

tions and medical colleges. Apart from that, 50 teachers at different levels within the Institute have also gone to other medical colleges. The Institute may not have done as much as one would like it to do, but the Institute has certainly played a part in providing teachers to other medical colleges.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Have I to put any of the cut motions separately? No. I will put all the cut motions together to the vote of the House.

*The cut motions were put and negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 41 to 43 and 127 relating to the Ministry of Health and Family Planning."

*The motion was adopted.*

[*The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha, are reproduced below—Ed.*]

#### DEMAND NO. 41—MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,72,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Ministry of Health and Family Planning'."

#### DEMAND NO. 42—MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,42,24,000 be granted to the

President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Medical and Public Health'."

#### DEMAND NO. 43—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 40,27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning'."

#### DEMAND NO. 127—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,75,78,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning'."

#### MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 70 to 74 and 134 relating to the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation for which 6 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members desirous of moving their cut motions may send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating which of the cut motions they would like to move.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

**DEMAND No. 70—MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 58,93,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation'."

**DEMAND No. 71—CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,52,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Chief Inspector of Mines'."

**DEMAND No. 72—LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,60,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Labour and Employment'."

**DEMAND No. 73—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,14,73,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced persons'."

**DEMAND No. 74—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 63,27,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation'."

**DEMAND No. 134—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9, 24,92,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1967, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation'."

श्री बट्टा सिंह (मोगा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, ये जो मांगें हैं मिनिस्ट्री आफ लेबर, एम्प्लायमेंट और रिहैबिलिटेशन की, मैं इनका विरोध करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

कौन नहीं जानता कि आज हमारे देश में महंगाई का दौर चल रहा है। बड़ी तेज रफ्तार से चीजों की कीमतें बढ़ रही हैं, जिन्दगी की जरूरियात बहुत महंगी होती जा रही हैं और दिन ब दिन जो गरीब है वह ज्यादा गरीब होता जा रहा है। इस सब का बोझ गरीब मजदूरों, किसानों और जो मिलों में काम करने वाले कारीगर हैं उनके ऊपर पड़ता है।

युद्धे खुशी होती अगर बाबू जगजीवनराम जी वहां होते। मैं उनसे कुछ भर्ज करता

और उनकी सेवा में कुछ बातें पेश करता जो उन्होंने स्वयं कही हैं।

धर्म, रोजगार तथा पुनर्वास मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : पहुंच जाएंगी।

श्री बूटा सिंह : मुझे यकीन है कि उनकी जगह पर जो मन्त्री महोदय बैठे हैं वह उन तक मेरी बात पहुंचा देंगे।

भ्राज सबसे बड़ी समस्या हमारे सामने टैक्सटाइल लेबरर्स की है। कोई 32 हजार के करीब भ्राम्दमी जो कि फैक्टरियों और मिलों में काम करते थे भ्राज बेकार फिर रहे हैं। उसकी वजह हमारी सरकार की निहायत गन्दी और बोदी लेबर पालिसी है। इस सरकार ने कभी दूरदर्शिता से काम नहीं लिया है, और नहीं कभी सरमायेदारों और पूंजीपतियों की मदद करने का रवैया छोड़ा है, जिससे मजदूरों के हितों को हमेशा नुकसान होता है। भ्राज मुझे कोई वजह नहीं मालूम होती कि क्यों हमारे 32 हजार स्किल्ड कारीगर बेकार सड़कों पर फिर रहे हैं। यह नतीजा है उस बोनस बिल का जिसमें तरमीम करवाने के लिए इसी हाउस में बार-बार भ्राषाजें उठायी जाती हैं, बार बार कहा जाता है कि इस बिल की नए सिरे से तरमीम करके पूरे बिल को इस हाउस के सामने रखा जाए, और जो उसमें खामियां हैं उनको दूर किया जाए। परन्तु यह सरकार उस वक्त तक कोई कदम उठाने को तैयार नहीं होती जब तक कि स्थिति कण्ट्रोल से बाहर नहीं हो जाती। भ्राज भी ये जो हजारों मजदूर बेकार हैं इन सब की जिम्मेवारी हमारी सरकार के ऊपर पड़ती है।

मैं एक बात और जो भ्राष के जरिए इस सदन से कहना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि बाबू जगजीवनराम जी उन दलित और पिछड़े हुए लोगों के नेता हैं जिनकी हालत भ्राज भी इस भ्राजाद हिन्दुस्तान में, इन्सानों से बदतर है, वे हैवानों की तरह हिन्दुस्तान में ज़िन्दगी

बसर कर रहे हैं। और उनकी देखभाल के लिए जो मन्त्रीनरी केन्द्रीय सरकार ने स्थापित की थी, जिसका नाम रखा गया था शिड्युल्ड कास्ट एण्ड बैकवर्ड क्लासेज वेलफेयर डिपार्टमेंट, उस डिपार्टमेंट का कत्तल किया गया। पहले तो वह डिपार्टमेंट होम मिनिस्ट्री के साथ था। भ्राषको पता है कि होम मिनिस्ट्री का हुक्म, होम मिनिस्ट्री की महत्ता और इम्पार-टेंस कितनी ज्यादा है। होम मिनिस्टर का सम्बन्ध हिन्दुस्तान की सारी राज्य सरकारों के साथ सीधा होता है। होम मिनिस्टर सीधे मुख्य मन्त्रियों के साथ डील करते हैं, परन्तु इतने महत्वपूर्ण विषय को, इतनी महत्वपूर्ण समस्या को उन्होंने अपने यहां से उठा कर बाहर फेंक दिया है। कभी उसको ला मिनिस्ट्री के दरवाजे पर फेंक दिया जाता है और अब उसको प्लानिंग कमिशन के दरवाजे पर फेंक दिया गया है। यहां तक कि जब उस महकमे को होम मिनिस्ट्री के घर से निकाला गया तो यह भी न देखा गया कि इसके साथ के जो सम्बन्धित कानून हैं, जो सम्बन्धित सवाल हैं, जिनका सम्बन्ध केवल पिछड़े लोगों के साथ ही नहीं, बल्कि हिन्दुस्तान के हजारों, सैकड़ों और करोड़ों मजदूरों के साथ है, वह भी उन्हीं के साथ बांध कर फेंक दिया गया। इस रिपोर्ट में इस महकमे ने खुद स्वीकार किया है और पहले पैसे में लिखा है कि—

"the work of the Directorate General of Employment and training is reviewed in Volume II. The administration of the Employees' State Insurance Scheme".....

जो कि एक बहुत बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण स्कीम है, जिसका सम्बन्ध करोड़ों हिन्दुस्तानियों की ज़िन्दगी के साथ है—

"and the Employees Provident Funds Scheme was transferred back from the Department of Social Security to this Ministry with effect from January 25, 1966."

