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**Thursday, March 16, 1972
Phalguna 26, 1893(Saka)**

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Fourth Session



(Vol. XI Contains No. 1 to 10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 16, 1972 (Phalgun 26, 1893)
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBERS SWORN

1. Shri Vasantrao Purushottam Sathe
(Akola)
2. Shri Raghunandan Lal Bhatia
(Amritsar)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

**Loss of Production in Durgapur,
Rourkela and Bhilai Steel Plants due
to Mechanical Breakdowns**

+

*42. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :
SHRI RAJDEO SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND
MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the total loss suffered in production
by Durgapur, Rourkela and Bhilai Steel
Plants during the last three years, year-
wise, separately in each due to Mechanical
breakdown ; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to
ensure that such avoidable losses due to
breakdown are kept to the bare minimum ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND
MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA
MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). A statment is
laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The required information as furnished
by Hindustan Steel Limited is given in the
Annexure.

(b) Proper maintenance of Plant and
equipment is one of the essential functions
of the management. The authorities of
Hindustan Steel Limited have taken and are
taking a number of steps to clear the back-
log of maintenance and repairs to ensure
preventive maintenance according to prescribed
scheduled and to arrange for advance plan-
ning for spares to facilitate timely replace-
ment of worn out parts. Government also
renders to the plants all the assistance re-
quired in this regard.

Annexure

*Statement showing the loss of production in
various Departments of the Steel Plants under
Hindustan Steel Limited during the years
1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71 on account of
mechanical breakdowns*

Bhilai Steel Plant :

Departments	Loss of production (in tonnes)		
	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71
1	2	3	4
1. Blast Furnace	6,650	3,720	1,110
2. Blooming Mill	48,370	37,605	48,850
3. Rail and Structural Mill	15,810	14,290	21,040
4. Merchant Mill	17,550	10,470	7,060
5. Wire Rod Mill	12,460	7,840	12,960

Durgapur Steel Plant :

1. Blast Furnace	30,839	43,666	38,140
2. Steel Melting Shop	28,095	21,918	18,519
3. Blooming Mill	1,47,464	1,93,230	91,574
4. Section Mill	7,538	7,993	5,359
5. Merchant Mill	8,783	17,199	16,821

1	2	3	4
6. Skelp Mill	4,776	9,851	9,270
7. Sleeper Plant	7,011	7,854	5,710
8. Fish Plate Plant	—	246	222
9. Wheel Forging	6,837	12,108	9,478
10. Axle Forging	2,202	2,218	1,208

Rourkela Steel Plant :

1. Blast Furnace	13,545	2,500	22,460
2. SMS-OH	2,110	960	1,990
3. SMS-LD	11,240	16,750	14,100
4. Slabbing Mill	61,580	83,130	43,900
5. Plate Mill	11,590	26,750	19,260
6. Hot Strip Mill	28,700	81,320	50,100
7. HR Dividing Lines	5,030	1,570	4,620
8. C R Mills :			
8.1. Pickling Lines	42,510	62,530	46,760
8.2. Reversing Mill			
1700 MM	995	1,920	1,270
8.3. Reversing Mill			
1200 MM	1,135	1,690	1,005
8.4. Tandem Mill	4,393	11,592	9,729
8.5. Sheet Shearing Lines	2,736	780	2,946
8.6. Galvanizing Lines	1,725	3,015	1,808
8.7. Elec. Tinning Line	—	3,320	4,656

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : May I know from the hon. Minister whether in the back-drop of Rs. 50 crores loss incurred by the Hindustan Steel Limited during the current year he has come to the conclusion that the bogey that had been raised previously that the losses by the Hindustan Steel Limited have been due to the labour trouble has now been changed to the viewpoint that it is due to the maintenance failures and mechanical breakdowns ? You had asked for an enquiry report. Will you be prepared to lay a copy of that report on the Table of the House ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-

LAM : No specific amount as being losses during the year 1971-72 has yet been arrived at. That will still depend on the finalisation of accounts after the conclusion of the financial year which ends on 31st March, 1972. Regarding the amount which can be assessed as being responsible arising out of the loss of production, it is extremely difficult to make any accurate figure out of this because, for instance, the loss of production in one part of the plant does not necessarily mean the loss of production of steel. There may be a case where there is a loss of production in a blooming mill but still the extra ingots which cannot be processed and which are not put through the blooming mill are not a loss because they can be sold anyway. It is extremely difficult to make any quantitative assessment of the exact amount of loss due to mechanical breakdowns.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : May I know from the hon. Minister specifically whether it is a fact that the major losses in the Hindustan Steel Limited have not been due to labour trouble but due to negligence and bad maintenance of machinery ?

My second supplementary question is this. Recently Soviet and British experts had come to examine these machinery and to find out the technical fault. Have they given any report and if so, what are their major findings ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM : The hon. Member may not be entirely correct in saying that the major losses are due to mechanical breakdowns. There are a large number of contributory causes ; among them are also our difficulties in relation to labour discipline. But I do not think that Government, at any time, has stated that the major reason for the losses is that.

So far as the Soviet experts are concerned, they have not been dealing with the equipment in the steel plants as a whole but principally with the position in the coke oven, and on the basis of their reports and advice, remedial steps are being taken.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो उन्होंने एक ब्रकन के उत्तर में बतलाया कि क्षति कितनी हुई है इस

का अंदाज नहीं लगाया गया, तो काफ़ी दिन पहले यह प्रश्न उन्हें दिया गया था जिसमें पूछा गया था कि कितनी क्षति हुई है और अभी उसका साफ़ तौर से उत्तर न देकर वह इस प्रश्न को जानबूझकर टालना चाहते हैं। यह जो क्षति का अनुमान अभी तक नहीं लगाया जा सका है उसका क्या कारण है? क्या उन्होंने यह पता लगाने का प्रयास किया कि अनुमानित क्षति कितनी हुई है यदि हाँ, तो क्या उसका कोई परिमाण वह दे सकते हैं?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM : The hon. Member is probably not entirely possessed of knowledge of how a steel plant works. He would appreciate if he knew how a steel plant worked that mere loss of production in one particular area in the steel plant does not mean loss of production of steel as a whole. If there is loss of production in the steel melting shop, then that mainly is loss of production as a whole because that leads to a specific decrease in the quantity of steel produced. But if after steel has been produced in the steel melting shop and casting of ingots there is loss of production either in the blooming mill or in any of the finishing mills, it is quite possible that there is no actual loss of production of steel because what has been cast as ingots in the steel melting shop can be used either in some other finishing mill if it has come through the blooming mill or can be sold as even ingots pure and simple. That is why there is the difficulty in making a quantitative estimate of the exact financial loss that is caused by any loss of production in any particular area of steel plant.

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA : How does the hon. Minister explain too many losses or too many breakdowns as compared to the mills in the private sector?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM : The question whether there are too many or too few is a relative question. In certain areas, undoubtedly, the number of breakdowns is more than one would ordinarily expect and that is due, as we have stated even earlier in this House, to inefficiency in maintenance which we are taking steps to remedy.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Will the hon. Minister please let us know how effective

the steps taken during the last one year have proved to be?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM : I do not know how it is possible to answer this question exactly. I can only say that there is some improvement as a result of setting up of three year rolling plan for spares so that spares are available immediately when needed for improvement in maintenance and of setting up of special groups to see that maintenance is properly attended to, and I think, some improvement has taken place.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I would like to know whether the incidence of mechanical breakdown in these three plants as revealed in the figures supplied to us is more or less the normal which is expected in steel plants of this type and judging from the example of other countries also or whether it is considerably higher than the normal that can be expected, and if it is higher, what steps have been taken not only in respect of stocks of spares but of carrying out necessary changes in the management which is responsible for such a heavy loss.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM : I think it will be correct to say that the number of break-downs is somewhat higher than in advanced industrial countries like Japan, United States or the Soviet Union.

So far as the steps that are being taken are concerned, I have already indicated that the maintenance organisations in the ISL plants have been strengthened and capital repair groups have been set up to take care of the major repair programmes in the various units.

Regular maintenance plans are drawn up by the plants for routine and preventive repairs and these are being followed regularly.

So far as re-organization is concerned, I think the hon. Member is aware that during the last year we have been placing emphasis on the promotion of persons associated with steel over the years and we believe that this will lead to improvement.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : From the figures furnished to us it is evident that the losses in the last three years, particularly, in

some of the mills, are either on the increase or remain to be the same. I want to know from the Minister why action was not taken in the next two years i. e. 1969-70 or 1970-71 to prevent the losses which have occurred in 1968-69. These must be visible to the authorities.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM : We were taking steps. We have drawn conclusions that ought to be drawn and we expect to have some improvements.

बंगला देश के विस्थापितों की वापसी और उन पर किया गया व्यय

+

* 48. श्री पी० एम० मेहता :
श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह :

क्या अब और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बंगला देश से आए विस्थापितों की वापसी के बारे में अद्यतन स्थिति क्या है ;

(ख) देश में शेष विस्थापितों की वापसी के लिए क्या योजना बनाई गई है और क्या इस योजना के अन्तर्गत वे विस्थापित भी आते हैं जो 1947 से अब तक बंगला देश से भारत आए हैं ; और

(ग) अब तक उन पर कितना व्यय किया जा चुका है, उनके लिए आन्तरिक तथा बाह्य श्रोतों से कितनी-कितनी सहायता मिली है ?

अब और पुनर्वास मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा) : (क) 98.99 लाख शरणार्थियों में से 12-3-1972 तक 97.77 लाख शरणार्थी बंगला देश वापस जा चुके हैं। केवल 1,22,451 शरणार्थी स्वदेश लौटने की प्रतीक्षा में हैं। इनमें से 30,626 शरणार्थी सीमावर्ती राज्यों से बाहर, माना गया और इलाहाबाद के शिविरों में हैं।

(ख) शिविरों में रह रहे शेष शरणार्थियों के स्वदेश लौटने के लिए, गाड़ियों, ट्रकों,

अन्तर्देशीय जल-मार्गों तथा समुद्री मार्ग द्वारा भी व्यवस्था कर दी गई है। जहाँ तक उन शरणार्थियों का सम्बन्ध है जो शिविरों से बाहर रह रहे हैं आशा है कि वे बंगला देश में अपने अपने घरों को अपने आप लौट जाएँगे। स्वदेश लौटने की वर्तमान योजना के अन्तर्गत वे शरणार्थी नहीं आते जो 25 मार्च, 1971 से पूर्व भारत आए थे।

(ग) फरवरी, 1972 के अन्त तक किए गए खर्च का अनुमान लगभग 275 करोड़ रुपये है। भारत सरकार द्वारा अब तक प्राप्त विदेशी सहायता की राशि लगभग 127 करोड़ रुपये है जिनमें 37 करोड़ रुपये नकद भी शामिल हैं। पृथक-पृथक व्यक्तियों और विभिन्न संस्थाओं से सीधे केन्द्रीय सरकार को प्राप्त सहायता की नकद राशि लगभग 1.00 लाख रुपये है।

SHRI P. M. MEHTA : I would like to know from the Minister whether any amount was paid to the refugees at the time of their return to their motherland. If so, what is the amount paid to them ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : As the hon. Member is aware, we give them two weeks' ration plus some money for travelling expenses and, after their return, Rs. 30 are paid for adults and Rs. 15 for children for resettlement there.

SHRI P. M. MEHTA : I would like to know from the Minister whether any survey has been carried out as to when the remaining refugees residing outside the camps will return to their homeland.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Every effort is being made to persuade the remaining refugees outside the camps to return as early as possible and, with the help of the Ministry of Home Affairs, this is being expedited. But, it is difficult to say exactly when they will return but they are bound to return and we shall see that they return.

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI : The hon. Minister just now referred to the allowances that are being paid for the temporary period to those who have returned.

Has he made any survey or has he got any information to give us to what extent the refugees who have returned have been resettled, or are they in camps still? I want to know whether it has come to his notice that many of the refugees who have returned are coming back because they could not get back their lands or their homes. Has he got any information to give to the House on these points? Also, I want to know this, whether the liaison officers who had gone there to help in the resettlement of refugees have all been brought back. What is the position of the refugees who have gone there?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The hon. Member will remember this that once they cross the border as citizens of Bangla Desh they are being looked after and every effort is being made to settle them there. There are some refugees, I know, in whose case there were some difficulties in getting back their homes and their lands because the records are not there. Every effort is being made at Government to Government level to see that all these things are set right. We have no knowledge so far that any refugees who have already gone there have returned back with disappointment. We have no information on that.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : As mentioned by my friend Mr. Tridib Chaudhuri, over 90 per cent of the house of refugees who were coming into India were looted and completely destroyed and their lands also. I personally visited those places. I made an extensive tour of Bangladesh. They are in this unfortunate position that they are not getting back their houses and their lands and their rehabilitation problem is creating tremendous difficulties there. So, I want to know whether the Government is having any discussion with the Government of Bangladesh to provide necessary help so that the speedy rehabilitation of these refugees may be effected. There is another very important point. Due to several restrictions the position has become extremely difficult and it would be difficult to say whether it would be possible to rehabilitate them and take them back due to several travel restrictions and it has become extremely difficult for the non-camp refugees to go back. Therefore, what steps are the Government going to take to ease the situation?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Houses have been destroyed not only of those people

who were coming over to India. As hon. Member is aware, atrocities committed are without any distinction on that part of East Bengal, which is Bangladesh now. A large number of houses were destroyed not only of those who crossed over but also of those who are still living in Bangla Desh. I cannot give the exact figure, but devastations on a vast scale have taken place. Not only were they uprooted, but according to Government information, nearly about 3 million of them have suffered devastation of this kind. Regarding the other point, we have very close liaison and we are assured, and we have no ground to disbelieve it, that the Bangladesh Government is doing everything possible to resettle them. The difficulty is faced as the land records have been destroyed. We will give whatever help is required by the Bangladesh Government to see that they are settled properly. Regarding the second question, I have no information to the effect that some people here who were not in the camps but who were staying with some families sent some member for reconnaissance there to the other side and got some information. I am not prepared to believe this nor would Government like to be guided by such information.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : What does the hon. Minister mean by this? He himself had admitted that at least 20 lakhs of refugees were living outside the camps. What kind of answers is he giving? I seek your protection, Sir. Government themselves have admitted that about 30 lakhs of refugees were living outside the camps. So, what kind of answers is the hon. Minister giving?

MR. SPEAKER : What kind of supplementary questions is the hon. Member asking?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : He is a responsible Minister. But what kind of answers is he giving?

MR. SPEAKER : Let the hon. Member kindly sit down and not create any scene.

SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA : May I know from Government whether Government propose to give any monetary assistance to those refugees who are still outside the camps, because the hon. Minister has said just now that every effort is being made to send them back?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : There is no proposal to provide them with any assistance,

because as I have said earlier, though they are outside the camps, they are registered as foreign nationals, and the number is less than one lakh now. So, slowly, they will go. If we start providing them with assistance, they will stay on here, and we do not want that to happen.

श्री विमूति मिश्र : मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर में बताया है कि जो पहले वाले रिफ्यूजी हैं उनका प्रश्न नहीं उठता है। जो पहले रिफ्यूजी आकर यहां बस गए हैं उनको हम लोगों की क्लाइमेट में न तो मछली मिलती है और न ही अन्य सहायितयें मिलती हैं। जिस तरह से इन रिफ्यूजीज को यहां आना पड़ा और सरकार ने इनको वापिस भेजने की सहायितयें पैदा की उसी तरह से जो पहले से यहां आकर बस गए हैं उनको भेजने के लिए सहायितयें सरकार क्यों पैदा नहीं करती है? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि उनकी तादाद कितनी है?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The refugees who crossed over since 25th March, 1971 were registered as foreign nationals, and they are being repatriated. Those who came earlier at the time of the Partition and later on, in two waves, are migrants, and we had not registered them as foreign nationals. There is a certain

amount of eagerness that has come to our notice that just as the others have gone back, likewise, the refugees who came earlier also would like to go back. But that question will have to be taken up at an appropriate time with the Bangla Dosh Government. At the present juncture, there is no intention to rush them down.

Amendment of Family Pension Scheme, 1971

*45. **SHRI R. P. YADAV :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Conference of Regional Commissioners held recently in Goa has suggested several amendments in the Family Pension Scheme, 1971; if so, the main points of those amendments; and

(b) whether those suggestions have been considered and if so, the outcome thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) and (b). A statement indicating the amendments to the Employees Family Pension Scheme, 1971 recommended by the 7th Regional Commissioner's Conference held at Goa in January, 1972 and the action taken thereon is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Statement showing the amendments to the Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 recommended by the 7th Regional Commissioners' Conference held at Goa on the 12th and 13th January, 1972.

Sl. No.	Para to be amended	Purpose	Action taken
1	2	3	4
1.	2 (b)	To enlarge the definition of the term "family" to include dependent parents.	The recommendation is not found acceptable as the actuarial calculations do not take into consideration grant of Family Pension benefit to persons other than the family members for whose advantage the Scheme has been introduced. Any amendment to the definition of family would also necessitate change in the rate of contribution/quantum of benefit.
2.	13	To provide for notifying any change in family particulars already furnished by members of the family Pension Scheme.	The matter is being examined in the Office of the Central Provident Fund Commissioner.

1	2	3	4
3.	32 (2)	To provide for payment of retirement benefit to the nominee/legal heir entitled to receive provident fund amount under the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme in cases where a member of the Family Pension Fund dies without leaving family as defined in para 2 (b) of the Family Pension Scheme.	The matter is under consideration of the Government.

SHRI R. P. YADAV : I have gone through the recommendations which have been laid on the table, but I find that most of the recommendations are under the consideration of Government for being implemented. May I know from the hon. Minister the total number of subscribers to the provident fund as on 28th February, 1971 and the total number of subscribers who had exercised the option to join the pension scheme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : Excluding the seasonal establishment personnel for whom the dates were extended in order to give them opportunity to join the pension scheme, the total number of workers covered under the scheme as on 31st December, 1971 is 7.34 lakhs

SHRI R. P. YADAV : I wanted to know the number as on 28th February, 1971.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : . . consisting of 5.3 lakhs workers who have opted for the scheme and 1.95 lakhs workers who have become members compulsorily from 1st March, 1971. I am afraid it would be difficult for me to give the exact number as on that particular date which the hon. member wants.

SHRI R. P. YADAV : Is it a fact that the scheme has not been explained to the workers and so they could not exercise their option? Even option forms are not available for use by the workers. If so, what is the proposal of Government to rectify this state of affairs.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : It is not

correct to presume or say that the scheme has not been explained to the workers. All efforts are made to explain the scheme, how it is beneficial to them. There is a certain amount of hesitation because those who are already in employment feel that there is not much of an advantage to them. But those newly entering the service compulsorily come under the scheme. These apprehensions have been removed.

DR. RANEN SEN : Is it a fact that all the central trade unions have represented to the ministry that the old employees are enjoying other facilities and perhaps will lose because of the introduction of this scheme and therefore, there is less of option by the old employees? Is it also true that the central trade unions have requested the Ministry to remodel the whole scheme so as to make it beneficial to all categories of workers, old and new? If so, what steps have Government taken in this regard?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The central trade union organisations have addressed a communication pointing out the hesitation on the part of those who are already in employment. As I explained, earlier, this is because they feel that the retirement benefits are not so attractive; they do not look at it from the point of view of benefit after death. This aspect has been borne in mind, but we do not think at the present stage a change or modification is called for.

SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN : Do the workers who were not coming under the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act come under this scheme? Also, do the railway

employees get the benefit of this scheme ?
If not, why not ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : At the present juncture, workers who come under the Industrial Disputes Act are covered by the scheme, provided they are members of the Employees Provident Fund or an exempted Fund.

SHRI THA KIRUTTINAN : Do workers who do not come under the ID Act come under this scheme ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I do not think so.

SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA : Is the method of calculation of the family provident fund scheme difficult and complicated ? If so, are Government thinking of simplifying it ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : If experience proves that it is a little difficult to grasp, certainly attempts will be made to simplify it.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Have Government received any representation from the Provident Fund Employees' Association saying that they are unable to carry the burden of implementing the scheme through their organisation ? If so, what is Government's decision thereon ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Taking into consideration the additional burden, new staff is being provided.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : They are not being provided.

Sino-Pak Communique

*46. **SHRI PILOO MODY :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India have studied the implications of the Joint Communique issued in Peking at the end of the talks between the Chinese Prime Minister and the Pakistani President ; and

(b) the reaction of Government of India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Government have seen the Joint Communique, issued on the conclusion of President Bhutto's visit to China.

(b) Government of India consider that bilateral issues between India and Pakistan should be solved without third party interference. The State of Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India. Reference by any country inconsistent with this position amounts to interference in our internal affairs.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I take it that reference to Kashmir was made in the communique and it is inconsistent with our view about what is our own internal affair. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has taken any steps to pursue this any further either with the Chinese Government or with the Government of Pakistan.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : Our expression of our stand on this issue is enough, and we have no intention to pursue it either with Pakistan or with the Government of the People's Republic of China.

SHRI PILOO MODY : There is a certain reference that has been made to the cease-fire line. We, that is, the Government of India, through the Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs have taken a certain view on the cease-fire line. I would like to know whether the references made in the joint communique are consistent with the views expressed by the Government through the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I think that in this communique no specific reference, so far as I know, has been made to the cease-fire line in Jammu and Kashmir.

श्री राम सहाय पांडे : चाइना के विगपांग अन्तराष्ट्रीय पालिटिक्स के संदर्भ में एक बार हमें भी निमंत्रण मिला था और ऐसा मामूली होता था कि उस देश से हमारे सम्बन्ध बण्ठे होंगे। क्या इस साल भर में हमारे और चीन के सम्बन्धों में सुधार के लिए उस तरह से कोई पहल हुई है ; यदि हाँ, तो क्या ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : No, Sir. No initiative has been taken by China.

SHRIINDER J. MALHOTRA : May I know whether this question of reference to Kashmir in the joint communique has been taken up with the Nixon administration?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : whatever is contained in the joint communique between the President of Pakistan and the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of China is hardly a matter which need be taken up with the US administration.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Since substantially the same perverse point was made in the Sino-American statement, may I know if the Government has thought fit to summon the United States Ambassador in this country and find an explanation from him?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : There were references on behalf of China in the joint US-China communique which were inconsistent with our position as I have mentioned today, the position being that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India, and our complaint against the United States Government is that they acquiesced in the mentioning of Kashmir in this manner by the Chinese. But we have explained our position. We have taken this up with the United States Government both in Delhi and in Washington.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Did you summon the Ambassador, because in Washington our Ambassador is treated so shabbily from time to time. Did you have the gumption to summon the American Ambassador in this country and tell him off?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : When I say that we have taken it up with the United States Government through their Ambassador, this is done by sending for the Ambassador and explaining our position to him. This is the normal thing that is done.

Diplomatic Relations with German Democratic Republic

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU :
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS be pleased to state when Government are expected to come to a final decision on the issue of having full Diplomatic relations with the German Democratic Republic?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : As stated before in the House, relations between India and German Democratic Republic are developing very satisfactorily. It is the desire of Government to further strengthen these relations at the appropriate time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Say something new.

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU : Say something substantial.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : If you put a new question, I will give you a new answer.

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU : Sardar Sahab is in a very good mood;

Let us see if we can get something from him today.

MR SPEAKER : What about your own mood now?

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU : Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us whether, in spite of the Government of India's tall talk about the change of policy and accepting the reality, etc., it is not a fact that due to pressure exerted by West Germany and its friends through aid, etc., they prevented the Government of India from granting full diplomatic recognitions to the German Democratic Republic?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : No, Sir; it is entirely incorrect.

SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU : Has the hon. Minister's attention been drawn to the letter that Ambassador Diehl of the Federal Republic of Germany had written to the *National Herald* on 13 February, 1972 and, if so what is the reaction, and also what does he propose to do in response to the memorandum that was submitted to the Government, a memorandum that was signed by 300 Members of Parliament to recognise GDR.

and if no action has been taken on it, the reason therefor?

SHRI PILOO MODY: **

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: On a point of order; he should withdraw it. ** (*Interruptions*).

MR SPEAKER: It will not go on record. Mr. Mody should keep quiet; this has taken two or three minutes unnecessarily.

SHRI PILOO MODY: The time of this House is no longer very precious.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: My answer to the first question is: we do not react to the Press statements made by Ambassadors; if they have anything to take up with us or urge upon the Government of India, then only we consider it and give our reaction.

About the second question, I should say that we attach great importance to the views expressed by Members of Parliament and we shall give due weight to the views expressed by the hon. Members.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: When.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: At the appropriate time.... (*Interruptions*.) This is what you complained about the recognition of Bangla Desh also.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The hon. Minister is aware, more than I, of the attitude of the West German Government and the American Government as well as the attitude of the German Democratic Republic towards India and towards Bangla Desh during the 14 days of conflict with Pakistan and earlier when the struggle went on in Bangla Desh. In the recognition of Bangla Desh* it came even before the socialist countries and they recognised Bangla Desh* first. They assured full co-operation. In view of this very friendly attitude of the GDR, will the Government consider granting full diplomatic recognition to GDR without any delay?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: I do accept that the attitude of the Government of the German Democratic Republic at the time

when the Bangla Desh question arose was helpful and we are happy to say that after India and Bhutan, GDR was the third country to recognise the Independence and sovereignty of Bangla Desh. This shows the very friendly relations that exist between us and the GDR. This will be a strong factor to enable us to accord recognition at the full diplomatic level to the GDR.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: The Minister has referred to appropriateness of timing when this question will be considered by the Government to give full diplomatic relations. Will the Minister take the House into confidence and let us know whether a more appropriate opportunity can arise when this question could very seriously be considered in the interests of our own country to give full recognition to GDR?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: Yes, Sir. Our own interests and the interests of peace will be the main consideration to decide as to which is the appropriate time.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: Does the Government realise that the full diplomatic recognition of GDR at this particular moment will further strengthen and help, and not hinder or hamper, the process of improvement and normalisation of relations in Central and Western Europe, and will the Government tell us that it is not waiting for West Germany to recognise East Germany before we do that?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH: With regard to the second part, my reply is no. With regard to the first part, I do not want to express an opinion on the existence of a certain state of affairs in the West.

Third Wage Board for Working Journalists

*50. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Federation of Working Journalists have urged Government to appoint a third Wage Board for revision of their pay scales; if so, the demands of the Journalists;

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

(b) whether Government have considered their demands ; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Board is expected to be appointed with terms of reference of the Board ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA)

(a) Yes, Sir. An extract of the Federation's Resolution on the setting up of a Wage Board and the demands of the Journalists is placed on the Table of the House ; [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1429/72]

(b) The matter would be taken up for consideration by Government ;

(c) Does not arise.

श्रीमती सावित्री श्याम : अध्यक्ष महोदय, बकिंग जर्नलिस्ट्स ऐक्ट के अनुसार हर तीन वर्ष के बाद वेज बोर्ड की स्थापना होनी चाहिए थी। लेकिन इन 16 सालों के बीच में केवल दो बार वेज बोर्ड स्थापित हुआ। दूसरे वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशें प्रथम तो कुछ छोटे जर्नलिस्ट्स के हित में नहीं थीं जैसे रिपोर्टर्स, करेस्पॉण्डेंट्स और एडिटर, लेकिन जितनी भी थी, जैसा कि स्टेटमेंट में बताया गया, वह भी लागू नहीं की गई। बड़े बड़े न्यूजपेपर्स में वह भी सिफारिशें लागू नहीं की गईं। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ गवर्नमेंट से कि जिन अखबारों ने, बड़े बड़े न्यूजपेपर्स ने वह सिफारिश लागू नहीं की, सरकार ने उनके खिलाफ क्या ऐक्शन लिया ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The contention that a wage board should be constituted every three years is not correct. There is no such obligation under the Act. So far as the second question is concerned, I must admit that the recommendations are not implemented in full. I would put it the other way and say that 72 per cent implementation has taken place and 28 per cent still remains to be implemented taking the country as a whole. At the State level the machinery has been set in motion, and we have addressed communications to the

States to see that the recommendations are fully implemented. But we depend upon the State Governments, and I would like to assure the House that I shall address another communication to the State Governments to see that full implementation takes place as early as possible.

श्रीमती सावित्री श्याम : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दूसरे वेज बोर्ड की सिफारिशों में एक बड़ी सिफारिश यह थी कि जो भां आमदनी इन अखबारों की बढ़ेगी ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स से और दूसरे तरीके से, सर्कुलेशन से, उसका वेज स्ट्रक्चर से कोई सम्बन्ध होगा। लेकिन स्वयं गवर्नमेंट ने अपने स्टेटमेंट में माना है कि उसका वेज स्ट्रक्चर से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है बल्कि जो खपता बढ़ा न्यूजपेपर्स का वह दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज में कन्वर्ट हुआ, आन्ध्र प्रदेश की लेबर डिपार्टमेंट को एम्बायरी कमेटी को यह रिपोर्ट है, तो मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि क्या जनहित में सरकार ऐसा सोचती है कि इन बड़े बड़े पत्रों का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाय क्योंकि मैं समझती हूँ कि आज के जो पत्र हैं वह जनता की आवाज को रेप्लेक्ट नहीं करते, वह बड़े बड़े लोगों की मोनोपली है, बड़े बड़े लोगों की आवाज को फैलाते हैं, तो मेरा सीधा सादा प्रश्न है कि क्या इन पत्रों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने पर सरकार विचार करेगी ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : It is true that the resources generated by the newspaper proprietors through the newspaper industry are diverted to other industries and it is for the Government, the departments concerned, to deal with this question. Regarding the second question, there is no question of nationalisation of newspapers, but Government is contemplating certain steps to see that these evils inherent in the situation are curbed.

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा : अभी अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि वह सही है कि बड़े अखबारों के लिए जो धनराशि दी जाती है उसका दुरुपयोग होता है तो मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि जब वह यह बात मानते हैं कि उस धनराशि का दुरुपयोग होता है तो

क्या वह इस बारे में कदम उठाएँ, सम्बन्धित मंत्रों को इस बारे में लिखेंगे और ऐसा दुरुपयोग रोकने की दिशा में कारगर कदम उठाने में मदद करेंगे ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : He is aware that Government are very much concerned when these facts are brought to our notice. As I said earlier, certain steps are being contemplated. I cannot spell them out at the present moment.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Though the Indian Federation of Working Journalists has demanded a third wage board, they have been seeing that the report of the wage board is not implemented because it is not mandatory and statutory. The State Governments sometimes are unable to impress upon the jute magnates and the monopoly press to implement it. Therefore, I want to know whether the Minister will convene a meeting—a tripartite or bipartite meeting of the press owners and representatives of the working journalists to have a negotiated settlement for a need-based minimum wage ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : We know that the proprietors are not implementing the wage board recommendations and the State machinery is not proving as effective as we desire. We have already addressed and we are addressing communications to State Governments to be firm on this question. Regarding tripartite, I do not think any useful purpose will be served by it. On the contrary, I had suggested to the office-bearers of the Working Journalists' Federation that they should present a report showing how far implementation has taken place and what the difficulties are, because this is a statutory wage board and we could take some steps. But they have not so far acted on this suggestion.

श्री राम सहाय शर्मा : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जितने बड़े-बड़े पत्र हैं उनके बड़े-बड़े भवन बवाए गए, गवर्नमेंट ने उनके लिए खर्चा ऐवबास किया है, तो प्रश्न यह है कि क्या गवर्नमेंट ने खर्चा ऐवबास किया और किया है उसे कृपा कारन क्या है ? दूसरे,

उसका जो प्राफिट है वह पेपर इंडस्ट्री में जाने के अलावा और जो वहाँ काम करते हैं उनकी देने के अलावा प्लाक बैंक होता है दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज में, तो ऐसे कितने अक्सबार हैं जिन्होंने उस पैसे को दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज में प्लाक बैंक किया है ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : He should address this question to a colleague of mine. I am not in a position to say how much advances are made. There is a view prevailing that the resources generated through paper industry are being diverted to other purposes and some steps have to be taken in that direction.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री भोगेन्द्र झा—प्रश्न सं० 52।

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रश्न पूछने से पहले एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाना चाहता हूँ। हिन्दी के प्रश्न पत्र में "दक्षिण वियतनाम की अस्थायी क्रान्तिकारी सरकार" का नाम ही गलत कर दिया गया है, क्रान्तिकारी शब्द को ही वहाँ से हटा दिया गया है, यद्यपि मूल-प्रश्न अंग्रेजी में है। क्या यह जान-बूझ कर किया गया है या सरकार की किसी नीति के मुताबिक किया गया है या हिन्दी भाषा पर गुस्सा है, इसलिये किया गया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : हो सकता है कि गलती से ऐसा हो गया हो, इसमें किसी का दोष न हो।

Recognition of Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam

*52. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have not yet decided to formally recognise and to have full diplomatic relations with the Provisional Revolutionary Government of South Vietnam; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). As stated in the House on previous occasions, Government of India continues to maintain contacts with the PRG of South Vietnam. However, they feel that no immediate changes are necessary in the representational pattern in view of the fluid situation obtaining in South Vietnam.

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी प्रश्नों की बात है सैगोन में हमारे खिलाफ जो वहाँ अमरीकी कठपुतली सरकार है, उसने एक बहुत बड़ा प्रदर्शन संगठित किया था, उसमें भारत के खिलाफ, जो अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय नियन्त्रण आयोग का अध्यक्ष है, प्रदर्शन हुआ और नारे बँधे लगाये गये। यह भी हम सबको ज्ञात है और सरकार को भी ज्ञात है कि दक्षिण वियतनाम की 80 प्रतिशत भूमि....

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आज मैंने थोड़ी सी नमी रखी है तो 7 सवाल ही हो पाये हैं, लेकिन अब मैं कम से थोड़ा सख्त रहूँगा। No introduction please. I have already allowed a Call Attention Motion on this where he can raise it. He should not try to make use of the question hour for making speeches. I am not going to allow it in future.

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : मैं पूछ रहा था कि प्रश्नों सैगोन में भारत के खिलाफ, उसकी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय नियन्त्रण आयोग की अध्यक्षता के खिलाफ, प्रदर्शन किये गये तथा इस बात को भी ध्यान में रखते हुए कि दक्षिण वियतनाम का 80 प्रतिशत भाग अस्थायी क्रान्तिकारी सरकार के अधीन है, कौन सा ऐसा कारण है, जिसकी वजह से सरकार उसकी मान्यता देने से हिचक रही है ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : It is a fact that there was a hostile demonstration against the MSC Headquarters on the 16th of this month. We feel that this was totally unjustified and we still hope that wiser counsel will prevail and South Vietnamese would take effective steps to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

About the second question, there is this claim of PRG that they control 80 per cent of the territory. But the hon. Member and the House would no doubt be aware that this claim varies in the course of the day. That claim control over larger areas at night as compared today. That is why we say that the situation is fluid and at the present stage we do not think there is enough justification to change the representational pattern.

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दक्षिण वियतनाम की कठपुतली सरकार के बारे में अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि वह आशा करते हैं कि वहाँ पर सद्बुद्धि आयेगी, लेकिन क्या सरकार को पता है, कि इसमें दक्षिण वियतनाम की सरकार की मर्जी नहीं चलती है, सद्बुद्धि तो वाशिंगटन से ही आ सकती है ? क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी भी है कि दक्षिण वियतनाम में अभी जो चुनाव का मसौदा हुआ था, उसमें राष्ट्रपति के उम्मीदवार को भी हटा दिया गया, न वह सरकार को नियुक्त कर सकते हैं और न वहाँ पर अमरीकी फौज के बिना सुबह, दिन, शाम, रात को कोई नियन्त्रण है। ऐसी स्थिति में जब कि वह सरकार अमरीका के इशारों पर नाचनेवाली है, कम से कम उसके साथ सम्बन्ध विच्छेद करने के लिये तैयार हैं ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I have already said that at the present moment we have no intention to change the representation.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : May I ask the Minister whether he is aware of the fact that the demonstration that has been made in Saigon and other places is not only against the Government of India but also against the Indian settlers there, and whether the Minister has got any information about the loss and damage to the properties of Indians there ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : It is a fact that on an earlier occasion, not on the 16th, there were demonstrations in front of business establishments run by persons of Indian origin. We took that matter up firmly with the Government of South Vietnam and they did take some preventive action.

SOME HON. MEMBERS :

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing any more questions on this.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Why not ?

MR. SPEAKER : I do not understand why, when your own party Member has asked a question already, you should get up.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Is there any parliamentary rule to that effect ? I do not remember that kind of practice in any Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : I am very sorry. I have been accommodating you on so many questions.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : It is very peculiar.

MR. SPEAKER : I also take it like that.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question. Dr. Ranen Sen.

DR. RANEN SEN : Question No. 53.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : Sir, question No. 55 may also be taken up along with this.

Operation Of Seventh Fleet In Indian Ocean

*53. DR. RANEN SEN :

SHRI K. BALAKRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recent announcement by U. S. Government that its Seventh Fleet would start regular operations in the Indian Ocean shortly ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government policy on the subject has been already indicated in the President's

address to this session of Parliament. The presence and operation of the fleets of major powers in the Indian Ocean area will lead to tension and rivalries particularly detrimental to the interests of the littoral states. Government subscribed to the Lusaka Declaration and was one of the co-sponsors of the U. N. General Assembly Resolution No. 2832 (XXVI) of 1st December, 1971 calling on all powers to maintain the Indian Ocean area as a zone of peace.

DR. RANEN SEN : Is it a fact or not that the United States had sent its Seventh Fleet at a certain time not in the very remote past and that after that they have made the declaration that they will send their fleet to the Indian Ocean so that it becomes a permanent feature ? If that is known to the Government of India, has the Government of India made any formal strong protest to the Government of the United States ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : The fleets of several countries have been in the Indian Ocean and there is the convention of the freedom of the high seas. A case in which the territorial waters of any country are violated does give grounds for a formal protest. But the presence of a fleet on the high seas is a political matter in which a formal protest of a bilateral character is not the correct remedy. This has to be taken up by the littoral States collectively so that adequate pressure is built up against countries who might be tempted to send their fleets into the Indian Ocean. This is precisely what was done at Lusaka and later on at the United Nations.

DR. RANEN SEN : It is known to us, as the hon. Minister has stated, that the Government of India had made the correct move together with other powers to see that the Indian Ocean becomes free from the existence of the fleet of any other country. This is appreciated. The Indian ocean has become endangered by several powers like not only USA but also U.K. where they have established a base in Diego Garcia. In view of that may I know whether the Government of India will take any other more serious step to see that it is not disturbed by the imperialist powers.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : Our views with regard to the establishment of what the

powers concerned describe as communication facilities in Diego Garcia have been conveyed unmistakably to the Government of USA and also to the Government of U. K. We are totally opposed to the establishment of bases in the sub-continent. It is for the littoral countries surrounding Indian ocean to ensure their own security. Outside Powers, big or small, have no business to be here. We have been urging the Super Powers also to spare the Indian ocean and to permit this to remain as an area of peace free from tension. Our efforts are continuing. But I cannot say at the present moment whether we will succeed or not.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reaction against Pak-Arab States communiques/statements

*41 SHRI ISHAQ SAMBHALI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Joint Communiques and statements issued by the Pakistani President Mr. Z. A. Bhutto, and the various Heads of the Arab States after Mr. Bhutto's recent visit have been brought to the notice of Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. President Bhutto visited Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Syria towards the end of January, 72.

(b) Government have noted that many of the references in these Communiques and Statements pertaining to the Indian Sub-continent were based on incorrect assessments of facts and events.

