

## AYES—contd.

Ramaswamy, Shri S.V.  
Rane, Shri  
Rao, Dr. Rama  
Rao, Shri Vittal  
Raut, Shri Bhola  
Reddy, Shri Janardhan  
Reddy, Shri Viswanatha  
Rup Narain, Shri  
Sahu, Shri Rameshwar  
Saigal, Sardar A.S.  
Samanta, Shri S.C.  
Sanganna, Shri  
Satish Chandra, Shri  
Satyawadi, Dr.

Sen, Shrimati Sushama  
Sharma, Pandit Balkrishna  
Sharma, Shri D.C.  
Sharma, Shri K.R.  
Sharma, Shri R.C.  
Shobha Ram, Shri  
Siddananjappa, Shri  
Singh, Shri D.N.  
Singh, Shri Babunath  
Singh, Shri T.N.  
Singhal Shri, S.C.  
Sinha, Shri A.P.  
Sinha, Shri N.P.  
Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan

Sinhasan Singh, Shri  
Somana, Shri N.  
Subrahmanyam, Shri T.  
Suriya Prashed, Shri  
Telkikar, Shri  
Thomas, Shri A.M.  
Tiwary, Pandit D.N.  
Uikey, Shri  
Upadhyay, Shri S.D.  
Vaishya, Shri M.B.  
Varma, Shri Manikya L  
Varma, Shri B.R.  
Vidyalankar, Shri A.N.  
Vishwanath Prasad, Shri  
Vyasa, Shri Radhela

## NOBS

Bagdi, Shri Magan Lal  
Chatterjee, Shri N.C.  
Damodaran, Shri N. P.  
Deo, Shri R.N.S.  
Deshpande, Shri V.G.  
Gadilingaha Gowd, Shri  
Gurupadaswamy, Shri M.S.  
Hukam Singh, Sardar  
Kelappan, Shri

Missir, Shri V.  
Muniawamy, Shri  
Murthy, Shri B.S.  
Naidu, Shri N.R.  
Nathani, Shri H.R.  
Raghavachari, Shri  
Ramasami, Shri M.D.  
Randaman Singh, Shri  
Rao, Shri P. Subba

Reddi, Shri Ramachandr.  
Rishang Keishing, Shri  
Sinha, Th. Jugal Kishore  
Somani, Shri G.D.  
Sundaram, Dr. Lanka  
Swami, Shri Sivamurthi  
Swamy, Shri N.R.M.  
Tewari, Sardar R.B.S.  
Trivedi, Shri U.M.

*The motion was adopted.*

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER  
FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND  
SCHEDULED TRIBES

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, the House will proceed with the other business. So far as the next motion in the name of the Prime Minister is concerned, the whole time table for the rest of this session was announced this morning and this has been put down for the last day, that is the 24th. Therefore, this matter will stand over till the 24th when it will come up.

I shall now request the hon. Dr. Katju to move his motion.

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** I beg to move:

"That the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1952, be taken into consideration."

I do not propose, Sir, in the beginning to make a very long speech for the simple reason that I am more anxious to hear and to profit by the observations of my hon. friends who will follow me. A number of amendments have been tabled, and I imagine that many of those amendments will be moved and very many constructive and helpful suggestions will be made.

The House is aware that under the Constitution there is a Special Officer appointed by the President. I should like, at the very beginning, to pay a tribute to his hard work and the devotion with which he has worked will be shown by the very exhaustive report that he has submitted to this House—or rather submitted to the President and which is now before this House.

In all our discussions you will please recollect that leaving aside the "C" States, the administration of all affairs including affairs relating to

[Dr. Katju]

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes rests in the first instance, with the State Governments. So far as "A" States are concerned, their autonomy is fairly large, or rather, in this particular matter we can only give them advice, offer them suggestions, or give them money. So far as the "B" States are concerned, it is true that under the Constitution directives may be sent, but they are also carrying on their affairs with fully elected legislative bodies, and I just remind the House that the power of giving directives is not an unlimited power in period of time. It is only for ten years. Four years are expiring, and another six years will remain. Therefore, while we discuss the affairs of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, we should remember as far as possible that the actual administration lies in what I may call the provincial sphere. Of course, so far as the Government of India, or the Central Government Departments are concerned, many questions may be raised. I see whenever Parliament is in session that Members are very keen to know whether advantage has been given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in regard to their reserved seats. Hon. Members would have seen in the report as to what actually has been done. I should like, at the outset, to assure every single Member of the House that I spare no pains, the Central Government spares no pains, to see to it that the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have the fullest opportunity of rendering public service....

