

12.51 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

COIR BOARD

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): On behalf of Shri Manubhai Shah, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-rule (1) (e) of Rule 4 of the Coir Industry Rules, 1954, as amended by SRO No. 3983, dated the 12th December, 1957, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coir Board for the next term to be specified by the Central Government."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-rule (1) (e) of Rule 4 of the Coir Industry Rules, 1954, as amended by SRO No. 3983, dated the 12th December, 1957, the members of Lok Sabha do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coir Board for the next term to be specified by the Central Government."

The motion was adopted.

12.52 hrs.

KERALA-BUDGET 1966-67 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (KERALA)—Contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Kerala) for 1966-67. The time taken so far is 45 minutes.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Will it continue for the whole day?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Shri N. Sreekanth Nair to continue his speech.

Shri N. Sreekanth Nair (Quilon): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I was ex-

plaining how the State of Kerala has been denied electricity and the capacity to generate electricity; during the past five year Plans. Whenever the State of Kerala advanced a claim or brought forward a scheme for producing electricity, some neighbouring States would bring forward a frivolous complaint or a frivolous dispute and immediately, the Central Water and Power Commission would say, "stop it." So much so, that the State of Kerala is now one of the most backward States where electricity is least available, in spite of the fact that it is a State with the highest or the maximum water capacity for producing electricity.

Another strange aspect is that our administration has been so weak that they succumbed to any political pressure put on the State for giving some foreign country financial patronage. I am referring to the Sholayar scheme. Yugoslavia wanted to experiment on the production of machinery for generating electricity, and the poor State of Kerala was asked to shoulder the responsibility so much so that the scheme has never been completed and I do not know whether it will be useful to the State, whether the expenditure incurred on it would be of any use to the State when it is completed. This has been the attitude of the Union Government towards the State of Kerala. The present position of electricity there is, we have only used up eight per cent of our capacity for generating electricity. So, unfortunately, we will be short of power even after the expiry of the Fourth Plan period. That is why we have been crying hoarse for getting a thermal plant established there.

The Committee on Public Undertakings, at page 32 of its 27th Report on Planning, Management and Administration of Kerala State Government Companies has stated as follows, in respect of paragraphs 46-47,

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in its summary of conclusions/recommendations:

"The Committee examined the question of power shortage in the State and are convinced that if a thermal station is not installed in the State, difficulties, in so far as industrial production in the State is concerned, are bound to continue.

No industry can thrive if it has to reduce production to one half for about 100 days in a year. There are several new factories and additional new plants in the existing factories which have been erected in many parts of the Kerala State which are waiting for power in order to be commissioned. Such a state of affairs if allowed to continue is bound to have adverse effects on the economy of the State. The present power cut is for six months. In an already densely populated State, the creation of further unemployment by lay-off of industrial workers, creates several social problems. The Committee feel that a 100 MW Thermal Unit would meet the requirements of the State in full."

This is also what the State Planning Committee had said. This is what was promised by the earlier Finance Ministers too, but we heard the Home Minister telling us yesterday that they are ready to give a 30 MW thermal plant. This is quite inadequate for the requirements of Kerala, especially in view of the fact that we have been neglected in the past and we have been deliberately prevented by the Central Water and Power Commission from producing more electricity. When we ask for electricity, we are denied electricity because it is said we have no major industries, and because there are no industries, there are no railways. So, this vicious circle goes on: no electricity, and therefore no industry and

therefore no railways. The vicious circle goes on like this, and we have to cut it at as many points as possible.

So, what is the overall position? In regard to unemployment, our position is that towards the end of the third Five Year Plan, we had a backlog of unemployment of 8.45 lakhs. During the fourth Plan period we are supposed to have another 9.1 lakh of unemployed people who should be seeking jobs. Therefore, at the end of the Fourth Plan period, we will have about 17.5 lakh people without any jobs, and for whom we have to provide jobs. This is a very high figure. Even with the fullest sympathy of the Government of India, we can never give employment for all these people. So, the State Planning Committee decided to evolve a scheme by which at least the number of unemployed people should not go beyond the Third Five Year Plan period. For that, the Committee demanded that Rs. 1,020 crores may be spent in the State during the Fourth Plan period. It was split by the Committee into the State sector, with Rs. 442 crores, the Central Sector with Rs. 328 crores and the private sector with Rs. 252 crores. In the first year of the fourth Five Year Plan, according to the budget prepared for our State by the Union Government in co-operation with the State Government which also is now controlled by the Union Government, the development expenditure envisaged is Rs. 50.04 crores. That is exactly one-twenty-fifth or four per cent of the scheme of the plan outlay demanded by the State Planning Committee. If this goes at this rate, if the plan of the Kerala State is controlled and directed by the Central or the Union Government, under the President's Rule, at this rate, naturally, what my lady friend said the other day would become much more true.

Shrimati Lakshmi Kanthamma
(Khammam): What is it?

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: She said that Kerala is now one of the most backward States in India.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Defence (Shri A. M. Thomas): Why should you have a certificate from her?

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Because it is my own feeling also: that what she said would become true.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health and Family Planning (Shri B. S. Murthy): He wants someone to strengthen his views.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Yes, certainly the hon. Member is from Andhra Pradesh, especially when that Member is a Member of the Kerala Consultative Committee.

Mr. Speaker: He does not want someone; he wants some lady!

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Yes, Sir. I am a human being, susceptible to female charms! So, Sir, the position is that the State of Kerala is being neglected in all aspects.

12.59 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair**]

If you look into the past plan periods, you will find that during the past five year Plans for the last three Plan periods, Kerala received Rs. 79 lakhs as Central investment for the whole first and second Plan periods, and it got on the whole about Rs. 25 crores in the Third Plan period, so much so that out of Rs. 1,325 crores spent by the Union Government on industrial undertakings throughout India, Kerala got Rs. 25 crores only. This neglect is what we have been fighting against. Now at least we hoped that in the Fourth Five Year Plan we may get some measure of consideration, some equity, but we have been denied that.

The position of the railways was also brought to the notice of the House on several occasions. The mileage per lakh of population in

1961 in Kerala was only 3.4 or only one-third of the all-India figure which was 9.5 miles per lakh of population. We have neither electricity nor power nor industry. Yet, we are told by the Union Government that they are doing everything to help us to come to the top in the national development!

13 hrs.

There is another curious fact. My friend, Mr. Thomas is here. Before him, we had the right royal Minister of Defence, Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, who happens to be a Malayalee, though he does not claim to be so. Out of the hundreds of Defence installations, Mr. Krishna Menon could not set up one solitary installation, one single ordnance factory, in Kerala. He does not claim to be a Malayalee and he was not elected from that place. But Mr. Thomas claims to be Malayalee and he has been elected from that place. I warn him, if this neglect of Kerala in the matter of industries is continued by the Defence Ministry, he will not be able to face the electorate there in the next elections. This is total neglect, without a single installation being there.

Shri Muthyal Rao (Mahbubnagar): If you have any charges against him, you can make them. Why bring in elections?

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Why not? Is elections something secret? It is a question of our people. We have been neglected by the Union Government and Mr. Thomas has been put in there as a cat's paw without any powers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is warning Mr. Thomas.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Yes, I do not say Mr. Thomas is not interested in giving Kerala at least one or two projects, but he is incapable of doing it. He is a small fry and the

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big powers that control the Congress at the centre would not allow him to do it.

Shri B. S. Murty: Why should he be a veritable Neelakanta?

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Yes; I am a Neelakanta, Kalakanta and everything when the occasion demands it, when my State demands it; when the freedom of India demanded it, I was like that.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Ambalappuzha): I hope Mr. Thomas has something to say.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: He will say that later on.

Developmental outlay and capital outlay in every respect, including the P.W.D. works have been curtailed in Kerala. There will be no school buildings and no roads. Out of about 60 or 70 National Highways, we have only one N.H. 47. That too is not fully developed. There are places where there are no bridges and places where not more than one vehicle can pass at a time. So far as roads, railways, industries and everything is concerned, we are neglected. Government educational buildings are under the P.W.D. Therefore, the State investment on capital undertakings and public works including educational buildings has been curtailed. That means we will not have any improvement even in the social services which we have been developing all along.

Another aspect is the educational system. Unfortunately, our Congress Government, which reigned supreme sometime back, decided to subvert our entire educational programme. For the very meagre benefit of allowing a few more additional institutions under his leadership, the then Chief Minister, who was in charge of education also, decided to bring down the overall period of secondary education from 11 years to 10 years. Naturally

we had to have a different system in the colleges. We had to have what are called junior colleges and the three year degree course.

This has upset the entire educational programme. So, no student who goes from Kerala with a matriculation certificate would be admitted in any college in India nor will he be acceptable for any appointment in any other State. 48 or 49 junior colleges have been created under the Kerala University. None of the staff in these colleges will get any benefit under the UGC schemes. Senior professors and lecturers have been sent down to take charge as principals and as teachers of the junior colleges. But though they were originally getting the benefit of UGC schemes, now they are left out. The educational system has been completely turned topsyturvy and that adds to our difficulties in finding employment. Nowhere else will Malayalees be offered any employment even in industrial concerns, because both the general and technical educational standards have become lower. Naturally, they have got a good round to deny us employment.

I come to the question of labour. There is economy drive everywhere, but I have never heard of such a drive by which the department of labour refuses to send anybody for any of the tripartite conferences and meetings convened by the Union Government. That is the point at which they are trying to have the economy drive; so much so, the Indian Labour Conference, the Standing Labour Committee, etc. have been boycotted by the Kerala Government on the ground that it is a drive for economy. As I said during the discussion on extending the proclamation of President's rule, the question of labour is handled against all canons of justice. That is the attitude of the Kerala Government and it is

reflected in the way the labour department functions. Naturally the labour in Kerala is revolting against it. I would like to mention also the meagre wages given to the workers, especially plantation workers. The other day, when the Bonus Act was being discussed in the Supreme Court, the question arose whether there are workers in organised industries getting less than Rs. 80 per month, so that the Rs. 40 minimum which has been prescribed under the Bonus Act becomes more than 4 per cent. The Supreme Court Judges were surprised when it was pointed out to them that the plantation workers in Kerala were getting only Rs. 50 and $\frac{1}{2}$ anna per month. We want only minimum wages. But the President's rule in Kerala says they are not prepared to consider minimum wage because there is a national wage board. As I understand the labour problems, that board is intended to give a fair wage and afterwards a living wage; it is not intended to give minimum wage. Let us first have minimum wage and let it be reviewed after 5 years, as the Government is empowered to do by the Act. But they are not prepared to do that. The national wage board naturally would not give any decision unless and until there is agreement. Our employers will never agree to any rise in the wages of workers.

The question of bonus still remains unsettled in the plantation and other industries. Till now they were saying; let the Bonus Act come. Now they say, let us wait till the Supreme Court gives its judgment on the Bonus Act. So, the industrial sector in Kerala is facing a very serious crisis because the Government there is callously indifferent to the problems confronting the working class in that State.

Coming to the provisions for agriculture, I need only say that the administration has been handling the question of agriculture in a deficit State in the most scandalous manner. When the sowing season comes, there would be no seeds, no manure and no

loan. But when the cropping season comes, they will come forward with manure and loan. There is also another difficulty which the cultivators in Kerala now are confronted with. The past Government, especially the Congress Government, which continued there for some three or four years in the past, were very liberal. They never wanted any of the loans given out to the cultivators to be returned. So the loans got accumulated. Under the President's Rule a set of very hard and dry bureaucrats have come in. They have asked the Government to proceed against everybody under the revenue recovery proceedings. If five or six years loans are to be recovered under revenue recovery proceedings, the field and other properties of the cultivators will be taken away. Even then the loan will remain. This procedure that is adopted brings in another difficulty. Not only the cultivator's field, his other properties, the seed he has got, the paddy that he has got will all be taken away, he will not get any money from outside also because the co-operative societies or the Government will not give any loan to him on the ground that he has not paid back the loans that he took. The result will be that the poor cultivators in Kerala will not be able to cultivate, they will not be able to produce anything more in spite of the fact that the State is a deficit State and all efforts must be made to make the State produce at least much more than what it produces now. Of course, we can never be self-sufficient. We have to depend on the rest of India. Naturally, because we produce cash crops which earn valuable foreign exchange for the country, we expect the Government of India and the rest of India to feed us properly, which they have never done. They have always kept us, as was pointed out by another hon. Member yesterday, as second-rate citizens. When the rest of India got 15 ounces per head we only got 10 ounces and 5 ounces. When the ration was 9 ounces we got 6 ounces. We accepted all these inequalities. At the same time, if our Government does not try to

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increase the quantum of grains available in the State, certainly we cannot find fault with the State Government because the Central Government the State Government are one and the same.

I would say, Sir, that this budget is quite very unrealistic. The Finance Minister is looking upon it not as a labour of love but as something which has been thrust on him. He is doing it out of courtesy; that is what he feels. We the people of Kerala feel that the Finance Minister and the Central Government take this budget as a burden on them and they are not going to do us any good.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Raghavan.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Sir, may I know who is going to reply to the debate on behalf of the Government.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I shall reply.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Sir, I ask this question because I do not see any representative of the Government taking any note. It is a very serious matter. The Minister is not having even a piece of paper for taking any notes of what is being said here. A deputy Minister was present yesterday when many points were raised.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Every word is being recorded.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Is he going to depend on the whole record. It is really suprising. This is a very sorry state of affairs.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The reply will in any case be tomorrow. When the reply is made he will be satisfied.

Shri A. V. Raghavan (Badagara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Kerala is

the smallest State in the Indian Union. Whereas Kerala is only about 1.2 per cent of the area of India, it has to support 3.8 per cent of the total population of India. The density of population in Kerala is over three times the all-India average. The average size of holdings in Kerala is only 1.5 acres against the all-India average of 7.5 acres.

As against this, the State has got certain advantages. There are 44 rivers in India with a total run off of about 25,00,000 million cubic feet. They provide the State with rich irrigational potential. Even though Kerala is only 1.2 per cent of the area of India, it has 5 per cent of India's total water potential. These rivers also provide a rich potential for generation of hydro-electric power. Kerala has a comparatively short coastline, but in the production of marine fish the State ranks first. It has mountains, rivers, sea, backwaters, in fact it is a tourist paradise.

Yet, the State is very backward. The Centre has failed to develop the State. During the three Five Year Plans, the investment in the central sector was practically nil. The sad story of the phyto chemical plant is green in our mind. The second shipyard which was included in the Second Plan has yet to see the light of day. While neighbouring States have developed very rapidly, we have to be satisfied with only promises, promises which are never fulfilled. We do not know yet what is in store for us during the Fourth Plan.

Sir, in the State of Kerala, Malabar region is very backward. It is backward compared to the Travancore-Cochin region in terms of almost all the indicators of economic development. It lags behind in transport education and industry. Therefore, the economic policy of the State should be to take emergent steps for levelling up the wide disparities. No

doubt, the State itself is industrially backward compared to other States, but within the State itself Malabar region is industrially very backward. The proportion of factory workers to total population is 1.36 per cent against 0.94 per cent in Malabar. Literacy in Malabar is 30.42 per cent against 46.94 per cent in Travancore-Cochin. Likewise, in the transport system, against a density of 88.2 miles of roads per 100 square miles in Travancore-Cochin, Malabar has only 63 miles per hundred square miles. Therefore, it will be seen that Malabar region of Kerala is very backward compared to the Travancore-Cochin region.

I want to know whether there is anything in the budget of this year to level up the disparity that has prevailed in this part of the State for such a long time. Very recently the Government have sanctioned some high schools, upper primary schools and lower primary schools. Even in the matter of planning schools the largest number of high schools have been granted to the Travancore-Cochin area. Is this the way to level up the disparity that has been there in the State all these years. I want the Minister to look into this matter and see that some high schools, upper primary schools and also lower primary schools are started in the Malabar region of Kerala.

Likewise, there are certain parts in the Malabar region of Kerala, especially in North Malabar, which are not accessible during the monsoon periods. Recently, I asked a question in this House about the number of panchayats which are not accessible during the monsoon periods. I received a reply that there are 14 such panchayats in North Malabar which are not accessible during the monsoons. I want the Governor's regime to do something in this matter and see that some approach roads are constructed in these hilly tracts so that people living in those areas may

move about during all seasons of the year.

Again, in the matter of roads, the West Coast Road is the main road which is used for traffic in the Malabar region of Kerala. The West Coast Road was started during the Second Five Year Plan. Even to this day many bridges and many by-pass roads have yet to be completed in this part of the country. I hope at least in the matter of roads the Government will see that it is completed without any further delay.

In the matter of industries also, North Malabar has no industry worth the name. Many of the speakers who take part in the debate on this budget will speak about the backwardness of Kerala. Coming as I do from the Malabar region of Kerala, it is my duty to focus attention on the backward state of affairs in the Malabar region of Kerala. There is no industry to this day. The Government has not done anything to minimise the disparity in the Malabar region of Kerala. This is the time, when the President's Rule is in force in Kerala, to level up that disparity. It is not fair on the part of the Advisers of the Governor to continue this disparity without doing anything substantial to minimise the disparity.