[श्री बूटा सिंह]

वह महकमा जिसका सम्बन्ध लेबर के साथ है, मजदूरों के साथ है, उस महकमे को भी, उन स्कीमों को भी, उन पिछड़े हुए लोगों के साथ बांध कर होम मिनिस्ट्री ने बाहर फेंक दिया, लेकिन मुझे खुशी है कि हमारे मन्त्री महोदय ने, जो साहब सामने बैठे हैं, इन्होंने महसूस किया होगा और फिर यह बड़ा कदम उठाया गया कि इसको वापस लिया गया। आज जो यह स्कीम है इसके अन्तर्गत करोड़ों मजदूरों को, उनकी जिन्दगी में, उनके काम काज में सहायित मिल रही है। मैं इस सदन में मांग करता हूँ कि जल्द से जल्द यह जो सोशल सिक्योरिटी का डिपार्टमेंट है, जिसका नाम अब बदल कर सोशल सिक्योरिटी रखा गया है, इस को भी इस मिनिस्ट्री के साथ जोड़ा जाये, क्योंकि इनका सम्बन्ध एक दूसरे के साथ बहुत ज्यादा है, बहुत परस्पर सम्बन्ध है और सबसे ज्यादा सम्बन्ध यह है कि उन पिछड़े हुए लोगों का नेता आज इस मिनिस्ट्री का मिनिस्टर है। इस लिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि जितनी मजबूती से और जितनी खबरदारी से वह इन लोगों के हकों की हिफाजत कर सकते हैं और कोई नहीं कर सकता, क्योंकि उन में करोड़ों पिछड़े हुए लोगों का विश्वास कायम है।

अब मैं आपका ध्यान कुछ ऐसी बातों की तरफ ले जाना चाहता हूँ जिससे हिन्दोस्तान में, हमारे देश में बदतरी पैदा होती है, जिनसे मिले बन्द होती हैं, जिनसे हर एक राज्य में, "बन्द" का नारा दिया जाता है। ऐसी बातें जो हमारी शहरी जिन्दगी को दिन-ब-दिन नीचे की तरफ ले जा रही हैं। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे बड़ा मामला हमारे सामने डीयरनेस एलाउन्स का है। हमारी सरकार आज तक यह फैसला नहीं कर पाई कि डीयरनेस एलाउन्स के बारे में उनकी पालिसी क्या है। प्रिंस-बील कभी कभी कोई नीति अपना लेते हैं, कभी कोई नीति अपना लेते हैं, जिसका नतीजा यह निकलता है कि राष्ट्रीय

पालिसी न होने की वजह से जगह-जगह पर झगड़े होते हैं, मिल मालिकों के झगड़े होते हैं, मजदूरों के झगड़े होते हैं, नतीजा क्या होता है कि देश की जो पैदावार है, वह रुक जाती है। मजदूरों को काम से हटाया जाता है, मिल मालिक मनमानी करते हैं। सरकारी कर्मचारी भी जो हैं, मैं यह बात भी आपके जरिये हाउस में रखना चाहता हूँ कि सरकारी कर्मचारियों का अब तक का रवैया हमारे सामने बहुत हानिकारक और निन्दनीय है, क्योंकि वे लोग मिल मालिकों के साथ, जिस काम के लिये उनको भेजा गया है, यानी मजदूरों के हकों की रक्षा के लिये, उसके बजाय मिल-मालिकों के हकों की रक्षा करते हैं। क्योंकि वहां से उनको तोहफे मिलते हैं, सहायित मिलती हैं, जिसके कारण वे अपनी नौकरी से ज्यादा उनके हितों का ख्याल रखते हैं।

डीयरनेस एलाउन्स के बारे में एक बात मैं और कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप डीयरनेस एलाउन्स के बारे में कुछ फैसला करें, बेशक कोई सतह मुकर्रर करें। आप उसका जायजा ले सकते हैं, जो लिविंग कन्डीशन हैं उसका जायजा ले सकते हैं, लिविंग इण्डेक्स को लेकर कोई सतह मुकर्रर करें, फिर इस डीयरनेस एलाउन्स को सैलरी के साथ मिक्स कर दिया जाये। डीयरनेस एलाउन्स को कायम करते वक्त आप वर्तमान जमाने की बढ़ती हुई कीमतों का ध्यान भी रखें। इससे अगर डीयरनेस एलाउन्स के बारे में सरकार अपना रवैया और पालिसी साफ कर ले तो मैं यकीन से कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे देश में न तो काम बन्द हों, न मजदूरों पर अत्याचार हों और न ही राजनीतिक दल अपने इन्टरेस्ट के लिये उनकी जिन्दगी में जो मदाखलत करते हैं, वह कर पायें।

दूसरी श्रृंखला मुझे यह करनी है कि हमने इसी सदन में इसी सेशन में प्रश्न किया था—  
फेयर प्राइस शान्स के लिये। हमें बताया गया

था कि मालिकों की तरफ़ से और सरकार के जो कारखाने हैं, उनमें सरकार की तरफ़ से मजदूरों और कारीगरों को उनकी जिन्दगी की जरूरियात पूरी करने के लिये, ऐसी चीज़ें उनको देने के लिये दुकानें खोल दी गई हैं। अगर देखा जाये तो यह बात सिर्फ़ कागज़ों में ही है, दुकानें बहुत कम जगहों पर खुली हैं और जहाँ पर दुकानें खुली हैं उनमें और मार्केट की दुकानों में कोई फर्क नहीं है। जिस भाव चीज़ बाहर मिलती है, उसी भाव उन दुकानों में मिलती है। होना तो यह चाहिये था कि उन दुकानों पर जो चीज़ें हैं, वे बाहर बाज़ार की दुकानों के मुकाबले कम रेट पर मिलें और जहाँ तक मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार का जो विचार सोशललिस्टिक पैटर्न ग्राफ़ सोसायटी का है—अगर उन दुकानों पर चीज़ें सस्ति-डाइण्ड रेट्स पर सरकार की तरफ़ से और मिल मालिकों की तरफ़ से, कीमतें घटा कर दी जायें और इस तरह से कीमतों को कम करके मजदूरों की जरूरियातें—जिन्दगी की चीज़ें पूरी करने में मदद करें, तो यह सोशललिस्टिक पैटर्न ग्राफ़ सोसायटी की तरफ़ सही रास्ता होगा।