**Shri Velayudhan** (Quilon *cum* Mavelikkara—Reserved—Sch. Castes):  
Question.

**Dr. Katju:** ...that they should have equal opportunities with everybody in the country. But I would beg hon. Members to remember that when we appoint a District Magistrate, for instance,—I have taken just one illustration—he is not merely a District Magistrate for looking after the Scheduled Castes living in that district

whether they are one lakh, or two lakhs or twenty lakhs, but he is the District Magistrate for the entire district. He is the District Magistrate for the high castes and the low castes and the Muslims and Sikhs, everybody. Therefore, the Public Service Commission or the appointing authority is bound to have some regard for efficiency. Sometimes I hear: "Oh, minimum qualifications". I can understand about these minimum qualifications in respect of what you may call Fourth Grade servants, even clerks or Secretariat staff. There it does not matter whether a man is this or a man is that. Even minimum qualifications will do.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram** (Visakhapatnam): What about the Ministers?

**Dr. Katju:** But there are certain appointments in which we cannot take any risk. Our anxiety is there and our anxiety is shared by the Union Public Service Commission that all opportunities should be afforded to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I do not want to repeat what I said on the last occasion that we have relaxed the rules as to age limits. I am sure that the Public Service Commission, when these candidates go for *viva voce* examinations or interviews, makes due allowance for the fact that there is bound to be a great deal of difference as between boys or candidates who are coming from, let us say, well-regulated families, wealthy families, and young men who are coming from rather lower income groups. I know that the Commission makes allowance for that fact. But, when all is said and done you cannot take very many risks in this matter.

[**SHRI PATASKAR** *in the Chair*]

What is much more important is that there should be every effort made for their educational uplift, and concessions should be given, scholarships should be given. I am all in favour of these young boys from the Scheduled Castes and backward classes to

be sent to England, foreign countries, and here for education. That is my outlook on this.

Then, there is another matter. I know that in urban areas untouchability has partially disappeared.....

**Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru):** Urban areas?

**Dr. Katju:** ...and complaints are rife that this is not so in rural areas. I know that. I agree with them. But you have got to take your countrymen as they are. I promised last year that we will take every possible legislative step to remove untouchability and punish untouchability, and I may inform hon. Members that before Parliament rises I may either introduce a Bill against untouchability and for punishment of offences arising out of the practice of untouchability, or publish it in the Gazette and then we will discuss it in the coming Budget Session. But the point that I am raising is that the coercive process can go only to some extent. We must not forget the importance of the persuasive process. You cannot ride the high horse only on the strength of coercive measures—you do this or you go to jail; you do that, we will get you punished.

I was myself only last week in Gwalior. I went to Morena. I went round, saw lots of things there. In Part "B" States particularly there is still a strong conservative element. In the villages there are Thakores, Gujars and landlords who think themselves high-born mighty people and they have been accustomed for centuries to a particular mode of life. Now, you punish them. I will punish them myself, I am all for punishment. But at the same time, you must have some regard for the persuasive process, and my sorrow is that I see some slackening in that. Gandhi-ji while he lived spent the whole of his life in persuading people. He used to tell the high castes: "This is your duty. Hindusim will perish unless you do this, unless untouchability goes". There is some slackening

of that on the part of everybody, and I think there should be a stronger, co-ordinated and united effort both on the part of my friends from the Harijan community who are educated and from high caste people to go about educating people in the rural areas that it is unsocial, unpatriotic; that it is not only criminal, but anti-social and unpatriotic to indulge in these things. Otherwise our unity and our independence might be endangered.

I do not want to go into many questions because many amendments have been given notice of and probably many points will come up. I notice some of the amendments plead for a new Ministry in the Central Government. A very fine idea! But do hon. Members realise as to what that Minister is going to do?

**Shri P. N. Rajabho (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** Why is there a refugee Minister?

**Dr. Katju:** I am not expressing any opinion; I am only waiting to hear from you. But I do say please approach the whole problem in a very constructive atmosphere and not in a destructive atmosphere, because I speak without convention.....

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Without conviction also.

**Dr. Katju:** The object is one on which we are all united. There are 7 crores of scheduled castes and tribal people. I am waiting for the report of the Backward Classes Commission also which will probably deal with another 5 crores. We want to bring them all to our own level. Social justice means no class. (*Interruption.*) We are all agreed upon that. Somebody said what about money? I think there is an amendment which says that there should be a sum of money set apart...

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Yes, Sir.

**Dr. Katju:** I think you will find in the Report that in these 5 years the Central Government as well as the

[Dr. Katju]

State Governments have set apart a sum of Rs. 40 crores for the benefit of the scheduled castes and the tribal people.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** A drop in the ocean.

