

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION (INDIA) TRANSFER OF FUNDS BILL

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the transfer of a portion of the funds of the St. John Ambulance Association (India) to the St. John Ambulance Association (Pakistan).

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the transfer of a portion of the funds of the St. John Ambulance Association (India) to the St. John Ambulance Association (Pakistan)."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I introduce the Bill.

\*DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—Contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with the further discussion and voting on the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1955-56. The total time allotted for this discussion is 5 hours of which 1 hour and 34 minutes have been availed of and the balance of 3 hours and 26 minutes is now available.

DEMAND No. 61—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 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, 1956, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs'."

I will just read the numbers of cut motions which the hon. Members

have intimated to be moved. Hon. Members will be kindly attentive and check the numbers:

Cut motions Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 25, 32 and 33.

*Expenditure on supervisory staff*

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal):** I beg to move:

"That the demand of a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 50,000".

*Language policy of Government*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore):** I beg to move:

"That the demand of a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Delay in constitution and composition of Official Language Commission*

**Shri Raghavachari (Penukonda):** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Discrimination in grant of relief and method of selection*

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I beg to move:

"That the demand of a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

*Policy of relief granted*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Inadequate representation given in the Commission to non-Hindi-Speaking areas*

**Shri Vallatharas (Pudukkottai):** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Working of Official Language Commission*

**Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad):** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Policy of introducing Hindi as Official Language*

**Shri Vallatharas:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Official Language Policy*

**Shri N. E. Muniswamy (Wandiwash):** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of

Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Delay in the Constitution of Official Language Commission*

**Shri B. D. Shastri (Shahdal-Sidhi):** I beg to move:

"That the demand of a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** All these Cut motions are now before the House.

**Shri Vallatharas:** We have saved half an hour in the time allotted so far, for the discussion of the three items before and since the present item is an important one, I beg to submit that this half an hour may be added to this. I do not want any time in excess of 5 hours, but the time saved may be allotted to this. Instead of 45 minutes, it may be 1 hour and 15 minutes.

**Mr. Speaker:** The whole of the time is not going to be extended; I have no objection and the House may as well agree to it. But later on, another request may come saying that that Demand being important, more time should be allotted to it. Therefore, when you utilise the time that is saved now, it is taken for granted that no additional time will be given at the end and the whole thing will be finished within 5 hours.

**Shri Kamath:** May I in support of the demand made by my friend, Mr. Vallatharas request that this demand may be taken last and other Demands may be taken up now? I request you to consider it, because this is an important Demand and all the time that remains at the end may be devoted to this particular Demand. Other Demands may be disposed of first.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have no objection to that, if the House is agreeable. But does the hon. Member undertake to see that no extension of time is asked for the other Demands?

**Shri Kamath:** I assure you I will not ask.

**Mr. Speaker:** So, we might keep this pending at this stage and we may take up the other demands. There are no cut motions to Demand No. 115.

**Shri Vallatharas:** There is Demand No. 107.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes. Demand No. 107 refers to charged item, and the contents can be discussed in the House. If anybody wants to have any discussion, I am prepared to allow it.

I think the better course will be to dispose of the Demands in respect of which there are no cut motions. After that, we will take up the other Demands.

**DEMAND NO. 115—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CURRENCY**

**Mr. Speaker:** There are no cut motions to this Demand. I will put the Demand to the vote of the House.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,32,63,000 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, 1956, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Currency'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Speaker:** We will now take up other Demands in respect of which there are cut motions. Demand No. 119.

**DEMAND NO. 119—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**Mr. 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, 1956, in respect

of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance'."

There are some cut motions. The following cut motions have been intimated.

Cut motions No. 17, 18 and 35.

The time allowed for this Demand is 45 minutes.

**The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant):** What about Demand No. 61?

**Mr. Speaker:** We are taking it at the end, after disposing of all the other Demands. The time allotted to Demand No. 61 is 45 minutes, but a request was made that the time should be extended and then a proposal came that it might be left to be taken up at the end, so that we may have more time for discussion.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** So, the time is somewhat indefinite. I hope it will not go on interminably.

**Shri C. D. Pande** (Naini Tal Distt. cum Almora Distt.—South-West cum Bareilly Distt.—North): The time is limited to 1½ hours.

**Mr. Speaker:** The time granted is limited.

*Disapproval of Policy of allowing foreign capital to come through private enterprises and sources*

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced to Rs. 1."

*Mode of transactions*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Relative advantages of Indian membership in International Finance Corporation*

**Shri N. B. Muniswamy:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Speaker:** Cut motions moved:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced to Rs. 1."

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I have moved my cut motion No. 17 to this Demand. This Demand relates to a new item. The Government of India have decided to become a Member of the International Finance Corporation and this body is going to be an affiliate of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

"In association with private investors, it will assist in financing the establishment, improvement and expansion of productive private enterprises which would contribute to the development of its member countries. Secondly, it will bring together investment opportunities, domestic and foreign private capital and experienced management and thirdly, it will seek to stimulate and to help create conditions conducive to the flow of private capital, domestic and foreign into productive investment in member countries."

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

We have made it clear time and again that we are opposed to private foreign investments in our country. We have made it clear also that we do not oppose external assistance as such. But, this assistance should come, if it is to come at all, without any strings. Here, the main emphasis is on the word 'private'. If private capital is allowed to come from foreign big capitalists and form a sort of combine here with Indian big business, it will create so many difficulties. If we analyse the shares of the different countries which are already members of the World Bank, the countries that might be member countries and shareholders in respect of this International Finance Corporation, we shall find that the U.S.A. and the U.K. will hold about 50 per cent of the shares. The U.S.A. will have 35,168,000 dollars; the U.K. will have 14,400,000 dollars. India's share will be only 4,431,000 dollars. This shows that just like the World Bank, this affiliate would also be largely dominated by the big imperialist countries, and by their individual private investors. This organisation will also be dominated to an extent by these big countries. In India we certainly want rapid industrialisation. For that, we want the private sector also to contribute its part. By our being a member of this International Finance Corporation, we find that some loan capital would come. The one good point that I find here is that there would be one restriction as it has been stated in the memo. of this Finance Corporation. They should not have any share capital or participate in the management of the concerns, in which they may have some stake. The main point is that the Capital would not come through negotiations with the Government of the member countries; but capital would come direct to the private concerns here. Private investors here would have an opportunity to combine with the big business outside. The object of this Finance Corpora-

[Shri N. B. Chowdhury]

tion, according to item 2 of its purposes is to bring together investment opportunities, domestic and foreign private capital and experienced management. This sort of unholy marriage which this match-making body is going to achieve through this organisation may create difficulties for us in various ways.

First of all, there are private foreign investments in our country. They will exert a great influence on our economy. Generally in some countries, they pay high dividends. Here also if we accept this foreign capital and allow them to invest their money along with private capital here, these private concerns would generally expect higher dividends. That would be one difficulty when we are trying to impose certain restrictions on the dividends of companies. Secondly, whenever foreign capital comes in a sufficient quantity, foreign investors would demand some sort of an assurance from the Government that there should be no nationalisation. We have seen in the case of the Oil Refineries and such other concerns that they have got a clear assurance through their agreement that there is not going to be nationalisation for a period of 20 years or 25 years. Whenever foreign capital comes in sufficient quantities, they would try to get such an assurance from the Government. In a planned economy which we are going to have in this country, we would certainly expect that at least in regard to certain basic industries, Government should have the power to nationalise those concerns whenever they think it necessary to do so. But, if we allow private foreign capital to flow in in this way, naturally these will be a great handicap so far as nationalisation is concerned. Keeping all these things in mind, we think that we should raise certain issues so far as our participation in this Finance Corporation is concerned. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there would be any obligation on the part of this Corporation

to consult the member Government with regard to the investments that they will allow through private capital here. There is a provision in the articles of this Finance Corporation that if the Government of the member country opposes any such investment, they will not allow such an investment. I would like to know whether that would apply only in the case of capital which will be given as a loan by the Corporation itself or whether that would apply also to cases of foreign capital investors who would, without consulting the Government of the member countries, combine with private investors in this country. That position has to be clarified.

Nowadays we find that by having huge foreign investments we are likely to run the risk of being influenced to a certain extent by such countries or by such investors. Recently, we have seen in connection with oil in Iran, and in certain Latin American countries how foreign investments are creating trouble in those countries. Whenever their interests are touched in any manner, whether it is in British Guiana or Argentina or Iran, they create trouble in the country. Whenever we decide to allow foreign capital to come to our country, we should be on our guard, and consider whether by our doing so we are not running this risk. We oppose the investment of private foreign capital although we have no objection for any loan capital being given to some concerns in the public sector or even in the private sector. If it is given to the private sector, it must come through negotiations with the Government and also as a loan capital and not as investment capital. These are the observations that we want to make in this connection.

There is another point that I want to make out, and that is with regard to privileges and immunities. Like the World Bank, this affiliate will also enjoy immunities and privileges. They have, of course made it clear

that these immunities would not apply to the concerns to which they may give loans or in which they may have some stake. They will apply only to the offices and organisations of the Corporation. Suppose in India they start an office or they have some organisation. In that case, it is doubtful whether we have any power to take effective control with regard to such organisations and offices. Since it concerns the private sector, suppose some smuggling or blackmarketing goes on connected with this organisation, then I doubt whether we will have the power to search the houses connected with this organisation. So, all these questions arise in connection with the grant of immunities and privileges. So, we have to be clear on this point also.

**Shri N. E. Muniswamy:** I am very happy to know that we have become a fulfilled member of the International Finance Corporation which is supposed to be affiliated to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

We have been supplied with certain details in this connection by the Minister of Finance but they are meagre. So, I would like to get some clarification from the hon. Minister as regards the relative advantages of our becoming a member of this corporation.

It is said that we have to pay about Rs. 211 lakhs and the payment has to be made in the month of November. It is not going to be an altogether new investment. As a matter of fact, we are saving a lot of money from other grants, so this is only a token demand.

What would be the borrowing power of India if it becomes a permanent member of this corporation, the number of times that it will be able to draw loans? We are not given any data regarding this so that we may pay attention and make suggestions.

As regards these offices that are to be held in the Board of Governors, Board of Directors etc., I would like

to know whether the Government of India also will be represented on the Board of Directors and Governors, whether they have got any right to nominate any representatives, or whether the directors have to be elected.

Details about this and borrowing capacity of India have to be given so that the House may be in a better position to judge the relative merits of our becoming of this corporation.

**The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha):** The main point mentioned by Shri N. B. Chowdhury was that foreign private interest will come into this country and will do some mischievous things in collusion with the indigenous private capitalists. I think that if he had read the literature circulated to the Members, he would have found it stated there that no investment would be made without the sanction of the Government of the country concerned. This means that in every case this corporation will first ask the Government of the country concerned whether they have got any objection, or whether they would like a certain investment to be made. Only then the investment will be made. It is not—as he has apprehended that in particular cases the Government goes out of its way to raise certain objections regarding the investment, and then it is withheld. That is not the position. In every case of the corporation would consult the Government of the country concerned before making the investment.

Another point he made was that there should be only loan capital, and not investment capital, that is not equity capital. I think that is not position as yet. This corporation will give loan capital, and not investment capital. It will not participate in share capital.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** One of the objects mentioned is to bring together investment opportunities of domestic and foreign private capital and experienced management.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I am coming to that.

He has mentioned something about the special privileges or immunities that may be enjoyed by these investors. I would like to draw his attention to the foreign investment policy declaration of 6th April, 1949. There he will find it stated that whatever foreign capital comes into India will operate just as Indian capital, under the same conditions, and they will be liable to the same control and conditions that may be imposed on Indian capital.

He has particularly raised the question of dividends. I think it has been stated in that policy declaration that foreign interests would be permitted to earn profits subject only to regulations common to all. They will not enjoy any particular and special immunity from the controls and regulations that the Government may impose on Indian investments. There are other things also in that statement which I hope he will read; and then all his misgivings about this point will be removed. It is definitely stated therein that foreign companies will have to conform to the general requirements of the industrial policy of the country, and that as far as possible they will train Indian personnel and employ them. Moreover, this point would apply particularly to those industrial concerns which will be managed by foreign investors, whereas it has been clearly stated that this corporation will not open or undertake the management of any concern here. It will supply the loan capital either from its own funds or arrange loans through foreign private investors. So, there is no question of their coming into the management of any concern through this corporation.

He has just now raised one point regarding the objects mentioned in page 3 of the literature: viz. (b) serving as a clearing house to bring together investment opportunities of domestic and foreign private capital and experienced management; and

(c) creating conditions conducive to productive investment of private capital. I think the conditions that have been put here would rather be in conformity with his own ideas. He is very much afraid of the unholy marriage between foreign and Indian investment or Indian capitalists. These two conditions would rather remove such possibilities, at least they would make such possibilities more difficult. The corporation may act as intermediaries to bring certain foreign investors in contact with the Indian industrial concerns, and that will be done in consultation with the Government. No investment through this corporation will be made without previous consultation with the Government. So, there cannot be any underhand arrangement between Indian and foreign investors. If the corporation undertakes this thing, it will be done through the corporation and with the previous consultation of the Government.

He has also referred to certain immunities to be enjoyed by this corporation. The corporation as such would not enjoy any financial or economic immunities. But the employees of the corporation, just as the employees of any other U.N.O. body, will enjoy certain diplomatic immunities. That has got nothing to do with the economic or financial policy of this Corporation or of the Government of our country.

**Shri N. R. Muniswamy** has mentioned about the appointment of directors. I think this will be done by the shareholders. So, there is nothing particular to be worried about in regard to this matter. In the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund also, we have been playing some useful part, and we have been getting some benefits out of these things. Similarly, I hope our country will get some benefit from this Corporation also. It will be beneficial not only for our national interests but for the inter-

ests of some neighbouring countries as well. It will cater particularly to the backward countries. I think most of the Asian countries may be considered to be backward countries as regards industrial progress. So, we expect that this Corporation will do some good to the Asian countries and other backward countries.

I am rather glad that Shri N. B. Chowdhury has not raised any objection to foreign capital being imported as such. That shows that my hon. friends opposite have accepted the position that foreign capital is necessary for the industrial development of our country and for the implementation of the next Five Year Plan.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** We have no objection to loan capital.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** It may be loan capital, and also share capital. But this Corporation will supply only loan capital.

I think I have replied to all the points that have been raised, and I hope the House will now be pleased to pass the Demand.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I would like to have some clarification on one point. From our experience of the first three years of working of the First Five Year Plan, we find that the private sector here did not invest even half the amount, that was expected of them. I think they invested only Rs. 96 crores, whereas they were expected to invest as much as Rs. 230 crores during the Plan period. So, they did not come to our expectations.