एक बात जो मैं मन्त्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ, वह यह है कि आपने अभी तक एम्पलाइड की जो स्टेट इन्शोरेंस स्कीम है, उस पर पूरी तरह से धमल नहीं किया है। आप देखें कि पहाड़ों पर जो प्लांटेशन हैं, उनमें काम करने वाले हजारों मजदूर अभी तक इस स्कीम से वंचित हैं। जहाँ तक उनका ताल्लुक है, उनको कोई मेडिकल एड नहीं दी जाती है। जो डाक्टर्स वहाँ जाते हैं वे मालिकों की फैमिलियों की तो खूब हिफ़ाजत करते हैं, लेकिन मजदूरों के बारे में उनका रवैया वही है जो सरकारी कर्मचारियों का होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस स्कीम के तहत वहाँ डिस्पेंसरीज खोली जायें। आपको मालूम है कि हमारे देश में पहले ही अस्पतालों की बहुत कमी है, कितने लोग रोज़ाना ज़रूरी दवाओं और तीमारदारी के न होने की वजह

से जिन्दगी से हाथ धो बैठते हैं, ये लोग जो बागों में काम करते हैं, जो उंची सतहों पर काम करते हैं, जिनके पास अपनी हिफ़ाजत के लिये सामान नहीं होता, कोई उनको चोट लग जाती है तो उनके इलाज का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं है। इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि इस मन्त्रालय की ओर से इस स्कीम को पूरे तौर से और मजबूती से जारी करने का आदेश दिया जायें।

अभी अभी बाबूजी ने कानपुर में अपने भाषण में बहुत सी उम्मीदें दी थी वक्त्रों को और उन्होंने अपने भाषण में कहा था कि जो हिन्दुस्तान के स्वीपर्स हैं, उनकी हालत बेहतर बनाने के लिये, उनकी जिन्दगी ऊंची उठाने के लिये देश भर में एक वेज-बोर्ड कायम किया जायेगा, जो कि उनको अच्छी तनख्वाह और उनकी हालत को अच्छा करने के लिये सुझाव पेश करेगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर यह भी बयान उन मिनिस्टर्स के बयानों की तरह है जो कि रोज़ हम पढ़ते हैं, तो मुझे अफ़सोस होगा। मगर मैं यकीन करता हूँ कि बाबूजी उस पर ज़रूर धमल करेंगे क्योंकि यह मांग सिर्फ़ एक ही पक्ष से नहीं है, यह हिन्दुस्तान के सारे लोगों की मांग है, क्योंकि वे लोग वह हैं जो हमारी वह सेवा करते हैं जो और कोई नहीं कर सकता। इस लिये मैं समझता हूँ कि जैसा बाबूजी ने कानपुर के भाषण में उन लोगों को वेज बोर्ड देने का वायदा किया है, वैसे ही और भी हमारे जो कारीगर हैं, मजदूर हैं, जो कि वेज बोर्ड से वंचित हैं, जैसे हमारे ग्राम इण्डिया रेडियो के ग्राटिस्ट्स हैं, उनकी तरफ़ ध्यान नहीं बिना गया है, उनको कौन्सल ग्राटिस्ट्स करके रखा जाता है, न उनको परमानेंट किया जाता है, जो चाहता है तो बुला लेते हैं, न जो चाहता है तो बिदाउट एसाईनिंग एनी रीजन उनको निकाल दिया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उनके लिए भी कोई ऐसी मशीनरी कायम की जाए, वेज बोर्ड कायम किया जाए।

## [श्री बूटा सिंह]

हाउसिंग की बात अब मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। यह सबसे बड़ा मसला है जो हमारे मजदूरों के सामने पेश आता है। इस मामले में भी हमारी सरकार की नीति बहुत असफल रही है। जो स्कीमें यहां से बनती हैं या तो उन पर भ्रमल नहीं होता है और अगर भ्रमल होता है तो इस तरीके से होता है कि सारा पैसा ठेकेदारों की जेबों में चला जाता है। मजदूरों को न तो अच्छे मकान और न ही रहने के और कोई साधन मुहैया किये जाते हैं। जहां जहां भी चाहे छोटे यूनिट हों या बड़े यूनिट हों, पब्लिक सैक्टर हो या प्राइवेट सैक्टर हो, जहां तक मजदूरों के लिए हाउसिंग का ताल्लुक है, उनको मकान देने का सम्बन्ध है, इस काम को टाप प्रायोरिटी दी जाए। जैसे उनकी जरूरियातें जिन्दगी को पूरा करने के लिये मैंने मांग की है कि फेयर प्राइस शाप्स खोली जाय वैसे ही उनके रहने के लिये, उनके बच्चों की लिखाई पढ़ाई के लिए, उनकी देखभाल करने के लिए अच्छी व्यवस्था भी की जाए। उनको अच्छे हाउसिंग दिये जायें और उनके लिए ट्रांसपोर्ट का और उनके रहन सहन का पूरा पूरा इन्तजाम किया जाए। अगर ये बातें पूरी हो जायें तो मुझे यकीन है और मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे देश में जो मजदूर हैं और जितनी राष्ट्रीय भावना उनमें है, उतनी और किसी में नहीं है, उसमें और भी ज्यादा वृद्धि होगी। आपने देखा होगा कि पिछले हमले में पंजाब जैसे सरहद्दी इलाके में मजदूर ने कैसे आपका साथ दिया है। उसकी मिसाल कहीं भी मिलना मुश्किल है। उसके बाद, भ्रमृतसर, बटाला, गुरदासपुर, लुधियाना, फीरोजपुर आदि जितने बड़े-बड़े शहर हैं वहां के मजदूरों को किसी ने नहीं पूछा। मिल मालिकों को तो कहा गया कि अपने-अपने क्लेम दो और उनको पैसे भी दिये गये, उनको मुआवजा भी दिया गया लेकिन हजारों की तादाद में छेहरटा आदि जगहों में जो पाकिस्तानी हमला-बरो न आखिरी रात को बुरी तरह से

गोलियां चलाई थीं और कई लोगों की जानें खतम की थीं और इन मजदूरों ने बड़ी बहादुरी का परिचय दिया था, अभी तक कुछ नहीं किया गया है और वे भी अभी तक भी बेकार फिर रहे हैं। सरकार ने उनकी तरफ कोई भी ध्यान नहीं दिया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो सरकार इस तरह का पेशा करते हैं, उनकी तरफ पूरा-पूरा ध्यान करे, पूरी पूरी दिलचस्पी लें।

