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Sravana 26, 1895 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Eighth Session)



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LOK SABHA

Friday, August 17, 1973/Śravana 28,
1896 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reasons for India's Negligible share in World Trade

*341. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific reasons for India's negligible share in the total world trade and the low rate of export earnings in spite of the country's record export performance during 1972-73; and

(b) the measures taken by Government for creating an adequate production base and surplus for exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
(PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA).

(a) The pattern of world trade is such that the rate of growth is much higher in respect of manufactured goods than for primary products. Also, the unit value realisation for primary products generally continues to be low, whereas the value of manufactures is constantly rising. In such a situation, the share in world trade of a country like India, which is substantially dependent upon primary and traditional exports, will continue to be low until better diversification is achieved. Apart from this, problems in regard to shipping freights, currency fluctuations; competition from synthetics, shortages of certain basic raw materials, etc. have all been contributory factors.

1507 LS-1.

(b) To step up export production and to generate export surpluses the Industrial Licensing Policy and Import Control Policy have been increasingly made more export-oriented. Under the policy a number of facilities are provided to exporting units in the matter of import of capital goods, components, raw-materials etc. In addition, items having export potential are identified to enlarge their production base and special development programmes are undertaken for expanding output of export-oriented crops.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: The hon. Minister has stated that since India depends for her exports more on primary products, therefore our country's share in the world market is less. He has also said that Government have taken measures to diversify our exports. Since when have Government taken up this diversification programme and what kind of specific steps have been taken to see that the emphasis is shifted from primary goods to manufactured goods so that our share in the world market may go up?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The diversification programme has been followed for quite a time. But in the recent past we have gone deeper into the matter and broadened the spectrum. Besides our traditional exports of jute, textiles and other goods, we have now also entered in a big way in export of marine products and other things like gems and jewellery. We are doing all this to diversify our exports and also simultaneously exploring further possibilities for our traditional export items.

I have already outlined the specific steps we have taken for augmenting and diversifying our exports, but I may mention for the hon. member's benefit some others. The import re-

plenishment accruing under exports under the import policy, for registered exports can also be used by manufacturers for the import of machinery required for replacement, balancing or modernisation or research and development for an amount not exceeding 50 per cent of the value of the licence or Rs. 3 lakhs, whichever is less, provided that the facility is not availed of more than twice in any financial year. Supplementary licences for capital goods are also being given. The same special treatment is being extended to export-oriented units, particularly regarding preferred source of supply and facilities for expansion to exporting units in the priority sector. Also for the non-priority sector, we are giving some facilities in terms of higher quota of raw materials supply higher than in relation to the previous years.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: The hon. Minister has said that for quite a long time, they have taken up this diversification programme. Our share in the world market comes to only 0.7 per cent. In spite of our diversification programme, our share is not very impressive. What specific steps are Government going to take immediately to increase our share immediately?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: As I have already said in the body of my original answer to the question, our relative position in the world market in terms of export depends naturally on our performance compared to that of other countries, some of which are very highly advanced. Figures indicate that in the last decade between 1962 and 1972, export trade in the world market has grown by 11.4 per cent, that of developed countries, has increased by 12.1 per cent and that of the developing countries, taken as a whole, has increased to the extent of 7 per cent. When I say 'developing' countries, I exclude the oil producing countries because they have accounted for a very big share. Our country has accounted for a growth of 5.7 per cent in the last ten years.

There is another way of looking at our performance. It is not as gloomy as it might appear....

MR. SPEAKER: Questions and answers have now taken the shape of long speeches. They should be very brief. If the member is long and the Minister is very long, it takes so much time. It is much better that these statements are given to the questioner so that he does not ask a question on that.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I have said it depends upon others' performance.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Will the Minister please explain what steps he has taken to increase production and lower the cost of production? Also what steps has he taken to neutralise the impact of inflation, and rise in prices in the country which is at a higher rate than the inflation abroad?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: It is a larger question. I am not quite sure how it is related to this question.

MR. SPEAKER: You have followed my advice promptly.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I think it does arise because part (b) of the question is:

"measures taken by Government for creating an adequate production base and surplus for exports".

He should indicate what steps have been taken. Surely, it is a relevant question arising out of part (b) which he has answered. He has taken certain steps for creating an adequate production base.

MR. SPEAKER: The question asks for information about percentage of exports. If you go into too much of details, it will concern other Ministries also.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The cost of production would go up because of inflation.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I can only add that in fact many of

the raw materials on which our production base of the export-oriented industries depend are imported and distributed through the STC at fixed prices. That has a salutary and sobering effect on the prices of raw materials which is a substantial thing for industries.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : क्या मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जान सकता हूँ कि निर्यात में कम घाव होने के कारणों में क्या यह एक प्रमुख कारण नहीं है कि हम अपने उत्पादन के विशेष पदार्थों को निर्यात का विशेष अवसर नहीं देते हैं और इस तरह से हम विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित करने से वंचित रह जाते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह जो प्रश्न की सकल है यह जो लीडिंग बन जाती है। लीडिंग क्वेश्चन तो पूछ नहीं सकते।

The supplementary should not provide information, should not be suggestive and should not be argumentative.

क्या कुछ काम में नहीं लिखा हुआ है और रोज़ उन को चोड़ते हैं।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : ग्लाइ के बारे में भी है कि it should be definite and it should not be evasive.

MR. SPEAKER: As suggested by Shri Vajpayee, it should be definite and not evasive; though it is not in the rules, I accept it.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : मेरे प्रश्न पूरा करने पर शायद समझ जाएंगे। जैसा मैंने कहा कि अपने उत्पादन के विशेष पदार्थों को हम उचित अवसर निर्यात का नहीं देते जैसे बिहार के वरभंगा और मधुबनी जिला में पर्याप्त मात्रा में मखान का उत्पादन होता है। ..

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह कहाँ से आ गया उसमें ? It is a general question.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : एक्सपोर्ट से हमारी क्या घाव है और घाव के कटने का क्या कारण

है, यह मैं क्वेश्चन है इस के संदर्भ में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो पर्याप्त मात्रा में मखान का उत्पादन हमारे यहाँ होता है....

MR. SPEAKER: I am sorry, it is not relevant to this question. Please ask a relevant question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: In view of the fact that at present we are getting more foreign exchange from raw materials than from finished goods, what steps are being taken to export more of fine and super-fine cloth? As against the import of about Rs. 100 crores worth of cotton, how much of the fine and superfine cloth manufactured out of that have been exported?

MR. SPEAKER: Is there any difference between this question and the question asked earlier by another hon. Member? You better ask a question which is relevant to the main question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: What are you doing to increase the export of handicrafts, engineering goods from small-scale industries and leather goods instead of raw hide?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: This was a general question regarding our position in the world trade. Now he is asking regarding particular commodities. I can supply the information if a separate notice is given.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, I seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: No protection for this supplementary; it is not a relevant supplementary.

SHRI B. S. BHURA: Have Government received complaints from foreign countries that some of the handicrafts exported by private parties were below the standard? Is this one of the reasons why our trade is coming down?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I do not think so. On the contrary, we have strengthened our Export Promotion Council and Export Inspection

Council. Now the question of rejection on the ground of quality has gone down considerably in relation to previous years.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Is the Minister utterly sure that in the competitive world market our share is not becoming disconcertingly less because of adequate and sufficient fiscal incentives? If not, will he take it up with the Finance Ministry?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: I am not utterly sure but about fiscal reliefs quite often I go to him.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Is he aware of the fact that because of the administrative delays in implementing the policies the export trade of the country is suffering very much? If so, what measures do the Government propose to take to streamline the administrative machinery?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Administrative measures is a very comprehensive term I can only say that some of the policy-making bodies are now sitting more frequently—for example, the Board of Trade, the Advisory Board of the Board of Trade and some of the commodity divisions. We in the Ministries have frequent meetings and go deeper into the issues. The Planning Commission has set up a high-powered Committee presided over by a Member of the Commission to go into the matters. The Board of Trade has set up a Committee presided over by the Deputy Minister himself to look into the institutional measures for clearing the bottlenecks, if any, for export promotion.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: May I know whether even in the traditional commodities there are some constraints on exports because of the unimaginative policy of the Government e.g. the iniquitable levy of excise on the export of tea and jute? In that context, will the Government be prepared to review the policies in regard to those items of exports?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: So far as tea is concerned, I do not know what iniquitable distribution of fiscal measures he is referring to.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI: The iniquitable levy on tea.

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: There is one particular zone in eastern India which has asked for fiscal levy. At the same time, they have gone to the court. So, it is *sub judice*, and I cannot do anything. About other fiscal relief, whenever necessary, suitable and plausible, we have taken up the matter with the Finance Ministry and the response has been uniformly favourable.

Fraud in Srinagar Branch of the State Bank of India

*342. **SHRI D. K. PANDA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fraud of several millions of rupees has taken place in Srinagar Branch of the State Bank of India;

(b) whether a Vigilance Officer from New Delhi was sent to Srinagar to investigate the matter; and

(c) whether he has submitted his report; and if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). The Local Head Office of the State Bank of India, New Delhi, during its normal course of supervision, not having been satisfied with the conduct of an account of a small-scale industrialist, who is also an exporter, in the Srinagar Branch deputed one of its senior officers for a spot verification in October 1972. The senior officer reported that this party had drawn amounts in excess of the advance value of the relative security to the extent of about Rs. 3.5 lakhs by giving, *inter alia*, false declarations of the value of the stocks charged to the Bank. The bank has initiated steps to recover its dues.

The Bank having decided that all the advances granted at its Srinagar Branch should be scrutinised, deputed the officer-in-charge of Circle Audit Cell at the LHO, New Delhi, to go into the various aspects of the loans numbering about 1700. The Audit Officer has gone through most of the accounts from 23rd April to 15th June 1973 and the bank is awaiting his report, which is under compilation.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : This incident has taken place prior to October 1972 because the verifications were conducted in October 1972. Even though one year has passed, the money has not yet been recovered from the industrialist who committed a fraud on the Srinagar Branch of the State Bank of India. Even though this industrialist is a criminal and should have been treated as such and arrested and action taken under the penal provisions, nothing has been done so far. Even though many questions have been asked on this subject the reply is that the report has not yet come. Several Members of Parliament, both of the opposition and Congress, including Shri Salve, have pointed out that fraud after fraud have been committed on the various branches of the State Bank of India. Today there is a news about some incident in the Delhi treasury. Recently there was a fraud in the State Bank branch of Orissa to the tune of Rs. 2 lakhs.

MR. SPEAKER : Let him ask a question about Kashmir. If he wants to discuss the whole question, let him table a motion.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : I am very relevant. All these incidents were brought to the notice of the Ministry times without number but no steps have been taken so far. Now this very statement shows

MR. SPEAKER : I thought you were coming to the question. I am not allowing a speech.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : How can the Minister understand the question without my giving the background?

MR. SPEAKER : Do you think that nobody will understand it except yourself? No, I am not allowing you to go beyond the scope of the question. It will be a very bad precedent.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : Now loans are being granted only to the larger houses. These banks are being allowed to be defrauded by industrialists, exporters and big business houses which are indulging in unfair practices. Now when frauds are detected he orders that all accounts should be looked into. I say that even in the usual course there should be some safeguards. I want to know whether any specific steps have been taken to have internal audit of the accounts of the banks.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : My answer to the last question is, yes, the necessary steps are being taken....

SHRI D. K. PANDA : When?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : He asked a question as to what steps are being taken about frauds that are taking place, whether any arrangements are being made for internal audit, etc. A number of steps have been suggested to the Banks and their branches. One has to go into the *modus operandi* of fraud making. Ultimately, we find that a fraud takes place when the elementary rules of banking procedures are not followed. This seems to be one thing. Suppose both the client and the officer or the agent or the accountant himself are in collusion with each other. Sometimes, it happens like that. An element of dishonesty also comes in there. So, the necessary instructions have been given to the Banks to follow certain procedures. But even then, some of the things are taking place.

SHRI PILLOO MODY : Does the collusion go further?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN : You mean, with you?

SHRI PILLOO MODY: With you or with me or between us.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: As far as the latter part of his criticism was concerned, he said about big accounts, etc., I would say, at least this was not a big account. In Srinagar valley, the State Bank of India is a lead Bank having got the responsibility to cater to the priority sectors. Most of the 1700 accounts of which a survey has also been made are small accounts I will try to go into it. Sometimes, it may happen; I cannot say, it may not happen. He also raised a question as to what action has been taken. In the case of such frauds, the Banks normally try to secure their money involved. In this matter, they are trying to find out whatever money they can get back. At the same time, they have issued notices to them and, also, they are thinking of filing a civil suit.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Sir, he has not replied to my question....

MR. SPEAKER: We have done only one question in half an hour. He has taken so much time and still he is not satisfied. He is still on the first supplementary and he does not go to the second supplementary. Please ask second question and be brief.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: I want to know when the steps for having internal audit have been taken and what steps have been taken to arrest this industrialist against whom the charge is already proved.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I cannot answer when he will be arrested, whether he will not be arrested. This is a matter for the authorities to go into. Whether there is a criminal offence involved in it is a matter which it to be found out. I cannot give an answer when he will be arrested. If a *prima facie* case is proved, they will certainly take necessary action on it.

About the internal audit, that is not a new question that has to be answered. There are rules, standing orders, about the internal audit. The

point is whether they are implemented or properly observed. The Reserve Bank has issued instructions to see that these rules are properly implemented.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Just a second....

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow any more supplementaries. No arguments over it. The whole time is not going to be monopolised by you. In half an hour, we have done only one Question.

SHRI D. K. PANDA: Because of one case of fraud of Rs. 3.5 lakhs, they have gone now to verify 1700 accounts. If this internal audit had been done in the usual course, this could have been detected. That is why I wanted to know the point of time as to the introduction of such effective measures.

MR. SPEAKER: No please.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Regarding this fraud in Srinagar Branch of the State Bank of India, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any political workers are involved in it.

MR. SPEAKER: No please.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: No, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Have you got any information?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Yes, Sir. Nowadays the tendency is to loot everything....

MR. SPEAKER: No question of tendency. Time of the House should not be wasted like this.

की छतल बिहारी बाजपेयी अध्यक्ष जी, अभी मंत्री महोदय ने मूल प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा कि इस प्रकार की घोषाबन्दी इसलिए होती है कि एग्जिस्टिंग कन्स का पालन नहीं किया जाता है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ एग्जिस्टिंग कन्स का पालन क्यों नहीं किया जाता है और क्या वह सच है जब से बैंकों का राष्ट्रीकरण किया है नियमों के पालन में दिनाई धा गई है ?

की छतल बाजपेयी : यह कहते हैं राष्ट्रीकरण के पहले फ्राड नहीं होते थे ।

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN:
I do not think the hon Member's inference is right.

Frauds are as old as human-beings. It cannot be said that they have increased in number. One advantage of the nationalisation of banks is that they are much more quickly exposed to the public because the matters can be discussed on the floor of the Parliament. Naturally, the Reserve Bank and the nationalised banks and everybody will have to be on their toes for that matter.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Bakri Nayak—absent.

Shri Rajdeo Singh—absent.

Amount of Development Cess collected from Natural Rubber

+

*345 **SHRI RAMCHANDRAN**

KADANNAPPALLI:

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of development cess on natural rubber collected during the last three years, year-wise, and the amount spent on development and research during this period; and

(b) the balance left with Government upto March, 1973

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

Statement

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Amount of Development Cess collected	Amount spent on Development & Research	
		Develo- ment	Research
1970-71	238	56	8
1971-72	270	52	10
1972-73	305	63	12
Balance amount in deposit with Government as on 31-3-1973.. Rs. 927 lakhs.			

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI: May I know from the hon. Minister as to what financial encouragements are given to small growers and how much is the increase in production during the Fourth Plan period and what are the proposals before the Government for the development of rubber cultivation in the Fifth Plan period?

SHRI A C. GEORGE: The Rubber Board which is statutorily charged with the development of rubber cultivation is being given financial assistance in the form of replantation subsidy so that the old trees may be uprooted and new ones planted. Rs. 3500 per hectare is being given as replantation subsidy and so far, 31,000 hectares have been replanted.

Further, we are giving new plantation loans and additional facilities to the co-operatives to procure good planting material as well as the processing equipment so that small growers of rubber can be helped in processing and achieving better and higher qualities of rubber.

About the increase in production during the Fourth Plan period, in 1968-69 the production of natural rubber was 71,000 tonnes and in 1972-73 we have achieved 1,14,000 tonnes and the Fourth Plan target of 1,25,000 tonnes is definitely going to be achieved.

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADANNAPPALLI: What are the targets for the Fifth Plan?

SHRI A C GEORGE: During the Fourth Plan for rubber cultivation development we have spent Rs. 3.5 crores and for the Fifth Plan there are quite a few proposals submitted before the Planning Commission and they are under various stages of consideration. Right now I will not be able to commit how much will be available but we are fairly hopeful that rubber plantation development will be allocated somewhere about Rs. 15 crores.

SHRI RAMACHANDRAN KADAN-NAPPALI: What are the financial allocations for the Fourth Plan period for rubber development and in the light of the fact that there is a balance of Rs. 9.27 crores in the rubber development cess, how much will be spent in the Fifth Plan for improvement of rubber cultivation and helping the small growers?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: As I had explained, right now we are giving replantation subsidy to the tune of Rs. 2471 per hectare. There was a suggestion that this may not be enough due to high costs of replantation. There is a proposal to increase the replantation subsidy to Rs. 5000 per hectare in the case of small growers and keep the replantation subsidy at Rs. 2500 (at a round figure) in the case of big estates and big holders. Also we are thinking of making further loans to new plantations and in the earlier part of my answer I have given reply about the Fifth Plan expectations.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: He has stated that 9.27 crores are collected by way of collection of cess and deposited with Government. He said some amount is spent for replantation and other facilities. I would like to know whether he is aware of difficulties of small growers. They did not get Government subsidy and other encouragement for replantation. They do not get statutory price. Will Government export more rubber abroad and protect the interest of farmers?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Cess is not collected from growers, 13 Paise per kilogram is collected from rubber manufacturers. Rs. 6.5 crores are given as subsidy and Rs. 1 crore is given as loan. Regarding statutory price it may be the case some months back when they were not getting statutory price or near about. That is because of glut in market. Consumption of rubber was low and production was much higher than expectation. We are now exporting rubber and over and above the previous 5,000 tonnes we will export rubber to the tune of 20,000 tonnes.

Demand for Special Non-Plan Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for Development Works

+

*346. **SHRI DHAN SHAH PRA-DHAN:**
SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government have approached the Central Government with the demand for at least Rs 10 crores as special non-Plan assistance for carrying out development works in the State capital during the next three years; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the works and the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government sought assistance for improving water supply and drainage system in Bhopal as also for constructing additional accommodation for offices and Government staff. The State Government was advised to accommodate the proposed expenditure within the State Plan.

श्री धन शाह प्रधान : माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि भोपाल में इतनी स्थिति खराब है कि वहाँ पर एकमात्र तालाब है, सारे शहर का गन्दा पानी उस तालाब में जाता है और उसी तालाब से लोग पानी पीते हैं, भिन्न-भिन्न प्रकार की बीमारियाँ वहाँ लोगों में हैं, दस करोड़ की माँग की गई है किन्तु इसके साथ-साथ शहर में भूमिगत पानी . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप भाषण न करिये, प्रश्न करिये ।

श्री धन शाह प्रधान : कर्मचारियों के आवास की समस्या तथा कार्यालयों के भवनों के सम्बन्ध में एवं इसी प्रकार से अन्य कार्यों

के लिए सरकार ने बल से संवर्धनीय योजना में 35 करोड़ की मांग की थी और दस करोड़ की बांध पानी की व्यवस्था के लिए बल से की थी तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ सरकार से कि जो दस करोड़ की मांग की गई है वह रकम क्या सरकार एकमुष्ट ही दे देगी या समय-समय पर देती रहेगी ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: We have advised State Governments that they must accommodate this thing in the State Plans.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Sir, in view of the backwardness of the State and in view of the fact that one of the major problems in carrying out development work, specially, in the D.P.A.P. Area, a major factor that holds up the work is that the plan expenditure is not allowed to be spent on non-plan items like buying machinery and tools. As the hon. Minister has said just now, it is not possible for the Government to give any sort of accommodation from the Central Fund. In view of this fact, I want to know whether it is possible for the Finance Ministry to allow the State Governments to utilise their plan funds for the acquisition of machinery and tools to carry out these D.P.A.P. projects?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Certainly, it is for them to make use of their plan funds.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Sir, I want to know whether the Government would allow them to use the Plan Funds for the purpose of acquisition of land etc.

MR. SPEAKER: He said that it is for them to use it.

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Government allow it?

MR. SPEAKER: They have full powers. Why should they then ask for the permission?

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: It has been specifically told by them that permission from the Centre for the diversion of Plan Fund is necessary.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not have any objection if he will make it still clear although he has replied that.

श्री मधु लिखड़े : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि नयी राज-धानियों के निर्माण और विकास के लिये बल से रकम न देने की सरकार की नीति है या केवल भोपाल के लिये ही यह नीति बनायी गयी है ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: Most of the State Governments, when they were re-organised, in the context of reorganisation, certain loans and grants were given for looking after their capitals. In the case of Chandigarh, for example, we decided that we shall give them loans and grants for looking after the capital. Similarly in the case of Assam too, certain loans and grants have been promised. So, really speaking, the policy of the Government has been to give help to the State Governments when there is a question of establishing a new capital. We certainly give this help in the context of reorganisation of the State.

श्री मधु लिखड़े : मंत्री महोदय शायद जानते हैं कि भोपाल एक छोटी सी रियासत थी और उस के साथ पुराने मध्य प्रदेश का साथे में भी अधिक हिस्सा, मध्य भारत और विन्ध्य प्रदेश जोड़ दिया गया है। तो भोपाल की आवश्यक-ताओं का ध्यान करना चाहिये या।

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I was coming to Bhopal also. When Bhopal also became the capital as a result of States' Reorganisation—in 1956—I find from the record that at that time the then Finance Minister, Shri C. D. Deshmukh had written to them and had also given them about Rs. 1.5 crores as some sort of financial accommodation.

श्री ज्ञानी भूषण पिछड़े : राज्यों की राजधानियों और खासतौर से भोपाल जिस की प्राबादी बहुत अधिक बढ़ गयी है, प्राप को विदित होगा कि वहाँ के तालाब को कम से कम एक हजार साल से साफ नहीं किया गया और

उसी पुराने तालाब को बड़ी हुई बाबादी में पानी देना पड़ता है, कीचड़ से भरा हुआ है, भोपाल एक पिछड़े राज्य की राजधानी है, इसलिये जो पिछड़े प्रदेश है उन की राजधानी को ज्यादा से ज्यादा पैसा देने की कोशिश करेंगे ताकि अन्य राजधानियों के समान आ सके ?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN: I sympathise with his idea. It is really a question of accommodation and some adjustment. So, we have advised the M.P. Government that they should take up the matter with the Planning Commission. I quite see the difficulties in regard to Bhopal in the matter of water supply, drainage etc., This is not a thing that can be done over a year. It has to be phased properly. It will mean proper planning. Therefore, we have advised them that they should take up the matter with the Planning Commission that they should give it a higher priority.

Pending Applications for Grant of Import Licences

*347. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications which are pending with Government for grant of Import Licences for the last one year; and

(b) the break-up of the figures for licences given during the same period month-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The number of applications for Import Licences pending in the Import and Export Trade Control Organisation for over one year as on 31-3-1973 was 86 (eighty-six).

(b) The required information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Month-wise number and value of Import Licences issued by I.T.C. Organisation during 1972-73.

Sl. No.	Months	(No. Actuals) (Value Rs. lakhs)	
		No.	Value
1.	April, '72	4,611	9481.60
2.	May, '72	7,379	9741.06
3.	June, '72	10,060	14672.78
4.	July, '72	11,289	15577.22
5.	August '72	9,459	12426.87
6.	Sept., '72	11,636	17187.75
7.	October, '72	9,146	14439.27
8.	November, '72	8,336	17633.06
9.	December, '72	9,987	19321.20
10.	January, '73	7,938	12391.49
11.	February, '73	8,562	17330.46
12.	March, '73	17,136	25369.86
TOTAL		1,15,539	185572.62

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: The information was required for the last one year. Naturally, that will include April, May, June and July of this year. They should have been accounted for. May I know the figures for those months?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Normally when a question is asked in 1973 about last year, we give the figures upto 31st March, 1972. If he is kind enough to put a separate question, we will give the figures for these four months.

MR. SPEAKER: He can put it in the next session.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: The answer to part (a) of the question is that 86 applications are pending. May I know how many of those applications have been recommended by the Export Promotion Council for export incentive?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Out of the 86 applications pending upto 30.6.73 most of them have been cleared and only 18 remain. Out of these 9 are from black-listed firms. So, there is no question of giving licences to them. The remaining are only 9.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: During the period April 1972 to March 1973 licences to the tune of Rs. 1900 crores were given. I want to know the break-up of the licences given to the private and public sector applicants. Secondly, what is the break-up of the licences given to applicants from the States of Punjab, Maharashtra, Haryana and West Bengal? Thirdly, what is the number of applications outstanding from these States?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Obviously, these are questions which may need some more time to be answered.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Sir, is it fair? They have given so many figures from month to month. Why can they not give the figures for the private and public sectors?

MR. SPEAKER: The main question is about the month-wise break-up.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: This kind of questions logically follow from the original question. The Minister cannot avoid them because there is a little bit of elaboration. Sir, I want your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot give you protection while you are standing. Please sit down. The question refers to month-wise break-up.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Could he not supply break-up State-wise and for public and private sector?

MR. SPEAKER: He says "No".

SHRI H. M. PATEL: He should have got them.

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking for information State-wise. Do not ask for information which is not covered by the main question.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the hon. Minister furnish this information to the House subsequently??

MR. SPEAKER: If he puts a separate question, he will definitely give it.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: When an import licence is granted to a particular institution, do the Government insist that goods worth the same amount should be exported?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: It depends on the sectors. There are certain priority sectors where some additional facilities are given. There are some sectors where we take export obligation. This may not be uniformly applicable.

SHRI DHAMANKAR: May I know the break-up of the pending licences of large-scale and small-scale units monthly-wise?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Monthly-wise number and value of import licences issued are given. So far as pending licences are concerned, it

may take some time to collect the figures.

MR. SPEAKER: You can collect it and supply it later on.

Proposal to Start Air-Taxi Service in the Country

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*349. SHRI D. P. JADEJA;
SHRI VEKARIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start air-taxi service in the country; and

(b) if so, when it will start?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The matter is not being pursued for the time being

SHRI D. P. JADEJA: May I know how many commercial pilot licence-holders are there in India who are still unemployed?

MR. SPEAKER: How does it arise out of this?

SHRI D P JADEJA: It is because of that that the pilots are unemployed

MR. SPEAKER: You should have mentioned it in the main question

SHRI D P JADEJA: Is it true that there is a greater number of private pilot licence-holders who are unable to convert it into commercial pilot licences because of the shortage of job opportunities? What steps are Government taking in this regard?

DR. KARAN SINGH: This is an unusual way of approaching the problem. There are certain private pilot licence-holders. In order to give them employment, we cannot spend crores of rupees on importing small planes. Their employment opportunities will grow as and when our aviation facilities grow.

MR. SPEAKER: You note it as a suggestion.

Criteria for Fixing Minimum Support Price for Jute

*350. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether before coming to any final decision in regard to minimum support price for Jute Government have considered the traditional relation of prices between paddy and jute under which 3 maunds of paddy is equivalent to 1 maund of jute; and

(b) the reasons for variation of the aforesaid parity ratio in fixing the minimum prices for jute?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) and (b). The minimum support price has been decided upon the basis of the recommendations of the Agriculture Prices Commission, who have made recommendations, after taking into consideration all relevant factors, including the relative prices of paddy and jute.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: The question relates to the fixation of the minimum support price having parity relation of 3 maunds of paddy equal to 1 maund of jute. Today 3 quintals of paddy should be equal to 1 quintal of jute. The minister has stated about the prices recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission. I would like to know from him whether the cost of production of jute has been higher than what has been decided by the Agricultural Prices Commission. I would also like to know whether in respect of other agricultural commodities like cotton, the price paid by the Cotton Corporation of India is much higher, whatever the prices recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission, so that there may be sufficient incentive to the growers. That is why I would like to know whether the minister will consider the price recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission is much lower than what it

should be and the price should be so fixed as to give a sort of incentive to the jute growers. May I know what further actions the minister is going to take in this regard?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: It seems the hon. member's opinion regarding the jute-paddy ratio is based upon the Sir Francis formula formulated in 1940. It is outdated in view of the recent technological development and intensive cultivation particularly of paddy. Even then, there is relevance and the Agricultural Prices Commission, while fixing the support price for jute, has gone into it. Secondly, when the Agricultural Prices Commission fixed Rs. 125 per quintal as the jute price, they have said very clearly that it is a support price. But we looked into the matter and thought that taking other factors into consideration, it is possible for the industry, without incurring loss, to give a higher procurement price. So, the Government has suggested to the Jute Corporation of India and the Jute Corporation in its commercial judgment has agreed to fix Rs. 157.58 as the average procurement price per quintal of jute round the year. That shows that over and above the support price, something more can be given and has been given.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: The minister has clarified that Sir Francis formula is not applicable today. May I know whether any improvement has been made, any inputs or investment made by the Government of India to increase the jute production in the jute growing areas of India and if so, what is the rate of production per acre at the time of Sir Francis in 1940 and what it is now? The minister has also justified the saving of this industry particularly keeping in view its world competitiveness. Jute is the largest foreign exchange earner in our country. What special incentives would the Government of India like to give to revive this industry and also to give a fair price to the jute growers as has been given in a number of other

agricultural commodities whose products are exported like groundnut and cotton?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: The very fact that Government has decided through its agency to give higher procurement price than what was recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission and much higher than the ruling price shows Government's concern for the jute growers. We are also making assistance available to the industry through the market development fund and also for research and development. So, in different ways, we are helping the industry. The main question is to help the actual growers. That is why the Jute Corporation of India has increased the number of purchasing centres both at the primary level and at the secondary level, so that the Government stipulated procurement price can actually reach the jute growers. That is our objective and we are taking the necessary institutional measures to attain this objective.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: The prices of all essential commodities have gone up. So, the price mentioned by the minister is not adequate. So, I would like to know whether the Government of India is going to give directions to the Jute Corporation of India to purchase jute at the price of Rs. 80 per maund from West Bengal and other jute-growing States?

PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA: Raw material accounts for 55 per cent of the cost of production. Even at this price, our goods are unfavourably competitive already in the world market. While fixing the support prices the Agricultural Prices Commission have looked into, apart from the cost of production factor, also the international price situation. Without caring to look into that aspect, if we give a still higher price. It may be immediately beneficial but ultimately it would be ruining the industry. Secondly, already the Jute Corporation of India has decided to

purchase about 15 lakh bales of jute. Another quantity of 10 lakh bales is being purchased by the Indian Jute Mills Association. So, all this together constitutes one-third of the total production and all that will be purchased at the stipulated price on the average of Rs. 156. This is bound to have a salutary and sobering effect on the price situation so far as growers are concerned.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Safdarjang Airport mistaken for Palam Airport by the Crew of Japanese Airliner DC-8

*343. SHRI BAKSI NAYAK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Japanese Airliner DC-8 crew mistook Safdarjang Airport for Palam recently and as a result there could have been a major tragedy; and

(b) whether Government have investigated as to how such a mistake was likely to be committed by the Japanese crew?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Hon'ble Member perhaps has in mind the occasion when, on the 12th April, 1973, an aircraft of Japan Airlines made faulty approach for landing at Palam Airport which was monitored and rectified by our Air Traffic Control.

Shore Cottages contemplated to be built in States which have long Sea Shore

*344. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 24 shore cottages at a cost of Rs. 20 lakhs have been built at Mahabalipuram near Madras, and

(b) if so, whether similar cottages are contemplated to be built also in

other States which have long sea shore?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. 20 Cottages have been constructed by the I.T.D.C.:

(b) 40 cottages have also been built at Kovalam near Trivandrum. It is proposed to increase the number of cottages at Kovalam and to build 50 cottages at Goa during the Fifth Plan in the Central sector.

पालम हवाई अड्डे के निकटवर्ती गांवों को वहां से न हटाये जाने के कारण पालम हवाई अड्डे का विस्तार कार्य बन्द होना

*348. श्री श्रीकृष्ण श्यामल: क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या पालम हवाई अड्डे का विस्तार कार्य निकटवर्ती गांवों के वहां से न हटाये जाने के कारण बन्द पड़ा है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इन गांवों को वहां से दूसरी जगह बसाने में किन कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है और सरकार द्वारा इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री :
(डा० कर्ण सिंह) :

(क) से (ग) : दिल्ली हवाई अड्डे के विकास तथा विस्तार के लिए अपेक्षित भूमि के कुछ भागों का जो पहले से एक्वायर किये जा चुके हैं, कब्जा लेने के बारे में तथा कुछ अन्य भागों को एक्वायर करने के बारे में कुछ समस्याएँ उठ खड़ी हुई हैं। इन समस्याओं पर कुछ चर व छोटी-छोटी फैसलियाँ बनी हुई हैं। मामले पर तत्परता से कार्यवाही कर रही है।

New Decision of Foreign Banks in India regarding Savings Banks Account and Fixed Deposits

*351 SHRI C. CHITTIBABU:
SHRI SAMAR GUHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the latest decision of foreign banks in India like the National and Grindlays Bank and First City National Bank to impose a penalty if the minimum balance in savings account is below Rs. 500/- and also not to accept fixed deposits of less than Rs. 2500/-.

(b) if so, whether the permission of the Reserve Bank of India in this regard was necessary and whether such a permission was granted; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take prevent these banks from discouraging small savings?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c) According to the amendments to the savings bank rules of the National and Grindlays Bank Ltd., which come into effect from October 1, 1973, the minimum balance to be maintained in the accounts is Rs. 250/- and for accounts with cheque facility Rs. 500/-. Contravention of the rule will result in a service charge of Rs. 10/- per half year. The minimum balance for fixed deposit receipt has been raised to Rs. 2,500/-. The First National City Bank has prescribed minimum balance of Rs. 500/- on savings account, with service charge of Rs. 10/- per quarter for contravention. The minimum balance for fixed deposit is Rs. 5,000/- in this bank with effect from 1st April 1973. Permission of the Reserve Bank is not necessary for such amendments.

Excepting for the rate of interest on deposits, there are no other conditions imposed by the Reserve Bank on the operations of deposit accounts with commercial banks including

foreign banks. Moreover, it is open to the savings depositors, who are not in a position to comply with the conditions prescribed by these two banks to bank with other banks, particularly the Indian Banks.

वास्तविक उपभोक्ताओं द्वारा ऊनी चियड़ों का आयात

*352. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कितनी मिते ऊनी चियड़ों के आयात के लिए वारन्टिवि. उपभोक्ताओं की श्रेणी में आती है, और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने वास्तविक उपभोक्ताओं को ऊनी चियड़ों के आयात की अनुमति दे दी है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए. सी. जार्ज) :

(क) ऊनी चियड़ों के आयात के प्रयोग-अन्तर्गत-27 प्राधिकृत शाही वर्तन वास्तविक प्रयत्नताओं की श्रेणी में आते हैं।

(ख) जी हाँ।

Saving sought to be created by Economy Drive launched by Government at Central and State levels

*353. SHRI N. K. SANGHI:
SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched an economy drive at the Central level and have also asked the State Governments to live within their own means;

(b) if so, the total amount of saving that is sought to be created as a result of the drive and by stopping Central assistance to the State Governments, separately; and

(c) the different items under which economy will be introduced and whether all the State Governments have agreed to the above proposal, if not, the States, which have found it difficult to abide by the Central directive with reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). In order to control inflationary pressures in the economy a series of fiscal and monetary measures have already been taken by the Government. Simultaneously, steps are now being taken to effect economies in Government expenditure with a view to reduce the extent of deficit financing. In addition to economy measures already in force, further economies are now being introduced in the non-Plan expenditure of Government on contingencies, entertainment, travelling allowances, construction of non-functional buildings, maintenance of buildings and roads, holding of conferences and seminars, creation and filling up new and vacant posts, etc. Public Sector Undertakings are being instructed to introduce similar economy measures in their non-Plan expenditure, step up their internal resources, mobilisation and minimise their cash losses. State Governments has already been drawn to the present financial situation and the need for maintaining a strict balance between resources and expenditure. They have been advised that they will have to contain their total expenditure within available resources by necessary adjustments in their budgets.

In addition, it has been found necessary to effect economies in Plan expenditure as well. This will be done in such a manner that the progress of key projects and programmes which are essential and are in an advanced state of completion is not affected while projects and schemes which are not essential and will require relatively long period to mature will be slowed down.

The savings in Plan expenditure will be made up of certain savings

located in course of joint discussions with Ministries, savings under fund requirements for advance action for Fifth Plan, part of which has been adjusted in the normal Plan budget, savings under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Special Welfare, and Employment schemes and a reduction in the provision for Central Plan of various Ministries/Departments. As stated above, these savings in the Plan budget would be effected in such a manner that the progress of key projects and programmes of high priority are not adversely affected.

As a result of these steps it is expected that there would be a saving of about Rs. 300 crores in the provisions for non-Plan expenditure of the Central Government and the Central Plan including Centrally Sponsored schemes. A saving of Rs. 100 crores is also contemplated in the State Plans by economies in certain items which can be postponed for the time being. Thus, it is expected that there would be an aggregate reduction of about Rs. 400 crores in the expenditures of Central and State Governments taken together.

It will be for the State Governments to enforce and assess savings in their non-Plan expenditure. Regarding the proposed savings of about Rs. 100 crores in State Plans, which has been decided upon only very recently, the details are still being worked out. Hence, the question of any State Government finding it difficult to abide by this decision does not arise.

Steps taken by Jute Corporation of India to protect Raw Jute cultivations against undue depression of Prices

***354. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the specific steps taken by the Jute Corporation of India to protect raw jute cultivators against undue depression of prices in the current seasons when a bumper crop is expected.

(b) whether any statutory minimum price is going to be enforced in the primary markets; and

(c) whether the Jute Corporation will increase its share of the export trade also?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA):

(a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Exports are canalised through the Jute Corporation of India.

Statement

The jute Corporation of India plans to purchase 10 to 12 lakh bales as part of their commercial purchases and around 5 lakh bales for building up buffer stock. The Jute Corporation has worked out a scheme in conjunction with the industry for carrying purchase operations in as many primary and secondary markets as possible. Specific attention will be paid by the Jute Corporation in sensitive areas where, there has been intensive cultivation under improved methods as also in areas where due to transport difficulties prices have a tendency to sag. With a view to ensure remunerative prices to growers the jute Corporation will be paying adequate attention to proper grading

of marketed jute. The Jute Corporation will be utilising the cooperatives in its purchasing operations and where cooperatives are not available, the Departmental Purchasing Centres will be established.

Damage Caused by Birds to Indian Airlines Planes at Palam Aerodrome

***355. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether four Indian Airlines flights had been upset by birds at the Palam aerodrome, Delhi during recent months;

(b) if so, the extent of damage caused by the birds to the Indian Airlines Planes; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to eliminate the bird menace from this aerodrome?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c): Two bird hit incidents occurred near Palam causing damage to the leading edge of the wing of a Caravelle on 12th April, 1973 and to the leading edge of the wing of a Boeing 737 on 23rd June, 1973.

The following Indian Airlines flights were delayed due to bird nuisance near Palam:

Date	Service No.	Aircraft	Regn.	Remarks
14-7-73	IC-491 Delhi-Jaipur	Boeing 737	VT-EAJ	Delayed on take off point by 27 minutes.
2-8-73	IC-401 Delhi-Calcutta	Do.	VT-EAL	Take off abandoned due to birds on the runway. Aircraft took off 48 mts. late.
2-8-73	IC-459 Delhi-Gwalior	F-27	VT-DOL	Take off abandoned due to birds on the runway. Aircraft took off 40 mts. late.
2-8-73	IC-411 Delhi-Kanpur	Viscount	VT-DWJ	Aircraft returned due to bird nuisance. Took off 1:30 hrs. late.
2-8-73	IC-182 Delhi-Bombay	Caravelle	VT-DWN	Aircraft returned due to bird nuisance. Took off 1:18 hrs. late.
2-8-73	IC-421 Delhi-Chandigarh	Avro	VT-DXL	Aircraft returned due to bird nuisance. Took off 1:11 hrs. late.

Particular care is being taken to keep runways and taxi-ways clean and to properly dispose of garbage from the Flight Kitchens. The grass areas adjacent to the runways are being sprayed with special chemicals to kill insects which attract birds. The Cantonment Board has also been requested to shift its garbage dumping ground to a place far removed from the airport.

Review of Textile Policy to encourage Decentralised Sector in the handlooms as against Mill Sector

*356. SHRI P NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intend to undertake a review of the textile policy in order to so modify it as to encourage the decentralised sector in the handlooms as against the mill sector; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken towards this end?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA).

(a) and (b) Government intend to undertake a review of the textile policy in the context of formulation of the 5th Five Year Plan on the basis of reports submitted by the various Task Forces and Working Groups, including reports of the Working Group on Handlooms and Powerlooms and the Task Force on Handlooms.

Allegedly Illegal Transactions in Sale of Flats in Bombay Detected by Income-tax Authorities

*357 SHRI H M PATEL. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income-tax Authorities in Bombay recently unearthed a number of incidents involving illegal transactions running into crores of rupees in the sale of flats in skyscrapers; and

(b) what action, if any, has been taken against the persons concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) The Income-tax authorities in Bombay searched in April, 1973, a number of premises of promoters and builders of multi-storeyed buildings in Bombay who were engaged in construction activities. The constructions were not completed and only bookings of the flats were going on when searches were made. The purpose of the searches was to seize documents and other materials to establish illegal transactions involving money payments.

(b) All the cases of the persons involved have been centralised with one Income-tax Ward and the seized documents are under detailed scrutiny. Wherever found necessary, order u/s 132(5) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 have been passed retaining the unexplained seized assets. Further action as found necessary will be taken in accordance with law

Complaints against Tax Evaders Received by Income-tax Authorities

*358 SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of written complaints received upto 31st July, 1973 during current financial year by the Income-tax evaders of Delhi and New Delhi;

(b) the number of complaints which have been disposed of so far and the number of those in which investigations have been initiated together with the names of the concerned firms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) 399 written complaints of tax evasion were received by the Commissioners of Income-tax, New Delhi upto 31st July, 1973 during the current financial year.

(b) Enquiries have been initiated in all the cases and they are still in

progress. It is not in the interest of enquiry to disclose the names at this stage.

Alleged Attempt by Reserve Bank of India to create Chaos in Banking Transactions and Pass Blame to Tamil Nadu Bank Employees Federation

*359. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the 'Blitz' dated the 21st July, 1973 under the heading 'Stop this tyranny of banking tycoons'; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN)

(a) Government have seen the news item in the Blitz which relates to an industrial dispute in the Bank of Madura, a non-nationalised bank over the alleged victimisation of a large number of employees of the bank by the management.

(b) Following the intervention by the Central Industrial Relations Machinery a settlement has been reached on the dispute between the management of Bank of Madura and the Bank of Madura Employees Union/Tamil Nadu Bank Employees Federation on 11th July, 1973. As a result of the settlement, the Union has agreed to withdraw the agitation, and the management of the Bank of Madura has agreed to revoke the orders of suspension against about 347 employees and withdraw the show cause notices issued to about 250 workmen. The Clearing House at Madras has resumed normal functioning with effect from 12th July, 1973.

Exporters of handloom furnishing Fabrics reluctant to enter into Export Commitments due to uncertain position of Yarn supply

*360. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as reported by the 'Economic Times' in its issue dated 9th June, 1973, the exporters of handloom furnishing fabrics are reluctant to enter into export commitments despite good enquiries from abroad, due to uncertain position of yarn supply; and

(b) if so the steps taken to solve this problem?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) (a) At the time of the news report there were some complaints to the Handloom Export Promotion Council on this point.

(b) Although production of yarn had fallen as a result of power cuts, in a number of States, special arrangements were made under the Yarn Control Scheme to allot yarn of the required counts, against confirmed export orders. Power cuts having been lifted recently, production is now likely to improve and exporters should not find it difficult to get their requirements. Following the improvement in production, Government have relaxed distribution controls on yarn up to counts 40s.

Laying on the Table a Copy of the Draft of Fresh Agreement between India and Bangladesh

3372 KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will lay on the Table a copy of the new agreement which has been finalised in July, 1973 between India and Bangladesh; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and whether foodgrains will also be exported to Bangladesh?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (श्री A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). A new Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh was signed in Dacca on 5th July, 1973. The Trade Agreement which will come into force on 28th September, 1973, when the existing Trade Agreement will have expired, will be valid in the first instance, for a period of 3 years, extendable, by mutual consent, for a further period. A copy of the Trade Agreement, and the public Notice issued on July 16, 1973, on procedures for exports to and imports from Bangladesh have been placed in the Parliament Library.

2. The two Governments have also concluded a Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement covering import and export of specified commodities of special interest to the two countries to the extent of Rs. 30.5 crores each way. Details of the commodities included in the Arrangement are given in the statements laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT 5420/73]

3 Foodgrains, are not covered by the Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement. Permissible items not covered by the Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement, can be exported to Bangladesh under the normal Export and Foreign Exchange rules and regulations.

मध्य प्रदेश में वर्ष 1972-73 के दौरान पकड़ी गई तस्करी की वस्तुएं

3373. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित क्या बिल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि -

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में औद्योगिक अधिका-रियों द्वारा वर्ष 1972-73 में कौन कौन सी तस्करी की वस्तुएं कितनी मात्रा में बरामद की गई, और

(ख) इन अवधि में कितने तस्कर व्यापारियों को पकड़ा गया ?

विश्व संश्लेषण से प्राप्त तंबाकू (श्री के. ए. ए. यशेल) : (क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है और कक्षा पटल पर रख दी जायगी।

मध्य प्रदेश में पकड़ा और प्रेषण की वस्तुएं

3374. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या मध्य प्रदेश में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि -

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में मध्य प्रदेश रोडवेज के डिपॉजिट की प्रचालि व्यवस्था है ; और

(ख) किन-किन बाजारों में इन वस्तुओं की मांग बहुत अधिक है ?

मध्य प्रदेश में उद्योगों (श्री ए. सी. जर्ज) : (क) जी नहीं। मध्य प्रदेश की लकड़ी मध्य प्रदेश में नहीं पायी जाती। रोडवेज कहीं-कहीं पर होती है परन्तु बहुत ही धीरे उगती है और निर्यात बाजार के लिये उपयुक्त नहीं है।

(ख) जिन बाजारों में बड़ी मात्रा में इन मदों की आवश्यकता होती है, उन के नाम निम्नलिखित हैं

चन्दन की लकड़ी	रोडवेज
सूडान, इरान, सिंगापुर, जापान तथा अमेरिका।	जापान, इटली, जर्मन संघीय गणराज्य तथा वेनमार्क।

मध्य प्रदेश में बरहानपुर का पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकास करने का प्रस्ताव

3375. श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि -

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार मध्य प्रदेश में बरहानपुर को पर्यटन केन्द्र के रूप में विकसित करने का है ; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

महोदय श्री ए. सी. जर्ज : (क) और (ख) : जी, नहीं।

संविधानों के संशोधित होने के कारण, केन्द्रीय क्षेत्र में केवल खजुराहो, सांची, भोपाल तथा कांसू राष्ट्रीय स्तरों में ही पर्यटन सुविधाएं प्रदान की जा रही हैं।

मोदी इन्व्हेस्ट्मेंट लिमिटेड की धीरे धीरे-धरे की योजनाओं का स्थिति

3376. श्री सुनील कपूर (संविधान): क्या वित्त मंत्री 18 मई, 1972 के प्रस्तावित प्रश्न सं० 6783 के उत्तर में सचिव ने यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मैमबर्स मोदी इन्व्हेस्ट्मेंट लिमिटेड, मोदीनगर की धीरे धीरे आयकर की 7,77,000 रुपए की बकाया राशि को वसूल न करने के क्या कारण हैं, और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा बकाया धनराशि को वसूल करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है या करने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में 18 मई (शुक्र के० धार० मन्त्र) (क) और (ख) 19 मई, 1972 के लोक सभा प्रस्तावित प्रश्न सं० 6783 के उत्तर में किए गए व्याख्यान का संक्षिप्त रूप इस प्रकार है : यह बताया गया था कि 31 मार्च, 1972 को मैमबर्स मोदी इन्व्हेस्ट्मेंट लि० की धीरे 1,11,000 रु० (न कि 7,77,000 रु०) की रकम आयकर की बकाया के रूप में वसूली के लिए पड़ी थी। भारतीय महासंघ संविधान संशोधन के प्रादेश को प्रभाव में लाने के बाद यह रकम अब वसूल की जा चुकी है।

जुट मिलों के उत्पादन में विरोध

3377. श्री विजय कुमार (संविधान) : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पश्चिम बंगाल में जूट मिलों की संख्या में अब तक लगभग 8 करोड़ रुपए के अथवा उत्पादन में अति पर्याप्त है ;

(ख) क्या इस राशि में से पाब करोड़ रुपए की विदेशी मुद्रा का भी मुक्तान हुआ है, और

(ग) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जॉर्ज) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) विजय में कटौती की वजह से जून में जुलाई 1973 तक अनुमानित 4 करोड़ रु० की विदेशी मुद्रा की हानि हुई।

(ग) राज्य सरकार ने स्थिति को अन्तरी तरह समझ लिया है और वह आवश्यक उपचारमयक उपाय कर रही है।

कनाडा से ऋण के लिए करार

3378. श्री अनुसूतल चन्द्रकर : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या कनाडा भारत को 5 करोड़ डालर का ऋण देने को सहमत हो गया है,

(ख) क्या इस समझौते में पूर्व भी कनाडा के साथ एक अन्य समझौता किया गया था, और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इन दोनों समझौतों में ऋण की अदायगी की कमी क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री बलवन्तराव चव्हाण) :

(क) जी, हां 18 जुलाई, 1973 को ओटावा में 5 करोड़ कनाडी डालर के एक ऋण-करार पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे, जिसके अन्तर्गत 1973-74 की दो वर्ष की अवधि में कनाडा से वार्षिक ऋणों की धीरे उर्वरकों का आयात किया जाएगा।

(ख) जून, 1972 में 1972-74 की अवधि में आयात किए जाने के लिए 5 करोड़ कनाडी डालर के एक ऋण पर हस्ताक्षर किए गए थे।

(ग): ये ऋण 10 वर्ष की रियायती अवधि सहित 50 वर्षों में चुकाये जाने हैं और ये किसी प्रकार के व्याज, सेवा प्रभार अथवा बचनबद्धता प्रभारों से मुक्त है।

Sales Transactions by Public Sector Undertakings among themselves and with Government Departments

3379. SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the sales transactions by public sector undertakings among themselves and with Government Departments

and institutions during the last three years; and

(b) what proportion does it form of the total sales of the public undertakings during these years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). Government do not maintain such statistics as it comes under the day-to-day administration of the Public Enterprises. However, according to the Comptroller & Auditor General's Report for the years 1969-70 and 1970-71—Union Government (Commercial)—the information was as follows:

	1969-70 (in respect of 51 companies)	1970-71 (in respect of 64 companies)
(i) Total Sales	Rs. 479 crores	Rs. 520 crores
(ii) Sales to Govt. Departments (% age of total)	33%	25%
(iii) Sales to Public Sector Undertakings (% age of total)	35%	29%

Amount of loan granted by Agricultural Refinance Corporation to various Industries

3380. SHRI MARTAND SINGH. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan granted by the Agricultural Refinance Corporation to the various industries linked with Agricultural production during the last three years; and

(b) the progress made in this respect and with what result?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Agricultural Refinance Corporation is primarily a refinancing agency, providing financial assistance to eligible institutions, namely, Central Land Mortgage Banks, State Co-operative Banks and the scheduled commercial banks which are share holders of the Corporation. During

the three year period 1969-70 to 1972-73 the Corporation besides refinancing loans to agriculture, sanctioned refinance assistance of Rs. 170.50 lakhs in respect of tea and rubber plantations and fishery schemes which involve processing activities linked to agricultural production.

Proposal for Development of Places of Tourist Interest in Madhya Pradesh

3381 SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for the development of more places of Tourist interest in the State of Madhya Pradesh are under the consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the names of such places; and

(c) the amount sanctioned for the development of tourism in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years (year-wise)?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Not for the sent.

(c) Tourism schemes taken up in Madhya Pradesh during the last three years are as follows —

1. Kanha game sanctuary

(a) Electrification of Kanha (work completed)	2 51 000
(b) Water supply (work in progress)	1,00,000
(c) Provision of two minibuses (provided)	80,000
(d) Banasingha project and construction of ancillary at Kanha (work Completed)	1 11,000

2. Construction of youth hostel at Bhopal nearing completion 3 20 000

3. Khajuraho

(a) Repairs of tanks and purchase of land for caring (work completed)	1 00,000
(b) Expansion of travellers Lodge at Khajuraho by I P D C	20 00,000
(c) Water supply (work in progress)	7 46,000

4. Water supply at Sanchi (work in progress) 1 92 000

34,00,000

Maintaining Prices of Natural Rubber

3382 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) how far the different steps taken by Government have been successful in maintaining the prices of natural rubber at a reasonable level and prevent wide fluctuations in its price, and

(b) what is the prevailing prices in the market and the minimum price fixed by Government for natural rubber?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) As a result of deployment by Government of State Trading Corporation and the Government of Kerala in the Rubber Market for ensuring minimum notified prices to the small growers, the market prices have shown considerable improvement and are ranging near the level of notified prices although they are still slightly below the notified level. The decision by Government of India to facilitate export of Natural rubber also had a significant and salutary effect.

(b) The prices quoted in the market are for lot rubber only which comprises of RMA-Grad III IV and V rubber. The minimum notified prices for these grades are Rs 513 40, Rs 505 68 and Rs 496 86 respectively. The average notified price for lot rubber comprising of equal quantities of the three grades works out to Rs 505 31. As against this, the average market price of lot rubber was Rs 486 21, Rs 478 60, Rs 478 29 and Rs 482 96 during the months of April, May, June and July, 1973 respectively.

Payment of Bonus to Rubber Board Employees

3383 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether employees of the Rubber Board have demanded payment of Bonus

(b) what action has been taken by the Rubber Board in this connection; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes Sir

(b) and (c) The rubber Board have made certain proposals in this regard which are under consideration of the Government.

Compromise on Sale between India and European Common Market countries

3384. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Compromise on Jute, laboriously negotiated between India and the European Commission in May this year is not likely to be performed and adhered to by the E.C.M. countries;

(b) if so, what development have since followed in this regard and what objections have been raised to the performance thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction to these developments?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise. Following the negotiations held with the EEC in Brussels from 21st to 23rd May 1973 some understandings in regard to tariff and other concessions have been reached for the import of Jute goods from India by the EEC. The Agreement incorporating these understandings is being finalised.

