

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sure Government would take that into consideration.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** If you will permit me, I can clarify the position. The policy of this Ministry has been that wherever any lands have been unauthorisedly squatted upon, if the same is within certain financial sanctions, we regularise those colonies. If that is not possible due to it not being within the specified financial limit or for any other reason it is not considered in the public interest to regularise the colony, then we give them alternative accommodation. In this particular case, I do not know whether there are any lands lying in the adjoining area and I do not know why the Defence Ministry want this particular land. But if the refugees are evicted, we will give them alternative accommodation.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Not after they are evicted.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** It will be only after eviction. How can you give them alternative accommodation before they are evicted?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister must make arrangements to give them alternative accommodation before they are evicted if really this action is against their interests. Let us have some more facts about this matter. Naturally the House will expect that with respect to refugees who have been there for some time, as the hon. Minister himself has stated, every arrangement will be made to provide alternative accommodation to them. The only question is whether alternative accommodation needs to be thought of or provided before the eviction is made, unless it be that there is a state of emergency and this land has to be requisitioned for the purpose of defence. All these matters require to be clarified and the hon. Minister will try to obtain to get information about them and place it before the House on Monday. Therefore, this motion will stand over till then.

#### CYCLONIC STORM IN TAMILNAD AREA

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have received notice of another adjournment motion from the following hon. Members, Kumari Annie Mascarene; Shri Muniswamy; Shri Veeraswamy and Shri Anandan Nambiar. The motion seeks to discuss a matter of urgent public importance arising out of the havoc caused by the unprecedented cyclonic storm in Tamil Nad on the 30th November, 1952, destroying properties worth crores of rupees, thousands of

lives and houses and causing untold misery and bitter suffering to the people, especially of South Arcot, Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts. May I enquire how this is a Central subject?

**Shri Nambiar (Mayuram):** Here is a report that appeared in the *Dein Express* dated the 6th December, 1952. It says:

#### 'TANJORE REPORTS 134 DEATHS IN RECENT CYCLONE

In the Tanjore district 134 people lost their lives and many others sustained injuries as a result of the cyclone, which swept the district on November 30, the Collector's report to the Government stated today. The loss of cattle is estimated at over 1000." Not only that but the Central Government is vitally affected because the communications have been damaged. The trains are not running properly and the roads and custom houses have been affected. Many public buildings belonging to the Central Government are also affected. I may bring to your notice certain facts which are reported in the *Indian Express* dated the 5th December 1952. I shall read to you one or two passages only:

"NAGAPATTINAM IS WORST HIT BY CYCLONE GREAT DAMAGE TO PROPERTY FEARED 42 DEAD IN KARAIKAL

10 FEET OF WATER IN NAGAPATTINAM HOSPITAL

M. L. A.'s ACCOUNT OF CYCLONE HAVOC"

These are the headings. I shall now read a small passage from the statement of an eye witness:

"Loss of life and loss of property may be very great. I think the whole town has to be rebuilt and given a new name.

Many places are flooded between Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam. It will take many days to resume rail traffic. Karaikal is heavily flooded. The town looks like a floating raft."

The same is the case in regard to Nagapattinam port and there has been heavy damage in Trichy also. There is demand for relief from the Central as well as the State Government. The Trichy Town Congress authorities have stated in their communication that the cyclone has caused considerable havoc in the district and that plantain crops over a few thousand acres have been destroyed. Several huts have been destroyed, rendering a large number of people homeless.

[**Shri Nambiar.**]

They have suggested that besides declaring land revenue remission, suitable aid should be given to people by way of relief. Facilities are also demanded for those rendered homeless to rebuild their huts. All this information goes to show that this is not a matter which the State Government can tackle by itself, because that Government is already handicapped by famine conditions. The railway and postal communications have been affected. The ports have also been affected. Therefore, it is a very serious situation that has not arisen in the south for the last several years. Therefore, immediate relief has to be sent there.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene** (Trivandrum) rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Has the hon. Member got any fresh facts to tell the House? I want to know, first of all, the urgency of it; then the seriousness of it; and thirdly, how the Central Government is interested in this matter. This is a State subject. All the same, the House is interested in knowing whether the Central Government has anything to do with this matter, whether it has or has not done what it could do to supplement the steps that have already been taken by the State. Such a havoc and calamity is a subject that affects the entire Indian nation. It is a case like the Assam earthquake. If there have been 134 deaths as reported, and a large number of people have been rendered homeless, the State Government by itself may not be in a position to give relief. I would like to hear the hon. Minister.

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** I should like to make a statement on behalf of the Government of India. We received intimation of this motion only at 10.10 A.M. today. We have not yet received any reports from the Government of Madras. All the same, immediately after this notice was received we put ourselves in telegraphic communication with the Madras Government. Some time is necessary before we can get full details. In the meanwhile, the matter may kindly stand over. A statement will be placed on the Table of the House some time during the course of the next week. Government would also state then what help they are going to give to the persons concerned. In the meanwhile, on behalf of the Government of India I express the fullest sympathy not only of the Government of India but of this House for the untold hardships to which a number of people have been subjected in the various districts, namely, South

Arcot, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and I am told also Salem. The matter may kindly stand over.