मैं अब एम्प्लायमेंट, जिस को मैं अन-एम्प्लायमेंट कहता हूँ, पर आता हूँ। एम्प्लायमेंट के बारे में भी इस सरकार की नीति वैसी ही है जैसी लेबरजं के बारे में है। आपको मालूम ही है कि हमारे देश में जो एम्प्लायमेंट एक्स-चेंजिज हैं, उनमें आंकड़े इकट्ठे किये जाते हैं उनके जो नौकरी के इच्छुक होते हैं। क्या सरकार ने कभी कोशिश की है कि जो बेकार हो गए हैं उनके लिए भी कोई नेशनल रजिस्टर मेंटेन किया जाए? हजारों की तादाद में आए साल लोग बेकार होते हैं और ऐसे लोग होते हैं जो स्किल्ड लेबरजं होते हैं, जो अच्छे कारीगर होते हैं। क्या कभी सरकार ने उनके आंकड़े इकट्ठे करने की कोशिश की है? क्या उसने उनको काम दिलाने की, उनको काम में लगाने की कोशिश की है? देश की पूंजी ये स्किल्ड वर्कर हैं। उस पूंजी को सम्भाल कर रखने की तरफ कभी भी सरकार ने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस और सरकार का ध्यान जाए।

एक और कटेगरी वर्कजं की है जिनको साल के आखिर में निकाल दिया जाता है। उनकी संख्या भी हजारों में है। मेरा मतलब कंस्ट्रक्शन में लग हुए वर्कजं से है। जब कंस्ट्रक्शन काम खतम हो जाता है तो उन को बगैर किसी नोटिस के, बगैर उनकी जिन्दगी की तरफ ध्यान दिये हुए निकाल दिया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कोई ऐसा नेशनल पूल, कोई ऐसा तरीका निकाले जिससे स्किल्ड वर्कर जो कंस्ट्रक्शन

का काम करते हैं, जब वे बेकार हो जाते हैं तो उनको काम पर लगाया जा सके। ये बर्कर हैं जिन्होंने भाखड़ा डैम बनाने का काम किया है तथा और बड़े बड़े कामों में हिस्सा लिया है। जब कोई नए काम खुलें तो उनमें इनको लगाने की ओर सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिये, उनके लिए इनमें प्राविजन करना चाहिये, इन में लगाने का उसको प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये।

अब मैं पड़े लिख बेकारों के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। मुझे हैरानी होती है जब मैं देखता हूं कि डबल प्रजुएट्स रिक्शा चलाते हैं या टैक्सी चलाते हैं या इस तरह की कोई और मजदूरी करते हैं। गवर्नमेंट को उनको ट्रेनिंग देने का, उनको सिखाने का इन्तजाम करना चाहिये। कोई ऐसा इंस्टीट्यूशन सरकार को खोलना चाहिये जिसमें वे अपनी तालीम खत्म करके ट्रेनिंग पा कर अच्छे शहरी सिद्ध हो सकें और अपनी जिन्दगी वाइजहत तरीके से बसर कर सकें। मैं चाहता हूं कि सरकार इस महकमे के सुपुर्द ऐसी इंस्टीट्यूशन करे जो कि अच्छे स्किल्ड वर्कर तैयार करती हो, जो कारीगर पैदा करती हो। जो मजदूर हटाये जाते हैं, जो कारीगर हटाये जाते हैं उनका भी सरकार ध्यान करे और उनके बारे में भी कोई स्पष्ट नीति अपनाये।

अब मैं पुनर्वास के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। इस क्षेत्र में सरकार बहुत बुरी तरह फेल हुई है। मैं अपने सरहदी सूबे, पंजाब का चिन्तन करता हूं। मेरे साथी जो राजस्थान के हैं उन्होंने मुझे बताया है कि हाल ही में पाकिस्तान के साथ जब हमारी लड़ाई हुई थी उसमें उड़ने वालों की वही स्थिति है जो स्थिति कि 1947 में शरणार्थियों की थी। उनके गांव बरबाद कर दिये गये हैं, उनकी जमीन बरबाद कर दी गई है, उनके घर बरबाद कर दिये गये हैं और शरणार्थियों की तरह व गलियों में फिर रहे हैं। उनकी तरफ सरकार ने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया है। इस काम को उसने राज्य सरकारों पर छोड़ दिया है। राज्य सरकारें तो कुरप्शन से लदी

हुई हैं। वहां एक एक मन्त्री मण्डल में बीस बीस पार्टियां पैदा हो चुकी हैं। वे नाप्रहल हैं। मुझे एक भी ऐसा प्रदेश आज तक नजर नहीं आया जिसकी सरकार के बारे में मैं यह कह सकूं कि वहां का मन्त्रिमण्डल जनता के हित के काम करता है। मन्त्री महोदय वहां के अपने अपने हित के लिए काम करते हैं और ज्यादातर दिल्ली में रहते हैं और गुटबाजी का काम करते हैं। राजस्थान और पंजाब में हजारों तांग बेघर हुए, बेमकरण सैक्टर में, फाजिल्का सैक्टर में और डेरा बाबा नानक सैक्टर में हजारों लोग घरों से उजड़े हैं उनकी जायदादें नष्ट हो गई हैं और वे बेचारे मारे मारे फिर रहे हैं। मुझे एक नहीं दर्जनों ऐसे खत मिले हैं, अपनी कंस्टिट्यूएंसि से, अपने हलके से जिनमें उन्होंने लिखा है कि जो हमारे साथ बादे किये गये थे सरकार की तरफ से कि आपको मुभावजा दिया जाएगा, भवेशियों का पूरा का पूरा मुभावजा दिया जाएगा, आपको जमीन को दुबारा आबाद करने के लिए सहूलियत दी जाएगी, उन में से कोई भी वायदा पूरा नहीं किया गया है। यहां तक कि जब वे वापिस गए तो उनके खेतों में जो बम दबाये गये थे वे भी नहीं निकाले गए। यह जो पुनर्वास का महकमा है इसमें जिस रफ्तार से कुनबापरवरी और कुरप्शन बढ़ी है इसकी तो कहीं भी मिसाल नहीं मिलती है। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस बात क पर ध्यान दिया जाए कि सरहदी इलाकों में रहने वाले लोगों का जो नुकसान हुआ है, जो अपने घरों से उजाड़े गए हैं, जिनकी जायदादें बरबाद हो चुकी हैं और जो शरणार्थियों की तरह से फिर रहे हैं, उनकी कैसे मदद हो। मैं चाहता हूं कि जब आप जवाब देने के लिए खड़े हों तो इस मामले पर भी आप रोगनी डालने की कृपा करें।

भूमिहीन जो वर्कर हैं उनके बारे में अब मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। जो लैडनैस जेवरज हैं और जो गांवों में काम करते हैं उनकी संख्या भी करोड़ों में है। पहले तो इस सरकार

[श्री बूटा सिंह]

ने किसानों के बारे में कुछ नहीं किया है और दूसरे इनको अपने ही रहम पर छोड़ दिया है। उनके नाम के ऊपर बहुत बड़ी धनराशियां बाहर से भी प्राप्त की जाती हैं, यहां से इस सदन से भी बजट में मंजूर कराई जाती हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि अगर उस पैसे का दसवां हिस्सा भी उनके ऊपर खर्च किया जाए तो उनकी हालत अच्छी हो सकती है। यह मेरा पक्का यकीन है। लेकिन बहुत दुख होता है यह देख कर कि उनकी हालत दिन-ब-दिन बद से बदतर होती जा रही है लेकिन फिर भी उनकी तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। जो करोड़ों की संख्या में भूमिहीन मजदूर हैं। उनके बारे में चन्द एक सफ़ज लिख कर हमारी सरकार ने हमें भरोसा दिलाते की कोशिश की है। आपने पेज 75 पर लिखा है :

"It was also felt.....