According to Government's information, there is now a growing awareness in some of these countries as well as in several other Arab countries of the realities of the situation, including the emergence of Bangla Desh as a sovereign independent Republic.

Wrong Polish map about Indian territory of Kashmir and Aksai Chin.

*44 SHRI VEKARIA :
SHRI MOHAN SWARUP :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Poland has recently released a map in which they have shown Kashmir as a disputed area and Aksai Chin as part of China; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The latest Polish maps that have been examined by the Government are those contained in the atlas entitled *Maly Atlas Swiata*, published from Warsaw (1970 edition). In this Atlas India-China boundary is shown more or less in accordance with the Chinese alignment. Aksai Chin and large areas of Arunachal Pradesh are shown as parts of China. Jammu and Kashmir State has been separated from both India and Pakistan by a line other than the international boundary line and described as a disputed territory. The state has, however, been given the same colour wash as that of India. According to our Embassy in Warsaw the map recently published by the Polish Government continues to show the same errors as contained in *Maly Atlas Swiata*.

(b) The question of incorrect depiction of India's international boundaries in the latest Polish map has been taken up with the Polish Government. They have assured us that they would immediately look into the matter.

Contract for the Disposal of Slag

*47. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether a long term contract for the disposal of slag has been signed with certain parties; and

(b) if so, the names of the parties and the broad features of the terms and conditions of the contract?

that. The Corporation has desired and the West Bengal Government have also desired that in the ultimate analysis, there should be equity participation of the Centre in this concern, will have to be spent by the Government as a result of which quite a large sum will have to be spent by the government of India, and this is not included in the Sixth plan. That is what, I thought, I should make it clear.

SHRI R. P. DAS: May I know whether it is a fact that the World Bank agreed to provide the West Bengal consultancy organisation about 35,000 dollars from its technical assistance fund for the preparation of 15 year perspective plan and if so, whether, in view of this, the Central Government has taken any decision to participate in such a venture?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: I have already said that, so far as the Central Government is concerned, it is the request of the West Bengal Government that there should be equity participation. It would be, roughly, more than Rs. 500 crores in the ultimate analysis. There is no provision in the Sixth Plan. I have made my submission, and I don't think I should repeat it.

New Telephone Exchanges in Rajasthan

***317. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the new telephone exchanges proposed to be set up in Rajasthan during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number of new telephone lines added in Rajasthan during the last two years; and

(c) the number of new telephone lines proposed to be added in Rajasthan during the years 1981-82 and 1982-83?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) About 140 new telephone exchanges are proposed to be installed in Rajasthan in the Sixth Plan.

(b) New Telephone line capacity added is as under:—

1979-80—3535

1980-81—5440

(c) It is proposed to add about 4,800 lines in 1981-82 and 14,000—lines in 1982-83.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA: In view of the reply given by the hon. Minister that during the Sixth Five Year Plan, 140 new telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened, may I know from the Minister how many have been opened during the last two years and what is the proposal for this year?

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: I have given the figure.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Contract with West German Company for supply of diving equipment

***310. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:** Will the Minister of PETROLUM CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has entered into a contract with Dreager Werk Company of West Germany to supply deep sea diving equipment for the drilling vessel Samudra Prabhat;

(b) what are the details of the contract; and

(c) what are the areas selected for drilling?

in the Central and Regional Offices of the Employees Provident Fund Organization ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c) . There has been some increase in the work-load of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation due to the introduction of the Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971. The following posts on *ad hoc* basis have been sanctioned in the ministerial cadres in the Central Office and Regional Offices of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation for the work connected with the Employees' Family Pension Scheme, 1971 :-

S. N.	Category of post	No. of post
A. Central office		
1.	Superintendent	1
2.	Assistants	2
3.	Lower Division Clerk	1
4.	Peon	1
B. Regional offices		
1.	Head Clerks	13
2.	U. D. C.-in-charge	5
3.	Lower Division Clerks	258
4.	Peons	18
Total		299

Protest to U. S. A. against sending of seventh fleet to bay of Bengal

*55, SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA :
SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have lodged protest against the despatch of the U. S. Seventh Fleet to the Bay of Bengal in December, 1971 ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of U. S. A. thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a)

and (b) . The Government of India did not lodge any protest as such against the despatch of the U. S. Seventh Fleet to the Bay of Bengal. However, the Government of India considered this action of the U. S. Government as unfriendly and dangerous and expressed our concern and views to the U. S. Government.

Sino-pak strategy against India

*56, SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards a news item appearing in the *Indian Express* of the 1st February, 1972 about Peking-Pindi strategy against India ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Government have seen the *Indian Express* news item of 1st February, 1972.

(b) The news item is of a speculative nature and Government do not think it necessary to give their reaction to such unauthorised reports.

U. S. Peace proposal for vietnam

*57, SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE :
SHRI B. V. NAIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have studied President Nixon's new Vietnam peace proposal ; and

(b) if so, Government's views thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The Government of India have always welcomed every effort, in public or in secret, between the parties concerned to

narrow their differences with a view to seeking a peaceful political settlement of the Vietnam question. President Nixon's 8-point proposal marked a slight advance over his earlier 5-point proposal. However, the Government of India regrets that despite the positive response given by the PRG in the form of their two elaborations made on February 2, 1972, at Paris, the United States virtually negated their own peace proposal by intensive bombing raids on Vietnam,

पाकिस्तान स्थित भारतीय उच्च आयोग के भवनों का ध्वस्त किया जाना

*58. श्री हरी सिंह : क्या बिबेक मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि पाकिस्तान स्थित भारत के उच्चायुक्त के निवास स्थान तथा उनके कार्यालय को हाल के भारत पाकिस्तान युद्ध में पूर्णतया ध्वस्त कर दिया गया था ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

बिबेक मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह) : (क) इस लड़ाई के दौरान पाकिस्तान स्थित भारतीय हाई कमिश्नर के निवास स्थान को और चांसरी को कोई नुकसान नहीं पहुँचा था ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Ambassadorial relations with north Vietnam

*59. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and North Vietnam have recently established Embassy level contacts ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether the South Vietnamese Government has protested against this decision of

the Government of India and if so, the reaction of the Government of India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The decision was taken keeping in view India's national interests and the reality of the situation prevailing in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government of South Vietnam protested against this decision on 12th January, 1972. The Government of India, however, feel that such a decision is not the concern of any other Government except the Government of India itself.

Relations with China

*60. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI :
SHRI R. S. PANDEY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the effect of recent Indo-Pak War on our relations with China ;

(b) whether the Government of China has since made any noticeable shift in their policies to improve relations with our country ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of India thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) to (c). During the recent Pakistani invasion of India, China took a hostile attitude towards India and sided with West Pakistan. China also did not make any move to improve relations with India. India, however, has not allowed these to influence her judgement or attitude and has always sought and still seeks normal friendly relations with China.

Supply of Essential goods to Bangla Desh

329. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of EX-

TERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bangla Desh have asked India for the supply of some essential goods both for industry and consumers on an urgent basis ; and

(b) if so, the goods demanded and the steps taken in this direction ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the light of discussions with the Government of Bangla desh, arrangements have been made to supply food items, agriculture inputs, transport equipment and miscellaneous raw-materials for industries. Further demands are awaited.

Economic aid given to Asian and African countries by India

330. KUMARI KAMALA KUMARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of economic aid given by India to Asian and African countries during the years 1969, 1970 and 1971, separately ;

(b) the purpose for which the aid had been given ;

(c) the amount of interest received during those years ; and

(d) the amount of loans and aid likely to be given by India to these countries during the years 1971 (after 1st November) and 1972 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) India has been giving economic aid to several countries of Asia and Africa in the form of loans, grants and technical assistance.

2. In 1969, a loan of Rs. 5 crores was given to Ceylon.

3. India has been giving technical assist-

ance to countries of Asia and Africa under the Indian Economic and Technical Cooperation Programme (ITEC), the Colombo Plan and the Special Commonwealth African Assistance Programme (SCAAP). The total value of assistance (including grants) given under these programmes is given below :

ITEC Programme :

1969-70	Rs. 38,40,000
1970-71	Rs. 76,37,000
1971-72	Rs. 69,79,200

(expenditure incurred upto 31st January, 1972)

(Figures are available only for the financial years.)

<i>Colombo plan</i>	<i>Unstarred question no. 330</i>
1959	Rs. 41,09,000
1970	Rs. 38,00,000
1971 (Estimated expenditure)	Rs. 42,00,000

<i>SCAAP</i>	
1969	Rs. 15,00,000
1970	Rs. 15,50,000
1971 (Estimated expenditure)	Rs. 16,00,000

4. Apart from the above, India has been giving assistance, as indicated below, to the following countries :

	<i>1969-70</i>	<i>1970-71</i>
Nepal	12,01,00,000	9,00,00,000
Bhutan	6,91,96,000	6,31,25,000

(figures are available only for financial years)

(b) The loans, grants and technical assistance have been given to countries of Asia and Africa as a measure of cooperating with these countries in their economic development. The loans and grants have been for purchase of various commodities and for setting up of projects while the technical assistance has taken the form of providing

training facilities in India in a number of fields for nationals of Asian and African countries, providing Indian experts and technical know-how in different fields for these countries and also for the setting up of projects.

(c) The interest received during 1969, 1970 and also 1971 on loans given previously to different countries is as follows :

1969	Rs. 12,12,852
1970	Rs. 2,00,65,766
1971	Rs. 89,60,826

(d) In November, 1971, agreements were signed to provide loans totalling Rs. 54 crores to Ceylon. No other loans have been given since November 1971. No provision has been made in the Budget for 1972-73 for any fresh loans to any country.

2. Technical assistance under the ITEG, Colombo Plan and SCAAP programmes will continue in 1972 at the same levels as in previous years but no firm estimates of total expenditure for the year can be made as of now.

3. Following are the 'Budget estimates for assistance to Nepal and Bhutan for the year 1971-72.

Nepal	Rs. 11,08,00,000
Bhutan	Rs. 7,15,00,000
Bangladesh	

Following the liberation of Bangladesh, a sum of Rs. 18.58 crores has been granted for the provision of cash doles by the Government of Bangladesh to refugees on their return to Bangladesh. For the reconstruction of Bangladesh's economy, the following grants and loans have been announced :

- (i) Foreign Exchange loans of £ 5 million Sterling ;
- (ii) Rs. 25 crores Commodity Aid.
- (iii) A loan of Rs. 10 crores for rehabilitation of the railway system.
- (iv) A loan for purchase of two ships from India.

(v) A loan for purchase of two Fokker Friendship aircraft.

(vi) A loan for supply of telecommunication stores ;

(vii) Supply of wheat and rice valued at approximately Rs. 50 crores on a grant basis.

(Value of loans at iv, v and vi is yet to be determined)

Production of Minerals in Bihar

331. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of minerals in Bihar for the year 1970-71 has been less than that of year 1969-70;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to overcome these shortcomings?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the quantity and value of mineral production in Bihar in the years 1969 and 1970 along with reasons where production of particular minerals have recorded a fall during 1970 relative to 1969 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-14301/72]

(c) Appropriate steps have been taken/being taken to overcome the causes of lower production in respect of certain minerals in 1970 as against 1969.

भारत-पाकिस्तान युद्ध से प्रभावित लोगों को मुआवजा

332. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :
श्री कूल चन्द वर्मा :

क्या खन और पुनर्वासि मन्त्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हाल के भारत-पाकिस्तान युद्ध में सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों के उन लोगों के लिए, जो

मारे गये हैं अथवा जिनकी सम्पत्ति को क्षति पहुंची है, मुआवजा देने की कोई योजना क्रियान्वित की गई है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और क्या मजूर किया गया मुआवजा सभी राज्यों में एक समान है ?

धन और पुनर्वासि मन्त्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) और (ख) हाथ के भारत-पाकिस्तान युद्ध में सीमावर्ती क्षेत्रों के लोगों का मुआवजा देने के लिए भारत सरकार ने कोई योजना मजूर नहीं की है। तथापि उसने ऐसे लोगों को अनुग्रह पूर्वक सहायता देने के लिये सभी सीमावर्ती राज्य सरकारों द्वारा किए जा रहे खर्च की अनुमति दे दी है। सभी सीमावर्ती राज्यों में लागू इस प्रकार की सहायता के पैमानों की सीमा के सम्बन्ध में एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [प्रश्नालय में रखा गया। देखिये सख्या I.T-1431/72] अलग-अलग मदों पर खर्च के लिए सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारों द्वारा अपने-अपने वित्त विभागों से अनुमति प्राप्त करने के बाद मजूरी जारी की जाती है। इस प्रकार के खर्च की प्रतिपूर्ति भारत सरकार द्वारा की जानी है।

Graphite and Uranium Deposits in Palamau (Bihar)

333. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Geological Survey has been conducted in the District of Palamau (Bihar) to find out the Graphite and Uranium deposits;

(b) if so, the main features thereof and ;

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). As a result of the investigations conducted by the Geological Survey of India for graphite in Pa-

lamau District, Bihar, probable reserves of lumpy graphitite of about 6000 tonnes with 50-60% fixed carbon has been estimated as Sokra and about 2350 tonnes with 15 to 20% fixed Carbon in Parasia-Mahngain area. Three graphite bearing zones in Maromor-Baresmar area with upto 45% graphitite content have also been established. Beneficiation test of bulk sample and search for extension of Maromor-Baresmar area is proposed to be continued.

The surveys for atomic minerals including Uranium were conducted by the Atomic Minerals Division of the Department of Atomic Energy in Palamau district, Bihar. The survey has not brought to light any significant deposits of uranium so far in Palamau district.

E. P. F. Employees' Nomination on Board of Directors of Provident Fund Commission

334. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to nominate representatives of employees of Provident Fund to the Board of Directors of Provident Fund Commission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Government are not considering any proposal for the appointment of representatives of employees of the Employees' Provident Fund as members of the Central Board of Trustees which administers the Fund.

(b) Does not arise

Shortage of Iron and Steel in Kerala

335. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :
SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the industries in Kerala are severely hit by the shortage of raw materials like iron and steel;

(b) whether the allocation of raw-materials to Kerala is much lower than the average allocation for the whole nation; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). It is true that there is shortage of Steel at present and industries in Kerala, as in other parts of India, may be suffering to some extent due to this. Under the present distribution system there are no state-wise allocations. Allocations of steel are regulated by Steel Priority Committee taking into account the end-use for which steel is required, the availability and competing demands.

Challenge to Status of India as Chairman of I. C. C.

336. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of South Vietnam has challenged the neutral status of India as the chairman of I. C. C. in Saigon; and

(b) if so, the stand taken by Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has been and continues to be non-aligned and impartial. The I.C.S.C. is an international body created by Geneva Conference powers in 1954 and as such it is not for any one party, much less the South Vietnamese Government which not even a signatory to Geneva Agreements of 1954, to unilaterally sit in judgement on the composition of the Commission. India will not be deterred by threats from any one from her basic stand of judging impartially and on their merits all questions that come up before the I. C. S. C. in Vietnam.

Protest Note to South Vietnam regarding Burning of India Flag in Consulate in Saigon

337. SHRI BISHWANATHAN JHUN-

JHUNWALA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether for the second time the India National Flag in the Indian Consulate in Saigon was burnt down in January, 1972 by angry demonstrators ; and

(b) the nature of protest lodged by Government of India and the reaction of Government of South Vietnam in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes Sir. The second instance of burning of Indian National Flag at the Indian Consulate General by South Vietnamese demonstrators occurred on the 13th January, 1972.

(b) Government of India have lodged strong protest with the Government of South Vietnam over the burning of the Indian National Flag and made it known that they would hold South Vietnam authorities responsible for any such untoward incidents. The Government of South Vietnam have formally expressed regret and apologised for the above incident and also assured us that they would take all steps to prevent reoccurrence of such incidents and have guaranteed the safety of the life and property of the Indian community.

Trade Plan between India and Bangla Desh

338. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :
SHRI R. S. PANDEY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a detailed plan for trade between India and Bangla Desh has been negotiated recently ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). No detailed plan for trade with Bangladesh has yet been negotiated.

Outcome of Conference of International Law Association held in Sweden

339. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India attended the Conference of the International Law Association held in January, 1972 at Sweden ;

(b) if so, whether the Conference decided to have laws to regulate multi-national flood control measures and to prevent marine pollution of continental origin ; and

(c) if so, the broad outline of the decisions taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Draft Articles on "Flood Control" and "Marine Pollution of Continental Origin" were discussed by the Committee ; decision regarding them would be taken in subsequent meetings of the International Law Association.

भारत में बी० बी० सी० के कार्यालय का पुनः खोला जाना

340. श्री हुकुम अन्व कछवाय :
श्री अमर नाथ चावला :

क्या बिदेश मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बी० बी० सी०, लन्दन ने भारत सरकार से भारत में एक कार्यालय स्थापित करने की अनुमति मांगी है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

बिदेश मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) भारत सरकार ने बी० बी० सी० का अनुरोध स्वीकार कर लिया है ।

Results of Talks of Mr. D. P. Dhar

341. SHRI SARJOO PANDEY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the result of the recent talks of Shri D. P. Dhar in Dacca ; and

(b) the nature of special mission for which Shri Dhar was sent to Dacca ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Shri D. P. Dhar, who visited Dacca from 21st to 23rd January, 1972 in response to an invitation extended to him by His Excellency the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh at the instance of Sheikh Mujibur Rehman, held fruitful discussions with His Excellency the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and also with other Ministers and senior officials on matters of common interest. The discussions confirmed the identity of views between the two Governments on matters of mutual interest.

Violation of Ban by B. B. C. on their Activities in India

342. SHRI P. K. DEO :
SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report in the *Times London* of the 27th January, 1972 giving details as to how the British Broadcasting Corporation circumvented the ban imposed on their activities in India by the Government of India ;

(b) whether the attention of Government has also been drawn to a report to this effect in the *Statesman* of the 28th January, 1972 ; and

(c) if so, whether Government have inquired into various allegations made against

the B B C. and the reaction of Government thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) In a letter to the London Times, the B B C have already denied the allegations and Government do not consider it necessary to take any further action

Setting up of a Lead Smelter Plant in Orissa

343 **SHRI D K. PANDA** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a lead smelter plant in Orissa, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) Lead ore deposits occur in Sargipalli in Sundargarh district (Orissa). A decision to set up a Lead Smelter based on these deposits can be taken only after completion of necessary geological studies which have been taken up by the Geological Survey of India

(b) Does not arise

Bipartite Meeting with Representatives of Trade Unions

344 **SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI**
SHRI S R. DAMANI

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether a bipartite meeting of the Union Labour Ministry and representatives of the national trade unions centres was held in Delhi during January this year,

(b) if so, the trade unions represented in it, and

(c) the problems discussed and decisions taken?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) to (c). Presumably the reference is to the Meeting of the Working Party of Employers and Workers held in New Delhi on January 10, 1972. The Trade Union Centres represented on the Working Party were the INTUC, the AIUC and the HMS. The participants had an exchange of views on the question of the formulation of a scheme which would eliminate disputes to the utmost extent possible and on the provision of a suitable machinery to resolve expeditiously such disputes as do arise so that they did not result in work-stoppages, and other related matters. No final decisions were taken in respect of these matters. It was, however, agreed that the workers representatives would draw up a concrete scheme on the basis of the above exchange of views, for discussion at the next Meeting of the Working Party

Repatriation of Bihari Muslims in Bangla Desh to India

345 **SHRI N K. SINGHI** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government of India has been drawn to a report appearing in the *Times of India* of the 19th February 1972 that a Pakistan Government official is reported to have stated that Biharis in Bangla Desh were 'Muslims of Indian origin who had not links with Pakistan',

(b) whether some Indian political organisations have urged upon the Government of India to bring back the Bihari Muslims in Bangla Desh to India, and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of India's stand in the matter is very clear. There is no question of the so called "Bihari Muslims" being settled in India. These people had migrated

from India of their own accord at the time of partition and their future disposition is a matter for decision between Bangladesh and Pakistan Governments. In any case as they are Pakistani citizens they have a right to go back to Pakistan.

Indo-Pak Talks

346. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :
SHRI PILLOO MODY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have offered to negotiate with Pakistan without pre-conditions ;

(b) whether this offer has been accepted by Pakistan ; and

(c) if so, when the talks are likely to start ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) In accordance with our desire to achieve lasting peace between India and Pakistan, the Government of India have conveyed to the Government of Pakistan their readiness to have direct talks with the Government of Pakistan at any time, at any level and without any pre-conditions.

(b) and (c). Pakistan Government's final response is awaited.

Indo-US Talks

347. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :
SHRI S. C. SAMANTA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the *Statesman* of the 10th February, 1972 that Indo-US talks have already started to review and reconstruct Indo-US relations ; and

(b) whether Government have considered the American offer in this regard and the reaction of Government to the offer ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Normal Diplomatic contacts between the Government of India and the Government of United States have never ceased to exist. As is normal in such contacts, discussion on Indo-US relations has continued uninterrupted.

पाकिस्तान द्वारा जेनेवा कन्वेंशन का उल्लंघन

348. श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(१) जेनेवा कन्वेंशन की मुख्य-मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और क्या पाकिस्तान ने भी इस पर हस्ताक्षर किये हुए हैं ;

(ख) क्या भारत-पाक युद्ध के दौरान और उसके बाद पाकिस्तान ने उक्त कन्वेंशन की शर्तों का उल्लंघन किया ; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो तत्सम्बन्धी घटनाओं का व्योरा क्या है और इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह) : (१) 1949 के जेनेवा अभिसमय प्रकाशित हो चुके हैं और इसकी प्रतियां लोक-मभा के पुस्तकालय में रख दी गई हैं।

12 जून 1951 को पाकिस्तान इन अभिसमयों का भागीदार हुआ।

(ख) जी हा।

(ग) कुछ ऐसे उदाहरण प्रकाश में आए जहां पाकिस्तानी सैनिकों ने भारतीय सैनिकों की हत्या करने के पूर्व, जो बंदी बनाए गए थे, उन्हें यंत्रणा दी और उनके अंग भंग किए। युद्ध बिराम के बाद दिसम्बर में लड़ाई के दौरान पूर्वी क्षेत्र के कुश्तिया, और जनवरी में पश्चिमी क्षेत्र के नया चोर में इस प्रकार की

कुछ घटनाएँ हुई थी। ऐसे मामले जांच के लिए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय रैंड क्रॉस समिति के साथ उठाए गए हैं क्योंकि पाकिस्तान ने जेनेवा अभि-समयों का उल्लंघन किया है।

औद्योगिक सम्बन्ध और उत्पादकता

349 श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बढ़ते हुए उत्पादन का दृष्टि से औद्योगिक सम्बन्धों का रूप-रेखा पर पुनर्विचार करने के सम्बन्ध में और श्रमिकों को आवश्यक वस्तुओं उचित मूल्य पर उपलब्ध करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो योजना की मुख्य बातें क्या हैं और इस बारे में अब तक क्या उपाय किये गये हैं ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री (श्री आर० के० साहिलकर) : (क) और (ख) हान ही में गठित किये गए नियोजको और कर्मकारों के एक कार्यकारी दल ने, अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ औद्योगिक विवादों के तत्काल निपटान के और कर्मकारों को आवश्यक जितने उचित मूल्यों पर सप्लाई करने के प्रश्न पर विचार किया। विवादों के हल और सम्बन्धित मामलों के लिए तत्र सबंधी ठोस प्रस्ताव सूचित करने हेतु कर्मकारों के प्रतिनिधियों की फ़िर बैठन होगी ताकि कार्यकारी दल की अगली बैठक में जिनके शीघ्र ही होने की सम्भावना है, उन पर विचार-विमर्श कर सके। नियोजको के प्रतिनिधियों ने सरकार के विचारार्थ उनके द्वारा उचित मूल्य ढूँढानों का जाल सा बिछाने की दिशा में उठाए जाने वाले ठोस कदम सुझाना स्वीकार किया है।

संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघ में युद्ध विराम प्रस्ताव पर मतदान

350 श्री नरेन्द्र सिंह .

श्री प्रभुदास पटेल :

क्या विदेश मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा

करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संयुक्त राष्ट्र संघ में भारत तथा पाकिस्तान के बीच युद्ध विराम के प्रस्ताव पर भारत के पक्ष में तथा विरोध में किन-किन देशों ने मतदान किया और कौन से देश तटस्थ रहे ,

(ख) किन देशों ने आक्रमणकारी पाकिस्तान को सक्रिय समर्थन दिया और क्या भारत सरकार का इन देशों के प्रति अपनी विदेश नीति की समीक्षा करने का विचार है , और

(ग) यदि हा, तो इसका स्वरूप क्या होगा ?

विदेश मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह) : (क) स (ग). भारत-पाक संधर्ष के दौरान युद्ध-विराम सबंधी जो प्रस्ताव महासभा ने पाम किया था उसके पक्ष में 104 मत आए थे और विपक्ष में 11, 10 देशों ने मतदान नहीं किया था और 6 देशों ने मतदान में हिस्सा ही नहीं लिया था

विपक्ष में भारत, सोवियत समाजवादी गणतंत्र संघ, बायलोरशा, एस० एम० आर०, चेको-स्लोवाकिया, क्यूबा, बलगारिया, भूटान, हंगरी, पोलैंड, यूक्राइन, एस० एस० आर० और मंगोलिया।

मतदान न करने वाले देश : अफगानिस्तान, ब्रिजी, डेनमार्क, फ्रांस, मलावी, ओमान, डेनेगल, सिंगापुर और यूनाइटेड किंगडम।

मतदान में हिस्सा न लेने वाले देश : बर्मा, इक्वीटोरियल गिनी, लेसोथी, माल्दीव, गिनी और मारीशस।

इस प्रस्ताव के पक्ष में भारी बहुमत वस्तुतः भारत विरोधी मत का प्रतीक नहीं है बल्कि अधिकांश सरकारों को इस मनोवृत्ति का सूचक है कि जब कहीं कोई लड़ाई छिड़ जाती है तो वे युद्ध-विगम और सैनिकों की वापसी के आम फारमूले को स्वीकार कर लेना चाहते हैं। बहरहाल, इसमें स्थिति के मूल कारण को अनदेखा किया गया था।

21 दिसम्बर, 1971 के सुरक्षा परिषद के प्रस्ताव के सदर्थ में संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा के मतदान का महत्व समाप्त हो चुका है। इसके अतिरिक्त अंतर्राष्ट्रीय समुदाय विद्यमान यथार्थ को और मानवीय स्वाधीनता और संयुक्त राष्ट्र चार्टर के मिद्दानों की रक्षा में भारत ने जो कार्रवाई की है, उसे अधिकाधिक स्वीकार कर रहा है। इन परिस्थितियों में, उन देशों का नाम बताना मुतासिब नहीं होगा जिन्होंने पाकिस्तान को "सक्रिय महायत्ना" दी है। बहरहाल, भारत के लिए विशेष महत्व के मामलों पर विभिन्न देशों ने जो रवैया अपनाया है उस पर उनके साथ सबंध स्थापित करने में हमेशा ध्यान रखा जाता है।

Release of US secret Papers by Columnist Jack Andersen regarding Indo-Pak War

351. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI :
SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Columnist Jack Andersen released to the Press in January, 1972 the "Secret Sensitive" minutes of the white House strategy sessions on the Indo-Pak war ;

(b) if so, the important features thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of Government of India thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) yes

Sir, The American columnist Jack Andersen published in January, 72 what he described as the minutes of three meetings of Washington's Special Action Group presided over by Dr.-Henry Kissinger, President Nixon's Adviser on National Security. These meetings related to the Indo-Pak war.

(b) An important feature of these papers is the revelation that President Nixon is alleged to have personally given orders that US policy should be tilted towards Pakistan. While official spokesmen of the US government were maintaining that the United States was following an evenhanded policy towards India and Pakistan. Another revelation is that the US government was reported to be seriously considering provision of military supplies to Pakistan through third countries.

(c) If these reports are correct and they have not been contradicted it seems that the US government followed an anti-India policy without keeping in view the correct facts and the realities of the situation in the sub-continent

Construction of office building for Employees Provident Fund Organisation.

352. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons why early action has not been taken to construct the regional offices of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation in various States in the past, and

(b) the places, where the Regional Offices have been constructed, the amount spent on the construction of the buildings, the cost of the land and the rent paid towards the hiring of the buildings of the Regional Offices during the last three years of all the regional Headquarters ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund authorities have reported as under :-

(a) and (b) . The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has been making efforts to procure land for the construction of office buildings and staff quarters in various places where their regional offices are located.

Where land could be secured, action has been taken to get the buildings constructed. Schemes are in various stages of sanction, issuance of tenders and actual construction in most of the regions.

The construction of Regional Office building has been completed at the cost of about Rs 14 00 lacs at Kanpur and the building occupied. Regional Offices are located in the Organisation's own buildings at Madras, Bangalore and Trivandrum.

So far, the Organisation has incurred an expenditure of Rs 1.5 lacs in the acquisition of land, acquisition of buildings and construction of office buildings and staff quarters.

Rent paid by the Organisation for the last three years on buildings hired for the Regional Offices and Central Office is Rs 33,02,446/-.

Amendment of E. P. F. Act, 1952

353. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are contemplating to amend the Employers' Provident Funds Act, 1952 to apply it to an establishment employing ten or more employees and enhance the rate of contribution to 10 per cent from 8 per cent and 8 per cent from 6½ per cent to enable the workers to save more for the old age, and

(b) if so, the present position and the time by which the amending bill is likely to be brought before the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Labour has recommended that (i) the Employers' Provident Fund and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 may be extended to establishments employing between 10 and 20 persons and (ii) the rate of Provident Fund contribution be increased to 8% where it is 6½% and to 10% where it is 8%. Both the proposals are still under consideration.

Criticism of South Korea and U. S. A. by North Korean Consul General

354. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn to a statement made by the North Korean Consul General as published in the *statesman* of the 5th February 1972, strongly criticising South Korea and the United States,

(b) whether the statement amounts to violation of third country rule, and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The attention of the DPRK Consulate General has been drawn to the impropriety of criticising countries friendly to India.

Change in Procedure of Procurement of Steel

355. SHRI N. T. HORO:
SHRI K. BALADHANDA-
YUHAM

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether, keeping in view the shortage of steel, Government have formulated any new scheme or procedure in consultation with the Steel Priority Committee to procure steel to meet the growing demand, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). In view of the shortage of steel, Government decided to augment availability by procuring steel from abroad where necessary. A fairly liberal import policy was followed. In 1970-

71 import licences were issued to the tune of Rs. 199 crores and in 1971-72 (upto January 1972) import licences for about Rs. 235 crores have been issued.

2. In order to ensure that the steel produced in the country reaches the actual consumers as far as possible, the distribution procedure was streamlined and made consumer oriented. Measures were taken to ensure speedy processing of indents and sale orders. The re-rolling programmes of the main steel producers are being regulated in accordance with national priorities and urgent requirements. A uniform system of consumer oriented distribution policy is also being followed by the stockyards of the main producers. To check misuse of steel, the Iron and Steel (Control) Order has been amended to provide that the use of steel for any purpose other than that for which it is allotted or applied for will be a violation of that order and as such punishable under the Essential commodities Act. Regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have also been set up to check misuse of steel and, in this the assistance of the Central Bureau of Investigation is taken where necessary.

3. Government have also set up a Billet Re-rollers Committee to regulate the distribution of billets to the billet Re-rollers and to regulate the products re-rolled therefrom. Formerly, while the billets were being supplied to the billet Re-rollers at a regulated price, there was no regulation on the price or distribution of the products re-rolled therefrom.

4. The traditional raw material for scrap re-rollers is used rails. For the last two years or so, these rails were not available due to a Court Injunction. That case has been decided now and about 2 lakh tonnes of used rails have become available. It is proposed to regulate the distribution of these accumulations to the scrap re-rollers and the products re-rolled therefrom. The details of this scheme are being finalised.

Amendment of Bonus Act

356. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether several Labour Union

Leaders have submitted a memorandum to the Union Government requesting Government to amend the Bonus Act in order to increase the payment of minimum bonus from 4 per cent to 8 per cent; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Committee is proposed to be set up to review the working of the Bonus Act, 1965.

Minimum Wages for farm Labour

357. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States and Union Territories where minimum wages for farm labour have been fixed till date with rates of wages fixed for various categories of farm labour in each State;

(b) whether all the Districts or of the States and Union Territories have been covered; if not, the number and proportion (to total districts) of Districts covered; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Centre to see that minimum wages for farm labour are fixed in each State without delay?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) Employment in Agriculture is covered by the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and both the Central and State Government are required to fix minimum wages in this employment in their respective spheres. The Central Government has notified a minimum wage ranging from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 3.70 per day for unskilled workers in different areas. Available information about rates fixed by the State Governments was published in Indian Labour Statistics 1971 (Table 4.11). Subsequent information is not available.

(b) Information is not available.

(c) Attention of the State Governments/ Union Territories is drawn from time to time to their obligations under the Act. Some of them (Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry) have enacted special legislation to regulate the remuneration of agriculture workers.

Sale of Goods for Disposal

358. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of goods for disposal sold to different parties, year-wise, from 1969-70 to 1970-71 and total amount outstanding till date ;

(b) the names of the parties who have

not yet paid money for the goods supplied to them and the total amount due from each of those parties ; and

(c) the steps being taken to realise these dues ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) During 1969-70 and 1970-71 the DGS & D sold surplus stores of the book values of Rs. 46.50 crores and Rs. 45.42 crores to various parties for Rs. 11.03 crores and Rs. 10.39 crores respectively ; while, stores of the book value of Rs. 27.24 crores were out-standing for disposal with them on 31.1.1972.

(b) and (c). The information required is furnished in the statement enclosed.

Statement

List showing names of parties who have not paid money for goods sold to them during the period 1969-70, 1970-71 and total amount due from them

Sl. No.	Name of the Party	Amount due for recovery	Remarks
		Rs.	
1.	M/S B. T. Hiring & Co. Bombay	2,016.60	Case is pending before arbitrator.
2.	M/S G. S. Sethi & Bros, Bombay	2,92,000.00	The case is pending in Bombay High Court.
3.	Shri Mchar Chand, 6898 Kadeam Sarif, Paharganj, New Delhi.	2,551.00	Sale letter cancelled. Stores put to auction fixed on 17.3.72.
4.	M/S Sethi Motor Corpn, Bombay	1,55,555.00	Sale cancelled ; stores to be put for auction on 17.3.72.
5.	M/S Chaman Lal Sat Pal, Gumatt Bazar, Jammu.	2,160/-	Supdt. of Police have been asked to intimate the financial position of the purchaser.
6.	M/S Kishan Lal, Gurandi Bazar, Varanasi.	86.00	The purchaser has been asked on 24.2.72 to deposit the risk amount.
7.	M/S Shri S. N. Sharma, Jabalpur	750.00	Matter regarding auctioneer's commission and storage charges has been taken up with stock holder and auctioneer for recovery. Reply is awaited.
8.	M/S B. D. Jain Agencies, Gurgaon	2000.00	Stockholder and auctioneers have been asked to intimate the storage charges and auctioneers' commission for recovery.
9.	Shri Makhanlal Jain, New Delhi.	2000.00	
10.	Auto Trading Agency, Bombay	56,600.00	Cases are pending before arbitrator.
11.	Modern Automobiles, Poona.	67,500.00	—do—
12.	United Industries of India, Bombay	7,000.00	—do—
13.	Reliance Motor Stores, Bombay	12,300.00	—do—

Production of Steel in Units of Hindustan Steel Limited

359. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the actual production of steel so far and the total expected by the end of the current year in the units of Hindustan Steel Limited against their capacities ; and

(b) the total quantity and value of various types of steel which is imported during the year and how much of it could have been avoided if units of Hindustan Steel Limited worked to 85 per cent of their capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The installed capacity of the three integrated steel plants at Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur for the production of saleable steel is 4.429 million tonnes. Actual production during the 11 months, April 1971 to February 1972, amounted to 2.331 million tonnes. It is estimated that the production during the full year 1971-72 would be around 2.595 million tonnes

(b) According to available statistics, the actual import of mild steel during the period April-August, 1971 amounted to 4,32,813 tonnes valued at Rs. 65.12 crores.

If the HSL Plants work to 85% of their installed capacity, the production of saleable steel would come to 3.765 million tonnes and there would be an appreciable reduction in imports. But, since HSL plants are not the only producers of steel and do not manufacture all the categories of steel that are imported, it will be difficult to calculate precisely the quantity of imports which could have been avoided if the HSL Plants had worked to 85% of their capacity.

Restrictions Imposed on Indian Ambassador in U. S. A. during Indo-Pak War

360. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.S. Government had imposed certain unusual restrictions on our Ambassador in U. S. A. upon after the Indo-Pak war ; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Crash Programme Suggested by Expert Committee on Unemployment

361. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :
SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for a crash programme suggested in the interim Report of the Expert Committee on Unemployment for providing jobs to four millions of unemployed ;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and the action taken thereon ; and

(c) other recommendations of the Committee and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). In its Interim Report, the Expert Committee on Unemployment, has suggested some measures which would lead to greater production as well as generate substantial employment in the Short-term, particularly in the rural areas. The Committee has suggested that in addition to the special programmes launched by the Government, greater emphasis should be laid during the remaining two years of the Fourth Plan period on the execution of some of the more labour intensive programmes included in the Plan. These are :—

- (i) Minor Irrigation ;
- (ii) Rural Electrification ;
- (iii) Construction of roads and in-land ; water supply ;
- (iv) Programmes of rural housing ;
- (v) Rural water-supply ; and
- (vi) Education.

In addition, the following measures to promote productive employment/self-employment for the educated unemployed have also been suggested :—

- (i) maximum utilisation of installed capacity in industry and the re-opening of closed units ; and
- (ii) promotion of productive employment for educated unemployed.

The Committee has estimated that direct employment that would result from the programmes suggested by it would be of the order of 4 million over the next two years.

A summary of the recommendations of the Expert Committee is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1432/72]. The recommendations are now being examined for further action by the concerned Departments.

Steel for Kerala Electrical and Allied Engineering Co. Ltd.

362. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Kerala Electrical and Allied Engineering Co. Ltd. is not getting any regular allocation of steel to comply with the orders on hand ;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from this Company and Kerala Government with regard to the regular allocation of steel ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet their requirement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No such representation has been received in the Ministry recently.

Output of Iron Ore

363. DR. RANEN SEN :
SHRI VEKARIA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to take emergent steps to boost up the output of iron ore ; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). In order to increase iron ore production both to meet the requirements of steel plants in the country and exports, the National Mineral Development Corporation (a public sector undertaking) have been entrusted with the development of Bailadila Iron ore mines deposit No. 5, in Madhya Pradesh, Donimalai iron ore mines in Mysore and expansion of Kiriburu iron ore mines in Bihar-Orissa. The development of these mines is in progress. Apart from these mines, a detailed project report for the development of Kudremukh magnetite iron ore deposits in coastal Mysore, to produce 20 million tonnes of Run-of-mine ore for the manufacture of 7.5 million tonnes of pellets has been prepared by the N. M. D. C. in collaboration with Marcona Corporation of U. S. A. and MON Group of Japan which is under examination by the Government. An investment decision is likely to be taken shortly.

