

12.16 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Yesterday evening when the Deputy-Speaker was in the Chair, there was a motion to be discussed today on the report of L.I.C. by Dr. Singhvi. Since Dr. Singhvi was unwell, it has been postponed. My submission is that, if the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs agrees to it, a very important motion standing in the name of Shri Madhu Limaye on the closure of textile mills be taken into consideration. We have been badgering you with Call Attention Notices on this. I hope you will kindly admit it for tomorrow.

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंेर) : बड़ी मेहर-
बानी होगी ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने मुन लिया ।
इस पर मोच लेंगे ।

श्री मधु लिमये : वह नो "न", "न"
ही करेंगे ।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): Do you feel you have been badgered, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: I do not know as much English as my hon. friends know. I, therefore, cannot catch the exact meaning of that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My knowledge of English is poor.

Mr. Speaker: Even then it is superior to mine.

TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) AND MISCELLANEOUS (PROVI- SIONS) BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: Clause-by-clause consideration has to be taken up. The time allotted is 5 hours; the time already taken is 4 hours and 55 minutes; there is, therefore, a balance of only 5 minutes.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): It should be extended.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Clause 5. There is an amendment, No. 2, standing in the name of Shri Morarka. This requires President's sanction and that has been obtained. But Shri Morarka is not here; so it is not being moved.

The question is:

"That Clause 5 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 6 and 7 were added to the Bill.

Clause 8.—(Exemption from tax in certain cases of undisclosed income invested in National Defence Gold Bonds, 1980.)

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to move:

Page 3,—

for line 35, substitute—

"of the Reserve Bank of India, the State Bank of India or any subsidiary bank of the State Bank of India." (1)

This is the definition of 'public servant'. This includes officers and employees of the Reserve Bank of India, the State Bank of India and subsidiary Banks.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

Page 3,—

for line 35, substitute—

"of the Reserve Bank of India, the State Bank of India or any subsidiary bank of the State Bank of India." (1)

The motion was adopted.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): I want to say something on Clause 8.

Speaking on the general consideration of the Bill, I had requested the Minister of State to drop Clause 8, if possible, from the Bill. This is the clause which deals with undisclosed income. I have already given the reason why I want this clause to be dropped from the Bill. Of course, the design of the Bill is very good and if the provisions of the Bill are otherwise carried out, it will help to net a large amount of gold which is held in small quantities by women and others in ornaments. There was a tremendous response to the suggestion of Gold Bonds when the Prime Minister made an appeal in Calcutta a few days ago. Women's organisations also have come forward to help. Some people have suggested that they would not like to be clubbed together with those who have undisclosed wealth. If, as Shri Morarka said yesterday, and Shri B. R. Bhagat himself has also said, what is contained in clause 8 is already there and it is not an additional concession to undisclosed wealth, then I would submit that this clause may be held over. I had suggested earlier that this may be held over till the hon. Minister of Finance was back from his visit abroad. I would request him even at this twelfth hour almost to hold over this clause if possible, and if it is not possible to hold over the Bill, then I am sure the House will agree to omit this clause. Even if it is desired to get the wealth from those who have undisclosed wealth, still I would request the hon. Minister not to bring that into the same Bill and the same design which has evoked great response from those who legitimately hold gold in ornaments and who would be glad to come forward to some extent and contribute the gold. It is a question of the patriotic urge. As you know, in this country, there is generally a prejudice to part with gold ornaments. We want to overcome that. I think that this is the day and the hour to do so, so that those idle ornaments can be utilised. Let there be no excuse given and let there be no psychological feeling which could prevent such

a thing happening. I think that some of those who have opposed this Bill would withdraw their opposition altogether if this particular clause were not there in the Bill.

The hon. Finance Minister is now back, and I would request him to think over it and if necessary hold over this Bill for some time, and I am sure the House would agree and you, Sir, would also agree if the hon. Finance Minister wants some time to think over this clause.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member would give time to the hon. Minister to think over it.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Yesterday, when I replied to the debate, I took great pains to explain this clause and I explained why the concessions had been given.

Mr. Speaker: Now, she is taking advantage of the arrival of the hon. Finance Minister.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: I had listened carefully to what Shri B. R. Bhagat had to say yesterday.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: This particular clause is the most crucial clause of the Bill. The concessions given have been given for valid reasons, and in no way do they affect the patriotic urge of the people. The large numbers of women who hold gold in small quantities can contribute them. So, this clause does not come in their way, and I would plead with the hon. Member not to press her request.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That clause 8, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): I rise to oppose this Bill even at this stage. This is an immoral Bill, according to me. Government seem to be so desperate that they are prepared to forget all their earlier pledges and then threats hurled out at all those people who had been taking advantage of all the loopholes within the taxation system and other tax legislations, and have now come forward to reward those people who till now have non-co-operated with Government, obstructed their officials, deceived the whole administration and brought Government into great disrepute and thereby benefited themselves to the tune, as they themselves say, of crores and crores of rupees. When it suits Government they castigate those people in the wildest possible manner; but when it suits them, they also bring forward a Bill of this nature to give them an opportunity to turn all their ill-gotten moneys into gold by allowing them to place those moneys at the disposal of Government, and also give a guarantee to them about the gold being repaid to them after fifteen years.

Now would there be a more immoral procedure than this? What is it that their gold control has achieved? The entire Opposition was unanimous—and quite a large number of Members on the Congress side had then supported us by their speeches—in condemning that gold control. It has failed in its object, and yet Government is persisting in hanging on

to it and in saying it has not failed, although it has failed. All that it has achieved is to put out of employment all those who traded in gold, jewellery, the goldsmiths. I think their number was estimated at 5 lakhs. They were put out employment and they are in a hopeless position. They have now been placed as beggars at the doors of these government officials asking for licences, permits, some small facilities for their children, small grants here and emoluments there. Is it not high time, at least when they have brought forward this Bill as a confession of their own failure of the earlier attempt, to withdraw that enactment or at least to release these people from the trammels that they themselves have placed upon them also unnecessarily and in such an unmerited manner?

What is this Bill going to achieve? What it would do would be this. All the rich people who have got plenty of money at their disposal, which they do not know how to let circulate in a bona fide manner in the social economy of our country, would employ a large number of agents to work in towns as well as in villages to reach the middle class people, lower middle class people, even poorer people, offer them twice or thrice, as high a price, as is now ruling in the market for gold and induce them to part with their small trinkets, gold ornaments that they have, for holding which this Government, because of pressure in parliament, gave exemption from the Gold Control Order. All this gold would be absorbed by these rich people in return for the money which they would otherwise not be able to circulate in our social economy at all. That gold would be brought to the citadels of this Government not by the poor people, not by the middle class people, directly for their own benefit—as the Prime Minister had offered to do, on every ten grammes, which would be returned again after 15 years and so on—but this gold would be absorbed by

these middlemen on behalf of these capitalists, millionaires and crore-patis, who have been castigated by this Government in name till now, this gold will be bought by these people and placed at the disposal of Government with this guarantee that all this gold will be returned to them after 15 years.