Construction of Youth Hostels

3385. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have sanctioned the construction of 16 youth Hostels in the country;

(b) whether these Hostels will be constructed in State Capitals or in those towns and cities which have more Universities;

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh has been allotted one hostel or more than one keeping in view its biggest youth population;

(d) whether Varanasi city having three Universities, more than any other city in the Capital, will have any youth Hostel; and

(e) if so, the reasons for ignoring the claim?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. With the objective of encouraging both domestic and foreign youth travel, the Department of Tourism has formulated a scheme for the construction of Youth Hostels at 17 centres. Financial sanction has been issued in respect of 16 Youth Hostel projects, some of which are already completed and the remaining are at various stages of construction. The selection of the Centres has been made with due regard to the special interests of students in archaeology, trekking, mountaineering, modern architecture, beaches, etc. and include State Capitals and University towns.

(c) One Youth Hostel at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.47 lakhs is under construction at Nainital.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise, as the number of Universities located in a particular city is not the sole criterion for its selection as a Youth Hostel Centre. It is understood, however, that the State Government is considering the possibility of setting up a Youth Hostel in Varanasi in the Fifth Plan.

Special Assistance sought by Madhya Pradesh for completion of works in Drought-Affected Areas

3386. SHRI DHANSHAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh has requested the Central Government for special assistance outside the plan for completion of works in drought-affected areas; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Criteria for Imposing Ban on Import of Drugs

3387. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria generally followed by Government for banning imports of important drugs;

(b) whether import of Betapicoline produced by Messrs. Warner Hindustan and Prednisolone produced by Messrs. Jhon yeth has been banned; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to allow restricted imports of the two drugs either through the State Trading Corporation or direct by actual users?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The criteria generally followed for banning imports are domestic production and demand, quality and prices of indigenous products and foreign exchange availability.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. In terms of the import policy for 1973-74 period, import of Betanicoline is allowed on a restricted basis through S.T.C. Import of Prednisolone is allowed direct to actual users on a restricted basis.

Loans from Life Insurance Corporation for Setting up of Industries in Orissa

3388. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has given loans to different States for setting up of Industrial Estates;

(b) if so, the State-wise break up of such loans; and

(c) the reason for not extending such loans to Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) (a) and (b). L.I.C. advances loans for the setting up of industrial estates, to Cooperatives and public limited Companies on the guarantee of the State Government. The State-wise details of the loans advanced for this purpose upto 31st March, 1973 are given below:

State	Advanced upto 31-3-1973
(Rs. in Lakhs)	
Andhra Pradesh	21.98
Gujarat	98.39
Maharashtra	157.51
Rajasthan	4.10
Tamil Nadu	15.35
Total	297.33

Figures given above are provisional and subject to audit.

(c) The Government of Orissa has not approached the L.I.C. for grant of any loan for the setting up of Industrial Estates.

Adoption of Flexible Licensing Policy

3389. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: SHRI RAM PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Aid India Consortium has suggested to our country to adopt flexible licensing policies in industrial growth; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). India Consortium noted the accelerated industrial growth and expressed the hope that measures by Government to improve the investment climate through such steps as more flexible licensing policies would provide for sustained rapid industrial growth.

Hartal by Leather Traders in South India

3390. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the leather traders in South India observed two-day Hartal on 12th and 13th July, 1973 to focus the Centre's attention on the disastrous effect the quota system will have on the Industry;

(b) if so, whether the Executive Committee of the Southern India Merchants Association has pointed out to the Government of India that individual exporter would actually suffer up to 50 per cent although the cut announced was 10 per cent on skins and 20 per cent on hides;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) whether any changes are being made in view of their opposition and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Southern India Skin and Hide Merchants Association represented that the actual cut on individual exporters would work out to 45 per cent on the basis of best year's performance

(c) and (d) 20 per cent cut on hides and 10 per cent on skins has been imposed on the over-all exports during 1972 to fix the overall quota ceiling for 1973-74. The cut on the individual exporters is bound to be higher since their quota has been fixed on their best year's performance during the last five years. Originally the quota scheme was to have effect from 1st April 1973 but on representations from the leather trade, it has been made operative from 1st August, 1973 instead of 1st April, 1973. Out of the quotas fixed for each individual, for the year 1973-74, only 50 per cent will be released for export during the remaining period of the current year in

addition to the exports which have already been made during April-July, 1973.

Outstanding account of Entertainment Tax in U.P.

3391. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state what is the total sum of unrealised Entertainment tax in Uttar Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): The arrears of Entertainment and Betting Tax outstanding as at the end of 1971-72- are Rs. 17,000/-.

Report of Mr S. R. Allchin of U.N.E.S.C.O Regarding Development of Monuments in India

3392. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken into consideration the report of Mr. S R Allchin of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in regard to the development of monuments in India; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the Report and the reaction of the Government of India in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In his report presented in May 1969 he has made recommendations suggesting the lines on which places of archaeological interest can be developed to make them more attractive to tourists. The report also contains suggestions on developing wild life sanctuaries and entertainment for tourists, publication of literature on monuments, flood-lighting of monuments, etc. These recommendations have been taken into consideration while formulating schemes for cultural tourism.

रुस से अखबारी कागज का आयात

3393. श्री हुक्म चन्द कछवाय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि: चालू वित्त वर्ष में रुस से आयात न किये जाने वाले अखबारी कागज का भारतीय मुद्रा में क्या मूल्य है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : राज्य व्यापार निगम ने लगभग 960 लाख रु० मूल्य का अखबारी कागज आयात करने के लिये एक संविदा की है जिसकी सुपुर्दा जुलाई 1973 से मई 1974 तक की जानी है ।

Amount of Investment by Agricultural Re: Finance Corporation

3394. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the figures regarding the total amount of investment by Agricultural Refinance Corporation all over the country during the current plan; and

(b) the State-wise break-up of distribution of the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Agricultural Refinance Corporation disbursed through refinance Rs. 194.64 crores as financial assistances during the Fourth Plan upto the period ending June, 1973.

(b) the State-wise break-up of distribution as at the end of June 1973 is as follows:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Ste Union territory	Amount disbursed
Andhra Pradesh	2109.90
Assam	35.00
Bihar	404.86

I	2
Delhi	6.42
Gujarat	3461.05
Haryana	2069.87
Jammu & Kashmir	52.75
Kerala	241.50
Madhya Pradesh	666.24
Maharashtra	1783.18
Mysore	1214.59
Orissa	43.50
Punjab	2406.63
Rajasthan	378.04
Tamil Nadu	2206.46
Uttar pradesh	2363.83
West Bengal	19.50
TOTAL:-	19464.32

Export of Marine Products

3396. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports of marine products during last year viz., 1972-73, registered an increase in quantity and value over the corresponding period of 1971-72;

(b) if so, the total quantity and value of the export during 1972-73;

(c) whether all items of marine products or some of them recorded increase; and

(d) whether future prospects of export market are bright, and if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 38903 tonnes valued at Rs. 59.72 crores.

(c) Most items have recorded increase.

(d) Yes, Sir. Among the steps taken to increase exports are:

- (i) In addition to the 30 trawlers already approved for import, a further import of 50 more trawlers has been authorised;
- (ii) arrangements for provision of diesel oil for mechanised fishing boats at concessional rates are being made;
- (iii) the Marine Products Export Development Authority has been set up to coordinate all aspects of this industry, including marketing;
- (iv) intensive studies are being conducted in both traditional and new markets; and
- (v) new items of marine products are being identified for exploitation.

Repayment of Loans given to Foreign Countries

3397. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA Go-WDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of those countries which have taken loans from India;

(b) the time when these loans were given and the amount repaid so far including interest;

(c) whether India is getting back loans given to foreign countries according to the terms and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of the countries which are not repaying it regularly?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRA CHAVAN):

(a) Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

(b) The loans were given from 1964 to 1973 and the amount repaid so far, including interest, is Rs. 14.58 crores.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. However in the case of some credits to Bangladesh, the manner of payment of interest is being clarified at the request of that Government.

Request from Orissa Government for Finance for Construction of a Tourist Reception Centre in Orissa

3398. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa have requested the Centre to finance the construction of a Tourist Reception centre in Orissa on the pattern of Centres constructed at selected Tourist Centres of India; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b): A request to this effect has been received recently from the Government of Orissa, but because of extremely limited resources and the fact that the construction of a Tourist Reception Centre in Orissa has not been included in the Fourth Five Year Plan, it has not been possible for the Department of Tourism to implement the proposal. However, the India Tourism Development Corporation which operates Travellers' Lodges at Konarak and Bhubaneswar, is taking up the expansion of the Travellers' Lodge at Bhubaneswar by the addition of 25 double rooms to the existing 12 double rooms. The I.T.D.C. also plans to take over the Railway Hotel at Puri and expand its present capacity of 32 rooms by the addition of 40 double rooms.

Limit on the Working Hours of a Pilot in Indian Airlines

3399. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether contrary to the practice prevailing all over the World Indian Airlines has not laid down any limit

on the working hours of a pilot and sometimes a pilot has to fly an aircraft for 12 hours a day; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Flight and duty time limitations for line pilots in Indian Airlines which have been evolved in agreement with the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association are as follows:

		Jet pilots	Turbo-prop and piston engine pilots
		Hrs.	Hrs.
Flight Time	Daily	6	8
	Weekly	26	32
	Monthly	65	80
Duty Time	Daily	91	11

Increase in Export of Leather Footwear

3400 **SHRI RAJDEO SINGH:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether leather footwear export is rising year by year and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the countries which import leather footwear;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to encourage the production of leather footwear and to maintain the quality of export; and

(d) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Except for the year 1971-72, exports of leather footwear have been rising marginally. The increase has been due to market-

ing efforts made by the State Trading Corporation and other exporters.

(b) Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, France, G.D.R., Nepal, Switzerland, U.K., U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and Zambia,

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The broad outlines are:

(i) Exports of semi-processed hides and skins have been placed under quantitative restrictions, with one of the objectives to provide raw material to footwear industry at reasonable prices to provide

(ii) Research and Development in styles, design and material to meet requirements of fast changing fashions in the inter-national market.

(iii) Providing expert guidance on technical processes of production and usage of various materials and regular visits to factories, tanneries for in-process as well as final quality control.

(iv) Facility of advance payments for sending goods by rail to port towns for shipment.

(v) Market study for export, location of export potential and securing of export orders.

(vi) Encouraging small scale cottage sector fabricating units to joint together to form viable private limited companies and also to undertake mechanisation.

संश्लिष्ट रेशे बनाने वाली मिलें

3401. श्री बलराज प्रसाद : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय सूती मिलों और संश्लिष्ट रेशे बनाने वाली कितनी मिलें हैं

(ख) उन में से कितनी मिलें सरकार द्वारा अपने हाथ में ली गई हैं; और

(ग) क्या इस समय भी गैर सरकारी क्षम में कुछ मिलो की स्थिति अच्छी नहीं है; यदि हां, तो इन की संख्या कितनी क्या है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज): (क) से (ग) जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है और समा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

Manufacturers of Instrument Landing System Installed at Delhi Airport asked to send an expert to Study its working

3402. SHRI DHAN SHAH PRA-DHAN:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the British manufacturers of the controversial Instrument Landing System installed at Delhi Airport to send an expert to study its working; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the study?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The expert has confirmed that the Instrument Landing System is functioning normally.

मंडी (हिमाचल प्रदेश) में तैनात केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को परियोजना भत्ते का विवाद जाना

3403 श्री० नारायण चन्द पाराशर : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार के आयकर तथा हाकनार विभाग तथा पंजाब और चण्डीगढ़ के महा लेखापाल के कार्यालय के मंडी (हिमाचल प्रदेश) में तैनात कर्मचारियों को कोई परियोजना भत्ता दिया जाता है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस दर पर ;

(ग) क्या मंडी में तैनात केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग के कर्मचारियों को भी परियोजना भत्ता दिया जाता है ,

(घ) यदि हां, तो किस दर पर और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ङ) इस भेदभाव को दूर करने हेतु सरकार का क्या और कब कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कै० प्र० गणेश) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) श्रेणी IV वेतन का 22½ के कर्मचारी प्रतिशत ।
श्रेणी III के जो वेतन का 17½ कर्मचारी 550 प्रतिशत ।
रु० प्रति मास तक वेतन पाने हैं ।

जो राजपत्रित कर्म- वेतन का 12½
चारी 500 रु० प्रतिशत
प्रतिमास तक वेतन पाने हैं ।

जो कर्मचारी 551 रु० से 1410 रु० में 1750 रु० प्रतिमास प्रति मास वेतन पाने हैं ।

(ग) से (ङ) केन्द्रिय लोक निर्माण विभाग का कितना कोई कर्मचारी मंडी में तैनात नहीं है, इसलिए उनको परियोजना भत्ते की प्रदायगी का प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Harassment to Indian and Foreign Passengers by Taxi-Drivers at Palam Airport

3404. SHRI D. P. JADEJA:
SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Indian and Foreign passen-

gers at Palam Airport are harassed by the Taxi-Drivers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by Government to provide more Taxi facilities to the Indian and Foreign passengers at the Airport?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Complaints to this effect have been received from time to time.

(b) The International Airports Authority of India are taking firm steps to check the nuisance, including the following:

(i) Control of parking and movement of taxis inside the airport.

(ii) Discouraging touts and canvassing agents for taxis.

(iii) Checking every taxi leaving the airport.

(iv) Exercising vigilance over unauthorised private taxis

(c) The number of taxis available at the airport is considered to be adequate.

Manufacturing cost of Cotton Yarn of various counts.

3405 **SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the manufacturing of cotton yarn of various counts for the last three years, separately according to quality and variety, showing margin of profit of the manufacturers;

(b) whether such cotton yarn manufacturers are making huge extra profits and still demanding increase in the price of cotton yarn; and

(c) whether Government are taking any serious steps to stabilise the cotton yarn prices and if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c): Government have not undertaken any cost

study about cotton yarn and have therefore no information about the manufacturing cost of various counts of cotton yarn or the profits made by its manufacturers. The prices of cotton yarn have been controlled statutorily with effect from the 13th March, 1973. In view of the rise in the price of indigenous and imported cotton over the last few months and the increased levy of 40 per cent ad-valorem customs duty on foreign cotton with effect from 1st March, 1973, the producers of cotton yarn have been demanding an increase over the price fixed statutorily. No increase has, however, been allowed so far. Apart from the statutory control on price in force presently, no further step with regard to prices of cotton yarn is contemplated for the present.

Production of Cotton Yarn in the Country

3406 **SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state what steps his Ministry is taking to increase the production of cotton yarn in order to fulfill the total demand in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): Government had decided to license 2.5 million additional spindles during the Fourth plan period. Of these, permits have already been issued for 1.4 million spindles and permits for the remaining spindlage are expected to be issued during the remaining period of the Fourth Plan.

"Price-Freeze-Policy" on Essential Commodities

3407 **SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-DHURY:**
SHRI R. N. BARMAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare "Price-Freeze-Policy" on certain essential commodities in order

to check any further increase in prices of those commodities; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) and (b). The Government has been operating a system of price controls on selective basis so as to cover important commodities. The list is amended as and when considered necessary. Prices and distribution controls are supplemented by monetary, fiscal and other administrative measures designed to reduce excess liquidity in the economy, check speculation and augment availability, for example, through imports. Recently, steps have been taken to further tighten credit controls and effect economies in Government expenditure with a view to containing inflationary pressures.

Savings Bank Accounts in National and Grindlays Bank

3408. SHRI B K DASCHOW-DHURY
SHRI R N BARMAN

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a standard rule for all banks functioning in the country in the matter of Savings Bank Accounts;

(b) whether National and Grindlays Bank has a rule different from other banks in India, under which a minimum balance of Rs 500/- is to be maintained and if at any time the balance falls below Rs 500, interest is not admissible to the account holders and further a service charge of Rs 10/- is unilaterally deducted from such accounts, and

(c) whether Government propose to take steps in the matter and ask the National and Grindlays Bank to conform to the standard rules as followed by other banks under the direction of the Reserve Bank of India; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) According to the latest amendments to the Savings Bank Rule of the National & Grindlays Bank Ltd., which come into effect from October 1, 1973, the minimum balance to be maintained at all time is Rs. 250/-. Contravention of the rule will result in a service charge of Rs. 10/- per half year. Further, the minimum balance to be maintained at all times for the facility of a cheque book is Rs. 500/-. Contravention of the rule will result in a service charge of Rs. 10/- per half year. Interest will be allowed only on account bearing a minimum balance of Rs. 250/- throughout a calendar half year.

(c) Excepting for the rate of interest on deposits, there are no other conditions imposed by the Reserve Bank on the operation of deposit accounts with commercial banks including foreign banks

वर्ष 1973-74 के दौरान विदेशों को निर्यात किये जाने वाले सामान का मूल्य

3409 श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या बालिग्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वित्तीय वर्ष 1973-74 के दौरान अनुमानित कितने रुपये का सामान विदेशों को निर्यात किया जायेगा।

बालिग्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना में वर्ष 1973-74 के लिए 1900 करोड़ रुपये के निर्यात लक्ष्य की व्यवस्था की गई है। बालू वित्तीय वर्ष 1973-74 के लिए रखे गये निर्यात स्तर को प्राप्त करने के प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं।

Co-operation of Employees' Unions in Nationalised Banks re Curtailment in Expenditure of overtime Allowance

3410 SHRI N. K SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cooperation of the Employees Unions in the nationalised banks has been sought to curtail expenditure on Overtime Allowance in these banks; and

(b) if so, their reaction in this regard?

The Minister of FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRO CHAVAN): (a) The nationalised banks recognising that overtime payment could be curtailed only with the cooperation of employees, do seek the cooperation of Employees Unions, wherever there is response from the Unions.

(b) On the whole, the Unions at branch levels have not been very enthusiastic in regard to curtailment of overtime allowance.

Flow of Finance of Nationalised Banks into Small Scale Industries

3411. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the flow of finance of the nationalised banks into the small scale industries has not been very encouraging during the last three years as compared to the total disbursements of finance to the industries as a whole;

(b) if so, what has been the percentage of this assistance during this period for the small industrial units; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure better allocation of funds to this sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) As will be seen from the figures set out below, the outstanding advances of nationalised banks to small scale industries have been continuously increasing.

1507 LS-3.

As on the last Friday of	Outstanding advances of nationalised banks to small scale industries (Rs. Crores)
March 1970	198.72
March 1971	243.88
December 1971	263.03
March, 1972	283.69
December, 1972	315.34

(b) A complete time series for bank credit for large scale industries is not available. Such information as has been compiled by the Reserve Bank of India for March 1968 and for April 1972 for credit given by the nationalised banks to industrial sector as a whole and to small scale industries indicates that whereas in March 1968 credit to small scale industries constituted 10.7 per cent of the credit to industrial sector as a whole, in April 1972 the corresponding proportion increased to 17.7 per cent.

(c) Small scale industries are treated as a priority sector and it is the constant endeavour of the banks to enlarge the flow of funds into this sector

Purchase of non-ferrous metals by M.M.T.C. from foreign countries

3412. SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has asked the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation to explore the possibility of buying some non-ferrous metals from foreign countries;

(b) whether the Corporation has also been asked to aim at signing more long-term contracts for these non-ferrous metals as a possible safeguard against erratic behaviour of prices in world metal markets; and

(c) if so, the names of the countries in view with whom negotiations are proposed to be held on the above two lines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) The MMTC has already been entering into long-term contracts with foreign producers and suppliers for supply of non-ferrous metals.

(c) The MMTC has entered into long term contracts for supply of copper with Zambia and Peru; for high grade zinc ingots with Australia and Congo; for prime western zinc with Japan and for lead with Australia. They are also finalising a long term contract for nickel with Canada.

Proposal to discontinue air services linking Khowai, Kamalpur and Kailashahar in Tripura

3413. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to discontinue air services at present linking Khowai, Kamalpur and Kailashahar in Tripura; and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether these airfields serve an area which has no Railway link with the rest of the country; and

(c) if so, whether there is any shortage of aircraft which has prompted the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Handing over of U.S. Aid Buildings and other assets to Government of India

3414. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.S.A. has terminated its Aid programme to India and handed over to Government its building complex at New Delhi and other fixtures and equipment etc., elsewhere in the country;

(b) if so, the buildings, fixtures and equipment so handed over; and

(c) the use to which these are proposed to be put by Government?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c) No, Sir; U.S.A. has not terminated its aid programme to India. But, in the context of our selective approach towards foreign assistance and collaboration, US technical assistance to India has been restricted only to the Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative project upto the end of April 1974; technical assistance for the remaining projects ended on 30-6-1973, on their completion. In view of this, the strength of the USAID Mission in New Delhi has been considerably reduced.

Out of rupees from the grant portion of PL 480 funds which were made available to USAID from time to time to be held in trust and to be expended on meeting certain local costs of the USAID assistance programme in India USAID constructed a building complex in South Delhi and purchased certain quantities of equipment, furniture, etc.

The building, furniture, equipment, etc., therefore, belonged to the Government of India and their possession was to revert to the Government of India whenever they were no longer required for the use of USAID. USAID handed over possession to the Government of two portions of the building complex in February, 1973, and April, 1973 following the reduction in the strength of the USAID Mission in

New Delhi. These have been allotted by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Science and Technology. The USAID has intimated that the remaining portion would be handed over to the Government on 30th September, 1973.

The furniture, equipment, etc., in Delhi and elsewhere in the country have been taken over by the Government for use by the Ministries, projects, etc.

Trouble in Rupee Trade between India and Bangladesh

3415. SHRI H. M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rupee trade between India and Bangladesh has run into trouble;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c) The reference of the Hon'ble member is perhaps to the trade between India and Bangladesh under the Limited Payments Arrangement. No difficulties, as such, have cropped up in connection with the working of the Arrangement.

2. The working of the Trade Agreement and the Limited Payments Arrangements was reviewed in October, 1972, and in the first week of July, 1973. It was noted that considering the problems of internal transport, shipping limitations and procedural arrangements that had to be worked out for the first time after long years of absence of trade relationship between the two countries, the export performance of both the countries under the Limited Payments Arrangement was very satisfactory. In order to take effective and timely measures for removing transports

bottlenecks, the two Governments have decided to form a Joint Transport Co-ordination Committee.

News item entitled "Malpractices mount in Air Travelling Industry"

3416. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Sunday Standard" dated the 1st July, 1973 under the Caption "Malpractices mount in air travelling industry"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following measures have been taken to deal with the situation:—

- (i) Reduced return excursion fares have been introduced between U.S.A. and India and U.K. and India.
- (ii) Reduced youth fares have been introduced between India and France and India and Switzerland;
- (iii) A charter company has been established by Air-India for operation of charters at cheap fares;
- (iv) A new rule has been incorporated in the Aircraft Rules, 1937, whereby it is compulsory for airlines to file their tariffs with the Director General of Civil Aviation for approval;
- (v) A reservation has been placed on the relevant IATA Resolution which provides that

where tickets etc. are issued in India and paid for in Indian Rupees, no refund will be made in any country other than India and in any currency other than Indian Rupees.

Apart from the above measures, a close watch is being maintained by the International Air Transport Association enforcement organisation as well as our own governmental authorities concerned with the infringement of foreign exchange regulations.

Rewards to informers giving Information About Concealed Incomes

3417. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme to reward those who give relevant information leading to the disclosure of unaccounted money and the money on which income tax has been evaded; and if so, the main features thereof;

(b) whether the names of such informers or complainants are kept absolutely secret to avoid enmity between the tax evaders and such informers; and if not, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether in some cases investigating Income-tax Authorities in collusion with the tax evaders do not proceed in the matter on the basis of the clues supplied to them by informers; and

(d) the authority of the officer whom the informer or the complainant should contact in the Income-tax office at later stage to supply more authentic information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Rules for grant of rewards have been revised with effect from 1-7-1973 to cover persons who furnish information regarding evasion of Wealth-tax and Estate Duty also. Under the

Revised Reward Rules there is no distinction in the grant of rewards to informants giving information regarding evasion of Income-tax, Wealth-tax and Estate Duty. Generally, the maximum reward payable is 10 per cent of the extra income tax, wealth-tax and estate duty levied and actually realised, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 25,000/-; but this limit of Rs. 25,000/- will not be applicable in cases where the information directly leads to detection of some undisclosed tangible assets, the value of which is included in the assessment as a result of information furnished and the inclusion if disputed, is upheld finally in appeal.

(b) The names of the informers are kept secret.

(c) Whenever any such complaint is received, the same is investigated and appropriate action is taken.

(d) Any officer of the Income-tax Department not below the rank of an Income-tax Officer including the officers of the Intelligence Wing of the Income-tax Department can be contacted to give authentic information about tax evasion.

Penalty for evasion of Income-Tax

3418: SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether regular cases of assessment of Income-tax are given preference over the cases which are brought to the notice of Government by the Informers; and if so, the reasons therefore;

(b) the steps taken to ensure that thorough investigations are made by checking the bank balances, lockers, movable and immovable property of the reported tax evaders and by raiding the premises of their houses, godowns and shops simultaneously; and

(c) the amount of penalty in addition to income-tax imposed on those who are found guilty of tax evasion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. K. GANESH): (a) Income tax assessments have to be made in the normal course in respect of all types of cases in order to enable the Government to collect revenue. The cases brought to the notice of Government by informers are also processed along with the regular assessments and sometimes separately, if expeditious investigation is found necessary.

(b) Searches u/s 132 of the Income-Tax Act, 1961 can be made only when the Commissioner of Income-Tax is fully satisfied about the necessity of search and where he has reason to believe on the basis of information available that such a course of action is necessary and expedient. However, bank accounts and acquisition of movable and immovable properties of all assessees are checked in the course of normal assessments.

(c) Penalty for concealment of income is levied u/s 271 (1) (c) of the Income-Tax Act, 1961. The law as it stands at present provides that in cases of concealment of income the penalty will be a sum which shall not be less than but which shall not exceed twice the amount of income concealed.

Security arrangements at Delhi.. Airport

**3419. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:**

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been invited to the news item captioned "Delhi Airport Security Set-up unsatisfactory" which appeared in the Indian Express dated the 24th July, 1973 to the effect that security arrangements continue to be far from satisfactory at Delhi Airport; and

(b) if so, the reactions of Government thereto and the specific steps

taken to ensure tight security arrangements there?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b) With a view to strengthen the security arrangements, the Central Industrial Security Force has been inducted at Delhi Airport from the 10th August, 1973.

Decline in Profits and Deterioration in Service to Customs of Nationalised Banks.

**3420. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR:
SHRI P. M. MEHTA:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any review of the working of nationalised banks at the nationalisation anniversary of banks this year;

(b) whether the nationalised banks showed decline in profit and the services to the customers have been far from satisfactory; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure their smooth working and courteous and quick service to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) The functioning of the nationalised banks is being reviewed on a continuing basis both by the Government and the Reserve Bank of India. Such reviews cover all aspects of the performance of those banks.

(b) and (c) Aggregate net profits of the 14 nationalised banks, after payment of bonus, in the year 1972 were lower than the corresponding profits of the year 1971, mainly due to the general deceleration in the credit to commercial sector, and the increase in expenses due to rapid branch expansion and development of new services for small borrowers.

There is a constant endeavour on the part of the banks to improve

customer service and to tone up general efficiency. Some of the steps taken in this direction are: suitably changing the scope and content of the training programmes with a view to giving a proper reorientation to the staff towards the credit requirements of the small borrowers, recruitment of technically qualified staff to assist in the formulation as well as supervision of implementation of viable programmes in the field of agriculture, small scale industries etc., simplification of forms and procedures and decentralisation of the administrative structure with a view to providing for greater delegation of powers at regional and branch level.

Steps to prevent improper use of imported woollen rags

3421. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 909 on the 27th July, 1973 regarding permission to S.T.C. to resume import of woollen rags and state the steps taken by Government to prevent recurrence of the improper use of imported woollen rags?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): The following steps have been taken by Government to prevent recurrence of the improper use of imported woollen rags:—

- (i) The rags shall be mutilated abroad before shipment.
- (ii) The overall percentage of wool content in a bale shall not be less than 60 per cent.
- (iii) Central Board of Excise and Customs have devised a procedure to ensure that the imported rags are actually mutilated.

Introduction of Delhi-Lucknow-Patna Gauhati service of Indian Airlines

3422. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Gauhati service of the Indian Airlines; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Recognition to All India Bank of Baroda Employees Federation

3423. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether efforts are being made to pressurise Government to reverse their decision to accord recognition to the All India Bank of Baroda Employees Federation; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). As recognition to Unions is given only by the Management concerned, there is no question of any pressure being brought on the Government to reverse their decision to accord recognition to any Union. The Bank of Baroda, which has accorded recognition to the All India Bank of Baroda Employees Federation as the sole collective bargaining agent for the workmen employees of the bank, has reported that the All India Bank of Baroda Employees Coordination Committee affiliated to the All India Bank Employees Association are carrying on an agitation in the bank with the demand that the bank Management should also negotiate with them on All India issues as was being done hitherto.

Foreign Exchange Required to Meet Current Year's Imports

3424. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE:

SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what will be the amount of foreign exchange that will be needed for the increased imports during the year; and

(b) what concrete steps are taken to improve the foreign exchange position?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) Substantial amounts of foreign exchange are likely to be needed for increased imports during the current year. While it is not possible to furnish precise estimates in this regard, the increase in the import bill for the current financial year may be of the order of about Rs. 600 to Rs. 700 crores as compared to the last year.

(b) The Import Policy for the current year is designed to step up exports and to economise on non-essential imports. The export promotion measures include supply of imported raw materials through replenishment licensing, removal of capacity constraints and stepping up of export production, abolition/reduction of export duties where justified, (Export duty on primary carpet backing was reduced in mid-June) and grant of drawbacks of import and excise duties. The scope of export obligations has been extended. Institutional support for export promotion has been progressively strengthened.

Steps to improve working of Ashoka and Akbar Hotels

3425. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hotels in the public sector, like Ashoka and Akbar, have failed to show profits and provide substantial foreign exchange; and

(b) if so, what steps are taken to improve their situation?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) The Ashoka Hotel in New Delhi has been making a profit consistently for the last several years including a substantial earning of foreign exchange. Akbar Hotel in New Delhi which commenced operations on 27-1-1972 is expected to make a profit during 1972-73.

(b) Continuous efforts are made to increase efficiency and provide still better standards of service

Memorandum by Bombay Labour Union regarding likely retrenchment of employees of Book Houses after take over of import of Scientific, Technical Journals and Books

3426. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representative of the Bombay Labour Union have submitted a memorandum, drawing the attention of Government to the likely retrenchment of employees of Book Houses after the take-over of import of Scientific, Technical Journals and Books; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to ensure that employees of Book Houses are not rendered jobless

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided that the S.T.C. should arrange import of technical and educational books required by the Universities, Libraries and Educational institutions. The import of these books by the STC will constitute only 5 per cent to 10 per cent of the existing imports which is also equal to the annual growth rate in the import of books. The import of books is, therefore, not likely to affect adversely the employment of workers in the Book Houses in the country.

Cases of transfer of property for apparent consideration much below the fair market value.

3427. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA; SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KOKODKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that in a number of cases properties exceeding Rs. 25,000 in fair market value have been transferred to other persons for consideration much below that;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected by Government and the names of persons and firms concerned; and

(c) the action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). Apparently the Hon'ble Member is referring to the provisions contained in Chapter XXA of the Income-tax Act, 1961, inserted by the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Act, 1972. In terms of these provisions the Central Government is empowered to acquire immovable properties having fair market value exceeding Rs. 25,000/- in certain circumstances. The proceedings can be initiated by Assistant Commissioners of Income-tax who are designated as Competent Authorities, in cases where the consideration declared in the instrument of transfer, by way of sale of or exchange, is less than the estimated fair market value of the property by more than 15 per cent. The proceedings are initiated by the publication of notice in the Gazette.

Proceedings initiated by Competent Authorities by notice in the Gazette upto 21st July, 1973, are pending in 663 cases.

The names of the persons concerned are available in Part III—Section I of the Gazette of India.

Finalisation of Export by J.R.D. Tata Committee appointed to Review the functioning of Civil Aviation Department

**3428. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:
SHRI VEKARIA:**

Will the Minister of **TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION** be pleased to

state the time likely to be taken to finalise its report by the Committee appointed under the Chairmanship of Shri J. R. D. Tata to review the functioning of Civil Aviation Department?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): The Committee is expected to report to Government by the 31st October, 1973.

Action taken against Income Tax Evaders

3429. SHRI JAGANANTH MISHRA: Will the Minister of **FINANCE** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income-tax Department had launched a special drive against Income-tax evaders during 1972-73;

(b) if so, the number of cases detected by the Department till the end of June, 1973; and

(c) the action taken by Government against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. Ganesh): (a) and (b). The measures to unearth concealed income were intensified during 1972-73. During 1972-73 and upto the end of June, 1973, searches and seizures were conducted in a large number of cases and prosecutions were approved launched as indicated below:—

	1972-73	1973-74 (Upto June 1973)
No. of searches made	532	124
Value of assets seized (in lakhs of rupees)	454	95
No. of prosecutions approved	50	21
No. of prosecutions launched	30	3

(c) In search cases, the seized materials are scrutinised and action is

taken according to law. Prosecutions launched are being pursued.

Increase in credit facilities to weaker sectors of economy

3430 SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined factors which have checked the expansion of credit in the weaker sectors of the economy; and

(b) if so, what are the factors and what is proposed to be done to increase the credit facilities to weaker sectors of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Since nationalisation, bank credit to the priority sectors has steadily increased. At the end of September, 1972, the advances of all the scheduled commercial banks to the priority sectors stood at Rs. 1,238 crores, of which Rs. 1,080 crores is by the public sector banks. During 1971-72 however, the rate of growth of advances to these sectors showed a fall because of organisational constraints as well as the slack in the industrial sector which affected the small-scale sector also. Banks initiated necessary action to get over the organisational constraints through increased recruitment, particularly of technical officers, augmentation of training facilities, greater delegation of powers to regional and branch levels and setting up of development cells in the head offices as well as at the field levels. As a result, by the end of December 1972, the advances of public sector banks to the priority sectors has gone upto about Rs. 1,150 crores.

Steps to improve Air Services in Internal and International Arena

3431. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to improve the air services in the country both

in the internal as well as international arena;

(b) by what time the services which have been discontinued, will be able to resume regular flights; and

(c) what is the total loss to Indian Airlines and Air India due to strikes, discontinuation of services and other reasons during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c). Improvement in the working of the major undertakings like Indian Airlines is a continuous process and all feasible steps are being taken in this direction to the extent possible. Indian Airlines have decided to obtain three Caravelles on 'dry lease' for a period of 18 months which are expected to be put into operation during October/November, 1973 restoring some of the services curtailed. On account of reduction in capacity, the loss in revenue to Indian Airlines is expected to be of the order of Rs. 80 lakhs per month. Due to a one day strike of loaders at Bombay, Indian Airlines expect a further loss of Rs. 80,000. Air-India incurred a loss of Rs. 42.43 lakhs approximately on account of refusal of its pilots to operate certain Boeing-747 flights from 15th to 20th June, 1973.

Proposed Amendment in Reserve Bank of India Act

3432. SHRI P. GANGADEB: SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act;

(b) if so, the amendments proposed to be made; and

(c) the reasons for the amendments and the useful purpose that would be served by them?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) to (c). A proposal to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 is presently under consideration of Government. The amending Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons, will be introduced in Parliament after it has been finalised.

Allegedly faulty working of clearing Departments of Nationalised Banks

3434. SHRI R. K. SINHA:
SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been invited to the news-item which appeared in the 'Economic Times' dated the 22nd July, 1973 under the heading "Faulty clearing leads to fraud"; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) and (b). Government has seen the news item referred to. In this connection, the Reserve Bank of India has reported that in October 1972 a fraud involving about Rs. 13 lakhs committed by an employee of the Central Bank of India was detected in the inward clearing department of the Bombay Office of the Central Bank of India and that a sum of Rs. 6.5 lakhs has been recovered from the employee concerned. The Central Bank has reported the matter to the Central Bureau of Investigation. In this connection two employees of the Bank are reported to have been taken into police custody and later released on bail. The investigations by Central Bureau of Investigation has not yet concluded.

Decision on Disposal of PL 480 Funds

3435. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to

refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 90 on the 27th July, 1973 regarding disposal of PL 480 funds in India and state the time likely to be taken in taking a decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
The matter is under discussion with the U.S. authorities and it is hoped that it will be possible to reach a settlement soon.

Composition of the Committee set up to work out Export Strategy for Fifth Plan

3436. SHRI R. K. SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a high-powered Committee to work out an export strategy for the Fifth Plan; and

(b) if so, the composition and the main functions thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition of the Group set up for recommending a long term export strategy for the Fifth Five Year Plan and beyond is as follows:—

- (1) Prof. S. Chakravarty, Member Planning Commission.—*Chairman*
- (2) Shri Y. T. Shah, Commerce Secretary.—*Vice-Chairman*
- (3) Shri M. Narasimhan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Deptt. of Economic Affairs.—*Member*
- (4) Shri A. P. V. Krishnan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of expenditure.—*Member*

- (5) Dr. Manmohan Singh, Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs—Member.
- (6) Prof. G. R. Kulkarni, Director General, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi—Member.
- (7) Shri Keshub Mahindra, Bombay—Member.
- (8) Shri A. N. Haksar, Calcutta.—Member.
- (9) Prof. D. T. Lakdawala,) Director, Department of Economics, University of Bombay—Member.
- (10) Dr. K. S. Gill, Economic Adviser, Planning Commission.—Member.
- (11) Dr. Arjun Sen Gupta, Economic Adviser (Designate), Ministry of Commerce—Member Secretary.

The main function of the Group is to study in depth and recommend a practical long term strategy for attaining the national export objective.

Demand for Central assistance by Bihar for drought affected areas

3437. SHRI CHIRANJIB JHA;
SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD
VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have sent an S.O.S. to the Central Government for an immediate assistance to the tune of Rs. 10 crores to fight the drought affecting about three crores of people in the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the request of the State Government, a Central team of

officers has visited the State to assess the drought situation. Its report is awaited. Central assistance will be released to the State Government on the basis of the team's recommendations and after taking into account the progress of actual expenditure.

Incident at Hyderabad Local Head Office of State Bank of India

3438. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what happened at the Hyderabad Local Head Office of the State Bank of India on the 28th June, 1973;

(b) whether the Police was called in the premises and whether any damage was done to the Bank's property;

(c) whether the Secretary and Office bearers of the recognised union were suspended for riotous and disorderly behaviour and if so, how and on what terms the agreement was reached and the suspended employees were reinstated on the 7th July, 1973; and

(d) whether the Bank has received any compensation for the damage done to the property?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) The State Bank of India has reported that a demonstration was held on 28th June, 1973 at its Local Head Office, Hyderabad by certain employees of the bank in protest against the refusal of the management to suspend some employees at the bank's Vijayawada branch, who had been reported to have beaten up an employee of that branch.

(b) The bank arranged for police protection on the 29th June apprehending that the agitation by the employees would continue. It is reported by the bank that during the demonstration on that day, a glass-door and a few other items of furniture were damaged.

(c) The Secretary and three other office bearers of the Union were sus-

pended by the bank on 30th June, 1973. The union gave a call for indefinite strike commencing from the 30th June, 1973. The suspension of the four employees was lifted and the strike was called off on 8th July, 1973 as a result of the bilateral negotiations with All India State Bank of India Staff Federation, to which the local union was affiliated. As a result of the negotiations, the following procedure to prevent stoppage of normal work by employees was arrived at:

(i) There will be Joint Forums at the levels of Local Head Offices and Central Office and all disputes which are likely to result in stoppage of normal work would first be discussed and thrashed out at such forums.

(ii) Until and unless the matters are thrashed out in the Joint Forums, Federation and or its affiliated unions would refrain from taking any form of trade union action resulting in the stoppage of the bank's normal work.

(iii) Suspension of an Office bearer of the recognised union for any act of misconduct will be preceded by prior consultation with the Federation/Circle Union except where suspension is connected with the bank's operations and or Trade Union action resorted to without the issue having been processed through the Joint Forum.

(d) The bank has reported that it has not received any compensation for the damage done to its property.

Opening of New Branches of Nationalised Banks in Rural Areas of Maharashtra

3439. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the nationalised banks have sanctioned opening of their new Branches in rural areas in the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not opening such Branches so far especially in Akola, Parner and Loni in Ahmednagar District?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Bank of India is having offices at Parner and Akola in Ahmednagar District and the Central Bank of India is holding licences for opening of offices at Akola and Loni.

Permission to Private Companies for Running Air Services in Maharashtra

3440. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government have received proposals from the Maharashtra Government to provide necessary permission and facilities to provide Companies for running air services *inter se* various district headquarters in the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision on such proposals and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) An application from M/s. Aerial Operators Private Ltd. to operate air transport services within the State was recommended by the Government of Maharashtra.

(b) The applicant did not fulfil even the minimum requirements laid down in Schedule XI to the Aircraft Rules, 1937 and was therefore informed that his application could not be considered till such time as the requirements were fulfilled by him to the satisfaction of the DGCA.

Grant of Cash Assistance to Compensate for Air Freight against Export of Finished Leather etc.

3441. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the date on which the decision regarding the grant of cash assistance to compensate for air freight during 1972-73 against export of finished leather, leather manufactures, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables and fresh flowers was announced and how this decision was made known to the persons concerned;

(b) the total quantity and value of exports of each of the aforesaid items during 1972-73; and

(c) the names and addresses of exporters of these items who were paid cash assistance for exports during the said period and the total amount of cash assistance paid to each of them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The decision regarding grant of cash assistance to compensate for air freight during 1972-73 against exports of finished leather and leather manufactures was announced on the 10th April, 1972, and made known through Secretary, Export Promotion Council for Finished Leather & Leather Manufactures Kanpur, to all concerned and decision in respect exports of fresh fruits, fresh vegetables and fresh flowers to U.K. Western Europe and Japan was announced on the 20th April, 1972 and made known through the Joint Director (Export Promotion), Bombay, to all concerned.

(b) and (c). The information is not readily available and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

Medium and Short Term loans Advanced to Agriculturists by Nationalised Banks in Maharashtra

3442. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of medium and short term loans advanced to agriculturists in the State of Maharashtra by the nationalised banks during the last 3 years;

(b) the total amount of loans recovered so far and the balance outstanding; and

(c) the mode of recovery to be adopted by the nationalised banks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Separate figures of medium and short term advances by public sector/nationalised banks for Maharashtra State are not available for the period ending June, 1969. The direct agricultural advances by public sector banks in Maharashtra State, which stood at Rs. 8.34 crores as at the end of June, 1969 have, as at the end of September, 1972 risen to Rs. 47.40 crores of which Rs. 32.25 crores is medium term and Rs. 15.15 crores is short term. The figures as at the end of September 1972, include outstandings of Rs. 40.15 crores (medium term Rs. 27.72 crores and short term Rs. 12.43 crores) advanced by nationalised banks.

(b) In Maharashtra State, as at the end of June, 1972 the public sector banks recovered Rs. 11.35 crores against a demand of Rs. 26.41 crores with overdues of Rs. 15.06 crores. These figures include recovery of Rs. 9.12 crores against demand of Rs. 21.15 crores made by the nationalised banks with overdues of Rs. 12.03 crores.

(c) The mode of recovery would include issue of notices including legal notices, persuasion through personal contacts and resorting to legal remedies, where necessary.

Proposal to Develop New Tourist Centres in Maharashtra

3443. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop new Tourist Centres in the State of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the names and location of such Centres and the extent of financial assistance proposed to be given

by the Central Government particularly to the Tourist Centres in Ahmednagar District?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Not for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Coffee

3444. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: DR. LAXMINARAIN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries to which Coffee is mainly exported;

(b) the value of the Coffee exported directly and through the International Coffee Organisation by the Coffee Board during 1972-73; and

(c) the steps taken to make coffee more popular and to expand its indigenous as well as foreign market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The East European Countries, the European Economic Community and the USA are the major countries importing Indian Coffee.

(b) The total value of coffee exported from India during the fiscal year 1972-73 is Rs. 32.84 crores covering a total quantity of 48,128 tonnes.

The value of coffee exports to the Quota Countries under the quota fixed by the International Coffee Organisation amounted to Rs. 20.33 crores covering a quantity of 26,678 tonnes.

The value of coffee exports to the non-quota countries during 1972-73 amounted to Rs. 12.51 crores covering a quantity of 21,450 tonnes.

(c) The Coffee Board has allocated for export about 52,000 tonnes out of the crop of season 1972-73. Almost an equal quantity is expected to be allocated for export out of the coming crop also (crop of 1973-74) which will

be available for marketing from about January/February, 1974.

As regards steps for making coffee more popular and to expand the domestic and foreign markets, the Coffee Board has under examination certain crash programmes for promoting sale of coffee in the internal market. The Board has also recently constituted a Market Evaluation Committee to analyse the trends of consumption and the various measures to be taken for promoting the consumption of coffee in India.

In regard to the promotion of Indian coffee in the foreign markets, the campaigns so far were confined to advertisements in the leading journals in foreign countries in order to project the image of Indian coffee. The Coffee Board has also been participating in important fairs in foreign countries like the Poznan Trade Fair, Leipzig Fair, etc. by sending exhibits and samples. The Coffee Board is at present thinking of conducting a Market Survey abroad through the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in view of the abolition of the export quotas by the International Coffee Council, and the possibilities of expansion of the markets for Indian coffee abroad.

India's Trade with Cuba

3445. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's trade with Cuba is negligible; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to improve trade relations with Cuba?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As with other Latin American countries, the chief bottleneck in our developing trade with Cuba is the vast distance and the lack of adequate shipping facilities between the two countries. Apart from this, the principle commodities offered for sale

by Cuba are not of much import interest to India. However, Government are trying to increase trade with Cuba as far as possible.

Allotment of Imported Cars to State Governments by S.T.C.

3446. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) how many imported cars have been received by the S.T.C. from the various sources during the last two years; and

(b) how many of them have been allotted to different States for the use of Ministers and other Government purposes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEARGE). (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is possible.

Allotment of Imported Cars for purpose of Tourism

3447. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether new cars are being imported for the purpose of Tourism and given exclusively to the I.T.D.C;

(b) whether the private operators who have so far successfully been doing the transportation of Tourists have not been given any benefit of such direct import and have been asked to use four to six years old cars as against the new cars allotted to the I.T.D.C.; and

(c) whether the private operators have now been asked to return the cars at a depreciated value, thus rendering their business uneconomical and if so, whether the Department of Tourism has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Finance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) In the past, the I.T.D.C., was permitted to import new cars, for augmenting transport facilities for tourists where these were inadequate. Of late, no import of vehicles have been permitted in favour of private operators as a matter of general policy, but private operators are allowed to import spare parts for maintenance of ex-STC vehicles allotted to them.

(b) Vehicles which are less than five years old are made available by the State Trading Corporation to private operators through the Department of Tourism

(c) Since the S.T.C. makes the vehicles available on a top priority basis to tourist car operators at prices substantially below the market reserve price, one of the conditions imposed by the S.T.C. is that the vehicles should first be offered to S.T.C. for re-sale according to their normal depreciation formula

Foreign Aid Offered by Japan

3448 SHRI S. A. MURUGANARATHAN:

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) what is the total amount of foreign aid offered by Japan to India;

(b) how much of this aid has been received; and

(c) the purpose for which Japanese aid has been sought?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). Excluding the current financial year 1973-74 the total amount of aid offered by Japan to India is Yen 275.844 Billion (Rs. 662.03 crores) and of this amount agreements have so far been signed for Yen 275.574 Billion (Rs. 661.38 Crores), leaving a small balance of Yen 0.270 Billion (Rs. 0.65 crore) which is earmarked for meeting the requirements of the Bombay High Project of the Oil & Natural Gas Commission.

For the current financial year 1973-74, the Government of Japan offered at the Aid India Consortium Meeting held in June, 1973, a sum of approximately Yen 15 Billion (Rs. 36 Crores) as debt relief and a sum of Yen 7 Billion (Rs. 16.8 Crores) as non-project assistance. The non-project assistance will be utilised for import of steel, fertilizers, chemicals, components, spares etc. from Japan. Negotiations are continuing between the two Governments for translating this offer into specific loan agreements.

Discussions are also in progress between the two Governments for project aid from Japan during the current year 1973-74 for financing the foreign exchange costs of some new fertiliser plants proposed to be set up during the Fifth Plan.

Booking of Policies by L.I.C. for Non-Existent Persons in U.P.

3449 SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some instances have come to light wherein Life Insurance policies were booked for non-existent persons in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the culprits?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of preliminary enquiry, regular departmental action is being taken against the employees concerned.

नवम्बर 1972 में कपड़े के नए मूल्य निर्धारित करने के परिणामस्वरूप कपड़ा मिलों को हुई हानि और लाभ

3450. श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या कपड़े की नई दरे नवम्बर, 1972 में निर्धारित की गई थी ;

(ख) क्या मलों के इस पुनर्निर्माण के फलस्वरूप गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र की कपड़ा मिलों को लाभ हुआ है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कितना ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० सी० जाधव) : (क) जी नहीं। परन्तु 20-7-73 से मिल निर्मित सूती कपड़े के लिये एक स्वीच्छिक कीमत निर्धारण योजना लागू की गई है। यह मोटे तथा मध्यम श्रेणी के उन श्रेणियों को छोड़ कर, जिन पर पहले ही कानूनी कीमत निर्धारण है, सभी पहनने योग्य किस्मों पर लागू होती है। इस कपड़े की कीमतों की उच्चतम सीमा नवम्बर, 1972 की कीमतों के अनुसार रखी गयी है और इसी नवम्बर, 1972 के बाद उत्पादन साधनों की लागत में हुई वृद्धि को पूरा करने के लिये 10 प्रतिशत और जोड़ा जाता है।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उत्तर।

राष्ट्रीयकरण के समय राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा दिये गये ऋणों की बकाया राशि

3451. श्री शंकर बहाल सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राष्ट्रीयकरण के समय राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा दिये गये ऋणों की बकाया राशि कितनी थी,

(ख) उस राशि में से अब तक कितनी राशि वसूल हुई है ; और

(ग) अभी तक देश में या सब सबसे बड़े कर्जदार संस्थान या व्यक्ति कौन है और उससे ऋण वसूल करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी) : (क) राष्ट्रीयकरण

की संख्या की 14 राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों के बकाया अधिम की कुल राशि 1839 करोड़ रुपये थी।

(ख) बैंकिंग अधिनियमों का देना और उनकी पुनः अद्ययावत एक समाचार चलने वाली प्रक्रिया है अतः जिस प्रकार की सूचना पूछी गयी है वैसी सूचना बैंकों द्वारा रखी नहीं जाती।

(ग) बैंकिंग कम्पनों (उपक्रमों का अधिनियम और अन्तरण) अधिनियम 1970 की धारा 13(1) के अनुसार बैंक के प्रशासिक-यों के खातों के संबंध के में सूचना नहीं दी जा सकती।

अधक उद्योग में सकट

3452. श्री शंकर बहाल सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि अमरीका दुबारा बड़े पैमाने पर अधक वाम निर्यात किये जाने के कारण देश का अधक उद्योग गम्भीर सकट का मुकाबला कर रहा है; और

(ख) इस मामले के तथ्य क्या हैं तथा इस संबंध में सरकार कौन से कदम उठा रही है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपसचिवी (बी ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) और (ख) : अमरीका जमा भंडार से अधक रिलीज किये जाने के फलस्वरूप भारत में अधक के निर्यातों पर कुछ प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है। इस मामले को अमरीकी सरकार के साथ समुचित स्तर पर उठाया गया है।

एयर इंडिया और बी० ओ० ए० सी० के बीच करार

3453. श्री शंकर बहाल सिंह : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या एयर इंडिया ने बी० ओ० ए० सी० के साथ लम्बी उड़ानों के बारे में करार किया है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं?

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पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (डा० कर्न सिंह) : (क) और (ख) : जी हाँ, एयर इंडिया तथा बी० ओ० ए० सी० ने एक पूल समझौता किया है जिसमें निम्न-लिखित व्यवस्था की गयी है :

(i) इसमें एयर इंडिया के यू० के० तथा हांग कांग में समान होने वाले अथवा पारगामी परिचालन और बी० ओ० ए० सी० के भारत में समान होने वाले अथवा पारगामी परिचालन सम्मिलित है।

(ii) इस में यात्री तथा माल राजस्व सम्मिलित है।

(iii) उपयुक्त परिचालनों से अर्जित आय को इकट्ठे (पूल) किया जायगा तथा सहमत नियम (फामूले) के अनुसार दोनों एयर लाइनों में बांट दिया जायगा।

(iv) यह 1 जुलाई, 1973 में आरम्भ हुआ तथा सहमत व्यवस्था तीन वर्ष की अवधि के लिये लागू रहेगी परन्तु इस का प्रतिवर्ष पुनरावलोकन किया जाता रहेगा।

राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा संस्थानों या व्यक्तियों को दिये गये ऋण

3454. श्री शंकर बहाल सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों ने संस्थानों या व्यक्तियों को अब तक कितना ऋण दिया ;

(ख) इन ऋणों में सबसे अधिक राशी के दिये गये उद्यम, दस ऋणों का व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) ऋणों की अद्ययावत की डंग का विवरण क्या है और इसकी वसूली उचित ढंग से हो रही है या नहीं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपसचिवी (ओमली सुखीसा रोहतासी) : (क) दिसम्बर 1970, दिसम्बर 1971 और दिसम्बर 1972 के अन्त में 14 राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों के अधिनियमों की कुल बकाया राशि

रुपय 2540 करोड़ रुपये 2884 करोड़ रुपये और 3137 करोड़ रुपये की

(ख) और (ग) बैंकिंग कम्पनी (उप कर्मों का अधिग्रहण और प्रस्तारण) अधिनियम, 1970 की धारा 13 (1) के अनुसार बैंक प्रस्तावियों के खातों के सम्बन्ध में सूचना नहीं दे सकता।

Export of Semi-finished Materials without sufficient Added Value

3455. SHRI SUKHMEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that semi-finished materials are being exported without sufficient added value; and

(b) if so, how far it has affected the real net foreign exchange gain to the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The country is presently exporting raw materials, semi-processed and manufactured goods. However, it is the Government's policy to reduce progressively the export of raw materials and semi-processed items, and instead encourage the export of manufactured, furnished and semi-finished goods with sufficient value added with a view to increase their units value and thus earn larger foreign exchange. In pursuance of this policy the government is encouraging the export of finished leather & leather manufactures, engineering goods, processed ores, cotton apparel, blended and finished fabrics and ready-made garments, carpet backing cloth, decorative fabrics of jute etc. The foreign exchange earnings from these items are larger than in case if these are exported in unprocessed and unfinished form.