I want to invite your attention, Sir, to certain other important matters facing the Malabar region of Kerala. The problem of disposing the effluent from the Birla Rayon Factory in Mavoor is creating a serious problem in the neighbourhood. The water gets polluted and the people living on the other side of the river are not able to get drinking water.

Not only that, people who live on fishing are denied their daily bread because the water is polluted and fish die in thousands because of this pollution. Therefore, I will request the Minister to see that the Public Health Department of Kerala should warn the Birla Rayon Factory not to

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dispose of the effluent in the river and pollute the neighbourhood.

Then there was a proposal before the Government of Kerala for providing provident fund for advocates. I understand that there was a provision in the Kerala Court Fees Act to give effect to this proposal. Unfortunately, nothing has been done to carry out this proposal. Recently, the Kerala Bar Council requested the Government of the Kerala to take up this matter. I think, the Government will do something in this matter also.

In the matter of power also, Malabar is very deficient. Most of the small-scale industries in Kerala have been closed down because of power shortage. I know that there are very few industries in the Malabar region of Kerala. An 80 per cent cut has been enforced in most of the industries so much so that during the past 1½ years all the industries in the Malabar region of Kerala had to close down.

Then, I want to bring to the notice of Government the sad situation prevailing in the colleges of the Malabar region of Kerala. In my own constituency most of the colleges have been working without sufficient teaching staff. Posts of Professors and lecturers in several departments were not filled up with the result that students just go and sit there and do nothing. This sort of state of affairs does not do credit either to the students or to the Government. I hope at least during the coming academic year this situation will not be repeated and steps will be taken to see that all colleges are provided with adequate staff.

Then, there was a proposal even during the Second Five Year Plan to acquire private forests in the Malabar region of Kerala. In the Travancore-Cochin region there are no private forest. Private forests are there only in the Malabar region. Indiscriminate cutting is going on there. We were

told that Government were taking steps to see that private forests were acquired, but curiously enough I find that no provision has been made in this behalf in this year's budget.

Shri Warior (Trichur): They are undecided about it.

Shri A. V. Raghavan: If you continue this policy, by the time you make a decision to acquire private forests there would not be any private forest left in the Malabar region of Kerala. This is a very important aspect and I want the Government to take emergent steps to see that the entire private forests in the Malabar region of Kerala are acquired at the earliest possible time. Even after the Government decided to acquire the private forests, 25,000 acres of land has been acquired by the Birlas and at this rate in the course of another one year the entire private forest land will disappear from this region.

Then I come to the most important aspect, that is, land reforms. Due to the Nambudiripad regime an Act was passed to carry out land reforms in the State of Kerala. Unfortunately, that Act has been struck down and a new Act came into being. Even now the Act has been in force for the past four years but nothing has been done to abolish the intermediaries in Kerala. I do not know what is preventing the Government of Kerala from enforcing the entire provisions of the Land Reforms Act. If land reforms were carried out in the year 1958 or 1959 according to the Act passed by the Communist regime, the entire intermediaries would probably have been abolished. But today nine precious years have passed and tenants continue to pay rent. The period is unnecessarily prolonged for no fault of the tenants. The Government should see that all the provisions in the Act are enforced at a very early date.

When the Act was enforced there were land tribunals in most of the

Taluk headquarters. Today land tribunals are not functioning at Taluk headquarters but there is only one tribunal for each district. Are we to understand that the Government has become very lukewarm in pursuing land reforms as envisaged by the Planning Commission? This is not the way to enforce land legislation which, we are told, the Government of India is very keen to enforce.

Then, very shortly the non-gazetted officers of Kerala are going to go on strike. There is a very legitimate demand. They are finding it very difficult to make both ends meet. Their demands are very meagre. What they ask for is that they want pay on par with the pay prevailing in the neighbouring State of Madras. They are not asking that they should be given at the same rates which the Central Government non-gazetted officers are getting. They are only asking that they may be given at the rates that are being given to the non-gazetted officers working in the State of Madras. Against this demand, the Adviser says that he is not prepared to grant any further relief and that severe disciplinary action will be taken against the NGOs if they go on strike. They are prepared for the worst. The advisers cannot cow down the NGOs. They have got a great tradition. The entire people of Kerala are behind the NGOs. Not only that, the people of Kerala also have given a notice against the Governor and the advisers. They will also be going on a *bandh* very shortly.

The problems facing the State are very serious and manifold. Within the State there are regional disparities and these disparities are allowed to continue even by the Governor and the advisers who are representatives of the President. I request that the disparities that are prevailing in the State of Kerala be minimised and, I hope, Government will give due direction to the Governor and the advisers to carry this out.

With these words, I conclude.

Shri Ravindra Varma (Thiruvella):
Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the budget proposals that have been presented to the House. I do not do so with a feeling that those who have framed the Budget have taken into consideration the crying problems and needs of Kerala. It appears to me that this Budget, like the previous Budget that was presented a year ago, is a kind of a stop-gap budget. It is a pedestrian budget which attempts to mark time rather than to take any straightforward steps towards the goals of economic progress.

Sir, the Budget this year shows that the estimated revenue will be higher than what it has been in previous years. The estimate of revenue in the past years has been only about Rs. 80—odd crores, this year the Finance Minister expects that revenue will be as high as Rs. 103.1 crores. This means an increase of nearly Rs. 20.7 crores over the revised estimate for the year 1965-86.

I must point out here that it will be for the first time that the revenue of the State will go over the Rs. 100 crores mark. But this is not the result of any additional taxation that the Minister has proposed. This increase is accounted for by the recommendations of the Fourth Finance Commission. As the Minister himself pointed out in the statement that he made while presenting the Budget to the House, the grant-in-aid that the State will receive will go up from Rs. 8.25 crores to Rs. 20.82 crores, and the State's share of Union taxes and duties from the divisible pool will go up from Rs. 11.8 crores to Rs. 13.9 crores. Sir, apart from these two additions to the revenue of the State, the Finance Minister has taken credit for a sum of Rs. 4.9 crores as interest on loans advanced to the State Electricity Board. I do believe that this is a rather unrealistic estimate. The Finance Minister has said that because of the additional quantum of electricity in the State that will result from the commissioning of new

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power plants and because of the fact that the tariff from electricity has been enhanced, it will be possible to expect the Electricity Board to pay Rs. 4.9 crores as interest on the capital that has been loaned to the Board. The House will remember that, in the last year, the Board could only give Rs. 47 lakhs as interest to the Government, and this sum was much less than one-third of the total figure that was expected as interest from the Board. It appears, to me, therefore, that to expect and to take credit for Rs. 4.9 crores by way of interest from the State Electricity Board is a rather unrealistic step.

Looking at the expenditure on the revenue side, we see that the estimate of expenditure has gone up to Rs. 99.3 crores. This means an additional expenditure of nearly Rs. 15.8 crores over the expenditure of the last year. But what does this additional expenditure mean? Does it mean any additional services to the people of the State? Does it mean expenditure on projects which will result in the improvement of the conditions of the people? Does it mean expenditure on industrial projects that will lead the State towards industrialisation. If you look at the figures provided for in the budget, you will see that most of this additional expenditure will be consumed by the increased expenditure on administrative services. I do not say that the salaries of employees should not be increased. I am in sympathy with the demands of all government officers, especially the NGOs, who are demanding that their pay scales should have a link with the cost of living index. Even though it is necessary to increase the salaries and pay scales of those in the employment of Government, when we realise that the increased expenditure contemplated by Government is almost solely accounted for by increase in administrative expenditure, it becomes very difficult to congratulate the Government.

The Finance Minister, in his proposals, has pointed out that the capital outlay of the State will contract from Rs. 16.8 crores to Rs. 11 crores. There is a provision for a sum of Rs. 41.8 crores for the outlay under the State Plan, of which it is expected that Rs. 28.3 crores will come as Central assistance.

Before I go on to other problems, to which the hon. members who spoke before me have referred, I must point out to some features, which have become annual features, in the way in which money is spent in the State.

If you look at the appropriation accounts for the different years, 1963-64 and 1964-65, you will find that savings from grants voted account for many crores, nearly Rs. 17 crores in 1964-65. The total amount of savings in 1964-65 was Rs. 17.07 crores out of a total amount of voted grants and charged appropriations of Rs. 226 crores. This is 7.54 per cent of the total money voted for expenditure. It has been pointed out in the appropriation accounts that this is the net result of savings in 63 grants and appropriations, many of which are far very important services to society. In the last year the savings have been as high as 7.6 per cent. Now if you look at the appropriation accounts, you will find that these savings have been under items like university education, in which in the case of a particular grant 57.7 per cent was saved. In the case of general education, in the case of a particular grant 95 per cent could not be spent. In the case of provisions for medical services, in one grant, 55 per cent could not be spent.

Shri Warior: That is why there is no medicine.

Shri Ravindra Varma: In the case of another of the grants under medical services, 63 per cent could not be spent. In the case of one of the grants under industries, 94 per cent could

not be spent. I can go on reading out in this fashion. You will see that many of the essential services' grants have not been spent. They have been unutilised and they have been surrendered, not because of administrative efficiency or because of economy, but because of sheer incompetence in performing the functions and providing the services, for which the grants are voted by the people—the representatives of the people.

There is yet another feature to which I want to draw your attention, i.e., the huge amount of arrears of taxes that are to be collected. My hon. friend, the Member for Quilon, made a reference to the manner in which these arrears are collected. I do not think that he suggests that taxation is meant . . .

Shri Maniyangadan (Kottayam): He was referring to loans.

Shri Ravindra Varma: I am thankful to the hon. Member for Kottayam for the correction. I believe that he referred to loans and not to taxes.

I cannot believe for a moment that the hon. Member for Quilon would argue that taxes are levied but not meant to be collected. Taxes are levied to be collected. If you look at the figures of arrears in the last few years, you will find that in the year ending 31-3-1964, the arrears amounted to Rs. 10.20 crores out of a total revenue of Rs. 80 crores. In the year ending 31-3-1965, the arrears amounted to Rs. 10.37 crores out of a total revenue of Rs. 80.88 crores. Again this figure of Rs. 80.88 crores is misleading because it includes the revenue that the State receives from the divisible pool of taxes of the Centre. Sir, if you look at the revenue that the State itself raises, you will find that this arrears of Rs. 10.37 crores are out of a total figure of Rs. 67 crores and, therefore, accounts for nearly 16 per cent of the revenue that was expected to be raised in the State.

Now Sir, I shall pass on to the main problems to which hon. members who spoke before me referred. It was agreed by members who spoke before me that the main problem that our State faces is the problem of unemployment. My hon. friend, the Member for Quilon, gave irrefutable figures and quoted statistics from unimpeachable sources. No one can gainsay the fact that the problem of unemployment is the most chronic of the problems that the State of Kerala is confronted with. In the State of Kerala only 38 per cent of the people are engaged in agriculture unlike in other parts of India where a larger percentage of people are engaged in agricultural pursuits. The frustration and indignation that is felt by rising numbers of people who have skills and training and ability for different kinds of employment and yet do not find opportunities for the kinds of employment for which they are trained are evident in the life of Kerala. 14 per cent of our labour force is unemployed. 40 per cent of those who are employed are employed only seasonally. As my hon. friend, the Member for Quilon, said, the Fourth Plan is expected to leave a backlog of nearly 9 lakhs of unemployed people. What are the measures that the Government is concerting or contemplating to take to deal with this problem of unemployment? It is evident that unless there is a well thought-out and systematic plan for industrialisation, it will not be possible for us to cope with this problem of unemployment, educated unemployment and underemployment. Is there any evidence of such a plan in the Government's policies of the last two years or more? It is very difficult for me to answer this question in the affirmative. In a State like Kerala when we talk of industrialisation, it is necessary to remember that large scale opportunities for employment cannot be provided if we ignore the investment-employment ratio. When we say that heavy industries are not located in the State, that the Centre does not allot projects of the public sector in the State, we are not oblivious of the

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fact that the real, radical solution to the problem of unemployment in the State of Kerala does not lie in the setting up of a few capital intensive industries which provide employment for a few people. The problem of unemployment in a State like ours can be solved only if there is systematic planning for the setting up of ancillary industries and of heavy industries which will be the basis for ancillary industries, so that there might be dispersed industrialisation in which with the amount of capital that is locally available, with the skill that is locally available, it would be possible for people to find employment. There is no evidence of such a well-thought-out policy that the Government have given in the budget proposals either this year or during the last year.

Let me turn to the question of the projects in the Central sector. The Centre has a responsibility cast on it to see that planning leads to the liquidation of regional disparities in development. My hon. friend the Member for Quilon spoke today and also on another day about the feelings of frustration, about the feelings of cynicism that were being created in our State because of a feeling that there was discrimination against the State of Kerala. I remember that one day he went to the extent of suggesting that people in Kerala would seriously consider whether it was more profitable to talk of secession because they were finding that those who indulged in such talk were rewarded in a manner in which those who were loyal were not rewarded. I do not believe that this was a serious suggestion which the hon. Member for Quilon made, but, nevertheless, it is something which cannot be ignored, because there are people who speak in the same vein in which the hon. Member from Quilon spoke the other day.

Sir, as far as investment in the Central projects in the State is concerned, during the first two Plans, the Centre invested only Rs. 0.79 crores in the public sector in the State, as against the all-India figure of Rs. 920 crores. In the Third Plan, as against an all-India total of Rs. 1325 crores, there was a provision for Rs. 25 crores. This provision includes the provision for the Cochin shipyard and for other projects in the Central sector which have not materialised.

Sir, Kerala's share of the national industrial development is one of the lowest. It is 1.3 per cent as against the highest which is 20.23 per cent. Its share in the industrial outlay and value of gross block of the Central Government projects is 1.32 per cent, as against 20.45 per cent which is the highest.

Let us turn to the question of the public sector projects which the Centre has allotted to the State. We have realised during the last fifteen years that there is many a slip and many a mile between the cup and the lip. Very few projects are allotted to the State. After these projects are allotted, there are second thoughts and there are third thoughts. I do not know how many innings there are in this game that the Centre plays with the State. Then, we see that some projects are abandoned, because no technical feasibility survey was undertaken before it was decided to allot the project to the State. The case of the phyto-chemical plant was referred to already by the hon. Member for Badagara who spoke before me, and I do not want, therefore, to repeat what he said. But the Public Undertakings Committee has pointed out how lakhs of rupees have been wasted by incurring expenditure on a project for which a proper feasibility survey was not made, and yet the people of Kerala were told that this was a plant which they would have. The plant never materialised.

Then, there is the case of the Cochin shipyard. This is a case of a permanent conception, like the Immaculate Conception. It was conceived of in the First Plan. It was to have been completed long ago. The First Plan is over, the Second Plan is over, the Third Plan is over, and the hyphen between the Third and the Fourth Plans is about to be over, perhaps. And where is the shipyard? We were told this morning that the project report had been received. It has taken more than 15 years for this Government to acquire the project report for setting up the shipyard which is a vital need for this country to manufacture ships and other ocean-going vessels.

Then, there is the question of the precision instruments factory which was to be set up in that State. That has not been set up, and no one knows when it will be set up, and no one knows what is delaying the factory being set up in our State.

Then, there is the case of the proposal to set up a heavy plates and vessels factory in the State. The proposal was to set up this factory with Czech collaboration, and it was reported that the foreign technical team had recommended that it should be set up near Cochin. But it now seems that the Government are thinking of removing this factory from Kerala and putting it up somewhere near Visakhapatnam. I have nothing against a factory being put up in Visakhapatnam or anywhere else in India. But the reason given is that the State of Kerala has not been able to offer free land costing nearly Rs. 1 crore. Now, it has been said, and repeatedly said in this House, that public sector projects should not ask for free lands from States as this leads to unhealthy competition, and this leads to a situation in which those who can pay will get a public sector project, and the rich will become even richer, and those who are poor to pay for industrialisation will not have the benefits of industrialisation. This

goes directly against the conception, the necessity, of liquidating regional disparities, and yet we are told that this plant might now be shifted from Kerala, because the Government of Kerala are not able to offer free land costing Rs. 1 crore.

Now, I should refer to the policies of Government as far as lending and licensing are concerned. It is well known that if there is to be industrial development, the policy of Government in lending and licensing should be geared to the promotion of industrial development. There is no use Government saying that if any party from Kerala went before them with a request for the issue of an industrial licence, they would always issue the licence.

The State of Kerala is a poor State and it is a backward State, and there are other backward States also in this country, where locally it is not possible to find the capital resources necessary for industrialisation. Capital formation in these States has not reached a level where it is possible for you to expect entrepreneurs to turn up, who would say that they have the capital necessary to secure foreign collaboration and establish industries, in our State. What happens in the case of such States as Kerala? Unless there is an industrial licensing policy which channels investment to such backward areas with a view to liquidating these regional disparities, you will always see in this country that a few States which are already advanced will continue to advance. In a sense, this is the same problem which we face at the international level too. Countries which are industrially advanced are advancing at a very rapid pace, and countries which are economically backward, and which do not have capital resources, find that the gap in development is increasing and not decreasing. The hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance and Planning is well aware of this factor, which has been pointed out at every international conference dealing

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with development. The same principle applies in the national field as well. If you have to depend on the local resources of States alone for the development of industries in the States, then you will find that many States continue to remain backward.

