

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : गलत है ।

श्री त्यागी : क्या गवर्नमेंट ने इस बात पर विचार किया है कि जहाँ कहीं निकम्मी गायें हैं या पशु मारे जाते हैं . . .

श्री जगदेव सिंह सिद्धान्ती : निकम्मी होती ही नहीं हैं । एक गाय के गोबर से 54 रुपये मिलते हैं और उसके चारे पर 36 रुपये खर्च होते हैं । मरी से मरी गाय भी नाकारा नहीं होती है ।

श्री त्यागी : जो गोमांस खाते हैं उनके लिए निकम्मी नहीं है लेकिन जो नहीं खाते हैं और जो दूध नहीं देती हैं, बच्चा नहीं देती हैं उनका पालन पोषण आजकल के जमाने में बहुत खर्चीला पड़ता है । इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि गो रक्षा के लिए क्या सरकार ने इस बात पर विचार किया है कि बूड़ी गायें जो घर में किसी काम नहीं आ सकती हैं, उनके पालन पोषण के लिए पशु लोक के तरीके पर जगहें बनाई जायें ताकि उनकी रक्षा भी हो सके और कुछ उनका इंतजाम भी किया जा सके ?

Mr. C. Subramaniam: We have a programme for *goshalas* for the protection of useless cattle.

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : सरकार हमेशा यह कहती है कि यह राज्य गांधी जी के आदेशों के अनुकूल चल रहा है । गांधी जी ने कहा था कि अगर गो-हत्या बन्द नहीं हुई, तो स्वराज्य एक खिलौना होगा । मैं सरकार से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस खिलौने को लेकर और कागजी कुर्सियों पर बैठ कर कब तक हिन्दुस्तान को इस तरह से प्रन्धेरे में रखेगी । सरकार आज कोई एक्शन ले और बताये कि स्टेट्स को क्यों बीच में डाला जा रहा है । जब टैक्सों के कानून पास होते हैं, तो स्टेट्स बीच में नहीं आती हैं । जब लाखों गैलन शराब बेची जाती है, तो स्टेट्स बीच में नहीं आती हैं । जब सरकार अपनी मन-मानी करती है, तो स्टेट्स बीच में नहीं आती हैं,

लेकिन जब गांधी जी के कथनानुसार गो-हत्या बन्द करने का प्रश्न आता है, तो सरकार स्टेट्स का बहाना ले कर कोई कार्यवाही करने से इन्कार करती है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस सवाल का कोई जवाब नहीं है ।

13.31 hrs.

Re. DEMANDS OF GOLDSMITHS

Mr. Speaker: Mr. Bhagat would be making a statement tomorrow.

श्री हुकम चन्द कड़वाय (देवास) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हम उस वक्तव्य के लिए तैयार बैठे हुए हैं । वह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण विषय है । मंत्री महोदय आप ही वह वक्तव्य क्यों नहीं देते हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पहले ही इतना वक्त लग गया है । अब अगर गोल्ड स्मिथ्स के बारे में स्टेटमेंट पर वक्त खर्च किया जाये, तो लेजिस्लेटिव बिजिनेस कब शुरू होगा ? कई मेम्बर साहबान कार्यवाही में हकाबट डालते रहते हैं ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): It will not take more than 15 minutes. Kindly let him make the statement.

Mr. Speaker: All right; after 15 minutes I will go to the next item of business.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): The representatives of the All-India Swarnkar Sangh, along with two hon. Members of Parliament, Mr. Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri and a member from the other House, met me. We had a full discussion. In the course of the discussion the members of the Sangh raised some of their demands. I have noted their demands and I have brought them to the notice of the Finance Minister, who is also seized of this matter. We are looking into it.

Shri Solanki (Kaira): What statement is this that they are looking into it?

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस वक्तव्य का क्या अर्थ है कि हम देखेंगे, विचार करेंगे ?

श्री त्यागी (देहरादून) : सहानुभूति के साथ विचार करेंगे ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मंत्री महोदय निर्णय बतायें । हम तो सरकार का निर्णय सुनना चाहते हैं । अब वह विचार की बात न कहें ।

Shri U. M. Trivedi (Mandsaur): Is he looking into it or looking at it?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: People are dying there. We want a statement.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I do not know why members are unnecessarily exercised.