In the Second Five Year Plan, again we are talking about an investment of about Rs. 750 crores in the private sector. From our past experience, we feel that the private sector here, even if they make the best of efforts, may not invest so much. That is what we feel judging from the experience we have got of their investing capacity or their willingness to invest etc. We therefore

rear that there is likely to be a large quantum of foreign private investment capital. Would Government clarify this position and tell us whether the remaining amount will come entirely from foreign investors, and if so, how much as loan capital and how much as private investment capital?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** In para 1 of the footnote under this Demand, we find that mention is made of the Draft Articles of Agreement of the Corporation prepared by the Bank, and it is stated:

“According to the Draft Articles of Agreement of the Corporation prepared by the Bank the purpose of the Corporation is to further economic development for encouraging the growth of productive private enterprise in member countries, particularly in the less developed areas.”

I do not see any reason why a copy of the Draft Articles of Agreement of the Corporation could not have been placed before this House. And it will not be too late, though the amount will be sanctioned to Government, to place a copy of the same on the Table of the House so that the House may be enlightened on the matter.

When Government are going to contribute an amount of Rs. 2.11 crores, the House must be informed as to what the Draft Articles of the Agreement would be, and to what extent there will be future commitments on behalf of this Government.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I think that stage has not yet been reached. We can only say that we shall consider the suggestion made by the hon. Member to place a copy of the final Agreement on the Table of the House. We have not yet received the final Agreement. That is my information.

As for the point raised by **Shri N. B. Chowdhury**, I do not think his

[Shri A. C. Guha]

estimate about the performance of the private sector under the First Five Year Plan is quite correct.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** That is what I find from the *Progress Report of the First Five Year Plan*.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I have also got before me here the figures. But my impression is that his estimate about the performance of the private sector is not quite correct, so far as the working of the First Five Year Plan is concerned.

As for the future, it is not possible for me to say how much will be the gap between the target and their performance, and what portion will come from foreign investment. It is not possible for me to give any idea of that now. But I can give the hon. Member this assurance that any investment coming from the Corporation will not hold majority shares in any industry and will not have the management in its control. I think that will satisfy the anxiety of the hon. Member in regard to the safeguarding of the national interests.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Even with respect to this Demand, I feel that some more particulars might have been given, as was suggested by an hon. Member, instead of just supplying a cyclostyled copy or a footnote in the explanatory memorandum. I think this International Finance Corporation is a new service.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** It was not there in the Budget.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Evidently, the note that was prepared and circulated was at the suggestion of the sub-committee of the Business Advisory Committee who confined themselves only to certain Demands, namely Demands Nos. 25, 61, 107 and 138. But they had ignored Demand No. 119.

I would suggest to the hon. Minister that even with respect to Supplementary Demands, more exhaustive

memoranda must be attached, instead of giving merely some footnotes below the Demand. Formerly, for the Standing Finance Committee, for every new service, many details were given, just as if they were presented at the time of the Budget itself, so as to give hon. Members an opportunity to consider the desirability of recommending that Demand.

In this case, a token of just Rs. 1,000 has been asked for. But this service may very well involve the country and the Government in a commitment of Rs. 2 crores and odd. Therefore, greater details have to be given.

I shall now put the cut motions to vote.

**Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** I am not pressing my cut motion No. 35.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I am not pressing my cut motion No. 18.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** So, I shall now put cut motion No. 17 in the name of Shri N. B. Chowdhury, to the vote of the House.

The question is:

“That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of ‘Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance’ be reduced to Re. 1”.

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I shall now put the Demand to vote.

The question is:

“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 1956 in respect of ‘Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance’.”

*The motion was adopted.*

**DEMAND NO. 138—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY**

**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 1956 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'."

Hon. Members may kindly indicate which of the cut motions they are moving.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I am moving cut motion No. 20.

**Shri Raghavachari:** I am moving cut motion No. 21.

**Shri N. E. Muniswamy:** I want to move cut motion No. 37.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I want to move cut motion No. 22.

**Shri Kamath:** I am moving cut motion No. 23.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is one other cut motion to this Demand, namely cut motion No. 38. That is beyond the scope of this Demand, and is therefore out of order.

*Disapproval of policy of contribution to the public company under private persons through preference shares*

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I beg to move:

"That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced to Re. 1".

*Disapproval of policy—undesirability of hotel enterprise*

**Shri Raghavachari:** I beg to move:

"That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not

exceeding Rs. 1,000, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced to Re. 1".

*Need for having a hotel*

**Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** I beg to move:

"That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100".

*Desirability of Government funds being invested in hotel enterprise*

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I beg to move:

"That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100".

*Question of accommodation in New Delhi.*

**Shri Kamath:** I beg to move:

"That the Demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100".

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** These cut motions as also the original Demand are now before the House.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Demand No. 138 was, first of all, placed before us in a very bland form. Later, at the instance of the Sub-Committee of the Business Advisory Committee, a two-page note has been supplied to this House, and even there the information given is very scrappy and unsatisfactory. The House would have appreciated if the Ministry had given fuller details and if the Minister had also placed on the Table of the House the memorandum of articles of association as well as the

[Shri Ramachandra Reddi]

agreement that was entered into between the promoters of the Asoka Hotels and Government. Government are now made to commit themselves to a contribution of nearly 50 per cent of one crore of rupees which is the estimated value of the hotels that are going to be built.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** 25 per cent.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** That is the contribution made by way of investment in shares, but there is a further commitment that another 25 lakhs of rupees will have to be given to these promoters, in case they are not able to raise the entire money. This is a commitment about which much can be said. Usually, in such cases when the promoters are able to raise money, there is no difficulty. But in this case, it does not seem to be quite promising that they will be able to do that. Otherwise, they would not have demand another 25 lakhs of rupees to be lent to the Asoka Hotels promoters. That involves a commitment of nearly 50 per cent of the entire amount of Rs. 1 crore. Further, if shares are purchased by Government, there is a possibility of loss of interest on these two items—Rs. 25 lakhs by way of purchase of shares and Rs. 25 lakhs by way of loan. This does not seem to be a very good enterprise in which the Government could afford to pay such a large amount. If we had had the opportunity of reading the terms of the agreement between the promoters and Government, and also if a draft copy of the memorandum of articles of association had been placed before us, it would have been easy for us to scrutinise the several clauses and tell the Government where they are right and where wrong. Unfortunately, that has not been done. The very manner in which the note has been supplied to us shows that the Government are fighting shy of telling us that actually is going to be done by the Government in this behalf. I was informed that under the

agreement, the promoters are going to hold very few shares. Under article 10 of the agreement, H. H. the Jamsahib of Nawanagar is going to hold shares worth about Rs. 1½ lakhs and Harbanslal Chadda will hold shares of the nominal value of Rs. 1 lakh. The entire contribution of these two promoters comes to only Rs. 2½ lakhs in the total capital of nearly Rs. 1 crore. And then these two promoters are given the majority voice in the directorate. The Government would have only two directors, and the other directors who are in a majority will be provided by either the shareholders or the promoters.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Promoters have got the right to nominate members of the board of directors?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** The promoters will nominate their directors, and probably they will be in a majority—more than the number of Government directors. The number of Government directors, I am told, would be about 2 out of 5 or 7.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Will not the company law be applicable in respect of voting right according to the amount subscribed?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** We do not know exactly what the articles association are and, therefore, we are unable to tell the House or criticise the attitude of the Government, in what way they have made all these.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Surely it is a joint stock company. It will work under the company law.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House must also know what is the number of directors, what is the accommodation and all other details. It is new service. All this might have been circulated to hon. Members. I find a note here which is very cryptic; it only deals with the financial aspect. Being a new service, more details regarding the amount of ac-

commodation etc. might have been given so as to facilitate hon. Members to consider it. I am sure the hon. Minister will give all that information.

**Shri Kamath:** What if he does not try to give it?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** The two promoters will have a hereditary right to nominate as many as 5 directors among themselves and Government will have only two directors. It is very objectionable that such promoters should have such hereditary privileges conferred on them in the matter of appointing their directors.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hereditary privileges?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** The heirs of the promoters also have that right.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Are the articles and memorandum ready?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I do not know.

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swran Singh):** They are not yet ready. They are still under consideration. Therefore, we have actually come to the House at a very early stage.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member is saying that hereditary rights are conferred on the promoters; their sons, grandsons and so on will also have a voice. They may have voice as shareholders, but not something like another set of managing agents.

**Sardar Swran Singh:** Obviously, there cannot be an agreement which is not valid under the Indian Companies Act.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Has no agreement been evolved—even a draft agreement—so far?

**Sardar Swran Singh:** Not about the articles of association, but there is an agreement between the promoters and Government.

**Shri Kamath:** A copy of that agreement may be placed on the Table of the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What is the total strength of the directors?

**Sardar Swran Singh:** That is not mentioned there.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Will they have maximum voice or dominant voice?

**Sardar Swran Singh:** The intention is to have the number of directors anywhere between 17 and 21; but the exact number has not yet been fixed.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Government will have only 2 directors.

**Shri N. R. Maniswamy:** Only 2 out of 17.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I would like to ask the hon. Member whether there is any article in the memorandum of association which runs like this:

“To carry on the business of hotel, restaurant, cafe, tavern, refreshment room, boarding and lodging keepers, licensed victuallers, wine, beer and spirit merchants, brewers, maltsters, distillers, manufacturers of aerated, mineral and artificial waters and other drinks, purveyors, caterers for public amusements.... and also places of amusement, recreation, sport, entertainment etc....”

I do not know what is the policy of the present Government with regard to giving encouragement to run the hotel on these lines. The policy seems to be—rather it is pronounced to be—a policy of Prohibition. But these things are going to be provided in the hotel, with the result that this will be one of those several hotels where all sorts of things do happen and in which Government themselves are going to be a partner and a party. So to what extent the Prohibition policy has been kept in mind when

[Shri Ramachandra Reddi]

agreeing to such an article of association, I would like to know.

1 P.M.

Then the only excuse for going in for a hotel of this type seems to be the coming UNESCO conference. I remember the hon. Minister coming before the House for a grant of nearly Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 lakhs for constructing a very big building in the Queensway for the purpose of providing accommodation for these numerous guests in the year 1956 when this Conference is likely to be held in Delhi. I think the construction is already going on and we have seen old buildings destroyed and new buildings coming up. I have not been able to understand from the note that has been supplied to us as to how many such guests are going to come and how many rooms are going to be built in Queensway and how many rooms are going to be made available by the promoters of these Hotels in the new Chanakya-puri Asoka Hotels Ltd. These are all things on which more enlightenment is necessary. I should think that it is very inadvisable for Government to take part in such a commercial undertaking, especially of running a hotel, which is not possible. How will the hotel be run and to what extent correct accounts will be kept there and to what extent Government will have a controlling voice and control over the administration of that particular hotel? We feel—at any rate the House feels—that we are making a wrong choice in becoming a partner in a concern like this. It is, therefore, necessary that Government should come before this House with greater details, after withdrawing, if necessary, the present Demand. It is only a token Demand for Rs. 1,000. I do not think Government will be losers in withdrawing it at this stage and coming before this House with fuller details at a later stage. I do not think the House will be in a position to refuse the grant for the simple reason that a large majority

of Congress people are here to vote for any such enterprise, though some of the articles of association run counter to the ideals which they profess. It is, therefore, very necessary and desirable that we should have a complete knowledge of the working conditions of this Hotel and complete knowledge of the articles of association and the agreement they are going to enter into, so that the House may be able to vote for it with a full knowledge of what they are going to vote for.

**Shri Kamath:** I have moved cut motion No. 23, that the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100.

The project for which the Demand has been brought before the House by the Minister is, I am constrained to say, extremely ill-conceived. It is neither in the private sector nor in the public sector that this hotel is sought to be built. We in this House are handicapped because the Minister has not given us all the requisite information that would have helped us to discuss this in an adequate measure. But the few words he uttered a couple of minutes ago throw a rather lurid light in this matter. He said that out of 17 or 18 directors of this company Government will be entitled—it is given in this note supplied by the Ministry of Finance on page 2—that Government will be entitled to nominate two persons only on the board of directors of the company. If it is going to be a fact, what the hon. Minister had just now the hardihood to say, is almost ludicrous, as the last sentence in the note says:

"The stipulations mentioned above would enable the Government to have adequate and effective influence over the management and control of the hotel."

It is laughable when out of 18 directors on the board of the company

Government has got only 2 directors. One wonders whether each director of the Government is equal to 10 private or non-official directors so that they will make 20 and the others 16. There was a similar agreement, though not on all fours with this, some years ago when the Government of India entered into an agreement with a British firm for the construction of a Prefab Housing Factory, and the dice were loaded against the Government and there was no penalty clause and there were so many other defects; finally it became an ignominious fiasco. I hope and pray that this may not also collapse. So far as Government's participation is concerned, I trust Government will not ultimately rue the day when it took a decision to join this company. But, I am afraid the circumstances and the provisions of the agreement, the contemplated provisions, not yet finalised because I understand from this note that nothing has been finalised,.....

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** As regards the articles of association.

**Shri Kamath:** Even as regards the Agreement itself, most of the clauses say this will be done and that will be done. If something happens Government will do this and do that. The Minister, to say the least, in fairness to the House, should have laid it on the Table of the House and supplied copies to the hon. Members. What is the meaning of treating this House, as if it is of no importance whatever, in a cavalier and shabby manner? I must protest against the attitude of the Government in this.

**An Hon. Members:** Yes; yes.

**Shri Kamath:** Thank you; I am thanking Shri Tulsidas also because he is nodding his head. Until and unless this agreement is available to us, this Demand should be held over. As a token gesture from you to the House, may I have your ears as well as your eyes?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am not doing much.

**Shri Kamath:** You are the custodian of the rights and privileges of the House, both sides, this side as well as that side.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sure the hon. Member won't say anything which is not relevant. Therefore, he need not have my ears.

**Shri Kamath:** Without hearing me how can you judge the relevancy or otherwise? I was appealing to you that we are very much handicapped in the consideration of this Demand, when the hon. Minister treats this House in a cavalier and shabby manner by not placing on the Table of the House and making available to us copies of the Agreement which the Government propose to or has already gone a long way in entering into with the company. I would appeal to you, Sir, that if the Agreement is somewhere in the pigeonholes of the Ministry, or somewhere near in Parliament House this Demand may be held over for half an hour or an hour so that we may be able to take it up at 2-30. A copy of Agreement must be with the Minister, perhaps even here he may read it if it is not too long and let us study it and then make comments. I hope you have heard, understood and appreciated the point I have made. If you agree—the House seems to be agreeable—we insist on the agreement being laid on the Table of the House. The Minister may be directed to bring a copy of the Agreement and lay it on the Table of the House in half an hour or so. We may take up the next Demand referring to the official language and by the time that is finished we may take this up. We are handicapped; we do not know what the agreement is and we are being asked to pass this Demand without knowing what the Government has committed itself to, with the other partners of this company. May I have a ruling Sir, before I proceed further?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** To obviate any further difficulties, I will request the hon. Minister to intervene now, and if after hearing a number of other Members he wants to say any-

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

thing in reply, I will give him another opportunity. Therefore, whatever information he has got which he can communicate to the House so as to influence their decision, he may state it. I will give him another opportunity also to speak if he so desires.