Sir, I wish also to refer to some instances where licences have been issued but the parties who received those licences have been allowed to remove these industrial installations from our State to some other States. There was the example of an American firm which wanted to establish an industrial plant in Kerala. I was told that this had something to do with the manufacture of packing paper, that this was a Rs. 15-crore project, that there was an interminable correspondence between the Central Ministry of Industry and the State Government on the percentage of equity participation. This interminable correspondence went on for years with the result that the American company also thought the better of it and thought that it was better if it gave up the idea. By the time permission from the Ministry of Industry arrived in the State of Kerala, the American firm had already changed its mind and had decided to give up the proposal.

Then there is the case of an industrial licence issued for the manufacture of road rollers in the State. Subsequently this party was allowed to transfer the project from Kerala to Mysore. Here again, I have nothing against Mysore and I am not saying that there should be no industrialisation in Mysore. But the fact that a licence issued for the State of Kerala ... was used by the party....

Shri Warrior: Why so apologetic?

Shri Ravindra Varma: I am not apologetic.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): He is fair.

Shri Ravindra Varma: I want to be fair to every State. I am sure when

the hon. Member for Trichur speaks, he will say the same thing. I am sure that the hon. Member does not want that the growth of industries in Kerala should be at the cost of the growth of industries anywhere else in the country.

Then there was the case of a licence issued for setting up a factory for the manufacture of Ossein and gelatine. This was issued three years ago, but the factory has not been established. Now we are told that this factory also may be set up in some other State because the party which received the licence wants that the factory should be set up somewhere else.

Sir, I hope you will give me some time. The Members of the Opposition who spoke, have spoken for 40 or 50 minutes. There are not many Members to speak.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has taken 25 minutes.

Shri Ravindra Varma: I will take another 10 minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: 5 minutes; there are other speakers also.

Shri Ravindra Varma: Sir, let me go on.

I will have to refer to the State Government Undertakings. The Investment of the Government in two statutory corporations, 17 government companies, 47 joint stock companies etc. totalled about Rs. 13.99 crores in 1965. Of this, 65.04 per cent is accounted for by shares of Government in government companies. The dividends from this investment during the last year was only Rs. 25 lakhs, that is 1.79 per cent of the capital invested. From this point of view, I would like to welcome the fact that the hon. Speaker directed the public Undertakings Committee to inquire into the management, administration and economics of the public sector undertakings in Kerala.

Sir, my hon. friend, the Member for Quilon, referred to the report of this Committee. The Committee has submitted a report which is very valuable from the point of view of the development of industry in the State. As you have indicated that I do not have much time at my disposal, I shall only refer to a few of the recommendations of the Committee. The Committee has underlined the need for industrialisation to solve the problem of unemployment. It has said that the State abounds in important industrial raw materials, has good transport facilities by road, rail and waterways, a major port and finally, a literate and intelligent labour force. But the Committee has pointed that there is no industrial policy governing the growth of industry in the State. It has indicated that there is no technical planning cell in the industries department. It has pointed out that the management of most of these industries is suffering because the managers who are members of the boards of directors are mostly full time government officers who have other work to attend to, with the result that they cannot bring to bear the attention necessary for the management of industrial enterprises. They do not have the time to plan, to initiate and to promote but only to control. This seems to be a peculiar kind of automobile with all brakes and no accelerators and no gear.

Shri Warrior: There are no brakes either.

Shri Ravindra Varma: The Committee has pointed out the fact that the absence of a second line of management in these industries is hampering efficiency. The Report also says that reports submitted by these factories and industrial installations are not carefully scrutinised by Government.

I shall not refer to other aspects of the report. But I shall refer to the question of power. The report has pointed out once against that one of

the major problems facing industries in Kerala is the shortage of power. When the supplementary grants for the last year were discussed in this House, I spoke at length on the power shortage in the State. I do not want therefore to cover the same ground, the ground which the hon. Member for Quilon also covered a few moments ago. But the generating capacity in the State has been lagging far behind the targets for the Third Plan.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: At that time, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari gave the assurance that he would set up a 100 M.W. plant.

Shri Ravindra Varma: I am coming to that.

The generating capacity was 32 lakh units per day before the power cut was enforced. But this fell to 6 lakh units per day. The present installed capacity of hydro-electric power in the State is 192.5 M.W., but in summer every year it has been falling to 105 M.W. which means a deficit of 87 M.W. Only 8 per cent of the hydro-electric potential of the State has been tapped. Even when all the projects included in the Third Plan are completed, only 21 per cent of our hydro-electric potential would have been tapped. The deficit every year has been to the tune of nearly 87 M. W. This year it has been much more. The loss that this has caused has been referred to by my hon. friend. In the case of one factory alone, the FACT, Alwaye, in 1962-63, the loss was Rs. 2.5 crores, in 1963-64, it was Rs. 2 crores, in 1965-66 Rs. 1.5 crores. The Public Undertakings Committee has pointed out that in 1963-66, the figure is likely to be much higher than Rs. 3 crores. This totals up to a loss of more than Rs. 10 crores. The investment necessary for setting up a thermal plant of 100 M. W. is about Rs. 11 crores. Can there be a more patent, irrefutable case of the Government's being penny-wise and pound-foolish?

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The Home Minister said the other day that Government have agreed to set up a 30 M.W. power plant. What is this plant meant for? If it is meant to fill the gap in our power requirements, it is totally inadequate. I remember the Minister of State for Planning referred to this the last time he spoke on the supplementary demands. But the fact remains that our shortage is of the order of 87 M.W. even in a year in which there is no special shortage because of the failure of monsoons.

Shri Warior: Normal.

Shri Ravindra Varma: The normal shortage is 87 M.W.; that does not take into account the perspective demand in the future. Now the position at the end of the Fourth Plan will also be the same. I have only to read out one paragraph. It say:

"It is expected that with the commissioning of the Sabarigiri, Kuttiadi and Iddiki projects, one additional firm power of 268 M.W. will become available. This together with the capacity at the end of the Third Plan will give a total firm power of 471 M.W. at the end of the Fourth plan while the estimated demand at that time is 644 M.W. This would leave Kerala with a deficit in firm power to the extent of 173 M.W. at the end of the Fourth Plan. This has to be made up by new schemes undertaken and completed during the Fourth Plan".

Now the case for a 100 M.W. thermal plant is, therefore, an unanswerable one. As my hon. friend, the Member for Quilon said, the then Finance Minister two years ago told us in this House that Government would approve the establishment of a 100 M.W. thermal plant in Kerala. But then we find that it has been whittled down to 30 M.W. Not only that; we are now informed that this is again linked

up with the indigenous capacity to manufacture the instruments, plants and jigs necessary for the power plant.

Since there is no time, I shall not go into other questions. But before concluding, I would like to refer to some points which my hon. friend opposite referred, particularly about the demands of NGOs and the report of the committee on evictions. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs referred to the fact that the Pay Commission's report would mean a substantial increase in the pay of many grades of employees. But we believe there is considerable force in the arguments and demands of many of the NGOs and we believe that a summary rejection of these demands will not do credit to Government and will not answer the purposes for which the Pay Commission was set up. We believe, therefore, that the Government will consider this attitude to the demand of the NGOs and will find a way to meet their demands at least halfway.

14 hrs.

On the question of the Committee on Evictions, I do not want to take the time of the House except to say that the Committee has done a great service to the people of Kerala. I must congratulate the Members of the Committee, and its distinguished Chairman, the hon. Member for Kottayam, for producing a report which can on the basis on which Government can formulate its policies in this matter. I do not want to refer to other matters. With these words, I support the budget proposals.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Dr. Singhvi.

Shri Raghunath Singh (Varanasi): Non-Kerala Members are also interested in Kerala, because there is the shipyard etc.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): I am not a Member sitting for any Kerala constituency.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I have put my case why I want to speak on Kerala.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I shall speak only very briefly.

We are all concerned and interested in what goes on in Kerala, and I am one with my hon. friend Shri Raghunath Singh that even though we may not sit for a constituency in Kerala in this House, we have every right to participate in the discussions on the Kerala budget.

It is unfortunate that by a concatenation of conspiring circumstances, this House has been called upon to shoulder the responsibility for the administration of Kerala, and I think it is on this aspect that we should reflect. Kerala represents I think in our country a very deep dilemma, a dilemma and a despair of Indian politics.

The indecision that has characterised the policies of the Government of India are, I think, not in a small measure, responsible for the state of affairs in Kerala. I think it was refreshing, as it was edifying, to see the hon. Member for Thiruvella making common cause with the hon. Member for Quilon. It is not often that this is so; but it was I think a bond of common cause that united them in making a powerful plea for a more rational and a more helpful approach in matters relating to Kerala.

I should like to join their vociferous and their highly convincing plea for greater attention to the development of Kerala for the simple reason that Kerala represents the despair and dilemma of Indian politics, and if we are not able to tackle this dilemma effectively and efficiently, it poses a threat, a signpost of danger, for India's democracy. Kerala should be understood sympathetically, it should not be thwarted. It seems that what has happened is, whether by delibe-

rate effort or volition or by unwitting acquiescence in the happenings in Kerala, that the Government of India have not been able to chart out a decisive course of action which would have an impact on the thinking and lives of the people in Kerala.

I should like particularly to mention that it is not necessary, as a matter of fact, for any one else to plead their case because hon. Members from Kerala have more than effectively articulated the case for Kerala, but the reason why I do so is because I think that the lessons of Kerala have a relevance for the whole of India and for democracy in India itself. Neither the articulate, biting cynicism of some of my colleagues who sit in the Opposition, nor the clamorous anger of an organised bandh is enough to project on the national conscience and on the national scene the problems that have been brought out, the stalemate that has been brought about, the situation of standstill in Government and administration that has been brought about by the failings of the Union Government. These are, as it were, responses to stimuli, to situations which exist at a given point of time. The situation in Kerala goes deeper than that.

My hon. friend from Thiruvella has spoken eloquently of the imbalances which are being generated as a consequence of the policies of the Government. I do not consider it necessary at this time to advance similar claims on behalf of other States, but I think it would be, it should be appreciated by the Government of India that the neglect and the apathy to which the Government of India and their policies have subjected these States which do not have effective political representation at the Centre may lead to serious and grave consequences.

I was pained when Mr. Sreekantan Nair, the hon. Member from Quilon, had to make a very demanding and very eloquent—at least he appeared to

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be eloquent—statement in respect of the inertia or the ineffectiveness of Mr. Thomas in the Ministry of Defence, and he said that if he was not able to do anything for Kerala, if he was not able to bring an ordnance depot to Kerala, he would not be able to face the electorate in Kerala. Why should it be necessary for us to do this? Is it not the responsibility of the Government of India towards the nation as a whole? It is lack of appreciation of this factor which I wish to emphasize today. It seems that unless there is political parochiality, unless there is an advocacy on behalf of this or that State in the Union Cabinet, the case of that State has always tended to suffer, and this is a situation to which the Government of India should put an end.

The question of Kerala is not only a question of these communists as my hon. friend Shri Tyagi would like to put it. It is a deeper question, and it is to the very core and depth of this problem that the Congress Party and this Parliament as a whole should look if they want to solve this problem. These communists are Indians too, they represent problems, and if they are voted, then there is something which the parties who oppose them must consider and reflect on. It is the failure to reflect on this basic, deeper cause in Kerala which has led to the stalemate and standstill character of the administration in that part of our country.

One other point I should like to make and it is that as a State it has been subjected very often to presidential rule, more often than any other State, I think the experience of Kerala points out to one important, significant lesson,—the experience of Orissa is the same—and that is that we should separate the general elections for the State legislatures and Parliament. This bifurcation is important and it is necessary. The issues that arise and confront the electorate in an election for the State legislatures are different

from the issues which arise and confront the electorate at the time of electing their representatives to the national Parliament, and I think that this is a reform which should be considered in all earnestness.

Before I conclude, I should like once again to make a strong plea to the Government to not only find resources but to ensure machinery for their utilisation. This Parliament cannot be accused in the context of what was pointed out by my hon. friend, Shri Ravindra Varma, of not voting the funds that were required for Kerala. The proposals were very generously looked upon, the country viewed the problems of Kerala with sympathy and with concern. So, the failure is not the failure in voting these funds. The failure is the failure of execution, of implementation, of administration. It has been shown I think beyond an iota of doubt that utilisation of funds voted for Kerala has been extremely poor and it is this for which the hon. Minister must answer to this House. It seems strange indeed that in our country where States are fighting and struggling for obtaining allocation of resources, considerable amounts of money go unutilised for purposes for which they are voted. This is a sad commentary on the way in which the Government functions. It may be that long distance functioning is not efficient functioning; it may be that the Government has not bestowed that kind of attention that it should have bestowed on the problems of Kerala before promulgating the presidential rule or even after it. What they have done or omitted to do after the proclamation is a matter for which they are answerable and I hope when the hon. Minister rises to reply to this debate he would be able to tell us why the progress in Kerala has been so tardy and why it had not been dealt with fairly and why it is that new industrial projects are not located in Kerala and why their resources are not properly mobilised and utilised.

The story of Kerala, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, is also the story of many states and therefore the attempts that had been made by hon. Members from Kerala will find sympathetic echo in the hearts of members representing other constituencies. It is not, I submit, a question of this or that constituency or this or that state. In this House we must think and act as one country and it is there where the government seems to have failed and it is there that political pressures are required to be pressed into action for this state to get an industrial project and for that state to snatch it away. This situation should be rectified.

Shri Maniyangadan: Sir, the budget for Kerala along with the statement made by the Finance Minister gives the impression that it is not a state's budget but only the accounts of some company. The Finance Minister in his statement has referred to certain problems, the food problem, the unemployment problem, the price increase and so many other things in his two page or three page statement. Neither in the statement nor in the budget proposals is given any scheme or even any thought as to how the solution could be found to this problem. That is why I said that it does not seem to have entered the mind of the Finance minister: here is a state that has got certain burning problems and these problems must be solved and it is through the budget proposals that the solution must be placed before Parliament. Last year also the same approach was there and a similar budget was introduced. Then of course the excuse was that it was only a stop-gap arrangement; soon after there would be an election and a ministry in the state. But this time there was no such excuse but the same thing is repeated. There is no new taxation proposals; that is true. But what is the new approach? What new schemes have been promulgated. This is the first year of the fourth plan. What things have been introduced in this budget? What things

have been thought of to solve the problems? It is not at all mentioned. Several of the previous speakers referred to regional imbalances and the failure of the government to remove this disparity between region and region. Kerala is one of the most thickly populated states in India. The population is about 1200 per square mile in Kerala. Unemployment is the heaviest, when you take India as a whole the *per capita* income is one of the lowest.

Shri Tyagi (Dehradun): Family planning is the only cure.

Shri Maniyangadan: Family planning is going on there more intensively than in any other part of India. The effect of family planning is not felt in the next one or two years and the rate of births is not higher than in any other part.

Shri Warrior: At least not higher than in U. P.

Shri Maniyangadan: I do not want Kerala. Now, Sir, the planned think we are trying to find an excuse for our inability to find solutions to the problems that face us by saying family planning. Whatever that be, I shall refer to the peculiar features of Kerala. Now, Sir, the planned schemes or non-planned schemes, whatever be that, are to be implemented with the resources of the states and Mr. Ravinder Varma referred to them and in formulating and implementing schemes we find the state's resources are taken as a criteria for the central resources to be given as a grant or loan. If that is going to be the policy, what is going to happen? The rich states will become richer and the poor, poorer. Kerala is backward from any point of view except from the point of view of education; and if that part is going to continue in this state and the other parts of India going to advance—this sort of imbalance must be removed. The Finance Minister who is responsible for the budget proposals and formulating schemes

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and plan schemes for the State must take a serious view this matter. Regarding the other matters referred to here, I do not want to go into the various other things. Mr. Vasudevan Nair yesterday referred to the food problem. The hon. Minister in his statement also referred to that. We on this side have not been behind any one in criticising the Government for their policies on the food front. But we know the circumstances under which India faces the present problem. I am not prepared to agree that it is due to the callous indifference of somebody. In Kerala there is a serious food situation; it is continuing there. To bring in extraneous matters into that is wrong. Mr. Vasudevan Nair was referring to the increase in the price of foodgrains from 1959 when there was the benign communist Government. It is not only food but other things also have gone up, I mean the prices. What happened in 1959? The famous Andhra food deal. I do not want to go into it. Then the Government in Kerala was trying to take advantage of the miseries of the people on the food front and entered into a rice deal for making funds for their party. That was what happened there. Nothing of the sort happened here. I am constrained to refer to this because Mr. Vasudevan Nair made a reference to that and tried to compare the situation, then and now.

Sir, what we want is this. I agree with the other points, with the Opposition, in the matter of food: that there should not be any discrimination between one State and another State. We are entitled to get as much food material as any other citizen gets in any other part of India. That was the claim, and if there is failure in that, well, we will certainly rise up against that.