Shri Tyagi: Because goldsmiths are also voters.

श्री गुलशन (भटिंडा) : सरकार को विचार करते हुए तीन साल गजर गये हैं । मिनिस्टर साहब अब भी कहते हैं कि विचार हो रहा है । मालूम नहीं, यह विचार कब खत्म होगा ।

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I said that a discussion took place and we are looking into it. I do not know what is the objection to it. We can only say that we will deal with this matter with the utmost urgency and take a decision very quickly.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : यह तो पहले भी कई बार कह चुके हैं । यह फिर कहने की क्या जरूरत है ?

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): It is an insult to this House. What kind of statement is this?

Mr. Speaker: There is one thing I might say. The matter has been pending for so many days. There were certain expectations raised in the minds of the people and we were told

that some statement was coming in a few days. After that, if it is only said that we have noted their demands and we are looking into it, that certainly causes certain disappointment.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I was asked to make a statement about the All India Swarnkar Sangh members meeting me, what happened there and what is their demand, and what we are going to do. The Gold Control Order is a separate question. The Finance Minister is considering it and certainly before the session is over and the House rises, something will be done.

Mr. Speaker: I was under some misapprehension; I thought some statement was being made regarding the Gold Control Order. That might be my mistake.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): On a point of order, Sir. You will be pleased to recollect that on this side of the House. In all himself expressed full sympathy with the feelings expressed by all members on this side of the House. In all humility, may I remind you that you, in response to the feelings expressed by members from both sides of the House gave more or less an assurance that the Government would come with a statement on the Gold Control Order, not that they will merely consider it. That they have got to; otherwise they will be arranged here. Government cannot ignore a proposal made by the House; that would be contempt of the House. I venture to suggest that the Minister by his attitude today has misled you in a manner which verges on contempt of the House and of yourself, who is the repository of all the rights and powers of the House. Will you tolerate it?

Mr. Speaker: There is no point of order.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Contempt of your directive is no point of order? I am amazed.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: For the last so many days, we have been requesting you. Despite the fact that you in your wisdom have disallowed all the calling attention notices, you were kind enough to assure us that you will ask the Minister to make some statement. The Leader of the House was very generous; he lent all his support and sympathy for the goldsmiths. You said a statement will be made within a day or two. Mr. Bhagat told in this House or in the other House that the matter has been referred to a committee, when Dr. Singhvi raised it. I request you to direct the Minister to make a statement on two aspects. One is the hunger-strike by Shri Anil Basu. This is the 15th day and he may die. People have violated section 144 and hundreds of people have been arrested. Ladies also have come out and the ladies may be arrested today. This country wide agitation and hunger-strike is for the scrapping of the Gold Control Order. The second point is about the self-employed goldsmiths. Government should come out with a statement, because it has defeated all the purposes. Smuggling is going on and prices are high. Gold is not available for ornaments.

Mr. Speaker: I also remember that the Leader of the House... (*Interruptions*). He gave the indication that the Finance Minister would be making some statement on this Gold Control Order. There is no question of my giving any assurance. I am not to give assurances or anything of that kind or issue directions, but the Leader of the House gave some sort of understanding that some statement would be coming from the Minister of Finance in that respect. Is any statement going to be made, or is there no likelihood of any statement coming up? Only for information I am asking this.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: On this particular matter, Sir, I was present, ac-

tually, when the Leader of the House said that. He had not consulted me before saying that... (*Interruptions*).

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): That shows they do not work together and there is no co-ordination (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Nothing should go on record. The only option left to me, when more than one hon. Member starts speaking, is to say that nothing should go on record. (*Interruptions*)**.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कृपया साहब, मैं ने आप से बहुत दफा कहा है, अगर आप अब ऐसा करेंगे, उस वक्त तो मैं बर्दाश्त करता रहा, लेकिन अब नहीं कर सकता।

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: What I was going to say is this, that if I remember aright—I am speaking entirely from my memory—what he had said was that he would ask me to make a statement in the House. Since then I have suffered greatly personally in this, that every morning, for the last one week or so, I am treated to shouts, not by lean, hungry or starved swarnakars but by very stout people, able-bodied people, shouting "Murda-bad Chaudhuri", "Chaudhuri Hai Hai" and so on. Every day the pressure is there. I do not know who organise it and I am not in a position to tell you that. Therefore, the matter is brought to my notice every morning. Every morning I get this notice that the matter is there.

