

[Shrimati Lakshmi Menon]

Tripura. The House will appreciate that demarcation of land boundaries is a complex and laborious process involving agreement on each yard of the boundary, which is determined from revenue records, maps and ground surveys. This process is difficult even in normal disputes between villages regarding their land boundaries. It is more difficult when inter-state boundaries even within Indian territory are involved. It is still more complicated by the nature of the terrain between Assam and East Pakistan, particularly when it is realised that this is a joint operation between the two sovereign Governments of India and Pakistan, relations between whom, for various reasons, have, throughout the last 11 years, been extremely difficult. We are going ahead with the demarcation of the boundary as best as we can but the pace of demarcation is not a matter entirely within our control.

Incidents of this type are unavoidable while the frontier remains undemarcated. We have always been anxious to settle all differences, including differences regarding boundary between India and Pakistan, by negotiation but we cannot surrender rightful territorial claims merely because the other side makes a show of force. At the same time, we are averse to taking any hasty or ill-considered action which would unnecessarily worsen Indo-Pakistan relations further and give rise to graver problems. Our local authorities have acted with firmness and circumspection and there has been no loss of life despite repeated firing between the 11th and 27th of March.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND
SUPPLY—*contd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the

Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. Out of 4 hours allotted for these demands, 3 hours 40 minutes now remain.

The list of selected cut motions relating to these Demands has already been circulated to the hon. Members on the 28th March, 1958. These cut motions may be moved subject to their being otherwise admissible. The number are as follows:

Demand Nos.	Nos. of Cut Motions
94	796
96	1007 to 1018, 1022 to 1034, 1049 to 1076, 1143
97	505

Failure to implement the subsidised industrial housing scheme

Shri Ghosal (Uluberia): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to construct quarters for work-charged staff of C.P.W.D. working in airfields in Assam.

Shri Easwara Iyer (Trivandrum): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to construct quarters for work-charged staff of C.P.W.D. working in various airfields

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Failure to supply the list of permanent workers to the C.P.W.D. workers' Union by the Chief Engineer, C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide medical facilities of the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. outside Delhi.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to construct quarters for work-charged staff of C.P.W.D. working at Calcutta

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to decide principles and conditions regarding transfer to Assam and other unpopular stations of the workcharged staff of C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to make vigilance Unit of the C.P.W.D. independent of the Department.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to abolish the posts of Additional Chief Engineers in the C.P.W.D. and replace them by Deputy Chief Engineers.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for reorganising the Divisions in the C.P.W.D. on the basis of contiguity of area in the interest of efficiency of service.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to take out the aerodromes in Uttar Pradesh from the jurisdiction of Calcutta Aviation Electrical Division and place Independent M. & T. sub-division, Calcutta within its jurisdiction

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to convert Independent Aviation Electrical Sub-division, New Delhi into a Division by placing all aerodromes in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi and Punjab within its jurisdiction.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant travelling allowance, joining time etc. to workcharged staff of C.P.W.D. of all categories on transfer or their being outside the headquarters in connection with Government work.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to extend the grant of compensatory allowance to the workcharged staff of C.P.W.D. at Chandigarh.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to remove the anomalies in the scales of pay of workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. according to the recommendations of the last Pay Commission

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to maintain one seniority list of all workcharged staff of C.P.W.D. in Delhi.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to apply the Contributory Health Service Scheme to the work-charged staff of the C.P.W.D. in Delhi

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to grant special casual leave to the delegates attending the All-India Conference of the Central C.P.W.D. Workers' Union held in July, 1957

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to confirm additional work-charged staff of the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to bring workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. to the regular establishment.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to allot quarters to the work-charged staff of the C.P.W.D. according to their scales of pay.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to maintain statistics of the workcharged staff employed every month by the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to do all annual repairs and maintenance works in the C.P.W.D. departmentally through the work-charged staff

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need for abolishing the system of giving work on contract in the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to expand the Fan Repair Workshop in the C.P.W.D. and to give all Fan repair work to this workshop

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to reinstate workcharged staff discharged for trade union activities.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant P.T.O. concessions to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to pay wages for over-time work to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. working within Jammu and Kashmir State.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to pay compensation according to Workmen's Compensation Act to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. working within Jammu and Kashmir State

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to sanction compensatory allowance to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. working in Banihal Tunnel Project with retrospective effect.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant arrears of compensatory allowance to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. at Konnagar

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to give same pensionary benefits to the permanent workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. as are given to other permanent Central Government employees.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to reserve beds in hospitals and sanatoria for workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. suffering from T.B.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to confirm as permanent the caretaker staff of the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant half-pay leave to the workcharged staff of C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to confirm the caretaker of the C.P.W.D. as quasi-permanent

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to provide recreation rooms to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. in Delhi.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to provide recreation rooms to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. working at various airports.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant compensatory allowance to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. in the Madhopur Circle.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

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Need to grant N.E.F.A. allowance to the workcharged staff of the C.P.W.D. posted in N.E.F.A.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to grant the C.P.W.D. scales pay to the workcharged staff in the N.E.F.A. Circle of C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to fix scale of pay for concrete mixer drivers in the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to pay retrenchment compensation to the workers on muster roll in C.P.W.D. on retrenchment

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to maintain seniority list by various Divisions of the C.P.W.D. of workers on muster roll

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to abolish the posts of Superintending Engineers in the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to shift the office of one of the Electrical Superintending Engineers of C.P.W.D. to Calcutta and placing all Electrical Divisions of Calcutta and Madras under his control

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to transfer maintenance of Babatpur aerodrome from Muzaffarpur Aviation Division to Allahabad Central Division

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to bring the Bhopal, Allahabad, Dehra Dun, Ajmer, Simla and Delhi Aviation Divisions from different circles of C.P.W.D. under one Circle

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need of getting all minor original and miscellaneous works done departmentally by the C.P.W.D. through workcharged staff

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to provide quarters to workcharged staff of C.P.W.D. at Dhanbad according to the scales of pay

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to count the services rendered under the State P.W.D.s of the workcharged staff transferred along with the works to the C.P.W.D. for purposes of pension

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide alternate jobs to the workcharged staff of Calcutta Rehabilitation Division of C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to make arrangements for training facilities for the unskilled work-charged staff of the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to supply Pass Books to all the subscribers of the work-charged Contributory Provident Fund in various Divisions of the C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to continue provision of uniforms to chowkidars in C.P.W.D.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Other Civil Works' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to redress the grievances of the employees of Nasik Government Press

Shri Easwara Iyer: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Stationery and Printing be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Speaker: These cut motions are now before the House.

How long does the hon. Minister propose to take? At what time shall I call him?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): At about 3 or 3.15.

Mr. Speaker: What is the time he requires?

Shri K. C. Reddy: About 40 minutes. Between my colleague and myself, we will take about an hour.

Mr. Speaker: We will have to conclude by 4. At 3.15 I will call both the hon. Ministers.....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram): Simultaneously!

Mr. Speaker:one after another, Or, I will call him earlier if he wants. (Interruptions).

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: This is bad practice. Only one should reply.

Mr. Speaker: Now, Sardar Amar Singh Saigal may continue his speech.

सरदार अ० सि० सहाय (जंजगीर) :

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सदन में जब वर्क्स, हाउसिंग एंड सप्लाय की डिमांड्स पेश हुईं, तो मैं को-ऑपरेटिव और इंडस्ट्रियल वर्कर्स को दी जाने वाली फ़ाइनेंशियल प्रोविडेंट्स के बारे में कह रहा था। उनको दी जाने वाली २५ परसेंट सबसिडी को ३० परसेंट सबसिडी और ५० परसेंट लोन को ६० परसेंट लोन करने की आप तजवीज कर रहे हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप सबसिडी को कम से कम ३५ सैकड़ा और लोन को ७५ सैकड़ा तक बढ़ा दें। इसका कारण यह है कि आज जो परिस्थितियाँ हैं, उनमें जब तक आप इस सहायता को नहीं बढ़ायेंगे, तब तक यह कार्य पूर्ण नहीं हो सकता है। आज-कल के जमाने में सब चीजों की कीमतें बहुत ज्यादा हो गई हैं। इसलिये हम समझते हैं कि हमारा यह फ़ंड होना चाहिये कि हम इस पर गौर करें।

इसके बाद मैं आपका ध्यान लो इनकम ग्रुप हाउसिंग स्कीम की तरफ़ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। यह स्कीम १९५४ में जारी की गई थी और इसके अन्तर्गत यह व्यवस्था की गई कि जिन लोगों की आमदनी ६,००० रुपये हो, उनको व्यक्तिगत रूप में, या उनकी को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी को लोन दिया जाय। उस लोन पर हमारा जो इन्ट्रेस्ट है, वह ४ १/२ परसेंट है और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट जो सब्सिडी करेगी, उस पर १ परसेंट से ज्यादा इन्ट्रेस्ट नहीं होगा और वह ३० साल तक

(सरकार अ० सि० सहूलत)

पुकारा जा सकेगा। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि भिन्न भिन्न स्टेट सरकारों ने अपने यहां के लोगों को इस स्कीम के अन्तर्गत कितना फायदा पहुंचाया है और इस में कहां तक कामयाबी हासिल की है। यदि हम देखें, तो मालूम होता है कि इस स्कीम के जरिये जितनी ज्यादा मदद हमारे लोगों को मिलनी चाहिये, उतनी ज्यादा मदद नहीं मिल सकी है।

अब मैं ग्रामों में मकान बनाने की स्कीम के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। १५०० रुपये की जो हर मकान के बनाने की हमारी स्कीम है, हम ५,०० गांवों में मकान बनाने की व्यवस्था करना चाहते हैं। आपने स्टेट सरकारों को अक्टूबर, १९५७ में लिखा कि इस स्कीम पर अमल किया जाय। इस रिपोर्ट से यह मालूम नहीं होता है कि कितनी स्टेट सरकारों ने इस पर अमल किया है और कितनी स्टेट सरकारों ने अमल नहीं किया है। इस रिपोर्ट से मालूम होता है कि फ्राइनेशियल असिस्टेंस इन शर्तों पर दी जायेगी

"...subject to maximum of Rs. 1,500 per house, repayable in annual equated instalments over a period of about 20 years, and will be advanced to individuals direct or through cooperative societies. Preference will be given to persons in the lower income brackets or to cooperatives of such individuals."

मैं यह अर्थ करना चाहता हूँ कि इस अमान में लकड़ी और लोहे के समान की कीमत ज्यादा है, काम करने वाले लोगों की मजदूरी ज्यादा है। ऐसी हालत में एक घर के लिये १,५०० रुपये की रकम बहुत कम होगी। इसलिये प्रार्थना है कि इस रकम को बढ़ा कर कम से कम २,००० रुपये तक करने पर विचार किया जाय।

आपने सिद्धपुर कास्ट, सिद्धपुर ट्राइब्स और दूसरी बैंकवर्ड क्वालिफ के लिये यह व्यवस्था की है कि उन लोगों को मकान बनाने के लिये अपना होम मिनिस्ट्री की मार्फत उस रकम में से दिया जायगा, जो कि उनके बेलक्रैपर के कार्यों के लिये रखी गई है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि आपने जो आइरेक्टिव दिया है, उसके मुताबिक हर एक स्टेट सरकार ने पिछड़ी जाति के जंगलों आदि में रहने वाले उन लोगों को कहां तक सहायता पहुंचाई है। इसका कोई जिक्र आपकी इस रिपोर्ट में नहीं मिलता है।

मैं आपका शुक्रगुजार हूँ कि आपने सरकारी कर्मचारियों की उस स्कीम को १९५६ में फिर जारी कर दिया है, जो १९३७ में मुस्तवी कर दी गई थी। आपने इस रिपोर्ट में लिखा है कि जो लोग लगातार दस वर्षों से यहां काम कर रहे हैं और जिनका किसी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के अधीन पर्सनल प्रोपर्टीमेंट नहीं है, उनको इस स्कीम के अन्तर्गत सहायता दी जायेगी। थोड़ी देर के लिये मान लीजिये कि किसी व्यक्ति का स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से ट्रांसफर हो जाता है, तो क्या आप उसके लिये कोई व्यवस्था नहीं करना चाहते हैं? इस रिपोर्ट के सफ़हा २८ पर लिखा है कि जनवरी, १९५८ तक आपकी ३५३ दरखास्तें मिलीं, जिन में से ११२ दरखास्तें मंजूर की गईं, जिनकी कुल रकम १४.२४ लाख रुपये थी। १९५७-५८ में जनवरी, १९५८ तक आपके पास २१४ दरखास्तें आईं, जिन में से ६७ दरखास्तें मंजूर की गईं, जिन पर आपने ११.९६ लाख रुपये खर्च करने को मंजूर कर दिया। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ २१४ दरखास्तों में से सिर्फ ६७ दरखास्तें ही क्यों मंजूर की गईं और बाकी पर भी क्यों विचार नहीं किया गया। यदि हम इसी गति से काम करते रहे, तो हमारा कार्य पूर्ण नहीं हो सकेगा। मैं आपसे अर्थ

करना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय पर भी धीर किया जाव ।

जहां तक हिन्दुस्तान में धीर हिन्दुस्तान से बाहर की जाने वाली खरीदो-फरोस्त का सवाल है, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में एक संयुक्त डिपार्टमेंट स्थापित किया जाना चाहिये, जो कि हर एक डिपार्टमेंट—चाहे वह डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट हो या रेलवे डिपार्टमेंट हो—की खरीदो-फरोस्त का काम करे। इस संस्था में फ्राइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री का एक उच्च से उच्च अधिकारी रखा जाय, जो इस बात को देखे कि हमारे फ्राइनेंसिज को ठीक तरह से काम में लाया जाता है या नहीं। इस तरह की व्यवस्था करने पर आपको खरीदो-फरोस्त के कार्य में मदद मिल सकेगी और प्रलय प्रलय तरीकों पर खरीदो-फरोस्त करने से विदेशों में हमारा जो रुपया खर्च हो रहा है, उसको हम बहुत कुछ बचा सकेंगे ।

सबसिडाइज्ड इंडस्ट्रियल हाउसिंग स्कीम के अन्तर्गत फ्रंट फ्राइव यीअर प्लान में मित्र मित्र एजेन्सीज के जरिये—जैसे स्टेट गर्नमेंट्स, प्राइवेट एम्प्लायर्स और इंडस्ट्रियल वर्कर्स की को-आपरेटिब्ज वरीरह हैं—७८,०२६ मकान बनाने की तजवीज की गई थी, जिन पर कुल खर्चा २२.३२ करोड़ आता। लेकिन मालूम नहीं किन कारणों से प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना में १३.२६ करोड़ रुपया बतौर कर्जा और सबसिडी के दिया गया और सिर्फ ४३,८३१ मकान बनाये जा सके ।

दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में ४५ करोड़ रुपये रखे जाने की तजवीज थी और १,२८,००० घर बनाये जाने का लक्ष्य सामने रखा गया, लेकिन बाद में मैटीरियल की कीमतों बढ़ जाने के कारण यह तय किया गया कि १,०५,००० घर बनाये जायेंगे। ४५ करोड़ रुपये की रकम में से मित्र मित्र स्टेट सरकारों को २८.६६ करोड़ रुपया दिया जाना है। इस रिपोर्ट के हवाले यह पता नहीं चला कि

स्टेट गर्नमेंट्स को इस स्कीम में कितनी कामयाबी हासिल हुई है। कितना उन्होंने खर्च किया है और कितना रुपया खर्च नहीं किया है। उसके साथ ही साथ १९५६-५७ में जबकि आपने दूसरे प्लान का पहला बच गुरू हुआ था आपने यह रखा था कि आप १२,१६७ मकान बनायेंगे जिनकी कुल लागत ३.१६ करोड़ रुपया होगी। मगर इस साल आपकी फिगर्स के अनुसार ही आपने ३.३२ करोड़ रुपया खर्च किया है। यदि आप देखें तो आपकी पता चलेगा कि जो बजटिड एमाउंट इस वक्त है वह ७.६५ करोड़ पया है और कुल १०,५१६ मकान ही बन सके हैं। इस तरह से जो धीरे से काम हो रहा है, उस तरह मैं आपका ध्यान दिलाता हूँ और मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप जल्दी-जल्दी काम करें। अगर आपने इसी रफ्तार से काम किया तो मझे शक है कि आप इनको पूरा भी कर सकेंगे इस वास्ते मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि आप इस ओर ध्यान दें और जल्दी से इन स्कीमों को पूरा करने की कोशिश करें।

इसके साथ ही साथ यदि आप १९५७-५८ के बजट को देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि हमने १०,३०० घर ३.६४ करोड़ रुपये की लागत पर बनाने की योजना की थी और कहा था कि १ अप्रैल १९५७ से १५ मार्च १९५८ तक हम इतने घर बना देंगे। दरअसल मैं आपने ३.१४ करोड़ पया खर्च किया है जबकि बजट एलाटमेंट ४.६५ करोड़ की थी। इस पये में से आप केवल १३,५५७ घर ही बना सके हैं ३१ दिसम्बर १९५७ तक। इस तरह से इन सब चीजों के देखने के बाद यह कहा जा सकता है कि हमें अपनी स्कीमों को अमली जामा पहनाने के लिए और भी तेजी लानी होगी और और भी शीघ्रता के साथ उनको कार्यान्वित करना होगा।

अब मैं अशोका होटल के सम्बन्ध में अपने विचार आपके सम्मुख रखना चाहता हूँ। गर्नमेंट ने इस होटल को बनाने के लिए

[सरकार भ० सि० सङ्गणक]

१ करोड़ ७५ लाख रुपया कम्पनी को एडवांस किया है और उस पर पांच प्रतिशत के हिसाब से ब्याज लिया जाएगा। इस तरह से कम्पनी के पास जो २.७५ करोड़ रुपया हो गया जिसमें से उसने २.५८ करोड़ रुपया कंस्ट्रक्शन पर खर्च कर दिया है। उसे अभी तक तकरीबन १७,००,००० रुपये के जो बिल हैं और जो पैडिंग हैं उनकी पैमेंट करनी है। जो बनाने का काम था वह ३१ अगस्त १९५७ को खत्म हो गया था, जो बिल पैडिंग हैं उन्हें शीघ्रतया करना चाहिये अब आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि ३१ जनवरी १९५८ तक २७,११५ लोग यहाँ पर रात्रि में आकर ठहरे। अगर इसको बर्क आउट किया जाए तो २२० की भीसत बैठती है। २२० लोग भीसतन हर रोज यहाँ पर आते जाते हैं। अब आप कोही देर के लिए मान लें कि २५० या २५० लोग एक दिन में यहाँ पर आ जायें तो उस वकत उस क्षुरत में आप उनके लिए क्या व्यवस्था करेंगे, यह मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा। आप देखें कि ३० सितम्बर १९५७ को यहाँ पर १९,४९७ लोग आये थे जिनमें अधिकतर विदेशी आई थे। आप कहते हैं कि ७३.६७ प्रतिशत लोग जो कि विदेशी थे इस होटल में ठहरे। इसके लिए मैं आपको बधाई देता हूँ कि इसकी व्यवस्था और ठीक तरह से चलेगी तथा इस होटल की प्रख्याति होगी।

अब मैं उन फ्लैट्स की तरफ आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ जिनमें कि हम लोग रहते हैं। इन क्वार्टरों के आगे हैष की हासत खराब होने की वजह से बहुत विषकत का सामना करना पड़ता है। बराबर दूसरे लोग हमारे मकानात के सामने से गुजरते रहते हैं। यदि हम बाहर भी बैठे होते हैं तो भी उनको रोकने की व्यवस्था हम नहीं कर पाते हैं और यदि इन फ्लैट्स में आकर देखें तो आपको सारी पोजीशन का पता लग जायेगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इसमें एक दो दिन आकर रहें और आपको

सारी विषकतों का पता चल जाएगा। सब आपको मालूम हो जाएगा कि बहुत से ताबाब में लोग यहाँ से निकलते रहते हैं और कोई प्राइवेली नहीं रह जाती। हम लोग अपने घर वालों के साथ, बाल बच्चों के साथ बाहर बैठ नहीं सकते हैं और न अपने मित्रों के साथ बाहर आकर बैठ सकते हैं। इसके बारे में तजवीज दी गई थी लेकिन अभी तक कुछ नहीं आ है। यह कहा गया था कि यहाँ पर आप कोई बाउंडरी रख दें और अगर और कुछ नहीं हो सकता तो तार की बाउंडरी रख दें। साथ ही वहाँ पर जो घास का खान लगाया जाता है और अच्छी तरह से लगाया जाना चाहिए। जब हम अच्छे से खर्च करते हैं तो हमें देखना चाहिये कि काम भी अच्छा हो।

अन्त में मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि हमारे फ्लैट्स में आप कोई बाउंडरी बना दें या तार लगाने तक बाहर के लोग वहाँ से न गुजर सकें। अगर आपने सही व्यवस्था कर दी तो हम लोग वहाँ पर ठीक तरह से रह सकेंगे।

इतना कह करके मैं स मंत्रालय की जो मांगें हैं उनका समर्थन करता हूँ और जो का आपने प्रशांका होटल के बारे में किया है, उसके लिये मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ।

Shri Easwara Iyer: Mr. Speaker, within the time limit prescribed, I shall confine myself to a few remarks regarding the housing schemes of the Central Government, the working conditions of the C.P.W.D. employees and also about the Asoka Hotel.

