

[Shri Karmarkar]

The Assistant Director of Public Health, accompanied by the Medical Officer of Health, Hazaribagh Mines Board, visited these Coalfields on the 16th March, 1958. He has reported that there has been no epidemic of smallpox in these coalfields, although there have been one case of smallpox and 4 cases of chickenpox in the Jarangdi Colliery; 15 cases of chickenpox and one case of measles in the Bokaro Colliery; 3 cases of smallpox and 35 cases of chickenpox in the Karagali Colliery; and one case of smallpox in the Dhori Colliery, during the period 1st February to 16th March, 1958. Except one case of death from smallpox in the Karagali Colliery, no other deaths have been reported.

Mass vaccinations against smallpox have been carried out by the local health officers among the population of these collieries.

The Colliery hospital at Bokaro has facilities for 100 isolation beds, which in an emergency can be increased to 250 beds.

The Karagali Colliery has an 8-bedded infectious diseases hospital which can be made into a 25 to 30 bedded hospital in an emergency.

Though there is at present no infectious diseases ward in the Jarangdi colliery hospital, facilities are available for the setting up of temporary isolation wards in an emergency.

In the Dhori Colliery where there are no facilities for isolation of infectious cases, the Superintendent of the Colliery was advised by the Assistant Director of Public Health to set up a temporary hospital in the event of a threat of epidemic of smallpox.

The Medical Officer of Health, Mines Board, informed the Assistant Director of Public Health that he did not require any assistance at present from the Directorate of Health Services, Bihar, as he had sufficient staff avail-

able at his disposal. In case any help was needed, he would, however, contact the latter.

The Government of Bihar feel that the steps taken to protect the colliery population against any possible outbreak of smallpox in an epidemic form, and the facilities available for isolation and treatment of cases and for setting up of additional isolation wards, are adequate to meet the situation.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT —contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Community Development. Out of five hours allotted for these Demands, Two hours and Thirty-nine minutes now remain. I propose to call the hon. Minister at—how long does he propose to take?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): One hour to one hour and fifteen minutes.

Mr. Speaker: I will call him at 1-30. It will be all right. He will have one hour and ten minutes.

Shri S. K. Dey: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member Shri Pahadia can continue his speech. Not present. Pandit D. N. Tiwary.

One word. Private Members' business will start at 2-30 normally. This will go on till 2-40 as I have announced. Therefore, we will start Private Members' work at 2-40 and carry on for ten minutes more after Five.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary (Kesaria): Mr. Speaker, this is the sixth year of the community development work in this country. A great experiment is going on on which depends the improvement

of the villages. The aim of the Development Block is not only to show some progress in the various nation-building works which have been undertaken for the uplift of the country-side, but the real aim is to rouse the consciousness of the people, to bring initiative to them and to create leadership from among the village people. Let us see how far we have been able to succeed in this and what machinery has been employed for the execution of these works.

Last year, while replying to the debate, the hon. Minister who has got not only the theoretical knowledge, but also practical knowledge, as he was in charge of the direction of programmes for many years, said about the old executing machinery:

"The officers set up administrative fronts or institutions and tried to make the best use of these institutions for themselves. If the villager even approached any of these institutions, either he was harassed or driven away."

What remedy has he found? He said:

"These projects were intended to be like the yogic exercise for the human system. . . . It is a remarkable form of exercise. If a person is in good health, it improves his health. If a person is in bad health and is ailing from something which cannot be easily diagnosed by a doctor, then, yogic exercise applied to the ailing system will show to the doctor what really was not visible earlier. We worked this yogic exercise on this system of Government and we discovered a lot of troubles really ailing the Government apparatus from top to the bottom."

This is the remedy he has suggested and he has applied for the reform of the apparatus. Let us see how far he has been successful—this is a wonderful analysis—whether even after the lapse of six years, the ap-

paratus has been reformed and whether they are actually executing the plans in accordance with the aims.

Last year, when several shortcomings in the execution of the work of the Plan were pointed out, he said,

"The Ministry will make a very careful note of everything that has been said in the debate. . . . I have decided that the entire debate in this House, every word that has been said should be compiled in a new booklet and sent to State Governments, to our workers at all levels, so that they may understand and at least know what hon. Members of the House think about their programme."

We had expected that the reactions of the State Governments and also of the workers would be available to us so that we may know how they want to develop the plan. I had a talk with some officers of the department. They said that they had no knowledge and I simply found a derisive smile on their faces on this suggestion of the hon. Minister. The test of the pudding is in the eating. Let us see what improvement has been brought about within the last year. We have got a report for last year. It is a stereotyped report. Nothing has been given as to what new ways have been devised for the execution of the projects. Of course, when a large sum of money is spent in a particular area, there is bound to be some achievement, but the real point is whether these achievements are commensurate with the amount spent. Let us analyse the achievements and the expenditure.

In the block area, excluding the loans that are given for credit facilities, we spend about Rs. 4 lakhs for every block. Out of that nearly Rs. 1 lakh is spent on building offices, staff quarters, on motors etc. Another Rs. 1 lakh is spent on emoluments, petrol, T.A., etc. Only Rs. 2 lakhs remain to be spent on development work. This is a very high figure, and I would suggest to the Minister that it is no use building huge buildings for staff

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quarters or offices. The officers will be withdrawn within a few years. What will become of those staff quarters then? There will be none to repair them even. The villagers have not been given sufficient economic improvement to maintain those buildings.

I see the B.D.O.s in our State are also entrusted with revenue collection work. If it is meant that after the withdrawal of the staff from the community blocks, those buildings are to remain in the hands of revenue officers, then why fasten the load on the development blocks? Why not make those buildings from the revenue side?

My other suggestion is not to make palatial buildings, but to put up huts, good huts which may last for ten to 15 years, and although they may not be very palatial, they may give every comfort to the officers and the staff. That will diminish the expenditure on buildings and other things, and that money can be utilised in the execution of the development plans.

What do the villagers require these days? Not only roads, but some economic advantage, the betterment of their economic condition. Let us see what has been done in the matter of economic improvement.

Out of 150 million population covered so far by blocks in 2,76,000 villages, we have given full-time employment only to 23,692 and half-time employment to 45,183 villages. That is, one in every six villages has obtained half-time employment, and one in every twelve villages has obtained full-time employment. Even the trained artisans have not been employed in full.

The report enumerates the difficulties such as not finding sufficient money, rules and regulations for granting money being defective etc. Let us see what has been done to remove them. It is a dismal picture. It does not give credit to the Minis-

ter's claim for reforming the apparatus of the administration by yogic exercise. Something should be done immediately to rid the administration of its red-tapism and official mentality.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Sirasasan!

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Then only we can succeed. In agriculture something seems to have been done by way of seed and fertiliser distribution, but that is very small considering the size and the number of villages in the block. Statistics should have been given as to what has been the increase in the output of agriculture in the block areas. Hitherto I am afraid the result is not very encouraging.

In my State when the drought situation came and there was a crisis, these block areas did not fare better than those areas which are outside the block. Distribution of seeds etc., is not the end of the job, but only the means for greater production. What has been achieved should have been told. We are spending a huge amount on a limited number of villages at the cost of other villages, if I may say so. If we do not improve our achievement, we are doomed. We have not created a sense of initiative and responsibility in the villages which is so very necessary for leadership. I do not want to criticise the officers because the responsibility is ours and that of the Government. We have to see that proper persons are deputed to the block areas. In my opinion, in the name of all-round development, we have undertaken too many works which we are not able to cope with. Let us concentrate on one or two items so that we may be able to do full justice to them. About the other works, let the other departments which are doing the work in other areas do it there also. There is a saying in Hindi:

एकत्रि साधे सब मधे, सब साधे एक जय

If you take many works at one time and do not concentrate on one or two

items, all will go to the dogs. So, I want that the Minister should concentrate on a few items.

Of all the problems, agriculture and cottage industries are the most important for improving the economic life of a villager. All efforts should be concentrated on the improvement of these two. All the regulations and rules which stand in the way of a speedy execution of these two items should be scrapped.

The village economy is the economy of agriculture. We have to lay the greatest emphasis on this aspect. If America and other countries are producing many times what we are producing, there is no reason why we cannot reach even that target. So, given proper facilities, our agriculturists can achieve the same wonder which is being done in other countries. Production of sufficient food will not only improve the status of the villagers, but will also do away with the greatest headache of the Government, that is, shortage of food and expending foreign exchange on food import. This will also do away with the clamouring for increase in emoluments. When the prices are stabilised and there is more food in the country, the people who are serving the Government or other departments will be satisfied, and there will be no need for this clamour.

Let us admit that so far we have failed in our attempts. Now, what is to be done to succeed? I put forward a few points for your consideration here.

The first is concentration of efforts to increase the income of village people by intensive agriculture and cottage industries. Only these two can put some money in the hands of the villagers, so that if we withdraw after two, three or five years from the village, they can maintain those organisations and serve the people in a better way.

The second is, efforts should be made to create leadership in the villages with initiative and a sense of

responsibility. So far we have failed to do this. What we have done, is done like a Government department. The whole show is run by Government officers. The village people who have been kept in the advisory committees are not much cared for. Their advice is not respected. Moreover, officers who are in charge or who are the chairmen of these advisory committees try to set one set of villagers against the other, so that their position may be maintained.

Thirdly, co-operatives and *gram panchayats* should be established in every village on a democratic basis. Even the Estimates Committee and other committees have recommended for the election of panchayats on a democratic basis. I understand that some instructions have been sent to the States in this matter, but I do not know how far the States have co-operated in this attempt. If statistics had been given to us, and the position had been explained clearly in the annual report, then, of course, we would have understood what has been done and what has not been done.

My fourth point is about the officers. It is the officers who are there to execute the work. They are the pivot of this work; all things move round them. So, officers of proper calibre should be sent there and not any officer, any deputy commissioner or district magistrate or sub-divisional officer should be put in charge of these development works. I would suggest that for having proper personnel, we should relax the rules of appointment and seek the services of people from the social organisations or *gram udyog* or like organisations so that we may have better calibre of people who can understand the circumstances of the people and execute the works in the proper spirit.

My fifth point is about the village level workers. The village level workers are saddled with too many items of work, and they are required to be experts in every sphere. I would suggest that the load of work on the

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village level workers should be lessened so that they can devote their energy to special items which will bring about improvement in the village life.

Shri Basappa (Tiptur): I am very thankful to you for having given me the chance to speak. I am one of those who think that the Ministry of Community Development has done some work and it has attained some success. Of course, the work is enormous, and it takes a long time to fulfil the noble objectives for which this Ministry has come into existence. The little success that has been attained is in no small measure due to our hon. Minister and also to the valuable report of the Mehta Committee which went into the working of the whole Ministry.

Of course, nowadays the shift seems to be on food production in the community development blocks. And that is a very good feature. But that does not mean that we should forget the welfare side of the whole thing, namely that schools will have to be built, roads will have to be formed, wells will have to be dug and so on. All these welfare activities must also go on. Still, under the present circumstances, we all know that the shift is in favour of greater production, and it is no doubt a good and correct move. In the Ministry of Community Development, we see a sort of common agency whereby the activities of all the Ministries are brought under one head, and rural upliftment has to go on. In this work, co-ordination between the activities of the State Governments and those of the Central Government becomes very necessary. When we refer to one or two subjects here, at once the answer is given that it is the States which have to implement those plans, and, therefore, we have to approach the States. But in the States we find that owing to some lethargy or some other reason not much work is being done. Therefore, I would submit that the expenditure of the amounts that are

given from the Centre must be supervised properly, and the lethargy of the State Governments must be put an end to.

The most important link in this chain is the village level worker and the block development officer. Now-a-days, they have not got much strength, and they are not able to influence sufficiently the village people. They have to be strengthened, and democratic decentralisation will have to be fully implemented before public co-operation can be got in a larger measure.

When we analyse the Demands for Grants of this Ministry, we find—and even the Fourth Evaluation Report has mentioned it—a disquieting feature. It has been stated in that report that even though the national extension service work has been going on for a long time, still fifty per cent of the people of those areas do not know what a national extension service block is and how the work is going on. This is certainly a disquieting feature. So, the question of giving proper publicity must be attended to, so that the people there know about it fully well.

Everyone has admitted that the very object of bringing into existence these community development centres is to nurture self-reliance and self-initiative. Of course, the physical targets are there. Sometimes, those physical targets are boosted up; the old wells are repaired a little and they are made to appear as if they were very big ones. Of course, I do not deny the physical targets; a large sum of money has been spent, and some little work has been done. But the more important thing is self-initiative and self-reliance of the people. And how far we have been able to bring that about is the criterion by which we have to judge the whole thing. Judging from that criterion, I think much more remains to be done. I find that co-operatives are not deriving as much benefit from these community development centres as they

ought to. In these circumstances, I feel that more work will have to be done.

Another criterion from which we have to judge the whole thing is to whom the benefits of these go. I believe it may be worrying the hon. Minister himself that sometimes these benefits go to the richer classes, while the real persons to whom they should go are not getting any benefit. Care should be taken to see that these benefits go to the real persons for whom they are intended.