Evasion of Central Taxes by Companies

3456. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Parts Service India Ltd., 30, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta, Agrind Fabrication Ltd., Tara-tola Road, Calcutta-24, U.P. Commercial Corporation Ltd., U.P. Commercial Corporation (P) Ltd. and Assam Salomanide, Bihar have been charged with evasion of Central taxes; and

(b) if so, what steps, if any, have been taken to realise the amounts due to Government from these Companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Total amount due to Indian Airlines and Air India from each Travel Agency

3457. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount due to Indian Airlines and Air India from each Travel Agency, till date;

(b) what steps, if any, have been or are being taken to recover these dues; and

(c) the outcome of the steps taken so far?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c). A sum of Rs. 10.73 lakhs was owed by 125 agents to Indian Airlines on 30-6-73.

Air-India's outstanding dues payable by seven agents amounted to Rs. 33.54 lakhs on 31-3-73. Action for recovery is in hand.

Air-India and Indian Airlines are members of the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Air-India appoint only IATA approved travel agents while Indian Airlines appoint others as well. Settlements made by IATA approved agents are subject to IATA regulations according

to which an agent is required to clear all outstandings within stipulated period on pain of certain penalties.

In respect of non-approved agents, Indian Airlines obtains insurance/individual guarantees from them to safe-guard its interests.

Pilots Trained for Flying Jets by Indian Airlines

3458. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many pilots have been trained for flying jets by the Indian Airlines;

(b) how many of them were found to be absolutely all right;

(c) 20 (13 on Boeing and 7 on Caravelle) make the grade fully; and

(d) how many were rejected as totally unfit?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) So far 188 Pilots have been trained on jets (Boeing 737 and Caravelle) by Indian Airlines.

(b) 168.

(c) 20 (13 on Boeing and 7 on Caravelle).

(d) 14 (8 on Boeing and 6 on Caravelle). However reassessment of the proficiency of Commanders of Indian Airlines is being done.

Cut in Central Assistance to Mysore in 1972-73 for Drought Relief Works

3459. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Government have explained to the Centre that it was not fair to give retrospective effect to the 20 per cent cut in

drought relief grant and without payment for the expenditure incurred during the last financial year and if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(b) whether the entire amount which was granted by Central Government during last year for the relief works to the State of Mysore has been paid?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) During 1972-73 a sum of Rs. 16.5 crores was released to the Mysore Government for drought relief on an 'on account' basis and in accordance with the recommendations made by the Central Team after periodic reviews. Balance of Central assistance due, if any, would be released as soon as Central Team finalises accounts with the State Government in regard to drought expenditure during 1972-73.

Decline in Export of Cotton Yarn due to Power Cut in Several States

3460. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether exports of cotton yarn have declined following Power cut in several States and the resultant fall in production; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take during Fifth Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Production of cotton yarn during January-June, 1973 was worth Rs. 43.41 crores as against Rs. 47.20 crores for the corresponding period of the preceeding year. Exports of cotton yarn during Jan.-June, 1973 amounted to Rs. 80 lakhs as compared to Jan.-June 1972 figure of Rs. 100.8 lakhs.

The decline is the result of several factors including power-cut in several textiles producing States. Power cuts which was a temporary phenomenon have since been lifted. Improvements in production and exports are expected.

Setting up of Handloom Weaving Production Relief Centres in Drought Affected Areas of Mysore State

3461. SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have advised the State Government to start handloom weaving production relief centres, particularly in the State of Mysore in the drought affected areas; and

(b) if so, the names of the Centres where handloom weaving programme has been started?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No such advice was given to State Government by the Central Government. The Mysore Government had, however, approached the Central Government for financial assistance for starting handloom weaving production relief centres in certain drought affected areas. They were informed that the cost on this account may be met either from drought relief funds or under the Annual Plan ceiling.

(b) The information is being collected from the State Government and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

Export of Tobacco and Tobacco Leaves

3462. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) how much foreign exchange Government have earned from the export of tobacco and tobacco leaves during 1972-73; and

(b) how many tonnes of tobacco has been supplied by private and State exporters of Andhra during the last three years and the names of the firms?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Exports of Tobacco during April-December, 1972 have been as follows:

- (i) Unmanufactured Tobacco—Rs. 50.2 crores.
- (ii) Tobacco products—Rs. 2.5 crores.

(b) State-wise export statistics are not maintained.

Enquiry in to the Disaster of Planes of Hissar Flying Club on 14-7-1973.

3463 SHRI MUHAMMED SHE-RIFF: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any enquiry was held into the disaster of planes of Hissar Flying Club on 14th July, 1973;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the approximate loss suffered by the Club?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). On 29th May, 1973, two sections of a side-wall of the hanger at Hissar Aviation Club collapsed in a severe storm resulting in damage to three aircraft and four gliders. The State Government have ordered an enquiry into this incident and their report is awaited.

(c) The estimated expenditure for the repair of aircraft and gliders will be Rs. 1 lakh, which is realisable from insurance.

Amount likely to be spent by India in Leipzig Fair

3464. SHRI MUHAMMED SHE-RIFF: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount likely to be spent by India for participation in the next Leipzig Fair; and

(b) the items to be displayed by India in the Fair?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Government of India is not participating in the Leipzig Autumn Fair, September, 1973 at official level. Several private firms are however, participating. The total expenditure likely to be incurred by them is estimated at Rs. 4,22,000 in Foreign Exchange.

(b) The items to be displayed by these firms are:—

Coir & Coir products, Jute & Jute Products, Mica, Shellac; Oil-seeds and Oil Cakes; Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals, Dyes, Pigments & Crushed bones; Textiles Cotton & Woollen Hosiery; Readmade garments; Handloom fabrics, Silks, Scarves & Sarees; Handicrafts; Precious & Semi-precious stones, Silver Jewellery; Tea, Spices, Tobacco, Cashew, Walnuts, Preserved Foods and Fruits; Marine Products; Leather goods, footwear, Tanned hides & Skins; Plywood products, Linoleums; Sports goods; knitting machines; Surgical instruments; Hospital requisites; Sanitary fittings; Locks, Hand-tools, Domestic appliances, etc.

Supply of Generators by Heavy Electrical Industrial to Bulgaria

3465. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIEF:

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bulgaria has been disappointed with the Heavy Electrical Industry as it is unable to supply generators promptly; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in making prompt supply of the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

A. C. GEORGE): (a) There is no provision for export of generators from India under the Indo-Bulgarian Trade Plan. Nor was any order placed on Bharat Heavy Electricals for supply of generators to Bulgaria.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal to Shift Mangalore Airport

3466. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA:

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to shift the Airport at Mangalore; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereto?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Check to be Undergone by Pilots Prescribed under Aircraft Rules

3467. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Aircraft Rules prescribe that not more than six months shall elapse between two checks to be undergone by Pilots flying aircraft above a certain limit;

(b) whether contradictory instructions have been issued on this subject of compulsory checks in violation of the above rules in the last year or so and, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Commander of Boeing-737 which crashed recently at Delhi had not undergone a test, although the six-month period was over?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). The Aircraft

Rules provide that a pilot shall undergo appropriate proficiency checks to exercise his privilege on a transport plane having an all-up-weight exceeding 5,700 kgs. Taking into consideration the standards laid down by the ICAO instructions were issued in 1960 that such proficiency checks may be carried out twice within a period of one year, at intervals of not less than 4 months and not more than 8 months.

(c) The findings of the Court which investigated this accident indicate that both the Commander and the co-pilot held valid licences and were qualified to exercise the privileges of the licence for Boeing 737 aircraft on the date of the accident.

Fall in Supplies of Imported Caprolactam and yarn production

3468. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shortfall in Caprolactam import and the resulting fall in yarn production is to the tune of 30 per cent as compared to the previous year;

(b) whether it is not a fact that the supplies to actual users have fallen not 30 per cent but 50 per cent; and

(c) if so, the remedial action proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Production of nylon yarn during January-May, 1973 was 4887 tonnes and during the corresponding period in 1972 it was 4682 tonnes. There is thus no shortfall in production during this period. The production of nylon yarn, has, however, decreased from an average of 1100 tonnes per month during January-March, 1973 to an average of 850 tonnes during April-May, 1973. This was mainly due to shortfall in the import of caprolactam.

2. According to the voluntary Agreement, Nylon yarn is distributed

to Actual Users by the Spinners through their dealers. Due to reduction in production of nylon yarn in April-May 1973, there has been corresponding reduction in the availability of nylon-yarn to Actual Users.

3. There is a global shortage of caprolactam and efforts are being made to purchase as much of caprolactam as available. It is also proposed to import 1000 tonnes of nylon.

Evasion of Income-tax liability by Individuals by Filing Affidavits of being 'divorcees'

3469. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the method adopted by unscrupulous people for reducing their Income-tax liability by filing affidavits before the Income-tax authorities as being 'divorcees'; and

(b) if so, the directives which Government propose to issue to deal with such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The Government have no information that such affidavits are being filed for reducing the liability to Income-tax. However, a watch will be kept.

1972-73 की तुलना में 1973-74 में

किया जाने वाला निर्यात

3470. श्री भूलचन्द बागा क्या बाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) वर्ष 1972-73 में जितना निर्यात हुआ उसकी तुलना में इस वर्ष निर्यात अधिक होगा या कम अथवा अधिक या कम होने की आशा है और उनमें कमी होने के क्या कारण हैं। और

(ख) 1972-73 में जो मात्र निर्यात किया गया, उसमें कौनसा मात्र 1973-74 के दौरान कम निर्यात हुआ; और

(ग) कितना कम निर्यात हुआ तथा इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपस्थित श्री ए० सी० जार्ज (क) 1973-74 की किसी भी अवधि के लिए भारत के निर्यात के आंकड़े अभी उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

(ख) और (ग). आंकड़े एकत्र होने के पश्चात उनसे सम्बन्धित जानकारी सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Realisation of Loans given by Nationalised Banks

3471. SHRI M. C. DAGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loans given by nationalised banks during the last three years have not been realised fully;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total amount of loans given by the nationalised banks during the period, the amount which should have been realised and the amount actually realised?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRA CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). Commercial banks, including the nationalised banks, generally give advance for the working capital needs of their borrowers, by way of cash credits, over-drafts, or as loans. These are sanctioned by the banks after assessing the requirements of the borrowers and on the basis of periodical reviews. At the time of such periodical reviews the amounts are renewed, reduced or enhanced, depending upon the performance of the borrowing concern. In this process, there are periodical withdrawals and repayments in the accounts and the outstanding balances fluctuate from time to time, but within the sanctioned limits. It is only in the case of a default, a bank recalls an advance, and that advance becomes due for repayment.

In accordance with Section 13(1) of the Banking Companies (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, read with Section 29 of the Banking Regulations Act, 1949 and the form of balance sheet and profit and loss account prescribed under it, information regarding provisions made by banks for debts which may turn out to be bad or which have proved difficult of recovery are not to be divulged by the nationalised banks. However, on the advice of independent statutory auditors appointed by the banks, adequate provisions have been made to meet any shortfall in the recovery of loans advanced by the banks.

The aggregate amount of advances outstanding as at the end of the last 3 years, of the 14 nationalised banks, are as under:—

Year ended	Rs. in crores
31-12-1970	2540.30
31-12-1971	2884.70
31-12-1972	3137.11

Hotel Constructed by Indian Tobacco Company

3472. SHRI S. N. MISHRA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hotels constructed by the Indian Tobacco Company in the country with location thereof; and

(b) the amount spent on each hotel?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) None.

(b) Does not arise.

Arrears of Income Tax against Foreign Companies

3473. SHRI S. N. MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the foreign companies against whom Income-tax arrears are outstanding;

(b) the amount of arrears involved in each case;

(c) the steps taken to realise the same; and

(d) whether any of the companies has since gone into liquidation and if so, the names of such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c). The term 'foreign company' has been defined in section 80B(4) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 as a company which is not a domestic company. Information regarding foreign companies against whom income-tax arrears of Rs 80,000 or above were outstanding as on 31st December, 1972 is available. The names of these companies, the amount of income-tax outstanding as on 31st December, 1972 and the steps taken to realise the same are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5421/73].

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Import Licences issued to Karnatak Export House against Import Entitlements through S T C.

3474 SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether import licences have been issued to Karnatak Export House by transfer against import entitlements earned by Tobacco exporters under arrangement for barter deals through S T C and meant for transfer only to actual users of imported raw materials;

(b) if so, the reasons for permitting such transfer to Karnatak Export House, which is not an actual users; and

(c) the value of these licences and the items allowed for import?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under import control procedures, eligible export houses can function as an agency to arrange bulk imports of raw materials for distribution to actual users.

(c) Import of stainless steel of permissible specifications valued at Rs. 72.35 lakhs was allowed, required for the manufacture of surgical instruments and hospital wares.

Establishment of Purchase Centres by C.C.I in the Country

3475. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the purchase centres established so far by the Cotton Corporation of India in the country;

(b) whether certain irregularities committed by the Cotton Corporation of India in purchasing cotton have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) if so, the gist thereof and the nature of action taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India opened 55 purchase centres to make purchases of indigenous cotton during the current cotton season.

(b) and (c). No irregularities committed by the Cotton Corporation of India as such have come to the notice of Government. There have, however, been complaints of corruption against three cotton selectors and the deputy managers of the Corporation in Andhra Pradesh. The anti-Corruption Bureau, Hyderabad is enquiring into

the case against one selector and cases against the others are being enquired into by the C.B.I. on a reference by the Corporation itself. All the five employees are under suspension.

Trade Agreement between India and Czechoslovakia

3476. SHRI V. MAYAVAN:
SHRI P. A. SAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Czechoslovakia have signed a trade protocol which spells out major areas of co-operation in the fields of trade; and

(b) if so, the main feature of the agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Trade between India and Czechoslovakia is regulated by Annual Trade Protocols. Trade Protocol for 1973 envisaging a total trade turnover of Rs. 1300 million was concluded in November, 1972.

In June, 1973, the fourth meeting of the Indo-Czech Joint Committee was held at Prague, Czechoslovakia. A Protocol envisaging greater co-operation between India and Czechoslovakia in the following fields was signed on the conclusion of deliberations of the Joint Committee:—

- (i) Industry
- (ii) Science and Technology
- (iii) Economic and Commercial matters, and
- (iv) Planning.

Import of Wine from other countries

3477. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government import wine from other countries of the import licences are issued to importers for import of wine;

(b) if so, the total value of import licences issued during the year 1972-73; and

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange involved in import of wine?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Wines are imported by some government departments and organisations as well as eligible importers in the private sector against valid import licences.

(b) Composite licences are, many a times, issued to importers for the import of various types of liquors, including wines, within the overall value of the import licences, without mentioning the break-up of value allowed for individual items of liquors. It is, therefore, not possible to segregate the value of wines alone, allowed from the overall value of such composite import licences.

(c) The value of wines imported was of the order of Rs. 2.78 lakhs during the period April, 1972 to December, 1972. Figures beyond December, 1972 are not yet available. An attempt is also being made to collect, if possible the figures in respect of foreign exchange involved in the import of wines and, if available, these will be laid on the Table of the House.

Slow banking progress in the State of Bihar

3478. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is one Bank for every 65,000 persons in the State of Bihar even after the nationalisation of banks;

(b) if so, the reasons for such slow banking progress in Bihar State; and

(c) if not, the percentage of population served by one Bank?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). On the eve of nationalisation, there was one bank office for every 2,07,000

persons in Bihar State. As a result of the sustained efforts taken since nationalisation to widen the branch net work, the population per bank office has come down to 85,000 by the end of June, 1973. As on that date, the banks were holding 206 licences/allotments for opening of bank offices. When these are fully utilised, the population per bank office would come down to 71,000. The Reserve Bank has advised all commercial banks to pay particular attention to opening of branches in underbanked and backward areas while drawing up their branch expansion programmes.

Percentage of deposits invested in Bihar by Nationalised Banks

3479. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether only one fourth of the total deposits are invested locally by the nationalised banks in Bihar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the percentage of deposits invested locally in Bihar?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c). As will be seen from the data of deposits, advances and investments set out below, the proportion of advances and investments to total deposits of the public sector banks in Bihar State as at the end of June, 72 was over 37 per cent.

Public Sector Banks

1. No. of functioning offices	537
2. No. of reporting offices	346
3. Deposits end-June '72	Rs. 292.67 crores
4. Advances end-June '72	Rs. 77.88* crores
5. Investment in securities end-March '72	Rs. 31.34 crores

6. Ratio of advances/investment to deposits 37.5%

Per Capita Bank Deposits in Bihar

3480 KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita bank deposit in Bihar State;

(b) whether there has been any rise in the per capita deposits in 1971-72 in Bihar; and

(c) if not, the steps Government are taking to raise the per capita deposit in Bihar State?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SMT. SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b): The per capita bank deposits in Bihar increased from Rs. 48.96 as at the end of June 1971 to Rs. 50.96** by the end of June 1972.

(c) Does not arise

*This figure has been compiled on the basis of returns received from 349 out of the 540 offices of scheduled

**This figure relates to credit sanctioned by bank branches located in Bihar by the State and does not include the amounts obtained by the Head Offices of the business units in Bihar State from bank branches elsewhere, e.g. Bombay, Calcutta, etc., utilised in Bihar State. The utilisation of bank credit is to a large extent determined by the level of economic activity in the region as well as the availability of infrastructure facilities like power, communication etc. While the banks on their part are taking steps to increase the flow of credit particularly to the priority sectors, the State Government has recently been requested to assist in the formulation of bankable schemes as well as in the provision of infrastructure and inputs which together with bank credit would go to make the schemes a success.

commercial banks operating in the State as at the end of June, 1972.

Volume of Imports/Exports during last three years

3481, PROF. S. L. SAKSENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total volume of Exports and Imports of the country during each of the last three years and the first five

commodities whose exports and imports were the highest during each of these three years; and

(b) the first five commodities of which our Export and from which our imports were of the highest value in each of the last three years and what were those highest volumes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(I) India's Imports and Exports

(Value in Rs. Crores)

Year	Imports	Exports
1969-70	1582.67	1413.28
1970-71	1634.20	1535.16
1971-72	1824.61(R)	1607.02(R)
1972-73	1776.75 (Provisional) Revised.	1961.54 (Provisional)

(II)(a) India's Imports

(Value in Rs. Crores)

S. No.	Commodity	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	April-Dec. '72	April-Dec. '71
1.	Machinery & Transport equipment	395.89	394.70	454.26	349.32	348.66
2.	Iron and Steel	81.51	147.04	237.57	156.88	178.75
3.	Chemicals	195.09	192.28	217.65	155.87	161.40
4.	Petroleum & petroleum products	137.91	136.01	194.57	149.41	143.43
5.	Cereal & Cereal preparations	260.98	213.01	131.01	21.67	104.84

(II) (b) India's Exports

(Value in Rs. crores)

1.	Jute Mfrs. (incl. yarn)	206.65	190.44	265.28	192.68	186.91
2.	Tea	124.50	148.25	156.31	120.17	116.69
3.	Cotton textiles (mill-made)	111.54	115.61	115.47	119.67	81.58
4.	Engineering goods	102.50	130.41	118.36	104.39	89.43
5.	Iron ore	94.62	117.28	104.70	79.88	71.41

Damage to Fokker Friendship Aircraft of Indian Airlines Following Heavy Landing at Calcutta Airport on 20th July 1973

**3483. SHRI VASANT SATHE;
SHRI SHERIKISHAN MODI:**

Will the Minister OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Fokker Friendship aircraft was considerably damaged following a heavy landing at Calcutta Airport on the 20th July, 1973;

(b) if so, the number of persons killed or injured and the extent of damage caused as a result thereof; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) None of the 13 passengers and 3 crew members on board suffered any injuries. The aircraft was extensively damaged.

(c) An inquiry under rule 71 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937 has been ordered by the DGCA. The report is awaited.

Proposal to Increase the number of Tourist Bungalows in Haryana

3484. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to increase the number of tourist bungalows in the State of Haryana; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof and the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). A Tourist

Complex which will also provide residential accommodation is being constructed at Suraj Kund and a Cafeteria, with a few retiring rooms, is being put up at Daruhara near Sahibi Nandj. The Department of Tourism has sanctioned Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 3.50 lakhs respectively towards these projects. Projects to be taken up during the Fifth Five Year Plan are yet to be finalised.

Proposal to provide Tourist facilities at Beaches, Hill Resorts, Wild Life Sanctuaries and Places of Historical Interest

3485 SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide tourist facilities at beaches, hill resorts, wild life sanctuaries and places of historical interest;

(b) if so, the main features of the facilities to be provided, and

(c) the places selected in the country and funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The places being developed are Gulmarg for winter sports, Kovalam and Goa as beach resorts; Kulu-Manali as a hill resort; selected centres of archaeological interest such as Ajanta, Ellora, Sanchi, Bodhgaya, Rajgir, Nalanda and some wild life sanctuaries like the Corbett National Park, Kaziranga, Sassangir, Bandipur, Jaldapara, Bharatpur. At these places facilities by way of accommodation, transport, water supply, roads and recreational facilities are being provided. The aggregate amount allocated for these schemes is Rs 452 lakhs in the Fourth Plan.

Evasion of Excise Duty by M/s. Kores India Ltd.

3486 DR. LAXMINARAIN PAND-EYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Kores India Ltd. have not paid excise duty in accordance with their production during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the steps Government contemplate to take to recover the excise duty from the firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible

बिहार में 1971-72 और 1972-73 के दौरान पर्यटन के विकास के लिये आवंटित तथा खर्च की गई राशि

3487. श्री ज्ञानेश्वर प्रसाद यादव क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) बिहार राज्य में 1971-72 और 1972-73 के दौरान पर्यटन के विकास एवं उससे सम्बद्ध अन्य मामलों के लिए कितनी राशि आवंटित की गई, और

(ख) इन वर्षों में कितनी राशि खर्च की गई?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री० कर्ण सिंह): (क) और (ख). चौथी योजना में इस राज्य में पर्यटन स्कीमों के लिए 20 लाख रुपये की राशि आवंटित की गई है। इसमें से 13 लाख रुपये की राशि राज्य सरकार को बौद्ध-क्या में महाबोधी मन्दिर के आसपास की

भूमि के अधिग्रहण के लिए दे दी गई है। इसके अतिरिक्त पालाभाऊ राष्ट्रीय उद्यान में पर्यटकों को सैर कराने के लिए 40,000/- रुपये के मूल्य की एक मिनी बस की भी व्यवस्था की गई है।

भारत में काम कर रही विदेशी सिगरेट कंपनियाँ

3488. श्री एम० एस० पुरती क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) भारत में इस समय किस-किस देश की किन-किन सिगरेट कंपनियों में प्रत्येक विदेशी कंपनी के किन्नी-कितनी पूँजी के शेयर हैं;

(ख) भारतीय सिगरेट कंपनियों के नाम तथा प्रत्येक की शेयर पूँजी कितनी है,

(ग) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्रति वर्ष कितनी पूँजी विदेशों में इन विदेशी कंपनियों द्वारा भेजी गई, और

(घ) क्या भारत सरकार का विचार इस सिगरेट उद्योग में विदेशों के शेयर समाप्त कर भारत की पूँजी को विदेश भेजे जाने से रोकने का है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज): (क) से (ग). एक विवरण संलग्न है?

(घ) इस समय ऐसी कोई प्रस्तावना नहीं है।

विवरण

क्रमांक	सिगरेट कम्पनी का नाम	भुक्त पूर्वी (लाख रुपयों में)			विदेशों को भेजी गई रकम (लाख रुपयों में)		
		भारतीय	विदेशी	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	
1	मै० इंडिया टोबैको कम्पनी लि०, कलकत्ता	477.58	1417.45	148.94	143.61	76.90	
2	मै० बबीर सुल्तान टोबैको कं० लि०, हैदराबाद	64.09	135.91	जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है।			
3	मै० राध प्रो० फिलिप्स (इंडिया) लि० बम्बई	4.38	55.62	0.01	14.59	29.22	
4	मै० नेशनल टोबैको कं०, बम्बई	70.81	9.16	जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है।			
5	मै० डी० मैकरोपोलो एण्ड कं० लि०, बम्बई	10.90	5.80				
6	मै० गोल्डन टोबैको कं० (इंडिया), बम्बई	180.00	—				
7	मै० मास्टर्स टोबैको (इंडिया), बम्बई	12.51	—				
8	मै० आउन टोबैको कं०, बम्बई	7.00	—				
9	मै० हैदराबाद दक्कन सिगरेट फैक्टरी, हैदराबाद			प्रोपराइटी क्लेम है और कोई भेयर जारी नहीं किए गए हैं।			
10	मै० इंटरनेशनल टोबैको कं० गाजियाबाद	19.99	—				
11	मै० यूनिवर्सल टोबैको कं० हैदराबाद	15.00	—				

* मास्टर्स टोबैको कम्पनी (इंडिया) गमुडिया फैक्टरीज, बम्बई का एक एकक है।

—वही—

विभिन्न राज्यों में एक ही किस्म की चाय पर लगाये गये उत्पादन शुल्क की दरों में समानता

3489. श्री एम० एस० पुरती : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश के विभिन्न राज्यों में एक ही किस्म की चाय पर लगाये गये उत्पादन शुल्क की दरों में समानता है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (जी ए० सी० चार्ज) : (क) और (ख) : उत्पादन शुल्क की भिन्न-भिन्न दरें सितम्बर, 1958 में लागू की गई थी ताकि उत्पादन शुल्क के कुल भार को विभिन्न चाय उपभोक्ता क्षेत्रों में उनकी भार वहन क्षमता के आधार पर न्यायोचित रूप में वितरित किया जा सके जिसका माप उन्हें मिल ने वसूली कीमतें और उन अन्य प्राकृतिक कारणों के अनुसार किया गया हो जिनसे कि क्वालिटी प्रॉब्लेम्स उत्पन्न प्रति कि० उत्पादन लागत और प्रति कि० मूल्य प्राप्ति प्राप्ति पर प्रभाव पड़ता है चाय पर उत्पादन शुल्क की जो भिन्न-भिन्न दरें भारत में निश्चित की गई थी उन्हें समय-समय विश्व बाजार में भारतीय चाय के निर्यात निष्पादन को ध्यान में रख कर संशोधित किया जाता रहा है ।

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा बिहार के किसानों को कृषि सामग्री उपलब्ध कराने हेतु ऋण दिया जाना

3490. श्री एम० एस० पुरती : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने बिहार के किसानों को कृषि सामग्री उपलब्ध कराने हेतु वर्ष 1973-74 में ऋण के रूप में कुछ धनराशि देना स्वीकार कर लिया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो किसकी ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपाय मंत्री (श्रीमती सुशीला रीहलसी) : (क) और (ख) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक किसानों को सीधे ऋण नहीं देता । वाणिज्यिक बैंक अथवा प्राथमिक सहकारी ऋण समितियां और सहकारी भूमि विकास बैंक कृषकों को विभिन्न कृषि उद्देश्यों के लिए ऋण देते हैं । इनमें कृषि सामग्री की खरीद भी शामिल है । कृषि सामग्री की खरीद के लिए ही जो ऋण दिये जाते हैं उनके आंकड़े भ्रम से नहीं रखे जाते हैं ।

1972-73 में भारत में चोरी छिपे लाये गये सामान का मूल्य

3491. श्री चर्नराव अफजलपुरकर : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने वर्ष 1972-73 में भारत में चोरी छिपे लाये गये सामान के मूल्य के बारे में अनुमान लगाया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त अवधि के दौरान इसके मदवार आंकड़े क्या हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० आर० गणेश) : (क) और (ख) देश में तस्करी आयात किये गये माल के मूल्य का, निषिद्ध माल के पकड़े जाने के मामलों से सम्बन्धित आंकड़ों अथवा अन्य किसी आधार पर, विश्वसनीय अनुमान लगाना व्यवहार्य नहीं है । परन्तु बीजको मे हेर-फेर के कारण विदेशी मुद्रा की हानि पर अध्ययन दल ने अनुमान लगाया है कि तस्करी में धन लगाने के लिए अवैध विदेशी मुद्रा की वार्षिक खपत लगभग 160 करोड़ रुपये से 170 करोड़ रु० तक होगी । अध्ययन दल ने कोई मद-वार व्यौरा नहीं दिया है ।

Handing over the Office of Trade Agent in London to State-owned Mysore Sales International by Mysore Government to boost Export

3492. SHRI DHARAMARAO AF-ZALPURKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mysore Government have decided to hand over the office

of the Trade Agent in London to the State Owned Mysore Sales International to boost the export;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any survey has been made regarding the scope for increasing the export of Sandal wood, Sandal oil, Sandal soap, handicrafts medium and small scale of industries of Mysore; and

d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (d). The information is not readily available. It is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

भारत से अफीम का निर्यात

3493. श्री धर्मराव अफजलपुरकर :
क्या बिल सत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत में विदेशों का अफीम का निर्यात होता है और यदि हां, तो किस-किस देश में कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा पिछले तीन वर्षों में प्राप्त हुई ; और

(ख) अफीम के उत्पादन में वृद्धि हेतु सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

बिल सत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री० के० आर० गव्वेश) (क) भारत से अफीम का निर्यात विभिन्न देशों को किया जाता है और वर्ष 1970 तथा 1971 के दौरान अजित विदेशी मुद्रा की देश-वार रकम संलग्न विवरण पत्र में बताया गई है। 1972 से सम्बन्धित आंकड़े इकट्ठे किये जा रहे हैं और सभा पटल पर रख दिये जायेंगे।

(ख) अफीम का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने निम्नलिखित उपाय किये हैं :—

- (1) पोस्त के किसी काश्तकार को दिया जाने वाला अफीम का मूल्य एक ऐसे विसर्पण अनुक्रम में नियत किया जाता है जो उसके द्वारा दी गई अफीम की उपज पर निर्भर करता है। प्रति हेक्टेयर अपेक्षाकृत अधिक उपज देने वाले काश्तकार को मूल्य की भ्रदायगी अपेक्षाकृत ऊँची दर पर की जाती है।
- (2) अन्येक अफीम प्रभाग में पोस्त के ऐसे काश्तकार को नकद पुरस्कार दिये जाते हैं जो अफीम की सबसे अधिक उपज देता है।
- (3) कृषि नाशक दवाइयों एवं उर्वरकों को प्रयुक्त करने के सम्बन्ध में काश्तकारों को शिक्षा देने के लिए प्रदर्शनों का आयोजन किया जाता है।
- (4) अफीम की उपज तथा क्वालिटी में सुधार लाने की दृष्टि से पोस्त के बीजों, मिट्टी तथा उर्वरकों आदि के सम्बन्ध में प्रयोग करने के लिये पोस्त की काश्त वाले कुछ क्षेत्रों में प्रयोगात्मक फार्म कायम किये गये हैं। इन प्रयोगों से प्राप्त निष्कर्षों का उपयोग अफीम की उपज बढ़ाने में पोस्त के काश्तकारों का मार्गदर्शन करने के लिए किया जायेगा।
- (5) सरकार ने पोस्त की काश्त तथा अफीम के उत्पादन के विभिन्न पहलुओं के सम्बन्ध में बहुत सी दीर्घकालीन अनुसंधान योजनाएँ भी आरम्भ की हैं। निष्कर्ष प्राप्त होने पर, पोस्त के काश्तकारों को अफीम की उपज तथा माफ़ीत अन्तर्वस्तु की मात्रा बढ़ाने में उनसे सह्यता मिलेगी।

विवरण

बीकसभा में 17 अगस्त, 1973 को पूछे जाने वाले अतारंकित प्रश्न सं० 3493 के उत्तर में उल्लिखित विवरण-प्रश्न ।

क्र० सं०	देश का नाम	1970	1971
		रु०	रु०
1	ब्रिटेन	1,90,66,703	3,82,79,618
2	अमेरिका	1,34,27,709	2,79,34,533
3	सोवियत संघ	1,00,66,056	1,45,58,689
4	फ्रांस	65,33,610	1,18,01,094
5	इटली	45,91,694	80,96,951
6	पश्चिम जर्मनी	58,69,816	1,05,09,701
7	जापान	16,68,860	48,70,305
8	बुल्गारिया	3,78,092	6,01,355
9	स्विटजरलैंड	4,08,144	21,22,191
10	ताईवान	1,11,860	—
11	अष्ट्रेलिया	—	9,33,405
12	बेल्जियम	—	9,46,510
13	हॉलैंड	10,47,879	9,78,219
14	स्पेन	10,59,739	13,17,857
15	चेकोस्लोवाकिया	—	3,60,053
		6,42,30,362	12,33,10,481

Schemes To Sell Goods In Britain For Furthering Efforts of Developing Countries

3494 **SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZAL-PURKAR:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new scheme to further the efforts of developing countries including India, to sell goods in Britain has been welcomed by the British Government; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No such new scheme has come to the notice of the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

1807 L.S.—8

Deficit Financing

3496. **SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN:**
SHRI SHYAMANANDAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of deficit financing incurred from 1st April, 1972, to 31st March, 1973, 1st April, 1971 to 31st March, 1972, from 1st April, 1973 to 1st July, 1973; and

(b) the total quantum of deficit financing likely to be incurred till 31st March, 1974?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):
(a) Deficit financing of the Centre

and State Government (as measured by (i) net change in the Reserve Bank's holdings of Treasury bills and Government rupee securities, (ii) net variation in Central and State Governments' cash balances and (iii) net change in RBI's ways and means advances to State Governments) amounted to Rs. 710 crores in 1971-72; Rs. 848 crores in 1972-73 and Rs. 380 crores upto end of June, 1973 in the current financial year.

(b) The Central Government has estimated the budgetary deficit for the year 1973-74 at Rs. 85 crores. This, however, does not take into account the expenditure that might have to be incurred when the Government takes a final decision on the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission. As of now, it is not possible to give an estimate of deficit financing that might emerge for the year 1973-74.

Inquiry into alleged mal-practices committed by National Grindlays Bank

3497. SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the 110-year old National and Grindlays Bank, the biggest foreign bank operated in the country, has over a period of ten years deprived the country of over Rs 70 crores through various malpractices;

(b) whether the charges are being looked into by Government agencies and if so, the names of agencies which are looking into the charges; and

(c) the specific steps taken to ensure early report of the inquiry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). Certain allegations of malpractices including evasion of income tax against the National and Grindlays Bank are being looked into

by the Reserve Bank and the Income-tax department. They expect to complete the investigations as early as possible.

Implementation of Recommendations of Banking Commission

3498. SHRI P. VENKATASUB-BAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the Banking Commission have been implemented;

(b) if so, the recommendations implemented so far and the time by which the rest of the recommendations are proposed to be implemented; and

(c) how far the recommendations implemented so far have proved to be useful?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). The recommendations of the Banking Commission are in an advanced stage of examination by the Government. A final view on the majority of the recommendations is expected to be taken before Long

Private Persons or Companies Allowed to Fly Aircraft in the Country to Carry Passengers

3500. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any private persons or companies are allowed to fly aircraft in the country to carry passengers.

(b) if so, which are those persons and companies and on which routes they are allowed to fly aircraft and on what conditions; and

(c) whether Government have fixed any norms for permitting private companies to take up passenger service?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). The following 9 private operators holding non-scheduled permits issued by the DG

CA, are allowed to operate non-scheduled passenger flights on a day-to-day basis on routes not served by Indian Airlines;

1. Kasturi and Sons, Madras (The Hindu).
2. Pushpaka Aviation, Madras.
3. Air Survey Co. (P) Ltd. Calcutta.
4. Cambata Aviation, Bombay.
5. Bharat Commerce and Industries (Bharatair), Gauhati.
6. Daver Aviation, Bombay.
7. J. K. Chemicals (Safari Airways Bombay).
8. Helicopter Services (P) Ltd. Bombay.
9. Jamair Co. (P) Ltd., Calcutta.

Of the above 9, only J.K. Chemicals (Safari Airways) are presently operating non-scheduled passenger flights on the following routes on a day-to-day basis:

- (i) Bombay—Surat—Bombay.
- (ii) Surat—Ahmedabad—Surat.

Safari have also been permitted to operate on the following routes on a day-to-day basis:

1. Delhi Jaipur -Kota Jaipur
Delhi (without traffic rights between Delhi and Jaipur).
2. Bombay - Surat - Bhatnagar
Ahmedabad and back (without traffic rights between Bombay Bhavnagar and Bombay-Ahmedabad).
3. Ahmedabad-Indore - Ahmedabad.
4. Surat-Rajkot-Surat.
5. Bhavnagar-Baroda-Indore and back.
6. Bombay-Jalgaon-Bombay.

However, they are not operating on the above routes.

(c) Private operators who wish to operate scheduled air transport services have to comply with the requirements laid down in Schedule XI to the Aircraft Rules, 1937.

Complaints Regarding Safety Landing and taking off Facilities at International Airports to India

3501. SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints regarding the safety of landing and taking off facilities at international airports in India;

(b) if so, what are these complaints; and

(c) how are they proposed to be met?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). Some complaints regarding aids are received from time to time.

(c) The following action has been taken:

1. Stand-by generators which come into action automatically in the event of a mains failure have already been provided. The International Airports Authority is taking additional steps for ensuring reliable and uninterrupted power supply.

2. (i) A through check-up of the Instrument Landing System at Delhi airport has been made by experts of the Civil Aviation Department.

2.(ii) Scientific investigation of the Instrument Landing System has been carried out by an expert of the manufacturers. He has reported that the equipment is functioning normally.

Institutional Credit Advanced by Private Banks to Foodgrain Trade, Yarn, Oil Seeds, Coarse Cloth, Vanaspati and other Necessities of Life during 1972-73 and 1973-74

3502. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount of institutional credit advanced including that advanced by private Banks to the foodgrains trade and trade in yarn, oil seeds, coarse cloth, Vanaspati and other necessities of life during the financial year 1972-73 and 1973-74 and its impact on the rise in prices?

ing the financial year 1972-73 and 1973-74 and its impact on the rise in prices?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRA CHAVAN):

The available information as furnished by the Reserve Bank of India in regard to outstanding advances of scheduled commercial banks, including private banks, to private parties against foodgrains, oilseeds, vegetable oils, vanaspati and sugar is set out in the attached statement.

Statement

(Rs. Crores)

	As at the end of June, 1972	As at the end of March, 1973†
Foodgrains	98.00	42.00
Oilseeds		
Groundnuts	8.76	14.28
Linseed	0.67	0.40
Rape/Mustard Seed	Not available	1.20
Vegetable Oils		
Groundnut oil	5.83	5.68
Linseed oil	0.29	0.47
Rape/Mustard seed oil	3.03††	2.74
Vanaspati	5.89	3.46
Sugar	186.38††	113.65

†The data for March, 1973 are provisional and may be revised by the banks later. The figures include export credit, to processing units, credit in respect of groundnut seeds/oil to public sector, etc.

††Relate to June, 1971 as separate figures for these items are not available for June, 1972.

The above figures refer to credit given not merely to trade as such but also to processing units such as rice mills, roller flour mills, oil mills and vanaspati manufacturers, industrial users such as biscuit manufacturers, confectionaries, starch manufacturers, paint and soap manufacturers, etc.

The increase in advances against groundnut is accounted for, besides other factors by enlarged exports in oil cake and credit facility against groundnut seed/oil given to some public sector agencies particularly in Gujarat for taking up purchase and distribution work.

Banks credit against foodgrains, oil-seeds, vegetable oils, sugar and cotton is subject to Reserve Bank's selective credit controls which prescribe minimum margins, minimum rate of interest and levels of credit. The credit controls currently imposed on those items are sufficiently restrictive and every care is taken to ensure that credit goes to meet only the genuine production and trade requirements.

So far as credit for yarn is concerned, it has not been possible for the Reserve Bank of India to give any separate figures, as banks generally maintain composite credit limits covering both yarn (including cotton and other yarn) and cloth (including coarse and other varieties). In March, 1973, the Reserve Bank convened a meeting of representatives of major banks to review the mid-busy season position. At that meeting the Reserve Bank drew particular attention of the banks to the problem of cotton yarn and asked them to exercise restraint on the credit made available against that item. Again, in July, 1973, when the Reserve Bank reviewed credit trends and announced further tightening of credit control, they asked the

banks to ensure return of credit from textile and sugar industries.

Since bulk of the credit has gone in favour of mills and processing units and retailers, it is unlikely that the availability of the credit as such for the items mentioned above would have had any adverse effect on the prices of these commodities.

Amount of Currency Notes in Circulation

3503. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of each denomination of currency notes of Rs. 100 and above at present in circulation and what portion thereof is in the category of unaccounted money; and

(b) whether it is proposed to demonetise the currency notes of Rs 100 and above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R GANESH): (a) Particulars of currency notes of the denominations of Rs. 100 and above in circulation as on 1st May, 1973 are indicated below:—

Denomination	Pieces	Value
Rs. 100	29,97,06,895	29,97,06,89,500
Rs. 1,000	4,29,389	42,93,89,000
Rs. 5,000	55,957	27,97,85,000
Rs. 10,000	29,924	29,92,40,000
	30,02,22,165	30,97,91,03,500

It is not possible to say what portion of the above currency is in the category of unaccounted money.

(b) There is no such proposal under consideration of Government.

Providing Free Rations or Essential Commodities at Cheap Rates to Weaker Sections Especially Agricultural Workers in Rural Areas

3504. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the weaker sections of the people especially agricultural workers in the rural areas, have been hard hit by the present level of prices, scarcity and inflation; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to relieve their hardship by providing them essential commodities at cheap rates, or to provide them free ration in the worst affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN).

(a) and (b) It is no doubt true that the rise in prices and prevalence of scarcity and drought conditions have affected adversely the weaker sections, including agricultural workers. Apart from drought relief measures, the State Governments have been advised to extend the public distribution system so as to cover a larger number of people.

Supplying of Essential Commodities to People at Fair Price

3505 SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of supplying essential commodities to the people at fair prices as a measure of relief from the present burden of price rise and inflation, and

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). The Government has been making available major food-grains at fixed prices through a network of fair price/ration shops through-out the country. Levy sugar is also being sold at controlled prices

through the public distribution system. Supply of controlled varieties of cotton cloth has been channelled through public agencies. A Committee set up by the Planning Commission is examining the question of further extending the commodity coverage of the public distribution system.

Formulation of Development Schemes under Lead Bank Scheme

3506. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development schemes formulated for selected Districts under the lead bank scheme have since been implemented; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b) Under the 'Lead Bank Scheme' the banks having lead responsibility are expected to carry out surveys of the districts allotted to them so as to locate growth centres, identify credit gaps and secure a co-ordinated approach among the different financial institutions in extending banking facilities in the district. Surveys have already been carried out under this scheme in respect of 313 districts. The lead banks have also set up District Level Consultative Committees in 276 districts whose main function is to identify the areas in which banks together with other financial institutions and development agencies, can play an effective role in implementing viable development schemes.

Decision on Special Flying Check of Indian Airlines Commanders

3507 SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided that all Indian Airlines Commanders are to be subject to a special two hour flying check to deter-

mine whether they should be allowed to retain command of various types of aircraft and if so, who will make such reassessment checks;

(b) whether this special check will cost about Rupees one crore; and

(c) how many pilots are at present licensed and what is the procedure to check their capability of flying every year?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) It has been decided to reassess the proficiency of all Commanders of Indian Airlines. The programme of reassessment commenced on 9th July 1973.

Groups of 2 or 3 pilots for each type of aircraft e.g., Boeing 737, Caravelle, HS-748, etc., specially selected by the DGCA, are carrying out these checks. The time taken will be according to the exercises prescribed in the test.

(b) The cost of these checks is estimated at Rs. 15.25 lakhs approximately.

(c) Indian Airlines have at present 471 pilots including 32 apprentice pilots. They are subject to the following checks:

- (i) Local check and route check—twice a year as per standards prescribed by the DGCA.
- (ii) Instrument rating check once a year as per standards prescribed by the DGCA.

World Bank Aid for Forest Development Plans in India

3509. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to give aid for the country's long term forest development plans;

(b) if so, the amount of aid likely to be received; and

(c) whether India has prepared any long term forest plan?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Some discussion have taken place with World Bank officials on the possibility of World Bank group assistance for Forest Projects in India. The discussions are at a very preliminary stage.

(c) Agriculture Ministry has made some studies on forestry projects which would form the basis for long-term forestry plan.

Smuggled Goods Seized in Delhi

3510. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggled goods worth lakhs of rupees were seized in New Delhi on the 16th May, 1973; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Smuggled goods worth Rs. 26 lakhs were seized in New Delhi on 16th May, 1973 by the officers of Delhi Customs and Central Excise Collectorate and of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence. The goods seized were Radiant yarn, Textiles, Chinese Fountain Pens etc. In addition 111 Kilograms of Hashish was also seized.

(b) In the above cases 11 persons were arrested. They have been released on bail by the Magistrate. Further investigations in the matter are in progress.

Request from Convenor of National Committee to Assist Netaji Inquiry for Concessional Air India Tickets

3511. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the convenor of the National Committee to Assist Netaji

Inquiry' made a written request, to him for concessional Air India tickets for the three members of the Committee to enable them to accompany Netaji Inquiry Commission during its recent visit to Taipei in Taiwan;

(b) if so, the reasons for refusal of the request,

(c) whether members of Peace Council, Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference and many other organisations received concessional Air India tickets for going abroad, and

(d) if so, the facts of the matter and the reasons for discrimination against the members of National Committee to Assist Netaji Inquiry?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR KARAN SINGH) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir But it was not considered necessary to provide free passages

(c) and (d) Air-India is sometimes directed to provide rebated transportation. They have, however, not been ordered to give any free or concessional tickets to the Peace Council or the Afro-Asian Solidarity Conference

Departmental Offices Set Up by Government for Dealing with Trade Pact with Bangladesh

3513 SHRI SAMAR GUHA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of Departmental offices or otherwise set up by Government for dealing with Trade Pact with Bangladesh,

(b) the names of such Departmental, or otherwise, units (ii) location of their offices, (iii) the names of the Heads of such Offices, and

(c) the reasons for not setting up such Offices principally in the Eastern region of India to enable Bangladesh representatives to have easy and

quicker contact with them to facilitate prompt implementation of the Pact?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No new offices—as such, have been set up by the Government for dealing with the Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement,

(b) and (c) Do not arise However, applications for imports from and exports, to Bangladesh under the Limited Payments Arrangement and the New Balanced Trade and Payments Arrangement are dealt with mainly by the Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, Calcutta All transactions relating to payments for imports and exports under these Arrangements are also routed through a special Account maintained by the State Bank of India, Calcutta

Value of Import/Export with Taiwan during 1971-73

3514 SHRI SAMAR GUHA Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) the volumes and nature of export and import trade and their values in term of Indian rupees undertaken by Private Sector and Public Sector concerns separately with Taiwan during the years 1971-72 and 1972-73,

(b) whether there is further scope of expansion of both public sector and private sector export and import trade with Taiwan, and

(c) if so, the steps taken and proposed for expansion of such trade with that country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) (a) to (c) India's exports to and imports from Taiwan as well as major items of export and import for 1971-72 and 1972-73 (April—December) have been as follows

(Value in Rs. lakhs)

	1971-72	1972-73 (April-December)
Exports	513	97
Imports	37	53
Volume :	550	150

Major items of exports :

Transport equipment.
Iron Ore.
Concentrates.
Mica.
Shellace.
Pig Iron.
Minerals & Metal Manufacturers.
Ferrous scrap.

Major Imports :

Plastic raw materials.
Essential oils.
Species.

Sectorwise figures are not maintained.

In view of the many uncertainties governing the future of Taiwan, it is difficult to make any worthwhile assessment of the scope of expansion of trade with Taiwan.

Relaxing Control over Distribution of Yarn upto 17 Counts

3515. SHRI G Y KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to relax control over the distribution of yarn upto 17 counts; and

(b) if so, the nature of exemptions, if any, granted from the purview of the scheme on the availability of yarn used for industrial purposes and of blended and mixed yarn?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The control on distribution of the following categories and varieties of yarn was lifted with effect from the 21st June, 1973:—

- (i) Cotton yarn of counts 17s and below;

- (ii) folded cotton yarn of 2 ply in counts 17s and below;

- (iii) folded cotton yarn of 3 ply and higher plies in all counts;

- (iv) blended yarn containing 33—1/3 per cent or more of man-made cellulosic or non-cellulosic, natural silk or woollen fibre;

- (v) mixed yarn i.e. where the same hank or cone contains yarn of different counts; and

- (vi) hard waste.

The above relaxation shall not prejudice or affect any firm commitments which may already have been made with regard to categories and descriptions of yarn aforesaid under the scheme—prior to 21st June 1973. The control on production and price continues.

2. The above relaxation was further extended to yarn of counts 35s and below from 1st July, 1973 and of counts 40s and below from 4th August, 1973.

Control over Prices of Cloth made of Synthetic mixed Cotton Yarn produced by Various Mills

4516. DR. LAXMINARAIN PANDEYA: Will the the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government exercise any control over the prices of cloth made of synthetic mixed cotton yarns produced by various mills;

(b) whether the prices of such cloth have abnormally been increased since January this year;

(c) if so, the percentage of increase on 30th June, 1973 over the prices on 1st January, 1973 and 1st January, 1972 separately; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken to normalise the prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). An increase ranging between 3.5 per cent to 7 per cent in prices over the 1st January, 1973 level and an increase ranging between 9 per cent to 14.5 per cent over that of 1st January, 1972 has been observed which cannot be considered abnormal in view of the trends in the general price level in the country.

(d) Does not arise.

Export of Raw Material and Half Finished Goods by M/s. Kores India Ltd.

3517. DR. LAXMINARAIN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Kores India Ltd. have been exporting raw materials and half finished goods to foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of the countries, the value in Indian currency of export to each country and the mode of payment of the cost of material exported from 1969-70 to 1972-73, year-wise and country-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b) Information is not available as exporter-wise statistics are not maintained.

भारत और बंगला देश के बीच हुए व्यापार समझौता के अंतर्गत आनेवाली वस्तुएं

3518. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ख) भारत और बंगलादेश के बीच किन वस्तुओं के लिए व्यापार समझौता हुआ है, और

(ख) इस समझौते के अन्तर्गत भारत किन वस्तुओं का आयात करेगा तथा किन का निर्यात करेगा ?

(क) और (ख). शायद माननीय सदस्य का अभिप्राय नये व्यापार करार के अन्तर्गत भारत और बंगलादेश के बीच व्यापार से है, जो 5 जुलाई, 1973 को ढाका में सम्पन्न हुआ था। इस व्यापार करार के अन्तर्गत, जो कि 28 सितम्बर, 1973 से लागू होगा, दो प्रकार के व्यापार की व्यवस्था है :—

(क) प्रत्येक पक्ष के संबंध में 30.5 करोड़ रु० की सीमा तक दोनों देशों के विशेष हित की वस्तुओं के लिए एक सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध; और

(ख) सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध के बाहर व्यापार जो कि सामान्य आयात, निर्यात और विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमों के अनुसार विनियमित है।

2. सन्तुलित व्यापार तथा भुगतान प्रबंध के अन्तर्गत बंगलादेश से आयात की जाने

वाली धीरे उसे निर्यात की जाने वाली वस्तुओं के धीरे संलग्न विवरण में दिये गये हैं।

विवरण

बंगलादेश को निर्यात

वस्तु/माल	मूल्य (लाख रु०)
1	2
1. पूर्ण सीमित भुगतान प्रबंध से अग्रणीत समायोजन	200
2. कोयला	600
3. अनिर्मित तम्बाकू	520
4. सीमेंट	300
5. कपास	750
6. सूत	200
7. सूती वस्त्र	100
8. साइकिल तथा उनके पुर्जे	30
9. स्टोन बीरन्स, हाई बुड (साल तथा टीक सहित), सोफ्ट बुड, बैराइट्स (क्वाइट) चूना तथा चूना पत्थर (सीमेंट बनाने के लिए अपेक्षित क्वालिटी को छोड़कर) डोलो माइट, जिप्सम, बिना बुझा चूना	100
10. पुस्तकें, समाचार पत्र, पत्रिकाएँ तथा वाद्ययंत्र	22
11. आयुर्वेदिक तथा यूनानी औषधियाँ (जड़ीबूटियों तथा कच्ची औषधियों सहित)	20
12. रसायन पदार्थ तथा भेष-ज ीय पदार्थ	20
13. मसाले	10
14. कम मूल्य के फाल्सू पुर्जे, क्षीणरी तथा उपस्कर (50,000 क्षणिक)	50

1	2
15. टूथ ब्रश, शेविंग ब्रश तथा टूथ पेस्ट	3
16. खेलकूद का सामान तथा ग्रेम्स तथा स्पोर्ट्स की अन्य अपेक्षित सामग्री।	15
17. चलचित्र	10
18. विविध (आयात व्यापार नियंत्रण विनियमों के अन्तर्गत अनुमान सीमा तक)	100
1 मिल बट्टा	
2 केन तथा रेटन	
3 शब	
4 सुपारी तथा सुपारी के पत्ते	
5 खिलौने	
6. फल तथा शाक सब्जियाँ जिनमें आलू, भदरक तथा संगतरे शामिल हैं।	
7. ऐसी कोई अन्य मद जिसके बारे में परस्पर सहमति हो जाए।	
	30,50

बंगला देश से आयात

वस्तु/माल	मूल्य (लाख रु०)
1. कच्चा पटसन	2000
2. ताड़ी मछली तथा सुखाई हुई मछली, वाटरफिश-साल्टेड अथवा प्रोसेस्ड	350
3. अखबारी कागज तथा कम बजरी कागज	450

वस्तु/माल	मूल्य (लाख रु०)
4 गाय की गर्ध कमाई खाले जिसमे बेट तथा बल शामिल है	100
5 अर्थशास्त्रिक तथा बाल्यकी औषधिया (जडी बूटियो तथा कच्चे औषधियो) सहित	5
6 पुस्तके, सभाचारपत्र तथा पत्रिकाए	28
7 चलचित्र	10
8 भेषजीय पदार्थ	9
9 मसाले	5
10 सिमूल रुई (केपोका)	5
11 विविध (आयात व्यापार नियंत्रक विनियमों के अन्तर्गत अनुमत आयात सीमा तक)	100
1 मेनश्रीव टेनिन एक्स-ट्रेक्टस (चमड़ा कमाने के वनस्पति पदार्थ)	
2 कूर्म तथा कछुए	
3 मुपारी पत्ते	
4 फल तथा सब्जिया	
5 स्ट्रामेटम	
6 शंड फ्लावर ब्रूमस	
7 सीतल पार्टी	
8 सल-यूरिक एसिड	
9 गीठा	
10 कछुए के खोल	
11 शहद	
12 केबल	
13 पार्टीकल बोर्ड तथा मलार्फन पेपर (पैकिंग तथा रीपिंगपेपर अधिमान्यत सरन. कोटेड किस्म का	

वस्तु/माल	मूल्य (लाख रु०)
14 फर्नेस आयल तथा नैपथा	
15 कोई और अन्य मछे जिनके बारे में परस्पर सहमति हो जाए।	
	3050

हरियाणा में लघु बचत योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत जमा राशि

3519. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या बिस्व मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) वर्ष 1972-73 में हरियाणा राज्य में लघु बचत योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत कितनी राशि जमा हुई,

(ख) अप्रैल, 1973 के दौरान कितनी राशि निकाली गई और

(ग) जमा राशि और निकाली गई राशि में हरियाणा सरकार और अन्य का अनुम. अलग शेयर कितना है ?