With regard to the housing schemes, I would like to submit before this House that there is a lack of planning with respect to office accommodation, or with respect to the colonies that have been built or with respect to the buildings for various residential quarters of government servants. With respect to these colonies that have been built in Vinay Nagar or West Vinay Nagar,

I have already drawn the attention of the Minister, I believe, during the debate in the last session, to the fact that the buildings are far from being habitable. There are not only cracks on the wall, but they are leaking, and the doors and windows there have lost their hinges.

Quite apart from that, if we take for example, the G type quarters, what do we find? These quarters are called two-room tenements, but there is hardly any space for anybody to live there. With regard to the upstairs, it is seen there is great difficulty in getting water upstairs, because in the upstairs flats there is no water-tap provided. The persons living upstairs have to come down to drink water even in a summer night.

Mr. Speaker: There are no water taps at all?

Shri Easwara Iyer: Not in the upstairs. Now, there are about 12,000 persons living in that colony, and in the case of such colonies, even the ordinary amenities such as schools or recreation clubs are not provided. In this case, a market also is not provided. Though I do not say that it is absolutely difficult, it is very difficult to live there, particularly when one finds that there are no amenities regarding recreation clubs or markets or even the ordinary necessities of life.

That is why I would like to bring to the attention of the Minister that we would have to think about office accommodation being provided near about the residences of these low-paid employees. We find in Delhi several multi-storeyed buildings coming up one after the other round about Connaught Place. With regard to the highly-paid officers who have got automobiles like motor-cars or other means of transport of their own, the coming up of these multi-storeyed buildings nearer their residences may be quite welcome, but so far as the low-paid employees are concerned, the difficulty is they get no transport and they are not able to come in time to office and give their

attendance before 10 o'clock in the morning. So, if some of these multi-storeyed buildings can be built near about Vinay Nagar or East Vinay Nagar, it will not only relieve the congestion of traffic but also be conducive to their economic situation. That is a thing which I would place before the hon. Minister for his consideration in respect of the future building plans regarding office accommodation.

Another point that I would like to bring to the attention of this House is that a number of instances of corruption have been found out in respect of these private contracts. It is not very easy to enumerate or give specific instances of corruption regarding private contracts, but the system of giving private contracts in a modern progressive society must be on the decrease. That is what I want to submit. We must give more and more work for the departmental employees and reduce the private contract and do away with private contract if possible.

Now, with regard to ordinary maintenance work such as repair, electric wiring, etc., these things could have been very well done by the departmental employees like the CPWD employees. If we give this work to the private contractors, what happens? As I have already mentioned, these private contractors have got an unwritten code and with this unwritten code they have been able to get at the officers. It is a matter which is well known. How can a contractor give a tender which is lower than the estimated one? For example, in respect of a contract, if the lowest tender is to be accepted, sometimes, or more often than not, if I may say so, the tender comes below the estimated rate. How can the lowest tender come below even the estimated rate? That will lead only to one conclusion. Either the officers who have given the estimate are incompetent or incapable of preparing the estimate or they are cheating the Government. Otherwise, the contractor is not doing his work properly according to the specifica-

[Shri Saswara Iyer]

tion, either in terms of quality or quantity. So, in most cases where the lowest tenders fall below the estimated rate, we find that the execution of the work is not according to specification.

There are many instances of corruption brought to the notice of the higher-ups in the department. I am told there is a vigilance department that is working at present from May, 1957 and a chief technical examination cell has been created. With great respect, I would say that this vigilance department is not very vigilant. It is a case where this vigilance department are giving sufficient notice of the complaint brought to their attention to the persons accused of corruption. Therefore, they are given time enough to screen their mistakes or rectify them. So, this vigilance department is only helping those people.

I need not mention names. For example, I would respectfully submit before this House one instance of an executive engineer using the materials from departmental stores here for the purpose of adding constructions to his building. When that matter was brought to the notice of the Minister, the Minister was kind enough to refer it to the vigilance department. The vigilance department went into the matter in detail and afterwards it was found that he was given enough time for making up the deficiencies in the departmental stores by way of bringing bills. But nevertheless, a charge has been framed against him for making construction without permission. But the charge has not seen the light of day, possibly because there are more constructions made without permission and there is always the threat that is being held out by this executive engineer that he will expose all the constructions which have been made without permission. This is an instance where the vigilance department working under the Chief Engineer is not able to check up properly.

So, I would earnestly suggest for the consideration of the hon. Minister that in order that this vigilance department may function properly, they must be given powers independent of the Chief Engineer; then only it can work properly.

Mr. Speaker: Directly under the Minister?

Shri Saswara Iyer: If necessary directly under the Minister. When it works under the Chief Engineer, the vigilance department cannot function properly, because it is always subordinate to and controlled by the Chief Engineer.

With regard to the employees working in the C.P.W.D., I would respectfully draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the assurance given by him on 14th August, 1957 on the floor of this House. He said:

"So far as the non-industrial employees are concerned, who are part of this establishment—about 2,000 or 2,500; I am not sure about the figures—I am glad to say that a decision has been taken that that part of the work charged establishment will be converted into regular service of the Government and their staff will get the same treatment as the other regular employees of the Government of India. With regard to the balance, namely, industrial workers, out of the 10,000 and odd that will remain, about 50 per cent, if not a slightly higher figure than that, who have put in three years of continuous service will be declared to be permanent and all of them will get the benefits that accrue to Government employees who are declared to be permanent."

So, he has given two assurances, firstly that about 2500 or more of the work-charged establishment will be absorbed into the regular service. I understand that it took about six months from August, 1957 to March, 1958 for the department to specify the categories by a general order by

which these employees could be made permanent. The employees who are to be made permanent in a particular post are not being specified. It took six months to specify the categories. I am led to believe that there is a special committee to be appointed for the purpose of finding out those employees who deserve to be absorbed into the regular service. I am not aware and I do not know how long it will take for the special committee to find out the number of posts that could be converted into regular service, because it has taken about six months for them only to specify the categories. Some employees may become invalid, some aged, some superannuated and if I may say so, some may be subject to the operation of *force majeure* and be removed from this work with the pleasure of expectation that they will be absorbed into the regular service.

About the work-charged establishment, where is the difficulty in finding out the names of the 2,500 employees and giving them the permanent posts? If there is a will that it must be done, it can be done in a month. If they are unable to do so, let the matter be given over to the employees themselves and we will give them the list within 15 days. If there is a desire to implement these things, they can be implemented.

Regarding the 10,000 industrial workers and 50 per cent. of them who have put in more than three years of continuous service being absorbed in the permanent service, there is a peculiar method being adopted which will make it absolutely difficult if not impracticable for this matter to be regularised. I thought that in adopting this 50 per cent rule, the seniority list will be taken and those persons who have put in continuous service for more than three years in any particular category will be made permanent. But I find that the department concerned is going construction by construction and post by post at every stage and finding out whether a particular employee has been employed in a particular construction work for more than three

years, so that he may be made permanent. So, the list has been taken State-wise, which will be absolutely impossible, if not impracticable, because in some of the States they may even lose the records. So, this is what is happening in regard to the assurances given by the hon. Minister on 14th August, 1957.

So far as the work-charged employees are concerned, I have always been pressing that no beds have been reserved in the T.B. hospital for T.B. patients among them and the benefits of the Contributory Health Service Scheme which can be easily extended to those persons have not been extended to them. Some of these employees who have been put in the rooms in jungles are not given proper medical attention. The practice of opening five or six dispensaries is not going to help them. Here is a case where the employees well deserve the benefits of the Contributory Health Service Scheme.

I would also respectfully invite the attention of the Minister to the anomalies in the scales of pay as per the first Pay Commission's report. A special officer—I think it is Mr. P. K. Sen—has submitted his recommendations and I am told—I am not quite sure about that—that the Minister assured the employees that they will be implemented in November, 1957, in order to enable them to submit their memorandum before the second Pay Commission, but the implementation has not seen the light of day so far.

With regard to the Ashoka Hotel, here is a hotel run by the Government more or less on a par with any private hotel, but the employees there are not given, I am told, the ordinary necessary living conditions. We find that there is no service lift. It is more than six storeys and if there is a party in the sixth floor and if an employee is ordered to bring something, he has to climb down all the six storeys and bring it. It may be said that in every floor there is a pantry, but there are things which are to be gathered from the ground floor more often than not. So far as the

[Shri Easwara Iyer]

employees are concerned, there is another point I would like to bring before the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker: If all these details are given on the floor of the House instead of being communicated to the Minister, it may encourage the employees not to do work. It is true that the employees' conditions must be improved, but they should be brought to the notice of the Minister first.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I am told the employees have given a charter of demands to the Minister. That is why I am drawing the attention of the House to their present plight. I am only giving it in a brief manner; I am not going into details.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): We have been invited to see round the Ashoka Hotel and we happen to know the service conditions also.

Mr. Speaker: I agree. But what I would urge upon hon. Members is this. Now we are particularly trying to increase the public sector and the hon. Member himself just now said that there is no meaning in handing over the construction work to various contractors. So, everybody is interested in seeing that more and more of these enterprises come under the operation of the public sector. We can carry the information regarding the inconveniences suffered by the employees to the Minister, instead of saying it in open here, which will discourage those people or encourage those people not to do work and that is very bad.

Shri K. C. Reddy: I would also like to point out that this Ashoka Hotel is a company and it is being worked on a company basis. We are bringing all the facts brought to our notice to the notice of the Board of Directors who take note of them and do the needful.

Mr. Speaker: I am only placing this before the House. All hon. Members are interested in seeing that the public sector works as well as

possible, instead of getting into trucks with the private sector who say always, "No public sector" and so on. Having that in view, hon. Members may give suggestions to the Minister. Of course in cases where in spite of the suggestions having been brought before the Minister to remedy the grievances nothing has been done by the Minister, they may be brought up before the House. In the first instance, I would suggest those avenues may be explored before such matters are being brought before the House.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I am not in any way saying that business in the public sector must not be encouraged. I am only suggesting that the public sector should be more efficiently managed. So far as the workers are concerned, when 15 per cent is collected as service charges, it can very well be distributed amongst the workers, because they are not encouraged to take tips. When 15 per cent is collected by the management as service charges and when the workers are not allowed to take tips, this is a money to which the workers are rightly entitled.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Is the hon. Member quite sure that it is not being distributed?

Shri Easwara Iyer: That is what we are told.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It has not been made once.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I am speaking subject to correction. I am submitting before this House that we are reliably informed that it is not being distributed and there is not a single instance where it has been distributed.

So far as the workers are concerned, I am only submitting before this House, that there are cases where we are running the business in the public sector efficiently.

I am not saying that we are not running it efficiently. Take, for example, the Hindustan Housing Factory Ltd., which had been running

at a loss of Rs. 14.7 lakhs when it was under private management. It was taken over by the Government and they are showing a profit in the balance sheet. I am not saying that it cannot be done. It can be done by efficient management. It is a case where the tribute must go wherever it is due. I think there has been efficient management so far as the Hindustan Housing Factory is concerned, looking at the figures which are made available to us.

I submit before this house that so far as the Asoka Hotel is concerned, the service conditions could be improved. There is room for improvement; there is scope for improvement. It must become a hotel of international repute as it professes to be. That is all I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister. Here is a case where the employees must also live up to their conditions. Proper facilities should be given to the employees. They should be given better scales of pay and permanent employment. Three hundred people have been retrenched. If it is going to be a regular establishment so far as Delhi is concerned, why should not these employees be absorbed in permanent service? I wanted to bring these things for the earnest consideration of the Minister and for the rectification of the defects which he thinks ought to be rectified.

I do not propose to take more than two minutes. So far as the C.P.W.D. employees are concerned, I would earnestly request the Minister to implement the assurances that he has given on the floor of the House and see that their living conditions are improved. I would also state that no quarters have been given to the employees and work-charged establishment in the C.P.W.D. particularly those serving in the aerodromes, in which case most of them are far away from the city limits. Here is a case where they should be given residence facilities. I request the Minister to give them facilities for residence. I do not propose to take more of the

time of the House regarding this matter.

Shri N. B. Maiti (Ghatal): Sir, I thank the Ministry for the work that it has done during the course of the last year. The previous speaker said something about the difficulties that are being felt by the employees. I find that during the course of the last 10 or 11 months, the Ministry has issued about 41 orders about the work-charged establishments of the C.P.W.D. for the amelioration of their working conditions commencing from 4th April 1957 and these orders were given retrospective effect—sanctioning compensatory allowance to work-charged staff, making some of them permanent, giving increasing fodder allowance for the cattle that they keep, supplying drinking water free of charge, electricity free of charge, accommodation rent free and so on. Most of the employees who were temporary have become semi-permanent and in some cases, permanent. The conditions of service of some employees are under consideration. There is no doubt that they would be made permanent and other facilities such as medical aid, etc., would be given in time.

The previous speaker alluded to lack of planning in housing and in the matter of colonies, office accommodation, etc. During the course of the last 10 or 11 months, I find that official accommodation has increased to a considerable extent, and the residential accommodation for Class IV staff, G class, A class and E class as well as for the work-charged staff has increased—I would not say to a considerable extent,—to not a little extent. Considering the conditions that were there before, I must congratulate the Ministry that they have taken steps to provide houses for these low paid officers. I would, at the same time, urge that accommodation for these people should be given in preference to those whose salaries and other facilities are much

[Shri N. B. Mait]

more. I need not say that in a socialistic society, we want to improve the conditions of those who are low paid and who have not got the facilities that they should have. Considering that position, I appreciate the work that has been done by the Ministry for the work-charged staff and for the Class IV employees.

As regards housing, I would place before the House that considerable progress has been made in the case of subsidised Industrial housing schemes and low income group housing schemes. Some improvement has been effected so far as slum clearance schemes are concerned.

So far as rural housing is concerned, I find that very little progress has been made. In the review of the First Five Year Plan the Planning Commission said that very little progress was made during the First Plan period, so far as rural housing was concerned. During the last two years, that is, 1956-57 and 1957-58, I find that the progress has been very little, for out of Rs. 53 lakhs that was allocated in 1957-58 only Rs. 3.31 lakhs has been spent, that is about 1/16th of the whole allotment. This is regrettable.

Why was the rest of the amount not spent? That is a question that the Ministry has to answer. My own feeling is that the rules and regulations that have been made are so very stringent that the States find it difficult to implement the schemes. For example, Rs. 9 lakhs was allotted for Bihar in 1957-58, but not a farthing has been spent. Bombay got Rs. 5,25,000 but not a single pie has been spent. The same is the case with regard to West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and the other States except Mysore and Rajasthan which also have not spent the whole amount. I would request the hon. Minister to find out the reason for the States not being able to spend this money. I presume that the money that has been allotted by the Finance Ministry for 1958-59, amounting to Rs. 101

lakhs might not be spent by the State Governments. Sir, Rs. 10 crores had been allotted for rural housing, out of which, at the end of the second year we have been able to spend only Rs. 3.31 lakhs. This is a regrettable state of things.

Then, Sir, in regard to the Supply Department, I am happy to note that as a result of difficulties in the matter of foreign exchange we have gained certain advantages. Products of small scale and cottage industries like hosiery, leather and leather goods, handloom products, brushes, wooden materials and tarpaulins, etc., have been purchased by the D.G.S. and D. and that has been a very great relief to the indigenous producers. They have also placed orders for the supply of locks and padlocks. I would in this connection suggest that the district of Howrah in West Bengal produces a large quantity of locks and padlocks. I would request the Department to find out if it would be possible to purchase locks and padlocks from that place.

But I regret to find that during 1956-57 and 1957-58 the purchase of khadi has decreased. Thanks to the former Railway Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, the Railway Ministry began to purchase Khadi. The total purchase of khadi during the past six years was as follows:

	Rs.
1952-53	27,379
1953-54	3,87,431
1954-55	28,78,351
1955-56	1,18,31,000
1956-57	68,57,000
1957 (1st April to November 1957)	34,30,199

Shri K. C. Reddy: May I point out that the figures that the hon. Member is quoting relate to the value of orders placed, not necessarily the value of goods delivered. That is why the discrepancy; I will explain it, if necessary, in the course of my speech.

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SHRI N. B. MISHRA: I thank the hon. Minister for the correction. Even then I would request him to find out the reasons. I understand that specifications have been drawn and sent to the Khadi Commission. I do not know whether the specifications have been so high that the weavers who produce the cloth and the spinners who spin the yarn find it difficult to comply with them. This is a matter that has got to be looked into by the Ministry.

Fourthly I would like to place before the hon. Minister a few facts about slum clearance and sweepers' residences. These two have been bracketed together. The result is, I apprehend, that the position of the poor sweepers might be overlooked. Because, in the slums there dwell a large number of people, including sweepers. Sweepers live not only in one slum but in various slums spread all over the country. Therefore, I would suggest that a particular amount of money may be set apart for improving the housing conditions and the living conditions of the sweepers.

13 hrs.

Then, in the CPWD the general practice is to give contracts of very large amounts like Rs. 50 lakhs or Rs. 1 crore. In the Plan itself we find it stated that co-operative organisations should be given contracts so that people of smaller means should also have an opportunity of getting these contracts which will result in equalisation of wealth, as far as possible. Therefore, I suggest that lumpsum contracts of large amounts should not be made and contracts should, if possible, be divided into parts so that these organisations or individuals of smaller means might also get these contracts.

In connection with the work of C.P.W.D. I would refer to a very small matter, namely, the completion of the bridge on the national high-

way commencing from Howrah and going to Bombay and Madras over the river Subarnarekha. It has been hanging fire for the last three years or so. I would request the department to make speedy arrangements so that the bridge might be completed there and the highway might be opened. The bridges over the rivers Damodar, Kasai and Rup Narain might also be taken in hand.

I would next invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the removal of offices to other places. I know that he is very interested in it and so I hope the Ministry will also take interest. I know the difficulties of removing the offices from here. Even then I would say that some offices could certainly be removed from here to other places. But the condition that has been recently laid down is rather very difficult to fulfil. The condition is that unless and until housing arrangements could be made in those places, these offices could not be shifted from here. If houses are not available here and if offices could be carried on here even now, then there is no valid reason, I think, for not shifting offices from this place to other towns or cities.

I would respectfully submit one more aspect of the construction of houses. I find that many hutments, though they are of a temporary nature, are being pulled down in order to have concrete structures, perhaps multi-storeyed buildings, built up on that place. Is it not possible that these temporary hutments might remain where they are now for 3, 4 or five years more, so that we can get breathing time and then get the big structures constructed on the spot. This is my suggestion, particularly when I see the houses near Raisina Road, which till the other day were accommodating so many persons, are being pulled down, perhaps forcibly. I shall be happy to know the condition of the houses before they are pulled down.

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): Mr. Speaker, as I rise to intervene in this debate on the demands of our Ministry, I must say I feel sorry that my distinguished friend, Mr. Hari Vishnu Kamath is not here, because I am going to begin my brief speech with the Hindustan Housing Factory, with which he has been indissolubly linked up ever since its existence. I am sure, had he been here today, he would have been very happy to know that the Hindustan Housing Factory has got itself cleared out of the woods and today it is a profit-earning department of the Government. I hope it is not necessary for me to go into the past history of this factory. Government had lost considerable amounts of money over this experiment. It was hoped that the putting up of this factory for the construction of pre-fabricated houses would considerably ease the situation with regard to the housing of the millions of refugees who had come over from the other side since the Partition. But, unfortunately, all experiments do not succeed, at least for the time being, and this factory had had a very troublous heyhood.

But I am very happy to say that ever since this factory has passed into the hands of the Government on the termination of the Government's partnership with M/s. Basakha Singh Wallenberg, we have been making considerable headway. Whereas during 2 years and 4½ months, when this factory was under the control of M/s. Basakha Singh Wallenberg, it had produced goods worth only Rs. 37 lakhs, during the last one year and 11½ months when it has been under the control of Government, we have produced goods to the extent of Rs. 68.35 lakhs and the net profit during this period when the factory has been under Government control has been nearly Rs. 45,000.