So far as Gold Control is concerned, this is a matter of economic policy and it cannot be scrapped just overnight like that. We have got the utmost sympathy with the gold workers, the swarnakars. They have made a representation through only one of their associations, the Swarnakar Sangh, to Shri Bhagat, but I have myself received many delegations—taxing my memory I can say that nearly a dozen delegations, individuals and also collectively, have met me. The demands made are really contrary each to the other and it is very difficult to make

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up my mind without considering the different positions that are taken by different bodies. The swarnakars from one part of India make one demand, the swarnakars from another part of India make another demand, the sarafs make one kind of demand and the swarnakars make another kind of demand.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Their demand is to scrap Gold Control.

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: Therefore, Gold Control is a matter which we will have to consider. As I have said in this House myself, if hon. Members want to have a free discussion I will also have my views expressed. Let Parliament take a decision on that and it will be done.. (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: If that be the desire of the Finance Minister, then I will certainly allow some discussion. I have been barring out all discussion on that in the hope that some statement would be forthcoming, probably the Government would take some time and then announce their decision. I have been getting notices, so many of them, notices of adjournment motions and calling attention notices, but I have disallowed every one of them in the hope that some statement probably is coming. The Government should make up its mind whether some statement had in the Parliament. I can't say that the Government will be made or the Government is agreeable to a discussion be-allow a discussion.

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: Sir, I was going to say, further, when you were pleased to speak, that we have actually appointed a Committee, a Committee with certain economists in it, some Secretaries of Government in it, representatives of the Reserve Bank and others, and I have asked them to hurry up with the report as quickly as possibly they can, that I may also be advised what Government should take in this matter. That is the reason why I did not ask you to have a discussion on this matter. Give

me two or three days time. I am not asking more than that. Then there may be some motion made in the House and it could be discussed.. (Interruptions).

श्री मधु लिमये : एक मोशन तो है सामने . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री का एक मोशन मैं समझता हूँ कि है . . .

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : (बिजनौर) परसों है 25 तारीख को ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह हो सकता है कि इसको परसों हम न लें, दो तीन दिन फाइनैस मिनिस्टर साहब चाहते हैं . . .

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : तब तक तो वह मर जायेंगे ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर । इसको हम तीन दिन के बाद ले लें और हाफ ऐन आवर के बजाय 2 घंटे का डिस्कशन कर दें ।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : ढाई घंटा सहव ।

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): Sir, two hours will not be enough.

Mr. Speaker: 2½ hours is the maximum allowed.

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: Sir, may I make a suggestion?

Can you possibly take it up on the 2nd or 3rd of next month. It is only about 7 or 8 days time.

Shri Tyagi: Let the Committee's report also be there.

Mr. Speaker: Let it be there, then.

Shri Ranga: Sir, the trouble is we are getting bogged down in all these things. Sir, I was hearing the Finance Minister who has been taking a very

[Shri Ranga]

queer attitude. He said the same thing in the AICC. He had his say there in their organisation and it decided to make a recommendation. Then he must have had his say in the repeated meetings of the Congress Working Committee.

Shri B. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): No, no.

Shri Ranga: It is for you to say, you are the authority and not me. You know the facts. Anyhow, he had his say. Then they had a general discussion. The Press gave us the benefit of the inside view of their discussions and again the matter was discussed in their Executive Committee. We have understood that this gentleman, the Finance Minister, is personally opposed to it but, at the same time, he is amenable to the general view of his party. His party has not been able to make up its mind, God alone knows why. The latest thing is what he has trotted out today, that a Committee has been appointed, the Committee has not given its report and so he wants time till Monday. Is the Committee going to give its report by Monday? In the meanwhile, is he going to risk the lives of these young people, these poor people? Are they to die? Today they are shouting "Murdabad" before his house. Tomorrow they will start shouting "Murdabad" before everybody's house (*Interruptions*).

