

LOK SABHA

Thursday, 1st March, 1956

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(See Part I)

12-03 P.M.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTARIES RULES

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Notaries Rules 1956, published in the Ministry of Home Affairs Notification No. S.R.O. 324, dated the 14th February, 1956. [Placed in Library See No. S-71/56.]

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

TWENTY-FIRST REPORT

श्री० बी० मेहता (गोहिलवाड़) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं रेलवे मंत्रालय पर ऐस्टीमेट समिति की इक्कीसवीं रिपोर्ट पेश करता हूँ।

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that in order to make available more time for the consideration of the Railway and General Budgets and the Finance Bill, the House will sit from 10-30 A.M. to 5-30 P.M. from Monday, the 5th March, 1956 (when the General Discussion of the Railway Budget will commence) until Wednesday, the 18th April, 1956, (when the Finance Bill is scheduled to be passed).

The allocation of time for the General Discussion and Demands for Grants for the Railway and General Budgets and the Finance Bill will be announced in the Bulletin.

DEMANDS* FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS, 1955-56

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: As already announced in the Bulletin 3 hours have been allotted for the discussion and voting on the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1955-56 which will now be taken up for consideration. At about 3-05 P.M. therefore all the Demands will be put to the vote of the House.

I would like hon. Members just to suggest to me which of these Demands they consider more important and which will take some time.

Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad): May I take it from the first part of the announcement you have made that when the House sits for five days in a week from 10-30 A.M. to 5-30 P.M. definitely it will be understood that it will not sit on Saturdays?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already said that no Saturday will be a working day unless unfortunately for some accidental reasons any working day out of the five days happens to be given away as a holiday and we are unable to sit on that day in which case that work will be taken up on that Saturday. This sitting from 10-30 A.M. to 5-30 P.M. is for the purpose of avoiding sitting on Saturdays and to give sufficient time to hon. Members and Ministers to just look to other important work.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): May I enquire whether there will be a break for lunch?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The same break as has been going on all along. The same practice will be there.

Now, if the hon. Members are able to suggest on which of the items here in the Supplementary Demands they would like to devote more time that would be better. Have they considered this matter?

*Moved with the recommendations of the President.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat) : Are we to move our cut motions or are we just to specify to you those items which we consider important?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Members are only to mention the items which they consider important so that I may give preference to them and allot time. With regard to cut motions they may specify the numbers and I will treat them as formally moved.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I would like Demand No. 91 to be treated as important. That needs a little discussion because we are going to vote for more than Rs. 11 crores.

An Hon. Member: We are not able to hear. What is proposed, Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have requested hon. Members to indicate in order of preference the more important items over which we may spend some more time. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty has pointed out that Demand No. 91 is important which relates to expenditure on displaced persons amounting to Rs. 11 crores.

Shri K. K. Basu (Diamond Harbour) : I would suggest Demand No. 37.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What does it relate to? It relates to Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance—Rs. 4 crores and odd.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I move my cut motion No. 23....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will come to that afterwards.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar (Tiruppur): Sir, I would suggest Demand No. 1—Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Demand No. 37—Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance and Demand No. 86—Salt.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury (Ghatal): There is also Demand No. 2.

Shri Kamath: I want some information on this Demand No. 1

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Therefore, these Demands—Demand No.1, Demand No. 2, Demand No. 37, Demand No. 86 and Demand No. 91—will come up for discussion.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I would suggest Demands Nos. 80 and 89 also.

Shri Kamath: Does it mean that on other Demands there would not be any time to get some information even?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no. Questions may be put and elucidated.

Now, I will take up Demand No. 1 and Demand No. 2—Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Industries—separately. What are the cut motions? Hon. Members may pass on by way of chits the numbers of cut motions they want to move.

Shri Kamath: For all Demands together?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: For each Demand separately in the same chit. Now, what time shall we allot to Demand No. 1 and Demand No. 2.

Shri Kamath: 15 minutes.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Half an hour.

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): Demand No. 1 and Demand No. 2 are to be taken separately because Demand No. 2 is a subject of production.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. We will have 10 to 15 minutes for each.

Then Demand No. 37 relating to Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance. Shri K. K. Basu wanted more time for this. How long will it take?

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Half an hour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well.

We might take Demands 80 and 89 together.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: There is Demand No. 86. It will not take more than 10 minutes.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I would like to have 15 minutes for Demand No. 80 and about 10 to 15 minutes for Demand No. 89.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: For Demand No. 91, I would like to have 45 minutes, if possible. There are very important questions arising there, about both West Pakistan and East Pakistan. At least 45 minutes, if not one hour,

may be allotted for it. I do not know what will be the total time allotted for all the Demands.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma (Sikar): I have cut motion No. 1 under Demand No. 91.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I would like to give 30 minutes for Demand No. 91. If we have sufficient time, we will extend it to 45 minutes. Practically, it is the last Demand, and lest it should be elbowed out, I shall fix the time for it and it will be 30 minutes, in the first instance, and if necessary we shall try to save time on the other Demands.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: 30 minutes may not be sufficient.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then I will try to reduce the time for the other Demands.

DEMAND NO. 1—MINISTRY OF
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 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 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

Replacement of Typewriters

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

Expenses on Deputations to the Exhibitions

Shri K. K. Basu: I also beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 25,000".

These are the two cut motions that I move under this Demand. A sum of Rs. 17,000 is demanded for the replacement of typewriters. I would like to know from the Minister why, when the budget was framed, nothing of this sort was considered by the Ministry, and why the typewriters already existing

were to be condemned and if they were to be condemned the probable proportion of the number of typewriters to be condemned. As we know, typewriters are not perishable commodities, and all of a sudden they cannot be condemned. I feel that when the Government, while planning out their expenditure, should have a proper check on the items that were necessary and had to be purchased. They may of course say that when so much money is spent on other items, why bother about this Rs. 17,000 for typewriters. But I feel that unless from now onward our administrators plan out their expenditure in a better way, there is no point in sanctioning these demands. I am afraid that when we are embarking on huge plans monies should be properly utilised, for, otherwise it will be very difficult to find further funds. With this end in view, I have moved the cut motion regarding the expenditure relating to the replacement of the condemned typewriters. It is an economy cut. I feel this demand is due to the inefficiency of the persons concerned and their inability to visualise the expenditure when the budget was framed. I do not know how it happened. Either there was some trouble or to cover up some delay or fault, this new expenditure has been put forth. We know many a time that some parts of the typewriters are removed by some person and then the typewriters are declared as condemned and are sold out at a very low price. But, whatever it may be, the way in which the demand has been put does not speak very highly of the efficiency of the Ministry concerned, and more so when the expenditure was not foreseen at the time of the original budget. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister, for our satisfaction, the reason why this new item has been entered. As I said, typewriters are not perishable commodities. Unless there is some national calamity causing large-scale damages to the typewriters, I do not know how, all of a sudden, so many typewriters could be condemned.

My next cut motion is in regard to the deputation of officers to foreign countries. It is also an economy cut. I myself am of opinion that we should participate in exhibitions especially in regard to foreign trade and fairs. It is absolutely necessary for the expansion of our foreign trade. But we must know how to send our delegation and what proportion of money could be spent on it. This expenditure is indeed a form of investment in the shape of publicity and

[Shri K. K. Basu]

advertisement, and therefore, the expenditure must have a relation to the benefit derived. It has been said that 13 technical persons were sent to Pakistan International Industries Fair. I do not know to what extent the exhibits and the methods of exhibition of Pakistan would be helpful to us. I take it that 13 different technicians, each of different type, must have been sent to the Fair. Certainly, they should not have been sent just for a trip round Pakistan, and I take it that their deputation would help us. It is well and good. I personally feel that this Ministry should take into account, whenever it sends such delegations, the need for a large number of persons to be sent as delegates, and also the proportion of expenditure to the number sent, besides the prospect of a good return for the money spent. I hope the Ministry will give a suitable reply before they ask the Lok Sabha to vote this particular item.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Cut motions moved :

(1) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

(2) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

Markets for Small-scale Products

Shri Namblar (Mayuram): I beg to move :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Cut motion moved :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Introduction of Metric System of Weights and Measures

Shri Kamath: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 100".

This cut motion seeks to discuss the proposed introduction of the metric system of weights and measures. At the outset, I am glad to see that the suggestion made by the Business Advisory Committee with regard to the get-up of these foot-notes and all these booklets has been implemented. The Business Advisory Committee noted last time that they experienced difficulty in reading the foot-notes and that they would suggest that in future such notes should be printed in bolder type. That has been done now. That is something which will be appreciated by all of us.

Coming to the cut motion itself,—the subject of the cut motion—so far as I am aware, the Lok Sabha has not discussed the metric system of weights and measures nor has any resolution or Bill been passed with regard to the metric system of weights and measures. As far as I am aware—I do not know whether anything happened before I was returned in the Lok Sabha—the only measure which was discussed in relation to the metric system was that of coinage and currency, and without getting the sanction of the Lok Sabha, the approval of the Lok Sabha, I do not know how Government has gone about this matter of introduction of the metric system of weights and measures. Even as regards the other matter, the metric system of coinage and currency, I remember that in the last session, rules were laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in pursuance of the assurance given by the Prime Minister and a provision had also been formally made to that effect in the Bill. I believe a notification was placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha and I even gave certain amendments to the rules. But they have now disappeared from the Table of the Lok Sabha and I do not know whether the rules are going to be discussed in the Lok Sabha at all, that is, the rules with regard to the metric system of coinage. I would like to know from the Minister, therefore, firstly, whether the rules in regard to the metric system of currency will come up in this session, and secondly, how without any kind of approval by the Lok Sabha, and any formal passage of a Bill to this effect the Government has gone about this business of introducing the metric system of weights and measures.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Cut motion moved :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceed-

ing Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry be reduced by Rs. 100.'

Shri D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): I would like to make a general observation about most of the Demands and particularly about Demand No. 1. For some time past, all of us have been noticing one strange tendency on the part of the Ministries of the Government of India and it is this that they are asking for more and more staff. For this purpose, the technique is very simple; You have a special department; that special department requires a special officer; that special officer requires a special staff, and that staff demands all kinds of paraphernalia. When I read about other countries, I find that in the United Kingdom also, they recruited a large number of persons during the war, but afterwards, when the Attlee Government came into power or when the Churchill Government came into power and even now, when the Eden Government is in power, they have been making efforts to curtail the number of civil servants. My feeling is this: that our administration is becoming very very top heavy. I would like to know how many civil servants are there in India. In other countries there is what is called "job evaluation"; they know how much work a particular person can do. But, here everything is being done on an *ad hoc* basis. Things are being done at the sweet will of some persons. Every time we are asked to vote for the creation of new appointments, but no reasons are given for the new appointments. No reasons are being given to explain why so much money of the Government of India is being spent. I would like to know why there is so much expansion of our administrative services, when the work that they are supposed to do is not so great. In the Commerce and Industry Ministry, they catch hold of a new name and that new name means a new officer and so on and so forth. It is mentioned here that there are "heavy demands". I would like to know what these heavy demands are. I would like to know the precise significance of the words heavy and demand. I know there is a kind of movement going on to multiply the number of sections and the number of officers. They say they have to cope with the heavy increase in the volume of work relating to Small Scale Industries. I know that little has been in this regard and we are yet in the exploratory stage. Yet, we are asked to vote for Grant for Export promo-

tion, Cotton Textiles and so on. Not much has been done so far as the export proposals go and yet, we are asked to vote for the appointment of more officers. The whole of this book "Supplementary Demands for Grants" bristles with new appointments. I would like to say that unless there are precise reasons given for the creation of these new departments, nothing should be done. For instance, we find here "Organisation and Methods Unit". I would like to know what has been done by this unit and what it proposes to do. Only the bare names are given. Oliver Goldsmith wrote about an author saying, "I am a great author; I have got the title pages of 50 books; only the books have to be written". Similarly, we are given the title pages of the books without the books themselves. I would, therefore, urge that this matter should be properly looked into and scrutinised.

More and more delegations are going abroad, I am not against these delegations, but somehow these delegations have a way of becoming what may be called "vested interests", if I may use that expression.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These people went for the exhibition.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I would, therefore, say that this tendency on the part of the Government of India to multiply sections and officers should be looked into. Yesterday our Finance Minister said that he was going to appoint a commission to go into this question. As long as that commission is not appointed, all these demands for new officers should be suspended; they should not be adopted till that commission has looked into the matter.

Shri Velayudhan (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I have only one point to place before the House. As Mr. Sharma has said, a number of officers are appointed in the various new departments. I am told that the schemes for the development of Small Scale Industries etc. are absorbing a lot of clerks and officers, but many of the new sections have not given weight to the reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people. We have already made representations to the Home Ministry as well as other Ministries about this. From what little information I have got, I can tell you that not even a single Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe Officer has been appointed in the new schemes envisaged

[Shri Velayudhan]

by the Commerce and Industry Ministry till now. I want that the Government should strictly adhere to the rules that were framed by the Home Ministry in the appointment of staff. This is the only point I want to stress.

The Minister of Industries (Shri Kanungo): I will come to the general observations of Mr. Sharma later, because they are rather very wide. I will now take up the specific points which have been very clearly made out by my friend, Mr. Basu. Condemnation of typewriters is a rather involved process, because the office which uses it has not got the authority to condemn a particular machine; it has got to be condemned by the appropriate authority, who, in this case, is the Controller of Stationery. There is a perpetual tussle between the requisitioning department and the authority. Therefore it takes a little time. In this particular case, the 19 typewriters were condemned and because of the delay in getting final orders from the condemning authority, the matter could not be brought before the House during the time of the Budget Demands. Such delays cannot be foreseen and after all, we must remember that the replacement of typewriters in general has been long overdue and the appropriate authority is trying to squeeze out the last ounce of efficiency from the bad typewriters.

Regarding the sending of a dozen people to the Pakistan Exhibition. . . .

Shri K. K. Basu: They were technicians.

Shri Kanungo: I might mention that Pakistan being our neighbouring country, we hope and expect that we will have a market for our goods there, particularly the engineering products. In spite of a certain amount of demonstration, the Indian Stall at the Pakistan Exhibition attracted a good deal of attention, particularly the engineering products. For explaining their manufacture and working, specialists were needed. Therefore, the country being nearer and the potential market being hopeful, these men were sent. Obviously a man who can explain a diesel engine cannot explain a lathe. Therefore, 12 men were sent and the place being Karachi, the expenditure was not heavy.

Shri Velayudhan: Out of the 13 persons, how many were technicians?

Shri Kanungo: All of them were competent to explain the machinery ex-

hibited. Regarding the general question of participation in exhibitions and fairs, the suggestion of Mr. Basu is very relevant and Government are also trying to see that it is planned out according to our capacity. But sometimes it happens that in regard to certain States with whom we have friendly relations and which require our participation and where we hope potential markets exist, we have taken decisions at short notice. I might mention that in this particular year, we had an exhibition in Cambodia and one in Addis Ababa, which from long range point of view, as outlet for our finished products, were hopeful. Therefore, we had to take a decision at short notice and participate in them. However, the suggestion of Shri K. K. Basu that it should be planned out a little ahead is certainly helpful and it will be borne in mind.

Regarding Shri Kamath's query about the metric system, legislation regarding the adopting of metric weights and measures will be placed before the House very soon, probably in this session. As Shri Kamath will realise, when a matter is put before the House, a lot of preparatory work has got to be done. The States which have got the responsibility of administering weights and measures have got to be consulted. Their objections and difficulties have got to be taken note of. Therefore, staff was necessary. This is a long term measure and it will take 10 or 15 years to put through. To prepare the ground for legislation in as full a form as possible, staff is necessary. Therefore the demand has come. When the legislation comes in, there will be provision for rule-making powers. At that time, it will be appropriate to discuss whether the rules should be placed before the House or not.

Shri Kamath: About the financial implications?

Shri Kanungo: About the coinage part, I have no knowledge of that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Coinage does not arise under Commerce though it may relate to currency.

Shri Kanungo: About staff, Shri D. C. Sharma has made a blank condemnation. If he will carefully read the original demand as well as the information which has been given in the supplementary demands book, he will see that with increased activities, it is necessary to have increased staff. In this particular case, it is not as if just anybody in the Ministry wants the creation of new posts

and they are granted. The Home Ministry and the Finance Ministry had a special reorganisation unit which went into the case very thoroughly and after they recommended, the proposal was put through. A major part of the increase of staff was necessitated because the whole lot of trade classifications has got to be reclassified according to international practices. Also because of the change in the import and export policy which occurs every six months, it is not possible to anticipate the amount of work which will be received in any particular half year. As the House knows, the export and import policy and gradual liberalisation of strategic control have the approval of the House. In view of the steps which have been taken to vet the requirements of staff, I do not think there will be any objection to the few posts which have been necessitated. Also, I might mention that the House has time and again expressed the necessity to increase the small-scale industries institute and the services it renders. Every increase in the activities and every attempt at increase in the services require a certain amount of staff. The staff is not there on a lavish scale.

As regards Shri Velayudhan's remark, it can be better dealt with by the Home Ministry, because that Ministry is the guardian angel which looks after its orders about reservation of posts and their filling up. Recruitment is made according to the standing orders of the Home Ministry. I do not know what is the percentage of these officers, or how many there are in this particular Ministry or any other Ministry. But, I assume that the Home Ministry which vigilantly guards over their rights and the rules relating to recruitment of the special interests will certainly look to this.

Shri Velayudhan : There is a certain point. Take for example, an appointment which has to be made immediately. It will be made immediately, so that there is no time given for filling up the vacancy reserved for the Scheduled Castes. There are a number of other methods of evasion of recruitment of Scheduled Castes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is a general question which is dealt with by the Home Ministry. This question about temporary appointments, U.P.S.C., has been asked. That is a general matter.

Now I will put the cut motions to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 25,000."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' 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. 3,30,000 in respect of 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now I will put the Demand to the vote. The question is :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,30,000 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 'Ministry of Commerce and Industry'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 2—INDUSTRIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Industries'."

