present Member will continue till the dissolution of this House, but if by chance tomorrow a vacancy occurs, it may not be possible to hold election immediately because delimitation and all that has to be done, which may not be ready by then. Therefore, till the dissolution of the present House of the People, if there is a vacancy, it will be filled by nomination. After that, under clause 3 the election will be direct.

I think this is a Bill which should be welcomed by all sections of the House. We are giving direct representation to the people of the area in the Lok Sabha. There should be no controversy over this. I therefore commend the motion to the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for direct election in certain Union territories for filling the seats allotted to them in the House of the People and for matters connected therewith be taken into consideration".

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I had the privilege to be associated in the tour of the Andamans sponsored by the Home Ministry in April last year.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: On a point of order. I am sure you will agree that when my hon. friend, Shri Pratap Kesari Deo—who has come back from a world tour, not only a tour of the Andamans—speaks, there should be quorum in the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung... Now there is quorum. He may continue.

Shri P. K. Deo: Then I had the privilege of submitting a note to the Home Ministry suggesting certain administrative and constitutional reforms. I congratulate the Ministry on having accepted at least one of my recommendations which has now come in the shape of this Bill which I hope will have the unanimous support of the House and will be passed and given effect to.

I would like to confine my detailed observations to the Andaman and Nicobar islands. Even though in a parliamentary constituency in the mainland we represent 8-9 lakh people, the representative from Andamans and Nicobars would represent only 65,000 people. It has got an area of 3,200 square miles. There are nearly 250 small islands scattered in the Andaman and Nicobar group. Between the two groups is the ten degree channel which is not always navigable, which makes communication more difficult.

The 65,000 population of the Andaman and Nicobar group of islands are divided into four groups. One-fourth are the "local borns", descendants of the original settlers. This was a penal settlement, Kalapani. They went there in 1858, when they were sent there after the great revolu-

tion of that year, the first war of independence. They settled in those groups of islands. That was how the penal settlement started. The cellular jail and grim walls of it are a testimony to the penance and sacrifice and bear witness of leaders like Lokamanya Tilak, the Savarkar brothers, Bhai Parmanand, Barindrakumar Ghose and Ullaskar, whose golden deeds have enriched the pages of this country's history. One-fourth of the population represents labour force; they are casual labour who go from the mainland for various PWD works and forest operations. One-fourth represents the East Bengal refugees. One-fourth represents the original inhabitants of Andamans, who are of a tribal character—the Onges, Andamanis, Jarawas and Sentanalese, whose numbers are being greatly reduced. There are only 24 Andamanis left, they are not multiplying. It is a dying race. So, the problem of Onges is very serious and needs careful attention for the preservation of their culture. Jarawas have remained hostile up till now.

13 hrs.

Our main problem is how to have free and fair elections in a centrally administered area like that. Of the various recommendations that I made to the Home Ministry was one that this group of islands so strategically situated—Nicobar is only 70 miles from the Sumatra Cape—should have a representative government of their own, a legislature of their own, they should share in the administration of that territory. It is most unfortunate that the administration there is highly centralised and personal. The Chief Commissioner, being far away from Delhi and having not much work to do and having to deal with a small population of 65,000, is all in all and gets involved in small matters in the administration, which is not desirable. And the partisan outlook is, of course, there.

[Shri P. K. Deo]

When we happened to be there, we were given an official programme to the effect that we were supposed to address a public meeting to be organised by the local Congress Committee. We belonged to various parties, my hon. friend Shri Mohammed Elias was there, and we did not like to address the meeting to be convened by the local Congress Committee and organised by the officials there. So, we dissociated ourselves. But such things have been going on.

So, how can we expect free and fair elections where the administration is so much personal and so much centralised. There, he is the chief executive officer, and he is the main employer of the casual labour force, and I think he was till the other day, and he is still today, unless some change has been made, the Labour Commissioner there. He decides the various disputes arising between labour and the employer, while he himself is the main employer of the labour force there. There is no separation of the judiciary from the executive. He is being assisted by an advisory committee which is a nominated body, and they have an advisory committee in the Home Ministry for the islands, which is also a nominated body. I think all scope for nomination should be eliminated, and the local bodies should also be elected.

When the Ministry decides to have a local legislature, they should make a provision for proportional representation, and if necessary, the Representation of the People Act should be amended, because our experience in this country that a party having a minority vote, having only 44 per cent of the votes, is now ruling the country, and is occupying more than three-fourths of the seats in this House.

Shri K. C. Sharma (Sardhana): That is the story all over the democratic world.

Shri P. K. Deo: So, in future when provision is made for direct election, thought should be given for proportional representation, and in a typical area like Andaman and Nicobar Islands, where there are so many party interests and tribal interests, I feel that they would be properly represented if there is proportional representation. I know that the obvious answer from the Ministry would be that it is not a viable unit, that it is not possible to have a responsible government in a small area of 3,000 square miles with a population of 65,000. My answer would be: why not merge it with the mainland?

Shri D. C. Sharma: With Orissa.

Shri P. K. Deo: After all, it has been so much associated with West Bengal. The Calcutta High Court looks after the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Calcutta has been connected by plane and sea service with Port Blair. All the forest wealth of hard and soft wood that is produced in Andamans finds its market in Calcutta. When there is so much pressure of population on land in West Bengal, which has been aggravated by the recent influx of refugees from East Pakistan, why not have it merged with West Bengal? So, Andaman could provide relief to the pressure of population in West Bengal. There is tremendous scope in various islands, particularly in Little Andaman, where 50,000 people could be easily settled. It is a flat island and has got sweet drinking water and immense possibilities of paddy cultivation. There are various other islands in which a large number of refugees from West Bengal can be rehabilitated. So, I think this should be considered whether it is not possible

for it to be amalgamated with West Bengal.