**Dr. Katju:** Now, if I had my way, if money were available, I would have provided Rs. 80 crores instead of Rs. 40 crores. But the question is that money should be available; we are doing our best.

Secondly, we want more co-operation. We want service in the field. We do not want—pardon my saying so—merely work in Parliament. You have got to open vocational centres, schools, dispensaries and all sorts of thing. For that money should be available.

With these few remarks, Mr. Chairman, I beg that the House do proceed to take this report into consideration.

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion moved:

"That the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the period ending the 31st December, 1952, be taken into consideration."

Now, there are a number of amendments of which notice has been given.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of the opinion—

(a) that the Report is inadequate and lumps together Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) that the Commissioner of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be drawn from the ranks of the Scheduled Castes; and

(c) that the Union and Railways Public Services Commission be reconstituted so as to include a member belonging to the Scheduled Castes community."

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

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same this House recommends that a Parliamentary Committee be appointed to examine how the problems of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being tackled by the Government and to report to this House."

**Shri Ram Dhani Das** (Gaya East—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House approves the Report and suggests that early steps should be taken for bringing some special measures for the uplift and education of the lowliest of the low (the scavengers and sweepers) of the country."

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** I beg to move:

(i) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that a separate Ministry be created to look after the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes and other minorities in accordance with the guarantees given in the Constitution."

(ii) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that Government should take more constructive steps in order to remove all the disabilities to

which these Communities are subjected to at present."

**Shri Soren** (Purnea cum Santal Parganas—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House regrets the change of Roman Script into Deva-Nagri Script in the Tribal areas."

**Shri B. S. Murthy**: I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House regrets the apathy shown by the Government in the matter of the claims of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in the services."

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that ten crores of rupees be set apart annually for five years to rehabilitate the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in view of their utter backwardness in all walks of life."

(3) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that in view of the recent unhappy incidents in Deoghar and Mysore, early legislation should be brought before Parliament to penalise the observance of untouchability in all forms."

**Shri Balmiki** (Bulandshahr Dist.—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion

that effective and drastic steps should be taken at once by the Government to ameliorate the conditions of the Harijans especially of sweepers and scavengers who are the most downtrodden in the country and whose grievances have not yet been redressed so far."

**Shri Jajware** (Santal Parganas cum Hazaribagh): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that Government should take necessary steps for the implementation of the suggestion given by the Commissioner and provide more money whenever necessary to raise the standard of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes within the scheduled time."

**Shri Bueekha Bhai** (Banswara-Dungarpur—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the phraseology used in the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order 1950, specifying Tribes in Rajasthan, should be suitably modified to avoid complications."

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that immediate steps should be taken to set up separate Backward Classes Welfare Departments for expediting the ameliorative work in different States."

(3) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order 1950 should be so amended as to include all the

[Shri Bheekha Bhai]

aboriginals who have been left out for want of proper specification by State Governments in various States."

(4) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that a separate Department be forthwith created at the Centre to expedite the ameliorative schemes launched from time to time for the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes."

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"(a) and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that in order to raise the social level of the Scheduled Castes, all reserved posts in Government services should be filled with Scheduled Caste Candidates by relaxing some of the conditions such as minimum qualification etc. which may not be fulfilled by Scheduled Caste candidates;

(b) the Government should grant special scholarships to deserving Scheduled Caste students for going to foreign countries for higher academic and technical education;

(c) the landless Scheduled Caste people should be provided with land and other implements so that unemployment among those people would be minimised, and that special Taqavi Loans should be given to them in the initial stages;

(d) a separate Ministry on the same lines as that of Rehabilitation Ministry should be formed with a view to safeguarding the interests of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and to bring them

to the level of other advanced classes in India in economic, educational and social matters; and

(e) immediate steps should be taken to provide Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with compulsory primary education all over India."

**Shri Kakkan (Madurai—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, is of the opinion that Government should give more grants-in-aid and loans to appoint Special Police Officers in higher rank and propagandists for the Harijan uplift in Madras, Bombay and Madhya Pradesh where social disabilities of the Scheduled Castes are very acute."

**Shri P. Subba Rao (Nowrangpur):** I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end; namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House regrets that adequate steps are not proposed for the removal of illiteracy among the Hill Tribes and Scheduled Castes of Orissa."

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House regrets that adequate steps are not proposed for the complete removal of untouchability."

**Shri Rishang Keishing (Outer Manipur—Reserved—Sch. Tribes):** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House—

(a) is of opinion that the constitution of a separate Ministry

for the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes alone can effectively tackle the problems of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

- (b) censures the Government for their failure to abolish untouchability in the country;
- (c) regrets that the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes does not contain any proposal for land reform which alone can better the condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and
- (d) is of opinion that the amount sanctioned for improving the conditions of Scheduled Castes and Tribes is too inadequate."