कितनी कैज्युप्रली, कितना लाइटली इस बात को लिया जाता है। असली हिन्दुस्तान गांवों में बसता है। करोड़ों की तादाद में ये लोग गांवों में रहते हैं। इनके पास रहने के लिए घर नहीं हैं। इनके पास रहने के लिए सदियों पुराने झोपड़े हैं। उनमें पीने के पानी का भ्रष्टा इन्तजाम नहीं है। वहां पर दबाओं का भी कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है। पढ़ाई का इन्तजाम नहीं है। उन लोगों की तरफ मैं इस सरकार का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूं। रिपोर्ट में सिर्फ इतना कह देने से—

"It was also felt that granting of free house-sites to the agricultural labour and providing them interest-free loans, if possible.."

—that is also, if possible—

ऐसे जैसे कि उन पर कोई एहसान किया जा रहा है, काम नहीं चल सकता है। मन्त्रियों की अगर आप कारें देखें तो 70-80 हजार

की एक-एक कार होती है। अगर भूमिहीन मजदूरों को घर देने के लिए कहा जाता है तो कहा जाता है कि हां अगर हुआ तो सोचेंगे। यह बात सुनने के लिए हम यहां नहीं आए हैं। हम देखना चाहते हैं कि वह भारत जो गांवों में बसता है, वे लोग जो गांवों में झोपड़ों में रहते हैं, जो गारे के बने मकानों में रहते हैं, जिनके पास मजदूरी का कोई साधन नहीं है, उनकी हालत सुधरे। अगर उनकी हालत अच्छी हुई तो हिन्दुस्तान की हालत अच्छी होगी। वह असली हिन्दुस्तान है। महात्मा गांधी जी जब कभी उन लोगों के बारे में अपना प्रवचन करते थे तब प्राध-प्राध घंटे तक रोया करते थे क्योंकि उनके सामने हिन्दुस्तान का नक्शा बही था।

इसलिये मैं आप की मार्फत मन्त्री महोदय का ध्यान इन भूमिहीन मजदूरों की तरफ भी खींचना चाहता हूं जो कि करोड़ों की संख्या में आज भी जहाँ हालात में रह रहे हैं जो कि आज से दो सौ साल पहले थी।

मैं इस मन्त्रालय की जो मांगें हैं उनका विरोध करता हूं। जब तक यह हालात दूर नहीं की जायेंगी जिन का मैंने जिक्र किया है, जब तक मेरे सजेन्स पूरे नहीं किये जायेंगे, तब तक मैं एक भी पैसा इस मन्त्रालय को देने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूं।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members may now move the cut motions to Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation, subject to their being otherwise admissible.

Shri Yashpal Singh (Kairana): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for improvement in the working of the Dandakaranya Development Scheme. (1)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for rehabilitation of repatriates from Burma and Ceylon. (2)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for rehabilitation of persons uprooted during the recent Indo-Pak. conflict. (3)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for introduction of pension scheme in lieu of provident fund. (4)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Failure in persuading the industries to pay bonus to workers. (5)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for better safety arrangements for minors. (6)].

**Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for payment of compensation to refugees from East Pakistan. (7)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Em-

ployment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to write off loans and debts advanced to the East Pakistan refugees. (8)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for proper development of squatters' Colonies in West Bengal. (9)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide drinking water to the refugees residing in P.L. Camps and other colonies in West Bengal. (10)].

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to provide jobs and land to the refugees migrated from East Pakistan to West Bengal. (11)].

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The cut motions are also before the House.

**Shri K. N. Pande (Hata):** First of all, I want to thank the Ministry for the scheme that they are going to have and which will really be welcomed by the labour world, i.e., the retirement pension scheme, including family pension. This scheme however, contemplates to cover only those employees who have got the benefit of provident fund scheme. At the moment, the number of employees employed in industries is about 80 lakhs and the number of employees employed in shops is about 20 to 26 lakhs. The Provident Fund Scheme covers only 44 lakhs of employees of this country. No doubt, it is a very welcome scheme, but if a large portion of workers remains without getting any benefit of this scheme, I do not think

[Shri K. N. Pande]

that it would be a justifiable thing. My suggestion in this regard is that the Ministry should first think of covering as large an area under the Provident Fund Scheme as possible. Last year, while speaking on the debate, I requested the Ministry to see that at least the provident fund scheme is spread out to cover the employees employed in shops. These people, even if the working hours are fixed, cannot take the benefit of that because it requires a huge machinery to see that proper working hours are maintained so far as shops are concerned; it is not done and they are required to work sometimes for more than 8 hours, i.e., for even 10 hours. So my suggestion is that the Ministry should think over this matter seriously and should try to cover the remaining portion of the people employed in industries as well as the workers employed in shops, under the contemplated scheme.

Another point to which I want to draw the attention of the Ministry is about defaulters. About Rs. 2 crores are lying with the employers; they have realised the share of the workers but they have not deposited that as well as their own share with the authorities at the proper place, which they are required to do. Recently I drew the attention of the Ministry to this. The workers have contributed their share; they are under the employers and the employers have got the liberty to deduct the provident fund contribution from their salaries. The employers are to deposit the money with the Government but they have not done it. It is the Government's responsibility to see that the money is deposited at the proper place. About Rs. 2 crores are lying with the employers and the workers are weeping as the benefit is being denied to them.

Some time back, as a result of discussion in this very House, it was decided that, as the workers are not at

fault—because they have paid their contribution—whenever they retire or go out of employment, at least they should be paid their own share as well as the share of employers and a fund was created by the Government. But recently it was decided by the Board of Trustees that, in cases where employers have not deposited the share of the workers as well as their own share, the workers are entitled to get only to the extent they have deposited from their own salaries. This is highly unfair because the workers are not at fault. The scheme is being run by the Government; it is the responsibility of the Government to see that the contribution of the employers as well as the deductions made from the salaries of the workers are deposited at the proper place. If the Government fails to do that, why should the workers lose? I, therefore, want to urge upon the Ministry that the workers should not suffer and if you do so, naturally this will create discontentment among the workers with the result that it will lead to industrial unrest.