The NMDG have also taken up the preparation of feasibility studies in respect of Bailadila iron ore Deposit No. 4, Meghahatuburu iron ore deposit in Bihar, Orissa, Malangtoli iron ore deposit in Orissa, Ramandurgand Kumarswamy iron ore deposits in Mysore. Study Groups have also been constituted to consider the integrated development of iron ore deposits in Bellary-Hospet area in Mysore, iron ore bearing areas of Bihar-Orissa and integrated development of Bailadila-Rowghat areas in Madhya Pradesh.

Techno-economic feasibility studies on the setting up of pelletisation plants based on Bailadila iron ore fines and Donimalai iron ore fines have been received by the NMDG. The feasibility report on Donimalai fines is be-

ing up-dated and enlarged to enable an investment decision by the Government.

The report of the Committee on Coordination of the programme of export of iron ore with requirements of steel industry, is also under consideration of the Government. The report deals with the future development of iron ore industry in the country.

Reorganisation of Coking Coal Mines.

364. DR. RANEN SEN :
SHRI VARKEY GEORGE :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the scheme to reorganise and reconstruct the Coking Coal Mines taken over last year; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Handing over of Pakistan Army Men to Bangla Desh Government.

365. DR. RANEN SEN :
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bangla Desh Government has requested the Indian Government to hand over some Pakistan Army men to them to be put before Tribunal to try crimes committed by those army men in Bangla Desh and

(b) if so, India's reaction to the request?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS : (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Bangladesh Government are considering the matter. No specific request has so far been received. It will be given due consideration when received.

Moratorium on Strikes and Lock-outs for Specific Period

366. DR. RANEN SEN :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a suggestion for a moratorium on strikes and lock-outs for a specified period to ensure industrial peace ;

(b) whether representatives of the employees and trade unions have been consulted in the matter; and

(c) if so, their reactions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION : (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) to (c). At the meeting of the Working Party of Employers and Workers held on January 10, 1972, the Union Labour Minister referred to the appeal made by the President and the Prime Minister for a moratorium on strikes and lock outs during the next two or three years and urged that the parties should involve a scheme which would eliminate disputes to the utmost extent possible and provide for a suitable machinery to resolve expeditiously such disputes as do arise so that these did not result in work-stopages. These and certain other related matters were considered by the Working Party at its meetings held on January 10 and February 7, 1972 when it was agreed that the workers' representatives would meet again to formulate concrete proposals for discussion at the next meeting of the Working Party likely to be held shortly.

Pakistan's desire to live in Peace with India

367. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether President Bhutto of Pakistan stated on the 19th January, 1972 at Multan airport that Pakistan wants to live in peace with India ; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this connection?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Government have seen press reports of President Bhutto's statement at Multan airport on 19th January, 1972 to this effect.

(b) Government have offered to hold direct talks with Pakistan at any time, at any level and without any preconditions to achieve lasting peace between India and Pakistan. Pakistan's final response is awaited.

Protest Note to U. S. A.

368 SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the statement made by the U. S. Secretary of State on the 27th January, 1972 regarding the recent Indo-Pak. war has been brought to the notice of Government; and

(b) whether Government have taken steps to protest against some of the utterances he made?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On January 27, Secretary of State, Rogers, while speaking before the Foreign Policy Conference for Editors and Broadcasters, said "... we thought in the United States that more time should be used to see if we could bring about a successful conclusion by diplomatic means... we felt that India moved too soon." We have pointed to the exact sequence of events and have repeatedly made it clear to the U. S. Government that we reject categorically the insinuations contained in this and similar statements.

Payment to Labourers by Management of coking Coal Mines in Bihar

369. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REH-

ABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the management of the 214 coking coal mines taken over by Government have to pay huge amount of money, in the form of payments to labourers to the Bihar Government, and Provident Fund of the Labourers ;

(b) if so, the amount thereof separately ; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government to realise the same and the time by which it is to be realised ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

World Bank Loan for Development of Amlabad Colliery

370. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Amlabad colliery had taken a loan to the tune of Rs. 6 crores from the World Bank for its development ; and

(b) if so, the total amount out of the said loan spent on its development and the utilisation of the balance amount of loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

Loans outstanding against Coking Coal mines taken over by Government

371. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI :
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government loans are still outstanding against the coking coal mine taken over by Government ; and

(b) if so, the respective amounts of loan outstanding thereof, mine-wise, and the manner in which Government propose to recover the said amount of loan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Central Government had not sanctioned any loans to the coking coal mines the management of which was taken over by them.

(b) Does not arise.

Taking over of Sick Mills

372. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some sick mills have been taken over by Government :

(b) the number of persons hit by the closure during the last three years and the reasons thereof, and

(c) the loss of production the industry has suffered ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

Non-Applicability of Geneva convention to Pak P. O. Ws.

373. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have written to U. N. that persons who had committed grave crimes in Bangla Desh such as, genocide and crime against humanity, are in the view, not entitled to any immunity under any of the Geneva Convention ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of U.N. thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. In a letter dated January 14, 1972,

addressed to the U. N. Secretary-General, the the Permanent Representative of India explained the position as follows :

"Various officials of the former Pakistani military regime in Bangla Desh had resigned and sought refuge in the neutral zones organized under the aegis of the United Nations during the course of the hostilities. After the termination of the hostilities, they were taken into custody by the Joint Command of the Bangla Desh and Indian forces, to safeguard them from possible mob violence and reprisals. According to declarations of the Bangla Desh Government they and others responsible for repression, brutality and genocide would be tried according to the due process of law, and provided with facilities for their defence as required by law. Pending their trial they will continue to be safeguarded from mob violence and reprisals.

In this connection, the view of the Government of India is that such persons against whom there may be sufficient evidence of their having committed grave crimes such as genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity could not be given the immunity of the ICRC or Neutral Zones organized under the aegis of the United Nations especially after the termination of hostilities. They are not entitled to any such immunity under any of the Geneva Conventions. The Joint Command of the Bangla Desh and Indian forces has the right to demand their evacuation on behalf of the Government of Bangla Desh, so that they could be taken into custody pending appropriate legal action under the law of the land and under international law."

(b) In accordance with the usual practice, our letter was circulated to all Members of the United Nations as a Security Council document.

Request for assisting Bangla desh to join commonwealth of nations

374. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Bangla Desh has requested the Government of India to plead her case to join the Commonwealth of Nations ;

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government of India in this regard; and

(c) by when the meeting of External Affairs Ministers of Commonwealth is expected to discuss this matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b). No Sir. The Commonwealth Secretariat has, however, informed the Government of India of the willingness of Bangla desh to become a Member of the Commonwealth. Government have confirmed their support for the admission of Bangla desh to the Commonwealth and this support has been made known both to the Commonwealth Sec'tt, and other member-countries.

(c) Government of India is not aware of any proposal to hold a formal meeting of the External Affairs Ministers of Commonwealth countries for this purpose. The matter is expected to be decided on the basis of a consensus of the members of the Commonwealth, possibly by circulation.

Closure of Factories, Mills and Establishments

375. **SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :**
SHRI R. P DAS :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of closed factories/mills/and establishments all over India closed during the period of last three years, state-wise;

(b) the total number of factories which remain closed; and

(c) the action taken by Government to reopen them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b). The attached statement which summarises the readily available information, shows the number of factories, state-wise, which had closed down during the period April 1, 1969 to March 31, 1971 and

the number of factories which remained closed as on March 31, 1971. Similar information for the year 1971-72 is being collected.

(c) Closures may be due to shortage of raw materials, financial difficulties, mis-management, labour trouble, etc. In case of shortage of raw materials, Government issue, where necessary, advance import licence. Requests for financial assistance are considered by the appropriate agencies in terms of the rules governing such assistance. As for closures due to mis-management, necessary action is taken by Government under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act. Where closures are due to labour trouble, the Industrial Relations Machinery makes efforts to secure the re-opening of the closed units by persuasion. According to available information, the number of factories which had re-opened during April 1, 1969 to March 31, 1971 in West Bengal, Mysore, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir was respectively 195, 268, 109, 88, 20, 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 6 and 1.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	No. of factories closed during the last 2 years (period from 1.4.69 to 31.3.71)	No. of factories which remained closed (as on 31.3.71)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	647	559
2.	Assam	226	215
3.	Bihar	168	159
4.	Gujarat	202	194
5.	Himachal Pradesh	4	4
6.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	5
7.	Kerala	293	184
8.	Madhya Pradesh	23	23
9.	Mysore	871	603
10.	Manipur	Nil	Nil
11.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4
12.	Orissa	66	59
13.	Punjab	19	19
14.	Rajasthan	121*	121**
15.	Tamilnadu	22	16
16.	Tripura	3	3
17.	Uttar Pradesh	76	56
18.	West Bengal	531	336
19.	Andaman & Nicobar	Nil	Nil
20.	Delhi Admn.	21	15
21.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	15	8
22.	Goa, Daman & Diu	23	23
23.	Laccadives, Minicoy & Amin-devi Islands	Nil	Nil
24.	Pondicherry	3	Nil

*In the case of Rajasthan, information in Col. (3) relates to Calendar Years 1969 & 1970.

**Position indicated as on December 31, 1970.

U. S. Protest to India against Ambassadorial Relations with North Vietnam

376. SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE :
SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U. S. Government had protested against India's action in raising her Consulate in Hanoi to Embassy status ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) We have indicated to the U. S. Government our surprise at the attitude taken by them. As a sovereign country, we take decisions in such matters in the light of our own

views and interests, and of the recognition of the realities of the situation, and will not be dictated to by other Governments, big or small.

Setting up of Sponge Iron Pilot Project at Jamshedpur

377. SHRI HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a sponge iron pilot project at Jamshedpur, and

(b) if so, the time by which the project is expected to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Sponge Iron Pilot Plant would be set up at the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur.

(b) This Project is expected to be completed in 1973-74.

Setting up of a Steel Bank

378. SHRI HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a "Steel Bank" ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have decided to set up a Raw Material Bank to be run by the Hindustan Steel Limited. The Bank would be charged with the responsibility of physically maintaining stocks of critical categories of steel so that priority users could be supplied such material ex-stock against surrendered/debited import licences. The stock of the Bank will be sustained by imports made judiciously on the basis of anticipated requirements. The Bank will have an initial impost of Rs. 15 crores, and is expected to have an initial stock of about 50,000 tonnes of various

steel items. The operational details of the Bank, which in the initial stages will function at Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi, are being worked out

छोटी लोहा मिलों को लोहे का बितरण

379. श्री हरी सिंह : क्या इस्पात और खान मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि देश में इस समय लोहा उपलब्ध न होने के कारण हजारों छोटी लोहा बेलन मिलें बन्द पड़ी हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इन मिलों को लोहा देने के लिये क्या सरकार कोई उपाय कर रही है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री शाह नवाज खान) : (क) सरकार को ऐसी कोई जानकारी नहीं है कि कच्चा माल उपलब्ध न होने के कारण हजारों छोटी बेलन मिलें बन्द पड़ी हैं। उपलब्ध कच्चा माल सुस्पष्ट नीतियों के अनुसार बितरित किया जाता है और प्रत्येक बेलन-मिल को प्रवर्तमान नीति के अनुसार अपने हिस्से का माल मिल जाता है। फिर भी यह सच है कि बिलेट और अन्य री-रोलेबल माल की कमी के कारण बहुत सी इकाइया अपनी निर्धारित क्षमता से कम क्षमता पर काम कर रही हैं।

(ख) इस्पात कारखानों में उत्पादन बढ़ाने हेतु लगातार प्रयत्नों तथा बिलेट के आयात द्वारा कच्चे माल की उपलब्धि बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार ने कई कदम उठाये हैं। स्क्रैप री-रोलरो के मामले में प्रमुख कच्चा माल "प्रयुक्त रेल की पट्टी" थी जो दुर्भाग्यवश न्यायालय के अध्यादेश के कारण दो साल से भी अधिक समय से बैसे ही पड़ी रही लेकिन अब इस मामले का फैसला हो गया है और अब लगभग दो लाख टन प्रयुक्त रेल की पट्टी वितरण के लिए उपलब्ध हो जाएगी। इससे निकट भविष्य में कच्चे माल की उपलब्धि काफी बढ़ जाएगी।

Bonus Committee

380. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Bonus Committee ; and

(b) if so, the functions of the proposed Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The terms of reference of the Committee are being worked out

Meeting of U. N. Security Council at Addis Ababa.

381. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the UN Security Council met in Addis Ababa in February, 1972 and whether Pakistan made efforts for consideration of recent developments between India and Pakistan ;

(b) whether this move was strongly opposed by several African countries ;

(c) what was the attitude of the Western countries in this regard ; and

(d) what initiative, if any was taken by Government of India against the Pakistani move ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, Pakistan asked for an urgent meeting of the Council to consider the situation caused by alleged violations of the cease-fire between India and Pakistan and "the consequent necessity of stationing U. N. observers" on the border of India and Pakistan.

(b) and (c). The Members of the Coun-

cil held informal consultations in Adis Ababa on the Pakistani request. There was general consensus not to take up matters raised by Pakistan in the Council meeting in Adis Ababa.

(d) The Permanent Representative of India, during the informal consultations, explained Government's view that there was no need for any U. N. machinery for observance of the cease-fire on the Indo-Pakistan border, as the situation was relatively quiet.

Supply of Arms to Pakistan by U. S. A. and China

382. SHRI H. M. PATEL :
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received reports through its diplomatic sources, or otherwise, that the United States and China have proposed to supply arms to Pakistan ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard and whether this issue has been taken up with the Chinese and the American Governments : and

(c) if so, whether Government have received any reply from them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c). Government have seen unconfirmed reports to this effect.

Government are convinced that fresh supplies of arms by foreign countries to Pakistan can only strengthen militaristic elements within Pakistan and thereby obstruct the achievement of lasting peace in the subcontinent. U. S. Government have been informed of India's views. U. S. Govt. have replied that the matter is under review but no decision to supply arms to Pakistan has been taken so far.

Opening of Cultural Centres in Foreign Countries

383. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI : Will

the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are thinking in terms of opening of Cultural Centres along with our diplomatic missions in some of the countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America ; and

(b) if so, the outline thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Indian Council for Cultural Relations is opening two Cultural Centres, one in Suva (Fiji) and the other in George Town (Guyana) during the year. In 1972-73, it is proposed to open Cultural Centres in San Francisco (US), Lima (Peru) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia).

Each centre will be under an Indian Director who will be assisted by teachers who will teach and lecture on Indian dancing, music, fine arts, languages etc. Each centre will be equipped with a Library of books, films, slides, records and tapes and a reading room and will organise film shows, lectures, exhibitions and the like for projecting Indian culture. These centres are expected to create awareness among people, both foreigners and of Indian origin, in foreign countries of India's modern and ancient culture and also of the significant developments that have been and are taking place in the political, social, economic and cultural fields in our country.

The Cultural Centres will work under the over all guidance of Heads of our Missions.

Foreign help for Refugees

385. SHRI AMAR NATH CHAWLA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 750 on the 18th November, 1971 regarding foreign help for refugees and state :

(a) whether the promised aid from various countries/agencies has since been received ; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b). Against the promised aid of Rs. 198.37 crores (which includes a sum of Rs. 14.98 crores promise direct to the Voluntary Organisation) the Government of India have received aid in cash of Rs. 37 crores. Besides this, the valuation of aid received in kind so far works out to about Rs. 90 crores.

According to the information received from UN Focal Point, the balance of aid promised is reported to be in the pipeline, and is expected to arrive shortly.

Registered Job-Seekers

386. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of job-seekers on the live registers of employment exchanges at the end of December, 1971;

(b) how it compares with figures during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the percentage increase of such numbers every year; and

(d) the number of persons provided employment during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR & REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) to (b). The information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Year	Number on Live Register at the end of the year	Percentage increase in the Live Register over the preceding year.	Number of placements effected by the Employment Exchanges during the year
1968	30,11,642	9.9	4,24,227
1969	34,23,885	13.7	4,32,182
1970	40,68,554	18.8	4,47,195
1971	50,99,919	25.3	5,06,973

Bonus to employees of public sector undertakings running at loss

387. SHRI R. S. PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of a number of Public Undertakings which are not running in profit, have not been getting any bonus and so there has been discontentment among them on this issue;

(b) whether Government have considered any solution to this problem; and

(c) if so, the steps taken and the manner in which they are being implemented in those Public Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) to (c) Payment of bonus in terms of the Payment of Bonus act, 1965 as a statutory obligation and, in case of default, the concerned employers are liable to prosecution. Government are not aware of any default in payment of bonus by a public sector undertaking covered by the Act.

Threats of expulsion to Indian ambassador in U. S. A.

388. SHRI R. S. PANDAY:
SHRI H. N. MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Ambassador to U. S. A. was threatened with expulsion by the US Government for making the reported statement about the movement of the U. S. Seventh Fleet into the Bay of Bengal during the recent Indo-Pakistan war;

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

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with U. S. Government and if so, the results thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

National Cadre of Doctors for Industrial Employees

389. SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish a national cadre of Doctors for industrial employees ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal to set up a national cadre of Doctors for Industrial Employees. However, the Estimates Committee have recommended that the feasibility of creating a separate all-India cadre of Employees State Insurance Medical Officers on the lines of Central Health Service be examined. The matter is under examination.

French Ships in Indian Ocean

390. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item published in the "Hindustan Times" of the 15th January, 1972, under the heading "France too sending ships to the Indian Ocean" ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has seen the news report.

(b) Government's view that the Indian Ocean should be an area of peace, free from great power presences, rivalries and tensions is well known. India subscribed to the Lusaka Declaration, and she was one of the co-sponsors of the U. N. General Assembly Resolution No. 2832 (XXVI) of 1st December 1971, calling on all powers to maintain the Indian Ocean area as a zone of peace.

Exploitation of Lead and Copper Deposits in Andhra Pradesh

391. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether tests carried out by the Geological Survey of India have shown that the lead and copper deposits at Agnigundala in Andhra Pradesh can support a daily mine production of about 1000 tonnes of lead ore and 4000 tonnes of copper ore over a period of 20 years ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to start commercial exploitation of the deposits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Agnigundala Lead-Copper deposits comprises three blocks, viz. Bandalamottu, Nallakonda and Dhukonda. On the basis of the exploratory work done by the Geological Survey of India, these deposits are estimated to contain about 10 million tonnes of lead ore averaging about 6% lead and about 5-7 million tonnes of copper ore averaging between 1½% to 1¾% copper. Exploratory mining has been undertaken at Bandalamottu and Nallakonda blocks for detailed proving and for drawing-up of Detailed Project Report for commercial exploitation of these two deposits. It is proposed to set-up a Pilot Mill of 100 tonnes per day capacity at Bandalamottu for processing lead ore, which will be produced during the course of the exploratory mining operations. The mill will also generate necessary design data for planning larger capacity Process Plants for the operational stage.

Exploratory Mining Scheme at Bandalamottu will be completed by 31st December, 1972, and at Nallakonda by 30th June, 1973. Until the results of the current exploratory mining schemes at Bandalamottu and Nallakonda

are evaluated, it is not possible, at this stage, to indicate the scale of operations that would be possible at this Agnigundala Lead-Copper Project

Verification of Membership of Central Trade Union Organisations

392 SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the next biennial general verification was due on the 31st December 1970 for the verification of membership of Central Trade Union Organisations

(b) if so whether any necessary process for verification was set up in 1971

(c) whether the verification has been postponed and if so the reason thereof

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) Yes Sir

(c) Pending consultations with the representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisation, further process of verification of membership has been withheld

Production of Steel

393 SHRI VIKARIA
SHRI NIHAR LASKAR

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether increase in production of steel through higher utilization of existing capacity has not materialised to the extent anticipated, and

(b) if so the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken in this regard

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) (i) *Main factors affecting production*

The more important reasons which

affected production in 1971-72 are the following

(1) *Bhilai* There was a major breakdown in the Coke Oven batteries in the month of May 1971

(2) *Durgapur*, Industrial relations situation continued to be disturbed. There were also problems of maintenance

(3) *Rourkela* The production in all the units of the Plant was adversely affected on account of the mishap in the Steel Melting Shop on 11th July 1971. Difficulties in the Coke Oven batteries affecting the supply of coke and coke oven gas constituted a general constraint on production

(4) *IISCO* Production in IISCO has been affected by shortage of Coke Oven gas arising from deterioration in the condition of the very old Coke Ovens

(5) *IISCO* The industrial relations situation was unsatisfactory

(ii) Remedial Measures Taken

(1) *Bhilai* A program of emergency repairs has been undertaken with a view to bringing the Coke Ovens to proper shape. To supplement gas availability other fuels are being used

(2) *Rourkela* The reconstruction of the roof of the Steel Melting Shop was completed on high priority and production has already adequately picked up. The Coke Ovens are also being repaired on high priority. Gas is being supplemented by other fuels

(3) *IISCO* The problem of Coke shortage is expected to be overcome on the completion of the replacement/rebuilding programme undertaken by the Company. The use of pellets from the pelletisation plant of the Company which has started production, is also expected to reduce the consumption of coke. As regards shortage of Coke Oven gas, the Company has undertaken a crash programme to provide alternative arrangements for firing with fuel oil

4 *Industrial Relations*, As regards industrial relations, efforts continue to be made to resolve all disputes through negotiations

manufacture. However, the total effect of the enforcement of this Order on the profitability of particular companies cannot be assessed till all price-controlled drugs and/or formulations of a company have been brought under revised prices.

The aforementioned Committee suggested that with a view to preventing payment of undue prices for imports, a watch should be kept over import and import prices of the companies. Government is doing this and

also plans to publish the particulars of imports of raw materials such as bulk drugs and intermediates into the country.

The names of the foreign drug companies and the remittances made by them during the last three years are given in the attached statement. Data about the profits earned by them during the past three years is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

*Remittances abroad of Foreign drug Companies during 1978-79, 1979-80 & 1980-81
(as provided by RBI Bombay)*

(Rs. in lakhs)

Name of the Company	Year (1st April to 31st March)	Profit/Dividends	Tech. Know-how	Royalty	Head Office	Total expenses
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Abbot Lab. (I) Pvt. Ltd. Bombay	1978-79	12.08	..	..	..	12.08
	1979-80	17.81	..	..	..	17.81
	1980-81	10.12	..	..	..	10.12
2. Burroughs Wellcome & Co. (I) Limited, Bombay	1978-79	..	..	..	..	..
	1979-80	15.00	..	..	..	15.00
	1980-81	22.50	..	..	..	22.50
3. C.E. Fulford (I) Pvt. Ltd. Bombay.	1978-79	2.87	..	..	..	2.87
	1979-80	1.54	..	..	..	1.54
	1980-81	..	..	..	..	..
4. May & Baker (I) Ltd. Bombay.	1978-79	..	..	..	..	..
	1979-80	17.99	..	..	..	17.99
	1980-81	..	..	..	..	..
5. Smith Kline & French (I) Ltd. Bangalore	1978-79	103.95	..	..	..	103.95
	1979-80	7.97	..	..	..	7.97
	1980-81	..	..	..	..	..

- (iv) Exception limit may be raised to Rs 3/ per day
- (v) Government of India should also contribute towards the cost of the Scheme
- (vi) The share of the State Government should be raised to an appropriate level which should in no case be less than what each State is spending normally on the medical care of the general public
- (vii) Central and State Government should give financial assistance to the Employers State Insurance Corporation by way of grants/loans for the construction programme
- (viii) The desirability of specifying the State Governments share in the statute itself without leaving it to the individual agreements
- (ix) The possibility of introducing a scheme of No claim Bonus for workers who do not avail of any benefit under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme during a year and its financial implications
- (x) The Estimate Committee would like to recommend that feasibility of creating a separate all India cadre of ISI medical officers on the lines of Central Health Service with an earmarked quota for each State be examined in consultation with the State Governments. The Committee feel that the creation of an all India cadre under the overall control of the Corporation would inculcate a sense of belonging to the scheme in the minds of those serving it and also enable the Corporation to have an effective control over the administration of medical care

Dismissal of Unwanted Labourers from Sarguja Coalfields on Medical Grounds

396 SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether in some cases medical test and first aid tests are used as an excuse by the management to dismiss unwanted labourers from the Sarguja coalfields, and

(b) what steps Government have taken in this context to obviate such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) No such cases of dismissal of workers on excuse of medical and first tests are reported

(b) Does not arise

Drinking Water Facilities for the labourers of Coalfields in Sarguja District

397 SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) the number of coalfields in Sarguja District which still do not have filtered drinking water for the labourers, and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to give the labourers this facility and how long this project will take?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) No survey has been made to ascertain the number of collieries in Sarguja District which do not have filtered drinking water for coal-miners. The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund supplements the efforts of colliery owners for implementing water supply schemes by giving financial assistance from the Fund. Financial assistance has been given from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund for implementing water supply schemes in Kurasia, Barsingpur and Kunda collieries. The water supply schemes for New Chirimiri, Ponri Hill colliery and Chirimiri colliery have been technically sanctioned and the schemes for Gudripara and Duman Hill colliery and North Chirimiri Colliery are under scrutiny. However because of the deficit in General Welfare account of the Coalmines Labour Welfare Fund no fresh proposals for grant of subsidy can be considered now.

Uniform Pay Fixation for Workers of Sarguja Coalfields

398 SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the reasons for delay in having a uniform pay scale fixation for the workers of the Sarguja coalfields?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The recommendations of the Wage Board for Coal Mining Industry are not statutory. For this reason and for the reason that the managements have separately entered into settlements with the unions working in their establishments, it is not possible to insist on a uniform rate of Variable Dearness Allowance, varying from time to time as per the recommendations of the Wage Board.

Closure of Kotkona Coalfields in Sarguja District

399 **SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the closure of the Kotkona coalfields in Sarguja district ; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to restart this mine or to provide alternative employment to the laid off workers ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The work in the colliery had to be suspended due to a lack of demand for coal.

(b) The re-opening of the colliery can be considered only after the demand for coal in the area develops beyond the capacity of the other collieries in the area owned by the National Coal Development Corporation. On suspension of work all the surplus personnel in the Kotkona Coalfields were given employment in the other collieries owned by the Corporation.

Treatment of Patients in Hospital set up at Manindragarh in Sarguja District

400. **SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the reasons why the hospital set up by his Department at Manindragarh in Sarguja District does not treat patients from the town of Manindragarh and Ghirimiri when its capacity of beds lies unutilized ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADIL-

KAR) : The reference in the Question seems to be to the Central Hospital set up by the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation at Manendragarh for the benefit of entitled colliery workers and their dependants. Subject to availability of beds, members of general public are provided treatment on payment of usual charges in the hospitals run by this Organisation. No complaints have been received by us about refusal of such treatment in the case of Central Hospital at Manendragarh.

Transfers in E. P. F. O.

402. **SHRI MD. JAMILURRAHMAN :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the inspectors of the Employers' Provident Fund Organisation are continuing for the last 8/9 years in the same cities and regions while some are frequently transferred ; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to prescribe some norms in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the Employers' Provident Fund Organisation. It will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as early as possible.

Application of E.P.F. Act, 1952 to Presses and Railway Workshops in Bihar

403. **SHRI MD. JAMILURRAHMAN :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Bihar Presses at Gaya and Gulzarbagh and Railway Workshops at Jamalpur, Gomoh, Danapur have been covered under the Employees Provident Funds Act, 1952 and exemption under Section 17 (I) (b) have been granted ;

(b) whether they are paying inspection charges and submitting the returns in Appendix 'A' regularly ; if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the names of the Railway workshops and printing presses that have been covered by the said Act all over India ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) to (c) The Provident Fund authorities have reported that the information is not readily available. It will be collected and laid on the Table of the Sabha as early as possible

Extensive Geological Surveys of Mineral Deposits in Bihar

404 KUMARI KAMALA KUMARI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether in view of the availability of large deposits of various minerals in Bhawanathi Pur (Chandwa, Tori and Latchur of Palamau District (Bihar Government propose to conduct extensive geological surveys of these areas so that these mineral Deposits may be prospected and

(b) if so the time by which it would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b) Besides the geological surveys carried out earlier the Geological Survey of India currently engaged in surveying the areas of Bhawanathpur (Chandwa-Tori and Latchur of Palamau District Bihar). As a result of these surveys large reserves of limestone in Bhawanathpur coal and fine clay in Latchur Chandwa-Tori area have been located. The investigations will continue in these areas during the Fourth Plan Period.

Uniform Labour Laws

405 SHRI NIHAR LASKAR Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether FICCI stressed the need for a uniform and broadbased labour law which should be simple for easy implementation to replace the present plethora of labour laws, and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) No such proposal has been received from FICCI

(b) Does not arise

Ground Rent Collected From West Pakistan Displaced Persons in Delhi/ New Delhi

406 SHRI B K DASCHOWDHURY Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1341 on the 29th July 1971 regarding Ground rent collected from West Pakistan displaced persons in Delhi New Delhi and state

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected and

(b) if so the time by which it is proposed to be laid on the Table

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) Ground rent is being charged at the rate of 3 per cent per annum of the premium in the case of West Pakistan Displaced Persons who were allotted plots in Colonies in Delhi New Delhi under the provisions of the Resettlement of Displaced Persons (Land Acquisition) Act 1948. However after the enforcement of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act 1954 leases of Plots in Delhi forming part of the 'Compensation Pool' were issued on revised lease terms provided in the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules 1955. Those who obtained leases under the provisions of the earlier legislation were given the option to continue on these old terms or accept revised leases.

(b) The amount of ground rent at the rate of 3 per cent per annum recovered from the allottees of plots in West Pakistan Displaced Persons colonies in Delhi, during 1968-69 to 1970-71 is as follows. The figures are not maintained area-wise

1968-69	Rs. 8.08 lakhs.
1969-70	Rs. 9.08 lakhs.
1970-71	Rs. 8.59 lakhs.

The amount of ground rent recovered from the allottees of plots in West Pakistan Displaced Persons colony in Delhi, is as follows :—

1968	..	Rs. 1.19 lakhs.
1969	..	Rs. 0.40 lakh
1970	.	Rs. 1.28 lakhs
1971	..	Rs. 1.88 lakhs

Sino-Pak Defence Pact

407. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of defence pact between China and Pakistan ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have no authentic information about the existence or otherwise of a formal defence pact between China and Pakistan. Government consider any augmentation of an accretion to the military strength of Pakistan as a danger to the peace and security of the subcontinent.

Selection of Indians for U. N. Secretariat Posts

408. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether vacancies in the United Nations Secretariat are communicated only to the Ministry of Finance ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to bring them to the notice of all Government employees to avoid discrimination ; and

(c) the names, designations and the De-

partments of the offices who were selected for United Nations post during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. Vacancies are also communicated to other Ministries/Departments concerned.

(b) Since according to UN Secretariat norms for recruitment, India is regarded as being already "numerically well represented" in the Secretariat, action is not usually taken to forward names of Indian applicants in response to all vacancy notices. However, in every case where it is decided to recommend Indian candidates, vacancies are circulated to all Ministries/Departments concerned inviting applications from persons with the requisite qualifications and experience suited to the post in question. All applications received are carefully screened, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance for U. N. D. P. assignments and the Cabinet Secretariat in other cases, for preparing a panel from which final selection is made with the approval of the Minister of External Affairs or Prime Minister.

(c) The information is being collected from the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as available.

Renaming of E. P. D. P. Kalkaji Colony, New Delhi.

409. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals have been received to name the EPDP Colony near Kalkaji after Deshbandhu C. R. Das ; and

(b) if so, the action so far taken on those proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION : (SHRI R. K. KHANDILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Various Associations of allottees were requested to have a common meeting and suggest a panel of three names in order of preference. The Associations have, however, failed to arrive at a consensus or agreement.

Collaboration on Important Mineral Based Projects in Orissa.

410. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre and Orissa State have come to an agreement to collaborate in two strategically important mineral-based projects to be set up in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The Central Government and the State Government of Orissa have agreed to set up a corporation for the development of Sukhinda Nickel Deposits in District Cuttack, Orissa, with the former having 51% shares and latter having 49% shares in it. The Nickel extraction plant will have the capacity to produce 4800 tonnes of Nickel powder, 200 tonnes of cobalt powder and 17,000 tonnes of Ammonium Sulphate fertilizer as bye-product per annum. Steps are being taken to undertake pilot scale tests before a detailed project report for the commercial exploitation of the deposit is drawn up.

There is a similar proposal for a joint venture between the Central Government and the State Government of Orissa regarding the lead deposits in Sargipalli, Orissa. Before however a lead smelter based on these deposits is set up, it is necessary that the detailed investigations of the deposits which are being carried out by the Geological Survey of India are completed. This work is being attended to.

Setting up of a Nickel Extraction Plant in Orissa.

411. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a nickel extraction plant in Orissa to speed up the exploitation of the nickel ore reserves available in the Sukhinda area of the state;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the estimated cost of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). On the basis of the feasibility report prepared by M/s Chemical, Metallurgical and Design Company (CMDC), New Delhi, Government propose to set up a Nickel Plant with an annual production of 4,800 tonnes of Nickel powder, 200 tonnes of cobalt metal and 17,000 tonnes of Ammonium Sulphate fertilizer as bye-product, based on the Sukhinda Nickel deposit in distt. Cuttack of Orissa. For this purpose, pilot scale tests are proposed to be undertaken before a detailed project report for the commercial exploitation of the deposit is drawn up. The project is estimated to cost about Rs. 32 crores.

Vote Against India in U. N. O.

413. SHRI P. K. DEO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India has done some survey as to why 104 countries voted against India on the Bangla Desh issue in the United Nations; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS : (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) The General Assembly resolution calling for ceasefire and withdrawal of armed forces was adopted by a vote of 104 in favour, 11 against, 10 abstentions and 6 countries not participating. The sizeable majority for the resolution was not a vote against India but an indication of the tendency of most Govts. to accept the standard formula for ceasefire and withdrawal when a conflict has broken out. During the debate in the Assembly and informal explanations to the Indian delegation, most delegations mentioned this to us. However, the resolution totally ignored the basic issue of the situation. The Resolution adopted by the Security Council on 21.12.1971 was very different from the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly.

Statement of Dalai Lama regarding plebiscite in Tibet

414. SHRI P. K. DEO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dalai Lama recently issued a

statement preferring plebiscite in Tibet to ascertain wishes of the Tibetan people; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Government have seen press reports regarding Dalai Lama's press interview, wherein reference to plebiscite in Tibet was made.

(b) The policy of the Government of India is quite clear. India has all along regarded Tibet as a part of China.

Strike by Workers in Alloy Steel Plant Durgapur

415. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether production in the Steel Plant at Durgapur was suspended in February because of a strike by some workers of the Auto Garage Maintenance Unit and Shipping Department;

(b) If so, the demands of the workers; and

(c) the steps taken to end the strike and the settlement reached with the workers, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demands of workers were as follows :

- (1) Increased manning of Auto Garage and Loco Repair Shop (Maintenance); and
- (2) Upgradation of the scale of pay of the Riggers in the Shipping Department.

(c) The strike of Auto Garage and Loco Repair Shop (Maintenance) was withdrawn from 6:00 A. M. of 23-2-1972 after a tripartite agreement was reached between the

management, the Alloy Steels Sramik Union (AITUC) and the Hindustan Steel Employees' Union (CITU) which is the recognised union. The strike by the Riggers of the Shipping Department was called off from 15-2-1972 by the Hindustan Steel Employees' Union (CITU) after a meeting with the Chairman, Hindustan Steel Limited which resulted in a memorandum of settlement between the management and the recognised union. The main features of these Agreements are as under :

Auto Garage and Loco Repair Shop (Maintenance);

- (1) The total number of workmen in the Auto Garage and Loco Repair Shop of Alloy Steel Plant shall be 187 including leave reserve and weekly off.
- (2) The distribution of these 187 workmen among different groups and the grade-wise composition of this number will be as provided for in the agreement.

Riggers of Shipping Section ;

- (1) Seven posts of Rigger-cum-Checker in the scale of Rs. 290-410/- would be created in the Shipping Section and consequently the seven existing posts of Riggers in the scale of Rs. 225-327/- would be abolished. The four seniormost Riggers of Shipping Section would be considered for appointment to the post of "Rigger-cum-Checker" in the scale of Rs. 290-410.
- (2) Three Slingers of the Stores Section would be transferred to Shipping Section and considered as per their seniority for appointment as Rigger-cum-Checker in the scale of Rs. 290-410/-.
- (3) Three juniormost Riggers of Shipping Section would be transferred to the Stores Section and they shall do the jobs of Slingers of Stores Section.
- (4) The appointments mentioned under 1 & 2 and the transfer mentioned under 3 would take effect from 1.3.1972.

Compensation paid to owners of Coking Coal Mines taken over by Government

416. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether compensation has been paid

to the owners of coking coal mines whose management was taken over by the Centre,

(b) whether valuation has been completed, and

(c) if not, the steps taken to expedite the same and to make payment of compensation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) to (c) Under the Coking Coal Mines (Emergency Provisions) Act 1971 (No. 64 of 1971) a provision has been made for the payment of an amount in cash for the vesting in the Central Government of the management of the coking coal mines. Steps are being taken for the payment of this management amount on the basis of the formula laid down in the Act. Valuation of assets and the payment of an amount for their take-over will arise only after the mines are nationalised.

Bokaro Steel Plant

417 SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK
SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the progress made by the Bokaro Steel Plant

(b) whether the work is progressing according to schedule and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) In respect of the first Blast Furnace Complex most of the work has been completed. As regards Stage I of the Project 99% of earthwork excavation, 86% of concreting and R.C.C., 84% of underground communication, 100% of controlled earth fill, 58% of the building structural erection, 52% of technological structural erection, 30% of mechanical equipment erection, 28% of electrical equipment erection and 22% of refractories erection have been completed.

(b) By and large, the work now is proceeding according to the schedule. However, backlogs have occurred in some areas, particularly in the Hot Rolling Mills. All-out efforts are being made to make up the shortfalls and to complete the project on schedule.

(c) The main reasons for delays have been as follows:

- (1) Inadequate resources and manpower of the existing contractors in relation to the massive requirements of the jobs undertaken by them.
- (2) Delays in the supplies of fabricated structures due, mainly, to shortage of industrial gases.
- (3) Unsatisfactory industrial relations between some contractors and their workers.
- (4) Withdrawal of work from certain contractors due to their persistent failure.
- (5) Delays in receipt of indigenously produced equipments or components.

Increase in rate of Interest of E. P. F.

418 SHRIDINENBHATTACHARYA
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are considering to increase the present rate of interest on a member's accumulation in the Employees Provident Fund, and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) As recommended by the Board of Trustees, Employees' Provident Fund Government have already approved that interest may be paid to the subscribers at the rate of 6 per cent per annum for the year 1972-73 as against the rate of 5.8 per cent per annum for the year 1971-72.

Malpractices by re-rollers of Steel Scrap

419 SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether any enquiry has been held

into the various malpractices indulged by the re-rollers of steel scrap,

(b) if so, the names of the parties involved and the outcome of the enquiry, and

(c) the preventive measures which Government propose to take to put an end to such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b) Some reports have been received about allocation of raw materials to some scrap Re-rollers who are not in existence or not in operation. These are being investigated

(c) Regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have been set up in different parts of the country and one of their functions is to check misuse of steel. The Iron and Steel (Control) Order was also amended last year to provide that utilisation of steel for purposes other than those for which steel is allocated or applied for is a violation of the Control Order and would attract the penal provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. In investigating such complaints, the assistance of the Central Bureau of Investigation is also being taken where necessary.