Similarly, why have a separate identity for the small units of Dadra and Nagar Haveli? Why not merge them with the neighbouring district of Gujarat. It will be the most proper thing to do, so that the people will feel that they have a certain say in the local administration, so that they would be properly represented in the legislature and their interests would be safeguarded there.

So also, Minicoy, Laccadive and Amindivi Islands can be associated with Kerala. So, all these things should be considered, and if at all we want that there should be elected representatives from these areas, they should be elected and associated in all tiers of the administration.

Dr. Ranen Sen (Calcutta East): I rise to welcome this Bill. I come from West Bengal which has been long associated with the Andaman Islands. Most of our freedom fighters were deported to Andamans. Some of the names have been mentioned by Shri Deo. Since our childhood we have been hearing so many things about the islands of Andaman and Nicobar.

We also know the stories that have been circulating in West Bengal recently about the conditions of the people living in the Andamans. Briefly, the report goes in West Bengal, confirmed reports I must say, that Andamans is being ruled by the Chief Commissioner in a very autocratic manner, that there is no vestige of democracy in that island. Even the labourers employed there in Government service or under the contractors, of various categories, do not get a square deal from the ruling power there or from the employers.

So, in order to have free and fair elections, I draw the attention of the

Minister to this very important point that the ground should be prepared from now on.

A representation was made to the Members of this Parliament last year by the labourers employed in that island. There are cases of beating and shootings by the police. The police is at the beck and call of the contractors. Most of the contractors go from India, and practically they are the rulers along with the Chief Commissioner. In order to have a free and fair election, action has to be initiated from now on. Shri P. K. Deo forgot to mention one thing. He mentioned that there were a number of linguistic groups in that island; there are a number of islands. Those linguistic groups do not enjoy the right to use their own mother tongue not only for official purposes but also for other purposes. I am not chauvinist in that respect but I am told that there are large numbers of Bengali population, refugees and they have no adequate facility for these people to learn their mother tongue. We have learnt this from the relatives of people who are in Andamans.

Secondly, in regard to the Chief Commissioner—I have no grudge against him, but—he rules there in a high handed manner. Mr. Deo should have given that story; in his presence all the others, desa sevaks and sevikas and other people tremble with fear..... (An Hon. Member: Really?). That is so; we got that report from Mr. H. P. Chatterjee who is a member of the House. So, for free elections there should be a proper programme.

Secondly, as Mr. Deo said, what is the difficulty of having assemblies there in order that those people gradually—not immediately in 2-3 years—have a government. Government should prepare the ground for that. We were reading last year about the report of Minicoy and Amindivi Islands. They are very

[Dr. Ranen Sen]

small islands completely cut off from the mainland. People cannot come to mainland during the monsoon period there is hardly any link between Kerala and Minicoy. If communications are established, they can be linked administratively with the State of Kerala on that side as also this side with West Bengal.

Nagar Haveli can be linked with Maharashtra or Gujarat; I do not want to enter into that quarrel. In that way, isolated pockets should not be kept like that either inside Indian territory or outside. These areas have special importance also, firstly strategic importance. As regards Andaman and Nicobar islands, we know definitely that they have industrial potential. Why not develop those potentialities through the State sector, public sector? That would be advantageous for the people of India, for the people of those islands. Those islands have agricultural potentialities also. From the report supplied to us by the Government, we know that but sufficient attention has not been paid to the development of agricultural potential in those areas. Some attempt should be made to develop that territory economically through the public sector, not through big business that is ruling in India today. We are told that the forest reserves are being handed over to big business who want to start plywood and other factories there. Why should such factories be given over to big business instead of being run by the State sector? Government should develop it economically. Politically and administratively there should be more democratic functioning there. Each linguistic group should have facilities for the study of their mother tongue so that they can develop as special units inside the territory. Administratively, these areas should be given proper attention to give them assemblies so that they can also develop gradually. Lastly, because of the strategic impor-

tance of these territories, more attention should be paid to these territories. Minicoy and Amindivi islands are in the Arabian sea; Andamans are in the Indian Ocean; in that whole belt India can build up an area of strategic importance for the defence of India. From the defence point of view and from the point of view of economic development, Government should pay special attention to these islands and by holding free and fair elections government should encourage democratic institutions and their languages also should be encouraged. With these words, I welcome this Bill and I think there will be no dispute.

Shri S. Kandappan (Tiruchengode): While welcoming this Bill, I wish to offer a few suggestions. I fully agree with the charges made by the previous speakers. Practically the Chief Commissioner at Port Blair is a ruler of those islands. Honestly, I cannot blame the person. It is due to two reasons. One is the geographical position of these islands which is practically cut off from the mainland. During monsoons, I am afraid the Chief Commissioner is not even in a position to contact the authorities in Delhi to take some decision and naturally he has to depend upon his own discretion. Human nature being what it is, he is likely to err on so many things. I saw a sorry state of affairs there when I went there in 1964.

The previous speaker mentioned about language. I saw a number of schools finely located but all the schools are run only through the medium of Hindi and there is virtually no provision to teach either Tamil or Bengali or any other national language there. I felt very actually the absence of this facility because I have seen hundreds of Tamil and Bengali students compelled to study through Hindi medium even in their primary classes. They do not have even that facility to learn things through their mother tongue. It should be attended to immediately.

Another reason for the Chief Commissioner acting in an autocratic manner is the absence of any judicial check. I wonder why the Government of India is not able to provide any machinery to see that the administration is run on proper lines. There must be a judicial check on the day-to-day administration. I appeal to the Government to see that this is done.