Mr. Speaker: Is it all out of pre-fabricated material?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No, Sir, I am coming to that. So far as the pre-fabricated housing components are concerned, the Government, on the advice of the Technical Committee which had been appointed earlier, had given it up. It was found—may be due to climatic conditions, or may be due to technical flaw in the technical know-how—that the pre-fabricated housing components were not quite a success.

The three principal items of work in this factory today are: pre-stressed and pre-cast concrete components which are used for transmission poles, heavy beams and street lighting poles; also, it might be used for railway sleepers.

Success in this field has meant not merely a profit to the company, but it also meant saving considerable amounts of foreign exchange.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Are you making pre-stressed pipes?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No, only transmission poles. And the other item is foam concrete blocks. With the coming of more and more of refrigeration in this country, and also of multi-storeyed buildings, these foam concrete slabs are of immense help, for, so far as refrigeration plants are concerned, it would save foreign exchange, because it would cut out the need of importing cork from outside. Also in multi-storeyed buildings, for partition walls and also for roofing purposes, the substitution of this foam concreting component would mean considerable saving in the weight load of the building, and also in cement.

We have very successfully experimented with concrete sleepers, pre-cast and pre-stressed concrete sleepers, which we think can be profitably utilised in our railways. We are at the moment engaged in a discussion with the railways as to whether certain orders could be placed with this company for pre-stressed and pre-cast sleepers, obviating the

need of importation of timber and steel sleepers from outside.

The existing works that we have in hand are to the extent of Rs. 40 lakhs. We break even at that, but if the present talks with the Railway Ministry materialise and we get the railways to take our sleepers, our workload will come to Rs. 60 lakhs, which will give a very decent profit of six to seven per cent. This profit has been calculated after, of course, meeting the interest charges on the working capital loaned out by the Government and also depreciation and other obligatory charges.

Since the Government decided that the factory was not to be abandoned, but was to be run as a Government organisation, we have paid our attention, considerable attention, to the amelioration of the service conditions, emoluments etc., of the workers. We have instituted a contributory provident fund from the 1st of April, 1956. We have instituted payment of Sunday wages to all daily-rated workers. We have also instituted monthly-graded scales for all monthly paid staff, and we are now considering the question of giving daily-graded wages to the industrial labour. A sports club has been started. I regret however to say that up till now we have not been able to provide adequate housing accommodation for all our labourers working in the factory, the reason being that the fate of the factory was undecided till very recently. It was only after the experts' committee had submitted their report and the Government had considered their report, that we knew that the factory was to be run as a Government institution, and we are now turning our attention to the solution of the housing problem so far as the labourers are concerned.

In connection with the work of meeting the problems of housing in this country, I cannot over-emphasize the importance of an organisation which, unfortunately, does not seem to be very well known, viz., the National Building Organisation. It

is a sort of scientific body making enquiries into and studies on problems connected with the housing industry. From time to time it publishes brochures on the basis of the results achieved through its various experiments. I think it will be a very helpful thing if the literature which is published by the NBO could be translated into popular, simple language of the various States by the State Governments. I propose to write to all our State Governments that they might consider the possibility of translating into popular, simple language some of these publications of the NBO giving very valuable information on such questions as bringing down the cost of building construction, substitution of cement or steel in the ordinary constructions etc.

Recently we held a very interesting symposium on the lime industry at Rewa. As you know, cement being in short supply there has been a persistent demand that there might be a sort of revival of the lime industry. For the last 30 years or so, lime has considerably receded to the background. Standardisation is not there, and the industry has lived under very great disadvantage because of an uncertain future.

At the symposium convened by the NBO at Rewa, not less than 150 people connected with the industry or trade and with the various engineering organisations, governmental and otherwise, were there. We had a very interesting discussion. Some of their difficulties are indeed very genuine. For instance, the mining rights which are given to the quarries is for a very short period. It is difficult for them to plan for a long period ahead.

Secondly, they do not get the necessary priority with regard to wagons in the railways. If lime is to be a substitute for cement, it stands to reason that lime should be accorded the same priority as cement: is given by the railways, so far as the movement of the finished products are concerned, and also for the

[Shri Anil K. Chanda]

transportation of coal so vitally needed for the lime industry.

I am now coming to the Asoka Hotel, and before I go to some of the remarks made by a distinguished Member from the other side, Shri Easwara Iyer, I might as well give you a general picture of the hotel.

Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur): May I know what has been the result of the symposium? Has Government taken any decision in accordance with the decisions of the symposium, and given priority to the industry as given to cement?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: We propose to approach the Railway Ministry that the priority needed might be given to the industry. We have also had an informal talk with the Chief Minister and the Minister of Development in Madhya Pradesh, because most of the lime quarries are situated in that State, that a longer period of lease might be given to the industrialists.

With regard to the Asoka Hotel, during the first 11 months after we opened the hotel, ending on 30th September, 1957, the average occupancy in the hotel was 80 beds. That is, the total capacity of that hotel is 417 beds, and on the average during the first 11 months of the first year,—the building was not yet completed then, but we went into operation—the average daily occupancy was 80. That was less than 20 per cent, and the foreign clientele was 73 per cent. During the last six months, that is, the first six months of the second year ending March, the average occupancy has shot up to about 240. The foreign clientele is 80 per cent. We have calculated that if we have about 60 per cent of occupancy throughout the year, there will be no deficit. Anything above that brings us a profit. I, for one, have no doubt that the Asoka Hotel will be a very profitable concern. It requires a little time. The Prime Minister himself, when he intervened in the

course of a question which was being asked about the Asoka hotel, said that it ought to be a financial success, but one must give it a little time to settle down. In fact, a big hotel of this nature with 417 beds would require considerable time before it gets widely known. From the figures that I have indicated, you can see that most of the clientele come from abroad. We have embarked on publicity in foreign countries, and it is bringing us very good results.

The monthly salary bill comes to Rs. 93,120 and the emoluments vary from Rs. 55 to Rs. 1,600. In this connection, I might mention that all the workers of the hotel during working hours get free food, and of course free accommodation. They get uniforms, and they also get free medical attendance. I do not know of any commercial hotel run by private industry which gives these facilities.

Shri V. P. Nayar: For 1,000 workers and all the occupants, you have only a part-time doctor.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I think my hon. friend realises it is not a hospital. The 1,000 people working there would not require every day too many doctors. The living conditions are so pleasant, the food is so good that I think normally speaking nobody would fall ill there.

There is another important thing which I think will interest my hon. friends here. We started with nine Swiss people, that is, foreign technical personnel, about which there were very many adverse comments in the House, and quite naturally too; but we had assured the House, that they were there only for a temporary period, because a hotel of this nature in our country was practically unknown, and we did not have the technical know-how of running an international hotel of this magnitude and this sumptuousness. I am very happy to say that of the nine Swiss people who had been brought here, seven have gone back home,

and we are now left with only two Swiss people running two technical sections of this hotel. But there are under-studies even with them, and as soon as our own people would be in a position to take charge of these departments, we shall dispense with their services in course of time.

With regard to the comments made by my hon. friend Shri Easwara Iyer, I am sorry he has not been very correctly informed. To start with, in every floor there is a pantry and there is a service lift. And if any worker says that he has to run down six flights of steps down to get the things, I do not think he is indulging in what is called truth.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I would like the hon. Minister to go and see. It is not a fact. I was there only three days ago. It is not a fact.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: What is not fact?

Shri V. P. Nayar: That the service lifts can be used. There may be service lifts, but several lifts have been stopped, and workers have not been allowed to use the service lifts.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I shall take my hon. friend with me. A lift is a mechanical contrivance. And there are lifts which even in places go out of order. It may be that my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar particularly went to a lift which was not working on a particular day. And such cases do happen. But here is my offer. I shall take my hon. friend with me for a cup of tea to the hotel, and we shall look into the service lifts.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not want a cup of tea.....

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I shall give him a dinner, and he may come along.

An Hon. Member: What about other Members?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: With regard to the question of 15 per cent.....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister can go to a particular flat in a particular

storey and order tea from another storey.

Shri V. P. Nayar: On the other hand, if he comes with me, I shall show him what it is.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have not got much time at my disposal. But I say that this is the problem here; what my hon. friend knows and what I know, seem to differ, but I have thrown out a very sporting invitation to him. We shall go together, and I think I shall be able to set him right about this information.

With regard to the percentage business also, he is not correctly informed. In the form of an allowance, all this money which is collected is given back to the workers. During the first few months of the year, however, there was not enough collection for the simple reason that while we had the full complement of servants, the number of guests in the hotel or the average daily occupancy was only eighty.

13.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Shri Easwara Iyer: May I know the total collection so far made on this basis?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have not got the total figures of the collection. But I have got a complete list of all the servants in the hotel, and there is nobody who is given an allowance of less than Rs. 20 a month. The allowances vary for stewards from Rs. 20 to Rs. 50, for pantry staff from Rs. 20 to Rs. 25, for store staff from Rs. 20 to Rs. 43.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That was not the point. How much does a worker who gets a minimum of Rs. 65 get in lieu of service charges? Does he get one rupee?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The dhobies, for instance, get Rs. 60 to Rs. 150, and their allowances are coming out of....

Shri V. P. Nayar: That is not what we want.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: What is it then that the hon. Member wants?

Shri V. P. Nayar: We wanted to know the total monthly collections on account of service charges, which is 15 per cent, which in other hotels is distributed to the workers. What is the total distributed so far to the workers per month? Is it being distributed at all? I understand that not even a rupee has been paid from service charges.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am afraid I have not got the figures with me. If the hon. Member would table a question, I shall supply him the information. Obviously, I could not give it now.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I have tabled fifteen questions.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Whatever is collected by way of service charges is given back to the workers and that is what I have been pointing out. Take, for instance, the pantry staff. Their salaries vary from Rs. 35 to Rs. 100, but they are assured an allowance of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 which comes out of the service charges collected. Even if the service charges do not come up to the amount needed to give them this allowance, the hotel will make it good. If the hon. Member would table a question I shall certainly give him the total amount collected by way of service charges.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Let him not invite me to send questions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If he is invited to dinner, why should he not be invited to questions also?

Shri V. P. Nayar: Then he will be flooded with questions.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I now come to the question of housing. As the House is aware, there are various schemes for which sums totalling to Rs. 120 crores have been sanctioned in the Second Five Year Plan, the main scheme being the subsidised industrial housing scheme, where the Government of India pays subsidy of 25 per cent and

gives a loan of about 50 per cent, the other 25 per cent being a matching subsidy from the State. With regard to the private owners of industrial concerns, the subsidy remains 25 per cent, but the loan quantum is 37½ per cent, and the owner is expected to bring in a subsidy of 25 per cent and the rest is his loan advanced to the scheme. This scheme has been in operation from the time of the First Five Year Plan. It is well known that we have not been able to do as much as was expected, and have not been able to utilise the money that was sanctioned. Even today, we have not been able to fully utilise the money. It can only be done through the States.

The situation differs from State to State. So far as the Government of India are concerned, we have only to approve the schemes, but the schemes must come from the State, because there is a matching grant by the State, and when the schemes sent up by the States conform to the pattern of this subsidised industrial housing scheme, Government loan and subsidies are granted. There is one State at least, namely Bombay, which has done according to the schedule. The amount allocated for Bombay is Rs. 796 lakhs. It has already, during the first two years, utilised Rs. 235 lakhs. Similarly, UP has not done too badly. The allotted figure is Rs. 527 lakhs, and they have already utilised Rs. 178 lakhs. I do not want to mention names, but there is one State which had an allotment of Rs. 470 lakhs, and that is a very heavily industrialised State, but unfortunately, that State has utilised only Rs. 43 lakhs.

Shri Thirumala Rao (Kakinda): Is that Bihar?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: We are doing our best by personal correspondence both.....

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Why should he not mention the name of that State?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I come from that State. That is West Bengal.

Both my senior colleague Shri K. C. Reddy and myself have been writing personal letters to the Housing Ministers in the various States, and our Housing Commissioner also has been going round from State to State, and we hope that we will be able to get better results in the next three years of the Second Plan. We have considerably altered the scheme so that the States may be in a better position to draw upon these funds. For instance, we have increased the ceiling cost, because during the last two years there has been a considerable increase in labour charges and also in the cost of materials. At the last Housing Ministers' conference, certain suggestions have been made by the Ministers enumerating their difficulties and suggesting that certain ways out could be found; and we are processing those suggestions, and as I said, by personal contact between us and the Ministry here and our opposite numbers in the States and the visits of our Housing Commissioner, we hope that we will be getting very considerably better results during the next three years.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): The hon. Minister has just mentioned about the industrial housing scheme. I know that about five thousand houses have been constructed.....

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I do not want to yield, because I have very little time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Minister does not yield, then the hon. Member has to yield.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I have very little time at my disposal and I have to reply to the various points.

I have already said that there are States where good work has not been done. On the other hand, there are also States which have attempted to do good work.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, the hon. Member has to wait till he finishes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: We shall wait and see him finish.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Then, I come to what is known as low income group housing. Here also, about Rs. 45 crores have been allocated in the Second Five Year Plan to enable people of the lower income group, whose income is not more than Rs. 6000 a year, to take loans from the Central fund for their residential constructions. I am happy to say that with regard to this scheme, most of the States have done very well indeed. For instance, Andhra Pradesh, whose allotment was 300 lakhs, has already drawn Rs. 118 lakhs, Bombay, whose allotment was Rs. 467 lakhs, has drawn Rs. 143 lakhs, Madras, whose allotment was Rs. 208 lakhs, has already drawn Rs. 101 lakhs, Mysore, whose allotment was Rs. 244 lakhs, has drawn Rs. 119 lakhs, Punjab, whose allotment was Rs. 326 lakhs, has drawn Rs. 152 lakhs and Uttar Pradesh, whose allotment was Rs. 462 lakhs, has drawn Rs. 222 lakhs. Some of the smaller States also have done surprisingly well. For instance, Himachal Pradesh, whose allotment was Rs. 14 lakhs for five years, has during the first two years already drawn Rs. 7.79 lakhs, and Tripura, whose total allotment was Rs. 3,40,000, has drawn Rs. 2,95,000. On the other hand, there is a State whose allotment was Rs. 275 lakhs, but it has drawn only Rs. 57 lakhs. So far as the low income group housing scheme is concerned, we have no doubt that we will be able to fully utilise the amounts allocated.

With regard to the plantation labour housing schemes, practically no work has been done, except that a small amount has been drawn by the Kerala State, and also, I believe, a little amount by the Madras State. The reason is that until now the States, who stand more or less as guarantors for the repayment of the loans advanced to the plantation industry, had a rule according to which the properties had to be mortgaged to the State. But most small tea gardens hypothecate their entire properties to the banks and the tea agents with regard to the crop. Therefore, it is not possible for

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them to give the first mortgage to the State concerned.

"This matter was raised in the Housing Ministers' Conference in Mysore. We have indicated to the States that if they are satisfied with the second mortgage, we have no objection to it.

But it should not be understood—I hope the hon. House will not think—that this means that no housing projects are being carried out in the tea plantations. In fact, under the Plantation Act of 1951, it is obligatory upon the tea gardens within a period of 12 years to provide accommodation for all their workers. I have myself seen tea gardens of North Bengal, and I also know of the tea gardens in Assam, where the companies on their own are putting up residential tenements for their workers. In the tea garden areas, very often there is not much difficulty. Bamboo and timber are readily available and it is not difficult for them to put up these structures. So far as the amount of Rs. 2 crores which was provided is concerned, I am certain that this money will not be utilised in the Plan period.

Now I shall come to slum clearance and the sweepers' colonies. A suggestion was made by Shri Balmiki, the first speaker, that out of the Rs. 20 crores—of which Rs. 15 crores are the responsibility of the Central Government and Rs. 5 crores are matching grants from the States—a certain amount, say, Rs. 14 or Rs. 12 crores, might be earmarked for the sweepers. We operate through the State Governments. They know best which are the worst slums. They have to bring forward a matching grant. Therefore, we cannot dictate from the Centre that a particular sweepers' colony should be tackled first and not a particular slum in a particular town. That independence of action must remain with the States. But many of the municipalities on their own have been having sweepers' colonies. For instance, recently the Calcutta Cor-

poration have placed a scheme before us—a very big, ambitious scheme, involving Rs. 2 crores for the housing of all their 13,000 sweepers. But it is a scheme which is impossible for us to sanction out of this paltry amount of Rs. 20 crores provided for slum clearance and sweepers' colonies. We have, however, recommended it to the Finance Ministry and the Planning Commission that a special allocation might be made for this purpose.

So far as the slum clearance work is concerned, there has been a gathering momentum about it. Very often hon. Members read about the various schemes which are being formulated in the congested cities for the clearance of slums, and we in the Ministry have no doubt that this total allotment of Rs. 20 crores would be drawn upon fully during the period of the Second Plan.

I now come to the question of rural housing. The term we use today is not 'rural housing'; we call it 'the village housing project'. This is not merely a difference between Tweedledum and Twedledee. The whole conception is different. The original idea was that any poor man in a village who wanted to build a house could be given financial assistance with which he could put up his own cottage. But after a good deal of discussion between the Planning Commission and the various Ministries concerned, we realised that isolated houses built here and there would not solve the problem. What our villages need most, even more than housing, is proper planning, the question of water supply, the question of proper roads and paths. Therefore, we have developed and brought out a comprehensive scheme known as the village housing projects scheme. The work is to be taken up by the end of the Second Five Year Plan in no less than 8000 villages. It is not, however, contemplated that we will take up and convert the entire villages in a year or two years' time. This is a process spread over a period of 8 to 10 years. The whole village will be remodelled;

like the village Shamspur in the Gurgaon district, which is a most interesting experiment. There are nearly 150 householders. They had all surrendered their land to the village community. They had sought the help of an engineer. We sent an engineer to plan and map out the whole village. Now, each householder, including the Harijans, has got a brick-built house. They had put up their own kilns. They had their own carpentry arrangements, and with loan assistance from us, Shamspur village is an entirely new village where every house is a brick-built house. Harijans there have got their farms on a co-operative basis using electric pumps. Considerable economic improvement has been effected in the life of the villagers in that particular village.

Our idea is also to take up villages in that manner, wherever there is a social awakening amongst the people, who would be prepared to entrust all their lands to the village community, who would call for an engineer and have the whole village remodelled and plan made out, and then rebuild the village.

This work is to be done with the help of the Community Development Ministry. The idea is that where community development projects are already in operation, where there is already a betterment in the economic position of the people, where there is better guidance from the community project workers who are stationed in the villages, it is expected better results would be got. Some States have already selected the villages and work for this year will commence.

An hon. Member said that much valuable time had been lost. That is not quite so, because this scheme came into operation only in October 1957, that is five months ago. The delay in formulating the scheme lay in the fact that amongst other things, it was exceedingly difficult to prepare a scheme which could do some justice to rural housing within the modest allotment of Rs. 10 crores. Now, the State Government have to set up rural housing cells for which we will give

50 per cent subsidy and to formulate rules for implementation of the scheme. Several of the States have already framed their rules and work is being set in motion. In any case, we have got our Housing Commissioner and he is going round from State to State, and whatever can be done by our persuasion and a little goading perhaps, would be done from the Central Ministry.

Shri Sonavane (Sholapur—Reserved)—Sch. Castes: I want to know whether the Harijans are segregated in these model houses or whether they are inter-mingled with other houses of the other castes.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: So far as Government is concerned, it is the intention certainly to do away with segregation wholly and completely. Because of that we have got what is called the integrated housing approach where it is not merely one particular class of people who live in a particular area. But so far as the Harijans are concerned, this work is done by the special grants provided for in the Home Ministry.

I have already taken up more than my share of the time, and before I conclude I would like to refer to another matter which has nothing to do with rural housing but which fundamentally touches the question of government buildings in this country.

Today, Sir, Government is practically the only big builder in the country. The Princely order has practically vanished and the zamindaris have also been liquidated. So, all worth-while buildings, all substantial constructions would be built henceforth only by Government. Therefore, it is high time there is a policy with regard to the architecture which has got to be carried out in these buildings. It is an important matter. At the moment, there is no coherent policy with regard to the architecture that has to be followed.

Any student of history will know that any particular country in any particular period has had its distinc-

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tive architectural mould. If we go over the ruins of our country, at any place, the scholars can locate the periods of those ruins only from the structure of the buildings—from the architecture.