Less Expenditure on Village Industries, Handicrafts and Small-scale Industries

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Progress of Khadi Industry vis-a-vis the Handloom Industry

Shri Namblar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Peripatetic Parties

Shri Kamath: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' 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. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

(2) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

(3) "That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: In moving my cut motion No. 6 to Demand No. 2 my intention is to point out the shortfall in expenditure on small-scale industries. From the note given here, I find that although the budget provision for the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board was Rs. 2.5 crores, the final estimate for the year is Rs. 5.16 crores. While we do not object to this expenditure for the development of Khadi industries, in view of the unemployment problem, we find that there is a large shortfall in regard to expenditure on village industries, handicrafts and small-scale industries. We find that although there is an additional requirement of Rs. 2.66 crores for the development of Khadi, so far as the All-India Khadi and Village

Industries Board is concerned, there is a saving of as much as Rs. 1.54 crores in expenditure on village industries, handicrafts and small-scale industries. This is a regrettable state of affairs. We know that in the villages there is large-scale unemployment so far as small-scale industries and village industries are concerned. In this House, several times I have raised the problems of the farms goods industries in my district. A large number of people have become unemployed on account of difficulties in such industries. While we want that Khadi industries should be properly developed, we find no justification for this shortfall in expenditure though there is at present demand in respect of these small-scale industries.

In the States we know they have set up State Finance Corporations, but there is some difficulty in getting help from such corporations because there are provisions according to which they do not extend help to such industries unless they require a particular amount and work under particular conditions. Here we find that the small-scale industries and other village industries are suffering because of the lack of finance and lack of market. So far as the bell metal industry is concerned, I know there is a lot of difficulty because of the difficulties of export to Pakistan. We do not know what steps Government have taken in regard to that, and as regards the horns goods industry, there is a comb-making industry in my district but it is facing competition from the plastic goods, and although there are co-operative societies and the workers in this industry are eager to develop it and although they still find a market for these, they are not in a position to continue work because of the profits of the middle men and the difficulties regarding supply of raw materials, and unless the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board or some other organisation looks into their difficulties and ensures supply of raw materials or provides financial assistance, they would not be in a position to get over these difficulties.

In the circumstances, it is really a matter for deep regret that this organisation was not in a position to utilise the money which was provided in the budget. I hope that hereafter the Government would see to it that the amount allocated for the development of village industries and small scale industries is spent and more money is provided under these heads.

Shri Nambiar: Mine is cut motion No. 7. I want to point out that encouragement given to Khadi is a point which I do not want to dispute at present.

Shri T. N. Singh (Banaras Distt.—East): Thank you.

Shri Nambiar: But my difficulty is I am looking into the question of the handlooms. The handloom industry in the South, particularly in my State of Madras, is in a very difficult position and it should get more help from the cess. Now the allotment I think is going more to Khadi than to handloom. Of late, there has been a feeling among the employers to switch on to powerlooms thereby making more handloom workers unemployed, and the wages of labour have gone down, and this has created a serious situation. Karur and Dindigul are the places which produce for local consumption, which can be used not only in the South but in the North. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to see that more allotment is made to handloom, of course, not at the cost of small-scale industries. With regard to small-scale cottage industries such as lock making and potteries, there is not much of encouragement in the South. I would request that allotments may be made for this.

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): How is that relevant?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I also want to point out that it is rather surprising that there should be this shortfall to the extent of Rs. 1.15 lakhs due to less expenditure on village and small-scale industries and handicrafts.

My criticism can be divided into two parts,—one dealing with Khadi and the other dealing with village industries.

As far as Khadi is concerned, my own practical experience is that the Khadi Board does not have sufficient number of centres especially in the areas which are the most backward. For instance, in the Sunderbans area which has only one crop a year and which is actually very poor and backward as far as industrialisation goes, we find hardly any centres, either purchasing or training centres. The other thing we note is, that the individual who is spinning at home does not know where to take the yarn because there is no publicity or propaganda to help the individual spinners to

go and sell their yarn, with the result that although large amounts of subsidy are being given by Government, it is not going to the help of the majority of those who are today wanting some form of cottage industry employment. That is why I feel that it is very essential now that it is being done on a national scale—it is not being done by just one small group or constructive workers of the Congress, but it is getting State help—that Government purchasing and training centres should be opened in the areas which are most backward, so that we may not notice this type of shortfall at a time when in every village to which you go the women, especially the agricultural labouring women, crowd round you and ask you how you are going to give them some form of employment.

The other thing I want to stress is the question of village Industries. This is especially a thing in which a certain amount of research is also required. For instance, in the Sunderbans area we have certain grasses and certain other materials from which we can make mats, a type of paper and other things which have to be gone into. In these areas I am afraid nothing has been done although we approach the Industries Department again and again. Not only that, Nobody in the village knows who is the competent authority to tell them how to approach Government for help, for research, for the results of research, for production centres, for training or for marketing. Nobody knows. If we go to the sub-divisional officer he is not able to tell us. If we ask where we can get this information, he says: "Well, I don't know". The whole thing is in such a state of flux that actually the money which is being given is not being utilised by the people who are starving due to unemployment. Some of them have the technical skill also. Some are anxious to find new ways and methods of developing these industries. Yet that is not being done, and I am afraid it is one of the biggest drawbacks of this entire Ministry. I have already put in a question on this point as to who are the competent authorities who will give this information on the village level, the sub-divisional level, the district level and the provincial level. I think one of the reasons why this shortfall is taking place is the big difference and gap between the sums of money for which we are budgeting and passing in this House and its actual utilisation and reaching the masses who are so eager for employment and who are suffering from so much poverty due to unemployment.

Shri T. N. Singh: I am very much in sympathy with the observations made by the previous speaker, because as one who has been connected with one of these Boards I have myself felt a lot of difficulties in expediting the work and also spending the money allotted. I feel that the whole organisation does require modification so far as the organisational aspect is concerned. It is known that the Government's method of doing anything is rather slow and tardy, the procedure is very difficult and prolonged. And here we have to deal not with one particular section of the people or industry fixed at a particular place. The whole activity is spread over the villages, long distances and families whose condition the non-officials are in the best position to know and appreciate. Here the Secretary or the Deputy-Secretary or the Under-Secretary is sitting in some office, or the Deputy-Minister or Minister is sitting somewhere probably surrounded by Secretaries and Deputy-Secretaries. He knows their point of view only. He is obsessed with certain formalities, procedure, regulations etc. He is not obsessed with the condition of the poor people there so much, and their difficulties are not realised so much as the difficulties of the secretariat. That is the real problem, and that has got to be tackled.

As a matter of fact, the question of having a statutory body has been hanging fire for such a long time. The Khadi and Village Industries Board consists of a very good set of people, who are very enthusiastic, and who are people with missionary zeal; they have devoted their whole time to this work; in fact, they have been doing this work all their life. They are there on this Board, but they find themselves handicapped, because they cannot function independently. They are tied down by so many rules and regulations and all kinds of forms and formalities. All that has to end.

We must trust these people who have devoted their whole lives to this work; their main aim in life has been to work for these people. It is high time that we make this body a statutory body. I understand that such a demand had been made by them, and I hear that even a Bill had been drafted for that purpose. I would like to know why nothing has been done so far in that direction.

If they have to stick to government methods, then take it from me as one who knows something of financial rules and regulations, as one who knows something of these secretariat methods,

that this kind of work can never go on. In the small board with which I am connected, we want to spend money, but then we find that a number of small objections are raised, first by the Production Ministry and then by the Finance Ministry and so on; these people crop up, and they raise all these points; then correspondence goes on again for another six months, for clearing all those matters.

I would suggest that we must trust these people with that work, and give them the necessary money saying, "Here it is, this is national money, we know you are people who have been devoted to this work all along, in fact, your mission in life has been to work for these people, we trust you, and you go ahead with your programme". Of course, their accounts will be subject to audit. But they have to be released from all the formalities and restrictions associated with a government-run organisation. That is the only way in which we can deal with this matter.

For, supposing we have to make payment to an ordinary worker who comes and does some work, then the question is raised, under what rule is this payment made, under what financial authority is this payment made, under what rule these conveyance charges are paid, and so on. All these problems crop up, which you can never solve through your government machinery. They can be solved only if there is a statutory body for this purpose. When we can have statutory bodies for telephones, for the manufacture of engines, locomotives and so on, and we can spend crores of rupees on them, why can we not have statutory bodies for this purpose? This is a demand which has been hanging fire for so long. I think all the criticisms that have been made in this connection by hon. Members here either now or in the past can be met fully, if we create a statutory body consisting of men who are genuinely devoted to that work, and fully trust them. Of course, they will be subject to audit just as any other organisation. But they should have the freedom to function in the manner they think best.

You should not bring them under the subordination of an ordinary deputy secretary or under-secretary or all kinds of other people. It is simply annoying, I may tell you; and it is against one's self-respect to work under such an organisation, where one cannot do what one thinks best. We feel for these things very much.

After all, here the money is not going into the pockets of big men, millionaires, businessmen and all those people; it is going into the pockets of poor people, the poorest among ourselves. So, let us trust these people, and have a statutory body. Unless we do that, the work cannot progress. I may assure the hon. Minister and also this House that the amounts allotted cannot be properly spent unless we trust this organisation of selfless workers and allow them full freedom to do the work as they think best.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: I want to raise only one point, and a very important point at that. That is with regard to the Ambar Charkha programme. There has been a good deal of confusion of thought on this matter, and we find contradictory statements being issued by the Minister and certain people on this side, and by the officers of the Khadi and Village Industries Board on the other. We would like to have an authoritative pronouncement as to how much yarn the Ambar Charkha can produce, how far it can compete with the mills, and whether the quality of the yarn produced by it will be suitable for use by the handloom weaver. These are the main questions relating to the Ambar Charkha, and on these, there have been differences of opinion.

We are spending a sum of about Rs. 18 lakhs under the Ambar Charkha programme. And Rs. 18 lakhs is not a small thing. I understand further that nearly a crore of rupees would be spent on this under the Second Five Year Plan. Therefore, the Ministry owes it to this House to give an authoritative pronouncement on all these matters.

I also understand that the allotment of spindles has been suspended for some time past. I would like to know whether it has been suspended permanently or only for a temporary period.

In conclusion, I would like to make a brief reference to the point raised by Shri T. N. Singh. If there is any board which is being respected fully, and which the Ministry is afraid of, it is this board. I have never seen even a statutory board's recommendations being accepted so much as as this non-statutory board's recommendations. While I do think that there is some point behind the demand for making it a statutory board, I do not think this board has in any way suffered on account of its not having been made statutory.

One other matter which I would like to raise is this. We are spending a sum of nearly Rs. 5.16 crores on this board. We would therefore like to have an annual report as to the employment opportunities provided by this board in cottage industries, for that is the professed object of this board. We should know the actual facts as to how much of full employment and part employment this board has created, so that that will give us some consolation that the money is not being spent on the under secretaries and other secretaries that may be in the board but is really reaching the people for whom it is intended.

These are the points on which we would like to have information from the Minister. The question of the Ambar Charkha is the most important of all these. And since it is a new service, we hope that all the points will be replied to fully.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi (Nellore): While I do not want to deal with the economy of the Khadi as a village industry, I would like to make a few points on which I seek some enlightenment.

I would like to know whether recently any general survey has been conducted as to the efficiency of the khadi industry and the manufacturing process for khadi. For, we are slowly drifting from patronage of khadi by private individuals and politicians to the use of khadi in the public sector. Only the other day, in the course of his budget speech, the hon. Railway Minister told us that several lakhs of rupees are going to be spent on the purchase of khadi for uniforms for railway employees. When that is so, we must see that the efficiency of khadi is preserved, and its wear-well quality is also improved. Otherwise, it will only mean so much of waste of public money, if the present product is pushed on to these employees.

Recently, we heard some echoes of the controversy on Ambar Charkha between the Planning Commission and the Khadi and Village Industries Board. I do not know how the matter has been finally decided. I would like to know whether it is not possible to increase the number of spindles from four to twelve, so that by spending the same energy, one may be able to produce more yarn out of this Ambar Charkha.

I would like to have figures as to the amount that is spent in that sector of

[Shri Ramachandra Reddi]

this industry. I should also like to know the proportion of the producer's price and the consumer's price.

I am afraid that a large amount of the money that is given as subsidy to the khadi industry is being spent on the establishment that runs between the consumer and the producer. If the producer does not get a fair return by way of remuneration for the energy that he spends then it is not worthwhile pursuing this matter. I believe it is not the intention of Government to help the educated unemployed only; I am positively sure that it is their intention to help the uneducated unemployed in the villages.

We find from the foot-note appended to the Demand, that a sum of Rs. 85 lakhs has been provided for giving rebate. I would like to suggest that there must be some sort of compulsion in the giving of rebate. I have noticed in certain places that the rebate that is expected to be given on handloom cloth is not generally given. If it is demanded they are not in a position to give a satisfactory reply. So, whatever rebate is to be given should be given as a matter of course and all shops that deal in handloom goods or cloth must be forced to give the rebate to the purchasers. Otherwise, the possibility of pushing up the sales of khadi might go down.

1 P.M.

We would have very much appreciated if the Government had given us the figures of receipts of this particular industry. Nothing is said about the anticipated receipts from the khadi industries, so that we might calculate what exactly is the loss on this enterprise, and what portion of the total overall price of khadi goes to the actual producer.

Shri Kamath: I will be very brief in my remarks.

Item (ix) of the footnote under Demand No. 2 refers to certain peripatetic parties. I have heard, Sir, of peripatetic philosophers since the days of Aristotle and in modern times we have all heard of peripatetic parties—those who have gone into this movement of *bhoodan*, following in the foot-steps of Acharya Vinobha Bhave. But as regards promotion of khadi and village industries, we have not read in the papers about peripatetic parties going round the country to promote khadi and village industries. I would be happy, therefore, if the Minister can throw some light upon this

particular matter as to which are the parties which have gone on this *pada yatra*—that is what it means. We recently heard of a *pada yatra* from Kanya Kumari. We have had *pada yatras* for *bhoodan*, but not so far as I know for khadi and village industries. (*Interruptions.*) Not that the hon. Minister Shri Tyagi whom I see opposite has gone on a *pada yatra* himself. He is a Defence Minister; he will float and he will fly. However the Minister will tell us more about this matter, as to how many parties have gone so far and whether they are only going to embark on this movement, and not that they have gone already, whether parties are being arranged, like many other kinds of parties, these peripatetic parties also arranged for the promotion of khadi and village industries.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Deputy Minister.

Shri B. D. Pande (Almora Distt.—North-East) : *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have called the hon. Deputy Minister. The hon. Member did not rise earlier.

Shri Satish Chandra: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the additional money is required for the development of khadi. Hon. Members have however spoken more about handicrafts, handloom and small scale industries. The amount required for development of khadi is spent out of the cess which is levied on mill cloth. The money spent on village industries, handicrafts and other small scale industries comes from the general revenues of the Government. The cess collections are utilised for the development of khadi and handloom only. So, this is more or less a separate account. This shortfall in expenditure on village industries and handicrafts which are under the administrative control of this Ministry have also been utilised for khadi. The work of khadi industry has been progressing at a more rapid pace than other village industries and handicrafts. Khadi itself is a village industry; most of its production is in villages. In the case of other village industries the shortfall is mainly due to the fact that the Khadi Board has only recently applied itself to their development. It is necessary to organise co-operative societies in villages and to set up a proper organisation for this work. It is expected that as a result of the spade work that has been done during the last few years, the progress in future will be much more rapid in the case of other village industries as well.

Khadi work was being done in the country for a long time. Therefore, it was easier to step up the production of khadi as compared to other village industries. This is evident from the figures. The Khadi Board has not only utilised all the money granted to it in the last budget estimates for the production and development of khadi, but has utilised a much bigger amount.

My hon. friend Shri Chettiar spoke about Ambar Charkha. He knows that a pilot scheme has been sanctioned and about six thousand Ambar Charkhas would have been manufactured by the end of this month and put into operation. The Karve Committee which was set up by Planning Commission to report on the development of village industries during the next Five Year Plan period has left the question of Ambar Charkha open. It has recommended that certain tests should be carried on about the suitability of the Ambar Charkha yarn for handloom industry and that its production capacity should be studied. A pilot scheme has been sanctioned for this purpose. Tests are now being carried on. An expert committee is being appointed to go into this question. It is expected that the results will be available by the end of April or the middle of May when a firm decision about the potentialities of Ambar Charkha can be taken by the Government. If Government come to the conclusion that it will be suitable for introduction on a large scale, financial provision will have to be made for the purpose. What I wish to submit is that the Khadi and Village Industries Board has been doing its work very satisfactorily and devoting itself to the task in right earnest. It consists of men who are held in great respect and who have had a long record of selfless service. As far as the question of autonomy is concerned, my hon. friend on the right has already pointed out that there has hardly been an occasion when the Khadi Board's programmes were delayed on account of undue interference. I would not accept the suggestion coming from my friend Shri T. N. Singh that Government stands in the way of schemes which are put up in a proper manner, which are well considered and which have the desired object in view.

Shri T. N. Singh: I never said that Government stand in the way. What I said was that the procedures and the formalities inherent in the Government system are incompatible with quick work.

Shri Satish Chandra: Anyway I can tell the House that this difficulty is not being experienced by the Khadi and Village Industries Board with which this particular demand is concerned.

The hon. Member might be aware that the Karve Committee went into this question. In fact, a Bill had been introduced in this House with a view to make the Khadi and Village Industries Board an autonomous body. The Karve Committee however recommended in its report that the constitutional propriety of doing so should be reconsidered by the Government before the Bill is taken up for consideration in the Parliament. According to the Committee, large sums of money are to be spent in future by the Government for the development of village industries, handicrafts, small-scale industries and khadi. It should be the responsibility of the Government to execute the schemes. Most of the work should be done through the agency of the State Governments and not through the autonomous bodies only.

That is the view of the Karve Committee, in fact, we have not proceeded with the Bill which was introduced in the House some time ago, because the position has to be reviewed in the light of the recommendations of the Committee.