**Shri Kamath:** I have not finished yet.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will not allow him to speak again on this question after the hon. Minister has spoken.

**Shri Kamath:** Do you want me to speak without the relevant information that the hon. Minister is going to give?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Whatever the hon. Member is able to speak without that relevant information, he may do; at this stage I cannot hold it over.

**Shri Raghavachari:** The point that is referred for your decision is whether Government, when it wants this House to commit itself into passing nearly half a crore of rupees to be invested in a private company should not place all relevant information before the House. We are now asked to do that without having the material which the Government is in possession of.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What has happened is this. This matter was taken up by the Business Advisory Committee and they were not satisfied with a mere short foot-note just appended in the printed book which has been circulated to hon. Members. In answer to that, a more detailed statement of the commitments so far as the financial aspect is concerned, is given here. Naturally, hon. Members want to know how far it will be useful, whether the private accommodation here is not available, how far Government intervention will be useful, and so on and so forth. These are things which will influence the mind of the House one way or the other. I expected that those details would have been given in a note of this

kind, but they have not been given. I do not want to hold it over. I will request the hon. Minister to give all the information that he has in his possession. Shri Kamath will not have another opportunity to speak later on in this connection.

**Shri Raghavachari:** The point is this. Is it not the privilege of this House to demand from the Government that they should give the materials which they have in their possession and which is necessary and absolutely relevant for making up our minds in this matter? They have referred in this note to an agreement entered into with some parties. That agreement must be placed on the Table of the House and made available to us. We cannot be asked to do things in darkness. As the Telugu proverb says, even if you have to throw away into a gutter or into a stream, count it and throw. Let us have this information whether we throw it in the gutter or in some place where we can put our hands and get it back.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. Now the responsibility is on both sides. Whatever they thought necessary to influence the decision of House, Government have given it by way of a memorandum. The original memorandum is a short one and the detailed memorandum relates to financial commitments. As soon as the Demand was read out, it was open to any hon. Member to say that the hon. Minister must move his motion, give such and such material and convince the House as to why we should pass the Demand. In this case, when I placed the Demand before the House, hon. Members kept quiet and thought that it was only the burden of the Chair and the hon. Minister. If hon. Members are not satisfied with any memorandum that is given or any statement that is given, in spite of even these statements—one is printed and one is typed—running over 100 pages hon. Members might say that something else is wanted. There are two ways. Let them not merely hang upon this.

We cannot go on adjourning from day to day. It is open to the House to say "let the hon. Minister who moves his motion satisfy us on these points." We had an opportunity to ask him then. If any hon. Member raised this point then, I would have asked the hon. Minister to speak in the first instance, give his reasons for convincing the House and then the cut motions would have been moved. Therefore, I am not going to reverse this policy merely for Shri Kamath or for any other individual. As he is alert in other matters, he must have brought this to my notice earlier in which case the hon. Minister would have started with his speech first. Whatever the hon. Member can do now he may do. The other Members will have an opportunity after hearing the hon. Minister.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Mysore):** Let the hon. Minister place before the House whatever material he has in his possession at present and if there are any doubts, questions may be put.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have already said that, but he will do that after Shri Kamath concludes. In the middle of the hon. Member's speech how can I ask the hon. Minister to speak? I can ask him to reply if it is a question. But to make a general speech and observations, half here and half there, I will have to create a new precedent in this House . . . .

**Shri Kamath:** When once you were in the Chair in the last Parliament, and Shri Hare Krushna Mahtab was Industries Minister, in the middle of a discussion you held over the debate till he supplied certain figures. I am sorry I cannot lay my finger on it now, but you yourself were in the Chair and you ordered him to furnish the figures which were supplied the next day. Here I do not want to postpone discussion till the next day, but only for an hour or so.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member will confine himself to the other points and Shri Raghavachari will pro-

baby start with the bricks and mortar, accommodation etc.

**Shri Kamath:** I hope this will not be a precedent.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** With respect to Supplementary Demands, wherever there is a new service, the literature that is supplied must be as full as in the case of any Demand which is brought into existence or put into the budget for the first time. That must be the course adopted. Mere cryptic statements will not do. For all such new services, the Minister must start with a speech and explain to the House as to why he comes forward with a new service. Thereafter, hon. Members will follow in the debate. This is the normal rule.

Wherever, of course, in the interval new points arise, the Minister will try and get such other information as may be necessary, without unnecessarily taking up the time of the House or adjourning the House.

Now I will request the hon. Minister to speak after Shri Kamath concludes.

**Shri Kamath:** You have appreciated our difficulties and given your ruling on the question.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members also will be alert. If the Minister does not speak in the first instance, and if they want some elucidation without which they cannot speak, they will ask for the Minister to speak first.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I have got an explanation to give. If the hon. Minister gave any indication that he wanted to move this motion and speak upon it, I would not have risen. When I found that there was no such observation or attempt, I had to get up.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister is thoroughly satisfied with the material he has placed before the House. If no discussion takes place, he will ask me to put it to vote. The hon. Member who now raised this difficulty must have thought of it earlier and said "What are we to speak

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

on? Let the hon. Minister tell us what it is all about." Then I would have asked him to speak first. Whichever hon. Member has lost that opportunity has lost it. Let him wait for the next.

**Shri Kamath:** Take the notes prepared by the Finance Ministry. I do not comprehend the purport of subparagraph (vi) on page 2 of the notes. With all these handicaps and with only two directors out of 18, which Government has satisfied itself with, Government still thinks that the Board of Directors will give their fullest consideration to the suggestions made by the Government regarding the schedule of requirements for the hotel. Unless it be that all non-governmental directors are pliable, and are also in the pocket of the Government, I fail to see how Government will have the deciding voice in the management of the hotel with 15 or 16 directors ranged against only two from their side. Government, I think, by this sorry deal will help to repeat more or less the blackmarket tariffs, profiteering and other things that are prevalent in some hotels in New Delhi. I remember that the Imperial Hotel once charged as much as Rs. 95 for one night only, during the time of the last Parliament.

**An Hon. Member:** Rs. 175.

**Shri Kamath:** Now, perhaps it has gone up. A question was put in the provisional Parliament. After that, I believe there was some sort of a control imposed on the rates but that control does not work. I learn from somebody who stayed there, in the Imperial Hotel recently, that he has had to pay Rs. 135 or Rs. 145 for a single night for a room—not for the mess, not for the food—but only for the room. I am afraid it is going to be repeated in the case of Chanakyapuri hotel. Poor Chanakya has been associated with it. His name is being associated. Great immortal Chanakya is being dragged into this mire. I am afraid it will bring discredit to his name.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I do not know; hon. Members may know much better than I do. In Canada there are two systems—one maintained by the State and the other by the railways. All along the railway line—about 1500 miles—in every important city there is a hotel run by the railways and on the other side, the other half of that system, it is run by the Government by itself. It runs a hotel all along the route. There are hotels with 13 storeys and with accommodation for 1200 guests. They are run there. Therefore, there does not seem to be something inherently wrong in this proposal; it is only a question of how far it will be worked properly.

**Shri Kamath:** Your suggestion is very helpful. I did not know about this at all. You have thrown light upon this matter so that I may understand this problem. I would suggest as a natural corollary that there might be two hotels in Chanakyapuri.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Not in the same place. There it was spread over 1500 miles.

**Shri Kamath:** There may be two hotels—one by the private sector and the other completely public sector. By healthy competition there will perhaps evolve a *via media* or *modus vivendi* ultimately for the construction of other hotels. Here it is not so. The Government has two directors out of 17-18. How will they control this hotel with this scanty representation on the board of directors? I would suggest that not less than 51 per cent of the board of directors must go to the Government. So, so far as this matter is concerned, if Government wants to control and not allow black-market transactions to prevail in this hotel also, I for one suggest that the representation must be increased, if not to 51 per cent, at least to some sort of a decisive percentage. The first part of this note says that the necessity for a suitable hotel in New Delhi has been occasioned by the

increase in the number of international conferences and foreign tourists that come here..... and all that. Therefore, it is all the more necessary that the hotel should be run on very sound lines. Many of these conference delegates and others used to stay in the Constitution House during the last few years.

I know from intimate contact....  
(Interruptions)

**An. Hon. Member:** Your favourite place.

**Shri Kamath:** Yes, my favourite place. That was my first love.

**An. Hon. Member:** Last love.

**Shri Kamath:** I don't know about that. I have heard those foreign tourists and distinguished delegates complaining about various matters. It is however a hostel and not a hotel. The question of accommodation in New Delhi has assumed tremendous importance in recent years and very often Government is hard put to accommodate delegates and others, in the Constitution House and other hostels. But I must charge the Government with the policy of favouritism in this regard in allotting accommodation in the hostels.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All this is irrelevant. This is concerned with providing additional accommodation. how does the manner in which the present accommodation is distributed arise?

**Shri Kamath:** If the accommodation is not properly utilised.....

**An Hon. Member:** It is nepotism.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If the question is one of preference the hon. Member may say that this category ought not to be allotted. There is no question of nepotism coming into this however relevant it may be elsewhere.

**Shri Kamath:** Members of Parliament are not given more than one or two rooms but persons who are neither Members of Parliament, nor Government officers are allotted 4-5 rooms.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Then the present accommodation is enough; no accommodation is required. Is it?

**Shri Kamath:** If a new hotel is built, it must be built on sound lines and run on sound lines. Therefore, I suggest that this agreement that has been entered into or is being sought to be entered into with the company should be.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member has exhausted the time-limit for the entire Demand.

**Shri Kamath:** I am finishing in half a minute. The agreement is antithetic and contrary to all their economic policy, the high-sounding economic policy, that has been proclaimed in this House and outside, particularly so after the Avadi session of the Congress last January. Here again in this hotel which they want to run for public benefit and for the accommodation of foreign tourists and Government conference delegates, we see private individuals holding the whip hand and deciding voice in the management. If Government fails to assert itself by modifying the terms of the agreement so that Government directors may have a decisive control in the management and in the affairs of the hotel, I am afraid that this will bring discredit to the Government just as some of the projects have done in the past and to which I have referred.

The Agreement about prefab. house; was never laid on the Table of the House; Members had no opportunity to discuss it and examine it. That is why it ended in a fiasco. Here again, it is repeated. The Agreement has not been supplied and we cannot criticise or examine it. I would suggest, therefore, to the Government that the provisions of the Agreement may be read out if it is not too long so that we can take notes. Then at least my successors here, the Members who will speak after me, will be able to criticise in ample measure than I have done.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** There are two aspects that have been stressed by the hon Members who have so far participated in the debate. One important question is as to whether there is any real necessity of having additional hotel accommodation in New Delhi. This point has not been seriously contested. Yet I might give the information on that point.

The number of persons who visit Delhi is increasing year after year. The importance of the capital of India in the international sphere, political as well as commercial, is increasing year after year and there are a large number of visitors to New Delhi.

There was a proposal to hold the general session of UNESCO in New Delhi and the organisers did some screening to find out the available hotel accommodation which could suit the convenience of the types of persons who normally are delegates to this conference and their investigation showed that accommodation for about 150 persons was available in all the hotels in New Delhi. That, I must confess, when it was mentioned to the Government, came to us as a matter of surprise. It is true that large number of hotels are run here in New Delhi but the type of accommodation and the type of conveniences provided in those hotels are not of such a standard that we could put there the delegates who are likely to attend these international conferences whether they are official or otherwise. It was, therefore, necessary that we should undertake construction of additional accommodation. The number of delegates that are likely to attend UNESCO session is to be anywhere between 700 and 1000 and it is a big gap which cannot easily be filled.

Again, if this were a case only of making available suitable accommodation for delegates to UNESCO there would not be a valid argument in support of undertaknig construction, but, otherwise also it has been increasingly felt that the hotel accommodation is really inadequate not

only for visitors from other countries, but also for a large number of visitors from various parts of India. They have to come here for various purposes, conferences official as well as non-official or semi-official, and when they visit this place there must be adequate accommodation.

So far as the Constitution House is concerned, the hon. Members of this House are fully aware that this was constructed years ago as a temporary hostel and the building is now almost on its last legs.....

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** It must be demolished.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:**....and whenever I had occasion to pay a visit to some of my Member friends in the Constitution House they have always been complaining....

**Shri Kamath:** Not to me.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:**....that the building is not in a fit condition and that it will have to be pulled down sooner or later. Actually, I should have a complaint against Shri Kamath for not affording me an opportunity because he has never cared to invite me just as other friends have done. If he had invited me I would certainly have taken the privilege of paying him a visit as I have done to others.

**Shri Kamath:** May I invite him tomorrow?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Therefore, so far as the Constitution House is concerned it is a temporary accommodation and the building also is of such a nature which cannot last for long. Therefore, to Government it was clear that certain additional accommodation had to be constructed. It was with that end in view that the new Government hostel is being constructed on Queensway which was referred to by the hon. Member from Madras. That hostel is coming up and it resulted in certain inconvenience to certain hon. Members

of this House because we had to shift them at short notice from the quarters they were occupying. But, I am glad to say that we were able to provide them with good accommodation in exchange for the one occupied by the Members and that hostel building is coming up fast.

So far as the expected accommodation in the Government hostel on Queensway, is concerned, it can accommodate roughly 200. It may be a few more or less but it is not going to be very much above that number. That will be hardly enough to take the present occupants of the Constitution House because that building will have to be demolished sooner or later. The intention is to keep the Constitution House also going as far as it could and it is not the intention that the Constitution House building should be pulled down as soon as this new hostel building on the Queensway is constructed. But, in the long run it will be necessary to pull down that building and to utilise that site either for another hostel or for some other government building.

What I want really to stress at this stage is that the new hostel that is being constructed on the Queensway will be just enough to take the occupants of the Constitution House. It may be that certain persons who are now occupying Constitution House may not like to go there. For them there will be some other accommodation. But, the total reservoir of available hotel or hostel accommodation will not be appreciably increased merely by the construction of the hostel on the Queensway. Moreover, that is going to be a hostel and the intention is to regulate the tariff in such a way so that government servants and others who come on official business to New Delhi may be able to find accommodation at reasonable rates. That could also afford some relief to the officers who are posted to Delhi and who cannot get accommodation straightaway. They can be housed in the hostel

temporarily so that they can await their turn for getting allotment of residential accommodation.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** What about the public? Will the public be given accommodation there?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The Members of Parliament will be entitled to accommodation in that hostel. The intention is not to run that on a commercial basis. If there are any vacant rooms they can be temporarily allotted to public also, but that is not intended to compete with other hotels.