Unfortunately—I am speaking personally—I feel that in the absence of any coherent policy, even in Delhi itself we have got buildings, which, if I may say so, have no “neighbourly relations” with others. On the one hand, we have built the magnificent Supreme Court buildings, more or less conforming to the Indian tradition of architecture; on the other hand, we have got the law courts at Tis Hazari, which, in the absence of a better term, I would say, is Chandigarh architecture. I have nothing against Chandigarh architecture. But, if you have structures in the same city of such divergent natures, it is jarring to the aesthetic sense. And, I think, it is time our government evolves a national policy with regard to architecture which I personally consider is very important, because, as I have indicated earlier, Government today is the only substantial builder.

I have taken the opportunity of discussing the matter with the Prime Minister and he has desired that in our Ministry we should prepare detailed notes about this matter which should be considered by Government at the highest level.

I do not think I should take any more time of the House because my senior colleague will be replying to the other points.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shall the overall time remain the same or shall I have to modify that?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The work of this Ministry has been so good that I think there will be no criticism as.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Therefore, the reply should also be very brief. I want to know whether the overall limit that was desired in the beginning, one hour for both the Ministers,

remains there or whether I shall have to modify that.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I think a little extension may be given.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I put one question? The hon. Minister gave out certain figures to show that the average daily occupation in Asoka Hotel has shown tremendous increase in the last six months. Why is it that during the last six months there has been a retrenchment of 250 workers? Are we to presume that higher and higher as the custom goes, the workers will get lesser and lesser in number?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Banerjee may also put his question so that the hon. Minister may reply to both.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister said something about housing schemes. I do not say that the U. P. Government have not provided more houses. But, what I say is that the houses which have been constructed—about 5,000 in Kanpur—have not been occupied by the mill workers because of the high rent. The rent is Rs. 10/-plus Rs. 3/- electricity charges. Has the attention of the Minister been drawn to this fact; and, if so, what action has been taken to reduce the rents?

Shri P. R. Patel (Mehsana): May I put a question Sir?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wants to speak also; is it?

Shri P. R. Patel: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then, he must wait.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: With regard to Shri Nayar's question, I think it will be better if he tables a question. I do not think we have retrenched 250 people. That is not my information. But, my friend Shri Easwara Iyer mentioned about better service. But, I may tell him that

we had to recruit, all of a sudden, nearly 900 people when the Hotel was started in order to provide accommodation to the UNESCO people. Many people had been brought in who had never in their lifetime gone near a hotel. They are very inefficient people; and if my hon. friend, Shri Iyer would give me his help to get rid of these people, I am sure I would be able to give him much better service in course of time.

With regard to the point raised by Shri Banerjee so far as the housing scheme is concerned, namely, the worker's earning capacity is low and he would find it difficult to pay the rent, already there is 50 per cent of the cost as subsidy—the Government of India gives 25 per cent and the State Government 25 per cent. If, even after that, the worker is unable to pay the rent charged, it is very difficult for us to do anything more from here,

Shri Easwara Iyer: I want a clarification, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That should be afterwards.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I would submit only one point. We have moved a number of cut motions and within the limited time available we were not able to deal with them in elaborate detail and the Minister is also unable to reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, there is the other Minister, the man in charge and he will deal with them.

Shri Easwara Iyer: We want to know whether we will be able to get information about certain cut motions.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will look into that at the end. Shri Mohan Swarup.

श्री मोहन स्वर्ण (पीलीभीत): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका बहुत आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया।

आज वर्क्स हाउसिंग और सप्लाई पर मैं बहुत देर से बहस मुन रहा हूँ। इस मुहकमे में तीन चीजें शामिल हैं, वर्क्स, हाउसिंग और सप्लाई। जहाँ तक वर्क्स का तात्लुक है सेंट्रल पी० डबल्यू डी० पर बड़े बड़े मकानात और शानदार मकानात बनाने की बहुत बड़ी जिम्मेवारी आयद है। इसके साथ साथ सेंट्रल पी० डबल्यू० डी० करोड़ों रुपये की रकम सर्फ करती है। यह मुहकमा बड़ी बड़ी शानदार इमारतें बनाता है। इसने त्रिजान भवन बनाया है, सुप्रीम कोर्ट बनायो है और जैसा कि अभी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा इसने तीस हजारों की इमारतें बनायो हैं।

एक माननीय सदस्य : जेलखाना भी बनाया है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य आपका जेलखाने की तरफ ध्यान दिला रहे हैं।

श्री मोहन स्वर्ण: जी हाँ, जेलखाना बनाया है। और नार्थ और साउथ ऐवेन्यू के शानदार फ्लैट बनाये हैं। पर जब मैं ने उनको बनावट को देखा तो मुझे बड़ा ताज्जुब हुआ। कल मुझे साउथ ऐवेन्यू जाने का इतिफाक हुआ वहाँ पर २६ नम्बर के फ्लैट में हमारे साथी वर्मा जी रहते हैं। मैं ने देखा कि उनके फ्लैट की दिवारों में दरारे पड़ी हुई हैं। मुझे बतलाया गया कि छत की कल ही मरम्मत हुई है। जो छत पर टैंक था उसके अन्दर कुछ लीकेज था जिससे कमरे में पानी आया था और वर्मा जी को इनक्वायरी आफिस को इसके लिए कहना पड़ा। और पूरी छत उखाड़नी पड़ी और नई छत बनानी पड़ी। इन इमारतों पर इतनी भारी भारी रकम सर्फ की जाती है और इनका यह हाल है। मुझे बतलाया गया कि सन् १९५५ में साउथ ऐवेन्यू के

[श्री मोहन स्वल्प]

फ्लैट बने हैं। लेकिन दो बरस के अन्दर ही इनमें दरारें पड़ने लगीं। क्या इनकी ब्यूरेबिलिटी दो बरस की ही थी? (Interruptions.)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य को चाहिए कि वह मेरी तरफ देख कर अपना माषण दें। अगर उस तरफ तबज्जह करेंगे तो १५ मिनट यों ही निकल जायेंगे।

श्री मोहन स्वल्प : अगर यही हालत है तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट और किजान भवन को इमारतें कितने साल चलेंगी। वे भी साल दो साल में गिर जायेंगी और उन पर जो करोड़ों खर्चा खर्च हुआ है वह जाया जायेगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : एंथो पेसोनगार्ड कोई अच्छी चीज नहीं है।

श्री मोहन स्वल्प : अच्छी तो नहीं है, पर मुझे आमार एंथो ही नजर आते हैं।

दूसरी चीज है करप्शन जो मैं इम डिपार्टमेंट में देखना हूँ। मुझे यह करप्शन देख कर हैरत आती है। मैं देखना हूँ कि एक प्रोवरनियर जब एप्वाइंट हो कर आता है तो उसको क्या हालत आती है लेकिन बन्द सालों के बाद हजारों पया उमका बैंक बैलेंस हो जाता है। एक चौफ इजिनियर को तन्खाह चार हजार पये आती है लेकिन अगर आप उमका बक बैलेंस मुलाहिजा फरमायें तो उसमें लाखों कराड़ों खपया होता है।

अगर यही हालत रही, तो कंस्ट्रक्शन का काम कैसे चलेगा। इस तरह क्वालिटी में फर्क आता जायगा। इसलिये मेरी दरखास्त है कि इस सिलसिले में बिजिलेंस ज्यादा से ज्यादा सक्ती से हो। भारत पर जो खया मर्क किया जाता है, जो मेटेरियल इस्तेमाल किया जाता है उस पर नजर रखी जाय। इस बात का ध्यान रखा जाना चाहिये कि

सही मेटेरियल इस्तेमाल किया जाय—सीमेंट की जगह पर रेत नहीं लम्बा चाहिये। प्राज-कल तो यह होता है कि सीमेंट की कोरियां बाजार में फरोक कर दी जाती हैं और भारत की कंस्ट्रक्शन में रेत इस्तेमाल किया जाता है। सलिये इस बात की बड़ी जरूरत है कि बिजिलेंस सक्ती से हो और पया सही तौर से इस्तेमाल हो और सही मेटेरियल का इस्तेमाल हो।

प्राज सारे देश में—मांभों में और शहरों में—हाउसिंग की हालत बड़ी खराब है, उस की प्राबलम बहुत सक्त है। दिल्ली की हालत यह है कि १९५१ में यहां पर एक बिड़ना कमेटी बिठाई गई थी, जिस के मुताबिक उस वक्त छः लाख आदमी ऐसे थे, जो कि हांमलेस थे—बेघर थे। और दिल्ली की आबादी हर साल १ लाख के हिसाब से बढ़ती जा रही है। अगर कैलकुलेट किया जाय, तो करीब करीब दो लाख मकानात चाहिये, जिन में कि लोगों को एकामांडेट किया जा सके।

किराये की सूरत-हाल भी बहुत खराब आती जा रही है। किराया दिन प्रति दिन बढ़ता जा रहा है। यहां पर एक छोटा सा फ्लैट डाई सी हपये में मिलता है। जिस तरह के फ्लैट हम लोगों को मिले हुये हैं, वे डाई सी पये में मिलने हैं। सवाल यह है कि यह प्राबलम कैसे हल हो और लोग कहाँ रहें। जो लोग घेड—बड क्लास और फॉय क्लास—के एम्पलाईज हैं, उन के लिये ज्यादा मुश्किल हो गई है। इस वक्त क्लास फॉर के ७३ फासदी एम्पलाईज के पास मकानात नहीं हैं। किसी न किसी जगह रह रहे हैं और प्राइवेट तौर पर रहने के लिये मजबूर हैं और रिहायश के मामले में गवर्नमेंट उन को कोई सहायिलत नहीं दे पाई है। जो लोग ५०० हपये से कम तन्खाह पाते हैं, उन में से ७० फीसदी लोगों की हालत भी ऐसी है और जो लोग १,०००

कपड़ा तस्क़ाह पाते हैं, उन में से 25 फ़ी सदी लोगों के सामने भी मकान की बड़ी आवश्यक है। दिल्ली में, जो कि मुल्क का राष्ट्रलक्षिताना—राजधानी—है, हाउसिंग की यह बुरायेहाल है।

कल मने चन्द मकानात देखे। यहां पर एक जमुना बाजार कालोनी है, वहां पर जो मकानात हैं, वे तो एक तरह के सेल्ज हैं। आदमी खड़ा हो कर उन में नहीं घुस सकता है—चूहे की तरह काल कर के ही घुस सकता है। उन मकानात को देख कर शर्म आती है। जो लोग बाहर से यहां आते हैं, हम उनको कनाट नैस वगैरह जगहें दिखा कर खुश कर देते हैं। मैं कहूंगा कि अग़र हम में मचाई है, तो हम उन लोगों को जमुना बाजार कालोनी और खान मार्केट को दिखायें, लेकिन हम नहीं दिखाते हैं। उन को देख कर मुझे शर्म आती है और ख्याल आता है कि वहां पर इन्सान कैसे रहते होंगे।

लाम किले के स्पाट्स के करीब ही भातु और मांसी तबकों के लोग रहते हैं। जैसा कि यह हाउस जानता है, वे लोग अब कोई क्रिमिनल नहीं हैं। क्रिमिनल ट्राइबल के मुताबिक ला रिपील हो चुका है और वे लोग भी दूसरों की तरह हम देश के गहरी हैं। वे लोग ज्यादातर डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट के मूलाजिम हैं। उन के लिये रहने की कोई जगह नहीं है। उन्होंने यहां छोटे-छोटे झोंपड़े लड़े कर रखे हैं, लेकिन म्यूनिसिपल कमेट्री के लोग वहां पर जाते हैं और उन को डराते हैं—कहते हैं कि इन झोंपड़ों को उखाड़ो। वे लोग गवर्नमेंट की सर्विस में हैं, लेकिन उन की समस्याओं की तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। उन के कौन्टर पर शुबहा किया जाता है—कहा जाता है कि वे बदमाश हैं। यह कौमी अजीब बात है। वे सरकारी नौकर हैं। अग़र वे बदमाश हैं, तो उन को सरकारी नौकरी में कैसे रखा गया ?

लाल किले के पास ही कुछ मिलिटरी बैरक्स हैं, जो कि बड़ी डिपेंडेंट हालत में हैं और वहां गाय और बैल धावारा फिरते हैं। उन बैरक्स पर कुछ अन-अधाराइज्ड लोग काबिज हैं। वहां पर कभी कोई चौकट निकाल कर ले जाता है और कभी कोई किबाह उठा ले जाता है। हम बारे में मेरा सुभाव यह है कि जिन लोगों के पास मकानात नहीं हैं, जो कि बिल्कुल बेघरबार हैं, उन को वे बैरक्स दे दी जायें। शायद वहां पर दस बैरक्स हैं, जिन में तीन चार नौ आदमियों के रहने की व्यवस्था हो सकती है, अग़र वहां थोड़ी सी मरम्मत करा दी जाय ॥ मुझे उन लोगों ने कहा कि हम लोग खुद मरम्मत कराने के लिये तैयार हैं अग़र गवर्नमेंट उन को हमें एलाट कर दे और हम यह भी वायदा करते हैं कि जब भी गवर्नमेंट को उन बैरक्स की जरूरत होगी, वे उन को छोड़ने के लिये तैयार हैं। मेरी दरखास्त है कि यह जगह उन लोगों को दे दी जाय, जो कि बिल्कुल बेघरबार हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जहां तक गांवों का ताल्लुक है, गांवों के किसानों के ऊपर मे सारे महल बनते हैं। गवर्नमेंट भी किसानों के बोट में बनती है और उन के पसीने की कमाई से इस मुल्क की सारी तामीरे होती हैं, लेकिन मैं देखता हूँ कि किसानों की तरफ कोई तबजह नहीं दी जाती है। छोटे छोटे मकानात में वे रहते हैं। गांवों में बीमारी फैली रहती है—मलेरिया का जोर रहता है। वहां सफ़ाई की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है, रहने के मकानात दुस्त नहीं हैं। आदमी की तीन बड़ी जरूरियात होती हैं—खाना, कपड़ा और रहने के लिये मकान। ये तीन समस्यायें हम हल नहीं कर पाये हैं। इस मुल्क को आजाद हुये दस वर्ष हो गये हैं, लेकिन हम इस धरने में न तो खाने की समस्या हल कर पाये हैं और न कपड़े और रहने की समस्यायें हल कर पाये हैं। बेचारे गांवों के लोग झोंपड़ों में रहते हैं, जो कभी गिर जाते हैं, जिन में कभी आग लग जाती है।

[श्री मोहन स्वल्प]

इस रिपोर्ट से हमें पता चलता है कि हाउसिंग के लिये जो १२० करोड़ रुपये की रकम रखी गई है, उस में से सिर्फ १० करोड़ रुपये करल हाउसिंग के लिये रखे गये हैं। करल हाउसिंग के मुताबिक अभी डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि इस साल ५०० गांवों में मकान बनाने की योजना हाथ में ली जायगी और इस विषय में कम्यूनिटी डेवेलपमेंट डिपार्टमेंट के द्वारा काम कराया जायेगा। उन्होंने कहा कि दस वर्ष तक यह स्कीम चालू रहेगी। गवर्नमेंट का इरादा है कि ५०० गांव इन दस वर्षों में डेवेलप किये जायें।

इस सम्बन्ध में एक शक्य को १,५०० रुपये देने का प्राविजन किया गया है। मैं नहीं समझता कि एक किसान इस रकम में क्या बना सकता है। अगर सारे मकान की कच्ची दीवार भी बनाई जाय, तो भी १,५०० रुपये में वह नहीं बनेगी। सबसिडी का भी इन्तजाम नहीं किया गया है। जहां और लोगों के लिये सबसिडी का बन्दोबस्त किया गया है, वहां किसानों के लिये इस का प्राविजन नहीं किया गया है। मुझे बताया गया है कि इंडस्ट्रियल हाउसिंग में ५० प्रतिशत सबसिडी दी जाती है, ५० परसेंट कर्जा दिया जाता है। लेकिन किसानों को लोन की शकल में १,५०० रुपया दिया जा रहा है और सबसिडी का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है। वह भी दस साल में रिकवरेजल है, जब कि दूसरों से वह २५ बरस में रिकवरेजल है।

श्री० रणबीर सिंह (रोहतक) :
तीन बरस में।

श्री मोहन स्वल्प : यहां सिर्फ दस साल में वह रुपया लिया जायेगा मैं नहीं समझता कि किसानों के साथ ऐसा बर्ताव—स्टैपमवरली ट्रीटमेंट—क्यों किया जा रहा है। उन की भी जरूरियात हैं।

वे भी इस देश के नागरिक हैं। कम से कम उन को दो, तीन हजार रुपया मिलना चाहिये, ताकि वे मकान बना सकें।

इसके बाद सप्ताइज का क्वेश्चन भारत है। सप्ताइज के मिलसिले में मुझे यह कहना है कि हमारा एक मिशन लंदन में है और एक वाशिंगटन में है। यह हमारे डायरेक्टर जनरल का आफिस है और वह सप्ताइज से डोल करता है और बड़े-बड़े आर्डर लेंस करता है और सप्ताइज को प्रॉज करता है। इसके जरिये से विदेशी चीजों की खरीद की जाती है मेरी दरखास्त यह है कि जहां तक विदेशी चीजों का ताल्लुक है उनका इस्तेमाल कम किया जाये और जहां-जहां स्वदेशी चीजें मिल सकती हैं, काटेज इंडस्ट्री की चीजें मिल सकती हैं मूहलियन के साथ मिल सकती हैं, उनको इस्तेमाल किया जाये बजाय इसके कि हम बाहर से विदेशों से मंगायें।

4 hrs

यहां पर अशोक होटल का भी किच किया गया है। वह बिल्कुल ठीक है कि अशोक होटल में खाने पीने की चीजें सही तौर से नहीं मिलती हैं। मुझे खुद का तजुर्बा है और उसको मैं आपके सामने रखता हूं। पैंट्री में मैंने देखा है कि कई रोज का गोश्त रखा हुआ था, उसमें बदबू आ रही थी वह सड़ रहा था। मैं नान-वेजिटेरियन हूँ -

Shri Ansar Harvani (Fatehpur):
Outsiders are not allowed inside the pantry.

श्री मोहन स्वल्प : इजाजत तो नहीं है लेकिन मैं इजाजत लेकर वहां गया था। हालांकि कमरा ठंडा किया हुआ था लेकिन फिर भी इतनी बदबू आ रही थी, इतना सड़ा हुआ वह गोश्त था कि कमरे में घुसने को तबियत नहीं करती थी।

श्री राज कुल्ल (महेन्द्रगढ़) : गोपत में बचपू नहीं आती है।

श्री मोहन स्वयंभू : बचपू नहीं आती है यह सचवाल प्रापका गन्त है।

वहां पर मुझे एक बार दावत में जाने का भी मौका मिला था। वहां पर जो खाने पीने को चीजें दी गई थी, वे भी ऐसी नहीं थी जोकि भंगूली बाजार में जो होटल होता है, या छोटा कोई स्टाल होता है, उनसे कोई ज्यादा अच्छी हों। उनके स्टैंडर्ड की भी वे चीजें नहीं थी।

मैंने वहां के मुलाजमीन से भी बात की है। जैसा कि मेरे मित्र नाथर साहब ने बताया वहां लोगों में डिमर्सिटिफिकेशन थी। कई शिकायतें लोगों ने की। बहुत से लोग ऐसे हैं जिन को आज तक परमानेंट नहीं किया गया और वे बैसे ही टैम्पोरेरी चले आ रहे हैं। उनके खाने पीने की व्यवस्था भी दुस्त नहीं है। प्रसोका होटल अब बन गया और जो कुछ हुआ है ठीक ही हुआ और ठीक हो चुका है। लेकिन अब उसे उस स्टैंडर्ड पर लाना चाहिये जिसमें वह मुक्त के लिये मुकीद साबित हो सके, मुक्त की रबायात के मृतानिक हो सके और जो लोग वहां हैं वे सुहाहाल रहें ताकि उनकी एफिजेंसी बन सके।

अब में राष्ट्रपति भवन के मालियों के बारे में बोड़ा सा कहना चाहूंगा। कुछ मालियों से मुझे मिलने का अवसर मिला है जोकि मुगल गार्डस में काम करते हैं। शायद जैसा मुगल कानून था वैसा ही कानून उन पर भी लागू है। कोई ठाई सौ माली वहां पर काम करते हैं। उनकी दशा भी वैसी ही है जैसी प्रसोका होटल के कर्मचारियों की है। बहुत से माली टैम्पोरेरी हैं और उनको परमानेंट नहीं किया गया है। मैं दरखास्त करूंगा कि इन छोटे-छोटे कर्मचारियों की और भी ध्यान दिया जाये जोकि बचपूर है, जो कि बराबर अपना काम

करते जाते हैं और इनको शिकायत का मौका नहीं मिलता चाहिये।

Shri C. M. Kedarla (Mandvi-Reserved-Sch. Tribes): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Demands of the Ministry Works, Housing and Supply. I deem it my privilege to congratulate and pay compliments to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply in their efforts to meet the public demands for housing with limited funds allotted to them.