The result would be that though Government may get this gold, those poor people, who originally owned this gold, would be deprived of that gold which is so very valuable to them in every way, social and economic. This gold would be taken away from them and placed at the disposal of Government by these millionaires and crore-patis who really do not deserve this kind of unearned increment by reason of the social and economic benefit that this Bill seeks to confer on them.

That is one of the many reasons why we oppose this Bill. My hon. friend, Shri Masani, has already in his eloquent way described how much the people are horror-struck at the manner in which the Government misuses the power placed in its hands by the people in order to perpetrate such immoral acts, in order to provide an escape for these people who really do not deserve this kind of escape to utilise their ill-gotten moneys and profit by them. I endorse the eloquent plea he made the other day against this Bill and in favour of the silversmiths, goldsmiths and other artisans who have been hurt so very badly and wrongly by this Government. I hope that if not now, a little later at least wisdom would dawn on Government, if not on this Government, on its successor, to come forward with necessary legislation to release these 5 lakhs of families of goldsmiths from the trammels and troubles caused to them by this Government in such an immoral and unconscionable way.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): I am afraid I must oppose this Bill because I cannot understand how Government expects results which would be in keeping with the national interests as a result of this legislation.

As Shri Ranga has said this Bill is immoral, if, of course, moral considerations have any place in the mind of Government, but it pampers and fattens the crooked and avaricious elements in our society. It panders to dishonesty and gives a lot of encouragement to the most hardened crooks in the community.

This kind of pandering to dishonesty is something of which the Government should feel ashamed, and this pandering need not have been taken recourse to if I am to take Shri Bhagat seriously when he answered Shri Warior yesterday. Shri Warior had asked him to touch those people who had the gold, who could disgorge it, and Shri Bhagat told him that he would touch their heart—a very good thing to do. Touch their heart, change their heart, as Gandhiji sought so many times to do, do it by all means. We in our times saw how Gandhiji used to go about when he wanted to change the hearts of people. We were young enough to be permitted even into women's meetings when Gandhiji held them and collected from our mothers and sisters whatever ornaments they could give away. That was during the great days of 1921 when the Tilak Swaraj Fund was collected to the tune of Rs. 1 crore in a few months time, and Rs. 1 crore in those days means I do not quite know how much in the present day computation. But if you can touch the hearts of people, go ahead, do it.

There is a lot of gold quite unnecessarily being wasted in this country, there is no doubt about it. After all, this fascination for gold is a barbaric relic, and there will come a time surely when we would use that kind of glittering metal in order to embellish the toilet room

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or places of that description. This barbaric relic which continues in our country today is something of which great advantage could be taken provided the Government moved in the proper way. Go ahead and appeal to the people to give away their gold in return for what is a proper return for that particular transaction, but what are you doing? You are amending the fiscal legislation of this country in order to allow people who have always got away with their loot to have even a greater share of the loot as far as the country's national wealth is concerned.

Some time ago, Shri Mahavir Tyagi in his wisdom wanted to give certain concessions to tax shirkers and he collected the fabulous sum of Rs. 107 crores at a time when he knew very well that ten times that amount should certainly have been forthcoming, but it was not because they know, the sharks know, very well how to behave.

Shri Krishnamachari and Shri Bhagat are trying to improve upon the experience of Shri Mahavir Tyagi, but this kind of method will not help. The hoarders are escaping the clutches of the law, and I remember having heard Shri Bhagat saying at one time that there were some lacunae in the legislation and they could not go ahead. Plug those lacunae in the legislation, and if there are lacunae in the legislation, well we are supposed to be living in an emergency, you have got the DIR and all the consequential authorities which you have arrogated to yourself, I mean the Government has arrogated to itself. Why don't you employ the weapon of DIR and allied instruments in order to find the gold where it is to be found?

Only today we see in the papers a report about the income-tax authorities in Calcutta discovering black money to the extent of several crores of rupees following simultaneous searches of the offices and residential premises of about fifty people in Calcutta and neighbouring areas. This very city of Calcutta was visited only

recently by our friend the Home Minister Mr. Nanda in April 1965 when to the consternation of the Ministers who had come to receive him at Dum Dum airport he got into the car along with one of the biggest financial tycoons in this country. Then he made a speech to the Calcutta Businessmen trying to console them for having become at least temporarily and tentatively the target of attack by the West Bengal government which was taking some very hesitant and moderate steps against hoarding and profiteering. Mr. Nanda has not been able to live down this ignominy which he acquired in Calcutta in April 1965. Another of his colleagues, now a Cabinet colleague, I do not see him here, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications tried to improve upon Mr. Nanda's performance and he offered something like an apology to big business in Calcutta and said that the treatment meted out to big business must be changed. People who have been secreting the wealth of the community, in their own interests, people about whom no adjective can be hard enough, those people are being pandered to; their interests are being subserved by the immoral action of this Government. As I said like Gandhiji if this Government had the guts and the imagination, it should try to appeal to the people in order to get hold of whatever gold is available. But this kind of trick will not do.

Yesterday Mr. Bhagat told us that they have got gold to the extent of 1.73 crores in our prices, about 73 lakhs or so in international price and they are hoping as some people tell us to get about 500 crores. That is all of course stuff and nonsense and balderdash; they are not going to get it unless you can really appeal to our common people to come out with whatever they have got. They have not got what the big sharks have got. If you are not dealing with sharks, the results would by no means be commensurate with at least the ostensible expectations of Gov-

ernment. Why is the Government refusing to tackle the main sources of black money? Why does not Government try to plug those particular loopholes which are responsible for so much of blackmoney accumulating? What about controlling the import-export trade? I cannot go into details of the matter. Why not come forward with objective measures in order that our export-import trade can be controlled in national interests? Why not stop the illegal, speculative forward trade? Why is it that private lending and usury are continuing in the way that it is continuing? Why should the banks have the freedom of the country and carry on in the way they are carrying on, quite oblivious of the economic objectives which this country has set before it? Why is it that inflation is not being stopped by properly holding the priceline? We see all these things happening and we see on the other hand a growing feeling of friendliness towards the private sector.