**Dr. S. P. Mookerjee** (Calcutta South-East): May I make one enquiry from the hon. Minister? Is it only after receiving notice of this adjournment motion Government has put itself in touch with the Madras authorities regarding the nature of the havoc done? These incidents happened on November 30 and December 1. This has also been widely reported in the newspapers. It is one of the biggest havoocs that have happened so far in any region in India and, has the Government of India not received any information from the Madras Government? Has the Madras Government sent any report to the Government of India?

**Shri Datar:** I may point out to the hon. Minister... (Laughter) ... anyway, he is an ex-Minister....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is he reading into the future?

**Shri Datar:** The past is already there ... anyway, I may point out to him and to this House that the Government of India have already started enquiries and a telegraphic communication has been sent after this notice was received. Secondly, it is very difficult even for the Government of India to find out the full details because communications have been very seriously interfered with. Therefore, the Government of India will take the earliest opportunity of placing all the materials before this House, and they will also be glad to help the Madras Government to the extent it is possible, consistent with our obligations.

**Lala Achiat Ram** (Hissar): Has any immediate relief been sent by the Central Government to this area?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He has stated that they have taken action. May I enquire from the Deputy Minister of Communications whether he wishes to say something about the communications position? There was a reference to the interruption of postal and telegraphic facilities.

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** So far as communications are concerned, we took prompt steps to meet the situation. The D.E.T. concerned was flown from Madras to Trichinopoly and the lines of communications between Trichinopoly and Coimbatore and other places were restored on the 1st. I think by now all the major lines of communications have been restored and the minor portions that remain are being attended to.

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Sir, press reports were quoted copiously and referred to in this connection. These reports themselves have pointed out that communications have broken down and it is very difficult to get all the information. We have got some information from the Southern Railway. We are not in receipt of full information. As soon as full information is received we shall place it before the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now we have heard this matter sufficiently. Extracts have been read out from the newspapers, which give sufficient accounts of the damages done. Government is fully aware of the seriousness of the situation and as the Ministers have assured they are taking steps to gather information and sending such relief as might be necessary. I would request the hon. Minister to make a joint statement relating to all the three Ministries and Government as a whole, indicating what relief measures are being taken by the Central Government and what help they are giving to the Provincial Government, where they are not in a position to afford relief themselves.

**Dr. Krishnaswami (Kancheepuram):** When can we expect that statement, Sir?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** During the course of next week. It should be as early as possible, say by Tuesday. So, this matter will stand over till Tuesday.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

BALANCE SHEET ETC. OF THE DELHI ROAD TRANSPORT AUTHORITY FOR 1950-51

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri.

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** I beg to lay on the Table.....

**Shri V. P. Nayar (Chirayinkil):** On a point of order, Sir, it is not Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri who is "laying it on the Table". You have several times ruled that in such cases Ministers should say: "On behalf of so and so, I lay on the Table of the House."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have already been informed that Shri Alagesan will lay the papers on the Table on behalf of Shri Shastri. It is enough if I am informed.

**Shri Alagesan:** I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following

papers under sub-section (3) of Section 38 of the Delhi Road Transport Authority Act, 1950:

(i) Balance Sheet of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1950-51 together with details of its capital,

(ii) Profit and Loss Account of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1950-51.

(iii) Financial Review by the General Manager, Delhi Transport Service on the accounts for the year 1950-51, and

(iv) Audit Report on the Annual Accounts of the Delhi Road Transport Authority for the year 1950-51 together with the reply of the General Manager, Delhi Transport Service and the Supplementary Report of the Accountant General, Food, Rehabilitation and Supply. [Placed in Library. See No. P-85/52.]

#### INFLUX FROM PAKISTAN (CONTROL) REPEALING BILL —Concid.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House will proceed with the further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri J. K. Bhonsle:

"That the Bill to provide for the Repeal of the Influx from Pakistan (Control) Act, 1949, be taken into consideration."

**Shri Sarangadhar Das (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack):** Sir, yesterday when the House adjourned, I was speaking of the feeling of people in Bengal with regard to the influx of refugees from East Bengal to areas in and near about Calcutta. A great majority of the Members of this House know that I come from Orissa. I am not a Bengalee, but I have had intimate associations with Bengal since my childhood. So, I have friends in Bengal while coming and going. I get information from people in Calcutta both West Bengal people as well as East Bengal refugees.

In the matter of refugee problem, the feeling is that the Government of India and the Members of this House are not at all serious and that Bengal is being neglected. Bengal was almost the birth-place of Indian nationalism—I say almost, because there was some movement in Manarashtra also. But it is the cradle of nationalism and the fact that we Indians of this generation are forgetting Bengal and particularly the people of East Bengal who were in the vanguard of the fight for freedom, is very much resented and even I, although I am not guilty of that charge, am criticised by my friends.