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami (Kushtagi):**  
I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House—

- (a) regrets to note that the Government has failed to improve the economic condition of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by not distributing waste lands if any, and by not providing any alternative employments to maintain their daily life;
- (b) recommends to Government to give free education and free training in some technical institutions so that they can earn their livelihood independently; and
- (c) appeals to Government to safeguard the self-interest in all walks of their lives by strong legislative measures so that they may enjoy the constitutional rights of our country."

**Dr. Rama Rao (Kakinada):** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Report shows a deplorable state of affairs concerning the social and economic disabilities of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and this House urges upon the Government to take more effective steps for the amelioration of their condition by setting apart ten crores of rupees more for this purpose in the next budget."

**Shri Sanganna (Rayagada-Phullbani—Reserved—Sch. Tribes):** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that a committee be set up to enquire into the desirability or otherwise of the tobacco tax in the scheduled areas."

**Shri R. C. Majhi (Mayurbhanj—Reserved—Sch. Tribes):** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House regrets to observe that the welfare schemes of the State Government of Orissa for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and grants given for the above purposes are inadequate."

**Shri Niranjan Jena (Dhenkanal—West Cuttack—Reserved—Sch. Castes):**  
I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that a special Board should be set up to advise the Central and State Governments on matters relating

[Shri Niranjana Jena]

to the economic and social uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

**Shri Kajrolkar** (Bombay City—North—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House recommends to Government that in view of the nation's policy of removing all vestiges of untouchability, there should be a provision that in all Hostels for Harijans for admitting a small percentage of Savarnas so that they may mix and inter-dine freely and that care should be taken to see that the seats fixed for Harijan students are not reduced, and that the money spent on non-Harijan students is not taken from the Harijan fund."

**Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta** (Udaipur): I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Bhil Tribe with its sub-tribes be forthwith declared as Scheduled Tribes throughout the State of Rajasthan as in other states of the Indian Union."

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that legislative measures be undertaken by State Governments under State Directive Policy embodied in the V and VI Schedules to the Constitution."

(3) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Adivasis left out from

specification under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 in relation to the State of Rajasthan be forthwith brought under that Order."

**Dr. Satyawadi** (Karnal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same this House regrets that the condition and problems of the sweepers throughout the country and the Scheduled Castes in the States of Punjab and Delhi have totally been ignored."

**Shri Barman** (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House appreciates the efforts of Government in promoting with special care the educational standard of the weaker sections of the people and in particular of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and in ameliorating their conditions in other spheres of life; and this House further desires that such efforts be intensified to ensure that by the year 1960 all weaker sections rise up to the standard of and are fully integrated with other advanced sections of this country."

**Shri N. Rachiah** (Mysore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that—

- (a) a Central Board for Scheduled Castes be appointed to watch and guide the working of the measures for the



amelioration of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country;

(b) direct recruitment from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe candidates be made to I.A.S. and I.P.S. in proportion to their respective populations; and

(c) immediate steps be taken to co-opt at least one member of the Scheduled Castes to each of the Union and State Public Service Commission."

**Shri Naval Prabhakar** (Outer Delhi—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House notes with regret that the Report failed to mention the injustice done to the Scheduled Castes in the State of Delhi by the wrong enumeration of these castes in last census, as a result of which the population of certain castes could not be included in their total population."

**Shri G. L. Chaudhary** (Shahjahanpur Distt.—North cum Kheri—East—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House appreciates the efforts made by the Government in ameliorating the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and requests Government to intensify these efforts."

**Shri Dasaratha Deb** (Tripura East): I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the cultivable waste lands in the country and the waste land reclaimed by the government or-

ganisations both of the States and of the Centre, should be distributed to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes without any delay."

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that—

(a) members of the Scheduled Tribes, who have been adversely affected by the prohibition of *jhuming* or shifting cultivation should be rehabilitated:

(b) the Scheduled Tribes of Tripura should not be ousted from the land belonging to them due to the requisitioning of such land by the Government for settling others there;

(c) free land, implements and seeds should be given to landless persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Tribes."

**Shri Nanadas** (Ongole—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same this House is of opinion that there should be an independent Five Year Plan of Rs. 100 crores for the social, economic and educational development of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that for all the reserved seats in the public services the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Tribes should be appointed, if they possess the minimum educational qualifications prescribed for each category of such posts."

[Shri Nanadas]

(3) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the children of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be given free education, at all stages that is, primary, secondary, university and technical.”

(4) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that a special police force be created for enforcing the laws of the States and of the Centre for the removal of social disabilities of the untouchables.”