And we see such things taking place as the ambassador of a country accredited to India, the United States Ambassador, I should mention him even by name, I cannot think of any other country where the ambassador who is a foreign personality goes about the place as if he has got the freedom of the country and makes all kinds of statements, giving all kinds of advice in so far as how we ought to be fashioning our economic policy. This Ambassador, Mr. Chester Bowles went round went to Ahmedabad I see in the papers and made speeches referring to how certain things were being said about PL 480 transactions and how they were 'utter unadulterated nonsense' and so on and so forth. He has the freedom of the country. That is what the Government had permitted to him. I cannot imagine the Indian High Commissioner going about in the United Kingdom or the Indian Ambassador in the United States going about in the United States criticising strongly what is being done in the United States Con-

gress or in the British Parliament. But of course these people, white-skinned people, because of the pigmentation of their skin, and because they have a lot of money in their pockets, think they can put us in their pocket, and that is their calculation. Therefore, they go about places talking in this manner. He said that the "right of the United States Government is there"—he said it in Ahmedabad yesterday—"to examine the developmental plans on which United States money was spent." I am quoting his words; they are put within inverted commas in the newspaper reports. And he told us that India should follow Japan and Italy and give greater encouragement to private industries, large and small, domestic and foreign. I do not know. He has no business to give us such advice. (*Interruption*). But in any case, he did not require to give us this advice, because Government is already acting according to the advice; possibly advance intimation had come a long time ago, and this weakness for the private sector has been continuing for all this time. I do not mind their having a weakness for the private sector. We are all private personalities in one way, and there is a private aspect of our lives—social and economic.

Mr. Speaker: This is the third reading and I will have to call others also.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I shall finish as quickly as I can. I do not mind this partiality for the private sector if that happens to be governmental policy. But it does not happen to be governmental policy. Government has to have control of these strategic heights of the economy and these private people should not be allowed to have the run of the land. But what do they do?

I pointed out the other day, and there was no answer from the Government side. There was one of our leading tycoons,—one of the Shri Ram Group—who paid a lakh of rupees to our defence fund and got his photograph printed in all the papers, giving a cheque to Mr. Shastri,

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

and the Pakistan Radio has announced that it was he who has paid Rs. 20 lakhs to the Pakistani Defence Fund. This kind of thing happened. These are the people whom we are going to placate and pander.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): It is a serious matter. (Interruption).

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: A long time ago, it was not only Shakespeare who talked about gold being "the common whore of humanity," but in the Mahabharata, it has been said:....

Mr. Speaker: Shakespeare has said that beauty provoketh the thieves more than gold.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: The Mahabharata says:

न हत्वा परममानि न कृत्वा कर्म दुष्करम् ।
न हत्वा मत्स्यवातीयम् प्राप्नोति महतीम्
श्रियम् ।

It means that you cannot make big money unless you tear the heart out of other people, unless you do the most drastic things, unless you behave as if you are fishing and you are treating the other people with the cruelty that you show to the fish which you are ultimately trying to land. That is the way in which we go on in this country.

Now, in this country, reports circulate with impunity about multitudinous moneys being about the place. In our unhappy country we have these reports. I am glad Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari is here. It is sometimes very painful to have to get all kinds of periodicals sent to us by post—they come to us just like that—where all kinds of allegations continue to be made against Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari personally, about the

empire which is alleged to have been built by his children, about the enormous sums of money which they have made, about the fact of their being immune to income-tax payment and all sorts of things. (Interruption). I am not referring to it in order to say that I believe in that kind of report, but the fact is such reports circulate and nothing is done about it. Neither do the courts of law get enabled to take cognizance of this kind of slanderous accusations—if they are slanderous accusations—nor does the public get satisfaction about the reports which go about all the time, about so much money being all over the place, money which Government cannot lay its hand upon, and Government is now driven to take this measure in order to give further facilities to those people.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I do not know why you are so particularly unkind in regard to certain things which I am trying to say . . . (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: Not about the things which he is saying, but this is the third reading, and the hon. Member may not exceed the time-limit.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: You have been pleased to extend the time of the debate by a certain measure of time, I hope. If you want me to sit down, I shall sit down.

Mr. Speaker: No, no, I am reminding him that the time allowed is one hour, and I have to distribute it among many other hon. Members. That is why I am requesting him to be brief. That is all.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: I am trying to be brief, but I do take it, and I am sure you will agree with us, that when certain matters are there before us and we have an opportunity

through the instrumentality of discussion of a financial measure of this sort, certain things have got to be brought to the notice of Government. I was just referring to them, and it is not in order to malign the Finance Minister. I have no personal animus in this matter. Not at all. I am not built that way. But what I do not like is this kind of thing which passes muster without being contested and proven to be wrong. And an impression is created in the public mind, and in my mind also, which I want to see removed by governmental effort, that there are moneys all over the place which are not being caught hold of by the governmental machinery which is there. I want to be assured by Government that all steps are being taken. I want to be assured, for instance of one thing,—the Bharat Ram Charat Ram business. Gandhiji said "He Ram He Ram", when he died. It is a shameful thing, and I want to be assured by Government as to what exactly they propose to do, if it is a fact, as has been reported, that they have given Rs. 1 lakh to the defence fund, and Rs. 20 lacs through the Pakistani organisation to the Pakistani Defence Fund, and what we are going to do about it. I want to be told, for instance, authoritatively, what governmental measures are being taken in regard to the allegations which are made against ministers of Government. I want to be told, for instance, about ministers of Government running newspapers like the Law Minister who is running a daily newspaper in Calcutta with the assistance, I am sure, of men like S. P. Jain and Dalmia and all the rest of the crowd. I want to be told definitely, so that I can face my people in different parts of the country and tell them that we are trying to see that the Government of this country is being run on a proper basis. That is why I bring up these matters.

I want to finish my contribution to this debate on the Bill, which may not be to the liking of many people

here, by saying only this: that this is a Bill which does not do the right thing in the right way; which does not make an appeal to the common people to come out with whatever contribution of gold which they can conceivably make, and they might possibly do. But it does, on the contrary, give pandering assistance to those elements in our community which have been for decades now living on public ransom, looting the country's wealth, and behaving in the most egregious possible manner in so far as depriving the country of the wealth to which it is entitled as far as the running of the Government is concerned. That is why I say that this is a Bill which completely defeats its purpose; this is a Bill which will not really succeed in the purpose which ostensibly the Government has in mind.

श्री सिधू नारायण (बांसी) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने दो प्रोफेसरों को ध्यान से सुना जिन्होंने कि इस का विरोध किया लेकिन मैं उन से कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैं इस को क्यों सपोर्ट करता हूँ। जब हमारी गवर्नमेंट नोबल कंट्रोल बिल साईं की तब विरोधी बलों की धोर से बड़ा शोरसरावा मचावा नवा बा, स्वतंत्र पार्टी के नेता तथा अन्य विरोधी बलों ने बड़ा काँवला उस समय मचाया बा लेकिन धाज जब गवर्नमेंट ने यह प्रमोवमेंट कर दिया, लिबरलाइज कर दिया और इस के अनुसार सब को मौका दे दिया है कि वह फ्रीली सरकार के पास अपना सोना व सोने के आभूषण आदि जमा करायें और उस के लिए क्रेडिटव टर्म्स प्रीकर की हैं तब भी इन विरोधी नेताओं द्वारा सरकार के कदम का विरोध करना अनचित व ठकड़ीन मालूम देता है। सरकार ने ठीक ही सोचा कि बजाय हम अमरीका आदि देशों से पैसा मांगें क्यों न हम अपने देशवासियों से ही पैसा मांगें और देश की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था को मजबूत करें, अपने देश के इंटरनेशनल क्रेडिट को बनायें और अपने नीजवानों को विकास व उन्नति के पथ पर लेजी से आगे बढ़ने