About the location of these development blocks, there are big controversies even in my State, and since they have assumed a very big proportion, I venture to mention them here on the floor of the House. It has been mentioned clearly, and it has been admitted also that the headquarters of these blocks should be as far as possible in the interior of the villages. But this is left to the State Governments, and political pressures are brought to bear on the State Governments, and they try to have them only in the taluk headquarters or tehsil headquarters. This is a very bad feature. Of course, they may say that from the point of view of administrative convenience they have located them there. But the more important thing to remember is that the object is to see that the villagers are benefited most. So, as far as possible, the headquarters should be taken into the interior, and particularly when it has been inaugurated in the village parts, and an amount of Rs. 80,000 or Rs. 90,000 is spent on office buildings and so on; so, merely because of some political pressure, you should not shift the headquarters from the villages to the taluk headquarters. I would like to emphasise this fact because in my State, unfortunately, in some ways it is going on, and it has assumed some proportion.

The next point that I would like to state is about the wasteful expenditure in these development blocks. It

has become somewhat scandalous to see that the jeeps belonging to these development blocks are not properly used. I myself know that they are taken for different purposes, and a lot of petrol which is spent on other accounts is debited to the accounts of the community development block. Therefore, it should be our endeavour to see that this money which is meant for a very good purpose is properly made use of.

Another thing which I would like to point out is about the lack of co-ordination at various levels. Of course, the official elements are there and the non-official elements are there. But I have seen that the officials still do not encourage many non-officials coming there. Of course, when the hon. Minister inaugurated recently a seminar in my State, it is quite possible that on the opening day a few non-officials were there. But I went there the next day—I also took part in it—and found only three or four MLAs and all the other paraphernalia were all officials. There may be many reasons for this. I do not attribute any motives to anybody. But things must be so arranged that a larger measure of non-official co-operation is there.

What I noticed in that seminar was that they did not take any final decisions about the matter. They simply discussed matters. The Chief Secretary of the State will say that he will take note of all that has been said and implement them as far as possible. I say—I said this on that occasion also—that some sort of findings must be arrived at, so that all the conclusions definitely arrived at must be implemented. But there seems to be some difference of opinion on that. Therefore, it is up to this Parliament and to the Central Government and the local governments to see that definite conclusions are arrived at in such seminars. Otherwise, the very purpose of these seminars will not be properly served.

Of course, when I say all these things, I am quite aware of the achievements. In these hard days with

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a difficult food situation, the community development programme has contributed a great deal to the increase of food production. There is no doubt about that. But so far as irrigation facilities are concerned, we have to pay great attention to minor irrigation works. In this respect, the rules will have to be modified. There is lack of engineers to work in all these community development areas. Therefore, more attention will have to be paid to this aspect of the question.

Also, about animal husbandry, some work is going on, but co-ordination is not sufficient and greater efforts should be made in the work of artificial insemination so as to have a good breed; efforts should also be made in the direction of castration of scrub bulls which will not yield a good breed. Our land is infected with so many diseases which affect animals. Steps should also be taken to protect animals from those diseases.

There is one other matter which I want to emphasise, and that is with regard to the training of personnel. At every stage, training will have to be done on a systematic basis. The village level worker, the BDO and other officers should be given proper training so that may have a correct approach to the whole problem, so that far from the enthusiasm among the people being curbed, they are encouraged. Of course, I admit that these officers may have superior intellect. But they should not assume a sort of officialdom over the public. If in the spirit of service they can take more non-officials without creating splits among themselves, much can be achieved. I hope that this Ministry will see that all these things are put on a proper level so that implementation of these projects is effected more efficiently.

Shri S. A. Mehdi (Rampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to speak. In my opinion, this Ministry has taken quite a long time to do whatever work it has done, and in

spite of taking about 50 per cent of the entire village population under the programme, it has not succeeded in stimulating the feeling and the spirit in which it intended to do it. Actually, right from the beginning since 1952 till now, it has done the work of establishment, establishing its centres, constructing its buildings, training its people—its officers and men—and it has not yet reached the heart of the villages and has not yet reached the core of its operation.

As far as the beginning of any plan is concerned, it always takes time; it always takes a lot of time to dig its roots, to establish itself in such a vast area, in such remote parts of our country, in such backward conditions. It has to face such difficulties as his Ministry has to face. And that is why, first centres are established in tehsil and sub-division and district headquarters, but after that and till the establishment of the last centre in a district, it will be a difference of about 10 years, and by the time the last centre, the backward centre of a district, starts getting the benefits out of this Ministry, the first one would be much ahead. Therefore, it will create an imbalance in the progress of the district or of the villages or of the people.

I must say that this establishment work should have been accelerated. Establishment work and training work should have been done within the first five years and not extended to the second five years. Now I am sorry to learn that it has been further staggered into the Third Five Year Plan.

Secondly, this agency has created and further extended the official atmosphere in the villages. It is treated as another district or subdivisional headquarters of a government agency. As Shri B. G. Mehta has suggested—so many suggestions have also been made in this House and from the

States—these centres should be connected further and more intimately with people's bodies like district boards and panchayats and they should be democratised more. Therefore, I think it is high time that these centres merged themselves in the heart of the villages and not took the shape of another official or government agency.

Shri Raghbir Sahai (Budaun): Shri B. G. Mehta has suggested that district boards should be abolished and they should take their place.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: I think that is a very far-reaching and very deep suggestion which should be adopted as soon as possible. Amalgamation with the *bhoodan* and *gramdan* movements will give it the correct spirit, the spirit of sacrifice of Acharya Vinoba Bhave. I hope it will give it that missionary spirit which it requires very badly. I hope association with the *gramdan* movement will help this Ministry and these centres in creating an atmosphere which they very badly require.

Local assistance, local village talents, local atmosphere and local problems—all these have not yet been taken up by these centres. I know about two or three districts in which all the best parts were taken up first, and the backward portions have not yet been taken up; probably they will be the last to be taken up. Their local needs and requirements are there; their talent abilities and capacities have not been developed and they are still dormant as they were before this movement started. Because of the shortage of food, the distribution of seeds, manure and other agricultural facilities were done previously by other Ministries also through seed stores and other agencies. But, the co-ordination of these agencies has been done to a great extent by this Ministry. The real need is to go to these villages and tap the creative capacity which has been lying there

with the small artisans and to encourage small talents and small industry by financial help or other forms of assistance—to let these people help themselves to develop their own conditions. Now that this Ministry has been made the agency for all development and planning, I hope that it will be able to co-ordinate the work of all the Ministries which have failed to reach the villages separately.

In my opinion, this Ministry has to do a great job; it has to do a vast job and the magnitude of its task and the difficulties it has to face are very great. There should be as little time taken as possible in establishing the agencies. The first step, which Shri Asoka Mehta referred to as the initial step should be taken as quickly as possible to get the full advantage of the training centres in order to be able to do something really in the villages to uplift them. The Panchayats and District Boards should be re-shaped as soon as possible and they should be given more funds to do some work in the villages and not sit in their centres.

I know about two District Boards. Out of 5 tehsils, only 2 have received the benefit of these centres. Only in 2 places, there are C. D. centres and both of them are very big tehsils. In other portions, the conditions are still the same. I think there should be a District Advisory Council or Committee which should be asked to take a balanced view in creating these centres, and to utilise other agencies such as panchayats in doing the work of distribution of material from the agricultural department. They should be encouraged to spread the benefit to other parts also where these centres have not yet started, in order to create a balance in the progress of the entire area.

Another thing which is very important is to have a seminar or to have competitions between local artistes and prize distributions or annual functions or something like that at the tehsil

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headquarters or the C. D. centres. They should encourage the local craftsmen by means of competitions or exhibitions so that the hidden talents in these villages may be brought out. It will create a competitive atmosphere which will attract these people to these centres and the centres would also be able to pick up these talents.

Another way of enlisting the help of the talents of the villages is to recruit from the villages people for training. The B.D.Os are of course from the State Service; the other officers also have an official capacity. Only the Gram Sevaks and the Gram Sevikas and Gram Sahayaks are supposed to be from the local villages. Only this part of the organisation comes from the villages where the centres are. There appears to be a deep gulf between these Gram Sevaks, Gram Sevikas and the Gram Sahayaks and the officials. There appears to be a gulf between those recruited from the villages and the officers. I think the people's bodies like panchayats and District Boards should be given an opportunity to select these people; or there should be an election for these people and they should come as representatives of the villages and not as recruits from the villages.

Mr. Speaker: I said that I would call upon the hon. Minister at 1.30. If the House is willing to sit till 5.30 and start non-official business at 3, I can call upon the hon. Minister at 2 o'clock instead of at 1.30. One or two more Members may be able to speak.

Some Hon. Members: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: I will then call upon the Minister at 2 o'clock. He will have a full hour. The House will sit till 5.30 today and the non-official business will be taken up at 3 o'clock.

Shri Sanganna (Koraput—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): No member from Orissa has spoken.

Mr. Speaker: I will try to distribute the time. I have not forgotten Mr. Sanganna. . . (Interruptions.) I know some people have spoken.

An Hon. Member: Himachal Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: It must go with the Punjab as early as possible.

Sardar A. S. Saigal (Janjgir): Nobody has spoken from Madhya Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: I know. I have noted down.

Time permitting, I will call everyone.

श्री रामम् (नरसापुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कम्यूनिटी डेवेलपमेंट के अन्तर्गत जो कार्य हो रहा है, मैं उसके बारे में अपने विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ।

इस योजना के सहारे हम देहाती भारत की तरक्की करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि अब तक इस योजना के अधीन देहात के लोगों को कच्चे रास्ते बनवाने और कुछ खुदवाने इत्यादि साधारण सहायता ही दी जा रही है। समाज के विकास की इस प्लैन से हम यह आशा करते हैं कि इसके सहारे इस देश के सारे देहात की तरक्की होगी और उनका जीवन-स्तर ऊंचा होगा। इस दृष्टि से यदि हम देखें, तो हमें पता लगता है कि जिस तरीके से इस प्लैन के सम्बन्ध में कार्यवाही की जा रही है, उसमें बड़ी बड़ी कमजोरियाँ हैं। बिना उन कमजोरियों को दूर किये इस प्लैन से ज्यादा फायदा नहीं हो सकता।

जहाँ तक एग्रीकल्चर और ग्राम का सम्बन्ध है, इस स्कीम में हम खेती की तरक्की चाहते हैं। जो रिपोर्ट हमें दी गई है, उसमें हम ऐसे आंकड़े ही बहुत पाते हैं कि देहात में

इसमें मेम्बोर्ड डिस्ट्रिक्ट किये गये हैं लेकिन यह देहात में देकते हैं कि इन फर्टी-फाइडर का इस प्रकार बंटवारा हो रहा है कि वे केवल चन्द आदमियों के ही हाथ में जाते हैं। हम सभी कहते हैं कि हमको लोगों से बहुत कम सहायता मिलती है और लोग इस योजना में मदद नहीं देते। वे मदद क्यों नहीं देते हैं? इसके बारे में हमको खुद सोचना पड़ेगा। हम देखते हैं कि देहात के लोगों को हम जो सहायता देना चाहते हैं, वह सहायता कुछ धनी नामी लोगों के हाथ में जाती है। लेकिन देहाती भारत में जो किसान हैं, छोटी छोटी जमीनें जिनके पास हैं, जिन लोगों के हाथ में पांच या पांच एकड़ से कम जमीन है, उनकी संख्या पचास फी सदी से ज्यादा है और अगर हम उन लोगों की संख्या देखें, जिनके पास दस एकड़ जमीन है, तो हमें ज्ञात होगा कि उनका परसेंटेज १६ से १८ तक है। लेकिन हम सहायता किसको देते हैं? जो हम पैडिग्री बुल्ड, मेन्योर्ड और लोन्ड बयैरह देते हैं, वे सिर्फ नामी धनी लोगों के हाथ में जाते हैं। इस स्थिति में निचले दर्जे के गरीब और छोटे छोटे किसानों को सहायता कैसे मिलेगी। उन लोगों का हमारी इस योजना के साथ क्या ताल्लुक होगा, इस पर हमें सोचना चाहिये और इस सम्बन्ध में जो गलतियां हों, उनको हमें सुधारना चाहिये। नहीं तो हमको इस योजना में लोगों की सहायता नहीं मिलेगी।

को-आपरेटिव और को-आपरेटिव क्रेडिट का भी यही हाल दिखाई पड़ता है। हमारे गोदावरी जिले में जहां कहीं निचले दर्जे के, पांच एकड़, दो एकड़ वाले गरीब किसानों की कोई को-आपरेटिव सोसाइटी बनी या कोई करल बैंक बना, तो कुछ सैंड-सांडूज बयैरह आ कर यह कहते हैं कि वे कम्युनिस्ट हैं, सोसलिस्ट हैं, इसलिये इसको रजिस्टर न करो। वे इस प्रकार की रकावटें डालते हैं और छोटे छोटे किसानों को बहुत ही