(क) अल्प बचत जमा योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत 1972-73 में हरियाणा राज्य में 22 77 करोड़ रुपये की शुद्ध राशि जमा हुई ।

(ख) अप्रैल, 1973 में 19 11 करोड़ रुपये की रकम निकाली गई ।

(ग) शुद्ध अल्प बचत सग्रह का दो-तिहाई भाग मन्त्र राज्यो को ऋणों के रूप में दे दिया जाता है तथा शेष एक तिहाई भाग भारत सरकार द्वारा रख लिया जाता है, इस प्रकार अर्द्धतः 1972 से मार्च 73 के दौरान हरियाणा सरकार का अल्प बचत सग्रह के मन्त्र में दिये जाने वाले अल्प

की रकम 1518 करोड़ रुपये बैठ रही है। अगले 1973 में शुद्ध सयह की (-) 7.46 करोड़ रुपये की रकम को हिस्से में लेने के बाद हरियाणा सरकार द्वारा जूट लेने के अधिकार की राशि 10 21 करोड़ रुपये निर्धारित की गई थी।

Closing of 'Forward Market Trade in Agricultural Commodities

3520 SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering closing of Forward Market Trade in all agricultural commodities in certain centres where it is going on under the approval of Government, and

(b) if not, whether Delhi is proposed to be considered for Forward Market Trade at least in some commodities?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) and (b) No, Sir

Agitation Contemplated by Akhil Bharatiya Swarnkar Sangh

3521 SHRI ANNASAHAB GOKHINDE Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Akhil Bharatiya Swarnkar Sangh has cautioned Government regarding the nation-wide agitation contemplated by the said Sangh, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Akhil Bharatiya Swarnkar Sangh had on previous occasions also put forth the difficulties experienced by the goldsmiths, and the Government, after giving sympathetic consideration thereto, had, from time to time, given relief to the goldsmiths

wherever possible. The difficulties of goldsmiths would continue to be considered sympathetically and further relief within the framework of the Gold Control Law will be given where considered necessary.

Discussion between Prime Minister and U.S. Ambassador regarding Development Assistance to India

3522 DR. RANEN SEN. Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Ambassador in New Delhi, Mr Daniel P. Moynihan, had recently called on the Prime Minister and discussed the future of Indo-U.S. Co-operation in the field of developmental assistance

(b) whether any concrete proposals had been made by the Ambassador in this connection;

(c) if so, what; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Yea, Sir

(b) to (c) The U.S. Ambassador indicated the desire of the United States Government to discuss with the Government of India the basis of a new economic relationship. Government have welcomed this approach

Steps taken to arrest of rupee

3523 DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) to what extent the value of rupee has gone down in the last ten years as a result of price rise and inflation,

(b) whether the erosion of money is acting as a disincentive for long-term savings, like life insurance policies and fixed deposits; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to arrest the falling value of money?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRA CHAVAN):**

(a) The value of the Rupee, as measured by the All India Index Number of Consumer Prices for Industrial Workers (1960-100), declined from 92.59 paise in 1962-63 to 48.31 paise in 1972-73, i.e., by 47.82 per cent in a period of ten years.

(b) and (c) Personal savings are affected by a variety of factors and it is not possible to assess separately the effects of any one factor. The available data show that life insurance business completed in India and time deposits with the scheduled commercial banks have shown a continuous rise during the last ten years.

Voluntary Pact Regarding Prices and Quota between Spinning and Weaving Steps Taken to Arrest Falling Value Units of Nylon and Silk Industry

3524 **SHRI P. M. MEHTA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the voluntary pact regarding prices and quota between spinning and weaving units of Nylon and art silk industry is not working satisfactorily as a result of which the prices of Nylon, Rayon and other yarn had shot up;

(b) if so, the reasons for the pact not working satisfactorily; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to check their prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) and (b) There are three Voluntary Agreements between spinners and weavers of art silk industry:—

(i) Voluntary Agreement between spinners and weavers of staple fibre spun yarn. This agreement is working satisfactorily;

(ii) Voluntary Agreement between Spinner & Weavers of viscose rayon filament yarn. By and large this agreement is also working satisfactorily. One of the units has, however, stopped supplies of yarn under this agreement on the con-

sideration that their unit is the smallest and is not working economically.

(iii) Voluntary agreement between the spinners and weavers of Nylon yarn is under strain mainly because the spinners are trying to pass in the excise duty on polymer chips, which has now been merged with duty, to the weavers, and because of fall in production of nylon yarn following global shortage of the raw material required viz., caprolactum.

(c) The Government is persuading the Spinners & Weavers to sort out their differences expeditiously.

Cotton Purchased by Cotton Corporation of India

3525. **SHRI P. M. MEHTA:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have directed the Cotton Corporation of India to purchase cotton worth Rs 500 crores;

(b) whether this decision was taken to ensure a fair price to the cotton growers.

(c) whether the Cotton Corporation has purchased cotton worth Rs 500 crores; and

(d) if so, to what extent this has helped the cotton growers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) to (d). The Cotton Corporation of India was directed to purchase domestic cotton worth Rs 500 crores during the current cotton-season (September, 1972-August, 1973) at ruling market prices with a view to ensuring fair price to cotton growers. However, because of stability in cotton prices which started showing upward trends during March, 1973 onwards, it was not considered necessary to undertake massive purchases as the ruling market prices were much above the support prices announced for the current season. The Corporation has purchased 3.88 lakh bales of cotton valued at Rs. 45 crores during the current cotton season.

Work-to-Rule by Officers of State Trading Corporation

3526. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the talks between the management and the officers of the State Trading Corporation have failed and the officers have started work-to-rule since 20th July, 1973;

(b) if so, what were the reasons for failure of talks; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken by Government to settle the issue?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). The demands of the officers of the State Trading Corporation are under consideration. In the meanwhile however the officers have started a work-to-rule agitation to press their demands.

Missing File in Respect of M/s Karnatak Export House

3527. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have traced out the file of Messrs Karnatak Export House which was reported to be missing; and

(b) whether any enquiry has been conducted in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Enquiries have been made. The file, in question, has not been traced so far. Steps have already been taken to reconstruct the file by collecting copies of relevant papers.

Grant from Ford Foundation for Research Project in Pantnagar Agricultural University

3528. SHRI RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the acceptance of Ford Foundation grant for research project

to be operated by the Pantnagar Agricultural University; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor in view of Government's policy to discard foreign aid by and by?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India have approved the acceptance of a Ford Foundation grant by G B Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, for strengthening the social sciences applied to developing human and natural resources in rural areas.

(b) The policy of progress towards self-reliance does not imply immediate or total elimination of all foreign cooperation. In strict appliance of the criterion of essentiality, in consultation with all the concerned governmental agencies and in conformity with the standard clearance procedure, this grant proposal has been approved.

Increase in Deficit Financing during Fifth Plan

3529. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deficit financing is likely to increase during the Fifth Plan; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to avoid such an increase?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) and (b) The scheme of financing the Fifth Plan as envisaged by the Planning Commission in its document, 'Approach to the Fifth Plan: 1974-79', is to keep the quantum of deficit financing to the level at which the consequential increase in money supply with the public and aggregate demand will not exceed the requirements of the economy arising from growth in real terms. The quantum of deficit financing to be incurred during the Fifth Plan will be determined accordingly and the steps to

be taken to confine deficit financing within these limits will be spelled out in the Fifth Plan document

Annual General Meeting of Indo-German Chamber of Commerce held in Bombay

3530 SHRI R V SWAMINATHAN Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the 17th Annual General Meeting of the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce was held in Bombay on 19th July, 1973,

(b) if so, the subjects discussed

(c) whether any agreement has been reached to improve the trade between the two countries, and

(d) if so to what extent it will be increased?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The progress of Indo FRG trade in broad spectrum

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

Decision in Regard to Allowing of Interest subsidy in Financing of Power-Looms in the Cooperative Sector

3531 SHRI M M JOSEPH Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the question of allowing interest subsidy in the financing of powerlooms in the co-operative sector so as to enable the societies to get assistance at the concessional rate of interest of 4-1/2 per cent

(b) if so a gist thereof and

(c) if not the time by which it is likely to be decided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) to (c) The matter is still under consideration

Weavers Service Centre at Cannanore

3532 SHRI M M JOSEPH. Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government had considered the establishment of a 'Weavers' Service Centre at Cannanore,

(b) the reasons for not setting up the same so far, and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE) (a) to (c) Government have already sanctioned the setting up of a Weavers' Service Centre in Cannanore in Kerala. The Centre is expected to start functioning very soon

Plan to Replace Obsolete Transmitters Installed Various Airports

3533 SHRI M M JOSEPH Will THE Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have chalked out any plan to replace the obsolete transmitters installed at various airports to avoid frequent air crashes and

(b) if so the broad outlines thereof and progress achieved in this regard

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR KARAN SINGH) (a) and (b) Action is being taken to improve and strengthen our aeronautical communication services. Orders for 100 medium power transmitter sets have been placed to replace some existing equipment and it is proposed to acquire additional sets next year. As far as Government are aware transmitters have not been the cause of any aircraft accident in the country

Ban on production of Bordered Dhooties and Coloured Sarees by Mills

3534. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH:
SHRI C. H. MOHAMMAD
KOYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to impose any ban on the production of bordered dhooties and coloured sarees by Mills and also to reserve the items such as turkish towels, sports shirting etc., for production by the Handloom Sector as urged by the State Government of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). The reservations made in form of the handloom and powerloom sectors in regard to the lines of production will be reviewed shortly in the context of the proposals for formulation of the development plans for the two industries during the 5th Five Year Plan.

Overtime Allowance paid to Central Government Employees

3535. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of overtime allowance paid to the Central Government Employees during the last three years, in various Departments, Department-wise;

(b) whether this increase in overtime allowance is due to insufficient number of employees to cope with the work, or whether it is because of go-slow policy of the employees or decrease in efficiency;

(c) if so, the reasons for not recruiting new employees; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) A statement giving the required information in respect of Secretariat offices for the years 1971-72 and 1972-73, which is readily available, is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5422/73]. The information for 1970-71 is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(b) to (d). The increase is due to a variety of reasons. As a result of the economy measures taken by Government to contain non-productive expenditure as also due to delay in filling up vacant posts, it is possible that shortages of staff in some areas may have occurred thereby contributing to overtime expenditure on occasions when urgent work has got to be done. In some establishments the increase in overtime bill may be on account of the nature of their activities. The entire question is however being reviewed in the light of the Third Pay Commission's recommendations.

Arrears of Income-tax outstanding against Industrialists in Rajasthan

3536. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Income-tax arrears to be recovered from the industrialists in Rajasthan;

(b) the reasons for not recovering the arrears of Income-tax from these industrialists and the time by which it will be recovered;

(c) the names of the officials responsible for the delay in recovering the Income-tax arrears from these persons; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the defaulting officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (d). For the purpose of levy of income-tax, assessee are not classified according to their source of income, profession or vocation. Therefore, the requisite information in respect of industrialists in Rajasthan is not available. However, if the Hon'ble Member desires

to have information about any particular assessee, the same will be collected and furnished.

2. Information readily available in respect of assessee in Rajasthan Charge with arrears exceeding Rs. 1 lakh, Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 10 lakhs on various dates is as under:

	Date	Total number of assessee
Arrears exceeding Rs. 1 lakh	31-3-1972	49
Arrears exceeding Rs. 5 lakhs	31-12-1972	6
Arrears exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs	31-3-1973	1

India's Foreign Exchange Reserves

3537. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether country's foreign reserves showed a sharp decline of Rs. 36.93 crores to Rs. 448.77 crores during the week ending 6th July, 1973;

(b) what is the latest foreign exchange reserves position; and

(c) the reasons for the decline?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) No, Sir. There was no decline but an increase. The amount of Rs. 448.77 crores, representing Reserve Bank's holdings of foreign exchange, was higher by Rs. 48.37 crores as compared with the previous week, mainly because of gain of Rs. 43.41 crores due to revaluation of these holdings.

(b) Foreign Exchange holdings of the Reserve Bank of India amounted to 461.81 crores on the 10th August, 1973. In addition the Bank held gold valued at Rs. 182.53 crores and SDRs equivalent to Rs. 183.94 crores.

(c) Does not arise

Subjects discussed at the Meeting of Committee of 20 held in Washington in July, 1973

3538. DR. H. P. SHARMA:

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he went to attend the meeting of the Committee of Twenty, set up by the IMF to recommend a scheme for international monetary reforms, held in Washington on 30th and 31st July, 1973.

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussions at the meeting; and

(c) the proposal made by the Indian delegation at that meeting and the response of the members of the Committee thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5423/73].

Understanding between India and Bangladesh not to undercut each other in Fixation of Jute Prices

3539. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Bangladesh have lately come to an understanding not to undercut each other in the fixation of jute price;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the agreement; and

(c) the main advantages that are likely to accrue to India's jute growers and jute industry as a result of this agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Negotiations are taking place between the two countries from time to time to work out coordinated strategy for protection of jute economy of the two countries and methods of eliminating harmful competition in the world market. The details of agreement have not yet been finalised.

Adverse effect of Bilateral Trade Pact with Sudan on Tea Trade

3540. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bottlenecks in the implementation of the bilateral trade pact with Sudan have adversely affected the tea trade;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to resolve this crisis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). A payments problem in the Trade Arrangement between India and Sudan has cropped up recently. The present es-

timated deficit in the Indo-Sudan trade is in the region of £10 million. To prevent the situation from deteriorating any further, a temporary embargo on Indian exports to Sudan has been imposed. This covers all commodities including Tea.

(c) A high powered Sudanese delegation is coming shortly for resolving this issue.

UNCTAD's Study on Best Service Payments by Developing Countries

3541. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: PAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the 'Patriot' dated the 5th July, 1973 under the heading "Aid helps givers"; and

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRA CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) The Government is aware of the mounting debt service burden of the developing countries which has been aggravated by the shortfall in concessionary aid and greater resort to private flows on hard terms. Government have repeatedly emphasised in international forums, the need for developed countries to fulfill the aid goals of the strategy for the Second Development Decade and to provide greater access in their markets for the products of developing countries. Government have also stressed the need for debt relief as a legitimate form of aid transfer.

Proposal to fix Uniform and Controlled Prices for Edible Oils in the country

3542. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: SHRI P. M. MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation has planned for the import of a large quantity of edible oils, 77,000

tonnes of which are to be delivered between now and the end of November;

(b) if so, the reasons why there is inadequate supply of edible oils to the consumers even after getting the import; and

(c) whether Government propose to fix uniform and controlled prices for edible oils in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A C GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir. The S.T.C. will import substantial quantities of vegetable oils between now and November 1973.

(b) There is general shortage of vegetable oils in the country as well as the world over.

(c) No, Sir.

Announcement by R.B.I. prohibiting acceptance of Fresh Deposits by Gujarat Saving Unit Private Ltd.

3543. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank has announced that it has prohibited Gujarat saving Unit Private Ltd. from accepting from the public 'fresh deposits' whether by sale of units, certificates, other instruments or otherwise, in view of its non-compliance with certain provisions of the directions issued by the Reserve Bank of India; and

(b) the main charges against them and further action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India issued an order to the Gujarat Saving Unit Pvt. Ltd., on 20th July 1973 prohibiting it from accepting any deposits in any form, whether by way of sale of units, certificates or other instruments or otherwise.

(b) According to the Reserve Bank, the Gujarat Saving Unit Pvt. Ltd., had

contravened the provisions of Non-Banking Financial Companies (Reserve Bank) directions, 1966 by—

- (i) accepting fresh deposits after 1-1-1972;
- (ii) exceeding the ceiling relating to the holding of deposits; and
- (iii) not complying with the requirements relating to specifying certain particulars in the advertisements issued by it.

The Company filed a writ petition in the Bombay High Court on 30-7-73 against the Reserve Bank's Order and obtained an interim injunction against the Reserve Bank restraining it from taking any further action in the matter pending disposal of the petition.

Smuggling of Films out of India

3544. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether his attention has been invited to the news item which appeared in the 'Blitz' dated the 21st July, 1973 to the effect that the Indian Customs is responsible for the large-scale smuggling of Indian films abroad; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In order to ensure that only these films which are declared for export in the shipping documents are exported, all the packages in consignments of films are invariably examined. About 90 per cent of the films are exported under claims of drawback and are received for export under seals of the Central Excise Inspector posted at the processing laboratory. Such films are accompanied by certificates from these Inspectors about the correctness of the declared particulars.

Further, before permitting the export of film consignments the Customs Officers physically check the number of reels, the title of the film, size marked length with reference to the declaration in the shipping documents and the Censor Board Certificate. All the reels are opened for verifying the title of the film and necessary check of the star cast is also made.

It has also been reported that there is little possibility of censored objectionable portions being included in the films presented for export, since objectionable portions of the films are deleted from the negatives and are kept by the Censor Board.

Constitution of Divisional and General Councils L.I.C.

3545. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has not constituted the Divisional and General Councils; and

(b) if so, the reasons for their non-constitution?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). The LIC has not yet been able to constitute a General Council at the All-India level and Divisional Councils at the Divisional level due to certain difficulties in the nomination of employees' representatives. There is no recognised union of Class III and Class IV employees and the Associations representing class I and class II Officers have not submitted panels of names to represent them. The matter is under consideration.

Installation of a Computer by L.I.C. for its office at London

3546. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Life Insurance Corporation is contemplating to instal a Computer for its office at London which has only 20 Assistants; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to curb spending of foreign exchange on the project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No remittance of foreign exchange from India is involved as the purchase and maintenance of the computer will be met out of the premium income of the Corporation in the United Kingdom.

Implementation of A.R.C.'s recommendations by LIC reopening of Full-fledged Branch Offices in districts

3547. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has not so far implemented the Administrative Reform Commission's recommendations for opening full-fledged Branch Offices in every District of the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons for its non-implementation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). The LIC is making continuous efforts to expand into areas not adequately reached, and in this process opens new servicing Offices every year. In order that the cost of operating new Branches is not excessive, and that the new offices come to function as viable units, the L.I.C. takes into account the relative development of the areas to be covered as also the number of policies to be serviced. It has therefore not been possible for the LIC to open full fledged Branch Offices in every District of the country. As on 31-3-72 the LIC had a Branch Office or Sub-office in 262 out of 340 districts in the various States of India. During the year 1972-73 new offices have been opened in four more districts where previously there were no Branches.

Opening of Branches of Nationalised Banks in Orissa

3548. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Branches of nationalised banks opened in the Orissa as far; and

(b) whether there is any proposal open more Branches of the banks in the backward and the tribal areas to serve the needy people in Fifth Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The number of bank offices in Orissa increased from 100 on the eve of bank nationalisation to 225 as at the end of June, 1973. The bank group-wise distribution is set out below:

Bank Group	No. of offices as on 19-7-1969	No. of offices as on 30-6-1973
State Bank of India	58	123
14 Nationalised Banks	38	89
Other	4	13
	100	225

(b) Currently licences/allotments are pending with the banks for opening 54 more offices in Orissa. The Reserve Bank of India has advised all commercial banks to pay particular attention to backward areas while drawing up their three year rolling plans for branch expansion.

Limit of Renewal Expense Ratio of L.I.C.

3549. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the upper limit of the renewal expense ratio of 15 per cent inhibits the Life Insurance Corporation from expanding into the rural areas by opening more offices; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are proposing to take to change this yard stick?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Amount of Loan advanced by Public Sector Banks to Agriculture and Industrialists in Kerala

3550. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan advanced by the Public Sector banking institutions to the agriculturists and industrialists in Kerala during the last three years; and

(b) how it compares with the pre-nationalisation figures, Sector-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b). The figures of outstandings of advances made by public sector banks to agriculture and small scale industries (data of advances to industrialists not available) as at the end of June 1969 and September 1972 with percentage increase are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

	Amount outstanding		
	June 1969	Sept. 1972	% age increase
Direct advances to agriculture (excluding plantation)	3.44	11.56	236
Small Scale Industries	21.44	35.21	638

Grant of Exemption from Payment of Excise Duty to P.V.C. Films etc., produced by Process other than Extrusion

3551. SHRI D. N. SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Finance Ministry under their notification No. 39/73, dated the 1st March, 1973 granted exemption to rigid polyvinyl chloride films of thickness below 0.25 mm., flexible polyvinyl chloride films of thickness below 0.25 mm. and polyvinyl chloride lay flat tubings from payment of Central Excise duty, if these are produced by EXTRUSION PROCESS by small scale industry;

(b) whether certain Small Scale Industrial units which manufacture the above products by process other than extrusion are not entitled to the above exemptions; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Units which manufacture the above products by process other than extrusion are not entitled to the above exemption.

(c) At the time this exemption notification was issued, it was brought to the notice of this Ministry that the products mentioned in this notification are manufactured by the small scale industrial units through extrusion process and that they require excise duty relief. These goods are also manufactured through calender process by the larger sector. With a view to exclude such larger units from the scope of this exemption, it was confined to the products when manufactured by extrusion process

दुडला (आगरा) में रेलवे के एक भूतपूर्व गार्ड के घर से लकड़ी और मोने के आभूषणों का पकड़ा जाना

3552. श्री हुकम चन्द लुहाना : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या दुडला जिला आगरा में रेलवे के एक भूतपूर्व गार्ड के घर से मारे गए छात्रों के परिणामस्वरूप केन्द्रीय स. मा. शु. क. विभाग के अधिकारियों द्वारा मोने के आभूषण और लकड़ी पकड़ी गयी थी ;

(ख) पकड़े गए इस मोने के आभूषणों का भारतीय मुद्रा में मूल्य क्या है , और

(ग) यह धन व्यक्ति के किस वया कार्यवाही की गयी है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. आर. गणेश) (क) में (ग). केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क अधिकारियों ने 21 जून, 1973 को आगरा जिले में दुडला नामक स्थान पर रेलवे के एक गार्ड के घर की तलाशी की। बताया गया है कि उक्त व्यक्ति पिछले दो वर्षों से छुट्टी पर है और उस का कहना है कि उसने सौदा समझौता नहीं की गयी है। 68,664 रुपये के स्वर्ण आभूषण स्वर्ण (नियंत्रण) अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत और दो लाख रुपये मूल्य की भारतीय मुद्रा सीमा शुल्क अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत पकड़ी गई है। संश्लिष्ट धन को 22 जून, 1973 को गिरफ्तार किया गया था और उसे सेजन्त जज ने सजा उपागत मजूर की है। आगे जांच जारी है।

“कार्यकारो” के रूप में वर्गीकृत केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को बोनस देना

3554. श्री धनराज प्रधान : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा केन्द्रीय सरकार के उन कर्मचारियों को जिन्हें कर्मचारियों के रूप में वर्गीकृत किया गया है, बोनस देने सम्बन्धी कोई निर्णय किया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका स्वरूप क्या है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के. आर. गणेश) : (क) और (ख) बोनस अधिनियम 1947 के अन्तर्गत केन्द्रीय सरकार के

विभागीय उद्योगों के कारिगरी बोनस पाने के हकदार नहीं हैं फिर भी, बोनस समीक्षा समिति ने एक प्रस्तावनी विहित मंत्रालय को जारी की है और इस प्रश्न पर उनके विचार मांगे हैं ?

Agitation by Shiv Sena in regard to selling of commodities at prices prevailing in 1968

3555. PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shiv Sena in Bombay had organised agitation to compel retailers to sell the commodities at prices prevailing in 1968;

(b) whether the agitation was withdrawn in view of the meeting of manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers convened by the Chief Minister of Maharashtra to consider steps for reducing prices; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been given by the Centre regarding the steps to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. The State Governments have been delegated powers under the Essential Commodities Act to deal with local situations. Specific proposals are examined by the Central Government in the light of the overall situation.

Demand made by Central Government employees in regard to linking of D.A. with rise in cost of living

3556. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made by the Central Government Employees' representatives that there should be automatic linking of Dearness Allowance with the rise in cost of living;

(b) whether this is being done in many industries in private sector:

(c) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have also taken a similar decision in the case of Electricity Workers; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government and to what extent Government propose to concede this demand of the employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

..(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible. Central Government do not follow the practice of the private sector industries or of the State Governments in this matter.

(d) The Third Pay Commission's recommendations in this behalf are under the consideration of Government

जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा मध्य प्रदेश में पांच लाख रुपये से अधिक की राशि के लिए नए ऋण

3557. श्री बंगल चरण बीरल : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम नेगत तीन वर्षों में प्रलय-प्रलय, मध्य प्रदेश में पांच लाख रुपये से अधिक की राशि के कितने ऋण दिये हैं ; और

(ख) इन ऋणों की प्राप्त करने वाली पार्टियों के नाम क्या हैं ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (बीज्जती सुसीला रोहिलगी) : (क) भारत के जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा पिछले 3 वर्षों में 5 लाख रुपये से ज्यादा रकमों के बी ऋण मध्य प्रदेश में दिये गये हैं उनकी सख्या नीचे दी गयी है :-

वर्ष	कुर्बों की संख्या
(i) 1970-71	4
(ii) 1971-72	9
1972-73	5

(ख) जिनको ये ज्ञान दिये गये हैं, उनके नाम नीचे दिये गये हैं :-

- (1) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार की विभिन्न योजनाओं के लिये प्रावास
- (2) मध्य प्रदेश राज्य बिजली बोर्ड
- (3) भोपाल नगर पालिका परिषद
- (4) बीना इटावा नगर पालिका परिषद
- (5) हरदा नगर पालिका परिषद
- (6) इंदौर नगर पालिका परिषद
- (7) जबलपुर नगर पालिका परिषद
- (8) खारमोन नगर पालिका परिषद
- (9) राजवड नगर पालिका परिषद
- (10) शहोल नगर पालिका परिषद
- (11) मोरेना मंडल सहकारा श्रमकर कारखाना लिमिटेड

Cut in cloth Export incentives from October, 1973

355b. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Cloth Export incentives have been drastically cut under the new incentives scheme which is to come into force from October, 1973, if so, the broad outlines of the cuts;

(b) the reasons for such cuts; and

(c) how it is likely to affect the export prospects in respect of cloth?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI R. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Perhaps the reference is to each incentives on exports of cotton textiles. Government do not give any cash incentives in respect of cotton textiles exports and hence the question of their making reduction in the quantum of cash assistance does not arise. However, Government is giving a grant to the Indian Cotton Mills' Federation to compensate for the incidence of certain non-refundable internal taxes on exported textile goods.

The Indian Cotton Mills' Federation which has been operating on a voluntary basis a scheme for export assistance for cotton textiles is reported to have decided on a reduction in the quantum of assistance from 1-10-1973 in view of the current boom in the export markets and the feasibility of better unit realisation. The reduction in quantum of assistance is not likely to affect adversely the cotton textiles exports.

Percentage of Harijans Employed by Nationalised Banks, Reserve Bank of India and other Financial Institutions

3559. SHRI B. V. NAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the percentage of Harijans employed by 14 nationalised banks, Reserve Bank of India and other public financial institutions under the control of his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): The percentage of Scheduled Castes employed by 14 nationalised banks, Reserve Bank of India, State Bank Group and Industrial Finance Corporation of India as on 31-12-72 is as under:

Fourteen Nationalised Banks:	2.5%
Reserve Bank of India & its associate institutions:	7.7%

State Bank Group:	5.1%
Industrial Finance Corporation of India:	5.1%

Information in respect of other Financial Institutions under the Ministry of Finance is being collected.

Time taken for Finalising Applications by IDBI, ICICI and IFC etc.

3560. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the average time taken, based on the experience of the last two years for finalizing applications by the financial institutions like I.D.B.I., I.C.I.C.I. and I.F.C.;

(b) when their operational procedures were laid down; and

(c) whether Government have considered the question of laying down new guidelines to streamline the procedures for quicker disposal of applications and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a): The all-India long term public financial institutions generally handle projects which involve sizeable financial outlay. The disposal of any application for financial assistance depends on the applicants' furnishing adequate information, in proper time, and in undertaking to the satisfaction of the financial institutions various preliminary steps like obtaining of governmental clearances and approvals, floating of a company, bringing in the necessary capital as promoters contribution, arranging for adequate infra-structure inputs like land, water, power etc.

On the basis of a study of the sanctions accorded during the last two years, the time generally taken by these institutions for appraising a project and sanctioning the assistance, including the time taken by the applicants to furnish the necessary information, have varied between 2 to 11 months. However, the financial insti-

tutions do try to ensure to reduce further the time taken so that the applications are disposed of without any avoidable delay.

(b) and (c): The operational procedures of the institutions have been evolved by themselves, since the very beginning of their establishment and these are continually reviewed and modified in the light of the experience gained.

For the guidance of the applicants, they have brought out brochures. The institutions have opened branches and have strengthened their technical and financial staff whom the applicants can construct about the prerequisites, such as necessary approvals or clearances of Government, which are essential before consideration of an application.

The institutions undertake periodic review of the various time-lags between the receipt of applications, sanction, documentation and disbursement and revise the procedure to reduce such time-lags to the extent practicable and feasible. On the basis of experience gained, the financial institutions continually review the procedure with a view to further streamline their operations.

India's Foreign Exchange Reserves

3561. SHRI S. R. DAMANI:
SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of India's foreign exchange reserves;

(b) the extent to which the position has improved as a result of last year's trade surplus; and

(c) what will be the effect of imports in current year of food-grains, edible oils, steels, fertilizers etc. on the reserves?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):**

(a) Foreign Exchange holdings of the Reserve Bank of India amounted to Rs. 461.81 crores on the 10th August, 1973. In addition, the Bank held gold valued at Rs. 182.53 crores and SDRs equivalent of Rs. 183.94 crores.

(b) Balance of payments data for 1972-73 are not available. It is therefore, not possible to say to what extent the position improved due to the last year's trade surplus. It is known, however, that there was a decline in reserves in 1972-73 as compared with the increase of nearly Rs 42 crores in the previous year.

(c) The effect of imports of items mentioned will naturally be to increase the outgo of foreign exchange; their effect on the reserves will depend on the performance of exports and other items in the country's balance of payments.

Representation made by Bihar Chambers of Commerce regarding suspension of work of Clearing House at Bank of Baroda

3562 SHRI R. N. SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the representation No. 1344 dated the 12th July, 1973 by the Bihar Chamber of Commerce, Patna Branch, regarding the suspension of work of the Clearing House at the Bank of Baroda and whether the accumulation of work has gone up to Rupees fifty crores, and

(b) if so, whether he proposes to intervene in the matter and bring about an early settlement?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):**

(a) and (b) Government have received the representation from Bihar Chamber of Commerce, Patna. The Reserve Bank of India has stated that due to the suspension of clearing house in Patna, 45,000 cheques worth

Rs. 30 crores were reported to have piled up in the local banks up to 11th July, 1973. With the resumption of clearing house with effect from 13th July, with the Bank of Baroda voluntarily withdrawing from the clearing house, the cheques with the banks were cleared. It has, however, been reported that the clearing house has been suspended from 13th August, 73 consequent on the Bank of Baroda participating in the clearing from that date.

Grant of special pay of persons responsible for disbursement of cash Money.

3563. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether *vide* Finance Ministry's Circular No. F. 11(42)-E. III/60 dated 28-6-62 certain special pay has been granted to the persons who are responsible for disbursement of cash money; and

(b) whether these orders are applicable to all those persons who are connected with the collection and payment of cash, working in all the Government Departments, including Railways?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R.
GANESH):** (a) and (b). Special pay at the rates specified in Finance Ministry's Circular referred to in the question is admissible in an Office/Department to one official of the level of LDC UDC Assistant, who may be appointed to perform the duties of Cashier. This special pay is not admissible where separate posts of Cashier have been provided carrying separate scales of pay of their own e.g. in the Departments of Exposives, Printing & Stationery, Railways etc.

Meeting of the Loan Requirements of Agriculturists in Mundiampakkam Area in Tamil Nadu

3564. SHRI M. R. LAKSHMINARAYANAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5437 on the 30th March, 1973 and state:

(a) the name of the bank which is catering for the needs of the agriculturists in Mundiampakkam area of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether this Bank is meeting all the requirements of agriculturists in helping agricultural development;

(c) whether it is the policy of Government not to open the branches of Agricultural Development Bank, where other commercial Banks are functioning and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount advanced to small and big farmers other than the loan given to the sugarcane crop guaranteed by the sugar factories and the number of such farmers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The United Commercial Bank branch functioning at Mundiampakkam is providing banking facilities to the population in the surrounding areas including the agriculturists. This is in addition to the facilities provided by the Villupuram Branch of the South Arthol District Central Cooperative Bank. State Bank of India has been also allowed to open an Agricultural Development Branch at Villupuram Taluka Headquarters which is located at a distance of only 8 Kms. from Mundiampakkam.

(b) The United Commercial Bank Branch, within its area of operation, is trying to meet the credit requirements of agriculturists for various agricultural operations.

(c) There is no Agricultural Development Bank as such in the country.

Keeping in view the existing banking facilities and the local potentials of a particular place, licences for opening branches by commercial banks (including agricultural development branches of the State Bank of India) are granted by the Reserve Bank of India.

(d) The United Commercial Bank branch at Mundiampakkam has already provided crop loans of Rs. 1,01,000 to 53 small farmers in addition to providing Rs. 2,96,000 as crop loan and term loan to other farmers involving 60 accounts.

Steps to attract tourists to sea shore of Mysore

3565. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to attract tourists to the long and beautiful sea shore of Mysore state; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) No Schemes have been taken up in the coastal area of Mysore in the Central Sector.

(b) Does not arise.

Training Programme for Staff and Officers of Public Sector Banks

3566. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector banks have drawn up a training programme for staff and officers;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) how far it is going to help the banks in improving their working and efficiency in the service to the public?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. With a view to improving the manpower resources public sector banks have been strengthening training facilities. The training programmes drawn up by them broadly provide for—

(i) induction training to the new entrants in the public sector banks.

(ii) branch management training to support the branch expansion programme.

(iii) priority sector courses to stimulate advances to this sector

(iv) executive development training to meet the management needs of the public sector banks.

Proposal to ban Export of Natural Rubber under Export Promotion Incentive Scheme.

3567. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK:

SHRI BIRENDER SINGH
RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the proposal of Rubber Board to include natural rubber in the list of banned items under the Export Promotion Incentive Scheme; and

(b) if so, the nature of decision taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Government of India have imposed total ban on import of natural rubber from the licensing period April 1973-March, 1974.

Grant of Foreign Exchange to Directors of Maruti Ltd. for going to Germany.

3568 SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two Directors of Maruti Limited, Shri Sanjay Gandhi and Shri Sudhir Kapadia, visited Germany last year for about two weeks;

(b) if so, what was the purpose of their visit and what was the amount of foreign exchange allowed to them;

(c) whether it is a condition of the Letter of Intent issued to Maruti Limited that no foreign collaboration or consultancy would be allowed; and

(d) if so, the reason for sanctioning foreign exchange to the two Directors of the Company in violation of the conditions of the Letter of Intent?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE
(SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN):

(a) and (b). In March 1972 the Reserve Bank of India released foreign exchange to the extent of Rs. 3,528/- in favour of Shri Sanjay Gandhi for a visit to U.K., West Germany and Czechoslovakia for a period of 21 days. This was for a study tour-cum-training in motor car manufacturing units. While abroad he was required to study the proto-types of various cars with a view to submit proposals to Government in connection with a small car project. Shri Kapadia was not released any foreign exchange for a visit to Germany.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Release of foreign exchange was to facilitate submission of proto-types to Government and was not in violation of any of the conditions imposed in the letter of intent.

Decision on contraband goods seized from the baggage of Balyogeshwar

3569. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI:
SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken with regard to seizure of contraband goods and cash from the baggage of Balyogeshwar on the 7th November, 1972 at Delhi airport,

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof;

(c) whether he has been permitted to go abroad; and

(d) if so, by whom the permission was given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). The Customs adjudication proceedings in this case are continuing. The parties concerned had replied to the Show Cause Notices. The defence counsels of the persons concerned had requested for time till 4th August, 1973 for filing written arguments. However, the counsel for Shri Prem Pal Singh Rawat alias Balyogeshwar requested on 30-7-73 that he should be permitted to cross examine Shri Bihari Singh one of the persons charged in this case, before filing the written arguments. Shri Bihari Singh is a person concerned in this case and objected to his being cross-examined as he cannot be compelled to be a witness against himself. The request for his cross examination has therefore, been turned down. The counsel for Shri Prem Pal Singh Rawat and the other persons concerned have been asked to submit their written arguments without any further delay. The case will be adjudicated thereafter.

(c) and (d). After getting 'No Objection Certificate' from the Directorate of Enforcement, the Reserve Bank of India permitted Shri Balyogeshwar to go abroad.

Woollen rags seized by Customs

3570. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken with regard to woollen rags seized by the Customs last year; and

(b) if so, what?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). In respect of woollen rags seized by Customs authorities last year, customs authorities have initiated departmental adjudication proceedings in the following types of cases:

(i) where wearable garments had been sold, seized from dealers or seized in towns where there were no facilities for conversion into shoddy yarn.

(ii) Where there is evidence of under-valuation.

(iii) when percentage of woollen fibre in the seized consignment is less than 50 per cent.

(iv) where there is evidence that the garments had been cut at the seams to deliberately by-pass Customs.

It has also been decided that in addition to the departmental adjudication proceedings, the C.B.I. will investigate and launch prosecution where there is adequate evidence for prosecution against an importer.

Agreement between India and USA for supply of bicycles

3571. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL:
SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the U.S.A. have signed an agreement for the supply of Indian bicycles to the U.S.A.;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the agreement; and

(c) when and how many bicycles will be supplied to the U.S.A.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) (a) to (c): No agreement has been signed between Government of India and U.S.A. for supply of Indian bicycles to U.S.A. However, some Indian cycle manufacturers have secured orders from U.S. firms for supply of 2,40,000 nos. of Racing Models of bicycles fitted with 3 speed hubs for delivery by March, 1974.

12.00 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

POWER CRISIS IN DELHI

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (KANPUR): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Power crisis in Delhi."

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): The total installed generating capacity including diesel power in Delhi is 270 MW, after deduction of the capacity of one machine of 62.5 MW the power from which is earmarked for Haryana as it was financed by Haryana and after making allowance for the loss in performance of the very old machines. DESU gets also 80 MW of power from Bhakra as its entitlement. Thus the total availability for Delhi is 350 MW, while the present peak load is about 250 MW. The peak load this year varied from 230 MW in the month of March to 365 MW in the months of January and June. Further, power demand in Delhi is growing at a rate of about 12 per cent per year. In this situation, supply and demand are close to each other and there is hardly any standby for maintenance and repair.

During the power shortage period from October 1972 to middle of May 1973, Delhi Power System was running to its full capacity and this enabled

supply of surplus power to Haryana and to a limited extent to U.P.

The present crisis started on the 10th August and lasted till 14th August. During this period the power supply from 'C' Station varied between Nil and 45 MW.

Three machines were re-started on 14th morning and full supply of power was restored in the city by evening. There was no shedding of load thereafter. Now all the four machines of 'C' Station are running and generating adequate power which, together with the Bhakra supply are meeting the city needs besides exporting 40 to 60 MW of power to U.P. where there is acute power shortage.

The House would like to know the circumstances under which the power supply from 'C' Station was interrupted affecting more than a third of the city from 10th to 13th August. It is a regrettable fact that there have been differences between the then General Manager, Technical staff and Electricity workers. The first manifestation of this was on 24th April. Since then a few incidents occurred now and then bringing to the surface the differences.

Sivashankar's Committee recommended increase of salaries for Engineers and Supervisory staff and this was accepted by the concerned authorities. Meanwhile electricity workers wanted that their scales of pay also should be increased. The grievances of electricity workers were brought to the notice of the Home Minister and this matter was settled satisfactorily. Differences arose between the General Manager and technical staff with regard to the Shivashankar's recommendations and they gave a notice on the 9th August intimating that they would resort to direct action from the midnight of 10th August. This brought about a tense situation in which all the personnel working in the power station were highly agitated resulting in distraction from the performance of the normal duty. Machines in the Power Station 'C' came to a complete halt on the 13th evening.

[Dr. K. L. Rao]

A question has been raised whether the shut down of the machines was the result of any sabotage. The Delhi Electric Supply Committee have requested the Lt. Governor to appoint a high powered Committee to enquire into the causes of breakdown of the generating units and connected matters including the lapses, if any, on the part of the personnel of the Undertaking contributing to the breakdown. We should await their report. However, one important reason that contributed to shut down was the loss of vacuum in the condensers due to deposition of silt and debris carried by the cooling water. Yamuna River, which supplies cooling water, not only has been in floods carrying heavy silt but also conveys the debris and sillage waters from city drainage falling into the river upstream of intake headworks. This necessitates cleaning the condensers every few hours instead of days or even weeks during other periods and when this was not timely attended to due to distraction of the workers, the machines perforce stopped working.

Deputy Minister, Chairman of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking and myself had discussions on 13th evening about the serious situation and then we met the Home Minister, who very kindly intervened and discussed the matter in all its aspects with the electricity workers and technical staff. This resulted in an understanding. From 14th August, all the electricity employees are working wholeheartedly, thereby restoring adequate power supply to the city.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: You must have experienced this power crisis when there was no electricity in your house. I am sure every one of us had a taste of it, at least for one hour or two hours. The majority of the people of Delhi suffered for 24 hours, and 48 hours in certain cases. Not a drop of water and no sight of electricity. This is a sad commentary on the working of this particular organisation called DESU.

I do not know if there is something basically wrong with this DESU or with the Minister. I have got high regard for Dr. K. L. Rao, who is fully efficient in his own job, who is fully qualified. At the same time, he thinks that he is more qualified than he is able to manage the whole thing. He may be very efficient, he may be a very practical person also. But what is needed is a proper person to manage the whole affairs. When there is power crisis throughout the country—all the States were affected by it—Delhi was out of it. But Delhi was plunged in darkness on that day. I know, I was just in Connaught Place. I saw shrieking girls coming out of restaurants because there was darkness. There was no power. No taxi-wala no scooterwala would take them home. No warning was given to the people of Delhi. Nothing of that sort. There was no power, no water for a whole day. Probably, Rashtrapati Bhavan and the Prime Minister's house and perhaps the houses of Ministers of Cabinet rank did not suffer, and they might have been having electricity and water.

So, I want to know from the hon. Minister, when the entire discontent was known and was brewing for some time past about the engineers and other employees, what he was doing. What was the Chairman of DESU doing? It was said that the trouble arose over the non-implementation of a committee's report which was called Shivasanker committee. Its recommendations were not implemented. There were differences between the General Manager and the technical staff and ultimately, they gave a notice of 12 hours or 24 hours on 9th August 1973 and they resorted to direct action. I do not for one moment support such direct action undertaken after 24 hours. Proper notice should be given. But in this particular case they patiently waited for so many days, and until the Minister intervened and until he had a talk with them and until Mr. Uma Shankar Dikshit also came into the picture, this matter was not settled. Even to-day their representa-

tive, the Akhil Bharat Vidyuth Mahasangh is here and they are having discussions with the hon. Minister at 6 p.m. on the question of having a need-based minimum wage for electricity workers throughout the country. But why was no action taken beforehand? I want a clearcut answer from the hon. Minister.

Again, it has been stated that the question has been raised whether the shut-down of the machines was due to sabotage. This story of sabotage was repeated earlier also and several engineers and workers were arrested and there was almost termination of their service, but ultimately it was found that the charges against them were false. I do not know whether any Indian citizen would sabotage a power house. These engineers do not belong to Black September organisation. They will never do it. It is all a question of not understanding their problems, not talking to them beforehand. The Minister goes and spends hours and hours. It is surprising. The Chairman of the DESU is equally responsible. The overall responsibility must be his. What was he doing? Why is no action taken against him? If it is a question of sabotage, this must have come from the top. The other day we discussed the question of power shortage. Assurances were given in this House that steps will be taken to see that the power crisis is over. We were told, more units will be installed. What happened in Gujarat, what happened in Porbandar? The Thermal plant worth Rs. 9 crores was sold to the Birlas at a cost of Rs. 2.75 crores. This was done in the presence of Dr. Rao. If this is the way of doing things, those who offer the lowest tender must be given charge of this Government. Why was this power station given to the Birlas, Sir? I was told that the engineers wanted to meet the Chairman, it was refused; they wanted to meet the G. M. It was refused. I want to know as to why the Shiv Shankar Committee report has not been implemented. The Committee made certain recommendations and

they were accepted by the Government. But why have they not been implemented? I would like to have a reply from the hon. Minister about this. Is he ready to meet the representatives of the All India Organisation and devise methods whereby minimum wage could be fixed which will give them satisfaction? It has been stated that the Lieut. Governor has been asked to appoint a commission. I request that a Committee of the House should be appointed to go into this question. I don't mean the entire country, but for Delhi, I understand, we can go into it and there are many technicians here and many architects too, who are able people here in this House, who can possibly go into this question. What is he going to do in the case of U.P. which is under President's rule? I would like him to take a broad view of things. He should take necessary action against the Chairman and high officials, so that the confidence may be restored among the people in the State. About Delhi, I would like to say this. It has suffered more. The people here were agitated. Even the Members had to suffer for four hours or so because of water and power failure. I should say that for 48 hours they suffered.

I would say that nobody is going to forgive us if this thing persists next time. When there was no power for the residents here why should the P.M.'s house and Rashtrapathi Bhavan have the power? In the capital, it has happened. What has happened to the capital may as well happen to the whole country.

I want a reply from the hon. Minister to all my questions.

DR. K. L. RAO: Sir, with regard to Sivasankar Committee, I would say that this Committee was appointed at the request of the Delhi Electric Supply Committee in January 1971. They have submitted their final Report in January 1973. Then, it was passed on to the Delhi Electric Supply Committee for taking necessary action. Then, it had to be processed by them, and later on the Municipal Cor-

[Dr. K. L. Rao]

poration, when it went to them, wanted that should be translated into Hindi before they could consider the matter. Like that, one month was lost. Anyway, at the same time, the report was finally accepted and when it came to the question of payment, there was a difference of opinion between the General Manager and the working staff. When the payments were not made, then the trouble started. We have got to Cooperate in the management of the generation of electricity which is a very delicate matter in which anybody can do any harm within a short time. In Delhi, I have studied the matter very closely—I should not express my opinion very fully on this because a Committee has been appointed. All the same I must press my opinion; there was no question of any sabotage. What happened is this. These machines are very sensitive. For example there is a condenser which gets the deposit of silt from the cooling water as it is taken from the river directly. In this process some mud gets deposited in the condenser and as a result the machine stops functioning. As given in the statement, in the flood season, then water is not clear, this is happening. Every year this is happening. The people there clear this up by opening up the condenser. They do this every few hours. This time it happened because the people were not there to attend to this. Therefore, the condenser got all the clogged matter and as a result the machine stopped. That is how this has happened. I can even now take the hon. Members to the place if they want to see it. You will find that even to-day the people there clear the condenser every few hours. First they shut down the condenser and take out the clogged material. In these three or four days, there were no people. It was not attended to. As a result the condenser got clogged. This was my opinion. Anyway the Committee appointed for the purpose will be looking into this.

The hon. Member has put some more questions. I want to submit one thing.

On the generation side—this is a specialised sort of operation though it may not be highly specialised—some people are to be trained just like the driver of a car who must have experience to do the driving of a car—the people should have some experience to do it. A few people on the generation side can hold the whole society to ransom. I have been thinking of undertaking a scheme by which we should be able to overcome the difficulties. Operators must do the work faithfully on the generation side on all occasions.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, he has not replied as to whether he is convening a meeting of the All India Organisation to discuss the question of scales. I repeated this question twice.

DR K. L. RAO: There is a meeting to-day of all the organisations not only the All India Federation is called but all the other organisations too have been called—and actually the Labour Minister is meeting them and they are going to discuss the wages of various categories of the people.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): This is not the first time that this question of failure of Delhi's power supply has come up. Last year also when a similar thing occurred, the Minister was at pains to explain the technical difficulties that were there. He said then that they were doing their best to see that adequate arrangements were made to see that this did not recur. This year again when the whole city was plunged into darkness and the matter was first raised in the other House—I will not quote what took place there but a report has appeared in the newspapers—the hon. Minister was at pains to defend them and say that this was not a case of sabotage. Now, sabotage does not mean only somebody going and putting a spanner into the machine. If normal working which requires the cleaning of condensers is also not attended to by those whose duty it is to attend to it, it is nothing less than sabotage. What other word can you use for it?

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra):
Dereliction of duty.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is also part of sabotage.

Tecanically you may say that somebody going out and picking out a fishplate from the railway track is an act of sabotage. But when a train is moving and you jump off the train and do not mind your duty, do you say it is not sabotage? Do not draw such thin lines.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): That will be suicide.

SHRI PILOO MODY: If you do it, it will be murder.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Therefore, he was at pains to explain that it was an act of God, *force majeure*, silt came up and clogged the machine. It is not a case of silt. Do not cover up the guilt of some of your officers by this story of silt.

Ultimately, the matter went to the Home Minister. First, when it came up, the hon Minister stated that his Ministry had nothing to do with it and it concerned only the Home Ministry. It is stated in the report Shri Rao disowned responsibility for the power crisis; he pointed out that the power house was run by DESU and the Home Ministry was concerned with it; the Irrigation and Power Ministry only tendered technical advice'. Ultimately, you went to the Home Minister in this crisis and asked him to intervene. He intervened and that is how a settlement was brought about. My question is why was it not done before? Why do you pass the buck on, the responsibility from one Ministry to another thus holding the entire city and its people to ransom, as it were. Have you calculated the damage done by the loss of water supply and electric supply to Hospitals and to all other places? Is this a matter to be taken lightly? When you got the notice on the 9th August, why was it not possible for you and the Home Ministry to sort it out with the technical officers or

supervisors and settle it? If the Siva-sankar Committee had recommended an improvement of 80 per cent and if the workers have got the benett and the engineers and officers did not get it, how do you blame the engineers? They had patiently waited in the hope that justice would be done to them. Now you have tried to do something.

In the matter of train services, we saw the other day the same sort of attitude. 'This is something basically wrong: why do you allow a matter to be precipitated and then hang on and drag on with negotiations and settle the matter by doing something which you could have done right at the beginning?

Therefore, I ask: how are you going to find a permanent solution to this? By having a dialogue between you and the officers, by creating a sense of confidence and not a crisis of confidence which exists today. What steps are you going to take now? There is already a report 'Another Power Crisis Likely in the Capital'. It appeared in yesterday's newspapers. There is already a dispute as to the definition of 'workmen', who are considered to be workmen, who is to be recognised and all that. Are you going to wait till again it matures into a crisis and there is a crisis again when the city will be plunged into darkness again? Or, are you going to take some positive steps to solve the problem? Don't tell me that the Home Ministry are to blame etc. So far as we are concerned, Government is one and the Cabinet is responsible. You sit together and sort it out amongst yourselves to see what steps should be taken so that this kind of thing does not occur again. This is the assurance we want from you.

DR. K. L. RAO: The hon. member is correct in saying that it is a joint responsibility. I am not saying that I am not to be blamed and somebody else is to be blamed. On technical matters, We do come in immediately. If it is a matter of management, a certain procedure has to be followed. DESU people,

[Dr. K. L. Rao]

Corporation of Delhi, Ltd. Governor—all of them are involved and we cannot rush. If it is Badarpur power station, I take the entire responsibility for it. But here various organisations are involved. Still, I entirely agree within that we have to act together. We are acting together and trying to do our best. Management of machines is much easier than management of men. We have to find a way out. It is a continuous process. All the time we are trying to do justice to all classes of people engaged in the work. We must study these things carefully. We cannot rush in. So far as Delhi is concerned, we are fully aware of the difficulties the people are put to when there is a power crisis. We only hope that a similar situation will not come again. We are having another Badarpur power station. Unless simultaneously all of them fail, Delhi should not have any difficulty. Still, we cannot say it very positively. The whole thing depends on the cooperative effort of the workers, engineers, supervisory staff, etc.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष जी अखिरे में डबी हुई भारत की राजधानी नाबद उस अखिरे प्रबन्ध की ओर संकेत कर रही थी जिस में आज देश अपने को घीरे-घीरे जकड़ा हुआ पाता है

SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR (Patiala) :
Negative approach.

श्री इशामनन्धन मिश्र (बेगुसराय) :
मगर नायाब मगर नारा तो लगा था इंदिरा गांधी आई हैं नई रोजनी लाई हैं ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : हम ने देखा कि अखिरे में नई रोजनी से काम नहीं चला, जनसंघ के दीपक से काम चला ।

(व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष जी, यदि किसी व्यक्ति को दिल्ली के विद्युत संकट के लिये दोषी ठहराया जा सकता है तो केन्द्रीय मंत्री डा० राव नहीं हैं, न उम-पंजी महोदय हैं, वह है जनरल मैनेजर श्री करियप्पा । यह विवाद कई महीनों से चल रहा है । तीन महीनों से कर्मचारी, ईन्जीनियर्स, सुपरवाइजरी स्टाफ, वर्क-ट-

एल का प्रबलम्ब कर रहा था । शिव शंकर कमेटी की सिफारिशों को लेकर कर्मचारियों में असंतोष है- यह बात सर्वविदित थी । कारपोरेशन की स्टेडिंग कमेटी ने यह बात स्वीकृत कर ली कि 60 परसेंट डेजेंज में, मजदूरी में बढ़ोत्तरी होनी चाहिए लेकिन करियप्पा ने उसको कार्यान्वित नहीं किया । मान्यता देने के सवाल पर भी जोटेविनकल सुपरवाइजरी स्टाफ एसोसिएशन है वह मान्यता देने के लिए लड़ रहा था, उसे मान्यता मिलनी चाहिए थी, कारपोरेशन की कमेटी उसे मान्यता देने के पक्ष में थी, लेकिन जनरल मैनेजर महोदय एक अलग यूनियन का पक्ष ले रहे थे, उन्होंने मान्यता नहीं दी और स्थिति यहां तक बिगड़ी कि काम बन्द हो गया, दिल्ली अखिरे में डब गई । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ जनरल मैनेजर महोदय के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

पहले भी दिल्ली एग्जिट्रिक सप्लाय अन्डरटेकिंग में उन्ही महोदय की वजह से कठिनाई पैदा हुई थी डा० राव वहां 24 घंटे खड़े रहे, कर्मचारियों को काम करने के लिए प्रेरित करते रहे लेकिन जनरल मैनेजर के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही नहीं की गई । अब खबर छपी है वे छुट्टी पर चले गए हैं । वे जहां से आये वहां उन्हें वापिस भेज देना चाहिए । ऐसा व्यक्ति जो कर्मचारियों में भेदभाव पैदा करता है, जो एक यूनियन की कीमत पर दूसरी यूनियन को बढ़ावा देना चाहता है, जो सभी को साथ लेकर नहीं चल सकता है वह इस तरह की अन्डरटेकिंग को सफल नहीं बना सकता है । जनरल मैनेजर ने अपनी अयोग्यता पूरी तरह से सिद्ध कर दी है ।
(व्यवधान)

मैं जानना चाहता हूँ डा० राव ने अपने वक्तव्य में कहा है कि वहां सबटाज हुआ था नहीं, उसकी जांच के लिए ले० गवर्नर एक कमेटी बना रहे हैं । फिर मंत्री महोदय यह भी कहते हैं कि जहां तक उनका क्याल है सबटाज नहीं हुआ । फिर कमेटी बनाने की जरूरत है ?