Increase in E. P. F. Arrears

120. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the arrears of Provident Fund Shares of Employers are increasing every year,

(b) if so, the arrears, year-wise, during the last three years, and

(c) the action taken by Government for the prompt payment of Provident Fund Shares by the employers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :-

(a) and (b). Separate figures of arrears of employers' share are not available. How-

ever, the total quantum of arrears of provident fund contributions in respect of unexempted establishments stood at Rs 1217 lakhs, 1469 lakhs and 1649 lakhs at the end of March, 1969, March, 1970 and March, 1971 respectively.

(c) The following steps are taken against the unexempted establishments which default in the payment of provident fund dues

- (i) Prosecution is launched under Section 14 of the Employees' Provident Fund and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952
- (ii) Revenue Recovery proceedings are initiated under Section 8 of the Act
- (iii) In suitable cases complaints are filed with the Police Courts under Section 406-409 of the Indian Penal Code
- (iv) Penal damages are levied under Section 14B of the Act
- (v) The default is brought to the notice of the Employers and Workers Organisations including the Trade Unions
- (vi) In some cases the establishments are afforded a chance to pay the dues in suitable instalments subject to production of adequate guarantee, surety etc.
- (vii) In the case of Textile Mills which have gone into liquidation, reconstruction schemes are examined on merits

Debarring of Defaulting Employers from Board of Trustees of E. P. F. and C. M. P. F.

121. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDAR Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to debar the defaulting employers sitting on the Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund and Coal Mines Provident Fund, and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) The Employees' Provident Fund and the Coal Mines Provident Fund Schemes have already been amended to provide for removal from Trusteeship of defaulting employers from the Boards of Trustees.

Absorption of Surplus Staff engaged on work connected with Bangla Desh Evacuees

422. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the employees and staff recruited in connection with Bangla Desh evacuees have made any appeal before this Ministry for their absorption in other sectors and

(b) if so, the proposal in this regard to provide employment for them ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. Representations have been received from certain categories of staff.

(b) So far as the organised services are concerned, efforts are being made to find equivalent posts wherever possible for the staff rendered surplus. In the case of direct recruits, a proposal to relax the normal rules for giving priority for employment assistance through Employment Exchanges is under consideration. So far as retired Army Officers are concerned, the Director General of Resettlement, Ministry of Defence is being approached for their absorption.

Arms Supply to Pakistan by Arab Countries

424. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Arab Countries responded to U. S. A.'s secret deals to send arms quietly to Pakistan during the 14 days war with India ; and

(b) if so, the names of such countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). According to our information, aircraft from Jordan were reported to have been ferried to Pakistan during the recent war.

Estimates of Bokaro Steel Project

425. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bokaro Steel Project estimates have risen from the original figure of Rs. 600 crores to over Rs. 1,000 crores ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to ensure that the estimates are not revised any further ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. According to the revised estimates the Bokaro Steel Project in the first stage will cost Rs. 758 crores against the original estimates of Rs. 671 crores framed in 1966. The main reasons for the increase are the higher cost of indigenous equipment, increase in the price of construction materials including steel and cement, and escalation in Wages.

बैलाडीला से लौह अयस्क का निर्यात

427. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या इस्पात और खान मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बैलाडीला खदान में इस समय केवल ऐसे उच्च श्रेणी के लौह-अयस्क का निर्यात हो रहा है जिसमें 65 प्रतिशत के लगभग शुद्धता है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार उच्च एवं निम्न श्रेणी के लौह अयस्क मिश्रित करके उसे निर्यात योग्य बनाने पर विचार करेगी जिससे उच्च श्रेणी के लौह अयस्क का संरक्षण हो सके ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क) जी, हाँ ।

(ख) बैलाडीला निक्षेप सं० 14 के भू-विज्ञान और लौह अयस्क के निर्यात की संविदाओं के विनिर्देशों पर आधारित, अयस्क

बनाने वाले संयंत्र में खनन और व्यवहारित करने के लिए अयस्क की कतिपय श्रेणियाँ और कोटियाँ पूर्व-निर्धारित ढंग से चयित की जाती हैं। बैंगन-लदान और पत्तन स्टाक भंडारों में भी भागतः सम्मिश्रण होता है। उक्त प्रक्रिया के उपरान्त, 65% लोहांश वाली पिण्ड अयस्क की आशा की जाती है और इसलिए निम्न ग्रेड के साथ, जो इस निक्षेप पर उपलब्ध नहीं है, और सम्मिश्रण का प्रश्न नहीं उठता है।

मध्य प्रदेश में लौह अयस्क के लिए रायल्टी

428 श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में लौह अयस्क पर वर्तमान रायल्टी की दर क्या है ;

(ख) क्या वर्तमान दर प्रणाली काफी विश्लेषणात्मक है ; और

(ग) क्या रायल्टी की विविध दर प्रणाली में एक रूपता लाने के लिए सरकार का रायल्टी की दर प्रति मीट्रिक टन 1.50 रुपया निर्धारित करने का विचार है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क) समस्त भारत में लौह अयस्क के बारे में स्वामित्व की वर्तमान लागू दर इस प्रकार है :—

“(i) अयस्क —

(क) जिसमें 62% से अधिक लोहा हो	2.00 रुपए प्रति टन
(ख) जिसमें 62% तक लोहा हो	1.50 रुपये प्रति टन
(ii) अयस्क के खनन और चिक्कण किये जाने के अनुसंग में उत्पादित अयस्क-चूर्ण जिसमें दाने 1.25 सेंटीमीटर से कम हों	0.35 रुपये प्रति टन

(ख) चूँकि स्वामित्व की दरें अयस्क के आकार और लोहांश से सम्बन्धित हैं, अतः अयस्क पर संदेय स्वामित्व निर्धारण हेतु कुछ विश्लेषणात्मक कार्य करना आवश्यक है।

(ग) जी, नहीं। इसके अतिरिक्त, लौह अयस्क के बारे में स्वामित्व केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा नियत किया जाता है ताकि वह गत-मुख पर खनिज के विक्रय मूल्य के 20% से अधिक न हो। अयस्क की कीमत मुख्यतः लोहांश और आकार विनिर्देशों पर निर्भर रहती है जो पर्याप्ततः भिन्न होते हैं।

उद्योगों में गौण खनिज का उपयोग

429. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गौण खनिज की परिभाषा क्या है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि चूने का पत्थर जो गौण खनिज माना जाता है भवन बनाने तथा सीमेंट और चीनी के कारखानों के उपयोग में आता है ; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार का विचार गौण खनिज की परिभाषा की फिर से व्याख्या करने का है जिससे गौण खनिजों पर उपयोग के अनुसार अधिक रायल्टी वसूल की जा सके ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : (क) खान और खनिज (विनियमन और विकास) अधिनियम, 1957 की धारा 3 (ड) में “गौण खनिज” की निम्नलिखित परिभाषा दी गई है :—

“गौण खनिज” से हमारती पत्थर, बजरी, मामूली मृत्तिका, विहित प्रयोजनों

के लिए प्रयोग में लाई जाने वाली बालू से भिन्न मामूली बालू और कोई अन्य ऐसा खनिज अभिप्रेत है जिसे केन्द्रीय सरकार शासकीय राजपत्र में अधिसूचना द्वारा गौण खनिज घोषित करें।”

(ख) चूना पत्थर जो कि इमारती सामग्री के रूप में प्रयुक्त चूने के विनिर्माण के लिए भट्ठों में प्रयुक्त होता है, गौण खनिज माना जाता है। सिमेंट और चीनी उद्योगों जैसे अन्य प्रयोजनों में प्रयुक्त चूना पत्थर गौण खनिज नहीं माना जाता है।

(ग) गौण खनिजों को पुनः परिभाषित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है लेकिन किसी भी अन्य खनिज को गौण खनिज घोषित करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार में शक्तियाँ निहित हैं। गौण खनिजों के लिए स्वामित्व की दरें राज्य सरकारों द्वारा निर्धारित की जाती हैं और जब कभी वे आवश्यक समझें, स्वामित्व की दरों का पुनरीक्षण कर सकती हैं।

Setting up of a Second Steel Plant in Collaboration with U. S. S. R.

430. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether USSR Government have offered their collaboration in setting up a Second Steel Plant in India ; and

(b) if so, the main features there of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir. There is no specific offer from the USSR authorities for collaboration for a new steel plant.

(b) Does not arise.

पश्चिम पाकिस्तान से आए शरणार्थी

431. डा० संकटा प्रसाद :
श्री वरके जार्ज :

क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत कुछ महीनों के दौरान भारत में पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से शरणार्थी आये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी संख्या क्या है और सरकार इनके रहने का प्रबन्ध कहाँ कर रही है ; और

(ग) इनको सरकार वापिस कब तक भेजेगी ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग). पश्चिमी सीमा की राज्य सरकारों से पूछताछ की गई है। पश्चिम पाकिस्तान से कोई भी शरणार्थी जम्मू और काश्मीर और पंजाब में नहीं आया है। गुजरात सरकार द्वारा दी गई सूचना के अनुसार सीमावर्ती क्षेत्र में लगभग 1360 व्यक्ति आए हैं। राजस्थान के बारे में जानकारी उपलब्ध नहीं है और जैसे ही यह राज्य सरकार से प्राप्त होगी, सभा की भेज पर रख दी जायेगी। अभावग्रस्त लोगों को मानवता के आधार पर राहत प्रदान की जा रही है। जैसे ही भारत-पाकिस्तान के सम्बन्ध सामान्य हो जायेंगे, ये व्यक्ति पाकिस्तान लौट जाएंगे।

Settlement of Industrial Disputes

432. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre proposes to set up machinery that could expeditiously settle all industrial disputes on the lines of the Indus-

trial Relations commissions, as recommended by the National Labour Commission ; and

(b) the stage at which the matter stands at present ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Government will be in a position to formulate its proposals regarding the nature of the dispute settlement machinery as soon as the results of the current consultations among the representatives of the INTUC, the AITUC and the IIMS on this and related matters are known.

Mobilisation of World Opinion against U. S. Bombing in North Vietnam

433. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to mobilise world opinion against brutal bombing done by U. S. Government in North Vietnam during Christmas in 1971 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : Government of India deplore and view with profound regret and concern the renewed U. S. bombing of DRVN territory. Such bombing is not consistent with desire for peaceful negotiations.

The Government expressed on 29th December, 1971, through the official spokesman, their deep concern and shared the hope of all peace-loving governments and peoples that the bombing of DRVN would stop immediately

and that steps would be taken to solve the problem of Indo-China through peaceful negotiations.

Unemployment Due to Closure of Factories

434. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers rendered unemployed in 1969-70 and 1970-71 in each State on account of the closure of factories due to financial stringency or shortage of raw material ; and

(b) the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) A statement indicating the available information is attached.

(b) In case of shortage of raw materials Government issue, where necessary, advance import licences. Requests for financial assistance are considered by the appropriate agencies in terms of the rules governing such assistance. The Industrial Relations Machinery also make efforts to secure the re-opening of the closed units through persuasion. According to available information the number of factories which had re-opened during April 1, 1969 to March 31, 1971 in West Bengal, Mysore, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujrat, Orisa, Tamil Nadu, Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir was respectively 195, 268, 109, 88, 20, 11, 9, 8, 7, 6, 6, and 1.

STATEMENT

Number of Workers Statewise rendered unemployed in 1969-70 and 1970-71 on account of closure of Factories due to financial stringency or shortage of Raw Materials, as made available by the State Governments

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Number of workers rendered unemployed on account of closure of Factories due to financial stringency or shortage of raw materials during :	
		1969-70	1970-71
1.	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,200	789
2.	Bihar	6,522	7,632

1	2	3	4
3.	Gujarat	863	5,178
4.	Haryana	362*	101*
5.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
6.	Madhya Pradesh	93	2,500
7.	Manipur	Nil	Nil
8.	Mysore	13,576	4,168
9.	Maharashtra	2,155	3,550
10.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil
11.	Orissa	1,453	741
12.	Punjab	193	Nil
13.	Rajasthan	2,100* (Daily average)	670* (Daily average)
14.	Tamilnadu	3,547	4,168
15.	Uttar Pradesh	436	2,113
16.	West Bengal	13,389	18,652
17.	Andaman & Nicobar	Nil	Nil
18.	Chandigarh Admn	Nil	Nil
19.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil
20.	Delhi Admn.	136	2,019
21.	Goa, Daman & Diu	774	276
22.	Laccadives	Nil	Nil
23.	Pondicherry	650	54

*The information in respect of Haryana and Rajasthan relate to the Calander years 1969 and 1970.

Retrenchment of Construction Workers at Bhilai Steel Plant

435. SHRI MUHAMMED SHARIFF .
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES
be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken
for retrenchment of construction workers at
Bhilai Steel Plant ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI
SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Deposits of Magnetic Iron ore and Lime Stones in Kerala

436. SHRI C M. STEPHEN : Will the
Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased
to state :

(a) whether deposits of magnetic iron
ore and lime stones have been discovered in
the Kozhikode District of Kerala and if so,
the estimated quantum thereof ; and

(b) whether on the basis of the results of
the survey, detailed diamond drilling has been
done and if so, the results thereof and the
progress made in the drilling operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). As a result of investigations conducted by the Geological Survey of India, deposits of magnetic iron ore were located at Cheruppa, Eleyettimala, Nanminda, Naduvallur and Alampara in Kozhikode district, Kerala, Diamond drilling exploration in Cheruppa, Eleyettimala, Nanminda and Naduvallur areas has been completed and reserves of about 45.2 million tonnes of oxidised and unoxidised iron ore with a total iron ore content varying between 29 and 40% have been estimated. Exploration by drilling of clampara magnetic iron ore deposit is in progress.

No limestone deposit of economic importance has so far been discovered by Geological Survey of India in Kozhikode district.

Jute Trade Between India and Bangla Desh

437. SHRI B. V. NAIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to render substantial aid to Bangla Desh to revitalise the jute industry in that country ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Government of Bangladesh have not approached the Government of India for aid to revitalise their jute industry.

Cost reduction Study by M/s. Dasturco for Bokaro Steel Plant

438. DR. KARNI SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government, having found the cost of Bokaro Steel Plant as submitted by Soviet collaborators very high, had com-

missioned M/s. Dasturco for a cost reduction study ;

(b) whether Government had signed agreement with the Soviet collaborators for the supply of equipments, drawings and for rendering technical assistance without getting such a cost reduction study report from M/s. Dasturco ; and

(c) whether M/s. Dasturco had suggested a cost reduction of over Rs. 100 crores in the first stage in their study ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Detailed Project Report prepared by the Soviet Organisations was examined by a Technical Committee, including the representatives of Dasturco. This Committee recommended the acceptance of the Report with certain modifications. Subsequently, M/s. Dasturco suggested that there were possibilities of securing substantial cost reduction in the Project. It was for this reason that the cost reduction study was entrusted to Dasturco to give them further opportunity to make their suggestions. According to the agreed time schedule, the Detailed Project Report had to be accepted by Government within two months. This period was extended by mutual agreement by another month and the Detailed Project Report was approved by the Government on the 29th March 1966, subject to the specific provision that the Soviet Organisations will give due consideration to any concrete technical suggestions which may be made to them by the Indian side within three months. It was also provided that further possibilities of cost reduction will continue to be explored during the course of the detailed implementation of the Project.

(b) The agreement for the supply of equipment, drawings and technical assistance from the Soviet Organisations was concluded on 3rd May 1966. This did not preclude the possibility of such cost reductions as might be considered feasible on the basis of the Report from M/s. Dasturco.

(c) Yes, Sir, However, it was possible to effect a reduction of only Rs. 9.5 crores in the cost of the project after detailed discussions with the Soviet Organisations with the participation of M/s. Dasturco.

Issue of Letters of Intent for Manufacture of Sponge Iron

439. SHRI NAGESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the number of letters of intent issued for the manufacture of sponge iron, based on direct reduction process with iron content ranging between 85-95 per cent, that have materialised, together with particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : Only one letter of intent has been issued in favour of the Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa for the manufacture of 100,000 tonnes of Sponge iron per annum by the direct reduction process. This unit has not come up as yet.

Remarks attributed to Late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru by an Officer of Israeli Foreign Ministry

440. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an interview of Mr. Gideon Rafael, former Dir. General of the Foreign Ministry of Israel imputing many statements to the late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru and circulated in India widely ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to these statements ; and

(c) whether any change in our attitude and relationship with Israel is contemplated ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The records available with the Government of India do not substantiate the statements made by former Director-General of the Foreign Ministry of Israel.

(c) The Government's policy towards the countries of West Asia, based on principles of international conduct and overall considera-

tion of our national interest, is constantly under review. No change is called for.

Construction of Salem Steel Plant

441. SHRI K. GOPAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the stage at which the construction of Salem Steel Plant stands at present ;

(b) whether acquisition of the steel plant site has been completed by the Government of Tamil Nadu ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to expedite construction of the Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c) M/s. M. N. Dastur and Co. (P) Ltd., who were commissioned for the preparation of the Techno-Economic Feasibility Report on the Salem Steel Project, have submitted their report. A decision on the product-mix and technology to be employed would be taken shortly on the basis of which Detailed Project Report and estimates of cost would have to be prepared by the Consultants. Meantime, the following steps have been taken to expedite construction :

(i) Land Acquisition

The plant area covering about 2,750 acres has been demarcated on the advice of the Consultants. Out of this, priority has been accorded for the acquisition of about 1,372 acres in the first instance. The Government of Tamilnadu expect to complete acquisition of this area (1,372 acres) before the end of April, 1972.

(ii) Water Supply

Proposals have been drawn up for meeting the requirements of water during the construction stage as well as during the operation and maintenance stage of the plant and for the proposed township.

(iii) Power Supply

Advance action has been taken in consultation with the State Electricity Board for meeting the requirements of power during

the construction stage as well as during the operation and maintenance stage of the plant.

(iv) *Exchange Yard and Sidings*

The Railways have completed their survey for the exchange yard and sidings.

(v) *Site Levelling*

Messrs Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited have prepared a preliminary estimate for site levelling. They have estimated that this work can be completed in about 18 months. Action is being taken for arranging the necessary earthmoving machinery for execution of this work.

(vi) *Testing of raw materials*

Further samples of Kanjamalai ore have been taken after drilling deep holes and these samples are being tested at the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur.

Service conditions of E.S.I.C. Employees

442. SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government consider the employees of Employees' State Insurance Corporation as Government employees ; and

(b) if so, the reasons why they are not covered under the terms of reference of the Third Pay Commission for determination of their major service conditions ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The employees of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation are not Government servants.

(b) Does not arise.

Reference to India's Internal matters in Sino-U. S. Joint Communiqué

443. SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI :
SHRI VARKEY GEORGE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL

AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the joint communiqué issued by the American President and the Chinese Prime Minister in Peking ;

(b) whether both sides have supported the withdrawal troops by India and Pakistan to the position existing before the last war and the demand of self-determination by the people of Kashmir ,

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen the joint communiqué issued by the American President and the Chinese Prime Minister.

(b) Both sides have supported the withdrawal of troops by India and Pakistan to within their own territories and to their own sides of the cease-fire line in Jammu and Kashmir. China has supported the demand for self-determination by the people of Kashmir

(c) Government consider the reference to Kashmir as a gross interference in the internal affairs of India.

Picketing of Cochin Cashew Corporation Office

444. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANAKAPPAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a picketing in the Cochin Cashew Corporation office in the month of February, 1972 by more than one thousand cashew workers from different parts of Kerala State , and

(b) if so, their demands and steps taken by Government to meet them ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Matter falls in the State sphere.

Setting up of Heavy Engineering Corporation

445. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up another Heavy Engineering Corporation in the country to produce engineering goods which are in short supply ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production cost of Steel in Public Sector and Private Sector Steel Plants

446. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production cost of steel in public sector is relatively higher ; and

(b) if so, the difference in the cost of production of steel in public and private sector steel plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The works cost of production of steel ingots (excluding depreciation and interest) in the public sector and private sector plants in 1970-71 were (provisionally) :—

TISCO	— Rs. 392 per tonne
IISCO	— Rs. 425 "
Bhilai	— Rs. 354 "
Rourkela L. D.	— Rs. 371 "
Open hearth	— Rs. 430 "
Durgapur	— Rs. 414 "

The average works cost of steel ingots is less in the public sector plants.

Labour Policy During Fourth Plan

447. SHRI VARKEY GEORGE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Labour policy during the Fourth Plan has been finalized ; if so, the salient features thereof ; and

(b) whether discussions have taken place with the representatives of the workers ; if so, the name of those organisations ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KAHDILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Labour Policy in the Fourth Plan was to be the continuation of the policy pursued earlier, subject however, to the changes that might be made on the basis of the recommendations of the National Commission on Labour. The Commission's recommendations have been discussed, at various tripartite meetings and some consensus was reached. The views of the workers' representatives on some of the major issues were also ascertained at a conference of the Trade Unions in May, 1971 and at an informal meeting convened by the Planning Commission in September, 1971. However, some of the controversial issues like the machinery for the settlement of disputes and recognition of trade unions are at present being discussed by the Indian National Trade Union Congress, All India Trade Union Congress and Hind Mazdoor Sabha, among themselves. At a meeting of Working Party of Employers and Worker held on February 7, 1972 these organisations reported some tentative agreement on the above issues. They should be sending in their agreed conclusions shortly.

Help from Hungary for setting up Aluminium Plants

448. SHRI NAGESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hungary has agreed to give help for setting up aluminium plants in the public sector ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES: (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). The two Aluminium Projects in the Public Sector, one at Korba (Madhya Pradesh) upto alumina stage and the other at Ratnagiri (Maharashtra), are being set up by the Bharat Aluminium Company (a Central Government Company) with the technical advice and assistance from Hungary.

Further, with a view to promoting and strengthening the cooperation between the public sector aluminium industry in India and the Hungarian aluminium Industry in respect of research, product development and applications of aluminium etc., the Hungarian authorities have offered collaboration on a long term basis. In the field of research and development, Hungary has also offered to enter into a long term agreement with Bharat Aluminium Company for making their research experience available for the development of aluminium industry in India. They have further offered to supply equipment and machinery for the Ratnagiri Aluminium Project under the framework of Inter-Governmental Credit Agreement.

For the implementation of the Alumina Plant to be set up in Gujarat, the Hungarian Government has offered both financial and technical collaboration.

The extent to which Hungarian assistance is necessary and can be utilised in this regard is under consideration of the Government.

Pakistan Propaganda regarding P.O.W.'s

449. SHRI NAGESHWARTHA RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan raised the issue of POW's at the meeting of Islamic Conference held at Jeddah on the 29th February, 1972; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to counter the propaganda of Pakistan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) According to the communique issued at the end of the Islamic Foreign Minister's Conference at Jeddah, India and Pakistan were called upon to take

necessary steps to repatriate the Prisoners of War in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

(b) The manner in which the Government of India are discharging their obligations under the Geneva Conventions in respect of Pakistani POW's has been brought to the notice of the international community, through the International Committee of the Red Cross and through diplomatic channels.

12.00 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER : Before I take up the next item, I would like to inform the House that as is customary we will adjourn for half an hour at 4.30 P. M. and at 5 O'clock the Finance Minister will present the General Budget.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED GRAVE SITUATION IN TAMIL NADU AND OTHER STATES OWING TO DISPARITIES IN SUGARCANE PRICES

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN (Cuddalore): I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon :—

"The reported grave situation in Tamil Nadu and other States owing to disparities in sugarcane prices not in proportion with the price of sugar sold in the market or with the recovery of sugar assessed in the factories resulting in high price to the consumers."

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI F. A. AHMAD): It will be recalled that I had made a statement in this House on the 24th of November, 1971, in response to a Calling Attention Notice by Shri Narsingh Narayan Pande and other Members regarding sugarcane price. I had then informed the House of the sugarcane prices which the sugar factories then proposed to pay. Since then, the

[Shri F A Ahmed]

sugar industry in various States has enhanced the sugarcane price and the prices now being paid are as under —

<i>Per quintal</i>	
West U P	Rs 11 50
Central U P	Rs 10 50 to 12 00
East U P	Rs 9 50
North Bihar	Rs 8 50 to 10 00
Punjab	Rs 9 00
Haryana	Rs 11 00
Rajasthan	Rs 8 32 to 12 00
Madhya Pradesh	Rs 8 50
Orissa	Rs 7 37 to 8 50
West Bengal	Rs 8 50
Maharashtra	Rs 11 50 (Ex-field)
Gujarat	All cooperative factories, they are making advance payment provisionally
Andhra Pradesh	Rs 7 37 to 9 00
Tamil Nadu	Rs 7 37 to 8 50
Mysore	Rs 9 50 to 10 00
Kerala	Rs 8 00
Pondicherry	Rs 7 37
Assam	Rs 8 50

In the case of Tamil Nadu, the representatives of the sugar industry in that State during discussion in my Ministry a few days ago, have agreed to pay a minimum price of Rs 8 50 per quintal for sugarcane purchased during the entire season.

2 The Government of India fix only the minimum price of sugarcane payable by vacuum pan sugar factories and the actual price to be paid is to be settled between the sugarcane growers as sellers and sugar factories as buyers. The minimum price fixed by Government is linked to recovery of sugar from sugarcane, but the higher price to be actually paid and the question whether it should be linked to recovery, are to be settled between the buyers and the sellers.

3. The steep rise in prices of sugar has

been causing great concern to the Government and they took various measures to check the rise in price such as reducing the period of delivery of released sugar, prohibiting factories from refusing to sell sugar if unsold sugar is available against a valid release order, directing sugar factories to sell at least 20 per cent of their monthly released quota each week, restricting the holding of stocks by the traders, and banning inter-State movement of sugar by dealers. As stated by me in this House on the 13th December, 1971, a scheme has been introduced with effect from the 1st January, 1972, in consultation with the sugar industry, both in the joint stock and the cooperative sectors, under which the sugar industry has agreed to make available 60 per cent of the monthly released quota of sugar at a fixed price for distribution to domestic consumers through fair price shops. The availability of a reasonable portion of domestic consumer's requirements at a fixed price has thus been ensured.

4 The phenomenon of different prices being paid for sugarcane in different States is nothing unusual, particularly during times when there is no full control of sugar prices. The sugar factories have to pay within the limits of their own economics the necessary prices to obtain the requisite quantity of sugarcane in competition with other users of sugarcane.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN I thank the hon. Minister for this kind of statement, but I have to say that I must only remain satisfied or contented with the contents of that statement. The situation in Tamil Nadu has become very precarious and the cane-growers are on the verge of stopping the cane supply to the factories. But it is a regular custom to come forward with such statements. Of course, sugar is a sweet thing and statements come with sugar-coated words, but they cannot satisfy either the cane-growers or the customers.

My specific point in this call-attention is regarding the price fixed for the supply of cane by the cane-growers in relation to the price of sugar sold in the market or in relation to the recovery of sugar when the cane is crushed. In the statement given by the hon. Minister, of course, one thing is very specific. But let me refer to Tamil Nadu; the mill-owners in Tamil Nadu are so power-

ful and so capable that they can manage anything either with the State Government or with the Central Government. The price fixed for the cane is based on the recovery of sugar crushed during the season in the factory. The recovery process is in charge of a chemist in the factory; he is a simple chemist, an ordinary human-being. Every one knows about a chemist. He has his own problems—family and other things. The chemist who is under the mercy of the factory-owner is in charge of recording of the percentage of recovery of sugar in that factory. The whole thing is this. From the statement a number of things were read—the price fixed for the cane and the recovery being done in every State. But I referred to Tamil Nadu because the mill-owners in Tamil Nadu are capable of doing anything, they are more powerful than even the State Government. *(Interruption)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Central Government.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : Not Central Government.

SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI (Dharampuram) : On a point of order, Sir.

The hon. Member stated that the mill-owners in Tamil Nadu are capable of doing anything with the help of the State Government. I want to know one thing, Sir. It might happen in the Centre, but not in Tamil Nadu. *(Interruptions)*. Can the hon. Member give one specific instance?

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : I am giving it. I am referring particularly to Tamil Nadu. I am referring to the mill-owners of Tamil Nadu and I say they are more powerful than any force. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I am not concerned as to who is more powerful. Kindly put your question.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : Mill-owners in Tamil Nadu are so powerful and they are capable of doing anything. *(Interruption)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you address me?

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : I am addressing you, Sir. But, they are interrupting me.

In his statement the Minister has referred to .

MR. SPEAKER : Don't discuss it, ask your question.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : I am only referring to the statement made by the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : Frame your question, please.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : In the case of Tamil Nadu.

MR. SPEAKER : What is wrong with the hon Member? Tamil Nadu people are not so excitable so soon.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : In his statement the Minister has said :

"In the case of Tamil Nadu, the representatives of the sugar industry in that State during discussion in my Ministry a few days ago, have reported that they have agreed to pay a minimum price of Rs. 8.50 per quintal."

The cane-growers and their associations have met the State Chief Minister and the Agriculture Minister also and they have made representations to the mill-owners and the mill-owners' Association for the past one year that the price of sugarcane should be related to the price of sugar and they have not given even a proper reply. Here, the mill-owners have come all the way to Delhi and met the Central Minister and here we have the Minister's statement. Sir, I am not satisfied with the Minister's statement because it is not very specific as to when the mill-owners did come and meet the Minister, what did they say to the Minister and what is the agreement arrived at and whether the conclusions were arrived at officially or not. There is a precarious situation in Tamil Nadu. It is not only in Tamil Nadu that the mill-owners are so powerful, but elsewhere also they are powerful. Will the Government come forward to make the process of recovery being supervised by the cane growers? Then, only it will be

[Shri S. Radhakrishnan]

possible to check up the recovery of sugar. Will the Government take measures to make the factories pay the minimum price? Now, in Tamil Nadu, they are paying.

MR. SPEAKER : The question has started, it is not coming to an end (Interruption) I know the question has started four minutes earlier.

SHRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : The price of sugar cane is based on the cost of production of sugar and the cost of production of sugar is decided in the sugar factories. If this cost of production of sugar leads to the fixing of the price for cane, so also the cane-growers should be allowed to control the cost or to maintain the cost of production of sugar. Will the Government find out a solution to make the cane-growers as partners to decide the cost of production of sugar as maintained in the factories?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I share the concern of the hon Member so far as the cane-growers of Tamil Nadu are concerned. But, as the House is aware, the Government have fixed the minimum price of sugar at Rs. 7.37 per quintal. And, it was left to the cane-growers and the industry to fix up price according to the cost of production.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN (Madurai) : Is it adequate price?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : We have the price after taking into consideration all the facts. That was minimum price, notional price. There is nothing to prevent the sugarcane growers to get higher price than what was fixed as minimum price by Government. I am glad to inform the House that practically everywhere the price at which sugarcane was purchased was much higher than the minimum price fixed by the Government. It was brought to our notice that in Tamilnadu the industry was not paying higher price. So the matter was taken up and the President of the South Indian Sugarmills Association met the Food Secretary on 13th of March and indicated that they would also be paying Rs. 8.50 per quintal for the sugarcane from the very beginning. If the State Government feels that the price given to sugarcane growers is not justified they can bring pressure on the industry in order to give higher price to sugar-

cane growers. So far as we are concerned we have taken up the matter and it was due to our effort that now they have agreed to pay Rs. 8.50 per quintal.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र (मोतीहारी) : मन्त्री महोदय ने इसका जवाब नहीं दिया था कि यह रिकवरी आफ शुगर की परसेंटेज किसके जरिए सुपरवाइज्ड होगी? इसका सुपरविजन सरकार अपने हाथ में लेगी इसका जवाब नहीं आया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य बड़े बुजुर्ग हैं बाकी कभी-कभी जोश में आ जाते हैं।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : मैं आखिर हाउस का मੈम्बर हूँ और जानना चाहूँगा कि इस रिकवरी आफ शुगर की परसेंटेज का सुपरविजन सरकार करेगी, यह एक जनरल क्वेश्चन है जिसका कि मन्त्री महोदय को जवाब देना चाहिए।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य इतने गुस्से में मत आये।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : अब अगर अध्यक्ष महोदय आप हमारा इन्टरेस्ट प्रोटेक्ट नहीं करेंगे तो फिर कौन करेगा?

SHRI D. K. PANDA (Bhanjanagar) : It has been stated in the reply that from 1st January, 1972 they have introduced the scheme. Before that, on 13-12-71 the hon. Minister announced that domestic consumers in most places will get sugar at about Rs. 2 per k g. That was announced on 13-12-71 and the scheme was introduced on 1st of January. Perhaps when that was declared, the scheme was on the process of preparation and then on 1st of January, 1972 the scheme was introduced and after that, from Rs. 1-60 per kilo, today, in Delhi, in the capital city of India, it has gone up to Rs. 3-45 in the super market. In Kerala it has gone up to within Rs. 4 to Rs. 5 and in Orissa it has gone up to Rs. 3-50 and this is the position in Bombay and in all other States. The facts are there and already the Minister admitted that there is a steep rise in prices of sugar.

Therefore, I do not want to mention all those statistics. The price has gone up from Rs. 1.62 to Rs. 4 or 5. Under the pressure of the mill owners, when decontrol was effected, the Agriculture Ministry was fully aware of the fact that they had given a rebate of 19 per cent excise duty to the same sugar mill-owners; they have allowed them also not to pay cane arrears for years together. They have violated all the laws. They have never implemented the 1966 Cane Control Order. In spite of all these things, they have allowed those very sugar magnates like the Birlas, Tatas, Nivettias and Modis to reap enormous profits. The total production is 30 lakhs tonnes, and if the price goes up three times you can imagine what the profit would be in terms of crores of rupees. Therefore, I put this question to the hon. Minister. In view of the very statement made by the hon. Minister to stick to the price of Rs. 2, may I know whether any specific measures have been taken for the purpose after 1st January after the introduction of the scheme, because the effect of the scheme, is already known, is that the price has gone up by two or three times? So, what other specific measures are Government going to introduce so as to catch those sugar magnates who are selling sugar at such high prices and who have already harvested huge and enormous profits to the tune of crores of rupees? Even the president of the National Federation of Co-operative Sugar Industries has demanded the fixation of a statutory minimum price at Rs. 10 per quintal. Shri P. S. Rajagopala Naidu, the president of this federation has appealed to the Agriculture Ministry and has also addressed a letter to them to the effect that unless the minimum price is statutorily fixed at Rs. 100 per tonne there will be fall in production of cane, and that will ultimately result in the closure of the industries also. In fact, even the president of the association of 149 private sugar mill owners' associations, one Mr. Lal Bansidhar has also said on the 12th September, 1971 that it is necessary to increase the price of sugarcane to Rs. 9 per quintal, that is, Rs. 90 per tonne, in order to increase the acreage under sugarcane to meet the increased requirements of consumption in the country, which has already gone up to 40 per cent.

In view of these two demands made by the sugar industry managements, both private and co-operative, and the demand made by the All India Cane growers' Association before the Agriculture Ministry, and also by the cane-growers'

co-operatives, in UP and Bihar and also all over India, who have also made the same appeal, and also in view of the fact that there is a Cane Control Order, and also taking in to consideration the actual cost of production and the income from the alternative crops which are the two factors on the basis of which the price has to be fixed, may I know whether the Cane Control Order which has been overlooked is going to be treated as a dead letter or it is going to be scrapped or it is going to be implemented here and now?

As for the sick sugar mills, Government has been turning a deaf ear to the representation made. Now the entire matter has been referred to an enquiry committee. In the words of Shri Nahata, Shri Narsingh Pande and Shri Lakkappa, in a conspiratorial fashion some lobbying is going on to scuttle the move towards nationalisation. So how long will this Enquiry Committee take to finalise its report? When no such Committee was appointed before nationalisation of banks or LIC where is the necessity to have an Enquiry Committee in regard to sugar mills? There has already been delay. So I want to ask whether under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act they are going to take over the sick sugar mills and modernise them to increase production.

Then as regards the question of payment of arrears to the growers, Shri Lal Bansidhar has issued a statement saying that Government should give the sugar mill owners more credit at less interest and then they would be able to pay the arrears of cane price to the growers. This is a shameless thing. They are trading their own way and they want to gain at the cost of Government. Aware of all these things, will the Ministry issue an order that if they do not pay the cane growers their arrears, within one month they would be put behind bars?

SHRI F. A. AHMED : So far as the last question is concerned, the hon. member is aware that the price of cane has to be paid within a fortnight of delivery of cane; if it is not so paid, there are provisions under which action can be taken against the millowners for not paying.

SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : (Shajapur): Where is the action taken? Throughout India no State Government has

[Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi]

taken action. Let him cite a specific instance where action has been taken.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : Government have drawn the attention of State Governments to the need for taking rigorous action for the purpose of payment to the growers for the cane delivered to industry

As to the question of price, what was promised was that the price of levy sugar, that is 60 per cent of the sugar which was to be distributed as levy sugar to domestic consumers would be at Rs 2 per kg except in Delhi and Calcutta where the distribution system being different, on account of a tax it would be 10 P more.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) . Nobody is getting sugar at this price.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : No complaint has been brought to my notice .

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE . This is a very unfair statement . People are complaining daily

SHRI F. A. AHMED . that the fair price shops in Delhi are charging more than Rs. 2.10 a kg.

So far as the price of free sugar is concerned, I entirely agree that there has been a steep rise in it. We are considering what further steps to take to prevent further rise.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Do not take any step ; otherwise, the price will again rise

SHRI F. A. AHMED : As regards the cane price, I have already said that it is fixed by Government on the basis of consideration of the report of the Agricultural Prices Commission.

SHRI D. K. PANDA : That was not my question. My question was specific. The question was whether the provisions of the Cane Control Order are going to be implemented or not. So far, they have been neglected and overlooked. That is my specific question.

SHRI F. A. AHMED : I am just pointing out that in fixing the minimum prices for cane, we take into consideration the recommendation made by the Agricultural Prices Commission. We also take into consideration the suggestion given by various associations including the association of cane-growers, and after these matters are taken into consideration the price is fixed,

So far as the price for 1972-73 is concerned, we have proposals before us. We shall look into those proposals and see what should be the most suitable minimum price that should be fixed for cane to be supplied to the industry next year

SHRI D. K. PANDA : What about sick mills and the enquiry committee ?

SHRI F. A. AHMED . So far as the enquiry committee is concerned, the hon. Member is aware that the enquiry committee is in possession of all the facts, and we have asked them to expedite the report. As soon as the report is available, then action will be taken in that direction.

So far as the sick mills are concerned, I cannot offhand give a general reply, but this matter will be disposed of on the basis of particular cases when they are brought to our notice.

SHRI M. R. LAKSHMINARAYANAN (Tindivanam) : Though sugar is sweet, it is not sweet to the sugarcane growers, the mill workers or the shareholders. It is sweet only for a few big business people. In the last session of this House, the Minister has made a statement that the Government of India fixed only the minimum price of sugarcane payable by vacuum pan factories. The actual price to be paid was settled between the sugarcane growers as sellers and the sugar factories as buyers.

I would like to ask the Minister how the growers are going to get a fair deal from the sugar factories. I can quote an example. For the last two years, the factories have not paid even the legitimate minimum price to the growers. Even till date, they have not paid the last year's price to all the growers. They are still in arrears. How does the Minister expect that the growers are going to get

a fair deal? In most of the cases, the same thing has happened. The growers are not able to get a fair deal from the factories or the concerned State Governments.