विकलता में लानी पड़ती है। को-आपरेटिव मूवमेंट को हम बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, लेकिन लोगों को सहायता हासिल करने में बड़ी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है। जो पार्टी सरकार में बैठी है, उस पार्टी का रुख बदलना चाहिये। लोगों को सहायता पहुंचाने के लिये जो जो कदम उठाने चाहिये, उनको यह सरकार नहीं उठाती है। यह आवश्यक है कि सरकार अपनी कार्यवाही में, अपने रुख में सुधार करे। योजना मंत्री को इस और ध्यान देना चाहिये।

ग्राम सेवकों को जो ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है, उसकी धोर भी में भाषका ध्यान दिखाना चाहता हूं। उनके सिलेबस में बारह, चौदह सबजेक्ट्स हैं। हमने बलवन्तराय मेहता की रिपोर्ट में देखा कि वह इस सिलेबस को काफी नहीं समझते हैं और इसको धोर भी बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। इसके बारे में उन्होंने कुछ सलाह दी है। हम देखते हैं कि ग्राम सेवकों को बीसवीं सबजेक्ट्स पढ़ाये जाते हैं, उनको ट्रेनिंग दी जाती है, परन्तु वे किसी भी सबजेक्ट में प्रवीण नहीं हो पाते—किसी भी सबजेक्ट का उनको काफी ज्ञान नहीं है। जिन कामों में किसान का सारा धन खगा होता है और जिन पर उसकी खिन्दगी निर्भर करती है, उनमें वह इस प्रभूरे ज्ञान के कारण ग्राम सेवक से सलाह या सहायता लेने से डरता है। ग्राम सेवकों को एग्रीकल्चर और वेटेरिनरी के बारे में भी पूरा ज्ञान नहीं होता है। जेनरल नालेज और जेनरल प्रापेगेंडा के जो काम हैं, उनके बारे में गवर्नमेंट से तनख्वाह पाने वाले लोगों से काम करवाने का कोई फायदा नहीं है और उस को हम ठीक नहीं समझते हैं, क्योंकि ऐसा प्रापेगेंडा हम सोशल वर्कर्स और पोलिटिकल वर्कर्स के जरिये करवा सकते हैं। लेकिन हमारे देश में कमी क्या है? सभी कामों में लेक्चर देने वालों की कमी नहीं है, लेकिन हर एक सबजेक्ट में काफ़ी ज्ञान की कमी है, टेक्निकल ट्रेनिंग की कमी है। चूंकि हमारे यहां टेक्निकल पर्सनेल नहीं

[श्री रामन्]

हमारी तरफकी नहीं होती है, ऐसा सब लोग कहते हैं। जब टेक्निकल ट्रेनिंग की कमी हो, तो इस वक्त बीस-सबजेक्ट्स को छोड़ कर केवल एक सबजेक्ट में डेढ़ दो साल की ट्रेनिंग दी जानी चाहिये। इस सिलेबस में इन सब-जेक्ट्स का जित्र किया गया है —

simple medicine chest, soil conservation, revenue matters, planning, Panchayat co-operatives, agricultural implements, rural industries, economics, improved tools, inoculation, working knowledge of basic education, social education, animal husbandry, public health, nutrition elements of various manures, fertilizers nitrogen requirements of various crops, etc.

हम ग्राम सेवक को ऐसी बातें सिखाना चाहते हैं, जो कि एग्सीक्यूटिव का बी० एस० सी० डिप्लोमेट भी नहीं बता सकता है। हम छाल डेढ़ साल ग्राम सेवक को लैक्चर देंगे, परन्तु गांव में वह किस सबजेक्ट में सहायता दे सकता है? किस सबजेक्ट में वह जिम्मेवारी से लोगों को भलाह दे सकता है? इस तरह की ट्रेनिंग देना पैसा बर्बाद करना है, लेकिन ग्रामीण लोगों को, जनता को, ऐसी ट्रेनिंग के जरिये टेक्निकल सहायता नहीं मिलेगी। इसलिये ट्रेनिंग पद्धति को बदलना चाहिये। सिर्फ प्रापेगंडा करने के लिये ट्रेनिंग देने पर इतना पैसा खर्च करने की जरूरत नहीं है। इसलिये हम चाहते हैं कि एग्सीक्यूटिव, कुछ रास्ते बगैरह बनाने के लिये इंजीनियरिंग, वैट्रिनरी या मेडिकल प्रिन्स्टेंस, ऐसी ज्ञान बातों में, दो तीन सबजेक्ट्स में ट्रेनिंग देनी चाहिये और एक डिप्लोमा कोर्स विस्तार देना चाहिये। इस तरह वेहात में टेक्निकल सहायता मिल जायेगी। इस ट्रेनिंग में इस समय जो कमजोरियां हैं, उनको दूर करने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिये। इस धोर में मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं।

प्रश्न में हेल्थ और सोशल एजुकेशन के बारे में अपने विचार आपके सामने रखना चाहूंगा। गांवों की प्रसल में जो हालत है वह ऐसा लगता है कि हमारे विभागों में बैठती ही नहीं है और गांव वालों की जो वास्तविक स्थिति है, ऐसा माजूम होता है कि हम उससे बिल्कुल नाबाकिफ हैं। मैं आपको एक बात बतलाना चाहता हूं। आज जब कि हम कहते हैं कि हम प्रगति कर रहे हैं, मैं एक गांव में एक हरिजनबाड़ा गया था और वहां पर अपने एक दोस्त के साथ बातें कर रहा था। बातें करते करते मुझे सात आठ रात के बच मये। इसके बाद जब मैंने कहा कि प्रश्न में जाना चाहता हूं तो मेरे दोस्त ने मुझसे कहा कि इस वक्त आप बाहर नहीं जा सकते हैं। जब मैं नहीं समझ पाया कि क्यों हम बाहर नहीं जा सकते हैं तो मुझे बताया गया कि नहाने का समय है इस वास्ते यली में से मर्द नहीं जा सकते हैं। इस वक्त धीरतें काम करके वापस घर आती हैं और आ कर के नहाती हैं और चूक गांव में जो हरिजन तथा दूसरे गरीब लोग रहते हैं उनके पास नहाने के लिये कोई जगह नहीं है इस वास्ते वे लोग झोपड़ियों के बाजू में ही नहा लेते हैं। यही हालत आज के हमारे गांवों में सभी गरीब लोगों की है। उनको नहाने तक के लिये जगह नसीब नहीं है। आप लोग सोशल एजुकेशन की बातें करते हैं। जिन लोगों के पास नहाने तक के लिये जगह नहीं है, उनको आप क्या सोशल एजुकेशन सिखायेंगे। आप बाइल्ड एजुकेशन की भी बात करते हैं। लेकिन उसमें भी कुछ किया नहीं जा सकता है। हेल्थ डिपार्टमेंट की भी बात होती है। वे लोग आते हैं और बीनी-मिष्ट्री के बर्तन डिस्ट्रीब्यूट कर जाते हैं। अब आप-वेर्किंग गांव के लोगों की क्या हालत है? उन बेचारों के पास दो तीन गज जगह भी रहनी के लिये नहीं है। आप उनके धन्वर सैटिक टैंक सेट डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करना चाहते हैं। आप वहां के वास्तविक को ध्यान में रख कर

और वहाँ पर बैठ कर काम करते हैं, और वहाँ पर किस तरह का एटवासपीयर प्रिवेल करता है, इस बात को नहीं सोचते हैं। आप अमरीका की एनालाजी पर ये सब कुछ करते हैं। हमारे गांवों में गरीब आदिमियों का तथा हरिजनों का क्या हाल है, इसकी तरफ हमारा कोई ध्यान नहीं है। मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या इस ओर भी आपका ध्यान है? वहाँ पर पंचायतें होती हैं और वे हैल्थ के बारे में १५०० या २००० या २५०० रुपया खर्च करके सैण्टिक टैंक लगवाती हैं। इनको इस्तेमाल कौन करेगा? मन्दिरों में भी चीनी की मिट्टी के बर्तन नहीं हैं और आप टट्टी जाने के लिये इस चीनी की मिट्टी के बर्तनों का बटवारा करना चाहते हैं। वे लोग इसे क्या समझेंगे? और हम कितने गांवों में इनको सप्लाई कर सकेंगे? एक एक गांव में एक एक भी नहीं दे सकेंगे। हमारे गांवों में ३०-४० परसेंट के रहने के लिये, टिकने के लिये भी जगह नहीं है। हमें चाहिये कि हम गांवों के लोगों के सामूहिक परपज के लिये काफी जगह दे दें। उनकी हैल्थ के लिये वहाँ पर पब्लिक लैट्रिन हों। नहाने के लिये जगह हो। मकान बनाने के लिये उनके पास जमीन हो। चरों के लिये आपने दूसरी योजना में भी कुछ व्यवस्था नहीं की है। आप तीसरी योजना में भी इसके बारे में कुछ कर सकेंगे, मुझे इसमें शक है।

[SHERIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTY in the Chair]

12-03 hrs.

मैं आपको बतलाऊं कि किस तरह से सैण्टिक टैंक का मिसयूज होता है। इस सैण्टिक टैंक को मेरे तालुक के पास ही सैडलार्ड ने रिस्तेदारों को बेच दिया। आज महात्मा गांधी के बेलों का यहाँ राज है। गांधी जी ने भारत की आर्थिक और सामाजिक व्यवस्थाओं को खूब समझा था। वे समझन में आते थे और उन्होंने ट्रेंच सैण्टिस का

इस्तेमाल किया। ट्रेंच सैण्टिस के लिये तो गांवों में जगह नहीं मिलती है और आप सैण्टिक टैंक बांटना चाहते हैं। आप यह सब कुछ दिखावे के लिये कर रहे हैं। इस तरह से गरीबों की हालत अच्छी नहीं हो सकती और न सैनिटेशन में आप कोई इम्प्रूवमेंट कर सकते हैं। आपको चाहिये कि आप इसके बारे में भी सोच समझ कर कदम उठावें।

अब मैं एग्रिकल्चर के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। एग्रिकल्चरल इम्प्रूवमेंट के लिये आप बहुत कुछ करना चाहते हैं, यह खुशी की बात है। लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि सब सायल वाटर को निकालने के लिये जहाँ सुविधायें हैं वहाँ पर ड्रिलिंग मशींस नहीं हैं। इसके बारे में आपको कुछ करना चाहिये। चावल को इम्पोर्ट करने के बाद जितना भी पैसा आपके पास बचे उसे आपको इस तरह के कामों में लगाना चाहिये। जहाँ जहाँ सब-सायल वाटर है और उसकी निकालने की सुविधायें नहीं हैं, वहाँ आपको इन सुविधाओं को उपलब्ध करना चाहिये। छोटी छोटी माइनर इरिगेशन के लिये आपको तालाबों की मरम्मत करवानी चाहिये और नये तालाब बनवाने चाहिये। कुओं की सुविधा भी आपको काफी मात्रा में किसानों को उपलब्ध करानी चाहिये। जब आप इन सब कामों को करेंगे तो किसानों को पता चलेगा कि आप उनके बास्ते और उनकी भनाई के बास्ते ये सब काम कर रहे हैं और मैं यही सुशी अपना सहयोग आपको प्रदान करेगी। इस तरह के काम अगर आपने किये तो आपकी फूड प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ सकती है।

अब मैं विनंज लेबल वर्कर्स के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। कहीं कहीं हम सैण्टिक पास स्टूडेंट्स को भरती कर लेते हैं और उनकी गांवों में भेज देते हैं। स्टूडेंट्स हर जगह के डिफर करते हैं। कुछ गांवों में काफी तरकीबें हुई हैं और बहुत से गांव बहुत पिछड़े हुये भी हैं।

[श्री रामन्]

तो देते हैं लेकिन वहाँ के जो लीडर्स होते हैं, जिनकी जनता में आवाज होती है, उनको ग्राम कमेटियों में नहीं लेते हैं। सोशल वर्कर्स जाते हैं, उनको कोई सुनता तक नहीं है। वे लोग दो चार चक्कर लगा कर बुद्धियों की तरह हार कर बैठ जाते हैं। उनसे कुछ बनता नहीं है। जब ग्राम लोगों की सहायता और सहयोग चाहते हैं तो ग्रामको चाहिये कि आपकी जितनी भी कमेटियाँ हैं उनमें ग्राम लोगों के जो वास्तविक नुमाइन्दे हैं, उनको लें। आज उन लोगों का हम इन कमेटियों में नहीं लेते हैं। आन्ध्र प्रदेश की ही मैं बात करता हूँ। वहाँ पर सारी कमेटियों में प्राविशस कमेटी से ले कर नीचे ब्लाक कमेटी तक भिन्न पार्टी वाले नहीं लिये गये हैं। सारी कमेटियाँ कांग्रेस वालों से ही भरी हुई हैं। अब प्राविशस लेवल में कुछ दूसरे भिन्न पार्टी वालों को लिया गया है। लेकिन डिस्ट्रिक्ट और ब्लाक लेवल तक दूसरे लोगों को नहीं लिया गया है। मेरे जिले में पिछले ग्राम चुनाव में तथा उसके पहले जो चुनाव हुआ था उसमें भी कांग्रेस को तो ४६ परसेंट वोट मिले थे और कम्युनिस्टों को ४२ परसेंट। हमारे जिले में या ब्लाक में एक आदर्मी भी हमारे पक्ष से किसी कमेटी में भी नहीं लिया गया है। हम डिस्ट्रिक्ट प्लानिंग कमेटी में चुन कर जा सकते हैं। लेकिन उन लोगों की सहायता नहीं ली जाती है जिनकी ताकत कांग्रेस के तकरीबन बराबर ही है। जब ग्राम हम लोगों की सहायता प्राप्त नहीं करना चाहते हैं, हमारी कोआपरेशन नहीं चाहते हैं, तो किस तरह से ग्राम आशा कर सकते हैं कि लोग आपकी सहायता करें। इस मोर भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये। जब तक ग्राम सब लोगों का सहयोग प्राप्त नहीं करेंगे, कुछ भी नहीं होगा।

बलवन्तराय मेहता-कमेटी की जो सिफारिशें हैं उनको कार्यान्वित किया जाना

चाहिये। हाँ मैं उस कमेटी की उस सिफारिश के खिलाफ हूँ जिसमें उसने विवेक लेवल वर्कर्स के लिये ट्रेनिंग सिलेबस की सिफारिश की है।

Shri Sangar: Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Community Development Ministry. The Community Development Ministry is an omniscient organisation: it is concerned with every activity of the Government of India—it is concerned with the Communications Ministry, it is concerned with the Ministry of Health, it is concerned with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Therefore, this Ministry is concerned with each and everything relating to the development of India as a whole.

