

[Shri Kamath]

that there will not be by-elections before the next General Elections.

**Shri V. B. Gandhi:** May I make the motion, Sir ?

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes.

**Shri V. B. Gandhi:** Sir, I beg to move:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 242 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among their number to serve on the Committee on Public Accounts for the unexpired portion of the year 1956-57 vice Dr. Indubhai B. Amin resigned."

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

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (3) of Rule 242 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, one member from among their number to serve on the Committee on Public Accounts for the unexpired portion of the year 1956-57 vice Dr. Indubhai B. Amin resigned."

*The motion was adopted.*

INDIAN POST OFFICE (AMENDMENT)\*\* BILL

**The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend

the Indian Post Office Act, 1898."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** Sir, I \*introduce the Bill.

PUBLIC DEBT (AMENDMENT)\*\* BILL

**The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah):** Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Public Debt Act, 1944.

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

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Public Debt Act, 1944."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri M. C. Shah:** Sir, I introduce the Bill.

DEMANDS† FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (TRAVANCORE-COCHIN), 1956-57

**Mr. Speaker:** Now the House will take up the discussion and voting on the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Travancore-Cochin State for 1956-57.

**Shri Valayudhan (Quilon cum Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** What is the time allotted, Sir?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think the time allotted is 3 hours.

DEMAND No. XIX—PUBLIC HEALTH

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 19,000 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray

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\*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

†Moved with the recommendation of the President.

the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Public Health'."

**DEMAND NO. XXV—LABOUR AND MISCELLANEOUS**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,12,000 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Labour and Miscellaneous'."

**DEMAND NO. XXXVII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS**

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 100 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Capital outlay on Civil Works'."

**Shri Velayudhan:** We have no Assembly there and, therefore, at least four hours should be given for this discussion.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House can decide it and I am prepared to allot as much time as the House decides. Originally five hours were allotted by the Business Advisory Committee for all the three Demands—Supplementary Demands for Grants of Central Government, Excess Demands for Grants and Supplementary Demands for Travancore-Cochin. We have exhausted 3 hours 41 minutes—two hours and twenty-one minutes on Supplementary Demands for Grants of Central Government and one

hours and twenty minutes on Excess Demands for Grants. We have, therefore, one hour and nineteen minutes left. I am in the hands of the House. I suggested three hours....

**Shri' A. M. Thomas (Ernakulam):** Let the discussion proceed and then we can decide the time allotment. Are you going to have the discussion, Sir, on all the Demands together or separately?

**Mr. Speaker:** All of them together, but I will put them separately.

**The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah):** I would like to say a few words on these Demands.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let the hon. Minister explain to the House what are the important items on which attention may be bestowed.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** By virtue of the proclamation issued by the President on the 23rd March, 1956, under article 356 of the Constitution, the powers of the Legislature of the State of Travancore-Cochin are exercised by or under the authority of the Parliament, and reference to the Rajpramukh and the Legislature of Travancore-Cochin under articles 202 to 207, read with article 238, which govern the procedure in financial matters, are to be construed as references to the President and the Parliament respectively.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister may resume his seat for a minute.

I find of late that there is not as much respect of courtesy shown to the House or to the Chair, except by the hon. Prime Minister, who bows whenever he comes in and takes his seat and again bows to the House whenever he rises and goes out of the House. It is not respect specially shown to me. We are being watched by various people from various parts of India. What is the harm if hon. Members when they come to occupy their seats just bow before sitting down? The respect is for the whole

[Mr. Speaker]

House, not for an individual. Whenever an hon. Member begins to speak, they need not go on chatting with their backs to the Chair. They should gently walk out and carry on discussion not even in the lobby here but go out to the Central Hall until provision is made for hon. Members to go anywhere else for this purpose. The Central Hall is now used for that purpose. We have also put up two lounges so that they might allow other Members who want to read and study there. They must adjust themselves....

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Some of the Ministers are worse.

**Mr. Speaker:** Whenever an hon. Member or an hon. Minister speaks, let us hear him and ultimately you reserve your judgment for yourself.

**Shri Kamath (Hoshangabad):** On a point of order, Sir. I am well aware that you spoke from the depth of your heart. I do not think it is quite fair to most of us here for you to say that only the Prime Minister shows you respect. We have all been doing so, we have all been very respectful to the House and it is very unfair on your part to say that we do not respect you. When I come in and when I go out, I always bow to you.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am very happy. I am not making any general remarks and there is nothing particular to me. After all we are setting an example, and Speakers from various States come here and various members also come here. We now read off and on about the trouble that takes place in other Parliaments where stones are thrown and even revolvers are pointed at one another's heads. Let us not copy it. Let us by our outstanding example show to the rest of the world what we have been doing. I am not accusing any hon. Member but I find some of them come and go as if this is a general platform where anybody may come and go.

**Shri Kamath:** You will appreciate, Sir, how your earlier remarks have hurt many of us who, you said are lacking in respect for the Chair.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am always aware that Shri Kamath is very particular.

**Shri Kamath:** My hon. friends here may also be included.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members will now kindly hear what the hon. Minister has to say. Let them listen with patience.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** Travancore-Cochin State's Supplementary Grants for the year 1956-57 have, accordingly, to be dealt with by the Parliament.

The Travancore-Cochin Budget was passed by Parliament, and now this is the first batch of Supplementary Demands: they are very small ones. If the hon. Members look into the book of the Supplementary Demands already circulated, they will find that these Demands involve an additional expenditure of only Rs. 11.58 lakhs, comprising Rs. 11.54 lakhs on Revenue Account distributed over three Demands, and Rs. 4,000 only on Capital Account in two Demands. Of these, Rs. 23,000 in Demand No. IX and Rs. 3,500 in Demand No. XXXVI represent expenditure, which is 'charged' on the Consolidated Fund of Travancore-Cochin under articles 322 and 202(3) (e) of the Constitution respectively. The main item is a Demand of Rs. 11.12 lakhs for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State. As the State Government have yet to clear these schemes with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the voting of the Demand does not imply that the Central Government are committed for giving assistance to that extent. The other two important items are Rs. 23,000 for the additional requirements of the State Public Service Commission and Rs. 19,000 for the opening up of the Primary Health Units in the State.

The Travancore-Cochin Budget passed by Parliament in the last session provided for a gross expenditure of Rs. 41.82 crores and for Recoveries Rs. 9.04 crores, that is, a net expenditure of Rs. 32.78 crores. The additional amount of Rs. 11.58 lakhs now asked for does not necessarily mean an excess over the amount budgeted for the year as it may be more than covered by the savings under other grants.

It will be seen therefore that the Demands to be voted are very small ones. One is for Rs. 11.12 lakhs for the improvement schemes in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I think that no hon. Member from Travancore-Cochin or from the Opposition will object to these Demands being granted.

I would also appeal to the Members that no policy question can be discussed on the Supplementary Demands because they were voted at the time of the passing of the Travancore-Cochin Budget, as is the convention of the House.

The footnotes appended show very clearly and in details why these Supplementary Demands have become necessary.

There is only one item which is new; we have asked for a token Demand of Rs. 100, which is for office buildings at three places and residential buildings there. It is proposed to spend Rs. 110 lakhs during the year, but we have asked for a token grant of Rs. 100 only because it is expected that out of the savings, all these sums will be spent. I hope the House will agree with these Demands.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** In the explanatory speech that the hon. Minister just now delivered. I am of opinion, that he has not placed the true picture of the Demands before the House. He said that only two or three demands are there and the amount involved is not much and so the House should not grudge to grant those Demands. But, Sir, there is a very major Demand. Although a

token Demand for Rs. 100 is made, it is a very major Demand, and it relates to Demand No. 37. I will come to that later on.

I approach these demands in the light of the criticism made by the expert, Dr. Appleby, in his report recently circulated to the hon. Members. He has said that the simplest way in which the Parliament can reverse its influence on administration from a negative one to a positive one, would be for it to stop looking for things to criticise but to begin looking for things to praise. I am going to adopt this approach. I congratulate the present Government of Travancore-Cochin for the bold and imaginative step it has taken in undertaking the works covered by Supplementary Demand relating to the original Demand—No. 37. I must say that the Adviser has shown drive and initiative in the scheme that he has put forward for the construction of civil stations in the State. There were not suitable buildings to house public offices and because of expansion in Government activities, proper accommodation has been a long-felt need. There has been deplorable lack of accommodation in the principle towns of the State. I have great pleasure in supporting this as it is a step in the right direction. There has been some criticism in the Press by certain leading public men that the construction of these buildings is intended to squander away public money. I do not subscribe to that view and I think it is an ill-founded criticism. From the reports appearing in the newspapers, when the foundation-stones were laid for the construction of these civil stations, it is gathered that there are as many as 53 offices in Kottayam itself; a good many of them are in rented buildings. I understand that 34 public offices can be accommodated in the building when the construction is complete. It is also intended to bring in all district offices and sub-divisional offices to one and the same building. Seven types of buildings are contemplated for residential purposes for the staff of the various offices. In Quilon, there are

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52 Government offices scattered all over the town. The present district office building, I understand, incorporates as many as 29 offices. Though the expenditure involved is large, I do not think that the policy that has been adopted will be questioned by this House.

There is an additional factor also based on which I will support this. It has been stated that, although there are several development projects all over the country and crores are being spent in various parts, as far as my part of the country is concerned, the expenditure is comparatively low. Because of that, the purchasing power of the people is lessened. There have been inflationary tendencies in other parts of the country. But, the injection of purchasing power, as far as my State is concerned, has been comparatively inadequate. Schemes such as these have to be started to solve the acute problem of general unemployment.

Having said that, I should emphasise another aspect that, in bringing forward this Demand at this very late stage, the Government has shown scant courtesy to this House. The Budget for that State was passed on 15-5-56—I think, towards the close of the last session. After having passed that Budget, where we went back to our constituencies, we were confronted with an invitation by the Chief Secretary to the Government of Travancore-Cochin that our presence was required for the foundation-stone laying ceremony of one or other of these civil stations. It has been an agreeable surprise; all the same, it was a surprise. Although only a token Demand has been moved in this House, the expenditure involved is as much as Rs. 110 lakhs. According to the calculations made, the expenditure for the construction of civil stations comes to about Rs. 82 lakhs, of which only Rs. 70 lakhs will be spent during the current year and the balance of Rs. 40 lakhs is for the construction of police quarters. The total Demand granted by this House

on 15-5-56 on capital account for civil works was Rs. 293 lakhs or near-about. This Supplementary Demand comes to more than one-third of that amount. It cannot be that these schemes were thought of and sanctioned after the passing of the Budget on 15-5-56. The Government had these schemes in view. The reports are that soon after the Adviser took charge, he saw this lack of accommodation and he wanted his officers to prepare schemes immediately. That is all very good. Having prepared the schemes, before launching them—the amount involved is more than one-third of the entire capital Budget for civil works—the sanction of the House ought to have been taken. This House is now faced with a fait accompli. I vehemently oppose the manner in which this House has been treated in this connection.

In the last para on page 9 of the booklet given to us, we find that it is considered as a 'New Service' and correctly so. It is expenditure on the construction of great and important buildings. It reads here:

"A sum of Rs. 6 lakhs has been advanced from the Contingency Fund in G. P. No.....dated 19-6-56."

If this amount has been taken from the Contingency Fund as late as 19th June 1956, one thing is sure that the schemes have been sanctioned before the end of the last session. If it was not before the end of the last session, if the amount was taken on 19-6-1956, what was the hurry? Cannot it have waited for two or three weeks more? I deprecate this tendency. It is clear that this Adviser's rule or whatever it is, would continue so far as the State of Kerala is concerned, for some more time and I hope this will not be repeated.

I would now pass on to make certain other observations. In the last para on page 9, it is stated:

"This amount and the further amounts required immediately for

implementing the scheme can be found by reappropriation of savings and a token vote alone is now required."

What does it indicate? Out of Rs. 293 and odd lakhs which we had sanctioned for capital civil works during the last session, as much as Rs. 110 lakhs will now be taken for this purpose. Necessarily you will have to cut down various other items which have been included in the items of civil works. There are very important urban and rural water-supply schemes included in this sub-head 81—Capital Account. There are also drainage schemes and important building programmes. So I wish to express the anxiety that the Members, especially from that State, feel in the statement that has been made, that this amount will be found by reappropriation of savings. I am aware of the fact that in the broadcast speech of the Adviser on the 15th August, 1956, he has tried to allay the fears of the public in these matters, because fears have been expressed, that if several lakhs are spent on these things what will be left for the other schemes which have been included in the Second Five Year Plan and also included in the budget for the current year. He has said that not a single scheme—this is what he said in substance—included in the Five Year Plan, and for which sanction has been given, will be affected by this step that has been taken by the present Government. But I would request an assurance from the Finance Minister or from the Home Minister, when they reply to this discussion, that funds will not be lacking for any scheme that has been included in the Second Five Year Plan and for which provision has been made in the budget.