Similarly I want to mention here the case of the employees covered under the Employees State Insurance Scheme. Here also there are many employers who deduct the share of the contribution of the employees from their salaries but who have not deposited either the share of the workers or their own share, with the result that the Employees State Insurance Corporation is denying to its employees the benefit to which they are entitled. I want to ask how the workers are responsible for this. It is the responsibility of the Government to see that the money is deposited at the proper place and the defaulting employers are strictly dealt with, so that the employers do not remain as defaulters. Meanwhile, till the Government is able to collect money from such employers, I want to request the Ministry to see that the workers do not lose and they are given all the benefits to which they are entitled. I hope the hon. Minister will look into this.

I want to mention here another thing. Although the Labour Ministry is supposed to be a responsible Ministry, to solve the unemployment problem which is not supported by facts, still I request the Ministry to see that the unemployment problem is solved. The area which the Planning Commission covers is so large that I do not think that it is within the reach of this Ministry to cover the entire thing. Anyhow as this responsibility has been given to the Labour Ministry, they should see that the unemployment problem is solved. As the planners envisage, in the Fourth Five Year Plan, the number of new entrants will be 23 million and there is a backlog of about 14 million. This Ministry planners envisage, in the Fourth Five-Year Plan, opportunities are created to absorb this huge force of unemployed people. They should think over this matter seriously because the number of unemployed people is now increasing every year. It is a very dangerous trend and it is very dangerous for a country where the number of unemployed people is already so large. If such a condition continues, then they may turn the whole thing in a different direction altogether and give it a new shape. What is happening in regard to this problem of unemployment? On the one hand we say that there is a huge force of people who are unemployed or who are seeking employment. But on the other hand we find that in several industries the people are going out of employment. For example, I may tell you that at the end of 1965, about 47,000 people had gone out of employment due to the closure of the mills. If unemployment is going to increase in this manner, then I do not know what is going to happen; nobody can forecast it. This is a serious matter which the Ministry has to look into.

15 hrs.

I am thankful to the Ministry for having appointed wage boards for so many industries. Some time back, the question came before the Ministry

of appointing a wage board for the workers employed in the motor transport industry and also those employed in the electricity undertakings. I may give the example of UP in this connection. Recently, the UP Government had appointed a pay rationalisation committee. Here is a very strange thing happening. There was a demand from the workers that their wages should be increased or at least the dearness allowance should be increased in view of the rise in prices. The UP Government appointed a committee called the pay rationalisation committee. That also covers the staff of the secretariat. The scope of that committee extends even to the workers employed in the electricity undertakings. The U. P. Electricity Board is very much emphatic on this point that the recommendations made by the pay rationalisation committee should be applied to the workers employed in the electricity undertakings. The electricity undertakings are going to be owned by the States. Generally, the electricity boards are coming up in every State, and all the electricity undertakings are going to be covered by those electricity boards. So, it will be the Government machinery which will be the biggest employer so far as electricity is concerned. If the condition is so bad in these undertakings, then I am afraid that dissatisfaction will be there among the workers, and that will not be a happy thing for the country. For, most of the industries depend on electricity. If the workers in these electricity undertakings are discontented, then naturally that will have its repercussions in the sense that the factories may close every now and then and the whole working of the industry will suffer. So, I would request the hon. Minister that as early as possible he should think of appointing a wage board for the workers employed in the electricity undertakings, and similarly a wage board for the workers employed in the motor transport industry.

Now, I would like to say something about the ESI scheme. More and

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more areas are now going to be covered by the ESI Act. By a mere order, the scheme is going to be extended to cover certain areas. My request to the Ministry is that before covering a new area under this scheme, the Director-General should visit the area in order to see that the scheme could provide the proper benefits for which it is envisaged.

I might give the example of Mirzapur, in this connection. Mirzapur district has got a hilly tract. Industrialisation is going on there very fast. There are several factories there. There is a chemical factory, there is one aluminium factory and there are also some electricity undertakings having several hundred workers there. The area being a hilly area, some place is at a higher level while some other place is at a lower level. One hospital has been fixed up there, which is at a higher level. The people have to walk a distance of about three miles to reach the hospital from the lower levels. If a patient has to be taken to the hospital, then one has to get a ready ambulance car and take him to the hospital in cases of emergency. The people are crying that they are not getting the benefit. Do you mean to say that this scheme can be extended to cover their families when even the members who are insured are not getting the proper benefit?

The matter was referred to the regional director but he says that this is the proper place for the hospital. He does not care for the inconvenience of the workers. Therefore, my suggestion is that the Director-General should visit these places before issuing an order extending the scheme to cover a new area.

Now, I would like to say something about the application of the labour laws to the undertakings owned by the States. So far as the Centre is

concerned, the laws are applied liberally. I must thank the Ministry for seeing that the laws are observed and enforced properly in the areas for which they are intended. But in the States, nobody is there to take care of the observance of the laws. There are several States which have got some State undertakings where even the Industrial Disputes Act is not applicable. They have not got the necessary machinery. Their cases cannot go to the conciliation machinery. The State Governments do not take care of these things. Even when the things are brought to their notice by us, the Congress Members, not to talk of the Opposition Members, do not care and they do not even hear us. This is the fate in regard to the State undertakings. The States are going to own so many industries in the future. Yet, we find that such things are happening, and even under the laws of the land the workers cannot be protected. If that is going to be the case, I do not know what the fate of such industries is going to be and how the industries will function.

I do not want to comment on these State undertakings and say whether the things are very good or bad. But anyhow, the undertakings or the factories are working and they are earning profits also. But according to some of the provisions of the Bonus Act, the Bonus Act does not apply to those undertakings which are run departmentally. The result is that the large number of workers employed in so many industries owned by the Centre or the States are deprived of these benefits. My suggestion is that the Labour Ministry should do something in this regard; if the Bonus Act cannot apply to those workers, then they should find out some solution such as an incentive scheme etc. so that the people may be encouraged to work. For example, take the case of the railways. If some incentive scheme could be devised on the railways so that the workers could be rewarded if the proper timing of the trains is

maintained, if there is no wastage, if wastage is avoided and so on, then the workers could also benefit thereby. A similar thing could be extended to the defence undertakings also.

Now, I would like to say a word about agricultural labour. We are talking so much about agricultural labour. The agricultural labour is mainly there in the countryside. Even if we pass an Act, and even if we try to cover as large an area as possible under the Minimum Wages Act, if the cultivators are not capable of paying so much I do not think that the condition of the agricultural labour will improve in any way. My suggestion is that unless agriculture is subsidised, the kisans or the cultivators cannot stand on their own legs. Unless the condition of the kisans and the cultivators is improved, the fate of the agricultural labour will remain as it is. The problem cannot be solved by simply talking about it.