In fact, on 13-1-1972, the Growers' Association of South Arcot district as well as Pondicherry gave a representation to the Tamil Nadu Food Minister. The Food Minister then called a conference after a few days. We demanded Rs. 90 per tonne, giving the facts and figures. In States like Punjab, Haryana and some other States also, who have a lower recovery and where they crush for a lesser number of days than in Tamil Nadu, they are paying more than what the Madras Government has fixed. That is, in Punjab, as per the Minister's statement, the factories have agreed to pay at Rs 90 per tonne, that is, Rs. 9 per quintal for a recovery of 8.7%. In Haryana, according to today's statement, for a recovery of 8.67%, it is Rs. 11 per tonne, whereas in Tamil Nadu, for a recovery of 8.99% and the crushing number of days 192, they have fixed only Rs. 80 per tonne. Here, I would like to point out that 8.99 recovery is for 192 days of crushing; that is, they are crushing beyond the optimum period. That is why this recovery is low in Tamil Nadu. If crushing was done during the optimum period, the recovery will be more than 9.5 per cent. We asked the State Minister on what basis the price had been fixed at Rs. 80 but the Minister replied, "I need not tell you anything; this is the maximum that the factories have accepted." We asked him whether our demand for Rs. 90 was unfair, but he refused to answer that question. Then we told him clearly: "you can take the entire stock of sugar and sell it to the public at the minimum price, that is the government-fixed price; we have no objection to accept a price of Rs. 73.70 even. He said: "nothing doing. We have no powers to fix the price or to take the entire sugar. Only the Centre can do that." Finally the hon. Minister fixed the price at Rs. 80. But this is not based on any principle. It is only fair that it should be linked to the recovery in the concerned factory. The recovery varies from 8.99 per cent to 10 per cent, yet the price is fixed at Rs. 80. Unfortunately for all the factories. So far the price was higher for higher recovery and some of the factories were paying Rs. 76 and Rs. 78. But those factories with higher recovery will pay only Rs. 80 now. It is not fair to fix such a price without any basic principles.

In the statement the hon. Minister says that the Tamil Nadu mill-owners have met the Minister and agreed to pay Rs. 85 per tonne. I doubt very much because even for paying Rs. 80, they created a lot of problems; some of the factories said that they would pay only Rs. 76. Finally they agreed only when the Minister insisted that they should pay as agreed by the Association President. It is only subsequently that the representatives of the mills agreed to Rs. 80 as earlier agreed to by the President of the mill-owners' association. I think the same thing will happen even for Rs. 85. It has no comparison to the rate of recovery throughout the country; It is not based on any principle. At least in the future it should be linked with the recovery during the optimum crushing period, as well as with the price of sugar. Otherwise there will be a lot of disparities.

MR. SPEAKER: When the call attention motions are replied to, a Member is entitled to ask a question only for clarification and not make a long speech. I wonder whether you will come out with any question at all

SHRI M. R. LAKSHMINARAYANAN: Government gives incentives to the factories; it does not reach anybody else than the industrialists. Will the hon. Minister see that these incentives are passed on the growers as well as to the mill workers in the interest of sugar industry as well as the growers and the consumers? Will the Minister evolve a system of fair price throughout the country based on the average recovery of the factories concerned as well as the price of sugar?

SHRI F. A. AHMED: I would again repeat that so far as Government is concerned, we have fixed the minimum price on the basis of 9.4 per cent recovery, and in the case of Tamil Nadu the recovery is less than 9.4 per cent. Therefore, the price paid is Rs. 8.50 for the sugarcane in that area. In the beginning the millowners were not anxious to pay a price higher than the minimum price fixed by the Government. It was at our instance that the matter was taken up, and they have now agreed to pay Rs. 8.50 from the very beginning.

श्री सरजू पांडे (गाजीपुर) : मैं मन्त्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार के

[श्री सरजू पांडे]

सारन और दरभंगा जिलों की चीनी मिलें काष्ठकारो को कितनी कीमत देती हैं। मेरी सूचना है कि उन काष्ठकारो को पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश से दी जाने वाली कीमत से भी कम पैसा मिलता है। तमाम माननीय सदस्यो ने शिकायत की है कि चीनी नहीं मिल रही है और कलकत्ता में चीनी का भाव 3 रुपये 80 पैसे है और कट्रोल रेट पर जो चीनी मिलती है, वह सिर्फ 100 ग्राम प्रति-व्यक्ति मिलती है और वह भी पानी से भिगोई हुई। मन्त्री महोदय कहते हैं कि इस बारे में कम्प्लेंट की जाये। आखिर कम्प्लेंट कैसे की जाये? क्या इसके लिए थाने में रपट लिखाई जाये? सब माननीय सदस्यो ने कहा है कि चीनी नहीं मिल रही है और केरल में उसका भाव 5 रुपये प्रति किलो है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि मन्त्री महोदय कौन सा रास्ता निकालेंगे, कैसे एंशोर करेंगे कि कन्ज्यूमर्स को चीनी मस्ते रेट पर मिल सके।

श्री पंडा ने कहा है कि मिलें कट्रोल आर्डर को इम्प्लीमेंट नहीं कर रही हैं। खास तौर से इटावा की मिलों के बारे में शिकायतें मिली हैं। राज्य सरकारें काष्ठकारो को पैसा नहीं दिला रही हैं। मन्त्री महोदय कहते हैं कि इसकी कम्प्लेंट की जाये। मेम्बरों को जो जानकारी होनी है, वे आपको दे रहे हैं। मन्त्री महोदय बतायें कि इसके अलावा कौन सा रास्ता है कि मेम्बर उनको बता सकें कि अमुक चीजें नहीं मिल रही हैं।

मन्त्री महोदय से सिक मिलों के बारे में पूछा गया। पूरे देश में तमाम चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करने के लिए प्रैशर डाला जा रहा है। इसके बिना न तो काष्ठकारों को पैसा मिलेगा और न सस्ती चीनी मिलेगी। सरकार चाहे कोई भी कानून बनाये, मिम-ओनर्ज गवर्नमेंट आफिशल्स को पैसा देंगे, रिकवरी कम दिखायेंगे और मुल्क को लूटेंगे। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण कब तक किया जायेगा।

श्री कलचंदीय जसी अहमद : जहां तक

डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन का ताल्लुक है, हम करीब-करीब 3.25 लाख टन शुगर सारे हिन्दुस्तान में डिस्ट्रीब्यूट करते हैं। तमाम स्टेट्स के पुराने कन्जम्प्शन फिगरज देख कर, पिछले महीनों में उन्हें कितनी शुगर दी गई है, उसके बेसिस पर हम सब स्टेट्स में डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन कर रहे हैं। मिलों से हमको 60 परसेंट शुगर देने का बाधा किया है। हमें देखना है कि वह शुगर लेवी शुगर के लिए दी जा रही है या नहीं। हमने स्टेट्स को लिखा है कि तमाम सूबों में उसको अच्छी तरह से तक्सीम किया जाये।

जहां तक फ्री शुगर का ताल्लुक है, मैं मानता हूँ कि प्राइमिज बढ़ती चली जा रही है और हमें सोचना है कि किस तरह से उस पर रोक लगाई जाये। उसके लिए हम सोच रहे हैं।

जहां तक शुगरकेन की कीमतों का सवाल है, मैंने पहले भी कहा है कि मिम-ओनर्ज को चौदह रोज के अन्दर शुगरकेन की कीमत शुगरकेन प्रोडर्ज को देनी चाहिए। अगर इस अरसे में कीमत न दी जाये, तो कानून में काफी गुजायश है, जिसके जरिये से सूबाई गवर्नमेंट्स प्रोडर्ज की कीमत दिलवा सकती हैं। हमने इस बारे में सूबाई गवर्नमेंट्स को लिखा है।

श्री सरजू पांडे : स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स कीमतें नहीं दिलवा पाती हैं।

श्री कलचंदीय जसी अहमद : हमने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को लिखा है कि इनके बारे में सख्त कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए। मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले एरियरज काफी ज्यादा हो चुके हैं और इस दफा पिछले साल से भी पोषीशन बेहतर है। माफूम होता है कि अनिश्चित पिछले सालों के इस सख्त कपात कीमत दी जायेगी। हम फिर सूबाई गवर्नमेंट्स को लिखेंगे कि वे तमाम मिम-ओनर्ज पर खीर डालकर केन-ओनर्ज की कीमतें दिलवायें।

जहाँ तक मिलों को लेने का सवाल है, जब हमारे पास रिपोर्ट आयेगी, तो हम फैसला करेंगे कि मिलों को लिया जाये या नहीं।

श्री सरजू पांडे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सारन और दरभंगा जिलों में कितनी कीमत दी जा रही है ? मन्त्री महोदय ने इसका उत्तर नहीं दिया है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री हरि किशोर सिंह—
पेपर्स टु बि लेड आन दि टेबल।

12.45 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF COAL BOARD, CALCUTTA.
REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF SINGARENI
COLLIERIES AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER MINES
AND MINERALS (REGULATION AND DEVELOPMENT)
ACT.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI
SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : I beg to lay on the
Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Coal Board, Calcutta, for the year 1970-71 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1424/72]
- (2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—
 - (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited, for the year 1970-71.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited, for the year 1970-71 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1426/72]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notification under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 :—

- (i) The Mineral Concession (First Amendment) Rules, 1971, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1279 in Gazette of India dated the 11th September, 1971 together with corrigendum thereto (English version) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 66 in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1972.
- (ii) The Mineral Concession (Third Amendment) Rules, 1971, (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1579 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October 1971.
- (iii) The Mineral Concession (Second Amendment) Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1580 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 1971.
- (iv) The Mineral Concession (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1581 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 1971.
- (v) The Mineral Concession (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1582 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd October, 1971
- (vi) G. S. R. 65 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1972 making certain amendment to the Second Schedule to the said Act. Placed in Library. See No. LT-1426/72]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER PASSPORTS ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : I beg to
lay on the Table a copy each of the following

[Shri Surendra Pal Singh]

Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Passports Act, 1967 :—

- (1) The Passports (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 1971, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1962 in Gazette of India dated the 24th December, 1971.
- (2) G. S. R. 58(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 1972.
- (3) The Passports Amendment Rules 1972, published in Notification No. G. S. R. 59 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th January, 1972.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-1427/72]

MINIMUM WAGES (CENTRAL) AMENDMENT RULES, 1971

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Minimum Wages (Central) Amendment Rules, 1971 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 1890 in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1971, under section 30-A of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1428/72]

12.48 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): I beg to move :

“That in pursuance of sub-para (2) (d) of paragraph 3 of the late Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F. 122-3/35-E, dated the 8th August, 1935, as amended from time, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Board

of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution.”

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

“That in pursuance of sub-para (2) (d) of paragraph 3 of the late Department of Education, Health and Lands Resolution No. F. 122-3/35-E, dated the 8th August, 1935, as amended from time to time, the Members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Advisory Board of Education, subject to the other provisions of the said Resolution.”

Those in favour may say ‘Aye’.

HON. MEMBERS : Aye

MR. SPEAKER : Those against may say ‘No’. (Interruption).

AN HON. MEMBER : What is this cat-call ?

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central) : It is most objectionable.

MR. SPEAKER : It is very undignified. I want to locate who is the hon. member who could do this

AN HON. MEMBER : It is a Jani Sangh member.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a market place. This is a very august place. I do not like it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : It is in very bad taste.

SHRI R. V. BADE (Khargone) : Somebody has done it and they are blaming the Jani Sangh. I am very sorry.

MR. SPEAKER : It is from this side. Please do not do it like that. I do not like it.

The ‘Ayes’ have it.

The motion was adopted.

12.49 hrs.

CENTRAL SALES TAX (AMENDMENT)
BILLEXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF
REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI (Berhampur) : I beg to move :

"That this House do further extend the time for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1965, upto the last day of the next session."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do further extend the time for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill further to amend the Central Sales Tax Act, 1965, upto the last day of the next session."

The motion was adopted.

12.49½ hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) BILL*
1972

MR. SPEAKER : I have already allowed Shri Qureshi to move it.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : 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 of the financial year 1971-72 for the purposes of Railways.

MR. 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 of the financial year 1971-72 for the purposes of Railways."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

Sir, I beg to move† :

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1971-72 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"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 1971-72 for the purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, day before yesterday I heard with rapt attention the speech of the hon. Minister, Shri Hanumanthaiya, when he presented the railway budget. During the course of his speech he covered many points which deserve serious consideration. While we agree with Shri Hanumanthaiya that he is trying his best to uproot corruption, or minimise it, with the co-operation of his deputy, Shri Shafi Qureshi, unfortunately, those men who are really responsible for corruption are not being seriously dealt with.

From our own experience in the trade union field we have pointed out to the hon. Minister and also his deputy many glaring cases of favouritism, nepotism and corruption. I have referred to a case in the North Eastern Railways which has its headquarters at Gorakhpur. I have pointed out how certain officers have misused their powers and those employees who stood against them and wanted to uproot corruption have been severely dealt with. Some of these cases are already within the knowledge of the hon. Minister and I do not wish to name any of the officers. I do not say for a moment that all officers are bad. There are very good officers, honest officers, working in the best interests of the country. At the same time, there are many officers in both the North Eastern and other railways who are treating the workers in a very shabby manner. They are trying to victimise the trade union workers because they are trying

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, Dated 16.3.72.

† Introduced/moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

to highlight cases of corruption. I would like to inform the hon. Minister that the federations of the various trade unions really want to co-operate with the government in this matter. But if the government want co-operation in uprooting corruption then they will have to give some sort of protection to the trade union officials of that particular union or organisation. Otherwise, why should I put my job into jeopardy by mentioning a particular name when I know that I will not be granted any protection. So, while we on behalf of trade unions assure the railways the fullest co-operation in uprooting corruption, or in at least trying to minimise it, we want an assurance that the Ministry, the Railway Board and the officials who are at the helm of affairs will give due protection to those trade union workers.

It has been admitted by Shri Hunumanthaiya himself that corruption has been minimised and he has been able to save some money on account of this. Whether it is in the matter of coal or any other material, he has been able to save money on account of it. That is why he has left the third class passengers this time from further taxation.

A solemn promise was made by Shri Hunumanthaiya that he would condone the break in service of all those workers whose services were broken during the strike at Barauni and other places. But still the break in their services has not been condoned. Then, what about suspension cases? Why has the suspension not been removed? Some drivers and some of the clerks, who co-operated with this Government in every matter, are still being transferred from Kanpur, Allahabad etc. to distant places.

I assure you once again that we are prepared to cooperate but at the same time harassment of trade union officials and ordinary workers who are members of trade unions should stop, and should stop now.

About certain amenities to third class passengers, yesterday when he presented the Railway Budget, the hon. Minister said in his speech that much was being done for the third class passengers. But I still find that the food supplied to third class passengers or any passenger at the railway stations is horrible. I was told by certain contractors that

unless some low quotation is given, they are not given the contract. But people want good food. The first class and air-conditioned class passengers may actually get very good food or some good food.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): Who has told you that?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: If you say that you are an MP, you will get it; I am sure. Here also you will get it. The railway canteen is far better.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Food here is much better.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Because it is subsidised. As a Member of Parliament and as a first class passenger also you can fight with them and get good food. But what happens to third class passengers? I would request the hon. Minister to taste the food or the sweetmeats which are sold at railway stations. He is a young man; he is hardly 35 or 40; he looks very young at least, but if he puts a laddoo sold at the station in his mouth, he will not be able to break it. That is the quality of things that are sold there. I do not know when it is prepared and for how many months it is kept. Whether you talk of sweetmeats or *poori* or *sabzi* or anything, it is not good and people have to take that stuff. We suggested lunch packets for third class passengers, but they say that they will not be sold. Why will they not be sold? A lunch packet at a reasonable price can be given to third class passengers. Third class passengers also expect something. But a third class passenger is supposed to have nothing! A smoker in third class will have no ash tray even. Why do they not provide an ash tray in third class?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): The packets will be *basi*; they will also be very stale.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Let us start at least with some *basi* packets and see what happens. But there are no packets. Some thing should be done for third class passengers.

About three-tier sleepers, if you get the uppermost berth, you cannot get down from

there unless the coolie helps you. That is the condition. A man has to be carried to the topmost berth. Sometimes it disturbs the sleep of others. So, let there be sleeping arrangements with two-berth or four-berth compartments. It can be partitioned. I know, it will not cost more. This particular size of the three-tier coach was originally meant for Nepal. You know, the average height of a Nepali is 5'5". It was actually meant for Nepalese; it was actually meant for exporting to Nepal. But it was given to our jawans of Haryana who are 6 ft. They cannot possibly sleep there. I would request you to have some mercy on the 3rd Class passengers and see that they are given better amenities and also a place to sleep.

13 hrs.

I am happy that 3rd Class reservation has become very common. The people are reserving accommodation in time. Both the sitting accommodation and sleeping accommodation is there. But still more trains are needed and more sleepers are needed with two berths, upper berth and lower berth. Let the middle berth be abolished. Now, if I do not get sleep and I want to read some book and I am on the lower berth, I will be forced to sleep because the other man would put the thing on me and I will either get an injury or I will have to sleep. Compulsory sleeping at 9 O'Clock is there. I would request you to consider this matter.

Once again, I would request the hon. Minister to call a meeting of all the trade unions irrespective of the fact whether they are recognised or not, registered or not. If you want to remove corruption, you will have to get cooperation from all. You cannot discriminate between a union and a union. If you want to uproot corruption or minimise it, you will have to have cooperation from all.

Last but not the least, I would request you to kindly announce the condonation of break in service of the employees. The workers have stood firmly behind you and have worked round the clock during the 14-days war and otherwise also and they should be awarded by condoning all the break in service and removing all suspension orders. This is my submission to you.

MR. SPEAKER : I think, let us finish

this item. After lunch, we will take up the further discussion on the President's Address.

The practice that we have been following is, as provided in the rules, that only those Members who give advance notice with specific points mentioned in it are given a chance to speak on the Appropriation Bill. Only Shri S. M. Banerjee had given notice in advance and I allowed him. Let the hon. Minister reply now.

THE DLPUYI MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the outset I appreciate the offer made by the hon. Member, Shri S. M. Banerjee to help the Railways in rooting out corruption from the Railways. I would like to assure him that no mercy will be shown to any corrupt official in the Railways and no victimisation of any person who gives any information with regard to that will be resorted to.

It has been our endeavour to root out corruption from the Railways. There can be corruption at the booking window or at the parcel office. There are certain areas where corruption can be possible and we have tried with the help of the agencies at the disposal of the Railways to root out corruption ruthlessly from the Railways. It may take some more time. As regards getting cooperation not only of recognised unions but also unrecognised unions, I wish to make it clear before the House that so far as the problems of the Railways are concerned, we have to deal with recognised unions. But we have never refused the advice of the unrecognised unions also.

With regard to the employees who want condonation of the break in service at Balauni, I have had discussions with the hon. Member and with other Members, Shri Sarjoo Pandey and Shri Ram Avtar Shastri. I am sure they have left with the feeling that the Railways are quite sympathetic with the demand of the employees. Looking at the way in which the employees have shown themselves during this war period, certainly, we will take this fact into consideration. I can assure the hon. Member that we have been watching the trend and attitude of these employees. There has been considerable improvement. We have got all sympathies with them. We have already taken a decision with regard to the Integral Coach Factory employees because a similar

[Shri Mohd. Safi Qureshi]

case arose there also. The House should know that we have condoned their break in service and similar action will be taken in this case also. We are watching the attitude and behaviour of the employees which, as I said earlier, has improved considerably. The hon. members would bear with me that in a vast organisation like the Railways we have to maintain discipline, and we cannot sacrifice discipline at any cost and to that extent, I think, Mr. Banerjee would appreciate and also help us.

With regard to the amenities to Third Class passengers, the hon. Member referred to the 3-tier compartments. Normally they are meant for sleeping, but they are given to passengers who like to travel by night. I would look into it if any inconvenience is caused to the Third Class passengers.

With regard to food, I have to inform the House that we are thinking of giving packet food, and packet food can be taken fresh from various stations. We have already introduced this in some railways, and I hope that we will be in a position to introduce the same in all the railways within a short time.

I do not think there is any other point to be replied to

MR. 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 1971-72 for purposes of Railways, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

13.08 hrs.

APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) No. 2
BILL*, 1972

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March 1970, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1970, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI : Sir, I introduce† the Bill.

I beg to move† :

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March,

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 16.3.72.

†Introduced/moved with the recommendation of the President.

1970, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1970, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill

SHRI MOHD. SALAFI QURESHI : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed"

The motion was adopted.

MR. SPEAKER : We have taken ten minutes extra. If you want to take more time for the President's Address, we shall adjourn the House to re-assemble at 2 p. m.

We adjourn for lunch to re-assemble at 2 p. m.

13.11 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at seven minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—contd.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now resume further discussion on the following Motion on Thanks on the President's Address moved by Shri Alagesan on the 15th March, 1972, namely ;—

"That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms :—

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 13th March, 1972".

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : On a point of order. There is no Minister present in the House. So, how can we resume discussion ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall have it conveyed to the Ministers. Now, Shri E. R. Krishnan.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I rise on a point of order. Without any Minister being present in the House, how can he speak ? There is no Minister in the House. After all, somebody should take notes. Who should take notes ? Should I take ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall have it conveyed to the Ministers. Meanwhile, the hon. Member may begin his speech.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Let some Minister come. We shall wait.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How can we wait ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Let it be known that the Ministers have become utterly irresponsible. This is the height of irresponsibility.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We shall give them five minutes. Meanwhile, the hon. Member may start. We cannot just sit in the House not doing anything.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : (Wandi Wash) : But who will hear his speech ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You may send for the Ministers.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : You may please send for the Ministers, and let them come here.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You should send for them and you should pull them up. Let it be known to the country that after they have secured a huge majority, they have become irresponsible ; after all, they should become more responsible now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I agree that it is most unfortunate that not a single Minister is present in the House.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It is not unfortunate, but it is deliberate. Let the hon. Ministers apologise to the House.

AN HON. MEMBER : The Deputy Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Deputy Chief Whip may convey that at least one of the Ministers is present in the Treasury Benches. There is no Minister present in the House....

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI KEDAR NATH SINGH) : I am sorry. I am very sorry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is unfortunate. Now, let the hon. Member Shri E. R. Krishnan begin his speech.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : No, he should not speak now. This is not a joke. It is not necessary that he should speak now when there is no Minister.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Unless the hon. Members want to do business, I shall have to adjourn the House.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Then; adjourn the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If Shri E. R.

Krishnan does not speak, I shall call somebody else.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I rise on a point of order. After the quorum bell rang, the minimum quorum came, and the Deputy Chief Whip came, but unfortunately, in the quorum we did not find any Minister. You said, Sir, that it was unfortunate. Is it open to the House and is it proper for a Member to speak on a particular Demand for Grant or any other item where no Minister is present ? I want a ruling from you on this point.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall give my ruling. I am only concerned with whether the House has been properly summoned and whether it has properly met. I am guided by the Rules of the House Under rule 11 :

"A sitting of the House is duly constituted when it is presided over by the Speaker or any other member competent to preside over a sitting of the House under the Constitution or these rules."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Why do you get angry with me, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He wanted my ruling and I am giving it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : You are not at fault, Sir. Kindly hear my point of order. I have not yet finished it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have listened to the hon. Member. He has made his submission. Now, the hon. Member should show me the courtesy of listening to me. Under the rules, when the requisite number of members is present and the person competent to preside is in the Chair, the House is properly constituted and we can transact business, I have said it is unfortunate that no Minister is present in the Treasury Benches, but that does not mean that we cannot transact business.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : On a point of clarification. Is the House properly constituted with no member of the Council of Ministers present?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Under the rules, it can be, although it is unfortunate that no Minister is present.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : We must amend the rules.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am guided by the rules as they are. Shri Krishnan.

SHRI PILOO MODY : Is there no other provision of the rule ?

*SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN (Salem) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on the President's Address on behalf of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam to to which I have the honour to belong.

The President in his Address has referred to the efforts of his Government in the matter of providing protected water supply to rural areas dotted with lakhs of villages and also in the matter of electrifying almost all the village throughout the length and breadth of the country. He has also talked about the provision of a sum of Rs. 40 crores for the purpose of constructing tenements for slum dwellers in big urban centres like Calcutta, Bombay, etc.

But, what do we find actually ? On March 1, 1972, 25 long years after independence, Shri Uma Shankar Dixit, the Union Minister of Health took credit for formulating a 5-year rural water supply scheme at a cost of Rs. 110 crores and referring it to the Planning Commission. You will be surprised to know, Sir, that 9,20,000 villages in our country do not have basic amenities within a radius of one mile. 56,000 villages do not get protected drinking water.

In a seminar held in New Delhi on February 21, 1972, the State Governments' officials and the Central officials unanimously came to the conclusion that the crash programme for creating additional rural employment has thoroughly failed. But, when we read what the President has to say in his Address about this, we begin to feel whether he is indulging in some fancies. This is what he says :

"Special measures for the creation of additional employment in rural areas... have made some progress."

The President has referred to the provision of Rs. 40 crores for slum clearance work. But, in Tamil Nadu the Government of Tamil Nadu have planned to construct by

the end of 1972-73 17,000 tenements for the slum-dwellers and have allocated a sum of Rs. 8 crores for this purpose. They have also set up separately a Slum Clearance Board so that concerted efforts can be made to achieve this noble objective. When one of the Central Ministers recently visited Madras, he unreservedly lauded the approach of the State Government to this problem and openly said that in no other State in the country there is such an organisation like the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board. When Tamil Nadu has done pioneering work, it is regrettable that the President in his speech has not referred to it. With a view to giving to all the villages in Tamil Nadu protected drinking water through covered wells and taps, the Tamil Nadu Government have formulated schemes costing Rs. 40 crores. We have planned to give electricity to 50,900 villages in Tamil Nadu by the end of 1972-73. We have more or less achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrains. To implement such gigantic public welfare schemes, naturally the Tamil Nadu Government have had to spend more money than what has been allocated in the Fourth Five Year Plan, the consequence of which is that Tamil Nadu's overdraft account with the Reserve Bank has gone upto Rs. 66.33 crores. In the year 1971-72, the plan allocation was only Rs. 80.20 crores, but the Government of Tamil Nadu spent Rs. 114.98 crores. In 1970-71 also the Government spent Rs. 97.45 crores though the allocation was only 79.30 crores. The President has suggested that the tendency of the States to resort to overdrafts should be curbed. But how can a State Government implement public welfare schemes without adequate resources ? For example, the allocation in the Fourth Five Year Plan for Tamil Nadu was 2500 crores, but the Central Planning Commission reduced it to Rs. 202 crores. To meet this shortfall of Rs. 48 crores, the Government of Tamil Nadu are left with no alternative except to take overdraft from the Reserve Bank of India, which has come now to Rs. 66.33 crores. You will appreciate Sir, that the State Government is the nearest organisation for the people to realise their hopes and aspirations. I would appeal to the Central Government that the interest rate on the overdraft should be reduced. The repayment schedule should also be modified by increasing the number of instalments within which this amount is to be repaid.

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri E. R. Krishnan]

In the *Economic Times* of July last year, it was mentioned that 335 industries, particularly those producing steel and machinery, are working only to 60% of the installed capacity. A decade ago the rate of industrial growth was going up by 9%. But during the past two years, the growth in industrial production has gone down from 6% to 2%. Similarly, the wagon manufacturers reached their capacity of producing 40,000 wagons a year, to meet the increased demands of their only consumer, the Railways. But, the Railways cut down their requirement from 26,000 wagons to 10,000 wagons. You can well imagine the plight of wagon manufacturers. In 1965-66, in the national income the capital formation was of the order of 13.2%. But in 1970-71, it has come down to 9.6%. The export performance also paints a bleak picture. The President himself has said: "Slow progress in the industrial sector, however, has been causing concern." I would like to know what steps have been taken by the Government to remedy the situation.

The Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics in Calcutta came out with the information that in the years 1971-72 and in 1970-71 our exports had gone up by 8.6% and 8.3% respectively. But the Reserve Bank has refuted this and furnished a different set of figures. I would like to know who is correct and who is wrong, which figure is correct and which figure is wrong.

The President has given a clarion call for a moratorium on strikes and lock-outs to ensure that industrial unrest does not slow down industrial progress. On December 6 last year, the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi appealed to both the Trade Union Leaders and the Industrialists that if the country is to become self-reliant and self-sufficient in essential commodities industrial peace should be ensured for three years and there should be no strikes and lock-outs during this period. She also appealed to all the leaders of different political parties that they should extend their helping hands in this gigantic task. The President has reflected the same feelings in his speech. But what do we find in actual practice? Three months before, in Madras there was a strike in the mammoth Simpson organisation employing 15,000 workers. Bearing in mind the foremost importance of maintaining industrial

peace during this critical period, our Chief Minister, Dr. C. C. C. Karunanidhi, our Industries Minister, Shri Madhavan, our Labour Welfare Minister, Shri N. V. Natarajan were exploring all possibilities to settle the disputes amicably. At this crucial stage, a responsible Cabinet Minister in the Union Government, Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam visited Madras. Without even observing the elementary courtesy of consulting our Chief Minister, our Industries Minister and our Labour Minister about the reasons for this strike, he addressed a meeting of workers numbering 1500 wherein he proclaimed that he was not talking in his capacity as a Central Minister but only as a labour leader who had advocated the cause of labour for his life. He stated that there was too much interference of the Government of Tamil Nadu in this labour dispute. He also said that by exerting its governmental authority, a particular labour leader has been elected to some office. I am sure, Sir, you will agree with me that there is some inherent contradiction in the approach of high dignitaries to the grave problems faced by the country.

While describing the unsavoury role of a Union Minister, I would refer also to the constructive approach of another Central Minister. Ten days back, the Union Labour Minister, Shri Khadiolkar, visited Madras. Immediately on his arrival, he had a meeting with our Chief Minister, the Industries Minister and ascertained authentically the course of events leading to this dispute. After that he met the Trade Union Leaders and tried to sort out the problem. He rightly felt that only after having mutual discussions some solution can be found to this dispute. If Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam had adopted this attitude of Shri Khadiolkar, the situation would not have worsened and a solution to the mutual satisfaction of all involved could have been found.

I will narrate another regretful incident. There was a sympathetic strike in Avadi Tank Factory in relation to Simpson strike. Many untoward things happened here. Industrial peace was greatly upset and there was no law and order at all. Many people were severely injured and admitted into the hospital. They were undergoing treatment there. At that time Shri K. R. Ganesh, the Union Minister happened to visit Madras. I need not say

here that he is a responsible Minister in the Central Government. What did he do at Madras? He went straight to the hospital where an accused, who had committed certain offences leading to breach of industrial peace, was undergoing treatment and met him. Before he met the accused in the hospital he did not inform either the Chief Minister or the Industries Minister or the Labour Welfare Minister of his intentions. I do subscribe to the view that the sense of humanity is common to all and nobody can be an exception to that. But, is the attitude of a Central Minister, is his approach to the problem conducive to the smooth working of democratic institutions in our country? Is it not highly improper for him to go straight to the accused in the hospital?

In the year 1968-69, the Tamil Nadu Government wanted 1,15,000 tonnes of iron and steel for the industries in Tamil Nadu, but only 3136 tonnes were allocated. In 1971-72, only 37,284 tonnes were allocated to Tamil Nadu, while the demand was 2,10,000 tonnes. To the detriment of industrial growth in the States, the raw materials are exported. Naturally there will be no industrial growth in the States.

I would like to take this opportunity to say that the work on the Salem Steel Plant should be expedited. The President has expressed his hope that many steel plants are likely to be established in the country. At this juncture, it is necessary to point that the work already taken up on Salem Steel Plant should be completed quickly. Similarly, the Tamil Nadu Government has repeatedly written to the Centre regarding the proposal for establishing a petro-chemical complex in Manali in the joint sector with an investment of Rs. 90 crores. I would request the concerned Minister to initiate the process of implementing this proposal. The implementation of Second Phase of Neiveli Lignite Project has been long delayed. I would urge upon the Centre that the work on the Second Phase should be started immediately.

In Madras City, a vast area covering hundreds of acres, known as the Island Grounds, occupies a pride of place, it is really the heart of the city of Madras. With the increasing air pollution from the Oil Refinery, if this open area is also used for

the construction of a building complex for Defence Department then naturally it will be affecting the public health. The Madras Government of Tamil Nadu as also the Corporation of Madras have objected to the proposal of having buildings in the Island Grounds. Many eminent political leaders of Tamil Nadu are also strongly of this view. I would request the Centre to stop this construction activity forthwith if they do not want to endanger public health in Madras.

The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Dr. Kalaignar Karunanidhi, has written personal letters to the Prime Minister requesting her to locate the small car project in Tamil Nadu. I would like to stress that Tamil Nadu is ideally suited for this project and it should be established there.

While initiating the discussion on the President's Address, Shri O. V. Alagesan stated that in the developing situation throughout the country the regional parties have no future at all. He cited, to substantiate his theory, Ariankuppam bye-election in which the Congress Party won the Assembly seat. I would like to remind him of what has happened in the recent elections. In Meghalaya, Manipur and Goa, only the regional parties have come to power, and not the all-India party, i.e. the Congress Party which could not get majority. Just because a regional party contested a seat in a remote corner of the Union Territory of Pondicherry and lost the seat, it does not behove of a leader like Shri O. V. Alagesan to prophesy about the dark future of regional parties, especially in view of what has happened in other Union Territories.

The Government of India chose for the chairmanship of the Fifth Finance Commission Shri P. V. Rajamannar, the former Chief Justice Madras High Court. He along with his two colleagues submitted the Report to the Government of India which has accepted all the recommendations of the Commission unanimously. It was felt that the Report especially in regard to devolution of finances was objective and fair. The Tamil Nadu Government requested him to head a Committee for the purpose of going into the important question of Centre-State relations agitating the minds of one and all in the State. The Tamil Nadu Government did not want to be carried away by the urgency and

[Shri E. R. Krishnan]

the necessity for more powers to the State if worthwhile public welfare schemes were to be implemented successfully. They wanted an impartial body to go into this question. This Committee's report was circulated to all the political parties in the country, to all the leaders of State Governments and it was also sent to the Centre. But to our dismay we find that the Centre is sitting pretty over it. I begin to doubt whether the Central Government has lost its faith in Rajamannar whom they chose to head the Fifth Finance Commission. Do they think that he has become a Member of the D. M. K. just because he agreed to head Committee to consider the question of Centre-State relations? Has he become a suspect in the eyes of Central Government just because he expressed his considered views that all the powers are concentrated in the hands of the Centre and the States are deprived of their legitimate powers. Without the necessary powers the States are unable to do anything worthwhile for the welfare of the people. Mahatma Gandhi used to speak quite often about the establishment of Gram Raj in the country. The President has also referred to this in his speech. How can real Gram Raj be established in the country if all the powers are concentrated in the hands of the Centre. If the villages are to become vital centres of activity, then the Centre should divest itself of the oppressive burden of all powers. The States should get greater powers so that the rural areas need not look to the far away Delhi for any minor activity in the interest of the people.

Sir, the moment we talk about the autonomy of States, we are branded as secessionists. But the real position is, the D. M. K. in many of its regional conferences has made unequivocally clear and also has passed unanimous resolutions to the effect that it does not want secession. It wants a strong and unified Centre. The national integration should become the inseparable way of life in the country. This can be achieved only when there is autonomy for the States and the States can function effectively for the upliftment of the people exercising their legitimate powers which are now concentrated in the hands of the Centre. The respected leader of the country Shri Jayprakash Narayan has demanded greater powers for the States. Shri Virendra Patil, the erstwhile Chief Minister of Mysore State belonging to Syndicate Congress, wanted greater autonomy for the States.

The former Chief Minister of Punjab, Sardar Gurnam Singh, urged upon the necessity for the Centre to shed its powers in favour of the States. Shri C. Rajagopalachari, who had held the highest positions in the Government of India, as Minister and who was the first Indian Governor-General of India, repeatedly stresses the need of the States for greater powers. Shri George Fernandez, the leader of the Socialist Party, wants greater powers for the States. In the recent elections, almost all the political parties in their election manifesto demanded greater powers and autonomy for the States. Can you in one stroke call all these people and the political parties as secessionists? I would only say that those who do not want greater powers for the States are the secessionists. They do not have the good of the country in their hearts. To call the demand for autonomy as the demand for secession is highly irregular and it is certainly a wrong propaganda. I want to repeat that the D. M. K. stands for a strong centre and it has adopted as its cardinal principle national integration. But, in order to establish Gram Raj in the country, in order to achieve self-sufficiency in foodgrains, in order to become self-reliant, in order to ensure industrial growth, in order to have the Central-State relations on a sound footing, the powers which are now concentrated in the hands of the Centre must be shared with the States. The States should be given greater autonomy for meaningful and purposeful functioning. If democracy has to take deep roots in the country, if social justice is to become the order of the day, if 55 crores of people are to march on an even keel of industrial progress, if possibilities for progress are to be created throughout the country, then the States should have greater powers and autonomy.

Though we have established Monopolies Commission to curb the growth of monopolies in the country, we find that the Tatas, Birlas and others of their ilk get maximum number of licences leading to further growth of monopolies. I would urge upon the Government to arrest this kind of growth in monopolies.

I would also refer to the problem of Ceylon refugees. It is regrettable that the Centre has not come to their help in a big way. The Centre should take greater interest in the rehabilitation of these refugees. Slowly

and steadily the Ceylon Tamils are losing their moorings. Their Tamil culture has been corroded sufficiently. They are forgetting Tamil language. The Central Government should establish contacts with the Ceylon Government in the matter of giving protection to the Tamils settled in Ceylon for centuries.

There is gradual decrease every year in the matter of southern representation in Indian Administrative Service. I would request that the Government should go into this question thoroughly and see that there is proper representation in I.A.S. from southern States. Though the final report of Bhagwati Committee on Unemployment has not yet been prepared, I would like to know what action has been taken on the interim Report. I would like also to know the employment opportunities generated so far in the Fourth Five Year Plan. During the past couple of years, we are all deafened by the Garibi Hatao slogan in every nook and corner of the country. Even the Prime Minister frequently talks about this Garibi Hatao. I want to know what constructive action has been taken by the Centre to drive away the poverty. Instead of getting narrowed, the gap between the haves and have-nots is widening alarmingly. Social justice continues to be as elusive as it was 20 years ago.