[श्री शिव नारायण]

को प्रोत्साहन दे। कल मैंने भामाशाह को कोट किया था जिस ने कि राणा प्रताप के सामने मुगलों से लड़ने के वास्ते अपनी तिजोरियों को खोल दिया था। भ्रा० उन्हीं भामाशाह के जो समर्थक हैं वे हम लोगों को गालियां देते हैं। उन्होंने गांधी जी का उपदेश दिया लेकिन मैं उन्हें बतलाना चाहूंगा कि गांधी जी के ही लोग और अनुयायी इस देश की हुकूमत को चला रहे हैं। हमारे जो प्राइम मिनिस्टर हैं वे गांधी जी के चेले हैं। यहां हमारे देश में नम्बूदरीपाद की गवर्नमेंट नहीं है बल्कि यहां पर तो गांधीवादियों और उनके पदचिह्नों पर चलने वालों की हुकूमत चल रही है। उस का नेतृत्व कौन कर रहे हैं? मिडिल क्लास वाले और गरीब लोगों के प्रतिनिधि इस मुल्क के शासन को चला रहे हैं। गरीब देशवासी हमारे साथ हैं। पूंजीपति हमारे साथ नहीं हैं।

कल मैं अपने भाषण में यह सुझाव देना भूल गया था कि सरकार को मोबाइल जस्टेस बैंक गांवों और बड़े शहरों जैसे कलकत्ता और बम्बई आदि में इंट्रोड्यूस करना चाहिए जिसके कि गांवों के बेचारे गरीब लोगों को इसके लिए मोटर और रेल का किराया न देना पड़े।

हमारी सरकार ने देश की सुरक्षा व्यवस्था को मजबूत करने के उद्देश्य से और देशवासियों का इस दिशा में पूरा सहयोग पाने के उद्देश्य से यह नई योजनाएं देश के सामने रखी हैं जिनके बमुजब लोगों को करों में राहत दी गई है और ब्लैक या सफेद जैसा भी पैसा या सोना हो उसके बारे में कोई पूछताछ न हो कर वे उसे सरकार के पास जमा करा सकेंगे और एक निश्चित अवधि के बाद उसे अपने पैसे व सोने को मय ब्याज के वापिस भी पा सकेंगे। जहां उन्होंने जनता को अपना योगदान देने को

प्रोत्साहित किया है वहां यह जो भाये दिन अफसरान व पुलिस आदि अधिकारियों पर चार्ज लगाये जाते हैं कि वे रिश्वत लेते हैं तो उसका दरवाजा भी उन्होंने इस तरह से बन्द कर दिया है और अब उनको नाजायज तौर पर पैसा लेने का मौका ही नहीं रहता है। जिसके पास धन है उसका प्रोटेक्शन हो जायगा भले ही वह छोटा हो या बड़ा हो और उनको मौका होगा कि वह अपना पैसा देश की सुरक्षा की खातिर सरकार के पास जमा करायें। एक लम्बी रोप हम ने दे दी है। गवर्नमेंट आप को सचेत कर रही है कि जिनके पास सोना हो पैसा हो, ब्लैक का हो तो भी कोई पर्वाह नहीं वे उसे सरकार के पास जमा करा दें और उस पर उन्हें ब्याज मिलेगा और एक निश्चित अवधि के बाद वह उन्हें लौटा दी जायगी। हमारी गवर्नमेंट की जो चाल है वह कछवे की चाल है, खरगोश की चाल हमारी नहीं है। कछुवे की चाल से हम सही दिशा में धीरे धीरे आगे बढ़ रहे हैं और अभी पिछले दिनों पाकिस्तान से जो हमारी लड़ाई हुई उसमें हमारे देश के नौजवानों ने कमाल कर दिखाया और दुश्मनों के दांत छट्टे कर दिये और अमरीका के पैटन टैंक्स जिन पर कि पाकिस्तानियों को इतना नाज था उनकी मिट्टी पसीत कर के रख दी।

यह योजना बना कर हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने ब्लैक वालों को एक मौका दिया है कि वह अपना पैसा, सोना आदि जमा करा के उसे सफेद बना सकें। देश की सुरक्षा में नगा हुआ पैसा उनका सफेद बन जायेगा। उन्हें मौका दिया जा रहा है कि वे लोग भी सही व ईमानदार बन जायें। जो मुकर्जी माहब उपदेश कर रहे हैं वही आज यह गवर्नमेंट कर रही है। आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि यह हर एक को जो बोर बोर

कहा जा रहा है मानों सारा मुल्क चोर हैं तो इसका भ्रसर देश पर खराब पड़ता है और हमें इस को त्याग कर सारे मुल्क को ईमानदार मान कर प्रोत्सीड करना चाहिए। किसी को चोर मत कहिये। सभी भारतीय हैं और इस देश के रहने वाले हैं। आज देश एक संकटकालीन स्थिति में से गुजर रहा है। उसे 10, 20 दुश्मनों का मुकाबला करना है इसलिए मैं सब से अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे वह भ्रष्ट हो, कर्मचारी हो, छोटा हो या बड़ा हो सब को एक सूत्र में बाँधें और उनसे कहें कि वे अपना सोना सरकार के पास जमा करा कर देश की सुरक्षा में हाथ बंटावें और साथ में सूद भी लें। मैं गवर्नमेंट के बिहफ्र पर हर एक देशवासी को आपके द्वारा यह विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट ने एक निश्चित अवधि के बाद जो उनका सोना प्रादि वापिस करने का आश्वासन दिया है वह पूरा किया जायगा। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और उन विरोधी प्रोपोजरों का विरोध करता हूँ।

Shri Himatsingka (Godda): Sir, I am surprised to hear the speeches of Prof. Ranga and Prof. Mukerjee. Yesterday, the point was made very clear that the Bill does not give any additional advantage to any person who wants to disclose any undisclosed income or money. In fact, the two amendments that were introduced and accepted by this House have given sufficient opportunities to those who want to disclose their undisclosed wealth. In fact, if it were such an advantageous measure, why should the response be so poor? Even Prof. Mukerjee has read out a news-item that searches have been carried out in about 15 establishments and a large amount of undisclosed money has been discovered. Therefore, the Government is following the hard way of enforcing the laws that are there, and at the same time has given this opportunity to those who want to put forward the gold which is very badly

needed for the defence of the country and other urgent requirements which cannot be met on account of our foreign exchange position.

Therefore, I feel that this is a very welcome measure. It should have been welcomed by everybody and not tried to be run down in the fashion in which some of our friends are trying to do. This does not give any additional advantage to any one who wants to put forward money. This is only to attract the gold which is very badly needed.