The hon. Member from the tribal areas in West Bengal has spoken about the multi-purpose projects in the tribal areas. I may add a few things to that. The tribal areas are full of problems. The people there are not yet enlightened about the present day way of life. They are cut off from the modern current of life. As a matter of fact, they are so unapproachable that it is not possible for any Ministry to take a complete picture of their life. Even though there may be plans for starting projects for the uplift of these people, I am afraid that proper facts and figures have not been taken in regard to their problems. The people there are so timid and, at the same time, so unapproachable that it is not possible for the officers concerned to go and have a discussion with them about the very projects relating to their own uplift.

Then, the multi-purpose projects are started in areas where the percentage of these adivasis is very low. Though such projects are meant for the social uplift of these people, they are not taken into consideration by

the officers in these areas. As a matter of fact, the officers who are appointed for these community projects are not well trained in the method of approach to these adivasis. They do not take the people there into confidence with the result that the people do not know what is happening around them. Even though something is being done, the people are still in the same rut as they were for some centuries; they are still indolent, indifferent and superstitious. Unless there is awakening in these people, however much such schemes are thought of and conceived, I think nothing can be done about these people.

Therefore, in order to create a sense of belonging and awakening in these people social education is necessary for these people. The officers who are recruited from the revenue department or other departments are not able to give a proper impetus to these schemes. People who have spent their whole lives in those areas and people who have been working in that line must be consulted about the execution of these schemes. The schemes are prepared by people who have no knowledge of the adivasi life with the result that they are not very popular.

Moreover, these multi-purpose schemes are instituted in tribal areas which are so much cut off from the main routes of the country that the amounts sanctioned for these projects are only devoted to improving the communications. Therefore, unless the communications are improved, I do not think the amount that is actually meant for investment in the uplift of these adivasis will be really used for that purpose. For instance, there is a multi-purpose co-operative society in my constituency—Narayanapatnam. The area is so much cut off on all sides that it is not possible even to take the materials that are required for this project by ordinary means. Therefore, a large number of coolies are engaged for making some special arrangements, so much so that most of the amount is consumed in making

transport facilities and nothing is left for the actual project.

My hon. friend from Mysore has already spoken about the improper use of jeeps. I agree with him that jeeps are not properly used—they are even used for private purposes by officers. It was rightly observed by the Balwantray Committee that by using these jeeps the officers will have no living touch with the people in that area; they will go early in the morning and return to their headquarters late in the night, and they will have no time to have any talk with the people in the area. So it is very good that the jeeps are all withdrawn keeping only one jeep. Even this one jeep must only be used when there is an urgent necessity. Unless these things are properly checked, I think matters will not improve.

Moreover, the officers who are working there must be properly trained and a proper cadre must be created. Unless there is a proper cadre, I think the position will not improve. The Government of India have now instructed all the State Governments to send most of the people to the Tata Institute of Social Science in Bombay. I think they have started that scheme, but I feel that they are not sending the required number of people.

According to the recent decision of the Government of India, the amount that is set apart for the welfare of adivasis and harijans must be given to the community project in the area concerned. Though this amount has been placed at the disposal of the community project administration, I think the machinery that has been working in the Tribal and Welfare Departments has not been transferred; they are still under the same set up. Unless these officers are also transferred, there is no use of transferring only the amount, because the community project officers will be so much overburdened that they will not be able to find time to attend to the

[Shri Sanganna.]

special schemes relating to the adivasis. Therefore, in order to implement these schemes along with the other schemes under the community project, the machinery that is now working with the Welfare Department must also be transferred to the community project administration.

Coming to the agricultural problem of the tribal areas, I may say that there is a kind of cultivation which is called 'shifting cultivation'. The shifting cultivation is so peculiar that it is not confined to any particular area. As the adivasis are landless, most of the people have resorted to this kind of cultivation. Madam, you must be aware of this shifting cultivation, because you come from an area where there are tribal people. The shifting cultivation can only be stopped by providing land to these landless adivasis. Even if land is allotted to them, unless they are given the means of production there is no use of giving them land.

As a matter of fact, in Orissa there is a large amount of waste land which cannot be reclaimed by ordinary means. The adivasis are so well trained in agriculture that they are carrying on agricultural operations by primitive methods like terraced cultivation and other things. Unless the Central Tractor Organisation goes to their rescue, I think the waste land that is being allotted to the adivasis for cultivation will not give any result.

The shifting cultivation can be stopped by three means—one by improving the method of cultivation, secondly by having terraced cultivation and, thirdly, by colonisation. The Orissa Government—and I hope the other Governments also—has started colonisation; but I think the colonisation scheme is not progressing according to expectation. Unless these people are given the means of production, I think no par-

pose will be served by giving them waste land.

Proper irrigation facilities must also be provided there. In the tribal areas of Orissa there are so many unirrigated areas even though there are means of providing irrigation facilities. For instance, in my constituency itself there is one big river Indrawati. There is also the Vamsadhara river, and in the Mayurbhanj district there is the river Budabalanga. Unless these rivers are harnessed and exploited the water that is wasted will not be properly used. Very recently the Minister for Irrigation stated that available irrigation facilities up to a million acres are not being properly used. I think that will not be true as far as the adivasis are concerned. If these facilities are made available to them, the adivasis will not waste even one drop of water.

Madam, in my speech on the Demands relating to the Ministry of Irrigation and Power last year, I made a suggestion. I do not know whether the Government is making any effort in that direction.

Coming to co-operative farming in the tribal areas, I may say that in Orissa 2,000 villages have been put under the Gramdan movement for the uplift of the Adivasis. As a matter of fact, all these 2,000 villages are inhabited by the tribal people only. In the usual way of development, these areas cannot be improved, and it was thought that if these villages are put under the Bhoodan or the Gramdan movement, they will be taken special care of and thus improved. But very recently, I learn that the Sarva Seva Sangh has been given a sum of Rs. 11 lakhs for the period of the Second Plan, but that they have refunded the amount. I do not know why the amount has been refunded. Had this amount has been expended in collaboration with the State Government, I think much could have been done. So, instead of taking away the amount from the Sarva Seva Sangh I think the amount should be expended in tribal areas.

Moreover, instead of distributing the land among the Adivasis, if the lands are properly utilised under the co-operative farming scheme, I think most of the people can be benefited. Further, if the lands are given to the Adivasis without any means for production with modern machinery, the lands will not be utilised. For, the Adivasis are not so well enlightened and educated as to take care of themselves. Now, though the people in the Adivasi areas are so much in possession of lands, there is exploitation going on. Unless there is special protection for them, the land that is held by the Adivasis for their uplift cannot be utilised to their advantage. So, in order to make these people economically enlightened and socially elevated, the Sarva Seva Sangh and the State Government should jointly expend the amount given for use in the Gramdan villages, instead of taking away the amount unused.

Coming to co-operative societies in the tribal areas, there is so much scope for the production of crops such as myrobilam, resin and lac. There is, however, a system known as monopoly system in my State. Under the monopoly system, the contractor collects all the produce from the peasants at a very nominal rate and the entire benefit is reaped by the middlemen, though the labour is of Adivasis. The real profit goes to the middlemen. Unless, therefore, co-operative societies are formed, it is not possible for the Adivasis to get real profit. Unless the monopoly system is also abolished in the tribal areas, the real forest produce will not actually be in the hands of the people. For instance, according to the report of the Balwantray Committee, some steps have been taken in the State of Andhra Pradesh. They have been doing very well. They go to the weekly markets and collect the produce from the Adivasis at a reasonable price and they sell the produce in the daily markets of the towns and cities at reasonable prices. So, whatever the profit derived from the societies, that amount will be utilised for

the uplift of the Adivasis instead of the profit actually being allowed to be reaped by the middlemen. Hence, in order to give the benefit of the forest produce to the Adivasi areas and the Adivasi people multi-purpose co-operative societies must be formed. But, then, though multi-purpose co-operative societies are formed, the people who are at the helm of these affairs must be so well-trained and must have an Adivasi bias or bent so that there cannot be any exploitation in the multi-purpose co-operative societies. Further, in order to increase the value of the multi-purpose societies, the Adivasis must be associated with them. If the Adivasis are not associated, and the people who are exploiting them all these days are kept as Secretaries or Vice-Presidents or President, there will be no use of forming these multi-purpose co-operative societies.

Coming to Gram Panchayat elections, though in the tribal areas many Gram Panchayat members are Adivasis, they are not given any responsibility. They are still kept as ordinary members. Even in the block areas, when there are the block advisory committees, and when meetings of these committees are held, these Adivasis are not able to come and attend them. Very recently, in the Central Advisory Committee of the Government of India I have also suggested that the tribal people are so poor that they cannot attend these meetings, for, they have to come from miles away. So, they must be given some allowance in order that they can attend the meetings. At present these people are not able to come. In most of the committee meetings, at places where there is a large percentage of tribal people, there is no quorum. On account of the distance, they are not able to attend the meetings. I have made a suggestion to the Minister at one of the conferences. He has not taken a sympathetic view, but I hope he will be taking a sympathetic view in future, because he is not unaware of the tribal people. He was very

[Shri Senghanur]

kind enough to visit the tribal areas in which 75 per cent. of the population are Adivasis. I need not lay much emphasis on the difficulties and the predicaments that lie in the way of the Adivasis.

Coming to the health centres, most of the midwives and nurses for the health centres are recruited from the non-tribal areas. They do not know the dialect of the tribal people. The authorities do not take into consideration the Dais, the nurses and midwives living in the tribal areas. So, it will be better if the Ministry takes into consideration the question of associating the tribal people with these centres and projects. Under the management of the Navajivan Mandal, the centres have got lady workers and they are doing very well in Orissa. Shri Maiti Choudhury was in charge of the schemes, and those people are doing very well. Unless the tribal people are taken into consideration, there will be double expense, because the Navajivan Mandal as well as the Community Development authorities are given the grants. The Mandal is given the same grant for working in the tribal areas, and the Community Development authorities are also spending money in the tribal areas. So, unless these two aspects are co-ordinated, there will be waste of expenditure or double expenditure which should be avoided.

Coming to the point of creating a sense of participation of the Adivasis in all these things, I must refer to propaganda. Now, there is propaganda in the ordinary way, namely, in the conventional way. This propaganda will not cut ice in the tribal areas. Unless there is audio-visual propaganda, much improvement cannot be made. I think it was taken up in the year 1956. Some officers of the Planning Commission visited the tribal areas. They are of the opinion that some of the schemes in the tribal areas have fallen through on account of inadequate propaganda. Unless

these people who are in charge of propaganda are well-trained in the Adivasi way of propaganda, I think much useful result cannot be obtained. With these words, I close.

Shri Radhelal Vyas (Ujjain): Mr. Chairman, I am very thankful to you for giving me the opportunity to speak just now. The subject with which we are dealing now is a most important one in the administration of the country. It encompasses a programme which relates to the all-sided development of 82 per cent. of the teeming population of our country. A very good beginning has been made at the very outset. First of all, there was a definite objective before the Government. That has to be achieved and the work started with proper training to the persons who were assigned the task of carrying on the administration of community development in this country. Though the Ministry of Community Development was created only a year and few months ago, we are happy to note that the person who had been associated or rather who headed the administration of community development, from the very beginning was entrusted with the work of carrying on the administration of this Ministry,—ever since the creation of the new Ministry. We find the contrast. We saw what heat and passion were exhibited here on the Demands for Grants relating to this Ministry in the last budget session and we see the debate that is going on in this session. As I pointed out, from the very beginning, steps were taken to train the officers and the staff who carried on the administration of the different blocks. One achievement of this Ministry which has rendered great service is the book *Guide to Community Development*. I think this is a unique book and it serves as the *Bhagavad Gita* to those who are entrusted with the duty of carrying on the administration in the community development area. I hope that, the other Ministries also would copy the example set by this Ministry.