All I can say is that the schemes are scrutinized by officers in the Ministry without undue delay,—provided of course that changes are not suggested in those schemes from time to time. So far as the Khadi Board is concerned, I can assure the House that there have been very few occasions for them to complain that their schemes are held up. Otherwise we would not have to come to this House for an additional grant to the tune of Rs. 1.12 lakhs. They have been able to spend more than what was placed at their disposal.

Shri U. S. Malliah (South Kanara—North) : That is the point that Shri Chettiar made.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In regard to the agencies of the State Governments through which the Board is supposed to function, who are they at the district and village level? The Sub-Divisional Officer or the Union Board President do not seem to know anything about it, with the result that you are left absolutely in a quandary as to how to proceed.

Shri Satish Chandra: The amount sanctioned for the village industries is spent in two ways. The first method is to give grant to the State Governments which send their schemes for sanction. Money is spent through their own agencies such as the Department of Cottage Industries etc. Secondly, grants are sanctioned to registered and well recognised institutions in the country or to co-operative societies which apply for grants for particular schemes. Those schemes are scrutinized by the Board concerned, and on its recommendation the Government sanctions the grant through the State Governments. As far as khadi work is concerned, it is carried on through the institutions engaged in khadi work and controlled by the All-India Khadi Board. As far as village industries are concerned, financial assistance is always given through the State Government. It is their job to look after the execution of the schemes.

It is possible that the local board Chairman may not know about these schemes. Probably it is not his function to know about these matters. If any local board Chairman is interested, he can submit a scheme to the State Government which in turn can ask for financial assistance from the Central Government.

Shri K. K. Basu: We know how long it will take.

Shri Satish Chandra: It is not possible for the Central Government to have direct dealings with each co-operative society in each village. The grants will have to be given through the State Governments.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: But your agency should be at least the Sub-Divisional Officer. And he does not know what authority he has, whether he should send it above, with the result that there is no connection between the top, through the State Government and the local officer and the people down.

Shri K. K. Basu: They should not be just post offices; there should be some power.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may address the Chair.

Shri Satish Chandra: Then, Sir, something was said regarding the spindleage. That question has been considered. After thoroughly going into the question it was felt that sufficient spindleage has already been licensed and no great harm will be done if further licensing is suspended

till the result of Ambar Charkha tests is available. It has been temporarily suspended because there is no likelihood of yarn shortage in the coming few months on account of this temporary suspension. The entire situation will be reviewed after the tests on the Ambar Charkha are available.

The additional sum of Rs. 1.12 lakhs which is now being asked for has been utilized mainly for the purchase of cotton, for the Ambar Charkha pilot scheme and for some other miscellaneous schemes which have been sanctioned on the advice of the Khadi Board. I submit that this demand may be sanctioned.

Shri Kamath: What about the parties, the peripatetic parties? What are they?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They go from place to place.

Shri Kamath: I know. But are they doing so? Or is it only propaganda by the Congress?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member had his say.

I will now put cut motions Nos. 6, 7 and 8 to vote.

The question is :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' 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. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' 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. 1,12,00,000 in respect of 'Industries' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will now put Supplementary Demand No. 2.

The question is :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,12,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Industries'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 3—COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND STATISTICS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will put supplementary Demand No. 3 straightway to the vote of the House.

The question is :

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,33,000 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 ‘Commercial Intelligence and Statistics’.”

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 5—MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,44,000 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 ‘Ministry of Communications’.”

DEMAND NO. 6—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT (INCLUDING WORKING EXPENSES)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

“That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 25,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of ‘Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (including working expenses)’.”

Shri K. K. Basu: I have only two questions to put, and they relate to Demand No. 5. One is about the expenditure of a sum of Rs. 18,000 on the purchase of a new car in replacement of the old car. I would like to know whether the old car all of a sudden broke down on the way and it had to be changed. You know that every machine has a certain age, and any person who is in charge of the administration can work out that it has served for so many years and it can be replaced. As such I want to know why all of a sudden this expenditure of Rs. 18,000 has become necessary. We have a shortage of funds for development work and we must see to the ma-

ximum utility of the funds we have got. We know that many of the old cars, possibly with certain repairs, are able to serve for at least a few more years. In the mean time, the money thus saved, however small it might be, might give some benefit, for instance, to the Khadi Board about which we heard so much just a little while ago.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy (Wandiwash): What was the age of that car?

Shri K. K. Basu: What are the special reasons why all of a sudden it became necessary during this period, when it had not been provided in the budget, to replace the car?

Another point I would like to draw attention to is this. I find one item “un-anticipated extension up to December 1955 of the life of the Tribunal appointed to assess the compensation payable to Air Companies”. There are two parties concerned in this, namely, the Government and the Air Companies. Parliament must be fully apprised of the grounds for such extension. If the companies themselves are responsible, I want to know whether we are taking any steps against them so far as payment of compensation to them is concerned. There is no point in saddling the nation with this extra payment when it is due to the fault of one of the parties to the dispute. Therefore I think this cryptic note is not enough and the Ministry should apprise the House of the exact situation which has necessitated the demand of this extra sum. I would like the hon. Minister to explain it before the demand is voted upon.

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as the question of the purchase of staff car is concerned, I may inform the hon. Member that the car which the Ministry was using previously was purchased as early as 1948. It had already done 62,000 miles when it became ramshackle and worn out.

Shri K. K. Basu: What was the make of the car?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It was a Chevrolet 1946 or 1947.

Shri K. K. Basu: Then it must have been badly handled.

Shri Raj Bahadur: On that matter I can tell the hon. Member that it was never badly handled and it never met with any accident of a serious nature.

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

It had already done 62,000 miles. Then it was found that even the mile-meter was not working. It did an extra 15,000 miles, and when we decided to part with it, it had done about 77,000 miles. The question may be asked, why was this not provided for? We took the decision to replace the old car in 1954. At that time, there was a central pool of the staff cars of various Ministries. The pool was looked after by the Ministry of Transport, and was under its control. On 1st August 1955, a decision was taken by which the various Ministries were asked to control their staff cars, used by them, and therefore, we had to buy a new car. The sanction of the Finance Ministry, which is always very particular in the scrutiny of any item of expenditure, had been obtained for the purchase of this car. The Transport Ministry itself which still looked after these things, had also concurred. The price of Rs. 18,000 was the rate contract price which also cannot in any way be imagined to be excessive by a single pie. I say that this old car had run out its life. The average consumption per gallon had been reduced to 9 miles and it was absolutely uneconomical to maintain it in that condition. Therefore, a new car was purchased at the most economic price.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: What happened to the old car?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It has been disposed of through the Director-General, Supplies and Disposals, at the price of Rs. 2,400 in open auction.

Shri K. K. Basu: For what purpose was the car used? Was it used by the Ministry at headquarters?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It was used for official purposes, for the staff going on official duties and for so many things.

Shri K. K. Basu: In Delhi?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In Delhi, round about Delhi and outside Delhi, if need be. It was used by the Ministers and other officials for official purposes.

Shri Kamath: By their families also?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Not at all. That I leave to my hon. friend opposite—though I think he has no family.

About the Tribunal, I do not say that the whole scheme of nationalisation of the air companies had been put through without any difficulty. We expected that many disputes would arise and many problems would spring up in this great venture that we had undertaken and

accomplished. This Tribunal was contemplated under section 25 of the Air Corporations Act for the purposes mentioned in the Act, into the details of which I need not go—it would be simply repetition of facts. But I would say that only two petitions were made under sections 23 and 24 of the Act before this Tribunal. The Tribunal was presided over by such high and distinguished a jurist and lawyer as Shri Patanjali Shastri, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India, with Shri N. S. Lokur, President of the Railway Rates Tribunal, and Shri Bhavani Shankar Rao, former Financial Adviser, Ministry of Defence, as members. The petitions were submitted to them on 1st July 1954. They were pending there and various dates were given. Ultimately, a compromise was advised by our legal adviser and it was concluded in regard to these two petitions. Before these two petitions were disposed of in July 1955, in May 1955 some of the companies joined together to file a petition before the Tribunal in regard to the dispute arising out of the payment of compensation for value of the liability in respect of leave accumulated by the employees of the *ex*-companies prior to 1st August 1953. So this particular question was referred to the Tribunal again in the month of May 1955. Regarding this also, a compromise was reached in October 1955. We had never anticipated when the budget demands were made that the Tribunal would have to function for such a long time. Because it functioned beyond the period initially anticipated by us, we had to incur expenditure on the legitimate charges on this Tribunal. Therefore, this extra expenditure of Rs. 24,000—I am giving it from memory—was incurred.

Shri K. K. Basu: He said that only two petitions were made in May 1954, and then all of a sudden four or five companies put in petitions. Was there not a time-limit for the submission of petitions?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It was according to time. That was all legal and there was no question of their coming in beyond the prescribed time-limit. They have their right to take objection to the amount of compensation assessed and offered to them. After it was assessed and offered to them, they came in and put in their petitions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Up to Demand No. 30, there are no discussions needed.

Shri P. Subba Rao (Nowrangpur): As regards Demand No. 17, I have given notice of cut motions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may have, but when I asked hon. Members if they wanted any of the Demands to be discussed and debated upon, the hon. Member was not in his seat nor did he tell me before. Otherwise, I would have allowed it.

Shri P. Subba Rao: I thought that each Demand would be taken up separately.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No, no.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: He expresses regret for being absent.

Shri P. Subba Rao: It won't take much time—not more than two minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let it be even one minute. The difficulty is this. There are a number of cut motions. We must observe a particular procedure. Time is already short.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta North-East): May I ask for some clarification in respect of Demand No. 17?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let me first put Demands Nos. 5 and 6 to the vote of the House.

Shri P. Subba Rao: When the General Budget is discussed, Demands are taken one by one and cut motions are moved.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: After all, the time of the House is limited. Even if we sit for 100 days, still there will be certain items which can be debated. Therefore, the practice is to ascertain from Members as to what particular item they would like to be discussed. At that time, hon. Members who want to discuss them should be present here and intimate to the Chair. The hon. Member was not present in the House then. Now he comes and says that he wants this item to be discussed. Hereafter I will not allow it.

Now I will put Demands Nos. 5 and 6 to the vote of the House and then I will come to Demand No. 17.

Shri Raj Bahadur: What about the cut motions moved?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Cut motions were not moved. The hon. Minister need not tell me that.

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,44,000 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 'Ministry of Communications'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 25,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1956, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department (including working expenses)'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 17—ARCHAEOLOGY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,56,000 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 'Archaeology'."

Shri P. Subba Rao: Ownership of monuments of religious institutions may be of two kinds—public and private. In the case of a religious institution, the community to which it belongs are the owners. When they abandon it, it becomes a monument. A living religious institution, that is, a temple where worship is going on or a mosque or a church where prayers are held daily or weekly, cannot be treated as a monument, and any public expenditure to repair it is out of order. If such grants are allowed, there will be no end to it. There are so many Hindu temples which are not abandoned and which are in need of repairs. Similarly there are the palaces of some of the Princes which are worthy of being preserved. They have not abandoned ownership of these, and consequently nothing is done to renovate or repair them. So this grant offends the Constitution which declares that there shall be no State religion for India. This being a grant to a religious institution, I oppose it.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Under this Demand there is a provision for the allotment of Rs. 60,000 for the Nagarjunakonda excavation project. I want to

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

find out from the Ministry if there is any certainty that the process of excavation would be so accelerated that the excavation would be completed before the inundation takes place on account of the construction of the dam. I want to know this because my fear is—and the fear is shared by many people in the Archaeological Department—that it is impossible to make sure that we can have a complete excavation and that is why I want to find out from the Minister what the exact position is.

I also want to find out whether there would be any effort to take the visitors to the celebration of the Buddha Jayanti in May 1956 to the site of Nagarjunakonda to show them what is exactly being done in order to preserve, perhaps in a separate site, the relics which are there. I say this because Nagarjunakonda is, perhaps, the largest single Buddhistic remains anywhere in the world and it is only fair to ourselves as well as to the delegates to the Buddha Jayanti celebrations that they should know what exactly is happening. When the Prime Minister went to inaugurate the Nagarjunasagar dam, I had a talk with him after he came back and he told me that there were certain schemes about having a kind of island where there would be a sort of a national park and also that there is a hill nearby on top of which many of the remains could be put up and some of them reconstructed and that sort of thing. I am not very sure whether that would satisfy the archaeological conscience of the Ministry because the usual practice is that in the actual site of the remains there should be a museum. But, this is, perhaps, the first occasion in the history of archaeology that a very important site is being completely inundated. But, if we have succeeded in making alternative arrangements which are somewhat acceptable to the archaeological conscience, I think we owe it to ourselves and to the archaeology to tell the delegates to the Buddha Jayanti celebrations what we are doing about these Nagarjunakonda remains. I feel very strongly about it and I could go on for a long time. But I do not think it is necessary. But, I do wish the Parliamentary Secretary would give us some significant information on this point.

Dr. Suresh Chandra (Aurangabad): I want only to say one or two words because some provision has been made here with regard to these monuments, and Prof. Mukerjee has mentioned

about Nagarjunakonda excavation project. But, I would like to mention another Buddhistic monument which is probably the biggest and most beautiful of the Buddhist monuments in this country and in the world, that is, Ellora Caves. I want to know whether the repairs to some of these caves have been also included.

Secondly, I want to know whether Government is aware of any projects or whether Government have any plans to invite the UNESCO Seminar which is going to be held very shortly in this country to this grand Buddhist monument at Ellora. I heard very recently from a very eminent scholar and a great personality who is connected with this Seminar that the Vice-President of this country is also greatly interested in holding some kind of small Seminar and inviting these people to Ellora. So, I would like to know whether Government have any plans in this connection, and whether they are hoping to invite these people to visit this most beautiful monument of the Buddhistic period.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): With regard to the cut motion tabled by my hon. friend, Shri Subba Rao, I would refer him to what transpired on the floor of the House day before yesterday. My hon. friend Shri B. D. Pande had given notice of a question which was taken up on the floor of this House and he put a supplementary question. The subject-matter was the repairs to the Jama Masjid. He put a supplementary question :

“I want to know as a matter of policy why a secular Government like ours give grant to a denominational institution of this nature.”

He referred to the Jama Masjid. To that I replied : that the repairs to Jama Masjid was taken up by the Government of India not as a denominational monument but as a historical and archaeological monument of national importance. Then, hon. Member, Shri Pande put another supplementary question :

“Will this generosity be extended to other denomination institutions that exist in the country also?”

The Prime Minister was fortunately present here and he gave the reply. The Prime Minister said :

“This generosity will be extended to other places which are artistically, aesthetically or archaeologically important.”

Shri Kamath said : "Historically ?"

Then the Prime Minister said :

"Even historically also, not otherwise."

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Historically or hysterically?

Dr. M. M. Das: Historically. The Prime Minister continued :—

"In fact, if the hon. Member has any acquaintance with the past or even the present of India, he should realise that nearly all our monuments have some connection with some religion, fortunately or unfortunately. They are historical monuments. Whether it is Ajanta or Ellora or whether it is the Jama Masjid here or whether it is anything else, these are all great national monuments, regardless of the religion they belong to."

Sir, I have not the audacity even to make an attempt to improve upon what the Prime Minister of India said on the floor of this House.

Shri B. D. Pande: I just want to put a question to the hon. Parliamentary Secretary. The Archaeological Department would give grant-in-aid only when the building is declared a protected monument; otherwise, they do not give. You have the power to give but only for a protected monument is a grant given.

Shri M. M. Das: In the case of a protected monument, it is the duty of the Government of India to carry out the necessary repairs. In the present case the Jama Masjid is not a protected monument; on that account nothing could be done. Because of the national importance of the monument, because of its historical importance, its artistical and aesthetical importance, the Government of India, when they come to know that certain repairs were necessary considered the matter. They appointed a sub-committee with Shri Brahm Prakash, the then Chief Minister of Delhi State as Chairman and on the recommendation of that Committee, they considered the matter fully and decided to carry out certain repairs.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma (Sikar): The Jama Masjid gets a lot of income of its own.

Shri P. Subba Rao: Under what provision of law was a committee appointed and how could they recommend? I

want to know the provision of law.

Dr. M. M. Das: There is nothing in the provision of law which prevents the Government of India from giving grants.

A reference has been made to the Association that is at present administering the Jama Masjid. We referred the matter to the Chief Commissioner of Delhi State and he informed us that the financial condition of the Association is very bad and it is not in a position to help or to contribute anything towards the expenditure that will have to be incurred in regard to these repairs.

I may mention also that in the repairs to the Jama Masjid, we have received financial help from the Hyderabad Government. In the year 1945, some necessity was felt for carrying out repairs to the Jama Masjid and the then Nizam's Government contributed about a lakh of rupees, about 50 per cent of which were spent and the rest 50 per cent approximately were refunded to the Hyderabad Government. When the question of the present repairs came before the Government, we asked the Hyderabad Government to pay us back the 50 per cent of money for carrying out these repairs. And the Hyderabad Government has been generous enough to give us more than Rs. 50,000 for this purpose. Out of the money that will be spent for this purpose, that is Rs. 1,13,800, more than Rs. 50,000 will be contributed by the Hyderabad Government.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: Why the Hyderabad Government specially?

An Hon. Member: Because it is a protected monument.

Dr. M. M. Das: We asked them for the money which was refunded to them in 1945.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: Is it the view of the Government to take over the management of Jama Masjid because it is running in loss?

Dr. M. M. Das: We do not propose to take over the management of Jama Masjid. Because these repairs are considered essential for this monument, we are prepared to take on the repair work and it will be carried out by our Archaeological Department.

With regard to the question raised by Prof. Hiren Mukerjee, I beg to inform him that his fear, that the excavation

[Dr. M. M. Das]

work may not be completed before the dam is raised, is shared by everybody, and it is on account of this fear that the Government wants to expedite this work and finish the job before the Nagarjuna Sagar Dam is completed and the whole area is inundated. In the original budget provision of the current year of 1955-56 Rs. 97,300 was earmarked for excavation in Nagarjunakonda, and it was felt that the tempo of the work should be raised. So, this additional amount has to be sanctioned by this House.