The communications with the mainland should be improved and if the Government pays some attention to these things the administration in the Andamans can improve. What has been the Government doing for the last eighteen years? I have seen very beautiful rubber plantations and no care is being taken of them. Government has instituted some kind of research to find out whether we can grow tea there and I am told that the experiment had been successful. We can grow tea plantations in some of the islands. But Government has taken no steps to cultivate any tea plantations. I also learn reliably that these islands are quite rich in a kind of fish called 'Tuna' which is in great demand in the world market; they can very well develop fisheries there. Only by developing these local resources, we can give a self-supporting economy to those islands. Unless we do that, Andamans will be more a burden on our economy nor will it do good to the mainland or those living in those islands. With these words I welcome this Bill.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I pay my homage to the people of Dadra and Nagar Haveli for the efficient way in which they freed themselves from the Portuguese imperialism. I wish the people of Goa had done something of that kind so that we should not have had to take any kind of police action. The people of Dadra and Nagar Haveli are a brave people and industrious people and a people whose love for India has been proved beyond measure. I am glad that they are being given this direct representation to the House of

the People. I think their problems will be voiced on the floor of this House and attended to by this great body which stands for the whole of India.

But I must say that I am against all kinds of mergers. I think every State in India has an individuality of its own, a personality of its own, and an identity of its own. I do not know what kind of attitude we are developing. Somebody wants a chunk or a share in some other State; and somebody else wants a slice of somebody else's State. I do not know why we are trying to add to the dimensions of our States. My hon. friends have been saying, "hand over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands to West Bengal; hand over the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands to Kerala; hand over Dadra and Nagar Haveli to Gujarat." I say that nothing like that should be done. We must keep these places intact because they add to the variety of our country, to the beauty of our country, to the unity in diversity of our country and to the greatness of our country. This country consists of a State like Uttar Pradesh which has an aggregate of about six crores of people—

An hon. Member: Even crores.

Shri D. C. Sharma: All right; I think next time it will become 10 crores; I would be content with six crores. As I said, this is a country which has a State like Uttar Pradesh with seven crores of people and also these small places. I tell you that a small man like the big man and small States like the big States are all needed in this world. Therefore, no attempt at merger should be made. This is my first point.

My second point is that the only problem of these two groups of islands—The Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands—is the lack of means of communications; that is the basic problem, and you must improve their means of communication internal as well as external. People have been

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

saying there are linguistic minorities. Don't we have so many linguistic minorities in India? They want to create other areas of conflict in these small islands: four linguistic minorities and four different troubles. The more the linguistic minorities, the greater is the trouble. For God's sake, save us from linguistic minorities, because we are already having so much of trouble. I think we should look upon these States as one, independent, integral unit, and we should not think of them in terms of this minority or that minority. As I said in the beginning, the real problem is the problem of the lack of the means of communication. Why should the Andaman and Nicobar islands be cut off from the mainland of India for some months? Why should the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi islands be cut off from the mainland of India for some parts of the year? Why does it happen like that? I believe that they should be given roads inside their States. I believe that regular ships should ply between the mainland of India and these islands.

Shri Hathi: There are ships plying.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Not so often, I believe they should be given every kind of support that they need. I would also say that the Andaman and Nicobar islands should also undergo some kind of transformation, that is to say, its name should be changed. Why do you not call these islands as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Islands? Why do you not give it that name? After all, the present names are just relics of the British imperialism under which we groaned for such a long time. I think we should examine new names and by giving them new names we will bring a new orientation to their thinking, a new orientation to their ideals of progress and to their ideas of development.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): You ask them whether they want this new name.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Then, I do not know about the Minicoy and Amindivi islands, but these also should be given new names. Some criticism was made of the Chief Commissioner. I do not know who the Chief Commissioner is; but whoever the Chief Commissioner, I think he will come under criticism at the hands of our friends and myself also! But I believe that the Chief Commissioner should look more to the economic development of these islands than anything else. I think more than anything else, these groups of islands—the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Islands—have a great strategic importance. I would like the Home Ministry to sit round a table in a conference with the Defence Ministry and to see that these two groups of islands: at least become the joint responsibility of the Home Ministry and the Defence Ministry, because you know the Andaman and Nicobar islands were taken over by Japan during the last world war, and we have been seeing some alien ships near these islands even now; we have been some alien flags near them even now. Therefore, I think it is not a problem of administration only; it is a problem of strengthening of our defences and for this, these islands must be geared to their full potential.

Shri C. M. Kedaria (Mandvi): Sir, while welcoming the measure of the Government, I wholeheartedly join Shri D. C. Sharma and pay my tribute to the public of Dadra and Nagar Haveli. They have themselves liberated from the tyranny of the Portuguese rule. This was an oppressed and also a backward area inhabited by Scheduled Tribes. The rule after independence they saw in the adjoining area were enthused to be liberated by themselves. When they were liberated, they found a varishta panchayat. Our late, beloved Prime Minister Jawaharlalji, was of the opinion that whether they resolve to join India or whether they want to remain separate, as a separate entity, it was up to

them to decide whatever they wanted to. The people there, were so happy with our rule and wise that they readily joined the Indian union territory.

The problem there is that Varishta panchayat which is already existing is only an advisory body, the demand of the public is that some executive powers must be vested in the varishta panchayat and it should be turned into a varishta council or some such body. This area is very backward and morally a forest area. There had been no land reforms or land Acts; the public had no rights on land. So, the land tenure Acts must be brought into being for that area. The people had high hopes and aspirations while joining India, and now, they are anxious to develop their area industrially too. But there are some handicaps. Special quotas for industrial development and more licensing capacity are required there. So, while considering this measure for direct election, I request the Central Government to look into their needs for industrial and agricultural development and for their forest development also. I request that more funds may be provided for the development of that area.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Sir, while I fully support the principle underlying this welcome measure, I am rather uneasy in my mind and heart over the political myopia that is still afflicting this government. I wonder whether, the minister has forgotten that the Prime Minister, a couple of months ago, I believe, had long and earnest talks with the Chief Minister of Goa and promised him that the future of Goa will be decided at the end of this year through direct elections. That matter is still hanging fire because of some distressing incidents in Bangalore and the disturbed atmosphere in the glass house in Bangalore. One does not know in the present crisis whether it will be decided very soon.