We should do some serious thinking in regard to this matter. Recently, there was a conference about agricultural workers.

**Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:** A seminar was there.

**Shri K. N. Pandey:** And some decisions were taken at that conference. But there are difficulties in applying all those decisions to improve the condition of the agricultural workers. I want to urge the hon. Minister to see that another conference is held; let us be practical and let us see that what is possible may be attempted to be done. For, by such conferences, we create new hopes in the minds of the people, and if we fail to apply those decisions on them, then these conferences become fruitless and we are subjected to criticism also in that regard.

Therefore, in order to have a practical solution of the matter, I would submit that we should try to subsidise to some extent the payment to the agricultural workers in an indirect manner so that the condition of the

cultivators may improve and at the same time the agricultural workers also may have a better deal.

**Shri Mohammad Elias (Howrah):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are discussing the Demands of the Labour Ministry at a time when throughout the country, in the different parts of our country, the workers in their hundreds and thousands are protesting against the Government's anti-labour policy due to which the workers are suffering very much and their condition is very badly deteriorating. The Labour Ministry in their Report have mentioned that the total mandays lost during the Third Plan period is less than the Second Plan period, although the number of workers have grown very much. It is true, Sir, because this Third Plan period has witnessed two emergencies in which the workers have sacrificed very much, they have stood solidly behind the Government to protect the country, to save the country from the foreign aggression. But, Sir, it is a very tragic thing that the workers have been deprived of their dues. They had assured through the Industrial Truce Resolution that the wages of workers will not be cut down; their movement will not be suppressed. But, in fact, taking the opportunity afforded by the emergency and the Defence of India Rules the workers are being suppressed by the Government and by the employers. The workers have been stabbed behind their backs due to this emergency, but it is the workers who have done so much sacrifices for the country. As to how they are being deprived of their wages I shall just give you one or two examples only because the time is very short. Firstly, I should like to take up the question of bonus. As the country and the House know the question of bonus was a long-pending demand and we passed a legislation in this House. Before passing this Bonus Act, there was a Bonus Commission which worked on it for more than three years and that report was passed almost unanimously; there was only one dissenting note from the employers' representative and

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the Government bowed down before the employers. The whole unanimous report is washed out and the Government fell on the feet of the employers and passed the Bonus Act in support of the employers' demand. The legislation was framed by the Labour Ministry Secretariat in such a way, in order to give opportunity to the employers to file litigation in the courts. Whatever Act may be passed, whatever amount may be granted, the benefit is being washed away due to this litigation in the courts and for this opportunity has been given by the Labour Ministry's Secretariat. Over and above this, Sir, the budget proposals of the Finance Ministry for the year 1966-67 have also been framed in such a way that the workers will be deprived very much from the quantum of their bonus. I shall read out one part of the article to show how the new budget proposal has hit them. This is obvious because Shri Sachindra Chowdhury was serving the Tatas and Birlas for 30 years and this proposal has come from him and workers are deprived of their legitimate dues. I would like to tell how the budget proposals have come and how the workers are being deprived of their legitimate dues.

Firstly, the abolition of the tax on bonus shares would mean capitalisation of the reserves and calculating return on these earlier reserves at 8.5 per cent instead of the present 6 per cent. This would mean slashing of the available surplus under the Bonus formula. We have made some calculations in relation to some of the leading industrial concerns and the fall in bonus quantum expected through this process is between 18.4 per cent to 27.8 per cent.

Secondly, Sir, for certain industries the Finance Minister has announced new rates of development rebates. These concessions for the industry would go actually out of the workers' bonus, as so-called prior charges.

The third and the most important of all, is the fact that while the employers have now been given a gift of no-dividend tax upto ten per cent the workers are not getting similar benefits from the proposal, because. Sir, the only ground on which the Government upheld Dr. Dandekar's demand for raising the rate of return was that the rate of return of 6 per cent under the LAT formula was non-taxable and that including the tax element, the rate should be 8.5 per cent.

Now the tax on dividend is not there upto 10 per cent dividend. There is therefore a clear case for revision of the Bonus formula and reducing the rate of return on paid-up capital from 8.5 per cent to 6 per cent; and on reserves from 6 per cent to 4 per cent.

If this is not done, workers will not get any benefit from the Bonus Act. That is why our demand is that the time has now come that the Bonus Act should be amended in a proper way. And not only this, the ceiling which is fixed, that is, 20 per cent, must go. There should not be any ceiling. Why should the bigger industries get so much benefit from this Act? As there is no ceiling there are many industries who earn huge amounts of profits and who accumulate those profits, but the workers are not getting good amount of bonus. For example, I would like to mention the names of certain foreign companies like Alcock Ashdown, Braithwaite and Company, Guest, Keen and Williams, Born and Company, etc. Such industries accumulate huge amount of profits. The workers who used to get nine to ten months wages as bonus are now being deprived due to this ceiling which has been fixed. So we demand that this ceiling should go. There should be a Bill brought in this House so that the Bonus Act could be amended properly. If Government does not do it the Government is closing its eyes about what is happening in different parts of our country. Ultimately Government will

have to be forced by the workers to amend this Bonus Act.

Regarding the question of wages, I do not want to repeat certain things, but it has been announced in the Labour Conference and Government accepted the principle that decent wages should be given to the workers. The Labour Conference is being presided over by the Labour Minister. They have accepted the idea that the dearness allowance should be linked with the cost of living index but till now, Sir, this is not done. Under the very nose of our Government here in Delhi, house-rent is being kept at the 1944 level. Whatever was the house rent in 1944, the same house-rent calculation is being made. The same calculation is being made in respect of the dearness allowance. In calculating the cost of living index also, Sir, there is lot of fraud and the Labour Ministry says that there is not enough staff. We do not get any up-to-date data. Whenever we demand, we are being given three-years old data. Instead of putting up a computer machine in the L.I.C. office through which thousands of employers are on the way of retrenchment, why the Labour Ministry is not bringing in a computer machine for the labour ministry itself so that they can give us up-to-date data, so that the workers are not deprived of their legitimate dues? (Interruption) My hon. friend, Shri Yagnik knows all these things very well, how the workers are being deprived. And, not only this, on the question of the Wage Board, I wish to tell something. In the 1957 Labour Conference it was decided that Wage Board should be set up in all industries. To set up a Wage Board the workers have to carry on a long-term struggle, including a general strike. Government was forced to set up a Wage Board. We have got very bitter experience about this Wage Board. I have been working there for more than a year. It is a costly luxury. Nothing is done from the Wage Board. This is my bitter experience, Sir, Government agreed to appoint a Wage Board for the engineering industry in