An Hon. Member: It should be translated.

Shri Madhwal Vyas: Yes: I wish it could be translated in Hindi and other regional languages also. There should be a cheap edition made available to the various staff up to the village level worker and also to the public at large. I wish that similar guides are prepared by other Ministries also. There are very fine principles, the various duties assigned to the different officers, the hopes and expectations, what to do and what not to do—everything has been covered there. But steps have to be taken to see that the fine principles enunciated therein are followed and carried out properly. There must be some agency to see to it that the duties and responsibilities that have been defined for the different officers and the staff are really carried out by them sincerely and honestly.

Hon. Members have pointed out several defects and shortcomings. They are there no doubt and nobody is oblivious of them. But perhaps the hon. Minister knows much more than any of us here and that is why the committee on plan projects appointed a study team for community development and national extension service headed by Mr. Balwantray Mehta. This team met several persons and agencies and different officers and a very detailed study was made by them. They produced a very useful report. There is no point which has been left out by this study team. It is no use repeating them in the House here. Perhaps they have dealt with it most exhaustively than anyone of us can do here within the short time at our disposal. Of course, the report is there and perhaps the hon. Minister has circulated copies of this report to the various Governments and asked for their comments. But I would urge upon him to see to it that the various suggestions made therein should be carried out at the earliest opportunity. Sufficient time has passed since the report was made. It should not merely remain

on the shelf of the Secretariat library here or the secretarists of the various States where the report must have reached. But there must be an early conference of the different Development Commissioners and the Ministers concerned. They must sit together for a sufficiently long time, study the report and take decisions. Unless that is done, I am afraid this very important work will lag behind and the object and the purpose for which this work has been undertaken will not be achieved to the extent to which we wish it.

So, I do not propose to deal with any shortcomings or the drawbacks or the defects or the methods of improvement or suggestions with regard to community development administration. They are there in the report itself. I think that sooner they are implemented the better it is. However, there are two or three points I would specifically mention. As suggested in the report itself, there must be a uniform administrative pattern for the whole of the country and all the States. Unless this is done, the work will not progress properly. It must be done. It is no use that we are having different administrative patterns in the different States for the different officers who have been in charge of carrying on the administration of community development in addition to the various duties as revenue officers or some other officers in their parent departments. So, this has to be done. This democratic decentralisation is very important and much emphasis has been put by this study team on this subject. Of course, the block advisory committee is there. Last year, the hon. Minister after discussions with the M.Ps. and the various heads of departments in the States issued a circular and suggested a pattern of the block advisory committees. I think they have begun to function there.

Shri P. E. Patel (Mehsana): Are all represented in it?

Shri Radhelal Vyas: They are represented according to the suggestion made. M.Ps., M.L.As., and the representatives of the various institutions and organisations are there.

Shri P. E. Patel: Which organisation?

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): Congress.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Yes; if Congressmen are elected, they are there. They cannot be denied. But we cannot say that members from other parties or from various institutions, panchayat samitis, etc., are not represented. They have a right.

I was talking about this democratic decentralisation. These panchayats have begun to function very effectively and they have to be given responsibilities. Of course, the technical know-how grants-in-aid and staff have all to be provided by the State. But the plan and the various schemes have to be initiated by the people at the village level by the panchayat samitis and they should be given full responsibility to carry on those schemes. The facilities should of course be made available to them. This has to be done; otherwise, six years have already passed and by the end of 1962, we have to cover the whole of the country by community development areas. So, this has to be done very early so that people do realise their responsibility and they may be able to achieve something at a very early stage.

As has been pointed out, emphasis has been laid more on petty buildings, approach roads, other roads, school buildings, panchayat bhavans and some other works. But now more emphasis has to be laid on bigger objectives. After all, the objective of the Community Projects Administration is not only to construct roads, buildings, etc. but also to change the very outlook of the people, to make them conscious of their state of affairs, build or develop proper village leadership or village organisations and institutions

and make them responsible citizens of our country. That should be the specific object and all the energy and efforts should be directed towards the achievement of this specific object.

Shri P. E. Patel: For that there should be democratic institutions in every district.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: The hon. Member must have heard me a couple of minutes earlier when I had stated that there should be democratic decentralisation as early as possible.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: And their heads should be District Magistrates.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Democratic decentralisation does not mean that they have to carry out the orders of the Collector. Even if the Collector is there, he is there to carry out the wishes and the suggestions and the schemes prepared by the village Samitis. That has been suggested by the State team and, I hope, nobody will deny it.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member must conclude within a minute.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: Then we must look into economy, efficiency and speed. Our budget has been reduced to Rs. 4 lakhs now and, as pointed out by the hon. Mr. Tiwary Rs. 1 lakh is spent on salaries. Then we spent Rs. 80,000 on buildings and another Rs. 80,000 on advancing loans; very little sum remains for some other works. So, the progress will be retarded if more money is not made available to the Blocks. Where buildings can be found, I fail to understand why money should be spent on that. So far as my State is concerned, I can say that the Development Commissioner is really a capable man. Being associated with him in the administration for some time, I know him well. I would urge upon the hon. Member that he should see that money

is not spent where it can be saved. For example, in the Ghatia block—I wrote a letter inviting pointed attention—there was a village which was centrally located in the Block and the village people there offered to make available a building, which was purchased by them at their own expense. But finally a village has been selected where there is nobody to build houses or offices and the office is functioning outside the Block area. In such cases, why should the money not be saved? I can cite very many instances where economy can be effected and money can be saved.

Mr. Chairman: His time is over.

Shri Mahagaonkar (Kolhapur): I had the privilege of working in the Committee at the Centre and even at the village level, from which I have gathered some experience, and I think it will not be out of place if I put it before the House.

As far as Community development is concerned, we are told that it is a new experiment which will change the face of the rural community. There are so many publications on the subject. But I do not wish to take the time of the House by giving these figures. In my speech on the President's Address I remarked about the move that has taken place in my constituency, so far as this community development is concerned, and the hon. Minister was pleased to ask me for particulars. I have got a complete list of the irregularities that have taken place, so far as Community Projects areas are concerned. In one of the meetings the Minister said; "I would like to see these things through your eyes", which is a very good thing. I know that the Minister is taking a very keen interest in this matter.

Community development is primarily meant for our village people. If we study these problems, we find that there are so many committees and boards in Bombay, particularly in my constituency. There was a discussion in this House about the set-up of this

administration and it was agreed in principle that the present administrative set up for the community development is not the proper one.

But what are the measures that we have taken to set it right? That is the first question. In Bombay we have got so many bodies at the district and village level. Firstly, there is the district local board for the rural area, which is elected by the people. Then we have got the district development board, also doing work for the rural area, which has got its own body, where a lot of defeated candidates have been nominated; only elected members are *ex-officio* members of that board. Not only this, we have got for educational purposes the district school board. Again, we have got these consultative councils, working under the district development boards, directly under the control of the Collector. Even in these consultative councils, as the other friend just now said, no proper representation is given and that is why we are having this problem. The problem of the agriculturists is not properly seen; it is not properly studied.

There are various reasons for this. For instance, the tenancy Act is defective. Who is responsible for this? Then, in my constituency, murders are taking place due to this defective Tenancy Act. But the administration state—the Bombay Government boast—about the health of the people. Then there is another thing. The Bombay Government boasts that prohibition is a success. I challenge the Government on this issue. In every village of Bombay, particularly in Western Maharashtra, there is illicit distillation. You can ask anybody in Bombay. It is a cottage industry, which is flourishing well.

An Hon. Member: What has it to do with Community Projects?

Shri Mahagaonkar: It is affecting the health of the people and yet they talk of "सत्यमेव जयते"

[Shri Mahagaonkar]

At the same time, they do not admit their mistakes. Because of the illicit drinks, people are losing their health. They have lost it completely. When such things are happening, at least be honest enough to admit it. It is harming the people. I do not say that you should not introduce prohibition. By all means, do have it. I am not against prohibition. But I am particular of the health, especially of the villagers.

There are so many problems to be solved. As far as the question of rural and urban areas is concerned, recently a meeting of the All India Agriculturists Federation was held where they have given a complete picture. They have stated:

"For urban people the Planning Commission in the draft Second Five Year Plan had recommended a net annual income, free from taxes of Rs. 30,000 per head, and there could be several members earning that income in each family, as against an income of Rs. 3,600 per year including wages for the whole family in the rural sector".

"The proposal for a ceiling on agricultural income and ownership of agricultural property is unjust, discriminatory and unconstitutional. If nobody is left in the rural sector with a income exceeding Rs. 3,600 per year for a family of five persons there will be no chance of any rural family sending their children for higher education and no chance of their children for competing on merit for posts in the Public Administration and still less chance to fight elections to the legislature. Surely the agricultural proprietors have committed no crime to be singled out for such discriminatory treatment for all the 85 per cent of the rural people to be reduced to a despicable position. After the elimination of men of intelligence, capital

and enterprise from agricultural profession and forcing them to the urban areas, would the rural leadership be provided by urban Bureaucracy? Will this not lay the foundation to Urban—Va.—Rural conflict of a virulent type?"

This is the picture they have shown you.

Today we talk of peasantry and then what do we find of the administrative set up altogether there? It is just nothing but that they try to put their party influence and through which, they think, they can win the people. I admit that the party in power is bound to carry a little influence but when you talk of democracy and when you talk of so many other things, why do you want to have so many of these bodies?

In my own constituency I have this Sarvodaya centre. This centre is also doing work for rural uplift. I would like to relate one incident in this connection. In one of the talukas known as Ghadhingre Taluka in village Habal, the Sarvodaya people tried to dig a well for the villagers. What happened was that it was found to be very difficult to get water out of that well. So, ultimately these so-called Sarvodaya workers asked for the help of some of the villagers to pour water in that well by means of buckets and other things and got the certificate from the officers concerned. They took that money. The matter is still under investigation. This is what Sarvodaya is doing.

I would like to give another instance of Ajara Taluka in my constituency. There is a Forest workers' union in which these people are dabbling. As a matter of fact I do not understand what Sarvodaya has got to do with the organisational aspect of this union of the workers. Actually, they are threatening the people, who are working in that union. They have got some representation—it is a

very funny thing that the Bombay Government has given representation to the Sarvodaya people there as the Sarvodaya centre is located in that area. These people try to dabble in their affairs. Not only that, they even sometimes give threats to the workers by saying, "If you do not obey us, we shall see that this workers' association shall be abolished and no funds will be given to you." Such sort of things are being carried out.

Not only this, in the District Development Board in my constituency, where there are more than 50 members, only eleven members got elected. The rest are those, who have been defeated in elections, those who have no confidence and those who were not wanted by the people of Kolhapur. They have been nominated as the representatives of the people. How then do you expect the co-operation of the people? How do you expect these things? I would like to say that you entirely change the pattern of your administration and give more representation to the people. I would like to suggest the hon. Minister that instead of having so many bodies, you better ask the Government of Bombay to consolidate all these into one body. At least more representation should be given. Those who are elected by the people should be appointed instead of trying for party influence. By doing so, you are not following a democratic method but you are having some sort of a corrupt political practice. That is the blame that you will have to take tomorrow. If this is started by a bigger party like the Congress, naturally the other smaller parties that are working, if at all they get a little power, will take a lesson from this. Then do not talk of democracy and do not talk of these things that you are for the farmers. As a matter of fact many defective things are taking place.

Last time on this Ministry's Demands, my friend, Shri Khadilkar, said that you must have a missionary zeal. Are there no workers with the

missionary zeal? The missionaries approached the people with some religious approach and because of that the people had no faith in them. But Community Development is building a new India. We want to teach our farmers. We want to change their ideas. We want to have some happy life before us for the new India and for the generation that is going to take the responsibility of this nation. But unless and until right from the beginning we start something new, nothing is going to happen.

You have got the social education centres in the Community Development. What is this social education doing? Appointing lady members and what you find is that it is creating a bad impression among the rural people. I do not object to ladies, but actually what are they doing there? They are sitting in the offices and it is some sort of a club. People go there and just have entertainment for the evening. It is creating a bad impression among the villagers. You can come with me to any part of my constituency and I will prove to you what the people are talking about. I do not object to ladies—lady Members should not take it as an insult—I just say that this is what is happening. Actually in the rural areas they have got their different manners. They have got their traditions.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: All this is happening in Kolhapur?

Shri Mahagaonkar: Yes.

Kumari M. Vedakumari (Eluru): Is there a club in the village?

Shri Mahagaonkar: I am not saying that there is a club. It is a club atmosphere of which I have talked. Do not worry about it. These are the things.

I suggest the hon. Minister to scrap the social education. So far as you do not understand the rural problems and the rural approach, scrap this social education and put that money for some other development purpose.

[Shri Mahagaonkar]

The other thing is the question of lands. How many of us can definitely say that we have studied the entire problem of the rural area? I myself admit that I have not studied well, but still whatever I can find I know. There are various classes—there is a middle class peasant, there is a landless farmer, there are the upper categories and all sorts of these things and there is a sort of a link between them. But today new things are taking place. The primary need of our agriculturists is money and they are provided that through these co-operatives. But see the fun of these co-operatives. What is happening is that the central co-operative of the district takes the loan from the State Bank on a nominal interest, while, giving this money as a loan to the agriculturists, they charge six to seven per cent. They get it for three to three and a half per cent. Why do you make money on this?