Before I conclude, I would appeal to the Centre which has secured the massive majority and the unanimous verdict of the people of the country that it should leave its step-motherly attitude towards the States and share its powers with the States so that the people of the country can progress. Whatever industries are to be established in Tamil Nadu, especially those industries which have been on the card for long should be set up forthwith. The demand for autonomy of the State should not be misconstrued as the demand for secession and real autonomy should be given to the States.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र (मधुबनी). उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस महान देश के महान राष्ट्रपति के अनुरूप ही हमारे महान राष्ट्रपति ने अपने अभिभाषण में सरकार की नीति और कार्यक्रम पर बृहद् प्रकाश डाला है। उन्होंने कहा है कि सरकार की नीति जहां तक उसके आर्थिक, राजनीतिक और सामाजिक कार्यक्रमों का है, वह

बिना कुन देश के अनुरूप है और देश को सही दिशा देने में सरकार का नानि बिना कुन सफल रही है। गन वर्ष का जा कार्यवाहिया हुई है उनमें यह बात बिना कुन सुस्पष्ट होनी है। साथ ही उन्होंने अपने अभिभाषण में यह स्पष्ट किया है कि देश अपने पैरों पर खड़े होन और अपने मामलों में हमारे के हस्तक्षेप का किसी भी तरह बर्दाश्त करने के लिए तयार नहीं है। उनके अभिभाषण में यह स्पष्ट देखने को मिलता है। वगना देश की मुक्ति तथा पाकिस्तानी आक्रमण का मामला हमें देश को जनता ने जिम्मे प्रस्ता और माहम का परिचय दिया है उसका भा उनके अभिभाषण में प्रशंसा की गई है।

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (मुरेना)
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, व्ययस्या का प्रश्न है, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER The hon Member may resume his seat. The bell is being rung. Now there is quorum. He may continue his speech.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र इसमें मेना कतीना अगो के प्रति आभार प्रकट किया गया है और यह भा रहा गया है कि हम यद्यपि आत्म-विश्वास के साथ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं फिर भी राष्ट्रपति ने देश का स्मरण दिलाया है कि हमारी सीमाओं पर अभी भी खतरा वर्तमान है, हम उसके प्रति सतर्क और जागरूक रहना है और हमें एकता से काम लेना है ताकि जैसा हमने माहम और बहादुरी से कर दिखाया है, वक्त का तराजा आने पर हम वैसा ही कर सकें। उन्होंने कृषि की चर्चा की है और यह सतोष व्यक्त किया है कि कृषि के मामले में हम आत्म-निर्भर हुए हैं, और निर्यात को बढ़ावा मिल रहा है। सिंचाई, पानी और ऋण आदि के लिये सरकार की ओर से पर्याप्त व्यवस्था है।

उन्होंने इस बात को स्वाकार किया है कि औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में हमारी प्रगति धीमी रही है, किन्तु उन्होंने इसे भी स्पष्ट किया है कि इसका

[श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र]

कारण औद्योगिक क्षेत्र की अशान्ति है। मैं यहां पर किसी पार्टी का नाम लेना उचित नहीं समझता, लेकिन यह कहने से परहेज भी नहीं कर सकता कि एक पार्टी विशेष की गलत कार्यवाहियों के कारण औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में अशान्ति रहो है और उत्पादन में बाधा आई है। इसलिये उनका यह सुझाव है कि अगर उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में शान्ति कायम रहे, उत्पादन को बढ़ावा दिया जाय तो उससे देश का आर्थिक क्षेत्र विकसित करेगा और इसका फल सबको मिलेगा। इसीलिये उनका यह तर्क-संगत सुझाव है कि पाटिया तथा मजदूर इस क्षेत्र में थोड़ा समय में काम लें, उत्पादन में वृद्धि होने दे, जिसका फल देश को मिल सके।

उन्होंने हमारी वैदेशिक नीति की भी सराहना की और कहा है कि हम किसी से झगड़ना नहीं चाहते। लेकिन जब हम पर युद्ध घोष दिया जाता है तो हम उसमें मुँह मोड़ भी नहीं सकते हैं। इसका उदाहरण देते हुए उन्होंने कहा है कि जब पाकिस्तान ने युद्ध घोष दिया तो हमें उसका सामना करना पड़ा, लेकिन जब जरूरत हुई तो हमने युद्ध विराम का प्रस्ताव भी पाकिस्तान से किया। हमारी सरकार का यह भी नीति है कि जब बंगला देश के प्रसंग में अमरीकी रुख हमारे अनुकूल नहीं रहा, तो भी हमने कहा कि अगर अमरीका अपने रुख में परिवर्तन लाये तो हमारे और उसके बीच में दोस्ती का मार्ग प्रशस्त हो सकता है।

राष्ट्रपति जी ने स्पष्ट कहा है कि हम किसी पर आधिपत्य स्थापित नहीं करना चाहते, लेकिन हम अपने ऊपर भी किसी तरह का आधिपत्य बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकते। इसी प्रसंग में उन्होंने अमरीका और चीन के वक्तव्य में काश्मीर के प्रसंग के उल्लेख पर आपत्ति की है।

अभी देश में आम चुनाव हुए, प्रान्तों से नई सरकारों का संगठन हो रहा है। उनको

आशा हो नहीं, अपितु विश्वास है और यह सही बात है कि अब जो सरकारें प्रान्तों में बनेंगी, वे प्रगतिशील सरकारें होंगी। हमारी प्रधान मंत्री जी का जैसा विश्वास था, उनकी जैसी आशा और आकांक्षा थी कि देश के विकास के लिये प्रान्तों में अच्छी सरकारों का संगठन हो, प्रगतिशील सरकारों का संगठन हो, जो प्रान्तों के विकास के लिये काम करें, आम जनता के आर्थिक विकास में रुचि लें, अब ऐसा लगता है कि हर प्रान्त में उसी प्रकार की सरकारें बन सकेंगी और उनकी आकांक्षा के अनुरूप प्रान्तों में काम होगा और हमारे देश का नक्शा सुधरेगा।

उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि युद्ध के समय में देश की सभी पार्टियों ने एकता और निष्ठा का परिचय दिया। फलतः हम युद्ध में सफल हुए लेकिन अभी हम एक युद्ध में सफल हुए हैं, अभी एक और युद्ध बाकी है और वह है गरीबी हटाओ का युद्ध, आर्थिक क्रान्ति और देश के नव-निर्माण का युद्ध (व्यवधान) ...

अगर कछवाय जी ध्यान से सुनें और टोका-टाकी बन्द करें, जैसाकि वह सदन के बाहर भी किया करते हैं, तो उनके और उनके दल के लिये भी एक स्वाम सन्देश हमारे राष्ट्रपति जी ने दिया है और वह यह है कि युद्ध के समय उनके नेता ने, जिनके प्रति हमारे दिलों में बहुत मद्भावना और सम्मान है, हमारी प्रधान मन्त्री जी की बहुत उत्तम शब्दों में और सम्मान सराहना की थी और कहा था कि युद्ध में हमारे देश ने जो कर दिखाया, उसका सारा श्रेय अगर किसी को है तो श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी जी को है। जनसंघ पार्टी, जिसके कि श्री कछवाय सदस्य हैं, वह इस चीज से सीख लें, यह उन्हीं के नेता का कथन था। आज वक्त का तवाजा है कि वह थोड़ा संयम और विवेक से काम लें, और इन्दिरा जी ने जो आवाहन देश के निर्माण का, देश को बनाने का, आर्थिक स्थिति को सुधारने का दिया है, उसमें वे भी एकता और निष्ठा के साथ

सरकार का सहयोग करें। उसमें हाथ बंटाने के लिये आगे आवें।

राष्ट्रपति जी ने कहा है—अगर देश इस मीके पर ऐसा कर दिखाता है, जैसा उनको विश्वास है, तो फिर देश से गरीबी अवश्य दूर होगी और इन्दिरा जी का जां व्यापक नारा है कि गरीबी हटाओ, समाजवाद लाओ, वह भी संभव होगा। मैं यह भी कहूंगा कि उसके बिना देश का नव-निर्माण सम्भव नहीं है। देश के नव-निर्माण में हमें रुचि लेनी है तो हमें आगे आना होगा, इन्दिरा जी के कार्यक्रमों में हमें सहयोग देना होगा खुले दिल से, बिना किसी हिचक के।

इस अभिभाषण में यदि एक-दो बातें और होतीं तो हमें और ज्यादा खुशी होती। मैं इस अवसर पर विशेष रूप से गरीब बिहार का उल्लेख करना चाहता हूँ। राष्ट्रपति जी ने अपने अभिभाषण में एक स्थान विशेष के विकास की चर्चा की है और उसमें सरकार के योगदान का भी उल्लेख किया है। जैसा कि सबको जाहिर है बिहार बिलकुल पिछड़ा हुआ प्रान्त है, वहाँ की आर्थिक स्थिति बड़ी विकट है। उद्योग तो हैं, लेकिन बिहार के लिये नहीं। रोजगार बहा मिलना है, लेकिन बिहारियों के लिये नहीं। इसलिये अगर बिहार के उत्पादन के लिये, बिहार के विकास के लिये भी हममें चर्चा रहती तो मैं समझता हूँ कि बिहार का बहुत बड़ा उपकार होता।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि शिक्षा किसी भी राष्ट्र की रीढ़ होती है। आज की शिक्षा, वह चाहे जैसी भी रही हो, लेकिन उससे बैसे नागरिक नहीं निकलते जिनमें देश के नव-निर्माण में किसी तरह से फायदा हो। इसलिये ऐसी राष्ट्रीयव्यापक शिक्षा का निर्माण किया जाता तथा उसकी हम अभिभाषण में चर्चा होती, तथा उसका देश में प्रचार होता तो उससे देश को फायदा हो सकता था। मैं तो इस विचार को मान कर चलता हूँ कि शिक्षा स्टेट-सब्जेक्ट होने के कारण आज तक

उसकी अवहेलना होती रही है। इसलिये उसको स्टेट-सब्जेक्ट न मान कर, नेशनल सब-जेक्ट मान लिया जाता और उसमें सुधार का प्रयत्न किया जाता तो देश को उसका लाभ होता।

अन्त में, मैं राष्ट्रपति जी के इस महान भाषण के लिये जिसमें देश के विकास की चर्चा की गई है और भविष्य के लिये देश के विकास की आकांक्षा व्यक्त की गई है, देश के नव-निर्माण का प्रतिबिम्ब जिसमें स्पष्ट दिखाई देता है, ऐसा मान कर अभिभाषण के लिये जो धन्यवाद प्रस्ताव आया है, उसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while participating in the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President even in this hour of reverses of my party in the elections, I would not like to lose the sense of national perspective in a mood of desperation and frustration (Interruption) It is not because of you hon. Members from the treasury benches. But it is because of our convictions. We are socialists who have faith in socialism and democracy. That is why we speak that way. So, in a mood of frustration and desperation I would not like to lose the sense of national perspective.

The President has rightly said, in his Address, that two important events of the last year were the victory of India in Bangladesh and the elections to the State legislatures. I must admit that one of the greatest events in this country during the last year was the victory of the Indian armed forces, the victory in Bangladesh, the victory in Indo-Pak war. I must admit, on behalf of my party, that this victory has not been merely a victory on the battle-field but it is a victory of ideals. For the first time, the image of India in the comity of nations has been sharpened, it has been refined and it has become luminous. And even the so-called Great Powers will have to take cognizance of the fact that India is a force to be reckoned with and that is the greatest achievement of the country in the course of the last one year. And to this the President has rightly referred.

दूरदर्शन कार्यक्रम प्रसारण के समय

3567. श्री दया राम शाक्य : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार दूरदर्शन कार्यक्रमों के प्रसारण का समय नियमित रूप से 6 बजे सांय से 11 बजे सांय तक करने का है ताकि दूरदर्शन पर अधिक कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किए जा सकें; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो विस्तार में इसके क्या कारण हैं?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री वसन्त साठे : (क) और (ख). विभिन्न केन्द्रों के दूरदर्शन कार्यक्रमों का समय बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव है । तथापि, यह स्टूडियो उपकरणों और अपेक्षित कर्मचारियों की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करेगा ।

Provision of Cooking Gas facility in Rajasthan

3568. SHRI JAI NARAYAN HOAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) in how many towns of the State of Rajasthan cooking gas facility has been provided till now; and

(b) in how many towns the facility will be provided during the remaining period of the Sixth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) In 11 towns/cities of Rajasthan.

(b) As per plans upto 1982-83, 28 more towns/cities of Rajasthan are expected to be covered with LPG facilities by the oil companies. Plans for

1983-84 and 1984-85 are yet to be finalised.

Impact on oil production due to Assam Agitation

3569. SHRI R.P. YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the Assam agitation on the oil production during the current year; and

(b) the alternative arrangements made to meet the demand and the financial implications in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) and (b): There is a slight reduction of about 0.032 million tonnes in the production of crude oil in Assam during the current year because of the fact that certain wells, which were closed during the previous year due to the Assam agitation, had to be worked over and put on normal production again. This loss in production is negligible compared to the overall anticipated production in the country of over 16 million tonnes during the current year against the actual production of 10.50 million tonnes in the previous year.

Approval of new Diesel out-lets in Vidisha etc.

3570. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved new diesel out-lets for Vidisha, Gyaspur Sanchi and Shah-ganj in Vidisha Parliamentary Constituency during the Current financial year; and

(b) if so, what is the process in this matter up till now?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

बिजली के ट्रांसफार्मर का जलना

3571. श्री अशोक गहलोत : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 4 जनवरी, 1982 के दैनिक "जनगण" में "चार करोड़ के ट्रांसफार्मर जले" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने इस मामले में कोई जांच की है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(घ) क्या सरकार राजस्थान में बिजली की निर्बाध सप्लाई सुनिश्चित करने के लिए ग्रिड-सब-स्टेशन के कार्यकरण में सुधार करने के लिए भी कदम उठा रही है ;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने अब तक इस मामले में क्या कदम उठाए हैं ; और

(च) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

ऊर्जा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विक्रम महाजन) : (क) से (च). 220 के० वी० जी० एस० एस० रतनगढ़ में प्रतिष्ठापित किए 100 एम० वी० ए० 220/132 के० वी० ट्रांसफार्मर में 21 दिसम्बर, 1981 को आग लग गई थी और यह क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया था। आग लगने के कारणों और क्षति को मात्रा का पता लगाने के लिए एक समिति गठित की गई थी। स्थल पर निरीक्षण और जांच करने

के पश्चात् समिति ने यह निष्कर्ष निकाला है कि ओ० एल० टी० सी० में खराबी आ जाने के कारण ट्रांसफार्मर जल गया था जिसके परिणामस्वरूप डाइवरटर स्विच का अल्यूमीनियम डायफ्राम फट गया था तेल बिखर गया था और इसमें आग लग गई थी तथा ट्रांसफार्मर पूरी तरह से जल गया था और आसपास के उपस्कर को भी क्षति पहुंची थी। समिति ने यह भी पता लगाया है कि इस आग और इसके परिणामस्वरूप हुई हानि के लिए राजस्थान राज्य बिजली बोर्ड के अधिकारियों का कोई दोष नहीं था। उपस्कर की अनुमानित लागत लगभग 78.18 लाख रुपये लगाई गई है। तथापि, ट्रांसफार्मर की गारण्टी अवधि खत्म नहीं हुई है और तदनुसार यह हानि सप्लायकर्ता द्वारा पूरी की जाएगी। 11 के० वी० लाइन में खराबी आ जाने के कारण 6 जनवरी, 1982 को कुछ क्षति पहुंची थी और 132 के० वी० एयर ब्लास्ट सर्किट ब्रेकर का एक खम्बा फट गया था। मरम्मत के पश्चात् ट्रांसफार्मर को तत्काल ही प्रचालन में लाया गया था। क्षति की अनुमानित लाग 20,000 रु० है।

Malfunctioning of telephones in West Bengal due to shortage of materials

3572. SHRI AJIT BAG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the shortage of materials in telephone exchange is mainly responsible for the malfunctioning of the telephones of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) The functioning of telephones of West Bengal does not suffer due to shortage of materials in telephone exchange.

(b) Does not arise.

[Shri Madhu Dhandavate]

opportunities, for urban employment, etc.. out of that, a major portion of that particular quantum, has remained completely unused. I am stating the facts. Before the elections we were told that if necessary even an ordinance will be promulgated for lowering down of the land ceilings and that the legislation will be implemented with retrospective effect. We were told before the election that there will be ceiling on urban property. We were told before the election that there would be taxation on the rural rich. But all of a sudden, a number of Chief Ministers came forward with a pronouncement that all these reforms have been shelved they will be taken up after the election, because, obviously, they knew it fully well that it is the rural rich and the urban rich from whom they had to create their election funds. That is why a number of industrial houses have been approached, and I say this with a full sense of responsibility after contacting the trade unions of the industrial concerns and industrial houses. I want to tell you that including the Prime Minister may have brought pressure on the industrial houses to get the donations to the tune of Rs. 20.00 to Rs. 25.00 lakhs. Huge amounts were collected from the big industrial houses in order to create the so-called socialist pattern of society. Let there be an inquiry into it. Let there be such an inquiry immediately. Let us try to find how many industrial houses have given black money to the Election fund. Let us know the truth....

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: It is not a fact. Your truth has no legs.

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE: There are legs, but you should have the vision to see the legs. Unfortunately you lack that vision in you.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: I cannot conjure.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: I would make another demand. Try to investigate and let there be an impartial machinery to find out why on the eve of the elections the prices of sugar were increased. Let that be done. Why were the sugar magnates allowed to increase the prices? It would be really interesting to find out why large amounts were actually given by the sugar magnates to the ruling party for the

election funds. All these things must be investigated....

AN HON. MEMBER: His party has also got.

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE: If they had given to Socialist party or Communist party, let the facts come before the nation and the nation will be able to know about that.

AN HON. MEMBER: The Jan Sangh has also got.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय: जांच करवाइये तो पता चले। हम तैयार हैं जांच करवाने के लिये। तभी पता लगेगा कि किसने लिया है।

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE: I have not said that the sugar magnates have given money only to the ruling party. Let an investigating machinery be set up to find out how much amount was given to the ruling party, how much was given to the Jan Sangh, how much to the Swatantra party, how much was given to the Socialist party and the Communist party. That can be investigated and facts might be placed before this House.

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय: उनमें हिम्मत नहीं है जांच करवाने की।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: It can be handed over to the C. P. I. for investigation.

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE: There is one more point to which I would like to make a reference.

So far as the political life of the country is concerned, both before the election and also after the election, there is a high degree of centralisation and monopolisation of power in the country in the hands of the ruling party. We have two Gandhis we had Mahatma Gandhi and today we have Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi stressed decentralisation and devolution of power and Mrs. Indira Gandhi stresses centralisation, concentration, and monopolisation of power. She cannot be blamed because her weak and submissive supporters themselves have decided to surrender their authority and initiative. So we find another

Gandhi of our time is talking in terms of centralisation of power not devolution of power, but concentration of power.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA : She has never talked like that.

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE : I do not blame the Prime Minister. For, what can she do, when her supporters themselves have decided like that? She is not required to murder their initiative and freedom when her supporters themselves meekly and weakly have decided to surrender themselves at the altar of Delhi's power. She cannot be blamed for it. I would only blame those who are functioning at the State level. I have never heard of a democratic country where the State Legislatures do not take the decision as to who their leader will be, but it is to be decided by the Prime Minister. The State Legislatures will not decide what the composition of a State Cabinet should be, but it will be decided by the Prime Minister. It is not the Prime Minister who has asked for more power, but it is these people who are meekly submitting to the power and therefore there is more centralisation. (*Interruptions*). My hon. friends may heckle me, but this is the voice of reality.

AN HON. MEMBER : She is the leader of the nation.

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE : I shall end my speech with a few remarks. Next year, on the day of Mahatma Gandhi's death anniversary, when the victors of the elections go to the Gandhi samadhi, I am sure they will instinctively say : "Mahatma Gandhi, the vibrant symbol of decentralisation and devolution of power is dead ; but long live Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the living symbol of centralisation, monopolisation and concentration of power."

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : why has he forgotten Shri Feroze Gandhi ?

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA (Bahraich) : Before I express my views on the Address by the President, I would like to voice my concern over the unseemly behaviour of a certain section of this House which was staged on that momentous day when the President delivered his address to the Members of both Houses assembled together in a joint session. It was an exercise in patience and tolerance on the part of the

Members of this House that such an unseemly conduct was allowed to prevail simultaneously when the President was addressing the Members of the Houses assembled together. We are grateful to Prof. Madhu Dhandavate that after he has taken over the reins of the Socialist Party, his lieutenant Shri Raj Narain and another colleague of his who had indulged in such a behaviour last year were not allowed to repeat that scene this year, but that role has been taken over by the Marxist friends who are the Members of this House. I think that expeditious decision should be taken in this matter and the Members who are responsible for having marred the solemnity and dignity of the occasion should not be allowed to repeat this hereafter because it is quite conceivable that these Marxist friends who always believe in the cult of violence and who always pin their faith in the Mao doctrine that a revolution has to come out of the barrel of a gun and not out of the decisions of the ballot-box might repeat that scene again and again.

Last year, when our country was facing the twin dangers, the dangers coming from Right reaction and the dangers coming from Left adventurism, when we went to the polls in the 1971 Parliamentary elections, the Right reactionaries were routed and the relics of feudalism were beaten in their own dens, and the Marxists were also, if not quite routed, at least mauled and mutilated to such an extent that they were reduced to the position of a very negligible minority and they had only to play their noisy role in this House.

There is no single year in the history of any nation in the world, which has been packed with such important events, as the year 1971 in our country. In 1971, the country gave a massive majority to the Ruling Congress under the leadership of our present Prime Minister. Soon thereafter, when we had assembled in this House to chalk out a programme for the eradication of poverty and for a social transformation where by the poor could have their bread and a firmer roof over his head and some insurance against diseases, we were overtaken by an unprecedented tragedy in the shape of the march of one crore of refugees from the neighbouring country which is now the full-fledged Bangla Desh.

Voices were raised in this House that the Prime Minister's leadership was on trial, the

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country was on trial. Even the friends of the reactionary group in this House, the American Government began to meddle in an undignified manner in the tragedy which was a human tragedy on an unprecedented scale.

Then pressures were brought to bear on the Prime Minister and her party to accord recognition to Bangla Desh very early. But she kept quiet. She measured her steps. She calculated all *pros* and *cons*. The decision to recognise Bangla Desh was taken only when Bangla Desh became a reality with the collaboration and co-operation of our armed forces with the Mukti Bahini in Bangla Desh. Had the decision to recognise Bangla Desh been taken at an earlier stage as demanded by the Opposition parties, perhaps we would not have come out so victorious as we did in December 1971.

In this very House Shri A B Vajpayee said that we were friendless because we had not entered into military pact with any power in the world. This was during the debate on foreign affairs in this House.

The conclusion of the Indo-Soviet Treaty is another landmark in the history of our country. A friend in need is a friend indeed. I regret to say that in the recent elections certain parties went out of their way and lost all sense of national perspective when they denigrated and defamed the conclusion of the Treaty which has gone a long way in making us victorious in the recent Indo-Pakistan war.

We also made certain promises to the electorate in the mid-term poll last year. One was that poverty would be abolished from the country. The opposition parties were completely routed in the parliamentary elections. They had a second inning in the election to the State legislatures when they were completely demolished.

Now my friend, Prof. Dhandavate, says that centralisation of power has taken place because we in this part of the House have surrendered our democratic rights and vigilance and that whatever was conceived and dreamt of by the Father of the Nation has been given a go-by by the present Prime Minister. He also said that for this the Prime Minister was not to be blamed but that the members of her party were. I would ask him:

has he considered the question of implementation of land reforms? In the State legislatures the landed aristocracy was strongly entrenched whether in the shape of the Congress Government or Coalition Government. They were so firmly entrenched there that no progressive land reforms were possible. Now the subject is being included in the Concurrent list because there should be one policy throughout the country on land reforms. There should be one policy about ceiling, land distribution and industrialisation. We cannot solve the problem of lack of industrialisation, rural or urban unemployment by the pursuit of different policies in the country in these matters.

PROF. MADHU DHANDAVATE: One question is the appointment of Chief Ministers; it is a Central subject.

SHRI B R SHUKLA: That is our domestic concern. You are not to be bothered about it. For instance, there are points of difference between you and Mr. Raj Narain which are purely your concern, and we never cared to bother about them. The elected leaders have an overwhelming majority in the legislature and want to be guided in the appointment of a Chief Minister by our Prime Minister. You do not accept it and that is your allegation. But even for the sake of argument that is the state of affairs, then it is a tribute to the leadership of our Prime Minister and the faith in her leadership that has been demonstrated by the entire nation.

The President in his Address, has touched the point of poverty. He has said that the war has been won but the war on poverty, the war on squalor, the war against ignorance has to be fought in the same way. But, as you know, the military campaigns are managed by trained army personnel but the war against poverty is to be fought not by disciplined soldiers but by persons who have got political affiliations, who have their own pulls and pressures, and therefore, it is more difficult and more onerous to wage a war against poverty. Therefore as war against Pakistan was fought successfully under the leadership of our President who is Supreme Commander of all the armed forces of our country, similarly the war against poverty has to be fought under his supreme Commandership, and under the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister and Leader of this House. (Interruption)

AN HON. MEMBER : Field-Marshal.

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : 'Field Marshal' is a term which is inferior to that of Supreme Commander. Therefore, we do not want to accept your adjective.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It came from the Treasury Benches.

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : What is the danger which is facing us ? So far as the people are concerned, in spite of their illiteracy, in spite of their mass poverty, in spite of their traditional beliefs and their adherence to old faiths, they have shown complete maturity and political sense in returning us, for which even my hon. friend, in spite of his reverses and frustration, has paid an eloquent tribute.

Now, the masses want that there should be some sense of purpose. They were tired of the climate of political uncertainty, political instability, and they were also tired of coalitions, defections and all sorts of undesirable things. Therefore, they have given a complete and massive verdict to us. And even if there is no opposition in this House, I want to submit that there are voices amongst ourselves who are conscious of this responsibility, that the country should reconstituted on socialist lines. I invite my socialist friends to abandon their seats there and come and occupy the benches here, and their voice, even of dissent, even of differences, shall be equally respected, we have collaboration; we have alliances, we have sympathies, not with individuals or parties but we have sympathies and collaboration with policy and the ideology which they adopt and which they practise. We extended our help and co-operation and we made alliances at some places with the members of the CPI because they believe in the same destiny, in the same line of thinking in which we believe, you believe, but your Raj Narain makes alliance with those who are reactionaries out and out who take contributions in the same way, as you allege, we take contributions, which fact is stoutly refuted by us. Why did you not succeed in getting donations ? Because you have lost your market value. People know that you can not succeed. My DMK friend has just stood up ; he has got his own Government and probably that Government is doing well in Tamil Nadu and therefore his market value has not diminished so much as the value of the persons who constituted the coalition Government in Bihar

and Bengal and other places. We have got a leader, in whom people have got faith. Democracy cannot be run without money. Even in bigger democracies like America and England, donations are coming forth. We do not beg for donations but if people give donations they are welcome. We did not go with a begging bowl to the United States for helping the refugees, but if help was coming forth without strings, certainly we do not like to spurn it. It is in this context that you should view the contributions or donations, if given at all, to the ruling party.

The President has in his Address spoken about the creation of a task force. Certainly progressive policies enunciated by the Central Government get bogged down at the State level and the bureaucratic empires created by the erstwhile public servants coming down from the British days had not changed ; their outlook is mostly outdated. Therefore, the creation of a task force is necessary for the implementation and enforcement of the socialist policies.

We are now complete masters in this House as well as the State legislatures. Posteriority will not excuse us nor would there be any alibi—if we do not swiftly utilise the power which people have unmistakably given to us in elections, both in 1972 and in 1971. We have to bear in mind constantly these ringing words of an English poet : "We have promises to keep and miles and miles to go before we sleep." We have faith in ourselves and in our leadership. If we give her unstinted support, it should not worry you. You should be worried only when there is failure on our part to keep the promises which we have made.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon) : Sir, I have already moved the following Amendments :

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

"but regret that no effective steps have been proposed to eradicate poverty."

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

"but regret that no weightage is given to the State of Kerala which had been badly neglected in the successive Plans in the matter of Central investment in the

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Public Sector and in railway lines and workshops”

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely —

“but regret that the Union Government has taken no effective steps to revitalize the traditional industries of Kerala, like coir, cashewnut and handloom”

That at the end of the motion the following be added, namely

“but regret that the fall in the prices of coconut, pepper and other products of Kerala is not countered by effective steps by the Central Government”

My effort will be to throw light on the grievances of my State because to indulge in mere abstract political discussions is I think, of no value. Let me point out that except for a passing reference to Arthuk Swaraj, this Address as a statement of policy is the baldest and the barest made by President before any Parliament. There has been so much stress and strain in the States that the Government could not finalise their time-bound programmes and policies for the next year. I can understand that. If they admit it I can appreciate it. But if they think only of their land-slide victories and forget their promise to the people of this country, then the astounding majority that they have got and the astounding support that they have got may turn out to be dangerous for them.

The slogan of *garibi hatao*, which has been picked up by the teeming millions, is not being implemented with seriousness. The present mass upsurge may take a disastrous turn in future if their aspirations are belied. If the Government does not utilise the 25th and 26th Amendments of the Constitution and does not bring forward progressive legislation to see that unemployment and poverty are, as far as possible, countered, if the Government does not give food, work and shelter, of some sort, to the teeming millions of India, the future of this country will be very bleak.

I must also add that whoever might have been responsible for it in the beginning, goonda raj is not something healthy for a democratic life, and the goonda raj in West

Bengal is going once again to recoil on its patrons. Therefore, in the interests of democracy, those who have come out successful in the elections must see that goonda raj is put down in West Bengal once and for all. If not, they will be digging their own graves.

Now, I come to local problems, the solution of which alone will ultimately solve the problems of this country. Kerala is the one State which has been discriminated against most ever since independence in this country. I am listing some of the discriminations.

Kerala is the one State in India which has no basic or heavy industry either in the private or the public sector.

Kerala is the one State in India where there is not a single armament factory or ammunition factory or ordnance factory or a single unit of defence production.

Kerala is the one State in India where no public sector undertaking worth the name has been set up since independence.

Kerala is the one State in India where there is no Central University or no Central Technological or Research Institute.

Kerala is the one State in India where the rail route mile per lakh of the population is only one-third of the all-India average and where is not a single railway product or unit or even a single railway workshop.

Kerala is education and the highest percentage of education and the lowest percentage of employment.

Kerala is the one State in India which provides the highest percentage of foreign exchange and gets back the lowest percentage in the quota of imports for industrial development.

Yet, the Government of India has now rejected the claims of Kerala for setting up the Cross-bar Switching Equipment Unit, through the technical experts had approved our claims, and given it to a State which has already two telephone units. After selecting Kerala for the establishment of a Precision Instruments Unit, after the State Government had acquired the land and made all the preliminary

nary arrangements, after the foundation stone was laid by an eminent personality, the unit was unceremoniously set up in Kota. We were promised a second unit, but we understand that the Kota unit has advanced its claim for further development. They want pneumatic instruments also to be produced there. Therefore, even if Kerala gets a second unit, it will be uneconomic. So, their love towards Kerala is quite patent.

The Geological Survey of India was asked to conduct a survey of the iron ore mines of Kerala. The survey has been going on for the last five years and is not complete. The survey of places like Calicut which are very rich in iron ore is not completed because they do not want to give Kerala a part-based steel plant.

As I have pointed out, Kerala is a backward State in industrial development. The State has today 52 applications for industrial licences from both the private sector and the public sector. But they have not been considered till now.

The basic industry of Kerala, which is almost a cottage industry, which provides for lakhs of people is the cashew industry. The Central Government stepped in and we welcomed it in channelising the import of raw nuts. But the Cashew Corporation of India has been handed over to a set of bureaucrats who do not understand the A, B, C, of the industry. Fortunately, because the State Government, the workers and everybody cooperated with it, the CCI could make its first year almost a success. But towards the end of the first year, they did not buy sufficient raw nuts from foreign countries at reasonable prices and supply it to the processors, so that all the industrial units including the State Development Corporation had to close down for more than 1½ months. Then, the workers had to start an agitation. Thousands of workers—men and women—had to demonstrate before the Kerala Secretariat and the office of the CCI at Ernakulam. They had to be arrested and removed by the Kerala police. All this happened because the CCI set up by the Government of India is not doing its job properly.

The coir industry has been our traditional industry. It supports 2 lakhs of families. The whole family—father, mother and children—sit together and do it on a cottage industry

basis. The industry has been in ruins. A major scheme for its survival has been submitted to the Government of India. Technical experts scrutinised it and at last the scheme costing Rs. 6.99 crores had been accepted. But the Government of India does not say what portion of it is prepared to advance and how the finances are to be found. As a result, the crisis in the coir industry continues and two lakh families are starving. Coming to the newly started master-plan for the development of fisheries in Kerala, Kerala went far ahead without any help from the Centre. But the Centre stepped in and started giving licences to big people. Birlas, Tatas and monopoly vested interests applied and got special licences for trawlers to be imported, so that the small entrepreneurs in Kerala could be smothered.

Kerala, as you know, Sir, is deficit in foodgrains. We have 7 irrigation projects and every year we are given Rs. 1 or 2 crores, which would not suffice to meet the overall expenditure of the establishment. We have applied for more money, but the Centre is not giving it. If about Rs. 15 crores are provided through institutional finances for the next few years, we can tide over our deficit and become a surplus State. But the Centre is not herding to this demand. They talk of socialism; they talk of parity and equality between regions but in effect, in actual practice, they ignore the small fries who have no influence with the Centre, who are far away from the Centre.

Much has been said in the President's Address about land reforms. There is so much of talk about the wonderful and model land reform legislation of Kerala. But the Land Reform Act of Kerala is being threatened in the Supreme Court. If this legislation is smashed by the judiciary, if the Supreme Court takes the decision that this legislation is null and void then one and a half lakhs of families would be thrown out. We wanted this legislation to be given shelter in the Ninth Schedule. Though the Government of India agreed to it in principle, they have not come forward to implement it. If tomorrow the Supreme Court says that this Act is null and void, then one and a half lakhs families would be thrown out. Then it will become a battle between the police and land owners on one side and the landless people on the other with the Government of Kerala watching the whole thing as a helpless spectator.

[Shri N. Sreekantan Nair]

Then, we do not have any major aerodromes. Even though an aerodrome has been promised to us years ago we do not have even proper scheduled air services now. Then I want to mention a very important point, namely, houses for the poor. The Central Government prepared a scheme and earmarked a sum of Rs 4 crores for that. Except Kerala no other State came forward with a detailed scheme for housing the poor. The foundation stone for that scheme is being laid on the 1st of May. Now the Centre take the stand, you are the only State which has prepared a scheme, if we give you money then the other States will also come forward with schemes and ask for money. Does it mean that they want to allow the money to lapse, rather giving it to Kerala? Why do they not give this money this year to Kerala and next year to another State which has prepared a scheme? The secularist-oriented and socialism-propagating government should come forward with money for such schemes. Otherwise my friends from Kerala including myself and the Congress members who are associated with this scheme will not be able to move about in Kerala. They will be gheraoed by the common people. The common people will ask what has happened to our housing programme.

I do not want to refer to how the policy on coconut, pepper and other cash crops of Kerala are determined by Fatas and other big industrial magnates from Bombay.

Finally, the hon. Prime Minister has reached such dizzy heights. If there is any fall from that height it would be disastrous. Therefore, I want the hon. Prime Minister and the Government to try to fulfil the promises they have made from time to time and satisfy the aspirations of the common people so that dire poverty, unemployment and the problem of housing may, at least to a certain extent, be mitigated.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I take stand here to support Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. We are about to complete one year since we met after the last mid-term poll and when I look back to this year my heart is filled with a sense of pride, pride for the achievements of this country both in the international field. No reference to achievements of last year can be made

without a reference to Bangladesh and so it is in the fitness of things that the address of the President starts with a reference to Bangladesh. We are proud not only because we have won a war against Pakistan, because many a country has won a war in the past but we are proud of the fact that we fought a war not for the conventional reasons but for reasons which have no parallel in the human history. We fought a war to help the people of another country to achieve the ideals of democracy and for the defence of human freedom and I do not think there is any parallel in human history when a country fought a war for achieving democratic ideals by the people of another country.

15.40 hrs

[SHRI N. K. P. SALVE in the Chair]

After the war we did not govern the country, we left the Government to its own people and we have withdrawn the army within the shortest possible time—another feature which has no parallel in human history. Therefore when we look back upon the last year we have got every reasons to feel proud about it.

We are now fighting a war on another front—the war against poverty, a war which it is much more difficult to win. It is the slogan of *garibi hatao* that has appealed to the masses and it is because of the pledge that the people in the entire country have rallied behind the Prime Minister. We have made pledges to the people and we must be able to fulfil them; we must make all efforts to fulfil them because if we fail to fulfil them we will betray the confidence and trust reposed by the people in us.

In the last year, because of unforeseen circumstances, much development could not be made in many fields, yet in the constitutional field we had made very important amendments—the Twenty-fifth and the Twenty-Sixth Constitution Amendments. By the Twenty-sixth Amendment we have done away with privy purses and by the Twenty-fifth Amendment the Government has taken upon itself the power to take over property for the furtherance of the Directive Principles laid down in article 39 (b) and (c) without payment of market price or compensation.

But if anyone feels that these two constitutional amendments by themselves will lead to socialism and equality, I think, he has reasons to feel frustrated. They may lead to national equality but they will not lead to equality unless they are followed up by follow-up measures.

Therefore, it is necessary that we take important measures on the economic front. One weapon which is essential in that field is the weapon of self-reliance. The last war has taught us a lesson, the lesson of how dangerous it is to rely upon foreign economic aid. Therefore, we must cultivate the habit of self-reliance and we must make a careful husbanding of country's external accounts. It is the leadership of Gandhiji and his ideal of swadeshi that gave us political freedom, let us hope that it is the leadership of Prime Minister Gandhi and her new slogan of swadeshi in a different context, which will help in the achievement of economic independence of this country.

The President has taken satisfactions in the fact that there has been improvement in the agricultural field and there has been a rise of production to 108 million tonnes of foodgrains. Obviously, there has been improvement in this field, but we must take note of the fact that the improvement has not been uniform throughout the country. The improvement has been only in some States. I come from the State of Assam which has all the potentialities of agricultural development, but I feel sorry at the fact that there has not been any improvement in the agricultural field worth the name in this region. The land reforms programmes only on paper. There has been no proper implementation of them. There has been no implementation of the irrigation facilities or of rural electrification programmes. I feel that there should be uniform improvement in these directions throughout the country. Improvement only in one particular area will not help this country in tiding over the difficulties in the economic field.

There should also be reappraisal of the price policy. Undoubtedly, the price structure was kept under a certain amount of check, yet we found, so far as some basic commodities were concerned, that there was an abnormal price; in fact, this House had debated more than once the rise in the price

of sugar. I feel the Government should take immediate steps to see that so far as the basic commodities are concerned there is no price rise or, if there is a rise in prices, it can be checked and there is a certain balance.

In the industrial field it is unfortunate that the development is not at all encouraging. The recent *Economic Survey* shows that the industrial development has fallen from 7.1 per cent in 1964 to 4.8 per cent in 1971. The President has called for a moratorium on strikes and lock-outs—undoubtedly, a very lofty ideal—and let me hope that all parties and labour leaders will try to achieve it. But, at the same time, we must be able to generate a climate in the country so that the development in the industrial field does not help a few monopolists or few industrialists but that development goes for the benefit of the people of the entire country. It is on the generation of this climate that we can expect a development in the industrial field; otherwise, I feel even a call for a moratorium on strikes and lock-outs will not be of much help.

I am grateful to the President for making a reference about the north-eastern region. You are aware, Sir, the entire north-eastern region is very complex and sensitive region.

The region is composed of people of different races. The people speak different dialects and languages. The people are very sensitive. It is one of the most backward areas. Unfortunately, the development in this region has not been to the desired extent. We are grateful to the President for making a reference to the north-eastern region and we are earnestly looking forward to the development works in this region.

Now, the optimism that was generated by the President's Address by his reference to the north-eastern region, to a great extent, has been diluted by the Railway Budget which followed the Address. In the Railway Budget, we do not find any mention of the north-eastern region. The hon. Railway Minister promised to us the extension of broad-gauge line in this region. But there is no mention whatever about it in the Railway Budget. Let me hope this reference in the President's Address about north-eastern region will not be

[Shri Dinesh Chandra Goswami]

a mere reference but that immediate follow-up measures will be taken for the improvement of this region. After all, the emergence of a free Bangladesh has changed the political, economic and social complexion of the north-eastern region. Therefore, the Government should in the fitness of things give adequate attention to this region.