Therefore, the construction of the new Government hotel in Queensway does not really materially add to the available hostel accommodation in New Delhi. It was, therefore, necessary that some additional accommodation should be made available. It was from that point of view that this project of the construction of a hotel in Chanakyapuri was undertaken.

Chanakyapuri, as you know, Sir, is the part of New Delhi which is developing fast. Most of the Embassies are going to have their buildings there and their chancelleries and embassies are to be lodged in those buildings. There is some private section in a part of that area but it will mostly be occupied by foreign ambassadorial staff. That site is not very far off from the centre of governmental activity and the location of a hotel there was, therefore, a necessity. It has not yet become very popular and therefore some sort of help was necessary to initiate a project of this magnitude.

**Shri Kamath:** Adequate transport also must be provided.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** You, Sir, were asking as to what is going to be the probable accommodation in that hotel. The intention is—subject to the details of architecture which will ultimately govern the exact figure—to have accommodation for persons ranging from 350 to 400 or

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

so. So, it is going to be a fairly big hotel with all the modern amenities which are normally to be found in hotels of that type.

**Shri Kamath:** Air-conditioning and all that.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** How many storeys will there be?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It is going to be a multi-storeyed building.

**Shri T. R. Vittal Rao (Khammam):** How many storeys will there be actually?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** 7 to 8 storeys there will be.

**Shri Vallatharas:** Has the plan of the proposed building been prepared?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Yes. Tentative plans have been prepared with regard to this building and such of the hon. Members as are interested to have a look at them are most welcome. The plans can be shown to them, but I am sure the time of the House need hardly be wasted about those architectural designs or things of that nature.

**Shri Kamath:** We will come to your Ministry.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** That is a public place. I was saying that the accommodation in this new hotel is going to be of the order of 350 to 400 persons. So much with regard to the need for a hotel of this nature.

The second point about which some concern has been expressed by the hon. Members is the terms of the agreement. It is true that the detailed agreement has not been placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha, but the essential points have been given in this note which has been circulated on the recommendation of the Business Advisory Committee. I would particularly draw the attention of the hon. Members who have criticised this agreement to paragraphs 4 and 5 of this note. It is provided there that all important matters involving policy affecting the financial position of the

company shall be decided by the Board of Directors with the prior approval of the Government for which a suitable provision will be included in the memorandum and articles of association of the company. Therefore, that part of the criticism where it was urged that the presence of just two directors on the Board of Directors will not really have the effect of exercising any effective control over the management or the functioning of the hotel is not really a very valid one. If all important matters involving policy affecting the financial position of the company have to come up to the Government for prior approval, then I submit that so far as the control of the financial aspect of this project is concerned, this provision is quite ample. After all, in a project where Government is subscribing shares of the value of Rs. 25 lakhs in a total share capital of Rs. 1 crore, it is too much to suggest that we should have a majority of directors on the Board of Directors. The other provision relating to the advance of loan at a rate of interest which is not very much concessional cannot be regarded as a sufficient handle to entitle Government to insist on the majority of Government directors being present on the Board of Directors.

**Shri A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam):** Could not the Government have 51 per cent of the shares so that they may have effective control?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It a project of this nature, this provision was really intended to stimulate the participation of private capital and some of the people who will be coming forward and subscribing to this will be really investing their money which, at the moment, may be lying idle. Actually there is no bar; there is no question of Government not being offered 51 per cent. Actually, perhaps, with 51 per cent. others will be happy, but the intention was that private capital should

be forthcoming to participate in this venture and that Government money should not be tied down to this project except to the minimum. That has been the approach. The approach, really, is not one of having the majority of directors on the Board of Directors. It is the control over the financial policy that matters and not the actual majority of directors on the Board of Directors. The view has been that this control on the financial position is more important than mere majority on the Board of Directors.

**Shri Kamath:** About administration?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** So far as administration is concerned, I may refer the hon. Member to clause 5 of this small memorandum.

**Shri Kamath:** Clause 6.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Clause 5 comes earlier than clause 6. Clause 5 provides that the company's business will be managed by its General Manager whose appointment will be subject to the approval of the Government. Therefore, I submit that in a case of this nature, we have also to look to the approach and the viewpoint of those who subscribe Rs. 75 lakhs in a capital of the total value of Rs. 1 crores. Government get the shares, not ordinary shares, but preference shares where a minimum of 5½ per cent return is ensured free of income-tax, and still. Government have got this dual control both over the finances as well as over the management inasmuch as the financial position and policy are to be controlled by prior approval of the Government. It is not a case of their taking a decision and then Government exercising the right of vetoing it. Prior approval means all the matters will be carefully scrutinised before they are given any shape, and then, the power of the Government in approving the appointment of the General Manager gives a fairly effective voice in the management and control. The intention is, if a suitable Government

servant, who could be deputed and appointed as a General Manager, is available,—provided we get a suitable officer of that type—he is likely to become the General of this company. Therefore, with these two safeguards which, I think, are much more important than insistence on mere majority in the Board of Directors, it is considered this is a project which is quite sound and gives sufficient control to the Government.

A doubt has been raised as to why Government themselves cannot undertake a project of this nature, and even the Avadi resolution has been imported in his characteristic way by Shri Kamath. But I think in a business of this nature, where private capital can play an important role, it is worthwhile inducing private capital to come out and to invest in a business of this nature. This is not in the nature of a basic industry like steel or coal or anything of that sort. It is more or less a consumers' service, if I may use that expression.

**Shri Kamath:** For eating.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** That perhaps, is a better expression. In the case of eating also I think private persons should be permitted to eat. Private people are entitled to eat even in the socialistic pattern of Shri Kamath.

**Shri Kamath:** Like others, they too will.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Therefore, I think in a hotel business, if private capital is forthcoming, it is well worth encouraging it, rather than shutting it out. From that angle, the possibility of collecting Rs. 75 lakhs which will form the majority capital in a project of this nature is worth-while. Again, Government have got certain disadvantages in running a business of this nature. Therefore, it is necessary that it should be managed really by a limited company, especially when it is to be run on more or less commercial lines.

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

Government will not require accommodation all the time. It is enough if there is a stipulation—and it is intended to have that stipulation—that Government will have priority with regard to bookings. If there are Government meetings or any international gathering, or if Government, for any reason, feel that hotel accommodation is required for any Government or public purpose, then the Government will have the right to reserve accommodation. During the period that the Government will not require that accommodation, it is better that that accommodation is utilised by private individuals according to the well established commercial lines upon which hotels of this nature are run.

Then, it was said that the articles of association have not been laid on the Table of the House. As I submitted earlier, the articles of association have yet to be finalised and if there are any suggestions which hon. Members may have to make, they will certainly be taken into consideration, in finalising the articles of association. The intention actually is to invest Rs. 26 lakhs and not Rs. 25 lakhs as originally stated, the reason being that in the company law, the articles of association can be amended by a person holding 75 per cent of the share capital. There are clauses intended to be incorporated in the articles of association which give special control to Government on its finances in the matter of appointment of managing director and about the qualifications of the Government directors. Therefore, the intention really is to invest Rs. 26 lakhs in shares, so that there may not be a combination of 75 per cent which will enable an amendment to the articles of association being made. It is for this purpose that these salutary safeguards are provided.

It is true that a copy of the agreement has not been laid on the Table

of the Sabha; but there is nothing in that agreement which is outside the main points I have already mentioned in the statement and in the memorandum. Even that agreement will be required to be changed slightly and that also is not yet in its final form. But I have already submitted the salient features of the agreement.

It was also pointed out that Jam Saheb and another person have been given the right to nominate 3 and 2 directors respectively. It is not correct that they are really going to get shares of the value as was indicated by the hon. Member. There are certain stipulations about the minimum holding qualifications to entitle them to nominate those directors. Those are all matters of detail which will be gone into and in drafting the final articles of association, the views expressed by the hon. Members in this House will be given due weight.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What will be the maximum stake of these two hon. gentlemen, if they should exercise the privilege to nominate 3 and 2 directors respectively?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Along with the Government, they should have a majority in the share capital. For instance, together with the Government they should have Rs. 51 lakhs or Rs. 52 lakhs.

**Shri Kamath:** Will the hon. Minister kindly throw a little light on clause 6 of this note which appears at page 2? This clause concerns the day-to-day administration of the hotel and not with the appointment of manager and so on. Clause 6 is concerned with the day-to-day administration of the hotel. With regard to that it says, "The Board will give due consideration to Government's suggestions," but the Government has no decisive voice at all—they will receive only due consideration.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If both these gentlemen and the Government have got 51 per cent of the shares, they will have the majority voice.

I want hon. Members to have an idea of the time. Half an hour was allotted for this Demand but we have spent an hour and more. I am prepared to allow time for this Demand till 2-15. Let me have an idea of the number of hon. Members who want to participate in the discussion. I see five hon. Members rising. Even if I allow 5 minutes, for each hon. Member, it comes to 25 minutes.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** May I seek clarification on two points? May I know what amount of private capital has so far been received and the approximate time within which the company will be able to pay dividend, especially on preference shares?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** May I crave your indulgence to elucidate these points? So far as the amount of private capital is concerned, we cannot collect any capital unless the articles of association are actually finalised and properly registered. As regards the time when we will actually start earning profits, that depends upon the way in which it is run, the amount of business and so on; that can be anybody's guess.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I will give 3 minutes for each hon. Member. **Shri Raghavachari.**

**Shri Raghavachari:** We have been seeing how the discussion on this Demand has been going on. You will pardon me for saying this; no doubt the time allotted for this Demand is half an hour, but the gentlemen who starts the discussion takes more than half an hour and the Minister takes another half an hour to give information to enable other Members to offer some remarks. Between them they have taken more than an hour and the other Members are given 2 and 3 minutes each.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All the other Members will have half an hour. There is absolutely no injustice done.

**Shri Raghavachari:** I do not want to go into details. I have listened very carefully to the information which was very much sought after, but the Minister was simply, I should say, begging the question. He did not give information which really enables us to come to a decision on this matter. The kind of information that he gives is all vague. We have not finalised the articles of association. He says, "the agreement is not finalised and therefore, I cannot place it." I have listened to his arguments. His argument is that there has been no sufficient hotel accommodation in Delhi and therefore Government must undertake to provide hotel accommodation; and the necessity, he said, was the UNESCO Conference for which about 750 people (guests) are expected. Suppose some conferences come and about 2 lakhs people are expected to gather; are you going to build permanent houses for them? I am not able to understand that portion of the argument at all. UNESCO Conference is not a daily affair; it is not even an annual affair. It is something which might come of once in some years, and for that the Government wants to provide a permanent hotel. Is it the Government's policy that because they are holding a conference, they should build a permanent hotel? To my mind that argument is not sound. You are going to invest so much money on it, to provide a high standard of comfort and accommodation for the UNESCO delegates. But do you expect this permanent hotel to be constantly visited and to attain popularity in this poor country? What would happen to the crores of rupees that you are going to invest in it?

**An Hon. Member:** Not crores.

**Shri Raghavachari:** I know that Rs. 1 crore is the share capital; but

[Shri Raghavachari]

they can borrow money, and they can mortgage and do all sorts of things. I am not able to understand the reason behind this thing.

2 P.M.

I want to ask another question. They have now provided for this hotel. We know what a hotel is. It is said that this hotel is intended to give a high standard of comfort to the people that come. We know that to keep a man in comfort is a very inclusive and expensive phrase. Comfort includes, as my hon. friend was saying, for one night they paid Rs. 135. They may pay even more. The question of comfort is a difficult affair to define. We know how such hotels in big cities have practically led to a kind of demoralisation. I am sorry for this kind of a hotel. We have some experience of life. We know what kind of accommodation is required if these activities and other things go on. If only I had occasion to see some kind of a memorandum of articles of association of the un-settled, unfinished company being distributed here and there. There, they want to have a brewery, drinking, night-club and all these things. Certainly, the high friends that come from outside want all these things. They are used to these comforts. You have to provide them. Is it consistent with the directive principles of your Constitution that you should do these things? Prohibition, morality, these are the things that we ask for and we swear by. But, you are starting a hotel where a night-club, a brewery and drinking and all these things should go on. I am shocked to see that Government funds should be employed for purposes of this kind.

I want to ask another question about this Jam Saheb and this other gentleman. I do not know these two gentlemen. What is the peculiar or great experience that these two gentlemen have in the matter of running hotels or promoting hotels? The Jam Saheb of

Nawanagar was a prince, I think. He may be a prince with plenty of money. Do you want to provide a safe investment for his money? Do you want to provide an occupation for him and his relatives? Is that the purpose for which you are doing this? They and the Government together will have 51 per cent of the share capital. That was the statement of the Minister. So, these two gentlemen are part of Government; at any rate, they are so inseparable. They and the Government always go together. I fear that these two people without any special experience are being permitted and encouraged to do this.

Then, the capital of the company is said to be Rs. 1 crore. The Government will purchase Rs. 26 lakhs worth of shares. The note provides that the Government have undertaken to give them a loan of Rs. 25 lakhs; that is Rs. 51 lakhs out of Rs. 1 crore. Not only that. As regards the site on which this building is to be built in Chanakyapuri, para. 1 of the note says, payment of a premium of Rs. 50,000 per acre. An area of land is to be provided by the Government at Rs. 50,000 an acre. When I was casually moving in those places, I understood one acre costs Rs. 1 lakh. It may be that for the sake of this Government sponsored hotel, they give land at Rs. 50,000 per acre. It is an area; not one acre. Therefore, Government provides this sum. Suppose they take 10 acres; that would come to Rs. 5 lakhs. What is provided here is, if they do not pay the capital value of that cite that would be treated as a loan carrying 4 per cent. interest. A sum of Rs. 51 lakhs which the Government pays for loan and shares and a few lakhs for the value of the ground, all this is Government money. The two other gentlemen, I understand from outside information I referred to, that is, some memo distributed, contribute Rs. 2½ lakhs; the Jam Saheb Rs. 1½ lakhs and the other gentleman Rs. 1 lakh. They have been allowed to nomi-

nate—their successors and successors for generations—three directors for Rs. 1½ lakhs and 2 directors for Rs. 1 lakh. Of course, under the new Companies law it may be that all these nominations, succession and all these things may not be permissible. It may possibly be modified with reference to the new Act. But, nevertheless, these people have been given the right to nominate directors; not only they, but the future rulers of Nawanagar. We are asked without proper information just to vote these moneys. Even now I was unable to understand the real reason why the Minister felt that he cannot place the agreement on the Table except one little reason that it is still unfinalised.

As I said, it finally resolves itself into this. "We want to do it; we are going to do it. We do it in your interests; trust us." I for one as a responsible Member of this House, do not feel called upon to say, Yes.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava** (Gurgaon): Under the new Companies Act, agreements before being finalised and registered can be publicised.