श्री बड़े (खारगोन): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि हम रुपये-पैसे वालों के हृदय को स्पर्श करेंगे और उन से पया और सोना लेंगे। मैं उन को बताना चाहता हूँ कि उन लोगों के हृदय हैं ही नहीं—उनका हार्ट फेल हो गया है। शासन ने 60-40 परसेंट का जो कानून निकाला था, उस के बावजूद उन लोगों ने सोना और रुपया नहीं दिया। इतना ही नहीं, जब यह स्कीम जारी की गई, तब भी उन लोगों की तरफ से सोना नहीं आया है। मैं माननीय श्री भगत को बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में भ्रष्टी परसेंट गरीब जनता है और केवल बीस परसेंट ऐसे वाले और धनवान हैं। क्या शासन ने गिफ्ट टैक्स, बैन्च टैक्स, एस्टेट ड्यूटी प्रादि के कन्सेशन गरीब जनता को दिये हैं? नहीं, बल्कि ये कन्सेशन उन धनवानों के लिए हैं, जिन्होंने ब्लैक मार्केटिंग, डैकायटी और पिछारी का पेशा अपना कर गोल्ड अपने पास रखा है और शासन के सब क्रिस्कल लाउ को कन्विन्तान बना कर रखा हुआ है।

इस बिल के अन्तर्गत लोगों से कहा गया है कि यदि वे गोल्ड देंगे, तो उन के खिलाफ कोई एक्शन नहीं लिया जायेगा और व्रद्ध वर्षों के बाद उन को उतना ही गोल्ड दे दिया जायेगा। क्या इस प्रकार का कानून यह नहीं प्रकट करता है कि ब्लैक मार्केटिंग

[भी बड़े]

करने वाले धनवान लोगों ने घाज तक शासन के कानूनों का पालन नहीं किया है, शासन की 60-40 परसेंट की अपील को नहीं माना है, शासन उन लोगों से धन या सोना प्राप्त करने में असफल रहा है और इसलिए वह यह कानून ले आया है? इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से घील करता हूँ कि वह इस बड़े रीढ़िंग के समय भी इस कानून को वापस लें। यह कानून गरीब जनता के लिए नहीं बनाया गया है, बल्कि इस के द्वारा शासन चोरों को प्रोत्तन दे रहा है। अगर माननीय मंत्री जी का दृष्टिकोण यह है कि वह लोगों के हार्ट को घसीट कर के गोल्ड लेंगे, तो फिर इस कानून की जरूरत नहीं है। उन लोगों के ब्लैक डीइज को डांपने और उन को प्रोटेक्शन देने के लिये यह कानून लाना उचित नहीं है।

अगर हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों की भावनाओं को देख कर भी शासन इस कानून को वापस नहीं लेता है, तो जनता यही कहेगी कि यह चोरों का बाजार है और यह शासन चोरों का साथ दे रहा है।

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): Sir, I cannot persuade myself to extend support to this Bill, though the underlying objectives are such with which it would be very difficult to have quarrel or express disagreement. That this country, confronted with the dual challenge from China and Pakistan, needs to raise resources and raise them substantially is a proposition which needs to be only stated to be acceptable to this House and this House has given unstinted support in the pursuit of this objective.

I would like to point out to the Finance Minister—who is absent—that though I am a little reluctant to shower criticisms soon after the laurels which he is supposed to have won during his odyssey to Moscow. . . .

Shri Ranga: Question.

Shri Nath Pal: . . the tenor and tone of the speech of Prof. Mukerjee should show that he has not succeeded very much. But we are told that he has succeeded and therefore, normally I would have been reluctant to shower criticisms upon him. But I must say a few things regarding this Bill.

I am afraid this Bill is an attempt to give statutory recognition to a fraud which a section of the community has been committing on the people of this country. This Bill is a premium, a dividend, on dishonesty. This is going to act as an incentive to tax-dodgers. Normally, in other countries including the Soviet Union, they are trying to find out means of providing incentives under the Leiberman theory to the producer, the cultivator, the worker, those who contribute to production of wealth. But this Government is coming forward with measure after measure to give incentives to that section of the community—I cannot work myself into a frenzy as Prof. Mukerjee managed, but we feel angry that the only incentive which the present administration can think of is not to the peasant cultivator, the producer and those who serve this country with the sweat of their brow, but to those who do everything to thwart every national interest. I think the Finance Minister is a case of a man who misunderstood the *shastras*. Perhaps he has taken the wrong meaning of what Shankaracharya had to say:

यस्यास्ति वित्तं स नरः कुलीनः

स पंडितः स श्रुतिमान् गुणज्ञ

स एव वक्ता सच वर्तनीयः

सर्वे गुणाः काचनमाश्रयन्ते

"All virtue emanates from gold. Why fight shy of worshipping gold?"

But I think there was an implied criticism, which a man of the Finance Minister's intelligence should not have

missed. He may be on the verge of committing the tragedy of the Greek hero, Midas, who asked God to grant him the boon that all whatever he touched should be converted into gold. He thought he had got the key, the solution to all problems. The boon was granted unto him. What happened? Absent-mindedly Midas touched his own hair and it was converted into gold. The rest of the story, the intelligent Finance Minister should know.

He is a fine scholar and coming home, he should remember what Ramakrishna Paramahansa said: A man who wants to do something worthwhile should resist two temptations—with due apologies—Kamini and Kanchan. Unless we liberate ourselves from the pulls of these two, we cannot liberate our soul. I think the Finance Minister should think about it. He once showed some promise that he would be making amends for the lapses committed in the past. That was the rich promise he held when he was Minister without Portfolio. We heard some of his very memorable speeches, but the era ended when he became the Finance Minister. These were worthwhile exercises in objective criticism of what was wrong with the administration. He showed promise of taking the right remedial steps.

All the three objectives with which the Gold Control Order was promulgated have been defeated. Obstinance can very often be misunderstood for determination. Let not Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari persuade himself that his present obstinance in not accepting the failure of the Gold Control Order will be regarded by us as a demonstration of his firmness. It is nothing of the kind. It may smack of something different. The triple objective of the Gold Control Order was (a) to put an end to gold smuggling—Mr. Bhagat made the bold statement and the tall claim in the Rajya Sabha that the Gold Control Order has succeeded in putting an end to gold smuggling.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I never said that.

Shri Nath Pal: So, you accept it has failed. I am happy.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I did not say that either.

Shri Nath Pal: I shall be the first to congratulate him if he stands up and says, "I never made such a claim, such a claim cannot be made, the Gold Control Order has failed." If he says that, I shall not be niggardly in offering congratulations when congratulations are deserved. Let him persuade himself to give me the opportunity of handsomely complimenting him by making this admission that the Gold Control Order has failed in putting an end to smuggling.

13 hrs.