You know, Sir, among the three great requirements for the happiness of mankind, housing is one of the greatest need; but the Government have not paid as much attention to it as it ought to have paid, in comparison with food, clothing and other problems. That is why the housing problem has become now-a-days a burning problem of everybody in the country.

Sir, we need not go too far; it is enough if we look to the housing situation in our Capital—Delhi. Due to sharp shortage and unavailability of houses, house-rent has increased exorbitantly—say from 50 per cent. to 300 per cent. In some of the localities like Sundar Nagar, Nizamuddin, Golf Links, Jungpura, Pusa Road etc., it is said that a two-room servant quarter fetches up to Rs. 100 per month as rent, and it is well-nigh impossible to get a four-room flat in Sundar Nagar at less than Rs. 200 a month. Moreover, the practice of realising a year's rent in advance is also popular.

Speculation in plots of land, which has become a profitable business, is also one of the major factors for increase in rents. Prices of plots of land in Diplomatic Enclave, Sundar Nagar, Jorbagh etc. have risen by over 400 per cent. to 500 per cent, though the transfer of plots is not permitted legally. There are nearly 50,000 families in Delhi who are ready to build their own houses if suitable plots of land are available.

[Shri C. M. Kedaria]

Government have been alive to the problem of regulating the relationship between the landlords and the tenants in Delhi in order to afford protection to the tenants against exorbitant rents etc. Since the demand for house in Delhi exceeded the availability by a wide margin, the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply promised to introduce a Bill on Rent Control in this Session; but it is learnt that this matter has been transferred to the Ministry of Home Affairs and that it is not going to be introduced in this Session. Therefore, the tenants are going to suffer. I would, therefore, request the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to prevail upon the Ministry of Home Affairs to introduce the Rent Control Bill during this Budget Session with the following clause:—

"If a decree for ejection exists against a tenant for non-payment of rent but the landlord allowed time to a tenant to pay the arrears of rent and to continue to occupy the premises upto a certain date after which the premises were to be vacated by the tenant, but the tenant happens to be in possession of the premises on the date of the enforcement of this Act and no outstandings of arrears of rent or other dues remain due from the tenant to landlord, then the tenant shall not be evicted in execution of that decree, irrespective of the fact whether the decree was by compromise or otherwise."

Shri K. C. Baddy: Sir, would it not be better if these points are raised at the time of the debate on the Demands relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When the hon. Member himself admitted that the Bill is going to be introduced by the Ministry of Home Affairs, the amendment also may be suggested to the Home Ministry.

Shri C. M. Kedaria: I only requested the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to prevail upon the Ministry of Home Affairs....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why not address it directly to the Home Ministry?

Shri C. M. Kedaria: Formerly, the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply promised to introduce this Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How the present position has to be considered.

Shri C. M. Kedaria: Sir, in the First Five Year Plan a total provision of Rs. 48.7 crores was made, out of which Rs. 38.5 crores were allotted to the Centre and Rs. 10.2 crores to the States. To utilise the Central Provision of Rs. 38.5 crores, two schemes, namely, the subsidised industrial Housing scheme and the low-income group Housing scheme, were formulated. In the Second Five Year Plan a sum of Rs. 130 crores has been allotted for the various housing schemes:—

Subsidised Industrial Housing scheme: Rs. 45 crores; Low income group Housing scheme: Rs. 40 crores; Rural Housing Scheme: Rs. 10 crores; Slum Clearance: Rs. 20 crores; Middle Income group housing scheme: Rs. 3 crores. Considering the magnitude of the problem of rural housing it is estimated that about Rs. 2,500 crores will be needed for re-conditioning or rebuilding of all the five crores of rural houses that exist in the country today.

It will be seen from the requirements for the rural housing scheme that a sum of Rs. 10 crores in the second Five Year Plan is absolutely inadequate and it will not satisfy the demand for rural housing. In the first Plan, there was a provision for subsidised industrial housing scheme and for the low income group housing scheme, and in the second Five Year Plan too, there has been

a good amount allotted to both these schemes. Why should the Planning Commission do injustice to the rural housing? Is it because the population of the rural areas is nonvocal or that the public of the urban areas is more vocal? Moreover, you will be able to find from the total budget provision for various housing schemes that for the rural housing scheme a sum of Rs. 0.75 crores was provided in the year 1956-57 and a sum of Rs. 0.43 crores was provided in the year 1957-58, but not a single pie was spent towards rural housing. Thus you will find how the Government and the officers are indifferent towards the rural housing scheme.

The hon. Minister has shown progress in respect of the industrial housing scheme and the low income group housing scheme and other schemes. But to my great surprise, the rural housing scheme is ignored and that is why I draw the attention of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to this fact. I therefore urge upon the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply and the Planning Commission to solve the housing problem in the villages.

Another calamity for the rural housing scheme is this. It is formulated on the principle of aided self-help. It is an irony of fate that to a villager who earns his livelihood only for half the year and for the remaining half-year, he remains unemployed, to tell him to build his own house on the principle of aided self-help is not proper.

Another point is this. While other schemes are subsidised, why should not the rural housing scheme also be subsidised on the basis of the subsidised industrial housing scheme, the low income group housing scheme or the slum clearance schemes? I therefore, insist upon the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to accept the recommendations made by the second Conference of Housing Ministers in respect of rural housing. I shall proceed one step further, and request the Minis-

try of Works, Housing and Supply that the housing materials such as timber, bamboo, etc., should be directly supplied to the rural housing schemes from the jungle or from the places where they are produced instead of getting the supplies exported from the jungles first and getting them to the market-place and then getting them from the market-place. In the present method, the cost of production and the selling price of the housing materials become very dear.

The next thing is the displacement of persons and submergement of land due to the implementation of major projects. It is bound to be; so while the implementation of the schemes is proceeded with, I request the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to give top priority to the places where the displacement of persons has occurred and where submergement has also occurred. The affected persons should be given land for land, and top priority should be given to rural housing scheme and other schemes in the affected areas.

Then, why should the rural housing scheme be now contemplated in the CD blocks and the NES areas only? It is argued that there the people are more ready; but I think, in democratic countries the other section cannot be ignored. I also feel that the sector of social workers is also ignored and now a days it is found that all the schemes are confined to the officers and that the social workers' points are not taken up into consideration and the social workers are not taken into confidence. Therefore, the rural housing scheme is bound to be a failure one. So, I request the Government to implement the village housing schemes in areas where a suitable atmosphere is found and not in the CD blocks and the NES areas only.

I come from Surat District. There is a peculiar community called Halpatis. The people of this com-

[Shri C. M. Kedaria]

munity live upon daily earnings and live a hand-to-mouth life. I can say from personal experience that some years back they were given a loan repayable in 10 years. They were unable to repay the loan, and so they were forced to vacate their housing premises. The Government have found an excuse that the Halpatis are not repaying their loans and so they feel that they should not be given loans or subsidies. But under the industrial housing scheme and the slum clearance scheme, the sweepers get subsidy. I say that Halpatis are equally poor and so. I request the Minister to formulate a separate scheme for the Halpatis based on special subsidies given to just as in the case of other schemes.

Shri Nanjappa (Nilgiris): First of all, I would like to deal with industrial housing schemes. The Minister was telling the members of the Consultative Committee that if he given is Rs. 1,000 crores the needs of the housing scheme will be met. But under the industrial housing scheme the amount allotted was not spent. Only a third of it was spent in the first Five Year Plan. The agencies through which they have spent the money, according to their own statement, from September, 1952 to 15th March, 1958, are as follows:

The State Govern-	
ments:	Rs. 18.74 crores.
Employers:	Rs. 0.82 crores.
Co-operatives:	Rs. 0.22 crores.

I believe the 'co-operatives' signifies that they are co-operatives of industrial workers. They wanted to tackie this society for doing justice to the workers. They brought in the workers. They approached the State Governments to do all propaganda to build houses for themselves. But they failed. They gave them the benefit of giving publications in the vernaculars. Then also they failed. Suggestions were given to the Ministry through the Members of the Consultative

Committee and also, I think there was a conference in Mysore. It was pointed out that the individual should be given all facilities to build houses for themselves. It was also suggested that more subsidies and more loans should be given to the worker and he may be asked to meet the small balance from out of his provident fund. But this later scheme of the individual worker building a house for himself is not acceptable to the Government, because, the worker will receive all the money, subsidy, loan, money from the provident fund and. no doubt, he will build a house for himself, but the question of repayment of the loan will be there. That difficulty, they have understood. This scheme was not acceptable to them.

Then, there are co-operatives of industrial workers. They too do not do much justice. Because, if they can form such co-operative societies for themselves, they can as well start big industries. They won't be content with small petty houses, almost like slums, for themselves. They may as well build mansions for them just as the employer does for himself.

Then, there is the employer. Why is it that this body of people were not tackled as they should have been? As regards industrial housing schemes, anybody will think of the private sector and the industrialists only. But, these people have done very little in the matter of building houses for their employees whereas the Government has done its job very well. The local bodies have built a number of houses for their menials, and sweepers Plantations—big plantations, I mean—have built, even before the Act came into existence, houses for their labourers.

The employers have got all facilities to build houses for their employees. But, yet, they have not done this. They do not build the houses from out of their profits; this is done from the facilities given by the Government. They do not build houses gratis; they get rent for the houses. They pay

back the money that they get from the Government probably at last when these houses become the property of the concern.

In the note supplied to us, the reason why these people have not come forward to take up this work is given thus. Any decision to compel the employers to build more houses for their industrial workers, in the long run would entail imposing a compulsory levy on the employers and this matter has already been examined in detail and it has not been possible to accept the proposal because any such compulsion would adversely affect production.

Government have provided houses for their industrial workers. I think their production has not been affected. The local bodies have provided houses. They do not suffer on that account. Similarly, the plantations have built houses for their workers. They have not suffered in the least. Who are these workers? They are not people who are taken as they knock at the door of the industrial concerns. They are the picked and chosen men of the industrialists; their own relatives or the relatives of their financiers or partners.

The conditions in which these workers live in the cities are very deplorable. They are really slums. They come from distant parts, pick any land available, put up some shed along with any cooly that goes for work like him and they live in such very bad conditions. Why do they not build houses for these people? Because of their association. Instead of associating with them, in course of time, he makes an association which is not very congenial to the employer. I do not suggest that the Government should compel the employers by any legislation or anything like that. But, these industrialists are benefited by the Government, especially after Independence in various ways. They have given all facilities for increasing their production, for going abroad and for finding a good market even internally. They

receive protection. They are financially helped in so many ways. I would only suggest that if the Government prevailed upon them or used their influence over these people, they will certainly build houses for their employees. I think this is the way how they can produce more in this country. More production can be attained by wooing the good nature of the employee and not by denying what is due to him.

Next, I shall take up slum clearance. Everybody agrees that this work is important. They say any slum is an eye-sore. It is not only an eye-sore, it also affects the health of the neighbours and the whole city if it is in a city. That is all true. But, the difficulties are there. The States have to pay a certain share of the subsidy given by the Central Government. Most of the States are not able to do that. In spite of requests from the local bodies, these things are not done. If at all somebody is able to clear a slum, he has to find suitable places for the people who are displaced: not only places, but places very near to where the slum dwellers earn their livelihood. That is not possible in a city.

Even if one takes it into his head to clear the slums and see no more slums are created in cities,—under the Municipal laws, this may not be possible—one must be very hard-hearted to go and demolish these huts which are the only belongings of these poor people. It is very difficult to clear the slums and prevent the cropping up of new slums, because the poor man will be deprived of the only belonging he has, his hut. Further, in these days of adult suffrage, this is not possible. Any member of the local body who may be representing that locality will come and stand against the person who wants to clear the slum. And there are the interested parties. They do a lot of propaganda against it, and one must be very hard-hearted, as I said, to take up this question. That is why slum clearance is a failure. I cannot suggest any remedies.

[Shri Nanjappa]

The next thing I want to deal with is about presses. We from the South were under the impression that two presses would be started, one in Madras State, and another in Kerala. That which is to be started in Madras State is near my place, Coimbatore. The place is called Veerapandi. People there were under the impression that thousands would be getting employment if the press came into being, but the note supplied to us says:

"In addition to the expansion of the schemes described above, it is proposed to set up two new printing presses in the South, one at Veerapandi near Coimbatore in the State of Madras, and the other in the State of Kerala. Land for the two units at the respective sites has since been acquired, but the factory buildings are not likely to be constructed in the near future on account of the paucity of funds. The requisite foreign exchange for the import of machinery for the two presses has not been sanctioned so far. It cannot be said for certain at present which of these two units will be completed."

In the pruning process that will take place, probably these two presses will be pruned out. But pruning does not stop growth. Probably they will crop up in the Third Five Year Plan.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri B. K. Gaikwad. Not in his seat. Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava might say a few words.

रहित ठाकुर दास भाई (हिमार) :
जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर, इस बात का जिज्ञासा किया गया था कि दिल्ली से बहुत से प्राफिसेज बाहर भेजे जायेंगे मसलन् मसूरी, मुवालिपर और दूसरी जगहों पर भेजे जायेंगे

श्री अनिल कुं. शर्मा : मिनिस्टर साहब की प्रामाणीयता लिये अपनी बान इंग्लिश में कहिये ।

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: It is only one question, two minutes.

It was said in this House that some offices are to be shifted outside Delhi, to places like Gwalior, Nagpur, Mussoorie etc. This proposal has been there for the last ten years, and I am not an opponent of this proposal, but what I want to insist on is this.

Yesterday, some officials, who are probably going to be shifted, came to me. They represented to me that as a matter of fact, they have been living in Delhi for the last 10, 15 or 18 years, that they have got their own houses here, but if they are shifted to places like Nagpur, Mussoorie and other places, there is no accommodation available for these officials there.

I understand it was stated in the House that in some places there is accommodation available for officers, in other places there is some accommodation for houses, but there are very few places where both kinds of accommodation exist.

I told them: "After all, these Ministers are *ma baap*. You represent to the Ministers that if you are sent in this way, you will be put to great trouble." They told me that all the Ministers say that this is Cabinet *hukum*. I said, so far as I know, there is no such Cabinet *hukum* that even if there is no accommodation to be found in these places, you will be sent there. I told them I would just bring this to the notice of the hon. Minister and the House that these officers need only be sent to places where office accommodation as well as housing accommodation are available. Otherwise, I feel that many people would be put to great trouble.

For instance, in Mussoorie I know there are many houses available there, but they are very big *kotis* within or outside the municipal limits. It is in places like lands or Kulri that these officials will find their houses. So, even if you have a place where there is accommodation for office purposes, please see that

accommodation is given to these poor people on easy terms near about the offices when they will work.

I told Shri Tyagi today—he is the person who initiated this proposal—“Either take back the proposal, or see that the Government finds the necessary housing accommodation.” He told me that if he is approached, he will manage that the houses are made available for these poor officials also. If that is done, I have no objection.

I would, therefore, very humbly request the hon. Minister to shift the offices only in such circumstances that these people are not put to trouble in the matter of getting houses. Let not history be repeated, and let not historians write like Wilson, who has written that some Britishers, and 107 Indians put on a small yacht (with provision for only a day or two) and launched it on the sea, with the result that many of them perished. This is likely to happen to these officials who have got no connections there. They belong to other places. For instance, a thousand and more in certain offices belong to the Punjab. I do not know how they will get houses there. I only insist and beg of the hon. Minister to kindly look into this aspect of thing, viz., that they should be sent only in case they can find accommodation.

That is the only submission I want to make. I would rather like the hon. Minister kindly giving an assurance in this respect that he will take care to see that these officials of the Government are not put to unnecessary trouble.

14-36 hrs.

Shri P. E. Patel (Mehsana): I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the House the condition of houses in the rural areas.

We are talking of agriculture, increase in agricultural production. We say that the base of our prosperity is agriculture and that everything depends on agriculture, but when the

question of giving help to the agriculturists comes, we find that it recedes.

Looking at the Second Five Year Plan we find that there is a provision of Rs. 120 crores for building houses. Out of this Rs. 45 crores are provided for subsidised industrial housing, and Rs. 10 crores for the rural area. We do know that more than 80 per cent of the people live in the villages, that is the rural area, but the provision for the rural area is Rs. 10 crores out of Rs. 120 crores, and for the industrialised cities Rs. 110 crores.

May I put one question to the hon. Minister: Are we ever going to solve the rural housing problem? It has been brought to the notice of the planners of the Second Five Year, and they themselves have stated at page 558 the conditions of rural housing. They have said that the improvement of housing conditions in rural areas is a task of enormous dimensions, and that a large proportion of the 54 million houses in rural areas need to be rebuilt or substantially improved. They also say at page 564 that in rural areas about 85 per cent of houses have mud plinths, 83 per cent walls of mud, bamboo and reed and about 70 per cent roofs of straw, grass, reed, mud etc. They further say at page 564 that about 38.5 per cent of the households had less than 100 square feet per head of floor space and about 32.5 per cent between 100 and 200 square feet.

This is the condition of rural housing. What to talk of roads, squares and all these things, what are you going to do about this? The hon. Minister just said: “Yes, we are thinking of it, and our plan is to revitalise 5,000 villages in five or ten years, and that too, on the condition that if the village people surrender the lands and everything to the community, they will be looked after”. That means, if the villagers accept communism, if they do away with peasant proprietorship, only then will the Government come forward to revitalise the village. I would like to know whether Government are wedded to communism? I would like

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to know whether they want communes as in Russia and China? Let that be made very clear, and let us know whether the country is for communism and whether Government are for communism.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Government are already divorced.

Shri P. R. Patel: I, for one, do not like that there should be such a tall discrimination that the village people should come forward to surrender lands, houses and everything to the community and then only Government would help that village. Why should that be so? Why do you want that all the village people and all the agriculturists should surrender their everything if they want to get the village revitalised? I do not understand. I would submit very humbly that it would be a very hard job for any Government to make the village people abandon peasant proprietorship.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That was not the intention of the Minister. He only wanted village sites to be given over to the community, and not the lands that would be cultivated.

Shri P. R. Patel: If that is so, then it is all right.

The second point that was raised by the Minister was about the architecture. He had been happy to see the Taj Mahal, the Red Fort, the Kutub Minar and other pieces of architecture of the Moghul period, and he is dreaming of some architecture of the Congress period. What should be our style of architecture? That should be in tune with the poverty of the people. That should be in tune with the conditions of the village people. Having a Taj Mahal here or there could not give credit to us. Our architecture will be in every village; every house in a village should be our architecture. Here, in Delhi what do I find? I find big multi-storied buildings, and very fine buildings too. But Delhi does not speak for the

whole country. Our country is widely spread over the villages, and unless and until the housing problem of the villages is solved, I do not think we can talk of architecture and other things.

It has been admitted that during the First Five Year Plan period, not a farthing has been spent to improve rural housing, while a large sum of money has been spent in the city area. I do not want to say that it should not be spent, but I want to press one point. It is true that industry is essential to the country. But is not agriculture? If subsidy be given to industrial workers, why should subsidy not be given to the agricultural workers and the agriculturists? Why should there be any discrimination? If slums are to be cleared in the cities, there are slums in the villages also to be cleared. Why should help not be given to clear slums in the villages? I humbly submit that our policy should be to help each and all, and there should be no discrimination between industry and agriculture in this respect.

The industrial worker is serving the industry, and to the capitalist, because the industrial labour contributes to the wealth of the industry and the wealth of the capitalist running that industry. By giving subsidies under the industrial housing scheme, we give subsidy to the industry and to the capitalist. I would like to know whether the subsidy should go to the poor or to the capitalist? That is the first point. Secondly, I want to know whether we are going towards socialism, or towards capitalism. On the one hand, we say that so far as the village is concerned, we want socialism; on the other hand, when the question of subsidy and help comes, we say we are moving towards capitalism, and we want to appease the capitalist of the country. I do not understand why that should be so? I would suggest that the industrialist should be asked to build houses for these workers, because it is for his help that the workers are there. Why should the

Industrialists not be able to build their own houses for their workers so that all the workers may get accommodation. If any subsidy is to be given, its benefit should go to the workers. The rent that should be recovered from the worker should not be more than ten per cent of the pay that he is getting, whether it be Government houses or private houses or factory houses. In no case should the rent exceed ten per cent. You may ask me whether there has been such a case anywhere in the country. I can quote one such case. In the Baroda State, we had government servants' quarters, and the rent charged from them was only ten per cent of the salaries, so that the rent was based on the capacity of the person to pay. If a block was occupied by a person drawing more pay than he was required to pay more rent. In other words, the rent was in proportion to the pay of the Government servants.