(5) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the Christian Converts from the Scheduled Castes be given all the educational concessions the are being given to the Scheduled Castes and the Christian converts from the Scheduled Tribes.”

**Dr. Satyawadi:** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that a Parliamentary Committee be constituted to advise and supervise the disbursement of the funds proposed to be spent in the Five Year Plan for the eradication of untouchability instead of it being spent through certain political organizations.”

**Swami Ramanand Shastri (Unnao Distt. cum Rae Bareilly Distt.—West cum Hardoi Distt.—South-East—Reserved—Sch. Castes):** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that—

- (a) statutory provisions should be made for fixing minimum wages and working hours for agricultural labourers, masons, etc., who are mostly Harijans, and for a weekly holiday for those who are employed on monthly salaries;
- (b) the families of such masons as are killed on account of accidents while working should be given compensation;
- (c) the posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should only be filled by the candidates belonging to those castes and tribes, and that the candidates should be appointed on probation in the first instance and later on confirmed if they prove worthy of the posts, and further that the various departments should be specially instructed to see that the reserved posts are filled only from among such persons;
- (d) the competition between the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the matter of appointments to public services should be confined to them alone and should not extend to others, and that special consideration should be shown to them during interviews as it has been noticed that Harijans are mostly rejected at the interview stage;
- (e) there should be at least one member each in the Public Service Commissions of the States and of the Union;
- (f) Government should provide special scholarships to Harijans for higher studies abroad;
- (g) a separate Ministry in charge of a Harijan Minister should be constituted for the economic and social development

of Harijans and all the posts under that Ministry must be filled by Harijans;

- (h) in those departments including the Railway Board in which it has not been so far possible to fill the vacancies reserved for Harijans since the time reservation was enforced in all the departments in India, there should be proportionately greater recruitment of Harijans and that no fresh recruitment should be made till this gap is filled;
- (i) the poor Scheduled Castes should be exempted from District Board and Gram Panchayats taxes in the villages and Municipal taxes in the cities, as their economic condition is not equal to it and great unemployment prevails among them;
- (j) industrial centres should be opened in villages with a view to removing unemployment among Scheduled Castes;
- (k) wherever Zamindari has been abolished, larger portion of the land acquired by the Government should be allotted to Scheduled Caste agricultural labourers;
- (l) with a view to raising the standard of living of Scheduled Castes in villages, education among women should be popularised and women workers should be employed to conduct propaganda in this connection; and
- (m) there should be another census of the Scheduled Caste population of the country."

6 P.M.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** There are other amendments, Sir.

**Mr. Chairman:** I think there is another list of amendments, but they were received today. I will consult the hon. Minister in charge and then decide as to whether they should also

be moved or not. I do not like to commit any breach of rules by allowing these amendments to be moved now, because any other Member may raise objections.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I think, Sir, I gave them at 12-30 P.M. today. These are very important amendments.

**Mr. Chairman:** Yes, I will consider, but I will not give a decision now.

**Shrimati Khongmen** (Autonomous Distts.—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful that once again we are given this opportunity of discussing the Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. I have read the report with keen interest and I must say that I am very much benefited by the information it gives about the various castes and tribes all over India and the conditions under which they live. I am glad to note that some attempts have been made by several States for the uplift of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, but I regret to say that the progress made is indeed very slow. Though the Commissioner has given several valuable suggestions about the schemes already undertaken by various States, yet it seems that they were not given much importance to; save and except for the establishment of some primary and secondary schools and the construction of a few craft sheds and wells, nothing much has been done to improve the economic conditions of the weaker section of our society. They remain where they were, even after Independence. If the implementation of the schemes goes on at this rate, I am afraid the idea of bringing these people to the same level as those of the rest of India, as laid down in the Constitution, will be a total failure. I entirely agree with the Commissioner that top-most priority should be given of all the schemes of welfare of the country to the backward classes, especially to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. With these remarks, I shall now confine myself to the subject of the scheduled tribes.

[Shrimati Khongmen]

I come from a State where two-thirds of its area is inhabited by different tribes, as the House knows, who are at all stages of development. I think there is no other State in India where one could find so many different tribes who live in different ways and follow different customs and speak different languages. About more than 100 dialects are spoken in that part of the land. We have no common language and yet we have common ties that bind us. These are courage, self-confidence and an independent spirit which is our heritage. I am proud to say that when some parts of India have been conquered and dominated by our past rulers, we, the tribes, the most trusted citizens of India, were the sentinels of our frontiers, and we were the last to be conquered and yet not wholly so. When India became independent, none were happier than ourselves. I feel confident that even now we can make our contribution towards the formation of a Welfare State, provided we are given opportunities to develop ourselves, provided the more privileged and more enlightened section of our people give us a helping hand. So long we have been neglected and we have lost a lot of ground in the race for progress. Now we want extra looking after to make up for that. All the tribes were all along very poor. So, to my mind, their economic condition should first be improved. Sir, living as we do in the hilly regions, the only method of cultivation known is *jhumming*.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** What does it mean?