But even so, the Prime Minister in consultation with his colleagues hav-

ing made up decided his mind that there should be elections in Goa in the very near future to decide its future set-up, I think this Bill is somewhat premature, because the future of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, to whose people my colleagues have paid handsome tributes, is intimately associated with the future of Daman, and Diu, comprising the Union Territory of Goa and with the future of Goa itself which will be decided by the elections to be held there.

I am sorry to say that this myopia, this weakness, this pusillanimity also afflicted the government of which the head was the late Jawaharal Nehru. The people of Dadra and Nagar Haveli liberated these territories from Portuguese imperialist rule and proclaimed them free. I refer to the Bill for amending the Constitution which describes to this territory as "territory comprised in free Dadra and Nagar Haveli before the 11th day of August 1961", long before Goa was liberated by our army action. If the government had been truly democratic-minded and was not myopic, it would have recognised the free set-up or Varishta Panchayat set up by the people of Dadra and Nagar Haveli against heavy odds. But the Nehru government did not do so, and the lame excuse was trotted out today by the Minister of State that it was too late at that time and therefore, they could not be endowed with the privilege of sending direct representatives to the Lok Sabha.

Be that as it may, in case the elections in Goa promised by the Prime Minister to the Chief Minister take place either in a December or early next year and in case the elections end in pro-merger results—I do not say with which state it is inevitable that the territory known as Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Daman and Diu at present comprised in Goa will have to be merged in Gujarat.—I would not say in which district and therefore, there will have to be an amending Bill to this Act sometime next year.

[Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath]

Having said that, let me refer to the point raised by Prof. Sharma, Acharyu Sharma.

Shri D. C. Sharma: God save me from that title!

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He referred to the Andaman and Nicobar islands and suggested that they should be renamed as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Islands. Before I have my say on that, may I correct him and tell him that the Andaman and Nicobar Islands were occupied not by the Japanese, as he said, in second world war, but by the Azad Hind Fauj, the INA and Netaji. They were not occupied, but liberated from British imperialism by Netaji and the Azad Hind Fauj, not by the Japanese. I think he will correct that wrong impression in his mind.

Shri D. C. Sharma: But you were working in collaboration with Japanese.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: No: it was the free Azad Hind Government. Therefore, I agree with him that these islands should be renamed and we should drop this old name associated with British imperialism. But they should be renamed in the way Netaji desired. Netaji named them as Swaraj and Shaheed Islands instead of Andaman and Nicobar islands. I raised this point in the first Parliament, but the Government was unwilling to accept this change in the nomenclature. May I repeat that suggestion today that it would be advisable, desirable and in tune with the current mainstream of national opinion that these islands should be renamed as Swaraj and Shaheed Islands, as desired by Netaji and as done by him.

We are glad that these three Union Territories now join the other Union Territories in their march towards full democracy in the sense they will be able to send representatives to the Lok Sabha by direct election. May I

ask whether the suggestion made by my hon. friend, Shri Deo, would be seriously considered? That is so say, the proposal for merger of some of these territories in the adjoining States. For instance, about Goa, Daman and Diu, Government have taken the decision to hold elections. Why should not Pondicherry merge with Tamil Nad, Karaikkal and Yanam with Andhra, and Mahe with Kerala? Perhaps it may not be possible or tactical or strategically advisable to merge Andaman and Nicobar islands,—the Swaraj and Shaheed islands, as I would call them—in West Bengal, because of their strategic importance in the Indian Ocean. The Defence Minister has told us time and again that some submarines have been sighted somewhere near the Andaman and Nicobar islands. Therefore, it would be necessary to set up a naval base in the Indian Ocean, more so because Indonesia, which considers the Indian Ocean as Indonesian Ocean is actually assisting China in setting up a naval base in the Indian Ocean region. Therefore, I would appeal to my hon. friends, who have made the suggestion, to hold it in abeyance with regard to Andaman and Nicobar Islands. I am sure the day is not far off when the people of Andaman and Nicobar Islands either have an Assembly of their own in the islands or will be able to send their representatives to the West Bengal Assembly.

Just as with regard to the Union Territories these three are exceptions to the general rule, I find, on this day, when we are considering this Bill, that among the States also there is one exception to the general rule. Though that State has accepted the principle, I think so far no direct elections have taken place to fill the seats in the Lok-Sabha from Jammu and Kashmir. Of course, it is undergoing an ordeal by fire and steel just now, so I do not wish to dilate upon this point. But I, and I am sure the House also, will look forward to the day when, in the near future, when

we have won the war and won to peace as well in the present crisis, Jammu and Kashmir will be able to send representatives to the Lok-Sabha through direct elections.

Lastly, may I refer to one or two clauses of the Bill. I feel that clause 6 is redundant, because clause 3 refers to the next general elections. Till the next general elections are upon us and they are concluded, the present provisions remain in force. Therefore, as long as the next general elections do not take place, the present provisions governing representation of these territories in Parliament will continue to be in force. Therefore,—I do not know why the Minister has been told by his legal advisers that clause 6 is also necessary—I think that in view of clause 3, clause 6 is wholly redundant, because clause 3 makes it clear that it is only for the next general elections and not before that. I hope, therefore, that clause 6 will be dropped.