**Shri Eaghavachari:** I already said that under the new Company law, many amendments may be made. More than that, what I am concerned with is this proposed company. You are asking this House to permit the Government to enter into partnership with a private agency to run some kind of a new business. Even with the greatest calculations and engineering experience, the Housing Factory and other things misfired. They have all ended in huge loss. You are now starting a new venture, a hotel where all kinds of activities that I described will go on. As we know, the hotel is concerned with a constantly consuming business, at every stage. To control such a thing with the idea of running it properly requires special experience. A burnt child

dreads the fire. If we say this, it is an unpleasant fact. But, even unpleasant facts must be told by the people who have been sent here only to say that.

As I already said, this liquor bar and night club are things which are revolting to me. What I ask is, what guarantee have you taken that the moneys that you are going to invest would come back to us? It is all in the company. As I read it, these two gentlemen must be paid first. If a loss comes and the company is to be wound up,—I do not wish it that; but if it does come as it often comes to institutions into which Government has gone—the difficulty will be this. The two gentlemen will be paid their share capital. They have a guaranteed interest of 5½ per cent. Even if the company has declared no dividend, they must be paid this money. What remains out of the contribution of public funds may be zero according to the circumstances. It is said that large profits may be made. Is the Government, in order, to make profit, to start institutions of a most objectionable kind, of a most immoral kind, a most risky type of activity? Therefore, I feel that the purpose of the Government is to help these two promoters, the Jam Saheb and all his relations to be also appointed there. My friend the Minister was casually saying, an officer may be appointed, supposing an officer a retired relation of this Jam Saheb comes—he will be appointed. Has he experience? We cannot find any fault with him; certainly he will be appointed. Therefore, to my mind it seems that the whole thing is a risky venture. The whole thing seems to have been conceived without proper thought, without proper exercise of public interest. Therefore, I fear this new company which they are going to start in Chanakyaपुरi and though they call it Ashok Hotel may be a Nityashoka and the moneys that we are to put into it will be a certain loss.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** By this grant, we are going to provide Rs. 26 lakhs for a hotel in Chanakyapuri. There is no question about the shortage of accommodation in Delhi. The point is whether, at this stage, when we are not in a position to provide accommodation for the low-paid employees, peons, etc.—we read in the papers today that some people have been killed due to the collapse of houses on account of heavy showers in Delhi itself—we should not be satisfied with something humbler, and whether we should provide a sum of Rs. 1 crore in order to provide accommodation to well-to-do people who want this sort of decent accommodation for temporary residence.

Coming to my specific cut motion, I have to state that we disapprove of this policy of contribution to a public company under private persons through preference shares. In spite of whatever the hon. Minister has stated, it has not been made clear whether this contribution through preference shares cannot be purchased by the other persons or the other partners, because generally according to the law of the country the shareholders can purchase the preference shares, buy it up. A hotel, it has already been said here, is a very profitable business, and it has been said that as much as Rs. 100 was paid by one gentleman for accommodation for a single night only on account of rent. Here, it is stated that we are going to have some sort of cumulative dividend to the extent of 5½ per cent. If it is a very profitable business, and if we are going to participate in this venture, then I could have understood the position had the Government of their own started it, without associating itself with such persons as the Jam Saheb of Navanagar, Harbanslal Chadha of Dehra Dun etc. It has been stated, also that their contribution is not, in fact, very much, only Rs. 1½ lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh. We do not know who will provide the remaining amount of

money. So, in such circumstances it is very necessary that we should be clear about the position of the Government with regard to the preference shares, and also whether it could not have been avoided, or whether it could not have been done entirely by the Government itself.

We are glad that the UNESCO session will be held here next year, but we know that even in a country like Indonesia recently the Bandung conference was held, and certainly they did not have luxurious accommodation. So many Prime Ministers and important dignitaries and personages from 29 countries came there with their staff, and they could make accommodation available. Similarly, if distinguished persons connected with UNESCO come here, we can certainly provide them with accommodation, for example, in guest houses, may be in the President's guest house etc. So, it is not all necessary for us to show to the world that we are building this magnificent hotel to commemorate this occasion of the conference of the UNESCO being held here.

With all these things in our mind, we do not approve of this policy of Government, namely spending so many lakhs of rupees over this one hotel when we are not in a position to give sufficient loans for house-building purposes for low-income people and about which so many questions are being asked in this House day in and day out. So, in this situation we do not think that Government would be considered justified in entering into this venture and in this manner.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** There are only two or three points which I want to reply to at this stage.

I must confess that I have been able to understand the fears of the hon. Member when he said that this is going to be a place where immorality is to rule and the whole thing is going to be so black. I do not know why the experience of

the hon. Member is so poor about hotels here or elsewhere. I thought most respectable hotels.....

**Shri Raghavachari:** I have no experience of any hotel. The words "night club" there are enough.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Then, may I take it that my hon. friend has got some experience of a night club? I hope he has not.

The point which I am submitting is that decent hotels are entirely different from the concept which was painted by the hon. Member here. There is decent society, good arrangement for lodging, good food and proper atmosphere for social contacts, and I do not know why there should be any concern or fear on that score. Actually, the fact that Government is a participant in this venture will, in itself, be a sufficient guarantee that a certain standard will be maintained and a proper atmosphere will be created. It will certainly be the endeavour of Government to see that people are lodged there in good surroundings, and people, particularly foreigners, when they go back, do not carry the type of impression about which the hon. Member had just expressed fears. Therefore, actually to get rid of any such fear, it is necessary that there should be some sort of control which can be had by Government's participation, and in the manner I have already suggested.

Then again, it has been said that this thing should be managed by Government alone and that private capital need not have been brought into this. Actually, the policy of the Government throughout has been that in spheres where private capital can come and undertake ventures, particularly of this type which is certainly not among those basic things in respect of which Government is committed to start State ventures, it should encourage the flow of private capital. Because there are going to be Government

requirements in a case of this nature with regard to which Government do not want to pay more than what is absolutely necessary, Government has come forward for participation.

Again, I cannot reconcile the two opposing arguments. There is a fear from one quarter that this is going to be such a paying business that they ask: why not Government itself subscribe the entire capital, why should not Government take the entire advantage? And on the other hand, the criticism has been that all this is going to be a dead loss. I submit that the intention is not to make it purely a profiteering concern, but to have some sort of control so that within reasonable limits proper charges are levied from the occupants, and to see that it is not run purely as a profiteering business, and I think it has to be ensured that there is a certain standard of comfort and an atmosphere which is so essential.

The only other point which requires mention relates to the fear that there is going to be any super charter for this hotel. There is not going to be anything of that nature. It will have to be governed by the provisions of the company law, and it is from that angle that Government is taking the precaution of subscribing to shares of the value of Rs. 28 lakhs so that according to the latest amendments and according to the provisions in the company law all the non-Government shareholders may not combine and be in a position to amend the articles of association and thus deprive the Government of the right of control which is sought to be ensured for the Government under this agreement.

Therefore, I submit that the Demand may be approved by the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Regarding the cut motions, I would like to

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

know whether any hon. Member is pressing his cut motion.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** I am pressing my cut motion No. 20.

**Shri Raghavachari:** I am pressing my cut motion No. 21.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddy:** I am pressing cut motion No. 22.

**Shri Kamath:** I am pressing cut motion No. 23.

**Shri N. R. Maniawamy:** I do not press my cut motion No. 37.

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced to Re. 1."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced to Re. 1."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I shall now put the Demand to vote.

The question is:

"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 1956 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All that I can say, so far as this Demand and similar other Demands, where token grants are asked for, are concerned, is this. Let it be made a convention that at the next Budget Session details will be given of the expenditure, so that opportunities will be given to the House to discuss—not the principle, because the principle is accepted on a token Demand—the details. The details will certainly be discussed at the next Budget Session. By that time, Government must be in possession of various papers, and they must be in a position to give greater and fuller material to the House. I hope this convention will be adopted in the future.

As for this token Demand, the policy has been accepted, and the token Demand has been passed.

**Shri S. S. More (Sholapur):** Can we not raise the question of policy at the time of the next Budget Session? Simply because the token Demand has been accepted now, how are we....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No.

**Shri S. S. More:** As far as the Budget is concerned?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No It cannot be done. As a matter of fact,

possibly the hon. Member was not here when the previous Government was there. Formerly, the Standing Finance Committee was especially appointed for this purpose. In its place we are doing it in the House itself now. If after the Budget Session, and during the course of the year, a new service had to be undertaken without the approval of Parliament, the Standing Finance Committee gave its approval. The entire memoranda were placed before the Standing Finance Committee which was elected by the House, and that Committee gave its approval; and therefore, the policy was accepted; and unless the policy was accepted, Government could not proceed further with the matter.

Now, the House itself has accepted the policy. It is for that purpose that a token Demand is placed before it. So far as the details are concerned, formerly all the details were not being placed for discussion. What I would suggest now is that the details may be placed before the House next time, i.e. whenever money is sought to be expended, so that those details will be looked into by the House, at the next Budget Session. But the policy is now accepted by the House, because the token Demand is passed. That is the general position. What the Standing Finance Committee was doing with a smaller number of people then, the whole House has had an opportunity to look into now.

DEMAND No. 61—MISCELLANEOUS  
DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE  
UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HOME  
AFFAIRS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up this Demand relating to the appointment of the Official Language Commission, which was held over earlier. I find that there are a number of cut motions to this Demand. I have looked into the cut motions, and I find that there are a number of them which relate to the general policy relating to Hindi. They are not in order. The

Constitution has laid down that at the end of five years from the commencement of the Constitution, a commission....

Shri N. E. Chowdhury: The hon. Minister is not here.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am here to represent him.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister has said that he will be coming in a few minutes.

The Constitution itself lays down that every five years after the commencement of the Constitution, there will be a Commission to look into the question as to how far steps could be taken to accelerate the pace of introducing Hindi as the official language. Hindi has been accepted to be the official language, and it will completely supersede English at the end of fifteen years, unless Parliament tries to continue English for any particular purpose. Hindi cannot be introduced all of a sudden at the expiration of the fifteenth year. Therefore, the Constitution lays down that at the end of every five years, a Commission should be appointed, which shall report on the pace of introduction of Hindi, for what particular purpose and what particular subjects it will be introduced, in which of the Legislatures and in which of the High Courts it will be introduced and so on. It is in pursuance of that article in the Constitution that this Commission has been appointed.

Now, the Demand that has been placed before the House relates to the details regarding the staff that are necessary to assist this Commission. As for the general policy regarding Hindi etc., it is all left to the Commission, once it has been appointed. The Commission's report will be considered by a committee of both the Houses; that seems to be the conception. Therefore, it will be premature to discuss the policy underlying the work that has to be done by the Commission. Hon. Members can discuss the ques-

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

tion of staff, for instance, and say whether the staff are adequate, or inadequate, and so on.

**Dr. Krishnaswami (Kancheepuram):** May I make a submission? Since this Official Language Commission has been appointed under the mandatory provisions of the Constitution, we can perfectly understand that we cannot question the appointment of the Commission. But the representative character of the Commission can certainly be called into question in the sense of taking into account...

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member might say that other persons might have been taken.

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** ...the interests of the non-Hindi-speaking areas, and also having a general picture given as to what the picture is, and what the difficulties are. For, undoubtedly, this is a very difficult problem, and we should like to make our observations on that.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This occasion ought not to be taken for the purpose of giving a direction or suggestion to the Commission saying 'Go at this rate, so far as the High Court is concerned, or so far as the legislature is concerned', and so on. All that is out of order.

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** I would not think of doing anything unparliamentary like that of giving instructions to a statutory body.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The discussion can be on the following lines. Certainly, it is open to the hon. Member to say that the Commission must have been appointed earlier, or that it must consist of representatives of other interests, such as the backward areas or the non-Hindi-speaking areas, and so on.

**Shri Kamath:** May I submit that all matters referred to in the footnote under this Demand are open to discussion?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What are they?

**Shri Kamath:** All matters mentioned in the footnote can be discussed. Kindly refer to page 6 of the explanatory memorandum.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Certainly, hon. Members can discuss allowances, and the composition of the Commission etc. It could be said that this Commission has been appointed too late, it ought to have been appointed earlier, i.e. at the expiry of five years, and so on.

**Shri Kamath:** Kindly look at para A of the footnote also.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The details of the Commission, the manner of appointment, the staff that has to be given, the travelling allowances, the time within which the Commission must submit its report—all these can certainly be discussed.

**Shri Raghavachari:** I have tabled cut motion No. 10. So, I may be permitted to speak.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Hon. Speaker himself has noted down only the following cut motions, namely cut motions Nos. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 25, 32 and 33. He asked for the cut motions which hon. Members wanted to move; and then he has noted down these numbers.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** I want to move cut motions Nos. 14 and 15.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I do not find those numbers here. Possibly, the hon. Member was not present then.

As for cut motion No. 34, it is beyond the scope of the Demand, and therefore it is ruled out. That means, the additional cut motions to be moved are Nos. 14 and 15.

*Working of Official Language Commission*

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** I beg to move:

(1) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum

not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** I beg move:

*Criteria and methods which should be adopted in granting the relief*

(2) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Cut motions moved:

(1) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

(2) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Excepting cut motion No. 34 the other cut motions are now before the House, along with the Demand.

Before we proceed further, I would like to know who are all the hon. Members that want to speak on this Demand... I find that there are a number of hon. Members.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Members coming from the non-Hindi-speaking areas may be given more chance.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor):** I support Hindi. So, why should I not be given a chance?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The balance of time left over for all these Demands today was 3½ hours. We started

at about 12 noon; so, we shall close this debate at 3-30 P.M.

**Shri Kamath:** The reply will be after that. Give five minutes to each.

**Shri Raghavachari** rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shri Raghavachari has taken part in the debate on the other Demands also. So, he may make room for others

**Shri Raghavachari:** I shall be very brief, and mention only the points. I have absolutely no antipathy towards Hindi, nor am I unfavourable to the introduction and popularisation of Hindi. I am one of those who welcome it, but I would caution that the progress must not be at the risk of generating irritation. That is all I am concerned with. It should be a matter of policy for any sane government not to do things which will only result in creating more opposition to a movement which everyone of us likes and loves, and which everyone of us feels must come in very soon.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Even that matter is entirely in the hands of the Commission. It is the Commission which has to report on that. The hon. Member evidently appears to take this forum for advising the Commission as to what it ought to do. The Commission will invite the hon. Member also.

**Shri Raghavachari:** I shall give my answers to their questionnaire, and have an opportunity in that way. But here I am only concerned with the delay in the appointment of this Commission. Under article 344 of the Constitution, this Commission must have been constituted at the expiry of five years from the commencement of the Constitution.

We anticipated that there would be some delay, and therefore, I was one of those persons in the deputation which met the President, because its appointment was in his discretion. He had to appoint it.