**Shrimati Khongmen:** By cutting the forests and clearing the jungles and by burning them afterwards crops are grown there. You can call it shifting cultivation. This kind of cultivation is both unproductive and destructive of the flora and fauna of the hills. I venture to suggest that our people should be constantly taught and persuaded to adopt terrace cultivation on an improved method.

Sir, some tribes still live in the primitive stage and they should be taught how to live and clothe themselves. It reflects no credit on India to have a section of her population continue to go without clothing. We have to reach them up and teach them how to substitute clothes for leaves and barks of trees and strips of canes and other creepers. To start with, free supply of clothes should be made available to such tribes. All over the hilly area, there is hardly any road. Communication in the hills is still hopelessly lacking. Save and except one or two roads, there are no roads in this huge hilly area of North East Frontier of India. There are bridle paths here and there, but they also become unusable during most parts of the year. It is difficult to see how the economic conditions of the tribal people could be improved, and how they could be brought nearer to civilization, without access, which means roads. Although quite sizable sums are set apart for this purpose, yet precious little appears to have been done in actual execution. To cite one illustration: the Superintending Engineer of the Central Public Works Department for the North-East Frontier Agency lives at and functions from the Salubrious hill station of Shillong at a distance of about 3,000 miles from the North-East Frontier Agency.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Disgrace.

**Shrimati Khongmen:** I leave it to hon. Members to draw their inference. Regarding Posts and Telegraphs, this may be said to be non-existent, except in the headquarters. Of course, no one would minimize the difficulty of opening posts and telegraphs in the vast hilly region on the frontier, but one fails to see earnest and serious practical effort towards expansion in this direction. I appreciate the anxiety of the Government to do as much and as soon as possible for the welfare of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. But obviously, something is wrong somewhere, and the

execution of the work does not advance apace.

Sir, I would now say a few words about the miserable condition of the hill people and particularly of those in the Pakistan border. Their condition was bad enough before partition. It has become very much worse since. Most people right on the border had some narrow strips of paddy land down below the hilly slopes and the level plain where it touches the Pakistan boundary line. But owing to the gradual encroachment on the part of the Pakistan nationals and owing to the peaceful nature of our people and the unmindedness,—I am sorry to say—of our Government, these paddy lands are lost. Then again, Assam freely accepts the import of fish, egg and other commodities from Sylhet which is in Pakistan, but Pakistan banned all trades with the people of the Khasi and Jaintia Hills, and also with the people of the Garo and Lushai hills. And in consequence, procure such as oranges, betel-nuts and betel-leaves and such other commodities by selling which these people used to earn money, and with which they purchased rice, and other essentials of life, have come to a standstill. The consequence of this on the poor people can very well be imagined. Oranges in huge quantities are rotting and the people have been living on the brink of starvation for want of cereals. I urge upon the Government with all the emphasis at my command that there should be reciprocity in trade with Pakistan, and that the Government of India should come forward with adequate subsidy and other necessary steps for extracting oranges and other commodities from these people without delay and put them into the market where there is a demand. Alongside with these measures, I would suggest as an alternative step that Government should take immediate and effective steps to rehabilitate these people in a more suitable place. Otherwise, these people are heading towards extinction.

The next thing to which I would invite the attention of the House is to the district councils which are functioning in the autonomous districts of Assam. Once, the hon. Home Minister was pleased to say that these were functioning satisfactorily, but I am sorry to say, that the reverse is the case in actual working and that for lack of funds. I would suggest that sufficient funds be placed at the disposal of these councils so that they may function to the best advantage of the people.

Finally, Sir, I would like to say a few words about the social workers.

Mr. Chairman: How long will you take?

Shrimati Khongmen: I am finishing. I mourn in the loss of Mr. B. K. Bhandari who was appointed Regional Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the State of Assam, West Bengal, Tripura and Manipur. He was a tireless social worker; he was a graduate from South India. He went to Assam about 15 years ago to serve the tribal people of Assam under the guidance of the late-lamented Thakkar Bapa. There; he identified himself with the people and lost himself in the service of the neglected. A few years back he died while in the service of the tribal people. The gap which thus caused by his death cannot easily be filled up. He was a rare social worker who is remembered by the poor backward people with gratitude. He left behind his wife and four children who are finding it difficult to make both ends meet. Any help to them by way of grant, pension or both, would be welcomed.