उन्होंने झूठी बात भी कही कि यमुना का जो पानी बिजली बनाने वाले यंत्रों को ठंडा करता है उस पानी में कचरा इकट्ठा हो जाता है, वहाँ कूड़ा इकट्ठा हो जाता है और इससे कठिनाई पैदा होती है। यह ध्राज का नहीं है मैं ने स्वयं घटना स्थल पर जाकर देखा है मगरे नाले वहाँ पर गिरते हैं जहाँ पर पीने के लिए पानी लिया जाता है, जहाँ पर ताप-यंत्रों को शीत करने के लिए पानी लिया जाता है। यदि घ्राप कमेटी बनाना चाहते हैं तो वह इस बात के लिए बने कि सिल्ट को कैसे रोका जाये, यमुना के कड़े को जो ठंडा करने वाले पानी के साथ मिलता है और ताप-यंत्रों को बिगाड़ता है उसे कैसे रोका जायेगा। यह समस्या ध्राज की नहीं है, वर्षों से चल रही है और यदि घ्रापने कोई दीर्घकालीन तथा अल्पकालीन योजना नहीं बनाई तो यह समस्या फिर पैदा होगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ इस सम्बन्ध में कौन सी कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

इसी में जुड़ा हुआ एक तीसरा प्रश्न है। केवल दिल्ली में ही विद्युत कर्मचारी और इंजीनियर असंतुष्ट नहीं हैं, उनका असंतोष एक सार्वदेशिक स्वरूप धारण कर रहा है। पंजाब से खबर आई है कि वहाँ के जो चेंबरमैन थे उनकी नौकरी में हटा दिया गया और उत्तर प्रदेश के इंजीनियर हड़ताल पर जाने वाले हैं। (अध्यक्ष) दिल्ली अभी-अभी एक विद्युत संकट से निकली है, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ जब संकट पैदा हो जाता है क्या उसी के बाद उसको हल करने का उपाय अपनाया जरूरी है ? क्या तीन महीने से चलने वाले बर्क-टु-रूल आन्दोलन सरकार के लिए सूचना और चेतावनी नहीं थी ? क्या पहले से उनको बुलाकर रिकग्निशन देने का मामला 60 परसेंट बेजुबाने देने का मामला हल नहीं किया जा सकता था ? क्या गृह मंत्री की अध्यक्षता से पहले यह सवाल सुलझाया नहीं जा सकता था ? मामला लटकाया जाता है, परिस्थिति बिगड़ती है, तब दिल्ली के देखता जागते हैं और तब तक अंधेरा हो चुका होता है।

अध्यक्ष श्रीवर्मा : इस संकट के कारण होने से दिया तो नहीं बन्द कर देंगे ?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : घ्राप बंदी न बजाइये तो सब ठीक रहेगा।

मैं चाहता हूँ मंत्री महोदय इन सवालों का उत्तर दें। जनरल मैनेजर के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ? भविष्य में कूड़े और गन्दगी को रोकने के लिए कौन से कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं और सारे देश में विद्युत इंजीनियर और कर्मचारी जो असंतुष्ट हैं उनको संतुष्ट करने के लिए कौन से उपाय और योजना बनाई जा रही है ?

DR. K. L. RAO: The then General Manager, Mr. Cariapa, has been granted leave and has been relieved yesterday.

I agree with most of the things that the hon. Member has said. There is some truth in what he has said. Regarding Yamuna river, it is a very sacred river but, unfortunately, is very heavily polluted in the limits of Delhi. The result is that even for bathing, it is becoming very difficult indeed and the drainage that comes from the Rajghat area is directly causing trouble with the condenser. I inspected that on the 15th afternoon for 2½ hours. I went round the whole area. One can see how the sullage consisting of all types of debris, a very black stuff, is directly going into the intake of cooling water. We will have to put some people to try to remove it manually, as much as they can.

So far as the trouble with the condenser is concerned, I have already instructed that we should design a sedimentation tank separately and see that this trouble does not arise at least so far as the thermal station is concerned. Beyond that, I also feel that the matter should be taken up with the Mayor and the Council authorities to see that Yamuna flowing into Delhi city must be cleaned.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAEYEE: What about discontent amongst the employees?

Dr. K. L. RAO: I will not call it 'discontent'. In regard to some of the grievances of workers, we are going to have a meeting today. With regard to grievances of the Engineers, it is a separate thing that has got to be looked into. Unfortunately, in this country, we do not have one organisation. We have got about 20 organisations which are looking after generation and distribution of power. Therefore, it takes time before we can sort out these matters. But every effort will be made to see that justice is done to various classes of people engaged in the electricity supply.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Sir, I am rather surprised that in the statement considering the hardship that the people of Delhi have suffered, there seems to be not one word of regret at all. I find, the statement is even apologetic for action. But there is no regret for the inconvenience caused.

Another thing that surprises me is that in the course of the statement several things that have been said are not the subject-matter of discussion at all. To quote just one, it says:

"A question has been raised whether the shut-down of the machines was the result of any sabotage."

I think, this is merely a red herring. You talk about sabotage and the people's attention gets diverted. One begins to feel that may be there was some element of sabotage. To inject something into explanations such as this and then to go on to say that you have appointed a committee, etc. to look into it is, I think, drawing the attention of the people away from main facts.

The main thing that I can see in this entire episode is that the personnel relations of DESU are bad. This has now become, not an international phenomenon, as this Government says, but certainly, a national phenomenon. The personnel relations in all Government departments, in all governmental undertakings, are bad and they are bad because there

are structural defects in the manner in which the Government operates.

To-day, for instance, the Minister is going to meet the representatives of the workers. Obviously, they are going to meet and exchange grievances. The Minister will give his grievances about the *dhandra* he got in the Parliament as a result of the shortage, and the workers will give their grievances about the shortage of pay and working conditions that they have been suffering from all this time. I would like to know what the purpose of such a meeting is. Is the Minister in a position to sanction additional salaries? Is the Minister in a position to order elimination of certain discomforts or other shortcomings in the service conditions of these people? Obviously, he is not.

Not only he is not capable of doing it but if he takes his elder and senior colleague, Shri Uma Shankar Dikshitji, along, he may still not be in a position to satisfy the demands of the workers. Then, what is the point of this meeting? This is something that I ask you. I am sure these workers are coming to this meeting with high hopes and expectations that something will come out of this meeting. You will say, 'Yes, we will consider it, we will consider it.' Their hopes will again be broken because weeks and weeks will pass without any sort of relief or remedy to their problems, because it will go into the inscrutable corridors of the Government where it will be lost between the Finance Ministry and the Works & Housing Ministry, this Ministry and that Ministry and his own Ministry and many other Ministries as also the Home Ministry and then the local secretariat of the Metropolitan Council and the Lt Governor and what not. Therefore, I think that personnel relations will continue to be bad in all the Government undertakings till you bring in structural changes. It should be possible, therefore, for the Minister before he goes to the meeting to say, 'I shall sanction this, I sanction that.' For that, he should have the prior authority of

the Finance Ministry to go and negotiate a settlement of this problem once and for all. But this is not likely to happen under the Congress regime.

The other thing is sloppy maintenance. Arising out of the discontent of the workers comes sloppy maintenance. It is an *ipso facto* result of bad personnel relations. Therefore, I think that something should be done drastically to alter this.

There are some technical matters, I would like to raise. The statement says, "Thus, the total availability for Delhi is 350 MW while the present peak load is about 250 MW." This, according to me, gives you an excess capacity of 40 per cent. But the last sentence in the same para says, "supply and demand are close to each other and there is hardly any standby for maintenance and repair." As a technical man and an engineer and a scientist, to make such a statement is, I think, against the ethical code of engineers and scientists.

DR. K. L. RAO: I will explain it.

SHRI PILOO MODY: You should have done it in the statement itself. Normally what is required is 20 per cent standby capacity. That is the normal planning need. Therefore, when you get 40 per cent to say that this is close to demand is not right. Then he says, "The present crisis started on the 10th August and lasted till 14th August. During this period the power supply from C Station varied from nil to 45 MW." Then I would like to know why he talks about the differences between the General Manager and the technicians. Why should there be differences? They are both working for the same purpose, to produce electricity and to provide service. "The grievances of the electricity workers were brought to the notice of the Home Minister and this matter was settled satisfactorily." Why only the Home Minister can settle the matter satisfactorily.

Now coming to the main problem. The Minister says, 'I have gone and

closely inspected it. The condenser is clogged with silt and all manner of impurities of the river—the sacred Jamuna. There is a simple method by which this can be eliminated and this is by providing a natural bed filtration plant. It costs only a few thousands rupees. It goes through various strata of large rocks to fine sand and this will eliminate the impurities in water very easily and very cheaply. By reversing the pumping process you can very easily clean the filtration bed. You certainly don't have to allow engineers and other technical personnel of the plant to go and clean the condensers etc. You don't clean the end product. You clear the original thing and it is always much cheaper to do that. Therefore we have got to instal this natural bed filtration plant. It is a very simple method which can be very easily built. I have only two other points to raise.

Then I come to the entire question of recognition of unions. This is so faulty and politically invested that I do not know why after so many years we have not been able to adopt a simple enough procedure of having a secret ballot to recognise the unions as per the result of secret ballot.

Then you come to essential services. Essential services must be maintained and nobody should be excused for not maintaining essential services. Those who maintain essential services must be put in a very special category. We have said this in the past. During the time of the all-India strike we said this. So far as these essential services are concerned, you must have a very special sort of responsibility in dealing with their grievances. If you take one month or 2 months or 10 months to deal with ordinary workers you must deal with these essential services in the matter of a week or in the matter of 10 days. This is your special responsibility because of the special work you are asking them to do.

MR. SPEAKER: Please conclude. I have told this to you a number of times. This was discussed in the

[Mr. Speaker]

Committee a number of times. In the House it was decided that this is not meant for speeches. This is just an opportunity to ask for clarification. We have considered this a number of times. The leaders have been asking me not to give more than five minutes. I do not know why you do it every day I have been waiting for your question since the last 15 minutes.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Why should he answer? I have not asked a question....

MR. SPEAKER: You need not reply if he had not asked a question.

DR. K. L. RAO: I would like to clarify in regard to certain points which the hon. Member has made. I would like to submit that I am extremely sorry and I offer my apology to the entire nation, to my hon. friend Shri Piloo Mody and the House and the citizens of Delhi for this strike and the consequent absence of electricity. I really regret on behalf of the whole organisation that such a thing has happened, and we are very sorry for it. We are fully conscious of the responsibility. But when things go beyond our control, you cannot help it. The point which he raised was about sabotage. I referred to the sabotage question because in the other House the question was raised and I thought hon. Members would be interested to know about that. That is why I mentioned about it.

Regarding the other point which he raised, the power consumed in the month of January is 305 MW. It is given in the statement. Also, every year the power demand is increasing by 12 per cent. By next January the power demand will be 341 MW and this figure is very close to the figure of 350 MW which is our installed capacity. That is why I said, supply and demand are very close, and there is no margin. Actually we have to depend by next year, for meeting the

power load, on Badarpur power station.

I fully agree with the hon. Member that maintenance of essential services is very important. I quite agree with him. I am very thankful for the suggestion made by him, that is also what I am thinking of.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very unpleasant duty to ring the bell when such a good speech was made by Shri Piloo Mody. It is a very unpleasant duty, I know; at the same time, I have to do it.

श्री सतपाल कपूर (पटियाला): वाजपेयी जी इस बात में विश्वास नहीं रखते कि उनके दीपक से उनका काम चल सकता है। अगर बिल्ली में एक दिन बिजली बन्द हो तो उनका काम नहीं चल सकता है। उनको 24 घंटे इंदिरा गांधी की रीशनी मिलती रहनी चाहिए तभी उनकी जिन्दगी सुखी रह सकती है। अगर कुछ देर भी इंदिरा गांधी की रीशनी उन को न मिले तो वह परटब हो जाते हैं। वह चीज चाहिए हो गई है और उन्होंने इसको कबूल भी कर लिया है।

सब प्वाइंट्स आ चुके हैं। एक ही बान में पूछता हूँ जब प्राबलैम खड़ी होती है चाहे ट्रेड यूनियन की हो या मिलिटिंग जमा होने की हो, सभी प्राप हल निकालने की कोशिश करते हैं। हर साल प्राप इस प्राबलैम को फेस करते हैं। वो माल पहले भी किया था और पिछले माल भी किया था। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इरि-गेशन एंड पावर मिनिस्ट्री और होम मिनिस्ट्री प्राबलैम पैदा हो क्यों होने देते हैं? पहले ही उसका साल्यूशन क्यों नहीं निकाल लेते हैं? प्राबलैम पैदा हो तब उसको साल्व करें, यह एटीट्यूड ठीक नहीं है। कर्मचारियों को यह इम्प्रेशन देना कि जब तक स्ट्राइक बे न करें, जब तक डैमंडेशन न करें, जब तक प्रशासन के लिए प्राबलैम क्रियेट न करें उनकी बात मानी नहीं जाएगी, मैं समझता हूँ बिल्कुल गलत एटीट्यूड है। इन एटीट्यूड को चेंज करना चाहिए। ताकि कर्मचारी भी तत्समीबद्धा इंच से काम

कर सकें। मैं इसके बारे में गारंटी चाहता हूँ। आप बताएं कि आने वाले सालों में यह पैदा नहीं होगा और सालाना, मंथली या क्वार्टरली फीचर यह रहेगा तब भी आप बता दें। कोई स्कीम है या नहीं या जब प्राबलम पैदा होगी तभी आप सोचेंगे ?

DR. K. L. RAO: This is a continuing problem and it goes on. We have got to solve the problem. At Idikki we were paying to the unskilled labour Rs. 2-50 and due to constant demand this was raised to Rs. 5-50. There is a demand now for even further rise. This goes on. Such demands go on taking place from time to time according to the circumstances. We have to solve the problems as they arise before violence is restored to.

12.50 Hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATION UNDER DELIMITATION ACT, 1972

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. S.O. 367(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1973 containing Order No. 3 of the Delimitation Commission determining the number of seats in the House of the People allocated to the State of Manipur and the total number of seats assigned to the Legislative Assembly of the State, under sub-section (3) of section 10 of the Delimitation Act, 1972. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5415/73].

Notification under Customs Act, 1962

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): On behalf of Shri K. R. Ganesh, I beg to

lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 385(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th August, 1973, under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962, together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5416/73]

AIRCRAFT (4TH AMDT.) RULES UNDER AIRCRAFT ACT, 1934

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Aircraft (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1973 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 718 in Gazette of India dated the 7th July, 1973, under section 14A of the Aircraft Act, 1934 together with an explanatory Note. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5417/73].

Staple Fibre Distribution Order under Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a statement and Notification under Spirituous Preparation Conerol Act, 1955

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1)(i) A copy, of the Staple Fibre Distribution Order, 1972 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 5356 in Gazette of India dated the 30th December, 1972, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying above Notification.

[Placed in library. See No. LT-5418/73].

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Spirituous Prepara-

[Shri A C George]

tions (Inter-State Trade and Commerce) Control Act, 1955 —

- (1) SO 1619 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July, 1973, rescinding Notification No SO 1779 dated the 5th August, 1959 relating to the delegation of powers of the Central Government to the State of Andhra Pradesh to frame rules
- (11) SO 1620 published in Gazette of India dated the 9th July 1973 rescinding Notification No SO 1778 dated the 5th August 1959

[Placed in Library See No LT-5419/73]

12 54 Hrs

M E S S A G E F R O M R A J Y A S A B H A

SECRETARY Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha —

'In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 13th August, 1973 agreed without any amendment to the Customs Gold (Control) and Central Excises and Salt (Amendment) Bill 1973 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th August 1973'

12 55 Hrs

C O N V I C T I O N O F M E M B E R

MR SPEAKER I have to inform the House that I have received the following telegram dated the 16th August 1973 from SDPO, Malegaon District Nasik —

"At Malegaon, District Nasik, I have arrested and taken into custody Shri Madhu Dandavate, Mem-

per, Lok Sabha, on the 16th August 1973 at 15.45 hours by virtue of powers under sec 72, Bombay Police Act for breach of orders under sec 37(3), Bombay Police Act, issued by the Additional District Magistrate, Nasik, and punishable under section 135 of the said Act and immediately produced him before the Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Court No 1, Malegaon, District Nasik, on 16th August 1973. The Court convicted and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs 25/- or to suffer five days' simple imprisonment in default on the same day at 18 00 hours. He refused to pay fine and is detained in Dhulia District Prison"

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contd)
What is this 'breach of orders'?

MR SPEAKER I am not there to answer you I am just quoting his communication

SHRI SAMAR GUHA What does 'breach of orders' mean?

MR SPEAKER You had better enquire at Bombay

SHRI SAMAR GUHA Breach of peace? Where is peace in the country?

MR SPEAKER You have said what you wanted to say

Shri Raghuramaiah

12 57 Hrs

B U S I N E S S O F T H E H O U S E

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K RAGHU RAMAIAH) With your permission Sir I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 20th August, 1973 will consist of —

(1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.

(2) Discussion on the Statutory Resolution regarding Orissa State Electricity Board

(3) Discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1973-74.

(4) Consideration and passing of:

(a) The Foreign Exchange Regulation Bill, 1972, as reported by the Joint Committee.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill, 1973 as passed

(c) The Direct Taxes (Amendment) Bill, 1973.

(d) The Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Bill, 1973 as passed by Rajya Sabha.

(e) The Coking and Non-coking Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill, 1973, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: The following members sent me intimation and they only will be entitled to speak. I will call them in the order I am mentioning their names: Shri Samar Guha, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri A. B. Vajpayee, Shri Pilo Mody and Shri P. G. Mavalankar.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): I want to request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs through you to make a statement including in the business for next week a statement about the serious food situation that has arisen in West Bengal. Rice is selling at Rs. 4 per kilo. The situation is so serious that the Minister of Food in West Bengal has resigned. Not only has he resigned, he has asked the Government of West Bengal to institute an inquiry into the various kinds of bungling that went on for months in the State causing the serious food crisis there. Since food is a concurrent subject, I want to know whether the Government of India are going to institute an inquiry themselves or will ask the State Government to inquire into the whole bungling in food matters in the State.

Secondly, thousands of destitutes from Bihar, UP and Orissa are rushing to Calcutta every day. As a result, the food position in the Calcutta Metropolitan Area has grown into a serious situation. This is an issue involving inter-State problems. Government should make a statement on this.

Then there is another very serious information. Driven by starvation, four tribal women of Jhargram snatched a five-months old baby, took it to the jungle and ate it up. When arrested, they said that they had to do it out of sheer starvation. This is a horrible thing. I ask the Government to come out with a statement in regard to the food situation in West Bengal next week.

13.00 Hrs.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): I would like to raise two points. Firstly, we were surprised to read in today's newspapers that the Union Cabinet has taken a decision to raise the price of petrol by 10 paise per litre. This is surprising because the Parliament is in session. We would like the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals to make a statement and that should be properly discussed here. We feel the foreign oil companies are bullying the Government. They are using a double barrel gun, one aimed at us and the other at the other countries. This matter should not be decided unless it is discussed here.

Secondly, I am happy Mr. Khadilkar, the Health Minister, is here. He was gharaoed by the nurses yesterday. 400 nurses have gone on strike. Their demand is very simple. They want free uniform. I would request the Health Minister to make a statement, so that we are also able to convince the nurses, along with the Minister, to give up the strike.

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्राण्डे (खलीलाबाद) :
अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ने एक सूचना दी है।

MR. SPEAKER: You sent me the note while I was sitting here. I am not accepting notes sent after 10 o'clock.

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पांडे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह उत्तर प्रदेश का मामला है...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रदेश की बात पालिया-मिट में नहीं आ सकती है।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पांडे : श्रीर उत्तर प्रदेश में राष्ट्रपति शासन है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (बालियार) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दिल्ली के सभी बड़े अस्पतालों में नर्सों की हड़ताल की वजह से जो गम्भीर परिस्थिति पैदा हो गई है, मैंने उसके बारे में एक काम-रोको प्रस्ताव दिया था। आपने उसे स्वीकार नहीं किया। मैंने निवेदन किया कि आप ध्यानाकर्षण सूचना मान लें। उस पर भी आप राजी नहीं हुए। और इस लिए मजबूर होकर...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप साग दोष मुझ पर ही न डाल दें। मुझे भी कभी नर्सों के पास जाना पड़ेगा।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : तो आप जरा उन ना खयाल करें।

पिछले दस दिनों में नर्सों यूनिफार्म का बायकाट कर रही हैं। उन्होंने अपनी शिकायतें सरकार तक पहुँचाई हैं लेकिन दुख की बात है कि सरकार ने उनके साथ बातचीत कर के कोई रास्ता निकालने का प्रयत्न नहीं किया है। उनकी दो मुख्य मांगें हैं।

नर्सों के लिए यूनिफार्म पहनना जरूरी है। यूनिफार्म के खर्च बनाती है और यूनिफार्म के लिए उनको 8-33 रुपये मई ना दिये जाते हैं उस में तो यूनिफार्म की मिलाई भी नहीं हो सकती है।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी : आज-कल आठ रुपये में तो गांधी टोपी के सिवाये कुछ नहीं मिल सकता है।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : नर्सों की मांग यह है कि या तो उन्हें तीन रुपये महीना भत्ता दिया जाये, या यूनिफार्म सरकार दें। सरकार चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों, और रेलवे के कर्मचारियों, को स्वयं यूनिफार्म बनाकर देती है, नर्सों को यूनिफार्म देने का काम भी वह ले ले, भत्ता समाप्त किया जा सकता है।

उस यूनिफार्म को धोने के लिए जो एलाइस दिया जाता है वह 4 रुपये महीना है, उन के लिये प्रतिदिन बुली हुई यूनिफार्म पहन कर आना जरूरी है अगर वे न पायें तो उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही हो सकती है किसी बाबा आदम के जमाने में वे चार रुपये महीना मंजूर हुए थे लेकिन वे श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी के जमाने में भी चल रहे हैं साबुन के दाम बढ़े हैं। साबुन की कंपनियाँ जनता को लूट रही हैं। नर्सों के साथ न्याय नहीं हो रहा है। वे श्री खाडिलकर के घर के सामने घरना दे रही हैं। अस्पतालों में मरीजों की भर्ती रोक दी गई है। सफ़रजग अस्पताल में चार सौ मरीजों को छुट्टी दे दी गई है। अगर हम किसी अस्पताल में जायेंगे, तो भर्ती नहीं हो तो सकेंगे और अगर हो जायेंगे तो मर जायेंगे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप स्वास्थ्य मंत्री से कहें कि वह इस बारे में बयान दें और नर्सों के साथ बातचीत चलायें, कुछ मांगें मान लें और कुछ के बारे में विचार करने का आश्वासन दें। फिर यह सदन भी नर्सों से अपील कर सकता है कि वे अपनी हड़ताल न करें और अपने काम पर वापिस चली जायें, लेकिन उन को कोई सनोब होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात मुझे यह कहनी है कि पेट्रोल के दाम बढ़ाने का फैसला कर लिया गया है। कैबिनेट का फैसला लोक कैंसे हो गया?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हम बारे में मिनिस्टर माहब स्टेटमेंट करेंगे।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : यह टैक्सेशन का मामला है। क्या सरकारी फैसले के दाम बढ़ाये जाते हैं?

प्रश्नकर्ता महोदय : प्रश्न हफ्ते के बिजिनेस के बहाने स्पीचिज नहीं की जानी चाहिए ।

श्री सदन बिहारी बाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या यह प्रोप्रायटी का सवाल है या नहीं ? वस ऐसे बाम बढ़ाने का मतलब यह है कि एकसाइज इवूटी बढ़ाई जा रही है । क्या सरकारी फैसले से टैक्स बढ़ाये जा सकते हैं ? तारीख तय नहीं की है और फैसला निकाल दिया है । डीलरज ने प्राज से ही बाम बढ़ाना शुरू कर दिया है ।

प्रश्नकर्ता महोदय : मिनिस्टर साहब ने प्रश्न हफ्ते का बिजिनेस एनाउन्स किया है । प्राप जो कह रहे हैं, उस का इस से क्या ताल्लुक है ?

श्री सदन बिहारी बाजपेयी : मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस पर बहस करने का मौका दिया जाये और सतद-कार्य मंत्री इस बिषय को भी सूची में शामिल कर ले ।

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): I am very glad Mr. Khadiilkar is here. Time and again we had brought this problem about Guru Goind Singh Medical College before the House last session and the fact that it was not functioning. At that time you were good enough to intervene and some arrangement was made by which it was thereafter felt that the boys would continue with their education. Since the last two or three days, we have heard with great consternation that the college is still not functioning and no work has been done. So, I would like you to ask the minister to make a statement telling us exactly what arrangements were made by him, on the last occasion when the boys gave up their fast, and the details of the arrangements that have been pursued since then. We would like to know why is it that even at this stage the college is not functioning and the boys are still loitering about without any education.

Secondly, a delegation of ladies came to me this morning and complained about the terrible quality of wheat and rice being supplied to them in the fair price shops. I have brought samples of them for you to examine. I would like to feed half of it to the Food Minister and half of it to the Supply Minister. Let them know what the rest of the people have to eat. From what I can understand, there is a tremendous amount of trafficking in commodities and things that is going on....

MR. SPEAKER: Don't try to connect it with this item.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I wrote to you about two items. I am saying, therefore, that there should be a debate on it. That is the only way in which to connect it. I know there cannot be a debate. Why waste breath asking for it. But, nevertheless, I would like to bring to the attention of the House that this is the sort of dirty food that has been supplied through fair price shops to the people of Delhi.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Sir. I want to invite the attention of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to three matters of urgent public importance.

Firstly, you will recall that on August 3 I had raised the matter of pending Parliamentary and State Assembly bye-elections and you told me that you had admitted a Calling Attention Notice on it. It did come, I am talking about the unusual delay in holding 10 Lok Sabha and 27 Assembly bye-elections. Now, after the assurance of the Government again persistent press reports are coming out that the Government, under some pretext or the other, wants to postpone the elections indefinitely....

MR. SPEAKER: Don't bring it every day.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I want, therefore, the Minister to come out with a categorical statement that

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

these 10 Lok Sabha bye-elections and 27 Assembly bye-elections will take place as early as possible.

Secondly, I would request the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to find time for discussing the Annual Reports of the U.G.C. and the U.P.S.C. Sir, you have admitted these two Motions. But week after week, I find, the time is not being allotted for the same.

Thirdly, there was an accident earlier this month in Saurashtra to the Kirti Express as a result of which some people died and many were injured. It is suspected—there are newspaper reports—that the accident took place because of some sabotage. Therefore, I would like the Railway Minister to come out with a statement telling us the details of the accident.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—
(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: No please, sit down. Don't do it like that. Why don't you follow the rules?

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil). Sir, I have given notice.....

MR. SPEAKER: No please; I am not allowing it.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: This is about the same matter. There must be some reason for not allowing me. I have given notice...

MR. SPEAKER: If there had been one, I would have got it. It is not with me.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): Sir, the hon. Member says, he has written to you. . . (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Why should I tell it every time? When the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs makes a statement regarding the business for the next week, the practice that we follow is that the Members give proper notice that they want to make a submission on that.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: When a Member makes a solemn statement that he has written to you . . .

MR. SPEAKER: The Members whose intimations I got in time were given an opportunity.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I gave a notice to the Office at 9.30 in the morning.

MR. SPEAKER: Yours is another one.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: On a point of order, Sir. I seek your ruling on it. My point of order is that in case a Member sends his intimation to you in time and, if for some reason or other, it does not reach you, and the Member makes a solemn statement on the floor of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: No question of "late" or "in time". This is not at all on this item.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: I want to raise the same matter that Shri Vajpayee raised.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: I am not on the merits of that. Assuming that a communication has not reached you inadvertently due to some lapse of the Secretariat or on the way, and the Member makes a solemn statement that he has sent the communication to you in time, I seek your ruling whether such a statement of a member made on the floor of the House will be accepted as correct or not.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not at all on this item.

13.16 Hrs.

STATEMENT RE. STRIKE BY NURSES IN DELHI HOSPITALS

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): Shri Vajpayee and other friends raised the matter of the strike by the nurses of the Delhi

hospitals and I want to say a few words on that. He has solemnly promised that on the two issues that were raised which we are prepared to consider, he will prevail along with Mr. S. M. Banerjee on the agitating nurses that the strike be withdrawn . . .

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): What are you going to say?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: I will give full information first to the House because they have gone on strike without notice. . . (Interruptions). It is very important. You take up an issue and when any employees whether nurses or others, particularly in this vital sector like hospital services, resort to strike after giving them time and after giving them assurances that the two matters which you have raised, viz., (1) washing allowance and (2) uniform allowance . . . (Interruptions). I had a long talk with them yesterday when they came in procession. I have assured them that definitely I am prepared to consider keeping in view the Pay Commission's recommendations so far as washing allowance is concerned. Here, I presume I have some freedom to deal. But regarding uniform allowance I have to refer the matter to the implementation cell in the Finance Ministry. If you so desire, I will make a statement just now. It is a long statement but it is necessary in the public interest. . . (Interruptions)

Some representatives of the Delhi Nurses Association met me on 16th August, 1973. They gave me a copy of their earlier representation dated 31st July 1973 and stated that if their grievances were not redressed immediately, they would resort to a strike. I pleaded with them to give me seven days' time to consider such of their demands as are outside the purview of the recommendations of the Pay Commission and also indicated to them that in respect of the Pay Commission's recommendations, these matters

are being dealt with by a special organization set up by the Government and that the Ministry of Health has already made some recommendations to this implementing cell. The nurses who were present both inside and outside my residence raised slogans and also started a dharna. The present position is that the nurses of the Safdarjung Hospital, the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, the Hindu Rao Hospital, the Willingdon Hospital and the Silver Jubilee TB Hospital have all gone on strike. The percentage of attendance in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences is nil, in the Safdarjung Hospital, out of 412, only 6 are present, in the Hindu Rao Hospital—nil and in the Willingdon Hospital about 75 per cent are absent.

The main demands raised by the Delhi Nurses' Association are:—

- (1) Reconsideration of the recommendations made by the Third Pay Commission in respect of pay scales of different categories of nursing personnel.
- (2) Increase in uniform and washing allowance to Rs. 30 and Rs. 15 per month respectively.
- (3) Grant of house rent allowance to unmarried nurses not residing in the nurses hostel.
- (4) Declaration of ten per cent of the existing strength of the staff nurses as selection grade posts under the rules.

There are four categories of nursing personnel, namely, matron, assistant matron (sister tutor), nursing sister (public health nurse) and staff nurse. All these categories are, at present, drawing a washing allowance of Rs. 4.50 per month and a uniform allowance per annum of Rs. 150 in respect of matron and Rs. 100 in respect of the other categories.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khadilkar, if you want to make a statement, you

[Mr. Speaker]

should have intimated to me in the morning so that this unnecessary fuss could have been avoided. This comes under this item. And the Members have raised certain points.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Sir, this is an important matter. This involves the health of the people. Otherwise I would have stopped reading this.

MR. SPEAKER: I quite appreciate that. But, I must make it clear here so that it will not be followed in future.

After this had been disposed of, you should have written to me, by sending a copy in advance, so that I know that the Minister is making his statement in a normal way later on. But, in between, you are making this statement. This will not be quoted as a precedent in future. May I take it like that?

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: You treat it as his statement.

MR. SPEAKER: However, since you have started making a statement. I myself was surprised at that. (Interruptions)....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Sir, if I want to make a statement, will you allow me?

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Banerjee will you please sit down?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The Minister has said that. Will you intervene in the matter?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not say that I will intervene. I feel that if the statement is ready—the typed script—that means he has done it after listening to you. Now he has already had it. The procedure is to make a statement on intimation to the Speaker. If this is done, this unnecessary mess created now could have been avoided. Now, you see some Members are wanting to speak. And you suddenly get up to make a statement. This is a drama. This is

wrong. I hope it will not be quoted as a precedent in future. Whenever the Minister wants to make a statement let him say so. I shall give him the time either the same day or the next day for making that statement.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: May I request you to remove the word 'drama'? This is not a drama.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Sir, this is not a drama. This is a question involving life and death for all of us.

MR. SPEAKER: I did not mean that. I just said that he should not suddenly get up to make a statement.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: I also met you in your chamber.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Vajpayee, when I say 'drama' why do you understand it like that? Suddenly you raised the question and the statement springs up suddenly from the Minister. I do not think this is anything less than a drama. I am mentioning now that it will not be quoted as a precedent in future. Now, Mr. Khadilkar, you go on.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Sir, I share your view with regard to the procedure.

MR. SPEAKER: You are my elder.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: I am sorry. I could not intimate to you earlier. In fact, I have informed the Table Office about this.

MR. SPEAKER: Much of the fuss could have been avoided if I had got the information from you much earlier that you would be making a statement. Now, you go on with your statement.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Taking these into consideration, the total monthly emoluments received by these four categories at the initial stage of their respective pay scales are

Rs. 892.45, Rs. 512.85, Rs. 472.10 and Rs. 378.75. The Pay Commission in their recommendations has specifically indicated that the uniform allowance in respect of matron would be Rs. 200 per year, while in respect of the rest Rs. 150 per year

श्री सतपाल कपूर (पटियाला) : इसको टेबिल पर रखवा दीजिए ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: We have requested him to make a statement.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: This is not a personal question.

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed him to make a statement.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष जी, वे काग्रेस के मैनबर किम तरह से व्यवहार कर रहे हैं । यह कोई मेरा अपना मामला नहीं है, सारे दलों का मामला है । अस्पतालो में नर्स नहीं है, मरीज भर रहे हैं और ये लोग स्टेटमेंट तक सुनने को तैयार नहीं हैं ।

श्री सतपाल कपूर : मैं यह तजवीज दे रहा था कि हम को टेबिल पर रखवा दीजिये । लम्बे बयान में क्या मामला हल हो जायेगा—मामले का हल हुआ है ।

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Are you not interested in the health of the people?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: The messing allowance has been merged, but no specific motion has been made regarding the washing allowance. Thus, excluding the washing allowance, these categories of persons would be eligible to draw at the initial stage of their proposed new scales Rs. 758.65, Rs. 605.50, Rs. 504.80 and Rs. 473.00. In respect of the matron, an additional amount of Rs. 150 would be available on account of promotion from the next lower rank since there is no direct recruitment to the post of matron. Thus, even excluding the washing allowance, the net increases as per the recommendations of the Pay Commission would 1507 L.S.—5.

be Rs. 20.70, Rs. 97.35, Rs. 37.20 and Rs. 100.75.

The scales of pay recommended for the nursing sister and staff nurse by the Pay Commission are Rs. 455—700 and Rs. 425—640 respectively. One of the points mentioned by the nurses, when they met me yesterday, was that they should be given the same pay scale as that of a senior stenographer. It will be appreciated that the duties are not comparable and that any demand by the nurses should be based on the rationale of the work being done by them. We in the Health Ministry have made some recommendations, which, we consider, would be more advantageous to the nursing personnel. In the light of what has been stated by the Nurses Association in their Memorandum given to me, particularly, with reference to the question of selection grade posts, I have asked my Ministry to consider the matter and re-examine if additional recommendations should be made to the implementation cell regarding the uniform allowance and the selection grade posts with reference to the promotion opportunities.

The question of washing allowance has been considered by me and I am given to understand that this not being a part of the Pay Commission's recommendations, could be decided separately without waiting for the overall decision on the pay scales. I felt that the washing allowance, as now given, is inadequate considering the high cost of washing. I am, therefore trying to prevail upon my colleagues in the Finance Ministry to agree to an increase of washing allowance from Rs. 4.50 to a reasonable amount.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: What is the reasonable amount?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Rs. 10 or so, I am pleading with them and I am making a recommendation. The Members would appreciate that in respect of the pay scales and matters specifically recommended . . .

MR. SPEAKER: If it is going to be settled, I welcome.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Sir, we, in the Ministry of Health, can at best try to persuade the Implementation Cell to consider the demands favourably. As already mentioned, we have already sent our recommendations and we are reviewing any further changes that are necessary. The decision on the Pay Commission's recommendations cannot be taken in isolation and it is necessary to wait for an overall decision by the Government. In the circumstances, I have no option but to indicate to the Members that the strike of the Delhi Nurses' Association is ill-conceived and is only creating difficulties for the sick patients in the Hospitals. I hope that with your help and goodwill, I would be able to persuade the nurses to call off the strike.

I am taking some measures to run the hospital services on a skeleton basis with the help and cooperation of doctors and other willing people. We have, somehow, carried on till now.

SHRI PILOO MODY: You call this 'carrying on'?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: Carrying on the service.

It is most unfortunate that the Delhi Nurses Association should have precipitated a crisis in our hospitals by resorting to what I may call a lightening strike without proper notice and without giving me time to consider their demands. I returned to Delhi on the 15th and it was only yesterday that I met a deputation of the nurses and I promised them every sympathetic consideration, particularly in matters of washing allowances and uniform allowances. Obviously, it was not possible for me to make any commitment then and there as was demanded by the representatives of the Delhi Nurses Association. Initially they had also agreed that we would meet again after a week and then come to some final decision about the

whole affair. This would have allowed me sufficient time to go into the details of the various demands and make the necessary consultation with the other concerned Ministries. But in total disregard of the convenience of the patients, some of whom are in a serious condition, they chose to take this decision which I very much deplore. I do not think that anybody has a right to paralyse the working of our hospitals and endanger the lives of patients simply because some demands of the nursing personnel have not been met on the spot. I still hope that the striking nurses will see reason and reile from this illegal course that they have followed. As I told them when I met them yesterday and as I am telling the House now, I feel personally convinced that some of their demands are very reasonable and I would try my utmost to meet them, but I must say at the same time that all illegal action, if persisted in, will be met with firmness.

I can only say one word in conclusion. Shri Vajpayee and Shri Banerjee promised. . . .

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: We are not leaders of their Association.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: You promised that you would prevail on them to see that the strike is withdrawn.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Let him say that nobody will be victimised. Let him give that assurance.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Let him say that there will be no victimisation if they withdrew the strike.

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र वाजपेयी (खजौरावाड़ा): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। माननीय प्रवक्ता महोदय, दिल्ली में अमर टक्की ने टेक्नी टकरा जायी है तो उसके लिए कालिन्दा अटेशन मंजूर हो जाता है। मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न यह है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में जहाँ पर 9 करोड़

बनता रहती है, बिजली के इंजीनियर स्ट्राइक करने जा रहे हैं। यह एक बड़ा सर्वकार प्रश्न है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नर्सों के साथ इंजीनियरों का क्या सम्बन्ध है ?

श्री कुम्भ बन्ध बाबू : वहाँ पर इस समय राष्ट्रपति शासन है इस लिए यह सम्बन्ध ही उनके लिए जिम्मेदार है।

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. There is no point of order.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: He has assigned us a certain responsibility. But he does not assure us that there will be no victimisation. Let him give this assurance.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: That is very important. How can we advise the nurses to go back to the hospitals if they are not assured that there will be no victimisation?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: If they are prepared to resume work immediately and start serving the patients, I will consider it sympathetically.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE: Consider?

MR. SPEAKER: He is a noble man. We hope he will not victimise them.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : उन्हें कबल डाक्टरों की तकलीफों का पता है, नर्सों की तकलीफों का पता नहीं है। मिसेज खाडिलकर एक डाक्टर हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मुझे पता है आपका कितना इंट्रेट है नर्सों में।

12.35 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE—contd.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Most of the hon. Members referred only to one point which has been elaborately dealt with by my colleague. Regarding the reports

of the University Grants Commission and the Union Public Service Commission, I think official motions have been admitted. It is only a question of finding time. All the other points will be duly conveyed to the Ministers concerned.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (गालियर): मुझे एक बात कहनी है कि इंडियन कॉमिल प्राफ एप्रीकलेशन रिसर्च के लिए गजेन्द्रमहकर कमेटी बनी थी तो उनकी रिपोर्ट मैन्युअर को मिलनी है या नहीं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या सारी बातें प्रश्नी कहें हैं।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : वह रिपोर्ट कहा गई ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पता करूंगा कहाँ गई ?

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : पब्लिकेशन काउन्टर पर रिपोर्ट नहीं है। मैन्युअर को प्रश्नी तक नहीं दी गई है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप एन्ड्रूड मत कीजिए। I will see to it.

13.37 hrs.

TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO SELECT COMMITTEE

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): I beg to move:

"That this House do appoint Shri S. M. Banerjee to the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957, the Gift-tax Act, 1958 and the Companies (Profits) Surtax Act, 1964, in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri K. Baladhandayutham."

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): I certainly object to this. He never pays any income-tax or wealth-tax and certainly not any gift-tax.

MR. SPEAKER: Has he anything to say?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I can only say that as a member of the Committee I will not amass any income.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do appoint Shri S. M. Banerjee to the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957, the Gift-tax Act, 1958 and the Companies (Profits) Surtax Act, 1964, in the vacancy caused by the death of Shri K. Baladhandayutham."

The motion was adopted.

13.38 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL*,
1973

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services for the financial year 1973-74.

13.39 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services for the financial year 1973-74."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I introduce the Bill.

I beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1973-74, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1973-74, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up clause by clause consideration.

The question is:

"That clause 2, 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, 3, the Schedule clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed"

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

*Published in: Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 17-8-1973.

†Introduced/Moved with the recommendation of the President.

12.40 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE:
CONTINUANCE OF PROCLAMA-
TION IN RESPECT OF ANDHRA
PRADESH---contd.**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will resume discussion on the Statutory Resolution relating to the State of Andhra Pradesh. Shri K. Suryanarayana will continue his speech.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, while I was speaking on this motion yesterday I raised some points which agitate the people in Andhra Pradesh regarding fair price shops. I want to inform my hon. friend, Shri Shastri, that there is no agitation for food in Andhra Pradesh. Even though his party has tried to raise it in Andhra Pradesh, there was no response from the people. I would like him to inform his party Colleagues that when it is a question of the interest of the country politics should not be brought in.

Here I would like to give an example which will show the real character of the Communist Party. When in 1942 we were fighting the British Government, for some time the Communist Party said that it is not the peoples' war. But when the Russian Government agreed to join the war, they immediately changed their attitude and said that it is the peoples' war. Now in some respects they are sailing with the Government in the name of progressive policies. I am sure they are doing it only for the sake of their party. They are supporting the policies of the Government wherever they suit them, just for their survival, particularly in Andhra Pradesh.

Here I would like to refer to the notice given by Shri Satyanarayana Rao, Member of Rajya Sabha, regarding the law and order situation in the State for discussion in the Consultative Committee meeting on the 30th

July to which the Government have given a reply. That note says:

'Since April, 1973 the Party Units held training camps throughout the State at a number of places in the districts of Adilabad, Cuddapah, East Godavary, West Godavary, Guntur, Karimnagar, Khammam, Krishna, Kurnool, Nalgonda, Nellore, Ongole, Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam and Warangal and in almost all these training camps the volunteers were given training in drill and use of sticks in self-defence. In Guntur district three such training camps were held at Karalapadu, Ponnekallu and Manchikalapudi villages. It has also come to the notice of the Government that in the training camp held at Manchikalapudi, Tenali Taluk of Guntur district, training in the use of swords, spears and the handling of country bombs was given. This training camp which commenced on 16th May, 1973 ended on 28th May, 1973 abruptly as there was a clash between rival groups in the village with alleged participation of the trainees. Investigation into the incident is in progress.'

I want to know from the Minister whether the State Government have submitted any report to the Government of India or the Government of India themselves have instituted any inquiry because they are associated with the Government, in the agitation for separation movement in Andhra.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: How are these points relevant for this discussion?

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: They are all mentioned in the report.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are not discussing the Report. We have very little time. We are only discussing the question of approving the continuance of the Proclamation. If you are going to discuss all the details of things going on in Andhra Pradesh, then it takes a different colour, a different dimension and it will take a

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

long time. I would like to make it very clear that we are discussing only the continuance of the Proclamation and the reasons for it and not the general conditions in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Both.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We are not discussing both; that is not the Resolution. Within the two hours allotted, if you take half an hour to discuss the general situation in Andhra Pradesh, others will not be able to do justice unless they also get the same time.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: With regard to procurement, the Vigilance Cell which is constituted by the personnel drafted from the Police Department primarily looks after these different movement restriction orders assisted by the checkpoint staff. The Vigilance Cell looks after also the implementation of the different Control Orders. During the financial year 1972-73, the Vigilance Cell seized a quantity of 79,000 quintals of food-grains worth Rs. 79,11,000. Prosecutions have been launched in 140 cases and convictions have been obtained in 66 of these cases. Is it not the way to bring down the prices? Did C.P.I. do anything like this in Kerala? Was there any agitation like this by C. P. M. ?

Then I want to read out the statement made by the Chief Minister of Kerala in regard to food crisis in Kerala. There is a news-item "CPI struggle vis-a-vis Congress", published in some papers. It says:

"The party has prescribed certain basic guidelines in its relation to the ruling party."

So, I want to understand even from the Congress party what are the guidelines we are getting from the C. P. I. Further, it says:

"The CPI leadership has told party cadres that its line of unity, as well as of struggle vis-a-vis the Congress

will vary from situation to situation and place to place."

The other day, the Chief Minister in Trivandrum said:

"The rice was being taken from the Vilathura godown to the Vettukad centre in the coastal area, some people in the name of 'food agitation by the students' stopped the vehicle carrying rice and looted the contents before the police could reach the scene."

This is when there was an agitation against price-rise in Kerala. Did they not arrest them? Did they not take any action there? It further says:

"Condemning this act in strong terms, the Chief Minister, Mr. C. Achutha Menon reiterated his view that 'anti-social elements' were behind these agitations and said such acts revealed their objective and nature'".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: From Andhra Pradesh, you have gone to Kerala.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: In Andhra Pradesh, the activities of other parties are affecting food production and distribution through fair price shops. The fair price shops are meant for the poor people. In the name of poor people, they are not allowing the fair price shops to be opened by the State Government....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Therefore, you say, the President's Rule should continue in Andhra Pradesh.

You please conclude now.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Regarding Government lands, I will let you know how much we have distributed in Andhra Pradesh. As a result of the crash programme, an extent of 12.62 lakh acres had been assigned to nearly 4.40 lakh beneficiaries upto the end of April, 1973, bringing the total extent assigned from 1960 to 27.13 lakh acres there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yesterday, you took 10 minutes and today you have already taken another 10 minutes. Out of 2 hours allotted, you have already taken 20 minutes. You should be satisfied with that. I would like to know from the other Members from the Congress party and from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs whether Mr. Suryanarayana should be the only speaker from the Congress Benches. If a senior Member like him does not cooperate, what can I do?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): There is a list of six other names. For the rest, we are all in your hands, Sir.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Sir, lastly, I come to land reforms. We have so far distributed, in Andhra Pradesh, 27.13 lakh acres and nearly 4.40 lakh people have benefited. Now, Andhra Pradesh is under the President's Rule. We cannot say that we are very happy. But we are not unhappy also.

Coming to an important point of separation, I want to say this. The extension of the term of the President's Rule in Andhra Pradesh has been put before the House. Because both the groups, the integrationists and the separationists are not coming forward with a common proposal, the Government has rightly taken the step to extend the term of President's Rule there. The people are happy there. There is no agitation except the Communist party's political things. My request to the Government is, unless there is a common agreement, unless there is an agreed solution of the problem by both the groups, there is no urgency about it. Lastly, regarding the freedom fighters . . .

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are unreasonable, you are unfair to your other colleagues. You are taking undue advantage of the leniency of the Chair, you are taking undue advantage of your other colleagues in the Party.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Regarding the freedom fighters, I may be excused, Sir. Friends who were with me in jail in 1930-1932 and 1942 have been writing to me and I have brought it to the notice of the Government also. So far as Andhra is concerned, the number of applications received upto 30th July, 1973 is 10139 the number of applications examined—7056 the number of sanctioned—2604 the number of applications rejected—1362 and clarifications called for—3640. I want to request the Government to put some man for each State who knows their language, to expedite matters. Regarding freedom fighters, they promised that they would finalise by 15th August all the genuine applicants. Now 50 per cent have not been completed in my State. So, once again I request the Government to expedite the cases and fulfil the promise given to the freedom fighters. I am very thankful to the Chair for giving me enough time to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call the next speaker, at 5.30 there is a half-an-hour discussion to be raised by Shri G. P. Yadav. But he has written that he will not be here as he has been held up. So, we will not take up that and we will have half an hour more for this. We will take up the Private Members' Business at 5.30 instead of at 3 p. m.

Now, Mr. Ramavatar Shastri.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : एक मिनटवर से छ. महीने के लिए और राष्ट्रपति का शासन आन्ध्र में बढ़ाने सम्बन्धी सांविधानिक संकल्प पर हम विचार कर रहे हैं क्या राष्ट्रपति के शासन की अवधि बढ़ाने से आन्ध्र देश की समस्या का समाधान हो सकता है ? मेरी राय में अवधि बढ़ाने के बजाय सरकार को जल्दी से जल्दी आन्ध्र प्रदेश की एकता को बचाते हुए उस की रक्षा करने हुए, निर्दान का कोई सम्ना बंद निकालना चाहिए । यह खूबी की बात है कि वहां फट परस्सो के मार्गे देश को जो योग

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

वेदित चाहते हैं, जो लोग प्रतिक्रियावाधियों के हाथ में खेप रहे हैं, उनके धाये सरकार अभी तक नहीं झुकी है। इस बात के लिए हम सरकार को ज़रूर धन्यवाद देंगे। लेकिन सरकार मजबूती के साथ इस प्रदेश की एकता को कायम करने, उसका विभाजन का जो नारा लाते हैं, उनके विरोध में मजबूती से नीति निर्धारित करने में पूरी तरह सफल नहीं हो पाई हैं। अभी भी सरकार की तरफ से कहा जाता है कि हमारा दिमाग खुला है। पता नहीं यह दिमाग कब तक खुला रहेगा और कब तक वहां की जनता की समस्या का कोई समाधान बोजा जायेगा? खुले दिमाग का परिणाम तो तब मिलेगा जब साक्ष्य से साक्ष्य वहां की जनता के अन्दर जो फूट वादी शक्तियां हैं, जो प्रतिगामी शक्तियां हैं, उनकी जो चाल है कि वहां के जन-आन्दोलन को कमजोर करके वहां की जनता को आप्रम में नबाकर अपने स्थिर स्थाय माथे आए। उनको पराजय दी जायेगी। अगर इसी तरह से आप हीना हवाला करने रहे तो किसी भी समस्या का समाधान नहीं होगा। इस लिए हमारा निवेदन है कि आप साक्ष्य वहां आन्ध्र प्रदेश की एकता को बचाने हुए निदान निकाले और वहां लोकप्रिय सरकार का स्थापना करें। इस ओर आप के कदम उठने चाहिए।

अभी भी वहां प्रतिगामी शक्तियों, स्थिर स्थायी, उमीदों की जो बकायत करते हैं, उनके प्रतिनिधि बोच गए हैं। उनकी तरफ से धमकी दी जाती है कि हम फिर आन्दोलन करेंगे। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वहां की गरीब जनता, मेहनत करने वाली जनता किसान मजदूर आदि उनके साथ नहीं हैं। किसान मजदूर आन्ध्र प्रदेश की एकता को बनाए रखना चाहते हैं। इस लिए हमारा निवेदन है कि आप उनकी धमकियों में न आकर सही रास्ते पर चले और उसकी एजेंडा को कायम रखें।

वहां बेशक तेलंगना का इलाका —

SHRI M. M. HASHIM (Secundrabad): I rise on a point of order. You have not allowed Shri Suryanarayana when he was speaking to give details of the activities of these people. Now you are allowing him to speak against them here, where they are unable to say a single word.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order please. You have made your point. I have not said that I did not allow Shri K. Suryanarayana to speak against them. I was concerned with time and I was also concerned with the relevancy. The debate at the moment is about the continuance of the proclamation of the President's rule. You can advance reasons for that. But I appreciate that in discussing those matters you cannot but also refer to certain details going on there; there should not be any long reference, however, to that; that is all that I was trying to say to Mr. Suryanarayana. He had made certain charges against them. I think it is only fair that when a charge is made they should have the right to reply. I was only putting a restriction on time and looking at the question from the point of view of relevancy. (Interruptions) Order please. Please go on.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मैं बिलकुल प्वाइंट बाई प्वाइंट बोल रहा हूँ। मैं कह रहा था कि वहां की जनता की एकता को बनाए रखने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि जो पिछड़ा हुआ इलाका है, तेलंगाना का इलाका हो या राय लसीमा का इलाका हो, वहां के लोगों को विकास का पूरा मौका मिलना चाहिए। ऐसा न हो कि किसी एक इलाके के विकास की तरफ आपका ध्यान ज्यादा जाए और दूसरे इलाके के विकास की तरफ कम जाए। किसी इलाके की समस्याओं के समाधान की तरफ सरकार कम ध्यान दे और किसी विशेष इलाके की समस्याओं को सुलझाने की तरफ सरकार ज्यादा ध्यान दे। सम्यक रूप से जो पिछड़े हुए इलाके हैं उन को भी धाने बढ़ाने का मौका दिया जाना चाहिए। धाने बढ़े हुए जो इलाके

है, उन की बचाने की मेरी संज्ञा नहीं है। वे भी जाने बड़े। दोनों भाई हैं। इस तरह से अगर हम करेंगे तो जी भाषा के आधार पर राज्यों का निर्माण हुआ है, जिस सिद्धांत को हिन्दुस्तान की जनता ने अपने मन से सीखा है मान्योपन करके, उसकी रक्षा होगी। साथ ही साथ उनके पिछड़ेपन की तरफ ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

14.00 Hrs.

पिछड़ेपन को दूर करने के लिए इस बात की भी आवश्यकता है कि सरकार वहां जमीन का बंटवारा करे। अभी माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि वहां जमीन का बंटवारा किया गया है। मुझे मायूस नहीं है। अगर किया गया है, तो यह खुशी की बात है। लेकिन इस बारे में जो कुछ किया गया है, उसी पर सतोष कर लेना काफी नहीं है। और ज्यादा से ज्यादा जमीन का बंटवारा किया गया जाना चाहिए। जमींदारों और निहित स्वार्थों के शिकवे को तोड़ना चाहिए और जोतने वालों को जमीन देनी चाहिए।

माननीय सदस्य, श्री सूर्यनारायण, ने यह प्रकट करने की कोशिश की है कि आंध्र प्रदेश में लोग महंगाई के शिकार नहीं हैं। प्रधान मंत्री कहती हैं कि सारी दुनिया में महंगाई है, सब जगह दाम बढ़ रहे हैं। इसलिए यह नहीं हो सकता है कि आंध्र प्रदेश में महंगाई न हो। वहां महंगाई है, और वह इस लिए भी है कि वहां भी चोर-बाजारिये और बड़े-बड़े बलीम-मालिक अपनी छतियों में अपना छिया कर रहे हुए हैं, जिस की वजह से कीमतें बढ़ती हैं। कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी है लोगों ने वहां महंगाई के खिलाफ आंदोलन किया और चोर-बाजारिये तथा जमींदारों के छिपाये हुए बत्ते को निकाल कर शान्तिमय तरीके से उस का बंटवारा किया। उन्होंने यह सही किया—उन्होंने ऐसा पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में किया है—और वे जाने भी करने वाले हैं।

राष्ट्रपति भी कहते हैं कि चोर-बाजारियों के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जाये और उन को

भारत सुरक्षा कानून के अन्तर्गत बंद किया जाये। हम उसी बात को धमल में लाना चाहते हैं। हम चाहेंगे कि सत्तारूढ़ दल में जो इस विचार के लोग हैं, उन को इस में सहयोग करना चाहिए उस का विरोध नहीं करना चाहिए। सत्तारूढ़ दल के लोग कहते कुछ हैं और करते कुछ हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि वे जो कुछ कहते हैं वही करे। अगर नहीं करेंगे, तो जनता उन को ऐसा करने के लिए मजबूर करेगी।

अन्त में मैं फिर कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार आंध्र प्रदेश में प्रेजिडेंटल रूल को बंदाने के बजाये विधान सभा को काम करने का मौका दे और वहां नाकामिय शासन स्थापित हो, जो उस प्रदेश का एकता को कायम रखने हुए ज्यादा विश्वास के साथ जनता की विभिन्न समस्याओं को हल करने का तरीका निकाले।

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Chattrapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the motion moved for the extension of the President's Rule in Andhra Pradesh for a further period of six months.