Sir, I think it may not be difficult for the Government to find amounts although they have not been included in the budget for the current year. The Kerala State will come into existence on the 1st of November, 1956. Kerala State is a new State among other some such States according to the States Reorganisation Bill which

we have passed. On the coming into force of the new Act, the budget that we have sanctioned on the 15th May will naturally lapse. But, according to clause 71 of the States Reorganisation Bill, it is provided:

"In the case of every new State, the Governor, or Rajpramukh of the corresponding State may at any time before the appointed day authorise such expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the new State as he deems necessary for any period not extending beyond the 31st day of March, 1957."

So it is open to the Rajpramukh in this particular case to authorise any expenditure which has to be incurred before the 31st day of March, 1957, and it is also open to the new person who comes to occupy the post of the Governor to make allotment, because according to the proviso to that clause it is provided:

"Provided that the Governor of the new State may, after the appointed day, authorise such further expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of the State as he deems necessary for the said period."

The object with which I invite the attention of this House to this provision is this. Because of the diversion of funds to this particular item, provision has to be made in the budget that would be prepared by the present Rajpramukh or by the new Governor for the various schemes that have been drawn up for the Second Five Year Plan.

The object with which these civil stations and residential quarters is proposed to be constructed has been narrated in the explanatory memorandum that has been circulated by the Minister. The hon. Minister also referred to it in passing, while explaining the object of these Grants. According to the explanatory memorandum you will find that under residential quarters the programme is to construct about 300 houses under seven different categories to suit the

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requirements of all grades of officers from the Collector down to the last grade Government servant. The number of buildings earmarked for the non-gazetted public servants is about 200 out of the total number of 300. Sir, it has been the general experience—and that has been a subject matter of complaint in this House—that even in the matter of construction of residential quarters for Central Government employees, the people who really get preference are the gazetted officers and high-salaried officers, but with regard to non-gazetted officers and low-paid staff proper attention is not given. They have to wait for years to get the necessary accommodation. That tendency, I am afraid, is also indicated in this, because out of 300 houses, 100 houses will go to gazetted officers and for the non-gazetted officers, low-paid staff, chaprasis, clerks, typists and others, only 200 houses will be available. That means only a percentage of the Government servants in the lower strata will get accommodation under this scheme. I should like to emphasise that, as far as possible, it must be the policy of the Government to find accommodation for the low-paid staff before they find accommodation even for the Collector, I should say.

Another aspect I would like to emphasise when this Demand is being discussed is, whether proper attention has been paid to the architectural side. We have to bear in mind a long range plan when we spend such huge amounts for construction of these civil stations. As far as I am able to gather from this note, except with regard to one item, what is contemplated is to construct these quarters and office buildings in already crowded localities. What we have to bear in mind is, even if it is a town, the growth and expansion of the town. As far as possible, in the construction of these civil stations and other important buildings, what the Government has to see is

to have new townships and have these constructions in the suburbs of these towns. But what has been done? Both in Quilon and in Kottayam the scheme is to construct these buildings in already crowded localities. I am glad that a departure has been made in the case of the construction of district quarters for Trichur. There it is seen that the idea is to have them in a village—Ayyanthol by name—and acquire 30 to 40 acres of land to provide for the construction of these buildings. That is a very healthy venture, I should say, and I think that policy ought to have been adopted in the case of the civil stations both at Quilon and Kottayam.

When I emphasise on the aspect of having these constructions in the suburbs and to build up new townships, I have the case, particularly, of the town which is situated in my constituency, namely, Ernakulam town. You will find, Sir, that provision has been made for the construction of police quarters in Ernakulam also. My information is that Rs. 2 lakhs or something like that is intended to be spent for renovation of the A.R. quarters in the Ernakulam town. These buildings are situated by the side of the Shanmukham Road, the principal road of the Ernakulam town. There have been some temporary buildings put up there during the time of war. On that very same site new buildings have come up. I had this complaint against the Government of Travancore-Cochin. I said that they ought not to renovate those buildings and have permanent structures put up there in the place of the temporary sheds. It is an elementary principle which we have to bear in mind when we launch upon a new big construction scheme in a town, that it should not hinder the healthy growth of the town. The town must be in a position to breathe freely.

**Shri Velayudhan:** From the police atmosphere.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** If that is the sense that my friend can follow from what I said, especially after his recent visits to several foreign countries, I do not know what benefit he has acquired from those visits. What I wish to emphasise is this. When new constructions are sought to be made, we must see to the proper development of the town in which these new buildings are sought to be constructed.

There is another point which I want to emphasise. I want to know, in this connection, whether proper attention has been given, when the Adviser drew up these schemes, to the most congested areas of Travancore-Cochin. I am aware of the fact that the object with which these schemes have been prepared is to have the buildings constructed at the district headquarters. I wish to know from the Government whether the present Travancore-Cochin Government has borne in mind the fact that there are certain towns where although they are not district headquarters, there is greater overcrowding than in headquarter towns and which are more important than the headquarter towns. I refer to towns like Mattancherry and Ernakulam. Ernakulam is a town which is more than a district headquarter. It is the seat of the High Court; it is the seat of the District Court. There are several magistrates' courts and munsiffs' courts also there. Besides, there are several offices of the Central Government as well as offices of the State Government in that town. I fail to understand why a town to which top-most priority should have been given in the matter of construction of a civil station has been totally ignored. If at all there is any town in Travancore-Cochin to which more attention has to be given in the matter of building construction, it is Ernakulam. But that town has been ignored in the schemes that have been drawn up by the Adviser.

I would like to say only a few words with regard to the other items that have been placed before the House. One demand which is of considerable importance, as has been pointed out by the hon. Minister, is the demand relating to the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I wholeheartedly support the schemes that have been brought by the Government. But I wish to tell the House one important aspect with regard to this matter. With regard to the schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes, one finds that the Government has not been vigilant in the matter of spending the money already granted. It is found from page 6 of the Explanatory Memorandum that a grant of Rs. 1.5 lakhs was also sanctioned by the Central Government, but that, as the scheme was pending finalisation, it could not be implemented last year and the Government of India have now been requested to renew the sanction for the grant in 1956-57. So, although there was a central grant for the year 1955-56, and although it was sanctioned late, the fact remains that the sanction was there for 1955-56; all the same, the Government were not able to spend the sanctioned allotment. What I want to emphasise is that this sort of implementation should not be repeated in the case of the grants which we are now discussing.

Again, in the distribution of the various projects for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Government will have to see that the projects are distributed on an equitable basis throughout the State. One area or one particular district alone should not be allowed to have the benefit in this respect.

With regard to the schemes for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, I understand from the Explanatory Memorandum that the recommendations of the Mackay Committee which was appointed by the Travancore-Cochin Government have been accepted and that the plans have been prepared accordingly. It is found that these schemes



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will not only benefit the tribal people but also the areas which are not now revenue-yielding, as far as the Travancore-Cochin State is concerned, because, some of the projects which are going to be started now are in places which are not revenue-yielding. There is scope for increasing the revenue from these projects, so that there could be a double advantage. The State as well as the tribal people will be benefited. But one aspect may kindly be borne in mind and that has been emphasised in the report of the Mackay Committee also, namely, the increasing necessity of forest and water conservation and the strict suppression of timber theft and shifting cultivation. These aspects should be borne in mind when these schemes are implemented. I understand that an Advisory Committee has also been constituted to supervise the working of these schemes. The Advisory Committee, I believe, will bear in mind the recommendations of the Mackay Committee.

I shall now refer to the demand under Public Health. I do not dispute the necessity of converting the dispensaries into public health units. It is a step in the right direction. But I wish to emphasise one fact. In the last budget speech of the Finance Minister of the Travancore-Cochin State it was stated as follows at page 25:—

“The National Filariasis Control Programme is to be continued next year, with five control units and two survey units. Only one control unit is now functioning”.

The problem of filariasis, as far as the Travancore-Cochin State is concerned, is something which has got to receive the topmost priority in any health scheme of that Government. But I find that although some attention has been paid to this aspect by the Central Government, the main responsibility vests with the State Government and I am afraid

they have not discharged that responsibility. There is a branch office of the Malaria Institute of India functioning in my constituency. When I visited that office when I went to that place last time, I was able to find hundreds of people flocking to that office daily. A very causal survey that has been made in the town and in the neighbouring places reveals that as much as 75 to 80 per cent of the people in that locality are suffering from filariasis. Even then, proper attention has not been paid to this subject.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member has taken 30 minutes.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I shall finish with one more point. In the first Five Year Plan, one control unit as well as two survey units were sanctioned. I understand that owing to the unwillingness of the State Government to pay proper salaries to those who may be recruited, it has not been possible to get the necessary personnel for running these units. There is no use of sanctioning the units if you do not find the proper personnel. In the Second Five Year Plan, three control units have been sanctioned, and I understand that the necessary number of doctors have not been recruited. So, I will invite the attention of the Home Ministry to this fact that as far as schemes on public health are concerned, it is not enough if you lay down the schemes on paper; action has to be taken. The necessary personnel have to be recruited and proper salaries should be given to the doctors who are recruited. Then only you will be in a position to implement the schemes.

1 P.M.

With these observations, I support the demands placed before the House.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members may indicate what cut motions they are moving.

**Shri Punnoose (Alleppey):** I am moving all of them.

**Shri Velayudhan:** I have given notice of 3 cut motions; I am moving all of them.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair** (Quilon cum Mavelikkara): I am moving all my cut motions.

**Mr. Speaker:** All the eight cut motions on the Order Paper may be moved. I will call Mr. Punnoose now; I will call the hon. lady Member next. I will give 15 minutes to each.

**Shri Punnoose:** From 30 minutes, the limit has come down to 15 minutes; it is rather sudden.

**Mr. Speaker:** Mr. Thomas has spokep for all; there is no party spirit in this. There are three more hon. Members.

*Public Health Department in Travancore-Cochin State*

**Shri Punnoose:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,000 in respect of 'Public Health' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Labour problem in Travancore-Cochin State*

**Shri Punnoose:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,12,000 in respect of 'Labour and Miscellaneous' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Disapproval of Policy regarding new scheme put forward by Travancore-Cochin Government with regard to office buildings and residential quarters.*

**Shri Punnoose:** I beg to move.

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Civil Works' be reduced to Re. 1."

*Functioning of, and conditions in, the Hospitals in Travancore-Cochin*

**Shri Velayudhan:** I beg to move.

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,000 in respect of 'Public Health' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Schemes for welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State.*

**Shri Velayudhan:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,12,000 in respect of 'Labour and Miscellaneous' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Disapproval of Policy regarding works undertaken for construction of office buildings.*

**Shri Velayudhan:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Civil Works' be reduced to Re. 1."

*Inadequacy of measures suggested in schemes*

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 11,12,000 in respect of 'Labour and Miscellaneous' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Disapproval of Policy regarding schemes which involve great wastage.*

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 100 in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Civil Works' be reduced to Re. 1."

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

**Shri Punnoose:** All the time Mr. Thomas was speaking, I was trying to see whether I can also take up the note of praise, as he has done, but

[Shri Punnoose]

Mr. Thomas himself had given up that tempo of praise and come down to the plane of criticism. He criticised the way in which some of the demands have been put before the House. I will follow one example set by him; I will take the last demand first and after that the other demands.

1-03 P.M.

[SHRIMATI SUSHAMA SEN in the Chair]

Rs. 1 crore are going to be spent on the construction of buildings required for the District Headquarters and Civil and Police Lines and we are asked to vote a token demand of Rs. 100. This new service business, as it is described, has been brought in a very surreptitious manner—excuse me for saying so—with the deliberate intention of not giving an occasion to the Parliament to discuss it. This House or any House which can claim to represent the people has to discuss the principle and the policy behind it. Here the new service comes; the Government are already committed to it and we are asked to okay it. Where can we discuss it? Where is the occasion to discuss the whole principle? They are going to build huge constructions for civil offices and also residential quarters for the Government servants. There is nothing wrong in it; but, to accept it as something very axiomatic and being clear in itself is completely wrong. Mr. Thomas was asking for such a building in Ernakulam; I wish his request is granted. But, what has happened today? This has created a great amount of apprehension in the public mind and there have been criticisms from all round.