An. Hon. Member: Even less.

Shri Mahagaonkar: Even less than that. Why do you make money at the cost of the agriculturists?

In my constituency also you give loans, known as taccavi loans for getting engines or something like that. One of my friends wanted such a loan. He is a sugarcane grower. He wanted this loan just to irrigate his land. He approached the District Collector. I went to the Collector and told him, if you did not give him this loan, his crop would wither away. The collector said that he would do it. Three months passed. Actually the crop was drying. Later on to my surprise, after about five or six months my friend was given that loan. I asked him as to how he managed it and why that delay was taking place. He said, "Because I went with you—you being our representative—the crop was not taken any cognisance of. The last thing I did was that I took out a ten

rupee note and this is how I managed to get this thing".

Therefore I would request the Hon. Minister that as the primary need of our agriculturists is immediate help such as loans he should see that a committee with a body of representatives—Members of Parliament, Members of the legislature, members of district and local boards and all these—should be formed with a direct power to give loans to the agriculturists.

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

Shri Mahagaonkar: There are so many things.

As this is a new experiment, our hon. Minister needs sympathy. I do admit that we should encourage the hon. Minister to do his best. He himself admitted that. The other day, our then Minister of Irrigation and Power, Shri S. K. Patil said that State Governments are lords by themselves. It is a fact. The Government of Bombay are lords by themselves. They do not want whatever we in the Consultative Committee suggest. The Consultative Committee has suggested so many things. The Government of Bombay are not willing to take whatever suggestions have been put forward by the Central Consultative Committee. If they are not going to take into consideration the suggestions made by the representatives of the people, how the hell are they going to manage the whole affair? How is democracy going to function?

I would like to conclude my speech with the words of former Chief Minister of Mysore, Shri Hanumanthaiya. He said:

"The Congress has adopted a resolution that the country will have a socialistic pattern of society. The agriculturists who owned lands and cultivated them were basic factors in society and what they sincerely thought and

determinedly pursued would, in course of time, become true. He would ask them to have faith in themselves and work hard.

Further he says:

"...the new idea of socialism would work so long as Prime Minister Nehru was there at the head and the moment he left, this new socialism also would go with him. This socialism was like the new religion founded by the great Emperor Akbar (Din Ilahi) which vanished the day Akbar died."

With these words, I conclude.

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): Mr. Chairman, I feel a sense of being overwhelmed when I rise here to reply to the debate on Community Development. I feel overwhelmed because, last year, when I stood up here, there was so much of criticism, so much of fire raised in this House; at least I could complain of the lack of sympathy and understanding of my problem. This time, there is so much of understanding, so much of sympathy that I feel overwhelmed at my own smallness as regards what is expected of me; in spite of all that I may do, how little I may achieve.

I know there are so many things that can be done. I remain most of the time I can, in the villages of India. Therefore, I try to see with my own eyes and feel with my own pulse to the extent I can trust it, as to what is happening. We have submitted an administration report to this House. It is an official report and it is bound to suffer from its own limitations. I have tried to see this programme on behalf of the hon. Members of this House. I have travelled with them wherever they were available and I could get them freed from their other occupations. I believe I owe it to the House, before I answer the various questions, to give

a bird's eye view of the programme as I have seen it, on behalf of the House.

The first question, in which I know this House will be interested, is that of food. For the past one year, I can claim that I have spent at least half of my time, if not more, whether I have been in Delhi or I have been in the field, in trying to promote, to strengthen, to fire up the agricultural programme wherever I possibly could. In the same way, our Ministry has been trying to allocate its time. I know hon. Members here would like to know the specific concrete steps that have been taken, rather than generalised information. We have tried to bring about an increased emphasis in the Block on the part of all the Block workers starting from the Block Development Officer and ending up with the village development worker, on agriculture. We have said that 60 to 70 per cent of the time of the Gramsevaks in particular should be devoted only to the production programme. I am sorry, I cannot claim that we have been able to achieve it. In fact, if we can get the gramsevaks to work 70 per cent of their time in agricultural production, we would have had much more production in this country than we have today. He is not in a position to give 70 per cent of the time for the simple reason that he does not have the resources which he can transmit.

Shri P. E. Patel (Mehsana): May I put a question whether the Gramsevaks know something of agriculture?

Shri S. K. Dey: The Gramsevak has been trained for a period of one year in agriculture by the Agriculture departments of the States, under a programme of training sponsored by the Central Ministry of Food and Agriculture, followed up by a period of six months training in first aid in other subjects. Of course, he does not know enough. He will take time to grow. No one can train anybody to be an expert in an institution.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about Gramsevikas?

Shri S. K. Dey: I will come to them later.

We have not been able to bring up 70 or 80 per cent of the time of the Gramsevaks to agriculture.

The next important thing is, we have been able to bring about a desire on the part of our workers to draw up, for the first time, plans on the basis of Gramsevak circles and also of villages wherever possible. The intention ultimately is to take it down to every single family. But, as yet, we are not ready for it. We have started since the 2nd of October this year a programme of training of Farm leaders or good farmers. We know there is acute shortage of trained manpower in technical departments handling agriculture in the States as well as in the Centre. Therefore, we have combined the efforts of the Government workers with the efforts of good farmers, who are trained in their own subjects and who know much more in many cases than the best of the Agricultural officers available locally. We thought we could make a combination of the efforts of progressive farmers and of the Government agencies. We held, I believe, about 2000 camps or a little over and about 120,000 farmers have gone through the camps, exchanging ideas with each other, and trying to exchange ideas with the Government workers. We hope that when these progressive farmers go back, they will try to give the lead to the less privileged section of the farming community in India. From the limited experience....

Shri P. E. Patel: Are any practical lessons given to these farmers or only theoretical lessons?

Shri S. K. Dey: They exchange ideas with each other, strengthen each other, and at the same time, they exchange ideas with the Government

agencies, try to strengthen the Government agency as well as try to strengthen themselves.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member wants to know whether in this exchange there is actual practical training.

Shri S. K. Dey: There are also practical demonstrations given side by side. Of course. From the limited experience that I have had personally so far, these camps hold a very high promise.

We have then started a competition between the villages and between Gramsevaks on the subject of agriculture on the basis of the whole country. The Gramsevaks are going to compete with each other for a prize at the District level, at the State level and at the national level, and these Gramsevak circles will also receive prizes from the Government and these will be prizes to the villages.

We have tried to promote in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture an extension wing which will try to co-ordinate all the assistance that the Agriculture Ministry from the various sectors can offer to the people in the villages, produce literature in the style that the village people can read and understand and transmit to the villages techniques and other assistance, supervise the aid that the State Governments are supposed to give to agriculturists in matters of supply of technical assistance and other things. We have tried to promote seminars exclusively on agriculture by agricultural workers, by agriculturists in the States, by Government workers, functioning in the blocks, by Government workers functioning in the districts and others in charge of handling the agricultural programme. We have tried to introduce now a programme for refresher training of the *gram sevaks* who have been in the field and who will come back to get improved lessons on agriculture from research people. We have tried

to establish National Extension Service and Community Development blocks around the research centres, so that the research units can be related to the ground, instead of functioning in the air as they have done in the long past. We have tried to bring about co-ordination between the all-powerful revenue agency and the technical agency handling the agricultural programme, thereby strengthening the effectiveness of the agricultural programme.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I ask what has been the increase in output due to all these efforts?

Shri S. K. Dey: It is extremely difficult for anybody to measure exactly what the increase in the output has been. Of course, the National Sample Survey organisation has been carrying out sample survey by crop-cutting experiments. I would not like to give the figures that we have received from the National Sample Survey because they are so far very highly complimentary to the NES and CD programme, and I myself am not sure if I can depend on this complimentary revelation. I would much rather wait to see what total effect all these activities have on the overall availability of foodgrains in the country despite the increasing population. But I know it for a certainty that improved practices are being adopted by people in these community projects and National Extension Service areas. There is increased, very much increased, use of fertilizers, of improved seeds, of irrigation facilities. All these things must be conducive to increased production, unless there is something very abnormal and very perverted about the whole affair, which is not the case.

Coming to the question of animal husbandry, I mentioned last year that it was very difficult to increase the stock of bulls overnight. Through the kindness of the American Government, we have now a very large

number of poultry birds which are available for distribution, and are being distributed. We are also trying to see that in every district there is a farm, and that that farm supplies the birds to the village people. In certain areas, fairly large number of areas, we see plenty of poultry birds roaming around and also a good bit of work is being done under artificial insemination in the field of cattle breeding. One can almost see in the face of the people working the birds they are distributing, the bulls they are distributing. The people are so interested in their programme.

Side by side also, there are institutions where one sees the birds and the bulls are getting leaner and thinner and the keepers of the birds and bulls are getting fatter and fatter. There are people available even today who would like to milk even the bull if they possibly can. I may say, to my satisfaction at least, that that tribe is gradually vanishing. We are trying, under the impact of this programme, to pull them up and expose them wherever such tribes still continue to survive.

In the field of minor irrigation, we have had a little difficulty. Major irrigation is handled in the States by the State Department of Irrigation or Public Works. Minor Irrigation under the Grow More Food campaign is handled by the Agriculture Department. The Community Development agency did not set up a separate minor irrigation agency. Therefore, we have suffered. We find, despite the fact that there are Rs. 50 crores available for the Second Five Year Plan and up to now we should have spent a considerable portion of this Rs. 50 crores, our accomplishment has been very small comparatively. Therefore, we have tried now to make the Irrigation Department in the State responsible for this work by creating a cell in it specifically responsible for the minor irrigation programme.

We have also tried to bring about an added emphasis on the minds of

[Shri S. K. Dey]

all our workers, and I am very hopeful that not very long from now I shall be able to report much better results in the field of minor irrigation.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): How are you going to find funds and the co-ordination of the two departments?

Shri S. K. Dey: There are some funds provided under the Grow More Food campaign which are handled by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and there are funds in the Community Development programme. At the block level the two funds are co-ordinated and are intended from now on to be implemented by the same agency.

Coming to the field of village industries

Shri Sambandam: What about the drainage problem?

Shri S. K. Dey: I will come to that later.

This is a field in which I may say we have not yet been able to break the ground.

Shri P. R. Patel: You will never.

Shri S. K. Dey: The biggest difficulty we encounter is in the field of marketing of the products of the village industries. Secondly, we also find that both in the Directors of Industries and the *entrepreneurs* of industries there is an overwhelming bias towards the urban areas. Therefore, it becomes very difficult to do anything in the villages except what little can be done by the block staff, in the absence of expert guidance.

For the first time we have been able now to bring about a co-ordinated programme of training of workers to guide these village industries. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission and the Small-Scale Industries Board at the Centre are running training centres for the training of

what we call extension officers in village industries. In fact, quite an appreciable number of people have already been trained and they are already in the field.

The two industries which are fairly certain and which can be tried out in almost any area are brick kiln and Ambar Charkha. We are trying to propagate both these as extensively as we possibly can. But as soon as we come to mechanised industries, we get into difficulties. Immediately the production increases and we do not know where to market the stuff. This subject will require a considerable amount of further study, and it is being studied by the regional institutes set up under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and also by the State Directors of Industries. We also hope that sooner or later we shall be able to attract the attention of entrepreneurs to the villages. We shall also be able to build up local leadership for co-operative organisations of village industries.

Coming now to the question of housing—rural housing, here again, whatever rural housing has been done till now has been done under the sponsorship of the Public Works Department in the State. Public Works Departments have been trained in building barracks or buildings and structures in a particular way. They may be very good in urban areas, but in our villages they do not fit in. We find that instead of promoting rural housing which will be self-perpetuating and self-expanding, we promote a new kind of architecture which does not fit into the rural environment. Therefore, under the Ministry of Works and Housing, a new cell specifically for the purpose of promoting rural housing is being set up in the States.

My hon. friend Shri Tangamani had made a remark the other day. I shall

like to answer him at this point. I am very sorry that he felt hurt because of what he considered as something having been done by the Ministry to over-rate its own accomplishments. I am very sorry that he has had the occasion to feel hurt. But I am afraid, he has been hurt because of a slight error committed by himself. I am very sorry about it. I shall answer both the questions together. He mentioned:

"This is the answer that I got: 5,000 VDO's are required; already 3,200 have completed the training. So far as SEO's are concerned, 10,000 trained hands are required already 7,040 have received the training. It is in the same question. But now in the Report we find that 1,811 VDO's and 3,623 SEO's have received training till the end of January, 1958. I would like to know which of the two is correct...."

Shri Tangamani: I meant block development officer, not village development officer.

Shri S. K. Dey: I am reading from the proceedings of the House.

"...because earlier we find that more than 7,000 people had received training, now we are told only 3,623 have received training. The one or the other must be wrong."

Of course, one is wrong, and that was what the hon. Member himself read. Apparently he read a wrong column in the statement. He should have read a column to the left of what he actually read. He read the column relating to the number of people yet to be trained instead of the one relating to the number of people that have been trained.