Regarding the other question of Shri Mukerjee about the archaeological specimens that will be excavated from Nagarjunakonda, I beg to inform him of the present position with regard to the museum that will be erected in this connection. Nagarjunakonda is a valley where excavation is being carried out. In the centre of the valley, in that very spot where these archaeological specimens are there and which will be inundated, is a hill with a level stretch, on the top. The Prime Minister has suggested that this would be a good location for the site of the museum and for erecting the structures excavated in the valley. A special committee was set up to inspect the hill and report whether the hill will stand the scouring action of the water. The report of this committee has not yet been received, but we hope that the report will be favourable, and according to the directions of the Prime Minister, a museum will be built upon this hill, which is situated in the centre of the valley, and in that museum all these specimens will be kept and the structures that will be shifted from the earth will be raised there.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Who are the members of this committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am not going into further matters.

There are a number of Demands and incidentally a question was put...

Dr. Suresh Chandra: But the Parliamentary Secretary has not yet finished.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought he has given sufficient information to the House. Is Government going to give any further information?

Dr. Suresh Chandra: I wanted to have some information about Ellora.

Dr. M. M. Das: The present Demand is not concerned with Ellora, but I may say that Ellora is a protected monument

under the Archaeological Department and whenever it is necessary to have repairs done there, they are being carried out. I have had the good fortune of visiting the cave recently and I found that something is being done in that respect.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: I wanted to know whether, in connection with the Buddha Jayanti, Government is inviting the people to this place and also whether in connection with the UNESCO Seminar Government is inviting the people concerned to hold a kind of seminar here.

Dr. M. M. Das: So far as the Buddha Jayanti is concerned, Rs. 15,00,000 is earmarked in the General Budget for meeting the expenditure incurred in connection with the celebration of the Jayanti. The people invited from other Buddhist countries will be taken round to different places where there are Buddhist shrines, but I am not sure whether they will be taken to Ellora.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Education Ministry be good enough to form a committee of Members of Parliament in the form of a peripatetic party to go and see all these caves?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): They have got their free railway passes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,56,000 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 'Archaeology'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 24—MISCELLANEOUS
EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will put Demand No. 24 straightway to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,22,000 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 Expenditure under the Ministry of External Affairs'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 30—STAMPS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,03,000 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 'Stamps'."

Shri Kamath: The foot note discloses that the services of a foreign expert employed in connection with this work have been extended. It was unanticipated—that is what the foot note says. I would like to know whether this lack of anticipation will apply to a pretty long future period of time or whether it has been settled now that the services of this expert will not be extended beyond this year. May we know what work he was engaged on, what part of the work or which aspect of the work was left unfinished so as to necessitate this extension, and also the name and nationality of this foreign expert?

Shri K. K. Basu: I have also given notice of a similar cut motion and I had more or less the same point of view when I sent in the notice. We have not been told exactly what are the specific reasons for his extension, how long he has been there, whether he will finish the job in two years, etc., and whether there was any officer or trainee posted as an understudy to learn the job. Along with that we find that the officer posted as Deputy Controller of Stamps is getting a higher pay. I do not know why during this interim period this was visualised. At the time the budget was framed, Government should have come forward with proper explanations.

There is a foot note which says that there was cost of certain machinery which had to be purchased urgently in replacement of certain old machines. I do not understand why the Department could not anticipate the need for replacement of some old machines. How can it be a question of urgent replacement? It is not like a machine breaking down or a building getting damaged suddenly over which Government has no control. Unless the Government can furnish us sufficient explanation, how can the Government come forward with a supplementary demand of this nature? I think the Department does not properly plan out its whole method of working during the current session when it

brings forward the annual budget. I hope the Minister will explain the position to the House.

The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha): My friend, Shri Kamath, raised certain points regarding the foreign expert. He was taken on a three-year contract and that period is going to expire, I think, this year.

Shri K. K. Basu: This month?

Shri A. C. Guha: The proposal is to give him another year's extension. I think the hon. Member might have known that we introduced a new process of printing stamps in the Security Press—Photogravure process. He was brought from England particularly for this purpose. He was considered to be a specialist and expert in this type of work and we got his services through the help of our Embassy in London. He did similar work in other countries also; practically all his life, he has spent in this work in England and in other countries. He was here to help the India Security Press in this process and also to train some Indian who could replace him. Two trainees who have been put under him have not been found sufficiently suitable as yet and that is one of the reasons for extending the contract for another year.

Shri K. K. Basu: If it is for next month it will come in the next budget. When did it expire?

Shri A. C. Guha: It expired in November, 1955 and we are giving him an extension for another year. As I have already said, the two trainees as yet could not be entrusted with this process.

Shri Kamath: Are you going to try other trainees now?

Shri A. C. Guha: No. The two trainees, we expect, will take up this work after some time but now, they have been found not fit enough to take up the job independently.

As far as the machineries and other things are concerned, the security press is a big press and certain parts or instruments may go out of order and it is not possible to foresee the additional items of expenditure. The additional items of machineries required are: knives, grinding machines, lathes etc., for workshop.

[Shri A. C. Guha]

Another point raised by Shri Basu is with reference to the post of the Deputy Controller of Stores. The volume of work has increased necessitating certain purchase of stores and other things and it must have been found necessary also to create another post. Hon. Members also know that the security press is working at high speed.

Shri K. K. Basu: When was he appointed—this financial year or calendar year?

Shri A. C. Guha: Surely this year—this financial year.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,03,000 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 'Stamps'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 33—CURRENCY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,15,000 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 'Currency'."

DEMAND NO. 34—MINT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,07,000 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 'Mint'."

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: There is one small point with regard to Demand No. 34, before you take up other things.

They want this money mainly due to recruitment of additional workmen in both Bombay and Alipore Mints and introduction of overtime working in certain key departments. On the one hand there is overtime working and a large number of additional workmen are needed to cope with the work. But in Alipore Mint, we have engravers who have been doing work—highly skilled work—and there the whole department has been kept temporary. Since there is need for additional workmen, since

there is need for making people work overtime, why is it that we do not make this department permanent? It has been working for 150 years but it is still on a temporary basis.

There is another point. They are highly skilled people and as hon. Members know they are making the Bharat Ratna and other beautiful medals, etc. and they all come from middle-class families. For the last 150 years they were enjoying the status of class III but recently they were put down to the category of workmen. As a matter of fact these mint engravers draw less salaries than the engravers in the Survey of India. I would request the hon. Minister to see if the previous status could not be restored to them. Even under the British Government, they have been enjoying that status for so many years; they are people coming from middle-class. For the last 150 years, that department has been temporary and it should be made permanent.

Pandit C. N. Malviya (Raisen): I want to know if the two rupee notes are still printed or they have been stopped. If they are printed, I would like to know the necessity for printing these notes. What is the use of printing two rupee notes? Why not obviate that expenditure by printing one rupee notes?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are Supplementary Demands. It is not a general discussion.

Pandit C. N. Malviya: Printing charges are demanded here.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If money is asked specifically for the printing of two rupees notes, the hon. Member may say that it should be dropped. But this is a matter of policy and this can be taken up later on at the time of the Budget. I allowed some of these questions but that ought not to be taken as a precedent. There is no time. Now, therefore, under these circumstances, only absolutely relevant matters will be allowed. He need not reply to this two rupee notes question; that is a matter of policy.

Shri A. C. Guha: If you give that ruling, most of the points raised by Shrimati Renu Chakravarty also are covered.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Am I to take it from the hon. Minister that the engravers are not workmen? If he says that I am quite satisfied.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But this does not relate to engravers.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: You are being misled. Engravers have been now classified as workmen.

Shri A. C. Guha: Sir, instead of wasting time in this technicality it may be better for me to explain the matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In doubtful cases it is better to explain.

Shri A. C. Guha: It is true that they were so long treated as class III officers but recently according to the decision of the Inspectors of Factories both at Bombay and at Calcutta they have been put in class IV i.e., as workmen. We have allowed the present incumbents to enjoy the privileges they have been enjoying so long. This matter has been decided by the labour experts. But I should like to tell the hon. Member that we considered this matter with the utmost sympathy and we have extended most of the privileges and amenities they were enjoying to the present incumbents. As for their being made permanent I think recently an order has been issued to make them permanent.

2 P.M.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 9,15,000 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 'Currency'."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,07,000 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 'Mint'."

The motion was adopted.

DEMAND NO. 37—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,02,000 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 other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance'."

Assistance for natural calamities and scarcity-affected areas.

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,02,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Inadequate assistance for relief measures in scarcity-affected areas

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,02,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Sir, these two cut motions refer to inadequacy of assistance given in respect of relief measures carried on in areas affected by calamities such as floods and in the scarcity-affected areas. We know that the Government of India has evolved a formula according to which they pay 50 per cent. of such expenditure up to Rs. 2 crores incurred by the States and beyond that 75 per cent. of the expenditure incurred. My object in giving notice of these cut motions is not to disapprove of the increased expenditure to the extent of Rs. 4 crores which is now being sought to be appropriated.

[SARDAR HUKAM SINGH in the Chair]

The original provision was Rs. 3 crores and now it has been increased to Rs. 7 crores because of the floods in Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and PEPSU. My intention is to draw the attention of the Government to the inadequacy of the provision which was made in the budget and also the inadequacy of the provision that is now being made because we find that every year a large number of States are affected by scarcity conditions. If we just look into the reports of the Food and Agricultural Ministry for the last four or five years we find there a paragraph dealing with some provision for the scarcity areas every year. There we find the mention of the names of a

[Shri N. B. Chowdhury]

large number of States. Whatever improvement might have taken place due to the First Five Year Plan or other measures we still find that in a large number of States every year we have the visitation of natural calamities and scarcity prevailing in large areas. In view of these conditions it is necessary that while framing our budgets we should provide for a larger amount.

As for the Rs. 4 crores now provided I find that this is not adequate. The Government of India should have some information with regard to the administration of relief measures which are made by the State Governments.

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): May I know as to whether the hon. Member is speaking about the budget of 1956-57 or 1955-56? These are Supplementary Demands for 1955-56. With regard to further provision and all those things I think the best course would have been to discuss that matter when the demands for 1956-57 come up here.

Shri K. K. Basu: Why not devote some time now?

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: My point is to draw the attention of the Government to the inadequate provision. While looking into the reports of several past years we find the need for such assistance to a large number of States and that is why the necessity for a Supplementary Demand to the tune of Rs. 4 crores has arisen. I think the point is quite relevant and we can . . .

Mr. Chairman: Let the question of relevancy be left to me.

The hon. Member may proceed with his argument.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: The point that I want to make is this. The Government of India is giving assistance to the extent of 50 per cent or 75 per cent and the Government of India should have some information where the amount is being spent. I have the experience of such relief measures in my District of Midnapore in West Bengal, and I think this will be the experience of hon. Members from other States also where unfortunately such calamities are taking place, and I feel that there is a sort of maladministration, corruption and certain other things which are undesirable in the matter of implementation of these schemes. This amount is spent by way of flood relief, dry doles and other relief measures.

What I want to say is that while allocating the money under this head the Government should make sure from the State Government that the amount is spent in a proper manner so that adequate relief is given. Since the Central Government has come forward with this assistance of 50 per cent. or 75 per cent, there is no reason why in scarcity-affected areas there should not be adequate provision, why there should not be provision for flood relief, unemployed agricultural workers who want work during the period when there is no work for them after the harvesting season and before the cultivating season. Therefore, flood relief works, dry doles etc. should be provided for.

There is one other thing. In administering this relief I find that as soon as the harvesting season comes this dry dole and other relief work is stopped. There are disabled people, people who have no land and people who have no capacity to work. When you stop the dry dole and other relief measures for those people also with the coming of the harvesting season they find it very difficult to live on because whether it is harvesting season or not those people have no chance of getting anything. Therefore, without going into the details of these measures of administration I would request the Government to call for such information from the State Governments and I think it would be necessary for the Government to advise them or at least request them to continue giving such doles and other assistance to these people even after the harvesting season.

Then again, there may not be any natural calamity, unprecedented flood or famine. But, we know that normally after the harvesting season in this country there are a large number of agricultural workers and other poor people who cannot find any work. In this Welfare State when you are speaking of socialistic pattern and all that, we should provide for some work to those people. The Government of India schemes for rendering such assistance should include such measures also. This should be a normal thing so long as the Government is not in a position to create conditions in the country where the people have no unemployment problem, in rural areas particularly, and where there is no such recurrence of famine or flood. If such conditions are created then there may not be any necessity for large scale relief measures. But, for the present, I think for a long period to come, the

Government will have to provide a very large amount for such sort of assistance and relief so that the unemployed people and other poor people may find work, may get dry doles and other relief.

I would conclude with another point which I want to refer to. That is in regard to the administration of the relief. We find sometimes that instead of paying the relief to the workers in cash, they are paid in kind, and especially in rice. But the rice that is given is rotten or is unfit for human consumption, and so many complaints have come from so many States. I am speaking from personal knowledge. These workers who come for relief work in scarcity-affected areas and other areas affected by floods are asked to travel long distances for receiving rice and sometimes they are given rotten rice. These difficulties should not be there. So, the Government of India should enquire about these things from the various State Governments and before making any allocation, they should ask those Governments to see to it that such difficulties are not experienced by the workers.

Mr. Chairman: Shri K. K. Basu may now speak. I would request hon. Member to condense his remarks.

Shri K. K. Basu: I shall do so. I agree more or less with whatever my friend Shri N. B. Chowdhury has spoken. I also urge upon the Government that whenever grants are given they must look to it that the sums are properly utilised. I do not know what exactly is the procedure that the Central Government follows in this matter. They always allot money and then sit tight over the matter. I have seen it myself in the Sunderbans area which more or less suffers from chronic flood or drought frequently. What happens is, the Government grants some money for laying roads there. The roads in the rural areas are naturally made of earth and the embankment plays a very important part in the economy of the inhabitants of the area. Unless there are good embankments, the entire fields and the lands are inundated by saline water and the lands cannot be cultivated. Originally it was supposed to be the duty of the landlords though they never did it and our Government sat tight so long over that matter. They are now proposing to do it by legislation and I believe they have passed a legislative measure. But I do not know how far the Government can function in this way. The Government undertakes the

work in a particular area in a particular year and then after five or six months, with the coming of new crops, the Government declares that there is no more scarcity there. But still there is scarcity. My friend has elaborately discussed it and I do not want to repeat it. We find that a particular road on a particular embankment may be incomplete, because it could not be completed within the specified period. What is the result? The next year, when the rains come, and before any further work could take place the work which has already been done is wasted. It so happens that in the next year, for the same area, the same amount is granted, or owing to some idiosyncrasy or the whims of the administration, aid is given for some other work, leaving this particular work incomplete. Here is a Government which is trying to spend some money over a particular item of work, but I would request the Government not to waste the money like this, but spend much more money properly especially when the demands are greater. Actually, the dole given is inadequate, and even with the paltry sum, the workers do not get the full benefit. The administration is wrong somewhere. Either the administration is carried on by the officials who have their own whims and fancies or it is done by the local members of the party in power who try to influence the administration, in which case, the authorities work according to their own wishes and not to the maximum utility of the particular area and inhabitants of the particular locality. Even if it is, say, Rs. 3.5 lakhs a year, the whole amount is wasted and there is no good to the community and there is no good result. I would urge upon the Government to know fully well that the rural economy of the country is not so flourishing even according to their legalistic definition. Suppose there is scarcity in an area and some amount is granted and some relief is given; but if that work is not complete, in spite of the fact that new crop has come in from the markets; it does not mean that the work has been successfully finished. Still, there are quite a large number of unemployed people, and their services have to be utilised in the proper way so that the money they have invested can bring really fruitful results. My experience has shown that to invest the entire sum is meaningless. I have seen it from my own experience in my own area. Two years back the Finance Minister said, "We have a development plan". I was told that the Bengal Government has submitted a plan

[Shri K. K. Basu]
for the Sunderbans costing about Rs. 5 crores. I do not know how far they are going to proceed with it. The Sunderbans is an area which is chronically affected by drought or floods every year, and the money spent on its improvement has absolutely no proportion to the demand. Even the small amounts spent on that area is not properly synchronised with the need and spent in a manner which will give full benefit to the inhabitants of that area. I urge upon the Government not to have the legalistic attitude that the area has been declared as a scarcity area and that money has been spent on its improvement. They will then sit tight thereafter! What I say is, when they invest money, they must carry their work to its logical conclusion and see that the inhabitants of the area get the full benefit.

There is another point which I would like to make. That is with regard to the change of 'voted' item into 'charged' in respect of the Industrial Finance Corporation. I have very serious objection to that. You will remember that, when the Supplementary Demands for Grants were discussed twice in the last session—in 1955—it was definitely directed by our late-lamented Speaker that such matters should be brought before the Public Accounts Committee before the Government comes forward with the proposal to change this categorisation.

The observation made in this Demand is that they have only just consulted the Auditor-General and no mention of the Public Accounts Committee is made. They say :

"As regards the suggestion to consult the Public Accounts Committee, Government consider that it may not always be possible to convene a meeting of the Committee to obtain its decision in time for the Supplementary Grants."

There cannot be anything far from the truth than this. The Members of the Public Accounts Committee have been meeting for the last few days, and there cannot be any reason or any difficulty for the Government to do this otherwise. They should be honest. Why this method of circumvention? They say further on :

"The Comptroller and Auditor General has also observed that the question whether a particular item of expenditure is 'voted' or 'charged' is essentially one of interpreta-

tion of the Constitution and if he does not accept the interpretation of Government, the matter will come under the consideration of the Public Accounts Committee at the time of examination of his Audit Report".

I hope that the Speaker's opinion can be deemed to have been sound and he had much better knowledge of parliamentary procedure and of the Constitution than many. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the sovereign Parliament, gave a positive direction to the Government that before the Government came forward in the current year for changing a 'voted' item into 'charged', they must give the opinion of the Public Accounts Committee on the matter. I do not understand why the Government has taken this attitude regarding the function of the Public Accounts Committee and thereby of the sovereign Parliament. I take very serious objection to that. I hope the Chair will not allow this matter to be discussed as it is and allow this Demand to be passed. I do not know how they can cure it. Possibly, they can include this in the next budget.