We also would like to have handsome buildings and residential quarters for the Government servants, especially those who are low-paid. But, what is now being undertaken is the construction of huge buildings which, according to me, will be unpardonable for the Government of our State to undertake at the present juncture. If sense of priority and proportion is the hall-mark of wisdom, I am afraid

somebody there is suffering very much from the lack of it. For a State with a total yearly revenue of Rs. 19 crores, to spend off-hand without consulting and getting the principle approved by a representative body Rs. 1 crore and more on buildings—it is not also included in the Five Year Plan—is something very improper, according to me. On my part, I do not like these big buildings; I think it would be much better if we have small beautiful buildings. Mr. Rau the present adviser, seems to belong to the old school and having been accustomed seeing these big buildings, perhaps he wants to have a replica of them, what we may call, Rau's memorial and memorials of the President's rule in our State where unemployment is rampant and all sorts of problems baffle the people and the Government. I think this ought to have been taken up only after sometime after certain things have been done. For instance, Mr. Thomas was speaking about health services. There is a complaint from all over that there is no proper medicine and only a meagre quantity of medicine is available in any of the hospitals, including the General Hospital. It has been published in responsible papers and referred to by responsible spokesmen. We have to look into that matter. Then, we have got a large number of schools. It may be news to the Minister that almost every year during the rains, one or two buildings collapse and two or three children die. Mr. Rau, or anybody who is responsible, should look to those things first, before thinking of raising huge constructions. Not that we should not have huge buildings, but we shall have them after sometime, after looking into more important things.

Then, there is the question of building new industries and putting the existing industries on a healthy basis. All these things had to be done before the construction of huge buildings can be undertaken.

We are against constructing houses for high-salaried officers. If an officer

is paid some handsome salary, some private owner, who has spent some money and built a house, will get a reasonable rent from the officer. Why should big sums of money be spent on building houses for Collectors and others? It is entirely wrong to compare the conditions existing in a small State like Travancore-Cochin with the all-India services. Here a large number of the officers, 99 per cent of them, never belong to this particular area; they come from far-off places. But in our State, a huge percentage of officers and others in the lower services come from areas nearabout; they can stay in their own houses. I know a large number of officers and Government employees residing in the house of somebody related to them and economising in that way. Therefore, this expenditure on raising buildings, especially for high-salaried officers, is not justified; I totally oppose it. The whole thing has to be looked into and discussed threadbare as to what type of buildings we should have, to what type of officers they should be allotted etc. To have buildings for Government offices scattered here and there in the town is not proper. A public office means a small township developing around it automatically. To have all the public offices collected in one place means....

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member will address the Chair.

**Shri Punnoose:** I wanted to impress on the Minister.

Therefore, to have all these government offices in one place cannot be considered as a very urgent necessity. I believe, the Government will take note of the criticisms coming from all sections of the House in the matter.

I want to speak a few words about the other Demands briefly. On Demand No. IX, "General Administration", I would like to ask one question and I hope I will get a reply from the Minister. It is almost six months now since the Government has been working according to the budget which we passed a few months back. I would

like to know what is the position today. What about the money we have allotted? How much have they spent? I am not asking this question for the sake of asking a question for it is a well-known fact that there every year large sums of money allotted for public expenditure lapse at the end of the year. In 1952-53, according to the Audit Report, almost 15 to 18 per cent of the entire allotment lapsed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how much of the allotted money has been spent there and whether the Government there, the adviser's regime, is only performing the formality in parliamentary practice by putting in these Demands, Supplementary Demands, and going on spending as they choose. I would naturally expect the Minister to reply whether these Supplementary Demands are really out of necessity, whether the amounts allotted are being spent and whether at the end of the year, as in the past, big amounts will lapse.

With regard to the "General Administration", I know this is not the occasion to discuss the principle or the policy as such, here it is stated that additional staff is needed and to pay them amount under this Demand is needed. We are told that when the Adviser took charge, he held a press conference where he stated that he was going to do one or two very important things. One was that he was going to fight corruption and root it out. Secondly, he said he was gearing up the administration and bring it into par with the required standards. I would like to know how things stand now and how far the gearing up has progressed.

A number of officers have been imported from outside the State. On principle I do not object to the necessary experts being got from outside the State for our States are only for administrative convenience and India is one and whenever necessary we should bring them. Mr. Bombawale was taken there. Even our Ministers paid him a compliment by saying that he was one of the best in India to

[Shri Punnoose]

fight corruption etc. Then they have got a Joint Adviser and then some experts have also been brought in. They were all talking of the anti-corruption activities. I am talking of the gearing up for which money is asked now. They said they are going to prosecute people against whom corruption has been alleged. I would like to know what the present situation is. Articles and statements came in various papers with regard to the large-scale corrupt practices like the cutting of timber from Government reserve forest worth crores of rupees. Mr. Sivadas gave facts and figures, data in papers and it caused a flutter and the Joint Adviser stated that he is going to take drastic steps. Now we are told that all this is going to end in a departmental enquiry. Everybody who knows the history of the departmental enquiry in that State knows that a departmental enquiry there means the exoneration of the culprit and much more additional expenditure for the Government treasury. I request the hon. Minister to take up this question of corruption earnestly, look into the case and order a public enquiry with regard to this timber business.

Then it was stated that the records of many officers are being looked into and many corrupt practices have come to the notice of the Adviser. People expected much and there was lot of press conferences, publicity statements etc. After all this labour the proverbial rat has come out. Now what has happened is that a peon of the University Office has been arrested. This is what has happened. The Adviser, the Joint Adviser, the experts and the gearing up of the administration to root out corruption has ended in the arrest of a peon in the University Office. I am also told that a teacher somewhere—I do not exactly remember the details—has been suspended in connection with the leakage of question papers. Big things go unnoticed and only small people are caught with the result that a feeling is created in the people that Rau's

Government is working with an eye on the coming elections. I would like to know whether Government are going to take these things seriously and to find out the culprits and to bring them to book for so much of public money has been squandered and so much has been stolen. Government should take very strong steps in these matters.

Demand No. XIX is about public health and primary health units. I need not repeat that the condition of public health services in the State is very unsatisfactory and the establishment of these primary health units will be very welcome. But what happens is that in areas where they are most required, they are not given. As Mr. Thomas has stated, in the coastal areas of the State, people suffer from filaria and other diseases. But nothing has been done in the case of Ernakulam and other places. These units should work throughout the State and I would only be too happy if larger amounts are allotted for that.

Then there is Demand No. XXV "Miscellaneous Departments A. Labour and Emigration (d) Development Schemes" and Demand No. XXXVI "Capital Outlay on Industrial Development (c) Miscellaneous—Acquisition of lands to be leased out to Industrial Concerns" etc. Then, in Demand No. XXXVI, the demand is only for Rs. 3,500. Am I to understand that they could not find the money from the other allotments? They have found it possible to get large amounts for these new services by making changes here and there in the original allotment. This sum of Rs. 3,500 could easily be found.

Shri A. M. Thomas: It has been spent from the Contingency Fund. The amount will have to be put in there.

Shri Punnoose: This amount of Rs. 3,500 is to be replaced now. Taking the condition of the industries and the labour situation in the State, we would have expected the Government

to place a demand for a larger amount to solve some of the very important problems. For example, after the discussion of the last Budget of the State a few months back, the situation has not improved. On the other hand, the labour situation has become more acute. Our position in regard to industries has also become more unsatisfactory. It is well known to everybody that in the cashew industry, there is a great slump or unemployment. Factories have been closed and 50,000 workers are now out of employment. This is a big problem. I was looking into the demands to see whether any amount is demanded to meet that situation. Also there is the case of the coir industry. That has been in a chronic crisis for several years now. Nothing has been done. Every month, the number of unemployed increases. We expected that a new demand would have been made to improve that industry. But, it has not been done. We would make this an occasion to request the Minister to look into all these matters immediately and do something that would give relief to the people immediately.

I have not much more to say with regard to these demands. The more important thing is this. There is a growing feeling among the people that, in spite of the hopes that the Adviser's regime tried to raise in the beginning, they do not stand to gain anything, but that under the Adviser's regime, things are becoming worse and the Central Government is not paying any attention to the big problems that confront the State. I wish that these problems are attended to by the Ministry.

1-22 P.M.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

There is a demand for capital outlay. I would request the Minister to look into the industrial problem. There are certain Government-run industries in that State. The condition of all these industries is far from satisfactory. Most of these industries, for example, ply-wood, rubber factory, ceramics, have been running at a loss.

Every year, the loss is recurring. Who is responsible for this? The Chief Secretary and certain other Secretaries are running them. Just now, I saw a copy of a press release given by Shri M. C. Shah when he visited the State. He said that some expert should be asked to go into these industries. My hon. friend Shri Matthen would be happy that Government industries are going to dogs because he always complains, why nationalisation.

**Shri Matthen** (Thiruvellah): I protest.

**Shri Punnoose**: It would appear that men of his frame of mind are managing these industries in order to ridicule and condemn the very idea of nationalisation.

**Shri Matthen**: I advocated nationalisation of insurance for the last three years.

**Shri Punnoose**: I hope he will stick to that. It is a good page that he is turning.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker**: No promise for continuance.

**Shri A. M. Thomas**: Fight between uncle and nephew.

**Shri Punnoose**: Yes; my Congress uncle.

All these industries have to be immediately looked into and put on a sound basis.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene** (Trivandrum): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I take this opportunity to review the Presidential rule in Travancore-Cochin State. It started five months back. For the period, I am glad to admit that the Presidential rule has proved much better than its predecessor Government though it may have many defects in it. I support these grants, with a few remarks.

As an administrator, the representative of the President ought to have looked into the fundamental problems confronting the common man today. Ever since the Presidential rule has begun, the prices especially of

[Kumari Annie Mascarene]

the food commodities have risen very high, almost to the ceiling prices. The conditions of war days as far as food prices are concerned, are returning. I wish to ask the Home Minister whether his Ministry has taken any steps to bring down prices or to enquire into the rise of prices in the State. Rice has gone up in price. When rice goes up in price, all other commodities go up and the poor man finds it a problem to live in that State. Rice has been coming from other States. Now that the Kerala State is taking shape, the granary of Travancore-Cochin is slowly passing away from our hands. If now, before it passes, the condition is this, what will be the condition after three or four months, when the Kerala State takes its shape? I feel that the rise in the prices of food commodities is not natural. It is due to exploitation, perhaps, by the Government itself or, if I am not mistaken, by the Central Government's policy of controlling prices.

I am glad that this Government has taken up a grand building scheme. I am not for recommending the construction of very small buildings, though they may be useful to the public. Now that the Second Five Year Plan has come into force and we have had nothing in the First Five Year Plan, it is better that we start to build up the country on a grand scale slowly, but surely. The programme involves a comprehensive scheme of buildings for officers, especially for the police. I request the Government to pay attention to the buildings for officers who receive a small pay. The policemen, especially in the Travancore-Cochin State, have no housing accommodation. From the very small salary that they receive, they have to house themselves in the cities. This leads them to corruption, to persecuting the poor man. If they are given a proper salary, if they are given housing accommodation, I feel that the administration of the Travancore-Cochin State will have a better and higher morale.

I have to invite the attention of the Government to one or two facts which are rather disquieting. I have been visiting the hospitals recently. There is an amount here for public health. To my great dismay I have noticed a certain change in the phase, not in the face but in the phase, of patients. I walked from one end of the hospital to the other, especially the hospital for women and children, and I noticed there is only one kind of stereotyped patients. They are either small children in the hospital or women suffering uniformly from uterine diseases and no other patients. A year ago I had visited the hospital and noticed it was full and overflowing with all kinds of diseases, patients of all kinds. but now there is only one single stereotyped disease treated in the hospital and only children of a particular age and nobody else. I ask the representative of the Home Ministry whether the doctors are eating up the patients or the patients are going out to some other world. Where are they? I am representing that city. I have a right to ask you what is happening to the patients. This is not a foundation for a lasting Government, nor a lasting society.

With regard to nepotism in the State, I thought that when Presidential rule came into existence all the nepotism that existed under the Congress Government, the corruption and degeneration would come to a stop. I must admit that the Rau Government started quite all right. There was a scheme to fight corruption. It was working very well and the people in the City had told me that they were more satisfied with the Rau Government than with its predecessor. But recently I have been listening to appointments and promotions being given without any sound principle. I request the Home Ministry to look into the matter. Even if you do not practise it at the Centre, please see that it is practised in Travancore-Cochin State which is such a crowded

and poor State where the people are suffering so much.