Sir, I have to say something on some of the other clauses also, but I will do that when we take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

श्री राम सहाय पाण्डेय (गुना)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस विधेयक का जो श्री हाथी जी ने उपस्थित किया है, मैं दार्शनिक समर्थन करता हूँ।

इस विधेयक के द्वारा हम अपने उन तीन क्षेत्रों को जिन को हम छोटे छोटे द्वीपों के समूह से जानते हैं यह अधिकार देने कि वे अपने मत द्वारा प्रतिनिधि लोक-सभा को भेजें। इन द्वीपों की घटना कहानी है, अपना इतिहास है, अपना सांस्कृतिक जीवन है। जब हम उन को यह अधिकार देने हैं कि वे अपने प्रतिनिधि चुन कर पढ़ा भेजें तो हमारा एक राक्षसिक साम्य उन से स्थापित हो जाता है और समान

अधिकार जो कि प्रजातन्त्र में मूलभूत अधिकारों के रूप में जान जाते हैं, वे हम उन को देते हैं।

प्रधानक उन के मन में यह संशय होगा कि लोक-सभा का जिस प्रकार संचालन चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों के द्वारा भारत में हो रहा है उस अधिकार से वे वंचित हैं। इस बिन्दु के द्वारा हम उन की इस इच्छा और प्राभाक्षा को पूरा करने जा रहे हैं। उन कुं इस नाम को कि उनका भी यह अधिकार मिलना चाहिये, पूरा करने के हेतु जो विधेयक हमारे गृह मंत्री जी लाये हैं, उस के निये मैं उन को बधाई देता हूँ और साथ ही साथ उस क्षेत्र के लोगों को भी बधाई देता हूँ कि जब उन को यह अधिकार मिलने जा रहा है। उन में इस प्रकार की चिन्ता का प्रादुर्भाव हुआ और उन्होंने ने अपने अधिकार का मांग का और हम उन का यह अधिकार प्राप्त देने जा रहे हैं।

मैं माननीय कामन्त जी को भावनाओं का और प्रा० शर्मा का राय का अपना समर्थन देता हूँ। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि 250 द्वीपों के इस समूह का जहाँ तक सम्बन्ध है, सब से पहले तिरंगा अंठा, जाल किले पर फहराने से पहले ही हमारे नर शार्ङ्गमनेताजीने वहाँ फहराया था और उस राया हिन्दुना जिस हिस्से के चरम हिन्दमहासागर में है, सब से पहले स्वतन्त्र हुआ था। वही पर सब से पहले तिरंगा अंठा फहराया गया था। गगनभेदी नारों की गूँज में उन्होंने ने बहाने जागति पंदा का और "दिल्ली चलो" "दिल्ली चलो" का नारा लोगों को दिया। दिल्ली चलो के नारे के साथ, देश का स्वतन्त्रता का कलना के साथ प्राण देखे कि सब से पहले वह क्षेत्र स्वतन्त्र हुआ। जिन मिदन्तों और सादरों का नेताजी ने प्रस्थापित किया और जो उपाधि जन्म दे वह उपाधि सर्व जनता के, यह हमारा कामना है।

जब आप उन को यह अधिकार देते हैं कि वे अपने प्रतिनिधि चुन कर भेजें यानी

[श्री राम सहाय पाण्डेय]

नगर हवेली से एक और दो 250 छोटे छोटे द्वीपों से, तो प्राप का यह भी कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि प्राप उस क्षेत्र के प्राथिक विकास, उस क्षेत्र के औद्योगिक विकास की ओर भी ध्यान दें। वहाँ पर जो एकोनामिक पोर्टल हैं, जो इंडस्ट्रियल पोर्टल हैं, जो मिनरल पोर्टल हैं, जो जंगलों की सम्पत्ति है उसका भी पता लगाया जाना चाहिये। वहाँ जंगलों की सम्पत्ति है, खनिज पदार्थों की सम्पत्ति है, औद्योगिक और प्राथिक विकास उस क्षेत्र का हो सकता है और इन सब चीजों की जितनी भी गुंजाइश है उस का अध्ययन करने के लिए एक्सपर्ट्स का एक हाई पावर कमीशन प्राप बिठाये जो वहाँ जाकर स्थिति का अध्ययन करे, पूरे का पूरा सर्वे कार्य उस के द्वारा करायें, तो बहुत लाभदायक वह चीज सिद्ध हो सकती है। बहुत सी चीजों का हमें उस भवःस्था में ज्ञान हो सकता है, बहुत सी चीजें हम को भूगर्भ में मिलेंगी जिनकी हम कल्पना तक नहीं कर सकते हैं। वह क्षेत्र रबड़ के लिये प्रसिद्ध हो सकता है। इस का कारण यह है कि अगर मानचित्र में प्राप देखें तो प्राप को पता चलेगा कि यकर्ता और उस क्षेत्र में शायद 40-50 मील का ही अन्तर रह जाता है और सुदूर पूर्व के जितने छोटे छोटे टापू और द्वीप हैं उन में रबड़ बहुतायत में मिलता है। रबड़ की हमारे यहाँ कर्मा है। यदि रबड़ मिल जाए तो उस को प्रासेस कर के हम उद्योगों की स्थापना भी कर सकते हैं।

वहाँ खेती छोटे छोटे खेतों में होती है। उन के एग्रिकल्चरल यूनिट्स बहुत छोटे होते हैं और वहाँ पैड़ी क्राप होती है। उस का भी एक सर्वे कराया जाना चाहिये। वहाँ पर धातु का उत्पादन भी बहुत बढ़ सकता है। यह भी पता लगाया जाना चाहिये कि कितने जंगल को खेती लायक बनाया जा सकता है और जंगल की जो सम्पत्ति है उस को हम कैसे धार्ये बढ़ा सकते हैं। ये बहुत प्रावश्यक चीजें हैं। अब प्राप मत का अधिकार उन को देते हैं

और कहते हैं कि वे अपने प्रतिनिधि चुन कर भेजें तो प्राप और अपना हाथ प्रागे बढ़ाये और उस क्षेत्र का प्राथिक विकास कीजिये। प्राप अपने सहयोग का हाथ और प्रागे बढ़ाये ताकि प्राथिक सामीप्य स्थापित हो सके। प्राथिक सम्बन्धी जितने सर्वांगीण उपक्रम हैं वे सब ही प्राप उन को दें तो उन के मन में बहुत उत्साह पैदा होगा। जहाँ इस विधेयक के द्वारा उन के मन में यह भावना पैदा होषी कि प्राप उन को मत देने का, अपनी राय देने का अधिकार प्रदान करते हैं वहाँ कुछ और भी प्राप उन को दें ताकि प्राथिक और औद्योगिक तौर पर वे प्रागे प्रा सकें।