The Government says that "the interest accrued on loans which were considered to be of doubtful recovery should not be taken credit for in the Profit and Loss Account" and therefore, the Industrial Finance Corporation could not get any profit. According to the terms of the agreement of the statute under which this Corporation was established. Government is bound to replenish that particular amount. We should like to know the reason why this interest could not be taken credit for. You remember that four years back Parliament discussed the whole matter. Then an enquiry was ordered and the Enquiry Committee gave a report. We spoke very much against some of the members of the Corporation.

Unfortunately, the Chairman of that committee has retired. No steps was taken against the representative of the Government who was a party to this; I think he has been posted as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank or something like that. Who is responsible for this particular investment? If we look into the last annual report of the Industrial Finance Corporation, it has been mentioned there that the money has been invested in big concerns managed by big persons, there is enough control over the purse and so on. If that is so,

why are they in a position to ask the Parliament for money to replenish the shortfall in the payment of interest? This is a very important matter, which cannot be discussed like this. We should have longer time. Unless the Government comes forward with a fuller explanation, I do not see how they can come to this House putting this thing as a charged item, on which the vote of the House cannot be taken? I want this point to be discussed in greater detail and the observation of the Speaker should not be made light of.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Sir, it is true that under Section 5 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, a certain amount of interest is guaranteed. But it is also true that the Government should make sure that the Corporation is properly run. We see that from the very beginning that the Government has had to subsidise this Corporation. The recent argument is that interest on advances given to the Sodepore Glass Works had not been charged. I ask, why not? The tax-payer must have some knowledge as to why interest has not been charged. It is said, "interest accrued on the accounts of six companies had not taken credit for in the Profit and Loss Account". I do not know anything about this; but, I think there is something very shady about these transactions. I can understand certain members of the permanent staff trying to protect certain other members of the permanent staff; but I cannot understand the Minister's justification for not going into this matter.

As far as the Public Accounts Committee is concerned, this House as a whole cannot go into certain matters in detail. For this purpose, by statute this House has constituted the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. I say that the Government must take advantage of the Public Accounts Committee. It is not as if we should ask the Government to refer the matter to that Committee. The Government must seize that machinery and see that every rupee is spent in the proper manner. I am not going into the technicalities of the matter—whether it is a charged item or voted item. For me, these technicalities mean nothing. All that I want is that this matter must be properly gone into and the Industrial Finance Corporation must be properly run. It is improper that this sort of subsidy should be given continuously every year. Except for 1953-54 when it

was nil, every year subsidy has been given by the Government and the latest subsidy is much larger. As I have said, this is a very improper manner in which our moneys are spent. I am sure the Minister must be as anxious as anybody else in this House to see that these things are set right. A Committee must be appointed consisting of 3 or 4 Members of this House or from outside. No Resolution of this House is necessary for this. This can be done by an executive order of the Government. This matter has not been looked into for a long time; no more time should be wasted. I hope that the Government will announce even today that they will appoint a committee to go into this matter and submit a report on it.

Shri T. N. Singh: I had no desire to raise an issue on this point at this stage, but I think it is high time that Government came to certain firm decisions on matters of financial procedure and the control of the House. I think that if anything is to be taken away from the authority of this House in regard to financial matters, it should be dealt with with great care and also hesitation. An Act is passed and a certain thing is provided in that Act, namely, that interest is guaranteed; but if at subsequent stages all payments are made as charged items, then this House will become very hesitant whatsoever to give any guarantee to any such law. As to what amounts are to be appropriated out of income—I mean gross income—in a particular concern, is entirely a matter to be decided by the Auditor-General on the auditor of that concern. He can put a certain amount as doubtful debts, give some provision for losses in future years or for past years and so on. The auditor of a company or corporation is different from the Auditor-General. The companies have got their own private auditors; they make the balance sheet according to what they think is the proper accomplished procedure. But, that procedure may not be in tune with the accounting procedure adopted by the Government. Therefore, I think that it is very necessary that before any charges are made, this House should be taken into confidence. After all, that is a right of the House and for Government to take a decision on an interpretation of such import will not be fair either to the Government or to this House. I do not agree that there was some difficulty in consulting the Public Accounts Committee, because it is meeting very often and it is so easily convened. It meets when the House is in session and also in the inter-session

[Shri T. N. Singh]
 period. It may be that the Auditor-General has given his opinion and it may be some protection for the Government, but all the same, here is the question of the supremacy of the House. This House has got every right to express its opinion on matter like this. When once it is made a charged account, rights are taken away. We cannot give our vote. It is taken out of our purview. This is a serious matter and it is but fair that the House should be consulted on this question. If the House could not be consulted, at least its duly constituted Committee, the Public Accounts Committee, should have been consulted. I am sure that the Public Accounts Committee, a very responsible body, would have taken all the facts into consideration and given the correct lead to Government in such matters. Whatever be the opinion of the Auditor-General or the other legal advisers of the Government, it is a matter of the right of this House. Therefore, its authorised committee like the Public Accounts Committee or the House itself must be consulted when any change is made in the nomenclature of the accounts. As a matter of fact, the first action was itself wrong. Article 150 or article 151 lays down that no changes can be made in the nomenclature of the accounts of the Government of India without the sanction or approval of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is a person who is directly under the control of and responsible only to this Parliament and as such, he is responsible naturally to the Public Accounts Committee. It is something ridiculous that when that officer is responsible to that committee, that committee should not be consulted. How is that reasonable? It sets up a precedent for the future. I would strongly urge that in any matter where the accounting system is being changed or where the voting heads are transferred from one to another, the authoritative body of this House, either the Public Accounts Committee or the House itself must be consulted. It will be very wrong to start new precedents in any other manner.

Shri M. C. Shah: Under this demand No. 37, two points have been raised: one is with regard to financial assistance in the case of natural calamities. Two hon. Members on the opposite side have spoken on the point. Shri K. K. Basu from Bengal has raised the question about the Industrial Finance Corporation. The other friends have also raised

that question. My hon. friend and colleague Shri A. C. Guha will reply to that point regarding the Industrial Finance Corporation. As I see that only 30 minutes are available and there are important demands like demand No. 91 and others, I think I should not take much time on this matter about financial assistance in the case of natural calamities.

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): You can take my time.

Shri K. K. Basu: You push the mouse into the trap.

Shri M. C. Shah: My hon. friend Shri K. K. Basu knows very well that to give relief in the case of natural calamities is the responsibility of the States. It is only some assistance that could be given by the Central Government under a certain formula. From 1951, the Central Government has taken upon itself to give some financial assistance in the shape of grants and in the shape of loans. In the shape of grants 50 per cent. of the gratuitous relief granted by the States is made by the Centre. Loans are also granted to the States to have these scarcity works undertaken by the States. That too, after the States have spent something on those schemes which are approved as gratuitous relief and loans. The Central Government gives grants and loans. This year, we had provided a sum of Rs. 3 crores for grants and Rs. 3 crores for loans. There were natural calamities and floods in many parts of the country. There were natural calamities in the form of cyclones in the south. Therefore, the Central Government had to give more assistance to these States. Therefore, we have come here for a supplementary grant of Rs. 4 crores. We feel that for grants, Rs. 7 crores will be necessary, for 1955-56. So many things have been said here by the hon. Members, which should have been addressed to the States concerned. Here is a demand in the case of natural calamities and not in respect of unemployment and such other difficulties of the people of these States. As a matter of fact, the First Five Year Plan has provided for Rs. 15 crores to meet this demand. Next year, we have made a provision of Rs. 9 crores. We cannot anticipate that there will be natural calamities. We should always hope and pray that there should be no natural calamities, and there should be no need for financial assistance to the States. The hon. Member over there suggested that

the Central Government should enquire into these things and find out what will be the needs of the States. Why should we anticipate that there will be natural calamities and why should we go about enquiring these things?

About gratuitous relief, whenever a sum is paid, we give 50 per cent up to Rs. 2 crores, and 75 per cent over and above Rs. 2 crores. Also, we have liberalised the formula. We do not give help when permanent assets are created by the States when giving relief in the scarcity areas. Otherwise, we always try to help them in their difficulties. There is no question of being stingy in any way. We have liberally given grants whenever they have asked. Whenever we find that help is justified, we do not waste even a single moment to give them assistance. My hon. friend Shri K. K. Basu said about improvement of roads, embankment, etc. All these are the concerns of the State Government. He will be well advised to address the State Governments in these matters, to be very careful and see that there is no wastage. The Central Government has to look into the question whether the financial assistance given to the States is well spent. For that, they always have some inspection and all details are asked for. They are scrutinised. I do not think any further remarks are necessary on this point. As I said in the beginning, I would not take much of the time of the House. I would request my colleague to speak in respect of the Industrial Finance Corporation.

Shri A. C. Guha: The Industrial Finance Corporation is always an interesting and exciting topic.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: Because it is like that.

Mr. Chairman: The Revenue Minister was conscious that there are only 30 minutes for this. I hope the Expenditure Minister will also remember that.

Shri A. C. Guha: My hon. friend said about interest not being charged for certain companies. I think his memory will tell him about the position of the Sodepur Glass Works. It was not in a position to pay anything. These other companies also were not in a position to pay interest. On the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General, it has been decided that the Corporation should not show in its balance sheet any interest from these companies.

Shri K. K. Basu: That is commercial accounting. Unless you consider it as a bad debt....

Shri A. C. Guha: That is bad debt. That is why I say that it is no use showing any interest when we know that the Sodepur Glass Works is going to be auctioned with a huge loss. It was on the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General that that interest was not shown in the balance sheet. Certain bad debts....

An Hon. Member: All are bad debts.

Shri A. C. Guha:.... were also provided for. On the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor General, it has been decided to provide Rs. 15 lakhs in the reserve fund. I think every industrial concern, every commercial concern, naturally does that and provides something in a reserve fund. The Industrial Finance Corporation has not been doing this so long. This has been done to provide a reserve fund of Rs. 15 lakhs because there are certain debts which may be taken to have gone bad.

As regards the point particularly mentioned by Shri K. K. Basu and Shri T. N. Singh, and also from this side. I think the speakers agreed that the Government had the right or authority to change from one account to another account. But, the difficulty was that technically there was some profit in the relevant year. The question is, why should the Government make up this loss by giving this subvention. As I have stated earlier, the profit that has been made has been transferred to the reserve fund. It was not possible for the I.F.C. to pay the guaranteed dividend. As far changing the accounts from the voted to the charged, Shri T. N. Singh has referred to article 150 of the Constitution.

Article 150 only says :

"The accounts of the Union and of the States shall be kept in such form as the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India may, with the approval of the President, prescribe."

Under this article I think the Government has acted quite legally and in accordance with the spirit of the Constitution by putting this item in the charged head according to the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

Shri T. N. Singh: When it was first put, it was put without the Auditor-General's advice.

Shri A. C. Guha: It is no use raking up old things. And again, the Speaker when he mentioned these things said: "I am not giving any ruling, but I am suggesting that the Comptroller and Auditor-General and also the Public Accounts Committee should be consulted". We consulted the Comptroller and Auditor-General first, and he said it was not necessary as he also agreed with Government interpretation because under article 150 he is competent to say under what form an account should be put. Then we informed the Parliament Secretariat. That means we informed the Speaker of this decision in February this year, and the Parliament Secretariat or the Speaker did not take any objection to this decision. So I can say...

Shri T. N. Singh: Why did you not inform the House? You should have informed the House.

Shri A. C. Guha: It was the suggestion of the Speaker that we should consult the Comptroller and we informed the Speaker.

Shri T. N. Singh: And not the House?

Shri A. C. Guha: We consulted the Comptroller and Auditor-General, and under article 150 it is quite clear that it is the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General which will decide under which form accounts of expenditure are to be put, and we informed the Parliament Secretariat of the advice of the Comptroller and Auditor-General and they did not object to this decision.

Shri T. N. Singh: My point has been misunderstood. What I said was, under article 150 the Auditor-General can lay down, that is provided, but the House was seized of it. The suggestion by the Speaker was made in the House and the House should have been fully informed before any such decision, which amounted to taking away its right, was taken. That is what I said.

Shri A. C. Guha: I have already said that the Speaker did not give any ruling. It was a suggestion, and we acted according to it, and we informed the Speaker in time of the decision taken by the Government with concurrence of the Auditor-General. So, we have come before the House for this thing.

Mr. Chairman: Let me explain to the House what I have understood. I hope hon. Members will hear me first. Whether an account is charged or votable

is a matter of construction of the Constitution. It lies with the Comptroller and Auditor-General to construe and to give a decision whether the account is votable or it is charged. The hon. Speaker had made the suggestion that the Public Accounts Committee at least should be consulted in the matter when an account is being transferred from votable to charged head. That was quite all right, but then the Government consulted the Comptroller and Auditor-General and they are of the view that when Government and the Auditor-General agree on one point that it was a mistake....

Shri A. C. Guha: This is not only the view of the Government but the view of the Comptroller and Auditor-General also and we informed the Speaker of this.

Mr. Chairman: Now, the Minister might allow me to say what I have to say. When the Government consulted the Auditor-General and they were in agreement that so far as this item was concerned it ought to have been under the account charged and not votable, then they feel that they are right so far as this item is concerned, and they can construe it as charged. If there is no agreement between the Government and the Comptroller and Auditor-General, then perhaps—that is how the Government has put it—it might be feasible to put it before the Public Accounts Committee and the Estimates Committee as well. Now the Government feels that because it is a matter of construction by the Auditor-General, and the Government and the Auditor-General have agreed that it ought to have been under charged account, they think that it should be transferred from this to the charged account. Because it had been suggested by the hon. Speaker and had been mentioned in the House, it would have been better, as Shri T. N. Singh says, if they had taken the House also into confidence. It might not have been left to the House to take a decision, but at least the information could have been given to the House that such a thing is being done. That would have been better. But, so far as the technicality of putting construction is concerned, that was for the Auditor-General to do, and I am sure the House will not take now any objection to what has been done, though I am of opinion that in such a case it would be fair and proper to the House if the House is also taken into confidence when such a thing is being done, because a particular right of the House is being taken away.

Shri T. N. Singh: There was one point more. After all under the article the supreme authority of Parliament is not taken away. Even though the form of accounting has to be settled by the Auditor-General, the Auditor-General continues to be responsible to Parliament and therefore we have been deprived of a right which we could have exercised if we had got the information earlier.

Mr. Chairman: I have already said that the information ought to have been conveyed, but so far as that right is concerned, hon. Members would concede that it is a matter of construction of the Constitution, and there we are also bound by the Constitution and whatever is laid down by it.

Now, I will put cut motion Nos. 19 and 20 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,02,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,02,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,37,02,000 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 other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finance'."

The motion was adopted.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I just make a point? Already it is ten minutes to 3 and all the remaining Demands will probably be put to vote at 3. In the very beginning we had pointed out that one of the big amounts is under Demand No. 91 and yet already the half an hour which we had proposed is not

there at all, and now it is going to be put to vote. I would put it to you that at least some more time, half an hour, be made available with the consent of the House.

Mr. Chairman: If the hon. Members are of the view that other items might be left to be put to vote subsequently and we should take up Demand No. 91, I am prepared to take it up.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: There is Demand No. 80. I want to speak on that.

Mr. Chairman: Once we have fixed that there will be an over-all limit of three hours, you can very well appreciate I can extend the time only by 10 or 15 minutes, not more. Therefore, if Demand No. 91 is expected to take at least half an hour, at least we shall have to leave out other things.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Deputy-Speaker allotted 15 minutes for this and 5 minutes for another Demand. Subsequently, we can cut short this 15 minutes to 5 or 10 minutes, but to remove the Demand.

Mr. Chairman: All right. I shall allow the hon. Member 5 minutes. May I take up Demand No. 91?

Shri Kamath: All Demands except No. 91 may be disposed of by 3 P.M. Half an hour may be given to Demand No. 91.

Mr. Chairman: Then, I will have to extend the whole thing by half an hour.

Shri Kamath: With the consent of the House.

Mr. Chairman: It is the direction of the House also that it should be finished.

Shri Kamath: You can take its direction.

Mr. Chairman: If it is the desire of the House, we can finish. Demand No. 39.

Shri Kamath: On Demand No. 38 may I ask for information? The footnote refers to Assam only. I would like to know whether other States also have failed to utilise the grants made to them for the improvement and welfare of Scheduled Tribes, and if so, which are those States, and the reasons for the non-utilisation of those grants.

Shri M. C. Shah: What is the point to which I should reply?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister ought to have been more attentive when the question was put. The point that has been raised is this. In the footnote under Demand No. 38, it is only the State of Assam that is mentioned as not having utilised the sums allotted. Are there any other States also in the same position, which have not utilised the sums allotted for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes?

Shri M. C. Shah: The explanation is there already. If there were any other States, they would have been mentioned. As it is, there was only one State.

Shri Kamath: The language used is 'mainly Assam'.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member wanted to put only one question and an answer has been given to that question. Whether that answer is acceptable or not is a different matter.

The following Demands may be taken together :

39, 53, 64, 80, 86, 89, 98, and 128. To some of them, there are cut motions and their numbers are : 21, 23 to 26, and 31 to 33. These will be taken as moved.

DEMAND NO. 39—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,64,000 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 Adjustments between the Union and State Governments'."

DEMAND NO. 53—POLICE

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 38,88,000 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 'Police'."

DEMAND NO. 64—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,60,000 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 Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND NO. 80—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,37,000 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 'Geological Survey'."

DEMAND NO. 86—SALT

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,53,000 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 'Salt'."

DEMAND NO. 89—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF PRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,65,000 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 Production'."

DEMAND NO. 98—MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956,

in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport'."

DEMAND NO.128—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 14,21,000 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 Irrigation and Power'."