Sir, some of these people are obsessed with their favourite facts. Somebody goes on perpetuating in the country that prohibition has succeeded. Somebody else comes and tells us that gold smuggling has come to an end. Has it ended? If anything, the present evidence is that it is on the increase. I have no evidence to prove it, but we know that all those who want to buy gold can buy gold. Where does it come in? I do not mean the 14 ct. gold. Where does T. T. Krishnamachari. . . .

An hon. Member: Not of Shri Krishnamachari but Shri Morarji Desai.

Shri Nath Pal: Yes, I am sorry, 14 ct. gold of his predecessor but I am saying about 22 ct. gold. If you want 22 ct. gold you can get it in unlimited quantities. The second objective was to conserve foreign exchange. The third was, of course, to turn these untapped resources to development and to Plan. The fourth was to bring down the

[Shri Nath Pai]

prices of gold. Has any of these been achieved? If we test with the touch-stone which he himself set for us when the Gold Control Order was promulgated, it has failed in achieving any of the four objectives. The prices of gold today are higher than where they stood when the Gold Control Order was promulgated.

Now, Sir, all those who marshal their intelligence in support of this odious Bill by saying that the concessions sought to be given by this Bill are not different from what was earlier achieved by legislation, are not being very fair in saying that. I do not think Shri Himatsingka, who is another intelligent man, was very fair in saying that. I do not understand the complications of the share market and all that go by it. I am no authority on taxation either. But commonsense tells me that this is something quite different from what was sought to be done when we adopted it. I will tell you how. The earlier measure by the Finance Minister had 60 per cent to 40 per cent. We know the famous cartoon on it "how shall we mix it." The benefit here is 100 per cent. To what class of people? Are we going to perpetuate this? I understand and appreciate the difficulties. We need every paisa to be turned to defence and development. These are two prior claims on us. Are these the means for it? Have we done something better? Which is the section that you are going to encourage by this kind of Bill?

I am afraid, Sir, the hon. Minister should ponder very quietly over this. I know he does not jump to conclusions. I know he is not in the habit of getting excited. Once he twitted me by saying that he does not get excited. Do not get excited, but be reasonable, be amenable to logic and be amenable to the force of experience. What I say is, be open to be persuaded when facts come and stare you in your face. I would like him to tell once and for all, will we be

periodically coming to those who just know that they can bring down this Government to their way of thinking by giving them every incentive, by giving them even this benefit that the law of this country shall be bent down to suit them? To suit whom, not the national interest but this kind of people. Apparently it has the veneer, the semblance, the appearance that this law is basically being brought for bringing the resources badly needed for defence and development. But basically who is going to be the beneficiary; it is those who have been making a mockery of your law. It is they who are going to be the beneficiaries.

I think something else will have to be done to get this gold out. How was this gold made? This was tax money evaded, gold bought and preserved. Now they are to come not only as rich men but they are to be, in the process, to be great patriots. They broke the law of the country. They are anti-social elements. My final objection is that in spite of this incentive you are not going to get what you want. I want to say this to the Finance Minister. He had this brilliant idea earlier when Kaldor persuaded him to give some thought to Kaldor's proposals. Then he took a courageous step and he knows what happened. We have on previous occasions given the number of people who have made faithful statements regarding wealth tax, gift tax and expenditure tax. How meagre was it? It is not that, therefore, the measure was wrong, but the measure had something to recommend.

Finally, I say that in the light of the suffering of the masses and the redundancies in the Bill, this Bill makes a mockery of the Gold Control Order. If the misery of half a million people does not move you, it is amazing. How can we be oblivious, how can we persuade ourselves to be blind to this, to the misery of half a

million goldsmiths who are honest citizens—it is not that every one of them is a blackmarketeer—who have served this country very loyally and many of whom are humble artisans. The sheer logic of this should persuade the Finance Minister to declare to this House that the Gold Control Order has become redundant.

With these words, Sir, I once again emphasise that it will not be possible for any legislator, though he would agree with the necessity of raising resources, to support this kind of dubious means of raising resources.

श्री काशी राम गुप्त (भलवर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह सरकार सोने के मामले को लाकर के स्वयं सो गई है और इस बिल के द्वारा वह गुनाह और बेवज्जत करने जा रही है। करोड़पति लोग कहते हैं कि हमारे पास भी जेवरों के रूप में सोना नहीं है, यह सरकार को समझ लेना चाहिए। वह जवाहरात के रूप में है। धाप के नवयुवक जो हैं वे अपनी करोड़पति बहुधियों को जवाहरात से सुसज्जित करते हैं। कल ही श्री मुरारका ने बताया था कि अगर किसी के पास सौ रुपये हैं तो वह उन सौ रुपयों को मार्किट में बारह परसेंट पर दे कर पन्द्रह बरस में पांच सौ रुपये कर लेगा। अर्थात् अगर वह साठ रुपये दे कर अपनी कमाई को ईमानदारी के साथ भी फैलाएगा तो वह ढाई सौ रुपये उस से कर लेगा। इस प्रकार से सरकार की जो धर्म नीति एक दूसरे के विपरीत चल रही है उस का नतीजा यही होने वाला है जो आज दिखाई दे रहा है। कल भी मैं ने कहा था और आज भी मैं धर्म मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूँ कि जरा वह अपने धाकड़ों को इस सदन के सामने रखें कि 31 जनवरी के बाद कितना सोना उन के पास आया है, उस में से कितना ऐसे लोगों से सोना आया है जो इनकम टैक्स देते हैं, बैल्यू टैक्स देते हैं और उस में भी कितना ऐसों ने दिया है जिन्होंने कि उसे छिपा कर रखा हुआ था। अगर दसवां

या बीसवां हिस्सा भी नहीं आया है तो फिर यह स्वयं प्रमाणित हो जाता है कि यह बिल बहुत ही गलत तरीके से लाया गया है।

आज श्रीमती रेणुका राय ने एक बहुत पते की बात कही है। उन्होंने कहा है कि धारा 8 को हटा दिया जाए। उस का एक महत्व था। छःठा भाग से ईमानदार और बेईमान दोनों एक साथ बिठाए जाते हैं। बेईमान के साथ ईमानदार लोग बैठना कभी पसन्द नहीं करेंगे; इस के प्रतिरिक्त हमारे धर्म शास्त्रों में शुद्ध धन के महत्व की बात कही गई है। गरीबों का धन, श्रमिक वर्ग का धन और साधारण समाज का जो धन है वह शुद्ध धर्म कहलाता है क्योंकि उन की मेहनत की कमाई होती है और बाकी लोगों का जो धन है वह धन शुद्ध धर्म में धन नहीं होता है, वह भगुद्ध धर्म में धन होता है। इस प्रकार से रियायतें दे कर सोना लेने में भी यह सरकार सफलीभूत नहीं हो सकती है। ऐसे पाप की कमाई को इस प्रकार से रियायतें दे कर लेने की क्या आवश्यकता है? और वह भी तब जब उस का कोई अनुमान भी धाप के सामने नहीं है। कल भी मैं ने निवेदन किया था कि क्या पांच सौ करोड़ रुपये के सोने की धाप को प्राणा है या पचास करोड़ रुपये के सोने की भी प्राणा है तो धर्म मंत्री महोदय ने कहा था कि इस के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा जा सकता है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि जिस बिल से पचास करोड़ रुपये का सोना भी नहीं आ सकता है, दस करोड़ रुपये तक के सोने की प्राणा नहीं है और जिस को लेने के लिये सब प्रकार की रियायतें दी जा रही हैं, तो ऐसे बिल में से कम से कम उस धारा को तो हटा देना चाहिये।