**Shri Matthen:** Can the hon. lady Member cite one or two instances of nepotism after the Rau administration—concrete cases, not a general observation?

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** One Mr. Alexander's nephew was holding a small office, and he has now been promoted to a much higher office not due to him. I ask you to go and enquire and if you have any influence with your party Government to see that he is removed.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** He is the Central Deputy Secretary's brother-in-law.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Perhaps related by kith and kin to Shri Matthen himself.

**Shri Matthen:** That is all.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I am here to speak. The hon. Member is not to dictate.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member wanted one instance and that has been given.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** That one instance is degenerating to the Member himself.

**Shri Matthen:** I protest.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member shall not go into personal references. The hon. Member only wanted an instance. He doubted whether any nepotism had taken place. When she had made that point, she ought to have been content with that, that she has scored a point, and not go into personal matters.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I submit to your ruling, but the hon. Member has no business to provoke me more by probing into another instance. He is in Travancore himself; he can go and enquire.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Chair has answered that point. Why should the lady Member get provoked over a trifle?

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I was speaking about the corruption here. It was not quite so bad as it was in the Congress Government's days. It had much improved, but recently some interested Members of Parliament have been going and influencing the present Administrator, and when you go twice, thrice and four times, of course the Administrator is forced to concede and that is how now corruption is getting into that Government.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** May I point out that this is not the general discussion of the budget because there are only three Supplementary Demands and they are being debated here. So, I would very humbly draw your attention to this fact.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. lady Member and also the other Members who are called subsequently will kindly bear that in mind.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I have not taken so much time as my predecessor. Yet, as there is no legislature in Travancore-Cochin State and we are the only accredited representatives of that State, if we cannot speak out what the State wants to the Central Government, I wonder how we can.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. That is all right that the State has no legislature of its own, but we will discuss as the things come to us. We cannot be irrelevant simply because there is no legislature. What we have got today that we might discuss this day. When we get the next item, then we can discuss that. Therefore, hon. Members have to be relevant.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I submit to the Chair.

Then I wish to invite the attention of the Government to the unemployment problem. It is good that they have started buildings.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** On a point of order. No question of policy can be discussed on these Supplementary Demands.



**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I was just saying with regard to the building schemes and the unemployment problem. I wonder how the Minister can interfere in my placing before.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We should confine ourselves to the items that we have got before us.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** There is a Demand for buildings.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Demand for buildings is there and the additional Demand can be questioned as to why it has arisen, but not the policy or the question of making grants because the grants have already been made during the original Budget. Therefore, the present discussion should be confined to that additional sum, and why it has become necessary now to ask for supplementary sums, unless there is a new Demand or a new item.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I am not going to any new Demand nor am I going outside the sphere. I am just repeating what my predecessors have spoken with regard to buildings.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sorry, if there had been a lapse on my part, that should not be repeated.

**Shri Punnoose:** There was no lapse, because this is a new Demand. It is said there.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But the lady Member is giving the argument that she is dealing with a subject which has been dealt with by others. She should say this is relevant so far as this item is concerned.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Also as far as this new policy is concerned, I was going to say that it was a solution for the unemployment problem, and the Minister will not allow me to say it.

**Shri Punnoose:** Because he knows it is not a fact.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** It may be. That is the truth about it.

With regard to the unemployment problem I repeat that the Government today is confronted with 50,000 labourers without work in the cashew-nut industry. Hitherto no step has been taken. Perhaps Government is considering to take some serious step. The fault is not due to the Government itself. It is due to the lack of nuts. We were getting nuts from abroad. Now we are not getting nuts from abroad. The Government would do well to start encouraging the growth of cashew-nut trees in our own State. There are already big cashew-nut estates, but they have not got proper encouragement. If we can pay some attention to them and make them self-sufficient, that would be a good thing. If Government can have a scheme for encouraging the cashew-nut industry, that will be very much welcome, for, in that case, the unemployment problem will not be so grievous in the State as it is today.

On the whole, I must admit that the present administration,—subject to the few remarks that I have offered—is much better than what was there previously, under the previous Government. But if Government can remedy these grievances, bring down the prices, and also put through the building schemes which have already been taken on hand, they can do much better service to the people.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, Shri Matthen.

**Shri Velayudhan:** The main Supplementary Demand for Grant relates to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, as was stated by the Minister himself.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But the hon. Member remained outside the House.

**Shri Velayudhan:** No, I was here.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I could not see the hon. Member in his seat.

**Shri Velayudhan:** I was here.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I can see that he was not here. Now, I have called Shri Matthen. Perhaps, the

hon. Member will now have to wait much longer than he feared.

**Shri Matthen:** I am sorry the hon. lady member made some personal remarks. The other day the Speaker remarked that Members of the Treasury Benches should be dignified in their remarks.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I must point out that that objection was taken by the Chair itself. Now, that should not be referred to.

**Shri Matthen:** I have only to say that I have nothing to do with that person, nor have I got any relationship with him. This is the first time that I am hearing about it.

The hon. lady Member complained that after the Adviser's regime, the prices of foodgrains have been going up. But that is not a special feature of Travancore-Cochin only. The prices of foodgrains have been going up in other places as well.

So far as the development of the cashew-nut industry is concerned, that is really a genuine thing which must be taken up without delay. I understand that the Second Five Year Plan has got a scheme for the development of the cashew-nut industry and cashew-nut plantations not only in Travancore-Cochin, but all over India, so that we may be independent of the foreign nuts.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** In the next generation.

**Shri Matthen:** My communist cousin, on the other side, was in Travancore-Cochin for nearly two months recently, and I am really surprised at the incorrect statements that he has made here, in spite of that.

In the first place, he said that there was an increasing feeling of dissatisfaction among the people over the Adviser's regime. Only yesterday, I was reading a leading article in one of the most important daily newspapers of Madras, namely *The Mail*, to the effect that there is widespread satisfaction among the people over

the President's rule in Travancore-Cochin.

**Some Hon. Members:** In Madras.

**Shri Matthen:** I can tell you this, that I was in my State during June and the major part of July, and every person whom I came across, from top to bottom, was asking me, 'Mathen! can you extend this rule by five years?'

**Shri Punnoose:** That was in order to avoid the Congress.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There can be an honest difference of opinion in judgments about the same thing.

**Shri Matthen:** Then, my hon. friend was saying that corruption was still rampant. If there is one thing on which we have been complimenting the Adviser's regime it is this, namely that the corruption which was rampant in that State for years and years, in almost every department, from the lowest to the highest, the Dewan, has been considerably reduced. It is not merely the fear of conviction, but the fear of God that has gone into the mind of every Government servant, and I know from several people in my constituency and also outside, that corruption has been reduced considerably. I am sure that my hon. cousin must have known about it.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Here, all are cousins and all should be called hon. friends or hon. Members. No special relationship is to be mentioned here.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Blood is thicker than water.

**Shri Matthen:** As for lapse of funds, it is true that there were plenty of lapses in the previous administration. But it is too premature to say that there are lapses in the present administration. It is not that I hold any brief for the Adviser's regime, but I honestly feel that more things have been done in my State during the last five months than even during the last five years. At any

[Shri Matthen]

rate, if we write to them, we get a quick reply, and things are acknowledged immediately. To give you just one instance, I had written to them about the acquiring of some land for the major workshop in Thiruvellah, which is my constituency. That acquisition was being delayed for a long time. But within five days of my writing the letter, I got a reply that it had been taken up and done.

Under Demand No. IX, it has been stated:

"Applications numbering about 46,000 have been received in the Office of the Public Service Commission for admission to the selective tests for clerks and copyists and for recruitment as Conductors and Drivers in the State Transport Department."

I am drawing your attention to this, just to point out that the unemployment problem is so acute in my State that just for a few posts of clerks and copyists, about 46,000 applications have come in. After all, the area of my State is hardly 7,000 square miles or so. In fact, even the area claimed by Bengal from Bihar is perhaps bigger than this. I am saying this just to give you an idea of the smallness of my State.

This acute unemployment problem has been aggravated now by the return of several hundreds of evacuees from Ceylon. They have been compelled to come back from Ceylon. They are bona fide evacuees. I would, therefore, request the Minister to see that some rehabilitation arrangements are made for these poor people. It is no fault of theirs that they had to return. If evacuees from Pakistan can get some relief, I believe, bona fide people who went out of their State to eke out a living, merely on account of the large over-population in my State, but who have now been compelled to return for no fault of theirs, should surely be given some

attention. I would request the Minister to see that rehabilitation measures are undertaken immediately for settling these people, because, otherwise, the problem will become worse.

I am sorry to tell you in this connection that our neighbouring State, where lots of our people have gone and settled down, on account of the great over-population in my State, has now been tagged on to the Western Zone. That has created a lot of anti-Malayalee feeling there. My submission is that my hon. friend who comes from the State must try to see that some of these poor people get some land and settled down there, lest this great danger which we are facing may become a danger to the neighbouring State as well.

I am glad that some grant has been asked for for the construction of hostels for Scheduled Caste students. I would be happier if more attention is paid to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. In fact, they are a typical example of the sins of people like myself. Therefore, it is our duty to help them in every possible way, by making larger allotments. But I have to submit one thing in this connection, and that is that if a Scheduled Caste person changes his religion, immediately he ceases to be a Scheduled Caste, and the amenities and concessions extended to the Scheduled Castes are denied to him; he is not even allowed to live in the hostel meant for the Scheduled Caste students, if he changes his religion.

My information is that the Congress Ministry, while it was in office there, had recommended to the Central Government that these people also, whose condition was in no way better than that of the Scheduled Castes, except that they had changed their religion, should be given the same facilities as were extended to the Scheduled Castes. If my information is correct that such a recommendation has been

made, then, I would request the Minister to pay particular attention to that proposal.

Now, I come to the condition of part-time teachers, who are getting just Rs. 25 a month for no fault of theirs. Even a peon is getting double that amount. There was a question on this subject this morning. I do not want to go further into this subject. I am glad that the hon. Minister also told me that the matter deserved immediate attention. I am sure he will look into it.

I support the Demands.

**Shri Achuthan (Crangannur):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in fact, I do not agree with the statement of Shri Punnoose that after the regime of the President in our State, things have gone from bad to worse. Both the officers who are there are independent officers who come far away from that place. They have got vast experience of administration in different parts of the country, and they are doing their best.

**Shri Punnoose:** is the 10 members aware of the statement made by the Congress chief that the Adviser's regime is only another name for Congress Government?

**Shri Achuthan:** Of course, the Central Government is run by the Congress Party. But that apart, they are trying to do their best within the short time at their disposal. They are trying to get acquainted with the state of affairs there and not a minute is wasted by not looking into the affairs of the State. They are going from place to place and doing their best.

Coming to the Demands, the one which has attracted most attention is the new service under the heading Office buildings. In fact, we cannot object to the construction of buildings for accommodating offices as well as government servants. It cannot be questioned by any stretch of imagination, but, as was expressed, why should the Adviser's regime take this up as the most important question?

We are going to have the Kerala State within a few months and there will be reorganisation of districts and taluks and then you have to see where offices have to be located. So, necessarily, it was not within the province of the Adviser to take this up first. I do not say that buildings are not necessary. They are necessary and essential. But the Adviser is there as a caretaker. Let the representatives be there and let them decide that these are the district offices which should be there and so on. Now Malabar is also going to join Travancore-Cochin. So there was not much hurry for proceeding with this work. More urgent matters ought to have been looked into.

I would have advised that instead of spending Rs. 100 lakhs for these offices, let a school be established in every taluk, a small building being built, where training could be given on technical subjects to a hundred students. We have got 30 or 35 taluks. Let him do it. Nobody will object. If a hundred students in every taluk are trained on technical subjects, that will be a monument to Rau, as was remarked by Shri Punnoose. If this is done, these boys after training in these schools will, within two or three years, go and spread out to the length and breadth of this vast country.

I am not finding fault with the buildings as such. Buildings are necessary. I find that in my district, Trichur, the offices are located in many parts. It is difficult also to function in this way. But this has been going on for the last so many years. So how does it become an urgent matter now to spend Rs. 100 lakhs on this subject? Not only that. There is scarcity of cement and iron and steel. Then what about our irrigation works? If the amount devoted to buildings was devoted to the development of minor irrigation works, within six months we could see in each village or under each panchayat much progress. This is due to the people first. So first things should come first. This should have been attended to by the

[Shri Achuthan]

Adviser first. This is most needed in our part of the country now.