Additional expenditure on Exhibition Division and Films Division

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,60,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Working of the department in regard to exploitation of coal in Hyderabad State and Sulphur deposits in Kashmir

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,37,000 in respect of 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Expansion in activities of Geological Survey

Shri Kamath: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,37,000 in respect of 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Additional assistance for stowing

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,65,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

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Working of coal stowing operations.

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,65,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Loss due to increase in expenses

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Immediate payment of loss.

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Policy of buying equipment at high price from abroad for training

Shri K. K. Basu: I also beg to move:

"That the demand for supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,21,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100'."

Mr. Chairman: All these cut motions are before the House.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I want to make a few observations on Demands Nos. 80 and 89. But regarding Demand No. 89, I find that the Minister of Production is not here.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: The other Ministers are there.

Shri K. K. Basu: What does it matter if he is not there?

After all, ignorance comes from a common source.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I shall support Demand No. 80 under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research, relating to the Geological Survey of India.

The exploitation and development of minerals has been given a very important place in the Draft Second Five

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

Year Plan. It has also been stated therein that the development of minerals and the development of industries should be closely interlinked. But due to there being no proper maps and so on, the exploitation of minerals has been done rather in a haphazard fashion, with the result that there is an element of anarchy in the whole developmental programme.

In Hyderabad, we have got a coal-field. But we are exploiting only 30 square miles of it as against an estimated area of 800 square miles of coal deposits that is to say, we are exploiting only 3.75 per cent of the total.

So far as production is concerned, though we have got such a large area of coal deposits there yet the annual output is only 4 per cent of the total output in the whole of India. And we are starving the industries which are south of Hyderabad, because there are no coal-fields nearby, and the nearest coal-field is only that in Hyderabad. The industries south of Hyderabad are suffering owing to short supply of coal from this coal-field.

If we compare our annual coal production in India with that in other countries, we shall know how far we are lagging behind other countries in this respect. The total output of coal in the USA is 458 million tons, in the USSR 320 million tons, in UK 228 million tons, in Germany 123 million tons, in Poland 84 million tons, in France 72 million tons, and in Japan 43 million tons. There is therefore urgent necessity that a proper mapping of our coal resources should be done, and the coal that has not so far been exploited should be exploited now.

Owing to shortage of time I shall not go into the various details of how our forest resources have been depleted on account of not using coal for domestic consumption, and so on and so forth.

I now come to the other minerals, such as copper and sulphur. So far as sulphur is concerned, we are in short supply, and we are importing sulphur, but we are unable to exploit the 3 lakhs of tons of sulphur deposits in Kashmir and the reason given for this is that there are no proper communications etc. I would suggest that something must be done immediately to exploit these deposits.

With the advent of the big steel plants I would suggest that our iron ore resources should be properly mapped out. I was told that the Indian Bureau of Mines would take up this issue. But I do not know how far they have been able to map out these natural resources.

So far as minerals are concerned, there is what is called the Mineral Concession and Regulation Act of 1947. Under section 7 of that Act, some rules had to be framed by Government. Although the Act was passed nearly eight years ago, yet even to this day Government have not been able to frame those rules.

I would also say that the assistance given to the various coal-fields should be very thoroughly examined, because at present only about 30 coal-fields out of a total of 850 are getting this benefit. And these 30 are relatively bigger coal-fields, with an annual output of over 2 lakhs of tons. The figures in regard to the cost of stowing, supplied by these coal companies are rather inflated. I would suggest that Government should go into this matter thoroughly before giving any assistance and the representatives of labour also should be taken into confidence while giving assistance to these coal-fields which number only 30.

Shri Kamath: I want just a small piece of information on Demand No. 55 the foot-note under the Demand says :

"The excess is due to the payment of certain arrears of privy purse, not claimed earlier by the Rulers of Akalkot.....".

We were told some time ago, and the papers also reported, so far as I can recollect, that many of the former Rulers and the present Rajpramukhs had responded to the Prime Minister's appeal for sacrifice of a part of their privy purses. I do not know whether it is reverse gear now that those Rulers who had not claimed are now claiming. It is not response to the Prime Minister's appeal, now, but the process is now in the reverse gear, for those that did not claim formerly are now claiming. I would like to know whether these Rulers had not claimed it merely because they had forgotten to do so, or whether they are deliberately claiming it now. That is the point that I would like to be clarified with regard to this Demand.

I would also like one small matter to be clarified under Demand No. 74. It

is stated in the foot-note under the Demand that the additional provision is required for payment in satisfaction of a decree passed by the Manipur court against Government.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member wants some answer as well.

Shri Kamath: I shall speak on these Demands together, and finish in a minute.

The decree is for Rs. 3,404-8-0. But we find that the Demand is for a sum of Rs. 4,000. I would like to know why an additional sum of Rs. 600 has been claimed under this Demand. For what purpose has it been claimed?

The Minister of Natural Resources (Shri K.D. Malaviya): With regard to the point raised by my hon. friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao on the question of inadequacy of exploitation of coal in the south, it is admitted that the target quantity of coal that should be produced in the south has not so far been raised, and that only a small area of the Singareni coal-fields is now being exploited. But so far as the prospecting of coal in the south are concerned, there is a proposal in this Plan to expand the activities very considerably. The extent of area in which survey and prospecting has to be carried out is about 3,800 square miles. The area which is being exploited already is quite small. The difficulty was with regard to getting proper equipment and technical personnel to expedite the process of prospecting. For that we put forward certain proposals about ten or twelve months ago. We are receiving sanctions somewhat slowly arrival of some of the equipments are awaited. As soon as everything is ready, the programme of prospecting of coal in the south will proceed rapidly. We are quite alive to the situation and as soon as we have the number of drills that are awaited, we will proceed with our work. We have to depend on imports from abroad for these. Of those drills that have to arrive, some may be switched on to the Hyderabad area and the work of prospecting can then commence. On the basis of data maps and information collected, exploitation of coal will proceed.

3 P.M.

Shri Satish Chandra: Demand No. 89 is a grant in technical sense only, because this amount was realised as coal cess and must be paid to the Coal Board. That is the normal practice. The amount expected to be collected was provided

in the Budget. Actual collections have exceeded the budget estimates and the excess amount is being paid to the Coal Board. It is not an expenditure but a transfer of money from the general revenue to the Coal Board, according to the provisions of the Act.

Shri M. C. Shah : As regards Demand No. 55, the position is this. There were certain sums by way of privy purses drawn from the treasury. Those were not claimed earlier by the rulers. I have got the whole list here. The budget estimate of the privy purses for the merged States rulers in 1955-56 was Rs. 136.53 lakhs, and the revised estimate is Rs. 137.62 lakhs sum charged Rs. 1.09 lakhs. The corresponding figure for the rulers of integrated States is Rs. 0.52 lakhs. The following are the details of the additional expenditure for which supplementary grant is required:

(a) Payment of privy purse amounts not drawn in the preceding years by the rulers of seven States merged with Bombay—Rs. 1,09,300 (charged); (b) Payment of arrears of privy purse to the Chief of Lewa—Rs. 51,700 (charged). The names of the seven States merged in Bombay referred to in (a) above are Akalkot, Bhor, Magodi, Palaj, Punadra, Sangli and Sanjeli.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: It is past 3 O'clock.

Shri M. C. Shah: Against these names are shown the amounts of privy purse.

Mr. Chairman: What Shri Kamath wanted to know was different. There is a tendency that these privy purses should be stopped. There is public opinion to that effect. But even those amounts that have not been taken are being paid away. He described it as the 'reverse gear'. He wanted some explanation for it, if I understood him correctly.

Shri Kamath: Quite right.

Shri M. C. Shah: These are small States who had not taken the amounts. They have to be paid these amounts, as there is a guarantee given under the Constitution. It is voluntary on the part of the rulers to just accept cuts. But if they do not do so, we have to pay because that is guaranteed under the Constitution.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: They have not claimed it.

Shri M. C. Shah: They had not claimed. These are the arrears. So 'not claimed' is not the question.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Not claimed earlier.

Shri M. C. Shah: That means arrears. We cannot say that because they had not taken earlier, they should not be paid.

Mr. Chairman: I will now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

Shri Kamath: The Law Minister is not here to reply.

Mr. Chairman: Perhaps he will be content with what he has got.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I point out that sometimes Ministers and Deputy Ministers in charge of certain Ministries are not here at all? I would plead with you to direct that they should be present here at least when the supplementary grants are being discussed.

Mr. Chairman: I entirely agree with the hon. Member, that all the Ministers should be here when these things are discussed. But now there is another difficulty; the time is up and I cannot prolong it any further.

I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: What is meant by 'all'?

Mr. Chairman: Those that remain, except cut motions pertaining to Demand No. 91.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: The Minister of Legal Affairs is present now.

Shri Kamath: He may answer the point in regard to Demand No 74 as to why they are demanding Rs. 600 more.

The Minister of Legal Affairs (Shri Pataskar): I think the note is quite explanatory.

Mr. Chairman: There is no time now.

Shri Kamath: He came too late.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now put all the cut motions to these Demands, excepting Demand No. 91, to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,60,000 in respect of

'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,37,000 in respect of 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,37,000 in respect of 'Geological Survey' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,65,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,65,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Production' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport' be reduced by Rs. 100".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,000 in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport' be reduced by Rs. 100".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,21,000 in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry to Irrigation and Power' be reduced by Rs. 100".

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: All these cut motions have been negatived. I shall now put all the Demands that remain, except Demand No. 91 to the vote of the House :—

The question is :

"That the separate supplementary sums not exceeding the sums shown in the third column of the Order Paper 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 the following Demands entered in the second column thereof: Demand Nos. 39, 53, 64, 80, 86, 89, 98 and 128".

The motion was adopted.

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

DEMAND NO. 39—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,64,000 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 Adjustments between the Union and State Governments.'"

DEMAND NO. 53—POLICE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 38,88,000 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 'Police'."

DEMAND NO. 64—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,60,000 be granted 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 Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND NO. 80—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,37,000 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 'Geological Survey'."

DEMAND NO. 86—SALT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,53,000 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 'Salt'."

DEMAND NO. 89—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF PRODUCTION

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,65,000 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 Production'."

DEMAND NO. 98—MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 18,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport'."

DEMAND NO. 128—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 14,21,000 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 Irrigation and Power'."

**DEMAND No. 91—EXPENDITURE ON
DISPLACED PERSONS**

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 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 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons'."

*Slow progress of dispersal from camps
to rehabilitation sites*

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I beg to move :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100".

*Adjustment of amounts outstanding
from previous year*

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I also beg to move :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000, in respect of Expenditure on Displaced Persons be reduced by Rs. 100".

This is one of the biggest grants which we are asked to pass in this House. There are two important parts to it. One part is that dealing with evacuee property and the other is that with regard to additional expenditure for the new influx of refugees from East Pakistan as well as additional expenditure necessitated by the slow progress of dispersal from camps to rehabilitation sites in West Bengal.

Regarding the evacuee property pool I will not say anything very much, except what I have reiterated again and again that government property in occupation of authorised tenants should be given on a no-profit-no-loss basis, and also that realisation should be in easy instalments, that they should not be required to pay a very high amount every month in order to be able to keep the houses in which they are living. Besides this, I will not take up any further point because I want to talk in greater detail about two particular provisions for refugees from East Pakistan.

Firstly, we all know the difficulties that have arisen due to the new influx of refugees. There are many political

considerations to be taken into account in this. We shall go into that matter later on when we have a greater opportunity during the discussion of the General Budget. But I would certainly like to stress one point and that is that the condition of the refugees at the receiving camps, especially at the Sealdah station and in the border stations, is pitiful. They need a certain amount of greater care. You see women and children on those platforms in a most terrible condition, dirty and almost unprotected. I would say that we should vote the extra amount for the increased number of refugees. We should also see that these receiving centres are improved and the refugees are immediately taken to the camps.

The second point is about the slower progress of dispersal from camps to rehabilitation sites arising from (i) paucity of land and (ii) injunctions issued by the courts leading to non-implementation of rehabilitation schemes. This is a point with which I would like to deal in greater detail. Last time also, I spoke about the terrible conditions of the work-site camps. I want to place before this House certain pictures which I have taken. To any one who is interested in the conditions of the refugees living in these work-site camps, one look at these miserable people living in these small tents for three years in rain and in heat will be enough to know in what conditions they live. But, I am not dwelling too much on that aspect. What I am trying to show you is this that they have already been there for 3 long years. Why is it that such a long delay has taken place. For that I blame Government's own policies. On this question of the paucity of land, I think, there is no difference of opinion. We had little land in large stretches in which the refugees from East Bengal could be rehabilitated. But we were contending that there are areas where certain such land is available.

I will take one example of the Bagjora camp, where there are 2,500 families with a total of about 12,000 people for the last three years. They came here in 1953 and after that they were told they have to dig out a canal. For that canal certain acquisitions of land were made. The big thing about those acquisitions is that the major part of the land that was acquired belonged to small peasants of the area. The policy which has been followed by Government consistently, and on account of which they

are now facing the difficulty of injunctions and are not being able to rehabilitate the refugees, is creating much trouble and suffering to the refugees as well as the local peasantry. Their attitude is of trying to take away land which belongs to small peasants.

We were negotiating with government and they said at first they wanted only land for the canal. We discussed and discussed and re-discussed the matter. There was a lot of agitation as to what the alignment of the canal should be and finally the work on that canal started. In the first instance, the refugees could not work because there were legal injunctions as a result of the policy of the Government itself.

After a question of the land, they started excavation of the canal. Then suddenly there were a large number of new acquisitions for refugee rehabilitation. I will place before this House the actual type of acquisitions that have taken place which directly resulted in delay in the rehabilitation of the refugee peasantry. For instance, in the two police stations of Bhargar and Rajarhat, in the 24 Parganas, 57 moujas have been acquired and if this acquisition goes through, the majority of those affected will be small peasants who have 6 or 7 bighas of land, that is 2 to 2½ acres of land. That is the total amount of land belonging to them. For instance, in Hatiara in Rajarhat thana in Patharaghata-Chapra, Noabad, Akardakishori if this acquisition goes through—this is all high land and not low and—we cannot say we are acquiring fallow land—if this acquisition goes through not a single family in these moujas will have even one bigha of land left with them. That is why we say that it is the policy of Government which is delaying this matter of refugee rehabilitation.

As a matter of fact, the District Magistrate visited that place in the year 1955 and he has already agreed in his report that a large portion of the land acquired is the land of the small local peasants. This is one part of the story.

The other part of the story is that there are certain lands which belong to bigger people, people who own 500 to 700 bighas of land. The funny thing is that although the land roundabout has been acquired, Kanai Nandi's land who is a big landowner has not been acquired I would again bring to the notice of the House that we tried our best to see

that the Rehabilitation Ministry and the Irrigation Department should not take over the land belonging to the small peasants. On the other hand, we were showing them actually huge areas of fallow land. For instance in Dhapa Manpur Mouja 2,500 acres of land approximately was there, of which about 1,000 acres was khas mahal land, that is land that belonged to the West Bengal Government. From 1953 to 55, all these years we have been going on giving the government maps and telling them that there was land. They were telling us that they were going to give us certain khas mahal lands for the rehabilitation of the peasants, whose lands are being acquired. But up to date nothing has been done. That is why I say there has

been delay for all these three years due to the government. At the same time, we are all faced with the position where large areas of land which is there is not being acquired. Small peasants' lands are being acquired. Already the big land-owners have got bighas and bighas of land. I think the West Bengal Government is aware of the fact that these lands are inundated with saline water. We want you to take them. But, when normal acquisition proceedings are brought into effect we find that there are very big people, including the Ministers—Ministers are interested in this—and they come in, for long legal proceedings. We have been saying again and again that we should go in for special legislation whereby you can take over this land. For this particular area, I would even say that we were prepared to take the refugees there and we could settle them there. But for all these long three years this has been going on. These worksite camp refugees are living in conditions of hell and we are not in a position to give them that land which is already there and on which they say they will go and settle themselves. They say they are ready to rehabilitate themselves but nothing has been done so far. So, I feel that unless Government changes its policy regarding taking over of this land and also taking the help of the local people of all parties, unless you treat this as a national problem, on a national level and not on the petty level of some electioneering campaign, that the Congress party must be there and that if other people are associated with it, then immediately the opposition parties are going to gain something for themselves,—unless this attitude is changed, there will be no appreciable difference, however many supplementary questions we may put on the floor of

[Shrimati Renu Chakravartty]

this House. This is the point which I want to make before this House because I think it is one of the crucial matters which is facing the question of rehabilitation in West Bengal.

Mr. Chairman: Cut motions moved :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of Expenditure on Displaced Persons be reduced by Rs. 100."

श्री नन्द लाल शर्मा :

यस्याधिरेणू बीजानि जनैरुप्तानि मूधेसु ।

सद्यः सुरदुमायन्त श्रीधरः जस्तु नः॥स श्रियेजस्तुः

Mr. Chairman: I find that there are two or three hon. Members who want to speak. Therefore there should be 5 minutes limit.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: I was just thinking that guillotine was going to fall and will start with us. I will, anyhow, try to be as brief as possible. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Chairman: Then the hon. Member will also realise that there was an overall time limit and that we have already extended that.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: I think this much time will be given to me, the time that is being taken away from my time.

Exorbitant rates on which evacuee and Government built properties are auctioned

Shri Nandlal Sharma: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

प्रार्थना यह है कि पूरक अनुदान की जो यह मांग है उस के लिये एक अपील भेरी है, और कोई झगड़ा नहीं। घाप यह समझ लें कि मुख्य अनुदान जितना बढ़ा था, उस से बहुत अधिक घाप का यह पूरक अनुदान है। एक चीज यह है। दूसरी बात यह है कि घाप ने बड़ी कृपा कर के यह शब्द सत्यता पूर्वक कह दिये हैं।

"As the transfer is covered by corresponding receipts on the Revenue side this does not involve any cash outgo from the Consolidated Fund of India."