जहाँ तक भाषा का सम्बन्ध है जो उन की भाषा है, उसका विकास होना चाहिये, जैसे एक माननीय सदस्य ने राय दी है, उसका विकास होना स्वाभाविक है, ठीक है। जहाँ उसका विकास हो वहाँ मैं यह भी चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर हिन्दी का भी प्रचार हो तो अच्छा है। हिन्दी के माध्यम से यदि राजनीति का श्रीगणेश करेंगे तो अच्छा होगा। हिन्दी अगर प्राप वहाँ पहुंचा दें तो वह क्षेत्र जो अभी भी अपनी अनेक भाषाओं में बंटा हुआ है एकता की भावना से कर राष्ट्रभाषा के माध्यम से वहाँ यहाँ प्राएगा। यदि ऐसा हुआ तो बड़ा अच्छा होगा।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि उस क्षेत्र का विकास ही और वहाँ राजनीतिक चेतना प्राए। उन में इस अधिकार का प्रयोग कर के शक्ति का संचार होना चाहिये, क्षमता पैदा होनी चाहिये। जो कुछ प्राप ने उन को दिया है उस के साथ और कुछ प्राप दें, प्राथिक विकास और प्राथिक समृद्धि उन को प्रदान करें।

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जो बिल माननीय हाथी जी ने पेश किया है वह बहुत ही सुन्दर बिल है और मैं इस बिल को पेश करने के लिए उनको

बहुत बहुत मबारिकबाद देता हूँ। जो काम प्राज से कई साल पहले हो जाना चाहिये था वह प्राज हुआ है। यह अच्छा ही हुआ है। It is better late than never. अब हम कहते हैं कि भारत में डेमोक्रेसी हूँ और हर जगह डेमोक्रेसी होनी चाहिये तो जो हमारी छोटी छोटी टैरिटरीज रह रही है उन के लिये भी मेरा निवेदन है कि एक बिल जल्दी से जल्दी प्राप नायें। यह हमारे देश की भव से बड़ी खूबी है और हमारी यह एक सम्पत्ति है। इस से बढ़ कर हमारे लिए गर्व की और क्या बात हो सकती है। पाकिस्तान में प्राज तक एक बार भी इलेक्शन नहीं हो सका है। वहाँ पर जनता को अपने प्रतिनिधि बनने तक का अधिकार प्रदान नहीं किया गया है। उस के विपरीत हमारे यहाँ हमारे देश का जो एक रिमाटेस्ट पार्ट भी है, उस को भी हम मताधिकार देने जा रहे हैं, उस को भी वह अधिकार देने जा रहे हैं कि लोक नभा के लिए वह अपने प्रतिनिधि बन कर भेजे। इस के लिए मैं प्रदमान और निकोवार की जनता को मबारिकबाद देता हूँ। वहाँ की जनता के ऊपर प्राज हम गर्व कर सकते हैं। वहाँ विरादरी वाद नहीं है, बास्ट और कांड का कोई जगहा नहीं है। उन सब की एक भाषा है, उन सब का एक चलन है, उन सब की भाष्य में एक भाव प्रास्था है। उन लोगों को यह अधिकार तो बहुत पहिले मिलना चाहिये था। जिस जगह पर लोक मान्य नियम ने कहा था कि प्राजासी हमारा अन्तमिद्ध अधिकार है, हमारा बंध नाइट है, उस जगह का देखभाल करना हमारा काम है। प्राज हम 65 हजार की प्राबादी वाले स्थान की उन्नति कर देने हैं तो इस में हमारा भयनाक प्राज भी ज्यादा ऊंचा होगा।

माथे हो मैं एक बात यह प्रबं कर देना चाहता हूँ कि नामिनेशन के सिस्टम को मान्य करना चाहिये। यह जो नामिनेशन होना है यह प्रपेजी की दी हुई चीज है। प्राज भी हम देखते हैं कि जो लोग हमारे ऊपर इंचे बगमाया करते थे, हमारी छानियों पर चढ़

कर शराब पिया करते थे, जिन लोगों के पास ऊंचे ऊंचे खिताब हुआ करते थे, राय बहादुर और सर जो लोग हुआ करते थे, वही लोग यहाँ पर नामिनेशन के जरिये प्रा जाया करते थे। वह नामिनेशन का सिस्टम खरम होना चाहिए। फेयर फील्ड एन्ड नो फिगर जिस को कहते हैं हर एक को उस का अधिकार मिलना चाहिये जिस से कि हर एक प्रादमी को यह अधिकार हो कि वह इस हाउस में बैठ सके। मैं अपने माननीय प्राचार्य श्री दीवान चन्द्र शर्मा का बड़ा अनुग्रहोत हूँ कि उन्होंने ने यह सुन्दर सर्जेशन इस हाउस के सामने रखा है कि जो कि प्रपेजों की दी हुई प्रैक्टिस है उस को फौरन खरम करना चाहिये। नेताजी मुभाष चन्द्र बांस ने जो मजेशन दिया था वह हमें मानना चाहिये।

इस के साथ ही माथे जहाँ पर लेजिस्मेटिव कौंसिल नहीं है वहाँ भी बहुत अच्छे काम चल रहा है इस लिये हम नामिनेशन के सिस्टम को खरम किया जाय और सब से ज्यादा अकरत प्राज यह है कि जो हमारे ऐसे भंव रह गये हैं जिन को हम यूनिपन टैरिटरीज कहन हैं, जिन में कि प्राज तक नामिनेशन चल रहा है, उन में अब एलेक्शन होना चाहिये। नामिनेशन का सिस्टम खरम जाना चाहिये। इस हाउस को यह हक होना चाहिये कि वहाँ पर एलेक्शन के जरिये हूँ प्राग प्रा सके। अभी तक बहुत थोड़े से प्रादमियों को यह हक हासिल है, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान में जहाँ हमारी संस्कृति ने यह अधिकार दिया है कि :