I do not know, Sir, whether I am in order in saying that I am extremely grateful to you, and I am sure the House is grateful to you, for the concern you have shown in regard to this matter and the efforts you have made to persuade this obdurate Ministry and this, I do not know what to say, friend of mine, this Finance Minister, who does not know his own mind. He is a Minister without a mind, who is not able to make up his mind and come here, to the House, and save the

situation, in view of the fact that a great majority of their own party, the Ruling Party, and the whole of us in the Opposition, are unanimous in our demand that this wretched Gold Control should go. After it goes, if they want any small things to be done in regard to their economic policy, they can certainly come forward to the House with specific proposals in the same way as they have decided in regard to that infamous Defence of India Rules implementation (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Nothing shall go on record unless I identify a Member.

*Interruptions:***

Mr. Speaker: Shri Trivedi.

Shri U. M. Trivedi: The hon. Minister has said—that is what his statement indicates—that he is not in favour of scrapping the Gold Control Order, that is why a Committee has been appointed to go into the pros and cons and the consequences which may flow from doing something with reference to this Gold Control business. I think the first and foremost thing he should do is to scrap Gold Control because we on this side want it, all on the other side want it, the whole country want it. He should first make a statement withdrawing the Gold Control Order and then he can appoint a Committee to go into the subsequent things, the consequences that follow from it. Why should he hesitate doing it?

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I should like to say that the Government and the Finance Minister cannot adopt a posture of supreme indifference and indecision in a matter of such importance. In a parliamentary government it is for the Government to take the initiative in respect of legislation and policy. How can they shirk this responsibility? He must tell us whether by the 2nd or the 3rd this committee,

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which he has appointed, is likely to come out with its recommendations and, secondly, whether he will be able to make up his mind and the mind of Government by the 2nd or 3rd in respect of the Gold Control Order; otherwise, there is no point in postponing and possibly creating a difficulty because certain people are on hunger strike creating a national situation and an unnecessarily unpleasant situation. He must come out with some specific clarification with respect to it here and now.

Shri Tridib Kumar Choudhuri (Berhampur): I find it very difficult to understand why the Government takes so much time to make up its mind. You will remember, Sir, that the whole expectation about scrapping of gold control was not aroused in this House but was aroused in Bombay in the AICC session where the AICC members were persuaded to withdraw the resolution for scrapping of gold control on the assurance of the Congress President, Shri Kamraj. Since then this whole movement or agitation has started on the basis of that. The responsibility lies squarely on the ruling party, the Congress Party. Till this stage, when three weeks of this session have passed, the Government has not yet been able to make up its mind. There are two aspects. One is the scrapping of gold control. We are prepared to accept the position that they will take two or three days to make up their mind so far as scrapping of gold control is concerned. But there is the other aspect of the specific demands of the *Swarnakars* or *Sarafas* or various people concerned with gold trade. In the course of these two or three days will they also be in a position to make up their mind with regard to some of their demands?

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): There are two aspects of the matter as Shri Tridib Kumar Choudhuri has pointed out. One is about the whole question of scrapping of gold control. We are also one with the Members of

the Opposition so far as scrapping of gold control is concerned. It was very much debated in the All India Congress Committee session and we were given an understanding that a decision will be taken soon in favour of scrapping the Gold Control Order. Now the Finance Minister has come out with the plea that he has to await a report of a particular committee which he has appointed and which is going into the matter and he has requested you to give him time till 2nd September or so.

There is another aspect of the matter. The goldsmiths are fasting before Parliament. Some of them have been on fast for 14 or 15 days. There are some people who have come all the way from my State and they are also undergoing a fast before Parliament. I would like to make a submission to the Minister, through you, that so far as their demands are concerned, they are embodied in a separate memorandum that has been submitted to the Minister which he has just now said is under their consideration. I would only request that pending the decision regarding the overall decision of scrapping of Gold Control Order, they should come out with meeting the demands made by the goldsmiths in particular so as to avoid a very bad and a grave situation when so many lives are involved.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj (Wardha): The Finance Minister has said that many deputations, individuals or groups of *swarnakars*, have met him and have asked different things and that he is not in a position to decide immediately as to which demand should be considered and in what way. I would like to ask him specifically whether as far as scrapping of gold control is concerned there are two opinions among the deputations of *swarnakars* that have met him. If not, that one issue is clearcut. If it remains on the statute, there may be different demands because in the different regions there may be different difficulties because of the different State regulations, practices or tradi-

[Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj]
tions. That is why it is a different story. If gold control is to stay, to consider what difficulties or facilities are there may need more time. As far as the scrapping of gold control is concerned, I think, there may not be any difference among the deputations of *swarnakars* who have met him. As has already been said by my hon. friend, I also support the scrapping of gold control along with the unanimous or majority voice. I think, delay is causing harm to us.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Ambalaphuza): Mr. Speaker, Sir, you were kind enough to say that a discussion may take place in two or three days but the Minister does not agree. I am afraid, we cannot support the proposal of having a debate after a week, on the 2nd or 3rd, and that the whole issue of goldsmiths fasting outside Parliament should wait up to that time. It is very unfortunate that the Minister referred to stout goldsmiths shouting *murdabad* and all that. Of course, if he only wants to see lean and hungry goldsmiths in this country, it is left to him; but it is very unfortunate that the Minister makes such a statement. He is so obsessed with the demonstration of the goldsmiths. What else can they do except shout and demonstrate? This hunger strike has already taken place. Now if the debate can take place only on the 2nd or 3rd September, as the Minister decides, then we want him to come before the House tomorrow or the day after and make a statement whereby he gives some guarantee, assurance or promise to the goldsmiths so that they can withdraw their demonstration and hunger strike. Then the debate can take place on the 2nd or 3rd. Can he make up his mind within a day or two and make some interim statement in the House so that this issue can be settled; or, is he going to be observed, with the demonstration of goldsmiths?

Mr. Speaker: We ought to feel concerned with every life that is there in our country; for every hunger-striker who is there we must express

anxiety, but that should not be connected with the pressures that are to be brought here for the change of any legislation or other things. These two things must be kept separate. Supply because a demonstration is going on and some people have gone on hunger strike this should be done, that would be a bad day for any democracy if such pressures are the only determining factors. We must take care of them; we must feel concerned about them . . . (*Interruption*) but in a manner we would be encouraging them if we are influenced by those considerations alone... (*Interruption*).

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Why do you not ask them to expedite the decision?

Mr. Speaker: There are ten Members standing. Only if Members sit down can I ask them. If they continue speaking, how can I ask them? (*Interruption*). The Minister has said that he can have the discussion on the 2nd or 3rd and Members have expressed that they want it earlier. That is the only point now before the House.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: About the time.

Shri Hem Barua: I am quite convinced that if not today, tomorrow the Gold Control Order will have to go because that is the demand all over the country—a demand made by different political parties including the Congress Party also. If you postpone this discussion or if the Government postpones the decision for a longer time, the difficulty is that there are some people who are on hunger strike and they might die any moment. Therefore my submission to you particularly is that you should come and meet those people who are on hunger strike outside Parliament House and, if necessary, issue an appeal to them to abandon the hunger strike telling them that we are seized of it.

Mr. Speaker: If they ask me to sympathise with them by going on strike, what should I do then?

Shri Hem Barua: They would not do that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Finance Minister should make that appeal.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष जी, आप ने अभी अपनी ओर से यह कहा कि किसी व्यक्ति के अनशन को या उसकी भूख-हड़ताल को इस प्रश्न के साथ नहीं जोड़ा जाना चाहिये और इस आधार पर निर्णय लेने की स्थिति होनी भी नहीं चाहिये। लेकिन जब से स्वर्ण नियन्त्रण लागू हुआ है, आप को भी यह जानकारी होगी और समय समय पर संसद में इस प्रकार की चर्चा भी आई है कि ढाई सौ से ऊपर स्वर्णकार हैं जिन्होंने आत्महत्या की है। और आज भी केवल अनिल बासु ही नहीं, जिनकी श्री बनर्जी ने चर्चा की, उनके साथ और भी व्यक्ति हैं जो भूख हड़ताल पर बैठे हुए हैं। और अब स्वर्ण नियन्त्रण अधिनियम के सब से पहले प्रवक्ता श्री मोरारजी देसाई, स्वयम् इस बात को मानते हैं कि स्वर्ण नियन्त्रण अधिनियम जिस दृष्टि से लागू हुआ था वह ध्येय पूरा नहीं हुआ और उसको वापस लेना चाहिये। वित्त मंत्री केवल यह कहते हैं . . .