इस के लिये हाउस को तो बड़ी शान्ति हो सकती है कि चलो, हमें कोई पास से तो खर्च नहीं करना पड़ा। श्री खन्ना जी ने स्वयम् कमाया और स्वयम् ही खर्च कर दिया। लेकिन इस से उस उत्पीड़ित मंडल में निराशा जरूर होगी जिस को यह पता है कि सरकार हमारे ही खून से हम को बार बार सींच रही है और फिर नाम ले रही है कि वह हमारा पुनर्वास करवा रही है।

मुझे इस बात का खेद है कि अभी तक पूर्वी बंगाल की समस्या मूढ़ बाये खड़ी है और बढ़ती चली जा रही है। उन का बसाना बहुत आवश्यक है। अभी तो साढ़े उन्नीस लाख रुपये का ही सवाल था, फिर ११ करोड़ से भी ऊपर की समस्या हमारे सामने पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान के उत्पीड़ितों की आ रही है। अभी २६ तारीख को लाजपत नगर में रिफ्यूजी क्वेशन (शरणार्थी सम्मेलन) हुआ। उन बेचारों के मन रो रहे हैं जिन क पास शक्ति नहीं है। उस के ऊपर जिस समय प्रापर्टीज (सम्पत्तियों) को आक्शन (नीलाम) किया जाता है तो पांच पांच सात सात और दस दस हजार की प्रापर्टी का ४७ हजार, ५७ हजार और ६० हजार में आक्शन किया जाता है। जो १५ हजार रुपये की प्रापर्टी है उस को ६४, ६४ हजार रुपये में आक्शन किया है। इसी प्रकार से उन की किस्तों के सम्बन्ध में भी मेरे पास आज समय नहीं है कि मैं अधिक कुछ कह सकूँ। श्री खन्ना जी इन चीजों को अनुभव करते तो अच्छा होता। वह स्वयं शरणार्थी हैं। हो सकता है कि वह स्वयं कुछ कह न सकते हो पर मैं निवेदन करूँगा श्री देशमुख साहब से और पंडित जवाहरलाल जी से कि वे इस बारे में कुछ करें। खन्ना साहब से मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वे झगड़ कर यह करवाने की कोशिश करें कि गवर्नमेंट ज्यादा कांटीब्यूट करे। आज हम यह देख रहे हैं कि एक व्यक्ति १५,००० रुपये की प्रापर्टी पर ६४,००० रुपये बोली देता है और उसके क्लेम में से उसको बेनिफिट (लाभ) मिल जाता है। वह समझता है कि उसको इस तरह से तो कुछ मिलने वाला नहीं है, इस बास्ते वह यदि ज्यादा बोली देकर जो कुछ भी हासिल कर ले वही अच्छा है। मेरे पास इस तरह की भी रिपोर्ट आई है लखनऊ से

कि एक व्यक्तिने ६४,००० में कुछ प्रापर्टी खरीदी और खरीदने के बाद उसे उस ने ४०,००० में बेच दिया। उसने यह समझ लिया कि जो यह ४०,००० आया है यही काफी है। मैं कहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट को चाहिये कि वह स्वयं इस चीज को रोके। इस प्राक्शन में एक और सब से बड़ी मुश्किल की बात यह है कि इससे हमारा बहुत भारी नुकसान हो रहा है। पाकिस्तान का यह बार बार कहना है कि मुस्लिम यहाँ पर बहुत अधिक सम्पत्ति छोड़ गए हैं और हिन्दु पाकिस्तान में बहुत कम मूल्य की प्रापर्टी छोड़ आये हैं। आज पाकिस्तान के अन्दर हिन्दु जो प्रापर्टी छोड़ कर आये हैं, उसका एक कौड़ी भी मूल्य नहीं मिल रहा है लेकिन इसके विपरीत यहाँ हमारी गवर्नमेंट एक गलत पालिसी को अपना कर मुसलमानों की प्रापर्टी को प्राक्शन कर रही है और कीमतों को बढ़ा रही है। इसका नुकसान हमें अन्तरराष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र में भी हो रहा है।

इस लिए मैं यह निवेदन करूँगा कि आप जो एक शरणार्थी से २०० या ३०० रुपया महीना की किश्त लेते हैं वह बाजिब नहीं है। वह बेचारा ५० रुपया या १०० रुपया महीना कमा नहीं पाता और न उसका गुजारा ही भलता है तो फिर वह इतनी बड़ी रकम किश्त की किस प्रकार दे सकता है। इस लिए आपके जो पूर्ववर्ती मिनिस्टर थे, श्री जैन साहब और श्री मोहन लाल जी, जिन्होंने बार बार यह आश्वासन दिये थे कि शरणार्थी जहाँ बैठे हुए हैं उनको वहाँ से उठाया नहीं जाएगा उस पर आप अम्ल करें और जो रुपये आपने लेना है उसको आसान किश्तों में वसूल करें। आज यह सारी चीज दिखाई नहीं दे रही है। इस चीज के न होने से जो मरने वाला है वह या तो मिडलमैन है या फिर दरिद्र है। जो धनवान है, चाहे वह शरणार्थी ही है, उसके बारे में आप कुछ करें या न करें, इसमें मुझे कोई एतराज नहीं है लेकिन मिडलमैन जो कि पिस रहा है, या भूखा है, जो अपनी हालत किसी को कह भी नहीं सकता है, जो दरिद्र है, उसके लिए तो कुछ कीजिये। हमारे भोंसले साहब, मैं किसी को दोष नहीं देता, बम्बई क्षेत्र में रहते हैं और हमारे सन्ना साहब कलकत्ता में रहते हैं। इनका कौन ध्यान करेगा? मैंने कितनी ही विषयवायें दली हैं, ऐसे ऐसे केसिंस देखे हैं जिनको देखकर आदमी रो पड़ता है। मैं आपको बतलाता हूँ कि एक अंधी विधवा जिसका एक पागल लड़का था और उसकी टांग टूटी हुई थी और उसकी एक

छोटी सी लड़की थी, उसको मैंने आपके एड-वाइजर के पास, श्रीमती रामेश्वरी नेहरू के पास, भेजा। वहाँ पर आपके जो लेफ्टिमेंट्स हैं उन्होंने उसके साथ ऐसा बुरा व्यवहार किया कि वह वहीं पर रोने लग पड़ी। सेकड़ों आदमी इकट्ठे हो गए और फिर वह वहाँ से चली गई। दूसरा केस एक उस धेवी का है जो कि तीरगह अफ्रीदी क्षेत्र से आई थी—

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member will realise that he will have a fuller opportunity some time later for discussing this and then he can cite instances one by one.

Shri Nand Lal Sharma: Eleven crores of rupees are coming up in this.

इस लिए मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि आप इस क्षेत्र की ओर भी ध्यान दें। मैं नहीं कहता कि पूर्वी बंगाल से जो लोग आ रहे हैं उनकी समस्या कोई कम महत्वपूर्ण है, वह भी एक गम्भीर समस्या है। इस चीज को सभी मानते हैं। परन्तु पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये हुए उत्पीड़ितों की समस्या समाप्त हो गई है, ऐसी भावना आपके दिल में नहीं आना चाहिये। मैं चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस ओर ध्यान दे कि वह कम्पेंसेशन पूल (प्रतिकर विधि) में क्या देती है और पुरुषार्थियों को क्या वास्तविक सुविधा प्रदान करती है और क्या वह काफी है।

Mr. Chairman: Cut motion moved:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of Expenditure on Displaced Persons be reduced by Rs. 100."

Slow progress in rehabilitation schemes and improvement of living conditions in camps

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

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of Expenditure on Displaced Persons be reduced by Rs. 100."

Manner of working in camps and slow dispersal policy

Shri K. K. Basu: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Chairman: Cut motion moved:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury (Nabad-wip) : I have only two points to make briefly.

We have had the biggest grant for rehabilitation purposes in 1955-56—also in the original grant—and now we have to pass this Rs. 11,39,57,000. Altogether the money spent by Government is not little, but one point I would like to bring to the notice of the House is that when this grant is spent for the welfare of refugees, the T.B. patients must be taken into consideration particularly. I have seen that very often the cases that we come across are not taken care of as quickly as they might be, and in the case of T.B. patients the delay can be fatal. I would appeal to the hon. Minister to see that these cases are disposed of quickly and something done about them as soon as possible. Sometimes when we take such cases directly to the hon. Minister he deals with them and attends to them, but it is not always possible for the Minister to see to every case and the people have to come to Writers Building and Auckland House, Calcutta, and sometimes there is a lot of delay.

All this money under the supplementary grant is to be granted. Let that be spent for the welfare of a section that cannot wait to be looked after. In this case, I have a suggestion to make that for T.B. cases, if a separate section could be created, it would be very useful, because in that case, people could go direct to that particular department and get relief as quickly as possible.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I shall be very brief and state my points straightaway.

The first point that I want to make is this.

The disposal of the whole of the evacuee property by auction has become a scandalous thing. When you look at rehabilitation, you will find that there was displacement followed by settlement and now that settlement is again being

followed by displacement. And that displacement is entirely due to the erroneous policy of auction. My friend has given you many instances and I do not want to go into those instances, but I may say that most of the property is being sold to those persons who are very rich and who have got their claims. I do not know in what way. If they say that they paid Rs. 50,000 for a piece of property, actually speaking they are paying only Rs. 25,000. The price of the property is being inflated. I would, therefore, suggest that the Ministry should have its own valuation and the Ministry should dispose of the property in accordance with that valuation, and it should make the disbursement of that money as easy as possible.

My second point is this. There are so many shopkeepers who are now occupying the shops of evacuee persons, and those shopkeepers are being displaced. A shop does not mean only the place; it means business, it means goodwill and it means so many other things. Now they are being displaced and the shops are being disposed of. I would urge that the Government should revise its policy and should not do anything to displace these persons who are helpless.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty said that we should have a national policy. We have a national policy. **Shrimati Chakravartty** said that we were putting the rehabilitation work on a party basis. I deny that. Our policy is national, but the trouble lies when we come to the implementation of that policy. I do not want to say much about these Bengal refugees, but I want to say only one thing, namely, that the conditions in which they are living in these camps and infirmaries and other places are sub-human. I would request the hon. Minister to see that even if nothing else is done, at least the insanitary conditions of those camps are removed and the camps have more of cleanliness than they have at present.

The hon. Minister should have a master plan for settling the refugees and that master plan should be thought of at the time of the Budget. If that is not done, then we are not tackling this problem on a basis which is needed for the solution of the problem.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Are you going to apply guillotine?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister shall have time to reply. I suppose **Shri Daa** would be as short as possible.

Shri B. K. Das (Contal): The paucity of land has been the greatest difficulty as has been pointed out. The hon. Minister has also given thought to this problem. In the progress report that has been supplied we find that the States other than West Bengal have offered as much as 1,38,600 acres of land. Out of this, the Planning Commission team have so far visited Hyderabad, Mysore, Rajasthan and Vindhya Pradesh and have selected areas covering 23,950 acres. The Agricultural Officer attached to this Ministry, the progress report says, has also visited the land offered by the Government of Bihar and has made a preliminary selection of 14,000 acres. So we find that about 38,000 acres of land have already been selected. But I want to know if any reclamation work has started up till now. In my opinion, if the reclamation work has not yet started we do not know how long we shall have to wait to get any refugee settled in this land.

Further, we are told that there is a possibility of reclaiming 80,000 acres of land in Tripura and 6,000 acres in Cachar. We were told that Tripura land consisted mostly of jungles and that it would be sometime before it could be reclaimed. About the other 38,000 acres of land, I do not know what difficulty is there. Nothing has been done as yet for reclamation and making the land fit for the rehabilitation of the refugees. The work is going very slowly. More vigorous steps are necessary so that at least some batches can be sent to all these places.

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

Shri B. K. Das: The Hon. Member opposite has always contended that there is land in West Bengal. I do not want to go into that controversy; there may be or may not be. The hon. Minister has promised us that we shall be supplied with information regarding land available in this State. But by no stretch of imagination can we say that we shall be able to rehabilitate all those who have come and who will be coming within this State. It is certain that we shall have to find out land outside West Bengal. I shall be happy to know something about this from the hon. Minister so that we may be able to send our refugees to those places within the shortest possible time.

श्री मेहर चन्द कर्मा : जनाब वाला, जहाँ-तक इस डिमांड का ताल्लुक है एक सवाल तो

मगरबी (पश्चिमी) पाकिस्तान के डिस्प्लेस्ड परसन्स (विस्थापित व्यक्तियों) के बारे में है और दूसरा सवाल मशरकी (पूर्वी) पाकिस्तान से उन भाई और बहनों की मदद देने का है जो कि वहाँ से अपना घर बार छोड़कर मगरबी बंगाल और हिन्दुस्तान में आ रहे हैं।

सवाल तो छोटा सा है, लेकिन जहाँ तक बहस का ताल्लुक है मुझे कहना पड़ता है कि रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री की तमाम पालिसी पर, चाहे वह रिस्वीफ की है चाहे रिहैबिलिटेशन की, चाहे कम्पेन्सेशन की, उसके मुताल्लिक काफी जोर से बहस हुई है। मैं बहुत चीजों में तो नहीं जाना चाहता लेकिन चन्द एक मोटी मोटी चीजों का जबाब देना चाहता हूँ। पहले मैं मशरकी बंगाल की तरफ आपका ध्यान ले जाना चाहता हूँ।

हालात कुछ ऐसे हैं कि जहाँतक मशरकी बंगाल से निकास या माइग्रेशन (प्रवाजन) का ताल्लुक है वह दिन ब दिन बढ़ रहा है। जहाँ पिछले साल यानी सन् १९५४ कोई में एक लाख बीस हजार बहिनें और भाई भाये यानी दस हजार माहवार के हिसाब से भाये, वहाँ गुजिस्ता साल यानी सन् १९५५ में यह तादाद २,४०,००० थी जो कि एबरेज (औस्त) में करीब २०,००० माहवार होगी। गुजिस्ता तीन चार महीनों में माइग्रेशन सर्टिफिकेटों की दरखास्तों की तादाद लगातार बढ़ रही है। दिसम्बर के महीने में अगर यह तादाद ११,००० थी तो जनवरी में वह १८,००० हो गयी। तो जिस वक्त कि हम रिहैबिलिटेशन का सवाल अपने सामने रखते हैं तो हमें यह सोचना चाहिये कि हमारा प्राबलम क्या है। हमारा प्राबलम दिन ब दिन बढ़ रहा है और हमको यह देखना पड़ेगा कि हमारे रिसोर्सेज, (संसाधन) चाहे वे जमीन के हों, चाहे वे एम्प्लाय-मेंट के हों, कितने हैं और उनसे हम किस हद तक उन भाई और बहनों की मदद कर सकते हैं जो कि पार्टीशन के बाद फ्राट बरस पाकिस्तान में रहने के बाद आज यहाँ आ रहे हैं।

मैं यह तस्लीम करता हूँ कि सियासदा के स्टेशन पर जो रिफ्यूजी भाई हैं उनकी हालत कुछ अच्छी नहीं है। मैं खुद यह भी तस्लीम करता हूँ कि आज जो तीन बरस से हमारे भाई छोटे छोटे तम्बुओं में बाग जोला में या शान्सिपुर में या किसी दूसरी जगह रह रहे हैं यह किसी के लिए अच्छी बात नहीं हो सकती। वे हमारे भाई हैं और उन्होंने मुस्क की आबादी की

[श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना]

खातिर कर्बाना वी है, उन्होंने अपना तमाम जानों माल कुर्बान कर दिया है। तो आज हमें कम से कम यह तो उनके लिए करना चाहिए कि वे ऐसी जिन्दगी बसर कर सकें कि उनकी मिनीमम ह्यूमैन नीडस (न्यूनतम मानवीय आवश्यकतायें) पूरी हो सकें। मैं यह भी मानता हूँ कि हमारे वकं साइड कैम्पस् की हालत भी अच्छी नहीं है और हमारे रिसेप्शन सेंटर्स (स्वागत केन्द्र) की हालत भी अच्छी नहीं है। हमारे जो भाई और बहिनें तम्बुओं में रह रहे हैं उनकी हालत भी काबिले फरर नहीं है। लेकिन यह कहना कि हम कुछ नहीं कर रहे यह चीज मैं तस्लीम नहीं कर सकता।

हमने अभी फैसला किया है कि जहांतक सियालदा स्टेशन के रिसेप्शन सेंटर का ताल्लुक है उसको बन्द कर दिया जाये। बान गांव और बानपुर, जो कि बंगाल के बाडर स्टेशन हैं, वहां बाकायदा रिसेप्शन सेंटर खोलें जायें ताकि जो भाई बहिन आयन्दा हिन्दुस्तान को आवें, उनको चाहे हम बिहार को भेजें, या बंगाल को भेजें या मैसूर को भेजें, चाहे उड़ीसा को भेजें, इन सेंटर्स में उनका प्रापर स्क्रूनिंग (उचित निरीक्षण) हो और अगर हम देखें कि एक भाई काइतकार है तो उसके लिए जमीन मुहय्या करें और अगर हम यह देखें कि वह शहरी है तो उसके लिए शहरी एम्प्लायमेंट का बन्दोबस्त तो करें। तो मैं अपनी बहिन श्रीमती रेणु चक्रवर्ती को तसल्ली दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि.....

Mr. Chairman: It would not be possible for us to go beyond 3-45.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: If you give me ten minutes, I shall finish.

मैं इतना ही फिक्रमन्द हूँ...

I am as anxious as she is or anybody else, in this House or outside, that the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan should be speeded up and that they should get all possible facilities in the matter of relief, shelter and employment.