Sir, due to the unfortunate judgement of the Supreme Court, the problem has arisen with regard to the integration of the State. The Mulki Rules, which existed in the erstwhile Hyderabad State before the merger of Telangana with Andhra Pradesh, were allowed to continue under a gentleman's agreement for a period of fifteen years. That is, these should have expired at the end of 1974. This decision of the Supreme Court stirred the feelings of the people both in Andhra as well as in the Telangana regions. The people from the Andhra region feel that the Mulki Rules should not exist inasmuch as they form part and parcel of the integrated State of Andhra Pradesh whereas the people from Telangana Region, feel that they are educationally backward and economically weak and so, they should have some sort of protection. This has resulted in the agitation against the integration of the State. The people

[Shri Jagannath Rao]

from Telangana region are not happy over this. Who is responsible for this? Can the headache be cured by chopping off one's head? The Mulki Rules problem should be solved peacefully. Sir, this is nothing but a domicile certificate from the persons coming from the other area but, who happen to be residing in Telangana area. There was a similar domicile rule in Orissa. When Orissa State was formed in 1936, the people speaking Oriya language, whether they belonged to the erstwhile State or not, or if they came from the neighbouring State, were all treated as natives of Orissa.

Others who lived in the State, including myself, who were not Oriyas in the sense that our mother tongue is not Oriya, were required to take domicile certificates. Of course, there was some inconvenience for some time. But ultimately things have settled down and there is no question of insisting on domicile rules now. I request the Telangana people not to lay much stress on the Mulki Rules and thus try to disrupt the integrity of the State. Andhra with a population of 4 crores odd is one of the bigger States in the country. It has a vast potential. It is the storehouse of foodgrains. It is highly unfortunate that politicians from both sides talk of separation. Separation is no solution to the Mulki rules problem. The time has come when insistence on the Mulki Rules should not be allowed to continue. People from the Andhra region should be allowed to feel that they have as much right in the State as people from the Telangana region.

I quite agree and concede the contention of the Telangana people that they being educationally backward should have some protection in the matter of jobs. In the public undertakings, there is a rule whereby classes I and II posts are thrown open to public competition whereas classes III and IV posts are filled from among the local people, people of the locality where the undertaking is situated. Likewise, posts carrying emoluments of Rs. 300, Rs. 400 or Rs.

500 per mensem should be given only to the local people and others should be excluded, and have competition in respect of classes I and II posts. This may be a satisfactory solution. But who can arrive at it?

The party leaders from both regions who formed the Andhra Cabinet could not come to an agreement. This is unfortunate. The Andhra Cabinet is responsible for this impasse. They have created it. They could not come to an understanding. They did not and could not settle it. Now that the State is under President's rule, the Central Government should arrive at a settlement and see that the people of the regions agree to this principle. Otherwise, there will again be trouble. Mere passing of law would not solve the problem.

I would request politicians on both sides to consider the issue objectively and not be swayed by emotion. Unfortunately, this agitation went on for nearly a year. There was much loss of public property. But what has happened? Now President's rule is there and this has given them good administration. I had occasion to meet some people in the Andhra region and also others. They are very happy that they have got a good and clean administration and they want this to continue for some time. It is only the politicians who are creating trouble and want the Assembly to be reconvened and somebody to be selected as Chief Minister. Therefore, mere convening of the Assembly would not solve the problem. I said so even while supporting the Proclamation originally that it should be extended by another six months. Now this extension is being sought. If no solution is forthcoming, it will have to be extended further by another six months and so on upto three years which we can do when the emergency is in force. I say that the integrity of Andhra Pradesh should be preserved. When tempers cool down and good sense prevails, I am sure it will be found that this is not such a big problem which cannot be solved by

the two parties. Therefore, it is highly necessary that President's rule should be extended by another six months.

Shri Ramabatar Shastri was talking of the CPI and the action they are taking to bring down prices. The CPI are now organising bandhs there and every where, as if that would bring prices down. The other day in Berahampore City, they organised a bandh. They would not allow the fair price shops and other shops to function. My friend Shri Panda, who is an MP was also there. He was one of the leaders. We Congress workers objected to that and prevailed upon the shopkeepers to open their shops. There was clash and lathi charge and so on. Is that the way the CPI think the prices can be brought down? Are not Government conscious of inflation? They are doing whatever is possible to bring prices down. But the CPI is trying to pose as the saviour of the people, the party which can deliver the goods. If the Government of the day cannot do it, no other political party can. Is there any alternative to Congress rule? The only alternative would be chaos. Therefore, allow the Government to function; allow them to bring prices down in the proper way. They are taking various steps for the purpose. Political parties trying to pose themselves as the liberators or saviours of the people will not achieve any purpose. It will defeat the entire objective.

It is necessary that President's rule should be extended by six months. I would request the political leaders from Andhra and Telengana to see that they come to an arrangement. Telengana people should not insist on the Mulki rules, so that a workable and everlasting solution can be found. I was sorry to read a statement in today's papers by Dr. Chenna Reddi saying, if any ministry is installed, it will not last months, not even weeks. If that is the attitude of the leaders, can this problem be solved? Let not the political view it from their own selfish

ends. Let them keep the interests of the people at large before them.

With these words I support the Resolution.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (शाजापुर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में राष्ट्रपति शासन की अवधि और 6 महीने बढ़ाने के प्रस्ताव पर हम विचार कर रहे हैं, उसका मैं विरोध करता हूँ। राष्ट्रपति शासन किसी प्रदेश में चले यह प्रक्रिया कोई स्थायी नहीं है, यह अस्थायी है। इसलिए 6 महीने की अवधि सविधान में दी गई है। यदि मंत्री महोदय इस अवधि को बढ़ाने के समय यह बात बताते तक के साथ कि और 6 महीने घागे क्यों बढ़ाया जाय तो बात समझ में आती। परंतु जी ने सिवाय इस के और कुछ नहीं कहा कि इट इज ए काम्प्लेक्स प्राब्लम—यह एक जटिल समस्या है और इसका हल निकालने में समय लगेगा। मुझे लगता है कि इस सरकार के साथ कोई भी समस्या जटिल हो जाती है और उनके पास हल एक ही है कि केन्द्र उसमें हस्तक्षेप करके हाथ में ले। अब चंडीगढ़ की समस्या कोई जटिल है? लेकिन कह दिया की उसे केन्द्र शासित बनाया जाय और बन गया। आन्ध्र में थोड़ी गड़बड़ हो गई उस को भी 6 महीने बढ़ाते बढ़ाते केन्द्र शासित कर दिया। बेलगांव और महाराष्ट्र की समस्या कितने सालों से चली आ रही हैं, 1956 से लेकर आज 1973 तक पहुँचे, कोई हल निकला नहीं। यानि समस्या का हल इन से कोई निकलता ही नहीं। इनको कुछ सूझता ही नहीं। इनके लिए त्रिजर्षभाप इनडे—सीजन जो बिजयलक्ष्मी पंडित ने वर्णन किया था, वह आज भी वैसा ही लागू है। इनकी बातें सुनकर मुझे जनरल फ्रांको के बारे में एक बड़ा प्रचलित किस्सा याद आया। कहते हैं कि एक बार जनरल फ्रांको किसी दूकान में कुछ खरीदने के लिए गए। वहाँ से उन्होंने हीरे की झगूड़ी खरीदी। जब वे देखा तो पैसे तो लाए ही नहीं थे। उन्होंने व्यापारी से कहा कि पैसे तो मैं लाया नहीं। आप तो मुझे जानते होंगे? उन ने कहा कि आप कौन हैं? कहा मैं जनरल फ्रांको हूँ, गेन का सर्वे सर्व। उसने कहा कि

[श्री जगन्नाथ राय कोशी]

मैं तो आपको पहचानता नहीं। किन्तु आपकी कल भी एक ऐसी ही सम्जन आए थे। उन्होंने भी एक चीज खरीदी, उनके पास भी पैसा नहीं था, तो उन्होंने कहा कि आप मुझे जानते होंगे, मैं यहाँ का प्रसिद्ध बुल फाइटर हूँ। मैंने कहा कि आप बुल फाइटर हैं यह मैं कैसे पहचानूँ, आप कुछ करके दिखाइए, तो उन्होंने इधर उधर छलांग लगाई, कुछ हाथ पैर इधर उधर मारकर दिखा दिया। मैंने कहा कि हाँ, आप बुल फाइटर हैं। तो आप जनरल फ्राको हैं वह हम को सिद्ध करके दिखाइए। उन्होंने कहा कि इस समय मैं क्या करूँ, मुझे कुछ समय में नहीं आता। तो उसने कहा कि आप की समस्या में नहीं आता न कि मैं क्या करूँ तो आप जरूर जनरल फ्राको हैं। तो आप के साथ बिकुल ऐसी ही बात है। किसी भी परिस्थिति में जब कोई भी कहे कि हम था करें तो Take it for granted that it is Congress Government

इनकी कुछ समस्या में ही नहीं आता। एक मामूली भीमा समस्या हल करने में आप को 12-12 और 13-13 माल लगे हैं तो आन्ध्र की समस्या का आगे चल कर क्या हल निकलेगा यह मैं कुछ समझ नहीं पाता हूँ।

अब किसी ने एकना की बात बड़ी। उत्तर प्रदेश एक ही है। एक होने के बाद सगड़ा क्या है? मेरे मित्र जगन्नाथ राय कह रहे थे कि

There is no alternative to congress—
it is only chaos

तो आन्ध्र में आज कांग्रेस ही है, पिछले 25 सालों में कांग्रेस ही थी और आगे भी कभी कांग्रेस ही रहेगी।

In spite of congress continuing for
so many years there is chaos.

यह समस्या में नहीं आता। यानि हल क्या है? हल तो सही है, आप तो चाहते थे मुल्की कल जो आप ने पास करवाया बहुमत के बल पर, उसी समय हम ने कहा था यह कोई तैलवाना या भाँझाला स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे। यह कोई हल नहीं है। या तो पन्त जी बताते कि आपने छ

महीनों में कौन सा सुझाव बह रखा रहे हैं वह हल पता चलता।

Government is proceeding simply to declare to the world that Government has an open mind. I accept that the open mind of the Government is a blank mind. It is absolutely blank. आपने चल कर छ महीने में भी वे कुछ हल निकाल सके हैं इस पर मैं विस्वास नहीं करता इसलिए लोकतन्त्र का यह सकाजा है, आज जो आंध्र में कांग्रेस का बहुमत है —

there is no opposition party to challenge the supremacy.

यदि भरतहराव अपने साथ सब को ले नहीं जाते तो विधान सभा को बुलाइये, नर नेना का चुनाव कराइये यदि नर नेना का चुनाव नहीं हो पाता या होने के बाद विधान सभा चल नहीं पाती।

then the only course left is to dissolve the Assembly and hold fresh elections to know the mind of the people

जनता का चाइना, मैं क्योंकि in the absence of this — Ramavtar Shastri gets a good chance to say that

इसके पीछे पीजेंटम नहीं है, वर्कअप नहीं है। बामनब में इसके पीछे यदि ताकत नहीं होनी तो इस सरकार को इनकी समस्या नहीं लगता हल निकालने में। आज आप विधान सभा बुला कर चला नहीं सकते न आपके पास नेता हैं, न आप चला सकते हैं तो यह क्यों है? कारण यह है कि तैलवाना की जगह यह ही चाहती, वह तग था, बई, उसने देखा कि इनके साथ ठोक व्यवहार नहीं हुआ, उनको न्याय नहीं मिला। दोनों हिस्सों में कुछ रिभाग बाइजेनल करेगा यह एकना के लिए कोई खतरा नहीं है। It is a sort of reorganisation on the basis of a different administration कोई भ्रमभाव का भाव बहा है ही नहीं मैं आंध्र वालों को कहना हूँ कि don't use the word separatists—you call it bifurcation.

यानि देश के हित और जनता की सुविधा तथा आवश्यकता की दृष्टि से आप लोगों ने

असल में कोई प्रदेश बनाने हैं वो भीयें चल कर ऐसा नहीं है कि एक भाषा का एक ही प्रदेश हो। हिन्दी भाषा के कई प्रदेश हैं। यदि आप को ऐसा लगता है कि भाषा की सारी जनता इस बात को स्वीकार करती है और तेलंगाना की जनता हमको स्वीकार करती है तो कोई आसमान टूटने वाला नहीं है। एस और सी मैं अलग तेलंगाना के लिए कहा था कि ऐसा नहीं है कि यह प्रदेश बन नहीं सकता। पोलिटिकली बायबल और इकोनॉमिकली सेल्फ सफिसेंट नहीं है ऐसी बात नहीं है। ऐसी स्थिति में आज देश की एकता बनाए रखने के लिए यह कहा जाता है श्री रामावतार शास्त्री जिन्होंने पार्टिशन को स्पॉट किया है, वह देश अब की एकता के लिए बोले यह हमारी समझ में नहीं आता यानि आज देश की एकता के लिए चाहते हैं कि आंध्र और तेलंगाना की जनता आपस में झगड़ा न करें।

श्री जशवि भूषण (दक्षिणी दिल्ली)
पार्टिशन को तो आपने स्पॉट किया, श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी ने किया था।

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : श्री श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी ने तो जहा तक मुझे याद है—

I would like to recall what Shyama Prasad Mookerjee said. He said, I partitioned the partition. He never stood for partition. He said, I partitioned the partition. You people allowed the whole of Bengal and the whole of Punjab to go to Pakistan. It is because of Shri Shyama Prasad Mookerjee that we got back half of Punjab and half of Bengal. I would like to place the facts straight.

इतिहास को आप बदल नहीं सकते। हमारा कहने का भावय यही है कि यह जो आन्ध्र में मां गहो रही है कि तेलंगाना अलग करो, यह कोई सेपरेशन नहीं है, इट इज जस्ट ए सार्ट आफ बाइफरकेशन। जनता यदि चाहती है अपने हित की दृष्टि से और विकास की दृष्टि से तो मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि या तो आप आज विधान सभा बुलाइए या नया चुनाव कराइए। यदि वह वं नो नहीं करते तो बार बार हमारे सामने

आता और कहता कि छः महीने और बढ़ाओ यह कोई हल नहीं है। इसलिए कम से कम उत्तर देते समय पंत जी बताएं कि यह कैसे काम्प्लेक्स प्राबलम है, इसमें क्या क्या हुआ है और उनका सुझाव आये क्या है, इस पर क्या क्या विचार हो रहा है इन सब बातों पर वह प्रकाश डालें तो हम कुछ करने का मौका मिल सकता है।

इन सबों के साथ मैं इस अवधि बढ़ाने के प्रस्ताव का विरोध करता हूँ।

SHRI MALLIKARJUN (Medak):
Sir, while welcoming the resolution moved by Shri Pant for the extension of President's rule in Andhra Pradesh, I would like to reiterate persistently and emphatically what I have told this House earlier, namely, that the formation of a separate Telengana State is the only solution for the present political crisis, to give the maximum satisfaction or minimum dissatisfaction to the people of both the regions.

I have given on various occasions the variety of reasons for the demand of a separate State of Telengana. It is needless for me to go into the background now since this is connected with the extension of the Proclamation of the President's Rule I can appreciate the agony, the zeal, the enthusiasm and the firm feeling of the Government of India to see that Andhra Pradesh remains in tact which according to me is un-remainable under any circumstances whatsoever. The concept of unconditional integration sponsored by the power-conscious political elements who carry neither the people nor the people's representatives with them is basically of no value. It is utterly absurd. In support of my case for a separate Statehood, it necessitates the need to reveal to this august House, the people's representatives in majority in both the regions, that the people by will in and out feel for the separation or the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.

Even during the President's Rule, it is very painful to reveal that recently six Session Judges were appointed

[Shri Mallikarjun]

and they were all from Andhra region and it was only later by our intervention that it was stopped. To what extent such things will continue?

Shall we have to simply say that we believe in national unity? We definitely believe in national unity and national prosperity. It is our prime moral duty. But it does not mean at the cost of people's wishes; it does not mean at the cost of injustice to various sections of the society in backward region of Telengana. With the background of all these things, now the course left is only the division of the State. If some people believe in the unconditional integration, making a free zone of twin cities, replacing Telengana Regional Committee with some Development Board, removing separate planning and budget of Telengana, it is highly deplorable. We will fight tooth and nail. As I said last time, we will not forgive under any circumstances whoever comes here and compromises with whatever the capacity they have. We have the capacity to fight even the mightiest of the Government, whatever it is. I am very clear on this point.

About the popular Government, we are least bothered. Even if the President's Rule is extended by another year, we are not bothered. But let the Government take into cognizance the intelligence reports which have been submitted to the Government periodically on various occasions. What does it reveal? It firmly says that the people in both the regions feel that there should be separation. If anybody feels, whether it is C.P.I. people or other party people, that this landlord movement is demanding separate Statehood, it is absolutely baseless and meaningless. If you believe in democracy, let there be elections, let there be bye-elections. You go in for bye-elections and find out the views of the people whether they are in favour of separation or not. If you have any doubt about the genuineness of the people's wishes, you go in for elections. Do you believe in democracy or not?

What I mean to say is, if the Government of India or the people at large in this country believe in democracy, let there be elections. If the preliminary formalities have not been completed by the Election Commissioner in respect of other constituencies, you have a bye-election in Luxetipet in Telengana.

You judge the people's feeling. The Congress Forum For Telengana headed by Dr. M. Chenna Reddy has made it very clear to all the leaders that you ascertain the people's feeling by conducting an opinion poll, if not to-day, after six months or after one year and whatever they decide, we will abide by it. But neither you want an opinion poll nor you want separation. You simply speak of the philosophy of national integration where integration cannot be maintained. Therefore, to live in Andhra Pradesh at this juncture is as good or as equal or identical with living in a fools, paradise.

Lastly, I say with full conviction that the people will fight till the separate States are formed. Therefore, let the Government not come with the imposition of any formula enunciated by any one or by any pseudo-integrationist coming here. Already those people who believe in integration have themselves come to Delhi and told the Prime Minister that they do not want a free zone for the twin cities. Then I do not know what my Andhra brethren are expecting. If my Andhra brethren believe in fraternity and if they want that our mutual lives should be prosperous, the life in both the regions, the only solution is separation, otherwise there will be bitterness in both the regions. Till a separate Telengana State is formed we will fight with all determination.

With these words, I support.

*SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN (Salem): Hon. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to say a few words on the Resolution seeking the approval of the House for extending the President's rule in Andhra Pradesh which has been in-

*The Original speech was delivered in Tamil.

introduced by the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Shri K. C. Pant. I am thankful to you for giving me this opportunity to express my views on the Resolution on behalf of my party, the Dravida Munnetra Kuzhagam.

Sir, during 7½ years of Shrimati Indira Gandhi's administration of the country the President's rule had been imposed on the States for 22 times and, during the earlier 15 years rule of the Congress Party, ten times the President's rule had been imposed. I point out this to show that now frequent recourse is taken to the constitutional provision of imposing the President's rule over the States for one reason or the other. I may go to the extent of saying that the constitutional provision, Article 356 of the Constitution, has become the hand-maid of the ruling Congress Party here.

The principal reason for bringing Andhra Pradesh under the President's rule was the divergence of views and difference of opinion in the ruling Congress Party. Initially, the Congress Party Members of Telengana region of Andhra Pradesh demanded separate statehood for Telengana region. At that time, the Congress Party Members of Andhra region opposed the demand for separate statehood for Telengana region. Later on, the Congress Party members of Andhra region also joined the fray and demanded separate statehood for Andhra region. But the ruling party at the Centre expressed its opposition to this demand. The responsibility for the resultant chaos and confusion that prevailed in Andhra Pradesh for months, crores and crores of rupees of loss to railway stations, railway lines, post offices and other public properties should lie squarely on the shoulders of the Congress Party and the elected Congress Members of Andhra Pradesh Assembly. The violent agitation there was spear-headed by the Action Committee which was constituted by

the Congress Party Members. Not only they gave encouragement and support to violence, but also they actively participated in that. In this case the ruling party here cannot console itself by blaming the Opposition parties for murder, loot and arson in Andhra Pradesh. If the ruling party had any evidence of the complicity of the opposition parties in such violent activities, it would not have kept quiet; criminal proceedings would have been started against them by now. On the other hand, just because the ruling party members were involved in these anti-social activities no action under any law of the land has so far been initiated against them.

I would like to know whether there are any plausible reasons for keeping the Andhra Pradesh Assembly under suspension. If you compare the situation in Andhra Pradesh with that of Orissa, you will find that in Orissa when the United Front Government comprising of all Opposition Parties enjoyed the majority in Orissa Assembly and when the Congress Party could not manouvre majority in the Assembly, the Opposition Government was sent out short of dismissal and the Assembly was dissolved paving the way for fresh elections. In the Uttar Pradesh and in Andhra Pradesh the Congress Party had absolute majority in the Assembly. That is why both these Assemblies have been suspended for the time being. The dispensation of justice from the hands of the Central Government differs from State to state, depending upon the strength of the Congress Party in the Assembly. In Orissa there is one kind of justice and in Andhra Pradesh there is another.

Only 4, 5 days back the hon. Minister of Finance, Shri Chavan, announced a cut of Rs. 400 crores in the plan expenditure of Fourth Plan on account of grave economic situation in the country. A circular has also been sent to all the State Governments that in view of difficult economic situation prevailing in the coun-

[Shri E. R. Krishnan]
try the State Government should exercise utmost economy in their expenditure. But, the Andhra Pradesh Assembly Members, though the Assembly has been suspended, continue to get their salaries and all other amenities. I want to know whether such extravagance should be allowed to continue in the worsening economic situation. It was stated that the Assembly was suspended due to deteriorating law and order situation in the State. Now during the past several months the law and order situation has improved and normalcy has been restored. When that is the situation, the Central Government should either re-convene the Assembly so that a new Ministry can be constituted or the Assembly should be dissolved and the fresh elections are held immediately. If one Chief Minister has been sent out, is not the Congress Party in a position to elect a new leader in Andhra Pradesh? It is inexplicable to me that the Congress Party should be unable to find out another Congress Member fit for becoming the Chief Minister.

Similarly, I am compelled to point out that the Congress Party is also not willing to hold the elections after dissolving the Assembly. That is because the Congress Party is not sure of getting majority in Andhra Pradesh if elections are held now. The hold of the Congress Party on the State is being perpetuated by taking course to the President's rule. As I had pointed out earlier, there is one kind of justice for the Congress Party and quite a different one for the Opposition parties.

Can this be called a democracy? I am tempted to say that this is a kind of Indira democracy and not democracy known all over the world.

Sir, Andhra Pradesh is a big State with vast potential for development. At the moment only 20 per cent of the waters of great rivers, Krishna and Godavari are utilised for agricultural purposes and the remaining water runs waste into the sea. If

Andhra Pradesh is given a good and efficient Government, if agriculture is given its due importance as is being done in Tamil Nadu, I have no doubt in my mind that Andhra Pradesh would become the granary for the entire country. Since Andhra Pradesh is a part of dravidian belt of Southern Region and the people of Andhra Pradesh have in them the dravidian culture and racial affinity, I speak from the bottom of my heart and demand that either the Assembly should be re-convened and a new Ministry allowed to function or the Assembly should be dissolved and fresh elections are held forthwith.

Last week the Indian Railways Act was amended enhancing the punishment for damaging and destroying the public property. Even before that the Central Government had more than enough powers to take punitive action against public offenders. There is the Maintenance of Internal Security Act and there is Emergency in the country. But all these powers have not been exercised because the offenders in Andhra Pradesh belonged to the Congress Party. I would like to urge upon the Government that appropriate action should be taken against all the people, irrespective of their party affiliations, who have caused damage and destruction to public property. The Central Government should give a go-by to the policy of 'neither here nor there'.

Before I conclude, I would like to refer to another important point. Many ruling party members inside and outside this House have declared that the bureaucracy is the greatest stumbling block in implementing socialist programmes formulated by the ruling party. But the chasm between word and deed is widening consistently. The States of Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh have been entrusted to the care of the same bureaucrats. I wonder whether the Government would ever be able to establish an egalitarian society in the country if this trend continues.

I would urge upon the Central Government to take a quick decision either to re-convene the Assembly or dissolve the Assembly of Andhra Pradesh paving the way for fresh elections.

With these words I conclude.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Resolution moved by Shri K. C. Pant in this House for the extension of the President's Rule in Andhra Pradesh.

Sir, I am amazed to hear the speech of the D.M.K. Member as also Shri Joshi from Jan Sangh. Shri Joshi's party in Andhra Pradesh Assembly is conspicuous by its absence. They set up many candidates but, fortunately or unfortunately, all of them had lost their deposits! Now, they want that there should be election so that they may find a place in the Assembly.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Why should he be amazed? Are you happy that although you have an absolute majority; you are unable to form a Government?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: In our country, the Opposition always talks in perverse terms. These Opposition Parties, instead of co-operating in the nation-building activities, always go on indulging in anti-national activities.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): You call this as a nation-building activity?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: When there was some trouble in Andhra Pradesh, all leaders from the Opposition went there; they included D.M.K. too just to pour oil into the fire in Andhra Pradesh. Now they demand that there should be fresh elections? Sir, this Congress is not afraid of any election. What has happened in 1960 and 1970. In 1970—27th December—our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, dissolved Parliament just to face the electorate.

If required, again, we will face the electorate. We are not afraid of facing them.

SHRI PILOO MODY: One swallow does not make a summer.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: It is they, who are afraid that in the future elections, their strength would get reduced by 35 per cent. That is not so far as we are concerned. We are maintaining the strength. The people of Andhra Pradesh neither want a separate Andhra State nor the people of Telangana want a separate Telangana State. They only want their problem to be solved peacefully. One speaker after another went on talking so many things. I have known our people.

If we go for any election with the question whether they want fertilisers or bifurcation of the State, you will find that 99 per cent of them will say that they want only fertilisers. They are not getting sufficient quantity of fertilisers to meet their demands. That is why the Agriculture Minister was requested to see that sufficient fertilisers are supplied to Andhra Pradesh. (Interruptions). Sir, the President's Rule may continue for another six months if required. The Members from the Opposition were talking that the prices were rising so high. Now, Sir, I have to plead that the prices are falling far below and now the Minister should come to the help of the agriculturists. Sir, with the new pulse coming into the market—I now talk about my constituency, Nizamabad—the price of pulse has fallen from Rs. 160 a quintal to Rs. 100 a quintal—a fall of 60 per cent. That is why I say there is no price rise so far as Andhra is concerned. Recently, the Advisers have taken a very good decision. They have enlarged the area of the zone and immediately the prices in Telangana area—in Hyderabad—particularly, in my district (Nizamabad) the price of rice has gone down from Rs. 40 to 35 a quintal.

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:
Who says?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:
I say this. I have gone there. If Andhra Pradesh is given sufficient fertilisers, we will be able to feed the entire India with rice. That is the capacity that we are having. That is why I request the Government to supply the fertilisers.

I now come to the Plan. Allocation made for the Fifth Five Year Plan is not sufficient for Andhra Pradesh. They have allotted only Rs. 10.75 crores. It should be Rs. 1250 crores. If this much allocation is made, that will solve many of the problems in Andhra.

Without allocation of sufficient funds, not much progress could be made in Andhra Pradesh. The people from both the Telangana as well as from Andhra demand more funds for the Plan. Jobs can be created only by planning. Planning means more money. For the last twenty years, all our money has been invested only in the Nagarjunasagar, Pochampad, Srisaillam and other big projects. All our energies have been spent on creating irrigation potential which is a national asset. If sufficient funds are allotted for industrialisation of the State, there will be no problem and the people, both in Telangana and in Andhra, will be engaged in some good work.

SHRI PILOO MODY: It is with some considerable amount of amusement but much more consternation that I heard the last speaker. I did not know for a moment whether we were discussing Andhra and the severe problems that have afflicted it, particularly the constitutional problems that have afflicted Andhra or we were discussing the distribution of fertilisers in Andhra.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You show the example now.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I am going to show an example by allowing my friend to do the distribution of fer-

tiliser and talking only about the basic issue, that is, the extension of President's rule in Andhra.

The very fact that this rule has had to be extended is an admission of the singular failure of this Government to provide any solution to any of the problems that exist in the country, particularly the problem of Andhra which has now been haunting us in the last so many months. They have tried every conceivable method, every conceivable high pressure tactic, every conceivable type of subterfuge, every conceivable type of skull-duggery in order to get these two—shall we say?—groups with differences of opinion to work together in one Government. They have failed. I do not grudge them the time they have taken in coming to this conclusion, but I do condemn them for not having come to the conclusion that these two areas need to be separated.

Therefore, unless we are prepared to take these decisions by the democratic process and not by executive fiat, unless we are prepared to keep an ear to the ground and listen to what the wishes of the people are, there is no point taking one person's word against another's word, against my word in the matter. There are perfectly reasonable methods of assessing what the people of Andhra and Telangana want. If you feel that election is one way of finding it out, find out through election; if you think a referendum is another way, get it through a referendum; if you prefer an opinion poll, get it through an opinion poll. But do not allow subjective opinions to be delivered by people who are only fertiliser-oriented, who will get up and say...

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:
That has given food to you.

SHRI PILOO MODY: ... 'I am the only man who knows what the people of Andhra and Telangana want'.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:
Yes, of course.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Everyone has an opinion and he can express it. Those who have observed what has happened in Andhra can very well say that the people of Andhra are determined and they will not prevaricate. This Government can go on dithering, they can go on prevaricating, but the people of Andhra are not going to prevaricate. They have made up their mind that nothing short of separate statehood is going to satisfy them and they will get nothing short of it. Whether it is now or later, whether you extend President's rule indefinitely, whether this Government lasts or does not last, whether another Government takes its place or not, the people of Andhra and Telengana will get their States.

This does not mean that they are in any way reluctant to co-operate or live together with the people of Telangana. They want separate administrations, they want separate Governments, separate States. And there is no reason why they should not have it. After all what is the sanctity of these borders that have been drawn by the States Reorganisation Commission? What is the sanctity of the borders that have been drawn by this Government from time to time to seek political advantage? What is the sanctity of the constituencies? See the process of gerrymandering in U.P. at the moment. You will see that like vultures swooping down on a map they are trying to redraw their constituencies, thinking that by doing so they are going to push their unwanted voters on somebody else, their own neighbours. There is no sanctity about these things. After all they are human beings; their sense of well-being and security, their sense of fellow-being and companionship and sense of belonging and participation—these are important things. Not fertilisers. Fertilisers are necessary for the field, not for human brains.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: You have got a fertile brain.

SHRI PILOO MODY: It does not need fertiliser. That is why I am suggesting fertiliser to you. Some people use fertiliser to get higher yields; some people take fertiliser to produce hybrids. Anyway the main point is that the People of Andhra want a separate State and the extension of President's rule is not going to help it. How long are you going to do it. Why don't you once and for all decide that you are not immortal that you are not infallible, that you are just like us human beings which burn with fire and wet with water.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): May I ask him if he is fallible?

SHRI PILOO MODY: Yes, of course.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I am glad.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Why is he glad? He should have known that. The very fact that at this age he has realised all of a sudden that somebody else can be fallible does show the fallibility of a situation like this. Why does not this Government realise that it has made a mistake? 90 per cent of the fault and failure of the Government arises out of the fact that it refuses to accept its mistakes. They think that once they have pronounced they will lose all face if they ever go back on their pronouncements and therefore they will twist, turn and bend the constituency, purchase people like cattle. They will do anything in order to see that their writ prevails. This is not the essence of Government. If you want to continue more than the few months that are left for you I sincerely suggest that you mend your ways. Even today it is not too late. Confess your mistakes and do what the people want you to do.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY (Cittoor): While supporting the nece-

[Shri P. Narasimha Reddy]

asary evil of extension of President's rule in Andhra Pradesh. I endorse the hope expressed by Shri K. C. Pant that this will be shortly terminated in favour of establishing a popular set-up in that State. But at the same time let me express my diffidence and state specifically that I do not share his hope of ever maintaining the integrity of the States as he is trying to do. The previous speakers have dwelt at length and most emphatically stated the impossibility or even the incompatibility of the competing claims of the two regions, and the impossibility of reconciling them in the integrated context. Mr. Pant and Mr. Dixit have been making efforts in the recent weeks, both here and at Hyderabad by meeting all sections of the people to explore a way out of this impasse. I request Mr. Pant to take the Members of the House into confidence: on what basis he has been entertaining hopes for resolving the crises in the context of an integrated State.

I would in this connection refer to a judgement of the Andhra Pradesh High Court delivered on 10th July 1973 striking down Obul Reddy's judgement. The Adviser's Government now functioning in Andhra Pradesh is ignorantly and indiscriminately trying to apply Mulki rules to all employment matters without knowing that the Mulki rules apply only to original appointment and not to promotions or transfers or retrenchment.

So, that has struck a death blow, in my opinion to the efficacy or effectiveness of the Mulki Rules. So also in the previous judgment the regionalisation was severely restricted. You cannot regionalise promotion. All these things have been struck down by the High Court. Now the Mulki Rule is challenged in the Andhra Pradesh High Court and I do not have any doubt about the fate of the Mulki Rules. So, one by one, all the assurances and commitments which the Government have held forth to the Telengana

brethren in respect of employment or educational opportunities and economic advancement do not stand, do not hold water because it is constitutionally impossible to implement them. The result is, as correctly stated by Shri Mallikarjun who voices the public opinion of Telengana, the people have got completely disillusioned with the changing ways and attitudes of the politicians of all hues on a vital issue which is agitating the people of Andhra and Telengana. I also share this disillusionment in this respect. The only alternative is to ascertain the feelings of the people by going to them, by holding the elections. That is the only way we can ascertain the opinion of the people and not by imposing something from here.

That is why I say that President's Rule, which has got to be extended under the circumstances, is a necessary evil. I would once again appeal to Shri Pant and the Government to realise the impossibility of continuing the present situation. Before things deteriorate further, before issues get complicated, it is high time that they realise that bifurcation will be the only solution in the circumstances. Because of bifurcation the heavens will not fall. Because of this we are not going to bifurcate any State hereafter. So, I would suggest and repeat emphatically that this disillusionment of the people should be removed at an early date and the only solution possible and feasible is the bifurcation of the State.

SHRI K. NARAYANA RAO (Bobbili): Sir, I welcome the extension of President's Rule in Andhra Pradesh. There was no other alternative in the circumstances prevailing there. But before I come to the vital issue relating to Andhra Pradesh, I want to seek some clarifications and get certain guidelines from the hon. Home Minister about the status of the MLAs when the Assembly is suspended and not dissolved.

In those States where there is President's Rule there is a feeling in the bureaucracy that the MLAs cease to

be the representatives of the people. They feel that President's Rule means bureaucracy. This impression should be dispelled. In fact, it is not merely an impression; it is shown in actual practice. Shri Pant knows some of the instances because they were brought to his notice.

When the Andhra Pradesh Assembly used to be in session, when the MLAs went to the guest house at Hyderabad they used to be charged Rs. 18. The moment President's Rule was imposed the rate for MLAs was raised to Rs. 21. Now of course that has been revised on representation. Similarly, the telephone connections of MLAs were removed. Now that has also been corrected. There was another humiliating situation. Due to water shortage, MLAs quarters were getting water supply for only eight hours. That was completely stopped where as the House of the Assistant Warden, which was situated in the same premises, was getting water for 24 hours. These are some of the reasons for my saying that we must have guidelines on this question.

The problem of Andhra Pradesh cannot be solved by discussion between politicians. That will only result in the deterioration of the situation. We have to find out the genuine grievances of the people. That we cannot do by talking in the air. We have to find out the genuine difficulties of the civil servants in both the areas and try to remove them.

This problem cannot be solved by legal battles and going to the courts. Take the case of the Mulki Rule. This matter should have been referred to the Supreme Court for advisory opinion. There are two types of Mulki Rules. One set of Mulki Rules was promulgated under the Nizam. They related to the services. During Nizam's regime after independence, Mulki have been defined as by birth descent and marriage. All these have been deleted by circulars and notifications. On the basis of that, Justice

Obdul Reddi has come to the conclusion that so far as requirement of residence is concerned, that is valid. The matter has now gone to the Supreme Court and the judgement is awaited. That is one set of Mulki Rules.

The second set of Mulki Rules came into being after integration. For admission to the colleges there was a condition of 15 years' residence. Nobody has any objection to that. But subsequently there were circulars and Government Orders which said that residence of fifteen years is not sufficient but there should be domicile. There is a lot of difference between residence and domicile. The proof for domicile is permanent intention to reside. Suppose an Andhra boy stays there for 20 years. If he has a house elsewhere, he cannot get a domicile certificate. Prima facie, this is not legal.

These are some of the issues which the Home Minister must consider and try to get solutions so that we will have a lasting solution to this problem.

श्री वीर वृत्तमीरग (वैद्यपल्लि) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आंध्र और तेलंगाना की जनता अपने निर्गम पर घटल है। कुछ मिला इस हाउस में कुछ कहते हैं और बाहर निकल कर कुछ कहते हैं। पता नहीं, वे ऐसा क्यों करते हैं यहाँ के लीडर ममता कर सुनते हैं या न ममता कर सुनते हैं, यह पता नहीं है। वहाँ के लोग यह देख रहे हैं कि सेंटर के लीडर क्या करते हैं। आज वे जान्ति वे हैं, कुछ गड़बड़ नहीं कर रहे हैं। प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने भी कहा था, और हम लोगों—पार्लियामेंट के मੈम्बरों—ने भी यह धरील की थी कि जान्ति से रहने से कुछ हल निकल जायेगा। इसलिए आज वे जान्ति हैं और देख रहे हैं कि यहाँ के लीडर हमारे लिए क्या रास्ता निकालते हैं। लेकिन धरी तक रास्ता निकालने या हल निकलने जैसी बात नजर नहीं आ रही है।

अभी वहाँ के लोगों के सामने कोई ऐसा सुझाव या प्रोजेक्ट नहीं है, जिस को ले कर वे अपनी ताकत दिखा सकें। वे लोग इस सोच में हैं कि जब कभी ऐसा टाइम, आयेगा, तो उस समय यह हम चाहिए करेंगे कि हमारी ताकत, हमारा मंशा और हमारा इरादा क्या है ?

जहाँ तक आंध्र और तेलंगाना की समस्या है, पहले तेलंगाना में गडबड शुरू हुई है और उस के बाद आंध्र में गडबड शुरू हुई। इस वक़्त आंध्र वाले भी अलग होना चाहते हैं और तेलंगाना वाले भी अलग होना चाहते हैं। जब दोनों भाई-भाई की तरह अलग हो कर अपने-अपने एरिया का विकास करना चाहते हैं, अपने-अपने एरिया का बोझ सम्भालना चाहते हैं, तो पना नहीं, इस में प्राइम मिनिस्टर और श्री पन्त को क्या तकलीफ है। उन को तो जितना हो सके, हर एक स्टेट पर उस का बोझ डालना चाहिए और अपना बोझ कम करना चाहिए, लेकिन मालूम नहीं क्यों, वे एक एक स्टेट का बोझ अपने मिर पर लेने जा रहे हैं जिस में परेशानियाँ बढ़ती जा रही हैं।

जब आंध्र और तेलंगाना भाइयों की तरह अलग हो कर अपना बोझ सम्भालना चाहते हैं, तो उन को कोई एतराज नहीं होना चाहिए। उन्हें उन दोनों को अलग कर के आशीर्वाद देना चाहिए - नाकि वे अपने अपने एरिया को सम्भाल कर उन का डेवलपमेंट कर सकें।

अभी इस हाउस में डिस्ट्रिक्ट जजों के एराइटमेंट का जिक्र किया गया है। कुछ दिन पहले तेलंगाना के इंजीनियर्स की समस्या सुप्रीम कोर्ट तक जाई गई है। इस हालत में कैसे यह समझ सकते हैं कि हम तेलंगाना के लोगों के साथ इन्फा होना, न्याय होगा ? हम नहीं समझते हैं कि एक पक्ष में हमारे साथ कभी न्याय होगा। इसलिए मैं प्राइम मिनिस्टर, श्री दीक्षित और श्री पन्त से, और यहाँ के अन्य सीटर्स से, प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि वे

जल्दी से जल्दी उन को धलाहिया कर के अपना बोझ उतार दें और हम लोगों पर वह बोझ डाल दें।

राष्ट्रपति शासन का टाइम नहीं बढ़ाना चाहिए था। कोई तरीका निकाल कर उस को खत्म करना चाहिए था। लेकिन मजबूरी की वजह से राष्ट्रपति का शासन का टाइम बढ़ाया जा रहा है। उस के लिए जो रेजोल्यूशन रखा गया है, उस को मैं रफूट करना हूँ। चूँकि आंध्र और तेलंगाना में कुछ अंतर नहीं है, इसलिए मैं जब तेलंगाना, जब आंध्र और जयप्रद कहते हुए खत्म करता हूँ।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): The debate itself has highlighted the complexities of the situation in Andhra Pradesh about which everybody except Mr. Jagannatha Rao Joshi is aware. He wanted me to explain to him the complexities of the situation in Andhra Pradesh. If he is not aware of the complexities in Andhra Pradesh, I am a little surprised because he is generally very alert and well-informed and if he is not, then the speeches in the House to-day would have shown him that the situation is indeed complex. We have heard members from the Andhra region of Andhra Pradesh speaking in favour of integration and in favour of separation, both. We have also heard from members from Telangana region speaking in favour of separation as well as integration. So, these differences will show you that there is a divided opinion and hence, the effort to bring together friends from both parts of the State and to evolve a solution which is acceptable to the maximum number in both the parts must continue. There is no other choice. The division of opinion is plain in the House itself. This debate has brought out this basic difficulty and I need not refer to the details at this stage.

My friends from the CFM who spoke yesterday said that there were differences and there was rivalry with-

in the Congress Party which led to the imposition of President rule in Andhra Pradesh.

I think the House will recall that when originally the imposition of President's rule in Andhra Pradesh was discussed in the House, most of the Parties agreed to it and most of the Parties saw in the prevailing situation that this was the best step that the Centre could take. The CPM may find it difficult these days to agree with anybody on anything but most of the other Parties certainly saw the wisdom of that step.

I would briefly refer to the situation prevailing at that time. To-day when the situation is once again normal, one tends to forget the kind of agitation, the kind of violence which one was witnessing in Andhra Pradesh those days. I would remind the House for instance that almost every second day we had some call attention notice or the other with regard to incidents of looting, of arson, regarding firing and deaths due to firing and clashes of various kinds, with regard to certain number of cases of sabotage, burning down of railway stations, burning down of railway wagons and attack on police stations, etc. This is the kind of cases that were coming out of Andhra Pradesh every day and the House was concerned about it and it responded to this concern by raising the issue again and again in the House. So, I do not think that anybody could have forgotten that, Sir, 32,800 persons were arrested in connection with this agitation. That will show you the magnitude of the agitation.

Students were on strike. The NGOs were on strike. Engineers were on strike. Lawyers were not going to the court. I remember, gazetted officers were on strike in some areas for sometime. It was in this situation that the House, after due consideration, agreed that President's rule was the best solution to the problems of the day. Therefore, today, to criticise President's rule is to forget the realities of the situation existing at that time.

It was not a party matter. It was not because of internal party differences. It was because of the objective conditions about which the House is fully aware. Since then the administration, at the beginning at any rate, has been concentrating on the restoration of normalcy in respect of law and order situation and I am glad to say that in a relatively short time normalcy was restored and I would say without any fear of contradiction that the cooperation of the people of Andhra Pradesh was mainly responsible for the quick restoration of normalcy. Emotions were roused; sentiments were roused; it was naturally an issue on which sentiments did get involved. In spite of that fairly quickly the army could be withdrawn, the BSF could be withdrawn, the CRP could be withdrawn. The agitation became firstly less violent and then later on it stopped altogether. Students went back to their classes. Govt. employees went back to their work. Communications were restored and as I said earlier, in a relatively short period, conditions were created in which political dialogue could be started.

Now, Sir, the political dialogue has been going on. Friends from both the regions have been meeting each other. They have been exchanging views. Certain steps have also been taken but there are still difficulties in the way and in order to appreciate these difficulties I would beg of the House to consider the history of this particular problem, which would explain the difficulties for easily finding a way out. The problem was there from the time when Telengana became a part of Andhra Pradesh and the Mulki rule gave certain safeguards to the Telengana people. When Andhra Pradesh was formed the overwhelming sentiments for Vishal Andhra permeated the thinking of people in the Andhra region and number of people in the Telengana region. And, in order to create this large Andhra State, Telugu-speaking State, the people of Andhra and the leaders of

[Shri K. C. Pant]

Andhra, all of them agreed that certain safeguards would continue to be there for the Telengana people. There was a gentlemen's agreement and there was a certain law and under that law certain safeguards continued.

Unfortunately, that law was struck down. And later on also, an effort was made with the help of the Central Government pointing out the spirit of the gentleman's agreement as to how the law that has been framed, with but perhaps legal cover, short of legal cover, could be administered. This was the attitude of both sides. And therefore it was possible to evolve a certain formula, a certain mechanism, in respect of employment and development, which, I think, would be largely acceptable to the leaders of both sides. Unfortunately, this was the moment, when the problem was near the solution, when the supreme court gave its judgment. The judgment upheld the validity of the Mulki Rules. After that, an agitation was started in Andhra Pradesh. I do not want to go into the reasons or causes for that agitation. But, I want to say that thereafter the courts have given various inter-pretations, various judgments and various aspects of the problem which had kept on confusing the issue further. To-day we are not quite sure who is Mulki and who is not Mulki. As somebody mentioned one of the judgment says that the Mulki Rule would apply to the recruitment and not to promotion and so on and so forth. These judgments of the courts have further created a difficulty in finding a way to go out of the situation, because, legally, the position is not quite clear in respect of the basic problem. Therefore, these talks have been taking place against this background.

There is history for the agitation in Telangana and Andhra succeeding one after another in the course of a few years. That means the problem is in existence both in Telangana at one period of time and later in Andhra Pradesh at another period of time.

Now, when we come up before the House with this Resolution, it is because we have to face the complexities of the situation that are prevailing to-day. We request the House to see the complexity of the situation in the light of the background which I have just now placed before the House and then to decide whether it is better for the Centre or the leaders of the States or both together to try to sort out this problem under the President's Rule or whether the responsibility for finding a solution should be transferred to a Government to be elected under the conditions that prevail to-day. Is it reasonable to expect in the present situation the restoration of the Assembly and Government in Andhra Pradesh? Would it lead to a situation which would be easier from the point of view of finding out a solution? Is it suggested that a mere restoration of an Assembly would produce an immediate solution? I do not think that can be suggested. Therefore, we are not to transfer the burden, in finding a solution, to the State Assembly. The only possible solution at the moment is to continue the President's Rule as Mr Surayanarayana was suggesting in the hope—expectation—of finding a solution acceptable to all, if not, to the majority of the people. It is with this hope in view that I have come before the House. Some friends have asked me to tell them what is the position now and how far we have progressed in our talks.

The House probably knows that after the restoration of normalcy, both the Home Minister and I had been to Hyderabad twice. Before that, leaders from Telengana and Andhra visited Delhi, a large number of them, some several times. Discussions were held here and in Hyderabad and slowly areas of agreement kept growing. I do not share the sense of what I call despair of some members who appeared to feel that there could be no areas of agreement between the people of the two regions. I share this feeling on the basis of the discussions which we have held with a large number of leaders from both the regions. I quite

see there are large areas of agreement. What is even perhaps more important, there is a willingness to understand each other's point of view. There is basic goodwill. The important thing to see is that there is no recrimination, there should be no attempt at apportioning blame for what happened. There should be a certain large-heartedness in our approach to the problem today. Otherwise, if we merely want to justify some positions we had taken earlier, whether right or wrong, that will not help. In that I agree with Shri Piloo Mody that we have to adjust our positions in the larger interests of the nation. That is what I appealed to him also. This has to be our appeal to others, they in Andhra that forgetting the past, without trying to apportion blame, without attributing motives, without doubting each other's *bona fides*, can we put our heads together and work out an acceptable and agreed solution?

I am not at all hope-less: I am hopeful, because I have seen this meeting of minds, this area of agreement growing, I have seen a kind of consensus emerging. In the face of this experience, how can I tell the House that this is a hopeless case? It is not. I have every hope that given this kind of goodwill, which I have found, and understanding, the leaders of both the regions will be able to work out some solution acceptable to the people of both the regions.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE (Banka): But when?

SHRI K. C. PANT: It is very difficult to say; you cannot really impose a timelimit in these matters.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Till then go on extending President's rule.

SHRI K. C. PANT: We hope it will not be necessary. We are working on that hope. Our hope is based on the goodwill we have found, on the understanding we have perceived, the willingness to understand each other's point of view. After all, those are positive features in the situation. Once

there is willingness on the part of people of both sides to understand each other's point of view, the problem becomes easier of solution. We must see that there are many basic affinities also operating, the same language, the same culture. There are so many affinities, of history and so on. I need not spell them out. All these do hold them together. There are certain things that appear to pull them apart, but it is not as though there is nothing that holds them together. In this situation, we are trying to widen this area of agreement, to help them to the extent we can. It is primarily for them to agree. We can only help. We will give whatever help is necessary.

At this stage, much as I would like to, I would not really say any thing more. It is a delicate stage in our talks and it is very difficult for me to go into it. I hope the House will not expect me also to go into details about the various points under discussion.

Friends from Telengana and Andhra, of course, know what are the main points being discussed. I think it would perhaps be counter-productive for me to spell out these details today because a wrong move or a wrong step can undercut all the good work done so far.

Shri Narayana Rao referred, towards the end of his speech, to the advisability of making a reference of the Mulki Rules to the Supreme Court. We considered this matter. The point is that reference to the court will not bring about any finality. Still the normal legal processes for reference to the Supreme Court will remain open. Do we today really help to finalise this matter by reference to the Court? This was the main question that prevented us from taking recourse to this course. I have noted his suggestion. It is not that I am rejecting it out of hand. This is the difficulty and that is the reason why we have not proceeded on those lines.

There was some reference to fertilisers when Mr. Ram Gopal Reddy

[Shri K. C. PANT]

was speaking and Mr. Piloo Mody found it very amusing. Only an urban-bred man should be so completely insensitive to fertilisers particularly in the conditions of today. This explains the distance of his party from the ground. If he only knew a little more about fertilisers I think he would make a better leader for his party... (Interruptions).

There are various development projects which have been taken up by this Administration but I should not like to take the time of the House by going into details. I should only say very broadly that President's rule is not only for maintaining law and order; it is there to give fillip to developmental activities and it will do its best in the short time. The time is very short; I agree with my hon. friend and we should like the normal constitutional Government to come back as soon as possible... (Interruptions) Congress Government, certainly. Today the Congress Government is the national Government.

SHRI PILOO MODY: I strongly object to this sort of abuse, not only to this sort of abuse, but slander. I would go as far as to say that the Congress Government is anti-Indian, anti-national Government, anti-people Government. No national Government would have him as Home Minister. It is a minority Government, a petticoat Government. He calls it a 'national Government.'

श्री मधु लिमये : वनाव में इन को 43
तिशत वोट मिले ।

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र वन्त : हमारे 350 मेम्बर
हैं ।

श्री मधु लिमये : देश की मेजागिटी घाव के
खिलाफ है ।

SHRI K. C. PANT: I would ask Mr. Piloo Mody whether he could

form a national Government; I would ask Mr. Madhu Limaye and other friends that question.... (Interruptions). I see before me a conglomeration of diversities which calls itself the Opposition.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Do you realise what we see before us? We see a bunch of opportunists that have been got together with money; a purchased organisation calls itself a political party—money-bred and money-fed people.

SHRI K. C. PANT: No amount of anger is going to make our 350 seats 349. It is a fact of life. People of this country have given us votes and we are here. What are you going to do about it? There was some reference to the food agitation. There was also some reference to a particular agitation in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI PILOO MODY: This is what the national Government does!

SHRI K. C. PANT: I do not want to go into the details of the economic situation. I am not here for that. But it impinges on the law and order situation; these days various bandhs and strikes and agitations are being organised. Some friends try to create the impression as though the Central Government and the State Governments are not concerned with this situation of prices there and that they have not taken any steps.