“सगच्छर्व्यं संयद्बुधम् तं वो मनसि जानताम्”
अर्थात् हर एक मनुष्य, प्रत्येक स्त्री और पुरुष हर एक मजदूर और कृषक वर्ग, हर एक बंध चाहे वह मेहनतकश जनता हो या कोई और, उस को अधिकार दिया गया है। यह अधिकार जो प्रापने दिया है इस के लिये प्राप बहुत ही ज्यादा मेरी मबारिकबाद के पास है। मैं प्राप को बधाई देता हूँ और इस

[श्री यशपाल सिंह]

बिल पर सभी सहमत हैं और जल्दी इसको पास किया जाये ।

श्री बाल्मीकी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस विधेयक का हृदय से स्वागत करता हूँ । यह बड़ी प्रसन्नता की बात है कि इस घबसर के जब कि हमारे पड़ोसी देश पाकिस्तान ने हमारी सीमाओं पर और विशेषकर हमारी मस्तक की जो शोभा है, काश्मीर उस पर बरबंर आक्रमण किया है, हम यहाँ पर केवल एक विचार से सोचते हैं, इस दृष्टि से कि किसी भी तरह से सारे संसार में और इस देश के अन्दर भी लोकतन्त्र की परम्पराओं का उभार हो सके और लोक तन्त्रीय प्रणाली की जड़ मजबूत हो सके । यह बात साफ है कि उस पड़ोसी देश पाकिस्तान ने लोक तन्त्र में विश्वास को बाहिर किया है, संसार की शान्ति में विश्वास तो बाहिर किया है, लेकिन किसी भी प्रकार से वहाँ पर जो चुनाव हैं वह अभी तक पब्लिक के तरीके से नहीं हो सके हैं । यह बात भी साफ है कि इस देश के विकास को देख कर और इस देश की उन्नति को देख कर उसके मन में कुड़न होती है, जलन होती है और चीन को भी उसी प्रकारसे जो हसबद होती है उसका प्रभाव यह है कि उसने हमारे देश पर हमला किया है और हम उसका मुकाबला कर रहे हैं ।

[साथ ही साथ इस सदन के अन्दर हम अपने उन इलाकों को भी प्रतिनिधित्व देने के लिये प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं जो कि हम से दूर, समुद्र की गहराई में रहते हैं, हम से दूर रहते हैं लेकिन दूर रहते हुए भी हमारे पास है । हम जानते हैं कि जो सद्भावना और प्रेम होता है उसमें दूरी दिशाओं की, जगों और मीलों की नहीं हुआ करती है । समवेदना और सद्भावना हृदय में रहती है । इन द्वीपों के जो निवासी हैं वह हमारे अपने भ्रम हैं और अपनी विचारधारा के हैं । हमारे अपने हैं लेकिन वेदों में कहा है कि :

“सोपो नं समुद्रः”

अर्थात् ध्यानन्द तो समुद्र पर रहता है । यह द्वीप अन्दर समुद्र पर रहते हैं लेकिन यह चौबीस घंटे समुद्र के बीच में रहते हैं और समुद्र की शोभा का ध्यानन्द उठाते हैं जिसमें हम बंचित रहते हैं । इतना होने पर भी वहाँ निर्धनता, गरीबी और पिछड़ेपन की समस्याएँ हैं ।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो उन को चुनाव का हक दिया जा रहा है यह उन पर कोई एहसान नहीं है । मैं समझता हूँ कि पिछले छठारह वर्षों में हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी के साथ वहाँ पर एक चेतना आई है, जागृति आई है, विद्या का प्रसार हुआ है और जनजागरण हुआ है । उस में हमारी इस सरकार का और इस देश का भी हाथ हो सकता है और होना चाहिये । यह बात साफ है कि दादग, नगरहवेली आदि सब ने अपने को आजाद करने के लिये पुर्तगाली दासता के पंजों से छुड़ाने के लिये प्रयत्न किये हैं और उनके अन्दर हमारे देश के साथ सम्मिलन की, मिलने की भावना भी और वह हम से मिले । मैं हृदय से उनको भावना की सराहना करता हूँ । मैं भी उनको अपने स्नेह के द्वारा श्रद्धाञ्जली अर्पित करना हूँ ।

आज जो हमारा एक द्वीप है जिसको हम आज तक कान्तापानी समझते रहे हैं उनके सम्बन्ध में यही नहीं मैं कह रहा हूँ बल्कि यह भी कि हिन्दुस्तान की आजादी के साथ हमारे अन्दर आगे निकोबार द्वीपों का, जिन के नामों के साथ आज तक एक और अपराधी लोगों का सम्बन्ध था वह हमारी आजादी के हिस्सेदार हैं और वहाँ में उन लोगों का भी सम्बन्ध है जो क्रांतिकारी हमारे देश की आजादी के लिये लड़ा करते थे । और लोकमान्य तिलक का भी जिन्होंने हमें “आजादी हमारा जन्म सिद्ध अधिकार है” कह कर स्वतन्त्रता प्राप्ति में सहायक की है ।

मैं समझता हूँ कि प्राज जो वहाँ का नाम बदलने की बात है वह इसलिये कि उस के साथ साम्राज्यवाद के प्रति जो भावना है वह जानी चाहिये । मैं श्री शर्माजी के द्वारा जो सुझाव दिया गया है कि उसका नाम नेताजी सुभाषचन्द्र बोस के नाम पर रखा जाये उस में विश्वास प्रकट करता हूँ और वैसे करना चाहिये ।