Regarding certain other matters connected with food and agriculture, one thing is irrigation. Take any State in India; we find that the irrigation potential created has not been

fully utilised, but the peculiarity in Kerala is that the irrigation facility produced there has been cent per cent utilised. During the second and third Five Year Plans, a few irrigation projects have been thought of. Some preliminary steps were being taken in regard to them. No new irrigation project was thought of in the third Plan. Only the spill-over from the second Plan had to be tackled, but still they remain unfinished. My submission is that there are certain very important irrigation projects in Kerala; for example, there is the Kallada project. If that could be commissioned, if work could be started on it, food production in Kerala would be considerably increased. Now, there are certain schemes of which mention has not been made either in the budget proposals or in the budget statement made by the Finance Minister, which are now under contemplation by the Kerala Government. These relate to improved and better seeds, and such other schemes. I hope that with these schemes being implemented successfully, the problem of food in Kerala, would be solved and resolved. What is needed is not agitation. Again, I want to stress that point. My hon. friends from the Opposition were threatening the Government that some second bandh is going to take place. One of them has said, that the people of Kerala have given notice. I am also one from Kerala, and I know the people of Kerala are not behind the second bandh. Let us see what is going to happen. I am prepared to accept the challenge on behalf of the people and not on behalf of the Government. But there have been instances of bandhs. In Kerala also, there was a bandh in February last. It was a complete success. All parties there joined it to bring to the notice of the Central Government the serious food situation and it had its effect. Now, I do not know why they are going to have another bandh. If it is to pinpoint some particular thing, let them say that. There are various problems facing India, not only Kerala.

If their idea is to have a bandh here or a bandh there, I am no one who is prepared to subscribe to it.

The report of the Public Undertakings Committee was referred to at length here, and I do not want to go further into it. Especially in regard to the power shortage, more than one hon. Member referred to it and the Committee on Public Undertakings has stated that a 100 MW thermal plant is necessary in Kerala. Formerly, Shri Govinda Menon was the Chairman of that Committee. Now, there is no Member from Kerala on it: not that no one would be so independent and dispassionate. So, what I am submitting is that this question of power in Kerala is a very important question and it must be given due consideration. I believe the Government will seriously consider about this and the present decision to have a 30 MW thermal station would be changed. This is what the Committee on Public Undertakings has said:

"The Committee feel that a 100 MW Thermal Unit would meet the requirements of the State in full. Hence the proposal is worth reconsideration by the Central Government. Further, the plant when set up, should be on a top priority basis."

So, I would bring to the notice of this Government this recommendation of the Committee. I do not want to go into the details, because they have been referred to already.

In the report of this Committee, there is another matter which is referred to and that is regarding the availability of water in the Alwaye area, where there are so many industries now. The Committee on Public Undertakings has very correctly pointed out that when the Idikki scheme is completed, water from Periyar will not be available there and it would be diverted to the Muvattupuzha basin and the area where water is supplied through the

Periyar will get dry, and the industries will have no water, and there will be no drinking water and only saline water or sea-water will be coming in. So, a scheme called the Edamalayar scheme has been suggested and it has been recommended by the Committee on Public Undertakings in their 27th report, and they have recommended that it should be taken up immediately along with the Idikki project itself. I would recommend to the Government to give top priority to this scheme.

I do not want to go into the details of the industries. Several industries have been mentioned and several things have been mentioned. I do not want to repeat any of those things. Another thing, however, which I want to bring to your notice is this: Shri Raghavan from Badagara referred to the private forests. There is now a law, the Madras Preservation of Forests Act. There is a proposal to nationalise the private forests in Malabar. If they do it, I have no objection, but the Government is now taking a dog in the manger policy. The reason why I say this is this: according to the forest department of Kerala, most of that region is not fit to be continued as forest. There is no objection to that area being utilised for other purposes. The Rubber Board has a scheme of expanding rubber plantation, and a scheme approved by the Study Team is that 50,000 acres of land may be planted with rubber in Kerala. Land is available only in that part of the State. There is a Plantation Corporation in Kerala about which also the Public Undertakings Committee has made certain observations. They have also referred to this: the Plantation Corporation tried to purchase some land, some private forests, from Malabar area, and the price was agreed to, the price at which those areas of forest land had been formerly sold by the owners with the permission of the Government, to Birlas. It was the same price. An officer of the Government recommended that the price is reasonable, and would be profitable. If the Government purchase the land,

[Shri Maniyangadan]

the timber alone will fetch almost the same amount. So, it was recommended by an officer of the Government. But we are going to nationalise these private forests and our idea is to have a very small price. But they do not even nationalise it. It was stated by some responsible officer there that if they bring in legislation for nationalising these private forests, it will be questioned in court of law, and that the legislation would not stand in a court of law. So, they are not going to nationalise it, fearing that the owners may go to courts of law. But, at the same time, they do not permit the Plantation Corporation to purchase the land and plant rubber. That is why I say this is a dog in the manger policy. What I submit is, the plantation should increase. This is a scheme of the Government. The Rubber Board has recommended it. It is the Kerala Plantation Corporation's scheme. So, in order that this scheme may be implemented, the Government should allow plantation interests to purchase at negotiated prices the private forest lands and plant them with rubber, coffee and other things. The wealth of the country will thus increase and it will serve the national interests.

There has been a long cry that in Kerala there is no national laboratory or institute while all other States have it. Our late Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, had given an assurance that whenever a new national laboratory or institute is thought of, Kerala will be given consideration. I mention it because there is a proposal to establish a National Institute of Oceanography. Kerala is the most suited place for that, because of its long sea-coast. Three main units are now functioning at Ernakulam. It is rumoured that there is a proposal to establish it at some other place. I request that this should be established in Kerala itself.

Regarding the budget proposals themselves, there is nothing new. Regarding communications—new roads and bridges—Mr. Raghavan referred to the shortage of communication fac-

ilities in the Malabar area. I agree with him. I do not want to mention any road or bridge by name. The terrain of Kerala is such that more roads are necessary. Of course, there is no meaning in speaking about shortage of railways on this occasion. The Railway Minister came to the Kerala Consultative Committee. There was a meeting and so many things were said, but nothing happened. As Mr. Sreekanth Nair said yesterday, we have been demanding a sleeper coach in the direct bogie from Delhi to Cochin. Even that has not been provided yet. I do not want to go into railways. But I would only plead that some more funds should be provided for improving the communication facilities there. In my own place, Kottayam district, there is a road called Vaikom Veehoor via Kumarakam. It has been there for the last so many years. Some portions are constructed, but nothing has been done thereafter. There are no funds to proceed with it further. There are so many other proposals. There is a bridge at Vettikattumukku between Ernakulam and Kottayam. It has been proposed several times, but nothing has been done. These works should be taken up and more funds should be allotted for providing adequate communication facilities.

Shri Warrior: Sir, most of the points have been covered by previous speakers and I will not repeat them. There is a repeated cry from the people of Kerala that whether there is a popular Government in Kerala or not, the Central Government has not met the demands and requirements of Kerala fairly at any time. Unfortunately, whenever the Five Year Plans are on the anvil, there is no popular Government there to demand our share, which other States are lucky enough to have. Hence, we are the losers. Naturally the bureaucrats sitting on the top of the administration will not be demanding so independently and freely when other popular Ministers are conferring and putting the final seal on the Plan. The first three

Plans suffered like that and the fourth Plan also is having the same fate.

In this respect, I am not one with what Dr. Singhvi said, namely, it is a desperate and demoralising situation in Kerala at which he is dismayed. So many other Members are also of the same opinion. Kerala people are well-educated and intelligent. They have got their own peculiarities and topographical differences. Almost everything is different. In Kerala democracy is not working as fairly and steadily as in other parts of the country. I am also puzzled whether intelligence, education and literacy are against democracy and only ignorance and obscurantism are necessary for a stable democracy. If that is so, what Mr. Sreekantan Nair is driving at from another angle comes true, namely, we cannot fit in and we are misfits in this ignorant democracy, democracy of ignorance and obscurantism. We want a democracy of education and intelligence. We cannot be led by the nose by anybody. By this sort of discrimination and negligence of the State they cannot cow down our people who are self-respecting people, whose civilisation is inferior to nobody else's civilisation in any part of this country. This is the accumulated experience of our people.

I will come straight to the point. Take the thermal plant. Even Dr. K. L. Rao, the Minister for Irrigation and Power, who is a technical expert and not a politician, was convinced that there is absolute necessity for a thermal plant of 100 MW in Kerala. But the Home Minister was soaping us by saying that by his endeavours we have got clearance for 30 MW. I am not parochial and I need not apologise for saying that Tinneveli district got 100 MW after the demand from Kerala had gone. Ennore at Madras got 200 MW or so. How was the clearance given for that so soon? It is all a question of pulls and drags. There is no pull from Kerala. We have got only Mr. Hathi's pull, which was considerable, but we could get

only 30 MW. The Madras pulls were much more and they got 300 MW.

Not only that. We were told that Mysore will give us energy, of course, at an enhanced rate, but that did not reach Kerala. Neiveli thermal plant is a central project. It is owned by the Central Government. But when there was power shortage in Kerala, we asked the Central Government to intervene and give us at least 20,000 KW. The Central Government meekly and cheekily told us, just go and beg the Madras Government; we cannot do anything. The Central Government could not intervene even though it was a central project, simply because it is situated in a particular State. So, how can we say that we are not discriminated against?

Take the question of petro-chemical complex. You, as the Chairman of the Select Committee on Patents Bill know how much we need bigger and bigger petro-chemical complexes as basic industry for our pharmaceutical industry. But where can a petro-chemical complex come other than where there is a refinery? We are told that as a consolation prize, we will have a fertiliser plant along with the Cochin refinery and not a petro-chemical complex. Why not? We must be convinced about the reasons why it is not economical there and why it will be economical in some other place.

Now I come to the question of railways. We were first told that the Ernakulam-Quilon-Trivandrum railway line will be a broad gauge line, but somehow it turned out to be a metre gauge line. Is it for the advantage of the people of Kerala or the Kerala State or is it because of the pull of somebody else outside Kerala that all of a sudden, overnight, it was changed to a metre gauge line? Sir, all these years we have been asking for this because the railway system is the only effective method of converting a backward place into an industrial base. But that is not done.

There are many things like that, but I do not want to cover all of them

[Shri Warior]

now because many of them have already been covered by other speakers. But what we require is that the Central Government, now that the Central Government is fully responsible for the state of affairs in our State, must see that these anomalous positions are removed and a proper base is created for the take-off of industrial and other developments in the State of Kerala.

That is what we want. But this budget does not provide anything for that. I was also much surprised to hear what Shri Ravindra Varma said. He supported the Budget but he opposed all the provisions of the Budget. It is a paradoxical situation. He has, naturally, to support it as a ritual.

An hon. Member: You were surprised or amused?

Shri Warior: Amused and also surprised, because he is a very intelligent man and he should not have put it that way. He could have said that he opposed the budget, because he has opposed all the provisions. But, Sir, as I said, it is a ritual and he has to support it. But we on this side of the House cannot vote for such a budget which does not give any ray of hope for the future. Only routine things are provided for. If only routine things are to be carried out until a popular ministry comes in and major policy decisions which have far-reaching effects are to be kept pending for such a ministry to take a decision, then we would have been satisfied with only routine things now and we would have allowed the routine things to continue. But that is not the case. Whenever any subject comes up, which goes against the interests of the people, for a decision, there is such an urgency, there is such an immediate urge on the part of the bureaucrats to take a decision, that it goes to show that they do not want to postpone major policy decisions. For instance, there is the question of reservation. There was the Kumara Pillai Committee report.

The Government should have taken some more time to take a decision on it. But that was not done. Immediately that recommendation was given effect to because there is something which goes against a huge section of the people who have been enjoying some reservations in government schools and colleges and also other educational institutions. At once a decision was taken and a big chunk of the population there was thrown into much confusion and discontentment. That should not have been done.

About the Fisheries Corporation, I will not go into the details because I do not want to do it now. But I will be completely satisfied for the present if the Government can assure me and the House that the present incumbent as the Director of the Fisheries Department will not, after retirement in a few months, be taken as the Chairman or the head of the Board of Directors of this Fisheries Corporation. Can the Government give an assurance like that, that this incumbent on whom there were various allegations before, various inquiries were conducted before, will be completely excluded from coming as the head of this Corporation? Why is there this hurry and urgency in forming this Corporation now without consulting public opinion, without consulting those interests which are engaged in this industry? If there is such a hurry, I think it must be above suspicion and this suspicion must be removed.

On the question of industries I need not mention much. But I must make a mention about the textile mill in Trichur which was gutted the other day. The hon. Minister of Commerce, Shri Manubhai Shah, stated in this House that he will consider if the State Government comes forward with a scheme to rehabilitate that textile mill which has been employing about 2000 people. I think the State Government should have taken some steps

in that regard. But in such cases they are always lagging behind. In such cases where immediate action is required, they always sit quiet and tight and never move at all, but in those things where the people are directly affected they move with such efficiency, urgency and speed that decisions are taken in no time which affect the people. In this case the Government must take immediate decision about reconstructing this textile mill.

About levy and procurement cess in Kerala, I want to enter into a bit of self-criticism. The procurement policy of the Government is so lopsided that the small holders are always harassed for paying the levy whereas in the case of the big landlords, who are called the "lake landlords" or "kaya rajahs", who control acres and acres of paddy land in the Kuttanad Basin, in their case no procurement actually is carried out effectively. They are exempted. They hold the sway. They hold the key to this food problem there. There the procurement has completely and totally failed, and the bureaucracy there is still sitting tight without doing anything. On the other hand, the small holders are harassed, they are arrested, they are prosecuted and they are put in jail. All sorts of things are going on against them.

An hon. Member: Are they still landlords?

Shri Warrior: Yes. They are mercantile landlords, they are commercial landlords.

Shri Menon has been replying to several questions in this House on the question of prices. I also want to ask one question. How can the people cultivate if they are getting only much less than what actually cultivation costs them, leave alone the market rate? If the market rate of paddy is Rs. 6, the cultivating cost may be Rs. 5. But the levy price is Rs. 4. By this the small cultivators are hit very hard. They say they will turn to some other cultivation. The Government is now coming forward and say-

ing that they must not change the pattern of cultivation from foodgrains to other articles. Can that be done? Is it practical? I think it is a sort of wooden-headed affair.

Shri Maniyangadan referred to the Malabar forests. We had a meeting of the Rubber Board. The entire Fourth Plan of the Rubber Board will fall down, it cannot be carried out, unless the Malabar forests are taken over. In that respect, where a decision is urgently needed, the Government is not acting. They say, why should we take the trouble of fixing a negotiated price and then hear the criticism that the price is high or low, why not the popular government come in and decide. By the time the popular government comes in there will not be any forest there. Even the negotiated price will be profitable to the Government because the Government can sell the wood there which will fetch them as much as they pay for the land, and the scheme of the Central Government for rubber cultivation can be gone through. It is a strategic material and an early action is needed here. But that is not done. I think the Government must take a decision immediately, otherwise there will not be any forest available in Malabar for acquisition or purchase.

About police atrocities also a word must be said (*Interruption*). There was a time when the police were not interfering in small disputes, in tenant-landlord disputes. Now the police are let loose on the people. When somebody represents about a certain matter, they ask him to go and tell the Consultative Committee. The Consultative Committee is ridiculed in this way. There is nobody to question them. If police is let loose on the people under a bureaucratic regime, what will be the fate of the people? Many of us who had the same fate under the British Government know what will be the fate of the people. This must stop.

About college teachers some things have been said.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: His time is up.

Shri Warrior: One or two things more.

Is it right on the part of a Government Secretary, I ask the Government, to kick up an unnecessary controversy about the capital of Kerala State? He wrote an article, I am told, in the *Indian Journal of Public Administration* that because the capital is situated in Trivandrum, there is all the trouble in Kerala. Why should he intervene? If at all that is his opinion, let him keep it in his own mind. The Chief Secretary writing an article like that will kick up so much of controversy, parochialism and localism in a State which is even otherwise troubled on many scores. Why should the Secretary do that? I think, the Government must take serious note of this and say categorically that the Chief Secretary or any other Secretary for the matter of that should not indulge in such controversial matters and air their opinion as if they are called upon to do that and they are the only experts who can give opinions about all these things.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You must close now.

Shri Warrior: May I say one word about the Cochin Corporation?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You have said sufficiently.

Shri Warrior: Nobody has said anything about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You have taken 20 minutes.

Shri Warrior: We have plenty of time. May I have five minutes more? Cochin is a developing port.

Shri Raghunath Singh: I will speak about your port. Leave the Cochin Port.

Shri Warrior: I will leave the shipyard to my hon. friend, Shri Raghunath Singh.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Govinda Menon): He will take it to Banaras.

Shri Warrior: No, I do not think so

About the Cochin Corporation also the Government must take a decision as early as possible. There are certain controversial matters involved in it. Shri Govinda Menon was the chairman of the committee formed for reporting about the formation of this Corporation and, I think, he will be giving some expert opinion about that to us. In the meanwhile, if at all there are certain units which are not willing to come into the Corporation, for the present at least leave them alone and form the Corporation. At least the nucleus be formed and then by and by when the advantages are experienced the other units which are now not willing to come into the Corporation will also by and large come in. So, this decision also must be taken immediately.