I would like to take it up specifically because this kind of thing has been said. The other day it was said that some circular has been issued by the Home Ministry and it was criticised. I looked up the old circulars that went round. On 8th June 1973 the Home Minister had addressed all the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors and stressed the need for ensuring success of the procurement operations and for maintaining the smooth supply of essential commodities. He had also suggested a review of the administrative arrangement with a view to plugging loopholes, correcting negligence and stopping malpractices. The State Governments and Union

Territories were also urged to take exemplary action in respect of the activities of blackmarketeers, hoarders and other antisocial elements with a view to dislodging the hoarded stocks and bringing the offenders to book. It is important that you understand what the Government has done. Recourse to the relevant provisions of MISA was also advised in serious cases of defiance of law or *malafide* intentions. These suggestions have been generally accepted by the State Governments.

On 10th August, the Home Minister again addressed all the Chief Ministers and Lt. Governors suggesting that the present difficult conditions warrant recourse to the DIR. This has appeared in the press. You may have seen that Government of Maharashtra has used this. I am only mentioning this because some friends want to create an impression as though they are the only persons who are interested in this. Government alone can do this in an orderly manner and the Government is taking steps. I accept that individual protest has its place and importance. Any attempt to create an atmosphere against hoarding and malpractices has also its importance. But the trouble is all too often this goes beyond limits and it leads to violent clashes. If everybody takes the law into his own hands, who is to obey the law? You cannot substitute individual function for the function of the State. In this case, there have been many instances where looting has taken place and the law has been broken. I do not want to blame anybody for it, but once this happens. It gets out of hand. This is the whole danger.

Secondly, these *bandhs* interferes with distribution. The intention is to help the common people in getting food-stuffs. But when distribution is interfered with, it is the common people, the most vulnerable section, who suffer most. I would request hon. members to bear this in mind that anti-social elements tend to take advantage of such situations. Government is doing all that is possible

and with some success, as mentioned by my friend, Shri Ram Gopal Reddy. He said, there were certain raids and prices of dal came down rapidly. It is just an instance. I know that prices are high in several other areas but he mentioned this. The main thing is, we have to see that production and distribution are maintained. This is the best way to tackle this basic problem of distribution of essential commodities.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House approves the continuance in force of the Proclamation, dated the 18th January 1973, in respect of Andhra Pradesh, issued under article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from the 1st September, 1973."

The motion was adopted.

15.35 Hrs.

RE. HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We will now take up Private Members Business.

SHRI DINEN BHATTARCHARYYA (Serampore): Sir, before you take up that may I mention that the half-an-hour discussion on Starred Question No. 211 regarding starvation deaths in Orissa is going to lapse. Sir, you will remember that when this question originally came up in the House, the member in whose name the question was standing was whisked away by Shri Raghu Ramaiah. Subsequently, when so many members protested against this, this half-an-hour discussion was assured. Now it is going to lapse. So, I would request you, Sir, to find some way in which this can be discussed in this House. We have also given our names for asking questions on this.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram): Why should

[Shri Krishna Chandra Halder]

Government try to evade this discussion on starvation deaths?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no question of evasion.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta-North-East): Is there no propriety involved in this? I recall that this very question caused a storm in the House and the Government finally agreed to this discussion when the Speaker himself insisted that there should be a discussion. Now why by the back door this discussion is allowed to lapse? Is it not something against the grain of parliamentary democracy?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is no question of back door or front door. The hon. Member who gave notice of this, in whose name this discussion stands, has written that he is held up in Patna and he could not reach Delhi in time. Therefore, he has requested that this question may not be taken up today. There is no question of front door or back door. So far as lapse of the discussion is concerned, the rules will take care of this.

15.37 Hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

THIRTIETH REPORT

SHRI AMAR NATH CHAWLA (Delhi Sadar): I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Thirtieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th August, 1973."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Thirtieth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 16th August, 1973."

The motion was adopted.

15.38 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: OWNERSHIP OF NEWSPAPERS AND NEWS AGENCIES—Contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the Resolution moved by Shri H. N. Mukherjee, Shri Somnath Chatterjee will continue his speech.

श्री हनु लिखते (बाका) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज बिना सूचना दिए प्राप्ति बंद की बहस को टाल दिया गया है। अगर प्राप्ति बंद की बहस होती तो तीन बजे कार्यवाही शुरू हो जाती और मेरा जो सगोवन है अगले प्रस्ताव पर उसे पेश करने का मौका मिलता। मेरा टिकट रिजर्व हो चुका है, मुझे बम्बई जाना है। अब मैं क्या करूँ प्राप्ति बंद आपने काट दिया, इसमें मेरा दोष नहीं है। आपने कार्य-पूची में कहा था कि तीन बजे पाइरेट मेम्बरों विजनेस होगा, 6 बजे का प्लेन था, मैं अपना सगोवन पेश करके चला जाता लेकिन अब दिक्कत हो गई है। आप मुझे इजाजत दीजिए। इस तरह कार्य-पूची में जब आप नडदीलिया करगे तो मेम्बरों के साथ अन्धाय नहीं होना चाहिए। मैं लिखकर देता हूँ, मैं अपना सगोवन अगले प्रस्ताव पर पेश कर रहा हूँ, आप मुझे इजाजत दीजिए और बहस जो चलाती है वह चलायें।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no question of injustice to anybody. (Interruptions). You have made your point kindly listen to me. (Interruptions). Order please. Why don't you listen to me? There is no question of injustice to anybody. There are certain exigencies of the debate, certain exigencies of the proceedings of the House and certain unforeseen things happen. I will do everything according to the rules. I cannot break them. Now, I had announced this fairly early that this had happened and, therefore, we shall take up the Private Members' Business at 3.30. Please don't raise this thing now.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee to continue his speech.

श्री श्री० श्री० श्री० (हापुड) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, हम को प्राय डांट कर बात करते हैं और माननीय मन्त्रिमये जी से प्यार से बात करते हैं।

श्री मन्त्रिमये : प्राय हमको एकोनो-डेंट कीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I cannot break the rules.

श्री मन्त्रिमये : मेरा म्हाही दूसरा है। प्राय म्हाही कार्य सूची में क्या लिखा हुआ था? प्राय बदलने रहते हैं उस से हम को दिक्कत हो जाती है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That has been varied. The rules allow for certain variations having regard to the exigencies of the proceedings. Shri Somnath Chatterjee.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Why don't you accommodate him?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It cannot be done unless the item is taken up. Why are you trying to force the Chair to violate the rules?

Shri Somnath Chatterjee

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while supporting the Resolution it is necessary to consider the content of the freedom of speech because it is on the basis of the freedom of speech that attempts or the proposals for diffusion of ownership are opposed by certain newspaper, I feel, the press should be treated as a public utility concern. The adequate service of news is a matter of great public responsibility.

The constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech should include the objective and fearless dissemination of news. We want a free press. By "free press", We mean a press which should be free from the stronghold of the

monopoly houses and the vested interests and it should be responsive to the people's urges and aspirations, and it will educate the people without bias and distortions. The freedom of press should not be equated with the freedom of the Press Barons. The freedom of press can have relevance if it is used for the benefit of the people and not against the people.

In this country, what we find, unfortunately, is that freedom of press is equated with the freedom of the press overlords and not of the working journalists. In our country, we find that 49 newspapers today account for over half of the total circulation. The common ownership dailies command 73.8 per cent of the total circulation. There is a chain of newspapers and different publications under the common ownership. We have seen how the larger newspapers are strangling the smaller ones in the matter of advertisement and also official patronage.

We feel and, no doubt, realise that the newspapers should be run on the basis of profit. But the mass circulation papers are being run not on the basis of proper journalistic methods but as industries controlled by monopoly houses. We find with dismay and anguish that the main objective of monopoly houses who are controlling the newspapers is to make as much money as possible and also to control the essential features of journalism, like editorial policy.

The editorial policy, as we have seen, is being controlled by industrialists and big businessmen magnates on which serious comments have been made by the Press Commission itself. I have before me here a photostat copy of the direction issued by the then Editor of the Statesman. Of course, it is of 1968. It is a teleprinter message with regard to the strike by the all-India Newspapers' Employees Federation. When it was placed before the Editor of the Statesman Mr. Rangachari, his comment

[Shri Somnath Chatterjee]

was, "Please ignore it." And this important news never came to be published in the *Statesman*. This is how important news-items are being suppressed by these big newspapers.

So far as the disproportionate user of the newsprint between the reading material and the advertisements, we find these days that so far as big newspapers are concerned, they are more concerned with the advertisements than with disseminating proper news materials and especially in these days of newsprint shortage we find that more and more advertisements are coming out. Even the proceedings of the Parliament are not being given proper importance and publicity. There are grave charges of mismanagement against several of the leading newspapers in this country. The *Times of India* has now got Government Directors on its Board and there are serious allegations of mismanagement and misuse of newsprint.

15.46 hrs.

[SHRI S. A. KADER in the Chair].

Inflated figures of circulation are given for the purpose of getting greater allocation of newsprint. I have with me a complaint made by the Electrical Engineer of the *Statesman* where he says that there is a practice in the *Statesman* of printing about 50 per cent of their total copies for selling to the waste-paper dealer on the consumer printing days and thus be able to show an inflated circulation. Unhappily this is not the charge only against the *Statesman* but most of the newspapers are generally known to be indulging in wrongful uses of the newsprint by giving inflated figures of circulation for the obvious object of getting more newsprint quota.

So far as the working journalists are concerned, their fate is such that hardly they have any independence. Their service conditions are miserable. They are being under-paid. They have no voice in the management or

in the editorial policy or even in the distribution of the news-items. The Wage Board recommendations that have been made have not been enforced in all the newspapers. The working journalists wanted bilateral negotiations with the newspapers but here the Government, I am sorry to say, has not given the lead. There was a committee formed and I believe it is still in existence—the Newspaper Finance Committee which was to go into the financial structure, I believe, of several newspapers but you will be surprised to hear that many of the newspapers have not responded to the questionnaire and the information that has been asked for by them. The *Statesman*, I understand, has not even replied along with other papers.

Very recently an incident took place which shows what the fate of working journalists is. In connection with an industrial dispute between the *Statesman* and one of its employees, one of the well-known reporters of the *Statesman*, Mr. B. D. Mathur, was man-handled in the court room or just outside the court room where the industrial tribunal case was being heard, by the Manager of the Delhi office of the *Statesman* and this is the position of the working journalists—a reporter of a paper like the *Statesman* can be man-handled inside a court room by the Manager of a newspaper.

About the news agencies, UNI and the PTI, we know they are also being controlled by the big monopoly houses. We have been asking for converting them into public corporations but that has not been heeded to. That shows who is really controlling these. Recently, the news editor of UNI who was stationed in Delhi was summarily transferred to Bombay and when he protested, he was dismissed. Thereafter when there was agitation, he was reinstated but he was transferred to Srinagar. This is the position of these journalists. The Press being a public utility concerned with public interest we realise and we do want that being in the private hands, it cannot be left completely free for

all kinds of regulations and we feel that by diffusion and delinking of these newspapers some of the ills may be avoided and sooner this attempt is made the better.

But we have to consider how these monopoly houses have come to control these newspapers. These monopoly houses in this country under the economic policy that has been followed in this country under the aegis and patronage and sometimes encouragement of the Government have become bigger and bigger and have assumed elephantine proportion.

The result is this. Government is taking of diffusion and delinking but on the other hand its policy is only encouraging the monopoly houses and making them more and more strong in this country. The result is a complete biased news and distortion of news. Truth has become the greatest casualty in journalism and the free Press is showing its subservience to the ruling party and attachment for the establishment. As it is in the case of foodstuffs where there is adulteration today, so, is the case here where there is adulteration of news also. In most of the Press there is no coverage of the news items about the democratic movements that are taking place about the people's struggles that are going on, etc. During the United Front's regime in West Bengal there was a systematic and calculated campaign of falsehood and calumny deliberately indulged in some of the newspapers. I will read from the publication on the Functioning of the Indian Press. It says:

"When it comes to reporting events in States ruled by leftists some regional dealings betray a furious animosity against the State Governments. This could be seen from the trend of reporting in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* or the *Calcutta Edition of the Statesman* of the law and order situation.

I wish to add, alleged law and order situation.

"...during the United Front regime. Here again the political

antagonism of industrial owners comes into play. The industrial character of the ownership of the *Statesman* is clear. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* is owned by a congress family, the members of the family have industrial connections in West Bengal. One of the directors of the paper was the President of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta and connected with several industrial concerns as a director."

Though this Government are talking about diffusion and delinking they are really not serious about it at all. Their own partymen are controlling some of the bigger newspapers in the country. They indulge in distorting news, they are indulging in giving out biased news to the Press. They have no faith in the honest and truthful dissemination of news in an objective manner. The ruling party started talking of diffusion and delinking when there was some criticism of their supreme leader, but nobody sheds any tear when the news of the common man's difficulties, their privations and of their acute distress are not reflected in the newspapers in this country.

I would like to be corrected, but my information is that a paper like *National Herald* which was founded by Jawaharlal Nehru finds itself today in a situation where its management is handed over to a brewery magnate. If this is the attitude of the ruling party, how can they speak about delinking and diffusion of newspapers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): What is the name you mentioned?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Brewery magnate, Narang. I would like to be corrected if it is wrong.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I would correct you straightway. It is not correct.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

We want all media of mass communications to be delinked not only from monopoly houses and business houses but also from executive control and ruling party's stranglehold and hegemony.

Sir, we do not want a corrupt press like the corrupt All India Radio. As we do not want 'All Indira Radio', we do not also want an All Indira Press.

Regarding the Constitution Amendment Bill, I find from the papers—the hon. Minister said—that the Government have to study all the judgements, several of them, of the Supreme Court before making up their mind. Sir, the Parliament has given powers by amending the Constitution to bring forward suitable measures.

Very wide powers have been conferred on Government. Sometime ago there was supreme court judgement about the newsprint Control. That can easily be put and end to. We may do so by taking recourse to the powers now conferred on Government under the Constitution of India. But, what is being done? What is the the proposal to-day? What have you got in concrete shape to-day? Does not the Constitution authorise the Government to take the necessary steps. What is standing in their way?

We are supporting this Resolution because, we want that this should be done. And this is a step forward. We hope that the Bill to be brought forward will be framed properly and implemented also. I do not know whether the Government is really anxious about bringing forward the Diffusion and Delinking of Monopoly Newspapers as they profess to do.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL (Khed): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Resolution moved by Prof. Mukerjee for de-linking and diffusion of newspapers. This has been the declared policy of this Government. The de-linking and diffusion of newspapers should be pressed by this Resolution. We are only asking

for the implementation of the policy by bringing in a Bill. Our Minister, Shri Gujral, has many a time told this House that the decision stands and that he would not change. There is only an utterance of the Minister and there is no action from him. How would you satisfy the Members? We want a categorical assurance from him whether the Government intends to bring forward this measure during this session or not; if not at least at a later stage. We have been told several times both inside and out side the House by various Ministers including Shrimati Nandini Satpathy, then I. & B. Minister, Shri Raghunatha Reddy, and then Company Affairs Minister and Shri Gokhale, the Law Minister the necessity of de-linking and diffusion of ownership of newspapers. They all said that Government was firm about this. Even our Prime Minister has told in 1971 in a press conference that the Government is considering a draft bill for diffusion and de-linking of newspapers. What has happened to the draft Bill? We do not know about this during the last two years.

The other day, at a function, the President, Shri Giri publicly welcomed the diffusion of ownership and expressed a desire that Government would take a step very soon. The diffusion and delinking of papers that we put forward is a demand. We have been told very often that before taking this step Government has to study the Supreme Court judgements. And in the light of the judgements, Government will have to take this step.

I doubt whether in the name of the Supreme Court judgement Government wants to postpone the decision which they have taken and the party has declared. It is clear that if there is a will there is still a way out. If there is some difficulty in diffusion of ownership, I think there cannot be any difficulty in de-linking of the papers from the big business, as a first step.

It was nearly twenty years back in 1954, that the Press Commission had recommended the diffusion of ownership of newspapers.

16.00 hrs.

At that time, the Commission had studied the Indian press, the state and trend of monopolies, in Indian newspapers and recommended that the best policy would be to form a public trusts and the Co-operative Societies. But nothing has happened. The situation has gone from bad to worse during the last 20 years. As Shri Mukerjee and Shri Chatterjee have said, five or six big business houses having newspapers in chains and groups are dominating the Indian press. They command one third of the circulation, in four metropolitan cities. They are trying to strangle the small and medium district and regional newspapers.

Now the industry is facing a newsprint crisis. Forty per cent of imported newsprint was being consumed by these big papers, the big chains, for what? Not for giving information or educating the people or the masses, but for printing advertisements.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Is that not information?

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: It was 40 per cent advertisements and 60 per cent news ratio recommended by the Press Commission. Now it is the reverse—60 or 70 per cent advertisements and 30 or 40 per cent news. And what news? News which is not concerned with the people, with their problems and education. These papers do not pass information to the people living in rural areas and remote villages. There was scarcity of newsprint and Government put a ban on the number of pages of big newspapers. Big newspapers like the *Statesman* and others have found a way out by bringing out pull-outs devoted to advertisements alone and spending newsprint on it.

As for advertisements, more than 50 per cent come from Government,

semi-government or public corporations and rest from private sector. The lion's share is taken by the big papers. The small and medium and district papers, without advertisements, have to fight to survive; growth is not possible for them. But for their survival they have to fight. Is this a healthy growth of the Indian press or is this a lopsided growth?

The Minister may say that circulation has gone up. There is growth of the Indian press, not of the small and medium papers but of the big papers connected with big business houses.

In 1954, the Press Commission had suggested that if the newspaper industry is to grow in the country, other factors which were very vital and important, should be taken care of. Not only the Press Commission, the Diwakar Commission also recommended that Government should pay more attention to the small and medium papers which are the backbone of the country, which is the mainstay of democracy. But the five or six newspaper combines or, in other words, Birlas, Tatas, Dalmias and Goenkas are trying to hold all the powers of dissemination of news as well as political views to the people. What they have to say, the people have to read. They are not conducting papers except for their own purpose. Under the cry of freedom of the press, they seek freedom to mint money. So the first step which is absolutely necessary, which is easier also, is to delink the press from the big business houses. Then only it will be delinking of the Press. As far as diffusion in ownership is concerned, Government will have to take all these into consideration. As a first step the hon. Minister must phase out a programme of delinking the Press from big business and come forward with that measure during this session. If attention is not paid to the lopsided growth of the Indian papers, I am afraid it will be difficult for any newspaper, especially small and medium papers to exist. There is a cut of 30 per cent newsprint and

[Shri Anantrao Patil]

on the other hand the cost and the expenditure had increased by 40 or 40 per cent. So newspapers will have to cut down their sizes and their circulation, because the small and medium newspapers cannot afford to bear a burden of Rs. 1000 or Rs. 1200 per day which comes to 36,000 per month in some cases which is more than Rs. 3.5 lakhs in a year because of the increase in the cost of these things.

Big newspapers and metropolitan newspapers are still giving 16—20 pages, whereas the small paper finds it difficult to give 6 pages and it has to cut down to 4 pages. Then a four page newspaper has to cut down to two pages. For getting newsprint every newspaper has to get a licence to import. Again for printing machinery, blankets, flogs, mono-machines etc., all these items have to be imported from outside even after 25 years of Independence. This situation has to be changed.

The Minister is young, enthusiastic and dynamic. He is concerned about it. If we want to have healthy growth of democracy, eventually small medium, regional and district newspapers have to grow and play their part. He will have to give more attention to them. There should be more healthy cooperation with these newspapers. Only then you can have diffusion and delinking of the press.

I can give you one example. It will show how the concentration is there in the country and monopolistic trends are on the increase. When you talk of monopoly you say you are trying to curb the growth of monopolist tendency in the industry. But we have not taken a single step to arrest the growth of monopoly in this industry. Monopolistic trends are not only on the increase but restrictive trade practices are also rampant. I shall quote an example. The big newspapers give more pages and charge less price and take their morning editions by taxis or by their own vehicles to remote places and boost up their

circulation. They do not allow the agents to sell copies of district or local newspapers. By men, money and material these combines and groups are trying to strangle the small, medium and regional newspapers. These big tycoons and business houses should be asked to delink and diffuse their ownership. The employees must get a share in the management and control of newspaper and people who are running big business houses in the cement and in the jute industry should be asked to delink the press from other businesses and give way to management by the people who are actually working there.

If the Minister is serious, he should not hesitate to take urgent and timely steps and save the small and medium-sized language papers from the calamity which is in store for them.

With these words, I support the Resolution.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra): Sir, I really do not know what sort of debate we are having, because they talk about diffusion of the press. I wonder whether the diffusion of the press is what they have in their mind or whether it is the diffusion of news, which they want to bring about. I have also heard that they want to delink it from monopoly houses. By all means, delink it from monopoly houses. But what about political parties? Delinking of information from political parties is just as necessary if they want to bring about pristine purity in the news. After that, you must start delinking it from anybody who has a brain because after all, news must be produced in a manner which is so totally fair and aseptic that it does not reflect anybody's personal view or anybody's bias. I suppose this is the whole purpose of the exercise. Otherwise, I do not understand what all this is about. I have a very small paper and I intend that paper should carry my opinion, my ideas, my theories about what should or should not happen.

The sponsor of this resolution, Prof. Mukherjee should know that the CPI has the largest number of publications

in this country. It is the biggest newspaper monopoly in this country, having something like 150 or 168 or 300 publications—I think this information is readily available in the library. Of course, each one may be printing only 5 copies. I cannot help it if nobody wants to read what is printed by them. But the fact of the matter is that the largest number of publications are printed by the party to which the sponsor of the resolution belongs. Unfortunately, I have only one paper. I wish I had 160. I am not blaming him for it. I am only blaming him for having brought this resolution, because I feel it is an attempt to throw dust and dirt into the eyes of the people and to make them believe as though they have some great social purpose in mind in bringing a rather absurd, nonsensical resolution. Poor Prof. Mukherjee is only the victim of all the paraphernalia and the propaganda that has gone on for the last year or two, started no doubt by the Minister for Information and Broadcasting himself, who set the ball rolling by saying, "I am going to bring about a change. The sword of Damocles is hanging over the heads of all journalists and all those who have anything to do with dissemination of news" so that he can in his own sweet, lovable, affectionate and persuasive manner plant his news all over the place for them to carry.

I am really shocked that somebody like Professor Mukherjee, who is still fighting for survival in this country—and, believe me, it is a fight for survival—should want this Government to take charge and get hold of the information and broadcasting media in this country. Nothing would be more monstrous; nothing can be more horrid than to have the Government of India decide what people should read, how much they should read, what they should do and what they should not.

With the present negligible amount of newsprint that the whole of India uses, absolutely paltry and negligible

amount of newsprint they use, they can even otherwise do very little. Now we are going to suffer a cut of 30 per cent on that. The Minister says "what can I do? There is a shortage". Sir, I have been told that there is no shortage at all, that it is an artificial, deliberate shortage that has been created to coerce the press. Therefore, my sincere advice to the press is that if they want their newsprint back again, they should cut out all news concerning Ministers for only one week. They will get all the newsprint they want thereafter. The cut will be restored and this phenomenon of world shortage of newsprint will disappear, will evaporate. The Soviet Union, which has been very difficult and hard about it will immediately supply newsprint, even prices will tumble down, all manner of things will happen, foreign exchange will be readily available and newsprint they will have.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): Why don't you try it in your case?

SHRI PILOO MODY: I do not praise them in any case. I write only against them. There is a world of difference.

They will do anything for a little bit of publicity. So, I would give this advice to the newspapers.

While we are having a little fun in this House, I was absolutely horrified and astounded to hear the last speaker talking in all seriousness about diffusion of ownership. I do not think the Government is going to do anything about it. It is only yet another backdoor method of trying to gain control over mass media. I strongly suggest to the mover of this Resolution, Professor Mukerjee—I am sure that he does not intend that Shri Inder Gujral's hands should be further strengthened in the control over mass media—that it is likely to create a situation where no matter how many comrade friends you may have, instead of reporting Banerjee's speeches or your speeches so faithfully, the diffusion will ultimately

[Shri Piloo Mody]

land in Shri Gujral's lap and not in the lap of Shri Dange. Therefore, in order to continue the struggle, in order to preserve your right to fight, I suggest that you leave the press well alone. If there are a few papers which do not like, like the *Statesman*, *Hindustan Times*, *Times of India*, *Indian Express* or the *March of the Nation*, leave them alone. They are doing very little damage to your cause. They would like to do more, but they are succeeding in doing very little damage to your cause. You maintain the right to publish what you like. But who is to know what is right or wrong, what is good or bad? Ultimately, the reader decides it.

After having listened to the last speaker for a moment, I was horrified. I thought he would now suggest that the newspaper should be taken and distributed only in the countryside, particularly in areas where the literacy was very low. No amount of crying about the poor is going to make them rich. I, therefore, suggest to him to go there and teach them to read.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: I am doing it. In fact, I am having my newspaper in a district place.

SHRI PILOO MODY: So, he was also arguing about himself. I have misunderstood him. I thought he was arguing about those who could not read.

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL: For your information.

SHRI PILOO MODY: This is really remarkable. But this is what is being advanced as an argument. I would recommend that you print in your paper only one statistic that 15 years ago we had 20 crores of illiterate people in this country and today we have 35 crores of illiterate people in this country. Just print that much.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): That is because of growth of population.

SHRI PILOO MODY: He is more willing to give an explanation. He can be hired as a junior reporter on Mr. Patil's paper. You can ask him to give the explanation for this increase in illiteracy. I am only interested in telling the people that this has been the fruits of the great good God, the big brother, the Government of India, who have been presiding over our destinies. The fact is that illiteracy is going up.

The real purpose of this Resolution is to concentrate power in the hands of the Government. I do not want to see that happening. Let the people print what they like; let the people read what they like. If you do not like what *Statesman* publishes, why do you continue to read it? The best way of punishing a paper is by not reading it. I do not read *New Age* nor do I read *Patriot*. In fact, I print most of my paper on the unprinted copies of the *Patriot*. Be selective. Why do you have to be so indiscriminate that you read everything that is put in front of you. Allow the people to print what they like. Allow the people to read what they like. As far as the *National Herald* is concerned, the Minister was offended when somebody suggested it was handed over to the brewer; it was handed over to a smuggler. If he is not a smuggler, it would have been handed over to somebody else. One thing is sure that they cannot run it. It has to be handed over to somebody. If they can think only of monopoly houses, brewers, smugglers, tax-evaders, whatever have you, it is the tragedy of our nation, not of the newspaper industry.

The fact is that we have not created the type of society where the illiterate mind can comprehend and see and visualise a perspective of the nation, can start a paper and run it economically. One of the main reasons is that the biggest advertiser in the country is the Government of India and, because it is the biggest advertiser in this country,

it can screw or use its screw in a manner whereby such a person has no chance of survival. They will use advertising only to promote political causes and, occasionally, to help their partners over here.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: Sometimes you also.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Sometimes their friends also. I am admitting it. Is he prepared to admit it?

In conclusion, I suggest to my hon. friend, Shri H. N. Mukerjee, that we have had enough, we have had our game, everybody has been able to make political propaganda, abusing the monopoly houses, hoarders and black-marketeers, as they should be. But thereafter, I say, this is a serious business, newspaper reporting, dissemination of news, particularly of mass media, and far too important a matter to be entrusted into the hands of amateur parliamentarians.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the resolution moved by Shri H. N. Mukerjee which seeks to call upon Government to adopt certain measures for delinking the press and diffusing the ownership of newspapers and which, I consider, were long overdue.

So far as Shri Piloo Mody is concerned, his observations were saturated with an obsession that such delinking and diffusion will, once for all, destroy the freedom of the Press. That is what he seems to have conveyed in his long speech that he made. It is a matter of opinion—he has his own way of thinking. He thinks that the step, which we consider is the step in the right direction to strengthen the freedom of the press and to bring about a healthy atmosphere in Indian journalism, will, according to him, destroy the freedom of the press. That is the version.

I agree with most of the principles which were enunciated by Shri Chatterjee so far as the basic requirements of delinking the Press and the diffusion of the ownership are concerned. But I wonder whether he was well-

advised in raising political issues which were not germane at all to this resolution and creating unnecessary controversies in the matter. It is not as if his Party has men who are all paragons of virtue and all other Party members are crooks. I really wish a person of his eminence—I have tremendous regard for him—on a resolution like this had shown greater restraint, and that would have lent greater objectivity to his contribution, instead of abusing Congressmen.

The freedom of ownership of the Press is a concept entirely different from the concept of freedom of the Press. I want my friend Mr. Piloo Mody to understand this distinction. So far as the Constitution is concerned (Interruption) I do not know how many times Mr. Piloo Mody has seen the first and the last cover of the Constitution. In my humble way I have read the Constitution several times.... (Interruptions). Even if he reads he will never be able to understand. He has not understood it nor will he ever understand the spirit of the Constitution. He has himself admitted it. Is he satisfied with the growth of the newspaper industry in the country so far? Why has not newspaper industry grown in the manner it should have? It is an extremely sensitive media, it is an extremely important media. The purpose of every newspaper is to mobilise public opinion. The purpose of every newspaper is to educate public opinion. In a country like ours where we have our roots in democratic traditions, the purpose and task of the newspapers is extremely onerous and cumbersome. The newspaper industry in our country has not grown up for the simple reason that a few persons, a few money-bags, a cartel is having a stranglehold on the industry. (Interruptions). What I considered as utter, undiluted non-sense from Shri Mody. I listened to with attention. I beg you to listen to my views. You may disagree with them. We may agree to disagree. However, it is this monopolistic stranglehold which has resulted in completely dis-

[Shri N. K. P. Salve]

proportionate growth and an imbalance brought about in this industry as a whole. A few papers have grown.

There is one more aspect of the matter which has not been properly analysed. Public Funds have been utilised by big business houses. All these people, all these money-bags whose names Shri Patil mentioned, are utilising public funds to aggrandise certain vested interests. They have large public funds available to them. They own the press. And what is worse, they are able to hire able writers, journalists and penman and with their help they want to support and canvas certain private causes. Nothing can be more deleterious, nothing can be more vicious and nothing can be more pernicious for the growth and for the healthy growth of freedom of the Press than this state

So far as small newspapers are concerned, they face a lot of financial difficulties and Shri Patil has narrated them. It is the imparative responsibility, inalienable responsibility of the Government to ensure suitable assistance to them—it does not matter what sort of opinion they voice, for after all, as I submitted, the Press is a sensitive media. Its purpose is to mobilise public opinion. Its purpose is to educate public opinion. Its purpose is to carry dissent to the corridors of power, if necessary. How can its bonafides be accepted if dissent is taken to the corridors of power by vested monopolists.

Therefore, delinking and diffusion of ownership of press is necessary. Let it be understood clearly that people who voice opinion against that of the Government against the ruling Party are not motivated by any unholy considerations or by jingling of coins but only by the consideration of the welfare of the community as a whole. If Newspapers are to cater to the weal and welfare of the community as a whole, I cannot understand how any Private ownership or ownership by a cartel can ever

be considered consistent with this sort of a concept.

Shri Gujral has made the Government stand utterly clear. I really do not know what stands in the way of the Government of India taking effective steps in the matter. Not many steps are needed to bring about delinking and diffusion of ownership. Today we are not able to buy an upto-date machinery for an up-to-date press, because those machineries are not manufactured here. This is the situation even after 25 years of independence, when 580 million people are to be taught, opinion has to be mobilised, we cannot have a modern up-to-date press machinery of our own. We cannot have such machinery purchased in India. With regard to the newsprint, we have to depend upon foreign countries; we have to buy this from foreign countries. I would tell you that the growth of newspapers industry is utterly distorted, the growth is devoid of any direction. It is suffering only for one reason, that those who were in charge so far held the newspaper industry to ransom for vested interests, they were never worried about it, they had sufficient funds, they had sufficient amount and resources available with them to carry on what they thought was of supreme importance to themselves and what was of supreme importance to them was their own personal gains and nothing else. In this view of the matter I have no doubt that Mr. Gujral, when he replies to the debate, would tell us about the take, to make sure that there is delinking and diffusion of ownership.

श्री जयनाथ राव जोशी (शाजापुर):

समापति महोदय, समाचार-पत्र और समाचार वितरण संस्था, इन दोनों की स्वाधीनता विसंबद्ध कैसे की जाये—इस पर आज हम विचार कर रहे हैं। पहले तो थोड़ा सी इसकी पृष्ठ-भूमि देखनी आवश्यक है कि यह विचार आया क्यों। कांग्रेस में फूट होने के बाद बम्बई में जब अधिवेशन हुआ तो उस अधिवेशन पर कई

टीका-टिप्पणियां आई जो अच्छी नहीं लगीं इसलिए पत्रकारों को बुलाकर बताया गया बल्कि मैं तो कहूंगा कि धमकी दी गई—
I will fix you within a minute. I will fix your proprietor within a minute.
यह मैं 1969 की बात बता रहा हूं जब बम्बई में डूबते हुए सूरज को साक्षी लेकर चव्हाण साहब ने कहा था कि हम समाजवाद लाकर रहेंगे। सवाल आखिर यह है कि लोकतंत्र जहां पर है वहां पर विचारों की स्वतन्त्रता हो और यह उसका एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा है। मुझे लगता है कि साल्वे जी, पाटिल जी या जो भी चाहते हैं कि वृत्त-पत्र और समाचार वितरण संस्था की विसम्बद्ध स्वाधीनता हो, वे विचारों की स्वतन्त्रता भी जरूर चाहते हैं। आज इस में जो बुराई आई है वह केवल वृत्त-पत्र की व्यवस्था में नहीं आई है बल्कि सारा समाज बिगड़ गया है। आज सभी चीज धर्म के नाते नहीं धंधे के नाते हम करते हैं चाहे पुजारी हो, मठ हो, मन्दिर हो यहां तक राजनीतिक दल हो तो सभी में बुराई आई है। इस तरह आज हम हर क्षेत्र में एक अपना ही सर्वस्व स्थापित करने की प्रक्रिया देखते हैं तो उस बुराई को निकालना बहुत आवश्यक है। मैं हमेशा कहूंगा —

Hate the sin, not the sinner. There is sin behind everything; behind monopolising everything.

क्योंकि मेरा तो सरकार की नीयत पर शक है, नीति पर नहीं। नीति कोई भी होगी उसको व्यवहार में कैसे लाया जाता है सवाल वही है। 1971 में जब आपने गरीबी हटाओ की बात कही तो हमने भी कहा—

Let there be war on poverty.

किन्तु जब आपने देखा 1973 तक गरीबी नहीं हट रही है, लोग चिल्ला रहे हैं तो एक नयी आवाज आ रही है —

Let there be limited dictatorship.

यानी आवाज बन्द, बोलिये नहीं। यह मैं नीयत की बात बता रहा हूं। तीन साल में गरीबी

हटाने के बजाय ये गरीबी की आवाज दबाकर गरीब का गला घोटता, यह चालू है। तीन साल के बाद हरिजन और पिछड़े वर्गों पर अन्याचार घटने के बजाये बढ़ क्यों रहे हैं? यह तो समाज में जो वातावरण पदा करते हैं उसी का यह परिणाम है। मैं किसी को दोष देना नहीं चाहता हूं, हम सभी उसके लिए जिम्मेदार हैं। तो समाचार-पत्र में कुछ आया हुआ है, यदि सरकार डिफ्यूजिंग दि ओनरशिप करती है तो करे किन्तु मुझे डर है —

Diffusion of newspapers will ultimately mean refusing the ownership to any private individual.

यहां आकर वह खड़ा होगा। आखिर हम विकेन्द्रीयकरण चाहते हैं, हर जगह पर चाहते हैं। राजनीतिक सत्ता का भी विकेन्द्रीयकरण चाहते हैं लेकिन वह कहां है? लोकतन्त्र विकेन्द्रीयकरण के आधार पर चलता है लेकिन आज हर चीज एक व्यक्ति पर लटकी हुई है—चाहे वह आंध्र की समस्या हो, तेलंगाना की समस्या हो—क्या यह लोकतन्त्र है? यानी एक राजनीतिक मोनोपली पैदा हो गई है, एक व्यक्ति में ही सारा केन्द्रीयकरण हुआ है। क्या यह आपको मंजूर है? पोलिटिकल अफेयर्स कमिटी हो तो हम समझ सकते हैं किन्तु एक व्यक्ति पर हर चीज केन्द्रित हो, आप चाहते हैं विकेन्द्रीयकरण और करते हैं केन्द्रीयकरण, इसीलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि सवाल नीति का नहीं नीयत का है। इसलिए आज यह जो मोनोपली पैदा हुई है कोई भी नहीं समझेगा कि यह मोनोपली अच्छी है। हम किसी भी तरह की, किसी भी मोनोपली के विरुद्ध हैं।

यदि हमारे मुकर्जी साहब का “डीलिंग” का मतलब यह है कि हमारे प्रस को फारेन कन्ट्रीज से डीलिंग करना चाहते हैं, उनका विदेशों के साथ जो लिंक है उसको तोड़ना चाहते हैं तो मैं इस के पक्ष में हूं। किन्तु जब वहां यह बताया जाता है कि किसी व्यक्ति को बाहर से रुपया आया आठ लाख,

[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]

वह कहां से आया उसका सोर्स डिस्क्लोज नहीं करेंगे वह आठ लाख रुपया ब्याज में लगाया जो एकदम 16 लाख हो गया। वह कहां लगाया गया? भ्रष्टाचार में, मैं भ्रष्टाचार का नाम लेना नहीं चाहता। तो वह कहां से आया? यदि मुकर्जी साहब इसको डीलिंग करना चाहते हैं तो हम इस के पक्ष में हैं। यदि विदेश इस दृष्टि से हमारे विचार पर हावी होना चाहता है कि क्रोम टॉप ट वाटम बड़-बड़े विज्ञापन दे और उसके बल बूते पर भ्रष्टाचार वालों को अपने वचस्व में रखने की कोशिश करे तो यह जसा विदेशों में चलता है वही सरकार भी करती है क्योंकि इसका उद्देश्य वही है। यह जो बिल की बात है, जब श्रीमती नन्दिनी सत्यपी थी तो उसका प्रारूप भ्रष्टाचार में धा चुका है कि 15 हजार से ज्यादा जिनका सर्कुलेशन होगा उनके लिए सरकार कुछ करेगी। यानी तत्काल लटकती रहेगी कि हमारे विचारों को प्राथमिकता मिलनी चाहिए, दूसरों के विचारों को प्राथमिकता नहीं मिलनी चाहिए। आप कहते हैं हम बिकेन्द्रीयकरण में विश्वास करते हैं इसीलिए मैं बार बार बता रहा हूं कि सचाल नीति का नहीं, तुम्हारी नीयत का है। आल इंडिया रेडियो के बारे में जब सरकार ने स्वयं चन्दा कमेटी नियुक्त की थी और उस कमेटी ने यह सिफारिश दी कि एक कार्पोरेशन होना चाहिए तो आज तक वह होता क्यों नहीं है? वह सिफारिश स्वीकार क्यों नहीं की जाती है?

यदि सरकार की नीति यह है कि सब घब तक विचार पहुंचे और हर एक को अपने विचार की खुली स्वाधीनता और छूट हो तो आज हमारा जो हवाईजहाज चलता है, मैं देखता हूं स्टेटमैन से लेकर पैट्रियट सभी हैं लेकिन मदरलैंड वहां क्यों नहीं है? आखिर वह भी एक विचार प्रकट करता है। यानी जब विचार की खुली छूट है तो मैं प्लेन चाहता हूं मदरलैंड वहां पर क्यों नहीं है जहां पर पैट्रियट भी है।

It represents the political affiliation; it represents the political opinion.

मैं बताना चाहता हूं आप धीरे-धीरे रेडिकलिज्म के नाम पर वहां जा रहे हैं जहां दम बूट जायेगा, जहां पर स्वाधीनता समाप्त हो जायेगी, उसी ओर आप भ्रष्टाचार होते जा रहे हैं।

जहां तक लिट्रेसी की बात है, मैं बताना चाहता हूं

If there is any monopoly in the press today, it is the English monopoly.

यह असली मोनोपली है जिसकी वजह से हमारे जो लैंग्वेज पेपर्स हैं वह पनप नहीं पा रहे हैं। यह सरकार भी महत्व किनको देती है? प्रधान मंत्री कहीं बाहर गई तो लैंग्वेज पेपर का पत्रकार क्या बर्बाद जायेगा? नहीं (स्वयंचालन) आजकल प्रोटेस्ट के बाद बौड़ा बौड़ा होने लगा है किन्तु इनके दिमाग में जो प्राथमिकता आती है, जो मोनोपली है वह अंग्रेजी की है। मैं भारतवर्ष में केवल केरल में देखा है कि त्रिचूर से एक अंग्रेजी भ्रष्टाचार चलाने की कोशिश हुई लेकिन वह चल नहीं पाया। केरल में ज्यादातर मलयालम के पेपर पढ़ते हैं। ऐसा मैंने केवल केरल में देखा।

श्री सत्यनारायण कपूर (पटियाला) : मदरलैंड को अंग्रेजी में क्यों छपा, हिंदी में क्यों नहीं छपा?

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : आप लोगों को समझाने के लिए, दूसरा हमारे पास कोई चारा नहीं है।

We want to remove the thorn by using the thorn. When once you remove the thorn, you throw away the thorn.

तो समझदारों को समझाने की दृष्टि से ऐसा करना पड़ता है। किन्तु यदि आप मोनोपली समाप्त करना चाहते हैं तो जो अंग्रेजी की मोनोपली समग्र देश में प्रैम की है उस को जब तक समाप्त नहीं करेंगे जब तक मलयालम पेपर्स नहीं पनप सकते हैं। माननीय अनन्त राव पाटिल आपका पेपर भी नहीं पनप

सकती है। इसलिए सरकार को छोटे पेपर की आवश्यकता कैसे पूरी की जाये इसको देखना होगा।

अभी एका एक बताया गया कि 30 30 परसेंट न्यूज प्रिन्ट कटा इस में तो कई एम्प्लॉईज बेकार हो जायेंगे। पहले जो चार पेज का छोटा पेपर निकालते थे उन की तो इस कट के कारण लगेटी ही रह जायेगी। अभी कुछ दिन पहले चर्चा आयी थी कि ग्राउन्ड नट रशिया को क्यों भज रहे हैं तो बताया गया कि अच्छी बैरायटी है, लेकिन आज वही परम मित्र कहने वाला देश 1300 रु० टन वाले कामज का हम से 1900 रु० पर टन के हिस्से से दाम लेना है, और उस पर 30 परसेंट कट, तो ऐसी स्थिति में छोटे पेपर चलेंगे ही नहीं। और उस पर भी सरकार विज्ञापन देने में आनाकानी करती है। इस से विकेन्द्रीकरण और विचारों की स्वतन्त्रता नहीं हो सकती है। आप आल इंडिया रेडियो को कोरपोरेशन बनाने के लिये तैयार नहीं हुए, इसलिये धीरे धीरे जब एक बार बड़े प्रोफिट चले जायेंगे, मैं मानता हूँ कि चले जायेंगे, जैसा बड़ी मिल्स के बारे में हुआ कि बड़ी बड़ी मिल्स चला नहीं सकते तो आप ने उन में एम्प्लॉईज को कोऑपरेटिव फॉर्मन कर के, सिक मिल्स कोरपोरेशन के नाते फिर से उन मिल्स को अपनी छत्रछाया में ले लिया। बड़े बड़े पेपर प्रोफिट चले जायेंगे, लेकिन उन की जगह आप आ जायेंगे।

आज भी 'हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स' को छोड़कर 'टाइम्स आफ इंडिया' से ले कर और जितने पेपर हैं कोई भी मुनाफे में नहीं चलता है। तो कल जाकर जब डिफ्यूज हो जायेगा और आठ साहब और मैं प्रोफिट वन जायेंगे, तो कम पैसा मुनाफे पर चला पायेंगे जब तक कि वही से कोई सहायता न हो? मैं नाम जिये बिना बनाना चाहता हूँ दिल्ली के एक अखबार की जिसको वित्त वितरण संस्था का 60,000 रु० देना था, बन फाइने

मार्निंग एक सज्जन आ गये और पैसा दे गये और चले गये। हर महीने में एक बी० आई० पी० आता है और और दो लाख रुपया देना है इस तरह से अखबार चलता है। तो कल जा कर जब डिफ्यूज हो जायेगा और अखबार बन्द हो जायेगा उस को सिक न्यूज पेपर के नाम से माननीय गुजराल साहब के अनायास में जाना पड़ेगा। फिर चलायेंगे कौन? वही। क्योंकि पेपर देना उन के हाथ में है, मशीनरी मगाने का अधिकार उन के पास है, नाइसेस मिलेगा या नहीं इसका भी निर्णय करने का अधिकार सरकार के हाथ में है, मशीनरी रूस से आयेगी या जर्मनी से, तो जब हर जगह पर हर चीज के लिये सरकार पर निर्भर करना पड़ता है, मशीनरी के लिये पेपर के लिये, विज्ञापन के लिये ऐसी हालत में जो पेपर पहले ही मुश्किल से चल रहा है उस को और दबाने की दृष्टि से कोमिश हो रही है।

जहां तक कम्युनिस्टों का सवाल है, और कम्युनिस्ट पार्टी आफ इंडिया का सवाल है, तो मैं भी रुक गया हूँ, क्या विचारों की स्वाधीनता बहा है? खुश्बीब को क्यों निकाला गया किसी अखबार में छपा? आखिर इन के मामले में आदर्श पैदा हैं उसी के रास्ते पर तो यह चलेँगे? तो डिफ्यूज के मामले में वहां जा कर पहुंचेंगे? इसलिये मैं माननीय साठे और माननीय सतपाल कपूर जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन की पूछ पकड़ कर आप कहा जा रहे हैं? जैसा कल माननीय पीलू मोदी साहब ने बताया आपने कामरेडों के साथ आप you are going deeper and deeper into the ditch

आप विकेन्द्रीकरण चाहते हैं, हम भी इस को अच्छा समझते हैं और चाहते हैं कि धर्म के नाते अखबार चले, विचारों का प्रसार करने के नाते पैसा कमाने की दृष्टि से नहीं। अगर इस दृष्टि से काम किया जायेगा तो काम करने वालों को पेट पालने के लिए पैसा मिल सकता है और अखबार की भी अस्तित्वहीनता, तब काम

‘[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]

बनेगा, नहीं ती नहीं। तो क्या सरकार बता सकती है कि छोटा सा पेपर, जैसे श्री अनन्तराव पाटिल का अखबार है, उस के भी पीछे एक ताकत है इसलिये वह अखबार चल रहा है, लेकिन किसी का समर्थन पीछे न होते हुए आज अखबार चलाना मुश्किल हो गया है। इसलिए वास्तव में हम का जो उद्देश्य विकेन्द्रीकरण करने का है, छोटे अखबार, लैंग्वेज पेपर्स में विचार खुले रूप से व्यक्त हो, वहां काम करने सेवा कर्मचारियों के साथ न्यायोचित व्यवहार हो और वह भी उस में भागीदार हों, यदि ये विचार प्रत्यक्ष रूप से आ जाये तो हमारे विचार बाना आश्चर्य भी दो, चार गेजर्स लेगा कमसे कम उम अखबार में हमारी छोटी सी बात तो छप जायेगी। आज जो बिल्कुल ब्लैक आउट होता है वह तो नहीं होगा।

16.47 hrs.

[SHRI N. K. P. SALVE in the Chair]

मैं ने कहा नीयत जो आप की है, उस को हमें देखना है कि अल्टीमेटली आप पहुंचेंगे कहां डिपयूजिना दी ओरशिप के नाम पर हर चीज हम चलायेंगे। यह जो एकाधिकार का विचार है, इस के हम विरोधी हैं। और आज भी लटकती हुई तलवार उन के मर पर रख कर इन का गला दबाना और अपनी चाल पर चलाने की की कोशिश करना यह खराब है। जगन्नाथ राव उद्देश्य बने ही अच्छा हो बिना प्रत्यक्ष व्यवहार में उन को प्रतिनिधि विचारों की निष्ठाता और विभागों की व्यवस्था सम्मान करने के लिये होंगे।

मनिय हम उसका स्वीकार नहीं कर सकते।

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA (Bangalore) Freedom of the Press is a very precious and fundamental aspect of a truly run democracy. Our party is wedded to the freedom of the Press. Many of us here fought for the freedom of the Press. Many of us here fought for the freedom of the country. That freedom has many facets; one is personal freedom; the other is freedom of the Press and

freedom of movement and other fundamental rights. It is nobody's case that the freedom of the Press should be suppressed or oppressed or distorted. The position in the country today reveals that this freedom is being misused. There is a famous saying that the Press is the Fourth Estate, after Parliament, judiciary, and the Executive. If you take away the freedom of the Press, it adversely affects the function of the other three Estates.

The question today is whether that freedom has been used properly or improperly and whether freedom has been used by all people improperly or whether it has been used improperly only by a few people. The last 25 years show that the freedom of the Press had been taken advantage of by certain individuals and certain industrial houses to promote their own interest. The freedom of the Press was meant to safeguard and promote the progress of the country and uphold justice. Some papers have gone on using the Fourth Estate for their personal ends. In the States many unscrupulous contractors started newspapers in order to bring influence to bear upon the Ministry and upon the authorities, political and governmental. They have continuously done so for the last 25 years and distorted the working of democracy. They have led them to the ways of corruption, bribery and nepotism.

They promote the selfish interests of the owner, whether an individual or a company. It is this abuse that is being tackled. I am happy this idea is being tackled so seriously, though some of us misunderstand the motive of the move, because he belongs to a particular party. In a democracy, even if a motion is brought by the Prime Minister, the opposition opposes it because it is the opposition. Likewise, many a time because a particular proposition is sponsored by a particular party with whose ideology we do not agree, we oppose it whether we like it or not. Just as Parliament has to be impartial and personal

interests have to be given up, so should the press do and personal interest should not count, much less the motives of profit-making or distorting the working of democracy. There is the right to freedom of movement. But if a thief comes and steals Mr. Mody's property, he would complain and would not mind this so-called freedom of movement being curtailed in the interests of justice and law and order. If the same argument is made applicable to the fourth estate, nobody who claims to enjoy the benefits of the freedom of the press can be allowed to utilise that very organ for personal profit. Today we are not attacking the freedom of the press. But where this freedom is being misused and abused, it is that misuse and abuse that we want to prevent.

If democracy has come to this stage where many of us have begun to entertain doubts whether democracy is the best form of government for us, one of the sources of the pollution is the kept press. Just as a kept woman is the most contemptible individual in society, kept press either by a contractor or by a house for personal profit is the most contemptible thing one can think of. It is about this kept press that all of us are exercised in our minds. It is not easy to find a solution. It is this kept press that has to be brought to book and made to serve the interests of the country and not the profit or selfish motives of any particular individual, however high he may be in any political party or elsewhere. The press is so sacrosanct that it cannot be used for personal profit. Under Government service rules an ICS or IAS officer or even a minister is not allowed to have any business connection. If he is a director of a company, he should resign and free himself to do his work impartially and justly, so that he may not be weighed down by the consideration of the interests of that company. We have to apply this very same principle to the press. This sacred fourth estate should not be

used for personal profit, to distort democracy, to take bribes, etc.

Diffusion and delinking would serve that purpose to some extent. I am not agreeing wholly with the wording of the resolution. All the evils I see in the kept press cannot be removed by this simple resolution. I agree with delinking. In a democratic country, the press should be free and it should not be at the behest of one foreign country or other. It should be patriotic and serve the interests of our country, not subserve the interests of this or that big power. I am very happy the mover has used the word 'delinking'. There is in fact linked press in this country and delinking has to be done not only in the case of business houses and unscrupulous contractors but also in the case of foreign countries. That is a welcome proposition.

We have to evolve proper standards for the press. It is a very difficult thing to do. Standards have to be enforced by law. It cannot be done by passing a simple resolution. What is diffusion, we must understand. 'Delinking' must be defined. These are matters which have to be considered at great length by the House either by a general discussion or by a committee or commission. I can give any number of instances where the kept press has distorted the political picture, spoiled ministers, etc. This is not the occasion to go into all that.

While I give my general support to the resolution, it is for the Government to see how far, to what extent and in what manner this idea of making the fourth estate work impartially could be implemented.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur):
 Sir, I support the resolution and I support those hon. members who suggested that the news agencies like PTL and UNI should also be converted into public corporations.

17 00 hrs.

I am not speaking because the resolution is there, but this is also one

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

of the recommendations of the Press Commission. I do not know and I would like to know from the Minister what stands in the way of converting the PTI, UNI, the Samachar Bharati and the Hindustan Samachar into a public corporation. I really do not know. Mr. Piloo Mody is not here and Mr. Jagannatha Rao Joshi also has conveniently walked out. But let them also realise that we want news should be controlled in this country. I am one of those who really believe in the Press and whenever there is a scope I congratulate them. The whole question is this: Freedom for what. Freedom for blackmailing? Freedom for championing the cause of those who loot this country—these big sharks? Who is controlling the *Hindustan Times* today? Mr. Birla. Who is controlling the *Indian Express*? It is Mr. Goenka. Who is controlling the *Statesman*? It is Mr. Tata. Who is controlling the *Times of India*? It is Mr. Sahu Jain or Mr. Shanti Prasad Jain. I do not know whether it is Mr. Alok Jain to-day (*Interruptions*). It is these big business houses which are controlling the jute industry, the textile industry, even the engineering industry, aluminium industry which are controlling the Press. That is why we call it the 'Jute press'. Who are the Directors in the various Boards of PTI and UNI? You will find the same persons. I am in the PTI Employees' Federation and I have been intimately connected with UNI. What is happening? When the PTI employees wanted bonus, they threatened to go on a strike. These people said that UNI will be used against PTI. When there was victimisation in the UNI, as was very correctly mentioned by my friend, Mr. Chatterjee, they said, 'All right, go ahead with your strike. We will pitch PTI against you.' This is the trouble in having common directors.

Sir, I am one of those who support the PTI and UNI be converted into a public corporation but I want that it should also be converted into an

international news agency like the Reuters. The whole difficulty is that it should be taken out of the clutches of those who belong to the monopoly houses who are exploiting the masses, who bleed the common man white and our request to the Government is: let them stand by their commitment, the solemn promises made by them here in this House or outside either by Shrimati Nandini Satpathy who was then the Minister or by Mr. Inder Kumar Gujral. Both of them made promises to both the Houses, the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha and even in the Central Hall. I want to know what happened to those assurances. (*Interruptions*). Let them fulfil their assurances and let this resolution be adopted and better assurances be given and Mr. Piloo Mody need not worry. Even after this particular resolution is passed and the diffusion of press owner-ship Bill is passed in this House, there will be enough space for cartoons. So, let him not bother about it. So mere attack on the CPI and my Party paper is no good. I suggest and I request and I appeal to Shri Gujral to accept this resolution.