लेकिन, जैसा मैं ने शुरू में कहा था, देखना यह होगा कि जहां मेरे पास पहले कैम्प में मिसाल के तौर पर पहली जनवारी सन् १९५५ को बड़ या पीने दो लाख भादमी पड़े थे, वहां आज उनकी तादाद ढाई लाख से उपर बढ़ गयी है। कैम्प की आबादी का जहांतक ताल्लुक है, उसका ताल्लुक मुझ से नहीं बल्कि पाकिस्तान से है। रिफ्यूजीज का जो निकास हो रहा है वह पाकिस्तान से हो रहा है। उसमें हिन्दुस्तान

की हुकूमत का या मेरा कोई हाथ नहीं है। उसमें पाकिस्तान का हाथ है। उसके फैंक्टर्स (तत्व) और रीजन्स (कारण) क्या हैं यह मैं चन्द दिनों के बाद जब मेरी डिमांडस आवेंगी उस वक्त बतलाऊंगा। अभी तो वक्त कम है। लेकिन मैं आपको इस मामले में यह तसल्ली दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि मैं कोशिश करूंगा कि जितनी जल्दी हो सके आसाम में या बंगाल में एक तम्बु भी न रह जाये। जो हमारे कैम्पस हैं उनको एक प्रीपर, रैशनल (युक्तिपूर्ण) और साइंटिफिक तरीके पर प्रीपर टाउनशिप् में कनवर्ट (बदल) किया जाय और हर एक कैम्प की एकोनामी बिल्ड की जाय ताकि उसकी एकोनामी सेल्फ सफीशन्ट हो और उसकी एकोनामी बंगाल पर डिपेंड न करे। मैं आपसे यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि और आगे भी कह चुका हूँ कि जहां तक रिहैब्लिटेशन का ताल्लुक है, इसमें कोई बैरियर्स (बाधा) नहीं, इसमें कोई पालिटिक्स नहीं, इसमें कोई कांग्रेस के मेनीफेस्टो या एलेक्शन का सवाल नहीं जिसका कि श्रीमती रेणु चक्रवर्ती अभी जिक्र कर रही थी। मैं उनका कोआपरेशन १५ महीने पेशतर भी सीक करता (चाहता) था और अब भी सीक करता हूँ और हमेशा सीक करने के लिए तैयार हूँ —

श्रीमती रेणु चक्रवर्ती : स्टेट गवर्नमेंट नहीं करती।

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : अब आप स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की बात करेंगी या किसी दूसरे की बात करेंगी तो मैं अपने तो लिए जिम्मेदार हूँ, और अपनी जिम्मेवारी देता हूँ।

I seek your co-operation in solving this human problem. At every stage I have asked for your co-operation and I am glad you have given it to me.

बाकी मेरी बहिन ने जो बागजोला का जिक्र किया तो वह तो एक बड़ी दिलचस्प चीज बन गई है। उसके मुतालिक खुद दिल्ली आने के दो रोज पेशतर उनसे मेरी बहस हुई और इस बात को वह भी जानती है और मैं भी जानता हूँ कि बागजोला की बाबत दिक्कत यह है कि हम वहां पर करीब दो या ढाई हजार फैमिलीज ले गये और उस जमीन को डेवलप किया। फैमिलीज वहां पर करीब ढाई हजार के हैं जब कि वह जमीन जो डेवलप हुई है या वह जमीन जो कि कोर्ट की प्रोसीडिंग्स के तहत एक्वायर्ड (न्यायालय की प्रक्रियाओं के अधीन) नहीं है और उसके तहत नहीं आती, मिसाल की

घोर पर समझ लीजिये कि वह जमीन हमारे पास किलियर लेंड है। जिसका टाइटिल इन्वील्व्ड नहीं शुद्ध स्वामित्व है, एक हजार एकड़ है, हमने फ्री फीम्ली को दो एकड़ बतौर एकोनामिक यूनिट या एकोनामिक होल्डिंग के देना है अब वहाँ पर नहर के दोनो तरफ फीम्लीज तो ढाई हजार स्प्रेड आउट हैं और जमीन हमारे पास सिर्फ एक हजार एकड़ है और ऐसी हालत में आप ही बतलाइये कि मैं जमीन देने के लिए कौन से पांच सौ भाइयों को चुनूँ और कौन से दो हजार भाइयों को पीछे रखूँ और जमीन से महकूम रखूँ।

दूसरी दिक्कत यह है कि फ्रज कीजिये कि एक जमीन का टुकड़ा है। उसका टाइटिल किलियर है। उन पर कोई एक मेहर चन्द बैठा हुआ है और फ्रज कीजिये अगर मैं लौटस भी झा करूँ (लाटरी भी डालूँ) और वह किसी दूसरे शास्स के नाम किल आये तो जाहिर है कि उस मेहर चन्द भाई को उठाना होगा जिसके लिये वह शायद तैयार न होगा और वह वहाँ से उठने को तैयार नहीं है। मैं ने इनसे खुद कहा था कि अगर आप मुझे कुछ कोआपरेशन दें कुछ प्रसिस्टेंस दें तो वह एक हजार एकड़ जमीन जो मौजूद है और जो रिलीज हो सकती है उसमें भाई बहिनो को बसाया जाये। मैं भी चाहता हूँ कि वह भाई बहिन बहुत जल्दी बस जाय और मैंने अपनी बहिन से कहा कि हमें कोई तरीका ऐसा अवश्य निकालना चाहिए जिससे हम इस दिक्कत तमब मसले को हल कर सकें। यह चीज जाहिर है कि २,५०० फीम्लीज को बसाने का मसला काफी दिक्कततलब है। उन्होंने इसकी बाबत फरमाया था कि हम भी इसकी बाबत सोचेंगे और आप भी इसके लिए कोई हल तलाश कीजिये, कोई रास्ता निकालने की कोशिश कीजिये। जहाँ तक इसके लिए कोई रास्ता निकालने का ताल्लुक है, बाजी चीजें ऐसी हैं जो मेरे अस्तित्थार में हैं लेकिन कुछ चीजें ऐसी भी हैं जिन पर मेरा वश नहीं है और जो मेरे अस्तित्थार में नहीं हैं, लेकिन ताहम मैं उनको दुबारा तसल्ली दिसाना चाहता हूँ कि ईस्टर्न पाकिस्तान से जो हमारे रेफ्यूजी भाई आ रहे हैं, उनके बसाने में हमारा भी रबैया वही है जो कि आपका है। बसाने के लिए हमारे पास फंडस मौजूद है, फंडस के सिलसिले में कोई खास तकलीफ या दिक्कत नहीं।

अब चकि वक्त मेरे पास बहुत थोड़ा रह गया है इसलिए और ज्यादा न कह कर

मगरबी पाकिस्तान के रेफ्यूजीज की बाबत सिर्फ दो तीन मिनट लेना चाहता हूँ। शर्मा साहब इस वक्त हाउस में मौजूद नहीं हैं। मेरा मतलब श्री दीवान चन्द शर्मा से है। जहाँ तक श्री नंद लाल शर्मा का ताल्लुक है, मैं उनको जानता हूँ, उनका नजरिया भी जानता हूँ। वे मेरे भाई भी हैं, और बजुगं भी है। लेकिन इस वक्त अगर दीवान चन्द शर्मा साहब हाउस में मौजूद होते तो मैं उनसे पूछता कि अभी चार बहिनें हुए हैं जब आपने यहाँ पर कम्पेंसेशन रुल्स पास किये थे और मेरे लिए एक डायरेक्टिव (निर्देशिक) दिया था। उस डायरेक्टिव में यह था कि जो प्रापर्टी १० हजार से नीचे की है वह जो रेफ्यूजी उसमें बैठा हुआ है, उसी को ऐलाट कर दी जाय और जो मकान या दुकान १० हजार रूपये से ज्यादा मालियत की हो उसको आप सेल कर दो। मैंने गवर्नमेंट बिल्ट प्रापर्टी वही दुकान या मकान लिया जो खाली पड़ा था और जिस पर कि कोई रेफ्यूजी नहीं था। गवर्नमेंट बिल्ट प्रापर्टी जिसकी कि तादाद दो लाख युनिट्स है, मैंने उसमें से कोई ऐसा मकान या दुकान नहीं अब तक आकेशन की जिसमें कि कोई रेफ्यूजी बैठा हुआ था। अब अलबत्ता उन मकानों और दुकानों की नीलामी की बारी प्रायेमी जिनमें कि रेफ्यूजीज बैठे हुए हैं। और रेफ्यूजीज दो क्रिस्म के हैं। एक तो वे रेफ्यूजीज हैं जिनके कि क्लैम्स हैं और दूसरे वे जिनके कि क्लैम्स नहीं हैं। आपने यह फैसला किया कि उनके लिए फला-फलां सहायियों दी जाय मसलन् टम्स आफ इन्स्टालमेंट (किस्त) और ऐडवांस की सहाययतें उनको दी जाय। मैं आनरेबल मेम्बर साहबान से मोदबाना दरखास्त करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर कोई केस उनके नोटिस में ऐसा आया है जहाँ कि मैंने उन रुल्स से जन्हें कि पार्लियामेंट-ने पास किया है उनसे तजाबुज किया है या उनकी हुकम-उदूली की है तो मुझे बतलाया जाय. . .

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (गुडगांव) : एक केस तो मैं आपसे बतलाना चाहता हूँ जिसमें पार्लियामेंट के दिये गये इस्ट्रक्शंस क खिलाफ अमल किया गया।

श्री मेहर चंद कला : ठीक है, वह मुझे बाद में केस बतला दें, इस वक्त तो टाईम नहीं है, मैं उसको देखूंगा और अगर मैं उसके सिलसिले में अपनी गलती पाऊंगा तो उसका एतराफ करूंगा और माफी मांग लूंगा। लेकिन यह जो कहा जाता है कि साहब रुल्स गलत हैं, तो

[श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना]

मैं कहूंगा कि उनको बदलने और ठीक करने का आपको पूरा अखिस्तार है, आप सावरिन बौड़ी हैं, आप उनमें एमेंडमेंट कर सकते हैं

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : मिनिस्टर साहब ने तो बिना हाउस से पूछे उनमें खुद एमेंडमेंट कर दिया ।

श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना : अब जहां तक वैलुएशन (मूल्यांकन) का सवाल है उसके बारे में मुझे यह अर्ज करना है कि कुछ लोगों को शिकायत है कि बाज्र जगह जो वैलुएशन हुई है, वह दुस्त नहीं है, वह ज्यादा है । हमारे अफसरान ने उस वैलुएशन को खामख्वाह अपनी लाएलटी (स्वामीभक्ति) दिखाने के लिये और अपनी सर्विस दिखाने के लिए कर दिया है और इस वैलुएशन के मुतालिक हमारे गिडवानी साहब को कुछ गिला है और वे मुझे चट्टी भी लिखते हैं जिसमें झलजामात लगाते हैं वैसे अभी उसकी बाबत बोले नहीं हैं । अब इसके लिए मेरे पास दो ही तरीके हैं । एक तो यह है कि जो केस मेरे नोटिस में आता है, उसकी इन्वायरी में खुद करता हूं । मैंने खुद अपना एक बड़ा अफसर जो कि डिप्टी चीफ सटिलमेंट कमिशनर कहलाता है उसको कहा है कि वह करनाल जावे, सहारनपर जावे, कानपुर जावे, अम्बाला जावे और दूसरी जगहों पर जाये और मौके पर जाकर देखे कि जो वैलुएशन हुई है वह दुस्त है या गलत है और जांच करने पर वह अगरे पाये कि वह वैलुएशन गलत है, तो प्रौरन उसकी नीलामी बंद करने का आर्डर दे दे ।

आज गवर्नमेंट १८५ करोड़ रुपया रेफ्यूजीज पुल में देती है और हमारे शर्मा साहब कहते हैं कि गवर्नमेंट ने कुछ नहीं दिया । कल फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब ने जो बजट तकरीर की, उसको सुन कर मैं तो समझता था कि हमारे रेफ्यूजीज के इंटरैस्ट्स को वाच करने वाले मेम्बर साहबान, आनरेबुल फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्टर का उसके लिए शुक्रिया अदा करेंगे लेकिन किसी ने ऐसा नहीं किया लेकिन मैं इस मौके पर उनका शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहता हूं और वह इसलिए है कि मैं किसी का मकान बेचता, किसी की दुकान बेचता और क्लेमेंट्स को नान क्लेमेंट्स से बसूल करके देता, कल फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्टर ने मुझे २० करोड़ रुपया इसलिये दिया है कि मैं २० करोड़ रुपया कैश अगले साल रेफ्यूजीज को दे सकूं और उसके लिए मैं अपने फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब का धुं या अदा करना चाहता हूं । रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री जिसके कि हाथ तंग हैं और जिसके

कि पास पैसा नहीं है, उसको फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्टर २० करोड़ रुपया नकद देते हैं और साथ ही मुझे इजाजत देते हैं कि ३५ करोड़ रुपये की तुम जायदाद बेच दो और एडजस्टमेंट कर लो और तकरीबन उन्होंने ५६ करोड़ रुपये का एलोकेशन (बांट) अगले साल के बजट में रेफ्यूजीज की कम्पेंसेशन देने के लिए किया है । यह कोई छोटी रकम नहीं है ।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : उनको २० करोड़ और देना चाहिए ।

श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना : हमारे श्री नंद लाल शर्मा जी कह रहे थे कि रेफ्यूजीज के खून से रेफ्यूजीज को सीचा जाता है ।

श्री नंद लाल शर्मा : ११ करोड़ रुपये में से रेफ्यूजीज के लिए क्या रकम रखी है ?

श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना : शर्मा जी की खातिर अर्ज करूंगा कि ३१ जनवारी सन् १९५६ तक २३ करोड़, ७८ लाख, ३८ हजार और ५७० रुपया बतौर कम्पेंसेशन के दिया जा चुका है और उस में १५ करोड़ ६० लाख और ८२,००६ रु० नकद दिया गया है । यह जो आप पूछते हैं कि कहां से आया है तो मैं बतलाना चाहता हूं कि अगले साल के लिये तो २० करोड़ नकद मिला । आज तक १५ करोड़ रुपया नकद कम्पेंसेशन दिया जा चुका है । रेफ्यूजीज से कुछ बसूल नहीं हो रहा है, कर्जा बसूल नहीं हो रहा है, सुद बसूल नहीं हो रहा है, जायदाद बेच नहीं सकते, अभी तक बेचा नहीं है । तो यह कहना कि साहब, गवर्नमेंट ने कुछ नहीं किया है और उसी के खून से उस को सीचा है मैं कहूंगा कि मेरे मोअज्जिज दोस्त के लिये दुस्त नहीं है ।

इन अल्फाज के साथ साथ मैं यह अर्ज करूंगा, जो कट मोशनस हैं उन के बारे में, कि पहले तो यह एक टेकनिकल चीज है, यह तो एक बुक ट्रेन्जैक्शन है, एक एकाउन्ट (खाते) से दूसरे एकाउन्ट (खाते) में ट्रांसफर कर रहे हैं । ११ करोड़ २० लाख रुपया है । १० करोड़ नकद है और १ करोड़ और २० लाख रुपया जो है वह बचाने की चीज है । बाकी ३६ लाख रुपया उन के लिये है जो बेचारों पाकिस्तान से अपना घर बार छोड़ कर आ रहे हैं । मैं तो यही दख्खास्त करूंगा जो कट मोशनस दिये गये हैं उन के बारे में कि उन को समझ नहीं सके । मैं ने श्रीमती अफसरती को तसल्ली दे दी है कि हमारे और

उन के प्वाइंट ग्राफ व्यू में कोई डिफरेंस नहीं है। हम को अप्रेशन चाहते हैं और वही को अप्रेशन हम उन से सीक करते हैं।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भागंब : मानरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब ने फरमाया कि यह रूल उस के लिये डाइरेक्टिव है। यह रूल मंडेटरी है जो यहां पार्लियामेंट में पास किये गये रूल हैं उस को डिपार्टमेंट को ऐमेन्ड करने का हक नहीं है, जब तक कि हाउस ही उन रूल को ऐमेन्ड न कर दे वह नातिक्र है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या डिपार्टमेंट को हक है कि इस के बावजूद कि हाउस ने इस को पास कर दिया है उस को अपनी मर्जी के मुताबिक ऐमेन्ड कर दे। दूसरी चीज यह है कि २० करोड़ नकद सौंप दिया गया है, यह कहां तक दुस्त है। उन्होंने ४० करोड़ रुपया कैश देने का वादा किया था, ताकि लोगों को कैश मिल जाय। २० करोड़ भ्रामा है लेकिन २० करोड़ बाकी है। शुकिया हम २० करोड़ का भी भ्रदा करेंगे और ४० करोड़ का भी भ्रदा करेंगे लेकिन क्या यह दुस्त है कि ४० करोड़ के बजाय सिर्फ २० करोड़ दिया गया है ?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Am I expected to give reply ?

Mr. Chairman: It is for you to decide.

श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना : जहां तक पहली चीज का ताल्लुक है, भागंब साहब मेरे बुजुर्ग हैं, वह सिर्फ इशारा करते हैं, लेकिन मैं उन के इशारे को नहीं समझा। अगर वह साफ कहते कि फलानी चीज हाउस ने पास की

पंडित ठाकुर दास भागंब : ज्वाइंट फैमिली के रूलस सिलसिले में आपके डिपार्टमेंट ने तब्दीली की है।

श्री मेहर चंद खन्ना : प्रब आप ने खोल कर कहा। मैं इशारा नहीं समझ सका था। दूसरी चीज आप फरमा रहे हैं कि ४० करोड़ का इकरार था। जो उन से इकरार हुआ, मैं नहीं जानता, हुआ होगा। मुझे इल्म नहीं। लेकिन मैं तो यह कहता हूँ कि मेरे ऊपर यह मेहरबानी थी, मेरी मिनिस्ट्री के ऊपर मेहरबानी थी कि मुझे २० करोड़ रुपया ऐडवान्स में दिया गया।

अब, चैयरमैन साहब, आप इजाजत दें तो मैं चन्द मिनिट लूंगा, और भागंब साहब के दूसरे सवाल का भी जबाब दे दूंगा हालांकि इस डिमान्ड से उस का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय : उस का जबाब आप दूसरे किसी समय भी दे सकेंगे।

I shall now put cut motions 1, 27, 28, 29 and 30 to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: The question is:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons' be reduced by Rs. 100."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Chairman: I shall now put the Demand to the vote of the House.

The question is :

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,39,57,000 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 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons'."

The motion was adopted.