Finally, one small demand. When all is said about agricultural production and other things, the Kerala Government had submitted a project, called the Karuvannur Basin Project. Part of it had already been done. A part of that is completed. I want the Government to look into it and complete the entire project which had been submitted during the Second Five Year Plan period and see that production of foodstuffs is thereby increased to as much extent as possible.

With these words, I conclude.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah (Adoni): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the reason for my taking part in this discussion is that I have been listening very attentively to the various speeches, comments and criticisms made by hon. Members on both sides about the situation prevailing in Kerala. I do not want to go into the political question because Kerala is one of the unfortunate States which did not enjoy the fruits of a stable government for

so many years. In the absence of a stable government the attendant evils are there. But I would like only to pinpoint and highlight the power shortage, not the political power but the acute electrical power shortage, prevailing in that State. Yesterday one hon. Member while speaking had..... (Interruption).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This matter has already been dealt with.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: About 80 per cent of the power cut has been introduced in Kerala.

In this connection I would like to point out our attitude to some of the States. Where there is a basic shortage of electrical power the Government has not planned well with the result that there is a great imbalance prevailing. I had put a question in the Lok Sabha regarding the power shortage prevailing in some of the States in which I asked whether any surplus generating capacity had been created in some States; whether some other States were faced with the problem of power shortage; if so, the steps proposed to be taken to correct this imbalance and ending the consequent losses. The reply I got was:—

“Additional generating capacities have been sanctioned. Regional grids will be expedited to effect transfer of the surplus power from one State to the other. Further steps to meet the load demands in each State have to be taken.”

This criterion in the subsequent statements or actions of Government has not been adhered to.

I would only, for illustration, point out that the installed generating capacity at the end of the Third Plan of Kerala was 197 megawatts. I do not want to mention the figure for other States; I have mentioned it only about Kerala.

627 (Ai) LSD—7.

14.55 hrs.

[SHRI SHAM LAL SARAF in the Chair]

The installed capacity added during the Third Plan in Kerala is only 60 megawatts. When compared with other States it is not at all adequate. I would say that no proper steps have been taken to cover up the shortage as has been done in other States. To illustrate my argument I would point out only one instance where in the planning of things some States have been favoured. The installed generating capacity at the end of the Third Plan, so far as Madras State is concerned, was 1,301 megawatts and the capacity added during the Third Plan period was 768 megawatts. This is the state of things.

In the previous statement the Minister of Irrigation and Power had stated, as I stated earlier, that the surplus power would be given to such of the States where there was acute power shortage. We should not forget that there are also Central Government installations, like, the Neyveli Lignite and the atomic energy station that is going to be commissioned in the Madras State. It is but natural that the southern States at least should have the benefit of the power that is being created by the public sector projects that have been undertaken by the Central Government.

On this point also a question had been put by me and by some other Members here asking the names of power stations which are financed wholly and are under the control of his Ministry—I had addressed it to the Minister of Mines and Metals—whether the power generated at these stations was being distributed to the States in the neighbourhood and, if so, the names of the States. The answer is:—

“There are two such power stations under the National Coal

[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

Development Corporation at Talcher and Giridih and one under the Neyveli Lignite Corporation.

x x x x x

As regards Neyveli, the surplus power after meeting the requirements of the Neyveli complex is fed into the Madras grid."

About the atomic energy plant which is going to be commissioned and where the generating capacity is estimated to be 400 megawatts, this is the reply I got. I had asked the Prime Minister about the power stations that were being set up by the Atomic Energy Authority and the energy proposed to be generated; whether these were financed by the Central Government; and, if so, how the power would be shared by the neighbouring States. The answer that I got was, about the Tarapur Atomic Power Station:—

"Capacity—380 megawatts. The power generated by this Station will be shared in equal measure by the Gujarat and Maharashtra States."

It is good; it is also equitable that power generated from a Central project is shared by the two States. But when it comes to the Madras atomic power plant, the reply that is given is:—

"The power generated by this Station is expected to be utilised in its entirety by the Madras State."

This is the state of affairs.

Though Shri Govinda Menon is the Minister in charge of a different portfolio, he is there as the representative of Kerala State. I do not go on parochial grounds nor do I plead for anything to be done over the head of other States. I only plead for an equitable and justifiable distribution so far as power generated at least

from the Central Government projects is concerned.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: You know the experience of the Neyveli Project. Neyveli is monopolised almost by Madras.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Neyveli and atomic power station both. When you say about the Tarapore atomic power station, you have agreed to distribute the power that is generated in this atomic energy station to Maharashtra and Gujarat States. When this power generation at the Atomic Power Station at Madras comes, it is entirely to be utilised by the Madras State. I do not understand the reason behind this arrangement. So I would only plead that, since electricity is very important not only for the industrial development but also for agricultural production and it will bring new energy and dynamism and it will also change the face of the State, it is all the more necessary that there should be an equitable distribution. When the southern grid, which is being contemplated for so many years but which has not been put into force, is formed, I would request that there should be an equitable distribution of power among all the States that are included in the power grid.

15 hrs.

The second point that I would like to stress is about the food scarcity prevailing in the State. Kerala is deficient in foodgrains, but is producing many commercial crops which are giving huge foreign exchange earnings to the Government. Of course, measures would have been taken all these years to increase the agricultural production, but as the population is going up year after year, the agricultural production is not able to catch up with the increase in population. The main impediment seems to be the lack of electricity. Since Kerala State is mostly irrigated, by wells and other minor irrigation schemes, electricity is very important.

About Kerala getting foodgrains from other States, there has been a misapprehension in this House that the surplus States do not want the State zones to go and they want to starve the deficit States. It is not so. Even the surplus States want this; for example, we in Andhra Pradesh, which is the main feeder State to the Kerala people, do not want that there should be a State to State restriction. As a matter of fact, this morning I had put a question to the Minister of Food & Agriculture that the farmers in Andhra Pradesh—I had visited that place very recently where Taichung Native of paddy is being cultivated on a large scale and where the production per acre has gone up to 400 % more—complained to me that the Food Corporation has not come forward so far to purchase the foodgrains. They are prepared to give the foodgrains to the Food Corporation. There is something wrong in our procurement and distribution. I do not say that our country is self-sufficient in foodgrains, but there is a snag somewhere. Our distribution system is not as perfect as it ought to be so far as distribution of foodgrains is concerned. If the zonal restrictions are removed, we will also be happy—the farmers in Andhra Pradesh will be happy because we will get a fair price and we will have an incentive price. We do not stand for zonal restriction, State to State. We also plead with the other friends that the zones be enlarged so as to comprise of all the southern States—Madras, Kerala, Mysore and Andhra Pradesh. I would plead with the Government that they should give a fresh look to the rice zones also as they have done with the wheat zones—the wheat zones have been enlarged; the same attitude should be taken here also and I do not think that there will be acute shortage of rice if the zones are enlarged.

I now come to the last point, namely, the Cochin Shipyard, which has been pending for the last so many years. Since 1961 it has been stated many times on the floor of this House

that foreign collaboration is coming that the foreign experts are there and are preparing the project report and all that. Five years have passed. Only this morning the Minister has said that the report has come; it is so bulky; and that he has not studied the report very thoroughly. Whatever it is, this is a major project which will be beneficial not only to Kerala but to the entire country and, therefore, the Government should not lose any further time in starting the Cochin Shipyard. I hope that immediate steps would be taken to sanction this project of Cochin Shipyard.

With these few words, I would only say that the Kerala people, with their dynamism, with their adventurous spirit and with their hard work will be able to come up with the rest of India and the Central Government should give proper assistance in what they need. I hope the Central Government will come forward to render as assistance as possible to this State.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Madhu Limaye

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Please excuse me for the interruption. I do not think that Mr. Govinda Menon is going to reply to the debate. I am sorry he is here as the Finance Minister's representative. They are treating this debate in a casual manner. We made our protest in the morning also. Yesterday one Deputy Minister was present. Today he is not to be seen anywhere. He heard some of the speeches yesterday. Today another Minister was present for some time and we had our complaint that he was just sleeping here and was not listening to the debate. Now he is absent. Nobody from the Finance Ministry is present here. I think the Finance Minister will have to reply to the debate.

Mr. Chairman: That will be communicated.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: If no justice is done, at least they should not treat this debate in such a casual manner. The entire State is under the Union

[Shri Vasudevan Nair]

Government and there is no Finance Minister.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister of State was here. What you have said will be communicated.

Secondly, the hon. Minister sitting here can very well represent the Government.

Shri Govinda Menon: The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance has requested me to take notes.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Madhu Limaye.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंनेर) : सभापति महोदय, अभी वामुदेवन नायर जी ने जो आक्षेप उठाया वह बिलकुल सही आक्षेप था।

श्री शिव नारायण (बांमी) : जग प्रगल बगल भी देख लिया करो।

श्री मधु लिमये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप ही की तरफ हमेशा देखता हूँ।

उन्होंने जो आक्षेप उठाया, वह सही आक्षेप है और मैं उनका समर्थन करता हूँ। पिछले साल जब केरल के बजट पर यहाँ बहस हुई थी तो मैंने कहा था कि फिर केरल के बजट पर विचार करने की नीयत हमारे ऊपर न आये। बिलकुल साफ़ है कि अगर केरल में राष्ट्रपति शासन जारी रहेगा तो उसका मतलब होगा कि प्रजातन्त्र एकदम खत्म हो जायेगा, खर्च के ऊपर जनता के द्वारा कोई नियंत्रण नहीं रहेगा और एक विशुद्ध नौकरशाही शासन केरल की जनता पर लादा जायेगा। यह हम लोग बराबर देख रहे हैं कि केरल की विधान सभा के सारे अधिकार हम को प्राप्त हैं, लेकिन यह लोक सभा इन अधिकारों का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकती है। इसलिये कि हमने ये सारे अधिकार राष्ट्रपति को दे रखे हैं, कानून धादि बनाने

के सम्बन्ध में और राष्ट्रपति को अधिकार देने का क्या मतलब होगा, उसका मतलब होगा कि केन्द्रीय सरकार को, गृह मंत्रालय को, प्रधान मंत्री जी को ये अधिकार रहेंगे और वास्तव में वहाँ की जो नौकरशाही है उन्हीं की सलाह पर यहाँ का गृह मंत्रालय और यहाँ के प्रधान मंत्री काम करते हैं। तो इस लिये मैं आपसे निवेदन करूंगा कि यह जो बहुत ही खतरनाक प्रथा यहाँ पर चल पड़ी है, और वर्षों तक राष्ट्रपति शासन केरल जैसे राज्य में रूढ़ा है, जिसकी आवादी डेढ़ करोड़ से अधिक है, तो इस बात को अभी तुरन्त खत्म कर देना चाहिये। यह राष्ट्रपति शासन क्यों बना? कहा जाता है कि केरल में जो संविधान की धारणें हैं उनके अनुसार लोकतान्त्रिक सरकार नहीं चल सकती थी और इसी को लेकर यह राष्ट्रपति शासन कायम हुआ। लेकिन मैं बहुत ही अदब के साथ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यह बिलकुल थोपी दलील है और वास्तव में केरल में ऐसी कोई हालत पैदा नहीं हुई थी कि जिसके अन्दर मौजूदा संविधान के अनुसार वहाँ पर लोकतांत्रिक हुकूमत कायम नहीं हो सकती थी। वहाँ जान बूझ कर सबसे बड़ा जो दल जनता के द्वारा चुना गया था उसके नेताओं को, उसके विधान सभा के चुने हुए सदस्यों को जेल में ठूस कर, भारत सुरक्षा कानून के मातहत गिरफ्तार करके वहाँ पर लोकतांत्रिक सरकार का निर्माण सरकार ने असम्भव बना दिया और उसी को लेकर एक कृत्रिम आपत्कालीन स्थिति पैदा की और वहाँ पर राष्ट्रपति शासन कायम किया गया।

अब आप देखें कि राष्ट्रपति शासन के रहते हुए एक कानून बना। यह कानून है, केरल स्टेट लेजिस्लेचर (डेलीगेशन आफ पावर्स) एक्ट। उसकी धारा "दो" के अन्दर कहा गया है कि जब कभी कानून बनाये

जायेंगे तो उसके पहले राष्ट्रपति जो केरल की सलाहकार समिति है, उस सलाहकार समिति से सलाह मशवरा करेंगे। सलाहकार समिति के गठन के बारे में कहा गया है :

“(a) 30 Members of the House of the People, nominated by the Speaker among whom shall be included all Members who for the time being fill the seats allotted to the State of Kerala in that House;

मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि केरल के गत चुनावों में मेरे दल को यानी संयुक्त सोशलिस्ट पार्टी को करीब करीब दस प्रतिशत वोट मिले थे। जिस दल के पीछे केरल की 1/10 जनता है उस संयुक्त सोशलिस्ट पार्टी का एक भी प्रतिनिधि केरल सलाहकार समिति में नहीं है। इसके बारे में मैं अपना रोष प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। वहाँ विधान सभा नहीं है। अगर विधान सभा रहती तो वहाँ हमारे चौदह पंद्रह प्रतिनिधि थे। वे अपनी बात को रख सकते थे। जब विधान सभा को आपने समाप्त किया और एक बहुत ही सीमित अधिकार वाली केरल सलाहकार समिति का आपने गठन किया तो उस समिति में भी जिसको 10 प्रतिशत वोट करीब करीब मिले थे उस दल का एक भी प्रतिनिधि आपने नहीं रखा। यह बात मैं बहुत ही खेदजनक समझता हूँ।

केरल के बजट पर विचार करते समय हमें प्रजातन्त्र के सवाल के ऊपर गहराई में जाकर सोच विचार करना चाहिये। वैसे यह साधारण चीज मैं कह रहा हूँ। यह केरल के लिये भी लागू होती है और अन्य राज्यों के लिये भी लागू होती है। जब से हमारा संविधान देश में जारी हो गया तब से केन्द्रीय स्तर पर और राज्य के स्तर पर तो प्रजातन्त्र हमने शुरू किया यानी जनता के द्वारा जो चुने हुए प्रतिनिधि हैं उनके ऊपर हमने यह जिम्मेदारी सौंप दी, शासन की जिम्मेदारी सौंप दी, लेकिन क्या वजह है कि अभी तक जिला स्तर पर, नगर के स्तर

पर हम जनता को इतना योग्य या काबिल नहीं समझते हैं कि वहाँ भी प्रजातांत्रिक हुकूमत कायम हो। सभी जिलों में, सभी भी जो बड़ा अधिकारी है वह कलेक्टर है, वहाँ का जो लोकमत है, उसके प्रति उसका कोई दायित्व नहीं है। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करूँगा कि न केवल वह राष्ट्रपति शासन को केरल में समाप्त करे बल्कि साथ साथ प्रजातंत्र को दृढ़ बनाने की दृष्टि से समूचे हिन्दुस्तान में जिला के स्तर पर, नगर के स्तर पर जो मौकर-शाही के अधिकार हैं उनको खत्म करके विशुद्ध प्रजातांत्रिक शासन वहाँ पर भी कायम करे। बम्बई जैसे शहर को आप ले लें। वह एक बड़ा नगर है। लेकिन उस बड़े नगर में जनता के द्वारा जो प्रतिनिधि चुने जाते हैं उनको करीब करीब बम्बई कारपोरेशन एक्ट के मातहत कोई सत्ता प्रदान नहीं की गई है, वहाँ का जो म्यूनिसिपल कमिश्नर है जो राज्य सरकार के द्वारा नियुक्त किया जाता है उसी को यह सारे अधिकार हैं। मैं निवेदन करता हूँ कि राज्य स्तर पर जिस तरह हम विधान सभा प्रादि बनाते हैं और केन्द्रीय स्तर पर लोक सभा प्रादि रखते हैं उसी तरह से जिले के स्तर पर और नगर के स्तर पर भी जनता के द्वारा चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों के हाथ में पूरी ताकत हम दें और जो अधिकार प्रादि नियुक्त किये जायें वे इन चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों, इन प्रतिनिधि सभाओं के मातहत हों। कई जगहों पर जिला पंचायतें बनी हैं, जिला परिषदें बनी हैं। महाराष्ट्र में भी जिला पंचायतों का कानून है और वह अच्छा भी है क्योंकि सीधा चुनाव होता है, लेकिन वहाँ भी हम देखते हैं कि कलेक्टर के जो अधिकार पहले हुषा करते थे आज भी कायम हैं। इसके बारे में हम पुनर्विचार करें और न केवल केरल में बल्कि समूचे हिन्दुस्तान में जिला स्तर पर, नगर स्तर पर, गांव पंचायत के स्तर पर जैसे अमरीका में है या इंग्लैंड में है तथा दूसरे प्रजातांत्रिक देशों में है जनता के चुने हुए जो लोग हैं उनके हाथ में साग कारोबार दें।

[श्री मधु निमये]