Let them not be afraid of the jute press; they may publish so many things but the people of this country have to be saved from these exploiters. One way of saving them is to have this Resolution adopted. The monopoly houses should not be allowed to hold the country to ransom. Banking, General Insurance and Mines have been taken over by the Government. Let Shrimati Indira Gandhi who has said so many things during the election, not slide back, but let her take a bold decision. In respect of whatever they have promised in this House and outside, they should stand by them. They should bring forward the necessary Bill for this purpose. We shall all pass it without any discussion. I assure the the journalists, the employees and the intellectuals of this country that nothing will be done to curb the freedom of the Press. Mr. Birla said

the other day that he can purchase any intellectual on a salary of Rs. 1000 or Rs. 1200. He should be put in his proper places. I am sure that if this Resolution is adopted, it will be hailed by all sections of our people, with the exception of Mr. Mody, Mr. Birla and others.

श्री सतपाल कपूर (पटियाला) : सभा पति महोदय, इस हाउस में आज जो विचार स्वतन्त्र पार्टी के मेम्बर ने श्री पॉल मोदी, श्रीर जनसच के मेम्बर रखे हैं, ये उन के कोई नये विचार नहीं हैं। इस मुल्क में जब जब भी कोई ऐसा सवाल आया कि सरमाया-दारी की किसी ताकत पर चोट लगाई जाये, उस वक़्त स्वतन्त्र पार्टी और जनसच ने सरमायादारी की वकालत करने का कोई मौका नहीं छोड़ा। चाहे बैंक नेशनलाइजेशन का सवाल हो, सबिधान को एमेड करने का सवाल हो और चाहे राजा-महाराजाओं के प्रिवी परम बन्द करने का सवाल हो, हम हमेशा उन की ये दलीले सुनते रहे हैं, भले ही अलग अलग मौकों पर उन के अलफाज बदलते रहे हो।

स्वतन्त्र पार्टी और जनसच के मेम्बर श्री एन्टरप्राइज की फिलासफ़ी को रिप्रेजेंट करते हैं और इस रेजोल्यूशन पर उन की स्पीच उन की इस पालिसी के ऐन मूताबिक ही है। उन की पार्टी और उन के अखबारों का मारा, मकसद सिर्फ़ एक ही है कि इस मुल्क में सोशलिस्ट इक़्तेमोमी नहीं होनी चाहिये, फ्री एन्टरप्राइज होना चाहिए। जब भी इलैक्शन हुआ है, चाहे बड़-मोठ सभा का इलैक्शन हो और चाहे बिधान सभा का इलैक्शन हो, इस मुल्क के लोगो ने इन पाटियो के इस नज़रिये को रिजेक्ट किया है।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र (मोतीहारी) : वे आवे भी रिजेक्ट करेंगे।

श्री सतपाल कपूर : वे आगे भी रिजेक्ट करेंगे। मुल्क है, माननीय सदस्य भी यह मानते हैं। (अपवाह) अगर एक सीट

से—बाका से—किसी दूसरी पार्टी का मेम्बर जीत गया, तो इस का मतलब यह तो नहीं है कि सारे देश के लोग उन के साथ हैं।

मैं किसी अखबार का नाम नहीं लेना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन जितने बड़े मानोपसी पेपर्स हैं, वे तमाम फ्री एन्टरप्राइज की फिलासफ़ी को सपोर्ट्स करते हैं। जब भी कोई काइसिस आया है, ये तमाम बड़े अखबार और पी० टी० आई०, यू० एन० आई०, हिन्दुस्तान समाचार और समाचार भारती बगैरह तमाम बड़ी न्यूज़ एजेंसीज़ मिर्फ़ एक ही पालिसी को सपोर्ट्स करती रही है और वह है फ्री एन्टरप्राइज की पालिसी। इस मुल्क में फ्री एन्टरप्राइज के साथ कौन कौन सी पार्टियां ताल्लुक रखती हैं और इस मुल्क के बाहर कौन कौन सी ताकतें इस फिलासफ़ी के साथ ताल्लुक रखती हैं, और उन का आपस में क्या रिलेशन है, इस का सबूत है या नहीं, लेकिन यह फ़ैक्ट है कि दिमागी तौर पर उन का यह रिलेशन है कि वे सब फ्री एन्टरप्राइज की फिलासफ़ी को सपोर्ट करते हैं।

इस मुल्क में बड़े पेपर्स ने कभी भी हैल्दी पार्लिटिक्म को हाईलाइट नहीं किया है, जिस का ताल्लुक जनता के साथ है। हमारे मुल्क के अहम मसलों के लिये बड़े अखबारों में कोई जगह नहीं है। ट्रेड यूनियन्ड, टिनाट्स, यूथ बैल्फ़ियर बगैरह के बारे में इन बड़े अखबारों में शायद कभी किसी कोने में कोई छोटी सी खबर छप जाये। अगर पंजाब और हरियाणा में अनाज की पैदावार बढ़ जाये, या वहाँ बारह तेरह हजार मील लम्बी सड़क बनाई जाये और उस का मारा अर्थबर्क लोग फ्री करे, तो उस की कोई खबर आप हिन्दुस्तान के बड़े अखबार में नहीं देखेंगे।

इतना बड़ा इनकलाव पिछले साल हुआ कि हरियाणा के हर गांव को सड़क चली गई और इस साल के अन्त तक पंजाब के हर गांव को सड़क चली जायेगी और महत्त्वपूर्ण अर्थबर्क

[श्री सतपाल कपूर]

की आफ कास्ट लोगो ने किया लेकिन इसकी खबर आप किसी भी बड़े अखबार में नहीं देखेंगे। पार्टीज में रिपट हों, यहाँ पर स्कैंडल की बात आए, आप किसी पर इलजाम लगाये तो वह चीज आ जायेगी। वह आयेगा कि पोलिटिकल लाईफ में वे लोग हैं जो स्कैंडल करते हैं, पावर के लिए लड़ते हैं बेमिक बात की तरफ ये बड़े अखबार वाले कभी नहीं जाते। बेमिक प्रावलम की तरफ कभी नहीं जाते।

तो गुजरमल साहब को कहना है वह तो वह जानते ही है। इम्पीउण्टली गवर्नमेंट हम रेजोल्यूशन को मान ले तो मैं खुश होऊंगा, मुबारकबाद दुआ। नहीं तो एक नजदीक मैं देना चाहूंगा कि हमें बहुत सा फायदा एकमवेज दे कर बड़ी बड़ी प्रिन्टिंग मशीन मंगा कर इन को दी है। वे प्रिन्टिंग मशीनें अन्डरयूटिलाइज्ड हैं। टारम्स आफ इन्डिया स्टेट्समैन, इंडियन एक्सप्रेस, हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स ये तमाम अखबार छापने में जो इनके पास मशीनरी है वह तीन घंटे में ज्यादा काम नहीं करती। गाने बड़े अखबारों की मशीनरी प्रचुर यूटिलाइज्ड है। गवर्नमेंट इम्पीउण्टली एक काम कर सकती है कि प्रिन्टिंग मशीनरी उन तमाम बड़े पत्रों की जिन के लिए हम न फायदे एकमवेज दिया, उन कॉन्वेंशन हाइब्रिड ल। उस मशीनरी पर कंट्रोल कर के अगर यह कर सकते हैं कि जब भी कोई आदमी यह सोचता है कि वह कोई अखबार निकाले या दस जर्नलिस्ट मिल कर कोई अखबार निकालना चाहते हैं तो उन के पास पैसा नहीं होता, थोड़ा बहुत पैसा होता भी तो उस में वह पैसा नहीं लगा सकते, तो जो नव जर्नलिस्ट हैं या जो नव जर्नलिस्ट हैं उन से आप कहिए कि आप अपना अखबार छापिए, गवर्नमेंट उन पैसा में इनजाम कर सकती हैं। बाज मीकात ऐसा मौका आता है कि टेकट बुक स्कूलों और कॉलेजों की नहीं छप पाती। तो यह तमाम मशीनरी अगर आप नेशनलाइज कर लें तो स्कूलों की और कॉलेजों की किताबें छापने के लिए और नव जर्नलिस्ट के अखबार छापने

के लिए आप एक नई स्टेस खोल सकते हैं। इसी एक बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। गवर्नमेंट के पास कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं होती चाहिए कि आप न्यूजप्रिन्ट दें और उस के अन्दर एडवर्टाइजमेंट छपे। न्यूजप्रिन्ट फार न्यूज होना चाहिए। न्यूजप्रिन्ट फार एडवर्टाइजमेंट या न्यूजप्रिन्ट फार प्रॉफिट आप बन्द कर दें। उस पर सीनिंग आप लगा रहे हैं 25 प्रतिशत लेकिन न्यूजप्रिन्ट का इतना बड़ा क्राइसिस है। अगर वह इतने एडवर्टाइजमेंट अपने छाप रहे हैं तो आप उन से कह सकते हैं कि वह मार्केट से अडवाइट पेपर ले कर या दूसरा कोई कागज ल कर उस पर छापे। न्यूजप्रिन्ट फार एडवर्टाइजमेंट बन्द करना चाहिए, ये दो तजवीज मैं देना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN (Madras South). There was a time when this Resolution, now moved by Prof. Mukerjee, would have been willingly and joyfully accepted by the nation, but after watching the activities of this Government, people find a sinister motive behind this so-called move of diffusion the ownership of newspapers. I would like to bring to the notice of the Mover and the Minister that there are certain genuine fears. Not long ago, one of the superseded judges, Shri Hegde, told the nation that the primary aim of bringing in art. 31(6) was to take over newspapers. In this background, people find a sinister motive whether this kind of diffusion will be a step towards take-over of newspapers and making them the kept press of the Government of India, the very thing which is not liked by people like Shri Hanumanthaiya.

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA (Bangalore): Take the extreme case of your argument about a kept press being accepted. If it is kept with Government, at least you have the opportunity to ask questions, comment, have a discussion. Will you have that opportunity under private management?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I will come to your point later. But in the meanwhile, I want to make it very clear that we are against monopoly, whether it is in industry or in newspapers or in broadcasting. I do not hold a brief for the monopoly press. In fact, I am second to none in asserting that the nexus between big money and the press should be broken. My party is treated by the so-called monopoly press as the scheduled caste of Indian politics. So I do not hold a brief for this press.

Mr. Hanumanthaiya reminded us that the press is the fourth estate. It is a misleading name, because it implies that the press is an institution and should accordingly be protected. The modern press is an industry or a combination of industries, like any other industry, it should be controlled. There is no doubt about it. But it is a peculiar industry. It is a *sine quo non* of democracy, an essential pillar of it.

So I would advise Mr. Gujral to control the industrial side of the press, the business side of it, but do not touch the journalistic content of the press. This is my humble suggestion. The newspapers, big, medium or small, enjoy certain postal concessions, certain railway concessions. Moreover, these tycoons with their superior resources command circulations merely because of superior wastepaper value. As Mr. Chatterjee explained, 50 per cent of the newsprint is consumed by 9 or the 98 common ownership units. We know that foreign exchange is scarce. We help the big papers to import valuable newsprint. But for what purpose do they use it? They fill it up with advertisements. Eighty per cent of the space of some newspapers is filled with advertisements. Who is the giver of these? I think Government plays the bigger role. For some newspapers, more than 75 per cent of the advertisement revenue comes from the Government of India, the Governments of the States and public

undertakings only. Even the revenue from private advertisements comes indirectly from the people, because the advertisements are ultimately charged to the consumers. So it is also public money.

To control the business side of newspapers, there have been many suggestions. The last Finance Commission suggested that art 289(1)(f) should be used. What does it say—like you I have read the Constitution; but no so often. It says:

“Taxes on sale or purchase of newspapers and on advertisements published therein”.

There is a provision. The Centre can tax the sale or purchase of Newspapers or the advertisements published therein. But this provision has never been resorted to by the Government of India. The last Finance Commission in 1969 said “

“There is no doubt that advertisement revenue forms an important source of the income of the newspapers which in some cases may be as much as 50 to 75 per cent of the total income... Nevertheless we consider that this is a *prima facie* reasonable source from which additional revenue assignable to States could conveniently be raised.”

So far the Government has not resorted to this kind of taxation measure, probably because if the tax is levied the amount should go to the States.

Secondly, the Press Commission suggested the Price Page Schedule. It would have controlled the business side of the newspapers. Though it has been ruled out by the Supreme Court, many persons have suggested ways and means. We could bring in the Price Page Schedule and incorporate it in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution so that it could not be challenged in a court. But we did not resort to these measures. If we had done this, we would have clipped the wings of the monopoly press and the tycoons would have been cut to size.

Now the cry of the day is diffusion of the ownership of the press. What is diffusion? A statement in a newspaper says: "The existing corporate and inter-connected groups and individuals of the newspapers in circulation in excess of 15000 will be permitted to hold no more than 5 per cent shares. The remaining shares will be available for subscription to the journalists and other employees of the newspapers." This I think, is the proposed diffusion measure. Suppose all the workers and journalists in a paper become shareholders, do you think it will solve the problem? No. Already political parties are competing with each other to control trade unions of the press. The effect will be that political parties and tycoons will be vying with each other to get hold of the shareholders with the result that you will have a CPM press in West Bengal, a DMK press in Tamil Nadu, a Jan Sangh press in New Delhi. In West Bengal they may control the trade union, in Tamil Nadu we may control the trade union and so a situation may arise in Calcutta when the so-called shareholders, the workers, belonging to the party of Mr. Jyoti Bosu may refuse to compose an editorial written by shareholders who belong to the party of Mr. Sidhartha Shankar Ray. Such a situation may arise. Please explain why it will not arise. I have another example. Sir, I am a journalist myself and I need some more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: As to the merits of the speech, it is quite interesting, but I am bound by time.

SHEILA MURASOLI MARAN: In Tamil Nadu there is a Tamil newspaper called 'Navamani'. It is perhaps the first newspaper in India started on a cooperative basis. All the workers there and working journalists are shareholders of the press. But what is happening today? It has become an arena of political storm. All the political parties are competing with each other to capture the union, capture the shareholders, with the result that it is in shambles. The editorial policy has not been deter-

mined. One day our people may give them pressure to write in support of the Government. The next day another party may give them pressure to write in support of them. It is in shambles. Do you want such a state of affairs in all the newspapers in India? I think the remedy is worse than the disease. What are your bonafides?

In a country where the rate of illiteracy is high, the spoken word has greater impact than the written word. But what is the position of All India Radio? It is a symbol of monopolistic abuse by the ruling party. So, I ask: Why don't you diffuse the ownership of All India Radio and make it a Corporation? Recently, I saw one cartoon in the *Hindustan Times* which had put the figure of Mr. Gujral and the caption written was: Today Gujral sneezed thrice. Such is the position. You should first diffuse the ownership, the pattern, of All India Radio and Television.

Then, Mr. Banerjee was narrating that the monopoly press was putting pressure on the Government. But the real situation is otherwise. There is a newspaper called *Kumudam*, the largest selling weekly in India. But what has happened? Somehow or other, you have made them to come to you with bended knees and converted it as an unofficial organ of your party because you are the giver of newsprint and you are the biggest giver of advertisement revenue.

What happened to Mr. Frank Moraes, the Doyen of Indian press? He was sent out of the Indian Express and, perhaps, out of India because he was not acceptable to the ruling party. Then Mr. G. S. Pandit happens to be the Editor of the Free Press Journal because he is acceptable to the ruling party....

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: You have a good chance also.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: There are certain genuine fears. I would like to advise the Minister to go in this matter.

I would like to bring to the notice of the Minister a speech made by him. On August 28, 1969, winding up the debate on the Press Council Amendment Bill, Mr. Gujral assured us that he would constitute a Second Press Commission. I want to quote his words. He said:

"The proposed Commission will go into the problems of press in its new dimensions."

I would like to tell the Minister that this kind of fact-finding committees will not solve the problem. This is a very important issue. I would like him to give an answer as to whether he is having a Second Press Commission in his mind about which he made a statement on August 28, 1969.

श्री मूलचन्द डाया (पाली) : सभापति जी, समाचारपत्रों को देश में नई क्रांति लानी है तो कुछ काम करना होगा। मैं बहुत थोड़े समय में एक प्रैस रिपोर्टर ने जो रिपोर्ट लिखी है, उसमें से कुछ उद्धृत करना चाहता हूँ —

"It has come to our notice that some of the persons, at present owning or controlling papers, have had no previous connection with or training in journalism. There are others who, while conducting newspapers, are primarily interested in other activities. There are some who are generally reputed to have indulged in anti-social activities."

यह जो संकल्प है, इसकी यह भांग है कि जो हमारे जर्नेलिस्ट्स हैं, सम्पादन करने वाले हैं, जो देश में अपनी सच्ची बात रखना चाहते हैं, उनको बड़े-बड़े मकानों से निकाल कर बाहर लाये, उनको फ्री हवा में, खुले आकाश में रख देना चाहिये। जो चारों तरफ से घिरे हुए हैं, जो अपनी स्वच्छन्द आवाज को नहीं रख सकते हैं, जो दौलत के घेरावे में फँसे हुए हैं, जिनको बड़े-बड़े मकानों में मोनर्स ने बेरा हुआ है, उनको मौका दिया जाय कि वे अपनी आवाज बाहर आकर रखें। आज सारे जीवन का निर्णायक पैसा हो गया है। आज जो मिसन एक समाचारपत्र के

सम्पादक का होना चाहिए—देश के भन्दर एक नया इन्क्लाब पैदा करे, देश के सामने नई बात रखे और खुले तौर पर रखे, तब देश में परिवर्तन आ सकता है, इन्क्लाब पैदा हो सकता है। लेकिन जब समाचारपत्र बाटुकार हो जाते हैं, केवल पैसा भर्जन के लिये काम करते हैं, केवल दौलत कमाने के लिये काम करते हैं, मोनर्स के कहने के अनुसार चलते हैं, बड़े-बड़े पूँजीपतियों की इच्छा के अनुसार चलते हैं और केवल वे खबरें छापते हैं जो उनके मालिक चाहते हैं तब कठिनाई पैदा होती है। इसीलिये सरकार ने यह निर्णय लिया कि हमको देश में इस प्रकार के समाचारपत्र चलाने हैं जिनमें समाचारपत्र चलाने वाले लोग अपनी स्वतन्त्र आवाज को, अपनी स्वच्छन्द आवाज को हिम्मत के साथ, ग्रहसास के साथ दुनिया के सामने रख सकें इसीलिये —

"The organisation of the newspaper business today is such that the editor cannot act in the slightest independence of the management". The organisation of politics today is such that he can hardly be led by other than political parties or groups. In either case, he stands committed to either Scylla or Charybdis—his whole freedom appears to be to hear and obey."

तो जर्नेलिज्म का जो काम था वह एक ऊँचा काम था। गांधी जी हरिजन अखबार निकालते थे, सम्पादन का काम ऊँचा काम होता है लेकिन जब बड़े-बड़े पूँजीपतियों के चक्कर में वह आ गए और यह समझने लगे कि हम बाहर नहीं निकल सकते हैं तो फिर हमने सोचा कि क्या किया जाये। हमने सोचा कि उनको बन्द मकान से बाहर खुली हवा में लाया जाये। चाहे कार्पोरेशन हो, चाहे को-ऑपरेटिव मूवमेंट चलाया जाये, किसी तरह से भी वह फ्री एयर में आ जाये और ताजा हवा में आकर अपने विचार व्यक्त करे। गवर्नमेंट कोई भी कंट्रोल नहीं करना चाहती बल्कि गवर्नमेंट चाहती है कि समाचारपत्र स्वतन्त्र रहें और गवर्नमेंट इस बात का निर्णय कर चुकी

[श्री मूलचन्द्र बगगा]

हे कि जब तक देश में स्वतन्त्रता नहीं होगी हम भागे बड़ नहीं सकते हैं। इसलिए मरनेमेंट का इरादा बिल्कुल ठीक है लेकिन कुछ समाचार-पत्र और जर्नलिस्ट्स देश में ऐसी बातें फैलाना चाहते हैं, अपनी व्यूज को पैदा करना चाहते हैं तो उनकी मोनोपली को खत्म करना होगा इसलिए—

"An editor-proprietor in the late thirties had blithely observed that he would shout with the larger majority. Today he has to emulate the weathercock when the west wind of drastic social change is interrupted off and on by the east wind of the vested interests to which he is allied by the circumstances of his business enterprise. Unless, therefore, the editor is himself a leader of public opinion and has complete freedom from employers' dictates...."

एडिटर लीडर की तरह काम करता है, खुद पब्लिक ओपीनियन कायम कर सकता है इसलिए उसे कुछ लोगों के पंजे से निकालना चाहते हैं। इसमें मिशन और जील की बात है। एक ही मतलब था कि अनरशिप जो है उसे कुछ लोगों के हाथ से लेकर बाहर लाना चाहते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): My name is there. You cannot do that. You have to give representation to my party. You must give it. That is the procedure you must follow.... (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Order, please.

Mr. Guha, it is very unfair that you should address the Chair in this tone and language. If you want to speak, all that you can do is to get up and make a submission. But you cannot dictate like that. (Interruptions) See the language in which I am talking. I expect the same civility from you. That is one thing. Secondly, it was the mandate of the

House that the Minister should be called at 5.30. It is in terms of that mandate that I am calling the Minister.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: On a point of order, Sir.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are a senior Member. I respect you immensely. But there is a certain procedure....

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: What is the procedure? I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Merely by saying, a point of order, you will not be able to browbeat me and get an opportunity. That is not fair. It was the mandate of the House that the Minister should be called at 5.30. Accordingly, I have called the Minister, I have called everyone according to the list, in the same order. If your name happens to be down below, it is not my fault. You must know that there are many other Members who have not been called. If you are called, please tell me the rationale why everyone else should not be called.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: You must give an opportunity to my party.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Guha, you must know that during the Private Members' Business, we do not go party-wise.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: We do not go Party-wise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I request you with folded hands to kindly abide by the procedure which has been laid down by the House and please do not make my task unnecessarily difficult. If I call you, it will be an injustice to others.

The Minister.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: No, Sir. On a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There will be no point of order. I shall not allow it. Under which rule you are raising it?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: How can you overrule my point of order?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: You cannot do it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want time to speak. That is the only point of order.

The whole thing is this. If I give you time, there is only one consideration.... (Interruptions) I would like you to hear me. I have always listened to your speeches with rapt attention.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I do not seek any favour.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no question of any favour. Please sit down. The rationale and the justice.... (Interruption) Please try to understand. Please do not be unreasonable. There are others who are wanting to speak.

Their claims are no better or no worse than yours for speaking. But since the House said.....

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: The whole proposition is wrong.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a matter of opinion and I will not be browbeaten like this.... (Interruptions).

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: It is a question of convention.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some time or the other you should be told the mandate of the House and I am going to abide by the mandate of the House.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I am on a point of order. I am not going to budge even an inch from my right. What you have told just now is against the convention that has been followed. The precedent that has been followed in this House is that whenever a resolution, whether it is from the official side or from the non-official side comes, the spokesmen of all the Opposition Parties get a right to speak one minute or two minutes, or three minutes but certainly they get a right. But you are propounding the theory that it is a question of priority of the list.

It is not a question of priority of the list. It is the question of priority of the Opposition Parties spokesmen getting a right to speak. The question of rationing of time is undoubtedly yours. That is the convention. I am not seeking any favour from you. I am not going to yield on this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Between you and me, Mr. Guha. You are persisting. It is for me to go by certain basic canons of procedure, basic canons of justice.... (Interruptions). You have asserted your right to raise a point of order. I rule it out.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: It is my elementary right that he cannot deny.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to hold the whole House to ransom?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: You did not say why you rule it out of order? (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: As a very exceptional matter, I allow you. But please conclude within two minutes.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I should get five minutes at least.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You yourself said that I can ration the time.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I request you to give me five minutes; this cannot be concluded in two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the mandate of the House. We have to conclude this debate within a particular time. That is the mandate of the House. That is not my wish but that is the mandate of the House.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: This is not the way to treat a national party in the House. We are a recognised national party in this House. I am not seeking any favour. I am exerting my right.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Sir, if the House decides at one stage that the Minister might be called at 5-30

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and if the House at a later stage finds that some more Members want to speak, let the House again decide the issue. Would you not listen to the House and find out what the wish of the House is? Some of us have given our names; of course, some of us were late; but all the same we have given our names. If you allow one person only to speak because he has been insisting and not allow the others, it would not be proper. Therefore, what I feel is that you may ascertain the wish of the House. The time of the debate may be extended if you think that is better. The Minister may reply after Members have spoken. But you can not allow one Member to speak and not allow others. My second point is this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The debate has to be concluded within a certain time; it can't go on *ad infinitum*. Mr. Samar Guha, please conclude quickly.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: If you give chance to party spokesman, why do you not give chance to independents? Why are independents demolished? I too as an independent have every right. Why should an independent's voice be crushed?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Mavalankar please sit down. You have just sent a slip. Your name is not there,—not even in the list your name is there. Now, to assert your right like this is unfair. Mr. Guha.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Have independents no place in this House? I want to ask this question: Have independents no place in this House? It is very unfair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should have sent your name at the beginning of the debate itself. You could have got an opportunity then. You are sending your name at the eleventh hour and you shout at the Chair and this is not in keeping with your restraint, dignity and understanding.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: If you allow party spokesman, how is it that independents are not given time?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not as party spokesman; I allowed him as senior Member.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: He was criticising the Chair there was no point of order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Undoubtedly the control of the monopoly and the big houses, the industrial houses, is a big constraint to the freedom of press. If we take an assessment of the democratic countries like U.K., Japan, France or America, we find there are similar constraints existing in bigger dimension in other countries also. In a degree such things are also found in our country. In totalitarian countries there is no freedom of press. At least in half of the world, this is the position. In totalitarian system press freedom is absolutely controlled. I am wholeheartedly in favour of democratisation of the functioning of news agencies and newspapers. But the threat to democracy and freedom of press and functioning of news-agency in our country to day is coming from the side of the ruling party as also from the side of the two big powers, super powers and they are pumping in all their propaganda materials into this country.

Sir, to-day, what is happening? In West Bengal, there are five major papers of which four have, excepting one, been turned into a Congress Bulletin. I remember one day I put a question to the Prime Minister as to how much expenditure had been incurred during her elections tour and what was the amount spent for the use of the plane and helicopter. The reply was also given. But, when I personally met the newsmen and asked them about its circulations they simply 'smiled'. They had sent the news. But, not a single line appeared in the paper. Recently, there was a discussion on the recruitment policy

of the Government with regard to the minorities—for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. We find that not even one paragraph appeared in papers all over the country. Sir, this was a discussion about the minority in regard to the recruitment policy of the Government. This was completely blacked out as the Minister resented such discussion.

Therefore, to me, it appears that certainly there should be freedom of the press and there should not be any curb by any agency on them. To-day, it is the ruling party which monopolises the real control of the mass media of newspapers news agencies etc. They are all controlled by the ruling party alone. Take for example the Embassy staff. Not thousands but lakhs of their periodicals are published in different languages in our country. I have also given the figures with regard to these two big powers whose periodicals in different languages are published in our country, and are circulated by the foreign embassies. Not only that. Their views and their news and articles are also being circulated. Millions of news pieces have also been circulated to all the news papers in India. Therefore, I feel that real threat to the freedom of the press is there; the threat to democracy and the threat to news agency is there. On the one hand there is threat from these two super powers and on the other these foreign agencies are trying to erode democratic freedom of our Press. It is strange that millions of periodicals are being published from India with a political bias. Their aim is to erode the freedom. Is it not an erosion of democratic freedom of the press? Is it not erosion of the sovereignty of our country?

I say it is absolutely necessary, for the democratic functioning of our country, to have freedom of the press. We have to go deep into the matter. I would say that freedom of the press freedom of the editorial, freedom of the news agency etc. must be assured not from the economic point of view but because we have accepted in this

country the policy that every means of production whether in industry or in trade will be nationalised. This I can understand. But, if you want to tackle the problem from the point of view of ensuring democratic freedom of the press, we have to see by what methods and by what means we can ensure the freedom to the editor. We have to see by which means we can ensure the freedom of the news editor, the freedom of the reporter as also the freedom of the newspapers. What is the use of talking of green signal or red signal when we go on circulating to news agencies by giving all kinds of benefits? Therefore I conclude that the real danger to press to-day is mostly from the side of the monopoly control of the press by ruling party on the one hand and erosion that is being caused by the stuff of the so called periodicals that are being published and circulated in millions in our country by these two super powers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I must thank you and the House for this very enlightened debate. Last time and today, I think speaker after speaker made very very valuable contributions to this very vital area of our national life.

As a result of our freedom struggle, in which the mass medium, the newspaper, played a very big role, when we became independent, we were naturally very conscious of it. If you kindly have a look at the Preamble of the Constitution, it is enshrined itself one of the very important principles:

“LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief faith and worship”.

Amongst the various liberties, the people of India decided to give this ‘liberty of thought and expression’ priority over others. Even when they talked of belief, faith and worship, it came only after thought and expression. It did not end there. Let us turn to article 19. First it says:

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"All citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression".

These are very fundamental things. The Constitution was passed by the Constituent Assembly sometime in 1949. Since then, I think one of the things which received the attention of the First Parliament of India was how to make this freedom of expression real. That was why in 1952, a Press Commission was set up. When I look at the Report of the Press Commission, my attention is riveted to the very beginning of it. In the first page, it is stated:

"..In 1951, the Prime Minister (then Jawaharlal Nehru) said that he was prepared to appoint a Committee or Commission, including representatives of the Press, to examine the state of the Press and its content. He elaborated the idea on the 1st June 1951 when he indicated that an inquiry covering the larger issue of the Press, such as had been carried out in the United Kingdom by the Royal Commission, might be productive of good for the Press, and the development of this very important aspect of public affairs".

Therefore, the Press Commission was set up. This was not something unusual, something new that we did for ourselves for the first time. Everywhere, in every society where freedom of press and freedom of expression is valued, such inquiries had been made, such commissions had been set up from time to time.

When the Commission was set up, it was not as if it comprised members who were very radical in their outlook and ideas, who thought they were going to bring about a revolution. If you have a look at the composition of the Commission—I would like to refresh your memory by reading the names of the members—it was chaired by Shri Justice G. S. Rajadhyaksha and its members were Shri Dr. C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar;

Acharya Mahendra Deva, Dr. Jai Prakash Narayan, Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao, Shri P. H. Patwardhan, Shri T. N. Singh, Shri Jaipal Singh, Shri J. Natarajan, Shri A. R. Bhat and Shri M. Chelapathi Rau.

These 11 members comprised the Commission and they came out with a very voluminous Report. One of the good things which has happened in the growth of our democracy is that the findings of this Commission have held sway in the thinking of this country because very worthwhile recommendations came out of it. Many recommendations made by the Commission were also implemented.

One of the thoughts which provoked new thinking was when the Commission said:

"A man's opinions are his own, but if he claims to purvey his opinions, the buyer is entitled to insist that it shall be untainted, unadulterated and undiluted. It is from this aspect that we are most concerned with the effect of ownership and the control that it exercises on the quality of service which it provides to the public".

This, I think, has been debated here and outside for a very long time. As I said in the beginning, not only here in India, but everywhere in the world today where the press has come to occupy a significant position in democratic life, the debate has been going on what is the role of the press and how the press should be run?

For many years we have heard that free communication movement has taken birth in many parts of the world. The essence of a free communication movement basically is that the press must be freed from those who have interests other than the press itself? Some societies permit complete laissez-faire. Some societies restrain them. But on one thing there is unanimity in the world. If a society has to guarantee freedom, then the society must be

certain and assured that those who run the press are running it in the interests of a social purpose that the society has set for itself. I am nobody to say what the social purpose should be, and I believe that naturally this Parliament, that is the Lok Sabha and the other House would decide what the social purpose is from time to time. The elected representatives of the people from time to time decide what social objective the nation should have. They also decide from time to time what type of social changes we want to usher in. Ever since we became free, we have been thinking for ourselves. We have realised that modern life is very much depending on communication. It has been said here that since our literacy is low, perhaps our communication is ineffective. I think that is not true. In our society irrespective, of the era from which we pass, irrespective of the dark days that might have come on us, on one thing our value depended always, that is our entire cultural heritage depended, we have always felt that communication is very important. It did happen that when illiteracy came, when dark days came, we did not have that much of printed material. But then instead of that we developed a very rich oral tradition and that oral tradition kept our social and cultural values alive. So when the country became free, we felt that not only must we have an effective communication system but also that the communication system must have a purpose and must have a cultural value in it. We felt that the communication system must participate in the social process which the society has set for itself. Social change and social process, we all realise today, are inter-linked. We also felt that the mass media had a significant role to play in this. Historically it is wedded to the evolution of the printing press and with the evolution of the mechanised paper. It so happened that the papers and the press have remained the monopoly of some. Perhaps it was the continuation of the old

legacy when knowledge was the monopoly of some. In the days when the printing press was not discovered it was the monopoly of the church, by and large, in various shapes and forms in various countries. Therefore, knowledge and wisdom became synonymous and resided in a few. As man discovered the printing press and was able to print faster in a quantitative sense, it became possible for societies to evolve to a stage where not only could ideas be communicated but they could be taken away from some to many and for the first time democracy became possible after the printing press was evolved. It is interesting to find that democracy and the secular concept were closely co-related with the evolution of the printing press. It so happens that the instruments which help the growth of social thought and liberty at one time sometimes become the symbols of enslavement at a later phase. Though the printing press freed men from those who were monopolising knowledge it was itself monopolised by some because press and printing became expensive, technology in the last 2 or 3 centuries has developed at great speed and as technology developed, printing technology particularly, it became increasingly more expensive. Since it became increasingly more expensive, those who had more money got hold of it more effectively and today we feel that, in democratic societies, particularly a new trend has grown in the current century and big money monopolies are printing press.

18 00 hrs.

Once they monopolised the printing press, they thought they had a right to communicate whatever they wished. This is the basic contradiction.

In India and elsewhere we are facing this challenge. If in article 19 (1) we decided that we are going to give freedom of expression to our people, is it for the people and by the people, or is it for some to say whatever they like? If they were only interested in running the press it would have been easier for us, but unfortunately they had their

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own interests. Whatever their other interests may be, they have one basic vested interest, i. e. in maintaining the *status quo*.

The basic question to be asked is, can India afford to remain on the basis of *status quo*? If those who are running the press decide for themselves that *status quo* must be observed, can there be social change? If there is going to be this basic contradiction between social change and *status quo* can the means of communication be entrusted to those who have vested interest in *status quo*? This is a very wide issue. It has been debated here and elsewhere for a long time and I pride myself in saying that for the last three or four years, I have participated in it many times. To my friends here and outside my views on this issue are known. They have been stated a number of times. I am neither thinking in anger nor in terms of frustration nor in terms of power nor in terms of Government nor in terms of being a Minister. I am thinking as an Indian. I feel, as an Indian who believes in the freedom of expression, that communication has a vital role to play, that the means of communication have to be freed from a few so that many can be served, it is important that a new thinking in this aspect must come.

The Press Communication has done a considerable amount of thinking. Their report came in July 1954. For 20 years it has been with us. It is not as if we have been only treating it as a sacred document and have done nothing. My friends will be unfair if they think of this one recommendation and do not think of many others which have been implemented. This has not been implemented for many reasons. Jawaharlal Nehru's time, Lal Bahadur Shastri's time, Indira Gandhi's time—these three phases in Indian history have been periods when India has moved forward. One vital debate that is going on is, if you want to readjust the newspaper industry or the newspapers, it is very important that our

people must be convinced that we are motivated by only one basic factor. We want to preserve the freedom of expression and the freedom of thought. With this Government, not only today but always, freedom of the press has not been only a matter of policy. It has been a matter of commitment. We have always felt, and will continue to feel that freedom of the press is an essential, integral part of democratic life. We have felt that the right to dissent, both in the House and outside in writing and in speech, is inherent in a democratic structure and we are keen to preserve it. The issue will have to be seen from this angle: Does the present set-up encourage dissent and difference in thinking or does it not? This is the basic approach which should be kept in mind.

The Press Commission's submitted its report in 1954. In these 20 years, the situation has considerably changed. In 1954 we had 330 dailies in India, out of which 41 were in English and others in Indian languages. At the end of 1971, there were 821 dailies out of which 78 dailies were in English. Numerically, we have grown. The press has come to a stage of stability. Not only the number of newspapers and periodicals has grown but the number has grown in every language, including English.

Also, the total circulation of dailies in the country has increased from 25 lakhs in 1952-53 to 90.96 lakhs at the end of 1971. The number of dailies in Indian languages has increased from 289 in 1952-53 to 743 in 1971. The increase in circulation of Indian language newspapers during the period is from 18 lakhs to 68.77 lakhs.

Then, kindly keep one thing in mind. Sometimes, we think that definitions which the Press Commission enunciated at that time are still relevant. To an extent, they do; to an extent, they don't. For instance, the words used here are, big papers, medium papers and small papers. Small papers were defined as papers having a circulation upto 15,000; medium papers were those with a circulation of 15,000 to 50,000 and the larger ones were considered those having a circulation of

above 50,000. At that time, the pattern was different. Since the newspapers were few, there were only few papers which had a circulation above 50,000. I have given figures just now to show that in the last 20 years, numerically the number has grown and also the circulation of papers in the sense of large-ness also has grown. There are more papers now which have a circulation of above 50,000.

Now, whatever we commonly call the monopoly press, it has grown. The number of papers outside the monopoly press has also grown. The biggest circulation today is of those papers which are not in the monopoly group. For instance, the *Anand Bazar Patrika* in Calcutta is the largest paper from circulation point of view. It is an Indian language paper. Then, for instance, *Malayala Manorma* and *Matrabhumi*, both in Malayalam and both outside the monopoly press, have grown.

Another qualitative change has also come in. Some years ago, Government had thought of some papers in terms of common ownership and they defined "common ownership" as a group which had two or more news interest newspapers at least one of which is a daily. Perhaps, at that time, only the monopoly papers, as we understand today, were coming under that definition. Today, the number of common ownership units has grown to 96 under the above definition. Now, these 96 groups do not belong to the industry as we commonly understand it. It also sometimes covers even those papers which from our point of view are very small papers. For instance, a group like *Thanthi* has grown up in Tamil Nadu which was nowhere in 1952. It is a very effective group now. Similarly, the *Amrit Bazar Patrika* group has grown up. It was not as effective then as it is now. Also *Anand Bazar Patrika*. Even from the point of view of common ownership, *National Herald* comes under that definition; *Patriot* comes under that definition. There are so many papers coming under that definition. So, the original concept of that definition to a great extent has changed. I am

saying this not to enunciate a policy or to give my views for good or for bad. I am only trying to say how much the scene has now changed.

Another important factor has also come in. Some years ago, Government advertisement budget of the Central Government used to be Rs. 25 lakhs and the total advertisement budget now, in 1972-73, of the D.A.V.P. is about Rs. 1.93 crores. From Rs. 25 lakhs it has come to Rs. 1.93 crores. Also please keep in mind that at that time -1952-53, the total advertisement budget of both public and the private sector put together was of the order of Rs. 6.2 crores. Now the budget estimates vary and the total advertisement budget at present is Rs. 60 crores and it may go upto Rs. 80 crores. Therefore, the entire picture has changed.

Sometimes, it is thought that the Government advertisement budget is so big that we can influence the newspapers. That is totally wrong. The Central Government's Rs. 1.93 crores has to be viewed in the background of the wide private budget that exists to the extent of Rs. 60 to Rs. 80 crores. Therefore, the scene has changed to a very great extent.

We have for a long time now ever since the Press Commission's report came in tried to evolve various methods for dealing with this problem. As I said, keeping in mind all the time the basic sensitivity of our people about the freedom of the Press and freedom of expression, many exercises had been undertaken. We have all during the passage of time agreed to one basic thing that it is in the interests of the freedom of the Press itself that it must be delinked from the industry. It is not as if new wisdom has dawned on Indians that we have come to this conclusion. This was realised and appreciated elsewhere in the world also. Even in the case of the *London Times* this was exactly what was done and when Lord Thompson took over, by a statement in Parliament it was laid down that Lord Thompson will not be allowed to influence the editorial side of the

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to influence the editorial side of the *London Times* and a trust was set up at that time to control and run the *London Times*. I can go on giving you examples from every country which believes in freedom of expression. Whether I talk of Germany, whether talk of France or I talk of U. K. or I talk of Italy or I talk even of Japan, in every country that you think of, with the passage of time, it has been realised that the Press is such a sacred institution that it cannot be left to the whims of a few who run it for their own selfish interests. That is why sometimes it has thought that it is good to set up trusts. Sometimes it was thought better to set up some sort of public chartered trusts where they can decide for themselves how to run it. But the idea basically is that the Press must be insulated not only from governmental influence but must be insulated also from those who have interests other than the freedom of the Press. That is why we in India whenever we carried out various exercises, came to against one difficulty or the other. Sometimes, the difficulty arose as to what area of the Press should be covered. Sometimes, it was felt that almost the entire Press scene should be covered. Sometimes, it was felt that almost the entire Press scene is that we should cover only those papers which are controlled by the big money who are outside the Press itself. I think, with the passage of time, a consensus has grown that we have to cover only papers which are controlled and run by big money. Once we came to that conclusion and the House will recall that from time to time this question was raised here and in the last two years particularly, some exercises were carried out and one exercise brought us to the concept of public trusteeship. The basic idea was that once you think of delinking the papers, then wherefrom the finances should come and who should set up the Board of management. The Government is very keen that it should not touch even from 20 yards the financing of the papers or the setting up of the Board because we believe

that the freedom of the Press should definitely be solid and complete and it must also look that the Government have nothing to do with it. Therefore, both in the content and experience, it is very important and that is why we do not want to go near it at all. In both the exercises the basic difficulty that came to our notice was that directly or indirectly the State comes in and money has to flow either from the Government or the governmental institutions. We are very keen that if finances are to be found, they must be found from those who are not either directly or indirectly linked with the Government, so that we cannot be accused, and we don't want to be accused that even indirectly we are interested in interfering with the freedom of the Press. As I said, we have fundamental faith in this. This led to many possible alternatives. As you would recall, the case went before the Supreme Court from time to time. My friends here raised the issue that the Press Commission recommended the Price Page Schedule. Why we did not enforce it? This House will recall that the law was made by this Parliament for prescribing Price Page Schedule. And, in the case known as the Sakal Paper case, this was struck down by the Supreme Court. My friend, Mr. Patil, will recall this because this is published from his own hometown, he would recall the details of the case. Similarly the case of newsprint came before the Supreme Court. They held that we have no business to have a price page schedule. Personally, I do not agree with some of the observations which the Supreme Court have made. I would like to place before the House one or two observations of the Supreme Court. In the newsprint case they observed:

"The Bank Nationalisation case (supra) has established the view that the fundamental rights of shareholders as citizens are not lost when they associate to form a company. When their fundamental rights as shareholders are impaired by State action their rights as shareholders are protected. The reason

is that the shareholders' rights are equally and necessarily affected if the rights of the company are affected".

This was an enunciation which does not tally with our philosophy, with our way of thinking at all.

Again, Mr. Chairman, I would like to refer to another observation of the Supreme Court observed in the same case:

"This freedom is violated by placing restraints upon it or by placing restraints upon something which is an essential part of that freedom. A restraint on the number of pages, a restraint on circulation and a restraint on advertisements would affect the fundamental rights under Art. 19 (1) (a) on the aspects of propagation, publication and circulation."

This judgment naturally has to be kept in mind when we are thinking of devising any measure which can be brought before the House.

A very long judgement emerged only a few months ago from the supreme Court on the Twenty fourth and Twentyfifth Amendments of the Constitution I do not want to take your time to read out the judgment but you would recall that one of the essential principles laid down in the judgment was this, that the essential features, the basic features, are not to be changed. This was the basic philosophy of the judgment as such. I am told by Law Ministry that this is a very long judgment covering about 1700 pages and it has naturally taken some time to study, it; they have assured me that they will complete their studies soon and it will be possible for us to go further in the matter.

There is one thing which I must reiterate once again and it is this. In our set up of things the Supreme Court occupies a position which we all respect; we have no intention

whatsoever to come into conflict with the judiciary because we do feel that when we are thinking in terms of freedom of the Press we must also at the same time reiterate and say that we equally believe in the Supreme Court, the set up for dispensation of justice, as envisaged in the Constitution. Whenever we evolve a measure, we have to keep this basic concept in mind and then only we can possibly come to any conclusion.

18.19 hrs.

[SHRI S. A. KADER in the Chair]

In spite of what my friends have said, I would like to reiterate this that we should be in a position to evolve a set up which has three or four basic ingredients.

- (1) It must preserve the freedom of the press from the Government. An attempt should be made to preserve it from the industrial interests;
- (2) we must keep in mind that money does not flow into the press in *benamis*—either *benamis* by political parties or *benamis* of the owners or *benamis*—God forbid that stage may not come by some foreign powers.

These things have to be basically safeguarded. Also at the same time, we have to keep in mind the fact that the set-up is viable so that the papers do not sink after delinking. We are keen that the institution should not suffer. That is why we are now going into the whole thing. I know Prof. Mukerjee is impatient and I have always felt that he has been impatient since my school days.

I am equally impatient. But, the limitations under which I am working should also be appreciated. I think the House has made it very clear that we are all basically committed to an approach almost unanimously towards which we are going and irrespective of what my friend Shri

[Shri L. K. Gujral]

Piloo Mody and other might have said. By and large, the House feels that in the interest of the Constitution, the press must become a free instrument of communication undiluted and influenced by big money. I can assure my hon. friend, Shri Mukherjee that if he will kindly have some more patience and not insist on his Resolution, I hope, I shall be able to bring forth soon a measure which will be an effective method of de-linking the papers from the big money. We are keen that our press must grow; we are keen that our press must be an effective link with our people; we are keen that our press must become a communication means for our growth, for our social change and for building a new India to which we are all wedded.

SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE (Calcutta—North-East): Mr Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the House for the very wide support which my Resolution has been accorded. As my friend, the Minister has said, there have been only very few voices of discord. But, I am afraid, I am not able to respond to the advice of my hon. friend, the Minister, because, I am dissatisfied with the content of his reply. I have a feeling that perhaps because of a guilty conscience, in this matter, he spoke in a somewhat philosophical manner most of the time. He ended up again with the generalities to which we have been accustomed for so long. I am afraid this country cannot wait much longer.

Sir, as my hon. friend, the Minister himself has said, this subject is a twenty-years old matter and if there are certain difficulties, they can certainly be thrashed out. If, in the meantime, Government has not done its home work, Government can come forward in Parliament and the matter can be thrashed out by the Committees of Parliament so that the difficulties that remain can be resolved. But, what we find, Government is doing, is that it is making brave declamations from time to time. Last

time, I quoted how so many Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State etc., went on trying to win praise and plaudits by attacking monopoly in vehement terms and a promise was made to the country that the legislation was ready in draft, and yet, nothing very much has been done about it.

My friend, the Minister, referred to a certain number of points, one among which was that after all, there has been some improvement in the press situation since 1954. It may be that many more Indian language newspapers are coming out. Of course, it is true that the circulation of the press in its totality has risen a great deal, but monopoly has also increased. While in 1965-66, the seven great newspapers combined consumed about 44,000 tonnes of newsprint, which went up to nearly 40 per cent of the imported newsprint and 33 per cent of NEPA newsprint, in 1969-70, the share of the seven newspaper groups went up from 44,000 tonnes to 84,565 tonnes. Nine of the 65 common ownership units which operate in Bombay, Delhi, Madras and Calcutta command 71.5 per cent of the total circulation. Two newspapers, *Anand Bazar Patrika* and *Jugantar*, control 97 per cent of the total circulation of the Bengali press, just as Goenka has acquired a commanding position in the Telugu press.

These examples can be multiplied. But Shri Gujral had the hardihood even to say that many of these newspapers, the mammoth newspaper organisations, are very faultless, innocent little customers. He mentioned about the *Malayala Manorama*, about which I do not know very much. He mentioned *Anand Bazar*. If you say the *Anand Bazar Patrika* is not a monopoly, is not linked with monopoly interests, it is saying something which you can tell to the marines, but not in the Houses of Parliament. Here is a paper whose proprietors have been hauled up even here in Parliament because of CBI investigations in regard to surreptitious sale of newsprint which they conducted; here is a

paper whose bosses are connected with industry, one of them the Chairman of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and that sort of thing. There are so many other links which I have no time to elaborate at this particular point of time.

My friend over there had said very rightly how *Jugantar* and *Amrit Bazar Patrika* also come in this group, how these papers have Ministers of Government in the families which run the papers, use them for their own purposes, how these things are conducted in a fashion which goes against all principles of decency, entirely out of accord with those traditions of patriotic journalism which has become a part, so to speak, of the legacy of this country's civilisation.

But these pirates who make money through newsprint, through surreptitious sale of newsprint, who get loans from our banks by all means of fraudulent transaction for which, for example, the *Indian Express* busybodies are being hauled up before courts of law, these people have said goodbye to all traditions of decent, patriotic journalism in this country, and in so far as it can, Government is not going to take any drastic steps whatever. This is most amazing.

I should think that Government should come forward and also Parliament should be supplied with all the facts so that the confusions there are in the minds of many well-meaning persons can be cleared up.

I have no time to deal with the provisions to which reference was made by my friend, Shri Maran. I can disregard the charming infantilism of Shri Piloo Mody or the interlude which was brought about by Shri Samar Guha's forcible intervention into the debate. But we should be given all the facts in regard to what the position is. What are the technical difficulties? All the technical difficulties surely can be removed by the application of the mind of Parliament

to this issue. On the matter of principle, our mind is made up. In the matter of implementation of that principle, we have to deal with certain difficulties and obstacles which the Minister props up at this present moment. These difficulties can be discussed at the parliamentary level. He can bring up legislation. I would have been very happy if he had said very definitely that—

"Because this session is already well advanced, early in the next session—I make a definite commitment—I shall introduce a Bill and that Bill if necessary"—

I would not like it—

"if it becomes necessary, can go to a Select Committee of Parliament and there we can thrash out this whole matter".

If I get this sort of assurance, I could understand it, but the assurance I get is no assurance at all.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry is important not only because of the amount of work it has to undertake, but also because it is the Prime Minister's particular pigeon. When Mr. Gujral speaks, he speaks not for himself. I am unhappy when some people single him out for attack or for praise. It is the Prime Minister and her Government's policy which is on the anvil and I can see that they have made up their minds not to disturb the monopoly set-up there is today in the newspaper industry. If they had made up their minds to strike at the root of this indecency which passes for the control of papers in the newspaper industry in this country, they would have done something. After all the Minister read out the names of the members of the Press Commission, very respectable people, reputable people. They are not foam-at-the-mouth communists. They do not want to overturn the social order. They had thought of the implications and the connotations of the idea of diffusion of ownership, delinking the press from big money, some kind of a co-operative organisation mainly of

[Shri H. N. Mukherjee]

journalists and workers in the press and decent individual citizens in this country to come together in order to bring about dissemination of opinion and also propagation of views in this country on a principled basis. That is the only foundation of genuine democratic existence. But they are not implementing it.

I feel that Government's links with big money are so strong that Government cannot make up its mind even about a matter on which they have proclaimed their commitment more than a couple of years ago through Ministers, who announced that the draft of the legislation was ready. In regard to the Price Page Schedule for example, the constitutional difficulty came up with the Supreme Court judgement. That sort of difficulty can be removed by the mechanism which the Parliament of India has got at its disposal. But Government keeps mum about it. There are so many things, but it is late and I need not hammer the point which somehow would not penetrate the skulls of the Government of my country at the present moment. I happened only this morning to come across what Jawaharlal Nehru once wrote, and he quoted in his autobiography an American socialist who is supposed to have said: "Politics is the gentle art of getting votes from the poor and campaign funds from the rich by promising to protect each from the other". You get votes from the poor; you get campaign funds from the rich; you tell the poor that you are protecting them from the rich and you tell the rich that you are protecting them from the poor! That is exactly what is going on, and if Government imagines that because they have got a massive mandate they can carry on in this way, it is wrong.

I am also reminded of something which happened in the Soviet Union, because even there many difficulties arose from time to time. Stalin himself once related it in his speech; he wanted to find out about the progress of sowing in a collective from area of that country. When the comrades

concerned came to him he asked them: "How about the sowing, comrades?" They replied "Comrade Stalin, we have mobilised ourselves" Stalin asked: "What about the sowing?" They replied: "We have clarified all perspectives, we hold ourselves in readiness." Stalin asked "That is all very good, but how about the sowing?" Then the answer was: "Comrade Stalin, we are sorry we have not yet begun the sowing."

Our Minister, Gujral, whom I have known for umpteen years as a young lad, now a big wig and a ministerial personality, goes on making statements in Parliament and makes a philosophical speech that perspectives are clear and mobilisation of the resources inside and outside is somehow being done and all that.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: May I interrupt him for a moment? I have said that I have always respected Mr. Mukerjee not only as friend but as a guru and whatever I have said, I should say, I have learnt a lot from him.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: His words disarm me. But I can hardly deviate from the stand which I have already taken, namely, that in spite of his personal weakness for me, I cannot tolerate this idea that the Government of this country can play ducks and drakes so to speak with the promises it gives to the country. Performance has not followed the promise. Implementation of a commitment has not taken place. If the Minister had only given me an assurance which even at this late stage he can, that he would bring forward early in the next session a Bill which if necessary would go to the Select Committee, where all the hurdles can be smoothed up, I shall be ready to withdraw the resolution. Otherwise I shall be constrained to ask the House to vote on my resolution. I shall ask my colleagues in this House to vote for the principle of the resolution because I am calling upon the Government to do it immediately without delay.

~~Declaration of Lok Sabha as Constituent Assembly (Res.)~~

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: What has happened to your observation on 28th August 1969 that a second Press Commission would be set up?

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL: I did say that, but I hope he appreciates that I was not Information Minister for long after that. I have come back after a long time. In the meantime, a fact-finding committee has been set up. One of the things which a Press Commission does is to enquire into the various aspects of newspapers. We feel that when the fact-finding committee completes its work and submits its report, we will have some new light on the financial and other aspects of various newspapers. That is why we have given to this fact-finding committee the powers under the Commission of Inquiry Act, so that all the data can be collected. I am sure when the report of the fact-finding committee comes, it will cover all the aspects he has in mind.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will put Shri Daga's amendment to the House.

The amendment was put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will now put the main resolution to the vote of the House. The questions is:

"That this House calls upon the Government to adopt immediate measures for delinking and democratically diffusing the ownership of newspapers and news agencies in the country."

The motion was negatived.

18.39 hours.

RESOLUTION RE: DECLARATION OF PRESENT LOK SABHA AS CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

श्री विभूति मिश्र (मोतिहारी) :
सभापति महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत करता हूँ :

"इस सभा की गय है कि वर्तमान लोकसभा को सविधान सभा घोषित किया जाये और देश के लिए तुरन्त एक नया सविधान बनाया जाये।"

इस सम्बन्ध में मुझे यह कहना है

MR. CHAIRMAN: He may continue on the next day.

18.40 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August 20, 1973|Sraavana 29, 1995 (Saka)