I am not enamoured of these big buildings. We are not up to that. We must build from the bottom. That is our culture. That was the advice that the Father of the Nation gave us. In Travancore, it is almost a city throughout the country. You go anywhere. You find a hundred houses clustered together. Then there is educated unemployment without any facilities available to the people. So all these things should have been looked into. Of course, I am not, in any way, attacking the demand for the time being.

As regards construction of buildings, take, for example, Trichur. I have personal experience in Trichur. Now they are going to build at Ayanthol, two or three miles away. It will have its own bus service extending to the city in all directions. I agree. But as it is, as the office buildings are now situated, it is not at all a crowded area. Cities can have their own vertical expansion. Also, this is not like Calcutta or Bombay, where many of the buildings are three- or five-storeyed. We do not have even two storeys in that area. I know Trichur for a quarter of a century. Shri C. R. Iyyunni also comes from that place.

So I say that the offices are there which can accommodate officers. This can go on for some time. Do not pitch upon that as the most important thing that is needed.

Secondly, I would say that the buildings which are there be given to the low-paid officers. Take Trichur. We have small types of buildings, a good number of them, throughout that town. I know that. Now rich men have started construction, of buildings instead of investing their money on other things. It is an advantage for them to spend money on construction of small buildings fetching rent of Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 a month. With regard to the low-paid officers, e.g. clerks or policemen or other offi-

cers, it is difficult for them to get accommodation. So these can be given to them on rent. There is a programme for five years within which district headquarters will have their own buildings for their low-paid officers.

Moreover, development need not be in one place. Development should be spread all over, east, west, north and south. Each area will have its own township. It will have the facility of bus service and other communications. So there cannot be a particular place where officers' residential quarters are clustered. Of course, when he had been to Trichur, he consulted me, and I told him about it. But that apart, hereafter on the question of construction of buildings, if at all irrigation projects are going to suffer for want of cement and iron and steel, it will be a serious thing. That is my point with regard to the construction of buildings.

Coming to public health matters, I have even now got a number of letters from people there. There are some dispensaries which have been converted into public health units. I do not know if there is anything personal between them, but there is no co-ordination of work between medical and Public health departments. From Narakal in Vypeer, I have got letters from ex-MLAs and other public men, Panchayat Presidents and others. A dispensary was converted into a public health unit. Previously, there were three doctors in attendance. Now two of them have been transferred from there. For the last two or three months, there is only one doctor where there is a daily attendance of 500 outpatients, and the number of inpatients is more than 60. This is the position.

In the Cranganpur hospital—I represent that area—for the last so many months one doctor has been taken away for training under the employees insurance scheme. My point is that if at all Government want to transfer persons from one place to another or send persons for

training, they must make alternative arrangements for attending to the work that is done by them. Otherwise, there will be lots of complaint within a few months and all the good work done by Government in two years or one year will be lost.

We all appreciate the fact that dispensaries are being converted into health centres. But my point is that adequate staff must be provided at these centres to attend to the patients. That ought to be the policy. So this has to be looked into.

Coming to the question of the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, I am proud to say that Travancore and Cochin stand first in India. Shri Velayudhan may not agree with me. But I have been in the Cochin Assembly for more than 12 years. Shri C. R. Iyyunni was one of the Ministers there. We know how during the last so many years the conditions of the Scheduled Castes have been improved. Shri Velayudhan comes from Cochin State. He knows how much interest was taken by the Ministers and the Maharaja to see that the lot of the people was improved. Here I find a number of schemes which are proposed to be started. For example Government propose to start about forty industrial centres. But when Government wants to start these industrial centres, it must see that these centres are started in such places where the Scheduled Caste members are in a majority. There was some time back an attempt at colonisation of the Scheduled Castes according to which the Scheduled Castes who were spread out in all the villages were taken to be settled in one place. The difficulty in such cases is that they have no job; there is no employment for them. In the mornings they have to walk about six or seven miles to their place of work, and do the same distance in the evening to return home. That attempt was not successful and we had dropped it. I would suggest that where the Scheduled Castes are in a majority they should be given all

facilities for training, so that they may be absorbed in some employment after their period of training. Special care should be taken to see that the Scheduled Castes and their brethren are given such training.

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We must at the same time see that the cosmopolitan nature of these training centres are maintained. These centres should not be confined to Scheduled Castes alone; there should be members of other backward classes. The selection should be made in such a way that among the candidates there must be a feeling that they are not an inferior section of the people, that they were born inferior, or live inferior. This feeling will come only by closer contact among themselves. There is also a committee which is in charge of this work. That committee should see that the centres are started in places where the Scheduled Castes are in a majority. By their being given the training the feeling of separateness that exists among them will gradually vanish.

In regard to Scheduled Tribes, an exhaustive report has been made by a committee which went into their conditions. In my constituency at Parambikulam there are some tribal people. The one difficulty I find about them is that even though they are a very active and painstaking people, because of the exploitation of the middlemen, they are in a very poor condition. Their main job is to collect the hill produce; they also carry on agricultural operations in a small way. But the middlemen get the maximum benefit out of their labours, and the tribals themselves get very little. Government must see that this is checked and also see that for what little work they do they are properly paid; their labours must be properly remunerated; their articles must be purchased. The contractors concerned must be given directions to see that these poor people are not hit hard. They have no hospitals, no schools. They live a life of almost solitary confinement. In Parambikulam there

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is vast scope for cultivation; for settlement also. A number of other families of different communities, if they are willing to go there should be taken there. There should be intermingling between different people, so that that settlement may become a model one. This particular aspect should be kept in view while starting institutions for Scheduled Tribes or other backward classes.

I now come to Demand No. 9 relating to the Service Commission. We find that 46,000 people applied for clerk's and conductor's jobs. In fact, when I was in my constituency last June-July, I issued a number of certificates to school final and failed intermediate candidates. My point is that when the selection for conductors is made, care must be taken to see that candidates are not selected from one particular area, but from all places and that regional representation is given adequately. The office of the Commission is in Trivandrum and the candidates are usually called there. But when selection is made it should be seen that representation is given to all regions. Not only that, Government must also see that well qualified applicants like intermediates are not given the posts of conductors in buses, because they can have other avenues, while failed school finals, or persons who have passed only fourth form or fifth form cannot have other avenues of employment. So, some preference should be given to these less qualified candidates for the post of conductors.

It is high time that Government took some measures to tackle the problem of educated unemployment in Travancore-Cochin. Already a committee has reported on this. So some schemes must be worked out to see that the educated men are not left in the lurch. This is a serious problem so far as our State is concerned, and should engage the attention of the Adviser more than any other problem. Nobody going there can shut

his eyes to this serious problem which has got its political, economic and social aspects.

The Adviser who is in charge of the administration of our State was previously in PEPSU. So, you may be interested in hearing what he is doing in our State. Then there is the question of industrial concerns. Some compensation has been given for lands purchased by Government for industrial concerns. I have no objection to that. The Adviser is a man with wide experience in Madhya Pradesh. He must use his personal influence to see that rich people, businessmen, from Bombay and Calcutta and other places are attracted to our State. This is the best opportunity; there is no party clique there. If during the Adviser's regime of six months or twelve months adequate facilities are given to industrialists and they are attracted to our State to start industries, that will be a good thing. These things must get into the imagination of the Adviser. That is the one thing that is wanted there. Unless Travancore-Cochin is industrialised, whether by small scale industries, by handloom, khadi and other village industries, there is no salvation for that State. This is the one thing that must be uppermost in the mind of the Adviser.

Both the Adviser and the Joint Adviser are experienced and capable administrators and I would appeal to them to look into this matter and see that industries are started within a short period of time. Even if a few big industries are set up, we shall be proud that during the President's regime our State became better economically.

**Shri N. Sreekantam Nair:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am sorry I cannot agree with some of the opinions expressed by my hon. friend Shri Achuthan regarding the Adviser's regime. Sir, I had several occasions to meet him and discuss matters with him, but I should say that no concrete step has been taken to solve the important questions concerning the State.

He goes about with a flag in his car; he rushes into the High Court, impairing the sanctity of the High Court; he goes into class-rooms. All sorts of show are made, but nothing serious is done. We have got a dictator in the Adviser. He is a chota Hitler or Mussolini, in a nutshell. He feels that he can do anything.

Before the news of his first Press Conference came in the papers, some pressmen told me that he was going to initiate a huge building programme for the district offices. I told them it could not be; it has not been included in the Second Five Year Plan; Parliament has not approved of it. They told me that he could initiate it, he has got the whole Secretariat in his hands. That is exactly what happened. He started spending money. As has been pointed out by Mr. Thomas he started inaugurating and laying foundations without taking sanctions. What exactly is the whole scheme? What does it boil down to? It is very funny. In Quilon we have got the district headquarters buildings, very solidly and very effectively built with bricks and wood by no less a person than Dewan Velu Thampi of whom most of us have heard. He was the first man to start a rebellion against British Raj in the State. He built it; it is one of the most imposing buildings there. As an accused in criminal cases during the freedom movement and even after that in trade union matters I have had several occasions to go there. We have got a very wide compound with shady trees almost 100 years old standing there. We used to sit there and wait for the convenience of the great judicial or the magisterial officers to call our cases. Then we used to have rest under these trees. These trees have been chopped off to put up heavy buildings. Even parts of the old building have been demolished in order to have a three-storeyed building there. It is a sheer waste of money. It is the fate of the historic building, majestic building built by the first revolutionary in India, the

first man who fought against British Raj and whose body, even after he died was taken to the gallows. It is a very huge two-storeyed building....

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Do you mean to say that it will not continue to remain there?

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** It has been demolished; part of it has already been demolished. You can go to Quilon and see that. I represent Quilon and I am speaking about it. This is being done by the hasty construction of buildings for the District Officers, the D.S.P. and other officers, it would seem as if they are now sleeping under trees. In a State where in every square mile of inhabited area we have got more than 1500 people, in a State where the vast majority of the people live in huts and hovels, huge palaces are being built—100 palaces are being built—for the district officers. Even now they get dam cheap houses, very grand houses, built up by certain landlords who take it a pleasure or a point of honour to house these great bosses on nominal rents. It is the poor man, the under-dog, who does not get anything. If a scheme to build houses for constables, for housing the peons and the lower division clerks is there, it is all right. But this scheme is not intended for them. It is intended to spend Rs. 110 lakhs and a nominal demand of Rs. 100 is made so that money allotted for other building construction work may be diverted. Why all this? Because he has already declared without consulting this House that he will initiate this scheme; he has already spent money. This is the work of the great bureaucrat who has been for years in the Central Government service, an I.C.S. officer. We are asked to tow the line, to accept it as a fait accompli. That is certainly an insult to this House.

With regard to the contention that it is a scheme for solving unemployment, if it is intended to be a scheme for relieving unemployment, then, naturally, unemployment in the cashew nut industry ought to have received much better attention. If it



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is a question of Scheduled Castes, then again, the cashew industry has 50 per cent. of its workers from the Scheduled Castes, and another forty per cent. are backward classes. But, that industry is allowed to go to the dogs. This great administrator convened a tripartite conference; but nothing was done. The employers said, they can't do anything; the State said, they can't do anything. They say it is the concern of the industry and they can't do anything. I do not know what sort of relief will be given. This building scheme is not going to bring any solution for unemployment because unemployment is there not only in district centres but it is everywhere.

With regard to hostels, I have to say this much. You may know that as early as 1935, my State threw open the temples to the Harijans. So the question of segregation or differentiation is not there so much as the question of real economic backwardness. Here and there in out of the way places, there may be untouchability still. But there is the law making it a penal offence. Let the offenders be prosecuted. If 4 persons are prosecuted then nobody would dare say that so and so is untouchable. As a matter of fact, in my State, in many areas it does not exist. It is for the police to take effective steps.

As for the hostels, we have really got cosmopolitan hostels. The grants should not be given to the hostels as such but should only be given to the large number of Scheduled Caste candidates living there. What is the fun of getting a grant of Rs. 10,000 as grant and having only 5 or 6 Scheduled Caste people? Except University hostels, hostels are run by private individuals for the sake of profit. It must be made very clear that allowances would be given only for the Scheduled Caste students and not the hostels as such.

I only want to add one or two words about the Health units. As in

the case of education, our State is very much advanced in so far as we have got hospitals everywhere. It is only question of medicine that has to be mentioned as has been pointed out already. Invariably people take recourse to private practitioners even though they have to pay much more. In our hospitals we have got not only a uniform kind of patients as Kumar Mascaren pointed out, but a uniform medicine also is given. They give the medicine, *aqua*. They give it in a bottle as mixture, *aqua* mixed with some salt. I do not know the technical term for salt. But salt water is the usual medicine for all diseases. It is a sovereign talisman.