1957 but it took them eight years to have this constituted and the workers have been fighting for setting up these Wage Boards since 1956-57. When the Board was set up in January, 1965, the demand came for the Board that the question of interim relief should be decided by the Wage Board. Then the workers had to stage a big demonstration before the Wage Board. Then only the Board took a decision. In spite of the workers' representative's pressure, first the employers said that 'we are not going to discuss the interim relief question'. Then they were forced to discuss it. There was discussion and discussion, a lot of arguments. When the question actually came as to how much should be given to the workers by way of interim relief, the employers said, 'We can give only Rs. 2 or 3'. Then the Chairman himself, in order to evolve a unanimous acceptable formula, put forward a proposal. The workers' representative had to accept that formula with great reluctance because he wanted to save the prestige of the Chairman as well as of the Wage Board. As soon as the workers' representative accepted it, the employers' representative said 'We have got nothing to do with this resolution'. They have not accepted it. The report is pending with the Labour Ministry. The Ministry is trembling; it is very much afraid to accept this majority report of the Engineering Wage Board including the independent member in it. The workers are very much discontented. They have decided in several conferences in Bombay, Punjab, Bengal and Mysore that if it is not accepted by Government and if it is not implemented immediately, there will be no alternative left for them but to go on another general strike. So I would request the hon. Minister to look into this matter and see that whenever there is a majority decision by any committee or board, that must be immediately accepted and implemented by Government. They should not go on begging the employers 'Please accept it'. Why should Government come in the way? We shall fight it out with the employers if they do not

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implement it. Let Government please not interfere. If the employers do not accept it, we can force them to. We can use the language they can understand. We can go on strike. We can give a slap in their face, as has been done in Bombay. There they said that they could not give a single farthing as bonus this year. Not only that. They did not want to give the dearness allowance of 37 per cent. As soon as the workers gave a slap in their face by a strike lasting 11 days, the employers came round and settled the dispute. Now they are ready to give part of the bonus. We know how to give another slap in their face. Why should Government intervene? We can deal with them. We shall save the prestige of Government as soon as government accepts the majority recommendation of the Wage Board.

Coming to the labour policies of different Ministries of the Government of India, every Ministry, Transport, Irrigation, Railway, Commerce and so on, follows its own labour policy. Then why should we have a Labour Ministry functioning here if they cannot interfere even for reference to a tribunal for adjudication of a dispute. Unless and until the particular Ministry concerned with a particular matter gives its permission, the Labour Ministry cannot interfere in labour matters. This is not at all a happy state of affairs. The Labour Ministry is not able to function at all. Now every employing Ministry is facing serious labour trouble. The Labour Ministry cannot intervene in these matters. So I request the Labour Minister to see that it is able to intervene in these matters in every Ministry wherever there is a labour problem. Coming to the problem of politics in the trade union movement, I am very happy that there is a mention in the Report of a call for an understanding between employers and workers, which is qualitatively different from what they have been accustomed to. It says "Organised labour and management will have to shoulder greater responsibilities in every sphere in

which they come together and this they will be in a better position to do if there is a feeling of unity within the trade union ranks". This is a very good thing. We welcome it. For the first time, we are noticing a little change in the Labour Ministry's report. Shri Jagjivan Ram has returned to this portfolio after 12 years and that is why he wants to enunciate some new policy.

How will unity come about among the rank and file of the workers? It cannot come if Government does not stop boosting the Government-sponsored and employer-sponsored trade unions which all the time try to impose themselves on the workers. We have the glaring example of Bombay. There 200,000 workers went on strike. This is the report of the bourgeois papers; it was a 100 per cent strike. It has proved that the only representative union there is the Girni Kamgar Union. But Government close their eyes to facts and do not recognise that union. This Union has proved by action that it is the majority union enjoying 100 per cent support of the workers. The workers have got confidence in that Union, but Government are not recognising it. Instead, they recognise other unions which have no following at all among the workers.

Similarly take the Bhopal Electrical Workers' Union.....

Shri D. C. Sharma is interfering with the hon. Minister while I am making my points. Kindly direct him not to.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): I can repeat every word of what he said.

Shri Mohammad Elias: In the Bhopal Electrical Works, 90 per cent of the workers are organised into one union with Shri Bhowmick as the Secretary. Government have been saying that the Unions should not be manned by outsiders. Here is an Union where there is not a single outsider. The workers have organised themselves under their own leaders who are very young. Shri Bhowmick is only 20 or

25. He is a very young boy. He is now on hunger strike. Because he fought for the cause of the workers, he was put in prison. He is on hunger strike. If something is not done, within a day or two he might lose his life. The most representative Union is not recognised by the management. This is the state of affairs.

Then again, take the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works. Shri Jagjivan Ram has been Railway Minister. He knows the facts. 90 per cent of the workers are under one Union. Many a time we have pointed out that this most representative Union is not recognised because it is conducted by communists. How can we avoid communists because communists look after the interests of the workers? That is why the workers have confidence in them. If the INTUC also looks after the interests of the workers and if necessary fight the employers or the sake of safeguarding and defending the workers' interests, they will also be liked by the workers. But we find all the time the INTUC unions supporting the labour department and the employers. That being so, how can the workers have confidence in them?

**Shri K. N. Pande:** Workers have faith in INTUC. We saw it in the recent 'bandhs', which his union was supporting.

**Shri Mohammad Elias:** There are some INTUC unions in which the workers have got confidence.

Coming to the question of repression, there are hundreds of our workers who are still in prison. They are all sincere and honest workers. Under the D.I.R. what happens is this. A petty Labour Officer takes up the phone and rings up the local Police Station that this worker is creating trouble and he must be arrested. Without any warrant, immediately a Police Officer comes and the worker is arrested and put in prison under the D.I.R. The Government

must see that such things must be stopped and the D.I.R. should not be utilised to suppress the Trade Union movement.

I strongly feel, Sir, that the Technical Institutes should not remain under the Ministry of Labour and they should be put under the Ministry of Education because it is absolutely a matter of technical training. There is a lot of mismanagement in these Institutes. If time would have permitted, I would have given to this House some examples and also all the information.

Regarding the contract labour system, there was discussion in the recent Labour Conference and it was stated that a Bill would be introduced in this regard. But the Bill has not yet been introduced. The contract labour system must be abolished as soon as it is possible; it is very necessary in the interest of welfare of labour. With this I conclude.

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15.30 hrs.

# COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

## EIGHTY-FIFTH REPORT

**Shri Hem Raj (Kangra):** I move:

"That this House agrees with the Eighty-fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 12th April, 1966."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Eighty-fifth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 12th April, 1966."

*The motion was adopted.*