The second point that he mentioned was about housing:

"It says that 100 rural housing projects are coming up, in 500 villages rural housing cells have been set up, socio-economic and

technical survey of the selected villages has also been carried out. That shows that very many things have been done, but actually things are only beginning to take shape."

Shri P. E. Patel: On a point of order. I would like to know whether the Minister should give us some information or he should go on talking about housing as if it were an essay. I want to know how many houses have been built through the community projects.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister is replying to certain remarks made by various speakers. The point mentioned by the hon. Member may be covered later on, but just now he is replying to a particular point made by a particular speaker.

Shri S. K. Dey: Our report says:

"In consultation with the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, 100 rural housing projects covering 500 villages have been allotted to the States. These are to be located in selected Blocks. The States have been requested to set up rural housing cell, and Central Government have agreed to share 50 per cent of the cost. Socio-economic and a technical survey of the selected villages have also to be carried out."

This, of course, answers his question. The housing programme is just beginning. Although on *ad hoc* patterns, quite a number of houses have been built. I believe a little over 10,000 houses have been built all over the country in all the blocks.

Shri P. E. Patel: If he takes credit for ten thousand houses built in the rural areas for the community projects, why does he not take the credit for the children born in the project area?

Mr. Chairman: The Minister says that 10,000 houses have been built in the community projects through the agency of the community development blocks.

Shri S. K. Dey: I now come to health, education, social education and communications. Under the health programme we have tried to introduce family planning in which hon. Members were very deeply interested the other day. A little over 200 centres are already in operation in the rural areas. Similarly; a substantial number of primary health centres have been established, almost one in every community development block. There are also maternity and child welfare centres. There is an increase in the number of midwives and lady health visitors, compared to what existed two or three years ago. In the field of public health, there has been a large number of drinking-water wells. As for new wells, a little over 89,000 have been dug. Also, existing wells have been reconditioned. There are village lanes which have been paved. Drainage has been provided. Magan choolas are being constructed; but, of course, not at all in the measure in which we require these services.

In the field of education, we have tried to increase the number of village schools and also convert existing schools to basic schools to the extent we possibly can. In the field of village communications, village roads are being built. For the first time, we are also trying to make an attempt to get these new village roads, which are coming up under the community development programme, integrated with the programme of the Communications Ministry in the Centre. Negotiations are going on between the two Ministries on this subject, and we hope we shall be able to do something even better. In the field of women's programme, I am very sorry that our women in this country are too good....

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister should not be sorry.

Shri S. K. Dey: I say, too good to the point of damaging their own interests. It is very difficult to get women workers in the villages, and so much needs to be done particularly

for women and children in rural areas that, in fact, we can have even a larger number of workers in the women's field than in all other fields combined together. In spite of the fact that the community development programme makes substantial provision for the emoluments of women workers, we have not yet been able to have even half the number of women workers (as salaried employees) that we require either as school teachers or as *gram sevikas* or as women social education organisers.

Last year, we arrived at an understanding with the Central Social Welfare Board. That board put women for the first time in the map of India. Therefore, we thought that having arrived at an understanding and a co-ordinated method of working with that board, we shall be able to help the Social Welfare Board as well as help ourselves. We find that the Social Welfare Board are equally short of workers. They have to depend primarily on voluntary workers. Voluntary women workers prepared to work in rural areas from urban areas are very few. Excellent work is being done wherever good workers are available. If one wants to get women workers who wish to work up their appetite by going around in rural areas, of course, there is no difficulty. But as for workers who would be prepared to work very hard and almost forget themselves in the rural areas, they are very difficult to find, and the Social Welfare Board is suffering under the same difficulty as we have been suffering from earlier. Yet, progress is being made, and every year, an increasing number of women workers are coming forward.

For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, we have opened up quite a number of multipurpose projects. We know these are the under-developed sections of our community who require the maximum assistance and support from Government. Here

again, I would say that what has been done so far for these tribes is only a fraction of what needs to be done. We have shortage of workers. Most of these people live in areas unconnected by communications, therefore, it becomes difficult to reach them. It becomes difficult to procure the services of workers who would be prepared to settle in these areas; whether they are government servants, doctors or medical personnel or even teaching personnel, the same thing applies. Yet, progress has been made. It is not what we wanted it to be. But we are struggling to improve it. We know that many hon. Members in this House are extremely eager to see that more is done. I would only say that no one can be more eager than I am to see that something more is done. And we are struggling and we are doing our very utmost. We are also trying to make a common cause with local workers, whom we can pick up from amongst the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people themselves. To the extent that such workers are available, they are being utilised and they are being harnessed to the task.

Shri Sonavane (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Does the sympathy of Government infiltrate to the people through the agency of Government in the development blocks?

Shri S. K. Dey: I could not understand the question.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may make himself clear, because I do not think the House has understood his question.

Shri Sonavane: I wanted to know whether this sympathy of the Government was infiltrating to the people through the government employees working in the community development blocks.

Mr. Chairman: What the hon. Member wants to ask is how this sympathy is translated into practice through the agency of the administration.

Shri S. K. Dey: Effort is continuing. In fact, that is the problem before this Ministry here, to see that this Ministry is in a position to interpret the wishes of this House and transmit them without any attention in transit to the last worker. That is the problem, and we are continually making efforts to solve it.

Quite a number of suggestions have been made on the subject of training. We are ourselves not satisfied with the training that we have so far given to our workers. Therefore, we are bringing into the picture a new system of training. In this caste-ridden country, as soon as we appoint some people, they try to find out to what caste they belong in the Government. This of course holds good in the whole country and the government apparatus merely reflects fractionally what is there in the air.

Shri Tangamani: But our Finance Minister would not agree.

Shri S. K. Dey: So we are trying for the first time to bring all the workers receiving the same training together. Soon the training centre for the BDOs will be changed to be the training centre for all the block level workers. The Block Development Officer and all the 7 or 8 Extension officers will be given a common orientation so that they try to develop the attitude which we wish them to have. Of course, institutional training by itself is not enough. I will come to that question later. We also propose simultaneously to bring in from the field by rotation fairly appreciable numbers of our workers from the ground for refresher training. This applies as much to the workers at the block level as to the workers at the village level. We propose to have a Central Institute of Study. Last year, I mentioned it. I am very sorry to say that we have not been able to bring this Institute into being for the simple reason that in spite of all the efforts we could make, we could not get the staff we wanted for this Institute—and we did.

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not want merely another Institute just because we could get the government sanction for it. I am happy to say that this Institute is coming into being within about 2 or 2½ months from now. This Institute will train the top level workers at the districts and State levels. We are also trying to give training to panchayat members and panchayat secretaries. Now that this Ministry is being charged with the responsibility of administering the programme of panchayats—the panchayat being closely allied with the community development programme—we propose to utilise all the resources that we have at the ground level for giving the training needed for the panchayat secretaries and the panches. We also propose in the same way to give training in co-operation to the members of co-operatives. There are today 8 training centres giving training to 'co-operative' officers at the block level. As yet, we do not have training programmes for training the actual co-operators. We propose to take up that programme also, as soon as we possibly can handle it.

Shri Jadhav: What about the recommendations of the B. G. Mehta Committee?

Shri S. K. Dey: I am coming to that.

In administration, for the first time we are trying in this Ministry also to bring about a team approach to the programme. Instead of sending individual officers to the States visiting individual facets of the programme, we have already started calling from the States in the first place all their officers once for a review of what they have done during the year, what are the steps they have taken according to the directions that have been conveyed to them, what are the promises that they make and the expectations they have for the future. Then, a few months later, we begin visits to the States by a team of our officers representing all facets of the programme, including as far as possible, representatives of the Ministries at

the Centre. This team of officers goes to the States. They visit the various blocks, as many as they possibly can, and come back to the headquarters of the State, sit down with the heads of department of the State, discuss the common programme and failings and—arrive at a common understanding of what needs to be done. Minutes are drawn and the progress is watched and followed.

In the same way, we have tried at the Centre to build up co-ordinational arrangements with the Central Ministries. We have complete co-ordination at the moment with the Food and Agriculture Ministry. We are trying to establish co-ordinational arrangements with the Ministries of Health and Education. We already have such arrangements with the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Now there is a new Ministry that is coming, and I am very happy about it, because for the first time this Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs will be able to give some organised guidance—at least I am looking for their assistance—to the folk art and culture in the villages on which alone all our economics in the past, all our life were based. And if we wish to improve life in the villages, it is obvious we shall have to revive the folk arts and folk culture through which we can energise village life.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: At the seminars that are being held, the whole evening is taken up by cultural programmes. Is it in any way contributing to the production of food?

Shri S. K. Dey: This country till now has believed in cultural programmes side by side with the rugged economic programme of the day. I have never seen an agricultural family in my life—and I come from a farmer's family—where any agricultural operation is ever taken up without some music and some cultural activity associated with it.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: They are granting only Rs. 40 for conducting

the three-day seminars for agriculturists. With this amount, how do Government expect cultural programmes to be conducted? What happens is that the agriculturists are approached to contribute something for them. That is why the villagers fear that if some seminar is to be conducted in their village, they would have to contribute, as only Rs. 40 is given for such programmes.

Shri S. K. Dey: We have so far had no difficulty with the village people. If they believe in a programme, they are prepared to sell their last shirt for it; but if they do not believe in it, it is another matter. The village people have not raised any objection so far to this. Wherever difficulties are experienced, we certainly would try to come to the aid of the villagers. There should be no difficulty at all.

Coming to Gramdan, as hon. Members are aware, we have had three series of discussions with the gramdan leaders and we are having another series of discussions in order to finalise the actual programme, during the next few days—in fact, it will start from the 15th of this month. The gramdan organisations have been trying to build up what we have been missing in the villages. They have been trying to build up the community by trying first to exterminate the causes that led to the disturbance of that community in the village, and the organisation handling the community development programme will get into it to do the reconstruction programme.

My hon. friend, Shri Tangamani, mentioned day before yesterday that in his particular area, he saw some of our BDOs going out to the village and trying to secure gramdan. I would say this is a departure from the practice that we have advocated. The understanding between the gramdan organisation and the Community Development Ministry is that the gramdan organisation will secure gramdan and immediately thereafter the Community Development Ministry will take up the work of reconstruction according to a pattern mutually

agreed upon between the gramdan organisation and the Ministry. So this is how the programme is developing. But I may mention again that simply an agreement between the Gramdan organisation and the Community Development Ministry is not enough. The Gramdan organisation also will have to build up their own organisation, and they are trying to. In fact, in the last meeting that we had with the gramdan workers headed by Shri Jaya Prakash Narain, it was agreed that there would now be some representation of the Gramdan movement in every district so that our organisation can know with whom they can associate. The main problem in this country is the shortage of workers; and this is not confined to government organisations only. Social organisations are also suffering from it.

About people's participation, a lot of complaints have been made that there is no popular initiative, and there is no popular enthusiasm. I would make a little distinction between popular initiative, and popular enthusiasm. If we say that people do not show enthusiasm in this programme, it is not right. I have seen about 700 Blocks out of 2100 Blocks and I have not yet come across a single area in the whole of India where people have not come forward with the most generous response where the government organisation has gone out to the people, met them and inspired them with their ideas and faith and given them their assistance. So, enthusiasm is there, in the people, in an abundant degree. That is why I feel guilty about it. There is so much to be done and there is so much enthusiasm in the people, but we are so limited in our capacity to give assistance to the people and there are so many difficulties which we cannot overcome in spite of everything we wish to do.

We know that popular initiative cannot be developed unless there are popular institutions. We have been

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thinking of these Block Advisory Committees and the District Development Committees and so on and we have been talking about participation of Parliament Members and Members of Legislative Assemblies and other representatives of the people. There have been complaints, as we have heard on the floor of this House during the past two days, that the party in power or the Government does not listen to the Opposition Members, or people who do not belong to the party in power. These complaints will continue, because, sometimes sand becomes hotter than the Sun. We have an understanding in this House that this is a national programme and we know it is a national programme. We get the State Governments to accept it as a national programme. But the understanding just mentioned is difficult to be transmitted to the government workers at the village level. It is equally difficult to transmit that understanding to the representatives of the people at the ground level. It is not merely the government agencies that have interfered with the smooth implementation of the directives from here; it is also the representatives of the people at the ground level and many other workers who are working there. The Balwant-ray Mehta Committee knew it.

Shri C. K. Nair: May I know if all the Members of Parliament are associated in their respective areas with Block Development Advisory Committees?

Mr. Chairman: That is not the case.

Shri C. K. Nair: Then, how has the complaint come from the Opposition?

Mr. Chairman: I do not think the hon. Member has a right to make a speech. He may put a question; but, he cannot make a speech at the moment. The hon. Minister may continue; he has not given in, I think.

Shri C. K. Nair: A point, Madam....

Mr. Chairman: Is it a point of order?

Shri C. K. Nair: The point of order is that the Opposition Members have referred to it that no Opposition Member is really associated and it is not really democratic if M.P.s and M.L.As of the local areas are not . . .

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. The hon. Member should not make a speech. He may put a question. I have allowed certain Members to put questions to the hon. Minister. The hon. Member has no right to make a speech now, explaining certain things that have been already explained by various other Members of this House. If the hon. Member desires to put a question to the hon. Minister, he may do so; but, no speech will be allowed at this stage.