**Shri K. K. Basu** (Diamond Harbour): You have an abundance of salt water.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** We have got salt water and salt water, all three in abundance. That is the only medicine that is given in these Health Units. Hospitals are being converted into Health Units. It is to be remembered that by doing so 3 doctors have dwindled into one. The Health Department is, perhaps, the most uncared for department and the most ineffective department in our State. The Medical Department, whatever effectiveness it may or may not have, has at least a presentable appearance. But this Health Department is known to exist only when you see some lantern exhibitions or some car with the name painted on it going along. We have never seen anything of that department, except, of course, in the filarial business, where there is one unit. Filaria is so common in the State. You may not even understand all this. The human body swells without muscles because it is all water inside and all sorts of extra growths come so much so the man looks very horrible. That is the situation in most parts of the State. So, a very thorough and scientific investigation has got to be made and the general health has to be improved much more.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would submit to you at the outset that whenever the Budget or a grant or even anything about Travancore-Cochin State comes in this House, my heart feels hurt. I get a severe wounded feeling because it hurts not only my prestige as a Member of this House or a citizen of that small but great State Travancore-Cochin—Kerala—but it gives me great pain because this has been done deliberately by a party which wanted to perpetuate the dictator's rule in my State.

Here we are discussing a small supplementary grant, and the hon. Minister in charge of Finance said that it is a small grant dealing with the problems of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—a minor thing—and something about some other subjects too. We have got a general picture about the welfare work amongst Harijans or Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in our State, but I was surprised to find why this grant was not utilised in the previous years when the people's regime or a responsible government was in vogue in our State. It is stated here in the Memorandum that this money comes under the category of removal of untouchability. Under the name of removal of untouchability, not only in my State but all over India, under the regime of the Congress, huge amounts are spent in the name of the poor people, but this money has gone not to the poor people, but to the vested interests; it has gone to Caste Hindus, to people who supported the Congress, I mean, the Congress Ministers and Congress stooges. I challenge the hon. Home Minister or anybody in this House about this particular question because I have got not only complaints from my own State but from several other States too that money was mis-spent and misused under the name of removal of untouchability. This fund, I should say, was utilised as a part of the Congress propaganda fund, and not as the removal of untouchability fund.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Congress propaganda includes also removal of untouchability.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Amongst themselves. They want money for cosmopolitan hostels. Of course, my colleague, Shri Sreekantan Nair, said that this money sanctioned for cosmopolitan hostels should be granted to the students direct and not to the hostel. I know how many of the cosmopolitan hostels are functioning in our State, how much bad treatment Harijans and Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are getting from the hostel authorities. Who are running these cosmopolitan hostels? Some of their authorities, perhaps representatives of the Backward Classes Commissioner's Department or sometimes by the College itself, and even private individuals too are running these hostels. Now the money is being given as a grant to these particular persons, individuals or institutions. It is a very dangerous thing, because under the name of cosmopolitan hostels, you are now going to perpetuate a kind of suppression on the young element that is coming up in the country among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There is suppression now; no proper food is given, and even in the hostels there is, in fact, preferential treatment or discriminatory treatment given—that is the report that I have got from my State and I am not exaggerating. I do not want to see any publicity about this matter. I am only stating here a fact. Three or four years ago there were so many hostels run by Harijans themselves; there were district hostels and there were even hostels run in taluk areas by institutions and individuals, mostly by the Harijan organisations. But what happened when the Congress came into power? What they did was to abolish many of the hostels run by Harijans and they gave the hostels to their own people.

This is another way of misusing the money, because they gave it to their own men who wanted to exploit the money in the name of Harijans.

[Shri Velayudhan]

What about the colony about which the scheme is given? Government have not given a precise idea as to what kinds of industries they are going to have. The only general idea given is about bee-keeping and something like poultry. There are very many occupations and trades in which Harijans are traditionally engaged. Take, for example, the bamboo industry, match making, rattan work, carpentry work etc. Like these, there are so many traditional occupations which they have got. Instead, our Government have gone to train them in bee-keeping. They have their own trained men, who will train the Harijans. That is a very clever trick played there. The trained people are from the other castes and they are given a hand in the bee-keeping industry. Such people will immediately start a bee-keeping centre and get the grant. The Harijans are taken there, those that stay in those places. The grant goes to this particular individual, and it will not go to the Harijans themselves or towards the removal of their disabilities or difficulties. In the same way I know that in some places there are some industrial centres started, not by Harijans themselves, but by some of the Congress people. Take, for instance, sewing machine. They purchase five or ten machines with the Government grant and a small trade is there under the name of Harijans, and they are getting very huge grants for these institutions under the name of Harijans but the money is not really going to Harijans. In every case the money sanctioned for Harijans is not given to them. I know why Government closed the Harijan hostels; they never liked the Harijans of our State because the moment the Harijans became very courageous to stand on their own legs and speak freely their own mind and heart, they were dubbed as communists. All the Harijans now studying in the Harijan Hostels or Colleges are dubbed as communists and their grants are taken away; even their stipends for clothes and books are taken away. That is the history

why the Harijan hostels were closed. Now they are going to start a cosmopolitan hostel in the name of Harijan uplift.

The Scheduled Tribes in our State are perhaps the most backward people in India today. Nothing has been done for them by the Government. Even in the last Budget presented in this House by the Finance Minister, the money allotted for Scheduled Tribes had lapsed.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** How can it lapse?

**Shri Velayudhan:** Ask your own people who were rulers there and who ruined our State.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is better that the hon. Member is not disturbed.

**Shri Velayudhan:** The money allotted for Scheduled Tribes' welfare had lapsed and Shri Thomas knows it too well. The Mackay Committee was appointed; Mackay was a European planter and was appointed as Chairman of the Committee to look into the problems of the Scheduled Tribes. Was not the Harijans Sevak Sangh working there who can do this? We were all products of the Harijan Sevak Sangh, which was functioning there very well. Why was the Chairmanship given to a European? Of course, there is a history behind all this. If anything happens in the Travancore-Cochin State through the Congress regime, it is due to bribery and personal interest or selfish interest based on corruption and misuse of power. Anyhow, this Committee was appointed and they want to spend Rs. 2,00,000 or Rs. 4,00,000 for the Scheduled Tribes. I should tell you that this money is not going to Scheduled Tribes but it will go to some vested interests in the party, some Congress people. Of course, this is perhaps the last chance to pocket something from the funds of that State—I do not blame anyone.

Regarding hospitals also, I should say that the Harijan hospitals in our State are just slaughter houses and

people are killed in the hospitals; they are not treated or cured in the hospitals but they are practically killed. Even for getting a bed, one has to bribe the doctor, not only the doctor but the other subordinates also. I know a case in Ernakulam. It happened that a Harijan woman, who was pregnant, was brought there and admitted into the hospital. The doctor said that she could wait for ten or fifteen days. When she went back and got into a ferry, even while crossing a channel, she gave birth to a baby. It happened like that. In the same way, I can tell stories after stories about the atrocities that are committed there.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House wants facts and not stories.

**Shri Velayudhan:** It has become a story now in Travancore-Cochin. Nobody is interested in this. People who are perpetrating this crime are encouraged by promotions and other things.

About the houses built by Shri Rau as his monument or memorial, I wish to say a few words. Are not the Harijans worse affected in this regard? Are not the lower class of people, peons and others, the worst affected? Is the launching on a big programme to build houses for these people? There have sprung up very beautiful houses in Travancore-Cochin. The former Chief Minister, Shri Menon, has built a very palatial house and I think an enquiry is still going on in that connection. I think Shri Datar will enlighten us about it. Shri Rau is now copying the example of Shri Govinda Menon. He is building big houses for Collectors, Deputy Secretaries, etc. and not for the people who have no houses in the State headquarters or district headquarters. It is a huge amount.

To whom are these tenders given? They are given either to Congressmen themselves or people who have leanings towards them. A lot of atrocities is done and so much money has been misused. There is one Shri Mani.

a contractor and another Mehta, a contractor. There was another Mani who is dead and gone and there was a lot of stories, being told about him and the Chief Minister and the Congress General Secretary. So, when the Government brings forward such Demands, it must scrutinise how things are going on. They say that they are toning up but I know that it will not last long and the people's regime will come soon.

**Shri Mathew (Kottayam):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. At this late hour, I shall refer briefly only to one or two points.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It would be appreciated if he is brief.

**Shri Mathew:** I have always been so, Sir. I have never delivered a lengthy speech in this House.

With regard to hospitals, it is necessary that a few should be of the first grade and therefore, the State and the Government have to concentrate on a few. But, at the same time, while only a few district hospitals could be of the first grade standard, a number of other hospitals should be raised, shall I say, to the second grade at least. I have in mind hospitals like the one near my own place, at Kozhancherry—a place sufficiently well-known in Travancore-Cochin. Nearly sixty years ago in my childhood, I used to go to that Hospital for one thing or another. I do not say that it has not undergone any development, but, still, it is substantially in the same condition as it was at that time. Perhaps I say this with a little exaggeration. If one wants to go to a fairly well-equipped hospital, one in those parts must travel about thirty miles. Well-to-do people can perhaps afford to do that, but not poor people. It is having such people in my mind that I say that, leaving aside the district hospitals whose upgrading I warmly advocate, a number of other hospitals should be developed, if not to the first grade, at least to the level of the second grade. While there is

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some advantage in concentrating on some cities and district headquarters—I do not grudge that—the needs of the others should not be altogether neglected; they too should be borne in mind. I mentioned this particular hospital more as an example; there are many such others. There is another matter which I want to touch. It is of such great importance that I was wondering whether I should touch it at all within the limited time I have, but anyhow, I think I should refer to it. I would preface my remarks with the observation that the last Ministry which fell in Travancore-Cochin had made certain recommendations on this matter not merely on behalf of the Congress Party but on behalf of all parties and blocks in the Legislature. That relates to the scope of beneficiaries of the several types of assistance meant for the Scheduled Castes. I make bold to make the observation that I am making now, because it does not come as the demand of any one community or party only.

There are a considerable number of people in our State who were once members of the Scheduled Castes but became Christians in the last generation or the generation before the last. They are economically in the same situation as the Scheduled Castes. That because they are Christians, having changed their outlook on life or their religion or whatever it may be, the benefits and concessions should not be extended to them—to say so—is taking a purely legalistic attitude. Substantially, these people are in the same situation as others who have not become Christians economically and socially.

Some people may ask: "How are we to investigate who amongst Christians are the converts from Scheduled Castes?" I am afraid that it is not a *bona fide* or genuine objection. If these people in our State cease to be Christians, they get all the advantages of the Scheduled Castes. Take A, B, C, D or E, any individual; if he be-

longs to the Scheduled Caste, he gets all concessions but if he becomes a Christian, he ceases to get these concessions, except a very meagre educational concession. Tomorrow, if he changes the religion and becomes a Hindu, then he gets the same old greater concessions. I can give figures but for want of time, I am refraining from doing so. I was the principal of a college and I know that my students from the Scheduled Castes got very decent allowances. I do not of course grudge that in the least. I say that it should be enhanced further. But even now they cover their hostel charges, fees, books etc. What I say is this. Students who originally belonged to this same community but who are now Christians, having the same economic status, get only a very meagre concession in sad contract. Again, in colleges and high schools, there is a rule that if a pupil fails in one class, he would not get even this meagre concession and that often happens. As a citizen of this secular State, I do not mind whether a student belongs to this religion or that religion, Islam, Christianity, or Hinduism or something opposed to all these religions. That is no consideration of mine. The substantial justice of my plea has been recognised not only by the Congress Party in my State, but by the communists and other parties also. It is perhaps a delightful instance where the Congressmen have felt that even the Communists are in agreement with them. So, the late Ministry made a recommendation to that effect. To me, it is only a question of seeing that justice and fairness are ensured. It is not my business to see whether they continue Christians or go back to Hinduism. It is a question of justice and fairness and equity. Especially when the Ministry had made a recommendation with the solid backing of all the parties in the legislature, certainly it is something to which the greatest weight ought to be attached. Only because the Ministry fell, it could not be proceeded with. I would commend that point, which involves

a matter of principle, to the special consideration of the Government.

I am not taking the liberty to touch on several other points that I wanted to mention, for want of time.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shri C. R. Iyyunni.

**An Hon. Member:** There is no time.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member is the only Member from Travancore-Cochin left, so I wanted to give him some time.

**Shri Nettur P. Damodaran (Telli-cherry):** Sir, I would request you to give me also some time.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member is not from Travancore-Cochin.