यही नहीं जब कि प्राज सामरिक स्थिति है और युद्ध हवा के घन्दर ही नहीं, मैदान के ऊपर और समुद्र की तह में भी लड़ा जा रहा है, चारों तरफ से लड़ाई छिड़ी हुई है, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इन द्वीपों का सामरिक महत्व भी है । इस सामरिक स्थिति और सामुद्रिक महत्व को देख कर यह प्रवश्यक है कि हम समुद्री बेड़े को मजबूत करें । जितनी उस की मजबूती हो उतना ही अच्छा है । मैं यह समझता हूँ कि सबमैरीन लेना और किसी प्रकार से किमी देश से उसे प्राप्त करना, चाहे प्राप उसे रूम से प्राप्त करें या किसी और देश से, उचित है । ऐसा करके हम अपने समुद्री बेड़े को मजबूत करें, हवाई बेड़े को मजबूत करें, और इस देश की मारी सेनाओं को मजबूत करें । हमारी सेनाओं ने, विशेषकर हवाई बेड़े और प्ररती की सेना ने, साथ ही जो हमारी नेवी है उसके नाविकों ने जो जांश प्राज के वातावरण में दिखाया है उस को हम से बल मिनता है । इस का प्रभाव इन द्वीपों पर भी पड़ता है ।

इन द्वीपों को प्राप प्रतिनिधित्व दे रहे हैं । यह अच्छी बात है । इससे वहाँ जन जागरण होगा । यहाँ पर जो लातफीता-भाही चल रही है जिस का प्रभाव हमें सब जगह, बिचलाई पड़ता है इतनी दूर बैठे हुए भी यह दूर होना चाहिये । यहाँ पर ऐसा प्रबन्ध एमेम्बसी या कोई ऐसा परिषद् बना कर किया जाए ताकि वह हम से दूर रहते हुए भी अपने तरीके से प्रापना प्रबन्ध कर सकें और अपने शासन में स्वयं हाथ बटा सकें । मैं यह जरूर कहना

चाहता हूँ कि उनको अभी किसी प्रदेश से मिनाने की आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि उनका अपनी संस्कृति है, अपनी परम्परा है, अपना जीवन है, अपनी पद्धति है और अपने गायन और अपने नृत्य है । इस को देखते हुए उनका प्रलग स्वतंत्र अस्तित्व रखा जाये । लेकिन यह जरूरी है कि भारतीयता की दृष्टि से हमारा सम्बन्ध, उनसे बना रहे और भारत सरकार अपने घन्दर रखते हुए भी उनकी उन्नति, प्राधिक उन्नति और राजनीतिक उन्नति के लिये भरसक प्रयत्न करे तथा प्रधिक से प्रधिक धन राशि उन पर खर्च की जाये ताकि वह उन्नत हो सकें और देश की आजादी के हिस्सेदार बन कर देश की रक्षा में अपना पाठ पढ़ा कर सकें ।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस का समर्थन करता हूँ ।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I welcome this Bill and I do not find it a day late that it has been presented to this House.

I have heard some of the friends who have preceded me and I would like to say that each of these units have their own history, tradition and culture. Keeping that in view it will not be correct to say at the moment that we should hasten in getting them amalgamated or merged with the nearer States or areas. To my mind that will not be correct. Let it be left to the people of those places or units when they feel or think at the proper time for all the reasons, whether political, economic, industrial or otherwise, that they would like to join the adjacent States or areas. Therefore at this time to talk about that will not be correct.

Shri Alvares (Panjim): Balkanisation.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: No balkanisation. I will tell you.

[Shri Sham Lal Saraf]

In a country that is wedded to democracy, it is really very welcome that even the smallest units that may be far-flung in the country are being wedded together and they are being given the right of vote or the right of sending their representatives to the House of the People. It will be then that the representatives so elected like my friend Shri Alvares will be in a position to say what they exactly want for their units. I will never rule out what they may do about Goa tomorrow—I will be one to support him—but when their representatives are here, we know they will be speaking the mind and the aspirations of the people as far as Goa is concerned. They have got their own culture, their own history behind them and the Government will come to know what they actually want.

14 hrs.

It was rightly said by Prof. Sharma, and it was supported by the hon. Member from Madras, that they will need education. I would say, an all round development of their areas will be necessary in the field of nation-building activities like health, public health measures, education, communication and what not. A proper survey of everything necessary should be undertaken, as to what sort of industries should be taken up and all that.

It is most welcome that this is being done. Let us know from the representatives of those people what are their difficulties and what they want. After all, it may not be proper to leave it to one or two officers who may be changed every one or two years to suggest something and the Governments then take an ultimate action upon that. Rather, it would be very correct to talk to the representatives here and see what they want. As far as the Central Government is concerned, they must see that they do not submit to any pressure from any quarter that those units should be merged with the nearest State or the nearest area. Of course, when the people there are in

agreement, certainly nobody will say, 'no'. What is important is to look to their local conditions and to meet their requirements and needs, their feelings and aspirations and keeping that in view, it will be necessary to develop these areas properly at par with the rest of the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister will reply tomorrow. We will now take up the Motion on Oil Policy.

14.01 hrs.

MOTION RE: STATEMENT ON OIL POLICY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Harish Chandra Mathur—he is not here. Shri S. M. Banerjee.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I beg to move:

"That this House takes note of the statement on oil policy by the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals laid on the Table of the House on the 16th August, 1965."

As the House knows, there was a serious condition in the country in the months of May, June and July this year because of the scarcity of kerosene and diesel oil. I remember, when a Question was asked from the hon. Minister in this House, there was almost a furore in this House because the hon. Members were not satisfied that kerosene was available to the common man. I do not know much about the entire country but I know that in Uttar Pradesh, part of Bihar, Rajasthan and Punjab, there was absolute scarcity of kerosene and that one bottle of kerosene oil was not available even at price of Rs. 1.50 p. Even today, when I speak in this House, it is an admitted fact that a bottle of kerosene oil is not available at the price so fixed. In Delhi itself, under the nose of the hon. Minister, in certain areas either kerosene oil is not available or, if it is available, it is available at a higher price.