So far as our housing problem is concerned, I do know that the rent is beyond the capacity of our Government servants, in some cases, to occupy the houses built by Government because the rents are very high. I would submit that let us make a rule that the Government servants shall not be required to pay more than ten per cent of the pay as rent for the block occupied by him, for ten per cent is proper.

In this connection, I would submit one thing more, and that is, that in Delhi the rents are very high and exorbitant. I am not concerned with the question whether M.P.'s have to pay more or less rents. I am concerned with only ordinary persons.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): The hon. Member also is an ordinary person.

Shri F. E. Patel: It is true that some Rent Control Act is there, and it is applied here in Delhi. But some better law is required. The promise has been given that a new Bill will be introduced in this House during this Session. I desire that not only should it be introduced, but it should be

passed during this Session, and the tenants of Delhi should get the benefit of the law that we pass, and the rent also must be fixed in proportion to their income or salary and other things. That is the proper way how it should be done.

If at all our march is towards socialism, then naturally, we shall have to control rents. And no man should be allowed to charge more rent than is commensurate with the capacity of the man to pay. That should be the principle for fixing rents.

Then, there are also big houses occupied by just one or two individuals, while on the other hand there are people who are left to enjoy the free breeze of the pavements. May I suggest that in this country there are certain persons who have got very big houses, with very big rooms, dining rooms, and dancing rooms and so on, and these people should be deprived of their big houses, and the common people should be asked to occupy them and that too under law?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has objection both to dining and dance rooms?

Shri P. R. Patel: Every room. I have seen bungalows where two persons are staying. They are very big bungalows. When we have got to house so many persons, we may utilise these houses. There is absolutely no harm.

Round about Delhi, there are villages. Lands in the villages are in the occupancy of agriculturists. We want to develop Delhi and we are trying to have new buildings round about Delhi. For that, we are acquiring land and dispossessing agriculturists. I have even heard that we want to demolish certain villages so that the size of Delhi may be increased. For the development of Delhi, perhaps we may do something, but not at the cost of the poor agriculturists and agriculture. In case we badly require some land for housing, then the market price may be given to them as compensation. In

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no case, should less value be paid to the agriculturists.

I know we nationalised the Imperial Bank and we paid the market value for the share. We nationalised the airlines and we paid much more value. But when the question of paying something to the poor agriculturists comes, we want to pay less. This is not justice and I hope that the hon. Minister will look into the matter and do justice to the people.

Shri Ansar Harvani, I wish I could congratulate the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply on constructing a very gigantic building, the Ashoka Hotel, because it symbolises the rising stature of our country in international hoteling. I wish I could congratulate the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply on building those two huge buildings, Krishak Bhavan and Udyog Bhavan where our planners are busy increasing the food production and accelerating industrialisation of this country. I wish I could congratulate them on building that museum where our national heritage is going to be kept. I wish I could congratulate them on building a new jail where our convicts are going to be housed. But from this report, I find that 30,000 more houses are still needed for housing those people who are working in our Secretariat.

Every morning, when we come to this House, we have the spectacle of a mass of humanity paddling down to this city from far off, Gurgaon, Ghaziabad and Shahdara. We find this mass of humanity issuing forth from the corridors of this building and the Secretariat, listless and gloomy, walking in unsteady steps to their homes at 8 o'clock in the night. We know that these people have hardly an opportunity to see their children because when they leave their houses in the early morning, their children are still in bed and when they reach back in the night, the children are again in bed. We find that they reach their homes so tired that their family

life is broken because they are only in a mood to quarrel with their wives.

So I thought that the achievements of this Ministry were not to be judged by the huge structures that they have built, but by the priorities which they have given to the housing scheme of the clerks in the city.

An Hon. Member: They are going to have the Taj Mahal repaired!

Shri Ansar Harvani: Our administration is dependent on these poor people; our administration is dependent on these half-starved, sickly, consumptive clerks working in our Secretariat. But what have we done for them? We are only concerned with producing show-pieces. But I assure the Ministry that our international or national stature cannot be raised by show-pieces. Our national and international stature can only be raised if our clerks and our working class and other people are afforded shelter. They may say that these offices, the Udyog Bhavan and Krishak Bhavan are very necessary for the efficient work of the administration. I assure them that I have rubbed my shoulder with the clerks. I have lived among them and I know their aspirations and their ideas. I assure the Ministry that they will work with better efficiency and much better devotion to the Government and to the administration if they are housed in proper houses and made to work under tinsheds. Under tinsheds, they will work more efficiently than they will under these offices, with the prospect that after work they will have to live under the sky, in the rain and suffer. Therefore, I think that priority should be given to the housing of our clerks and our class IV employees.

Now, I come to the efficiency of our P.W.D. I will not be uncharitable; I won't say that the Public Works Department is a Public Waste Department. At the same time, the plight of the construction is very obvious. Last year, the hon. Minister assured us here that he would make inquiries

about the construction in Vinay Nagar where the roofs started leaking, windows disappeared and even houses started falling down. What to say of the condition of the clerks' quarters in Seva Nagar and Lodhi Colony.

I want to draw the attention of the Ministry to the construction in Vinay Marg where some M.Ps. are also living. They have pointed out to the Ministry that the roofs of these new tenements are leaking, the bathrooms have been giving way and so on. Who is responsible for this? The Ministry should make a thorough investigation into the P.W.D.

The same story is there in North Avenue and South Avenue. But in North and South Avenue, the construction is slightly better than the construction of houses for lower division clerks, because people think that Members of Parliament can approach the Minister and make complaints, whereas others have not that opportunity.

Therefore, I expect that the Minister will conduct a thorough investigation into the work of the P.W.D. and will see that these contractors and these officers do better work and better job.

One more point, and I have done. That is about the Government of India Press. The Government of India have a number of presses. They are some of the best presses in India. They are some of the best machinery that is available for a press in India. There is no doubt about it. They have personnel who are paid more than what is paid elsewhere—I mean the managerial and technical personnel in these presses. But what about the production of these presses? You will find that the quality printing work of the Government of India, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and other Ministries, is not the same as that of the Government of India Press, because the Government of India Presses' production is the worst production among all the presses in the whole of India. Quality production work is being sent to the Times of India Press;

quality production work is sent to private-owned presses in Calcutta and Bombay, and the exchequer has to pay more for this work.

It may be pointed out that the capacity of the Government of India Press is not sufficient to produce this literature. If that is so, I suggest that the quality work should be done by the Government of India Press and the routine production sent to outside Presses so that we may save some money of the public exchequer.

I have got here the Report of the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry. It has 68 pages, and on the first page we find an *Errata* of 30 corrections.

An Hon. Member: It is a small affair.

Shri Ansar Harvani: It is a small affair of 68 pages. But there are 30 mistakes. The Forum of Free Enterprise may say that because it is a Government Press, therefore, there are so many mistakes; so publicity printing should be given to the private-owned Press. I will not agree with that. There is another Press which is controlled by Government—I refer to the Nasik Security Printing Press. I can say with pride that the production of the Nasik Press which prints currency notes, stamps and other quality printing work, is of the same quality, and in certain cases, better quality than corresponding work in other parts of the whole world. Our currency notes may not have the same value as dollar notes but as far as the get-up and printing is concerned, it is not behind that of the dollar notes or the sterling notes. That Press is controlled by the Finance Ministry and if it had been handed over to the Controller of Stationery and Printing—I shudder to think—every currency note would come out with errata slips as you find in these books. Therefore, I want the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply to have a thorough probe into the working of the Government Presses.

[Shri Ansar Harvani]

15 hrs.

The Government of India Presses came into existence at a time when we had hardly any State undertaking. So, they were run as a department. I suggest that henceforth the Government of India Presses, instead of being run as a department under the control of the Controller of Stationery and Printing, should be run on commercial lines. When we can have certain State undertakings for producing fertilizers, when we can have the Hindustan Housing Factory under this Ministry, even when we can have other producing agencies, I suggest that all the Presses should be transferred to a Corporation. Of course, the overall control should be with the Ministry and all the presses should be run on commercial lines and that the services of people of experience in the field should be utilised. That is all I have to say.

I support the Demands.

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my friend Shri Easwara Iyer criticised the Government, and this Ministry particularly, for entrusting contracts to private firms. He thinks that because contracts are given to private firms there is corruption. I would like to answer him on these two points.

First of all, is it possible for this Ministry to be in charge of building construction of several thousands of buildings not only in the capital but also throughout the country and take up the construction of all these buildings?

Secondly, what about the technical personnel? Is it possible for the Government to take over? So, we have to give some part of it to contract, either the construction or piece works to private contractors and firms.

Then, the hon. Member seems to think that because the private sector is there or individuals are there, there is scope for corruption. I would like

to say that corruption has nothing to do with the coming into the picture of these private persons. Corruption, as we all know, is one of character.

There is a crisis of character in this country. In recent times, after the second World War, we find that moral values have fallen more steeply than money values. So, what we have to do is to try to build up character of our people. Then only will corruption come to an end. Otherwise, by simply excluding private persons, corruption is not going to come to an end.

The hon. Member also said that the Vigilance unit of this Ministry should be taken away from the control of the Ministry and be made independent. Even if the unit is taken away from the control of this Ministry, I would ask him whether matters would improve. We have got a good deal of legislation to check corruption. We have got the Prevention of Corruption Act; in 1952, section 165A was added to the Indian Penal Code to bring to book the abettors even. With all this legislation, are we able to put an end to corruption? Therefore, I do not see any force in my hon. friend's argument that corruption could be done away with by changing over to the public sector.

Of all the activities of this Ministry, according to me, the series of housing programmes sponsored by this Ministry deserve careful attention and appreciation by the House. Of these schemes, the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme, the Low Income Group Housing Scheme, and, above all, the Slum Clearance Scheme, certainly, deserve our appreciation. But, I have a feeling that the sum allotted by the Planning Commission for Slum Clearance Scheme is quite meagre. We have to devote more attention and more money for the construction of hutments for these poor and down-trodden people—the sweepers. A sum of Rs. 20 crores has been allotted for this period; but, I feel that it is quite meagre to meet the demands of the country.

Without going into the details of these schemes, I would come next to the work-charge establishment of the C.P.W.D. I agree that the hon. Minister gave an assurance on the floor of the House that he will look into the matter and, as pointed out by Shri Easwara Iyer, the assurance remains an assurance till today. I quite agree that something has been done in this matter. The Government have given some benefits like compensatory allowance, travelling allowance on a par with the regular establishment etc.

Shri Easwara Iyer: That was long before the assurance.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: I think it is after the assurance. Class III and Class IV employees are also sanctioned earned leave. But, what is more important to a government servant is security of tenure. Every government servant is interested in that aspect of his service. I would appeal to the hon. Minister to give a bit of the human touch to this problem and decide this question here and now. How long can we keep these people in suspense. To get good and efficient work from them we should decide this very quickly.

I quite see the difficulties which the hon. Minister would plead. Naturally, he would say that the absence of a record to show that these people have been in service previously for three years would be a problem. But something has to be done to find out the length of service of these people. Merely putting forth the difficulties lying in the way of Government would not solve the problem nor would it satisfy the aspirations of the people.

Connected with this is also the question of the employees in Government Presses. The problem there also is similar though I see that some minor reliefs have been given to them regarding pensionary benefits—introducing pensionary scheme in place of the compulsory provident fund contribution—and converting clause IV temporary posts into permanent ones.

But, still, security of service has to be given.

It has been argued that there is no definite planning in the matter of construction of buildings, both official and residential—quarters for staff. I do not think it is due to any absence of planning in the Ministry....

Shri Easwara Iyer: I said it is defective planning.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: It is not mere absence of planning. We should also look at the shortage of material, cement, steel etc., and, above all, technical personnel. These are the prime factors which are responsible for the delay in fulfilment of the targets. We cannot judge the performance of this Ministry by comparing it with the targets. We have to take into consideration the difficulties that the Ministry has to face.

About Government Presses, I myself wanted to refer to printing. I was glad to find from the report that the Government Presses obtained a State Award for efficiency in printing. I have yet to see a book or pamphlet printed by these Presses to show efficiency in printing. Every day we get some literature from the Publications Counter. The first thing that stares us in the face is the errata. Perhaps, these errata are printed first before the book itself is printed. I hope the hon. Minister would kindly look into it to see that they set a good example of printing in the country.

I would then refer to another aspect regarding the supply of stationery articles to governmental departments and the various Ministries. There is a Controller of Stationery and Printing with a Branch Office at Calcutta. He has to purchase all the stationery articles and to distribute to the various departments and the Ministries. It was pointed out by the Estimates Committee in the Ninth Report that there should be some sort of decentralisation and the Government should

[Shri Jaganatha Rao]

call for tenders so that the Departments and Ministries could directly deal with these firms and indent such of the articles as are required by them. That would save not only expenditure but also time,—and I do not know whether this recommendation of the Estimates Committee did not deserve the attention of the Government.

Similarly, the Estimates Committee in its Fifth Report suggested the formation of a States Purchase Corporation. I do not know if the Government has implemented that recommendation. We have got several Purchase Missions in London, Washington and even in India, and purchases are being made. It was suggested by the Estimates Committee that if a States Purchase Corporation is floated, certainly the purchases would be better done, we could conserve some money and with efficiency the work could be done. But, so far, I do not find from the Report any steps having been taken by the Ministry in this regard.

Lastly, there is a feeling in the country that the Central P.W.D., and also the Works Departments in the States, is a wasting department of the country. If these various housing schemes which are sponsored by the Government are carried through with vigour and with rapidity, I am sure the country will acclaim this department as a public welfare department, and no longer a wasting department. I look forward to the date when this Ministry would so discharge its function as to allow us to call it a public welfare department.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I feel I must bring to book my friends who are not here. Where are the occupants of the Treasury Benches?

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): Here we are.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Who are there? I am very glad my friend Shri Dasappa is aspiring to come a couple of rows near us this side. It is pathetic, Sir. I appeal to you and to your colleague—Mr. Speaker. It is not good enough. This is the Budget Session, and there is no reason why the Treasury Benches.....

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): There is no quorum also.

Shri Jaipal Singh:.....should not be as full.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Just now it has been pointed that there is no quorum.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, I am not worried about the quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But I am. The bell is being rung.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, may I request the hon. Members.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: When there is no quorum we do not receive any request.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very glad, Sir, you agree with me

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. The bell is being rung—Yes, now there is quorum; the hon. Members may proceed.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, I am very grateful to you, and I appreciate the fact that you are protecting us. There has been too much of a sense of responsibility lacking in the Treasury Benches. As far as I can see it, Sir, quorum can be made up by us on this side. I am not either on that side or this side, I am wherever I am. As I said, a quorum can be made away from the Treasury Benches. It is a disgraceful and shabby performance on the part of Government that in a Budget Debate they should be absent. Sir, I request you to protect this House from this terrible situation. I am sorry, I have to say this because it is very very important. This is the Budget Session and the Treasury

Benches, except for the two hon. Ministers.....

Shri K. C. Reddy: We are three.

Shri Jaipal Singh: The third does not count, because he will be on the anvil a little later on. Well, they are three—2½ is the actual arithmetical figure, but I do not mind that.

I am grateful to you, Sir; for giving me an opportunity to speak on these Demands.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Five minutes are gone, and only five minutes remain.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, I am inclined to count on this naya paisa system. Again I say, it is very very important. I have tried to point this out to the Leader of the House time and again that the Budget Session is something where he must get his colleagues to realise their sense of responsibility. They have not done it before, they are not doing it now, and if they do not do it they will be out. They will be out.....

Shri R. D. Mishra (Bulandshahr): They won't go out. I challenge.

Shri Jaipal Singh: My hon. friend, who is an unimportant Member of the other side, will be out before he knows where he is.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. All Members are equally important; none is unimportant. When both the Ministers in charge of this portfolio are here—of course. I agree with the hon. Member that it is desirable in any Budget debate that there ought to be more Ministers present—I cannot compel others to be here, and I hope the hon. Member would not insist on that. Perhaps, if he wants something more to be conveyed to others, that also will be conveyed. I agree that in a Budget debate there ought to be greater attendance here.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very glad, Sir, you agree with me. This is an insult to the Chair, that there should

be only the Ministers concerned with the Ministry in question, and some out-of-the-way-Member—may be very important on the other side—tells us that he is here. I am not prepared to accept the situation. I am very sorry I am not able to do so. I may be there on the other side any time. If the other fellows come to this side, my friends and everybody will go to the other side. I am prepared to....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: "Fellow" is an objectionable word.

Shri Jaipal Singh: It will some day very soon become necessary. I want to point this out, because it is an insult to this House that the Treasury Benches should be empty in a Budget debate.

Shri E. D. Misra: Sir, I rise to a point of order. The hon. Member has been repeating that it is an insult to this House. How does it become an insult to this House?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is his view, and the hon. Member differs from him.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, since they on the other side, do not understand important matters, I will talk of a very small matter, and that is about the great Ashoka Hotel. As though the whole country depended on whether the Ashoka Hotel was built, has been built, is there, or will not be there, I would like my remarks to revolve round this Ashoka Hotel. My friends on the other side have had their gibes. Sir, they have a very poor memory, but they have in the past talked about this Ashoka Hotel.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: It was only criticism and not gibes.

Shri Jaipal Singh: They do not know the English language. They do not know the difference between criticism and gibe.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry I am a poor judge of the English language. Let the hon. Member continue his speech. The time is short.

Shri Jaipal Singh: It is obvious that they have never been there; they have not come from Oxford.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: We are proud of it.

Shri Jaipal Singh: It is a question of their not having been there, much less of their having come back from there. I am sorry that this frivolity has to be there because my friends do not know any better—friends on my right side.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What about your left?

Shri Jaipal Singh: Those on my left have better manners. I am sorry I have to say this. Now, taking this Ashoka Hotel, a living example of what our Government, our Government, the Government on that side, and the Government here with me, have been trying to achieve. We crack jokes about something, the Ashoka Hotel. I want to put it to my friends on the right, left, in front and behind me, if there are any behind me—

An Hon. Member: I am behind.

Shri Jaipal Singh: The point is this. Are we trying to show to the world that we can do something? Are we doing that or not? Are we just having gibes at people over there, because we do not like their faces, or their colours or their badges or anything of that kind? That is very important. I have only the day before yesterday come back from the eastern sector of our great country. I had the same problem there. I wanted to tell this House, "What do we want." We are not just Members of the Legislative Assembly of any particular State. We are the Parliament. Do we want this country to continue, this country to prosper, this country to be stable? What do we want? If we want our country to be there, then, it is a question of give and take.

Now, exactly the same point arises with this Ashoka Hotel. I want to ask my friend, my friend over there who is no longer the Minister in charge

of this subject—and I say he was responsible for it once upon a time, a northerner in charge of something of which a southerner is in charge now. There he is. I want to ask him: Are you a blackmarketeer, or are you not? This is a straightforward question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is it addressed to the Chair?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): I solemnly say that I am not.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I only addressed those remarks to the House through you, Sir. Well, I am old enough; I am older in this Parliament, than my hon. friend there. I wish he showed a little bit of patience and understood what I am asking, because, you, Sir, know that in this House no question is asked of anyone, even to the empty Benches there, except through you. My question is,—

Sardar Swaran Singh: If that was directed to the Chair, I withdraw my statement.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am sorry. I am asking the questions, Sir, through you and addressing my remarks to the House through you and not to anyone of the Members direct, who think they have been attacked. I would not waste my time in that way. I have to address my remarks only to you, Sir.

The point is this. Are they black-marketeers or not? I am putting this question to them straight.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BEARGAVA in the Chair.]

15.25 hrs.

I am putting this question straight. What has happened to the Ashoka Hotel? What about the shops all round the corners? What are my friends on the other side, who live by Panch-sheel, who live for a socialist pattern of society and everything else, doing there? You and I have been there. I am not letting out a secret. What did

we see? Did we see what they are doing? They are taking full advantage of the fact of the monopolies of the shops all round there. As I said, I have limited my remarks only to this particular problem.

I would like my friend—my friend who had the impertinence, if I may say so, to get up and interrupt me and who was in charge of the Ministry and who has the impertinence to tell me and this House that there has been no blackmarketing—to get up and say, and let him make a reply, and tell me that there has been no blackmarketing in the matter of leasing out of these various shops around Ashoka Hotel. If there is blackmarketing, then, if the Ashoka Hotel is there—not if my hon. friend the ex-Minister is there—I will not have it. If he thinks that he represents Ashoka, he is sadly mistaken. But I do ask my friend who has inherited Ashoka, in the south, to look into this particular matter and tell us, this House, what it is, because they are responsible for this hotel which they want to be on a par with the reputation we are claiming, on the reputation that we are trying to claim, namely, on this Panchsheel, this great country, Gandhiji's country, and all that sort of thing. If that be the idea, I request them to look into this very, very carefully and not to take advantage of the monopolist situation, of an auction, of something where you would pay Rs. 3,000 per year and charge them Rs. 50,000.