[Shri Raghavachari]

We made a representation that it should be done as soon as five years were over. The Government took its own time; I do not wish to go into the detail about the date on which it was appointed; it was certainly long after five years were over.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Not forcing the pace.

**Shri Raghavachari:** So I only want to raise a protest and say that the Government have neglected a constitutional responsibility; they should have done it much earlier rather than take their own time.

**Shri S. S. More:** They are proceeding with caution.

**Shri Raghavachari:** Not caution but dilatoriness.

**Shri Vallatharas:** As regards the policy of introducing Hindi as the State language—the official language—I do not think anybody in any part of this country is against it. But I want to be particular about my Madras State, which is a non-Hindi speaking area.

Recently, to the questionnaire issued by the Commission, answers have been given by the University of Madras, which opinion practically represents the opinion of the entire population in Madras State—I should say it is the opinion of the Tamilian population. I for one personally would like Hindi to be introduced at the earliest in spite of any odds and circumstances, but the general public mind must be taken into account.

So far as the constitution of this Commission is concerned, I have got the very greatest grievance. It is the absolute privilege of the President to appoint the Commission. But the directions under that article about the nature and constitution of the Commission—~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> is the members—require that the languages mentioned in Schedule VIII should be represented properly. I have got a clear analysis of the 21 members who are put on the

Commission. For briefness's sake, I will read what I have noted:— (1) Eleven northern States are represented as against two southern States; (2) No University of the south is represented, but five Universities of the north are given representation. Five Educational institutions in the north are represented, as against none in the south. Fifteen members from the Hindi-speaking areas are given representation as against six members from the non-Hindi speaking areas. Of course, I will deal with the respective members who are mentioned there later on. The industrial concerns in Madras or in any part of India are not represented. No labour representation is there. No political parties are represented—except the Congress. Here I should like to draw the attention of this hon. House to the existence of the Dravida Kazhagam in South India which is conducting its own agitation against the introduction of Hindi, but for clarity's sake I may say that it only strongly opposes the compulsory education in Hindi. I am not going into any more detail. But in spite of that, there is no representation of political parties in the Commission except the Congress Party—no other political parties are given representation. No agricultural interests are represented. No language-wise representation is given. The chairman of the Public Service Commission of Bihar is given a place, but none in Madras, Travancore-Cochin, Andhra or Mysore is given a place there. No scientific section is represented.

Thus the constitution of the Commission is such that it is inadequate in every respect. The Hindi Samiti at least has given representation for 24 States in its Committee. Here taking all the 28 States in India, 17 are said to be non-Hindi speaking areas. In a Commission which is to decide the fate of these non-Hindi speaking areas—which are nearly three-fourths of this country—should they not be properly and justly represented? Could they not expect that sufficient and adequate representation should be

given to them, so that they may represent their views and see how things can be taken into consideration so as to see that Hindi is made to prevail throughout the length and breadth of the whole of India without any difficulty?/ I submit that the constitution of the Commission should be revised. Representatives of all sections must be there.

At present, I would solicit reference to the questionnaire issued by the Commission. The interests of industry, culture and science, in the interest of the/entire country, have to be borne in mind by the Commission. The questionnaire that has been issued so far does not indicate a single question in respect of any of these matters. As a matter of fact, consideration of the industrial, scientific and/ cultural advancement seems to be out of the purview of the Commission. If there is representation of these three sections in the Commission, I think it will be able to function highly efficiently also.

So far as the policy is concerned, I am/not criticising that policy; I welcome that policy. There must be one State language, somehow or other, and I submit to it, and the whole country must submit to it.

One other point which I must submit is this. There is great apprehension/in the south which must be allayed. It is not the apprehension of any ordinary man in the street. Of course, the ordinary man also must be respected to a great extent. I am placing the view of Shri C. Rajagopalachari. He had published a letter in a daily newspaper. It reads:

"In spite of elucidations appearing in the Press now and then, there is still a great deal of anxiety and doubt in the minds of the people in this part of the country—that/is, South India—about the medium of public examinations for all-India services in the light of the provision in the Constitution that English should be

replaced by Hindi as the official language of the Union after 1965".

This is a/matter which will come into effect after 1965. If things after 1965 are considered in such an apprehensive manner, I would only request you to consider how Shri C. Rajagopalachari has considered the existing position. He has considered/it in a more alarming and more apprehensive manner. The present position is very bad. The conception of the future, after 1965, is equally bad also, in his own opinion.

So far as the University of Madras is concerned, their view/is the Government in pursuing the present policy have been in a mind to force Hindi upon the people. This is the view of the University of Madras expressed in their answer to the questionnaire of the Commission. I will come to the/questionnaire issued by the Commission. The latest pronouncement of our hon. Home Minister, of course, in reply to Shri C. Rajagopalachari gives a guarantee. It says:

"I am, however, clear on one point, namely, that candidates from non-Hindi speaking areas should not/be handicapped or placed at a disadvantage in these examinations in which they have to compete with their counterparts from Hindi-speaking areas. The question of adoption of Hindi as the official language of the Union need not be inextricably bound up for conducting/ all-India examinations. We should stick to the time-table prescribed by the Constituent Assembly for the replacement of English by Hindi in the Central offices; but nothing should be done that would tend to deprive the country of the services of the/best qualified youths on account of any avoidable difficulty in the matter of examinations".

A reaction to this can be seen in Shri C. Rajagopalachari's letter to a newspaper.

[Shri Vallatharas]

"In spite of elucidations appearing in the Press now and then, there is still a great deal of anxiety and doubt in the minds of people....."

All statements expressed by leading personalities in the Government or in the Congress Party go to show that there will be a free and fair spreading and propagation of Hindi in this country. But there are severe apprehensions expressed by various people.

I would also like to submit what the University of Madras has felt about it. In its answers, it says:

"From a recent statement, it would appear that out of 2500 candidates who had appeared for the Indian Administrative Services and other Class I services examinations, 400 appeared from this part of the country. Out of them, it is estimated that a very small number qualified. The facts speak for themselves, and to recruit a few persons every year to the administrative services of the Central Government, there does not seem to be any justification for upsetting the whole scheme of education in the State and for implementing the suggestions, implied or otherwise, contained in the letter....."

This is a very serious thing which the University has brought to light. I myself know here from acquaintance with persons of the south who are employed in government service or who are seeking employment, that there is a compulsion imposed upon them so far as Hindi is concerned. If I view this matter in the light of the assurance given by the Home Minister, it is certainly forcing Hindi on those candidates who are appearing. This seems to be a general complaint and seems to be true also.

There is one important matter which I want to submit because it indicates the mind of the entire Gov-

ernment. I will refer to a circular letter No. 23/34/54-ATS(I), dated 3rd November, 1954, from the Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs, New Delhi. If this letter is true and if it really represents the mind of the Government, of their conception of the policy, of their ways and methods of implementation of the policy, I should certainly observe that it is in contravention of the Constitution and the Government has far exceeded the limitations that have been placed upon them by the Constitution. I have not got a copy of the circular but I have got the relevant portions here. In that letter, it is stated that the official language of the Union shall be Hindi in the Devnagari script. It is further stated therein that Hindi should be introduced as the sole medium of examinations and also as the medium for conducting the *visa voce* tests and that the Government of India appreciate that if the provisions made in the Constitution for changeover from English to the national language is to be implemented within the prescribed period of 15 years, it is necessary to make an announcement publicly without unavoidable delay. With these three aspects which I have stated, this circular letter was circulated to many important departments. The Inter-University Board considered it and gave a reply and that reply has also been seen and considered by Government. Why should there be a spirit like this insisting that the examinations must be held only in Hindi and not in any other language?

Shri C. D. Pande: That is only after 15 years.

Shri Vallatharas: That is one clause. I refer to other clauses also. After 1965 also how can this Government say anything unless the Parliament passes a law saying that English will cease to exist? How can this Government anticipate ten years

before what will be the condition. It shows the mind of the Government; it betrays the mind of the Government. The Government has no business to say at this stage what it will be the condition then. The Constitution empowers the President to appoint another Commission after 5 years, that is ten years from the commencement of the Constitution. Yet the Government has got the boldness to say that Hindi shall be the language in which the questions should be put and answered!

It appears that last year in some of the schools, questions were put in Hindi to Tamilians. How can the boys and girls understand all these things in Hindi? We know the South has to follow the North and we accepted that Hindi shall be the State language. But, then, why should you come and sit upon us and even make people like Shri B. Rajagopalachari and the present Minister of the Madras Government and the University feel apprehensive about it very seriously and in a suspicious manner. That is a position which the Government will have to consider and think about. Pandit Nehru has said in his recent utterances that if Hindi is forced upon the people, certainly, there will be dislocation of the unity of the country. Further President Rajendra Prasad, with his gentleness and nobility said that Hindi hereafter will not be the Hindi of the Northerners but it will be the Hindi of all-India. All these sentiments are good. But what is it in practice? You sit upon our head and say: unless you answer in Hindi you are not to be taken in. The University has said that out of 400 persons only a very small percentage has been taken in because of this. I am not making any complaint against anybody.

We in the South have been split up amongst ourselves/so-called upper classes, backward classes and scheduled castes. Owing to some such thing the South has been rent into two and that cleavage has not yet been bridged. There is the question of

Brahmin and non-Brahmin still looming large in Tamil/Nadu. This is not to be found in Malabar or Andhra. Where it had receded into significance. Then we have got another institution the Dravida Kazhagam which has got its own principle of agitation. Whether one agrees with it or not is altogether a different question. (Interruption). It has gained momentum in the minds of the people. Look at the recent election of Shri Kamaraj to the Madras Assembly. But for the full support of the Dravidar Kalahamam, he would have been routed out. The Congress would have lost hold in South India. I do not want you to forget these things. Take them into account and develop your policy. I had been in the Congress and have gone out of it, but my whole life and blood is in it. So, I should like to submit to Government that there should not be the slightest use of force. There is the answer given by the University of Madras to the questionnaire of the Commission. I would like the Government to go through it. There must be a process of evolution in propagating Hindi so that it may come as if by natural intuition and by assimilation among the non-Hindi speaking areas, and for that a period of 30 years from the commencement of the Constitution is quite essential and 15 years will not suffice. Necessary amendment of the Constitution may be effected. I appeal to you that in the domination of the South by the North, nobody can dominate any other so long as he is morally good. The grievances of the South should be respectfully heard and appreciated and justice should be done.

I submit that in regard to the Army, Urdu must go off. Hindi must be introduced all at once. So far as the Railways, the Posts and Telegraphs are concerned, as for Administrative Service Class I, the questions must be put to them in their regional languages and not in Hindi till a particular situation develops at a later stage. I know so many officers have learnt Hindi. It is better Hindi

[Shri Vallatharas]

4 just like butler English. ~~They can say, Ap kya karte hain, that is all and nothing more.~~ That sort of superficial and farcical Hindi, we do not want in this country. The language must express our tradition, our sentiments, our feelings and emotion and the sincerity of thought. I hope Government would appreciate my suggestion that it should be a voluntary process, that it may spread over a period of 30 years from the beginning of the Constitution, and consider it. If the Tamilian of the South, or for the matter of that, any non-Hindi speaking individual, is forced to answer questions in the Public Service/Examinations in Hindi, it will be a fateful day. It will further exasperate the feelings which are already running very high. Let us not do it in the interests of national unity. Let Government understand what our feelings are. Our Home Minister said that we must stick to the Constitution for the present and see later. I am very happy, if that is done. It will remove suspicion. I say that the opinion of the University of Madras is really the opinion of the entire Tamil/Nadu which is the present residuary Madras State.

5 Shri Ramachandra Reddi: I do not want to take much time. The Demand under consideration is of two parts; one is about the Language Commission and the other is about the granting of relief to persons who have served the Nation.

I will first of all dispose of the second part. I would only like to enquire from the hon. Minister on what lines this relief is going to be given, whether it will be in a partisan spirit or whether men belonging to all political parties would have their own opportunity of getting this relief.

There is another intriguing point about this. There are certain people who once belonged to the Congress, who made some sacrifices and went out of the Congress/Party to join other parties. I want to know whether

6 such people who are supposed to have contributed greatly to the winning of freedom would be considered for relief or whether because they do not belong to the party in power, they would not be considered though they have been thrown out of jobs now.

7 I now come to the language question. I quite appreciate that the Government appointed this Commission with a view to report on the progress made regarding the question of Hindi. The Constitution conceives the idea of expanding Hindi not only in Northern India or the Hindi-speaking places but also in the non-Hindi regions. According to the census of 1951, it is noticed that as many as 14 crores of people are Hindi-speaking, including Urdu and Punjabi, and about 18 crores of people are non-Hindi-speaking. Within the area occupied by the 18 crores of people, what attempts have been made by the Central Government to expand Hindi and to assist such of those institutions that have been trying to expand Hindi? As far as I know, there is one Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha, Madras. I am sure you know about its development. It has been working for about 38 years in South India and has done yeomen service. As many as 50 lakhs of people have been taught Hindi, but I fail to trace any attempt of the Government to help that institution, which has been doing that work for the last 38 years. After all, they seem to have offered a grant of Rs. 10,000 last year or probably during this year with a view to equip their library. You are aware that the Sabha is collecting money by private donations to the extent of Rs. 10,00,000 or Rs. 12,00,000 and spending all the money there. To what extent the Central Government, which is anxious to expand Hindi, has gone to their assistance? To what extent their requirements have been met by the Central Government?/

Shri U. M. Trivedi: Perhaps no Congressman is there.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Expansion of Hindi does not mean expansion of it in the Hindi areas alone. I have got in my hand a booklet called the *Programme of development and propaganda for Hindi*, issued by the Ministry of Education in 1955, which gives the information that very little (8) is given to assist the expansion of Hindi in the southern regions or the non-Hindi regions. Evidently most attention is paid to North Indian institutions like the Nagari Pracharini Sabha, and even the compilation of the standard/Hindi dictionary has been allotted to the same Nagari Pracharini Sabha, Banaras. I have no complaint against giving this to efficient bodies, but I would like to say that similar assistance should be given to non-Hindi speaking areas with a view to/justify the conduct of the Government in their expansion programme.

Along with this question, the regional languages question also has been considered in the Constitution. I will read here from a booklet published by the Akhil Bharateeya Hindi Parishad, Delhi-Agra, which says:/

"The non-Hindi regions speaking the language as mentioned in the eighth schedule of the Constitution are 11 in number. There are four linguistic regions on the West and four on the East Coast of India. The West Coast is covered by Gujarati, Marathi, (9) Kannad and Malayalam while the East Coast consists of Tamil, Telugu, Oriya and Bengali. The northern front, namely, the Himalayas has three non-Hindi regions, namely, Assam, Kashmir and Punjab. These eleven linguistic regions are distributed among the 15 States/of India. These States cover an area of more than 7 lakhs of square miles with a population of more than 21 crores. The languages of these regions are very old with rich and ripe literature. They were used as media for/administration, literary expression and cultural progress. .... Any attempt to belittle the

importance of our regional languages is bound to impede the progress of Hindi as a common language. Our provincial languages are bound to develop more and more in word content as well as in the content of express, as our country progresses under our democratic constitution."