**Shri Nettur P. Damodaran:** We are going to Kerala State.

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur):** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I do not want to take much of your time. What I want to say is this. I am one of those people who said even from the very beginning that for Travancore-Cochin the President's Rule at least for some time will be very advantageous. After the President's representative came there, there is a feeling practically throughout the State that the rule has become very good. There are people who even say that the rule may be continued for a much longer period. Now it is only for six months and, probably, it may be extended for another six months. There are people who say that the President's Rule may be continued for another three years.

The reason is very simple. Before the President's representative came there, I know as a matter of fact, that many applications had to be submitted to the Secretariat even after which no reply was forthcoming for months and for years. That was the position. Now the conditions have considerably changed. Not only that. Till a few months ago the officers were shirking their responsibilities. There was no decentralisation of work.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The extension of the President's rule might be considered at some other time. Now we are considering whether we should vote these Supplementary Grants or not.

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** What I say is, after the President's representative came there, the position has changed. What he has done is, he has given definite instructions that the officers concerned should give final orders and the cases should only go to the Adviser on appeal. He has instructed the officers to see that their part of the work is done and they pass final orders to a certain limited extent. Before he came that was not the case. The final orders were to be passed by the Ministers or by the Secretaries. In their places now it is the Adviser. What he has done is, he has decentralised the work. There is a Collector in each district and he is the man who attends to things taking place in his district. It is only, shall we say, appeal cases that go up to the Adviser or Joint Adviser. Due to this change in the rules and regulations, a person can now easily get an order passed—whether in favour or against is a different matter—on his case. The work of the Secretariat is now practically being conducted very smoothly and very well.

Secondly, who is this Adviser? He has absolutely nothing to do with Travancore-Cochin. He has been Adviser in PEPHU and many other places. He is a very experienced man. He has got no local interest; absolutely nothing of the kind. What he does is perfectly all right and there is no trouble about that. Shri Velayudhan was saying that contracts are given to men of the Congress Party. Supposing there is a work to be given on contract to somebody, as a matter of fact, tenders are invited and looking into the list of approved contractors and so on, the contract is awarded. He may be a man of the Congress Party, but that does not prevent him from actually taking up a contract with the Government. The general considerations

[Shri C. R. Iyyunni]

for awarding a contract are: which is the lowest tender, whether the name of the lowest tenderer is on the approved list and whether he will be in a position to carry out the work if entrusted to him. They are the only considerations. Why should Shri Velayudhan come and say that all the works are given to people of the Congress Party? Can he point out to me a few instances of that kind? It is not possible.

**Shri Velayudhan:** What about Manis and Mehtas?

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** If the works are awarded after proper call of tenders, there is no use your making such complaints. There is absolutely no use making such wild allegations about the Congress Party. It is not proper to do so.

Then he was saying that the hospitals are only slaughter-houses. I do not know he can say that. As a matter of fact, there are a number of hospitals. It may be that in one or two cases the doctors might not have given proper advice. That is far from saying that the hospitals are all slaughter-houses. I can understand it, if 99 out of 100 people who go to the hospitals die. People usually go to hospitals to get some relief from the disease they suffer. Most of the people do get relief from the hospitals. It may be that in one or two cases the doctors might not have acted properly due to lack of space or some other inconvenience. But I want to point out one thing. During the past few years—so far as Cochin State before integration is concerned, I can say with a certain amount of authority—we were having plenty of medicines. After integration it so happens that it has become very difficult to get medicines and the medicine that we generally get is in the form of aqua.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya (Vijayawada):** Then they are not slaughter-houses but water-houses.

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** What I say is true. In many cases it may be like that. (Interruption).

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. He is agreeing with you.

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** There is no stock of plenty of good medicines in the hospital. Whenever you go to a hospital, what you find is that in many cases you are given a prescription and you are asked to go and find the medicine. If you take the medicine to the hospital, you will be given the proper injection or something else will be done. I do not know how such things are allowed to happen. But that is a fact and nobody can deny that. I know of many instances where these things have been done.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member should conclude now.

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** I will conclude in two minutes, Sir. What I want to say next is with regard to the buildings. It is true that there are a number of offices which are located in rented houses. It is also necessary that to maintain the prestige of the Government and so on, the Government must have a good number of its own buildings. I have nothing to complain in that respect. What I want to urge is that, after all, it is a care-taker Government, and when you look at it from that angle there is nobody, to be consulted. Therefore, if there was anybody to be consulted with regard to these matters, it was the Members of Parliament representing the various constituencies. They have not been consulted and that is not proper. The Members of Parliament should have been consulted and some agreement reached before these things were done.

With regard to the money that is going to be spent on big buildings, what I would say is—as has already been pointed out by many Members here—that a larger amount should be spent for housing the inferior officers like chaprasis and others, than on big palatial, magnificent buildings

for housing the Collector, the Divisional Officers and other high officers. That matter also must be taken into consideration.

Then there is one complaint with regard to....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let that complaint be taken up some other time.

**Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** All right, Sir.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** These supplementary demands are rather very simple ones and I thought that according to the convention, which is accepted by the House, the questions of policy will not be discussed except in cases of 'new service'. So far as buildings are concerned, a token demand of Rs. 100 was asked for, and that was a new service. I could well understand the question of policy being discussed on that item. However, as these are matters of concern to the Members from the Travancore-Cochin State, they took advantage of these supplementary demands to voice their feelings. We will send the proceedings of this debate to the Administrator to look into the suggestions which have been made during the debate.

I would like to reply to two or three points. The points relating to public health unit, etc., will be replied to by my colleague, the Deputy Minister of Health. Regarding labour, the points made will be replied to by Shri Abid Ali and the points relating to administration will be dealt with by my colleague Shri Datar. (Laughter):

**The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** Why should there be laughter?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The laughter arises from the fear that the Minister of Finance has apportioned everything to the other Ministers and has not taken anything for his reply.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** So far as the Finance Minister is concerned, the Finance Minister has presented these supplementary demands for grants for the vote of the House, and therefore, the questions relating to the pre-

sentation of the demands will have to be answered by me.

My friend Shri A. M. Thomas raised a very important point. He asked why this token demand of Rs. 100 should have been brought forward now, and said that provision should have been made in the budget when it was presented before the House in March-April last, when the House discussed the Travancore-Cochin budget and passed the demands for grants for the Travancore-Cochin State. He is right in complaining about this matter, but then, there are circumstances which must be taken into consideration. Perhaps my hon. friend may be aware of the fact that the budget of the Travancore-Cochin State was first presented to the Travancore-Cochin legislature. Thereafter, immediately, came the proclamation by the President, and therefore, when the budget was presented here, there was no time left for the Administrator to go into all the details and into all the needs that had to be provided for in the budget. Really speaking, the Finance Ministry had gone into the budget proposals that were first placed before the Travancore-Cochin legislature which were then placed in the same form before this House. We were inclined to take the view that the Travancore-Cochin budget proposals were far in excess of those schemes which were to be taken up during the second Five Year Plan and for execution in the first year of the second Five Year Plan. Therefore, there was a case for reduction in so many items. But there was no time for a review of the whole matter by the Administrator and we had to present the demands as they were presented before the Travancore-Cochin legislature.

Thus, there was no time to look into the urgent needs of certain measures to be sponsored by the administration there. After the Administrator took over, he found that there was a very urgent need for constructing the office-buildings and residential accommodation at three places. Therefore, he proposed an expenditure of Rs. 110 lakhs. At the same time, the expen-



[Shri M. C. Shah]

diture can be met out of the savings in the budget that was passed.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** May I enquire when the Administrator made the proposal for an additional expenditure of Rs. 110 lakhs?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** After the budget was passed by the Parliament, the proposal was made. Therefore, there was this token demand of Rs. 100 made in the budget. I am sure that the hon. Member does not object to the construction of office accommodation and residential accommodation. Strictly speaking, that such a construction programme has been taken on hand by the Administrator has to be welcomed, because all the Members coming from the Travancore-Cochin State may fully realise the fact that when the offices are scattered far and wide in rented buildings which are in a dilapidated condition, efficiency must suffer. Therefore, in order to achieve the highest efficiency possible from the servants of the State, there should be very good accommodation for the office and, at the same time, there should be good residential accommodation also. This is a step to achieve the maximum efficiency from the servants of the State and, therefore, I do not think any Member with a sense of responsibility should object to the construction of these buildings.

I next come to the points made by Shri Velayudhan. I was rather amazed to find him opposing the welfare schemes for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I think the people in Travancore-Cochin should make a note of the speech made by my friend Shri Velayudhan who seemed to be opposed to these welfare schemes meant for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

**Shri Velayudhan:** I sympathise with the hon. Minister.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** I am sure that I do not require any sympathy from the hon. Member. But, really speaking,

the people of the Travancore-Cochin State, particularly, those who are voters, must take note of the attitude taken by the hon. Member from the Travancore-Cochin State.

If the hon. Member had cared to study all the schemes, perhaps he would have thought best to be silent on the point, rather than to oppose the measures. Here are the schemes which are meant to improve the conditions and to benefit nearly 23,371 families. The following are the activities that are to be undertaken: formation of an industrial cum agricultural co-operative society;—I do not know whether he is in favour of that or not; perhaps he may not be—demonstration centres for poultry-farming and bee-keeping; industrial training centres and co-operative farming. Then, there are going to be hostels for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Loans are going to be given to the extent of Rs. 750 each to construct houses. There are going to be 12 tube-wells with an expenditure of Rs. 10,000 on each tube-well. Then, 125 families are going to be trained—this is among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—in the improved methods of agriculture by the supply of seeds, implements, manure, etc., at a cost of Rs. 200 per family. Then there are several pilot schemes which will benefit many backward classes, besides members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I particularly repeat that I was amazed at the remarks of my friend Shri Velayudhan who always tries to show that the Congress rule has done nothing. I understand that he came through the Congress ticket and later on he changed the colour. However, the fact remains that all the money that is now asked for is meant for the development of the country.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** So far as I could follow, the hon. Member's objection was that the money intended for a particular purpose is not wholly spent for that particular purpose.

**Shri Velayudhan:** The hon. Minister has not get the understanding capacity.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** How does he know that a particular allotment has not been spent for the purpose for which it was meant? Only after the monies are spent and the audited accounts are drawn up, one can see whether a particular amount has been spent for a particular purpose for which it was meant, or not. These amounts are meant for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. I can understand if the complaint is that the provision is not liberal enough and there ought to have been more, as the T. C. Government have requested the Central Government to raise the amount from Rs. 13 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs. I can understand that, because there may be some corruption here and there. There may be some wastage here and there; I do not deny it. In public administration, there is bound to be some corruption and some waste....

3 P.M.

**Shri Punnoose:** rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** About the extent, you may differ.

**Shri M. C. Shah:**.....but the fact remains that all these amounts are spent for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I still maintain that it was a very amazing speech from Mr. Velayudhan.

**Shri Chattopadhyaya:** Collections usually become recollections!

**Shri M. C. Shah:** About public health units also, there have been several criticisms. Here also the policy has been already accepted by the House; when the T. C. budget was placed before this House, the schemes were there. The schemes are for the prevention and cure of the state of health in Travancore-Cochin. 20 dispensaries were transferred to these public health units. If you want to have the maximum benefit out of these dispensaries being transferred to the public health units, you must also have the necessary staff. The supplementary demand now made is for the

staff to be attached to these 20 dispensaries, which were transferred on the 1st April, 1956. At that time it was not possible to know how much staff would be required. Therefore, this supplementary demand has been presented to the House. I feel that all members from the T. C. State should rather welcome such schemes being undertaken in the Travancore-Cochin State.

These are the main points which I wanted to explain. One question was raised by Mr. Punnoose as to whether there were savings or not. How can we say it now? The budget has been passed by the Parliament in May, 1956. Now the expenditure is being undertaken and there are so many schemes. We cannot say definitely whether there will be savings or not. That can be seen only at the end or perhaps when we place the revised estimates before this House or before the legislature of that State, if that is in existence then. Today, when we are placing the supplementary demands before the House, we have taken into account the probable savings. That is why with regard to the buildings, we have provided for a token demand of Rs. 100. We hope that we can meet the expenditure of Rs. 110 lakhs out of the savings. Then, in respect of public Health also, we have only asked for Rs. 19,000, whereas the expenditure is going to be Rs. 1,71,600, because the Adviser has gone into the whole matter and he has found that the expenditure can be met out of the savings or by appropriation. Wherever there can be savings or re-appropriation, we have taken it into account. So, the question posed by Mr. Punnoose cannot be answered definitely today. It can be answered in January, when the revised estimates can be formed.