केरल के कुछ मामलों के बारे में अब मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। काफी माननीय सदस्यों ने बिजली के बारे में कहा है। वहाँ भी बिजली के बारे में योजनायें बनाई गई थी और उन में त्रुटियाँ रहीं जिस के फलस्वरूप बिजली में कटौती हुई। उसका औद्योगिक उत्पादन पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ा। सरकारी योजनाओं के बारे में सभी जगह हम यह देखते हैं कि कुछ जगहों पर बिजली ज्यादा होती है और कुछ जगहों पर बिजली का घोर अभाव होता है। सबसे शर्म की बात यह है कि इस राजधानी शहर में बिजली का घोर अभाव है और बिजली के इंजाम का टूट जाना है। यह कितनी शर्मनाक बात है, इस पर ज्यादा कहने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। उसी तरह से केरल के अन्दर भी बिजली की पैदावार के बारे में सरकार के पाम कांडे लम्बान की दृष्टि नहीं है और हमेशा केरल राज्य निर्भर करता आया है जो पानी से बिजली बनती है उस पर। लेकिन अगर केरल की जनता को आप राहत पहुंचाना चाहते हैं, औद्योगिक उत्पादन को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, तो क्यों वहाँ की सरकार के द्वारा जो फोयले से या तेल से बिजली उत्पन्न करने की जितनी योजनायें केन्द्र के पाम भेजी गई हैं उन योजनाओं पर महानुभूति पूर्वक विचार केन्द्र नहीं करता है। यदि केन्द्र का योजना मंडल या केन्द्र की सरकार उन योजनाओं पर हमदर्दी के साथ विचार करती तो केरल में आज बिजली में कटौती होने के कारण उत्पादन जो घट रहा है, वह न घटता।

अब केरल में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में जा उद्योग हैं उनके बारे में पब्लिक प्रॉडक्ट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई है। काफी अच्छे मुझाब इस कमेटी के द्वारा दिये गये हैं। लेकिन मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि इन में कई बातें ऐसी हैं जो केवल केरल राज्य में जो सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में सरकारी उद्योग हैं

उन्हीं पर लागू नहीं होती हैं बल्कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के मातहत जितने उद्योग हैं उन सभी उद्योगों पर बहुत सारी बातें लागू होती हैं। एक ही मिसाल आप ले लें व्यवस्थापकों और मजदूरों के रिश्ते की। अब तक हम कहते आए हैं कि समाजवाद हमारा मकसद है, समाजवाद में श्रम करने वाले जो लोग हैं, श्रमिक जनता हैं, उसको इज्जत मिलेगी उसको प्रतिष्ठा मिलेगी, उसको नये नये अधिकार मिलेंगे। लेकिन कितने शर्म की बात है कि सरकारी क्षेत्र में जितने व्यवस्थापकों और मजदूरों के रिश्ते बिगड़े हुए हैं उतने शायद जिस को निजी क्षेत्र कहा जाता है उस में भी नहीं बिगड़े हुए हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि अगर निजी क्षेत्र में कुछ बुरी बातें होती हैं तो हम लोग हल्ला करते हैं, उसको ले कर हड़ताल बगैरह होती है, फिर मंत्रियों के ऊपर, सरकार के ऊपर दबाव डाला जाता है, लोकमत का दबाव पड़ता है और कुछ न कुछ उसके बारे में किया जाता है। लेकिन सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बारे में हमेशा माना जाता है कि यह प्रगतिशील क्षेत्र है, इस में अगर बुराई है, खराबी है तो उसके बारे में हल्ला मत करो क्योंकि पूंजीपति उसका फायदा उठावेंगे। लेकिन जिस ढंग में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र का सरकार चला रही है उससे सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र पब्लिक सेक्टर और समाजवाद, ये शब्द इतने बदनाम होते चले आ रहे हैं कि एक समय बहुत जल्दी घाने वाला है जब जनता कहेगी कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र और समाजवाद का नाम मत लो। केरल का सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र हो या केन्द्र का हो इन में ये रिश्ते इतने क्यों बिगड़े हुए हैं? सब से बड़ा कारण यह है कि मजदूरों सम्बन्धी जितने कानून हैं उन पर सरकार स्वयं धमल नहीं करती है, मजदूरों को अपने संघ, संगठन बनाने के जो अधिकार प्राप्त हैं, उन अधिकारों पर धमल नहीं करती, उनको वह अधिकार नहीं

दे पाती। जमींदारों का राजाधो का जो सामन्तवाद था, उसको तो हमने खत्म किया। सरदार पटेल ने रियासतों का विलीनीकरण कराया। लेकिन खेद के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि एक न एक औद्योगिक सामन्तवाद हमारे देश में फैल रहा है निजी क्षेत्र में भी डालमियां नगर है, टाटा नगर है और इसी तरह से पूंजीपतियों का महागण्ट्र में बालचन्द नगर है। पूंजीपतियों के हाथ में वह गांव है। एक-एक एकड़ जमीन पर निजी क्षेत्र के जो पूंजीपति हैं उन का कब्जा है। न वहां किसी दूसरे का अधिकार है और न कोई नगरपालिका है। न वहां कोई मभा कर सकता है न जलूम निकल सकता है। पूरा इलाका एक पूंजीपति के हाथ में है। क्या बजह है कि इन शहरों में इतनी बड़ी जनसंख्या होते हुए भी प्रायः वहां पर नागरिक अधिकार जनता को नहीं दे रहे हैं। प्रायः वहां की जमीनों का राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं कर रहे हैं। जनता को नगरपालिका बनाने और उस की माफत मारे काम करने का अधिकार नहीं दे रहे हैं। जो निजी क्षेत्र में हो रहा है वही सरकारी क्षेत्र में हो रहा है सरकारी क्षेत्र में जो नये नगर बन रहे हैं, जैसे भिलाई है, दुर्गापुर है, कुरुकेला या ग्रन्थ नगर बन रहे हैं सरकारी कारखाने बनने के कारण, वहां भी वही स्थिति है। जनता का कोई नागरिक जीवन वहां नहीं रहा रांची में मैंने देखा, हटिया में जो नई नगरी बनी है वहां भी यही हाल है। तो आखिरकार क्या हम इस देश से प्रजातन्त्र की जड़ें खत्म करने वाले हैं। वहां पर संच बनाने या मजदूर आन्दोलन संगठित करने के लिये कोई नहीं जा सकता। कई एक जगहों पर ऐसा इन्तजाम चानू किया गया है कि ऐसा लगता है कि आखिर हम प्रजातन्त्र राज्य में हैं या जैसा स्टैलिनिस्ट राज्य होता था, उस में रहते हैं। हम फासीज्म की बहुत बुराई करते हैं, हम तानाशाही की काफी बुराई करते हैं, स्टैलिनिज्म की बुराई

करते हैं लेकिन जिस ढंग से सरकार ने प्रायः सरकारी क्षेत्रों के विकास या संगठन का ढांचा बनाया है, उस में उस ने मजदूरों के नागरिक अधिकारों को एक दम खत्म कर दिया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बहुत ही खतरनाक चीज है।

मैं सरकार में निवेदन करूंगा कि केरल राज्य में सरकारी उद्योगों में काम करने वाले जो मजदूर हैं और केन्द्र के सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में मजदूर हैं उन के राजनैतिक अधिकारों की प्रायः हिफाजत करे उन का उन्हें इस्तेमाल करने दीजिये। उन्हें राजनैतिक दलों का सदस्य बनने का अधिकार देना चाहिये, संच बनाने का अधिकार देना चाहिये। मजदूरों सम्बन्धी जो भी कानून है उन का पूरा और सब से अच्छा प्रमल सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में किया जाना चाहिये। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र को निजी क्षेत्र के सामने प्रादशं पेश करना चाहिये। जो कानून बनाये जाते हैं या यहां जो कोई प्रायः कंडक्ट वगैरह बनाये जाते हैं, प्राचार संहिता बनाई जाती है, सरकार स्वयम् उस प्राचार संहिता को तोड़ने का काम करती है।

अन्त में मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि कुंकि केरल में प्रजातान्त्रिक शासन नहीं है, इस लिये लोगों की प्रावाज वहां की सरकार के पास नहीं पहुंचनी है। कोचीन के बारे में मैंने कई दफे निवेदन किया कि कोचीन का सार्वजनिक महत्व बढ़ता जा रहा है। वहां रिफाइनरी बन रही है, जहाज बनाने का कारखाना बन रहा है, लेकिन अभी तक बम्बई से कोचीन जाने के लिये जो बड़े वाइकाउंट विमान रहते हैं या दूसरे बड़े विमान रहने हैं वह वहां पर उतर नहीं सकते हैं और इस लिये उनका इस्तेमाल नहीं होता है। कोचीन का जो हवाई प्राइडा है उस के विकास के लिये उस को चौड़ा और लम्बा बनाने का काम किया जाये।

[श्री मधु लिमये]

साथ साथ मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि पश्चिम का जो पूरा समुद्री इलाका है वहां क्या स्थिति है उसे आप देखें। मंगलौर से अर्नाकुलम तक तो ब्राड गेज रेलवे लाइन है, लेकिन जो नई रेलवे लाइन बनी क्वीबिलोन से अर्नाकुलम तक वह छोटी लाइन बनी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वजह है कि बम्बई से ले कर ट्रिवेंद्रम तक या कन्या कुमारी तक पूरी ब्राड गेज नहीं बनाई गई, जिसकी भाज कमी है। आप पूरा हिन्दुस्तान का नक्शा उठाकर देख लीजिये। केरल की जनता की मांग है, या मैसूर की जनता की जो मांग है, मंगलौर की जनता की जो मांग है, महाराष्ट्र की जनता न मांग की कि यह रेल लाइन बने क्या सरकार उस पर विचार करेगी या चूंकि केरल में अकसर राष्ट्रपति का ही शासन चलता है इस लिये केरल की जनता की मांगों के बारे में सरकार उपेक्षा की दृष्टि रखेगी।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : सभापति महोदय श्री लिमये के पांडित्यपूर्ण भाषण के पश्चात् मुझे कुछ भी कहना कठिन मालूम पड़ता है। लेकिन दो विषयों के ऊपर मैं सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप तो शिपिंग के पंडित हैं।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं शिपिंग पर ही कह रहा हूँ। पहली बात तो यह कि केरल में 11 पोर्ट्स हैं। उन में से 9 माइनर पोर्ट हैं और एक इंटरमीडियरी पोर्ट है और एक मेजर पोर्ट है। देश में केवल एक शिपयार्ड है विशाखापटनम में। आज करीब दस वर्षों से इस बात का प्रयास हो रहा है कि एक दूसरा शिपयार्ड कोचीन में खोला जाये। पहले अंग्रेजों के साथ बात हुई थी, लेकिन वह बात पूरी नहीं हो सकी। उस के बाद जापान के साथ बात हुई। लेकिन जापान के साथ भी बात हुए करीब करीब दो वर्षों हो गये

मगर कोचीन में अभी तक कोई कार्य प्रारम्भ नहीं हुआ। आप जानते हैं कि कोचीन में शिपयार्ड बनाने की व्यवस्था इस वास्ते की गई थी कि वैस्ट कोस्ट में कोचीन बम्बई के पश्चात् सब से सुन्दर और सब से अच्छा शिपयार्ड पोर्ट है। परन्तु शिपयार्ड पोर्ट होने के पश्चात् भी वहां पर बहुत ज्यादा काम नहीं था, उद्योग धन्धे नहीं थे। अतएव वह व्यवस्था की गई कि अगर यहां शिपयार्ड बन जायेगा तो कम से कम तीन या चार हजार आदमी उस में काम करेंगे। अभी करीब छः महीने हुए जापान से एक टीम आई थी। वह टीम भी लौट गई। लौटने के बाद पता नहीं जापानियों ने क्या रिपोर्ट दी। इस लिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि करीब-करीब दस वर्ष समाप्त हो गए लेकिन अभी तक शिपयार्ड की कोई रूपरेखा कोचीन के लिये नहीं बन पाई है।

हमारे बहुत से भाइयों ने इस बात पर जोर दिया है कि केरल की उन्नति होनी चाहिये। केरल की उन्नति तभी हो सकती है जब कि वहां उद्योग धन्धे होंगे। श्री लिमये ने कहा कि सब से बड़ी दिक्कत केरल में यह है कि वहां कोई पूंजीपति नहीं है। बड़े कैपिटलिस्ट नहीं हैं, इस लिये वहां पर कोई बड़ी इंडस्ट्री नहीं है। अगर आप केरल के नक्शे को देखिये तो नारियल, टैपियोका और कैनूनट्स इन तीन के अलावा उस के पास है क्या। केरल की समस्या केवल केरल की समस्या नहीं है, बल्कि सारे देश की समस्या है। इस लिये सारे देश की समस्या है कि जितनी मेरीटाइम स्टेट्स देश में हैं उन में केरल सबसे ज्यादा फारेन एक्सचेंज अर्न करता है। आप बम्बई को छोड़ दीजिये क्योंकि वहां तो सारे देश का एक्सपोर्ट इम्पोर्ट होता है, लेकिन जो मेरीटाइम स्टेट्स हैं, जैसे की ब्राम्र है, मद्रास है, सौराष्ट्र है, उन की दृष्टि से देखा जाय

तो केरल सबसे बड़ा फारेन एक्सचेंज कमाने वाला है। हमेशा यह बात उठाई जाती है कि खाद्यान्न के मामले में केरल सेल्फ सपोटिंग नहीं है। अगर केरल खाद्यान्न के मामले में सेल्फ सपोटिंग हो जाये तो जाफारेन एक्स-चेंज हम वहां से घन करते हैं वह बन्द हो जायेगा क्योंकि घनिग जो होती है वह होती है नारियल से, कॅशूनट्स में। इन दोनों चीजों की खेती वहां बहुत अच्छे ढंग से होती है। केरल का जो कॅशूनट्स है वह दुनिया में सर्वश्रेष्ठ माना जाता है। ईस्ट अफ्रीका तक से कॅशूनट केरल की फेक्ट्रीयों में आता है और वहां प्रोसेस किया जाता है फिर इंग्लड, अमरीका आदि स्थानों में पहुंचता है। इसी प्रकार से नारियल से तरह-तरह की सामग्री बनाई जाती है, जैसे कि पांपोश है, दूसरी सारी चीजें हैं, वह फारेन एक्सचेंज घन करती है। जब केरल देश के लिये फारेन एक्सचेंज घन करता है, जिस की हमारे देश को बहुत जरूरत है, तो अगर वह खाद्यान्न उत्पन्न नहीं करता तो क्या बात है। खाद्यान्न उत्पन्न नहीं करता तो फारेन एक्सचेंज तो उत्पन्न करता है। वह जो भी फारेन एक्सचेंज घन करता है उस के आधार पर उस को खाद्यान्न देना चाहिये। देश के आर्थिक ढाँचे में वहां के लोगों का बहुत बड़ा कंट्रिब्यूशन है।

अक्सर चावल की बात उठाई जाती है कि केरल में चावल क्यों उत्पन्न नहीं किया जाता। अगर केरल में चावल उत्पन्न किया जायेगा तो दूसरी तरफ कॅशूनट्स की पैदावार और नारियल की पैदावार समाप्त हो जायेगी और फारेन एक्सचेंज की घनिग बन्द हो जायेगी। इस लिये अगर हमको फारेन एक्सचेंज घन करना है तो जिस घनुपात में वह फारेन एक्सचेंज घन करता है उस के घनुपात में उसे चावल दिया जाये ताकि वहां की खाद्य समस्या तुरन्त हल हो जाये।

लिमये जी ने कहा कि वहां लोकतंत्र नहीं है। हम बड़े दुख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि केरल में, जहां के 80 प्रतिशत लोग शिक्षित हैं, जो हिन्दुस्तान का सबसे बड़ा शिक्षित प्रदेश है, वहां पर लोकतंत्र सफल नहीं हो रहा है। पांच, पांच, छः छः बार वहां पर राष्ट्रपति का शासन हो चुका। चार पांच बार चुनाव हो चुके मगर बड़ा दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण नक्शा हमारे सामने आता है कि हिन्दुस्तान के ऐसे राज्य में जहां के लोग सब से अधिक शिक्षित हैं, लोकतंत्र या डिमोक्रेसी को सफलता नहीं मिल रही है और बिहार यू० पी० वगैरह में, जहां के 15 परसेंट या 20 परसेंट लोग ही शिक्षित हैं वहां पर हम डिमोक्रेसी चला रहे हैं। केरल वाले सारे हिन्दुस्तान पर शासन करते हैं, सारे आफिसों में केरल वाले हैं। 90 सैकड़ा केरल की नसें उत्तर हिन्दुस्तान में पड़ी हुई हैं। सारे हिन्दुस्तान का वह शासन करते हैं लेकिन अगर केरल वालों में कोई बड़ा दोष है तो यही कि अपने ऊपर वह शासन नहीं कर सकते। उनको राष्ट्रपति का शासन बहुत प्रिय है। लिमये जी ने और दूसरे वक्ताओं से हमें पूरी सहानुभूति है और कोई नहीं चाहता कि वहां राष्ट्रपति का शासन लादा जाय। हम चाहते हैं कि वहां लोकतंत्र सफल हो। लेकिन आप लोकतंत्र को सफल होने नहीं देना चाहते। आप इतने शिक्षित हैं, इतने काबिल हैं कि अगर आप चाहें तो आदर्श लोकतंत्र की स्थापना कर सकते हैं। लेकिन उमसे आप विरत हैं। आप हर एक बात के लिए आन्दोलन करना चाहते हैं। जैसे की कोचीन शिपयार्ड का मामला था कि यह नहीं होना चाहिये। अन्त में यह तय हुआ कि यहा शिप यार्ड बने।