चौदह कैरट का जो मामला है उस को वापिस नहीं लेते हैं। तो इस का धर्म यह होगा कि जो लोग आज धपना सर्वस्व दे देंगे उन को कल अगर सोने की जरूरत होगी तो चौदह कैरट का सोना लेना पड़ेगा और दस साल बाद सरकार को फिर सोना लेने की जरूरत होगी

[श्री काशी राम गुप्त]

तो चौदह कैंट के सोने से वह निहाल नहीं होगी। भाज भी चौदह कैंट का जो सोना है, सरकार उस से निहाल नहीं हो सकती है। इंटरनेशनल मार्केट में भाप वह सोना नहीं बेच सकते हैं। सभी तरीकों से भ्रगर सोचा जाए, चारों तरफ से भ्रगर सोचा जाए तो यही नतीजा निकलता है कि इस बिल को ला कर सरकार ने बुद्धिहीनता का कार्य किया है और ठीक होगा कि इस को वह वापिस ले ले। अन्यथा इस की भी वही गति होगी जो भाज गोल्ड कंट्रोल एक्ट की हो रही है या दूसरे और जो एक्ट्स हैं उनकी हो रही है। हां एक बात जरूर होगी। बेईमानों को लाभ हो जायेगा और सरकार को कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। और जहां तक ईमानदार लोगों का सम्बन्ध है, वे इस में जरूर नुकसान उठावेंगे।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Mr. Speaker Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill once again, and I fully support the expression given to this Bill by my hon. friends, Prof. Mukerjee, Shri Nath Pai and others. It is really a tragedy in this country that whatever measure is being taken it is always taken in a half-hearted manner and there is no sincere effort by the Government to unearth either the black-money or the gold.

When I was speaking on the first reading, I mentioned that when a declaration was made by the hon. Finance Minister giving 90 days' time to those who wanted to submit their unaccounted money, there were cases pending in Delhi and had this concession not been given, those companies would have been forced to pay 80 per cent income-tax and nearly 150 per cent as penalty. But by this declaration they were able to save large amounts. They simply declared the same amount which was under scrutiny or investigation by the income-tax or other authorities. So, whatever concession has been given, it has been given only to those who are taking all concession from Government.

13.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

What the role of certain industrialists in the country is known to us. I do not oppose all industrialists, but there are industrialists in the country who have hoarded money made out of blackmarketing. What happened in Kanpur? The other day there was a furore in the House on the question of Lakshmi Chand Aggarwal hoarding money to the tune of crores of rupees out of blackmarketing and sending corrugated sheets to Pakistan.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Kanpur chap!

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Yes, a Kanpur chap. What happened in West Bengal? Even during this emergency when Pakistani soldiers were killing our jawans, when the entire country rose like one man to defend the motherland, what happened in Calcutta? Men like Jai Chand Sethia and Gajraj Saraogi, who were caught not only for blackmarketing, were trying to help Pakistan monetarily with the help of Isphahani. What action was taken against them? Even the officer, who was responsible to arrest or scrutinise the whole thing, has been transferred from Calcutta to some other place. This is the fate of senior Government officials who are honest to the core and who want to help this Government.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Rameshwar Sahu): That is totally wrong.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know clearly whether Shri R. Prasad, Collector, Central Excise, West Bengal, has been transferred or not. I mention the name. After the whole incident, he was transferred because he was one man who, with Shri Shrivastava—I generally do not mention names—with unquestionable integrity was trying to arrest these tycoons and expose their sins against the interests of the country.

Here I should also take this opportunity of saying that I was under the impression that after this Bill is passed, at least some relief will be given to goldsmiths and that the Gold Control Order will be rescinded or done away with; but, they have not done it. Now, an atmosphere is being created in the country that many people will give gold. I am sure, only the middle-class employees or those coming from middle-class families and getting within the pay range of Rs. 100 to Rs. 250 will give some gold in the interest of the country, for defending the motherland. It is they who have come out. The other people will not give.

An hon. Member: Shri Rameshwar Tantia.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Shri Rameshwar Tantia might have given. I am happy about it. But, what about Shri Prabhu Dayal Himatsingka? What about others? They are not giving gold.

Shri Rameshwar Sahu: What about from that side?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I am paying Rs. 50 every month.

The general impression about the Government in the country is that whatever it touches, vanishes. The other day, I was told that the Government of India is considered to be the greatest magician; whatever they touch vanishes. They touch wheat and it vanishes; they touch foodgrains and they vanish. Now they are going to touch gold and it also will vanish. That is the general impression about the Government. I do not want to create that impression; I want gold for guns. But what is happening actually? Five lakh goldsmiths are still rotting on the streets. It is a sad commentary on our planning and our employment potential... (Interruption). It will come to Shri Mahavir Tyagi. He is rehabilitating everyone. Even when I was dismissed, I was rehabilitated by him.

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida (Amrard): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are facing the realities of life. I have heard the words of wisdom from Shri Nath Pai, namely,—

“सर्वेषुणाः कांचनमाश्रयन्ति”

Even Russia or China also want gold because gold is a commodity which is internationally accepted. This measure, I understand, is for giving assurance to industrialists or capitalists, who have gold with them, that their gold is guaranteed by Government from taxation and, further, that they will be returning the gold after 15 years. So, in fact, this Bill should be supported by all parties but, I am rather surprised that Shri Mukerjee and Professor Ranga are in company and. . . .

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Company? Is it parliamentary?

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: . . . are agreed on the opposition to this Bill. One wants that better facilities should be given to capitalists and the other wants that capitalists should be completely wiped off. So, these two different groups are agreeable on this point, makes me rather sceptical and also puts me in a laughing mood.

This is a democratic country and in a democracy we cannot take gold by force. When we accept democracy, we must find means to get gold and that gold must be acquired by democratic means. In this country we have a tradition of not donating gold but of firing gold. Rani Lakshimbai of Jhansi, when defending her citadel, had fired silver and gold bullets when iron bullets were not available. I am quite sure, in spite of little opposition here and there, this country will rely in giving gold; maintain our tradition and our nationality. We shall offer all the gold that we possess for the defence of this country. That is the idea, I understand, why Government requires gold. It is not merely for importing wheat or fancy things, that we acquire

[Shri Narendra Singh Mahida]

gold. It is a commodity which is to be exchanged with bullets.