Shri Madhu Dandavate made a reference to the imbalance of legislatures. He mentioned that there has been a total eclipse of opposition both in this House and in State legislatures. It is a fact. As a person who is wedded to democracy, I feel, there should be healthy Opposition. But for the eclipse of Opposition he cannot blame us. He should search his own heart to find out why there has been an eclipse of Opposition.

He talked about convictions. I ask him: Did his party for all these years act upon convictions? Is it not that his party which talks about socialism joined hands with reactionaries in the last Mid-term poll? Is it not that in the last elections his party tried to raise a communal bogey of Bihari Muslim? After all, the common mass of people, crores of people, which means our motherland India, have attained sufficient political maturity. They can not only look to the pledges made but can also try to ascertain the intentions of the parties who make them. The common mass of people may be illiterate but they have sufficient political acumen in them. (Interruption) May I tell Mr. Jyotirmoy Basu that after 25 years of Congress rule, the people have reposed confidence in us and after 5 years of Marxist rule in West Bengal the people have rejected them? Therefore, it is for my friends like Mr. Jyotirmoy Basu to try to search their hearts and find out what has led to their eclipse. As a person who has firm faith in democracy, I feel, there should be Opposition. But the Opposition must be healthy. If the health has to be generated, it is for them to drive out the germs of ill-health.

In the last war, it is the combined effort not only of us but of the Opposition and the people of the entire country that helped us to win the war. As I have said, we are now engaged in another war against poverty. Let us hope that the combined effort of all of us, the ruling party which has got majority both in Parliament and in State legislatures

and the Opposition will help us to fight war against poverty, so much so that when the President will deliver his Address next year, there will be significant features of achievements on the battle-field against war on poverty.

With these words, I support the Motion of Thanks.

श्रीमती सावित्री श्याम (आवना) सभापति महोदय, मैं राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण का हार्दिक स्वागत करती हूँ। उनका यह अभिभाषण विश्वास, आशाओं और इरादों का स्रोतक है। ये इरादे, ये विश्वास उन चुनौतियों से उत्पन्न हुए हैं, जिनका पिछले तीन-चार महीने मैं हमने सामना किया है। ये विश्वास उन सबको से उत्पन्न हुए हैं, जिनके बीच मैं मैं हारर हम गुजरे हैं। हमें गर्व है अपनी सेनाओं पर। अपने सेनापतियों पर आज हमारे सेनापतियों और जवानों को बोरना और शौर्य की कहानियाँ जन-जन के हृदय में अंकित हैं। हमें गर्व है भारतवर्ष के लोगों की एकता पर, उनकी बुद्धि की परिपक्वता पर कि ब एक दोबार की तरह एक सीक की तरह भारत की प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी के पाँछे खड़े हो गये। हमें गर्व है कि इस देश की प्रधान मंत्री पर जिन्होंने

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय सभापति महोदय, मैं आप की व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ। सदन में कोरम नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय माननीय सदस्या स्थापन ग्रहण करें। घंटी बजाई जा रही है। कोरम हो गया है, माननीय सदस्या अपना भाषण जारी रखें।

श्रीमती सावित्री श्याम : हमें गर्व है भारत की प्रधान मंत्री पर जिन्होंने सारे देश का आश्वासन दिया कि हम शान से जियें और शान से लड़ें। मुझे याद है जब इस सदन में वह प्रस्ताव आया कि मुक्ति वाहिनी को सहायता दी जाये और बंगला देश की आजादी की लड़ाई

लड़ी जाये तो कछवाय साहब के लीडर श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेई ने यह कहा था कि श्रीमती गांधी शक्ति है। मुझे वे शब्द याद रहे अभी चुनावों के समय मेरे भी क्षेत्र में एक चुनाव था और वहां उस शब्द को मैंने दोहराया। निस्संदेह आज श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी शक्ति के रूप में अवतरित हुई हैं, जिन्होंने फ्लोरेंस नाइटिंगेल की तरह हाथ में टार्च लेकर सारे विश्व के लोगों को एक रास्ता दिखाया जो कि आज रेगियल डिप्लोमैटिशन में दबे हैं, जो बड़ा बड़ा ताकतों के सेटलाइट बने हुए हैं और जो गरीबी में दबे हैं। उन सभी को उन्होंने एक रास्ता दिखाया है। आज सारा विश्व हिन्दुस्तान की तरह देख रहा है।

सभापति महोदय, इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं कि देश में बहुत गरीबी है, देश में बहुत मुनाफाखोरी है, देश में बहुत ग़िबतखारी है पर इस लड़ाई को उसी इरादे से लड़ना होगा जिस इरादे के साथ बंगला देश की लड़ाई लड़ी गई। मुझे इस बात का दुख है कि बावजूद इस बात के कि सारा देश समाजवाद के पीछे पीछे है, सारा देश आज समाजवादी अर्थव्यवस्था को चाहता है लेकिन हमारी आज की अर्थव्यवस्था कुछ लोगों के हाथ में ही है और वह पूँजीवादी अर्थव्यवस्था है। पूँजीवादी अर्थव्यवस्था में श्रम का कोई स्थान नहीं है। यदि कुछ है भी तो बहुत थोड़ा सा है। पूँजीवादी अर्थव्यवस्था में उत्पादन के सभी साधनों पर पूँजीपतियों का अधिकार है जबकि श्रम को केवल अपनी मेहनत पर अधिकार है। इसलिए जब तक यह पूँजीवादी अर्थव्यवस्था बदली नहीं जायेगी तब तक समाजवाद का नाम बहुत दूर रहेगा चाहे कितना ही उसके लिए प्रयास किया जाये। हमारे देश की जनता बधाई की पात्र है कि जब 1971 से पहले उन्होंने देखा कि बहुत सी रिएक्शनरी फोर्सेज, प्रतिक्रियावादी शक्तियाँ देश में काम कर रही हैं जो कि प्रगति के रास्ते में रुकावट हैं तो उन्होंने लोकसभा में कांग्रेस की दो तिहाई मत दिया और वह इसलिए दिया कि सरकार आसानी से संविधान को बदल सके, इसलिए दिया कि प्रगतिशील

रास्ते से सारी रुकावटों और अड़चनों को दूर कर सके। उसी प्रकार जब हम राज्यों में चुनाव के लिए गए तब भी जनता ने एकमत होकर एक शक्ति के साथ सारे राज्यों में हमें बहुमत प्रदान किया। हमारी कांग्रेस पार्टी बहुमत में आई। और वह इसलिए कि केन्द्र में और राज्यों में एकरूपता हो सके, कोऑर्डिनेशन हो सके। आज सभी जगह जनता का समाजवाद का अन्दर विश्वास है, प्रजातन्त्रवाद के अंदर विश्वास है और वह नहीं चाहती कि जिस तरह का डिमान्स्ट्रेशन सी० पी० एम० ने राष्ट्रपति के अभिभाषण के समय किया उसको दोहराया जाये। अब सी० पी० एम० वाले दोबारा चुनाव में आकर देखें कि उनका क्या हाल होता है? जितनी सीटें अभी आ गईं वह भी अब आने वाली नहीं है। यह बात अवश्य है कि हमें एक मौका मिला है जिसका हमें चूकना नहीं चाहिए। यदि हमने इस अवसर को खो दिया तो निस्संदेह इतिहास हमें माफ करने वाला नहीं है, जेनरेशन हमें माफ करने वाली नहीं है और जनता हमें माफ करने वाली नहीं है। इस बात की फिक्र हमको जरूर है और हमारी सरकार को भी है कि हमारा प्रोडक्शन बढ़े परन्तु मुझे प्रोडक्शन की उतनी चिन्ता नहीं है जितना चिन्ता इस बात की है कि इस प्रोडक्शन के बढ़ने के साथ साथ जो डिस्पैरिटी और असमानता पैदा हो रही है उसको किस तरह से कम किया जाये। हमने अपनी पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं में देखा कि हमने लक्ष्य रखा कि 57 परसेन्ट प्रोडक्शन बढ़ेगा लेकिन वह नहीं बढ़ा। हमने देखा कि हमारी नेशनल इनकम बढ़ी, हमारी राष्ट्रीय आमदनी बढ़ी, हमारी परकैपिटल इनकम बढ़ी (व्यवधान) सारे देश में (व्यवधान)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : Lowest in the world-73 dollars . (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM : I am ready to argue ..

MR CHAIRMAN : This is not the place to argue. Kindly address the Chair.

SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM : I say that the national income has increased. If he contradicts me and says that the national income has not increased, I am prepared to argue.

तो सभापति महोदय, हमारे देश में अन्न के क्षेत्र में बहुत काम हुआ। औद्योगिक क्षेत्र में काम कम हुआ परन्तु अन्नोत्पादन में बहुत बढ़ोत्तरी हुई और उससे हमारी राष्ट्रीय आमदनी बढ़ी, पर-कैपिटल इनकम बढ़ी। लेकिन इसके साथ साथ मैं कह सकती हूँ कि आमदनी बढ़ने के साथ साथ हमारे देश में डिस्पैरिटी भी बढ़ी, असमानता भी बढ़ी और करप्शन भी बढ़ा। आज हमारे देश में जब सर्वे कराया जाता है तो उसमें इस बात का अन्दाजा तो लगाया जा सकता है कि कितने लोग बेकार हैं पर इस बात का कोई अन्दाजा हमारे पास नहीं है कि राष्ट्रीय पैमाने पर हमारे देश में अमीर और गरीब की खाई कितनी है, डिस्पैरिटी कितनी है, प्राइमरी स्कूलों के बच्चों में और कान्वेन्ट के स्कूलों के बच्चों में भिन्नता कितनी है। इस बात का कोई वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान या वैज्ञानिक अन्दाजा हमारे पास नहीं होता... (व्यवधान)...

आज आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि कांग्रेस पार्टी को एक बार नहीं दो बार जो जनता का मैट्रेट मिला है उससे सतर्क होकर हमें काम करना है। मैं सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ कि वह उपभोक्ता उद्योगों में कदम बढ़ाये। सरकार कंज्यूमर गुड्स में अपने क्षेत्र को बढ़ाये क्योंकि इन चीजों की देश में कमी है और उसके कारण मंहगाई है। कुछ ही लोग उनको खरीद सकते हैं। इस क्षेत्र में सरकार का जाना बहुत ही आवश्यक है चाहे उसकी कितनी ही आलोचना क्यों न हो। इसका परिणाम यह होगा कि लोगों को सामान मिलेगा और कम कीमत पर मिल सकेगा और उससे जो लाभ होगा वह कुछ लोगों के पास न जाकर सरकार के पास आयेगा जिससे वह दूसरे क्षेत्रों में भी काम कर सकेगी। सरकार की चाहे कितनी मुखालिफत क्यों न हो उसे इस क्षेत्र में तेजी से कदम बढ़ाने चाहिए और इस तरह से समाजवादी कदमों को तेजी से आगे ले जाना चाहिए। यदि देश बढ़े

हैं तो वह बढ़े हैं टेकनालॉजी से, विज्ञान से। लेकिन हमारे देश में वैज्ञानिकों और साइंटिस्ट्स का स्थान पहला नहीं, दूसरा है। हमारे यहां ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विसेज की जो धूम धाम है, रौनक है, रोब है, वह किसी दूसरे मुल्क में नहीं मिलती। मैंने समाजवादी देश भी देखे हैं और साम्राज्यवादी देश भी देखे हैं, हर जगह साइंटिस्ट्स और टेकनालाजिस्ट्स का अपर हैन्ड देखा। कार्य की सारी जिम्मेदारी उनके ऊपर है, ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विसेज के ऊपर नहीं। लेकिन अभी हमने अखबारों में देखा कि आई० ए० एस० एसोसियेशन की मांग निकली थी। उस मांग के पीछे हमारी सरकार झुक जाती है क्योंकि उन्हीं को वह सब चीजों के लिये रामबाण समझती है। मैं उनके खिलाफ नहीं हूँ, लेकिन मैं चाहती हूँ कि इस देश में वैज्ञानिक और टेकनालाजिस्ट्स को इस दृष्टि से देखना चाहिये कि उनको प्रथम स्थान दिया जाये। इसी से देश की बढ़ोत्तरी हो सकती है, चाहे उद्योगों में हो, चाहे मशीनरी में हो, चाहे कल कारखानों में हो वा फिर चाहे खेती में हो। इसके बिना हमारा काम चलने वाला नहीं है।

16 hrs.

केन्द्रीय सरकार ने तीन सर्विसेज पैदा की थीं आल इंडिया सर्विसेज में। फारेस्ट और पुलिस सर्विस तो पहले से चल रही हैं, लेकिन उसमें भी असमानता दिखाई देती है। मैं पूछना चाहती हूँ कि आखिर आल इंडिया सर्विसेज रखने के माने क्या हैं। इसमें पैरिटी, एक-रूपता लानी चाहिये। ऐसा करना बहुत आवश्यक है।

अभी अभी अमरीका के प्रेजिडेंट चाइबा गये थे। हमें बहुत खुशी हुई उनके इस नये रोल को देख कर क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान हमेशा से हामी रहा है यू०एन०ओ० में चीन के प्रवेश का। यू० एन० ओ० में बैठ कर उसने हमेशा चाइना को स्थान दिलाने की बकालत की है। लेकिन जो संयुक्त विज्ञप्ति निकली है, ज्वारेंट कम्यूनिक निकली है उसको देख कर हमको बड़ी निराशा

हुई। मैं नहीं समझ पाई कि उसका क्या कारण था। ऐसा लगता है कि अमरीका ने पाकिस्तान की हार को एशिया में अपनी हार माना है। ऐसा लगता है कि चीन ने भारत को ऐसा समझा है कि वह दबे हुए लोगों का अगुआ, स्वतंत्रता संग्राम में संलग्न लोगों का अगुआ बनने जा रहा है और इससे उसको दुःख हुआ है। साथ ही रूस और हिन्दुस्तान की जो मैत्री हुई है उससे भी उसको बड़ी निराशा हुई है। निस्संदेह हम रूस के बड़े आभारी हैं कि समय पर उमने हमारा साथ दिया। लेकिन मित्रता हम सब लोगों से करना चाहते हैं। रूस से ही नहीं दूसरे देशों से भी हम मित्रता रखना चाहते हैं। हर क्षेत्र में हम उनसे मैत्री रखना चाहते हैं। हमें अपने उद्योग धन्धों और व्यापार में भी दूसरे देशों से मैत्री रखनी चाहिये।

अन्त में मैं एक शब्द कहना चाहती हूँ। राज्यों के अन्दर और केन्द्र में एक दल की ही सरकारें हैं। उनमें कम्प्लीट कोऑर्डिनेशन होना चाहिये। तीसरी पंच-वर्षीय योजना में हमने देखा कि राज्यों से सड़कों का रुपया लौट कर आया। जगह जगह सड़कों का मांग है, कोने कोने से उसकी मांग हो रही है। तब फिर सड़कों का रुपया लौट कर क्यों आया? और राज्यों का तो मैं क्या कहूँ, स्वयं यू०पी० में यह रुपया लौटा है। सरकार को यह देखना चाहिये कि जिस काम के लिये रुपया रकवा जाये वह पूरा किया जाये, रुपया लौट कर न आये। एक तरफ तो हम देखते हैं कि सरकारें ओवर-ड्राफ्ट करती हैं और दूसरी तरफ कुछ सरकारें रुपया लौटा देती हैं। ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये।

श्री मुलचन्द डागा (पाली) : सभापति महोदय, लोकतन्त्र और समाजवाद के लिये कुछ खतरें हैं। पहला खतरा निहित स्वार्थ है, दूसरा खतरा है उग्रवादी वामपन्थी तथा दक्षिणपन्थी प्रतिक्रियावादी ताकतें और तीसरा खतरा है क्षेत्रीयता और साम्प्रदायिकता। हिन्दुस्तान में लोकतन्त्र पनपा है और काफी मजबूती में साथ पनपा है। लोगों ने हममें विश्वास किया है और हम पर जिम्मेदारी डाली है। मैं मानता हूँ कि

राजनीति सेवा और नम्रता का विषय है। लेकिन एक बात भूलनी नहीं चाहिये कि आज भी अतिगामी चतुर और चालाक लोग आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। ऐसा मैंने कई जगह देखा है। जब तक मानव मूल्य नहीं बदलेगा और छोटे से छोटा आदमी यह महसूस नहीं करने लगेगा कि देश के निर्माण में उसका भी हाथ है, तब तक गांधी जी का स्वप्न पूरा नहीं होगा।

आज इससे इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता कि देश में गरीबी है, और मंहगाई बढ़ रही है इससे भी इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता। लेकिन इस मंहगाई और गरीबी का कारण क्या है इस से भी हम अपनी नजर नहीं हटा सकते। पहली बात यह भी माननी होगी कि हमारे देश में विषमतायें बढ़ रही हैं। देश के अन्दर जो भी आंकड़े मौजूद हैं उनसे मालूम होता है कि 1961 और 1970 के बीच में 60 प्रतिशत मंहगाई बढ़ी है। लेकिन इसके साथ साथ कारखानों में काम करने वाले जो मजदूर हैं उनकी औसत वार्षिक आय जो 1948 में 1417 रु० थी वह 1968 में बढ़कर 2224 रु० रह गई।

मैं बतलाना चाहता था कि जिस प्रकार से मंहगाई बढ़ा है उस प्रकार से मजदूरों की आय नहीं बढ़ी है। जब मजदूरों को मंहगाई बढ़ी, गरीबी में जब मंहगाई बढ़ी तब उनकी खरीदने की ताकत बढ़ी है या नहीं? वह नहीं बढ़ी। हिन्दुस्तान में काना धन है, कोई इस बात से इन्कार नहीं कर सकता। लेकिन अगर सरकारी कर्मचारी और हमारा प्रशासनिक ढांचा मजबूत और ईमानदार होते, मेवाभावी होते तो जो काना धन आज बढ़ा है, जो लाखों हजारों भ्रान्त करोड़ों रुपयों की लागत से बनाये गये हैं उनकी तरफ हमारी दृष्टि जाती। लेकिन हम लोगो में कुछ ऐसी ताकतें हैं जो निहित स्वार्थ हैं और लोकतन्त्र को खाये हुए हैं। वह निहित स्वार्थ हैं चतुर और चालाक लोग, कुछ पूंजीवादी लोग जो हमारे लोकतन्त्र के अन्दर बैठे हुए लोकतन्त्र में विश्वास व्यक्त करते हैं और लोकतन्त्र की दुहाई देते हैं। जब तक उनका खात्मा

[श्री मूलचन्द डागा]

नहीं होता तब तक हम किस प्रकार से आशा करें कि आने वाले जमाने में उस लोकतन्त्र की स्थापना होगी जिसमें गरीब आदमी स्वाभिमान के साथ खड़ा हो सकेगा ? जब स्वाभिमान से खड़े होने के लिये मैं लोकतन्त्र की बात कहता हूँ तब देखता हूँ कि उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में गिरावट आई है। मैं मानता हूँ, और हमने सारे आँकड़ों में यह माना है कि उत्पादन में गिरावट आई है। हमने यह माना है कि हमारे यहां भ्रष्टाचार है, हम मानते हैं, कि रिश्वत-खोरी है, नौकरशाही और लालफीताशाही है, कर्तव्य-विमुखता है, आचारहीनता है और अकर्मण्यता है। इससे इन्कार भी कौन कर सकता है ?

आज गरीब का हौसला बढ़ा है, उसमें विश्वास बढ़ा है, इसलिये कि इन्दिरा जी ने कुछ बातें कहीं। इन्दिरा जी ने जो बातें कही हैं उनको करते हैं। इसलिये इन्दिरा जी की इस बात में गरीबों ने विश्वास किया, गरीबी दूर होगी। यह कोई उनका इन्द्रजाल नहीं था, खयाली पुलाव नहीं था, एक वास्तविकता थी। लेकिन गरीबी को दूर करने के पहले हम उन ताकतों को रोकें जो हमारे यहां के गरीबों पर हावी हैं। आज गांव गांव में हरिन क्रान्ति के नाम पर लांग सीलिंग के कानून को लागू नहीं होने देते। इसका कारण यह नहीं है गरीब नहीं चाहते कि सीलिंग लागू हो, बल्कि ऐसी ताकतें हैं जिनको पूंजीवादी कहना चाहिये। इस तरह से गांवों में भी विषमता बढ़ी है। इसकी तरफ सरकार का ध्यान गया है और मुझको बड़ी खुशी है कि सरकार इन ताकतों के ऊपर भी अंकुश लगाना चाहती है, मैं इसका स्वागत करता हूँ।

आज अगर अतिगामी ताकतों का दमन नहीं हुआ, वह पुलिस पर हावी होती है, आज गांवों में गरीब आदमी या मजदूर दबे हुए हैं तो उसका कारण यह है कि हमारा प्रशासनिक ढांचा इन अतिगामी शक्तियों को दबा नहीं पाता, वह अतिगामी शक्तियों से मिल कर

लाभ उठाता है। आज काला घन कैसे पैदा हुआ ? हमारे अधिकारियों की कमजोरी से। आज जो अतिगामी शक्तियां गांवों में उत्पन्न होती हैं उसका कारण यह है कि पुलिस अतिगामी शक्तियों से मिली रहती है।

आज जो भी रिएक्शनरी फोर्स हैं उनके बारे में हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार बार-बार एलान करती है कि हम साम्प्रदायिक संस्थाओं नहीं चाहते, लेकिन फिर आर० एम० एस० कैसे पनप रहा है ? आखिर उस पर अंकुश लगाने का कोई तरीका है या नहीं ? वह आज छोटे-छोटे बच्चों के दिमाग कलुषित करता है, आज हमारे बच्चों में उसके विरुद्ध भावना भरी जानी चाहिये। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज हिन्दुस्तान में ही नहीं समार में यह भावना पैदा हो गई है कि हम लोग भजबज के नाम पर राज्य नहीं कर सकते, लेकिन इस तरह की बातों पर कौन अंकुश लगायेगा ? हमें सत्ती के साथ ऐसी पाटियों और संस्थाओं का दमन करना होगा और यह काम धीरे-धीरे कदम उठाने से नहीं हो सकता। धीरे-धीरे चलने वाला आदमी कभी भी आगे नहीं जा सकता है। देश तेजी से आगे चलता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि तेजी से चलने वाले मुल्क में हमने आज तक क्या किया है ?

हम लोगों को जो नीतियां हैं उनका लाभ पूंजीपतियों ने और निहिन स्वार्यों ने ही उठाया है। मिर्चाई के लिए पानी का वितरण होता है। मिर्चाई के साधन मुहैया करने के लिए आपने हजारों बांध बांधे हैं। नदियों को आपने बांध दिया है। पहाड़ों पर आप नदियों को बांधते हैं। लेकिन जो मिर्चाई के लिए पानी इन बांधों से और नदियों से उपलब्ध होता है, वह किसको मिलता है। वह पानी मालदार जो है उसके खेत को सींचने के काम में आता है। गरीब तो उस पानी से महसूस रह जाता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या पानी के सही वितरण की आपने कोई पालिसी बनाई है जिससे इंडिया सेबेल पर जिसके अधीन गरीब आदमी

को भी सिंचाई के लिए पानी मिल सके ? जो इजीनियर होता है वह भी मालदार को ही पानी देता है और जो पानी देने वाला है वह भी धनी आदमी को ही पानी देता है, जिसके पास बहुत जमीन है उसको ही पानी देता है ।

सीलिंग आन लैंड का कानून आपने बनाया । भूमि का आवंटन आपने किया । लेकिन क्या आपने सोचा है कि गरीब के पाम भी अच्छी और उपजाऊ जमीन गई है । जो फाल्टू जमीन पडो हुई थी और जिसको बाटा गया है क्या उसमें अच्छी और उपजाऊ जमीन गरीब के पाम गई है ? अगर गरीब आदमी को जमीन मिल भी जाती है तो क्या वह जमीन पुलिम गरीब आदमी का दिला पाती है ? क्या पुलिम गरीब आदमी को मदद के लिए आती है ? नहीं आती है ।

नीतिया बनाने में हम कुशल हैं, कानून बनाने में हम चतुर हैं । लेकिन उन नीतियों का पालन कौन करेगा ? नीतिया को आग कौन बढ़ाएगा, इसके आगे एक प्रश्न वाचक चिह्न लगा हुआ है । चार पांच याजनाये बनाई गई हैं । देश आगे बढ़ा भी है । मुद्रा आगे बढ़ने लगा है । लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन योजनाओं का लाभ गरीब वर्ग और पिछड़ा हुआ वर्ग उठा सके हैं या नहीं उठा सका है, इसके सामने भी प्रश्न वाचक चिह्न जुड़ा हुआ है । आपने देश में पंचायती राज लागू किया है और सामुदायिक याजनाओं का जाल बिछा दिया है । गांव-गांव में आपने सामुदायिक योजनाओं को शुरू किया है । आपने सोचा था कि इन योजनाओं के फल-स्वरूप देश में काफी सुधार होगा । लेकिन सामुदायिक योजनाओं पर लाखों करोड़ों रुपया खर्च करने के बाद भी आज गांवों के अन्दर जो पिछड़ा वर्ग है वह ऊपर नहीं उठ सका है । देश में जो गरीब लोग हैं, उनको ऊपर उठाने का तरीका क्या होगा, यह भी सोचने वाली बात है । भारत एक गरीब देश है । समुक्त राष्ट्र के साजा अनुमानों में यह पता चलता है कि भारत में प्रति व्यक्ति सालाना आय दो सौ

डालर है जबकि अमरीका में वह 3578 डालर है, कनाडा में 2247 डालर है, इंग्लैंड में 1451 डालर है और फ्रांस में 1927 डालर है । इन आंकड़ों से पता चलता है कि भारत अभी भी किनना गरीब देश है ।

हम लोग समाजवादी नीतियों को आधार बना कर चलते हैं । लेकिन उनके लिए यह आवश्यक है कि वैज्ञानिक तरीके से यथा वितरण हो । लाकूनत्र में हमें खतरा उन शक्तियों से है जिनको आज तक भी हम कुचल नहीं सके हैं फिर चाहे वे शक्तिया पालिटिक्स में हो या अन्यत्र हो । आज हिन्दुस्तान में जितने वकील हैं या डाक्टर हैं उनको तो सम्मान मिलता है लेकिन जो माधारण मनुष्य है उसको मनुष्य नहीं समझा जाता है, उसको मानव नहीं समझा जाता है । लोकतन्त्र में मनुष्य का, मानव का मूल्य बढ़ना चाहिये । वह नहीं बढ़ेगा जब उसमें स्वाभिमान होगा । आप कहते हैं कि जो वोटर है वह समझदार हो गया है । आज उस पर एंग्लीशेशन भी लगाए जाते हैं । लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि जब हमारे देश के मतदाता स्वाभिमानो बन जायेंगे, इस देश को अपना देश समझेंगे, यह समझेंगे कि यह मेरा देश है और इसको बनाने वाला मैं हूँ तब हमारा देश महान बन जाएगा । लाकूनत्र आज का युग धर्म है । लेकिन लोकतन्त्र को सफल बनाने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि मनुष्य में स्वाभिमान की भावना पैदा हो । लाकूनत्र तथा लोकनात्रिक समाजवाद का कायम करने के लिए यह बहुत जरूरी है । जो क्षेत्रीयता की भावना पनप रही है, इसको चूक करने के लिए भी आपको कदम उठाने चाहिये ।

कल रेल मंत्री जी बड़ी अच्छी जबान से कह रहे थे कि 22 करोड़ का घाटा रेलों को इसलिए हर साल होता है क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान के लोग बिना टिकट यात्रा करते हैं । यह किसका दोष है ? लोगों का अगर चरित्र गिर रहा है तो इसका दोष किस पर है, कौन इसके लिए जिम्मेवार है ? अगर आज यह कहा जाता है कि गांव-गांव में, छोटे-छोटे स्थानों में भी हमारे

[श्री मूलचन्द डागा]

पुलिस स्टेशन सेवा के मन्दिर नहीं रहे, अस्पताल सेवा के मन्दिर नहीं रहे, डाक्टर सेवा की भावना से काम नहीं करते हैं, तो इसका दोष किस पर है ? अगर शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में जामूल-बूल परिवर्तन नहीं हुए हैं, तो इसका दोष किस पर है ? देश में अगर बेरोजगारों की फौज खड़ी हो गई है तो इसका दोष किस पर है ? कौन इस सबकी जिम्मेदारी लेगा ? 25 सालों में हमने लाखों की तादाद में बेकार पैदा कर दिए हैं। शिक्षा बोझिल हो रही है। नवयुवक चाहता है कि उसको काम करने का मौका मिले लेकिन काम उसको मिलता नहीं है।

अन्त में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि लोकतांत्रिक समाजवाद में लोगों का विश्वास कायम रहे, इसके लिये यह आवश्यक है कि हम अतिगामी शक्तियों पर काबू पाएँ, जो विषमता है, और जो बढ़ रही है, इसको रोकें ही नहीं बल्कि इसको दूर भी करें। हमने सक्ती के साथ ये सब काम नहीं किए तो आने वाला जमाना पच्चीस साल के बाद कहेगा कि हमने देश को जिस मन्जिल तक पहुँचाना था, उस मन्जिल तक पहुँचाने में हम नाकामयाब रहे हैं।

इस अभिभाषण में जिन स्वप्नों की बात की गई है और जिनको साकार करने की बात कही गई है, मैं मानता हूँ वे साकार होंगे। एक बड़ी भारी जिम्मेवारी हिन्दुस्तान पर और हिन्दुस्तान में जिसकी हकूमत है, कांग्रेस, उस पर आई है। श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी को जो बल जनता ने प्रदान किया है उसके भरोसे और देश में जो ताकत आई है उसके भरोसे उन्होंने कह दिया है कि हमारी शक्ति बढ़ गई है और एशिया के अन्दर कोई दूसरा राष्ट्र अपनी चौदराहट नहीं बना सकता है, अपनी चौदराहट को वह क्षम कर दे। अमरीका की या चीन की चौदराहट अब नहीं चल सकती है। इस तरह की चौदराहट हमारे स्वाभिमान के खिलाफ है।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि देश में निर्माण के

कामों में, रोजगार के मामले में, भूमि के वितरण के मामले में, सौलिंग के मामले में तेजी से कदम उठाये जायें और जो निहित स्वार्थ हैं, जिनके खुद के इंटरैस्ट हैं, उनको कुचल दिया जाए। ऐसा होगा तभी हम आगे बढ़ सकेंगे।

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very glad to support the motion before the House, but I do not claim that the Address of the President is presenting a very bright picture either of the past or of the present. But I do feel that the President has tried his level best to project the problems which we faced last year and whatever things we have to do next year. In this context, I have to appeal even to those including my friend Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu to extend all co-operation towards building the nation which we are trying to build after the war.

When I was listening to the speech of Mr. Dandavate, I found he was complaining against the majority votes won by the Congress in the recent elections to the State legislatures. His complaint is that there is no opposition party here or in the State legislatures. Where the majority has been returned by the Congress. But what happened in 1967 ? The people of India had given a large number of seats even equally if not more than expected, to the legislatures in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and in many other States, to the other parties. But what happened and what did the Opposition do ? With large number of seats in the legislatures, they started capturing the seats from the Congress side and we saw the spectacle of Ayazams and Gayarams which, I must say, brought ridicule to the States and their legislatures in the country. So, when the people returned them in large numbers to the legislatures, the Opposition did not play the role of the Opposition but they tried to play the game of defection all over the States and tried to keep to power through defections. The people were fed up with that kind of Opposition tactics and that is why they have been rejected.

The other thing that the hon. Member complained of is that the Congress party obeyed their leader. It is true. We cannot afford to be a party with different leaders going in different directions. I am glad that

Mr. Dandavate has no complaint about the leader as such, but he stated that his complaint is only against the method of selection. But we cannot help it.

Coming to the next point, I have said that we are trying to build up a nation after the war. War is not a pleasant thing. It is not a war that we wanted; it was a war which was thrust upon us. The casualties were very heavy and the burden on the country and the people has been very heavy. Last year, the President said many things which we were not able to fulfil, because we had to divert our whole attention to the rehabilitation of millions of refugees consequent on a war which was thrust upon us. We had to repair everything which we had lost. So, the President may not have been able to project a bright picture, in fact, he has already said in the opening paragraph itself that the liberty of 75 million people were at stake in Bangladesh, that ten million refugees had come here and that we went to the aid of Bangladesh in defence of human freedom. All that has already been mentioned in the first paragraph itself. I do regret—I do not know how the President could have missed it—that he did not mention anything about unemployment in this country. Of course it is not a problem peculiar to India alone. It is a problem for every country in the world. Mr. Bosu is laughing; I have read that in Europe and even in America they are faced with unemployment. But we must have a phased programme to fight unemployment, step by step. Unfortunately I do not see any such thing in the President's Address.

It is a matter of gratification that we have achieved food self-sufficiency and we have stopped imports, in fact we are trying to export now. I compliment the ICAR, the scientists working there and in other institutions who did a great deal to achieve self-sufficiency. But what about planning. Yesterday, I had a discussion with the Food Minister. While there is enough food in the country, Kerala did not get rice because there is no proper means of transport. Arrangements for transporting foodgrains to parts of the country which need it should be planned and rice or other commodities should be transported, by road or rail, to the place where it is needed from where it is produced.

Land ceiling is another thing. I claim that Kerala has taken the lead in this matter.

Every tenant, every Kudikodappukaran has got the right. I know that the legislature in our States are dominated by rich peasants who object to land ceilings. With family as the basic unit, the land ceiling must come. I believe the President and the Government must give a lead to every State. The President has said that every State must press forward with these reforms and the poor tenant must get the land so that he can cultivate it. Land belongs to the tiller and must go to him. I hope Kerala's lead will be followed by other States.

The financial institutions, the banking institutions have become institutions of corruption. In my State I am told that when a man who wants to start a small scale industry goes to the bank to get a loan the bank agent and staff ask 5 or 10 per cent commission. Nationalised banks are meant for some purpose and that purpose will not be achieved in fact that purpose will be spoiled by the bureaucracy working there.

We are lacking a committed civil service. We make a programme and it goes to the Secretariat and is processed through the manuals, rules and regulations and ultimately gets scattered into pieces. The public servants, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary and the Under Secretary—are not computers; they are human beings. Their attitude will definitely influence their decisions. At present their attitude favours the rich and not the poor. As I said we do not want computers; we want human beings who can sense the feelings of the people.

The President says that a scheme has been approved to provide central assistance for providing house sites for landless rural workers. It is a very good idea. My state came forward with a big proposal, with people's participation. Two million students offered their labour for many months to build one lakh houses in my State. It is the biggest programme with people's involvement. In every Panchayat we are building a hundred houses. The Kerala Government made a big programme and we prepared a project report and submitted it to the Centre. Government officials and the Minister here have been saying that no State is coming forward with a big housing programme. My State has come forward with people's and students' participation with manual labour. On May

[Shri Vayalar Ravi]

Day all the workers of my State, every factory worker and every agricultural worker is contributing his salary to this big scheme. There is so much of people's involvement, but the Centre is thinking whether it should give any money or not to this programme. That means that there is something wrong somewhere. It is because there is lack of imagination on the part of some people. This happens because we do not have a committed civil service.

Many of the officers in the Secretariat may not have seen a coconut. It is a rare commodity, but it is used by a millions of people. Are we expected to help monopolists like Tata and Lever Brothers, or the poor farmer in the State? Copra price has fallen like any thing and my State is losing every year Rs. 90 crores. This money is not going to the poor people or the Government of India, but into the pockets of Tata, Lever Bros. etc. This kind of situation cannot be allowed to continue. We made representations but it has not been heeded.

There is black money in rubber, in the Coir industry and the cashew industry. There is complete economic depression in my State. We are speaking of equality of the States and the prosperity of the country, but when some States are suffering, the country cannot have any prosperity and we cannot achieve anything. Every State has got its own problem, and they should be seen in their proper perspective, and solved by the action of the Government.

Mr. Bahuguna has visited Kerala, and he must know the feelings of the people there. I request him to see that the Crossbar Switching Equipment Unit is given to Kerala as Shri Srikantan Nair has already stated. The decision Instruments Factory has been given to Kotah. We have nothing against Kotah, but the Managing Director is a demagogue. They are making assembling plants, not production plants. We demand a production plant. They want to sabotage the programme in our State. This should not be allowed.

We must have a programme with more employment and equal treatment of the State and also a committed judiciary. Then only can we implement whatever we want. I hope Mr. Biju's party will also cooperate

I do agree that violence should not be allowed, but they started it and they are getting it back. My colleague Shri Ramachandran, during his election campaign, could not go to certain areas. He was pushed back, slippers were thrown at him, and he was not allowed to speak. Two workers have been murdered, and the CPM M. L. A. is the first accused. This should not be allowed. They should accept the defeat in a sportsman spirit.

16.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned till Seventeen of the clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled at Seventeen of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

GENERAL BUDGET, 1972-73

MR. SPEAKER : The Hon. Finance Minister.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : Sir, I rise to present the Revised Estimates for the current year and the Budget Estimates for 1972-73.

Economic Conditions : 1971-72

2. In many ways, the year that is now drawing to a close has been the most eventful in our recent history. It began in the wake of a clear expression of the will of our people in favour of a bold and radical programme to promote growth with social justice. This verdict has been reconfirmed decisively in the recent Assembly elections. But the beginning of the year also witnessed a reign of terror and repression in East Bengal. By November 1971, some 10 million refugees had sought shelter in our midst; and we stinted no effort or resource in looking after these hapless and heroic people. Despite this massive influx and the cost of a war, which was not of our seeking, we decided not delay or postpone in any way the equally urgent task of development and social welfare. Instead, we sought to meet the additional burdens by two supplementary instalments of fresh taxation, by greater mobilization of voluntary savings and by a renewed

drive for economies in non-Plan expenditure and speedier tax collections.

3. Above all, we met the challenge by drawing on the strength of a united people; and it is possible now to look back on the events of the past year with a degree of confidence in the economic sphere as well. Despite the extraordinary stresses and strains which were compounded by natural calamities over many parts of the country, it should be possible to end the current fiscal year with our foreign exchange reserves more than intact, Government stocks of foodgrains of nearly 8 million tonnes, the general price level reasonably stable and a deficit in the Central Budget significantly lower than what one might have apprehended.

4. To some extent, the events of the past year will continue to cast their shadow over the coming months as well. Honourable Members would appreciate that we have to assist the friendly people and Government of Bangladesh in their immediate task of reconstruction and rehabilitations. To the extent that we have drawn upon the accumulated stocks in the economy and there has been unusual wear and tear of our productive assets, these will have to be made good. But above all, now that the refugees have been able to return to their homes, we have to redirect our energies increasingly to satisfy the aspiration of our own people. While the resilience and strength displayed by the Indian economy can give us confidence, there is little room for complacency.