अन्त में मैं कहना चाहता हू कि केरल में औद्योगिक व्यवस्था करने की जरूरत है क्योंकि केरल में कोई बड़ी इंडस्ट्री नहीं

[श्री रघुनाथ सिंह]

है। कौशोनट में क्या है? 200-300 भ्रादरियों को एम्प्लाय करने से मारे स्टेट का इंडस्ट्रीयलाइजेशन नहीं कर सकते हैं। लिहाजा जो हिन्दुस्तान के पूंजी-पति हैं या सरकार जो है उससे मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पब्लिक ग्रैंडरटेकिंग में भी दो चार इंडस्ट्रीज वहाँ खोली जायें ताकि केरल वालों को एम्प्लायमेंट मिले।

केरल की सबसे बड़ी समस्या है शिक्षित लोगों का अनएम्प्लायमेंट। और जहाँ शिक्षित लोगों का अनएम्प्लायमेंट होता है वहाँ प्रसन्तोष होता है और जहाँ प्रसन्तोष होता है वहाँ आन्दोलन होता है। आन्दोलन होता है तो शांति नहीं हो सकती और जहाँ शांति नहीं हो सकती तो वहाँ भ्रराज-कता होती है और जब भ्रराजकता होगी तो वहाँ राष्ट्रपति का शासन लागू किया जायगा। यह केरल की समस्या है। मैं केरल के सदस्यों से प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि डेमोक्रेसी का बहुत ज्यादा एक्सपैरिमेंट आपने केरल में किया। अगर डेमोक्रेसी का एक्सपैरिमेंट इसी तरह होता रहा तो जो फ्रांस की अवस्था हुई वही यहाँ भी हो सकती है। फ्रांस में 6 महीने से ज्यादा कोई शासन नहीं चल पाता था। उसका फल क्या हुआ? एक विदेशी ताकत ने आकर फ्रांस को रौंद डाला। तो फ्रांस की तरह से यहाँ भी हुआ तो प्रसन्तोष रहेगा और कोई भी लोकतंत्र सफल नहीं हो सकेगा। इसलिये जो शिक्षित वर्ग है उससे मैं अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि अपने यहाँ लोकतंत्र शासन स्थापित करें। कोई आपके ऊपर राष्ट्रपति शासन लादने के लिए तैयार नहीं है। लेकिन जब लोकतंत्र नहीं चलता, प्रसन्तोष होता है तो उसका विकल्प क्या है? जब लोकतंत्र नहीं चलेगा, प्रान्तीय सरकार नहीं चलेगी तो कोई न कोई शासन तो होना चाहिये

उसके वास्ते राष्ट्रपति शासन के अलावा और कौन शासन हो सकता है?

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं सरकार से कहूँगा कि शिपयाई के लिए पूरी कोशिश की जाय और जो कि हिन्दुस्तान के माइनर और इंटर्मीडियरी पोर्ट है, हमने खुद भ्रमण किया है और 11 पेज की रिपोर्ट हमने सरकार को दी है और केरल सरकार को भी दी है कि जो छोटे पोर्ट्स हैं, माइनर पोर्ट्स, इनकी पहले आप तरक्की करें। लेकिन राष्ट्रपति शासन के बावजूद भी ठोस कदम नहीं उठाया गया कि इन पोर्टों की तरक्की की जाय। केरल बहुत सुन्दर प्रान्त है, आदमी वहाँ के बड़े अच्छे है, वहाँ पर धूल नहीं है, बिलकुल छाया में चले जाइए। इतने सुन्दर प्रदेश के होने हुए मैं समझता हूँ कि इतना ही सुन्दर लोक-तंत्र का शासन केरल में हो तो वह मारे देश के वास्ते एक भ्रादश हो सकता है।

Shri Muhammad Ismail (Manjeri): Kerala as a whole has been subjected to utter neglect on the part of the Centre, and under President's rule. It is particularly so with regard to the northern region called Malabar. In that region, even for small things people have to be crying hoarse not for months or years but for decades, and yet they are not able to find relief.

A railway line was constructed during the British times from Shoranur to Nilambur for military reasons, for their own administrative purposes, not so much with a view to benefit the people. After that construction, that region has not seen any new line at all. The people have been demanding the construction of a new line between the Nilambur-Shoranur line and the main line on the west coast of Kerala. The length of it is a matter of 35 miles. For this they have been agitating for more than 35 years. Yet there is nobody even to reply, or even

to say why that railway line cannot be constructed. The demand is being made year after year and in this parliament also since this parliament came into existence. That line cannot be behind any other line in the matter of economic benefits or in the matter of giving revenue to the state. It will make the Shoranoor-Nilambur line more economical and it will increase its revenue; it will also add to the revenue of the other main line. However, it has not yet been taken up. When the question was last put to the chairman of the consultative committee, he simply produced a list of railways that are being proposed by the state government and that list does not contain this line for which the people of Malabar have been agitating. That is not a proper reply. No explanation was given why this line was not included in that list at all. Even if it were not included, it is not the responsibility of the centre and the railway authorities to see whether this line which is so much wanted by the people is really economical and will really benefit the economy of that area. Nothing of the sort had been done.

Then, the fishing industry in Kerala is one of the most important industries in the country. More than one-third of the sea fishing industry of the country is located in Malabar but the fishermen of Kerala are the poorest and the most poverty-stricken people in the country. Their income is calculated by an economic survey as being Rs. 85 per annum, per fisherman. That will give 23 paise per head per day. That is the income of the most hardworking fisherman of the place. The condition of the fisherman is particularly pitiable in the region of Malabar and yet nothing much is being done in Malabar; even the meagre development schemes that are being carried out for benefiting the fishing industry, in Kerala are not extended to Malabar and no scheme is located in the fishing centres of Thanur, Parapangadi and Ponnani. Again the people of Malabar have been

asking for the construction of an aerodrome near Calicut. It is the largest city in Kerala state, a great trading centre and so many years have passed and today we do not see any chance of having an aerodrome in the near future. Then again, Tirur is an important marketing place and it is a centre for trade for the surrounding places. In the centre of the town, there is a level crossing gate of the railway. That paralyses once every three hours or so every day the life of the whole town; not only the whole town but also that of the surrounding parts of the town in many ways. This is one more instance of the many hardship which are afflicting the people of Malabar.

Coming to Kerala as a whole, compared to many other States of the country, Kerala is backward in many respects and it has been the subject of neglect on the part of the Centre. The actual condition of Kerala is a glaring and striking example and proof of the inbalance which is an undeniable feature of the planned development of the country. In the matter of transport facilities, industrialisation, utilisation of natural resources, availability of foodgrains and in respect of several other aspects, Kerala is backward, and is consistently kept backward. In the field of education, Kerala remains indeed a notable exception, thanks to the admirable services, to a large extent, of the Christian missionaries. The people of Kerala were comparatively advanced in education and they are maintaining that advance in spite of the indifference, nonchalance and unhelpful attitude of the Government. Paradoxically, this educational advance which in the nature of things ought to benefit the people and the State, has added to their problems. It has increased the problem of educated unemployed, and the educated unemployed is one of the most distressing feature of the Kerala scene. The performance of the Government in the matter of finding sufficient quantity of foodgrains for Kerala provides another most glaring

[Shri Muhammad Ismail]

example of the Government's incapacity to do things or of their indifference to Kerala. In the case of availability of foodgrains, in a statement supplied by the Food Minister some time ago, Kerala occupies a low place, with 11 ounces of foodgrains per head per day, while there are other States which go up to 18 or 19 ounces per head. This is about availability. This does not refer to production. This availability is a thing which the Government of India brings into being; how do they do it? The Government of India have some stocks with them; they send some of their stocks to various States which are in need of additional foodgrains, over and above the foodgrains which are being produced in those particular States. Now, the Government of India have taken up the responsibility of feeding the country and Kerala is an integral part of the country, and they ought to have seen that in Kerala also they make available an equal quantity of foodgrains per head which is available in other States of the country. But in spite of the agitation of the people, they did not do that at that time, and they have not done so until today. It can be done easily. I do not mean the local production; I mean that availability which depends much on stocks which are held by the Government. If they adopt a realistic and a proper method of dealing with their stock and the distribution of it, then, this inequality between State and State would not be there.

Now, the people suffer from want of foodgrains. A few months back, their ration was reduced to four ounces. They want only rice, and they cannot in their present way of food habits, make use of wheat, and that too particularly at the time of crisis. They wanted rice. Instead of increasing the rice ration, they decreased it to 4 oz. Then there was the Kerala bundh and there was an agitation. Then it was increased to 6 oz. The idea then was that the Government will make efforts to improve the food

condition of Kerala still further. But it has ended there. No more attempt has been made so far to increase the rice ration. It must be understood that whenever there is talk of foodgrains with reference to Kerala, it must be only rice. Wheat is not taken there by the ordinary people. Some people like Mr. Govinda Menon and others may have it; it is a matter of luxury for them. Therefore when we talk of foodgrains with reference to Kerala, it must be rice and rice alone and the Centre must be able to supply rice, particularly in view of the reasons advanced by a member of the ruling party only a few minutes ago.

They say, though we are giving only 6 oz. of ration, you can procure as much rice as you please from the open market. This is a very inhuman way of thinking. Are they not in the know of what is happening in the open market? Do not the Government or those who are responsible for it know that the poor people cannot afford to buy it in the open market?

The other day one of my friends gave the price at which rice is being sold in the open market. It is Rs. 150 per bag, which works out to Rs. 1 per lb. How can the poor people afford to pay that price? The Economic Survey which was published a few years ago gives the figures of income of the people there. The fishermen may be taken for the purpose of comparison. A fisherman gets only Rs. 85 per annum, i.e., 23P per day. If he has to buy rice at the rate of Re. 1 per lb. for his family, how can he balance his budget? It is not at all humanitarian or human to ask them to go and buy rice in the open market when the whole daily earning of that man is only 23P. He has to spend four times his daily income to buy rice. It is a Hobson's choice that the Government gives to the people: Either pay a high price or starve. They can neither starve nor pay high-price. This is not the way to deal with the food problem of any State.

least of all Kerala. Kerala, in the nature of things cannot produce as much rice as possible for sometime to come, particularly with the sort of nonchalant and indifferent attitude adopted by the Government of India in the matter of carrying out improvements in Kerala. They have done nothing appreciable either in the matter of industrialising the State or improving its agriculture.

In view of all these things, the sooner the Central Government take steps to form a popular Government there, the better it is for Kerala as well as for the country. Some friends advised the people not to resort to agitation. It is the Government which by its attitude is forcing the people to take agitation and strike and such other things. It is not a pleasure for the people to indulge in these things. The method of the Government of India particularly has been not only in Kerala but in other parts of the country also to lacerate the feelings of the people, to make their hearts sore before they do the right thing. What they do now in many cases they ought to have done four years ago or five years ago, before the feelings of the people were alienated. That is the same method they are following in Kerala also. This is the most elemental need, the matter of food, which the people cannot forego. Therefore, they had to resort to agitation, and it was only when an agitation was launched, when a *bandh* was staged by the people that the ration was restored to the original figure of six ounces.

*Shri Imbichibava (Ponnani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must begin with a word of thanks to you for giving me this opportunity to address the House after nearly 16 months during which period my liberty as a citizen and as a Member of this House could not be exercised thanks to the DIR and its militant ideologue Mr. Nanda. Along with thousands of my comrades, I too was sought to be arrested under DIR by Kerala Government. And a warrant

of arrest was pending against me during the last 16 months. As such I had to take such steps as to protect my membership in this House during the period of 16 months successfully dodging Mr. Nanda's police, I am proud of that.

The single major achievement of 18 years of Congress rule, ironically, is that they have successfully and systematically destroyed people's faith in democracy, guaranteed in our Constitution. They have made democracy into a sham, an instrument to impose one-Party rule. What happened in Kerala in 1959 and again in 1965 will bear out my words.

Sir, if the Congress rulers have not yet succeeded in wholly destroying the democratic fabric of our life, this is largely due to the resistance put up by the working class and other sections of our people. In the last few months we witnessed in this country such massive and representative campaign of protest against the continuance of the Emergency and the DIR that the Government, despite Mr. Nanda and his friends, was forced to relent on some aspects of the Emergency and release most of the leaders of the Communist Party. That they are still unwilling to lift the Emergency and allow normal conditions to prevail only proves the fact that they can rule this country only with the aid of the 'Danda'. Is it not rather extraordinary that the Emergency which came as a result of a different set of circumstances should today be used to blackmail the opposition parties, particularly the CPI, into submission, into giving up of their position of opposition to the anti-people policies of the Government? What else is the meaning of the Prime Minister's statement following the magnificent Bengal *Bandh* that the Government might be compelled to continue the emergency in view of the events in Bengal? How very lucky we are that the confirmation of something that we have been saying

*English translation of speech delivered in Malayalam.

[Shri Imbichibava]

should come from none else but the Prime Minister herself: that the Emergency and the DIR are not meant to protect the people of India from external aggression but that they are measures solely meant to protect the Congress rulers from the wrath of an angry and famished people: Since there is no more decent justification for continuing the Emergency let us hope that the Congress leaders will, for a change, decide to act sane and end the infamous measure and restore normalcy in the political life of the country.

Sir, another problem which I would like to touch upon briefly is the deteriorating food situation in the country. Parts of our country are already in the grip of a severe famine. In other parts scarcity of foodgrains resulting in reduction of the meagre quantum of ration, have reduced people to a state of semi-starvation. It was the British rulers who first said that famines are a necessary corrective to the problem of overpopulation of India. I cannot as yet believe that the Congress leaders subscribe to this cynical 'theory'. But the callousness and indifference with which Government leaders have been tackling this serious problem cannot but raise certain doubts. It appears to me that either the Government is so thoroughly isolated from the people, ignorant of living conditions and that they are wreaking vengeance on the people for having obeyed the just call of the Left and democratic parties for observing the historic Kerala and Bengal Bandhs. It is a pity that people who claim to be near to the people, with a political background, should fail to see the meaning and significance of these massive actions of people's solidarity. I am making a special mention of this because, some days after the Bengal Bandh, some one or other, I believe it was the Prime Minister herself, observed that the Left Parties were deliberately fomenting unrest with an eye on the coming elections. Such ridiculous

comments will, I am afraid, only isolate them from the people.

The food problem, Sir, is essentially a man-made problem. It is the pro-landlord, pro-hoarder policy of the various State Governments that is responsible for the present shortage in foodgrains. If the Government had firmly implemented its procurement policy, taking stock of the surplus grains from the rich landlords and hoarders, it would have saved them from the embarrassment of begging from all and sundry and accepting such conditions as would gravely jeopardise our independence. But, then, it is foolish to expect the Government to cut at the roots of its social base in the countryside—the rich peasants and the landlords.

It is really astonishing that the Food Minister Mr. Subramaniam who showed such great emotions at the time of the language agitation in Tamilnad last year should remain so unmoved by the specter of famine that is haunting large parts of this country. I would not like to make any remarks against his deputy, Mr. P. Govinda Menon, who, after all, is still new to the intricacies of the set-up and power-pulls at the centre. But I cannot help feeling rather amused that Mr. Menon, when he was still a mere Member of this House, so eloquently argued for an 8 oz. ration for Kerala that we all felt genuinely happy. Whatever indeed has happened that he should now keep quiet on this question? What will people not do for a Ministership, I wonder. As soon as Mr. Menon took office, he came down to Kerala to make an on-the-spot study of the food situation. People wondered how Mr. Menon could have forgotten the situation in Kerala so as to need a sojourn in the State to understand the situation. I want him to state what he has learnt from his tour. I want him to open up his real mind before this Parliament. Or are we to understand that he has changed his views as soon as

he got into the air-conditioned office of Krishi Bhawan?

It is the misfortune of my State that we have had to live with the worst type of one-Party rule, either directly by the Congress or through a Presidential nominee, irrespective of the verdict of the electorate. And Congress rule, whether direct or indirect, is aimed solely to benefit the narrow political interests of the Congress Party. In practice in everything that the Government does, the pro-Congress bias and partisanship are only too obvious. What else it is but gross political discrimination that my Party daily, the *Deshabhimani*, which is among the widely circulated dailies in the State, should be denied Government advertisements while obscure little Congress sheets should receive large share of Government advertisement? Again, is it not political vindictiveness that the Government has chosen to exclude the Communist detenus who were elected to the Legislative Assembly in the 1965 elections from the Block and District Development Councils? It is very strange that even after the release of the detenus, the members who were elected to the legislature in the last elections are not yet nominated to the District Development Councils and Block Development Councils. Is it not naked selfish partisanship that the DDCs and all other committees are packed with Congressmen or their supporters while elected representatives of the people are denied their rightful place?