I was only reading this just to point out to what extent these regional languages were helped with a view to develop them on the same par as Hindi. (10)

I shall ask the hon. Minister to tell me what amounts have been spent within the last five years from the Central Government funds in Hindi areas and in non-Hindi areas and to what extent the policy so far pursued by the Government was in consonance with the Hindi expansion programme of the Central Government; and to what extent the duty of the Education Ministry has been discharged properly in this connection. I would further ask the hon. Home Minister to tell me in what direction such expansion programme is going to be assisted and in what ways such assistance has been given. Were any training colleges opened in Southern India with a view to expand Hindi there? Were any stipends given to teachers in training schools, especially for training in Hindi and learning Hindi language? Was any assistance given to the teachers, whether they are working under local bodies or in private schools, not only to learn Hindi but also to teach Hindi and was any aid given to such people also? In fact, the universities in the South do not seem to have taken the opportunity of developing Hindi in the way in which it is expected to be developed. Either the Central Government practically ignored the need to assist the Southern universities in the matter of expansion of Hindi or they did not want any such expansion. I have made these remarks with the idea of bringing it to the mind of the hon. Home Minister that, so far, the expansion programme has not been

[Shri Ramachandra Reddi]

satisfactory, and with this unsatisfactory expansion programme and the unsatisfactory expansion that has been achieved so far, any forcing of this language on the South would be unhappy and uncomfortable. The way in which things are being pursued from the Centre is creating a lot of suspicion in the South, with the result that all those people who are anxious to help the development of Hindi are feeling a little bit apathetic about it. Quotations have already been made by my hon. friend, Shri Vallatharas, and I do not want to dilate upon them.

Recently you will have noticed that the Madras University Syndicate as well as the Academic Council have outlined a programme about this and to what extent Hindi can be forced upon the officers working in non-Hindi areas. That is a clear indication of the mind of the intelligentsia of the South and it also gives a clear picture of what all those people are thinking about. It has been the practice for certain hon. Ministers and Deputy Ministers to speak in Hindi which probably they do not know very much. As a matter of fact, we have seen some Deputy Ministers trying to read out in Hindi but not being able to impress either upon themselves or upon the House (*Interruption*). It is a very unhappy feature that they are not able to answer the supplementary questions at all. This sort of artificial Hindi expansion in and around the Ministry does not seem to convince others of the efficacy of the Hindi expansion programme. There is no use of forcing it upon the people who are not able to cope with it. Every attempt must be made to see that Hindi is expanded in all places—not only in the north but also in the south. I speak with a sense of responsibility about this for the simple reason that in the whole of Madras State, I was the first President of the district board to introduce Hindi in high schools. But the way in which the expansion programme is implemented in the south and the

way in which it is pursued from the north on the south, seem to require some caution.

3 P.M.

I also suggest that greater expansion programmes must be undertaken and greater attention must be paid. The regional representation among the members of the Language Commission has been to some extent referred to-day. I found the name of Mr. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, the Deputy Speaker of the Lok Sabha representing Madras. I doubt the veracity of that statement because you belong to Andhra and not Madras and how your place is shown as Madras is not known. But I am quite sure that you will fit in quite well both in Madras as well as in Andhra.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** I do not want to traverse the same ground covered by the hon. Members who have preceded me. I want to make a few observations on both Hindi and some of the decisions that have been taken by the Government in this respect, the constitution of the Language Commission and also the help that is being sought to be given to political and other sufferers.

I feel that there is too much of fanaticism among the votaries of Hindi. Even in the House we have been subject to severe handicaps of listening to an understandable language. It has become a fashion with some people to parade as patriots and think others who do not know Hindi as somewhat inferior. A lot of emotion, a lot of psychological feeling, has been imported into this agitation; it is completely wrong. It has created great bitterness in the minds of some of the M.Ps. coming from the south and also in the minds of the people of the south. I am speaking with a great feeling. It is very unfortunate that we are again and again being told that we must learn Hindi. We are no doubt learning; we make an attempt. Unfortunately we cannot quickly progress. It is impossible to learn a language within a

year or two. Placed as we are we have got other responsibilities. Learning Hindi is not the only work.

If you look into the history of any language and its development, and in any country you will understand that it has developed as a language of convenience. It should develop itself; it should evolve itself if it has to become the language of the masses. It should not be the language of a few votaries and a few fanatics. Government should revise their perspective and change their policy and methods. There I am not in agreement even with the Constitution which has fixed a period of 15 years. We want fifty years, not fifteen.

**Shri Algu Rai Shastri** (Azamgarh Distt.-East cum Ballia Distt.-West): Why not 500?

**Shri Nand Lal Sharma** (Sikar): Will you live so long? (*Interruptions*)

**An Hon. Member:** Why?

**Shri Nand Lal Sharma:** In order to learn.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Here is another specimen of the fanaticism that we are seeing. We do not want such type of fanatics. A sort of new group is being created—a new group of patriots under the garb of learning or preaching or propagating Hindi. They are all telling us that it is the national language.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He will bear in mind the scope of the debate. We are on the Demand which provides certain establishments for the Hindi Commission. Hindi has been accepted as the official language of the Union.

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** Official language.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** A statutory Commission has also been appointed. That is the simple point. You may speak about the Commission, about the reference to the Commission, position of the Commission, whether

so much money is necessary, etc. These are relevant facts; it is no good going into that question whether this ought to be the official language. The period is there. Thereafter it will come before the House and a Committee of both the Houses will go into their report—the report of the Commission. The President will take into account those facts. There is no good anticipating all that here. Hon. Members will, therefore, confine themselves to these simple points.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** I am not anticipating at all. The facts are there and we are facing facts. In the foot-note it is said that the Commission is authorised to fix up a time-schedule by which Hindi may gradually replace English as the official language of the Union and the language for communication between one State Government and another.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That is laid down in the Constitution. If the Commission has been authorised to go into matters which are far beyond the scope of what is provided in the Constitution, then possibly hon. Members can say that the terms of reference are too wide or too narrow, or the position is not good. Beyond that, now to say that Hindi should or should not be forced is rather irrelevant.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** It has already been pointed out by the hon. Members....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If it has been already pointed out, he need not point it out again.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** The composition of the Commission is such that it will not inspire the non-Hindi people. It is composed of people coming from predominantly Hindi areas and we cannot expect a fair and good report from such a Commission. That point has been made out. And I only wish to say that if Hindi is to be propagated, it should be done in the normal way;

[Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy]

It should not be imposed; it should not be a language for throttling, a language of frustration. It should be a language for the masses; it should be evolved and it should be taken by the people quite willingly. What is being done is something else. You have set up a Commission and there you put people most of whom come from Hindi areas. You do not take the people from the non-Hindi areas, who are more than the people speaking Hindi. Unfortunately, the Commission is composed of people who come mostly from Hindi areas.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** Half of them are from non-Hindi areas.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** More than half; 13 out of 20.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** We can see the mind of the Government in the very composition of this Commission. They are not broad-minded even in the composition of this Commission. How can we expect fair-play, justice or equity at the hands of the Government. I am willing to support the policy of the Government in respect of propagating Hindi but I cannot understand their madness for imposing and spreading Hindi in this manner.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Is it parliamentary to use the word 'madness'? (Interruptions)

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** I am seeing certain Deputy Ministers now and then getting up and reading out Hindi speeches just like parrots and peacocks?.... (Interruptions).

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** May I submit that the hon. Member is offending the sentiments of those hon. Members who speak in Hindi. It is not correct moreover to say all that, when the official language is Hindi. What is the objection? What is the objection to Members getting up and speaking in that language? On the contrary we expect that all other Members whose language is not

Hindi will kindly take to it and speak Hindi as soon as they can. Some hon. Ministers speak in Hindi and some of our friends of non-Hindi speaking area here also speak in Hindi. All honour to them. My friend is taking exception to the use of Hindi as official language. If you will kindly see the foot-note here you will be pleased to see that (a) is there and then (b), (c) and (d) are all subject to (a). The first thing is the progressive use of Hindi and my friend is objecting to that and I do not think he is relevant.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All right. I will now call another hon. Member. He has spoken enough.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** There is one more thing I want to say. Apart from this question of Hindi, there is another point to which I want to refer and that is with regard to the relief or the help to be given to political sufferers and other sufferers. In this connection, may I say that I am not one of those who believe in granting relief or rendering any financial help to those people who have voluntarily rendered any service to the State. They may be in need or they may not be in need, but that is not the point.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** And those who involuntarily rendered service do not want it.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** The national service is rendered voluntarily and they know the consequence of that action. It is really very admirable that such service is being rendered by such men to the nation.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There are a number of other hon. Members who want to speak on this. The entire time allotted will be over soon and we must close the debate by 3.30. I have already allowed more than 10 minutes to the hon. Member.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Only one minute more, Sir, and I will finish.

I would say that this fund may be utilised by Government to help their own people and to render assistance to such men whom they want to, it may lead to a lot of favouritism. In the past it has led to favouritism and only certain sufferers have been receiving help and others have not been receiving any help. People who are members of other political parties are denied the relief and only those people who are in the Congress Party or the ruling party have been getting relief.

Several Hon. Members: No, no.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** It is no question of 'No'. It is a fact and by saying 'no' you cannot deny a fact. (Interruption). All the relief and all the assistance has been going only to the Congress people and no others. That is my charge against the Government. It is done in every State under the garb of helping the political sufferers. Under the garb of helping people who have suffered in the cause of the country they have been helping the Congress people only and strengthening their own party.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member does not want anybody to receive and therefore others are not receiving.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Unfortunately, under the big name of rendering assistance to political sufferers they have been assisting only their own men and so it is unnecessary and it should be stopped.

**श्री आर० क० चौधरी (गौहाटी) :** मैं हिन्दी के बारे में कुछ बोलना चाहता हूँ। हालांकि हिन्दी मेरी मातृभाषा नहीं है तो भी मैं हिन्दी में ही अपने विचार आपके सम्मुख रखने की कोशिश करूँगा।

आज हम एक इंडिपेंडेंट नेशन हैं, तो मैं अपने भाई श्री एम०एस० गुल्पादस्वामी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इंडिपेंडेंट नेशन होने पर हमारी अपनी कोई राष्ट्रभाषा होनी चाहिये कि

नहीं, खाली अंग्रेजों की हुकूमत यहाँ से हटाकर तो हम इंडिपेंडेंट नेशन नहीं हो जाते। हम अगर इंडिपेंडेंट इंडियन नेशन होकर रहना चाहते हैं तो विश्व के और स्वाधीन देशों के भाँति हमारी भी अपनी एक मातृभाषा होनी ही चाहिये और तब सवाल उठता है कि हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा क्या हो.....

**श्री बलगुराय ज्ञास्त्री :** अंग्रेजी।

**श्री आर० क० चौधरी :** उसके बारे में तो हमने निर्णय कर लिया है कि हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा हिन्दी होगी। मैं तो अपने उन भाइयों से जो आज हिन्दी का विरोध कर रहे हैं, कहूँगा कि विरोध का अब समय नहीं रहा, विरोध तो आपको तब करना चाहिये था जब कांस्टीट्यूट असेम्बली में भाषा संबंधी निर्णय किया जा रहा था, तब तो आप बोले नहीं और वहाँ पर एक मत से हिन्दी को राष्ट्रभाषा के पद पर आसीन किया गया। इस तरह का निर्णय हो जाने के बाद मुझे उन भाइयों का विरोध करना उचित नहीं प्रतीत होता और मुझे तो यह देखकर बड़ी शर्म लगती है जब मैं देखता हूँ कि दूसरे स्वाधीन राष्ट्र के प्रतिनिधि अपनी भाषा में बोलते हैं और हमने देखा कि मार्शल टोटो हालांकि थोड़ी बहुत अंग्रेजी जानते हैं लेकिन उन्होंने अपनी भाषा में ही अपने विचार प्रकट किये.....

**An Hon. Member:** No, no he spoke in English.

**श्री आर० क० चौधरी :** लेकिन यह शर्म की बात है कि हमसे अभी तक विदेशी भाषा का मोह नहीं छूट रहा है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि हम विदेशों में जाकर कौनसी भाषा बोलेंगे? हिन्दी, हिन्दुस्तानी, तामिल, तेलगू अथवा किस भाषा में बातचीत करेंगे? हमने जब हिन्दी को अपनी राष्ट्रभाषा माना है और सारे देश के लिये माना है तब हर एक प्रान्त के निवासियों का कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि हम उसको अपने प्रयोग में लाएं और हिन्दी सीखने

[श्री आर० के० चौधरी]

का जल्दी से जल्दी प्रयत्न करें। लेकिन यहाँ मैं एक कठिनाई की ओर सदन का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूँगा जो हम आसाम, बंगाल और दक्षिण भारत के लोगों को हिन्दी सीखने के बारे में मालूम पड़ रही है। मैं विद ड्यू रिस्पेक्ट कहूँगा कि जब हम यहाँ पर अपने प्रधान मंत्री को हिन्दी में बोलते सुनते हैं तो उनको समझने में हमको परेशानी होती है और हम उनकी भाषा नहीं समझ पाते, इसी तरह जब पंत जी हिन्दी में बोलते हैं तो उनको समझने में बड़ी मुश्किल पड़ती है और इसका कारण यह है कि वे अपनी हिन्दी स्पीचों में उर्दू के अल्फाज़ काफी लाते हैं जबकि उन्हीं के प्रान्त के कुछ ऐसे सदस्य हैं जैसे पंडित बालकृष्ण शर्मा, लाल बहादुर शास्त्री आदि, उनकी हिन्दी हम सरलता से समझ लेते हैं। इसलिये मैं अपने हिन्दी बोलने वाले भाइयों से आग्रह करूँगा कि वे लोग ज़रा अपनी भाषा में सरलता लायें और जहाँ तक हो सके अपनी हिन्दी में उर्दू के अल्फाज़ वे न लायें, उर्दू के अल्फाज़ जो हिन्दी के भाषणों में आ जाते हैं वे हमारी समझ में कम आते हैं।

इसके अतिरिक्त एक कठिनाई जो और हमें हिन्दी सीखने में पड़ती है वह जेंडर सम्बन्धी कठिनाई है, जैसे कोई तो टेबुल को मैसकुलिन जेंडर कहते हैं और दूसरे उसको फ़ेमनिन जेंडर मानते हैं, चन्द्रमा को कुछ मैसकुलिन जेंडर मानते हैं तो कुछ फ़ेमनिन जेंडर और इस लिंग भेद को लेकर हमें हिन्दी का ज्ञान प्राप्त करने में काफी परेशानी अनुभव होती है और इस नाते यह जो कमीशन बना है मैं उसका स्वागत करता हूँ और मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह कमीशन इन सब बातों पर सोच विचार करके कोई एक रास्ता निकाले जिस रास्ते पर चलकर हम सब अहिन्दी भाषा भाषी लोग जल्दी से जल्दी हिन्दी सीख लें। मुझे श्री गुरुपद्मस्वामी