Finally I wish to say about the Christian missionaries. Whatever might be their doing during the British domination in India it cannot be gainsaid that generally speaking they render yeoman service for the uplift of the most backward and neglected tribes. They brought education and civilization to those people.

**An Hon. Member:** Conversion.

**Shrimati Khongmen:** For lack of communication, nobody would care even to know how these people live or die. These missionaries brought appreciable medical relief to the door of these benighted people. They opened treatment centres for leprosy and other diseases, and live and work among them day in and day out, week in and week out. The Welsh Mission hospital at Shillong and the Christian Mission hospital at Jorhat are unique institutions in India. Of late, there appears to be a tendency of not giving a fair deal to these Christian missionaries. Nobody would object to dealing adequately with one who indulges in anti-Indian activities, but to castigate a set of social workers generally and to treat the individual members harshly, without giving an opportunity to know and to explain their acts of omission and commission, is, to my mind, unfair to those foreign missionaries, and unhelpful to India herself. This again is likely to be misunderstood by some hill people, particularly, in the Khasi, Jaintia, Naga and Lushai hills. I therefore beg to convey a note of caution in this matter.

**Mr. Chairman:** I have received notice of amendments only today. I hope the hon. Minister has no objection to those amendments being moved. I will call upon the hon. Members and take those amendments as moved. Of course, they will be circulated to the hon. Members.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

"and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that—

- (a) proper representation should be given to the Scheduled Castes in the diplomatic services and in the appointment of Governors of States;
- (b) the Scheduled Castes of the Jammu and Kashmir State

should be given due representation in Government services according to their population, and all the facilities and privileges enjoyed by the Scheduled Castes in India be extended to the Scheduled Castes of that State;

- (c) a sum of Rs. 25 crores be set apart in the first Five Year Plan, for the amelioration of the conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, in view of their backwardness in all walks of life;
- (d) the Scheduled Caste refugees from Pakistan should be given the first priority in the matter of monetary compensation on account of their sheer poverty and helplessness;
- (e) the posts reserved for the Scheduled Castes should not be filled by candidates belonging to other communities and that in case the Government find that suitable Scheduled Caste candidates are not available necessary steps should be taken by Government to arrange for the training of the Scheduled Castes to bring them up to the desired standard;
- (f) a suitable machinery should be set up at the Centre for proper implementation of the recommendations of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and other facilities provided for by the Government and that an Advisory Committee consisting of members drawn from the ranks of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes should be appointed to advise Government in this behalf.
- (g) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be recruited direct in the cadres of the I.A.S. and the I.P.S. in order

to give them due representation according to their population ;

- (h) the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be given due representation in the Defence Services of India ;
- (i) small scale industries such as tanning, weaving, mat-making, shoe-making, etc., should be opened by the State Governments in villages in order to remove unemployment among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- (j) while issuing permits, and allotting quotas etc. for exports and imports due consideration should be given to the Scheduled Castes in order to improve their economic conditions.

Shri K. C. Jena (Balasore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that in order to avoid delay and help speedy progress, a separate Ministry should be in charge of the welfare and upliftment work of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.”

Shri Elayaperumal (Cuddalore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

(1) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that the children of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be sent for foreign studies according to their population and also they should be given free education in all stages that is, primary, secondary, university and technical.”

(2) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that if anybody compels any person belonging to the Scheduled Castes against his wish or will to do any kind of work or labour it must be an offence and also that such offence must be treated as cognizable and the offenders must be punished with fine or rigorous imprisonment or both.”

(3) That in the motion, the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that:—

(a) in the list of Scheduled Castes the names of Thottli, Vettiyan and Thalayari and so called drum-beaters' should be included”

(b) it must be made an offence for higher caste Hindus to compel against his wish any person belonging to the Scheduled Castes to beat nasty drums at the time of death ceremonies in their houses.”

(4) That in the motion the following be added at the end, namely:—

“and having considered the same, this House is of opinion that—

(a) Scheduled Castes occupying Government peromoboke land where they have built houses should not beget vacated through the Revenue officers or other Revenue Authorities and that such land should be given to the Scheduled Castes occupying it.

(b) a percentage of post of village Munichief and Kernam (village Headmen) must be reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in every state in India.”

श्री कजलोलकर : चे प्रमन महोदय,  
भाज सभा के सामने शेड्यूलड कास्टस और

[श्री कजरोल्कर]

शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइम्स की १९५२ की जो रिपोर्ट विचार के लिये आई है उस का मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। पहले तो जिस ने इस रिपोर्ट को तैयार किया उन शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स और शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइम्स के कमिश्नर श्रीयुत श्रीकान्त भाई को मैं धन्यवाद देता हूँ। जिस दिन से .....