I think the House will agree to accept the supplementary demands after my colleagues have replied to the points concerning their Ministries.

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** I will confine my remarks to one point, namely, the observations regarding the casenewnt

[Shri Abid Ali] industry. In this connection, I may submit that in the Quilon area, there are about 150 factories, of which 105 factories are worked by owners and the rest either worked by hirers or remain idle. All the factories have never worked all round the year for all the 12 months, nor do they provide continuous employment to all the workers. There are two reasons for this. The first is that while the roasting capacity of all the factories is 2 lakh tons of raw nuts per year. The indigenous production is about 60,000 tons and an equal quantity is imported from outside. This can meet only 60 per cent. of the aggregate capacity of these factories. Consequently, as a rule, most of the cashewnut factories work for about nine months in a year and for the rest of the period, the factories are not working. This results in a large number of workers being unemployed during the period when the factories are not working. Some of them take up agriculture and other vocations.

Sometime back there was a strike by all the clerical and the like workers in this industry under the INTUC Union and a demand was made that the workers in this industry should be declared non-seasonal. They sent representations to the Central Government also. The State Government have since proclaimed this industry as non-seasonal.

About the scarcity of material, hon. Members are aware that the requirements of this industry also have been taken care of by the Second Plan and I am sure the situation would improve in course of time.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** May I ask whether he is aware of the fact that during the previous years the factories remained closed for not more than one or two months, but this year it is going to be six months?

**Shri Abid Ali:** Generally, most of these factories are closed for three months in the year.

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** The hon. Member, Mr. Thomas, brought to the

notice of the House the filarial control in T. C. State. I would like to tell the House that two survey units and pre-control data. From the know-how-learned data. From the necessary basis and to collect the necessary deal with the extent of prevalence of T. C. State in 1954-55 with a view to one control unit were allotted to the ledge we have, the work is in progress; but, it has not achieved the scheduled target, because the necessary equipment and insecticides and other drugs that were to be supplied by the T. C. M. were delayed. Due to that and also due to lack of trained personnel, the programme could not progress according to schedule. To deal with lack of trained personnel, there is a training course held in the Malaria Institute of India and the T. C. State have sent some inspectors and medical officers. In 1955-56, 5 inspectors and 2 medical officers were trained; in 1956-57, two inspectors were trained.

Of the two survey units, one is now working in the Trivandrum area and the second unit will start functioning soon in the Quilon area. One control unit is now working in Trivandrum city, Ernakulam and Mattancherry area. In 1956-57, there is a proposal to allot two more control units. A survey of the area between Ernakulam and Shertalai was carried out by the Malaria Institute of India at the request of the State Government.

As regards the Demand for which we have asked Rs. 19,000/- that is for the transference of twenty dispensaries from the Medical Department to the Public Health Department. I think there is need for additional staff if the converted dispensaries are going to function properly as public health units and for that Rs. 71,600/- is asked for. Most of these dispensaries are not accommodated properly and, therefore, major repairs will have to be undertaken for which Rs. 1 lakh has been asked for making a total of Rs. 1,71,600. But there was a saving of Rs. 1,52,600 from the original grant and deducting that, the Supplementary Demand asked for is Rs. 19,000/-. I think it is not more and I hope the House will accept it.

**Shri Achuthan:** What will be the additional facilities that will be provided in the health centres which are not provided in the dispensaries?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** They will take curative and preventive steps. I think maternity and child welfare work will also be carried on by these primary health units.

**Shri Datar:** As pointed out by my colleague Shri Shah, advantage was taken by hon. Members from Travancore-Cochin of offering comments regarding the administration of the President's rule in Travancore-Cochin.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** Why did you impose President's rule?

**Shri Datar:** I do not like this way of interruption even at this stage.

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** it started from there.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri Velayudhan:** The hon. Minister has stated that advantage was taken.....

**Shri Datar:** Advantage has been taken.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri Datar:** As I have stated, this was an occasion only for the consideration of four or five Supplementary Demands—one of them constituted a new service and the others were in respect of items that had already been sanctioned. Under these circumstances, according to the convention, no general policy question could be discussed except to the extent that it was necessary so far as the how service was concerned. But, Sir, as you are aware, a number of hon. Members criticised not only the President's administration but also the previous administrations. However, I am not going into the question as to how the previous administrations were carried on because it would simply be irrelevant for this purpose.

So far as the President's rule is concerned, I am happy to note that there were a number of hon. Members in this House who have appreciated

the very good work that the Adviser has been doing in that State and we are anxious that when the popular Government is restored in Travancore-Cochin, we should hand over to them an administration which is quite efficient and which is mostly free from the defects that may have crept there. That is the objective that we have in view and with that objective the Adviser is carrying on his rule

Now, so far as the present discussion is concerned, three or four points have been raised. One point is that scheduled castes' interests have not been properly taken into account. I am sorry for the manner in which my hon. friend, Shri Velayudhan, indulges in criticism which is far from restrained and which is needlessly vehement.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Needlessly?

**Shri Datar:** Needlessly vehement.

Now it is perfectly open to him to make criticism. But while offering criticism he ought to have taken care of the very fact that thereby he is doing ill-service to the very object that he has in view.

**Shri Velayudhan:** No, no.

**Shri Datar:** Take, for example, the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Now, the Government are anxious—not only who Central Government, but all the State Governments are anxious—to improve the lot, the economic and the cultural lot, of all these persons and that is the reason why large amounts are being spent for the betterment of the lot of these poor people and my hon. friend says that all these amounts are being wasted and he went further, very unfortunately, and contended that everywhere, not only in Travancore-Cochin but in the whole of India, these amounts are being wasted. It is a statement which is far from truth. I would point out to the hon. Member.....

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** It is a matter for investigation.

**Shri Datar:** We are taking care to see that the great disease of untouch-

[Shri Datar]

ability is removed as early as possible and the hon. Member ought also to understand that the government set apart in the First Five Year Plan a crore of rupees for carrying on propaganda work amongst those who were working under the bad influence of untouchability and that propaganda has to be carried on not only among the Harijans but among others as well, especially the caste-ridden Hindus and for that purpose that propaganda has been carried on well and I would assure my hon. friend that we are having very good and demonstrable results so far as this disability is concerned. This disability has almost disappeared so far as urban areas are concerned. But in the rural area it is still there and that is the reason why in the Second Five Year Plan we have allotted a sum for the purpose of removal of untouchability and the hon. Member will also understand that this large amount is not wasted at all, nor is it handed over for expenditure to irresponsible agencies; let him understand it very clearly that out of this we make grants to the State Governments and the State Governments carry on the work themselves or they carry on the work through recognized agencies in all these cases; let the hon. Member understand this very clearly and let him not talk in the manner he has done because, after all, he is causing disservice to the great cause. Wherever there are these recognized agencies, the work is done in all these cases through them.

**Shri Velayudhan:** rose—

**Shri N. Sreekantan Nair:** On a point of order. The hon. Minister should address the Chair and not the member. Then, is this the way to refer to a member?

**Shri Velayudhan:** What is this *tamasha*?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** If any Minister remarks that he (a Member) should not talk in the way that he has done, there ought not to be anything objectionable in that. What is

the objection that is being taken? This running commentary certainly does not add to the dignity of the proceedings that we conduct here.

**Shri Datar:** I was, therefore, pointing out to the House... (laughter).

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is not a matter for laughter.

**Shri Datar:** So far as this large amount is concerned, that amount is being spent either directly by the State Governments themselves or through recognised agencies who are responsible to the State Governments for submitting proper accounts because these accounts have also to be properly audited and then, secondly, we have also recognised certain all India institutions and all these institutions are carrying on this task very well in spite of all handicaps and, therefore, I would appeal to my hon. friend not to minimise, much less to depreciate, what is being done so far as the removal of disabilities against Harijans and so far as the rehabilitation of the tribal communities are concerned. These are very great tasks to which the Government are attaching the greatest importance because these communities put together number about seven crores, one-fifth of the population, and they have to be brought together to the same level of enlightenment as the other communities because, if that is not done, democracy will not succeed.

Then I would pass on to the other question of buildings. Now, so far as buildings are concerned, they are of a two-fold character. One is buildings at headquarters for our officers and, naturally, there are residential quarters. It was a surprise to me that in three districts, there were no good buildings at all. There are two points to be noted in this connection very clearly. Our district officers are housed in Government buildings which are not sufficient so far as accommodation is concerned and which are in some cases, not fit for use as office accommodation. Secondly, the numbers of offices is increasing

very much consequent on the proposed implementation of the Second Five Year Plan and our requirements are growing. All along, it would not be proper to have our offices housed only in rented buildings. Rented buildings have a handicap and we do not get what we require so far as accommodation necessary for carrying on district administration is concerned. We are aware that Ernakulam is a great city. But, the requirements of Ernakulam are not so great as the requirements of the three district towns. So this scheme has been undertaken. It would be wrong to suppose that the offices are only for the government servants. The offices are for the public. The public have numerous occasions to go to the offices and deal with the officers. These offices are not going to be palatial buildings at all. Let hon. Members understand it clearly that they are offices which are reasonably good, and which are neither fashionable nor extremely rickety.

**An Hon. Member:** What is wrong in being fashionable?

**An Hon. Member:** Nothing wrong.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Why should he say that they are fashionable if they are not fashionable?

**Shri Datar:** I may point out that we want offices which are more useful than beautiful. Incidentally, we shall pay attention to the artistic side also if necessary. But, the principal question is one of utilisation as useful offices, not for the officers, but for the public at large. This point has to be taken into account. What is being proposed is not merely offices, but a number of buildings of different types—there are as many as 9 types of buildings—which are being constructed. The House will kindly understand that the amount to be spent for the districts in respect of each department is not very much. We are taking into account the residential needs of the officers at all levels including the lowest level namely class IV. This is a much needed

reform. In fact, these offices are being constructed. By sparing moneys from other departments, the Adviser has undertaken this very ambitious but necessary plan. I desire that this House will understand this subject. I would point out to my hon. friend Shri Punnose that there is nothing suspicious or surreptitious about it. All is being done to improve the tone of the administration. The first requirement for an efficient administration is naturally a good building. For these reasons, this is a reasonable demand.

I shall say a word lastly about the accommodation for the police. This is a problem with which we are concerned not only here, but in all the States. In Delhi State, for example, as also in other States, there is no sufficient accommodation at all. Only this year, we have started giving attention to this problem. The hon. House is aware that we have set apart a sum of Rs. 3 crores for the purpose of giving loans to the various State Governments for building or constructing residential accommodation for the officers of the lower levels and for the constabulary. This is an important point to be taken into account. The housing of the constables and head constables as also the Sub-Inspector and the Inspector is of the greatest importance so far as law and order is concerned. That is the reason why the Travancore-Cochin Government has led the way and they are anxious to supply the deficiencies in this respect so far as the police administration is concerned by having a very ambitious plan costing about Rs. 40 lakhs. This item is also of great public importance. It is not a question of merely providing houses for a few officers. Therefore I would imagine that this House would also welcome this new venture that has been undertaken to see that all our police officers especially in the lower levels, constables and head constables are housed properly. It is one of the primary needs and it is our duty to supply that not only in the interests of the officers and government ser-

[Shri Datar]

vants, but in the interests of the Government administration itself.

**Shri Punnoose:** May I seek a clarification?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Sufficient clarification has been given,

**Shri Punnoose:** Has the hon. Minister information with him to show what percentage of the money is going to be spent on housing of the lower grades of officers?

**Shri Datar:** I have got a long list. I do not like to tire the House by giving all that. I shall mention to the hon. Member.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All those items need not be given: What share or percentage of the money is going to be spent for class IV officers?

**Shri Datar:** More than half of the amount is being spent—I am giving it generally so far as constables, head constables and others are concerned.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I think no hon. Member has any objection to all these cut motions being put together. I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

*All the cut motions were negatived.*

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

"That the separate supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of the following Demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. XIX, XXV and XXXVII."

*The motion was adopted.* \*

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

#### DEMAND NO. XIX—PUBLIC HEALTH

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 19,000 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'public Health'."

#### DEMAND NO. XXV—LABOUR AND MISCELLANEOUS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 11,12,000 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Labour and Miscellaneous'."

#### DEMAND NO. XXXVII—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON CIVIL WORKS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 100 be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Travancore-Cochin to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1957, in respect of 'Capital outlay on Civil Works'."

#### STANDARDS OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL

**The Minister of Consumer Industries (Shri Kanungo):** Sir, the motion for referring the Bill to establish standards of weights and measures based on the metric system to a Joint Committee consisting of Members of both the Houses was moved