14 hrs.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : साथ साथ बहस भी होती जा रही है गोल्ड कंट्रोल पर। एक बात आई और उस पर सारी बहस शुरू हो गई, यह तो मुनासिब नहीं है।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : वित्त मंत्री जो कठिनाई बतला रहे हैं वह यह कि उन के पास कुछ आवेदन पत्र स्वर्णकारों के आये हैं और सर्राफों के आये हैं। उनके समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि वह क्या करें। लेकिन उन आवेदनपत्रों के साथ साथ सरकार अपना मन तो समझती है कि वह कहां तक जा सकती है। इसलिये इस पर इतना लम्बा समय क्यों लेना चाहती है। जहां से वह फतवा लेती है, अर्थात् कांग्रेस पार्टी, उनसे पूछ लिया जाये।

Mr. Speaker: Will the Minister like to say anything more?

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: I do not know what more I can say. I have asked for a little time. If it is not the desire of the House to give me a little time, any time may be fixed. What more can I say? I have asked for a little time.

They suggested that on the basis of what I have said there will not be discontinuance of hunger-strike by all those people. I have got fullest sympathy with them. Whether the cause is good; bad, or indifferent, it is not for me to say now. I have got fullest sympathy with them. I have said that we shall have a full discussion on the 3rd. If this is taken to them by those who represent them in this House. I suppose, they can persuade them to discontinue their hunger-strike.

Sir, of course, this House is supreme and it has to take a decision. Having regard to what has been said, if after the discussion the Gold Control Order is scrapped, I have got nothing more to say. So far as the House is concerned, in democracy, it is supreme. I am only asking for a little time so that I may get ready for answering such questions as may be put to me. It is true that my predecessor, Shri Morarji Desai . . .

Mr. Speaker: He may just think over it as to when, at the earliest, he can have that discussion.

Shri Sachindra Chaudhuri: I think on the 3rd.

Mr. Speaker: Now we go to the next item. Shri M. C. Chagla to make a statement.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: Sir, I want just one minute. The time of the House can be saved. If the Finance Minister knows the opinion of the House, then the discussion is unnecessary.

Mr. Speaker: He knows it. Shri M. C. Chagla.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: Only the decision is necessary. The discussion

[Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj]

is not necessary. Why waste 2½ hours unnecessarily?

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : परसों स्टेटमेंट दे दें ।

14.03 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: SERVICE CONDITIONS OF TEACHERS

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): Mr. Speaker. Sir, the Government of India are aware of the various demands of the teachers which relate to their service conditions. The question of having a uniform national pay structure for teachers is the most important one from the point of view of the teachers and such of their organisations as all India Primary Teachers Federation, the All India Secondary Teachers Federation and their affiliates. It is true that pay scales of the teachers are not uniform throughout the country. They are not uniform even for teachers under different managements within the same State. For example, there may be one pay scale for a category of teachers serving under the State Government and another pay scale for the corresponding post under the Local Board or in the schools run by the private organisations.

The question of having uniformity in the pay scales has also received the consideration of the Government of India. Every time the question was examined, it was observed that in the very nature of things it was not possible to have a uniform pay structure for teachers all over the country. The pay scales of teachers in different parts of the country depend on various factors, including the following:—

- (i) availability of personnel;
- (ii) pay scales of corresponding posts in the State Services; and above all on
- (iii) the financial resources of the State.

While there is no uniformity in the scales of pay of teachers throughout India, it is a well known fact that there is no uniformity in the scales of pay of other categories of civil servants employed in the different States and Local Bodies throughout India. This is obviously because the pay scales of civil servants in different parts of the country depend upon various factors, enumerated above in the case of teachers.

The Education Commission, which has gone into the entire field of Education in great detail, has examined the general question of the status of the teaching profession and has made the following general recommendations:

- (1) Intensive and continuous efforts are necessary to raise the economic, social and professional status of teachers and to feed back talented young persons into the profession.

Shri Madhu Limaye (Munghyr): Pious wish!

Shri M. C. Chagla:

- (2) The most urgent need is to upgrading the remuneration of teachers substantially, particularly at the school stage.
- (3) The Government of India should lay down, for the school stage, minimum scales of pay for teachers and assist the States and Union Territories to adopt equivalent or higher scales to suit their conditions.
- (4) Scales of pay of school teachers belonging to the same category but working under different managements such as government, local bodies or private managements should be the same.
- (5) The principle of parity should be adopted as a State policy forthwith in each State but its full implementation may,