Now the work on the Ashoka Hotel has to come before the Public Accounts Committee and this Parliament in due course and we must know how we have made money in this Hotel. I ask you, Sir, Mr. Chairman, to realise this. This is where Parliament asserts itself. I would like my hon. friend over there to realise this, and not the friends who were there before, because they do not count at all; the Secretaries and various others come afterwards and they will just tell us in the Public Accounts Committee, "We do not know."

Here, they think it is a very brave thing to get up and just interrupt. It

is about time that the Treasury Benches learnt that if they get up they will have it back from us. It is not good enough, Mr. Chairman. It is just not good enough. I want to tell my friends over there. There are only four of them there. There should be three football teams there. The Leader of the House is not there.

Swami Ramananda Tirtha (Aurangabad): On a point of order. What the hon. Member has been saying does not relate specifically to any aspect of the Demand. 20 minutes have been wasted. I think I can say this, that I demand, if at all, a closure of the speech of the hon. Member.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am prepared to close it. But am I addressing you, Sir, or the hon. Member there? You, Sir, have to pass on what I am addressing. I want to know from my friend from Hyderabad what he is. Is he somebody, anybody, who has to convey what I am saying to the House through you? If that is the case, I am prepared to sit down. Who is he? We are here today, addressing ourselves, to a particular Ministry. I want to know who he is.

An Hon. Member: He is a Member.

Shri Jaipal Singh: He is a Member? So am I. He is more honourable or he thinks so. And I am prepared to concede that he is more honourable than anyone of us. But for him to tell us that we cannot criticise the Ministers and so forth—

Swami Ramananda Tirtha: I have not said that.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What then has he said?

Swami Ramananda Tirtha: I said that he has spoken, on the Demand, without any relevance. That is all.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very sorry, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is always a nuisance. I am prepared to sit down, because some hon. Member, quasi-hon. Member, very hon. Member, most hon. Member, from Hyderabad thinks I am talking some-

[Shri Jaipal Singh]

thing that I should not address to you. It is for you to decide, Mr. Chairman, and not the hon. Member from Hyderabad to decide that....

An Hon. Member: He is not from Hyderabad, but Aurangabad.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Aurangabad makes it worse. But though the Ministry of the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, who has been spared ever since we had independence, could not be discussed even....

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Why not discuss it?

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am prepared to discuss it, if you will permit me, Mr. Chairman. May I discuss it?

Mr. Chairman: This is not the occasion for discussing that Ministry. We are on the demands of the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry. How can the hon. Member discuss that Ministry at this stage?

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very glad that you agree with me. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is not what he thinks he is that he can tell me without going through you that I can discuss his Ministry. If I discuss it, he will be nowhere; he will pack up and go if we discuss it. He does not realise that; he thinks this is a joke. It is the same thing that is happening and the Treasury Benches are empty. Whom am I talking to? Yes; very well, they are delightful friends. One of them, well both of them, are delightful friends.

In conclusion, may I say that ex-Ministers should not interfere with their successors? My hon. friend there thought he was being very very clever in interrupting and saying something. All that I say is that Ashoka Hotel is a shining example, a summit going up there, of the mess. I hope my friends realise that. I hope they are wide awake and it is afternoon. Most of us are not here; I hope that some who are here realise it. It is about

time they realise that Government as such—we want that Government to continue, not because my friends over there do not want it to continue; they have no idea of Government....

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Cannot spare us at least in this?

Shri Jaipal Singh: We do not want them ever to be in Government. (Interruption). I will see to it that my hon. friend over there cannot succeed, but I will succeed in seeing that they never come back.

Mr. Chairman: I would request the hon. Member kindly to speak on the demands or conclude his speech.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very grateful to you for the guidance you have given me, because I am going to take only a minute and a quarter. The point is this. Let us be careful; let us be definite in our minds. I do not want my friends—Sir, your friends, my friends; we are all friends—to think that just because they can vote us out, they can get away with everything including murder. They are getting away with murder at the present moment. Let me tell them through you, if I do not offend you; the point is this. I have concentrated all my argument round this Ashoka Hotel. Who was Ashoka? They do not even know who is Ashoka.

Therefore, I say that over this one particular problem, please do not think that just because you have a monopoly, you can do whatever you like. You do it; yes, you can do it. But it will be the unmaking of the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. He certainly will not be able to sit where he is sitting. I want to warn the Treasury Benches of this particular problem. The Works, Housing and Supply Ministry is under discussion today. I have only talked of Works. There is no housing; there is no supply. But what works? Fireworks? What are they talking about?

I have a soft heart for my junior friend over there because he comes from the same village as I do. But

for the other senior Minister who does not come from the same village and comes from a city....(Interruption). Who is interrupting me?

Mr. Chairman: I will just request the hon. Member not to attend to any interruption. He has taken a pretty long time and he should conclude now.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very sorry that Members forget in the afternoon to address their remarks to you. All that I say is this. The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and my Government, their Government, everybody's Government, your Government included, should sometimes take certain notice of the feeling in this country and not rely on a brute or less brute majority and listen to us on this side. We are helpless because the numbers are there and we get the impertinence of an ex-Minister getting up from that side and interrupting. But, however, I forgive him. He is a young man; he is considerably younger than you and much younger than me. Therefore, I conclude my speech.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not want to take a long time. I only want to confine my observations to the Ashoka Hotel, of which Mr. Jaipal Singh said so much. This morning from this side certain observations were made and the hon. Minister got up to say that almost everything was well with the Ashoka Hotel. He also made a sporting offer to me to come and have a cup of tea with him in the Ashoka Hotel. Later on he made a oral offer to me, but I sent him a written offer and a more sporting one too that he can come and have dinner with me at Ashoka Hotel provided he comes not as Minister, but in his capacity as a pure and simple Bengali gentleman. Then only he will be able to know.

I want him to take his memory back to 1955 when Mr. Ashok Chanda and myself were staying in a State-run hotel in Peking. Did he not see in that hotel that the hotel workers

off duty were playing basket ball in the hotel premises and some workers there could even play billiards? Look at the Ashoka Hotel. If you ever go to the quarters of the Ashoka Hotel staff, you will find the misery. We are now told that they are being given Rs. 65. This morning the Minister said that during the last six months, there was a better custom and the average occupants came up to 250 or so a day, as against 80 some months ago. I know that the hon. Minister will not contradict me when I say that there has been retrenchment of late in the Ashoka Hotel, I ask him whether, when the hotel goes on from better business to further better business, the staff has to be reduced like this.

He said that the staff had to be retrenched because most of them had never been anywhere near a hotel. I want to put this question to him: Has the General Manager ever been in hotel business? Why then talk of the workers? I know for certain that the Assistant Manager took about 100 workers from the South promising them Rs. 100. Whoever in the South working in a hotel will not be attracted by a promise of Rs. 100 in a Government establishment in Delhi? But with tears in their eyes they had to go back, because they were not looked after and they were not given the salary they were promised. These are facts, and I can produce before him several people who have back like that. But now he gets up and says everything is well with the Ashoka Hotel.

We are very much keen, as keen as he is, that the Ashoka Hotel should be run properly, because for various reasons it is a very important institution in New Delhi. I am prepared to help the hon. Minister and I know his senior colleague will certainly take that help from me if I give it. I will let him know the information which comes in our way and I hope he will take some more interest in the running of this hotel. Apart from what Mr. Jaipal Singh, says everything seems to me to be in a mess. I do not want

[Shri V. P. Nayyar]

to wash the dirty linen of the Ashoka Hotel in this sacred place. I shall take up that matter with the hon. Minister. This is about the Ashoka Hotel.

If you will permit me to take a couple of minutes more, I would like to give two suggestions.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair].

15:41 hrs.

We know, and time and again, the hon. Minister has said that in the matter of an important item required for purposes of construction in this country, the Government are taking important steps to diversify the use of timber. We know that teak wood which is supposed to be impervious to any attacks of termites or white ants, has been used in the North Avenue flats and in our houses in Windsor Place. Have you ever heard of teak wood being attacked by white ants? If you want to see, go to a Government of India construction where teak wood will have white ants. Nowhere else it is seen. In the North Avenue flats, I have seen in several places. When we know that the Forest Research Institute has done very good work on this and apart from teak, other non-conventional items of timber should be used in order that the price of teak wood may be checked, to my knowledge, the Government have not given any stipulation that in such works where timber is used, other non-conventional items of timber, properly seasoned, which have enough tensile strength to stand such construction, should be increasingly used in order to conserve our teak and try for exports.

The other suggestion which I want to make is this. I am glad the Government will consider about the architectural policy. Several times in this House we have raised this question. We know that while the Government have some architects, they are not consulted at all. Every department,

every Ministry, when it contemplates putting up buildings, sends for an architect firm and gets the drawings from that firm. Perhaps, these firms charge as much as 7½ per cent of the total cost of the buildings for drawing and supervision. Sub-standard articles are used. As a rule—I do not want to generalise it—I know that most of these architects firms are in close connivance with the contractors who supply inferior material. But these architects themselves take 6½ per cent or 7 per cent from the Government. This ought to stop. The Government should not give this work of drawing up the detailed drawings of buildings and supervision of the work to private firms which pose themselves as architects, but whose only object is to rob the Government and the public treasury of the money. I do not think you will allow any more time and so, Sir, I sit down.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Mr. Speaker, we have had a very interesting debate in connection with the Demands for Grants of my Ministry, and Shri Jaipal Singh who is just now near me has assured me that we need not take his remarks very seriously. We have had a very interesting and entertaining speech from him also. There have been only one or two minor remarks so far as the working of the departments of my Ministry are concerned. I would like to say that I have listened with deep interest to all the hon. Members who have participated in this debate and I would like to say that I am very grateful to most of them who have thrown out a number of constructive suggestions in respect of the various aspects of the working of my Ministry.

My colleague, who intervened in the debate earlier, has referred to certain departments of my Ministry, particularly to the Housing problem, to the Hindustan Housing Factory, and the Ashoka Hotel. He has also referred to the architectural policy of the Government. I am very glad that most of

the hon. Members who have spoken, have given high importance to the problem of housing in our country. The housing problem, if I may say so, is a very colossal one, the magnitude of which is not realised by most of us.

So far as rural housing is concerned, several Members have pointed out the great importance of the need to step up the tempo of rural housing in our country. I entirely agree with them. Coming from a village myself, I am deeply conscious of the conditions in which our rural brethren are living in the villages. There is very great need, there is no doubt about it, to do the utmost that is possible to improve the rural housing conditions. But, what is the size of the problem?

As the House is aware, we have got five lakhs of villages in our country and there are 55 million houses scattered in the various villages. Even if we go by the rough figure of 50 million houses, if we have to solve this colossal problem, one estimate is that we would require Rs. 2000 crores, if not about Rs. 4000 crores in order to do justice to this problem. Obviously, it is not possible for the Government to undertake this responsibility entirely on its own shoulders. It has got to be tackled in a different manner altogether. That is why we have put across the scheme—which we have described as a scheme of aid—on a self-help basis. This rural housing problem can be solved only in that manner satisfactorily. We have got to improve the level of income of the villagers, we have got to increase the standard of living of the villagers and we have to make it possible for them to come forward of their own to put up their houses. What the Government can do is by way of helping them in order to do it in a very satisfactory manner.

The rural Housing programme that has been announced by this Ministry last year, as has been explained by my colleague already, is called the Village Houses Projects Scheme. It is not intended to provide proper rural

houses for all the villagers who live in the 5 lakhs of villages in our country. This problem has got to be tackled, as I said, by the villages themselves first. The State Governments have to play a very important part in regard to this problem. I would like to say that the amount that has been set apart for the scheme in the Second Plan, Rs. 10 crores, is, as has been stated, very very meagre. It is meagre, no doubt. But, it is only a beginning. During the debate last year at about this time, I said that it is a beginning. As we go along, if we succeed in the implementation of the scheme, it may be possible for the Government to allot more and more for this important scheme.

What is the position? Even this sum of Rs. 10 crores which we have set apart for rural housing in the Second Plan, I am not quite certain if the States concerned would be able to utilise this amount in full. Complaint has been made that the progress under this scheme has not been very satisfactory. Two years of the Plan period have gone by. Three years remain. The progress that has been made so far does not warrant the feeling that we may be able to spend all this amount of Rs. 10 crores. That is the position at present. I am very glad to say that some of the State Governments have now completed all the preliminaries in regard to the implementation of this rural housing programme. Several State Governments have set up rural cells. Many of them have formulated the necessary rules. The Community Project Administration, which has got a lot to do in respect of this scheme, has called upon the State Governments to select the 500 villages which have been taken up in the first instance. Selection is going to take place. There is every hope that the tempo of the implementation of this scheme will increase hereafter at a rapid pace. It is my ambition, my hope that during the next two or three years, the State Governments and the other agencies that are responsible for the implementation of this scheme, will so go about this task

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that we would have not only spent this sum of Rs. 10 crores, but we would have made out a case for asking for more and more money in respect of this very important scheme.

Several remarks have been made in respect of the other housing scheme which the Government has put forward and which the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply is in charge of. With regard to the housing problem in general, I would like to offer one or two remarks. I referred to the magnitude of the rural housing problem. The same is the case in respect of the urban housing problem. During the First Plan, we were able to put up, according to the statistics available, 1.3 million houses. In the Second Five Year Plan, the target for housing has been mentioned as 1.9 million houses or 2 million houses. Taking into account the 1.3 million houses built during the First Five Year Plan, and the 2 million houses that are expected to be built in the Second Five Year Plan, even then, at the end of 1961, we will be in a position of having to put up another six million houses in order to meet the demands of the urban population only.

Why I am giving all these figures is to show that this problem has got to be tackled on a national level. It is not as if the Union Government alone can tackle this problem, it is not as if the State Governments alone can tackle this problem. Various other agencies will have to come into the field, and unless an all-out attack is made, it would not be possible to solve this problem on a satisfactory basis.

Why I am referring to this aspect is because of the feeling that I think that the House seems to have that the overall responsibility for the housing problem in the country, for creating all the required number of houses both in the urban area and the rural area, is that of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. It is not so. We are

only one in a team of agencies that are charged with the task of providing the requisite number of houses in the country.

Take for example the 1.9 million houses that I referred to as target during the Second Five Year Plan. Out of this, I think about 8 lakhs of houses will have to be put up by the private sector, about 4,55,000 will have to be put up under the various schemes that have been sponsored by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, and several Ministries also come into the picture. So, it is taking all these things together, taking all these agencies together, it is through all these agencies that we have got to implement the housing programme in the country. What the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply can do, and is doing, is to operate a few of these schemes which have been put forward by way of prodding the State Governments to do what all is necessary in this connection, by doing research and by providing technical information in regard to these matters, and it is only this limited responsibility that this Ministry has taken up in regard to this housing problem.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I ask one question? There is a news item today in the press "cut in the housing plan." This news items says:

"The Union Government has drastically cut its programme to construct residential accommodation for the various categories of its employees to the extent of 80 per cent of the demands by the end of the current year due to paucity of funds and shortage of cement, steel and foreign exchange. In Delhi alone there is a demand for 30,000 houses for Government officers drawing less than Rs. 500."

Mr. Speaker: He need not refer to all that. There is a proposal to cut down.

Shri K. C. Reddy: The hon. Member is referring to an entirely different matter. I am referring to the general housing problem in the country. The hon. Member is referring to the construction programme in Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta. I am coming to that a little later.

Mr. Speaker: Does rural housing mean, it should be a pucca terraced house in the village? Is it on the footing that terraced houses are to be put up in villages and as there is paucity of funds, the houses cannot be put up there?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir. We have not laid down any detailed specifications of the nature. The main aspect of this rural housing scheme is that the Government of India will give a loan of Rs. 750 on an average in the case of each house that may be taken up for re-modelling or for reconstruction or for putting up a house *de novo*, whatever it may be. The other amount has got to be made available by the owner of the house himself.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I raise a point of order? May I have your permission, Sir?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am not yielding, I am sorry.

Shri Jaipal Singh: It is not a question of yielding. Hon. Minister he may be, whatever he is, he will yield to the Chair.

Mr. Speaker: Let us hear.

Shri Jaipal Singh: There is no question of yielding. My point of order does not relate to my hon. friend.

The point is this. The Budget Session relates to finance, the passing of money for the administration to carry on. I find there is no Minister here who has anything to do with money. Is that correct? There is no Finance Minister, there is no Deputy Finance

Minister here, and nobody dealing with Finance at all, and this is the Budget Session.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Finance Minister was here till a few minutes ago.

Shri Jaipal Singh: He may have been here, but he is not here now.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has raised a point of order. I am trying to explain the position and give my ruling regarding that.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I say a word? This question in some form or other is often raised here about the presence of Ministers here during debates. I regret to say that I do not understand this as a point of order, as a point of relevancy. Everything that is said here is followed by people and is read by those Ministers concerned and perhaps more carefully than otherwise. As for their being present here, there are sometimes—not now—two Houses sitting, and they have to be present there also; and there are also other kinds of work too. It would be improper if they did not pay heed to what the hon. Members said here, but a large number of Ministers sitting here merely does not advance the cause of understanding at all, because the matters are dealt with and are attended to as they should be.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Do I understand that when we are discussing finance here, the Minister of Finance, the Deputy Finance Minister and others need not be here and they can read afterwards? Then, are we talking to a deaf wall?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We are not discussing finance; we are discussing Demands which are certainly connected with finance. Demands in regard to particular Ministries which are responsible. Finance is responsible for everything, for everything that is:

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spent, but it is the particular Ministry which is responsible. In fact, we are now, because of complaints made in the past, giving far greater responsibility to Ministries; once a thing is done, it is the Ministry that is responsible. No doubt, there is the responsibility of the whole Cabinet, of the whole Government and Finance. But if the Finance Minister were here, he cannot really deal as fully with a particular problem relating to a particular Ministry as the Minister concerned.

Shri Jaipal Singh: May I have your ruling on the point of order?

Mr. Speaker: I am giving it. A point has been raised that the Finance Minister or anyone connected with the Finance Ministry such as the Deputy Minister or others should be here when the Budget Demands are being discussed in this House. Both the Ministers responsible for the Demands under consideration are here and they are taking keen interest, and they have been here all along, throughout the debate. Each Minister is competent fully to deal with his own Ministry; when he gives an assurance here, he is competent to take it up with the Cabinet and get it through. I, therefore, find that there is absolutely no interest which is not saved or which is otherwise lost sight of merely because the Finance Minister is not here.

It is true that ultimately Finance has to come into the picture. But the persons in charge of the particular Ministry are here. This is enough. It is not necessary that the Finance Minister should be here for everyone of the Demands—of course, when the Demands relating directly to the Finance Ministry come up, he has to be here; also he can be here, if he wants to be here and if he can spare time.

So far as the general position is concerned, of course, as the hon.

Leader of the House has observed, the Ministers have to divide themselves between the two Houses; some of them sometimes have to be in the other House also when it is sitting. In a case where the Minister concerned has himself to be present with respect to his Ministry, he can take the leave of the Chair and then go and attend the other House.

On a prior occasion, this point arose when the general discussion on the General Budget was going on. It is true that I then observed that so far as the general discussion was concerned, as far as possible, one Minister from each of the Ministries, either Deputy Minister, Minister of State or the Minister himself must be present here, because one did not know which subject would be dealt with. That is so with respect to the general discussion which lasts only for four days. But the discussion on the Demands goes on for a whole month and more, and it is not necessary for the Ministers, to whom a particular department or a particular Demand does not directly pertain to be here. The purpose is being served by the presence of Ministers who are in charge of the particular Demand that is being discussed here.

16.00 hrs.

Therefore, subject to these limitations, the hon. Ministers will try to be here; with respect to their own Demands and with respect to the General Discussion, as far as possible, each Ministry will try to be represented. We have been having discussion so far. I am sure hon. Ministers have not lost sight of a single point raised here. All credit to them. But of course, as I said, as far as possible they will try to attend the General Discussion, and with respect to their own Demands, the Ministers concerned will always make it a point to be present.

Shri Jaipal Singh: I am very grateful to you. You have strengthened my point.

Mr. Speaker: Now, it is over.

Shri Jaipal Singh: No, the point is still very much alive. My hon. and revered friend talked of the other House also being in session. I think the other House is not sitting now.