If we talk of defending this country against China or Pakistan, we shall have to give gold or be prepared for further taxation. Either of these two we must welcome; but, if the Government comes forward with concessions for giving gold, we oppose it and when they try to tax us more, we oppose it. So, I very humbly submit—I am not a tax-payer of this kind—that some assurance should be given in a democracy to those upper class persons who have gold so that they may come out with gold. Whether it is black or white, we are not aware; if it is black gold the Central Excise has all the powers to capture it. The other day we had read in the papers that in Calcutta the Central Government caught some industrialists who have been dealing in smuggled goods.

This Bill is a welcome measure. It is no use running down those people who have come forward to offer their gold to the country. They must also understand that the value of gold depreciates. It does not pay them in the full manner in which they want it. So, I appreciate the measure of this Bill and I see no reason why other people should oppose it merely for the sake of opposing it. I very heartily welcome this Bill.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I need not go into the points that have been raised by hon. Members because already yesterday I have dealt with most of them. It is curious that there are no new ideas or thoughts emerging because although different hon. Members have spoken in more eloquent language, it has been mainly repetition. I can say that I agree with most of the sentiments expressed by hon. Members so far as sentiments are concerned, for example, the quotations from the Mahabharata about the exploitative process of wealth-gathering. From the Mahabharata to Marx all this process has been happening. I agree entirely.

Similarly, the hon. Member has said about Kanchan and kamini. I am not a scholar of Sanskrit though I have read some Sanskrit; but, I think, I can tell the hon. Member with greater force how, more than kamini, kanchan can be dangerous. I can only quote Rahim, who is a more popular poet than Shankaracharya whom he has quoted. There is a famous couplet of Rahim:—

“कनक कनक ते सौवर्णी मादकता अधिकार ।
एक खाय बीरात नर, एक पाय बीराया ।”

One kanak is toxin and the other is a woman. So, it is hundred times more. I say, gold can be more dangerous and the only way it cannot be dangerous is that it should be socialised.

I am in complete agreement about the sentiments that have been expressed. About the incentives to the producer—I am a producer myself; I do not know whether the hon. Member is a farmer or not—I know what is the incentive that a farmer requires. Therefore, there is no question of any disagreement about the sentiments. But the point is: What should we do?

Shri Nath Pal: You are not a farmer; you are an absentee landlord.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No; fortunately, not yet.

But the point is: What should we do? As I said yesterday, we have given certain concessions. The hon. Member knows the philosophy of the stick and the carrot. The Government has to use both the stick and the carrot. Sometimes danda is necessary and sometimes some concessions are necessary. Whether you call it the hard way or the soft way, the totalitarian or the democratic way, both these processes are there.

Sir, I had explained the background of the concessions. It is not a concession to the black-marketeers to convert their black money into gold

But it is a concession to certain persons who have a large hoard of gold and it may be that they may be affected by the application of various taxation laws. It is for those who may have gold to tender gold. They need not sell it to somebody who may convert his money into gold in tendering it. I repeat again that the concession is only for those persons and the concession is not immoderate. It is reasonable and it cannot be an affront to any public morality.

Secondly, it should be appreciated that this is for a very limited period of about 3 or 4 months. The concession is given in the extreme urgency of raising certain external resources to meet a difficult situation and to make us self-reliant. So, it is in this context that we have to judge whether the concession given is reasonable or not. It is quite reasonable. It cannot be said we are pandering to these anti-social elements. I have no love for them nor has the Government any love for them. The House would appreciate the successive measures taken by the Government and particularly by the present Finance Minister in finding out the undisclosed income, whether it is in the form of currency or whether it is in the form of gold. The Government has also taken anti-smuggling measures.

I can understand Mr. Masani by way of his eloquent language and Mr. Ranga in his less eloquent language opposing the Gold Control Act. But I cannot understand the hon. Member, Prof. Mukerjee, who proclaims socialisms of varied variety, from communism to socialism, and Mr. Nath Pal opposing the Gold Control Act. I was also misquoted and it was said that I had said that the Gold Control Act has not stopped smuggling. What I said was that smuggling, as any other anti-social practice, cannot be eradicated in a day. There are also other forces working for it. But the gold control measure wants to control the hoarding of gold by various processes of declarations and it assist in the process of checking smuggling. Its

success cannot be judged in a day or in a few months. In that respect it is a social measure and a measure of social reform. Take, for instance, the Sharda Act. At one time, the Act was, more or less, non-existent although the Act had been passed by Parliament. But today you will find that it has come into operation. I think if the hon. Member who claims to have a progressive outlook takes the census of the views of the younger women and younger men, he will find that the lure for gold is going down. If this Gold Control Act is there, I think, a day will come soon, in the course of years that at least the future generation, the younger generation, will give up gold. If you take away the gold control measures the signpost, that is, the direction, will not remain there. Mr. Ranga wants to reverse the social trend. Therefore, I can understand his opposition to the Gold Control Order. Then Mr. Masani and Mr. Ranga say that if the Gold Control Act is not repealed this scheme will not succeed. Mr. Masani even claims that the people of this country have less faith in the Government than the people of other countries who are giving greater assistance. I have no quarrel with this travesty and perversity of thinking. I can join issue with the hon. Members who want to go ahead and want the country to build a self-reliant economy and who want to defend the freedom and the integrity of the country.

It is for this purpose that a measure like this had been brought forward. I concede that we have given concessions. But I repeat that it is a patriotic appeal to a large number of men and women who have a small holding of gold, say, of 5 tolas or 10 tolas and it is in the realities of the situation that we have given certain reasonable concessions to certain sections of the people. I think, on balanced considerations, the hon. Members should support this measure which is a measure to raise certain resources for the country. I would plead with them. The object of this measure is unexception-

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

able as has been expressed by all the Members on the other side. But you have to accept certain compromises and in given conditions the compromises are reasonable. They are not extraordinary. We must create a proper climate which is absolutely necessary for the success of this measure and which is vital for making us self-reliant in the coming months so far as the external resources are concerned. If the will of Parliament is expressed in a unanimous manner, it will help in creating a proper climate in the country. Although small quantities of gold have been tendered uptill now, I have no doubt that in the coming days and weeks, if the climate is built up, we can have a sizeable amount of gold to meet our external resources requirement.

With these words, I appeal to the House to adopt this Bill unanimously and without any division.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

13-25 hrs.

DEMANDS* FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 1965-66.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We now take up the Supplementary Demands for Grants (General). The time allotted for this is 2 hours. Does the Minister want to make any speech?

The Minister of Planning (Shri B. R. Bhagat): No, Sir.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

DEMAND No. 16—EDUCATION

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a Supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1966, in respect of 'Education'."

DEMAND No. 37—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Deputy Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a Supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,25,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1966, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND No. 39—GRANTS-IN-AID TO STATE AND UNION TERRITORY GOVERNMENTS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a Supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1966, in respect of 'Grants-in-aid to State and Union Territory Governments'."

DEMAND No. 47—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a Supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,50,00,000 be