Shri C. K. Nair: I wanted a clarification; I did not want to make a speech.

Shri S. K. Dey: The Members of Parliament are members of the Block Advisory Committees. Members of the Legislatures in their areas are inevitably Members of the . . .

Shri Jadhav: What about nominations?

Shri P. R. Patel: May I put a question? I want . . .

Mr. Chairman: More than one hon. Member has made specific criticism about how the committees are formed, that Opposition Members are not represented. I think the hon. Minister will reply to that. It is not necessary now to enter into a cross-examination on that point.

Shri S. K. Dey: Members of Parliament and Members of the State Legislative Assemblies are members of the Block Advisory Committees. We have also introduced now the system of associating the sarpanches. In a number of States, the sarpanches of the Blocks are members of the Block Advisory Committees. In certain other States, a certain selected number of sarpanches are members of the Block

Advisory Committees. Apart from these, there are the representatives of other institutions like the Bharat Sevak Samaj, Sarwodaya Samaj, the Co-operative Societies and whatever other institutions are there. From each of these institutions, representatives are there in the Block Advisory Committees.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister may, if he can, explain the position with regard to the reference made to nominations.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhour): Are political parties going to be represented?

Shri S. K. Dey: There is no representative of a political party in this programme as a member of a political party. They can be there only in their representative capacity. Where nominations take place, these nominations are done either by the State Government or by the Collector or by the District Development Committee. There is no uniform procedure and I know it is not satisfactory. Therefore, we want to do something about it. To answer these possible problems, we want to give this democratic decentralisation a trial. This recommendation of democratic decentralisation suggested by the Balwantray Mehta Committee is a logical step forward towards the democracy that is functioning in this House, the democracy that is functioning at the State level. This democracy must travel down in a constitutional way so that people can function on their rights and not merely on courtesies depending on the whims of local officers or local politicians or others.

We have discussed this question threadbare with the State Governments. The State Governments have accepted the principle.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: And implementation?

Shri S. K. Dey: With regard to the question of implementation, as far as I know, only two State Governments have so far come forward to imple-

ment the programme. One is the Andhra State and the other is Madras. I would tell this House the difficulties in the way of the State Governments. I know there is a State, not very far from Delhi, where the Chief Minister and the Ministers of the Cabinet, all of them, were eager to bring about democratic decentralisation and they thought they would be strengthening their hands by calling a conference of the panches of the State. Two thousand sarpanches of the State assembled there and I had an opportunity of going and describing and explaining to them the meaning of this democratic decentralisation, the independence, the new responsibilities and the new authority that it means at the ground level. They smiled and I thought they had accepted it.

Shri Tangamani: Is it Rajasthan?

Shri S. K. Dey: Within a few hours, the people went back and were completely changed. Next morning they said they had nothing to do with democratic decentralisation and they were content with the powers they enjoyed because they were led to believe that it was an attempt on the part of Government rob them of the powers they enjoyed. How can the Government tackle this? Even in Andhra I have not information that people are out to destroy this particular measure which the Andhra Government as a progressive Government is trying to enact, because it cuts at the root of the privileges of many people there. They do not like democracy. Therefore, this democratic decentralisation cannot be brought about simply by the issue of a mandate from this House, or simply by the issue of a mandate by the National Development Council. No Chief Minister of a State can get this implemented unless the people are actually demanding it, unless they are crying for it...

Shri Yadhav: What is the criterion to know whether they are demanding it or not?

Shri S. K. Dey: All the influential people must get to the country-side and make the people a party to demanding from the Government the delegation of these powers; and, if that is not done, this will not work. Some States, of course, will try to implement this programme. I am completely convinced about it, that powers cannot be given; they to be taken. We had to take power from the Britishers; we did not get it. (*Interruption*) Powers have to be taken.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Minister will have to conclude in 10 minutes. Private Members' Business has to commence. So, I request the hon. Minister to wind up his remarks.

Shri S. K. Dey: I have dealt with the revised training programme. We are now thinking of having the programme in two phases. The first and the second phases would obliterate the distinction between the National Extension Service and the Community Development blocks. We are convinced that this will improve the tone of the programme considerably. When more funds are provided in the second phase, it will help in bridging the yawning gap that now exists between the rural and the urban areas. It will strengthen the base of the programme.

I have mentioned about democratic decentralisation. If I may say in all humility, we have the biggest community project of the world in this House. I have been here for the past one year and six months. I have never been conscious of the fact that somebody belongs to the Opposition and somebody belongs to the Ruling Party so far as my subject is concerned. I have known that every single Member in this House has been equally interested in the programme. In the past we had the division of the country because we had Hindu *pani* and Muslim *pani*. That has disappeared. Thank God for it. We do not want to have in the villages a Congress road, a PSP road, a Communist road

or a Jan Sangh road. The roads belong to the village people as a whole.. (*Interruptions*). The drinking water, the school, the community centre—in fact all the amenities that we are trying to create at the village level belong to all the people. I have not yet come across any Member belonging to any Party differing with the objective of the programme. Of course, between the objective and the accomplishment there is a gap. I know that we are trying to narrow that gap and are struggling as honestly as we can. We received during the past one year a considerable amount of assistance from the hon. Members of this House. They have participated very actively in the consultative committees and given us their advice. They have gone out and visited the projects and discussed with the State Governments about the shortfall in the programme and have given reports which have been of enormous help. I have had more than 100 references from hon. Members of this House. It has helped very materially. They belong to all the political parties. We have tried in whatever way we possibly can to influence the State Government in the management of the programme. Previously I received 65 references from 65 Members. I believe that in the future I would receive not 150 references but at least 6500 references about our programme.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rai Bareli): Are they certificates?

Shri S. K. Dey: They are references on the programmes that they have seen in the field on which they wanted correctives to be applied. It has helped very materially in our programme.

2-54 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

An Hon. Member: At cross roads?

Shri S. K. Dey: At the village level....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker:...there is no confusion, I suppose.

Shri S. K. Dey: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, at the village level, we are aware that there is a vacuum. There is vacuum because the intelligentsia has migrated from the villages. The representatives of the people also do not have the opportunity of giving continuous guidance to the village people because they are occupied elsewhere. This vacuum is inevitably filled by people who believe in casteism, parochialism and parasitism. There is no oversimplified answer to this problem. It is expected that the Government apparatus should try to deliver the goods under this programme. The risk that we run is that when the influences at the ground level are overwhelming, even the Government apparatus there can become or is liable to become an accomplice of these reactionary forces. Therefore, it is not possible for the Government apparatus alone to deliver this programme.

I mentioned this last year and I repeat it this year again. To the extent that this apparatus is buttressed and supported by the people's organisation and the people's representatives at the ground level, the Government apparatus will be effective. It will function democratically promote democracy and will try to get the active participation of the people. There will then be popular initiative. To the extent that these forces are not functioning there, the programme will suffer.

Our workers in the major part of India today are giving as much as they possibly can. The Development Commissioners are all people who have almost been cut out of their families. I may make a confession that I hardly have the courage to meet the wife of any Development Commissioner for the simple reason that these people are being drawn out of their homes and there is almost a talk that there should be a society for the prevention of cruelty to wives... (*Interruptions.*)

In the field also, there are a large number of workers, block development officers and others.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Why is it that the hon. Minister should go beating about the wives of the officials?

Shri S. K. Dey: To enlist their participation and co-operation in the programme.

An Hon. Member: Is it part of the community development?

Shri S. K. Dey: Of course. While a large number of our workers are trying to do as much as they possibly can, there is also a minority of our workers who are not doing what they should. They are trying to perpetuate what we knew in the past, the tehsildar raj. In fact sometime back, the hon. Members might have read in the *Kurukshetra* the open letter which I myself wrote to His Highness the Block Development Officer of an unknown place. I described what such people were.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I was told that it was the case of His Majesty writing to His Highness.

Shri S. K. Dey: We are trying to bring pressure and see that they are corrected.

Yet I know that over-much of initiative from the Centre is not a good thing; if we are to promote democracy, we must decentralise even initiative. If too much of initiative is taken by the Centre, in the short run results can of course be very spectacular than otherwise, but in the long run no Ministry in the Centre can ever be big and competent enough to implement the programme of this character, encompassing a population of 400 millions as we are going to be. It is impossible. Therefore, we have to decentralise the initiative and responsibility to the State Governments. We are quite proud to tell the House on behalf of the Ministry that we have

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delegated complete powers to the State Governments in the implementation of this programme, almost to the point of abnegation of the Ministry itself. Complete powers have been vested in the State Government and the only power that rests in the Central Ministry is the allotment of the annual blocks and making of advances against certified statements from the Accountant-General. These are not powers. Whatever powers the Central Ministry possesses in this programme is the power of influence. Whatever knowledge we try to acquire from different States with their varied experience of different areas, we try to make these available to all the State Governments and to the extent we are helpful to the State Governments, we are welcome. So far we have been welcomed by the State Governments.

I know the anxiety of this House to see that our programme moves much more effectively than in the past. Who could be more delighted to look forward to it than I, to see that this programme makes a more effective contribution? If the Central Ministry were to take greater initiative, the danger is that eventually the Central Ministry will be a stranglehold on the States. And, we will hamper from the centre the democratic process that we are trying to develop in the States. There is, therefore, only one alternative. If the Central Ministry cannot take the initiative, the State Governments have to take the initiative and the representatives of the people at the State level will have to take the initiative. How can I make them take the initiative? One Minister, Sir, cannot be a substitute in this matter for this House. If I am to build a dam, a science laboratory or construct some roads, it is a technical problem for which it is sufficient that I get the technical people, give them instructions and the money and material required for it. Where we have 365 million problems, and each one is a problem by itself, it is

not possible for one Minister to administer this programme over this whole country and develop initiative on the people.

It is on this account, therefore, that I have to rely increasingly on the hon. Members of this House. I know they have not only given me understanding and sympathy on this programme but wherever possible they have tried to join me in my visits to the States and going round with me till two o'clock early in the morning, to see the works jointly with me. I would like to appeal to this House to give me this co-operation in a much greater measure. In future I will have to make this call on every single Member. To the extent that I get this assistance I will be effective. So far as I am personally concerned, I have been working to endurance and I will continue to do so. I have been trying to get out of the officials of the Ministry almost as much as they could give to their capacity, very little more than that can be expected of them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is exactly my case at this moment. My capacity is also just over.

Shri S. K. Dey: Sir, I will conclude in another two minutes. Of course, a lot more can be done at the ground level. But how do we do it? The hon. Members of this House would be very happy to hear that this programme has ceased to be a merely Indian programme. A large number of countries situated as we are, like Indonesia, Philippines, Burma, Ceylon, Iraq, Iran, Ethiopia, Egypt and almost all countries situated as we are have taken the responsibility for running this programme. We have had a large number of Government representatives of these States coming over to India making a study tour of this programme. We have quite a number of our seasoned workers from Government who are now functioning in some of these States assisting their Governments in implementing this programme. Therefore, in a way this

programme has ceased to be a purely Indian programme; it has become a global programme. Now we want to make a success of this programme not merely for the sake of India. A large number of countries situated as we are, constituting more than half the population of the world, are intending to run this programme in the same way as we are. Therefore, it becomes all the more necessary for us to make it the success that we all want.

We cannot do it unless we make a national effort, not merely here but at all levels, and in this I am very greatly dependent on what I can draw from this House and from the hon. Members.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the cut motions together to the vote of the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

Shri V. P. Nayar: How bad!

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But nothing strange. I shall now put the Demands for Grants.

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 6, 7 and 107 relating to the Ministry of Community Development."

(The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.)

Demand No. 6—Ministry of Community Development

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 20,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Community Development'".

Demand No. 7—Community Development Projects and National Extension Service

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,03,83,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Community Development Projects and National Extension Service'".

Demand No. 107—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Community Development

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,13,91,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Community Development'".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up the Private Members' Business. There are some Bills to be introduced.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, I would like to submit one thing. Non-official Business was to have started at 2:30 whereas it is now 3:05. So more than half an hour has been lost.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will sit longer and make up for the time lost. Non-official business would not at all suffer.

INDIAN CONTRACT (AMENDMENT) BILL*

Shri S. C. Samanta (Tamluk): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Contract Act, 1872.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Contract Act, 1872."

The motion was adopted.

Shri S. C. Samanta: I introduce the Bill.

ALL INDIA MATERNITY BENEFIT BILL*

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrhat): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to prevent the employment of women in factories, plantations and other establishments for sometime before and sometime after confinement and to provide for payment of maternity and medical benefit to them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to prevent the employment of women in factories, plantations and other establishments for sometime before and sometime after confinement and to

provide for payment of maternity and medical benefit to them."

The motion was adopted.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: introduce the Bill.

UNTOUCHABILITY (OFFENCES) AMENDMENT BILL*

(Amendment of Sections No. 3 and 4)

Shri Siddiah (Mysore-Reserved Sch. Castes): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Siddiah: I introduce the Bill.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of Sections 497 and 498)

Shri Subiman Ghose (Burdwan): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code, 1860."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Subiman Ghose: I introduce the Bill.