5. Economic conditions in the recent past contain many pointers to the areas where further sustained effort is necessary. These have been dealt with at some length in the Economic Survey. The rate of growth of the economy has slackened in 1971-72. To some extent, this is understandable as the high rate of growth in the production of major cereals in earlier years cannot—and indeed need not—be continued year after year. But this trend should be counter-balanced by an increase in the growth rate of pulses, commercial crops and industry at large. This has not happened so far. Many of our basic industries, notably steel and fertilizers, are operating well below capacity. Shortage of agricultural raw materials has affected important consumer goods industries such as textiles, sugar and

vegetable oils. There are encouraging signs that many capital goods industries and those producing important intermediate products have their order books full and are maintaining a satisfactory rate of growth in production. But here again, progress is by no means uniformly good. Quite apart from tackling the immediate problems of better management, greater capacity utilization, improved raw material supply and industrial relations and a general environment of more active demand, we have to expedite the creation of additional capacity in a number of vital areas, including the generation of electricity and fertilizers and steel where better utilization of existing capacity alone will not sustain demands for long.

6. There are also other trends which we cannot overlook. While imports, other than those of foodgrains, have increased rapidly, this cannot be said of exports. As a result, the trade gap is likely to widen appreciably in the current fiscal year. The various programmes for promoting social welfare which have been taken in hand over the past two years have yet to gather momentum. Again, despite some signs of improvement, the level of savings and investment in both the public and the private sectors is inadequate to sustain a satisfactory rate of growth.

7. This situation must be rapidly transformed if the objective of growth with social justice and self-reliance is to be realised soon. Nor is a reasonable degree of price stability possible without a rapid increase in the production of the basic necessities of the people. Up to a point, and indeed to a much greater extent than is commonly realised, growth, social justice, self-reliance, investment and mobilization of resources are all mutually reinforcing processes. We have, however, also to quicken the pace by appropriate changes in budgetary and other policies. It is precisely in order to bring about such a coordinated and concerted approach to our economic problems that a Cabinet Committee on Economic Policy has been recently set up.

Revised Estimates 1971-72

8. Coming to budgetary developments during the current year, 1971-72, Honourable Members would recall that the provision of Rs. 60 crores for refugee relief made in the Budget last May had to be increased subsequently on two occasions making a total of

[Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan]

Rs. 360 crores for the year as a whole. Against this provision, actual expenditure is now estimated at Rs. 325 crores. At this stage, it is difficult to render any precise account of the aid pledge from abroad which will ultimately compensate us for the expenditure we ourselves have incurred. A significant part of the refugee assistance received earlier or in the pipeline is already being diverted to Bangladesh. But on a rough basis, the budgetary outlay of Rs. 325 crores may be offset to the extent of Rs. 120 crores by assistance received from abroad.

9. We have already made a sizable beginning with assistance to the Bangladesh Government in the current year itself. Inclusive of a cash payment of about Rs. 20 crores which is being charged to the rehabilitation budget, the commitment so far made for assistance to Bangladesh amount to roughly Rs. 130 crores. It is our intention to provide for a total commitment in this regard of Rs. 200 crores of which Rs. 82 crores might be disbursed during 1971-72 and the balance during 1972-73.

10. Defence expenditure for 1971-72 is now estimated at Rs. 1411 crores as against the Budget provision of Rs. 1241 crores, i. e., an increase of Rs. 170 crores. The expenditure on natural calamities relief at Rs. 90 crores would also be higher than the Budget estimate of Rs. 50 crores.

11. The actual trend in expenditure on Plan schemes during the current year is a mixed one and some shortfall in Plan expenditure cannot be ruled out. But there is reason to believe that the shortfall would not be as great as in the first two years of the Plan. The implementation of important projects in the steel, fertilizer, petrochemicals and atomic energy field has picked up momentum. This is also true of the programmes with an accent on social welfare which were started in the 1970-71 Budget. But the two major programme for employment in the rural areas and for the educated unemployed which were introduced in the last Budget could not be given proper shape for some time; and actual expenditure is likely to fall short of the Budget provision of Rs. 75 crores. Once again, our experience in the current year highlights the fact that the momentum of progress cannot be kept

up merely by provision of finance. Timely preparation and selection of projects and speedy implementation are equally important.

12. Receipts under Income and Corporation tax are now estimated at Rs 83 crores more than the Budget Estimate reflecting in the main the efforts made towards speedier tax collection. Union Excise duties will show only a moderate increase of Rs. 31 crores. On the other hand, Customs revenue will exceed Budget estimate by Rs. 118 crores reflecting primarily the spurt in imports.

13. Receipts from market loans also show a substantial increase over the Budget Estimate—the actual realisation being Rs. 294 crores against the expectation of Rs. 168 crores last May. The nationalised banks have continued to make excellent progress in deposit mobilization; and the Life Insurance Corporation and the Provident Funds have also been able to mobilise more funds than was expected earlier. This has greatly facilitated market borrowing by the Centre in the current year. Collections under small savings should amount to Rs. 210 crores against Rs. 180 crores assumed earlier.

14. The overall deficit is now expected to be restricted to Rs. 385 crores. This represents an increase of Rs. 152 crores over the Budget Estimate. An increase in deficit of this order cannot be contemplated with equanimity in a normal year; and its monetary impact even in the current year was held in check by the policy of restraint followed by the Reserve Bank. But Honourable Members would, I am sure, appreciate that it has to be judged against the additional liability on account of defence, refugee relief, assistance to Bangladesh and natural calamities. Expenditure on these four items alone is now expected to be 1888 crores as against Rs. 1351 crores envisaged last May. Even allowing for additional external assistance for refugee relief, this represents an increase of Rs. 437 crores over the Budget Estimates.

Plan Outlay—1972-73

15. Sir, I come now to the Budget provisions for 1972-73. In keeping with the imperative need to accelerate the pace of growth and social welfare, I proposed to increase the budgetary provision for the

Central and centrally-sponsored Plan schemes from Rs. 1455 crores in 1971-72 to Rs. 1787 crores in 1972-73. This increase of Rs. 332 crores or by nearly one-fourth in a single year represents the sharpest step-up that we have attempted in the Central sphere over the past so many years. The increase in Plan outlay is spread over virtually all the sectors of the economy. Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation account for an increase of Rs. 23 crores; Irrigation and Power, Rs. 18 crores; Mines and Metals, Rs. 23 crores; Industry including Petroleum, Chemicals, Steel and Heavy Engineering, Rs. 44 crores; Shipping and Transport, Rs. 56 crores; Posts and Telegraphs, Rs. 14 crores; Railways, Rs. 8 crores and Atomic Energy, Rs. 30 crores.

16. By far the largest increase is being made in the provisions for those schemes which combine an element of social welfare with future growth potential. Taking all such schemes together, the Budget provision in 1972-73 would be Rs. 240 crores as compared to Rs. 130 crores in 1971-72. An important innovation relates to a new lump-sum provision of Rs. 125 crores to cover the requirements of rural water supply, rural home sites, slum clearance and improvement, primary education and schemes for the educated unemployed. Since there are wide differences in the requirements of different States of these essential amenities, it is felt that a lump-sum provision of the nature would make it easier for us to make an impact in each State in the field where such impact is most urgently needed.

17. There are large disparities among the States in terms of enrolment of children in schools in the age group 6-11. Expansion of primary education facilities, particularly in the backward areas, will help correct regional imbalance and will also provide scope for larger employment. Of our 560,000 villages, some 130,000—or almost 25 per cent—are cholera-endemic and guinea-worm infected areas. By tackling the problems of rural water supply in these disadvantaged areas, it should be possible to contribute substantially to the well-being of the rural people. The provision for rural home sites should help particularly landless labour. In some States the need would be to concentrate mainly on slum clearance and improvement in congested urban areas or on schemes designed primarily to provide employment to the educated.

18. Among other schemes, the budgetary provision for the small farmers development agency is being doubled from Rs. 6 crores this year to Rs. 12 crores next year and for marginal farmers and agricultural labourers from Rs. 3 crores to Rs. 6 crores. Similarly, the provision for special nutritional programmes for children is being increased from Rs. 11 crores. Programmes for dry farming development, rural works in drought-prone areas and the crash programme for rural employment are being continued with a total provision next year of Rs. 72 crores. It is our hope that in the light of the experience already gained and the assessment recently made in consultation with the State Governments, it would be possible next year to utilise in full the provision that is now being made.

19. In addition to the provision made in the Budget, resources are also available for the Central Plan from the internal surpluses of public sector enterprises and by way of contribution from financial institutions. The internal resources of public sector enterprises which would be available for the Plan are expected to increase from Rs. 233 crores in 1971-72 (Budget Estimates) to Rs. 275 crores in 1972-73. Other resources available for the Central Plan including borrowings from financial institutions and contributions by the Reserve Bank from retained profits etc., are expected to increase from Rs. 135 crores in the current year to Rs. 245 crores in 1972-73. Inclusive of Budgetary provision as well as internal resources of public enterprises and other extra-budgetary resources, the total Plan outlay on Central Plan schemes is thus expected to increase from Rs. 1823 crores in 1971-72 to Rs. 2307 crores, i. e. by Rs. 484 crores or by about 27 per cent.

State Plans

20. I am happy to say that there will also be a substantial step-up in the Plan outlay of the States. In the light of the discussions that the Planning Commission has already had with the State Governments, the annual plan outlay of the State and Union Territories for 1972-73 is expected to be Rs. 1666 crores as compared to Rs. 1440 crores in 1971-72. This includes a provision of Rs. 782 crores by way of Plan assistance from the Centre to the States and Union Territories. Honourable Members would also note that substantial part of the increase in the Central Plan outlay is really on schemes which are initiated and executed by the State Governments themselves.

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21. In addition to Plan assistance, the scheme of special accommodation by way of loans to those States which have substantial non-Plan gaps will be continued; the provision under this head for next year is Rs. 130 crores. But the State Governments on their own will also have to mobilize resources on a substantial scale if the Plan outlays now proposed for them are to be implemented without recourse to overdrafts from the Reserve Bank. As the house is aware, the Minister of Planning and I have been in close touch with the States in this regard. I am well aware that there are genuine difficulties in some States in liquidating past overdrafts over a short period. In recognition of these difficulties we have arranged, in consultation with the Planning Commission, that such States would not be called upon to liquidate their existing overdrafts immediately but would be asked to repay next year only 15 per cent of the estimated overdrafts at the end of 1971-72. The State Governments have agreed to take steps to reduce the overdrafts progressively; and we propose to adopt a new set of procedures to ensure that overdrafts are not used in future as a continuing mode of financing State expenditures.

22. I may also mention in this connection that we propose to announce soon the composition and terms of the Sixth Finance Commission. In our federal system, the evolution of satisfactory financial relations between the Centre and the States has a vital bearing on progress and harmony in the country at large; and the next Finance Commission will have a very important role to play in laying the base for the Fifth Five Year Plan which will be launched two years from now.

Other Expenditure and Receipts : 1972-73

23. Outside the Plan, every effort is being made to restrict expenditure to the minimum. The provision for defence next year is being kept at Rs. 1408 crores, i. e., about the same as the Revised Estimates for the current year. Honourable Members, I am sure, would appreciate that apart from providing for normal increases in costs, salaries and dearness allowance, we have also to make adequate provision for recouping the losses suffered during the war and for looking after the families of those who have made the supreme sacrifice for the defence of the motherland. It is our earnest hope and endeavour that out of the anguish and agony of the recent past will emerge a

new spirit of peace and harmony in this great sub-continent so that all its 700 million inhabitants can devote their entire energies against their common enemies of hunger, want, disease and exploitation of man by man.

24. I expect the yield from income tax and corporation tax to increase from Rs. 985 crores (Revised Estimates) in the current year to Rs. 1060 crores in 1972-73. Revenues from Excise duties should increase from Rs. 2103 crores to Rs. 2330 crores and from Customs duties from Rs. 652 crores to Rs. 700 crores. The continuance of special levies which, I am afraid, is unavoidable in the present circumstances, would bring in Rs. 70 crores next year as against Rs. 20 crores in the current year.

25. Unfortunately, a significant part of the additional revenues will be offset by an increase in food subsidy from Rs. 30 crores in the Budget Estimates for the current year to Rs. 100 crores in the Budget Estimates next year. On the basis of present procurement and issue prices, the burden of food subsidy next year would amount in fact to Rs. 120 crores. I have made a somewhat lower provision of Rs. 100 crores as it is our intention not to let this burden grow without appropriate remedial measures to keep it in check.

26. The welcome increase in foodgrain production has added to the fiscal burden in another way. During 1972-73, the additional financial requirements of the Food Corporation of India for carrying the buffer-stock of foodgrains are estimated at Rs. 120 crores. I am making a budgetary provision in this regard of Rs. 25 crores only so that the balance of Rs. 95 crores will have to be found by the Corporation by additional borrowing from the banking system. At the end of February 1972, the Corporation's borrowing from the banking system had already reached the high level of Rs. 350 crores. A further addition of Rs. 95 crores during the coming year will naturally strain the resources of the banking system unduly unless the demands on it from other sectors are correspondingly moderated. That is why net receipts from market loans next year are assumed at the level of Rs. 215 crores only. Thus, directly or indirectly, the procurement of foodgrains is now having a substantial repercussion on the Central Banknote as also on the distribution of income within the country.

27. Net receipts from external loans next year are also expected to show a substantial decline from Rs. 469 crores this year to Rs. 374 crores in 1972-73. Recent events have once again served as a reminder that even as we strive for greater growth and social welfare, we cannot neglect the urgent need for reducing the dependence on external assistance. Our policy to be progressively independent of external assistance is not directed at anyone other than ourselves. Its thrust is towards invigorating our own internal efforts. There are a few major areas, such as cotton, oil-seeds, fertilizers, steel, petroleum products and spare parts for equipment installed in the past where our dependence on imports is still high. Similarly, our export earnings can be increased rapidly by creating additional facilities for mining, fishing and manufacture of a large variety of engineering and consumer goods. We are making detailed plans in each of these sectors to increase production rapidly so that our growing requirements can be met without undue dependence on imports and surpluses created for augmenting exports. No effort whether by way of provision of finance or otherwise will be spared to accelerate this process of self-reliance through import substitution and export promotion.

28. At existing rates of taxation, the overall budgetary deficit next year will be Rs. 375 crores. There will be a surplus on revenue account of Rs. 219 crores, but this would be more than offset by the deficit on capital account of Rs. 594 crores.

In Sum

29. To sum up, the main feature of the Budget for 1972-73 which I am now presenting is the substantial increase in the outlay on the Plan. The budgetary provision for the Central Plan proper is being increased by Rs. 332 crores, or nearly 23 per cent. Inclusive of internal surplus and other extra-budgetary resources, the increase in the Central Plan works out to Rs. 484 crores, or 27 per cent. Taking the Centre, the States and the Union Territories together, the total provision for the Plan for the next year, as now envisaged, comes to Rs. 3973 crores as against Rs. 3263 crores in the current year, i. e. an increase of Rs. 710 crores, or 22 per cent. A substantial increase in Plan outlay of this order would be a major factor contributing to economic growth over the coming months. It has been our experience that an increase in Plan outlay in the

public sector is a prerequisite for revival of industrial production whether in the public or in the private sector. It is our expectation, therefore, that the increase in Plan outlay next year will serve as a catalyst for the revival of growth particularly in the industrial sector where recent trends leave much to be desired.

30. Within the total Budget provision for the Plan at the Centre, as much Rs. 240 crores is being earmarked for schemes with an accent on social justice as well as economic growth. I am well aware that even this provision of Rs. 240 crores is modest as compared to the magnitude of the problem. But I am sure, Honourable Members would agree that it represents a sincere effort towards meeting the basic minimum needs of the most disadvantaged sections of our society.

31. It is a matter of some satisfaction that despite the substantial increase in Plan outlay and without any credit for mobilization of additional resources, the overall deficit in the Central Budget for 1972-73 is now expected to be limited to Rs. 375 crores. This satisfactory outcome is the result mainly of the fact during the past critical year, we were able to introduce what amounts virtually to three different budgets with substantial measures for additional resource mobilization. The total receipts on account of the taxation measures introduced last year will be of the order of Rs. 500 crores in a full year.

32. Important as the Central Budget is as an instrument for furthering our social and economic objectives, it has to be supplemented by basic changes in our economic institutions and policies. During the last year, Government has taken a number of steps in this direction. The taking over of the management of general insurance, the guidelines given to financial institutions in regard to convertibility of loans into equity and participation in the management of the enterprises assisted by them, continued effort to direct the new vitality of the nationalised banking system towards improvement in the economic conditions of the small and new entrepreneurs in industry and agriculture and the policy of differential interest rates—these are all various facts of the same thrust forward towards the goal of economic progress with social justice. Honourable Members may rest assured that we shall continue our efforts in the same spirit and over a broad front over the coming months so that the qua-

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date for creating a socialist society is carried out with speed and vigour.

17 hrs.

33. Sir, without taxing the patience of Honourable Members any further, I should proceed now to the business of taxation proper. Having introduced virtually three budgets in the past 12 months, I might well be expected to declare a holiday from further taxation for at least one year. But I am afraid I cannot allow myself such unique distinction. A deficit of Rs 375 crores cannot be left wholly uncovered without danger to price stability. We have also certain commitments to the State Governments to raise revenue on their behalf. Fiscal policy must serve the larger objectives of self-reliance and equity. Nor should I fight shy of making a few concessions. The introduction of a new Budget is also an opportunity for a certain amount of spring cleaning.

34. The Direct Taxes Enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K. N. Wanchoo, ex-Chief Justice of India, submitted their Report last December. It contains a number of valuable and far-reaching suggestions to unearthing black-money, preventing evasion and avoidance of taxes and reducing tax arrears. Copies of the Report will soon be made available to Honourable Members. It has often been said in this House that basic changes in the tax system should be introduced by means of a Taxation Amendment Bill rather than through the annual Finance Bill so as to give Honourable Members more time for a detailed consideration in the light of discussion both within and outside the House. Accordingly, I propose to bring forth a separate legislation as early as possible to give effect to those recommendations of the Committee which are acceptable to the Government and which require a major change in the present tax laws.

35. There has been a feeling for some time in the country that a family consisting of husband, wife and minor children which constitutes a common unit of consumption and as such a common focal point for the incidence of indirect taxation, is also a more appropriate and equitable basis for purposes of direct taxation subject to certain safeguards for wives at work. The present tax treatment

of Hindu undivided families has also encouraged tax avoidance. On these two related questions, the members of the Wanchoo Committee have made several alternative suggestions. Government will examine these suggestions carefully and sponsor separate legislation in due course for restructuring the Income Tax Act and the Wealth Tax Act to the extent necessary.

36. In the meanwhile, I propose to introduce through the Finance Bill a few changes in the Direct Tax structure which are designed either to produce some additional revenue in a difficult year or to give effect to such recommendations of the Wanchoo Committee as can be easily incorporated in the present tax laws.

Direct Taxation

37. On the assumption that no news is good news, I propose to make no change in the rates of income tax as also of surcharge on income tax in the case of tax-payers other than companies.

38. In order to remove any temptation that people may feel for neglecting their regular duties in favour of any casual or ephemeral or even imaginary pastime, I propose to withdraw the present exemption in respect of casual and non-recurring income when it exceeds Rs. 1000 in a year. However, a Finance Minister in particular should not frown upon those who are specially favoured by the goddess of good luck. Accordingly, winnings from States or other lotteries will be taxed on a concessional basis. Those who win a prize in a lottery are perhaps in the same happy position as people who enjoy a capital gain when their property appreciates in value without any effort on their part. On this principle, in computing incomes from such winnings, a deduction of Rs. 5,000 plus 50 per cent of the balance will be allowed. However, even those who are favoured by Fortune should make their offering first at the altar of the Exchequer. I propose, therefore, to provide for deduction of tax at source at the rate of 34.5 per cent from crossword puzzles and lotteries. Casual losses will be allowed to be set off only against the same type of income.

39. I propose to provide for deduction of tax at source at the rate of 2 per cent of the

payments made to contractors by the Government, local authorities, statutory corporations and companies. Payments made in turn by contractors, other than individuals and Hindu undivided families, to sub-contractors will attract a deduction at the rate of 1 per cent. I hope this alliance between the revenue department and contractors will lead to prompt payments all round.

40. With effect from 1st April, 1972 Government will pay a rate of interest of 12 per cent per annum on the amount of refund the payment of which is delayed. Honourable Members will recall that at present the rate of interest we pay is only 9 per cent per annum. It is only fair that the interest charged when there is delay in the payment of direct taxes to the Government is also similarly increased from 9 per cent to 12 per cent per annum.

41. Capital gains arising from the transfer of jewellery held for personal use are not so far chargeable to the capital gains tax. This has given rise to fictitious transactions in jewellery in order to regularise incomes which have escaped taxation. I propose, therefore, to repair this omission.

42. Dividends received from cooperative societies are at present completely exempted from income taxation. I see no justification for this exemption and propose to withdraw it. Such dividends, however, will be included in the categories of income which qualify for exemption from income tax upto Rs. 3,000 in a year.

43. These measures are likely to yield Rs. 6 crores in a full year and Rs. 3 crores in 1972-73 of which some Rs. 2 crores will be the share of the States.

44. Coming to corporate taxation, I propose to do away altogether with the special deduction of 5 per cent of profits in the case of domestic companies engaged in priority industries. This will yield Rs. 6 crores in a full year and Rs. 4.5 crores in 1972-73.

45. Some months ago when we levied special surcharges, many Honourable Members had asked why the surcharge on company taxation was fixed at 2½ per cent when a surcharge of 5 per cent was levied on many other items including railway passenger fares. I propose now to remove this discrimination.

For the assessment year 1972-73, the surcharge will continue to be 2½ per cent of the income tax payable by all companies. However, on income tax payable in advance during the financial year 1972-73, the surcharge would be at the rate of 5 per cent. This change will yield Rs. 12 crores over a full year and Rs. 9 crores in 1972-73.

46. There are a number of other changes that are proposed in the Finance Bill for preventing evasion or avoidance of taxes and for rationalising the incentives available for promoting saving and investment. A few changes are proposed, for example, in relation to taxation of charitable and religious trusts in the light of recommendations made by the Wanchoo Committee. Voluntary contribution received by such institutions will qualify for exemption from income tax only if these are applied to charitable or religious purposes or are accumulated for such purposes in the specified manner. The other important changes relate to audit by a Chartered Accountant and compulsory registration for a trust to qualify for tax exemption, extension of the definition of relatives for judging whether the income or property of the trust is being used in a manner which would constitute disqualification from tax exemption and making the trust liable to pay wealth tax when any part of the corpus or income of the trust is used for the benefit of the author of the trust, a substantial contribution to the trustees and their relatives, etc.

47. Regarding incentives for investment and saving, investment in industrial proprietary concerns or partnership firms will now be included among assets which qualify for exemption from wealth tax upto Rs. 1½ lakhs. When one category of exempt assets is changed to another category of such assets, the requirement of minimum holding for a period of six months will be reckoned with reference to the period of holding of both the assets. This would remove the difficulty that has been experienced by many recipients of accumulated Provident Fund contributions. Contributions made towards the unit-linked-insurance plan of the Unit Trust of India will qualify for deduction in computing the taxable income of an individual in the same manner as life insurance premia and contributions to Provident Funds.

48. The income of approved Gratuity Funds will be exempted from income tax pro-

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pectively from the assessment year 1973-74. The amount of gratuity that will be exempt from income tax in the case of employees other than Government employees and employees of local authorities will be subject to a uniform ceiling of half a months' salary for each year of completed service or 15 months salary or Rs. 24,000—which ever is the least.

49. I have come to the conclusion that the small but select class of income-tax payers in the country deserve some special recognition from the Government. Accordingly I propose soon to award to each assessee a distinct and permanent account number of his own. I am afraid, there is no mark of distinction which does not lead to easy detection; and I cannot help it if individual account numbers make it difficult to avoid taxes.

50. Finally, I come to the demand which has been made by industry that while the development rebate may be withdrawn, Government should introduce some other fiscal concessions and announce them in advance so as to impart a continuing momentum to industrial growth in the country. Government is not averse to the grant of fiscal concessions. It is, however, felt that fiscal concessions for promoting industrialisation should not be general or across-the-board in character but should relate specifically to our social and economic objectives. Again, as far as possible, it would be desirable to provide incentives which encourage the use of those resources, such as labour, which are in abundant supply rather than of resources, such as capital, which will continue to be scarce for a long time to come. The Wanchoo Committee has made a number of recommendations with different objectives in view. After examining all these suggestions carefully, we propose to come up with specific provisions in the Taxation Amendment Bill which is proposed to be introduced later in the year. These provisions would be designed primarily to promote industrialisation in the backward regions of the country.

51. The total yield of all the changes in direct taxation will be Rs. 24 crores in a full year and Rs. 16 crores in 1972-73 of which the share of the Centre would be approximately Rs. 14 crores. I could also have taken credit for improvement in tax-collections as a result of the many changes designed to reduce tax evasion. But I have decided not to credit myself with any such gains in advance.

52. Sir, may I now turn to what are perhaps euphemistically called indirect taxes?

Customs Duties

53. I have only one main proposal in regard to customs duties. It will be recalled that in December last, we had imposed a regulatory duty at the rate of 2.5 per cent *ad valorem* on most imported Products and a higher duty of 10 per cent on a few selected items. The need to exercise a general restraint on imports remains as great as ever. It is also necessary in imposing regulatory duties to ensure that the simplification of the import tariff which was introduced last year is not unduly disturbed. Accordingly, I propose to apply the 10 per cent *ad valorem* rate to all items which pay a duty of 100 per cent or more as well as to the few selected items which were included in the 10 per cent list last December. A new rate of 5 per cent *ad valorem* will apply to all items on which a duty of 60 per cent or more but less than 100 per cent is payable. The remaining items will continue to bear the regulatory duty of 2.5 per cent. However, those items which were totally exempted last December will continue to remain so. These changes will result in an additional revenue of Rs. 8.60 crores in a full year.

54. I also propose to continue the provisions which enable us to levy a regulatory duty of customs. However, in keeping with the provisions relating to regulatory duty of excise, power is being taken to levy regulatory duty of customs also upto a rate of 15 per cent of the value of the imports.

Excise Duties

55. Coming now to Excise Duties, I propose to make no addition to the list of commodities which can be subject to such duties. But Honourable Members would appreciate that even without exploring fresh fields or pastures new, it is possible to increase the yield by more intensive cultivation; and this is a responsibility which I cannot escape.

56. Pursuant to the decision to continue the scheme of levying additional excise duties in lieu of sales-tax on sugar, textiles and tobacco, we are committed to raise the overall incidence of these additional excise duties to 10½ per cent of the value of clearances by the end of the Fourth Plan period.

57. To this end, I propose to transfer to the States the entire proceeds of the regulatory duty of 15 per cent of the effective basic duty on unmanufactured tobacco which was levied last December by converting it into an additional excise duty which is itself being rounded upwards on different varieties. As a result, the States will gain to the extent of Rs. 11.56 crores by way of additional duties whereas the Centre will lose Rs. 9.70 crores by way of regulatory duty. At the same time, the basic and special duties on different varieties of unmanufactured tobacco are being merged in keeping with a general scheme to which I would soon refer. In the process, I have also taken the opportunity of rounding upwards the rates on different varieties to make up, in part, for the loss of revenue to the Centre. The yield of the combined duty, exclusive of the additional duties for the States, will go up by Rs. 9.31 crores.

58. In the case of cigarettes, a similar rationalisation and rounding off would result in a gain of Rs. 7.63 crores to the State Governments by way of additional excise and a loss of revenue of Rs. 4.64 crores under other duties which would now be combined and shared with the States.

59. In the field of textiles, I propose, to raise some additional revenue for the State from art silk fabrics. At present, taking all the duties into account and depending on the price per square metre, there are four different rates that apply to art silk fabrics, namely, 3 per cent, 5.7 per cent, 8 per cent and 10 per cent. I propose to reduce the 5.7 per cent rate to 5 per cent and increase the rate of 10 per cent which applies to fabrics worth more than Rs. 5 per square metre to 15 per cent. Of the additional revenue of Rs. 8.59 crores, the share of the States by way of additional duties will be Rs. 5.80 crores and the rest will accrue to the shareable pool between the Centre and the States.

60. In short, the revenue by way of additional excise duties will increase by Rs. 25 crores and this entire increase will go to the States. Honourable Members would note that I have left sugar entirely untouched in this exercise.

61. The Fifth Finance Commission had recommended that from 1972-73, the special

excise duties which have been levied in the past exclusively for the benefit of the Centre should also be included in the divisible pool. In keeping with this principle, I have decided to merge the special excise duties with basic excise duties and to round off the combined rates so as to introduce a certain measure of simplicity in the rate structure. As a result, with just half a dozen exceptions, all the *ad valorem* rates of excise duties will fall under 6 different slabs, namely, 10 per cent, 15 per cent, 20 per cent, 25 per cent, 30 per cent and 50 per cent. To mention a few examples, in the case of cement, the basic duty of 20 per cent and the special duty of 4 per cent will now be replaced by a combined duty of 25 per cent. Similarly, items which carry a basic duty of 15 per cent and a special duty of 3 per cent will now have a rate of 20 per cent applied to them. There are only four items, *viz.*, latex foam sponge, polyurethane foam, and articles made from that foam, and tyres for motor vehicles where there is a basic duty of 40 per cent and a special duty of 8 per cent. The new combined rate for these items will be 50 per cent. In case Honourable Members feel that laws of rounding off always favour the Exchequer, I hasten to inform them that in the case of coffee, the aggregate rate which works out to Rs. 102 per quintal would be rounded downwards to Rs. 100 per quintal. In the case of vegetable non-essential oils, also, the rate is being reduced from Rs. 110.25 per metric tonne to Rs. 100 per metric tonne.

62. In the case wireless receiving sets, the present system of taxing certain component parts, *i. e.*, transistors and diodes, has given an impetus to large-scale smuggling. I propose, therefore, to remove the duty on such parts and replace it by suitable changes in the duty on wireless receiving sets in such a way the incidence of duty will increase with the price of the set. The present exemption from duty for sets of a value not exceeding Rs. 165 and manufactured by the small-scale sector is being continued.

63. The combined result of the rationalisation measures would be a gain in revenue of Rs. 19.79 crores

64. There are a few items where the opportunity of merging the special duty with basic duty is also being taken to raise additional revenue. In the case of paints and varnishes, the

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additional revenue will be Rs. 2 crores and in the case of paper, it will be Rs. 5 crores. The higher rates of duty on paper, however, will apply only to the more expensive varieties of paper and board. Printing and writing paper used for exercise note-books and text books will not be affected. Newspapers would also continue to be exempt from duty and there would be no change either in the case of mill-board and straw-board where the smaller manufacture is involved.

65. Similar increases are being made in the case of rayon and synthetic fibres and yarn. The more expensive varieties of artificial synthetic fibres and yarn such as polyester fibre and yarn will bear higher duties. However, rayon filament yarn which is a comparatively cheap item will remain unaffected. The additional revenue from these changes is expected to be Rs. 6.50 crores.

66. I now come to a few major proposals which are intended to raise revenue for the Centre in a manner which serves at the same time some of our larger social or economic objectives. It will be recalled that last December a regulatory duty at 50 per cent of the effective basic excise duty was imposed on steel ingots, iron and steel products and tin plates so as to bridge the substantial gap between the prices of imported and indigenous steel. Even after these changes, a considerable gap remains between imported steel and indigenous steel prices. It is necessary to economise on the use of steel in the country by charging for it a price which bears a reasonable relationship with international prices. The basic duty on steel products, therefore, is being raised by about 30 per cent and the regulatory duty of 50 per cent will apply to these higher basic rates. The total additional revenue from steel products is expected to be Rs. 36.20 crores of which Rs. 11.80 crores would be by way of regulatory duties.

67. For similar reasons, the regulatory duty of 25 per cent on aluminium and its products is being raised to 33½ per cent of the basic duty. This measure will yield Rs. 4.18 crores.

68. Honourable Members are also aware of our substantial dependence on imports in regard to petroleum products. The duty on

motor spirit has been raised substantially in the recent past and this has had the salutary effect of curbing the growth of demand. As a token of appreciation, I propose, therefore to leave the motoring community untouched this year. I am afraid, I have, however, to make up for the omission last year in the case of kerosene where our reliance on imports is even greater. In addition, the comparatively low rate of duty on kerosene encourages its adulteration with other products, particularly with high speed diesel oil. I am well aware that kerosene is an item of common consumption both in the rural and the urban areas. But in view of the circumstances I have mentioned, some additional taxation of kerosene could not be avoided. I propose, therefore, to increase the duty on kerosene by Rs. 59.75 per kilo litre or roughly by about 6 paise per litre. This will result in an additional revenue of Rs. 28.80 crores in a full year.

69. In the Budget last May, we had introduced a duty on compounded lubricating oils and greases. Lubricating oils are also manufactured and marketed to some extent by a mere blending of two oils without any added ingredient. There is no reason why these marketable oils should not be made liable to duty. I propose, therefore, to amend suitably the definition of the existing tariff item which will yield an additional revenue of Rs. 5 crores. The duties on asphalt and bitumen as also on petroleum waxes are also being suitably revised to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 3.30 crores.

70. It has often been said that the agricultural sector which has been witnessing significant growth in income over recent years should also make an appropriate contribution to the overall needs of the country. We have appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Professor K. N. Raj to examine the whole question of taxation of agricultural incomes and wealth steps have also been taken to raise additional revenue from this sector by levying a duty on tractors and on fertilizers. I propose now to raise the duty on fertilizers from 10 per cent to 15 per cent. This will result in additional revenue of Rs. 12.50 crores. Duty at the rate of 10 per cent will also now be levied on power-driven pumps which are designed primarily for hand-lifting water. This measure is expected to yield a revenue of Rs. 2 crores.

71. There are a few other minor items such as synthetic organic dyestuffs and optical bleaching agents where the rate of duty is being changed from 15 per cent to 20 per cent with an additional yield of Rs. 2. 63 crores. The duty on aerated waters with blended concentrates is being increased from 10 per cent to 20 per cent with an additional yield of Rs. 1.65 crores. Pistons will now be added to the list of motor-vehicle parts for the purposes of duty. The revenue yield from this would be Rs. 50 lakhs.

72. The merger of special duty with basic duty results in a rate of Rs. 605 per metric tonne on hessian and of Rs. 385 per metric tonne in the case of other jute products which relate mainly to sacking. I propose to round off these rates to Rs. 600 and Rs. 400 per metric tonne respectively. The regulatory duty will remain unchanged at 50 per cent. The net gain to the Exchequer would be Rs. 1.76 crores of which Rs. 1. 20 crores would be by way of regulatory duties.

73. Throughout ages, our spinners and weavers have produced an infinite and ever-changing variety of colour, texture and design to beguile our fancy; and the Central Board of Excise and Customs has had a difficult task in evolving a textile tariff which can keep pace with all the subtle nuances of our textile products. I propose to make one more effort and introduce an extensive rationalisation of the textile tariff which has been worked out after a great deal of detailed examination. Honourable Members would, I am sure, be happy to note that the overall revenue effect of this rationalisation, at any rate, would be insignificant.

74. Finally, I would like to round off by a few concessions in excise duties. In the case of some items, duty-free clearance upto a value of Rs. 50,000 is allowed subject to the proviso that the total clearance from the unit do not exceed Rs. 2 lakhs in a year. In some other cases, clearances upto a value of Rs. 1 lakh are exempted. I propose now to raise the exemption limit in all cases where the lower limit of Rs. 50,000 is allowed today to Rs. 1 lakh subject to the upper ceiling remaining unchanged at Rs. 2 lakhs. This measure which is intended to help the smaller units will cost the Exchequer Rs. 1.40 crores in a full year.

75. Some concessions were introduced in

the last Budget to encourage the use of minor oils in the manufacture of soap. In view of the urgent need to reduce our dependence on imports in regard to vegetable oils in general, I propose to increase the incentive by reducing the minimum percentage of use of minor oils from 5 per cent to 3 per cent and by introducing a rate of rebate of Rs. 4.50 per metric tonne on the duty leviable on soap as the reduced minimum use of minor oils obtains. This rebate will increase progressively by Rs. 1.50 per tonne for every additional percentage point increase in the utilization of these oils. A similar concession in relation to rice bran oils used in the manufacture of soap at the rate of Rs. 1.50 per tonne for every additional percentage point of use of rice bran oil beyond a minimum level of 15 per cent will also be given.

76. To encourage the use of rice bran oil in the manufacture of vanaspati, the minimum percentage use of 7 per cent which was prescribed last year is being reduced to 1 per cent without any change in the rate of rebate which would remain Rs. 100 per metric tonne on the duty payable on vanaspati produced from such oil. Similarly, the incentive for greater use of cotton-seed oil in the manufacture of vanaspati is also being increased on a graded basis. The present general concession of Rs. 100 per tonne of vanaspati produced from cotton-seed oil will be withdrawn and a minimum compulsory usage of 10 per cent prescribed. Beyond this percentage, however the rebate would be Rs. 200 per metric tonne upto 20 per cent of usage, Rs. 250 per metric tonne from 20 to 30 per cent of usage and again Rs. 200 per metric tonne beyond 30 per cent of usage. These concessions on oils would cost the exchequer about Rs. 60 lakhs.

77. Honourable Members would be happy to know that I have no proposals this year in regard to postal and telegraph rates. The Finance Bill, however, provides for some changes in the sales-tax law applicable to Delhi to remove certain lacunae which act to the detriment of sales-tax revenue accruing to the Delhi Administration.

78. Taking all the proposals together, the total additional revenue from Excise duties would be of the order of Rs. 145 crores in 1972-73 of which Rs. 97 crores will accrue to the Centre and roughly Rs. 48 crores to the States. In addition, countervailing import

[Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan]

duties which will apply in respect of all changes in excise duties other than those relating to iron and steel and aluminium are expected to yield an additional revenue of Rs. 13.41 crores. Other changes in Customs duties will yield, as already mentioned, an additional revenue of Rs. 8.60 crores for the Centre. The additional yield from direct taxes for 1972-73 would be Rs. 14 crores for the Centre and Rs. 2 crores for the States. All in all, the additional revenue at the centre next year will be of the order of Rs. 133 crores and for the States, Rs. 50 crores. The initial deficit of Rs. 375 crores will thus stand reduced to Rs. 242 crores which I think is a reasonably safe level.

18. hrs.

79. Sir, in conclusion, may I express the hope that the Budget proposals I have just presented will be judged in their entirety and against the background of the formidable challenge we continue to face as a nation. The level of investment in the economy needs to be raised substantially at the present juncture. This is necessary not only in the interest of growth, particularly industrial growth, but also for making a tangible impression on the well-being of the most disadvantaged sections of society. We have also to assist Bangladesh in her immediate task of restoring a measure of stability and viability to the economy. Nor can we let down our guard in regard to the security and integrity of the nation. At the same time, deficit financing must be kept within reasonable proportions.

80. Fortunately, the bulk of the unavoidable and indeed necessary increase in outlay next year will be financed by the normal growth in revenues. If I have not been able to avoid additional taxation altogether, I hope Honourable Members would remember that I have not been unduly cautious either in providing a stimulus to growth and social

welfare by a substantial increase in Plan outlay. Some of my tax proposals will also serve other objectives such as self-reliance. It is in this sense that I spoke at the outset of quickening the mutually reinforcing process of growth, social justice, self-reliance, investment and resource mobilization. I can only hope that taken in their entirety, the Budget proposals will take the economy one stage forward in its march towards our cherished goals.

18.01 hrs.

FINANCE BILL, * 1972.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE : (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1972-73.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the financial proposals of the Central Government for the financial year 1972-73."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN :
I introduce † the Bill.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : No mistakes this time !

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned till 11 A. M. tomorrow.

18.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 17, 1972/Phalguna 27, 1893 (Saka).

* Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, Dated 16.3.72.

† Introduced with the recommendation of the President.