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : तब फिर एमेन्डमेंट की क्या जरूरत है ?

श्री कजरोल्कर : जरूरत है।

Mr. Chairman: I would advise the hon. Member not to mind the interruptions, but proceed.

श्री कजरोल्कर : यह डिपार्टमेंट डा० काटजू साहब के पास है और डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब हमारे मित्र दातार साहब इस मामले में बहुत दिलचस्पी लेते हैं, इस के लिये मैं इन लोगों को भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ। लेकिन साथ ही साथ इस रिपोर्ट में जो कमतरता है उस को भी मैं बतलाने का प्रयत्न करूंगा।

गत वर्ष इस पार्लियामेंट में डा० काटजू साहब ने कहा था कि रिमूवल ऑफ अनटचेबिलिटी बिल जल्दी ही लाया जायेगा, लेकिन इस सेशन में यह बिल नहीं आया है यह दुःख की बात है क्यों कि इस बिल की बहुत जल्दी जरूरत है।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : क्यों लायेंगे बाबा ?

श्री कजरोल्कर : मेहरबानी कर के जरा चुप बैठिये।

हमारी सरकार को इस के लिये जल्दी बिल लाना चाहिये। लेकिन इस के साथ ही खाली बिल लाने से ही काम नहीं चलेगा। इस का कुछ असर होने के लिये जरूरी है कि रिमूवल ऑफ अनटचेबिलिटी के प्रोविगन्ड के लिये प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये और

कुछ रकम रखी जाये। और इस को १९५३-५४ के बजट में रखा गया है इस का भी मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। लेकिन साथ ही मेरा यह कहना है कि यह तो खाली एक वर्ष की स्कीम है। रिमूवल ऑफ अनटचेबिलिटी एक वर्ष में नहीं हो सकती और न हजारों वर्ष की अप्रसूयता का महा रोग एक वर्ष के अन्दर मिटाया जा सकता है। मेरी प्रार्थना है कि यह जो स्कीम है इस को पांच वर्ष के लिये किया जाय।

शिक्षा के बारे में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गत वर्ष अग्नारेबिल फाइनेन्स मिनिस्टर, श्री सी० डी० देशमुख ने हमारी विनती स्वीकार कर के स्कालरशिप्स के लिये जो १९५२ के पहले १५ लाख रुपये मिलते थे उसे इस वर्ष ५० लाख रुपये कर दिया है, मैं यह भी सुनता हूँ कि यह ५० लाख रुपये विद्याथियों के लिये काफी नहीं हुए तो १० लाख रुपये और देने की योजना चल रही है। इस के लिये मैं उन को धन्यवाद देता हूँ। इस वर्ष कुछ फारेन स्कालरशिप्स के लिये भी प्रबन्ध किया है, लेकिन वह बहुत ही कम है।

इस के बाद मैं हास्टेल्स के बारे में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने स्टेट गवर्नमेंटों को यह इन्स्ट्रक्शन दिया कि जिन स्टेट्स में खाली शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के लिये हास्टेल्स हैं उन के अन्दर सवर्ण हिन्दू स्टुडेंट्स को भी लिया जाय। इस पर हमारे कई हरिजन भाई बोले कि अगर हमारे हास्टेल्स में १०० का स्थान होगा और उन के अन्दर कुछ सवर्ण स्टुडेंट्स को लिया जायेगा तो हमारा कोटा कम हो जायेगा। इस के लिये मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार हरिजन छोकरों के लिये जो ग्रान्ट देती है उस ग्रान्ट के अन्दर कोई कमी न की जाय।



*Scheduled Castes and  
Scheduled Tribes*

अब सविस के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस ओर बहुत कम तरफकी हुई है। इस के बारे में मैं आप को एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। सविस के बारे में सौराष्ट्र की गवर्नमेंट ने और सौराष्ट्र के चीफ मिनिस्टर देबर भाई ने जो कदम उठाया है वह बहुत अभिनन्दनीय है, और अगर मुझे टाइम मिले तो मैं उन्हीं ने जो खत मुझे भेजा है उस को पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूँ।

"I have seen from my experience that there is no half-way house between the circular the Saurashtra Government has issued and the object we have in view,

for the least gap in the rules works against the objective. We have to see how this circular is implemented. I am sending here-with a copy of the press note."

यह प्रेस नोट भी मैं पढ़ कर सुनाता लेकिन समय बहुत कम है।

**Mr. Chairman:** I think the hon. Member is likely to take some more time. It is now half past six and I adjourn the House till half past one tomorrow.

*The House then adjourned till Half Past One of the Clock on Friday, the 18th December, 1953.*