Mr. Speaker: It is not on that account. Independently of that, the Finance Minister need not be present here. There is no point of order.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is it your ruling that the Finance Minister need not be present here during the budget session?

Mr. Speaker: Every time he need not be present.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Is it your ruling that for the budget session, no one from the Finance Ministry need be present?

Mr. Speaker: My definite ruling is that when a Demand is under discussion, if the Minister concerned is present, it sufficiently serves the purpose. The Finance Minister need not be present when Demands other than those relating to his Ministry are under discussion.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Do I take it that my hon. friend over there accepts Cabinet responsibility, corporate responsibility?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to enter into a discussion hypothetically on these matters.

Shri K. C. Reddy: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was referring to certain aspects of the rural housing programme, and I was pointing out that so far as the main aspect of that scheme was concerned, it was a self-help based scheme, and it was also integrated with the general improvement of the economic condition of the villager himself, and the actual implementation of the scheme, by and large, would have to be the responsibility of the State Governments. Not only in respect of this

rural housing scheme, but also in respect of other housing schemes which have been referred to it should be remembered that, what the Union Government can do, and have taken the responsibility to do, is to frame acceptable and approved schemes and also to sanction necessary finance for the projects that may be submitted from time to time by State Governments.

So far as the Union Government are concerned, we have no administrative apparatus in order to execute these various schemes. The execution of these schemes will have to be done by the State Governments. So far as we are concerned, we are in constant touch with State Governments. My colleague and I have been in constant touch with the Chief Ministers and Housing Ministers of States. Officers of our Ministry in charge of the housing department also go round and see the progress under the various schemes and projects. We are doing everything on our part to see that the tempo of activity of these various schemes goes up. But the main responsibility, as I said, will have to be that of the State Governments.

It has been complained that in respect of certain schemes there has not been sufficient progress. I do not know what the difficulties of State Governments have been. Possibly they have had some difficulties and have been trying to surmount them. But in respect of the low income group housing scheme, there has been very good progress. Figures have already been given by my colleague; figures have also been given in the Administration Report and in answer to questions. The subsidised industrial housing scheme is also gathering momentum.

So far as the slum clearance scheme is concerned, I would like to tell the House that because of our efforts, schemes amounting to about Rs 17 crores out of a total allotment of Rs. 20 crores in the Second Plan have been received. Out of these, we have already sanctioned schemes estimated

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to cost about Rs. 7 crores, and we are examining the remaining schemes. In so far as two or three of these schemes are concerned at any rate, the provision made in the Second Plan may not be found to be sufficient and it may become necessary to consider the possibility of increasing the allotment for them. I would not like to go into further details about the various housing schemes though several suggestions have been made by hon. Members in order to improve one scheme or the other. All of them will be taken note of; we will closely examine them.

Another subject to which frequent reference was made is the Ashoka Hotel. My colleague has already told the House that the Hotel is making steady improvement. The average occupancy in this Hotel during last year was about 80 and during the last 5 months, it was about 200 and odd. And, it is gradually going up and within about two or three years' time, we may expect the Hotel to yield profits.

Some minor complaints have been made to which, after my colleague has spoken, I would like to refer briefly. The question of retrenchment has been raised by my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar, who is not here now. He asked us, why, if the average occupancy has gone up, the staff have been retrenched.

The facts of the case are these. When the Hotel started in connection with the UNESCO Conference, in order to cater to the needs of those staying in the Hotel as well as elsewhere in various other buildings in New Delhi, about 900 and odd people were recruited. Now, it is well known that in any Hotel the proportion of the staff to the guests in the hotel is 2:1. So, on that basis, if the Ashoka Hotel can accommodate about 400 and odd people, the normal staff that is required for running such a Hotel is about 800 and odd. It was found that the initial recruitment was overdone. It was 900 and odd. We

had to take steps in order to bring down the staff to a normal level; that is to say, about 800 and odd. It is not linked up with the profit question at all; it is not linked up with the average occupancy of the Hotel. Though it is a fact that the average occupancy rose from 80 to 200, it does not mean that we ought to have adhered to the over-staffed position in the Hotel, namely, about 950 or 960. So, the two should not be linked up. It is our endeavour to bring down the staff to the normal level. At the same time, we should also replace the inefficient personnel by efficient personnel. These are the factors that govern the question and not the question of profit or the percentage of occupancy.

Some other statements have been made in respect of some aspects of the working of the Ashoka Hotel. Question has been raised as to what arrangements have been made in respect of the service conditions of these employees. I would like to point out that accommodation has been provided for these employees in the premises of the Hotel. About 300 and odd employees have got their own accommodation.

Question has also been raised as to what is being done in respect of the collection of 15 per cent. service charges. I would like to point out that the whole amount of collection under this head will ultimately be paid to the staff working in the Hotel, minus the breakage expenditure. If it has not been done already, it will be done in due course; and there need be no apprehension in the minds of any of the hon. Members that the service collections will not be paid to the staff concerned at the proper time.

Some complaints have been made about the rotten meat. I am sorry I have got to refer to that because I do not want the impression to gain ground that we are supplying unsatisfactory food in this Hotel. That has to be countered. And, so far as I know there is absolutely no justification for a complaint of this kind. If

the hon. Member who made this criticism will kindly forward to me the reason or the justification for making such a criticism, certainly, we shall be happy to look into it. But, I would like to state categorically that there has been no complaint whatsoever from any quarter in respect of this matter up till now. In fact, several appreciations have been received from various people all over the country as to the very satisfactory nature of the food and the catering conditions in this Hotel. So, I do not think that there is any basis for the criticism of the kind that has been made against this Hotel in respect of this matter.

Sir, as usual the Central Public Works Department has drawn the attention of several hon. Members. I was expecting such weighty remarks to be made by Shri Easwara Iyer, because he takes a very keen interest in the affairs of C.P.W.D. and a keener interest, if I may say so, in regard to the service conditions of the work-charged staff because he happens to be the President of the C.P.W.D. Workers' Union.

I hope he will concede the point, when I say, that during the last one year or so we have been able to pass a number of orders in regard to various issues which were pending for a long time in respect of the service conditions of workcharged staff. About 40 issues have been taken up, settled and orders issued in respect of permanency, semi-permanency, leave, quarters and so many other matters relating to the conditions of service of workcharged staff.

He made a pointed reference to two assurances that I made on the floor of this House last year. Those assurances relate to converting a good part of the workcharged staff into regular staff and, the second one being, making permanent the remaining work-charged staff. With regard to both these questions, we have taken all possible steps in the Ministry in order to expedite the assurances that were given by me. The hon. Member is

aware—he has referred to it already—that about 35 categories of work-charged staff have been declared to be categories of persons who have to be converted into regular establishments. But several details have to be worked out. The very nature of this establishment will justify, to some extent, the time that is being taken in order to implement these assurances. The service records are not complete, and they have got to be very carefully examined. I am happy about the assurance that has been given by the hon. Member, Shri Easwara Iyer, that the Union will also help in respect of this problem.

Shri Easwara Iyer: Certainly.

Shri K. C. Reddy: For this purpose we have now set up a very high level committee in the Ministry in order to go into this question specifically, in order to expedite matters, in order to complete all service records, in order to find out what posts could be made permanent etc. etc. I do not think it will take more than a few months before we can completely fulfil the assurance that I gave on the floor of the House. The hon. Member need not be afraid that it will take years and years, and meanwhile something will happen by which most of the people in the workcharged establishment will disappear from the world.

With regard to other matters also we are giving our keen attention and I hope by next year, when this Ministry's Demands will be discussed on the floor of this House,—I hope it will be even much earlier than that—we will be in a position to say that we have fully implemented these two important assurances that I gave on the previous occasion.

Various other points also have been raised by the hon. Member. He has given notice of several cut motions in respect of some detailed aspects of the working of the Central P.W.D. as also the working conditions of work-charged staff. He has referred to matters like quarters, medical facilities and so many other things. With regard to medical facilities I would

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like to say that wherever there is a good concentration of workcharged staff the necessary facility has been provided. In Delhi there are about six departmental dispensaries which are catering to the needs of work-charged staff. In other places—say for example, Dharu Uddhampur Road, Khatmandu or Calcutta—where there is a concentration of workers, medical facilities have been provided. When we find that necessary medical facilities should be provided at places where there is a large number of people, we are doing it, and it shall be our endeavour to increase these facilities wherever possible.

The question of quarters for work-charged staff also has been taken up. The hon. Member is aware of the steps that we have already taken. In order to make a good beginning, recently we have set apart 400-G type houses for the workcharged staff. As we increase our construction, more and more houses will become available, and it shall be our endeavour to allot more and more houses to our work-charged staff also.

With regard to some other aspects raised, e.g. providing quarters for aerodromes and other people, these are all matters which are receiving attention of the Ministry. So far as the aerodromes are concerned, we have not yet taken up the responsibility of providing quarters for the work-charged establishments ourselves. The Civil Aviation Department's responsibility is there, and they have provided certain houses which they have allotted for those people. But what we could further do in the matter will be considered by us and we shall certainly give attention to it.

I would not like to go into further details about the various facilities that will have to be given to the work-charged staff. I shall only say that Government will do whatever is possible in order to increase the amenities that are now being given

to the work-charged staff and make their lives more and more comfortable.

I would like to refer to certain important points in respect of the Central Public Works Department. As during last year, this year also the suggestion has been made and very strongly too, that the system of contract should be done away with and that we should take up the construction of our buildings on a departmental basis. Last year I gave my reasons why this suggestion could not be accepted. I pointed out that the Kasthubai Lalbhai Committee which went into this question very carefully recommended in 1952 that there are several difficulties by switching over from the contract system to the departmental system. After all, can we be sure that the replacement of the contract system with a departmental system will result in economy? Can we be sure that it will result in more efficiency? Can we be sure that it will result in less corruption? I do not think that on any of these grounds we can switch over immediately from the contract system to the departmental system.

In the Ministry of Railways, where we enquired as to the method that was being followed, we learn that they have not given up this contract system. They have given very good reasons why they do not want to change over to the departmental system. The Ministry of Defence also, except in the case of some maintenance works, repair works, etc., have entrusted all their work to the contractors, and the work is being done through the agency of contractors. That being the position, I do not think any valid reasons have been put forward to change over from the present system to the system of contracting through departmental labour. It is beset with several difficulties, and the more and more we think of it, it looks as though it will not be practicable to do any such thing within a reasonable distance of time.

Then the problem of vigilance has been raised. My hon. friend Shri Easwara Iyer said that the Vigilance Department is not very vigilant. Well, according to him, it is vigilant at least, if not very vigilant. I would like to say that this Vigilance Department is doing very good work. There was reference in particular to the vigilance unit in the department itself and the hon. Member wanted to make out a case that it should be made independent of the department and that there should be a separate agency to look after this very important vigilance work. May I invite his attention to the fact that in addition to the Vigilance Department within the department itself, which is very necessary, there are certain other supervisory agencies in respect of this vigilance work in the Ministry itself? We have got a separate vigilance unit which is independent of the CPWD and also, in addition to this, we have got the Vigilance Department of the Home Ministry which exercises supervision and check over the vigilance unit in the Ministry and over the Vigilance Department as well. So, there are checks and counter-checks. It is not as if the Vigilance Department and the vigilance unit in the Department are a law unto themselves. In the circumstances, I do not see that there is any need for detaching the vigilance unit from the Department and making it absolutely independent.

Also, as the hon. Member referred there is a Chief Technical Examiner (Establishment) which we have brought into being. This officer is doing very good work with his staff, and during the last one year, his work has resulted in improving the tone of the Department very satisfactorily.

As usual, the charge of corruption has been made, and it has been said there is a lot of corruption in the department, etc. Last year I pleaded that a general accusation should not be made and is not justified. I am not for a moment saying that the work of the department is perfect,

that everyone in the department is absolutely honest cent per cent and there are no blacksheep here and there. But the existence of some blacksheep here and there does not warrant a wholesale sweeping remark that the whole department is corrupt or something like that. It is our endeavour and the endeavour of the department to weed out this corruption wherever it exists and I hope as time passes, we will be showing better and better results in respect of this very grave allegation being made against the department from year to year.

Some criticism was made in respect of the unplanned colonies that have come up in New Delhi. Particularly reference was made to West Vinay Nagar, I believe by Shri Easwara Iyer. There was mention about the lack of various facilities in this colony like schools, recreation rooms, playgrounds and so on. It is true and I am prepared to concede that these things were not planned when the building up of these colonies was planned originally. It is also a fact that in several of these colonies, some of these amenities do not exist. We are trying to overcome them in various ways. For example, so far as schools are concerned, we are trying to allot certain flats for this purpose as a temporary measure.

I would like to say that recently during the last few months, we have set up an inter-ministerial committee in regard to this question. The N.D. M.C. comes in and certain other Ministries also come in. We have set up a committee to tackle this particular aspect and to see to it that all these amenities are provided in the various colonies within a period of one or two years. I hope that we will be able to make steady improvement in this direction and by about the end of two years, it would be possible for us to give all these amenities to the various colonies.

With regard to the construction in Delhi, I would like to say one or two

[Shri K. C. Reddy]

things. As everyone knows, the position in Delhi is very very acute both in regard to office accommodation and in regard to accommodation for residential purposes. On previous occasions, we have given figures regarding the amount of accommodation available, and the accommodation that is necessary. I do not want to weary the House by giving all those figures on the present occasion. One of the methods by which we wanted to solve this problem was by shifting some offices from Delhi to other places. During the last few years, there has been a consistent demand, persistent demand, if I may say so, from this House and also from elsewhere to shift some of the offices from Delhi. Our efforts during the last few years have not met with much success. During the last few months, we have had a series of discussions with the concerned Ministries and with the consent of the respective Ministries, we have after all been able to make a start in regard to this very important matter. We have now taken a decision to shift offices which will require office accommodation of about 1.25 lakhs square feet. In this connection, I was surprised to hear from the hon. Member Mr. Bhargava that we should be very careful about this matter, that we should not do it in too much hurry, unless we satisfy ourselves that sufficient accommodation both for office and for residential purposes is available in the place where we are going to shift these offices. The point that he has made is a very important and vital one and I would like to assure him that we are keeping all these factors carefully in our view. We are assessing the amount of office accommodation necessary for a particular department which will have to be moved and also the amount of living accommodation that will be necessary, what is it that we can construct ourselves, what is now available and what is it for which we have to depend upon private owners from whom we can rent out or lease out. All these aspects are being kept in

view. I do not want any hon. Member of this House to go and support any move from any quarter to sabotage the whole of this move on one pretext or the other. In fact, most of the people who are asked to move out of Delhi. I must confess, are not willing to move to other places. Different kinds of pressures will be brought to bear upon the Government on hon. Members, on every one concerned to see that these offices are not ultimately shifted out of Delhi. I am receiving hundreds of representations during the last two or three weeks or more than that—mass petitions as they are called—raising all kinds of objections and pleading that these offices should not be shifted from Delhi. I hope I will have the weighty support of this hon. House to see that these offices which we have tentatively resolved to shift will be shifted to places outside Delhi. Certainly, we will keep in mind the various conveniences that we have to provide to the people who will be called upon to move out of Delhi consequent on the shifting of these offices.

Some observations have been made on the quality of the work in our printing presses. I think our printing presses are doing well. In fact, during...

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What about my particular point about 80 per cent. reduction in the housing plan?

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Minister go on.

Shri K. C. Reddy:.....during the last few weeks, we have received unsolicited testimonies from various departments of the Government of India paying compliments to the expeditious way in which these presses have worked and made available all the printed material that the various Ministries wanted. I was somewhat surprised today to hear that these presses were not working satisfactorily. It is true that some work is given to

outside presses. It is because of the limitation of capacity of the presses that we have with us and not because of any lack of efficiency on the part of the presses that our Ministries are placing their orders outside the Government presses.

Reference has also been made to the new presses that we are going to set up in the south: whether we are going to set them up after all or whether they will be carried forward to the Third Plan. I would like to say that so far as the Coimbatore press is concerned, we have already acquired the land and paid the amount of compensation to the persons from whom we have acquired the land. We have already taken steps to acquire the land for the Koratti press.

Shri Narayanankutty Memon: Any date when they will be put up?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The actual putting up of these presses and the importing of the necessary machinery, etc. will have to depend on the availability of foreign exchange. We hope that foreign exchange will be available and that it will be possible for us to put up these two presses in the south during the Second Plan itself. But, if, for any reason, foreign exchange is not readily available, then, I am afraid, the construction of these presses will have to be carried over to the Third Plan. I do not personally feel, at the present stage, any such contingency, and it shall be our endeavour to construct these presses in the south in the Second Plan itself.

Not much has been said about the Supply Department which is a very important department of this Ministry. Even during the debate last year, not much was said. I would like to point out that this Department of Supply has done very satisfactory work during the year. The number of indents which are left outstanding has been reduced progressively. The various

orders have been taken in hand promptly and necessary steps have been taken in order to supply the necessary articles for the various departments of the Government.

One remark was made by the hon. Member Shri N. B. Maiti about the supply of khadi. I would like to say in this connection, even as I said intervening at that time, that the figures that we have given in the Administrative Report are figures of the value of orders placed in each particular year. In 1955-56, the value of orders placed was of a very high order. During the subsequent years we found that the orders that had been placed had not been supplied not only in 1955-56, but also in 1956-57. Some of the orders placed then are being fulfilled even now.

So much so, because of the large magnitude of orders placed in 1955-56, the orders placed in subsequent years were lower in magnitude. That is how the figures are explained, but so far as the general policy of the Government is concerned in respect of the purchase of khadi, it is well known to the House, and we have answered questions relating to the subject very often on the floor of the House, that our purchases are determined or conditioned or limited only by the amount of khadi that is produced and is available or supplied to the khadi department. No doubt, certain specifications have got to be kept in view. Subject to that, the Government of India is willing to purchase all the khadi that is produced by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and which they are in a position to supply to us. I was in charge of the khadi department for two years, and at that time I was urging the need for the Government departments purchasing more and more khadi, and when I am now in charge of the Supply department, one can be sure that we will do whatever is possible to purchase the maximum amount of growth that the Khadi Commission can produce, subject of course, to certain specifications.

[Shri K. C. Reddy]

I would not like to take more time of the House. Various suggestions have been made. As usual, we shall try to make available the necessary information with regard to all those matters, all those points that have remained unanswered in the course of the debate, to the various Members. It is a practice in my Ministry, perhaps it is the practice in some other Ministries also, to communicate to the Members concerned and to let them know as to what is the position with regard to the points that they have made. That practice will continue, and in the course of the next few weeks or months, we shall contact the Members and appraise them of the position with regard to the various points that they have made.

It shall be the endeavour of the Ministry to be constantly vigilant, to weed out corruption and to raise the tone of the various departments to the maximum extent.

With these few observations, I would like to congratulate the various officers in my Ministry for the by and large very satisfactory work that they have done during the year.

Shri Kaswara Iyer: I would like to have some clarification from the hon. Minister, regarding the anomaly in the scales of pay in the CPWD in respect of which he more or less assured me in November, 1956 that the pay scales would be implemented.

Shri K. C. Reddy: With regard to that, I am afraid we have to await the report of the Second Pay Commission which is going into this question along with the other general questions.

Mr. Speaker: Now I put the cut motions to the House.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

‘That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown 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.—

94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 134, 135 and 136 relating to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.”

The motion was adopted.

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

DEMAND NO. 94—MINISTRY OF WORKS
HOUSING AND SUPPLY

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 51,98,000 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 Works, Housing and Supply’ ”.

DEMAND NO. 95—SUPPLIES

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,49,29,000 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 ‘Supplies’ ”.

DEMAND NO. 96—OTHER CIVIL WORKS

“That a sum not exceeding Rs. 23,02,96,000 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 ‘Other Civil Works’ ”.

DEMAND No. 97—STATIONERY AND PRINTING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,59,70,000 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 'Stationery and Printing'".

DEMAND No. 98—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 81,18,000 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 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'".

DEMAND No. 134—DELHI CAPITAL OUTLAY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,82,82,000 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 'Delhi Capital Outlay'".

DEMAND No. 135—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BUILDINGS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,24,42,000 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 on Buildings'".

DEMAND No. 136—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,28,10,000 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 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'".

MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up for discussion and voting Demand Nos. 80, 81, 82, 83 and 128 relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, for which six hours have been allotted. Hon. Members desirous of moving cut motions may kindly hand over at the Table within 18 minutes the numbers of the cut motions. Hon. Members are already aware of the time-limit for speeches.

DEMAND No. 80—MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 39,70,000 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 Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

DEMAND No. 81—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,20,86,000 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 'Geological Survey'".