I can point out another instance of political consideration coming in the way of implementing very vital policies of the Government. I am referring to the anomalies in the procurement of levy. We wanted the smaller cultivators to be excluded from levy. But the Government had harassed them. There are many cases of poor small cultivators being proceeded against and arrested for non-payment of levy. But as far as big landowners of kuttanad are concerned, they are practically exempted from levy. Why? My charge against the Government is

that political considerations are behind it. The Congress wants to woo these gentlemen and so the Government is made to succumb to the pressure of the Kuttanad Kayal Kings.

Sir, I want to draw the attention of the House to the extremely critical economic situation obtaining in the State of Kerala. There is going to be another Kerala Bandh on 27th of May. The reason is that our people, especially the working classes have reached the limit of their patience. The food crisis, rise in prices of all commodities, severe power cut, the lay-off of nearly 1 lakh workers resulting from the power cut, etc. are driving the people to the inevitable path of mass action. The Prime Minister says that left parties are organising mass actions with an eye on the elections. There is nothing more ridiculous than this. I should like to ask her: Can you say that the 2½ lakhs of NGOs and teachers of Kerala are going to strike work because of the influence of left parties? The real fact is that life is becoming more and more miserable everyday. I want to warn the government against any kind of unwise steps. They should not think of suppressing the NGOs and teachers. That will not work. Let the Government come forward to meet the just and genuine demands of the NGOs.

Similarly the Government can avoid the bandh also if they take immediate steps to improve the food situation, i.e., increase the ration, reduce the price of the ration, to find a way out for the power cut and to give support to the workers who are laid off. The Government are behaving in the most shabby manner on the question of the enquiries against police excesses at Quilon, Kottiyam, etc. Why should the Government shy away from the public enquiry? Even today many cases against students and non-students are pending. Why not all the cases be withdrawn? As far as I can see only

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the false prestige of the Government stands in the way of withdrawal of cases.

Hence, I want to repeat that the Government should concede to the demands of the people. If they fail to do that, they will have to meet the consequences that will follow.

As there is no legislature in Kerala, we the members of Parliament have to raise even issues of detail as far as possible. So I am raising certain questions that should be considered and acted upon by the concerned departments.

Sir, the minor ports in my State are not improved in any way. They are completely neglected. I have personal knowledge of the condition in Ponnani Port. It is a very ancient port. Many vessels use to call at this port. There was considerable business here. But now very few vessels call at this port. There is no proper dredging arrangement. Some primitive method of groyne construction is resorted to resulting in damage to vessels. Even recently a vessel was damaged. I suggest that a Committee should be set up to go into the condition of the minor ports in Kerala. The State Port Officer and his department are very indifferent and inefficient.

Sir, the work on the National Highway is unsatisfactory. I give one instance. On the Challusseri road in Palghat district, there is a building almost in the middle of the road. Why it cannot be removed and the work on the Highway completed?

16 hrs.

The country crafts plying on the west coast need protection from the Government. Very often they are damaged during storms. I had suggested that rescue stations should be established. But nothing is done till now. The insurance companies are report-

ed to be refusing to insure these boats on the plea that they are not mechanised. I suggest that Government should come to the aid of people owning and running the country crafts by establishing rescue stations and by advancing loans and grants for repair and by providing insurance facilities.

I have repeatedly brought to the notice of the government the necessity of developing Ponnani as a fishing harbour. A scheme was included in the Third Five Year Plan. But the scheme is not implemented. I request that Ponnani should be developed as a fishing harbour without delay.

Sir, Tippu Sultan road is one running along the west coast of Trichur and Palghat districts connecting the fishermen's villages. I had requested that this road should be developed. Sometime back Shri A. M. Thomas wrote to me that the estimate for this road is ready, but that the work could not be immediately taken up due to emergency. Considering the importance of fishing at this time of food crisis the development of this road should be given priority. The bridge at Veliancode should be completed. The development of this road is very vital for the fishermen community all along the line.

Sir, the Ponnani Water supply scheme should be sanctioned without any delay. Some time back I was informed by the Union Health Minister that Kerala Government has not submitted the scheme. Now I am informed by the Ponnani Panchayat Board that they have received a communication from the Kerala Government that the scheme is submitted to the Union Government. The Kerala Government is awaiting sanction. I suggest that sanction is given immediately and work is started without any delay.

A road bridge at Palappatty in Ponnani taluk over the Canoly Canal

is urgently needed. This is very important for the development of fishing industry.

A lot of money is already invested in the development of the West Coast Road. But the absence of bridges in some vital sectors stand in the way of utilisation of this road. For example, a cross-way-cum-bridge at Chandravattom ferry on the boundary of Palghat and Kozhikode districts is immediately needed. Similarly a bridge is needed at Chettuvaya in Trichur District.

Sir, I wanted to refer to many other pressing needs of the State. Due to lack of time, I do not go into them.

In concluding I want to ask the government to tackle the above mentioned problems without any delay. As far as the NGOs demands are concerned, the government should adopt a reasonable and positive attitude. In case the government is going to adopt a policy of authoritarianism and suppression, the consequences will be very dangerous. And those in authority both at Trivandrum and Delhi will be squarely responsible for these consequences.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): A: I not listening to the beautiful speech of the hon. Member who preceded me....

Shri Vasudevan Nair: What did my hon. friend understand from that?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I said to myself 'What a beautiful language the Malayalam language is! It lends itself to pauses which are natural; it is capable of climaxes which are spontaneous....'

Shri Vasudevan Nair: The hon. Member is coming to the rescue of the hon. Minister, I suppose.

Shri D. C. Sharma:... It is capable of diction which without ceasing to be popular is also enlightening. I wish I knew this language and I could

speak in that language. But, unfortunately my time is running out, and I do not have many years in which I can master this extremely expressive language.

16.08 hrs.

[**SHRI P. VENKATASUBBALAH** in the Chair.]

Shri Manoharan (Madras South): Let not my hon. friend spoil the language.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The difficulty is this that while I may be able to be a good student of that language, my communist friends are sure to spoil that language because they will bring into it that kind of economic jargon and those kinds of technical things....

Shri Manoharan: That is a sign of development.

Shri D. C. Sharma:... and those kinds of miscellaneous phrases which they did not learn from this country but from other countries. That makes me afraid lest the pure waters of this language be corrupted by the polluted waters which come to Kerala from some other countries of the world. But that is not my point.

Another hon. Member who spoke before me was Shri Muhammad Ismail. When I looked at him and one or two other friends here, I asked myself 'Why are they trying to perpetuate something which does not fit in with the political scheme of things in India? They still call themselves the followers of the Muslim League, and I do not understand what purpose the Muslim League can serve in this country today....'

Shri Vasudevan Nair: This is the general discussion on the Kerala Budget, and let my hon. friend speak about Kerala.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Therefore, I would request the hon. Member to join some party; let him join the Communists, the Right Communists or

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the Left Communists or the Congress Party, or let him join any other party.

But let him not remain a Member of the Muslim League Party because one of the great difficulties of Kerala, which is standing in the way of its being restored to its economic health, democratic health and other kinds of health is that the people of the State suffer from a plurality of parties and a multiplicity of approaches. I think that is one of the things to which we have to look.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: That is a very healthy sign.

Shri D. C. Sharma: It is a very healthy sign, but then if you split up into two....

Shri Vasudevan Nair: That is also a sign of health.

Shri D. C. Sharma: That is not a sign of health, but is a sign of some kind of....

Shri Manoharan: What about the splitting up of the Kerala Congress into two?

Shri D. C. Sharma: That is also bad. As I was saying, it is a sign of some kind of disease which shows inner ill-health.

Shri Madhu Limaye: Mysore Congress?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I think we should get rid of that.

Now, I have looked into the budget of Kerala and I want to pay my tribute to the beauty of Kerala. They will say this is not part of the budget. I want to say that Kerala should receive the maximum of support and financial aid so that it can become the show-window of India. It is a State which on account of its beautiful scenery, on account of its lagoons, on account of its architectural grandeur inherited from the past ages can become like that. But I find that our

Government has been very niggardly in providing it with sufficient funds so that it can attract tourists not only from the rest of India but from all over the world.

I have visited Kerala a few times. Some of my friends in Punjab have gone there, students and teachers; some of my other friends also have gone there. They have all come back impressed with the beauty of Kerala and also with the hospitality of the people of the State. I wish our Government to give the State liberally so that it can become a paradise for tourists not only from the rest of India but also from other countries of the world; This is my first point.

My Second point is this. We have been talking about the Cochin shipyard and, Cochin refinery all these days. I want to ask one thing. Democracy does not mean talk; it does not mean perpetual discussion; it does not mean perpetual wrangling as my hon. friend indulges in.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: What is this? I protest vehemently.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Democracy means action, quick action, expeditious action, and action which should not suffer from any kind of unnatural delay. That is what democracy means. I have been asking questions about the Cochin refinery more than my hon. friend who is interrupting me now and then. I have been interested in the Cochin shipyard.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: Where is it?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I want to ask the Government of India why they are taking such a long time in fulfilling the wishes of the people of the State so far as these things are concerned. Why is it that they sometimes get experts from one country, sometimes from another country. You know that when two experts from two different countries meet, there is seldom a

common meeting ground between them. That is what I believe has led to the delay in the Cochin shipyard and the Cochin refinery.

There is the other point. There was the Rare Earths Factory in Alwaye. My hon. friend Shri Sreekantan Nair, I do not find him here....

Shri Vasudevan Nair: That factory is not at Cochin, it is at Alwaye.

Shri D. C. Sharma: It is in Alwaye.

Shri Manoharan: Without understanding geography, you start speaking.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I know geography much more than you do. When I talk of Kerala, Cochin is also part of Kerala, is it not? What is your geography? Your geography is also the geography of misunderstanding, the geography of hindrance, the geography of obstruction, the geography of heckling, the geography of doing something without meaning what you want to do.

I was submitting very respectfully that the Alwaye factory has not been functioning very well for some time past, and I would say that it should be taken in hand, so that it becomes a potential reservoir for the employment of people.

Then I look at the educational map of Kerala. I had the honour, though my hon. friends will not admit that, to fight for the primary teachers of Kerala, primary teachers who work in private schools. They wanted parity with the primary teachers in Government schools. They came to Delhi, and I took them to the hon. Minister of Education, and with some delay, I am glad that their demands were conceded. But still I find that there is some unrest among the teachers there all along the line. I find that university education is going to get Rs. 177 lakhs, general education is going to get Rs. 25 lakhs, technical education is going to get

about Rs. 135 lakhs. When I find this, I ask myself how much of it will be spent on bettering the life of teachers whether they are in the university or affiliated colleges or in secondary or primary schools.

I have visited some countries of the world, and I have found that in those countries the primary school teacher dresses himself in a way which would do credit to any university teacher anywhere. He lives a decent life. He goes about with his head held high. He tries to be a model for his students in terms of decency, knowledge, sense of duty, sense of dedication to his work.

I welcome this that university education, general education and technical education are going to get so much, but I would ask the hon. Minister what part of it is going to the teachers, university teachers, college teachers, teachers in science institutions, and teachers in technical schools and colleges, because I think that a contented class of teachers means a contented democracy, and if you leave the teachers discontented, I think you can never have a democracy which will be contented either today or in the near future. Therefore, I believe that a sizable part of this sum should be set apart in order to bring the emoluments of the teachers there all along the line to the level of the teachers in other parts of India.

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): How much do you want

Shri D. C. Sharma: I was going to submit very respectfully that whenever I go abroad, I find that teachers from Kerala are working there. I visited Ethiopia last time. I was happy to meet so many teachers from Kerala there. It was a great pleasure to see my own countrymen there. But I asked myself this question: Why have these persons to go away from their country? Why have they come here on a term appointment? The simple reason is this. The

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employment potential of Kerala is not as high as it should be. Fisheries should give some kind of employment to a sizable population. But fisheries gets Rs. 77.82 lakhs. Rural Development which can fill the common man with hope is going to get only Rs. 27.70 lakhs. Kerala is a foreign exchange earning State. It earns a great deal of foreign exchange for our country. I find that industries in Kerala are going to get the meagre sum of Rs. 95.97 lakhs. My heart sinks when I see labour and employment getting only Rs. 73.67 lakhs. Unless you improve employment opportunities in the state, it will not be restored to its place which it deserves on account of historical traditions, history and the bounty of nature and on account of other things. I find that Harijan welfare gets Rs. 1.64 crores. I remember that Mahatma Gandhi wanted the temples in Kerala opened for Harijans. One of the fights which Mahatma Gandhi waged throughout the country was also put up in this place and we have all read about that, a great and noble fight, a fight meant for giving equality of worship to Harijans along with the other community of Hindus. Harijan welfare is the need of the day, not only in Kerala but in all the states of India. It is because we should try to integrate the Harijan community into the other communities of the country, economically, socially, culturally and in other ways also. For all these things we require money. And if you appoint a few Harijan welfare officers and do something of that kind, I think it will not do. Therefore, I submit that this budget is a very stereo-type budget. Only recently the Governor who took charge of Kerala said that the people of Kerala are angry and hungry. I think that is the phrase which he used. How can we mitigate that anger? How can we put an end to any feeling of indignation that they have? I think the only way is this. I feel that Kerala should be a land where there should be full employment, because full em-

ployment for Kerala means more foreign exchange for our country, greater resources for our country and greater chances of getting visitors to our country.

I find one thing which makes me very unhappy and it is this: We have set apart Rs. 14 lakhs for famine. Why should there be famine? An hon. Member was saying just now that the Kerala people do not get the required amount of rice and food for themselves. We are facing famine conditions in some States; there is no doubt about it. But I find that this famine which is mentioned here may become a chronic thing. It may be always there. I would ask my hon. friends on the Treasury Benches that so far as famine is concerned, they should have a new code for it. We have had test relief camps recently. The Minister visited Orissa recently and he found that the people were working in the test relief camps. Some are not getting the wages which other people were getting. I feel that so far as famine is concerned, we should abolish it from the dictionary. But as far as scarcity in this country is concerned, we should try to see that there is a new famine code, and that the people who are affected by it, get their due share and if they join any scarcity works, they should be given that kind of wages which are given to other people also.

The new Governor said that the people of Kerala are hungry. I hope that the problem of hunger in Kerala will be solved in a way which does not remain a recurring problem; and then it was said that the people were angry. Why? I know why they are angry, because there are too many political pulls in Kerala and too many approaches to the problem in Kerala. There are left communists and right communists; there are Congress people and there are dissident Congressmen also; there are the Muslim League people and the PSP also; all parties are there. There are some more parties there than there are in the rest of the country. I feel that

this is one of the reasons why the people of Kerala become angry because these persons try to fan their passion including the Congressmen, and that makes them indignant.

16.29 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

The only solution to the problem of Kerala is this: you should devise the budget in such a way that Kerala is restored to what I might call her economic health; it should be done in such a way that the people get as much food as they desire, and the people should get jobs there; that the people who serve in schools and the administrative offices get their salaries and dearness allowance and that amount of pension which their counterparts in other States get. Therefore, I feel that though this budget has come, I would if I were the Finance Minister of India—luckily I am not—try to reshape it in such a way that the common man has the best deal from this budget, that the productive capacity of Kerala is increased and the tourist capacity of Kerala is also enhanced.

16.30 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

THERMO-NUCLEAR EXPLOSION BY CHINA

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will take up the Calling Attention.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): The Minister is conspicuous by his absence!

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): He is just coming.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Jalore): You can only accuse him of being punctual to the minute.

The Minister of External Affairs (Shri Swaran Singh): Mr. Deputy-

Speaker, Sir, on May 9 China conducted its third nuclear test somewhere in Western China. As the House knows, the earlier two Chinese nuclear explosions took place on October 16, 1964, and May 14, 1965. This third nuclear test by China is in arrogant defiance of the clearly and passionately expressed desire of people all over the world to discontinue nuclear tests and to arrest the process of nuclear proliferation. Government do not, as yet, have any details or precise information about the explosion. According to reports attributed to New China News Agency, this nuclear explosion "contained thermo-nuclear material". However, the exact nature and intensity of the explosion fall-out, etc. are under investigation and it will take about a couple of weeks before our scientists can throw light on such details.

As the House is aware, this is the third nuclear explosion conducted by the Chinese Government. The first one was conducted on 16th October, 1964 and the second on 14th May, 1965.

Government cannot too strongly condemn and deplore the action taken by the Chinese Government, in persisting with these tests which constitute a threat to world peace, a grave hazard to the health and safety of people living in areas of the world likely to be affected by the radioactive fall-out resulting from this explosion, and generally contrary to the interests of Humanity at large.

Turning to our own policy, we had made a careful assessment of the situation in consultation with our Service Chiefs and Atomic Energy experts even when the first nuclear device was exploded by China. The fact that there would be other such explosions was known at that time. Therefore, the mere fact that China has carried out its third nuclear explosion does not vitiate the earlier conclusion, though at the same time, the policy is kept under constant review. In any such review, account has to