और उनसे पहले जो एक सज्जन और बोले उनके हिन्दी विरोध को सुनकर बड़ा खेद हुआ क्योंकि उन्होंने खाली हिन्दी का विरोध किया लेकिन यह नहीं बतलाया कि यह रास्ता पकड़ने से हम दक्षिण के लोग हिन्दी जल्दी और आसानी से सीख सकेंगे, उन्हें अपनी स्पीचों में ऐसा रास्ता सुझाना चाहिये था। अब कमीशन का यह काम हो जाता है कि वह एक रास्ता बतलायें जिस पर चलकर जितने भी देश के अहिन्दी भाषा भाषी लोग हैं वे बहुत जल्द हिन्दी का ज्ञान प्राप्त कर सकें। अब हम सब भारतवासियों का यह कर्तव्य हो जाता है और हमें यह प्रतिज्ञा कर लेनी चाहिये कि हमें हिन्दी का सारे देश भर में एक कोने से लेकर दूसरे कोने तक उत्तर, पश्चिम, पूर्व और दक्षिण चारों दिशाओं में प्रचार करना है ताकि सब लोग हर जगह इस योग्य हो जायें कि वे अपनी बात हिन्दी में कह सकें और लिख पढ़ सकें और जब हम ऐसा कर लेंगे तब हम संसार के अन्य स्वाधीन राष्ट्रों के सामने गर्व से अपना मस्तक ऊंचा कर सकेंगे और कह सकेंगे कि हमारे स्वाधीन राष्ट्र की भाषा हिन्दी है जो विश्व की किसी भी भाषा से कम नहीं है बल्कि यह आदि और पुरातन भाषा संस्कृत से निकली है और यह आर्य भाषा है और यह सबसे अच्छी है।

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** I have listened to the speeches of hon. Members with a certain degree of perplexity. It appeared to me that they were anxious rather to give vent to their feelings, which had hardly any basis, than to address themselves to the actual proposition which is before the House. I have no desire to hurt the susceptibilities of any hon. Member here I would rather like to take the sting out, if there is any still left, in the matter of the propagation and acquisition of the knowledge of Hindi

It seems it is still being bandied about that Hindi is being forced upon the people. I do not understand this. Hindi was accepted as the official language—as the Constitution says, the official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devnagari script—by all the Members of the Constituent Assembly unanimously, whether they belonged to the south or to the north, to the east or to the west. All of them were agreed that Hindi should be the official language of the Union.

I had something to do with this matter when it was discussed and considered in the Constitution Assembly. For days, we were engaged in finding a solution that would be acceptable to all. There were occasions when sentiments ran high and when people seemed to be possessed by some sort of fanaticism of which some examples were noticed even today. Fanaticism is of various types: it is positive as well as negative. So, there were some such men, but we tried to appreciate the views and the feelings of every one and ultimately succeeded in hammering out a solution which was accepted by every one of the non-Hindi people. If there was any one in the House who had still any grievance, then the dissent did not belong to the non-Hindi speaking region but to the Hindi-speaking one. So, the only question that we have to consider is this. Having unanimously accepted that Hindi shall be the official language of the Union and having again unanimously accepted that Hindi should replace English within fifteen years and having given sacred place to those doctrines and to those principles, in our solemn Constitution, should we or should we not take steps to fulfil our promise and to carry out the objective which we laid before ourselves? That is the main problem. Why should we be angry about it? Why should we get annoyed at it? I see no reason. If we are earnest about our pledges and if we are faithful to the principles to which we have wedded ourselves, it becomes our moral duty to carry out the obligations which were implicit in them. So, it is not a matter

affecting the Hindus or the Hindi-speaking people. It is something which concerns the honour of every one in India. Every citizen owes allegiance to the Constitution and has to see that what the Constitution has laid down is fulfilled and is carried out.

The Commission was appointed by virtue of a provision which made it obligatory for the Government to appoint the Commission. There is no manoeuvre about it, and there is nothing to manipulate. It is a straightforward thing that was done. I am sorry that the composition of this Commission has been attacked. It is again difficult to take a correct view of things or to view them in the correct perspective when mind is confused, when prejudices have altogether wrapped one's judgment. If you will please look at the list, you will find that we have tried as well and, if I may say so, as faithfully as we could, to carry out the directions that are embodied in the Constitution. It is laid down there that the fourteen languages which have been recognised by the Constitution as regional languages will be represented in this Commission. We have tried to carry out that direction and accordingly a representative of every single language is there. I do not think it is necessary to divide the representatives into those coming from Hindi-speaking or from non-Hindi speaking areas. But it is wrong to say that the Hindi-speaking representatives outnumber others. They do not. In fact, they are only six or seven out of 20 or 21. We tried to find the best men from the country and I am thankful and grateful to Shri Kher, who agreed to undertake this very embarrassing, difficult and thankless task and also to the members who have agreed to bear this burden on my request. You, Sir, are one of them and so I am thankful to you in particular.

I have here the names, and I would like hon. Members to hear the names and to see if any better composition could have been thought of or devised. From Assam, we have Dr. Birinchi Kumar Barua. Head of the Assamese

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

Department, Gauhati University to represent Assamese; Dr. S. K. Chatterji, Chairman, West Bengal Legislative Council, Calcutta, to represent Bengali; Shri Maganbhai Desai, Gujrat Vidyapitha, Ahmedabad, to represent Gujarati; Shri D. C. Pavate, Vice-Chancellor, Karnatak University, to represent Kannada; Prof. P. N. Pushp, Amar Singh College, Srinagar, to represent Kashmiri; Shri M. K. Raja, Editor, Dinabhandu, Ernakulam, Travancore-Cochin, to represent Malayalam; Dr. P. Subbarayan, Member, Rajya Sabha, Madras, to represent Tamil; Shri G. P. Nene, Rashtrabhasha Bhavan, Poona, to represent Marathi; Dr. P. K. Parija, Pro-Chancellor, Utkal University, Cuttack, to represent Oriya; Sardar Teja Singh, ex-Chief Justice, PEPSU, to represent Punjabi; Shri M. Satyanarayana, Member, Rajya Sabha, Madras, to represent Telugu; Dr. Babu Ram Saksena, Head of the Department of Sanskrit, Allahabad, to represent Sanskrit; Dr. Abid Hussain, Jamia Milla, Delhi, to represent Urdu; Dr. Amar Nath Jha, Chairman, Public Service Commission, Patna, to represent Bihar; and also to bring to the Commission first-hand knowledge of the difficulties that have to be faced in the matter of examinations held by the Public Service Commissions.

**Some Hon. Members:** He is no more.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** Yes; he is no more; I am sorry. I would like to pay a tribute to his memory. He was a great educationist and a friend of all good causes. I am sorry that he is no more in this country of ours to help us and to guide us in many of the undertakings in which he took a leading part.

Then, Dr. R. P. Tripathi, Vice-Chancellor, Saugor University, Saugor, to represent Madhya Pradesh; Shri Balkrishna Sharma, M.P., Delhi, to represent, if I may say so, Hindi; Shri Mauli Chander Sharma, Delhi; Dr. Hazari Prasad Dwivedi, Head of the Department of Hindi, Banaras Hindu University, Banaras; Shri Jai Narayan Vyas, Jaipur Rajasthan, and

Shri Ananthasayanam Ayyangar, Deputy-Speaker, Lok Sabha, Delhi, to represent Delhi. (*Interruptions*). L

I shall put the question squarely to the Members of the House, is there anything unfair about this Commission?

**Shri Vallatharas:** I did not want to make mention of specific names; but as the hon. Home Minister has given all the names, I want to submit that as far as Dr. Subbarayan, is concerned, apart from.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. I am not going to allow the hon. Member to make any such references here. The hon. Minister is only answering to the statement that has been made by the hon. Member, putting it into compartments and giving the details. He says that every language has been represented by honourable men and the hon. Member cannot easily take exception to any of them.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** The special request has been made to the Commission that while making its recommendations, it should pay due regard to the industrial, cultural and scientific advancement of India and the claims and interests of persons belonging to the non-Hindi speaking areas in regard to public service. That has been emphasised. It is now for the Commission to consider and examine all questions and I am sorry that an unnecessary prejudice should have been created against this Commission, which has indeed a very difficult task to perform at this very initial stage; it hardly looks very patriotic or large-hearted either.

**Shri Veeraswamy (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** There are prejudices against the Commission because the Commission is going to force Hindi in non-Hindi speaking areas.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** No commission can force anything on anybody. So far as I am concerned, I have repeated again and again that I have no desire to force Hindi on anyone, much less on those who want to resist even the

irresistible attraction of Hindi; I hope they will be converted by the beauty of that language, by the exigencies of the situation and by the demands of national culture and respect of the country. The self-respect of the country demands a language which can be spoken everywhere in the country and which can be said to be the language of India. Can we allow English to be the national language of India? Can it continue for ever? We should apply our minds to the question rationally, and dispassionately, and then it has to be decided. I would have no objection if it had been decided by the Constituent Assembly that it should be Telugu, Tamil or English, and then it would be right for us to acquire as much knowledge of that language as would have enabled us to carry on our work and to add to the dignity and the stature of our country by developing that national language. Those of us who happen to be in that position today owe a duty to the self-respect of the country to see that a national language is developed. At the same time, we have all to remember that we want regional languages to develop too. I fully appreciate the great height of importance of a language to the people who have been speaking that language and who have used that language from their infancy. We respect that sentiment. In our country, with all the diversity of its cultures, there is also the basic unity. We do not want in any way to impoverish our culture; we want every regional language to grow and to have immense literature to feed the various States and to develop the best aesthetic culture that can be found in any country. So, there is no desire in any quarters—I will be sorry if there were any—to smother the growth of any language or to impoverish any language in any way. But the point is this. If we develop the regional languages in the different States and accept them for our regional administrative and other purposes, then what will happen to other things which concern the entire nation? Suppose you have Tamil in Madras, Telugu in Andhra and so on

and so forth. Then, it will not be possible at all to conduct our work here in English, because every region will be concentrating on its own language. If such a position is considered reasonable and if that stage is reached, then how are the all-India questions to be tackled? That is the question which has to be considered. There is no escape from this. Hindi alone can serve the all-India purpose and we have willy-nilly, whether we desire it or not, to carry out what the Constitution has prescribed and laid down for us in solemn terms.

Sir, some reference was also made to the examinations. I have said before and I am repeating this statement so as to remove whatever lingering misapprehensions there may still be in this regard. So far as public examinations are concerned, we do not want anyone to be prejudiced or to be placed at a disadvantage on account of his being born in a non-Hindi speaking area and his having to compete with those who had been borne in the Hindi speaking areas. The examinations will be so held that the best of men can join our services and nobody, because of his ignorance of Hindi, should be left out if he is otherwise fit and deserves to be taken in our services. I do not see why after that there should be any concern or any apprehension in any quarters. I had made a statement here sometime ago. Mr. Vallatharas referred to Rajaji's letter, but he did not say that Rajaji issued this letter, which was a copy of my letter to him, to the Press in order to remove whatever misapprehensions there were. But I am sorry that Mr. Vallatharas still sticks to his old prejudices.

**Shri Vallatharas:** Personally I have no prejudice.

**Pandit G. B. Pant:** He has no prejudice, but he has fallen into a bottomless pit where he can see no light and where it is not possible for him to see the light, because he is so much drowned in the pit below that no light can penetrate there; but he is a vigorous and I think a well-built

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

person and so I am not surprised. But so far as the language of Rajaji's communication to the Press is concerned, it was intended to reassure people that there is no apprehension of any South Indian being put to any disadvantage because of the policy that the Government may follow in the matter of Hindi.

Several other questions were put as to what the Education Department is doing and what others are doing. I do not know if these questions are germane to the issue that is before us. Hon. Members all roamed over and beyond the fence; they did not confine themselves to the really relevant issues. If I were to follow them, I think no time would be left for other business. I have to respectfully submit that I earnestly and in all humility see the co-operation of every Member of this House and of every one living in the regions where Hindi is not the spoken language, in carrying out the aims and objectives which they and we together prescribed and laid down solemnly for our own and posterity's guidance in this Constitution. If we apply ourselves to this task in that spirit, I hope that we will attain all that we desire within the next 10 or 15 years. But, I also appreciate the feeling to which expression has been given here. If we want to accelerate the pace of Hindi, then we have to win over those who are not familiar with Hindi today. We cannot in any way accelerate the pace or the march onward faster than we are doing except with their fellowship, friendship and co-operation. We appeal to them to build a national language, national in the sense that that would be used by all people in this country, that would be the language in which our Ambassadors will be allowed to present their credentials in foreign countries. It is hardly befitting our dignity when our nationals in other countries have to present their credentials in English. I will just give a short story. The King

of Afghanistan was here, I am told, some time ago. There was a banquet here and speeches were delivered. The speech delivered by the representative of India was perhaps in English. Then he said; I am surprised that you speak in a foreign language; what does your independence mean? That is what I would like you to consider. That is the question which is put to us by many others. So, in the circumstances, let us examine this question in a spirit of friendliness for Hindi, with the realisation of the unity and oneness of our country. Parochial considerations and other petty matters which divide us from each other are not going to contribute toward the strengthening of the integrity and solidarity of our country or our nation. We have all to combine together to find place for every one, to preserve our composite culture, to enrich every element in it and to see that what comes out is really worthy of the great traditions and the still greater position which, luckily, our country has come to occupy in the international world today.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I shall now put such of the cut motion as hon. Members want me to put.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Nos. 8 and 11.

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 50,000".

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of

Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Cut motion No. 14.

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments, and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All the cut motions are negatived. The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,62,00 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, 1956, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs'."

*The motion was adopted.*

#### APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL

**The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1955-56.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal)** rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This is only motion for leave to introduce. Consideration stage is later.

The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for

the service of the financial year 1955-56."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I introduce\* the Bill and beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1955-56, be taken into consideration."

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

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1955-56, be taken into consideration."

Of course, hon. Members know the limits.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi (Chittor):** Not beyond that

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Five minutes.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** This is a very peculiar position that in this case we have already spent the money out of the Consolidated Fund of India and now appropriation takes place. In other words, it is not exactly appropriation, but it is some adjustment of misappropriation which has already taken place.

**Shri Gadgil (Poona Central):** Post facto appropriation. Why not put it better?

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Our Constitution does not provide for any process of post facto appropriation. We can only have appropriation. Once we have already spent the money, is this Appropriation Bill a legal Bill or is it only taking some liberties

\*Introduced and moved with the recommendation of the President.